



5th graders "meet a canopy scientist"

TREE Foundation Annual Report

November 2016

Compiled by Dr. Meg Lowman, Executive Director

Annual Meeting – November 7, 2016 3:30 – 5:30 PM

Cavanaugh & Co. Accountants, 2381 Fruitville Rd, Sarasota FL



TREE FOUNDATION

Dr. Thomas E. Lovejoy, President, The H. John Heinz III Center for Science, Economics, and the Environment
Honorary Board Chairman

Dear TREE Foundation Supporters,

1 Nov 2016

Thank you for your support of local and global forest conservation, now that TREE Foundation approaches her 20th anniversary in 2020! This past year has cemented our global efforts with many landmark achievements, as well as continuing to execute successful local efforts. All of this success is due to your enthusiasm, generosity, and dedication to our mission: “Tree Research, Education and Exploration.” Thank you on behalf of our board, research associates, and indirectly from the next generation whose lives are enhanced by your stewardship of forests. As global change accelerates on many fronts, our mission is more important than ever, because healthy forests represent a critical part of the solution.

Highlights of this past year are described in two portfolios – local and global. We are humming on both fronts, and look forward to ramping up our local programs as we approach the 20th anniversary. Our big successes include forest conservation in Ethiopia with national recognition for this accomplishment; a continuation of innovative programs for environmental education to youths, especially girls; international focus on canopy walkway projects in 3 new sites; extraordinary virtual reach through our website; continued environmental outreach to Florida schools and families; and expansion of mentoring programs to engage young scientists in forest conservation. Details below!

LOCAL TREE ACTIVITIES in 2015-16

TREE Foundation continues to attract thousands of visitors to southwest Florida with two outdoor educational destinations: the nationally-acclaimed canopy walkway in Myakka River State Park of southwest Florida, and the TREE Treehouse at Spanish Point historical site in Osprey, Florida. Visitors to Florida can now explore the treetops in Myakka, and then enjoy a lovely waterfront picnic at Spanish Point in our thatched chickee hut on stilts along the gorgeous edge of Sarasota Bay!

1. **Myakka River State Park canopy walkway** – The treetop walk continues to represent a major tourist and educational destination for hundreds of thousands of visitors to Florida. Our annual inspection of the timber and joints has passed with flying colors, and the park continues its careful oversight to the maintenance of this incredible architectural wonder. Thousands of education brochures are disseminated to school groups and families. Using the Myakka walkway as a flagship achievement, TREE has launched a YouTube video series of the

- “World’s Ten Best Canopy Walkways’ with Myakka as the Number One video. Check it out on www.treefoundation.org . We plan to ramp up some local events surrounding our 20th anniversary in 2020, so stay tuned!
2. **Spanish Point Treehouse** – Last year’s launch of the treehouse along the Bay in Osprey, Florida, gives TREE a wider visitorship of new audiences after the Myakka canopy success. Spanish Point hosts more senior citizens, school groups, and picnic activities – so our messages about the importance of forests are expanded at a local level.
 3. **TREE environmental lecture series**– After the passing of Joel Fedder, our sponsor of annual lectures, TREE hosted an environmental reading in his honor at the Hermitage (a renowned artist colony) near Venice, Florida. Director Meg Lowman read nature passages on the beach at sunset, along with son James Burgess who co-authored several nature essays with his mom. The event was well-attended, and a fitting tribute to our former Vice President. We will seek donations to continue that lecture series in the future.
 4. **Virtual nature** – Our website has been expanded to offer educational opportunities about forests and forest canopies to diverse audiences both local and global in English, Amharic, Spanish and most recently, some segments of Chinese language. We have exceeded 3 million hits per year with both of our canopy websites; (and to attest to the rising importance of forest canopies, our director had >200 million social media hits, which indirectly benefits TREE). An increasing number of students continue to blog and write emails to TREE seeking information about forests and conservation! Our mobility-limited student canopy scientists also continue to feature on our website, including wheelchair-bound student Rebecca Tripp who blogged last summer from her lifelong goal to undertake research in the Amazon jungle. Many middle schools in Florida and the eastern seaboard have web postings with their drawings of forest canopies and their questions to “canopymeg.” Part of this student outreach has been inspired because quite a few states are now required to read The Most Beautiful Roof (by Kathryn Lasky), a children’s book about Lowman’s work in forest canopies, for NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards). Some of these many classes and student artwork are featured on our website, with several 5th graders from rural schools commenting, “Speaking by Skype to a real scientist was the most exciting day of my entire school experience!”
 5. **Education outreach** – The children’s book, “Beza – Saving the Forests of Ethiopia, One Church at a Time,” continues to sell briskly in the USA. Every copy sold in English funds a copy in Amharic to be distributed FREE to an Ethiopian child. This colorful volume tells the story of a young Ethiopian girl who starts a forest conservation program in her village. We have shipped hundreds of books to Ethiopian schools and will continue to do this, as a means of both educating children about the values of the forests, but also empowering girls in science. Over 300 books will be transported to Ethiopia this summer, thanks to a generous contribution from the Brethren Foundation. Please purchase this book, and you will be educating Ethiopian children as well as buying a great gift!

6. **Training the next generation** - TREE Research Associate, Bryson Voirin (who also received TREE's first-ever student scholarship), has broadcast about his canopy research to over 50 million viewers through programs on BBC and Japanese TV. Bryson is a part of TREE's succession plan to insure that forest canopies are part of the next generation's focus. In addition, TREE Research Associate and educator, DC Randle, has retired from public school science teaching in order to focus full-time on recruiting underserved K-12 classrooms to undertake Amazon expeditions and embrace the mission of TREE. DC continues to teach the local Peruvians at our Amazon canopy walkway site about rain forest ecology and wildlife management, and TREE continues to donate science books to Amazon teachers and river schoolhouses. We welcome a new Research Associate, Dr. Anthony Ambrose, from University of California – Berkeley. Anthony is an expert on tall trees, especially redwoods. He has not only climbed these enormous canopies, but also demystified the secrets of their amazing hydraulics that move water from the roots up to the 200-foot high upper canopy. Anthony will be working closely with our CanopyMeg as another element of our Next Generation succession plan, partnering with some of our canopy projects around the world to insure the long-term future of important forest conservation activities.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

