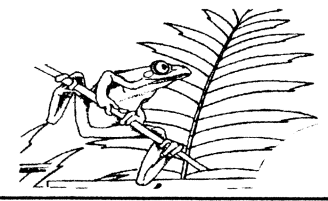


RAPHIA



Summer, 1999
The Newsletter of Canadian Organization for Tropical Education
and Rainforest Conservation (COTERC)

Volume 8
No. 3

TROPICAL TREAT '99

DON'T FORGET TO MARK your calendars for **OCTOBER 2ND** - the date of COTERC's next fundraising **TROPICAL TREAT**.

This annual event has fast become extremely popular and tickets are going quickly. Reserve yours now!!

This year's event will again be held in the Atrium of the Toronto Zoo, decorated as a tropical rain forest complete with "critters" surveying the festivities.

Only \$45.00 per person, the ticket includes a wonderful tropical dinner, dancing plus a live and silent auction. Toronto Zoo General Manager Calvin White will again be our Master of Ceremonies.

We hope to offer a "phone-in" bidding line so those not at Tropical Treat can participate. Stay tuned for further details.

For information and tickets, please contact the COTERC office .



Help us raise funds to improve facilities at Caño Palma Biological Station while having a great time!

AUCTION ITEMS WANTED!

We are seeking all kinds of items for the live and silent auctions. We already have a great selection of artwork, but can use all sorts of other things. For example, last year we were able to offer two weekend getaways at a Bed and Breakfast; a kayaking trip; tickets to hockey, baseball and football games; hand-painted sweatshirt; a one-hour massage, etc., etc.

If you have a service or craft that you do, or if you know of people who do, please consider offering these as auction items. All donations, big and small are gratefully accepted. Thank you!! Please call Fran Mason at the COTERC office.

CANADIAN ORGANIZATION FOR
TROPICAL EDUCATION AND
RAINFORREST CONSERVATION
BOX 335
PICKERING, ONTARIO L1V 2R6
CANADA
Phone (905) 831-8809
Fax (905) 831-4203
email coterc@interhop.net

COMING FROM A DISTANCE FOR TROPICAL TREAT? ROOMS AVAILABLE!

This year we have been able to obtain a special room rate of \$65.00 at the Guild Inn, located 15 minutes away from the zoo. It is a charming old country inn and a wonderful place to stay while in town for Tropical Treat. There are a limited number of rooms available at this rate, so call (416) 261-3331 to book your room, and mention the Tropical Treat at the Toronto Zoo.

CAÑO PALMA BIOLOGICAL Station again hosted students from Bexley Middle School as part of their Rain Forest Education June 19-26. They spent one day at the station and we will feature their work in the next issue, but want to acknowledge the generous donation they made to the Station.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!

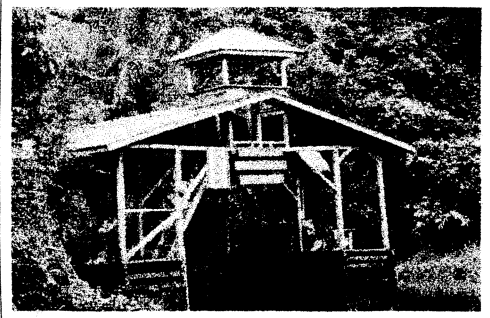


Photo of Cano Palma dock by Carol Dorman

TROPICAL TREAT UPDATE

by Linda Moyle

Being the successful bidder on a five-night stay at COTERC's Caño Palma Biological Station in Costa Rica, I am writing to say how much my brother Len and I enjoyed ourselves.

We very much appreciated the serenity of the site, the stunning scenery, abundant flora and fauna, a gracious host and perhaps most importantly, the significant role the organization plays in promoting the message of conservation and education for lowland rain forest preservation.

It was obvious to us that COTERC's presence here is well respected, and I felt proud to see the Canadian flag waving on Caño Palma's dock, a welcoming beacon to visitors from around the world.

Rustic? Yes. Scorpions in the laundry? Yes. An excellent adventure every minute of every day? YES!!

I'll be going back and try to assist where I can.

TIPPET-RICHARDSON LTD.

