



Texas Master Naturalist™ - Cradle of Texas Chapter
Minutes of the General Meeting
Wednesday, June 11, 2025, 9:01 am - 11:06 am (HYBRID)
at Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service, Angleton TX

9:01 am Call to Order

Kathy Pittman

Kathy Pittman welcomed everyone attending and participating online. She extended happy birthday wishes to those with June birthdays and recognized Alyssa Corona, board members David and Betty Skweres and our guest speaker, Dr. Michelle Zapp Sluis, daughter-in-law of members Ken and Linda Sluis.

Approval of the General Meeting Minutes

The draft copy of the minutes of the May 14, 2025, General Meeting was sent via e-mail to the TMN-COT member distribution list for review prior to the meeting. K. Purvis reported minor corrections/changes were made per feedback. Members approved the minutes as presented by voice vote upon the motion of Mike Hampy, seconded by Don Sabathier.

Outreach

Ruby Lewis

- **BCLS Summer Reading Club** – June 17, 18, 19, 20, 24 and 25. More volunteers are needed for some locations. See the TMN-COT volunteer calendar for locations and times – contact Ruby Lewis (ph. 979.583.7903 or e-mail - rubylewis77515@ymail.com)
- **Shark Week, Sea Center** - Saturday, August 2, 11:00 am - 3 pm.

Membership - May

John Boettiger

Initial Certification:	Emily Howard	Kevin Shebek	Gene Taylor	
Recertifications:	Mel McKey	Sheree Muzny	Jimmy Salinas	Luanne Salinas
	Ken Sluis	Linda Sluis	Andy Smith	Rose Wagner
Milestones	Regina Tippett (2,500 hours)			

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

VMS Data

		May 2025	Year to Date
Hours*	VT	939	6,226
	AT	122	1,225
Impact data*	Adults	88	2,504
	Youth	<u>26</u>	<u>7,931</u>
	Total	114	10,435

**Will not be considered final until mid-July 2025. Dave Brandes, VMS Administrator*

AT Presentation - Michelle Zapp Sluis, Ph.D., B.S.: Gulf Research Institute for Highly Migratory Species (GRIHMS)

BREAK - Thank you to all our members who brought refreshments today!



Water Wednesdays

John O'Connell

J. O'Connell announced the next Water Wednesday program, Part 1: "Lone Star Healthy Streams" is scheduled for June 18 from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm. This presentation addresses mitigating sources that impair our streams, with part 2 to follow. Advanced training time up to three (3) hours is available for virtual attendance of the full two (2) parts.

Treasurer

Don Sabathier

COT TREASURER REPORT

May 2025

BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 14,060.88
Revenue Summary	2,000.24
Expense Summary	<u>824.04</u>
ENDING BALANCE	\$15,237.08

COT MASTER NATURALIST INCOME STATEMENT for 2025

	2025							Budget Delta
	Budget	January	February	March	April	May	June	
Opening Balance		\$10,235.82	\$12,610.89	\$12,315.57	\$12,951.55	\$14,060.88		
INCOME ITEMS								
Membership Dues	3,250	1,158.90	673.55	699.64	174.85			2,706.94 543.06
Interest Income	10.00	0.20	0.19	0.22	0.22	0.24		1.07 8.93
Member Donations	300	23.79	23.79	23.79	1,047.76	1,000.00		2,119.13 -1,819.13
Sponsor/Non-member Donations		10.00		1,000.00		1,000.00		2,010.00 -2,010.00
Member Payments for New Shirts	40							0.00 0.00
Special AT-Remote/Non Member fee	100	238.67	101.49					101.49 -1.49
Amazon Debit Reimbursement		114.39						114.39 -114.39
Sub Total	3,700	1,545.95	799.02	1,723.65	1,222.83	2,000.24	0.00	7,291.69 -3,591.69
New Intern Class Receipts	5,250	\$1,051.40		150.00				1,201.40 4,048.60
INCOME TOTALS	8,950	\$2,597.35	799.02	1,873.65	1,222.83	2,000.24	0.00	8,493.09 456.91

(See Income Statement, continued next page)



Income Statement, continued

COT MASTER NATURALIST INCOME STATEMENT for 2025

	2025								Budget Delta
	Budget	January	February	March	April	May	June	Totals	
EXPENSE ITEMS									
Approved Donations	300		150.00					150.00	150.00
Speakers Bureau								0.00	0.00
Speaker Travel Mileage/Motel/Tolls	200							0.00	200.00
Membership Director Expenses	50							0.00	50.00
Office Supplies, Postage Etc.	30	7.52			5.41			12.93	17.07
Special Annual AT Event/Fall Field D	1,750		869.34	59.60				928.94	821.06
Member Shirt Purchases (if any)	40							0.00	40.00
Special Recognition	200							0.00	200.00
Travelers D&O Ins. Premium (3 years	1,600							0.00	1,600.00
Godaddy Website maintenance	200	214.76						214.76	-14.76
New Officer/Member Name Tags	40							0.00	40.00
State Annual Conference									
Registration & Expenses	1,500							0.00	1,500.00
State Meeting Sponsorship & Scholarships	750							0.00	750.00
Materials	500							0.00	500.00
EcoFund Projects	500							0.00	500.00
Field Research Bat Project	750			146.07		759.05		905.12	-155.12
Chapter Host-Meeting/Party Supplie	400							0.00	400.00
Chapter Host- Recognition Party/Cak	175				46.99			46.99	128.01
TDECU Returned Check for ISF				1,000.00				1,000.00	-1,000.00
TDECU Check Debit				32.00				32.00	-32.00
Sub Total	8985	222.28	1,019.34	1,237.67	52.40	759.05	0.00	3,290.74	5,694.26

