



Dear Friend,

Greetings from the Monteverde Conservation League! We are writing once again to wish you a happy holiday season, share with you our greatest achievements throughout the year, and make it possible for you to support the largest private conservation effort in Costa Rica, the Children's Eternal Rainforest (Bosque Eterno de los Niños, or BEN). This year has been a significant one for the MCL and the BEN. We have made progress in many of our different programs and continue to help the BEN grow thanks to our many dedicated supporters.

Maintenance and protection program

During this year, we have maintain and strengthen the protection and maintenance program of the BEN, in which, beside the enormous effort of our team, other institutions had taken place, a proof of this was the certification of ten of ours field staff by the Environmental, Energy and Telecommunications Ministry (MINAET), government institution. Also we have worked full time in partnership with the police force, thanks to agreements with the Security Ministry.

No forgetting the regular patrols, special operations, cleaning lanes and boundaries, maintenance of the infrastructure, both buildings and trails.

Land Purchase

The MCL was able to acquire a new property to add to the BEN this year, thanks to our many donors and hard working employees. This property of about 100.5 hectares was owned by Mr. José Manuel Cruz Lopez (Pipe), this property is located in San Luis, Monteverde and the pacific mountain of Tilarán where this property strategically joins tow sections of the BEN, it is also part of the Biological Corridor Bellbird where it protects very important water resources for the region. This property has been paid just 50% of it's total value, above under eligibility of the owner.

With this new acquisition for permanent preservation, MCL will continue to build the important dream of consolidating the conservation of the biodiversity in the BEN, in this condition plants and animals have more room to grow and live in peace, rivers and streams of that property will clean water, free of destruction and contamination and in a few years our children's and the children's of the world would be able to go, learn, enjoy and understand this natural preserved area and the efforts of conservationist visionary people who have broken from the comfortable life style to think about the ones that come behind.

Research

The MCL wants to generate knowledge about the different species that are protected in the BEN, that's the reason to continuing working with a very important research project in the BEN. The first is a project in partnership with Chester Zoo in Manchester, England, has got very good and important results concerning a frog species once thought to be extinct, *Lithobates vibicarius* (the green-eyed frog). A breeding site of the green-eyed frog was rediscovered by a field guide and tropical biology teacher, Mark Wainwright, while hiking through a section of cloud forest in the BEN 20 years after the specie's disappearance. Natural history and genetic studies are being performed by the MCLs park guards, maintenance staff, and Chester Zoo to better conserve the species in the future.

Also, our field staff has maintained large mammal monitoring by collecting footprints, using plaster and monitored monthly by a walk, those walks are done at the same days and time for three kilometer in six different sites in order to establish the distribution patter of the mammals. Similarly efforts are done with the camara trap in the woods to monitor the movement of the animals.

Reforestation

This year we have planted more than 500 trees with the idea to recover and rehabilitate some areas that have been used for agriculture production in an excessive way. We have also nursed 6,000 trees of native species that are produced for planting in the adjacent zones of the protected area by members of different communities.

Ecotourism

As part of our ecotourism efforts MCL continues working in its four sites open for visitors, as a way to have an economic support that will allow us to hold the development of our programs in the BEN and the communities surrounding. The ecotourism is done basically in Bajo del Tigre, Finca Steller, San Gerardo field Station, Poco Sol field station, and a recently the Information Center, which welcomed more than 1300 in a very short time.

Beside the self-generation of economic resources those sites are important elements involved in education and promotion of the BEN; in order to reach those conditions we have improved the infrastructure and capacity to handle visitors. This improvement has allowed us to build the Poco Sol station during the last two years.

This program continues growing, a proof of it are the 6,700 visitors that we have had this current year.

Environmental and education

One of our pillars of work is education; we have tried to do activities or environmental education monthly, involving students from local schools and organized groups of 20 to 70 people, mostly children. This year the MCL has received financial support from Bosqueterno SA, a conservationist organization, with \$1,100 for the development of an education activity called "conserving the water, we conserve the life on our planet" with local children of the Monteverde area.

MCL has also worked in partnership with other organizations in Monteverde and La Tigre de San Carlos, such as the Environmental Education Commission of Monteverde (CEAM) and the Asís Foundation, we develop different environmental education activities with those organizations along the year, one of the most recent activities is the environment day on October 18, with a full week of activities in the Monteverde region.

Web site and facebook (social Network)

You can become a friend of BEN and AML on Facebook, for this we have opened an account in Spanish "Acm-Ben" and English "Children's Eternal Rainforest" in order to share the latest news with nature lovers. We invite you to become a friend of the Children's Eternal Rainforest on Facebook.

