

FALL AT PANAMA'S CANOPY TOWER

OCTOBER 16 – 23, 2010

LEADER: BARRY ZIMMER

COMPILED BY: BARRY ZIMMER

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A river of raptors. As far as the eye could see, boiling kettles of Turkey Vultures, Swainson's Hawks, and Broad-winged Hawks filled the sky in a 360-degree circle around the top of the Canopy Tower observation deck. It seemed impossible, yet everywhere you looked from the ground to the highest level of the sky, from directly overhead to the greatest distance the eye can see, from left to right there were raptors. Arguably rivaling the great wildebeest migration in Africa or the sights of millions of bats exiting a cave, this spectacle of raptor migration in Panama is something everyone simply must see in their lifetime. Cries of, "Oh my God, look at this kettle over here!" and, "I can't believe there are even more coming!" rang from the group. Though I have seen this spectacle on several occasions now, I remain absolutely awestruck each time and feel privileged to witness such an event. On day 5 of our recent Fall at Panama's Canopy Tower tour we estimated 31,800 raptors (mostly Swainson's Hawks) came over the tower in a four-hour period. Little did we know that it was just a precursor to things to come the next day. From roughly 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM they came in waves, squadron after squadron of raptors heading to their wintering grounds in South America. Estimating numbers of such events is always difficult, but I feel if anything we underestimated in arriving at a total of 200,500 individuals in two hours! It is something that cannot be comprehended by reading. It simply must be seen. Over 200,000 raptors. Simply jaw-dropping.

If you came to Panama to see nothing else except this marvelous spectacle of raptor migration, it would be well worth it. Of course, Panama is about so much more. Over a week we scoured areas in and around the Canal Zone using the wonderful Canopy Tower as our base. From the Tower itself and along the entry road on Semaphore Hill we tallied the likes of King Vulture; Gray-headed Kite; Crane Hawk; Great Potoo; Keel-billed Toucan; Collared Aracari; Mealy and Blue-headed parrots; Broad-billed Motmot; Ocellated, Bicolored, and Spotted antbirds (all at an army swarm); Fasciated and Western Slaty antshrikes; White-whiskered Puffbird; Blue-crowned and Red-capped manikins; Green Shrike-Vireo; Golden-hooded Tanager; Green Honeycreeper; Blue Dacnis; and more. Mantled howler monkeys literally 15 feet away greeted our arrival at the Tower, and a three-toed sloth and a troop of Geoffroy's tamarins entertained us close by as well. Hummingbird feeders at the base of the Tower hosted six species including the striking Violet-bellied Hummingbird and White-necked Jacobin. A nearby residence in Gamboa had a dazzling array of tanagers, honeycreepers, and parakeets coming in to bananas.

The foothills of Cerro Azul east of Panama City yielded a different group of birds. The endemic Stripe-cheeked Woodpecker topped the list. Other highlights included prolonged scope views of three White-tipped Sicklebills, Violet-capped and Violet-headed hummingbirds, Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant, Shining Honeycreeper, and Emerald and Bay-headed tanagers.

World-famous Pipeline Road lived up to its reputation with four species of trogons; Crimson-crested Woodpecker; Streak-chested Antpitta; Chestnut-backed, Dusky, and White-bellied antbirds; Purple-throated Fruitcrow; Brownish Twistwing; Gray Elaenia; and Yellow-backed Oriole among others. Feeders at the recently built Panama Rainforest Discovery Center had eight species of hummingbirds buzzing around our heads literally feet away.

A trip to the Caribbean slope near the town of Achioté may have been our most successful day of all with Rufescent Tiger-Heron; Savannah, White, and Common Black hawks; Pied and Black-breasted puffbirds; White-tailed and Black-tailed trogons; Chestnut-mandibled Toucan; a pair of marvelous Blue Cotingas (with the male performing in a low cecropia for over ten minutes); Spot-crowned Barbet; Black-capped Pygmy-Tyrant; and a rarely seen jaguarundi topping the list.

