



# THE FIELD NATURALIST

*Quarterly Bulletin of the Trinidad and Tobago Field Naturalists' Club*

July - September 2007

Issue No: 3/2007



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# THE FIELD NATURALIST

*Quarterly Bulletin of the Trinidad and Tobago Field Naturalists'*

## July - September 2007

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### Disclaimer:

The views expressed in this bulletin do not necessarily reflect the opinion and views of the Trinidad and Tobago Field Naturalists' Club

### Cover Photo

The Paria Peninsula in Venezuela as seen from the bay in Mucuro. Photo courtesy Reg Potter

## Nariva Hill - June 24 2007

Averil Ramchand

Club Trip



We left Grand Bazaar about 7 a.m., 33 in all, and proceeded south in a steady stately motorcade down the highway and turned off towards Gran Couva. It was a beautiful peaceful morning and an idyllic drive through pleasant rolling countryside with bamboo arching the road in places. Suddenly we stopped. An emergency I thought, but it was a macajuel snake on the road, 2 m in length, very healthy, according to Dan. "It gone" someone said before we had a chance to capture it on film or even see it, and we were off again. The road, newly paved, quickly deteriorated as we progressed through Gran Couva, Pepper Village, and Brasso. Nearer the Tabaquite-Rio Claro turn-off I took note of the number of small churches with names like Soul Survivors, Deliverance Tabernacle and Soul's Harbour Church of Christ. After Tabaquite we passed the Navet Dam sign, and seemed to be going a long way. When would we reach I thought.

We turned off onto the Charuma Road (a Forestry Division Road) which passed through teak plantations. Memories of the thriving trade in teak (*Tectona grandis*), family Verbenaceae were recalled. Apparently the state-owned firm Tanteak, formed to market teak, had come to naught. The current status is unknown but clearly, some logging is still taking place in the area. There had been a thriving teak saw mill at Brickfield nearby, and another in Carlson Field

The road conditions worsened. Questions began to erupt in my mind. Did we need four-wheel drive vehicles, jeeps perhaps? How far is it again? If I was doing the journey again I would have suggested that at least half the cars could have been left near the start of Charuma Road or half way up for more security and we should have piled into the four wheel drives for the balance of the journey.

At the first really bad piece of road with mud,

deep puddles and unstable ground, I got briefly stuck but thanks to the expertise of Dan Jagger-nauth I extricated myself without too much difficulty and vowed that it would not happen again. I followed the car in front, which was successfully navigating the very many hazards along the way and was grateful for the fact that I had just bought new tyres. Again Dan was helpful in directing the cars over a slightly raised and damaged wooden bridge and other particularly hazardous parts. It took us about one hours drive along the road to reach our hiking point to the Nariva Hill.

I was assured by Selwyn that the hike was an easy one and that we would be returning in daylight since we had to face the bad road on the return journey. I prayed for no rain.

I am grateful to Shane T. Ballah for the following observations on the drive in. I having made none, being too busy negotiating the terrain.

"Patches of secondary re-growth was evident in discrete locations amongst the teak. Some noticeable species included: pois doux (*Inga* sp.), bois canot (*Cecropia peltata*), fine-leaf (*Pentaclethra maculosa*), hogplum (*Spondias mombin*), swamp immortelle (*Erythrina fusca*) and bois flot (*Ochroma pyramidale*). The occasional bamboo (*Bambusa* sp.) was seen near river crossings. Roadside vegetation, typical of invasive weedy species, included: railway daisy (*Bidens pilosa*), sensitive plant (*Mimosa pudica*), vervine (*Stachytarpheta* sp.), wild hops (*Flemingia strobilifera*), kudzu (*Pueraria* sp.) and various grasses. Medium to large sized agricultural plots were noted, although most appeared not well kept and others in various states of abandonment. A group of loggers was busy at work in the teak plantation".

After a brief pre-hike talk from Reg Potter and Dan we started along a trail leading through the

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## Nariva Hill - June 24 2007

Averil Ramchand

Club Trip



(Continued from page 3)

teak. The hike took us first at an angle to the slope of Nariva Hill from teak then forest, until we came to the crest of the ridge at a pass in a low spot. Here the main trail branched with one arm continued NE along the northern slope of the ridge. We took the right (SW) branch, back along the ridge crest on a minor trail. After a moderate walk we encountered a steel firewatch tower, which Bobby climbed. Near the fire tower I was shown a beautifully crafted nest (photo) and was told by the bird expert in the group that it was a humming bird's nest. We walked on for a bit but as it was still quite early we back tracked to the pass and took the right fork on a very clear trail through mature forest. First we saw the palm vine (*Desmoncus* sp.), one of the few palms which has vine like characteristics.

Cicadas, very loud and piercing could be heard all around. The heavy roar of howler monkeys meant they were near although we could not see them. We crossed a large colony of the leaf-cutting ant *Atta* and came upon a cannonball tree (*Couroupita guianensis*). I asked if people had found a use for it and was told that the wood could be used for furniture. Another interesting species was an indigenous tree with the local name guatecare (pronounced "watercare") *Eschweilera* sp. Esperanza Luengo, from Valencia in Spain, believed the name guatecare was Amerindian (compare the name Guatemala). This tree gives good hard wood which was used to make the sleepers of railway tracks.

Victor Quesnel was fully absorbed collecting different species of Rubiaceae, the chaconia being one example. As we continued along the trail, a blue emperor butterfly floated by and the cocorite palm came into view. The cocorite palm (*Attalea maripa*) has an edible fruit, favoured by Dan, and a distinctive arrangement of leaflets in groups of about six. One of our members saw a small capu-



**Humming Bird Nest in Nariva Hill**  
Photo courtesy Averil Ramchand

chin monkey on a vine but it scampered up leaving only the vine swaying in evidence of its recent presence. Another sign of small monkeys was a large midden of eaten palm kernels at the foot of a tree. Another interesting plant we saw was wait-a-while (*Smilax* sp) which had long sharp spines and could give a nasty wound if grasped by chance. Residents in the area used to cut off the spines and use the wood for the frame of tapia houses.

We came across the monkey step-ladder vine (*Bauhinia* sp.) (photo). I was told that the reason for its peculiar shape is that the middle grows faster than the outer edges but could not confirm this. I also spotted some interesting fungi and a heliconia (*Heliconia hirsuta*). For those interested in insects we witnessed a biting horsefly, family Ta-

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## Nariva Hill - June 24 2007

Averil Ramchand

Club Trip



(Continued from page 4)

binidae which did in fact bite one of our members, but was quickly caught.