Tippet-Richardson Limited is a private company established in 1927. Today, we are one of Canada's largest, most diversified office and commercial relocation specialists. Our range of commercial services include: consulting and project management, computer and electronic special handling, office systems installation, warehousing, plant and equipment relocation, and office relocations. We also perform local, long distance, international and corporate relocations. We offer business records management, storage and household furniture restoration and refinishing services.
Phone 1-800-268-6753

NEW CORPORATE MEMBERS

by Amanda Stone, Membership Secretary

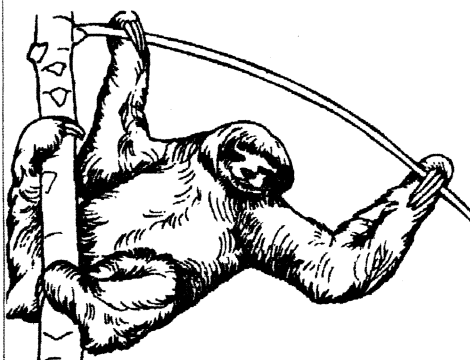
We want to extend a warm welcome to the following COTERC Corporate members

PIONEER PARTNERSHIP

ANNE TRIMBLE

TIPPET-RICHARDSON LTD.
"The Friendly Movers"

Thank you for your support!



WANTED

We are seeking a volunteer who would like to take on the job of developing a unique cookbook for COTERC to use as a fundraising tool.

It will be based on the cookbook from the Holy Trinity Church, but with environmental and conservation messages on the pages between, along with appropriate drawings and illustrations, plus recipes from Costa Rica as well as Canada.

This should be an interesting project, but needs someone who is willing to devote some time to it. If you are interested, please contact the COTERC office.

CHALLENGE FROM MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

by Amanda Stone

COTERC IS IN THE process of seeking new members, and I would like to know if any of our current members would like to help out.

There is something in it for all of us.

If each of our current members could bring into the organization three new members before their renewal date comes due, you will receive your choice of one of the following:

1. One free year membership renewal;
2. Original COTERC T-shirt (hands holding up the rain forest); OR
3. Caño Palma Biological Station T-shirt.

If you are interested in helping us out, please call, fax, write or e-mail the COTERC office and leave your name and address. We will send you three membership applications in the mail.

Thanks for your cooperation!

CAN YOU UNSCRAMBLE THESE WORDS TO FIND THE NAMES OF INSECTS?

See Page 7 for correct answers

- AORYNLFGD
- BYLBGUA
- CRCHCAOKO
- EYEEB ONH
- FUHOLESY
- GNAT
- HTOM
- IRTETME
- KKLSINACTGIW
- LRRRAELIAPTC
- MUOISQTO
- RFYILFE
- RGA MPSAITNNIY
- RKTCECI
- RREHPPOSSAG
- RTUULFETB
- TAINF ER
- TLAESPPEEB NAJ
- WPAS

COTERC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF COTER, HELD JUNE 24, 1999 at the Civic Garden Centre, Toronto, Ontario

President Peter Silverman chaired the meeting. Several COTERC members and Board of Directors were present. Meeting was called to order by President Silverman at 7:30pm.

1. President's Welcome

President Silverman welcomed all COTERC members. He announced his resignation as President and reminisced about his involvement with COTERC over the past years.

2. Committee Reports

Amanda Stone, membership committee chair was not at the meeting so the membership report will have to wait until the next Board Meeting. Brian Henshaw, COTERC Treasurer was not at the meeting. Marilyn stated that the financial statements were not yet available due to a delay caused by the bank. The auditor is preparing the statements and promises they will be completed by Tuesday June 29. The statements are available upon request to the COTERC office.

Marilyn Cole, COTERC Executive Director gave a summary of the activities of COTERC during the last year.

3. Awards Ceremony

President Silverman presented the awards and Marilyn Cole described the contributions to COTERC made by the following award recipient

- June Barringham,
- Alison Piercey
- Dr. Louis Pike
- Jenny Baboolal
- Elizabeth Schaeffer
- Ian Morrison
- John Parry
- Joan Watson

The Board was pleased to present an award to President Silverman for his contributions over the years.

