

MINUTES
MID-COAST CHAPTER, TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST
August 12, 2023, GENERAL MEETING

The Mid-Coast Chapter, Texas Master Naturalist™, Inc. General Membership Meeting met at 10:00 am on Saturday, August 12, 2023, at Group Dining Hall at Goliad State Park located at 108 Park Road 6, Goliad, Texas 77963-3206. The meeting was hosted by Wilfred Korth.

Program

At 10:00 am, Janie VonDohlen, chapter member and longtime weaver and spinner did a presentation on natural dyes made from local plants, animals, and minerals that are renewable and sustainable used to dye clothing and yarn. She also did a demonstration of weaving. Approved AT: with Chapter Meeting is 1 hour.

Business Meeting

The business meeting was an in-person meeting and called to order at 11:15 am by President Bob Cunningham. Secretary Ele Chew recorded the minutes. The meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm for 2 hours CB: Chapter Business plus individual travel time.

July Meeting Attendance

Twenty-six members in good standing and one guest were in attendance.

Secretary's Report by Ele Chew

Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Mid-Coast Chapter's General Meeting was held on Saturday, May 13, 2023, at the Recreation Hall at Goose Island State Park. It was an in-person meeting. Forty-one members in good standing and 2 visitors were in attendance.

At 10:00 am, Sam Wolfe of Manomet presented an Advanced Training program on Shorebird Research & Identification. Sara Rock from Goose Island State Park followed with a presentation of Shorebirds of Goose Island State Park.

President Bob Cunningham called the meeting to order at 11:30 am and the meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm. The minutes were recorded by Secretary Ele Chew and posted on May 25, 2023. There were no corrections or revisions to the minutes. Claire Barnhart moved to approve the minutes as posted; Laura Andersen seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by acclamation.

Treasurer's Report by Julie Hejducek

The Chapter will be running in a net loss until the plant sale. All budget items are within budget. July 2023 bank reconciliation is complete.

Compare prices at Rockport Mail Center vs Fulton Post Office by end of year. The yearly fee increased to \$294 from \$200 at Fulton Post Office. PO Box renewed July 3rd for 6 months: August to Jan 2024.

A free business account has been set up with Amazon.

Final copy of Revisions to financial aspects of P&P and COH were addressed at the July board meeting and distributed to the board for review. Members will review and vote on documents at

the August meeting. Dee Mahaffey moved to approve the budget report. Liz Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Bank Statement Balance 06/30/2023	\$38,559.48
Profit/Loss Statement 07/31/2023	
Total Income 2023 YTD	\$1,309.88
Total Expenses 2023 YTD	\$7,981.41
Net Loss 2023 YTD	\$-6,671.53

Board of Director Reports:

- [President's Report](#)
- [Vice-President's Report](#)
- [Treasurer's Report](#)
- [Membership Report](#)
- [Advanced Training Director](#)
- [Initial Training Report](#)
- [Projects Report](#)
 - [Plant Sale Report](#)
- [Communications Report](#)
- [Technology Report](#)
- [Past President Claire Barnhart](#)
- [Class Representative Report](#)
- Chapter Advisor – No Report

Old Business

Chapter Operating Handbook Revisions and Membership Vote

President Bob Cunningham presented the newly revised Chapter Operating Handbook (COH) replacing the current Policies & Procedure Manual (P&P) as approved by the Board of Directors at the July 8, 2023 meeting. The revised COH was posted at MCTMN website for member viewing on July 19, 2023. Debbie Kucera, Advanced Training Director, noted several clerical errors in section 5.1.1 Executive Committee of the board-approved version of the new COH. Clerical errors were corrected and the link to the final version of COH was posted on July 30, 2023 at https://midcoast-tmn.org/pdf/COH_7-8-23.pdf. President Cunningham motioned to the membership for a vote to ratify the final version. The motion was seconded by Wilfred Korth. The President opened the floor for discussion, but there was none. Kate Geer Miller, Initial Training Director, expressed appreciation to Kris and Ray Kirkwood and all the Board Members for their dedication and hard work. The revised COH was ratified unanimously by acclamation of attending members.

New Business

There was no new business.