Old Gamboa Road produced Boat-billed Heron, American Pygmy Kingfisher, White-necked Puffbird, Black-crowned Tityra, Lance-tailed Manakin, and more, while Metropolitan Park had Rufous-and-white Wren, the incomparable Rosy Thrush-Tanager, and the flashy Orange-billed Sparrow.

In all we tallied 274 species of birds for the week, had wonderful encounters with mammals, recorded 40 species of butterflies (including many dazzling, colorful varieties), and enjoyed the comforts of the Canopy Tower. For me, the most lasting memory, however, will always be the spectacle of that raptor migration.

Itinerary:

October 16 - arrival at the Canopy Tower

October 17 - Tower watch until 9:30 am, Semaphore Hill; afternoon to Gamboa (84 species)

October 18 - Cerro Azul, Cerro Jefe, Panama Viejo, tower watch (104 species; 139 total)

October 19 - Pipeline Road all day (to Rio Limbo) including the new Panama Rainforest Discovery Center, Ammo Dump Ponds, late evening tower watch (123 species; 196 total)

October 20 - Achiote, Gatun Dam & Locks area, Fort Sherman and Fort San Lorenzo, train ride along Panama Canal (118 species; 236 total)

October 21 - tower watch, Old Gamboa Road, Police Academy (Summit) Ponds, tower watch, Semaphore Hill; evening owling (111 species; 260 total)

October 22 - Metropolitan Park, Miraflores locks (84 species; 274 total)

October 23 - brief morning tower watch for most followed by departures for home or on to Canopy Lodge extension (274 total species)

Key:

bold-faced species indicate birds of rare, casual, or accidental occurrence
underlined species indicate birds of very uncommon occurrence or species that occur regularly but in such low densities as to be easily missed

Birds:

Great Tinamou (*Tinamus major*) heard most days, and **one actually seen** very briefly by some as it flushed along Semaphore Hill

Little Tinamou (*Crypturellus soul*) heard only quite close

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*) from Miraflores the last afternoon

Gray-headed Chachalaca (*Ortalis cinereiceps*) by some from the train

Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*)

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*)

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*)

Magnificent Frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens*)

Rufescent Tiger-Heron (*Tigrisoma lineatum*) great views at Achiote of adult bird thanks to Tucker

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*)

Cocoi Heron (*Ardea cocoi*) one at Panama Viejo where very uncommon

Great Egret (*Ardea alba*)

Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*)

Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*)

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)

Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*)

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*)

Boat-billed Heron (*Cochlearius cochlearius*) scope views at the Police Academy ponds

White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*)

Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*)

Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*)

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) good numbers of migrants almost daily, including an estimated **125,000** on one day over the tower!

King Vulture (*Sarcoramphus papa*) two adults along Pipeline and two more from the tower the last morning; very uncommon

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)

Gray-headed Kite (*Leptodon cayanensis*) distant scope views from the tower the first morning

White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*)

Snail Kite (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*) about 15 from the train around Gatun Lake

Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) a total of 19 over the tower on two days

Crane Hawk (*Geranospiza caerulescens*) scope views of perched bird from the tower

White Hawk (*Leucopternis albicollis*) two pairs at Achote; always stunning

Common Black-Hawk (*Buteogallus anthracinus*) about four near Fort Sherman

Savanna Hawk (*Buteogallus meridionalis*) great views of adult near Gatun Dam

Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) migrants everyday with over 2000 from the tower on Day 5!

Short-tailed Hawk (*Buteo brachyurus*) both light morphs

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) incredible flights with an estimated **23,800** on Day 4 and **75,000** on Day 5; absolutely awesome!!!

Zone-tailed Hawk (*Buteo albonotatus*) one at Achote

Slaty-backed Forest-Falcon (*Micrastur mirandollei*) heard only from the tower

Collared Forest-Falcon (*Micrastur semitorquatus*) heard only from the tower

Crested Caracara (*Caracara cheriway*) one at Miraflores thanks to Stuart

Yellow-headed Caracara (*Milvago chimachima*) scattered about open areas

Laughing Falcon (*Herpetotheres cachinnans*) great views of a pair at Metro Park

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) Gatun

Bat Falcon (*Falco rufigularis*) four total

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) five total

White-throated Crake (*Laterallus albigularis*) heard only

Purple Gallinule (*Porphyrio martinica*) by some at Achote

Southern Lapwing (*Vanellus chilensis*) becoming very widespread in Panama

Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*)

