



Cradle of Texas Chapter
AgriLife Extension Bldg.
21017 CR 171, Angleton, TX 77515-8903
<https://txmn.org/tmncot/>

Texas Master Naturalist™- Cradle of Texas Chapter
Minutes of the General Meeting
Wednesday, June 10, 2026, 9 am to 11:00, am (HYBRID)
at Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service, Angleton TX

9:00 am Call to Order

Kathy Pittman

Kathyn Pittman called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

Approval of the General Meeting Minutes

The draft copy of the minutes of the May 13, 2026, meeting was sent to the TMN-COT distribution list for review prior to the meeting. No changes were requested. Members approved the minutes as presented upon the motion of Rose Wagner, seconded by Herbert Taylor

Welcome

K Pittman welcomed attendees and those online, as well as multiple guests. She also wished Happy Birthday to everyone with June birthdays.

Membership

John Boettiger

John gave the May reports as follows:

Initial Certifications	Barbara Lund	
Recertifications:	John Boettiger	Karen Mosis
	Patty Brinkmeyer	Sheree Muzney
	Susan Conaty	Linda Sluis
	Emily Howard	Amanda Smith
	George Valdez	
Milestones:		
	Donna Rich	250 Hours
	Kate Harris	500 hours

Congratulations to all!

VMS Data for May 2026*

		May	Year to Date
Hours*	VS	1,027	7,413
	AT	105	1155
	Total	1,132	8,568



Impact data*	Adults	99	3,370
	Youth	<u>170</u>	<u>12,953</u>
	Total	269	16,293

**Data not considered final until mid-July*

AT Presentation – Patty Brinkmeyer, TMN COT member since 2015, Communications Director for the chapter and a certified Master Gardener, since 2025. She also received the 2026 Eco Fund grant for the “Habitat Heroes” Program. “Pollinator and Habitat Gardening”.

BREAK – Thank you to the members who brought refreshments today!

25th Anniversary Planning

Kristine Rivers

The Chapter will mark its 25th year on September 11, 2026. We would like to plan a series of events over the next year to commemorate this important anniversary.

- County Commissioners’ Court will be held on September 8, 2026, at 9 am at the Brazoria County Courthouse Administration Building (237 E Locust Street, Second Floor).
- Group Luncheon in early October on a Saturday, from 2-4 pm
- Events with our Partners
- Trips to places of interest
- Fall Field Day will be on October 14, 2026, possibly at Brazos Bend Park.
- Family Picnic in the Spring
- Passports with 25 stamps if you attend.

Please respond to our survey which will be sent soon!!

Bamberger Ranch Preserve and Bracken Cave

**Dick Schaffhausen
and Mickey Difulho**

Bracken Cave is planned on Monday, October 5, 2026 at 4 pm. The cost is \$32.55. Bamberger Ranch on Tuesday, October 6, 2026, at 9 am, at a cost of \$30.00. They need to know how many people are planning on attending by September 1, 2026, and payment is due by September 15, 2026. Contact Dick if interested.

Bat Projects – Updates

Mickey Dufilho

The Great Bat Bridge Survey was on May 31, 2026. Our chapter had 9 teams surveying bridges in Brazoria County. We surveyed 76 bridges, 6 had bats, two new bridges with bats. Numerous bridges had active swallow nests. Our chapter is leading all other chapters for the number of bridges surveyed.

We are on week 5 of the Bat Acoustic Monitoring Survey – 14 sites have been surveyed out of 25 sites. We have had no problems with any equipment. We have added 11 sites this year, including Kim Calhoun and Phil Huxford as well as 8 USFWS sites and one at the Justin Hurst Wildlife Management area.



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25th Anniversary T-shirts:

Patty Brinkmeyer

Patty has a sign-up sheet for people wanting to purchase the T-shirts as well as a QR code to pay through square. These will be \$16.00 (+\$2 2XL and +\$3 3XL).