[Awards](#)

Adjournment

Wilfred Korth moved to adjourn the meeting and Laura Andersen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Ele Chew
Mid-Coast Chapter Secretary

President's Report by Bob Cunningham

TMN 2023 Annual Meeting

Early registration is open and will close on August 31 (<https://txmn.tamu.edu/2023-annual-meeting/#Registration>.) The agenda is posted at <https://txmn.tamu.edu/2023-annual-meeting/>. Brigid Berger will be attending the Chapter Leadership Luncheon on October 12, 2023, in place of President Bob Cunningham. Mid-Coast TMN Greg Simmons will be presenting The Distribution of Mid-Coast Texas Owls: A Spatial Analysis of Patterns in Nature from 4:30-5:30 pm on Thursday October 12, 2023. There will be an Eclipse Field Day at El Sauz Ranch on Saturday October 14, 2023.

Mid-Coast TMN chapter will contribute \$100 to the Annual Meeting Sponsorship fund, as budgeted. The deadline for the Photo, Art, Media Contest is 5 pm on Friday September 15th.

New Technology Director Appointment

The Board of Directors approved and confirmed Steve Simmons's appointment to the position of Technology Director at the July 8, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting. President Cunningham briefly described the responsibilities of this new director position, and Steve was introduced to the membership.

Nominating Committee to Provide Slate of Candidates for 2024 Officers Positions

Pursuant to Bylaws V, D.2.a, the nominating committee is chaired by the immediate past president with a minimum of two additional members selected by the president and approved by the board. President Bob Cunningham made an email motion to the Board of Directors to appoint Greg Simmons, Sally Scroggs and Steve Marwitz to serve as members of the nominating committee, chaired per the Bylaws by Claire Barnhart, as described below.

The nominating committee will present a slate of candidates for all officer positions for the 2024 year, to be considered at the October 14 meeting of the board and then notified to the membership at least 15 days prior to election at the chapter's November 11th, 2023 annual meeting. At President Cunningham's request, the nominating committee will also recommend director candidates for consideration and approval pursuant to Bylaws V, E.3.

D'Ann Williams seconded the motion. The email vote was finalized on August 4, 2023 and passed with a majority of 8 votes.

Date/Time	IP Address	Name	Response	Comment
2023-08-03 10:03:26		Ray Kirkwood	Yes	
2023-08-03 07:12:23		Debbie Kucera	Yes	
2023-08-02 20:47:11		Amy Nowlin	Yes	
2023-08-02 18:48:09		Bill Burge	Yes	Good choices.
2023-08-02 18:24:33		Julie Hejducek	Yes	
2023-08-02 18:22:18		Ele Chew	Yes	
2023-08-01 14:36:22		D'Ann Williams	Second	
		Bob Cunningham	Motion	
Total Votes				8

Initial Training Textbook Pickup from TMN Annual Meeting

Greg Simmons and Sally Scroggs will check inventory and pick up IT textbooks from Annual Meeting upon notice from State TMN staff. E-books are not feasible at this time.

Vice President’s Report by Bill Burge and Brigid Berger

MCTMN Board of Director October 14th Meeting site has not been determined.

The November 11th Chapter Meeting will be held at the Victoria County Master Gardener Site, located at 263 Bachelor Drive, Victoria 77904. It is all the way to the back on the last street next to the airport close to the airport tower between the 4-H building and the Victoria Educational Gardens. The meeting will include our usual end of the year potluck. Again, we anticipate being able to set up a Zoom/Owl call for those who can’t attend in person.