We divided into smaller groups according to our interests and explored the area further. When I caught up with the others we saw that a specimen of the fine leaf tree (*Pentacletra macroloba*), had been collected by a member of the group (photo). Later on we came unexpectedly upon a royal palm (*Roystonea regia*) in the middle of the forest. How did it get there I asked and was told that it was probably propagated by seeds dropped by bats. Dan showed how the dry outside skin or crownshaft, below the leaf was used as a sled by country children, and even by city children, in the Botanic Gardens.

A brief but heavy shower caught us during which Reg got separated from his group after sheltering from the rain. We thought we might be able to see the Navet dam at the summit of the hill and maybe later go to see swallow tail kites. It turned out the dam was only visible from the firewatch tower at the top of the hill and not everyone went to see the kites.

Back on that terrible Charuma Road, Esperanza came with me for navigation but mainly for moral support. Dan was commandeered for the difficult parts and was patient as usual. On the way out, I noticed the abandoned wrecks of cars and garbage on the grass verges along with the sign forbidding the dumping of any garbage near the exit.

On the way back some members went by way of the road to Brasso Venado, which at a left fork takes you to an EU-funded radar weather station. Here we were provided with an excellent view of the west coast to mount Tamana, and the swallow-tailed kites.

Overall the field trip was a success. Most mem-

bers found much to interest them despite the challenges of the Charuma Road.



**Monkey ladder (*Bauhinia*)**  
Photo courtesy Averil Ramchand

## Rincon Falls - July 29 2007

John Lum Young

Club Trip



**A**t almost 300 ft Rincon Falls is one of the tallest and most picturesque in Trinidad. (Only Maracas Waterfall - 312 ft - is higher.) Actually the proper name of the falls was El Toro Falls but over the years most refer to it as Rincon. During heavy rainfall villagers throughout Las Cuevas could hear the plunging water roaring like a raging bull hence the name El Toro. Rather than take the direct route the group agreed to loop around via Habio Estate and Blackpool.

Climbing the slopes from Habio Village the group traversed an area that had been ravaged by fire in the Dry Season. On the one hand the fire destroyed a number of trees and shrubs that could not withstand the flames but on the other the germination of tonka bean (*Dipteryx odorata*) was facilitated. The fire burnt the outer casings enabling the seeds to sprout, littering the floor with saplings. The aromatic tonka bean flavours cakes, drinks, tobacco and snuff. It is found in sachets, potpourri and its essential oil is a critical ingredient for the perfume industry. In addition the seeds have coumarin which is used to "waterdown" pure vanilla extract.

Blackpool lost some of its mysterious appeal as the tall trees which kept out the sunlight had toppled exposing the waterhole to the full glare of the sun. The clear water though still appeared black due to the colour of the rocks in and around the waist-deep pool.

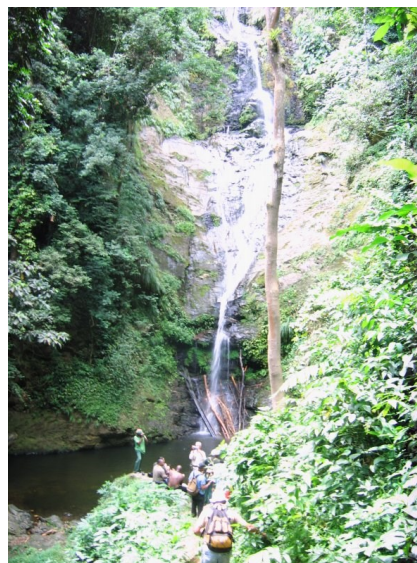
Continuing, the group passed through a grove of the medium-sized tree, bois flot (*Ochroma pyramidalis*). Its green, unripe fruit resembles a long ochro. The 12 inch long capsule-shaped fruit becomes brown when ripe and splits in five along its length exposing numerous small seeds secured in a soft, brown, fluffy material. Long ago this soft silky stuff was collected to pack home-made pillows. Bois flot (also known as balsa) is the lightest wood in the world.

Finally the majestic El Toro or Rincon Falls was in view. The cascading water from a dizzying height, over bare smooth rock with hues from dark where the water spilled to lighter blues, grey, crystal and white, was a sight to behold. The deep wide pool at the base enticed many who wasted no time in getting into the water.

As beautiful as this spot was, above the fall was even more enchanting. At the top was a narrow gorge with the water level about chest height. Then a series of 4 waterfalls to climb past, each ranged from 25-30 ft in height. In between the four was a 20 ft fall at an angle that enabled one to slide down the smooth surface. (The writer is still to venture beyond fall #5.)

Ray Martinez trapped the *Haemagogus janthinomys*, a mosquito with an eye catching metallic blue colour. This unassuming insect is the carrier of the deadly jungle yellow fever.

Another field trip; another learning experience.



Rincon Falls

Photo courtesy John Lum Young

## El Tucuche - August 26 2007

Paula Smith and Damian Robinson

Club Trip



The Club once again returned to El Tucuche on August 26 2007. We departed from the southern entrance of the UWI at 7.05 a.m. with 14 persons in attendance. The convoy passed through Curepe, proceeded up the Maracas-St. Joseph Road and turned off onto Caurita Road. Another right turn onto Bancal. Road brought us to the trail from which our journey to the summit of El Tucuche would begin. At this point we were approximately 1300 feet/396 meters above sea level. Before we began, Dan Jaggernaut and Reginald Potter gave a brief introduction to the history and facts of El Tucuche. El Tucuche, which is the second highest point in Trinidad, reaches a height of 3,072 feet. At 8.00 a.m. with sunny weather this long scenic walk, which was scheduled to take approximately 9 hours, began.

The group proceeded along the ridge overlooking the St. Joseph Valley. At the first fork in the trail a left turn was made. The vegetation was dominated by cocorite palms (*Attalea maripa*), bamboo (*Bambusa vulgaris*) and the single chaconia plant (*Warcewiczia coccinea*) of the family Rubiaceae. The sounds of cicada insects could be heard throughout the forest and we were informed by Victor Quesnel that this particular species sings all year round. The trail continued along the Caura Valley Ridge where Stephen Smith found a very unusual metallic blue green beetle belonging to the family Chrysomelidae. From this ridge, facing north, the TSTT Morne Bleu Tropospheric Scatter Station was seen far in the distance. The group was informed by a member that the intersection of Arima and Blanchisseuse lay in the vicinity of the Scatter Station. The observation of farmers busy harvesting peas and breadfruit highlighted the agricultural activity in the valley below. Reg pointed out a saltfish wood tree (*Machaerium robiniiifolium*) in full bloom with purple whitish clusters of flowers. In the understorey we saw a manicou fig, or wild pine as it is commonly known.



