

# STRI newsletter

December 20, 1991

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE - Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panama

No. 51

## TUPPER CENTER SEMINARS

No noon seminar scheduled for December 24 and December 31.

## PEOPLE

### Arrivals

- Jacalyn Giacalone and Gregory Willis, Upsala College, Dec 23-Jan 20, to work on population ecology of *Sciurus gratus* in relation to *Dipteryx* fruit availability on BCI.

### Departures

- Nancy Knowlton, marine scientist, Dec 21-Jan 11, on Christmas vacation, then to Atlanta, GA, to attend meetings of the American Society of Zoologists.

### On Leave

Dec 23-Jan 3 Argelis Roman

Dec 24-Jan 4 Nelida Gomez

## THINGS TO KNOW

### IS Canal Hospital Insurance ••• *Póliza de Seguro Hospitalario IS CANAL*

We have been notified by the International Life Insurance Company, that beginning Jan 23, 1991, IS Canal will cancel its hospitalization policy #214. Personnel insured under this plan may transfer automatically to the collective hospitalization plan #169 that STRI has with the International Life Insurance Company.

Employee only \$16.07

Employee and family \$50.96.

We wish to inform you that we are working on new alternatives of hospitalization collective insurance. During January we will have a general meeting for all those interested in other plans available locally. For further information, contact Maritza Perurena, Human Resources Office

•••

Hemos sido notificados por la Compañía Internacional de Seguros de Vida, S.A. que a partir del 23 de enero de 1991 se procederá a la cancelación de la póliza de



*Enjoying the Christmas party. Thanks to all who participated in this event ••• Gozando en la fiesta de Navidad. Se agradece a todos los que participaron en este evento.*

(Foto: Alejandro Caballero)

Happy Holidays!



¡Felices Fiestas!

hospitalización #214 de IS Canal. Los suscritos a dicho plan podrán transferirse automáticamente al plan colectivo de hospitalización #169 que tiene Smithsonian con la Compañía Internacional de Seguros, el cual se mantiene vigente.

Empleado Sólo: \$16.07

Empleado y Familia: \$50.96

Deseamos informarles que estamos trabajando en nuevas alternativas de seguros colectivos de hospitalización. En tal sentido les adelantaremos que en el mes de enero llamaremos a una reunión general a todos los interesados en conocer sobre otros planes que se ofrecen en el mercado. Favor comunicarse con Maritza Perurena de la Oficina de Recursos Humanos en Tívoli para hacer los arreglos o para obtener mayor información.

### From the Visitors Office ••• *De la Oficina de Visitantes*

Effective January 1, 1992, all residents of STRI housing must report all long distance calls. Please fill in the information for each call on the long distance log form placed next to the telephone, and send it to Maria Morello, Visitor Services Office, at the end of each month. Thank you for your cooperation ••• *Efectivo el 1o de enero de 1992 todos los residentes de las viviendas administradas por el STRI deberán reportar todas sus llamadas de larga distancia. Por favor complete la información de cada llamada en el formulario que se encuentra al lado del teléfono, el cual deberá ser enviado a María Morello, Oficina de Visitantes, al final de cada mes. Gracias por su cooperación.*

### Naos Sets an Example for Environmental Protection ••• *Naos Establece un Ejemplo para la Protección del Ambiente*

With the installation of a sewage treatment plant (STP) at Naos, STRI complies with the US federal regulations and sets an example for environmental protection in Panama. The STP with a capacity to handle 7500 gallons/day has been operating since the beginning of the month. It is designed to convert the sewage stream into a clear, odorless fluid suitable for discharge into the sea. This process is accomplished in 4 steps: screening, aeration, clarification and chlorination. The entire Naos Marine Lab, including the University of Panama bunker and the Surfside Theater, is connected to the STP ••• *Con la instalación de una planta de tratamiento de aguas negras, el STRI cumple con las reglamentaciones federales de los Estados Unidos y establece un ejemplo para la protección del ambiente en Panamá. La planta, con una capacidad para procesar 7500 galones al día, comenzó a operar a principios de este mes. Fue diseñada para convertir las aguas negras en un fluido transparente y sin olor adecuado para ser desechado al mar. El proceso se completa en cuatro pasos: colado, aereación, clarificación y clorinación. Todo el Laboratorio Marino de Naos, incluyendo el "bunker" de la Universidad de Panamá y el Teatro de Surfside, están conectados a la planta.*

### New Honor

Congratulations to Olga Linares who has just been elected to the Société des Africanistes in Paris.