Treasurer's Report by Julie Hejducek

MID-COAST TMN

Printed: 11-08-23

CATEGORY	2023 BUDGET EXPLANATION	2023 BUDGET	2023 ACTUALS	Over / (Under)
INCOME				
Dues	Annual dues (\$13/person average x 100 paying members)	1,300.00	979.96	(320.04)
Donations	Samsung (\$40/mo), Amazon Smile, other	600.00	76.52	(523.48)
Initial Training Fees	Initial training (20 FOR 2024 class)	3,000.00		(3,000.00)
Plant sale	Hummerbird	12,000.00		(12,000.00)
Book Sales	Book Sales	250.00	239.40	(10.60)
Badge Replacement		50.00	14.00	(36.00)
TOTAL INCOME		\$17,200.00	\$1,309.88	(15,890.12)
EXPENSES				
Administrative				
VP Expenses	Supplies & other expenses incurred by VP, hotspot plan \$600	800.00		(800.00)
VP Expenses for Meetings - Capital Expense	laptop case \$25, laptop \$280, monitor \$250, Owl case \$90, Owl Zoom Equip \$1200	2,150.00	1,928.12	(221.88)
Storage	A/C Storage Unit, Insurance, Incidentals (Shelving, Locks)	750.00	250.31	(499.69)
Secretary's Supplies	Paper, ink, postage, other supplies	100.00		(100.00)
Treasurer's Supplies	Paper, ink, postage, checks, Treas laptop IT Maint - \$200	300.00	266.72	(33.28)
Treasurer - Capital Expense	Mouse \$50	50.00		(50.00)
Historian and scrapbook	Toner, Paper, Scrapbook pages, Storage, etc.	100.00		(100.00)
Project Director Expenses	Future Proposed Projects	1,400.00		(1,400.00)
Membership	Plaques (2 cases @\$139.75 ea) - \$280 name badges - \$13*20=\$260 malling awards @\$4.50 ea - \$200	750.00	285.00	(465.00)
Communications - Website & IT	website domain name \$15, hosting \$165 & improvements \$270; Wulfoo online data support \$350; Zoom license \$150	950.00	179.88	(770.12)
Communications - Newsletter/ Gen Marketing	MS Pub fee 9x12=\$108, Const Contact 10x12=\$120 Boosted FB ads 10x12=\$120	348.00	79.89	(268.11)
Communications - Outreach	Monthly outreach event supplies 10x\$100 + \$50 misc expense	1,050.00	358.35	(691.65)
Communications - Outreach - Capital Expense	Outreach table skulls, pelts, etc - \$1784 Geocaching, other gadgets & gizmos \$119	1,903.00	1,750.71	(152.29)
PO Box Rental	Post Office box rental - Fulton	200.00	147.00	(53.00)
Discretionary	Honarilums, TMN annual silent auction contrib, etc	350.00		(350.00)
Total Administrative		\$11,201.00	\$5,245.98	(5,955.02)
Advanced Training				
Training - Initial	Instructor/speaker fees	250.00	-	(250.00)
Boat / Touch Tank Fees	RV Katy for Bay and Barrier Island Ecology	800.00		(800.00)
Books - Purchased	12 Statewide Curriculum (TAMU Press), 20 My Brush Country Backyard	920.00	955.80	35.80
Instructor Fees	Honoraria or expense reimbursements (2 X \$250 assumed)	500.00	250.00	(250.00)
Venue	Fees	75.00		(75.00)
Contingency Fund	Other expenses (15% contingency)	470.00		(470.00)
Supplies & expenses	Note pads, printing, binders, badges, etc.	845.00	1,222.41	377.41
Masks	Masks and hand sanitizers	-		#VALUE!
IT Fees - Withdraw refund		-		
Total Initial Training		\$3,610.00	\$2,428.21	(1,181.79)
Plant Sale				
HummerBird Fee	For outside space	105.00	150.00	45.00
Plants	Plants purchased	5,000.00	9.85	(4,990.15)
Sales Tax	Tax for sales other than 2 "free days". Total taxable amount.	150.00	452.10	302.10
POS Supplies	paper/labels/ink \$100, hotspot access fee \$60; barcode font license \$120	280.00		(280.00)
Supplies & Misc expenses	Misc needed for sale	300.00		(300.00)
Equipment Upgrades - Capital Expense	cart wheels - 220; trays - 300	520.00		(520.00)
Total Plant Sale		\$ 6,355.00	\$ 611.95	(5,743.05)
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$21,416.00	\$8,286.14	-\$13,129.86
TOTAL NET INCOME		-\$4,216.00	-\$6,976.26	(2,760.26)
NET PLANT SALE INCOME		\$5,645.00	-\$611.95	(6,256.95)
CAPITAL EXPENSE		\$4,623.00	\$3,678.83	(944.17)

2023 BUDGET *LLO ACTUALS dated 7.31.2023

Membership Director Report by Dee Mahaffey and Hourskeeper Report by Kris Kirkwood

July 2023 Hourskeeper Report

Chapter Service & Training in July 2023

Volunteer Service	Advanced Training	# Members Reporting	# Different Opportunities	Value at \$23 per hour
668	53	45	23	\$16,583.00