View from El Tucuche  
Photo courtesy Paula Smith

The dominant forest cover consisted of many towering trees. Dan showed us the star grass, a sedge with five blades and a white centre. Many butterflies were seen in the forest such as the emperor butterfly (*Morpho peliedes insularis*), the postman and king page butterfly which has a black body red rim at the base of the wings and brownish colour on its tips. Walking through the thick foliage we noted various other plants such as the balisier (*Heliconia bihai*), bois canot tree (*Cecropia peltata*) of the Cecropiaceae family. Dan spotted a brown lizard on a tree and Charles De Gannes discovered, despite being very well hidden, a long legged brown spider curled up in a leaf. As we walked leisurely along the path suddenly a long furry brown creature, which more than likely may have been a squirrel glided swiftly across. The wild onion fruit of *Clusia palmicidia* was seen on the forest floor. The general vegetation of the forest approached that of a lower montane forest and as we got closer to the top it changed to upper montane forest some 850 feet/260 meters higher.

At the many twists and turns on the trail there were small springs to refresh us along the way, but these areas were also dangerous with slippery rocks. The number of well marked short cuts

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## El Tucuche - August 26 2007

Paula Smith and Damian Robinson

Club Trip



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which crossed the trail at various points accommodated those who otherwise could not have managed the steep climb. Some two hours into the journey, we stopped at the site of the former Forestry house where some of the members relaxed as they waited for others to catch up. To the right of this there was a trail that led to Las Cuevas and Rincon waterfall; about one and a half hours walk away.

We came to another fork on the path with a sign that read "*The rare golden tree frog, found nowhere else in the world, lives here on top of our second highest mountain El Tucuche*". After walking on generally even terrain for another hour, two different paths presented themselves. One was steeper and would have taken us quicker to the summit of El Tucuche; however the longer and gentler route was chosen. From this point at a distance of 3 km it would take approximately 2 more hours to complete.

On the way one of the main features of the surrounding forest was the abundance of mosses and ferns covering the ground, especially on the rock faces. At about 1:00 p.m. we all finally arrived at the summit of El Tucuche and the eldest person to make it to the top was our very own Victor at the ripe age of 81.

A relaxing cool mist passed through the mountains as the group rested and had lunch while enjoying the breathtaking view of Las Cuevas beach and the lush green surrounding forests of the Northern Range. The cloudy weather conditions and light showers limited any further viewing. On the summit two markers were found. Only the concrete base of one marker remained whilst the other was intact and displayed the words "*Inter-American Geometric Survey, El Tucuche RM No2 1953.*"

Hidden in a tree lower down from the summit the

Club had previously installed an electronic minimum/maximum thermometer in a sealed bottle. The thermometer, which records the minimum and maximum temperature on a daily basis, was examined and replaced with a new electronic thermometer. The data from the old one will be downloaded and recorded. A white flower with a yellow centre thought, at first, to be an orchid turned out to be the large bladderwort *Utricularia alpina* which is known to be found on El Tucuche.

After the rest the group began the descent though the forest and quickly encountered a small mapi-pire snake (*Bothrops atrox*) on the path. It's known that even the smallest snake of this species is venomous. The journey back was easier than the upward journey, and by this time most of the group showed signs of tiredness.

The hike to El Tucuche, one of the most beautiful mountain trails in Trinidad and Tobago, was a most rewarding trip. It took approximately 3 to 4 hours for the first batch of the group to complete the journey back. Others made it out in 5 hours and more as the sun descended and made way for the evenings moonlight as the dark of night escorted the last individuals out of the forest.





## Some afterthoughts and memories of an earlier trip - El Tucuche Appendix *Victor C. Quesnel*

Club Trip



While having lunch at the top I looked around me and saw one or two familiar weeds and many unfamiliar ones. It occurred to me that the Club should undertake the collection and identification of all the small plants in the clearing. This would not only provide a focus for the next trip but might generate some interesting thoughts about how the vegetation had got there. I do not know when the clearing was made, nor do I remember the date of my first visit to the peak, but at that visit there was a wooden hut in the clearing and it already seemed old. My first visit was probably in the period 1942-1944 when I was, in modern terms, an A-level student at St. Mary's College. The grassy vegetation there then, and now, would not have come from the surrounding forest but from much farther away and must have sprung up from wind-blown seeds or seeds brought there on the clothing or equipment of visitors to the site.

The Club's only prior visit by the route we took on this occasion was made on Saturday 3 March 1979. Hurricane Alma had struck Trinidad a glancing blow on 4 August 1974 and left the trail in shambles and we decided to clear it with cutlasses and power saw. However, the saw had failed to start on a trial before setting out so our party of 14 had to rely on cutlasses alone. March is usually a sunny month but that year both the third and fourth treated us to constant light rain. The site we had previously chosen for the camp was under water so we decided to spend the night in the Forestry Rest House. We packed in all too much like sardines in a can and the drips that came through the roof that night caused us to cluster together even more.

The Sunday group met us as planned and the clearing continued. At the end of our endeavours about 70 trees remained, but we had also cleared that many. Over the years since then the clearing has been continued by us and possibly by others

until only a few massive trees remain. The Club can be justly proud of what it achieved on that rainy week-end in March 1979.

A list of the Rubiaceae seen on the visit of 26 August 2007-09-18

<i>Iseria parviflora</i>	At Bancal Road, 2 or 3 in flower
<i>Genipa americana</i>	In flower between Bancal road and the Rest House site
<i>Warscewiczia coccinea</i>	In flower in several places
<i>Malanea macrophylla</i>	Several places, one with buds
<i>Psychotria capitata</i>	Formerly <i>P. inundata</i> , two specimens
<i>Gonzalagunia spicata</i>	Formerly <i>Duggena hirsuta</i> , common, in flower
<i>Psychotria uliginosa</i>	In fruit, common
<i>Palicourea crocea</i>	2 or 3 plants in flower at Rest House site
<i>Coccocypselum guianense</i>	Formerly <i>Tontanea guianensis</i> , near the peak
<i>Borreria verticillata</i>	A common weed, in the clearing at the top
<i>Diodia ocimifolia</i>	Formerly <i>Hemidiodia ocimifolia</i> in open patches



## Mt. St. Benedict - June 17 2007

Feroze Omardeen

Birding Trip



This was Father's Day, so we had a short but nonetheless interesting trip with fast paced birding recording 35 species in three hours. These ranged from the common-or-garden Bananaquit (*Coereba flaveola*) to the dazzling and exotic Red-legged Honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes cyaneus*).