### Combined Federal Campaign

The combined federal campaign is a very effective way for federal employees to help those in need throughout the world. You can contribute with the CFC by payroll deductions. Sign up to participate in this campaign ASAP. An information brochure will be available with your facility secretary. A pledge card must be completed and returned to the Personnel Department.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Photo Lab Chief Departs

*by Gretchen Sotomayor*

Though he only planned to stay for one year, Carl Hansen's position at STRI blossomed into six years of interesting people and photography. And that is what he'll miss the most. "I wish I could take STRI and move it back up to the states," he said.

Hansen, who came to STRI in Nov 1985, is leaving his position as branch chief of photo services this week to work as a photographer for the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. Under his direction, Photographic Services at STRI expanded and new computer technology was incorporated to provide more efficient and state-of-the-art services to the STRI community.

Hansen accompanied scientists to the forest, underwater, up trees and into airplanes, where he met interesting people and gathered many a memorable experience. "It's been the most incredible working experience ever for me-it'll never replicate itself," he said.

In his new position, Hansen will be providing additional photographic support for scientists at the Natural History Museum and those involved in planning the opening of the National Museum of the American Indian, slated for the year 2000. "I'm excited about it. It's a big challenge and I like challenges," he said.

Hansen said he is particularly interested in working for the American Indian museum. A native of Montana who lived and worked among Native Americans, Hansen said he is fascinated by their culture and art. While living in Panama, Hansen was able to substantially increase his collection of hand-carved Indian paddles, wood and Tagua carvings, with additions from Central and South America. His pursuit of the paddles enabled him to communicate with local people during his travels.

And as he leaves Panama Saturday, Hansen will be taking more than just paddles to remind him of his experiences at STRI. "My best memories are the people and the natural history photography," he said. Carl and his wife Ginger encourage visitors to Washington to contact them through the photo services department at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History.

Best of luck to Carl and Ginger in D.C.

### Panamanian Professional in PAFT Evaluation

Stanley Heckadon, STRI research associate, has been selected to represent the tropical countries of Latin America and the Caribbean as member of a 5 expert international team that will evaluate the Tropical Forestry Action Plan (TFAP). The TFAP was launched in 1985 by the World Bank, the World Resources Institute, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and

the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to deal with the problem of tropical deforestation. Developed countries established a trust fund to contribute to the TFAP process in developing countries.

A major evaluation of the Tropical Forestry Action Plan will be carried out by the FAO next year. For this purpose it has selected a 5 member team of international experts, two of whom represent the developed donor countries, two representatives from the recipient countries with tropical forests, and a FAO representative. Dr. Heckadon will be in Rome during January.

#### New Books at STRI Mini-Bookstore

- *Hombre y Cultura*, Revista del Centro de Investigaciones Antropológicas. Segunda época, vol I, No.1. Junio, 1991. \$4.50
- *A Neotropical Companion*, An Introduction to the Animals, Plants and Ecosystems of the New World Tropics. By John Kricher. \$17.95
- *Archivos de Zoología*. Frogs of Boracéia. W. Ronald Heyer, A. Stanley Rand, Carlos Alberto Concalves da Cruz, Oswaldo L. Peixoto, Craig E. Nelson. \$5.00
- *Cuadernos de Antropología*, Las Tierras Amerindias y la Legislación Panameña. Volumen I. \$3.50.
- *Pollen and Spores of Barro Colorado Island*, David W. Roubik and Jorge Enrique Moreno. \$35.00
- *Portraits of the Rainforest*, Adrian Forsyth. (Superb photographs of birds, mammals & insects.) \$29.95.

#### Change of Address

If you need to contact or mail correspondence to David or Jeanne Zeh between December 19, 1991 and June 30, 1992, please address it to: David W. Zeh, c/o Dr. D.T. Parkin, Department of Genetics, Queens Medical Centre, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, NG7 2UH, United Kingdom. Tel: 602-709-399. Fax: 602-422-225

#### Book Fair

Large variety of books in English.  
Date: December 21, 9 am-4 pm  
Place: Oxford School.



(Fotos: Arturo Cerezo)



*STRI Secretary Nereida Hernández, alias "Bartola", was the hit of the party for the children of Las Pavas. Various members of the STRI staff presented gifts to all the 53 school children. The party was organized by Alejandro Arze and Nilce Cerezo with the help of Dr. Gilberto Ocaña ••• Nereida Hernández, Secretaria del STRI alias "Bartola" fue la sensación de la fiesta de las Pavas. Varios miembros del personal del STRI entregaron regalos a los 53 niños de la escuela. La fiesta fue organizada por Alejandro Arze y Nilce Cerezo, con la ayuda del Dr. Gilberto Ocaña.*

#### Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center

The center plans to host a symposium next September 10 and 11, 1992 entitled "The Biodiversity and Conservation of Small Forest Fragments in the Agricultural Landscape of the Tropics". This symposium will bring together international experts from upper level academia, non-governmental conservation organizations, government agencies, and development programs. The center is still in the information gathering stages. Anyone that has been or is currently conducting research on forest fragment biology. Please write to the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center, National Zoological Park, Washington, DC 20008. Tel: 202-673-4829 and fax 202-673-4686.