We keep doing the newsletter monthly and we circulate it by email and post it on the web site. In addition

In addition, we would like to invite you to visit our store in (www.acmcr.org) and purchase "frog" T-shirt, "tapir" hats, Natural sounds CDs and more. This is a way to support Children's Eternal Rainforest!

Music Festival

In order to promote music and art in Monteverde, we participated in the project "Monteverde Music Festival". It was supported by the national theatre Melico Salazar and the culture Ministry with the local and national artist participation in a concert to generate funds for the continually local program of the art association community and through it stimulate the interest and the knowledge of art in the region.

MCL anniversary

With great enthusiasm, the MCL is preparing to celebrate the 25th anniversary next February 2011. This time of work and effort for conservation has been achieved thanks to the support of individuals and organizations that believe in MCL and its programs and projects

With this celebration throughout 2011, we will be developing different activities, so we invite you to celebrate with us.

The earth is not an inheritance from our ancestors; we borrow it for our children. Mahatma Gandhi.

"The Earth is our home and the home of all living things. The earth itself is alive.

We are part of the universe in evolution; we are part of a community of interdependent life with a magnificent diversity of life forms and cultures. We humble by the beauty of the earth and share a reverence for life and the sources of our being..."
the letter of the earth.

Sincerely,

Yúber Rodríguez
Executive Director

" 24 AÑOS CONSERVANDO EL LEGADO DE LA NATURALEZA "

Decreto N° 20172 como parte de la Zona Protectora Arenal-Monteverde, 24 de enero, 1992

Miembro Fundador de la Red Costarricense de Reservas Naturales Privadas; 1995.

Reconocimiento Aportes al Mejoramiento a la Calidad de Vida, Defensoría de los Habitantes de la República; octubre, 2000.

Acreedora beneficio recibir donaciones como gastos deducibles renta bruta de donantes, Administración Tributaria; julio, 2006

Declarada de Utilidad Pública para los intereses del Estado según el decreto 33632-J; marzo, 2007.

Premio INBio al Mérito en la Conservación de la Biodiversidad Costarricense; mayo, 2007.

Parte de la Reserva de la Biosfera Agua y Paz, UNESCO; Septiembre, 2007.

Adhesión como miembro de la Unión Mundial para la Naturaleza (UICN), noviembre, 2007.

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Organizaciones Hermanas/Sister Organizations:



Children's Tropical Forests
Saving Rainforests for our Children's Children

MONTEVERDE
CONSERVATION LEAGUE U.S., INC.



www.barnens-regnskog.net/projekt_e.htm

<http://nipponjungle.blogspot.com/>

www.kinderregenwald.de

www.tropical-forests.com

www.mclus.org

Items needed at the Monteverde Conservation League

While a main focus is always more land purchases for the BEN, here are basic items that are immediately needed to help the project, the forest, and the animals that live there. Please help today!

- Raingear
- Lanterns (heavy duty flashlights)
- 4 - Small gas camping stoves
- 4 - Camping lamps
- 6 - Communication radios and 4 extra batteries, repeater, walkie talkies
- Rechargeable batteries for lanterns, GPS and other equipment
- Battery chargers
- 2 - Camping tents
- 2 - Grass cutters on a long pole
- 1 - Small chainsaw
- Dog food and cages for dogs that are taken from poachers and cared for
- Plaster for the mammal research projects
- 2 - Digital cameras (for guards to use to document work in the field)
- 1 - GPS unit
- Notebooks for field work
- Pencils
- Other equipment (knives, files, small shovels, pepper spray etc.)
- Storage area for San Gerardo (building materials and operation, field work equipment)
- Food for field work
- Binoculars (professional grade)
- Cages for rescued wild animals
- Specialized equipment for animal rescue and capture (snakes, monkeys etc.)
- Office Equipment (replacement of two PCs and software, the current PCs are very old and they are not in a good condition.
- Fuel for Protection and Maintenance vehicles of Children's Eternal Rainforest.
- Complete the repair of the road to the Pocosol Biologica Station, we would need to pay for the transportation of the rock for the road.

Your donations are greatly appreciated!

**Your funds are used for essential items to protect and preserve the
forest**

**Yes, I want to be involved in
Rainforest Conservation and
preservation!**

I will contribute to the MCL:

- \$600 \$300 \$150 \$100
 \$75 \$50 Other _____

For a gift of \$50 you will receive a **certificate**

For \$100 - a **plant or animal guide**

For \$150 -- a **Monteverde science and scientist
book**

Thank You!

Please tell your friends about us.

Name: _____

Size: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Country: _____

Telephone/ Fax: _____

E mail: _____

If you would like to make an electronic donation with your debit or credit card, please visit:

If you would like to make an electronic donation with your debit or credit card, please visit

http://www.acmcr.org/payment_eng.htm

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