Wilson's Plover (*Charadrius wilsonia*) uncommon; Panama Viejo

Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*)

Wattled Jacana (*Jacana jacana*)

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*)

Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*)

Willet (*Tringa semipalmatus*)

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*)

Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*)

Western Sandpiper (*Calidris mauri*)

Laughing Gull (*Larus atricilla*)

Royal Tern (*Thalasseus maxima*)

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*)

Pale-vented Pigeon (*Patagioenas cayennensis*)

Scaled Pigeon (*Patagioenas speciosa*) good scope views from the tower

Ruddy Ground-Dove (*Columbina talpacoti*)

Blue Ground-Dove (*Claravis pretiosa*) heard only at Achiote; uncommon
White-tipped Dove (*Leptotila verreauxi*)
Orange-chinned Parakeet (*Brotogeris jugularis*) exceptional views at Gamboa
Blue-fronted Parrotlet (*Touit dilectissimus*) about a dozen seen twice overhead at cerro azul; rare
Blue-headed Parrot (*Pionus menstruus*)
Red-lored Parrot (*Amazona autumnalis*)
Mealy Parrot (*Amazona farinosa*)
Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) one for some flying over highway
Squirrel Cuckoo (*Piaya cayana*) always impressive
Greater Ani (*Crotophaga major*) our first thanks to Caryl
Smooth-billed Ani (*Crotophaga ani*)
Vermiculated (Choco) Screech-Owl (*Megascops guatemalae*) great views on our night drive; this subspecies is likely to be split off from *M. guatemalae* and would become the Choco Screech-Owl (*M. chocoensis*); generally very hard to see
Mottled Owl (*Ciccaba virgata*) heard only
Lesser Nighthawk (*Chordeiles acutipennis*) about six from the tower one evening
Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*) about ten from the tower one evening
Great Potoo (*Nyctibius grandis*) scope views of two birds on day roost!
Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) the most common swift seen
Short-tailed Swift (*Chaetura brachyura*) one flock over Gamboa
Band-rumped Swift (*Chaetura spinicaudus*) only one seen for sure
Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift (*Panyptila cayennensis*) several nice views from the tower
Rufous-breasted Hermit (*Glaucis hirsutus*) one briefly for some at Achiote; very uncommon
Green Hermit (*Phaethornis guy*) two at Cerro Azul
Long-billed Hermit (*Phaethornis longirostris*) formerly Western Long-tailed; great studies at the PRDC feeders
Stripe-throated Hermit (*Phaethornis strigularis*) formerly Little Hermit
White-tipped Sicklebill (*Eutoxeres aquila*) we were very fortunate to visit a recently discovered lek of this rarely seen species; it was a somewhat difficult hike, but well worth it as we had great views of three in the heliconia thicket (including prolonged study of perched bird)
White-necked Jacobin (*Florisuga mellivora*) absolutely stunning
Violet-headed Hummingbird (*Klais guimeti*) two at Cerro Azul; uncommon
Violet-crowned Woodnymph (*Thalurania colombica*) stunning; seen from a few feet at the PRDC
Violet-bellied Hummingbird (*Damophila julie*) an incomparable species which is regular at the CT feeders and downright common at the PRDC
Violet-capped Hummingbird (*Goldmania violiceps*) two at Cerro Azul
Blue-chested Hummingbird (*Polyerata amabilis*) common at CT & PRDC feeders
Snowy-bellied Hummingbird (*Saucerottia edward*) Cerro Azul
Rufous-tailed Hummingbird (*Amazilia tzacatl*) common in more open areas
White-vented Plumeleteer (*Chalybura buffoni*) regular at CT & PRDC feeders
Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer (*Chalybura urochrysa*) several at Cerro Azul