4. Nomination of Directors

The following Directors were elected for an additional term:

Sandra Parker moved by Bev McMullen, seconded by Tom Mason

Tom Mason moved by Bev McMullen, seconded by Frances Burton

Fiona Reid moved by Tom Mason, seconded by Bev McMullen

Malcolm Enright moved by Derrick Fulton, seconded by Bev McMullen-

Brian Henshaw moved by Tom Mason, seconded by Sandra Parker

President Silverman announced his resignation as President. He agreed to remain a member of the Board. His nomination as a Director was moved by Sandra Parker and seconded by Bev McMullen.

"Past President" Silverman suggested and nominated **Derrick Fulton** as the new President. His nomination as President was seconded by Bev McMullen.

5. Slide Presentation

The meeting attendees were fortunate to be given a slide presentation by Bev McMullen (with many amusing comments) of her last visit to Cano Palma Biological Station.

6. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.



President Derrick Fulton & Past President Peter Silverman

Photo by Bev McMullen

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON JUNE 24TH, MARILYN COLE gave a report on the events that occurred during the past year.

The fiscal year 1998-99 has brought some interesting changes to COTERC, while at the same time allowing it to develop in new directions.

One of the more significant changes was the hiring of Fran Mason as Administrative Assistant, who took over the daily duties for COTERC including such tasks as responding to phone, mail and email messages; initiating contacts for fundraising and other purposes; managing the weekly bingo fundraising events, as well as others such as barbecues; liaison with Board members and a multitude of other duties too numerous to name. With her appointment the COTERC office has a new phone and fax number. I remain as Executive Director but in a part-time capacity. This has allowed me to pursue other interests while still maintaining close ties with COTERC.

We have also been developing a five-year Masterplan over the past year and are currently putting the finishing touches on it. This Masterplan will allow us to proceed in a systematic fashion to take COTERC to the next level in the future, and to provide

Executive Director's Report Continued
guidance for newer Board members.

Here in Canada, while we have been active with our school education program, we made 52 presentations as opposed to 82 in the previous year. This decrease can be attributed to two things: teachers' strikes & work slowdowns, plus a decrease in our volunteer base (due in part to some volunteers moving to other areas). Hopefully we can increase our presentations in the upcoming year by developing a larger volunteer base. Elizabeth Schaeffer was very helpful in this regard. Thanks, Liz for all your help! June Barringham also took on a large load of class presentations, despite her heavy commitment elsewhere. Thanks June!!

During this past year Dr. Louis Pike and Jenny Baboolal worked on developing a presentation aimed at lower grade levels, and we will begin to utilize this new program in the future, so that we can provide programs that suit the age of the students more closely.

Our Tropical Treat held in late September, 1998 was another successful event, generating much-needed funds for Caño Palma Biological Station. This year's event will again be held at the Toronto Zoo Atrium, thanks to the generosity of the Toronto Zoo management. Get out your calendars and set aside October 2nd for this increasingly popular event. We will again have all kinds of exciting things for the live and silent auction, plus a great dinner and dancing. Tickets are only \$45.00 and seating is limited, so order your tickets now from our office!! As an extra special feature, our Station Manager from Costa Rica, Ross Ballard will be joining us for Tropical Treat.

We also are offering raffle tickets, with a signed limited edition Robert Bateman print as first prize, with second and third prizes of artwork by other wildlife artists. Tickets are only \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00 and are available from all Board members or from the COTERC office.

I am also pleased to report that we have qualified to receive funding from the Ontario Lottery Corporation to have our Teacher's Manual on Rainforest Conservation printed. We expect to be able to distribute these to teachers in early fall, 1999. This manual has been evolving for

some time and has been scrutinized by a number of experts, all of whom have complimented us on a job well done. I want to thank Joan Watson for her many hours dedicated to illustrating and putting the manual into its final format prior to printing.

We have also seen a change in the membership secretary. Ian Morrison has held this position for several years, and has passed on the mantle to Amanda Stone. John Parry, the Raphia newsletter editor, has also stepped down.



Award recipients (clockwise from rear) Alison Piercey, June Barringham, Louis Pike & Peter Silverman

Photo by Bev McMullen

COTERC has been profiled in several guidebooks describing our research station facilities and offering volunteer opportunities, and we have received a great number of enquiries as a result.