1. **International Conservation and Environmental Education** – Forest canopies have become “the flavor of the year” in many countries, with canopy research and ecotourism providing a recognized economic as well as ecological value for planetary health. TREE is in a unique position as one of the world's only nonprofits dedicated to this type of expertise and mission. TREE has expanded its international reach, with three new canopy projects that provide critical conservation and education value at a global scale. These new projects include:
 - a. **BHUTAN** – Funded by the King of Bhutan, TREE will be providing scientific expertise for a new canopy walkway in the Royal Manas National Park in southeastern Bhutan. This region has the world's largest tiger population, as well as elephants and other endangered species. The King envisions a sustainable project with a long canopy walkway, field station for visiting scientists, and K-12 school for local villagers to insure that the visiting scientists will inspire the local kids. This type of visionary project is a global first, fully embracing the economics of ecotourism and conservation using the treetops.
 - b. **PENANG** – The UNESCO World-Heritage region of Penang will soon have its own canopy walkway and environmental education center on Penang Hill, a unique primary tropical rain forest reserve within a 15 minute drive of 1.5 million people. TREE director, Dr. Lowman, is working with a Malaysian team to design the walkway as well as a field station that will house international researchers to work at this site. Part of the program involves creating a healthy partnership with

the University of Malaysia and the international canopy science community.

- c. **NATIVE AMERICANS** – The Yurok Indians of northern California have requested oversight to a planned canopy walkway and environmental education center in their forest reserve near Arcata, California. Using proceeds from their successful casino, the Yurok leaders would like to give back to their next generation, by providing this link to the natural world. Similarly, the Piquot tribe in Connecticut is in dialogue about a similar environmental education portfolio.

2. **International Canopy Conference** – TREE Foundation co-hosted the 7th International Canopy Conference at Roehampton University campus, outside London, during August 2016. TREE co-sponsored a session called Lightning Talks – Advances in Canopy Science, as part of the program, working with our partners in Ethiopia and India. TREE also provided a partial scholarship to Sky Lan, our Taiwanese graduate student, to present her thesis results; and distributed canopy books to students from developing countries.
3. **K-12 Education Outreach** – Dr. Lowman presented a keynote talk to the Jason Annual Conference in Washington DC during June 2016. This highly successful distance learning science program for middle schools has been re-born after its original success with Lowman and Dr. Bob Ballard co-hosting it during the 1990s (> 3 million student participants). In the new “Jason Learning” (as it is called), plans are underway to sponsor virtual expeditions to some of TREE’s canopy walkway sites, including Penang and possibly Florida or northern California. Timelines will be fleshed out during the upcoming year.

As listed above, Lowman continues to participate in distance learning modules for middle schools throughout the USA, because a children’s book (written about Lowman’s canopy exploration) is now part of the required NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards) for approximately a dozen states. Students write to Lowman, asking questions, and then classes engage in live Skype sessions where they have conversations about rain forests, scientists, and biodiversity. In addition, thousands of students in India have done similar virtual classes, expanding TREE’s global reach of aspiring young scientists! Check out some of the questions, artwork, and student photos on www.treefoundation.org. In addition, Research Associate DC Randle is ramping up his education outreach for minority students, and led several school expeditions to the Amazon this year.

4. **Scholarships** – Thanks to individual TREE donors, we now have 2 women-in-science scholars from developing countries who will finish their degrees in early 2017. Tizezew Sisay from Ethiopia is studying for her Masters degree in Women and Environmental Science at University of Maine as a TREE Scholar; and Sky Lan from Taiwan is working toward her PhD in Canopy Science at Oregon State University. Congratulations to these young pioneers who will return to their countries and become role models for many other young women. TREE was also

a co-sponsor of a highly successful Women in Science Summit held at the California Academy of Sciences in January 2016. Luminaries such as Jane Goodall, Jane Lubchenco, Kathy Sullivan, and Sylvia Earle were joined on stage by TREE associates Lowman, DC Randle, and scholar Tizezew Sisay to discuss hurdles for women in science. The auditorium was standing-room only, and the conference was live-streamed around the world by the California Academy of Sciences with great success.

5. **Citizen Science Expedition to the Amazon Canopy** – TREE will co-host our 26th annual citizen science expedition to the Amazon forest canopy during summer 2017, taking enthusiastic teachers, students, and families to conduct research and assimilate the culture of this amazing region. In addition, our groups generate local revenues for villagers who find employment supporting ecotourism (instead of logging). Everyone is blessed by a shaman, and contributes to research on tropical rain forest health by measuring insect damage to the canopies. Next summer, our team includes additional new research projects: mapping the canopy with drones; studies of insect disease vectors in the canopy; and some expanded environmental education programs in Amazon villages, partnering with a Fulbright scholar and TREE Associate from India (Bhaskar Krishnamurthy).
6. **Ethiopian forest conservation** – TREE continues to be a global force in the conservation of the last remaining forests of Ethiopia, called church forests because they exist in the surrounds of the Coptic churches. Thanks greatly to the Spurlino Foundation and small donations from hundreds of school students, TREE has now exceeded the half-way point in conserving the 28 most critical forests of northern Ethiopia. These church forests now have beautiful stone walls built by the local church community, meaning that cattle are excluded from eating the seedlings and farmers' plows will not ring-bark and stress the edge trees, leading to their demise and ultimate shrinkage of the church forests. These small plots house the last remaining biodiversity library for Ethiopia, fresh water springs, medicinal plants, honey, pollinators, shade, tree roots that conserve soil, and an important spiritual site. Colby College and Colgate University are both partnering with TREE, to collect information on both the ecology of the forest patches, and also the social science aspects of forest conservation in rural Ethiopia. National Science Foundation is funding groups of undergraduate students to undertake research in the forests during summers of 2016 and 2017, and also to help design an environmental education center near Bahir Dar, Ethiopia. This federally-funded grant is a wonderful indicator of the credibility of this project.

Another outstanding endorsement of TREE's Ethiopia project came from internationally acclaimed biodiversity expert, EO Wilson of Harvard University. In his latest book, Half Earth, Wilson makes a special plea for preservation of a handful of critical, special forests around the world. He includes the church forests of Ethiopia, and cites our work toward this effort. Both Wilson's endorsement and our new funding from National Science Foundation give credibility to our efforts. Thank you all for this visionary conservation!

7. **Mobility-limited students** – Another federal grant from National Science Foundation will fund the next 3 summers of training wheelchair-bound students to climb trees and conduct research on micro-arthropods including tardigrades, otherwise known as water bears. Eight students trained in 2014 sampled over 4000 water bears of which 4 were new species! Eight additional new species were discovered in 2015! Students presented at several national conferences, and generously donated the naming opportunity of three of the water bears as fund-raisers for TREE, aiding Ethiopian forest conservation. Another eight students are currently working in the canopies for this summer 2016. Go team! One of the first-year student participants has been accessioning our water bear collections for Museum preservation; we expect to donate over 23,000 tardigrades to the California Academy of Sciences next year, making it one of the world's largest tardigrade collections.