*At Las Pavas  
En las Pavas*

## TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

### Research Assistantships/Internships Available

The Caribbean Conservation Corporation's (CCC) Green Turtle Research Station in Tortuguero, Costa Rica is seeking responsible and enthusiastic individuals who are willing to devote a minimum of two months to the green turtle research program at Tortuguero. Research assistantships are available to students of biology, marine sciences, wildlife management or related fields. Internships can be arranged through existing (university) programs, and the CCC will serve to coordinate field activities. Conversational Spanish is required. More information and application forms are available at the STRI Office of Education.

### Caribbean Fisheries Training and Development Institute

Mobile training courses in coastal navigation, gear technology and maintenance, and repair of outboard engines, are available to member countries of the Caribbean Technical Co-operation Network upon request. Requests must be made well in advance so that they can be incorporated into the training schedule of the Institute. For further information, contact: The Principal, Caribbean Fisheries Training and Development Institute, P.O. Box 1150, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. Telephone 809-634-4275.

### Training Course on Fundamental and Applied Marine Ecology (FAME)

This post-graduate training course is organized yearly at the Vrije Universiteit Brussels (VUB). Enquiries for the 1992 course can be addressed to VUB at the address listed below. The two-year programme, taught in English by specialists in various fields, is oriented towards scientists with a Bachelors or Masters in Science, who wish to specialize in marine ecology. Successful students obtain the degree of "Master of Fundamental and Applied Marine Ecology". For more information contact: FAME Secretariat, VUB, Faculty of Sciences, Laboratory of Systematics and Ecology, Pleinlaan 2, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium. Telephone (32-2) 641-3402, Fax: (32-2) 641-3403.

### M.Sc. Programme in Aquaculture

A new masters of Science Programme in Aquaculture is now being offered by the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, University of Ghent, Belgium. The two-year programme in the English language is open to holders of a Bachelors degree and provides training on the most important aspects of aquaculture for both marine and freshwater organisms. For more information and scholarships, contact: Dr. P. Lavers, Secretary, M.Sc. in Aquaculture, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, State

University of Ghent, Rozier 44, B-9000 Ghent, Belgium. Telephone (32-91) 643-754; Fax (32-91) 644-193.

### Atlantic Centre for the Environment

The Quebec Labrador Foundation/Atlantic Centre for the Environment (QLF/ACE) will be offering a four-week training opportunity, with special emphasis on coastal and island environments, to seven conservation professionals from the Caribbean. Complete and partial fellowships are available. For more information contact: Director, Inter-Regional Exchange and Policy, QLF/Atlantic Centre for the Environment, 39 South Main Street, Ipswich, MA 01938-2330. Tel: 508-356-0038; Fax: 508-356-7322.

## CONSERVATION NEWS

### UNEP's 1991 Global 500 Awards

In recognition of outstanding achievement in the protection and improvement of the environment, several environmental activist and organizations are added to the UNEP's Global 500 Honour Roll each year. The following persons are the 1991 honorees from the Wider Caribbean Region:

- Gertrude Duby Blom, a Mexican actively involved in the protection of the Lacandon Rainforest for nearly 50 years.
- Mr. Ruis and Ms. Tiahoga Ruge, Mexicans who co-authored a children's booklet, "Cuadernos de Vida y Ecología, todos contra la Contaminación", distributed to over 250,000 children throughout the Mexican school system.
- Maritza Pulido-Santana of Venezuela, founder and current coordinator of an environmental education programme for children in Venezuela called "Ecological Games". The programme started in 1979 with 50 children and now involves some 16,000 children from 15 Venezuelan cities.
- Alegria Fonseca de Ramirez is a member of the Colombian Parliament and a lawyer who succeeded in reversing the decision of the government to build a tourist hotel in Tayrona National Park, defeated a decision to construct an industrial area in the National Park of Salamanca Island, and initiated the Forest Action Plan for Colombia.

### From: 365 Ways to Save our Planet

#### • Page-a-Day Calendar •

Stick it to flies with flypaper that you make yourself—you can control these pests without recourse to chemicals. Just apply honey to yellow paper and hang it up. The flies are attracted by the color and by the honey, which is gummy enough to hold them tight.