We also received funding from the federal government's Environmental Youth Corps program to hire an individual to work at our butterfly garden in the village of Tortuguero, Costa Rica. We are currently negotiating with other groups to take over the daily operation of this garden, now that our grant money from CIDA has been depleted, and we will keep you posted of developments.

Caño Palma Biological Station's facilities are somewhat lacking for large student groups and consequently part of the Masterplan addresses the issue of re-building and renovating some of the current facilities.

Tom Mason has agreed to oversee this project, and we expect to begin the expansion in the late fall or early winter.

Ross Ballard has now been with Caño Palma Biological Station for approximately 1 1/2 years and has been appointed as Station Manager. We are currently seeking an individual to become the Assistant Manager. Ross has recently been able to secure the purchase of a large dugout boat, capable of carrying more passengers and cargo than our other two boats. Those of you who remember the Peregrina (our first boat) will probably feel a bit nostalgic in knowing that it is for sale. The Adelita remains as our back-up and general run-around boat. I have not yet heard whether the new dugout has been named, but I've no doubt that our staff will come up with an appropriate name.

We continue to host students and researchers from various institutions, and with the development of newer and larger facilities, we will be able to attract more in the future. In the meantime, bats and insects appear to be the most popular animals to be studied.

We have hosted visits from the schoolchildren of the village of Tortuguero, and feel that this is an important part of our education component. Although these children have grown up surrounded by the rain forest, many of them still do not have a great appreciation for the diversity of life around them,



Executive Director Marilyn Cole

Photos by Bev McMullen

Executive Director's Report Continued
and our staff at Caño Palma have filled an important niche in this area.

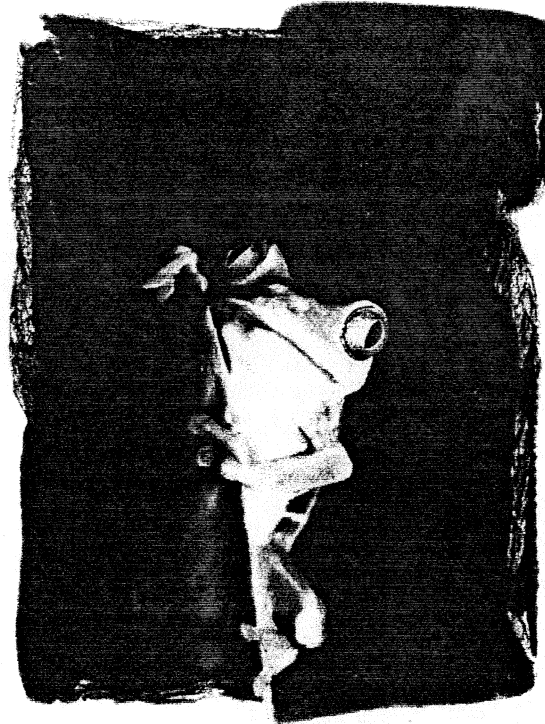
In summary, since our early beginnings a short eight years ago, we have made some great strides in certain areas, while the potential remains for us to develop further in other areas. With the Master-plan in place, we will be able to forge ahead into the new Millennium. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our many volunteers (from the Board of Directors to those who help at our fundraising events). A charity such as COTERC could not exist without your help and support.



COTERC Board members (clockwise from left rear) Bill Rapley, Derrick Fulton, Sandra Parker, Marilyn Cole, Bev McMullen, Peter Silverman, Tom Mason

AWARD-WINNING PHOTOGRAPH BY COTERC DIRECTOR

Congratulations to Bev McMullen who won an Honourable Mention in a recent prestigious nation-wide photography contest held by the Toronto Star. Bev beat out thousands of entries for her photo of her red-eyed tree frog Rico. We have reproduced it here in black and white, but it really doesn't do justice to the photograph.



RAFFLE FOR ROBERT BATEMAN PRINT

ONCE AGAIN WE ARE FORTUNATE TO HAVE BEEN DONATED A beautiful framed, signed limited edition print by renowned wildlife artist Robert Bateman, to offer as First Prize in our fundraising raffle. Second prize is a print entitled "Silent Snowfall" by Cyril Cox and third prize is a print entitled "Kingfishers" by Barry Barnett.

