

RAPHIA

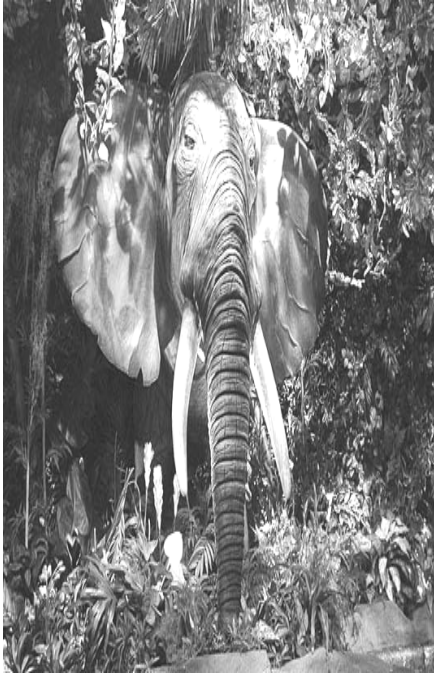
VOLUME 14, ISSUE 1

SPRING, 2005

Welcome to the Raphia! Spring is in the air and there are blossoms everywhere. COTERC has once again had a successful term and is still up and running. Below: We are very pleased to announce the formal signing of an agreement between COTERC and GVI International, a British-based company that will be bringing volunteers to Cano Palma for forty weeks per year. The volunteer teams will be there for a minimum of ten weeks per group and will be embarking on the research projects assigned. These will range from a study of the amphibians of the region, to assisting with educational programs in the local Tortuguero schools. The management of GVI International anticipate bringing their first group of volunteers (who come from all over the world) in July. We are very excited about the potential of this new partnership in expanding the research already conducted at Cano Palma, and look forward to working with GVI in the future.



GVI-COTERC PICTURE



TROPICAL TREAT PLANS UNDERWAY

We would like to welcome Marie Widdis, who is heading up the committee to plan Tropical Treat 2005. Marie hails from Mississauga, Ontario and has extensive fundraising experience with her local Scout group. She also has an extensive volunteer management and business administration background, and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from York University. Her hobbies include genealogy, traveling and camping.

Welcome, Marie!

Marie is currently assembling a team to help her with Tropical Treat (which will be held on Saturday, November 5th). If you would like to get involved, please contact the COTERC office at 905-831-8809, info@cotercc.org

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UCHRE NIGHT: On January 27th, we held yet another successful Euchre night at Papp's Restaurant in Pickering. Forty five attendees showed up for a night of cards, camaraderie and awards. Our 'share the wealth' draw saw cheers for Elaine Christense of Markham Ontario. She took home \$100.50. The awards from our card players were as follows:-

- High Score Women- Helen Hougesen
- High Score Men- Ray Fairchild
- Low Score Men- Blue Enright
- Low Score Women- Fran Mason

With or without awards, the evening seemed to be an enjoyable one for all. It even included a great buffet dinner! We were able to raise \$498.82 which will assist us

*****YORK SEMINAR*****

These photos were taken at the York Seminar in which Coterc's Marilyn Cole (on the right) was one of the representatives.



WWW.COTERC.ORG



CRITTERS OF CANO PALMA VAMPIRE BAT
(*Desmodus totundus*)

The common vampire bat is found in Mexico, Central and South America, in both arid and humid regions of the tropics and subtropics, roosting in the hollows of trees, caves, abandoned mines and buildings.

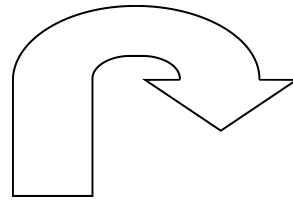
The vampire bat is a medium-sized bat with narrow wings. Its coat is dark brown but paler on the underside. It has a distinctly longer thumb than most bats and relatively long hind legs. It lacks a tail. There are 20 teeth including large upper canines and two large and very sharp upper incisors. Wingspan is 320 to 350 mm. Weight is 40 g. and length is 70 to 90 mm. (3 ½ inches).

Vampires live in groups of one adult male and several females with their young. There is no specific breeding season. Females usually give birth to one young after a gestation of 205 to 214 days. Young may nurse for up to 9 months, but usually begin drinking regurgitated blood by 2 months and begin to forage after 4 months. Sexual maturity is 9 to 10 months. Captive bats may live up to 20 years.

COTERC WELCOMES NEW ASSOCIATE EDITOR

We are very pleased to welcome Abigail Beharry as Associate Editor of Raphia. Abigail is a Grade 12 student at Ajax High School, and aspires to be a journalist, so we hope that her experience with us will be beneficial to her future career.

Abigail is originally from Guyana, came to Canada recently with her family, and has an interest in visiting Costa Rica in the future. Besides having a part-time job, she is a member of White Bandanna Campaign against violence, has volunteered at a police picnic, tutors math and is class representative, has assisted at the local public library and has participated in prevention of impaired driving program, and is also involved with several school plays. So you can see that she is a very busy and dynamic young lady! Welcome to the COTERC team, Abigail. We hope that you enjoy the experi-



DID SOMEONE YELL BINGO?