Service & Training 2023 Year-to-Date Total

Volunteer Service	Advanced Training	# Members Reporting	# Different Opportunities	Value at \$23 per hour
8,251	1,101.25	93	49	\$215,101.75

Cumulative—Chapter Inception in 2000 to Present

Volunteer Service	Advanced Training	All-time # Members Reporting	# Different Opportunities	Value at \$23 per hour
234,799.25	24,628.00	326	71	\$5,966,826.75

As of August 1, the Mid-Coast Chapter has a total of 111 members eligible to report hours. 93 members have reported hours since the first of the year—83.8% of the total eligible.

Class of 2023—10 class members reported 155.5 hours of service in July. Of the 17 members of the class, 5 have already been certified (29%); no new certifications since last month’s report.

Recertification 2023—31 members have recertified for 2023, earning the Texas Ecoregions pin. This number is 32.9% of the previously certified membership. No new recertifications since last month’s report. See page 2 for the full list.

The waiting list for the 2024 initial training class is now up to 12 applicants and 9 applicants held over from the 2022 waiting list for a total of 21.

Advanced Training Director Report by Debbie Kucera

There have been 88 new AT requests approved this year.

A reminder for everyone to submit their AT requests before the event in order to receive credit.

Many AT opportunities will be offered at the HummerBird Celebration, in lectures and field trips. Check the Rockport Chamber of Commerce website for times and fees.

Beth Hudson will be relinquishing her position as liaison between Academy of Lifelong Learning at Victoria College in Victoria, TX. Many AT outreach opportunities are available with this position.

Initial Training Directors Report by Jeremy Miller & Kate Geer-Miller

2023 Program Accomplishments & Observations

- Completed 10 out of 10 sessions. All sessions were held as scheduled.
- Graduating class size was 17 new members out of 21 original members-in-training. The four carryovers might be interested in returning for 2024.
- Amy Nowlin was elected Class Representative.
- The hybrid Virtual/In-the-field model is well accepted and appreciated.
- Program reorganization of combining Coastal Prairies, Wetlands, and Bay and Barrier Island ecologies from three sessions into two sessions was successful.
- New venues of Lake Texana Park, Powderhorn WMA, and R/V Katy were well received.
- Received good feedback from training venues including desire for participation in 2024 training program. Amy Nowlin provided a summary report.

2024 Initial Training Updates

- Jeremy Miller & Kate Geer-Miller (both Class of 2023) have agreed assuming leadership and were approved by the BOD in its July 8, 2023 meeting.
- 2024 program planning is underway. We have a drafted schedule framework from Sally & Greg that we are building upon.
 - Welder is booked for March 2, 2024, w/Kris & Ray as ambassadors.
 - Mary P. will be helping us order the needed training books to be picked up at the Texas Master Naturalist Annual Meeting to save on shipping.
 - Seeking Ambassadors either return or new for 2024 training. **Please let us know if you are interested.**
 - We recommend maintaining class size at 20 MIT's & training fees at \$150 (comparable to many other TMN programs). The Board approved class size and fees at its July 8, 2023 meeting.
 - We will review drop-out and waitlist filling in next Chapter Meeting
 - We are reviewing the 2023 class feedback for 2024 preparation.
 - We will also propose updated waivers and background check updates in the next Chapter Meeting- leveraging from other TMN chapters.
 - We plan to continue with hybrid virtual/field model. That received very positive feedback.
 - We are starting to get quite a few applicants and will also review at the next Chapter meeting a few scholarship request submissions.

Projects Director Report (other than Plant Sale) by Ray Kirkwood

The Project Director has spent much of his time rewriting his portion of the COH.

Technical Guidance

One new process has been installed into the Director's prevue, that being the documenting the use of charging time of TG (Technical Guidance) for attending partner's meetings. TMN State has decreed that only members authorized by the local BOD may count those hours. Many of our members provide valuable input to our partners about the impact their activities have on the local environment. In order to identify those members of the MC-TMN so authorized, the Board has developed a new Wufoo form to request designation as our representative to the organization that they regularly support.

