

SEMINAR NEWS

The luncheon seminar at Ancon on Tuesday, May 8, will be given by ANNETTE AIELLO, STRI Research Associate in Entomology. Her title:

Adelpha Butterflies:
Deception on the Wing.

ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES

May 7 - Leaving, MICHAEL ROBINSON, on official business for D.C. He will be returning in approximately two weeks and staying a few days before his final departure for Washington.

May 4 - Returning, ALAN SMITH, STRI.

May 10 - Arriving, LEO FLEISHMAN, Cornell University, to study Communication in Anolis lizards on BCI.

LIBRARY NEWS

Books received May 4, 1984:

- Ancient Mayan Civilization (N. Hammond, 1982).
- Flora of Chiapas (California Academy of Sciences, 1981).
- The Gastric Brooding Frog (M.J. Tyler, ed., 1983).
- Hawk Moths of Central and Southern Africa (E. Pinhey, 1983).
- Homo Hierchicus (L. Dumont 1980.1979)
- Man's Impact on Vegetation (W. Holzner, M.J.A. Wergner and I. Ikusima, eds., 1983).
- Mate Choice (P. Bateson, ed., 1983).
- Mesoamerican Archaeology: a guide to the literature (S.F. Magee, 1981).
- Prehispanic Settlement Patterns in the Southern Valley of Mexico (J.R. Parsons, et al., 1982).
- Pulltrouser Swamp (B.L. Turner II and P.D. Harrison, eds., 1983).
- Statistical Ecology v. 1-3 (G.P. Patil, -E.C. Pielou, W.E. Waters, eds., 1981/1971)
- Times Atlas of the Oceans, 1983.

NEW PUBLICATION

The first issue of the environmental bulletin HARPIA was published this month. Among the members of the editorial board are many familiar names: JULIO JAEN, MARCOS GUERRA, VIELKA QUINTERO, ENRIQUE and GLORIA MORENO, DAYRA MOSLEY and JULIO TORRES. This issue features an article on "Extinction and Natural Reserves" by STRI's J. WRIGHT, and a Harpy Eagle on the cover by M. HASBROUCK.

NOSTALGIA, NEOPHOBIA, REGRETS,
REMINISCENCES AND THANKS:
A SPEECH THAT I SHOULD HAVE MADE

The farewell party on BCI was one of those wonderful occasions when emotion proves too much. It was made memorable in many things including the efforts of a team of culinary wizards and the sentiments of many superb people.

During the course of the day my mind was crowded with all kinds of memories of people and places associated with my life at STRI. I realised that I had spent more than half my adult life here, and with it almost my entire professional career as a biologist. I hope I can be forgiven for feeling the way I do at saying "goodbye to all this". STRI brought me into contact with faraway places, exciting animals and a large number of people whom I treasure as friends and colleagues and to whom I am forever deeply indebted in so many ways.

At the Canal Zone Biological Area, in 1965, the scientific staff consisted of Martin Moynihan, Bob Dressler, Neal Smith and Stan Rand. Adela Gomez ran the office and Chichi ran BCI. That pioneer group of scientists had a major influence on my life. To Martin I owe more than I can ever acknowledge. He hired me and inspired me. He is one of a select band of evolutionary biologists and a personal intellectual hero in an age when there are few heroes left. (The only others on my list are JBS Haldane, Niko Tinbergen, Konrad Lorenz and Darwin). Martin built STRI out of nothing by sheer strength of intellect and personality. Stan Rand was for many years a constant field companion and was, is, and will remain by far the best tropical biologist that I know. Neal did such elegant, intricate and ingenious research that I will never cease to envy him.

In the later 1960s there was a flow of students who I value now as friends and close colleagues. Nick Smythe arrived here shortly after I did and together with Tanis we shared some great field experiences and some fine moments of companionship. Then came Marty Nauman, John Oppenheimer, Micky Bernstein, Charlie Leck, Don Wilson, Gene Morton, Bob Ricklefs, Jim Karr, Robin Foster, Tom Zaret, and Yael Lubin. Yael is special: Mazal Tov kid! There were probably an equally exciting group of marine biologists, but it is the "BCI" gang that I remember. Those were golden days. If the 60's were scintillating, the 70's brought other friendships and memories. Some of the people concerned are now dead. They include Griff Ewer, Ian Healey, Theodosius Dobzhansky and Bob Silberglied. These were all exceptional people and I remember Griff with love.