2026 Pollinator Academy

The 2026 Pollinator Academy is taking place on Saturday, June 27, from 9 am till 3 pm. The presentations will count toward AT. Registration fee is \$35.00.

Treasurer

Amanda Smith

Amanda presented the summary report for May 2026 (refer to the Full Income Statement attached as Item 1).

May 2026

Beginning Balance	\$10,475.77
Revenue Summary	200.18
Expense Summary	0.0
Ending Balance	\$10,675.95
Savings Balance	\$6.39

Membership dues of \$25 dollars are now past due!

Upcoming VS Opportunities

Oron Atkins

- **Beach Sweep** – Monday, 07/06, 8:00 am to 10:00 am, Quintina Beach at 16th street, - contacts Jimmy/Luanne Salinas, jimmy.salinas217@gmail.com & msluhu@gmail.com.
- **DFNC Educational Pond and Native Garden Habitat Workdays** – Thursday 06/18, and Saturday 06/20, 8:00 am - 11:00 pm – contact Kathy Pittman Pittmankw4@aol.com
- **Camp Mohawk Pocket Prairie** – workdays TBA; contact Dick Schaffhausen, dickanddonna2@concast.net.
- **Resoft Park Pollinator Gardens** – workdays TBA, contact Kate Harris, harrisd11@hotmail.com



- **BCPD Resoft Park Plantings, Apple Snails and Fishing Line removal** – TBD, contact Oron Atkins, oronatkins3@gmail.com
- **Upcoming Construction Projects (TBA)** - contact Oron Atkins, oronatkins3@gmail.com
- **Yellow-legged Hornet Monitoring** - We need volunteers, please contact oronatkins3@gmail.com
- **Exploration Green Workday** – every Wed., 8:30 am to 11:30am – contact Christie Taylor, <https://www.explorationgreen.org/>
- **Trash Collection/Disposal Analysis Project** – self directed
- **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** – self-directed, contact Cris Tobola, utc_aal@yahoo.com
- **TMN COT iNaturalists Data Collection Project** - contact Amanda Gabehart, sylshessa@aol.com

Outreach Opportunities

Ruby Lewis

- **Sea Center Texas Camps** – 06/ 9-12, 06/ 23-26, and 07/ 7-10, 9 am to 1 pm, contact Jordan Kieffer, jordan.kieffer@tpwd.texas.gov.
- **Sea Center Shark Celebration** – 07/18, 11 am – 3 pm, contact Jordan Kieffer or Ruby Lewis.
- **BCLS Summer Reading Club Library Programs** – JUNE AND JULY!

BCLS Summer Reading Club – Texas Reptiles – Dates below ↘ contact [Ruby Lewis](#)

JUNE	JULY
4 th West Pearland Library 10:30, 12:00, 2:00, 3:30	7 th Angleton Library, 12:00, 2:00, 4:00
9 th Freeport Library 2:00, 4:00	8 th Lake Jackson Library, 12:00, 2:00, 4:00
15 th West Columbia Library 2:00, 4:00	16 th Sweeny Library, 2:00
16 th Alvin Library, 11:00, 2:00	21 st Manvel Library, 2:00, 4:00
18 th Clute Library, 2:00, 4:00	23 rd Danbury Community Center, 11:00
24 th Pearland Tom Reid Library 12:00, 2:00, 4:00	28 th Brazoria Heritage Foundation Gym, 2:00

Final Items

- Intern training will be starting in September on Wednesday mornings directed by Barbara Whaley. Please tell your friends who may be interested in watching the website for further information.
- Water Wednesdays resumes on June 17th.

Questions? None



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Meeting AT and VS Hours (**Hours you may count or a portion thereof*)

VS - 1.0 hours plus travel time

Opportunity: CB: Chapter Meetings and Admin (Chapter Admin)

Project Category: Chapter Meeting

Service Description: May Chapter meeting

AT- 1.0 hours

Opportunity: AT: I Received Training (Advanced Training): TMN AT

Chapter Meeting

Service Description: Patty Brinkmeyer, "Pollinator and Habitat Gardening"

The next General meeting will be held at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, July 8, 2026, with social time at 5:30 pm. Bring a Friend!