These are some of our 2016 highlights for TREE Foundation. Thank you for your contribution – please consider a donation in honor of a loved one, or just for the sake of trees everywhere! We will be gearing up for the 20th anniversary of our beloved Myakka canopy walkway, so please send in your program ideas, or purchase a plank (\$100 for engraved floor planks, and \$1000 for uprights). TREE aspires to expand our global walkway network with new sites, fund virtual school programs including YouTube videos and other social media to educate youth about forests, support girls in science, and expand local environmental education. We look forward to making the world a better place for the next generation.

Yours gratefully,

Meg Lowman

Meg Lowman, PhD
Executive Director

Gerrí

Gerri Aaron
Board President



EO Wilson paid tribute to TREE's Ethiopia work in his book , Half Earth. Lowman greets him at his book launch.



**Student Outreach! Above: Sara Martin with her drawing to conserve trees;
Below: College students share their canopy discoveries at the Cal Academy.**





Generous donors = New planks!



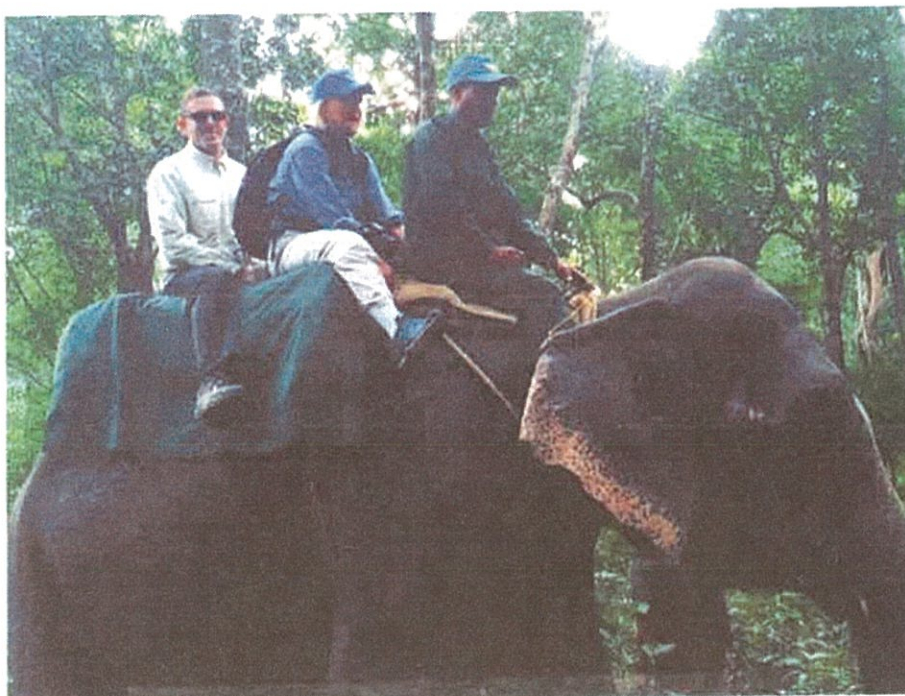
----- Forwarded message -----
From: **pamela montero alvarez** <pamelamontero@hotmail.com>
Date: Mon, Aug 18, 2014 at 2:41 PM
Subject: scope of my life!
To: meg lowman <canopymeg@gmail.com>

Meg!!
I am currently working at a USAID Project with Chemonics International. I am the Natural Protected Area Specialist of the Project. I love my job and what I do. I have a two year old baby girl, her name is Isabella, she loves nature. We recently moved to Lima.
Because of my current job, I often travel to Iquitos, Pucallpa and Puerto Maldonado. Before this, I worked in Datern del Marañón, implementing a conservation project with natives communities.
Almost all of my life I have been working in the field, in natural protected areas :) But my first encounter with science and field work was with the Jason Project through YOU!! Such an amazing experience you gave me, so much enthusiasm and love for science. It was a life changing experience for me, and ever since I have traveled to different parts of the world, and shared experiences from many different people. But, always keeping in my heart and mind my dearest friend: Meg Lowman :) Your love for learning (even from a teenager like I was!!) and teaching and keeping always investigating is remarkable and a everlasting example for young - and not so young - scientist from all over the world
I hope to see you soon :)

love,

pam

Above: Past students pay tribute to our education outreach. Below: Lowman does reconnaissance on elephant-back for Bhutan's new canopy walkway.

