

EDITORIAL

The lead article on this issue by Paul Comeau describes the disruptive effects of quarrying in ecosystems and makes recommendations for the rehabilitation of quarry sites. His article is followed by a series on ornithology, the first of which by Graham White describes abundance and seasonal migration of birds at the Port of Spain sewage ponds. Then there are two articles by our regular and most prolific contributor to the Journal, Richard French. In the first he discusses non-breeding bird visitors from South America to Trinidad, and Trinidad and Tobago residents that may migrate to South America. His second article is to give some ideas on the abundance of birds in some locations. Information on abundance of birds is not easy to come by in most countries so any data accumulated along these lines may be useful.

Data on the Annual Christmas Bird Counts are presented for the years 1981 to 1990 and we hope to bring this information up to date by the next issue.

We welcome to our pages the first report of the Rare Bird Committee and we hope this will become a regular feature in future issues of the Journal.

Sharsha Lall and Floyd Hayes have recorded five species of reptiles and mammals new to the fauna of

Chacachacare in the continuing studies on the fauna of the Bocas islands.

Matthew Cock completes his series of articles on the skipper butterflies of Trinidad.

It was with sadness we learnt in 1998 of the death in New York of Arthur Greenhall. He and his wife were honorary members of the Club. He was a close friend to many members including the Editor. Geoffrey Gomes and Victor Quesnel pay tribute to Arthur Greenhall on our pages.

Readers will note that in recent issues of the Journal there have been a preponderance of articles on ornithology. This is not a reflection of a bias on the part of the Editorial Committee, but a situation where we do, in fact receive more articles on ornithology for review. We are aware that there are other groups in the Club as well as other workers in the country studying various aspects of our flora and fauna and we would like to encourage them to record their observations in the Journal.

In our next issue we plan that our lead article will be a lengthy review paper on some aspect of our flora/fauna/environment and that each subsequent issue of the Journal will carry such a feature.

E.S.T.

THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB

The Trinidad and Tobago Field Naturalists' Club was founded on 10th July 1891. Its name was incorporated by an Act of Parliament (Act No.17 of 1991). The objects of the Club are to bring together persons interested in the study of natural history, the diffusion of knowledge thereof and the conservation of nature.

Monthly lecture meetings are held at St. Mary's College, on the second Thursday of every month, while field excursions are held on the last Sunday of every month except December.

Membership is open to all persons of at least fifteen years of age, who subscribe to the objects of the Club.

All enquiries concerning the Club or its Journal should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary, P.O. Box 642, Port of Spain, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

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Front Cover:

Arthur M. Greenhall, 1911-1998 and Funnel-eared bats
Natalus tumidirostris haymani, at Chaguaramas, 1993.
(Photo Geoffrey Gomes)

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