COT MASTER NATURALIST INCOME STATEMENT for 2025

	2025								Budget Delta
	Budget	January	February	March	April	May	June	Totals	
TMN Text Book Order	1500							0.00	1,500.00
Zeiglers-Intern T-Shirts	1200							0.00	1,200.00
Intern Name Tags	150				33.25	19.00		52.25	97.75
Intern Class Marketing	100					45.99		45.99	54.01
Intern Class - Zoom Annual fees	250							0.00	250.00
Intern Class Supplies	200				27.85			27.85	172.15
Intern Class Scholarships-2	150							0.00	150.00
Intern Registration Reimbursement			75.00					75.00	-75.00
Sub Total	3550	0.00	75.00	0.00	61.1	64.99	0	201.09	3,348.91
EXPENSE TOTALS	12,535.00	222.28	1,094.34	1,237.67	113.50	824.04	0	3,491.83	9,043.17
	(3,585)								
Ending Balance		12,610.89	12,315.57	12,951.55	14,060.88	15,237.08	0.00		
COT Chapter Lifetime membership Dues \$400.00									
COT 2025 Annual Dues \$25.00									
2025 Intern Class fee: \$150.00									
Members attaining 4,000, 5,000 or 10,000 VT hours are exempt from dues the next calendar year									
2025 Travel reimbursement: c67/mile									



Bat Project Update

Mickey Dufilho

Larry Peterson has completed the preliminary run for the data collected. He continues to work on the data, which is very important to the project and will take months. M. Dufilho expects a report in September.

Volunteer Opportunities

Oron Atkins

Upcoming VT Opportunities – June/July 2025

- **Exploration Green Workday** – every Wed., 8:30 am to 11:30 am – contact Christie Taylor, <https://www.explorationgreen.org/>
- **Trash Collection/Disposal Analysis Project** – self directed
- **Beach Sweep** – July 7, 8:00 am to 10:00 am, (weather permitting), Quintana Jetties – contacts Jimmy/Luanne Salinas jimmy.salinas217@gmail.com; msluhu@gmail.com
- **Nurdle Beach Patrol** – Jace Turnell – self-directed, (<https://www.nurdlepatrol.org/app/>)
- **Brazoria County Comprehensive Spider Survey** – Melanie Hollenshead - self directed
- **Adopt a Loop for TMN** – contact Cris Tobola - self-directed; e-mail Cris for this project only at utc_aal@yahoo.com
- **DFNC Educational Pond and Native Garden Habitat Workdays** – Thursday, June 19 and Saturday, June 21, 8:00 am to 11:00 am – contact Kathy Pittman pittmankw4@aol.com
- **Time to Restore Project** – project at Smith Point completed; Hawk Watch program at GCBO; contact Kathy Pittman – self-directed, pittmankw4@aol.com; <https://www.usanpn.org/community/TimeToRestore>

Susan Conaty invited interested members to join the Coastal Seed Conservancy at Nash Prairie on June 12 (weather permitting) for seed collecting from 9:00 am - 12:00 noon.

Sea Turtle Patrol

Oron Atkins/Larry Peterson

O. Atkins recognized and thanked everyone for participating in this year's Sea Turtle Patrol project. He pointed out the recent Kemps Ridley turtle eggs found and the extraordinary lengths it took to locate the nest. L. Peterson participated in the search and recounted the events leading to the removal of 116 Kemps Ridley eggs. Four or five (4 or 5) nests were found at Surfside this season. The nest record was previously 253 and was broken with 357 eggs having been recovered. Barbara Whaley mentioned having participated in the patrol from Follett's Island to Surfside. The first nest, with 98 eggs, was found at the entrance to Surfside Beach. Another nest with 96 eggs was excavated on Memorial Day the turtle was seen nesting. Barbara reported this turtle was the same one that had nested three (3) weeks earlier, in April.

Final Items

Kathy Pittman

- **CPR Class** - Spots are still open for the Homeland Preparedness Project training class on Tuesday, June 17. The cost is \$50 per person. Those interested should refer to Kathy's recent e-mail for details.
- **25th Anniversary** - Next year will be our Chapter's 25th anniversary. We are looking for suggestions on how to celebrate YOUR accomplishments over the course of the year. Please send your ideas - big or small!
- There will be no July Board meeting. Kathy reminded everyone Board meetings are open to the public.



Meeting AT and VT Hours

- AT 1.5 hours
 AT - I received training (Adv. Training) TMN
 Dr. Michelle Zapp Sluis, "Gulf Research Institute for Highly Migratory Species (GRIHMS)"
- VT 0.5 hours plus drive time
 CB - Chapter Business and Admin
 Chapter Meetings
 June Gen Mtg

The next General meeting will be held at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, July 9, with social time at 5:30 p.m.

Kathy Pittman adjourned the meeting at 11:06 am.

Attendance:	In-person	50
	Virtual	<u>8</u>
	Total	58

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Purvis, Secretary

cc: Board Members
 Clara Tyler, AgriLIFE Secretary (Clara.tyler@ag.tamu.edu)