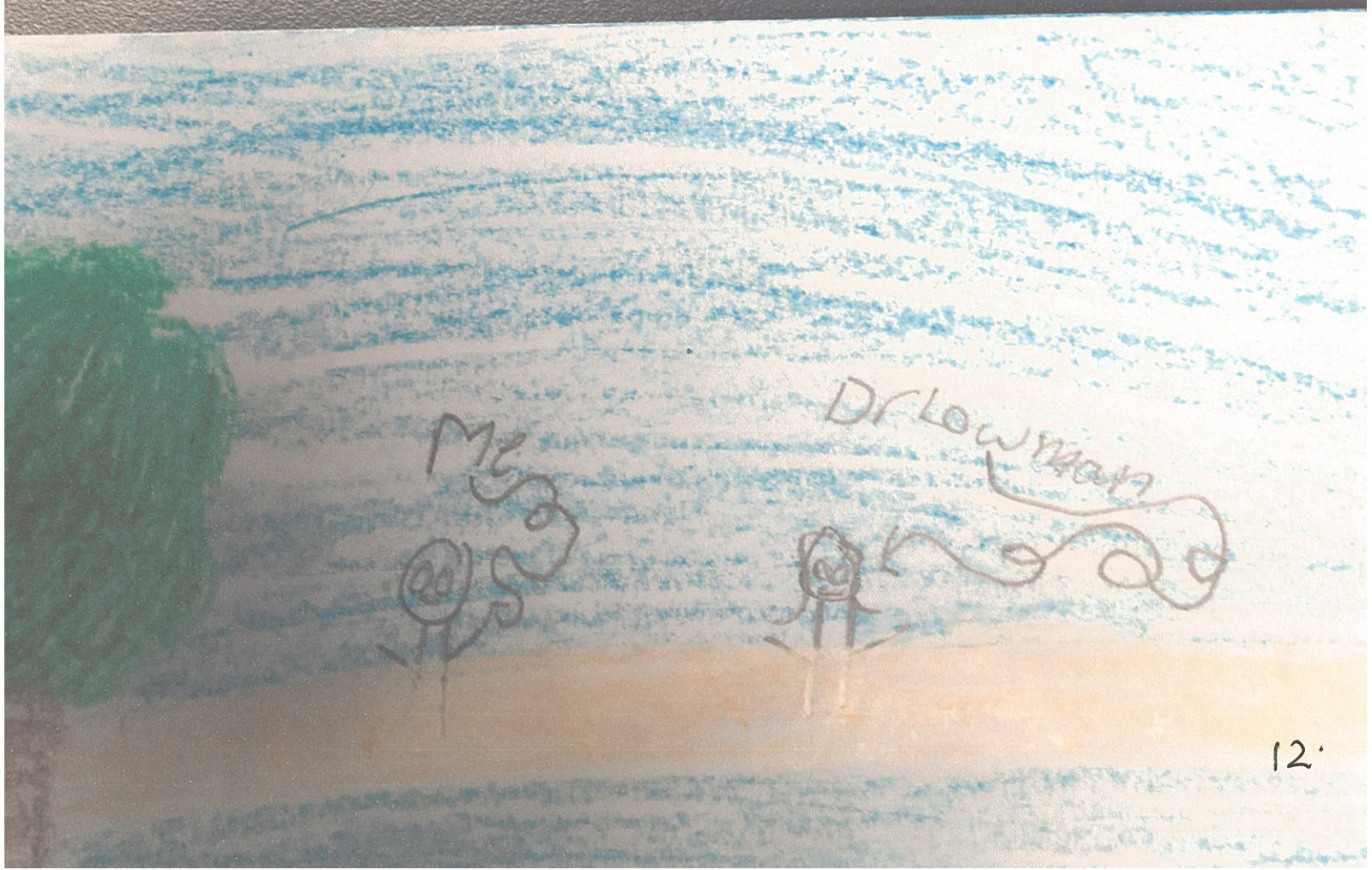


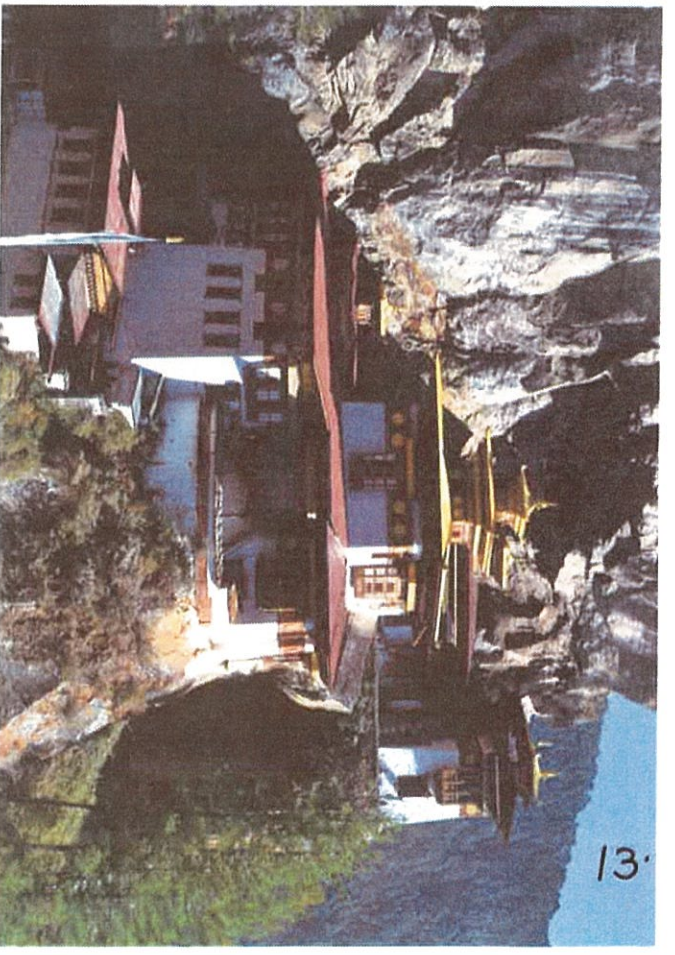


Dear Dr. Lowman,
 Thank you for teaching
 us about your discoveries
 I think climbing trees very
 fun. How do you know if
 an animal is extinct?
 Do you track them? I
 learned lots of interesting
 facts at your visit. I think
 our school had so much
 fun at your visit.
 ...Sincerely,

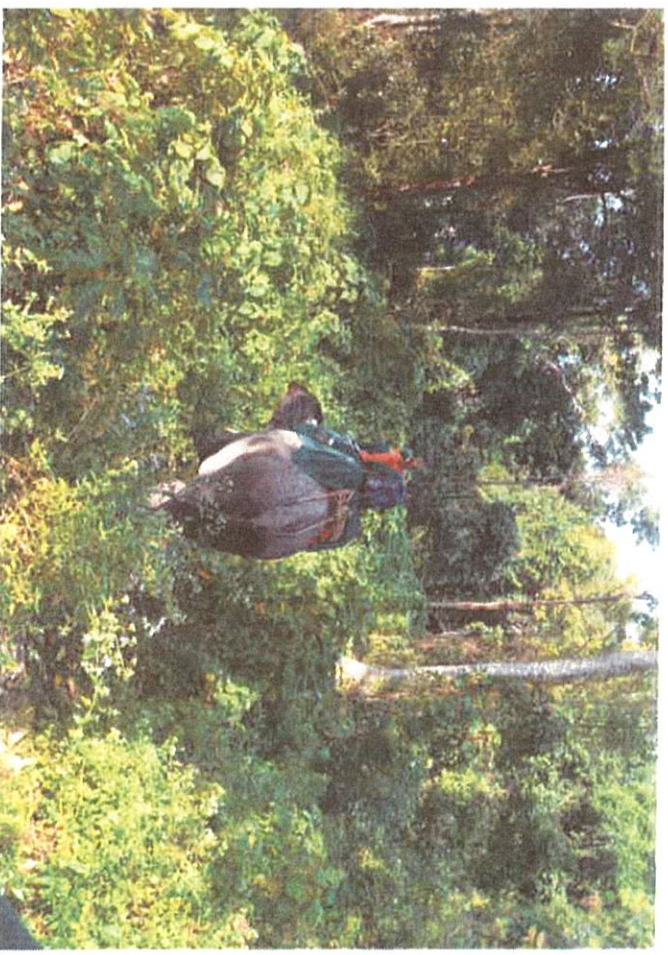
Children love trees (and sloths!)