Tickets are only \$2.00 each, or three for \$5.00.

The draw will be held at the Tropical Treat on October 2nd, 1999, and winners will be notified by telephone after the draw.

To buy your ticket, or if you would like to help by selling some in your neighbourhood, please contact Fran Mason (905) 831-8809, fax (905) 831-4203 or email coterc@interhop.net



President Peter Silverman congratulating Lou Pike on his award at Annual General Meeting
Photos by Bev McMullen

BARBECUES RAISE MONEY FOR COTERC

ONE OF THE WAYS THAT COTERC raises money is through barbecues held at local supermarkets. So far this year we have held two - one in Ajax, Ontario and the other in Pickering, Ontario.

Fran Mason brought her children Debbie and Daniel to Loblaw's in Ajax, Ontario on Saturday, June 26th to help wrap and hand out a huge assortment of sausages, pork ribbits and hot dogs, while Scott Staples and David Speed served as Master Chefs. June Barringham, Dawn Todd and Marilyn Cole took turns selling and cleaning tables, while Alison Piercey sold raffle tickets.

§

On Saturday, July 10th the entire Mason clan showed up at the Supercentre in Pickering, Ontario - Fran, Tom, Debbie and Daniel and brought along Malcolm Enright and COTERC member Mark Lachaine. Tom and Mark cooked up sausages, pork ribbits and hot dogs to eager customers, while Sue and Lauren Crawshaw took care of the money and cleaning up.

Marilyn Cole managed to sell quite a few raffle tickets by positioning her table right beside the condiments. Anyone who wanted mustard on their hot dog had to get by her!

§

There is another barbecue coming up on August 14th, again at the SuperCentre in Pickering, Ontario. If you can spare a few hours to help, please give Fran a call (905) 831-8809.



Sue Crawshaw, Fran Mason, Debbie Mason, Lauren Crawshaw



Lauren Crawshaw, Mark Lachaine, Tom Mason



Alison Piercey manning the raffle ticket table



Two satisfied customers



Scott Staples and David Speed - Master Chefs
Photos by Marilyn Cole



And two more!!

BIRD BOOKLETS FOR SALE

TWO BOOKLETS WRITTEN BY COTERC BOARD MEMBER BRIAN HENSHAW ARE OF INTEREST TO BIRDERS.

"A Seasonal Checklist to the Birds of Durham Region, Ontario provides a list of the 346 species of birds recorded in the Regional Municipality of Durham, along with relative abundance, a date guide, breeding status and check columns.

"A Field Checklist of the Birds of Costa Rica" provides a simple format for birders to record species observed or heard in Costa Rica, and should be in every birder's backpack who is planning a trip to Costa Rica.

Both booklets are available from the COTERC office for only \$5.00 each. Please contact Fran Mason (905) 831-8809 fax (905) 831-4203 for your copy.

PROYECTO CAMPANARIO

FOR SOME YEARS NOW, COTERC HAS HAD A RELATIONSHIP WITH A "sister" research facility known as Proyecto Campanario. Its founder and director Nancy Aitken has done numerous favours for COTERC and Caño Palma Biological Station, taking care of business in San Jose, Costa Rica. We thought you might enjoy hearing about Campanario, as narrated by a volunteer biologist who recently visited the site.

I was more than ready to stretch my legs after 6 hours on the public bus from San Jose to the small riverside town of Sierpe in the northern end of the Osa Peninsula. Other members of my group had already arrived and were quickly loading gear and supplies into the boat while the tide was still high. As the tide goes down and the river empties, sometimes sandbars and breaking waves become hazards at the mouth of the river, so we were all in a hurry to travel with the high tide.

With everyone accounted for and a week's supply of food on board, we began our 90 minute trip down the wide winding river, through the largest mangrove reserve in Central America, to the ocean where we turned south and followed the coast to Proyecto Campanario. Campanario is a private biological reserve originally purchased a decade ago by a small group of teachers and ex-Peace Corps volunteers, and is now managed by Nancy Aitken. The reserve protects nearly 65 hectares of tropical wet forest adjacent to Corcovado National Park and serves as a center for conservation, research and education. The large and comfortable field station, with running water, solar electricity and 24 beds, enables Campanario to host scientists, school groups and adventurous

green travellers.