Attire for the trip ranged from Standard Jungle Wear (Murray Guppy) to the Movie Towne 2007 Summer Season on the flamboyant and vivacious group leader Kay Hinkson. Sadly, the rest of us failed to meet these high standards, and seemed on the whole a bit shabby. But we made up for it in enthusiasm, pouncing on every hummingbird that passed our way. The Copper-rumped (*Amazilia tobaci*) and the White-chested Emerald (*Amazilia chionopectus*) were around, but more memorable were the several Black-throated Mangoes (*Anthracothorax nigricollis*) of both sexes who flitted about. The female, plumaged birds outnumbered the adult males. They seemed less territorial than the others and tolerated the *Amazilias* at the flowering trees. We found a female Mango tending to a tiny nest on a sparsely leafed branch at the side of the road. No matter how many times I see these little cups, I am always amazed by their size relative to the birds. Nesting season for the Mango is January to July. As in all hummingbirds, nesting is done wholly by the female, feeding her young by regurgitation. We saw a Mango hover gleaning for small insects, and Hilty does say that this species is notably insectivorous.

Robert Kong led us up the fire tower. For height-challenged individuals, it was not the easiest exercise, but I discovered the technique of holding on tightly with all four limbs and moving only one limb at a time, while peering up out of a slit-like opening in one eye. Once there the views of the valley and Caroni plain were spectacular. We saw the White Hawk (*Leucopternis albicollis*) way across the hillside to the southwest. This is an elegant raptor with striking plumage, brilliantly reflecting

white against the canopy, with contrasting black wings. Robert has been acquainted with this pair of White Hawks for some time, and has actually found a nesting site for the hawk, observing the upbringing of a fledgling. Finding of a nest is a rare occurrence, and great for the birders who come from all over the world to Pax Guest House.

In response to the call of the Pygmy Owl, a nearby mixed-species flock came to investigate, mostly honeycreepers and tanagers. But a strikingly yellow bird with a strikingly black throat caught our eyes. As Murray pointed out it was slightly smaller and more slender than the Semp, and the black throat and collar were diagnostic, even before we heard the call. This was the Trinidad Euphonia (*Euphonia trinitatis*), a group of at least four individuals including two males. This was the first time many of us had seen this Euphonia, locally known as the cravat, and we were treated to excellent views. The high pitched thin whistle comes in a double note with a fraction-of-a-second pause in between: tee, dee. Interestingly once we became familiar with the call we kept hearing it at various places on the hillside.

Descending again to the car park, there were lots of calls to stop us. The Chivi Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*) and the Rufous-breasted Wren (*Thryothorus rutilus*) were visible, but the Rufous-browed Peppershrike (*Cyclarhis gujanensis*) stayed out of sight. The penetrating call of the Yellow-breasted flycatcher (*Tolmomyias flaviventris*, also known as the Ochre-colored Flatbill) was all around, and we saw several of these birds, who in this area seem to have a curious and self confident personality. However there was a low growl of a call: caaw. It had to be a bird, but what was it? It sounded like a crow, but corvids do not exist in Trinidad. We were perplexed for several minutes until the Barred Antshrike (*Thamnophilus doliatus*) revealed itself. Usually the snarl is at the end of its accelerating

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## Mt. St. Benedict - June 17 2007

Feroze Omardeen

Birding Trip



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series of notes, but this time this was all the bird would say, probably in alarm at our presence. We saw many of these comical birds, sexually dimorphic with both sexes interestingly marked, entertained by their tail-wiggling and crest-raising during calls.

Well, the colourful forest tanager species never turned up, and the gray raptor unfortunately turned out to be a branch. These things happen. But inexcusable was our group leader eating a chicken pie (*Gallus gallus*) during the trip. The Management Committee surely will have to refer her to Matt Kelly for a lecture on vegetarianism. See

you on the next trip!

References:

Hilty, S.L., 2003. Birds of Venezuela. Princeton University Press, Princeton, New Jersey, 403p.



## Brickfield and Orange Valley - August 12 2007

From the notes of Averil Ramchand

Birding Trip



The group ventured down to Brickfield, by the Temple in the sea, to the mud flats where using our binoculars and scope we were able to record a number of birds typical for the area. These included a Cardinal in a tree by the water's edge. According to my book this is very rare however the *Red-capped Cardinal* is not so rare now.

Shoals of fish called mud skippers (or four eyes) could be seen along the sand bank with many a Large Billed Tern (initially mistaken for Yellow-Billed Terns). The Giant ibis or Great Egret, Snowy Egret and Tri-coloured Heron were also seen. An unidentified heron with various colours of blue like tie-dye which may have been a Great Blue Heron was also noted.

Completing the list were the Scarlet ibis, Laughing Gulls, various sandpipers, black skimmers, an adult Yellow-Crowned Night Heron, Little Blue Heron

and the Greater Ani or merle cobeau.

Our next stop was to Orange Valley where we were lucky to meet up with Graham White, expert on Trinidad birds, who helped us with identification of the birds seen along the road leading to the sea. Again the scope was used to good advantage. We saw several birds again including the Thick Billed Plover, Black-necked Stilts, Laughing Gulls, a yellow legged sandpiper Lesser and Greater Yellowlegs, Whimbrel, Willet, Semi-palmated Sandpiper, Short-billed Dowitcher, Pied Water Tyrant, Yellow-Billed Tern, Common Tern, Semi-palmated Plover and the Black-crowned Night Heron.

We were told that around the point there were flamingoes. A large number of crabs were seen making their way in convoy along the mud flats. When a Yellow Crowned Heron came to snatch one they all disappeared into the mud. When he

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## Brickfield and Orange Valley - August 12 2007

*From the notes of Averil Ramchand*

*Birding Trip*



*(Continued from page 11)*

had given up, they appeared again and continued the journey.

A final stop was made at the savannah opposite the methanol plant near Orange Valley. There a number of Saffron Finches, both male and female were seen. We also spotted a Red-Breasted Blackbird and a White-Headed Marsh Tyrant. Overhead a short-tailed hawk was causing some panic. Of interest was a vulture being chased by a small unknown bird.



Victor Quesnel (centre) and company prepare to hike to El Tucuche 26 Aug 2007.

*Photo courtesy Paula Smith*

Do you have an interesting photo you would like to share with the Club? Then contact the editor or email your picture directly to us.

Photos must be accompanied by a brief description of the photo including the location, date, names of persons depicted (if any) and the name of the photographer.

## Photo Corner



Club members prepare to leave the village of Macuro on the Paria Peninsula

*Photo courtesy Reginald Potter*



## Venezuela - July 10-19 2007

Kay Hinkson

Overseas Trip



**F**ollow the dairy of events as eleven members traverse Eastern Venezuela from the Paria Peninsula extending to the Araya Peninsula in the west, during the period July 11-18.

### WED 11 JULY: DAY 1

Everyone who travels knows that whether you're going overseas foreign, overseas Tobago or just Mayaro for a weekend, there must be some hiccups to be encountered. Not that there were too many on our voyage.