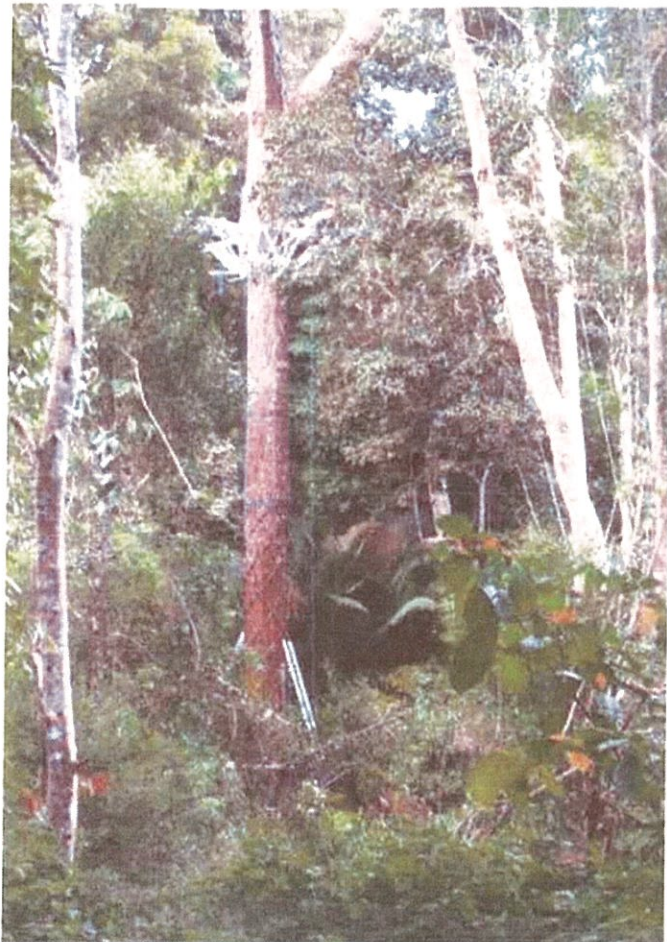


BHUTAN - exploration and planning for a new canopy walkway

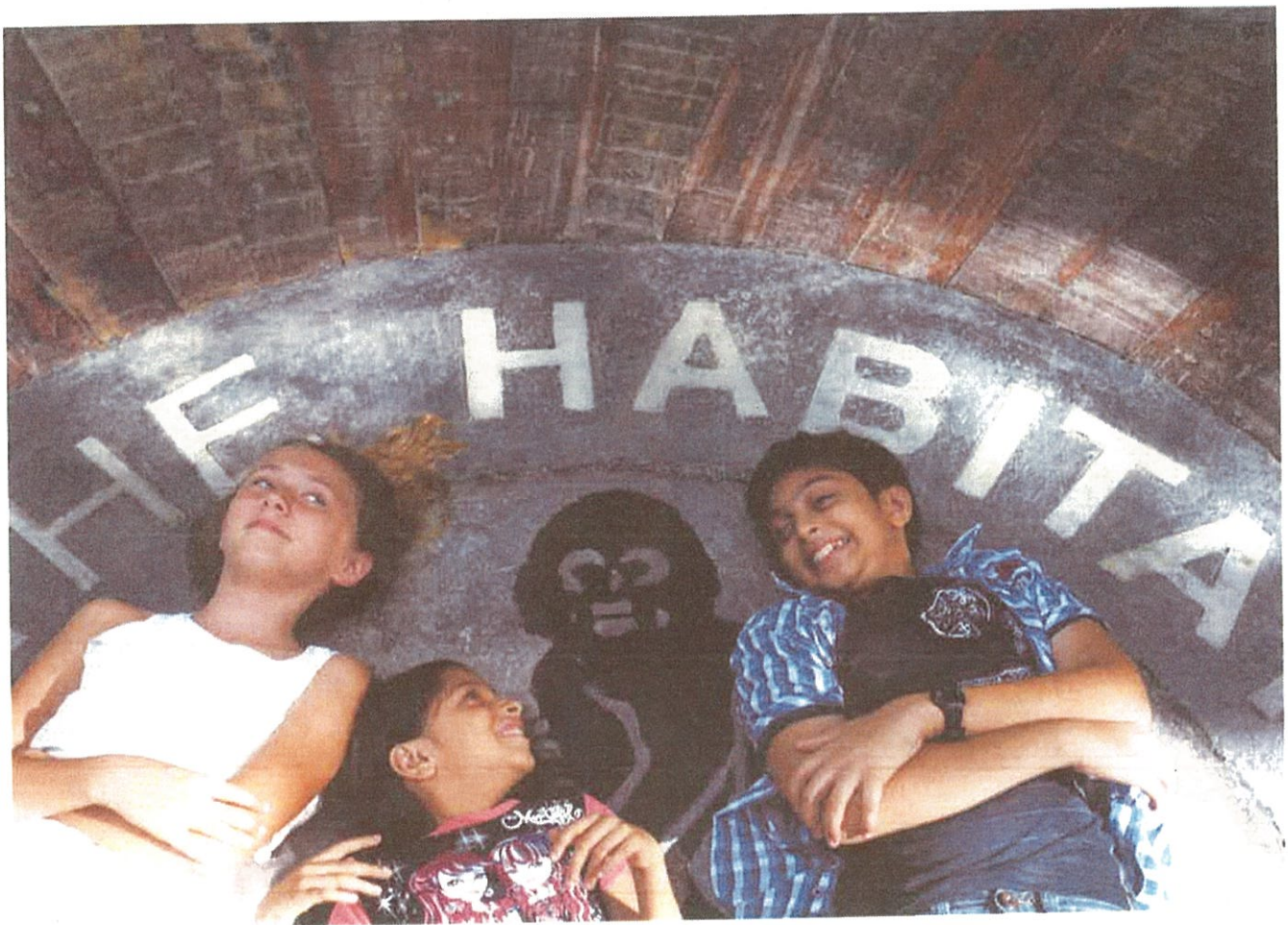




PENANG – exploration and planning for a new canopy walkway



PENANG – site of the new canopy walkway



INTRODUCTION

The Habitat Penang Hill, in collaboration with Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang Forestry Department, and Penang Hill Corporation, is coordinating efforts to have Penang Hill listed as a part of a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve for Penang Island under UNESCO's Man and Biosphere Programme. One important step in successfully submitting this proposal to UNESCO is to conduct a comprehensive biodiversity assessment of Penang Hill including but not limited to its canopies. The long term vision of the collaboration would be a research-driven conservation programme for Penang Hill anchored in the Biosphere Reserve listing. To kickstart this process, The Habitat in partnership with USM is organising this joint symposium called, "The Launch - Canopy Science & Forest Conservation in Penang" where world-renowned canopy research scientists will share their experience with participants from Malaysia and around the world. All this is in preparation for a full Biodiversity Assessment, called the 'Bio-Blitz', planned for September 2017.