The unmistakable raucous call of the Scarlet Macaw was my alarm clock early the next morning. I went out of my room onto the second floor balcony overlooking the ocean to find the bird in an almond tree only a coconut's throw away. After watching the bird's every move for 10 minutes, my gaze eventually drifted toward the horizon to find two Humpback whales spouting off about a kilometer from shore.

The week on the Osa was marked with memorable sightings. Gangs of Coati along the trail were startled by my evening walks, but the Northern Tamandua took a few curious steps in my direction. It was also thrilling to see Blue-capped Manakins, Spider monkeys, Green Poison-arrow frogs, Green Kingfishers, Chestnut-mandibled Toucans, Long-tailed Hermits, Margay, White Hawk and Bell-bird, to name just a few.

Anyone who is interested in visiting Campanario should visit their website at www.campanario.org or contact Nancy Aitken, Proyecto Campanario, S.J.O. 2827, Unit C101, P.O. Box 25216, Miami, FL 3102-5216.

ANSWERS TO INSECT PUZZLE

AORYNLFGD	Dragonfly
BYLBGUA	Labybug
CRCHCAOKO	Cockroach
EYEEB ONH	Honey Bee
FUHOLESY	House Fly
GNAT	Gnat
HTOM	Moth
IRTETME	Termite
KKLSINACTGIW	Walkingstick
LRRRAELIAPTC	Caterpillar
MUOISQTO	Mosquito
RFYILFE	Firefly
RGA MPSAITNNIY	Praying Mantis
RKTCECI	Cricket
RREHPPOSSAG	Grasshopper
RTUYLFETB	Butterfly
TAINF ER	Fire Ant
TLAESPEEEB NAJ	Japanese Beetle
WPAS	Wasp



Hyla ebraccata taken at Caño Palma
by Carol Dorman

TOURISTS FLOCKING TO COSTA RICA

by Marilyn Cole

ACCORDING TO AN ARTICLE IN THE TICO TIMES WRITTEN BY Christine Pratt (May 21, 1999), more than one million foreign tourists will visit Costa Rica this year, the majority of whom will come from Canada (42,097), the United States (347,442) and Mexico (30,109) - a total of 44.5%. Central American visitors were in second place, accounting for 31.2%. In contrast German and Italian tourists stayed away, contributing to a decline in total number of Europeans.

One can only hope that the Costa Rican government is aware of the heavy impact such numbers of tourists can have on the resources of the country, and take steps to protect its natural wonders even more vigorously, rather than give in to the temptations of land developers, etc. who want to exploit this huge potential market.



HELP SUPPORT OUR CONSERVATION GOALS BUY A T-SHIRT!

The original shirt features the COTERC logo in
100% cotton - Size Large only - Ash grey colour
with green logo - \$ 15.00 each



Our Caño Palma shirt features an original design
by Joan Watson printed in six colours on a white
shirt. Size Large only - \$ 18.00 each



ORDER FORM

Yes, I want to order () COTERC logo shirt(s) @\$15
and/or () Caño Palma logo shirt(s) @ \$18
Please add \$4.00 shipping charge for first shirt and \$2.50
for each additional shirt

Total value of Order \$
Plus shipping charges \$
.....
Total \$

Name.....
Address.....
.....

MasterCard#.....
Expiry Date.....

CANADIAN ORGANIZATION FOR TROPICAL EDUCATION & RAINFOREST CONSERVATION

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

JOIN US AND HELP SUPPORT OUR CONSERVATION EFFORTS

Senior/Student	()	\$15
Individual	()	\$25
School Class	()	\$25
Family	()	\$35
International	()	\$50
Corporate	()	\$100
Donation *	()	\$.....

Total \$.....
*tax receipt available in Canada

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Please return cheque & completed form to:

COTERC
Box 335 Pickering, Ontario, L1V 2R6
Canada

e-mail coterc@interhop.net

Visit our website
<http://home.interhop.net/~coterc>