Kathy Pittman adjourned the meeting at 10:56 am

Attendance:	In-person	54
	Virtual	<u>13</u>
	Total	67

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Rich, Secretary

cc: Board Members
Piper Sparkman, AgriLIFE Secretary (piper.sparkman@ag.tamu.edu)
Larry Peterson (lfpete@swwell.net)



Item 1 – May 2026 Income Statement

COT MASTER NATURALIST INCOME STATEMENT for 2026

	2026													Totals	Budget Delta
	Budget	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December		
Opening Balance		\$9,857.41	\$10,616.12	\$11,698.13	\$11,189.02	\$10,475.77									
INCOME ITEMS															
Membership Dues	3,250	897.67	1222.72	124.36										2,244.75	1,005.25
Interest Income	10.00	0.18	0.17	0.19	0.18	0.18								0.90	9.10
Member Donations	1,000			219.00		200.00								419.00	581.00
Sponsor/Non-member Donations				24.84										24.84	-24.84
Member Payments for New Shirts	40													0.00	40.00
Special AT-Remote/Non Member fee	100		170.40	15										185.40	-85.40
Amazon Debit Reimbursement														0.00	0.00
Sub Total	4,400	897.85	1,393.29	383.39	0.18	200.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,874.89	1,525.11
New Intern Class Receipts	4,200	-\$104.16		129.00	-129.00									-104.16	4,304.16
INCOME TOTALS	8,600	\$793.69	1,393.29	512.39	-128.82	200.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,770.73	5,829.27
EXPENSE ITEMS															
Approved Donations	350			219.00	200.00									419.00	-69.00
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		75.74											75.74	-45.74
Special Annual AT Event/Fall Field Dr	1,750		190.55	525.14										715.69	1,034.31
Member Shirt Purchases (if any)	40													0.00	40.00
Special Recognition	200													0.00	200.00
Travelers D&O Ins. Premium (3 years)	0													0.00	0.00
Godaddy Website maintenance	200													0.00	200.00
New Officer/Member Name Tags	40													0.00	40.00
State Annual Conference															
Registration & Expenses	2,100													0.00	2,100.00
State Meeting Sponsorship & Scholarships	750													0.00	750.00
Materials	700													0.00	700.00
EcoFund Projects	1,000													0.00	1,000.00
Field Research Bat Project	1,550			220.00	339.44									559.44	990.56
Zoom Annual Fees	250													0	-309.44
Chapter Host-Meeting/Party Supplie	400													0.00	400.00
Chapter Host- Recognition Party/Cak	175	34.98	44.99		44.99									124.96	50.04
25th Anniversary Recognition	2,000													0.00	2,000.00
Sub Total	11785	34.98	311.28	964.14	584.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,894.83	9,890.17
TMN Text Book Order	630													0.00	630.00
Zeiglers-Intern Shirts	600													0.00	600.00
Intern Name Tags	180													0.00	180.00
Intern Class Marketing	100													0.00	100.00
Intern Class Supplies	300			57.36										57.36	242.64
Intern Class Scholarships	0													0.00	0.00
Intern Registration Reimbursement														0.00	0.00
Sub Total	1810	0.00	0.00	57.36	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	57.36	1,752.64
EXPENSE TOTALS	13,595.00	34.98	361.28	1,021.50	584.43	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,002.19	11,592.81
	(4,995)														
Ending Balance		10,616.12	11,698.13	11,189.02	10,475.77	10,675.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$818.54	
Savings		6.39	6.39	6.39	6.39										

COT Chapter Lifetime membership Dues \$400.00

COT 2026 Annual Dues \$25.00

2026 Intern Class fee: \$150.00

Members attaining 4,000, 5,000 or 10,000 VT hours are exempt from dues the next calendar year

2026 Travel reimbursement: c67/mile