THE HABITAT PENANG HILL

The Habitat Penang Hill is a world-class eco-tourism attraction located on the fringes of a virgin rainforest on Penang Hill. Recently opened, The Habitat aspires to promote environmental consciousness and conservation awareness eco-tourism. It's Nature Trail, Canopy Walkways and Zip-Lines let visitors appreciate Penang Hill's untouched rainforest by bringing them up-close to nature. Conservation, preservation and education about the rainforest and its delicate ecosystems are an integral part of The Habitat's core purpose and mission.



The Habitat Penang Hill



TheHabitatPH



+604 8267677

thehabitat.my

ABOUT THE CANOPY

The canopy is the upper layer or habitat zone that is formed by mature tree crowns. It is a highly diverse ecosystem which is home to a wide array of organisms, such as epiphytes, lianas and arboreal animals. The canopies of Penang Hill belong to one of the oldest rainforest ranges in the world and the have so far not been extensively studied. The Habitat's Nature Trail, Canopy Walkways and Zip-Lines allow us to appreciate these jungles and the wildlife that call them home from a first hand and highly personal perspective that would not otherwise be possible without much greater effort and planning.

CONTACTS

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SUPPORTED BY



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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Mr. Allen Tan (The Habitat)
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Prof. Dr. Meg Lowman (CAS)
Dr. Nadine Ruppert (USM)
Dr. Asyraf Mansor (USM)
Dr. Rashidah Abd. Rahim (USM)

THE LAUNCH : CANOPY SCIENCE & FOREST CONSERVATION IN PENANG

SPEAKERS :

A. REZA COCKRELL
THE HABITAT PENANG HILL

MEG LOWMAN
CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

ANTHONY R. AMBROSE
CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

JEN SANGER
THE TREE PROJECTS

TIM KOVAR
TREE CLIMBING PLANET

KEVIN MCLEAN
YALE SCHOOL OF FORESTRY AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

IAN GREEN
GREENHEART GROUP

SITI AZIZAH MOHD NOR
UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

JOINTLY ORGANIZED BY

MAIN SPONSOR



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1st Symposium on the Study of Biodiversity at Penang Hill

5. October 2016

9:00-13:00

DPU; Chancellery

Universiti Sains Malaysia

Pulau Pinang

Meg Lowman "Life in the Treetops - Exploration and Updates in Canopy Science, from Ethiopia to Penang"

Anthony R. Ambrose "Structure, Function, and Biodiversity in California's Redwood Forest Canopies"

Kevin McLean "Looking Up: A Digital Storytelling Expedition into the Rainforest Canopy."

Tim Kovar "Ethical Tree Climbing Practices"

Ian Green "Canopy Accessing Techniques"

Allen Tan "Introducing The Habitat's Canopy"

Siti Azizah Mohd Nor "Reaching High: Towards Attaining UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Status for Penang Hill"

- Life in the Treetops - Meg Lowman

The forest canopy is home to an estimated 50% of terrestrial biodiversity, yet the treetops were not explored or studied scientifically until just 30 years ago. As one of the first scientists to discover the amazing world of forest canopies, I will share the birth of this science and also make a case for the urgent priority to discover, understand, and conserve the species and interactions that exist in forest canopies, especially in Penang with its plethora of endemic species. Forest canopies provide

water purification, medicines, energy production via photosynthesis, home to a vast genetic library, pollinators, shade, carbon storage, gas exchange, and many other ecosystem services, to which humans depend for our life on Earth. Methods to explore forest canopies were only developed over the past several decades, beginning with ropes and harnesses, and later the development of canopy walkways, dirigible and inflatable rafts, and construction cranes. This "toolkit" of diverse field methods now allows those of us who study canopies (termed "arboronauts") to explore the entire forest and ask relevant questions about spatial and temporal patterns of life in the treetops.

Penang has unique and important tropical forests, yet her treetops are relatively unstudied to date. These canopies can provide incredible economic as well as ecological legacies for both visitors and local communities. The future launch of a dedicated canopy research effort in Penang will provide both a local and global contribution to our knowledge of forest ecosystems, and ultimately to planetary health.

About Meg Lowman



Also known as "CanopyMeg" and nicknamed the "real-life Lorax" by National Geographic and "Einstein of the treetops" by Wall Street Journal, Meg Lowman pioneered the science of canopy ecology. Meg is affectionately called the mother of canopy research as one of the first scientists to explore this eighth continent. Her international network and passion for science have led her into leadership roles where she seeks best practices to solve environmental challenges and serves as a role model to women and minorities in science. At the California Academy of Sciences, Meg has played a leadership role to integrate the priorities of sustainability and science communication into the existing research programs of the Institute of Biodiversity Science and Sustainability. Formerly a Professor at North Carolina State University and the founding director of North Carolina's innovative Nature Research Center (NRC), Lowman has served as a mentor to women and minorities in the workplace throughout her career. She has authored more than 125 peer-reviewed scientific publications, and her first book about her (mis)adventures as a woman in science, "Life in the Treetops," received a cover review in the New York Times Sunday Book Review. Working tirelessly on sustainability initiatives at home and abroad, "CanopyMeg" was a Fulbright Senior Specialist Scholar to both India and Ethiopia, mentoring women as part of her global outreach.