Early check-in – 7:00 a.m. at Pier I, Chaguaramas. After the formalities of checking in were completed we boarded the Sea Prowler, owned by PIER I, made a b-line for some choice seats and made ourselves comfortable for our 9 a.m. scheduled departure to Guiria.

A few minutes after 10:00 a.m. the engines throbbed as we moved away from the pier. No words of apology - no explanations. We heard through the grapevine that they were awaiting clearance from the Venezuelan authorities, and had to journey over to Crews Inn for the documentation. Apparently this has never happened before. This would have to be the first hiccup but the trip turned out to be a relaxing, uneventful four hour sail to Guiria. Some read papers, dozed, worked X-word puzzles, or just chatted. A nice touch by the company was that soft drinks were made available at the bar for everyone. As we sailed by the Five Islands, we encountered some rainy weather and of course, it was a bit rough as we passed through the Bocas.

At 2:00 p.m. we docked at Port Guiria. On board came the Health Inspectors to vaccinate all those who were not previously immunized against yellow fever. This had been checked by Reg at the Venezuelan Embassy, and he was assured that it was not necessary. Some of the members decided to take it and some of us concocted a story why

we didn't need it, myself included. More immigration and customs formalities delayed us. Michael and his brand new camcorder, (which he said that he saved a long time for) were systematically scrutinized. Somehow he had that "Al Quaida" look. It was providential that he had removed the green army jacket and Castro cap. That would have been (euphemistically) 'a spot of bother' for him and the group, because, it was getting late and we didn't want to be at sea in the dark. Our guide from the Natura Raid Tour Company in Venezuela was there promptly awaiting our arrival and as soon as they let Michael leave, we walked to the jetty where our transport, a sizeable pirogue, was docked. Her captain and crew of three were "ready to roll", and take us to our first port of call - Macuro. Before this could be accomplished though, uppermost in our minds was the clarion call of the kidneys and the exchange of dollars for local currency - Bolivares. These things delayed our departure, so it was not until 4:45 p.m. that we eventually sailed away from Guiria, bearing in mind that it was an anticipated three hour run to Macuro.

The sea was fair to middling, sometimes choppy, sometimes smooth. Porto Yierro was pointed out by our tour guide, (se llama Cesar) who explained that once upon a time, a military base was housed there. The unfinished road to Macuro was also visible. It is now almost impassible, as work was abandoned and it has reverted to forest. A mechanically sound four-runner may be able to get through though hence the reason for a count of about four vehicles in the town. We saw pelicans galore on the rocks, diving for food, or just free-styling. All along the coast were small gravelly beaches against a backdrop of lush, forested mountains. We could easily have been "down d Islands" or the north coast of Trinidad. The vegetation was the same everywhere in the rain forested areas. As we approached a semi dilapidated

(Continued on page 14)

## Venezuela - July 10-19 2007

Kay Hinkson

Overseas Trip



(Continued from page 13)

jetty in Macuro, to our left we saw an abandoned gypsum processing plant. It was then 6:00 p.m. A skilled Capitano had converted a three hour trip into one and a half hours.

**MACURO:** a small quaint town on the east, closest point to Trinidad; it boasts a population of 2000, four cars, a few dogs and many children. Wide dirt streets, a boat building factory and a museum with fine paintings which was closed so that we were not privy to the display. Our luggage, which was off loaded by some locals, was transported by wheelbarrow to our abode for the night - Posada Los Reyes Catolicos. It was not "The Ritz" but it was comfortable and suitable for a night's rest. Luisa, the manageress, was quite hospitable and willing to please. So what if the fan didn't oscillate and blew only on one bed, or that the shower stall wasn't "all dat" and no hot water. We are after all naturalists!!

At 8:00 p.m. we walked approximately 25 meters to the "restaurant" where we ate our dinner 'con mucho gusto' by candlelight, not because we wanted to be romantic, but because the electricity in the town is powered by a generator, and it broke down. This made one homesick! Dinner consisted of beans, rice and a stewed/curry beef. Very tasty (con sabor). Naturally, we had to sample the local brew (cervezas), and to top it off, dessert (postres) was a guava filled swirl. At 10:00 p.m., after we were sated, we decided not to go disco dancing, as it had been a long day and instead made the short journey back to our posada to rest up for the long trek the next day.

### THU 12 JUL - DAY 2

Before 5:00 a.m. and before a cock could crow, there was the hum of voices as people readied themselves for the day ahead. A delightful breakfast awaited us at the same homely restaurant where we dined the previous night. Ham and



View of the Paria peninsula as seen from Macuro  
Photo courtesy Reginald Potter

eggs, cheese, corn cakes (arepas), tea and café.

Our transport arrived at 8:00 a.m. - 3 wheelbarrows for the luggage. Those who were not making the trek over the mountain would be traveling with the boat crew to set up camp for the night at Uquire. The trail guide (se llama Aristedes) arrived together with a sabanero, his son and two burros. The donkeys were heaven sent, as they took the weight of our back packs for half of the way. It was easy walking at the start of the trail on a sunny morning. Those in the group who were heading over to Uquire with the boat crew, walked for about half of an hour and then returned to the jetty to board the pirogue. Two unidentified raptors soared above, and many bird calls were heard, but no visible sign of our feathered friends.

The six hour climb to approximately 3000 ft through densely forested areas was fraught with no danger. It became more challenging the higher we climbed, passing through cloud forest. Red howler monkeys roared across the airwaves, but stayed where they were supposed to. Huge mani-

(Continued on page 15)

## Venezuela - July 10-19 2007

Kay Hinkson

Overseas Trip



(Continued from page 14)

cou crabs poised with large white-banded gundies raised heavenward ready to attack. A postman flitted by. There was the call of the black-faced antshrike, aka 'cock-o-the woods'. Mango trees, crotons, chaconias, we could have been on a climb in T&T. A little humour arose in the midst of an arduous climb. There was a strange-looking yellow something along the path which we could not identify. Michael poked at it with a stick, turned it over and around but it turned out to be a slice of mango. Ha! Ha!

At 12:30 p.m. we paused for lunch and a breather. At this point the weather had changed, and it rained heavily for a great portion of the next three hours of endurance. We were now soaked and muddy. The donkeys had to leave us as the terrain became rough and stony, so wet packs were returned which was a burden to our stressed bodies. After five hours, we could hear the sound of the sea, so we picked up speed in an effort to reach the trail's end ASAP. At last, we arrived at Don Pedro Bay, where some of the others returned with the boat crew to collect us. The sea was rough in the bay and was proclaimed dangerous for swimming, because it was shark infested. I made the comment to Cesar (our tour guide) that the Venezuelan sharks don't know that "we eat them" back home!! He was highly amused. We needed to negotiate some humungous rocks before wading out to the pirogue for a half hours trip to Uquire.