The currently supported organizations are:

Wings Rescue Center (1)

Aransas First Land Trust (2)

South Texas Chapter, Native Plant Society of Texas (1)

City of Rockport (1)

Friends of Aransas National Wildlife Refuge (2)

CCA Aransas Bay Chapter (1)

Guadalupe Blanco River Trust (1)

Aransas Pathways (1)

This does not mean that members cannot participate in activities of these organizations if that participation can be charged to other project categories, it only applies to attending and participating in formal meetings of the organization.

The form for requesting authorization can be found at:

<https://midcoasttmn.wufoo.com/forms/mctmn-request-for-technical-guidance-approval/>

Texas Monofilament Recovery and Precycling Program (MRRP) Report by Brigid Berger

MRRP is coordinated by the Texas Sea Grant College Program. It is a statewide, volunteer-led effort to reduce monofilament in the environment by educating the public about the problems caused by monofilament line left in the environment and encouraging recycling through a network of line recycling bins and drop-off locations. They would like volunteers to document the recycling bins and drop-off locations with photographs and GPS location information for survey to qualify for funding. See August 5, 2023 email blast below.

"CALLING ALL MONOFILAMENT RECYCLING VOLUNTEERS!"

If you are monitoring/emptying a monofilament recycling bin, please complete this short survey for Texas Sea Grant. Information needed includes GPS location of the bin, a photo of the bin, and its condition. https://tamu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_02sSEjudgk4pGh8

Report as RM: Other locations if your location is not among those listed in the dropdown.

<https://texasseagrant.org/programs/monofilament-recovery-and-recycling-program>

Call for Booth Volunteers by Wilfred Korth

Friends of Aransas Wildlife Refuge will have booths at the HummerBird Celebration and Refuge Day and are calling for volunteers.

35th Annual Rockport-Fulton Homebird Celebration, September 14 - 17, 2023. The Friends of Aransas NWR will have a booth in the vendor show in the High School Commons, to meet new and old friends and members, brag about the refuge and sell some of the nature-related items from

the Nature Store.

Refuge Day, October 14, 2023. Watch for more information about the fun events planned for this annual celebration of the Aransas NWR.

<https://friendsofaransas.wildapricot.org/events>

Call for Volunteers by Liz Smith for ICF Game Camera Project

Community Scientist Volunteers are asked to screen camera images for the International Crane Foundation. Liz Smith is MCTMN liaison. Please contact her for further information.

Reminder of San Antonio Bay Partnership Clean Up by Steve Marwitz

Save the Dates—San Antonio Bay Partnership

San Antonio & Espiritu Santo Bay Shorelines Annual Cleanup #4

Tuesday, Sep 26, 2023—Seadrift

Saturday, Sep 30, 2023—Port O’Connor

<https://www.sabaypartnership.org/shorelines-cleanup>

Upcoming Opportunities in Rockport, Calhoun, and Matagorda Counties Reported by Amy Nowlin

Plant Sale Manager Report by Debbie Minns

The dates are September 15-17 at the Rockport Fulton High School at the HummerBird Celebration.

The sale is an important multipurpose event for our chapter.

1. \$\$\$ We are budgeted to raise a net profit of \$6,355 which helps support all the projects and operations within our mission.
2. Service – we provide an outlet for customers to purchase and plant native plants that are hard to find.
3. Education – we help our customers understand the importance of planting native, how to use native plants to attract wildlife and have a new initiative to educate on the importance of native milkweed for the benefit of monarchs.

Last year we put some new procedures in place as we try to find the perfect balance of efficiency and functionality. We will continue to tweak those systems, this year. I want to thank those who worked last year for your amazing willingness to learn and adapt to new ideas. And thanks in advance this year as we make a few more changes.

- 1) Sign up genius is a new format this year.
- 2) Automated Pre-order
- 3) Formosa participation
- 4) Square inventory simplification

Thank you to all who have worked so far. Our team: Julie Hejducek, Charla Ingalls and their team, Liz Smith, Cindy Hielscher, Janet Coy, D’Ann Williams, Patrick Hardigan, Bill Burge and Tracy Bennett. Thank you to those who have already signed up to help in the future. We do still have openings for Sales Associates, Cashiers Assistants, and few other spots.