Website Metrics

Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits
Aug 2015	6,497	13,868	76,019	271,324
Sep 2015	4,849	12,532	82,255	274,439
Oct 2015	5,365	13,518	87,009	267,456
Nov 2015	5,639	13,670	82,300	260,731
Dec 2015	6,479	14,520	84,399	353,352
Jan 2016	9,470	19,821	114,340	443,368
Feb 2016	2,840	6,593	33,121	161,802
Mar 2016	6,559	15,618	82,475	378,469
Apr 2016	7,434	16,132	79,066	328,944
May 2016	8,125	15,628	74,232	273,368
Jun 2016	4,419	12,534	70,594	240,082
Jul 2016	5,081	13,316	73,171	224,337
Aug 2016	7,086	15,313	74,878	270,195
TOTAL:	79,843	183,063	1,013,859	3,747,867



By: Princess Wilson

May 7, 2016

Dear Meg Lowman,

Hello my name is Princess Wilson I am eleven years old. I am a student at Bedford Stuyvesant New Beginning Charter school. We recently read your book "The Most Beautiful Roof In The World". Reading your book was amazing and had wonderful illustrations. I personally identified with your book.

The same way you were inspired by Harriet Tubman, I am inspired by you. When I read that you loved nature since you were a child and to see that your working and living in nature proves that children can know what they want to become. As a child, I love sewing and designing clothes. I hope to be like you to discover my dreams. And have a long successful career as a fashion designer.

Recently I heard that you got in a accident. I hope that your health has improved and your able to write us back.

Sincerely, Princess Wilson

May 10, 2016

Dear Meg Lowman,

My name is Africa Day. I am 11 years. I am a fifth grade student at Bedford Stuyvesant New beginnings charter school. I live in New York, Bedford Stuyvesant. I live with my mom and brother (Salla) and my two pets, a dog (Finn) and cat (Ebony). I have my own room and it is pink, black, and white. When I am older, I want to be a successful student and I want to have my own craft store, I love to make new, cute and unique things. In school we read "The Most beautiful roof in the world" by Kathryn Lansky. When I first read your book I was fascinated about your life and your experiments, when you explored the rain forest.

I have some comments and questions. My first question is, do you ever get worried that you will hurt yourself. Can I just say that it is so amazing how you are able to get a chance to go to the rainforest to do your favorite thing. Another question, when did you know that you wanted to study the rainforest. Have you ever seen any endangered

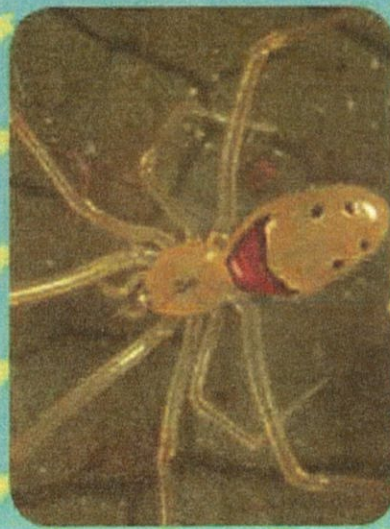
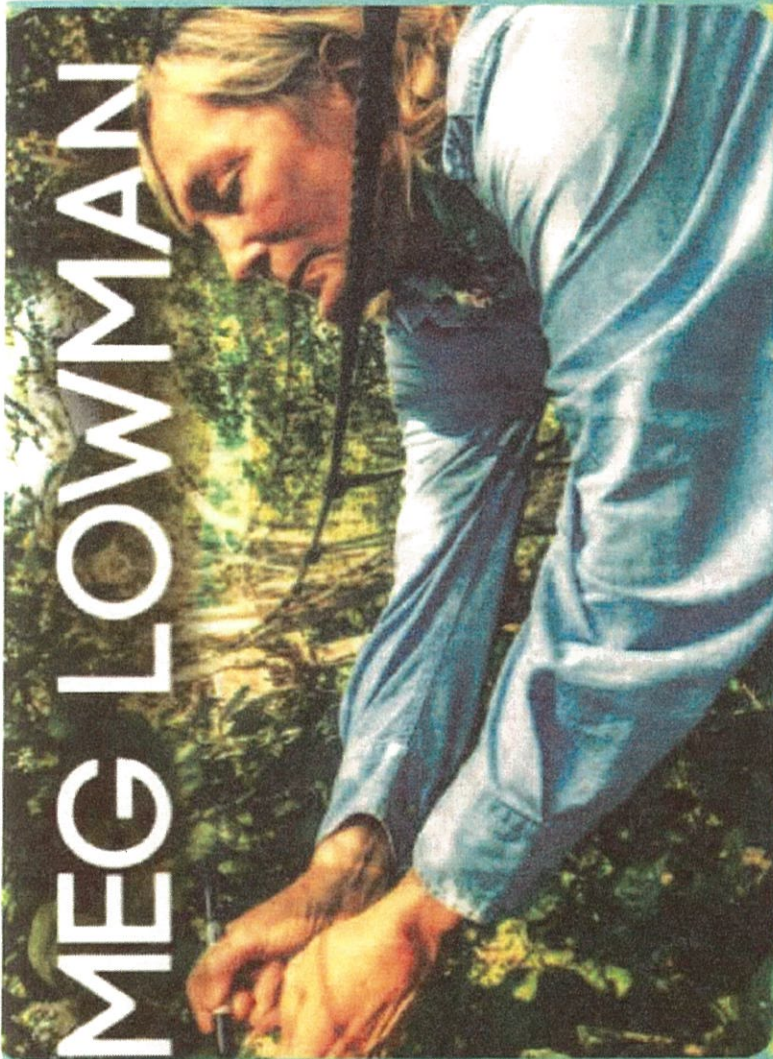
Animals, that were taken to the zoo to be saved. I love how you are always faithful and confident in your work. And you should keep on doing it.

When I am reading your book, I feel more happier and confident about myself. If I were able to do your favorite thing, that me I can too! I believe when people read book similar to yours, They will probably have a dream like I do. I hope you write back because I want to be able to hear what you think, and maybe how I can work to be a successful student and have my own craft store.

Sincerely, A bedford stuyvesent student

Africa Day

MEG LOWMAN



by Africa Day

May 9, 2016

Dear Mrs. Lawman,
→ My Name is Noe Vazquez. I am a Fifth Grade student at Bedford-Stuyvesant New Beginnings charter School. I live in Brooklyn N.Y. I like to read alot to my Family. I also like to dance alot at my house. When I am older, I want to be a person that explore City's. In School, we read "The most beautiful roof in the world" by Kathryn Lasky. The book is really interesting about canopies. I enjoy the book alot.

Do you build the tree canopy walkways? What are tree canopies walkways? You observe nature. Why is it important to observe Nature? You collect insects. What is your favorite insect? You train students. How many students you train?

You climb trees to study, You also study canopies. I hope you write back because I want to learn more facts about you.