On approaching Uquire we once again had to disembark in the water and wade to shore. As we approached the beach, we noticed that colorful tents were pitched and many fishing boats were moored in the bay. There seemed to be a surfeit of the masculine gender there with young men just standing about. I saw only one woman the others said that they saw four. Nothing much seems to go on here. Apparently at Christmas time, there

are as little as eight people in the village, since a lot of them go to the larger cities, like Caracas and Maturin, to visit their family and friends.

Under a laden coconut tree on the beach we "limed" near some wooden benches and a table. The coconuts were reachable, and the boat crew mixed us a drink called "The Bambucha" a mix of passion fruit juice and Cacique rum which was obviously lethal to field naturalist members. I say this because the conversation and jokes became very "risqué". It was Hans on the move with Boos (booze). Juanita, after one glass, appeared to have taken some "happy pills". But it tasted - soooo....good. While all this happiness abounded, the crew was efficiently preparing our dinner and our blonde bombshell, named Iraima, invited us to her humble abode, to utilize the bathroom facilities and partake of our meal at her dining table. Dinner consisted of smoked pork chops (chuleta), ensalada and a rice pilaf. Iraima played music from Mexico including salsa and meringue.

More "Bambucha" - a happy night. All was well in our world.

### FRI 13TH JULY: DAY 3

For most people it was not a restful sleep. There were some showers during the night and someone complained that their tent leaked. Janice Potter was a first time camper and mentioned this at breakfast. Hans, whose wit had not been dulled by lack of sleep, said to her that she was "camping with \_\_in\_\_tent". No pun intended. Breakfast (desayuno) on the beach, a la capitano and crew was a hearty, wholesome meal of fry bakes, arepas, ham, cheese, guava marmalade tea and juice - NO BAMBUCHA!!

Tents were unhitched, wet clothes had to remain that way, and all bags readied on the waterfront at 9:00 a.m. We said our goodbyes to Iraima and for

(Continued on page 16)

## Venezuela - July 10-19 2007

Kay Hinkson

Overseas Trip



(Continued from page 15)

her graciousness and hospitality we collected a monetary contribution from each member to give to her as a gift.

At 9:15 a.m. we sailed out of the bay, leaving Uquire behind us and headed towards Rio Caribe on the western side of the Peninsula, an estimated five hour ride. All those who needed to take Dramamine, had already done so. The ride was hairy, as huge swells rocked the pirogue from side to side, then up and down. Our capitano handled it skillfully.

Once again, the vegetation was much the same as we had seen since our arrival similar to the north coast of Trinidad. There were some caves in the rock face, coconut trees planted at water's edge and many small coves and beaches some with structures resembling houses. Frigate birds and pelicans soared overhead. The trees seemed to be a pelican haven, not unlike the sight of nesting scarlet ibis in the Caroni Swamp. Heavy clouds grouped themselves behind the mountains. Gulls screeched and dived, some rested beyond the surf. The sun hid for a while behind some clouds in the sky, as we traveled along the coast, interspersed with some small and large towns. Mejilones, Cacao and Puerto Viejo were some of the smaller towns. Santa Isabel was a fairly large one as was San Juan de Unare.

At San Juan de Las Galdonas, we made a pit stop for bottled water and ice cold refreshments. Pui Puy was another township en route. The town of Playa Medina was chosen for the lunch break. It's a long beach, also accessible by a vehicle, where people go for the day to picnic with friends and family. By now the clouds had dispersed and the sun was out in all its glory. Some of those in our group walked around to "check things out". I stayed in the boat shed to "dry out". It didn't make sense because we had to enter the water



Setting sail from Mucuro  
Photo courtesy Reginald Potter

again to board the pirogue. Lunch (almuerzo) consisted of potato salad, stewed turkey, johnny bake, and sliced fresh pineapple for dessert. Playa Medina was a mere three quarters of an hour away from where our marine expedition was to come to an end which made this journey a six hour experience.

We left the ocean and pirogues at Cara Colito to meet our bus for the next phase of our journey. Hugs and kisses to the crew members (from ladies only) were exchanged. We thanked them profusely for keeping us safe at sea, toting our luggage back and forth from the pirogue to our land quarters, cooking those delicious meals and dealing with our every need. We showed our appreciation for their caring and dedication by subbing to give them a decent reward. A kingbird made its presence felt as we waited outside of a plaza for our transport to arrive to take us to Rio Caribe!

Part II continue in the next issue of the Quarterly Bulletin





## Cataloguing Caribbean Plants - July 19 2007

Reynold Boyce

Lecture Summary



**O**n July 12 2007 I made a brief presentation at the Club's *Members' Evening* concerning a research project of mine on the creation of a database for cataloguing of Caribbean Plants. This database is based on photographic slides taken of flowering plants throughout my travels for the past 30 years especially within the eastern Caribbean region.

As an amateur photographer, I have been fascinated by the elegance of the plant form in its entirety but more so by the shades and delicacy of the plant's flower. However, what started as an exercise in aesthetics and photographic artistry has evolved into one involving both biological and computer science. Once I had amassed a sizable collection of photos to project on to and adorn my living-room wall on evenings I then turned my attention to other details. Firstly, I sought literature (then live experts) to identify specimens. My curiosity then extended to finding the edible and herbal qualities that my specimens possessed.

Secondly, being a formal student of biology (and subsequently a science teacher) it was not long before I sought to classify specimens into family groups. In fact, in the late 70s / early 80s, as active shell collectors and amateur malacologists, a small team of us in Vancouver (Canada) had worked on developing an extensive phylogenetic tree of the Phylum Mollusca. We went to great lengths to collect and display local and exotic specimens representing as many of the existing molluscan families as were known to still exist. Now being back in the Caribbean with its year-round plethora of greenery, I soon sought to develop a similar framework of the plant families represented in my growing slide collection. In so doing, one gauges the morphological closeness between and within genetically related taxa as they diverge in groupings from genus to family and then to order.

Having come close to scaling the majestic peak of

the phylum *Mollusca* – the second largest animal grouping – and having dabbled a bit in plant diversity from much larger countries (e.g. Canada, Australia, Zimbabwe, etc), conquering the botanical diversity of little Trinidad should be a piece of cake I thought. How wrong I was! Firstly, I was mesmerized by how many families existed within the Angiosperm Phylum of flowering plants. Secondly, I thought I knew my country well enough but was equally mesmerized and fascinated by the vast extent of botanical habitats and diversity of plant species within our little island. And the situation gets more complex and interesting when one travels up the Caribbean archipelago.