The plant Sale Manager Position is a 3-year commitment...to keep fresh eyes on the sale and prevent major burn out. I have another year after this one. If anyone thinks they may be interested in training with me next year, I welcome you to observe and ask questions this year to help you make that decision.

We will have over a thousand plants. Please, please, please help promote the sale. Anyone is welcome. HummerBird Celebration participation is not required.

Communications Director Report by D'Ann Williams

Administration:

- Used Survey Monkey platform to allow for a formal vote on the formation of a Nomination Committee
- Created 2 Signups for the Plant Sale
 - One for Pre-Plant Sale you should have received—
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0544AEAE2CA2FE3-mctmn>
 - One for Plant Sale Day Needs will be sent out soon—
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0544AEAE2CA2FE3-20231>
- Looking for passwords for Instagram, etc. to give to Secretary and Technology Director

Publicity/Social Media:

- Created Plant Sale Flyer with Kris's help to use on Social Media, etc.
 - o Will employ boosted ads that will reach specific groups, towns, etc.
 - o **Show flyer which is at the end of this report.**
- Will send out a Plant Sale Press Release 2 weeks prior to event to all news affiliates in our 8 counties

Newsletter – Bobbie Lee:

- Bobbie needs your story ideas for the August Newsletter!
- She is resigning from the quarterly Newsletter lead for health reasons.
 - o Please let me know if you'd like to take it over.
 - o We have Constant Contact email for the newsletter in our budget or you can use her MS Publisher template.

5.1.6.2 Mid-Coast Newsletter Editor responsibilities include:

- a. Publishing a periodic newsletter for the chapter, preferably quarterly
- b. Solicit members to write articles for the newsletter

Outreach – D'Ann Williams, others:

- Secured outreach and butterfly tent as well as Bent Oaks Rookery Park and Linda Castro HB Celebration.
 - o Texas Maritime Museum summer camp: Our team helped with the both Texas Floating Classroom on Wednesdays and on one Thursday at Goose Island for Ranger Sara who was out of town and needed someone to help out in her place.
 - o Rockport Beach: Took a beach wagon one busy Saturday and passed out Up2U bags and showed fun artifacts to engage with the public. Was fun but needed a lot more members to have a greater impact.
- Reprinted 3000 rack cards of our 8 county Chapter Nature and History Sites. Now has general chapter information on the back and space for notes of places to go to that we talk about with the visitor.
 - o We have them here for you to take back to your counties – Chamber Racks, hotels, TPWD Park offices, etc.
 - o Do not leave here today without getting cards for your various counties!

Historian's Report – Kris Kirkwood

Kris Kirkwood has served as the chapter's historian since the position was inaugurated in our chapter by president Hugh Turner in 2011 to provide a lessons-learned sort of corporate memory

to officers and directors. She is hereby requesting a new historian be appointed. The historian works for the Communications Director. The appointee should have been a member for several years and be prepared to take on the responsibilities listed in paragraph 5.1.6.4 of the new Chapter Operating Handbook:

5.1.6.4 Mid-Coast Historian (Archivist) responsibilities include:

- a. Gathering, maintaining, and storing materials and electronic media about chapter activities
- b. Appointing and overseeing a member to maintain the chapter scrapbook
- c. Providing timely historical chapter information to the board and chapter upon request
- d. Providing information from chapter archives to support committee functions
- e. Passing accurate and complete records to successor

Kris has chapter photos, documents, and media since chapter inception and is in the process of separating items that need to go to the chapter secretary for storage in accordance with the chapter retention policy. Janet Cunningham has the chapter scrapbooks.

Webmaster – Ray Kirkwood:

- Our website is still healthy and useful.
- In the last 30 days we recorded 1142 sessions by various users.
- There have been some minor changes to management procedures, primarily a shift to a new, faster server for uploading and viewing posted PDF files. This change should be unnoticeable to users of the site.



The poster features a vibrant background of various plants, flowers, and insects like a dragonfly, a bee, and a butterfly. The text is arranged in a clear, hierarchical layout. At the top left is the Texas Master Naturalist logo. The main title 'HummerBird Celebration Native Plant Sale' is in large, bold letters. Below it, the types of plants and a specific benefit are listed. The dates and times for the sale are prominently displayed in pink. Accepted payment methods are listed in green. The location and address are in blue. A yellow box at the bottom contains additional benefits and an invitation to visit the outreach table.