White-tailed Trogon (*Trogon viridis*) Pipeline & Achiote; wonderful scope views; first spotted by Donna & Caryl
 Violaceous Trogon (*Trogon violaceus*) six seen
 Black-throated Trogon (*Trogon rufus*) Pipeline & Semaphore Hill; great studies
Black-tailed Trogon (*Trogon melanurus*) stunning male near Fort Sherman; a bonus
 Slaty-tailed Trogon (*Trogon massena*)
 Blue-crowned Motmot (*Momotus momota*) heard only
 Rufous Motmot (*Barythengus martii*) pair on Semaphore Hill after some effort
 Broad-billed Motmot (*Electron platyrhynchum*) several excellent views
 Ringed Kingfisher (*Ceryle torquata*)
 Belted Kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*)
 Green Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle americana*)
American Pygmy Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle aenea*) amazing views at Summit Ponds
 White-necked Puffbird (*Notharchus macrorhynchos*) pair along Old Gamboa road spotted by Stuart; another later by Tucker
 Black-breasted Puffbird (*Notharchus pectoralis*) nice views at Achiote
Pied Puffbird (*Notharchus tectus*) great views at Achiote
 White-whiskered Puffbird (*Malacoptila panamensis*) four on Semaphore Hill
Spot-crowned Barbet (*Capito maculicoronatus*) one studied at leisure at Achiote; always a treat
 Collared Aracari (*Pteroglossus torquatus*) many great views
 Keel-billed Toucan (*Ramphastos sulfuratus*) seen daily in numbers; voted the third favorite bird of the tour
 Chestnut-mandibled Toucan (*Ramphastos swainsoni*) heard on many days but seen only near Fort San Lorenzo
 Black-cheeked Woodpecker (*Melanerpes pucherani*) Achiote
 Red-crowned Woodpecker (*Melanerpes rubricapillus*)
Stripe-cheeked Woodpecker (*Piculus callopterus*) fantastic view of a male at Cerro Jefe; a Panamanian endemic
 Cinnamon Woodpecker (*Celeus loricatus*) great scope views at Achiote
 Lineated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus lineatus*) heard only
 Crimson-crested Woodpecker (*Campephilus melanoleucus*) magnificent; Pipeline Road
 Plain Xenops (*Xenops minutus*)
 Plain-brown Woodcreeper (*Dendrocincla fuliginosa*) best at the ant swarm
Olivaceous Woodcreeper (*Sittasomus griseicapillus*) one at Metro Park spotted by Jerry I believe; very uncommon here
Northern Barred Woodcreeper (*Dendrocolaptes sanctithomae*) three at the ant swarm
 Cocoa Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus susurrans*) our most common woodcreeper
 Fasciated Antshrike (*Cymbilaimus lineatus*) good views
 Barred Antshrike (*Thamnophilus doliatus*) great looks at Ammo Dump thanks to Jean
 Western Slaty-Antshrike (*Thamnophilus atrinucha*) daily
 Checker-throated Antwren (*Myrmotherula fulviventris*)
 White-flanked Antwren (*Myrmotherula axillaris*)
 Dot-winged Antwren (*Microrhopias quixensis*) numerous

