



The Hum...

Las Galarias Foundation Inc. Newsletter

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Señor Tim's Tales by Tim Krynak, President

The Ohio-Ecuador Connection

This April Dr. Jane Lyons, of Reserva Las Galarias, visited Cleveland Metroparks to take part in the "North Coast Nature Festival". During the festival we conducted a bird-a-thon to raise money for Las Galarias Foundation Inc.'s "Santa Rosa River Valley Project." This project's goal is to raise money to purchase 200 hectares of prime cloud forest of the Santa Rosa River Valley. A group of 10 birders set out early in the morning to find as many species as possible, each species translating into additional donations. As the day

progressed, we started ticking off species and discussing how many of these birds were neotropical migrants. I have personally seen Black-and-White and Blackburnian Warblers and Barn swallows in Ecuador on Reserva Las Galarias. Experiencing the same species in both North America and South America really brings home the importance of conservation in both hemispheres.

Our group finished the day with 106 species in about 14 hours of birding. We raised over \$1100 for the "Santa Rosa River Valley Project." We still have a long way to go, but we are well on our



Tim with young birdwatchers

way. It is great to know that there are so many individuals committed to conservation. This gives me great hope that our neotropical migrants will have forests in both Ohio and Ecuador for generations to come!

A special thanks to all those participants, sponsors, and all who appreciate the need for conservation of our Ohio-Ecuador connection.

Calendar of Events

- August 1, 2006 Talk at Case Western Reserve University, JASON Project
- August 5 and 6, 2006 Greater Akron Aquarium Society Auction
- August 9, 2006 Northern Ohio Association of Herpetologist
- December 16, 2006 RLG Christmas Bird Count
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FOUNDATION UPDATE BY TIM KRYNAK

The highlight for Las Galarias Foundation Inc. this past quarter was the North Coast Nature Festival at Cleveland Metroparks, April 23- 24. At this festival our exhibit was on display and Jane presented her Ohio – Ecuador Connection program. The event was very successful and we made numerous contacts.

We held our first board

meeting, as well as a second meeting/fundraising event in Austin, Texas during Jane's visit. This was our first large fundraising effort and donations are still arriving from these events! A special thanks to all of our sponsors and donators. Please spread the word, as we are looking for matching donations for a \$60,000 anonymous donation toward this project.

Foundation Update continued on Page 4.



LGF at North Coast Nature Festival

Conservation Corner by Tim Krynak

The Santa Rosa River Valley Project

The “Santa Rosa River Valley Project” is our current focus for our fundraising efforts. This piece of property that we would like to purchase is 200 hectares (or about 500 acres) of prime cloud forest that contains the upper regions of the Santa Rosa River’s watershed. This area is home to several endangered species such as spectacled bear, antpittas, frogs, and may contain numerous species that have yet to be described. The price for this property is \$700 per hectare for a total of \$140,000. This is fair price for property in this area and

would double the size of Reserva Las Galarias. We currently have a donor that is willing to donate \$60,000 if we can match that amount. We are on our way, but still have a long way to go. If you interested in supporting this project or know someone that would be interested , please contact Tim Krynak at tkrynak@aol.com. Donations can be sent to:

Las Galarias Foundation Inc.
24140 Gessner Rd
North Olmsted, OH 44070



Board Bio: Nancy Charbeneau

Your Chance to meet and learn a little about one of our board members



Nancy Charbeneau is a self-avowed generalist. Her degrees are in Education, and Biology with a master’s in Landscape Architecture. She has been a 6th grade teacher, seamstress, lab technician, biochemist, school programs and volunteer coordinator, day camp director, watershed planner and supervisor of the land management and watershed management programs at a regional river authority,

instructor of landscape design and gardening classes, and now consultant. Nancy recently served on the Texas Riparian Association’s founding board of directors for two years as the outreach chair where she helped produce the first newsletters, display boards, and website. Now she spends her time consulting in garden and planting design, painting with watercolors, volunteering and doing home renovation projects. Nancy is

married and has two children in college.