Sincerely,
Noe Vazquez



by Noe

10/26/2015

Dear Meg Lowman,

You are so cool. I love the rainforest. It is so beautiful. I heard trees can get up to 150 feet tall. Is that true? You are a great role model. I can't believe that you were the only girl to go into the science fair and you got second place. That is amazing! Was it uncomfortable being the only girl in the science fair? I would love to visit the rainforest one day. If I do what should I look for? When I grow-up I want to be just like you! Thank you so much for working hard to help the rainforest! You are a hero.

Wishing you the best,

Grace D'Abate

5-9-16

Dear Mrs.Lowman,

My name is julicia hodge. I am 11 years old. I am a fifth grade student at Bedford Stuyvesant New Beginnings Charter School. I live in new york. I really love Monster High and Winx Club. I have a pretty large family. When I am older, I want to be just like you. In school, we read "The Most Beautiful Roof In The World" by Kathryn Lansky. I really do enjoyed it. I learned so much about the rainforests. I am also afraid of heights. I am impressed that you are able to overcome this fear for your work. I have some question and comments. I would really enjoy it but I am to little. What is your favorite rainforest you have been to? I wish I could face my fears. How is your day? I wish I could go around the world. where are you right now? You are my hero. What is your favorite plant? What is your favorite incest? You are the best woman in the world. I hope you write back because I never write you a letter before.

Sincerely Julicia.T.Hodge

Tariq Howell May 6, 2016

Dear Meg Lowman

My name is Tariq Howell. I am 11 years old. I live in Brooklyn, New York and I'm a student at Bedford Stuyvesant New Beginnings Charter School (BSNBCS). My favorite subjects are math and ELA.

My favorite thing to do is play video games such as Super Mario Bros and Sonic the Hedgehog. In my amazing family I have three brothers and three sisters. When I grow up I might want to be a Doctor, computer engineer or a real estate worker/agent. When I read your book "The Most Beautiful Rooftop in the World" I was fascinated by the way you climbed up into the canopies of trees. I was also intrigued by the way you collect bugs and specimen from the trees without harming them. Reading your book was the way we heard about you in class and at home.

I think you are awesome that you are going out there even though there are some dangers ahead. Can you bring back samples of bugs or plants that can help us cure diseases such as cancer, the flu, etc? I think it's cool the way you climb up into canopies without messing with nature. How do you collect and study the specimen that you collect from trees. I really like the way you're able to teach students how to collect and study specimen without harming nature or messing with animals that can bite you and attack.

I think you're a very fascinating scientist that studies things in the rainforest. To me you are a very amazing scientist. Well I hope you write back because you're a great scientist. Get well soon. You've inspired me a lot. P.S YOU ROCK!

Sincerely,

Tariq Howell

[Type text]





New Sewing machines for Women's monastery, Bahir Dar.



TREE Foundation Website Report (October 2016) *Website Services provided by David Martin of Brighter Technologies*

TREE Foundation's internet presence continues to expand and the metrics indicate growth in all areas.

Item	Recent Stats	Date	Previous Stats	Date
Total Combined Website Hits	2,947,485	Jan.-Oct. 2016	2,717,647	Jan.-Oct. 2015
TREE Foundation Unique Website Visitors	24,308	Jan.-Oct. 2016	18,445	Jan.-Oct. 2015
TREE Facebook Followers	678	As of 11/4/2016	484	As of 9/22/2015
Canopymeg Facebook Followers	414	As of 11/4/2016		
TREE Newsletter Subscribers	70	As of 11/4/2016	54	As of 9/23/2015
YouTube Followers	85	As of 11/4/2016	53	As of 8/31/2015
YouTube Views	5,777	Jan.-Oct. 2016	4,587	Jan.-Aug. 2015
Canopymeg Twitter Followers	2,227	As of 11/4/2016		
Total Combines Website Posts	51	Jan.-Oct. 2016		
Linked In Connections	500+	As of 9/3/2016		
AmazonSmile Donations	\$56.81	As of Aug. 2016		

Website Metrics

Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits
Oct 2015	5,365	13,518	87,009	267,456
Nov 2015	5,639	13,670	82,300	260,731
Dec 2015	6,479	14,520	84,399	353,352
Jan 2016	9,470	19,821	114,340	443,368
Feb 2016	6,301	14,559	65,021	305,335
Mar 2016	6,559	15,618	82,475	378,469
Apr 2016	7,434	16,132	79,066	328,944
May 2016	8,125	15,628	74,232	273,368
Jun 2016	4,419	12,534	70,594	240,082
July 2016	5,081	13,316	73,171	224,337
Aug 2016	7,086	15,313	74,878	270,195
Sep 2016	5,770	13,351	59,434	223,863
Oct 2016	5,983	14,886	66,987	259,524
TOTAL:	83,711	192,866	1,013,906	3,829,024

Visit the TREE Foundation:

Web - <http://treefoundation.org>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/treefoundation.org>

Twitter - <http://twitter.com/treefoundation>

Have any questions? Contact TREE Webmaster, David Martin at david@brightertech.com



How to start:

1. Visit this link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/65-0904869>
or click on the link for AmazonSmile on the TREE website
2. You will be asked to confirm that you want to support TREE Foundation, Inc. Say yes!
3. That's it! TREE Foundation will now receive 0.5% of the price all eligible purchases made at smile.Amazon.com

Remember:

- There is no cost to you and there is no difference between shopping at smile.amazon.com and amazon.com, except if you use smile.amazon.com, you'll be supporting the TREE Foundation!
- You will want to shop at the smile.amazon.com in order for TREE to get the donations. We recommend you bookmark it!
- TREE Foundation will remain your selected charity every time you shop at smile.amazon.com unless you change it.

Have any questions?

Contact TREE Webmaster, David Martin at david@brightertech.com

Young TREE supporter illustrates her concern about losing trees at local park

Sara has been a lover of trees since she was old enough to climb them. Now 8-yrs-old, she still loves to climb trees but has a greater understanding of their importance.

Sara's father recently informed her that more than 200 trees were removed at a local park and that there was going to be a memorial service to mourn the loss of these trees. The organizer of the event was hoping to find young volunteers to present posters showcasing the importance of the trees. Sara was eager to participate!

Below is Sara's poster along with some photos of her enjoying the trees. For her contribution, Sara was presented with a Tree Steward certificate.



Sara's Poster Description: I am climbing a tree in the park and telling a man in a excavator to stop taking down trees. The sun is also telling him to stop. A close view of a leaf (right side) shows how the oxygen we need is being produced.