Dusky Antbird (*Cercomacra tyrannina*)
 White-bellied Antbird (*Myrmeciza longipes*) nice views of this ultra skulker at base of Pipeline
 Chestnut-backed Antbird (*Myrmeciza exsul*) seen extremely well along Pipeline
 Spotted Antbird (*Hylophylax naeviodes*) nice views of this striking species
 Bicolored Antbird (*Gymnopithys leucaspis*) pair at the ant swarm
Ocellated Antbird (*Phaenostictus mcleannani*) one stunning individual at the ant swarm was voted the favorite bird of the tour!; seen on about a fourth of the trips only
 Black-faced Antthrush (*Formicarius analis*) heard only quite close
Streak-chested Antpitta (*Hylopezus perspicillatus*) unsurpassed scope views of this special bird
 Brown-capped Tyrannulet (*Ornithion brunneicapillus*)
 Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet (*Camptostoma obsoletum*) heard only
 Yellow Tyrannulet (*Capsiempis flaveola*)
 Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet (*Tyrannulus elatus*)
 Forest Elaenia (*Myiopagis gaimardii*)
Gray Elaenia (*Myiopagis caniceps*) this rare species was seen very well on Pipeline
 Greenish Elaenia (*Myiopagis viridicata*) Metro Park
 Yellow-bellied Elaenia (*Elaenia flavogaster*)
 Olive-striped Flycatcher (*Mionectes olivaceus*) Cerro Azul for some
 Ochre-bellied Flycatcher (*Mionectes oleagineus*)
Yellow-green Tyrannulet (*Phylloscartes flavovirens*) this Panamanian endemic was heard only (frustratingly close) at Metro Park
 Paltry Tyrannulet (*Zimmerius vilissimus*)
Black-capped Pygmy-Tyrant (*Myiornis atricapillus*) awesome views at Achiote of the smallest passerine in the world; my personal favorite!
 Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant (*Lophotriccus pileatus*) Cerro Azul
 Southern Bentbill (*Oncostoma olivaceum*) #800 for Donna 7 Cary!!!!
 Common Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum cinereum*) Metro Park
Brownish Twistwing (*Cnipodectes subbrunneus*) Pipeline Road; uncommon
 Yellow-margined Flycatcher (*Tolmomyias assimilis*) not seen by all
Royal Flycatcher (*Onychorhynchus coronatus*) one along Pipeline was a first for me in Panama!
 Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher (*Terenotriccus erythrurus*)
Black-tailed Flycatcher (*Myiobius atricaudus*) base of Pipeline & Old Gamboa road
 Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*)
 Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) daily in numbers
 Tropical Pewee (*Contopus cinereus*) one on Cerro Jefe
 Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*)
Black Phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*) Cerro Azul; uncommon)
 Bright-rumped Attila (*Attila spadiceus*) heard only
 Rufous Mourner (*Rhytipterna holerythra*)
 Dusky-capped Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*)
 Great Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*)
 Lesser Kiskadee (*Philohydor lictor*) spotted by Stuart
 Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*)

Boat-billed Flycatcher (*Megarynchus pitangua*)
Rusty-margined Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes cayanensis*)
Social Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes similis*)
Gray-capped Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes granadensis*) close studies at Achiote; very uncommon
White-ringed Flycatcher (*Conopias albobittatus*) Pipeline; very uncommon
Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes luteiventris*) one spotted by Jean on Old Gamboa Road
Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*) abundant
Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*)
Fork-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus savana*) always stunning!
Black-crowned Tityra (*Tityra inquisitor*) male along Old Gamboa Road; uncommon
Blue Cotinga (*Cotinga nattererii*) incredible pair at Achiote; voted the second favorite bird of the tour!
Purple-throated Fruitcrow (*Querula purpurata*) seen best along Pipeline & Semaphore Hill
Golden-collared Manakin (*Manacus vitellinus*) not seen by all, but seen very well by some
White-ruffed Manakin (*Corapipo altera*) Cerro Azul
Lance-tailed Manakin (*Chiroxiphia lanceolata*) best along Old Gamboa Road
Blue-crowned Manakin (*Pipra coronata*) striking
Red-capped Manakin (*Pipra mentalis*) ditto
Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*) more numerous than usual
Scrub Greenlet (*Hylophilus flavipes*) Old Gamboa Road & Metro Park
Golden-fronted Greenlet (*Hylophilus aurantifrons*)
Lesser Greenlet (*Hylophilus decurtatus*)
Green Shrike-Vireo (*Vireolanius pulchellus*) seen from the tower and along Pipeline
Black-chested Jay (*Cyanocorax affinis*) Achiote
Gray-breasted Martin (*Progne chalybea*) daily in numbers
Mangrove Swallow (*Tachycineta albilinea*) fewer than normal
Southern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*) scope views
Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*) a couple only
Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*)
Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)
White-headed Wren (*Campylorhynchus albobrunneus*) unfortunately heard only
Black-bellied Wren (*Thryothorus fasciatoventris*)
Bay Wren (*Thryothorus nigricapillus*) good views along Pipeline & Achiote
Rufous-breasted Wren (*Thryothorus rutilus*) Metro Park
Rufous-and-white Wren (*Thryothorus rufalbus*) seen by most in Metro Park; often this skulker is heard only
Buff-breasted Wren (*Thryothorus leucotis*) Old Gamboa Road
Plain Wren (*Thryothorus modestus*) Old Gamboa Road
House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*)
White-breasted Wood-Wren (*Henicorhina leucosticta*)
Scaly-breasted Wren (*Microcerculus marginatus*) heard only
Long-billed Gnatwren (*Ramphocaenus melanurus*) seen well on Cerro Jefe