Species Spotlight

Anoura fistulata By Tim Krynak



Anoura fistulata is a nectarivorous, long-nosed bat that was just recently described as a new species in 2005. This unique bat has been documented on Reserva Las Galarias in January 2006. This bat is known for it’s extremely long tongue and tubular lower lip, separating it from the other long-nosed bats found at this elevation in Ecuador. Little is known about the bats natural history, but is believed to be a very important pollinator of numerous cloud forest plants like this burmeistera flower.



Wisps from the Cloud Forest

by Jane A. Lyons

A nice long rainy season punctuated by periodic hot sunny days has helped make up some of last year's rainfall deficit. This year's winter seemed to be as long as last year's summer, with rain, fog and cold into late June. Although the rainy conditions cause our trails to require continual maintenance, they have also helped immensely all of our trees and vegetation and have kept the bird activity high. The orchids collected from fallen branches have also thrived and are sprouting new leaves. Water levels in the creeks and river are high and hopefully will help us avoid the drought-like conditions we faced last year. One new bird species has been found on the reserve: Turquoise Jay, a relatively common species at higher elevations, has been seen and heard a few times on the recently-acquired property.



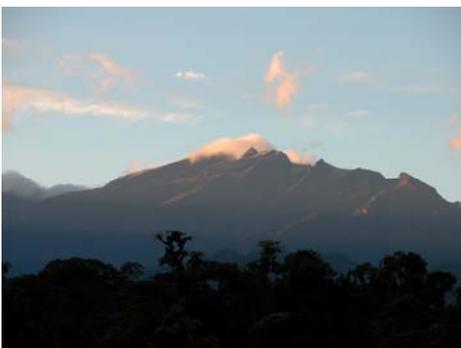
The late rains also brought us impressive moth emergences, with numerous species of *Sphingidae*, *Arctiidae* and *Geometridae*, including thousands of the variably-spotted Pantherodes, inundating the houses during the nights of 18-20 June.

By early July the hot sunny summer was drying out the forest floor, and the cloud forest species began to recede into the cool damp ravines to await the next cycle of rains. Most of the bird species were finishing their nesting cycle and beginning their post-breeding season molt. On 8 July at the hummingbird feeders near the forest I saw an adult Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan accompanying a squeaking immature and assumed they were part of the same family that had nested in January along Sisters' Loop Trail. The immature bird still had darkish "plates" on its bill instead of the solid yellow of the adult.



The guest house was closed during my visit to Cleveland and Austin during April and May, but has become very busy again, with weekly visitors in June and July. The months August through February are scheduled to be even busier. In June we welcomed Bryan Wainwright, who will spend 6 months at the reserve helping as a resident guide and with our documentation efforts. Bryan is a birder and ornithologist originally from Yorkshire, U.K. who has spent the last several years working with bird conservation projects in Brazil and Paraguay.

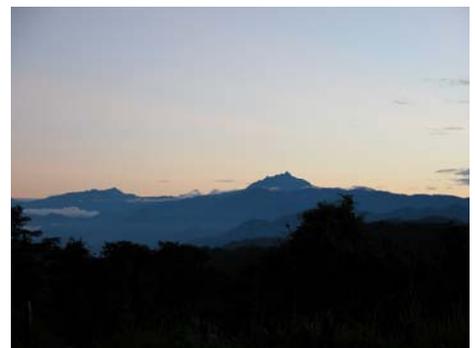
We know it won't be long until the northern migrants begin to return and the rains begin again. In the meantime, however, we are definitely enjoying the increasingly diverse summertime butterflies, the glorious cloud-free views of the volcanoes, and the spectacularly colorful summer sunsets.



Volcano Pinchincha



Sunset at Revera Las Gralarias



Volcano Cotocachi

Foundation Update *Continued*

A special thanks to all the sponsors of the North Coast Nature Festival Bird-a-thon. We raised over \$1,100 toward the "Santa Rosa River Valley Project."