Hence my early task of constructing a phylogenetic table – with foolscap, pencil and ruler – to chart the relations among and between plant species and their families was soon scuttled by the sheer volume of the specimens at hand. At about the same time the use of computers and school-based computer training became evermore accessible and necessary in my teaching career. So before I knew it, I was applying my new computer skills to my plant project.

Knowing my research interest, one of my tutors steered me towards the *Excel* program. As distinct from *Access*, a program designed for the database, the *Excel* program though designed mainly as an accounting spreadsheet, none-the-less presented an easily workable format for charting the numerous relationships among species. This was especially necessary given the morphological descriptions employed for each family and the usage of lengthy text to describe the herbal preparations used with various species.

I have since become aware of options open to me in charting plant and general taxonomic relationships using *Access*. I have actually gone to great lengths in transferring my *Excel* data into the for-

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## Cataloguing Caribbean Plants - July 19 2007

Reynold Boyce

Lecture Summary



(Continued from page 17)

mal database format of Access. With the kind assistance and ingenuity of Kim Roberts, a secretary attached to the National Herbarium of Trinidad and Tobago, I was able to create my *phylogenetic* framework into Access without having to retype the entire document. So now I am working on the project simultaneously in both *Excel* and *Access*.

However, I have resisted the urging of my more computer literate colleagues to work exclusively in Access. My defense is that *Excel* allows the formulating of textual detail necessary for clearer comprehension of the research and generally makes for a more reader friendly document when printed. I have just finished my seventh edition of *Excel* printing which with the incorporation of colour indicators and appropriate spacings aids in the understanding of the botanical names and relationships. Yet I continue to rely on my Access document for quicker retrieval of key facts among oth-

er things. The date headings and their descriptions are itemized in the table below and provides a synopsis of the direction of the research project.

I want to specially thank the support I received from the management and staff of the National Herbarium and in particular Mr. Winston Johnson for his tremendous efforts in identifying slides and raw samples some of which were poorly focused or partly decayed having been taken in adverse conditions. To Dr. Anderson Maxwell, a lecturer in phyto-chemistry at the UWI - St. Augustine, who is always prepared to share some time with me, combing the internet and scientific journals for the latest research on substances/processes discovered in some of my photographed species. Some of his loaned and donated books have become the backbone on this study. Finally, to the TTFNC – especially its current President and Secretary – for allowing me the opportunity to publicize my study.



Table of catalogue data headings and their description

Data Heading	Description
Order	the grouping of the various plant families into categories of closest genetic familiarity.
Family Morphology	the description of common features/shapes in leaf, flower, root, etc that incorporates various species into a singular family
Ecological Adaptation	the outlaying of climate and habitat ranges/limits within which species in each family could be found
ID Code	the tag given to each slide-specimen for quick and easy retrieval
Representatives	the stating of biological and common names of each species within the given family
Plant Type	the classifying of specimens as <i>tree</i> , <i>shrub</i> or <i>herb</i> ; <i>vine</i> , <i>climber</i> or <i>liane</i> ; <i>epiphyte</i> or <i>parasite</i>
Habitat	the conditions or natural home where a plant could be found growing
Locations	the city, town, village, beach or mountain closest to where growth takes place
Country	though most specimens are taken from Trinidad, some specimens range from as far north as St. Kitts as well as from Jamaica in the west. (I have included a few specimens from Canada, Australia and Zimbabwe to give a broader and exotic perspective since some families are exclusively temperate or sub-tropical.)
Uses	the practices employed with various species over the years. (Some of which, though imbedded in folklore, have been consistent enough to be repeatedly published).
Origin	the ascribing of species to be either <i>native</i> or <i>introduced</i> to the given location. A few were also found to be <i>cultivated</i> or <i>garden escapees</i>


## Why Not Fly

Victor C. Quesnel

Feature



### First Story

 n the CFCA's field trip of 15 July 2007 we stopped for a while at an old estate house on the east coast road to Bush Bush. As I sat in my car waiting for the others I witnessed the following incident. Just ahead of me from the overgrown verge of the road and adult southern lapwing (*Vanellus chilensis*) emerged and walked to the other side. A second lapwing appeared, stopped for a moment at the edge and then followed the first one. About one metre behind it a tiny but seemingly fully feathered chick hurried to keep up with it. Why, I wondered, did they not all fly across? The answer that came to mind was that the chick was too young to fly and the adults had adapted their mode of progression to that of the chick. At home later, I checked The Audubon Society Encyclopaedia of North American Birds by John K. Terres for information on the age of first flight of chicks of the northern lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*). Here is what I found: "Incubation: By both sexes, 24-25 days, sometimes to 27 or 28 days. Young are precocial; swim readily....." About first flight? Nothing, nada, zilch.

### Second story

Beetles of all sorts often fall into the wash basin in my bathroom. They try to crawl up the walls of the basin but keep slipping back down. Since there is no one to say to me "get that thing out of the wash basin" I can let this little drama go on for days. Even after four days the beetle may be still at

it but, more likely, it is dead. Why does it not fly out? I have never seen anywhere an answer to this question. Linked to this is another observation: Beetles falling to the ground on their backs move their legs continuously. How long will they remain at it? I don't know, but this is another situation in which moving the wings instead of the legs might more quickly get the beetle out of its predicament.

My hypothesis is this: moving legs has priority over moving wings. All beetles go through a larval stage during which they have legs but no wings. They then go through a pupal stage during which they grow wings so in their development legs come before wings. Messages are travelling along nerves to the legs before there are nerves going to the wings. My guess is that messages moving along the nerves to the legs inhibit the flow of messages along the nerves to the wings. If this is true it means that a beetle can't take flight while it walks; it must stop walking first. Is this true?

On the Bug Group's second trip of 12 August 2007 Chris Starr caught a small (1 cm) bright blue chrysomelid beetle. After we had all examined and admired it he placed it on the hood of the car we were standing close to. It walked along the hood for about 15 cm, stopped for about half a second and then flew off.

Score 1 in the true column.



## Spotted Rail in St. Anns Valley

Ian Jardine

Nature Note



**A**t approximately 6.10 a.m. on the 9<sup>th</sup> August 2007 I observed a strange looking bird on a Bottlebrush Tree in my garden. Shortly after it flew to a bird bath and remained there for about ten minutes, constantly with its beak in the water as if searching for something. It then flew to the ground, at which time I left where I was sitting and getting hold of my French's "A Guide to the Birds of Trinidad and Tobago" I was able

to identify the bird from the Plate IV, as a Spotted Rail, *Rallus maculatus*, and on reading on page 127, I realized that it was an immature bird and spotting it so far up in the St Ann's Valley was an unusual and perhaps unique occurrence, as French states that it is rare, and are usually found in fresh water marshes.