Tropical Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila plumbea*)
 Swainson's Thrush (*Catharus ustulatus*) seen daily; ridiculously abundant this year with up to 50 in one day!
 Clay-colored (Robin) Thrush (*Turdus grayi*) common
 Tropical Mockingbird (*Mimus gilvus*)
Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) one in Metro Park; uncommon
 Tennessee Warbler (*Vermivora peregrina*)
 Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*)
 Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Dendroica pensylvanica*)
 Blackburnian Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*)
Palm Warbler (*Dendroica palmarum*) quite rare was one at Gatun Dam; a tour first
 Bay-breasted Warbler (*Dendroica castanea*)
 Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*)
 American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*) one only
 Northern Waterthrush (*Seiurus novaboracensis*)
 Kentucky Warbler (*Oporornis formosus*) heard only
 Mourning Warbler (*Oporornis philadelphia*) one along Old Gamboa Road
 Canada Warbler (*Wilsonia canadensis*)
Hooded Warbler (*Wilsonia citrina*) male at achiote and female at Metro Park; very rare; another tour first
 Bananaquit (*Coereba flaveola*) Cerro Azul, Achiote
Rosy Thrush-Tanager (*Rhodinocichla rosea*) after much effort we had good views for all of this gorgeous skulker
 White-shouldered Tanager (*Tachyphonus luctuosus*) generally numerous
 Crimson-backed Tanager (*Ramphocelus dimidiatus*) "sangre del toro"
 Blue-gray Tanager (*Thraupis episcopus*) common
 Palm Tanager (*Thraupis palmarum*) common
 Plain-colored Tanager (*Tangara inornata*)
Emerald Tanager (*Tangara florida*) one at Rosabel's on Cerro Azul
 Bay-headed Tanager (*Tangara gyrola*) Cerro Azul; equally stunning
 Golden-hooded Tanager (*Tangara larvata*) certainly one of the prettiest tanagers; almost daily
 Blue Dacnis (*Dacnis cayana*) especially well the last morning from the tower
 Green Honeycreeper (*Chlorophanes spiza*) several excellent views
Shining Honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes lucidus*) Gamboa & Cerro Azul
 Red-legged Honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes cyaneus*) gorgeous males at Gamboa; 10 in view at once!
 Buff-throated Saltator (*Saltator maximus*)
 Slate-colored Grosbeak (*Saltator grossus*) heard only
 Blue-black Grassquit (*Volatina jacarina*) not seen by all
 Variable Seedeater (*Sporophila corvina*)
 Yellow-faced Grassquit (*Tiaris olivacea*) Cerro Azul
 Saffron Finch (*Sicalis flaveola*) Gatun Locks; females only
 Orange-billed Sparrow (*Arremon aurantirostris*) great views at Metro Park of this stunning species
 Hepatic Tanager (*Piranga flava*) Cerro Azul

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*)
 Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*)
 Red-crowned Ant-Tanager (*Habia rubica*) Metro Park
 Red-throated Ant-Tanager (*Habia fuscicauda*)
Carmioli's (Olive) Tanager (*Chlorothraupis carmioli*) by some on Cerro Jefe
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*)
 Blue-black Grosbeak (*Cyanocompsa cyanoides*)
 Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*) small flock at San Lorenzo
 Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*)
 Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*)
 Yellow-backed Oriole (*Icterus chrysater*)
 Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*)
 Yellow-billed Cacique (*Amblycercus holosericeus*) heard only
 Yellow-rumped Cacique (*Cacicus cela*) heard only
 Scarlet-rumped Cacique (*Cacicus uropygialis*) many good views
Montezuma Oropendola (*Psarocolius montezuma*) Achiote; uncommon
 Yellow-crowned Euphonia (*Euphonia lueicapilla*)
 Fulvous-vented Euphonia (*Euphonia fulvicrissa*)
House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) one in Panama City where very uncommon

total species - **274**

***in combination with the Canopy Lodge extension 371 species were seen

Leader only birds:

Gray Hawk
 Black Hawk-Eagle---heard only
 Merlin
 Gray-chested Dove---heard only
 Purple-crowned fairy
 Masked Tityra
 Philadelphia Vireo
 Gray-headed Tanager

Mammals:

Northern Tamandua (Lesser Anteater)---great views near San Lorenzo
 Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth---a few seen very well; six total
 Geoffroy's Tamarin---adorable; best views from the tower
 Mantled Howler Monkey---unsurpassed views at from the tower
 Variegated Squirrel
 Red-tailed Squirrel
 Central American Agouti---many great, close studies
 Forest Rabbit---our best views ever of this nocturnal species

White-nosed Coatimundi

Jaguarundi---incredibly we had two near San Lorenzo; a first for me in Panama!
various unidentified bat species

total species - 11+

Reptiles & Amphibians:

Green Iguana

Mediterranean (House) Gecko

Yellow-headed Gecko

anole species

Striped Basilisk---leader only

Central American Whiptail---leader only

Tungara Frog---the "pleasant" sound by the tower at night

rain frog (leaf mimic) species

American Crocodile

Central American Slider

total species -10

Butterflies:

Papilio species (cresphontes or thoas)---Giant or Thoas Swallowtail

Parides eurimedes---Pink-checked Cattleheart

Eurytides species---kite-swallowtail species

Phoebis sennae---Cloudless Sulphur

Phoebis agarithe---Large Orange Sulphur

hairstreak species

Caria mantinea---Brilliant Greenmark---stunning

Arcas cypria---**Wavy-lined Sunstreak**; absolutely incredible butterfly (lime green, black, and blue with tails) seen from the tower at midday

Evenus regalis---Regal Greatstreak; another stunner from the tower

Everes comyntas---Eastern Tailed-Blue

Calicosama lilina---White-posted Metalmark

Emesis species---possibly White-patched Tanmark

Heliconius erato---Erato Heliconian

Dione juno---Juno Heliconian

Heliconius hecalesia---Five-spotted Heliconian

Junonia coenia---Common Buckeye

Anartia jatrophe---White Peacock

Anartia fatima---Fatima or Banded Peacock

Siproeta stelenes---Malachite

Adelpha species (very possibly *lerna*)

Adelpha species

Adelpha lycorias---Rayed Sister

Nica/ Temensis species---banner species, possibly Orange or Little
Catonephele mexicana---Guatemalan Catone
Marpesia petreus---Ruddy Daggerwing
Hamadryas laodamia---Starry Cracker; yet another stunner
Hamadryas feronia---Variable Cracker
Archaeoprepona species---possibly Falcate
Doxocopa pavon---Pavon Emperor
Cyllopsis species---gemmed satyr species
Historis odius---Orion Cecropian
Morpho helenor---Blue Morpho or Common Morpho
satyr species---possibly Plain
Danaus gilippus---Queen
Pyrrophyge phidias---Red-headed Firetip
Jemadia pseudognetus---Dot-collared Firetip
Astrartes alardus---Frosted Flasher
Astrartes fulgerator---Two-barred Flasher
Nisoniades godma---Guatemalan Pellicia
Paches loxus---Brilliant Blue-Skipper

total species - 40

***Many butterfly identifications were somewhat speculative, but were based on A Swift Guide to the Butterflies of Mexico and Central America (Glassberg). This book does not include ranges for Panama making identifications that much more difficult. In some cases I have listed a species which looks very similar not really knowing if it even occurs in Panama. Many more that were seen, were left unidentified (whites, sulphurs, skippers, glasswings, etc.). I have tried to include a common name when known.

Significant others:

Giant (Helicopter) Damsel fly

Leafcutter ants

Army ant swarm

many strange unidentified moths on Raul's sheet at the tower
176 steps up the PRDC tower (32 meters)

watching a ship go through the canal at Miraflores Locks

train list of 46 species