Mary Bartos, Fred & Cheryl Dinklebach, Sandra Anderson, Nathan Anderson, Marlene Subjoc, Laurie Boylan, Bill & Ann Toneff, Pala Lozano, Anna Kozlenko, Phyllis Schnell, May Lou Hura, Bob Hopp, Christi Carlson, Linda Johnson, Caroline Chandler, Bob Finkelstein, Eileen Zimlich, Marianne Nolan, Ann Chasar, Winnie Kennedy, Eric Dinkelbach, Delores Cole, Craig Caldwell, Barb Partington, Henry Forlage, Julie West, Gary Neuman, Gail Dailey, Nancy Piltch, Jane Lyons, George & Annette Steck, Andy & Helen Kiko, Claudia Anders (in memory of Leslie Morlay Hauserman), Janelle Reardon, Kathy Karhan, Martha Wendorf, Angie Alessandro, Margaret Stalker, Rhonda Bohnsaek, Coleen Roy, Terri Martincic, Kit Birch, Nancy Howell, Mary Anne Romito, Susan Favazzo, Sue Howe, Yafa Silverman, Liz Clingman, Marianna Carpenter, Robert Andrews, Dee Moncrief, Barb Bennett, L. Bonnell, N. Dittrich, K. Phillips, K. Mant, S. Curry, I. Fox, T. Ealy, J. Hanlon, K. Gibbons, N. Ulman, Shirley Marquard, Cheryl Pastor, Florence Mondak, Jean Miklosko, and Chris Mondak.



Santa Rosa River Valley

Las Gralarias Foundation Inc.'s board members have been very busy this past quarter planning and implementing several fund raising activities. Tim Krynak, Kathy Duffey, Jo Ann Kubicki, Shamus Terry and Jane Lyons took part in the North Cost Nature Festival. Tim Krynak, Kathy Duffey, and Jo Ann Kubicki have displayed our exhibit at several presentations. Bob Barth and Noreen Damude for their assistance in fundraising efforts.

A huge THANK YOU to Bob and Jean Warneke for hosting a fund-raising reception in Austin, with help from Craig Damuth and Nancy and Randy Charbeneau. Thanks to all your hard work we were able to raise several thousands of dollars towards the "Santa Rosa River Valley Project"

Special thanks also goes out to Jeff Miller for his efforts to secure funding for moth research at Reserva Las Gralarias, to Melini Brewer who has donated a very nice digital camera, photo card, and children's books to RLG, to Virginia and Nari Mistry who donated many children's books for the kids at Rio Tumbes, to Kristy Becka and Matthew Duncan, Cheryl Brownstein, Walter Harrell, Fran Dechant, Biagio Frusteri, T. walker, Zofia and Joseph Hunt, Meta Butler Hunt, Duane E., Kurapka, Edith A. Maloney, Rita Pence, Jane F. Rodwan, and TaV Garvin for the donations made to RLG. Everyday we get closer to preserving the Santa Rosa River Valley.



Board Meeting at Rocky River Nature Center : Jane, Tim, Kathy, Shamus and Jo Ann



A man has made at least a start on discovering the meaning of human life when he plants shade trees under which he knows full well he will never sit.

-Elton Trueblood (1900-1994)



The goal of Las Gralarias Foundation Inc. is to raise funds for projects and programs of Reserva Las Gralarias, located in the parish of Mindo, Ecuador, including the purchase of adjacent and nearby lands that will enhance protection for rare endemic birds, plants and other animals as well as supports reserve management, reforestation efforts, biological research, environmental education projects, scholarships, and appropriate tourism programs.

LAS GRALARIAS
FOUNDATION INC.

www.lasgralariasfoundation.org



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Las Gralarias Foundation Inc. Newsletter

Las Gralarias Foundation Inc. Board Members

- President:** Tim Krynak (*Ohio*)
- Vice President:** Jane Lyons Ph.D. (*Ecuador*)
- Secretary:** Katherine Duffey (*Ohio*)
- Treasurer:** Jo Ann Kubicki (*Ohio*)
- Bob Barth Ph.D. (*Texas*)
- Nancy Charbeneau (*Texas*)
- Noreen Damude (*Texas*)
- Jeffrey Miller Ph.D. (*Oregon*)
- Shamus Terry (*Wisconsin*)

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