Brought to you
by your
T E X A S
Master
Naturalist
Mid-Coast Chapter

HummerBird Celebration Native Plant Sale

Shrubs | Vines | Perennials | Trees
Milkweed - Will Attract Monarch Caterpillars

Friday, Sept. 15 & Saturday, Sept. 16 - 9 am to 5 pm
Sunday, Sept. 17 - 10 am to 3 pm

Cash-Check-Credit Cards Accepted

Rockport-Fulton High School—Commons
1801 Omohundro St, Rockport, TX 78382

Many Attractive Benefits:
Drought & Cold Weather Tolerant | Less Expensive
Attract Butterflies & Birds to Your Yard
Expert advice for your landscape

Interested in becoming a Texas Master Naturalist?
Come Visit Our Chapter's Outreach Table!

Technology Director Report by Steve Simmons

On July 17, 2023, Steve Simmons introduced himself as the new Technology Director through email and solicited help from membership to report possession of any chapter-own assets, technology or otherwise so that he could create a “Technology Catalog.” The report should contain the items, descriptions, and locations and be emailed to technology@midcoast-tmn.org or ssimmons_tx@yahoo. There have been no responses. Any technological-related questions can also be directed to him.

Past President Report by Claire Barnhart

A nominating committee consisting of Claire Barnhart, Greg Simmons, Sally Scrogg, and Steve Marwitz was formed to present a slate of candidates in the October Board of Director Meeting. Past President Claire Barnhart beseeched members to seek the office of president or nominate a fellow MCTMN. She described the position and duties of a president.

Class Representative Report by Amy Nowlin

Class Updates:

No certifications or recertifications to report.

In a recent update, Gary Ward is 4 hours away from obtaining his certification.

July Celebrations:

Total Volunteer hours = 970.5 hours (162 hours increase from last month)

Total AT hours = 295 (12 hours increase from last month)

News:

Amy Nowlin has been hired as the new Matagorda County AgriLife Extension Agent for Coastal & Marine Resources and will be the point of contact for the Mid-Coast Texas Master Naturalist Chapter. Through her extension programs, she will coordinate and assist with advance training as well as volunteer services opportunities on behalf of the Mid-Coast Chapter.

Contact information:

amy.nowlin@ag.tamu.edu

July Meeting Attendance

Members present: Laura Andersen, Claire Barnhart (Past President), Tracy Bennett, Eleanor Chew (Secretary), Bob Cunningham (President), Steve Ferguson, Kimberley Followwill, Kathryn Geer-Miller (IT Director), Patrick Hartigan) Julie Hejducek (Treasurer), Mike Hejducek, Patrick Henley, Beth Hudson, Wilfred Korth, Debbie Kucera (AT Director), Steve Marwitz, Janet McCrea, Jeremy Miller (IT Director), Debbie Minns (Plant Sales Manager), Amy Nowlin (Class Representative 2023), Debbie Roskey, Karen Lee Rystad, Sally Scroggs, Greg Simmons, Stephen Simmons (Technology Director), Liz Smith, Marilyn Stewart, Linda Swickheimer, and Cindy Baker (guest).

Awards

Initial Certification enamel dragonfly & plaque—Steve Simmons, Jeremy Miller, Steve Ferguson.

Not present to receive awards: Sally Crofutt, Larry Green, Frank Hayes

Milestone Awards

250-hour bronze dragonfly: Steve Simmons. Not present: Carla Haskett, Bobby Garner

Silver 500-Hour Milestone Pin—Laura Andersen, Janie von Dohlen. Not present, Karen Barton

Recertification Pins

2021 Side-Oats—not present: Donna Fiarkoski, Carla Haskett

2022 Lightning Whelk—Not present to receive awards: Karen Barton, Rebecca Bootzin, Maureen Crocker, Donna Fiarkoski, Sandra Garcia, Carla Haskett

2023 TX Ecoregions— Steve Simmons, KarenLee Rystad. Not present: Charla Ingalls, Robyn Savage, Susie Starnes

Service against All Odds through Grit and Distance pin —Not present: James Coquat, Claudia Dorn, Donna Fiarkoski, Carla Haskett, Larry Henneke, Melanie Konarik, Robyn Savage, Neli Spurrell.