During the 1970s the STRI staff expanded to almost all my present colleagues, and some like Jeff Graham and Peter Glynn who

have gone. A number of people who greatly influenced the development of STRI visited us intermittently in both the sixties and seventies. These were significant figures in the history of our Institute: W. John Smith, Owen Sexton, Chris Smith, Roger Akre, Ed Willis, Marcel and Annette Hladik, J.D. MacPhail, Charles Handley, and many others.

In the late sixties the STRI Marine Laboratories started blossoming because of the enthusiasm, inspiration and administrative talents of Bobbi and Ira Rubinoff, who were supported by the mechanical skills and industry of Archie Turner. A number of students added to the lustre of the developing marine program. I remember particularly Larry Abele---a good friend and fantastic naturalist.

To Ira I owe the chance "to run the Zoo". It was Ira who gave me the opportunity to experience the seductive siren song of administration. He is a science administrator without parallel, a genius at furthering the interests of STRI in the face of an often inert and frequently conservative S.I. administration. Thanks for everything, Master!

The dedication of STRI's administrators is often unappreciated and frequently overlooked. I would like to say farewell to them all and to express my appreciation for their support and skills, particularly over the period of my administrative career. It would be unfair and invidious to single out individuals from out magnificent body of staff, at the Tivoli, Naos, Galeta, and Ancon and BCI. I'm going to be unfair and invidious anyway. The most important salute is to Adela, constant anchor of STRI for all my 18 years, omnipresent and damned near omnipotent and omniscient. Saludos Adela! There there are the old (in service only!) hands: Elena, Supermaggiori, Mercedes, Vielka, Barbara, Ninochtka, Maria Luz, Carmén, Otilia, Ramon, Frank and the entire ensemble. Even the recent arrivals have already demonstrated the unique STRI spirit. If only I find your equivalents in my new position I will be very happy!

I would like to salute the workers at BCI whom I have known for years---part of a great family. I cannot forget the 1970's island manager, Ernest (Jay) Hayden. He came to us from a tough and ruthless military background and learned to work with students who, at the time, rejected everything he held dear. He was an amazing man who grew into a person who STRI should have appreciated more than it did. Saludos Jay, you became one of us. Nor can I forget Tom Borges, Ed Kohn and Luis del Rio. They have moved elsewhere but many of their achievements are still with us.

Adios! A tear for absent friends! I'll miss you all mightily and never see your like again.

Farewell to the tireless editor.

MIKE

REMINDER

The meeting for the administrative staff will be on Friday, May 11 at 3 pm in the Tivoli Conference Room. The speaker will be: Ramon Ely.

WORDS OF APPRECIATION

From Yael Lubin, Coordinator, Field Course in Tropical Ecology

I would like to thank the many people at STRI who helped out in so many ways in the Field Course in Tropical Ecology. In particular, I should mention the staff and associates of STRI who participated as instructors in the Course: Nicholas Smythe, Henk Wolda, Gilberto Ocaña, Stanley Rand, Annette Aiello, Henry Stockwell, David Roubik, Dagmar Werner, Stephen Hubbell, Richard Cooke, Michael Robinson, Robert Dressler, John Cubit, and Mary Jane and Bill Eberhard.

The administrative staff at STRI was equally helpful. I would like to thank Ira Rubinoff for supporting the idea and smoothing the channels in Washington, and Adela Gomez for her diplomatic skills. I appreciate the valuable assistance of Carol Jopling, Elena Lombardo, Gloria Maggiori, Frank Morris, Maria Morello, Mercedes Arroyo, Lorena Gates, Rosa Zambrano, Jorge Ventocilla, Argelis Roman, Ramon Ely, Roxana Duran and Vielka Vergel. I am grateful to Georgina de Alba for her constant support and excellent advice and to Georgina and Stan Rand for suggesting the idea in the first place.

Without the kind assistance and advice of all these people, the Tropical Ecology Course would never have materialized.