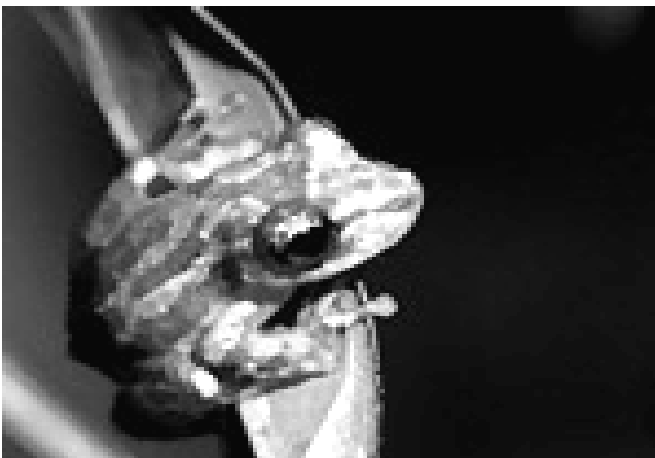
The picture on the right is of our Bingo volunteers. The board authorized a luncheon at Ajax Bingo Country (610 Monarch Avenue, Ajax, Ontario), to recognize the weekly efforts of our bright volunteers. As we show our continual appreciation for our volunteers, we encourage our members to come out and enjoy a session of bingo while supporting our cause.



Lloyd Frake, Judy Ford and Julie Wil-

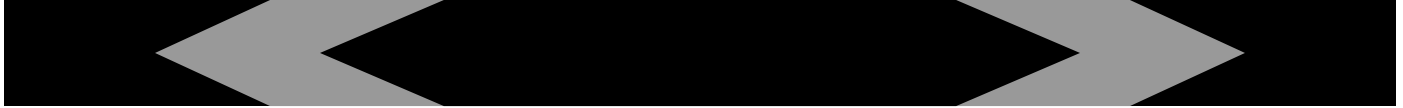
WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE MORE INVOLVED WITH COTERC?

At our Annual General Meeting on May 7th, three of our directors' terms of office will be up. At least two have indicated that they would like to step aside to allow new blood on the Board of Directors. We would like to encourage you to consider putting your name forward for consideration at the AGM. The Board meets once per month, generally at the Toronto Zoo, however since the distance that some of the directors travel is taken into consideration, the meetings are moved accordingly. If you would like more information, please contact *Marilyn Cole* at monos@auracom.com, or **905-831-8809**.



ATTENTION MEMBERS!!

You can help us obtain items for Cano Palma by either donating your **HBC** Rewards points or sending us your Canadian Tire money, for redemption. To donate the **HBC** Rewards points, please contact our office for the donation form, info@coterc.org



DONATIONS TO CANO PALMA

On their recent trips to Cano Palma, Tom Mason, Bryan Bridgeman, Barry McKee and Josh Feltham were able to take the following items with them, for station usage. We would like to extend thanks to the donors for making it possible for us to do so.

Mountain Equipment Co-op

- Two Mosquito nets
- 3 pairs of Binoculars
- A box of Rain ponchos
- Battery charger

Mark & Amanda Stone

- Wrenches
- Halogen light for the boat
- Reusable plates
- Set of kitchen knives

Josh Feltham

- Plant labels
- Books about the tropics
- Flagging tape
- Stickers
- Posters

Marilyn Cole

- Small garden tools
- Screwdriver set
- Magnifying glass
- VCR

Blue & June Enright

- Measuring tapes
- Posters
- VHS Movies
- Wrench Set

Carmen & Fred Montgomery

- Microscope

Barry McKee

- Wood carving router
- Black & Decker drill
with charger.

Bryan Bridgeman

- First aid kit
- Rechargeable batteries

\$\$\$ LOTTERY LUCK! \$\$\$

The Canadian Organization for Tropical Education & Rainforest Conservation, against Lottery License M 415579, has awarded to Mr. Alton Longmore of 135 Burbon Place, Whitby the Bateman print in our raffle held December 21, 2004 held at 820 Jomar Ave. RR #2, Pickering, Ontario. The print by Robert Bateman entitled "Bushbaby and Beetle" is valued at \$355.00 and was picked out the 206 tickets sold from a printing of 500. \$413.26 was raised to help support COTERC in it's mission to provide leadership in education, research, conservation, and the educated use of natural resources in the tropics.



LUCKY WINNER: ALTON LONG-MORE



EUCHRE NIGHT

This story can fit 100-150 words.

The subject matter that appears in newsletters is virtually endless. You can include stories that focus on current technologies or innovations in your field.

You may also want to note business or economic trends, or make predictions for your customers or clients.

If the newsletter is distributed internally, you might comment upon new procedures or improvements to the business. Sales figures or earnings will show how your business is growing.

Some newsletters include a column that is updated every issue, for instance, an advice column, a book review, a letter from the president, or

an editorial. You can also profile new employees or top customers or vendors.



DONATIONS CONT'D

Keith & Leigh Woods

VHS movies

Janet Vatcher

Analog cell phone

CANADIAN ORGANIZATION FOR
TROPICAL EDUCATION AND
RAINFOREST CONSERVATION

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Pickering, Ontario
L1V 2R6

Phone: 905-831-8809
Fax: 905-831-4201
E-mail: info@coterc.org

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.COTERC.ORG



COTERC'S BOARD & VOLUNTEERS

<i>Chair</i>	<i>Marilyn Cole</i>
<i>Vice Chair</i>	<i>Malcolm Enright</i>
<i>Executive Director</i>	<i>June Enright</i>
<i>Marketing</i>	<i>Janet Vatcher</i>
<i>Membership</i>	<i>Helen Huggett</i>
<i>Education</i>	<i>Josh Feltham</i>
<i>Site Services</i>	<i>Bryan Bridgeman</i>
<i>Conservation</i>	<i>Dr. William Rapley</i>
<i>Research</i>	<i>Dr. Robert Murphy</i>
<i>Finance</i>	<i>Barry McKee</i>



Many thanks to all that have shown us continuous support through the course of this time. With out you, our organization would not be what it is today nor would it have grown to the brilliance at which it stand presently. Remember that even though we may be a small corporation, it is our spirit and unity that keeps us alive. Once again, thank you and please continue to be a part of our environmental family!

We have a new telephone number at which you can contact us: (506) 709-8052