Ian Jardine  
Aug 25<sup>th</sup> 2007



## Blue and Yellow Macaws of Charlotville

Ian Lambie

Nature Note



**I**n 1975 Charles Turpin jnr purchased two Blue and Yellow Macaws and released them at his home at the Charlotville Estate. Feeding tables were erected and were regularly maintained in close proximity to the beach cottages at Charlotville.

It was a happy coincidence that the birds were a pair and they subsequently bred in nest boxes provided and subsequently in nearby palm trees. The population increased to 11 birds and they were later joined by a possible escapee. The

twelve birds were so unafraid of humans that they could often be seen perched on the mast heads of yachts at anchor in the bay. Unfortunately these birds were shot possibly by a villager whom Turpin had reported to the Authorities for hunting in the Close Season.

At present (May 2007) two Blue and Yellow Macaws may be seen at Pillar Hill, the high area above both Speyside and Charlotville.

13th June, 2007





## Alyssa Gomes

*Junior Feature*



In this issue we showcase young Alyssa Gomes, one of our junior members . Alyssa tells us about herself and her reasons for joining the Club. Take it away Alyssa.....



**H**ello fellow Field Naturalists! I'm Alyssa Gomes, the junior member on your management committee. I'm 18 years old and I'm in Upper 6 Business in St. Joseph's Convent, Port of Spain.

I first became interested in hiking just over a year ago when I found myself yearning to do more than just stay at home reading, and to go places other than just Movie Towne. So, when a member of this club, Nicholas See Wai, began telling me about it, and the hikes he'd been on lately, I was immediately eager to join, and I proceeded to beg a couple of my friends, Brandon and Damian, to come with me.

The first trip we went on was in September last year when the club went to Chert Hill in the Central Range. Usually, nothing can get me out of my bed on a Sunday morning but that Sunday I woke up before the sun did, leaping out of bed with the energy one would expect from a child who has recently been given permission to eat all the candy

she wants. The hike was tiring for my recently realized, incredibly unfit body, but I still loved it. All the members were friendly and welcoming, and I quickly felt at ease with the group. They were also very knowledgeable it was great to hear Dan Jaggernaut and anyone else who had anything to say talk about all the birds, plants, flowers and such that I'd never seen or heard about before.

In May, even the upcoming Unit 1 CAPE exams could not keep me away from the club. I begged my parents to let me go on the weekend trip to Tobago, even though exams were scheduled for the following Friday. I went, and I'll never forget the people I met, and when we drank river water high up in the Bloody Bay River (Yea... it wasn't really bloody, the water was really clear and fresh), or when we took a wet, bumpy boat tour around St. Giles island. It also seems as though the trip worked in my favour as a stress reliever as I ended up doing very well in the exams.

I've grown to love the club and its members and I look forward to going on as many more hikes as possible, not just with anyone, but with this club.



.....Well that sums it up.

Are you one of our junior members? What to have a say on the environment., a spot to air your thoughts. Then submit your article for publication in this our new junior feature section. Every quarter we

## Upcoming Events Membership

*Management Notices*

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### Monthly Meetings & Lectures

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Members are asked to take note of the following lectures:

- October 11 2007  
Trinidad Hikes - Heather Dawn Herreira
- November 08 2007  
Ramsar Sites / ESA - Nadra Nathai-Gyan



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### Field Trips

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Members are asked to take note of the following trips:

- October 14 2007  
Birding Group - Paramin Hills
- October 20 2007  
Botany Group - Morne L'Enfer Forest / Rousillac Swamp
- October 28 2007  
Club Trip - Chacachacare
- November 11 2007  
Birding Group - Moruga
- November 25 2007  
Club Trip - Matelot (overnight)



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### New and Returning Members

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The Club warmly welcomes the following new and returning members:

#### **Junior member**

Paul Chan-Chow

#### **Ordinary member**

Christopher Charles, Jordanna Jobbity, Angelique Bruce, Dwayne Burris, Laurence Scott, Jenny Scott

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## Volunteers Publications

Management Notices



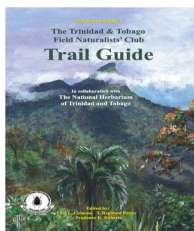
### VOLUNTEERS/ASSISTANCE

Volunteers are required to assist in the following:

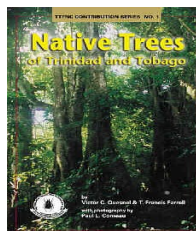
- Typing of an index for the Quarterly Bulletin covering 16 issues for the period 1986 to 1988.
- Provision of the following missing copies of the Naturalist Magazine for the Club Library:- 1976 Vol.1 No 5; 1981 Vol.3 No. 9 and 1987 Vol.6 No. 12.
- Becoming a part of the newly formed Environmental Group. Interested persons are asked to contact the Secretary.
- Assisting the Club in finding a permanent location to conduct our business and house our historic records and materials

### PUBLICATIONS

The following Club publications are available to members and non-members:



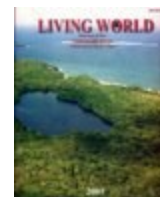
The TTFNC  
Trail Guide  
Members =  
TT\$200.00



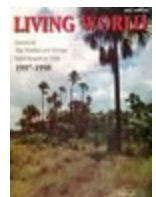
The Native  
Trees of T&T  
2nd Edition  
Members =  
TT\$100.00



Living world  
Journal 1892-  
1896 CD  
Members =  
TT\$175.00



Living World Journal 2007  
Living World Journal back issues  
Members price = free



### MISCELLANEOUS

#### The Greenhall Trust

Started in 2005, in memory of Elizabeth and Arthur Greenhall, dedicated artist and zoologist respectively, the Trust offers financial assistance to aspiring artists and biologists (in areas of flora and fauna) in Trinidad and Tobago. Full details are available on their website: <http://www.greenhallstrust-wi.org/link.htm>

#### Club Polo Jerseys

Available Sizes:  
medium

Colours:  
Kahki and green

Costs:  
TT\$50.00

#### Thank you

To John Morrall for donating a copy of The Butterflies of Trinidad and Tobago by Malcolm Barcant

To Stephen Smith for locating missing copies of the Naturalist magazine

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## NOTES TO CONTRIBUTORS

### Guidelines for Articles and Field trip reports:

Font Type: Times New Roman  
Font Size: 12 point  
Maximum Length: 1,750 words (approx. 3 pages unformatted)  
Photos: JPEG, BMP, PICT, TIFF, GIF

Do **NOT** place images into the word processing files.

Submit to any of the following:

[ttnfc@wow.net.tt](mailto:ttnfc@wow.net.tt), or any member of the Management Committee.

Deadline for submission of articles for the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2007 issue of the Bulletin is

**December 3, 2007**. Please note that all field trip reports for this quarter must be in by the deadline.

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