

STRI newsletter

January 8, 1993

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE - Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panamá

No. 2

TUPPER CENTER SEMINARS

Evening Seminar

On Tuesday, Jan 12, at 5:30 pm, staff lecturer will be Jeremy B.C. Jackson.

First impressions of the marine biological consequences of the emergence of the Isthmus of Panama

Abstract

Modern marine biotas and environments are strikingly different on opposite sides of the Isthmus of Panama, but the character, origin and development of these differences have not been well documented. Preliminary results suggest that (1) there was not mass extinction or radiation related to the formation of the isthmus, (2) transisthmian faunas were effectively isolated millions of years before the isthmus emerged, and (3) major faunal upheaval occurred suddenly throughout tropical America at the end of the Pliocene for unknown causes.

Next Week

On Tue, Jan 19, noon seminar speaker will be John T. Polhemus, Univ. of Colorado.

Communication in Aquatic Heteroptera-Historical Overview, Current Status and the Future

PEOPLE

Arrivals

- Maria Clausen, Canada, Jan 8-7 Apr, to work with Joe Wright on the *Psychotria* biology project at BCI.
- Paul Sherman and David Pfenning plus 13 students, Cornell Univ., Jan 11, to participate in a field course on animal behavior organized by Steven Emlen. The course will take place in Gamboa during 11 days, with visits to various STRI sites.
- Melvin Tyree, University of Vermont, on Jan 12-27 to BCI, to follow up on research of the evolution and structure of terrestrial ecosystems.
- Antonio de Frias, University of Azores, Portugal, Jan 15-21, to study the anatomy and systematics of the eastern Pacific Ellobiidae (Gastropoda: Pulmonata) at Gamboa.



On Dec 14, José Carlos Espino (left) and Michael Lang initiated a 100-hour scientific diving course for STRI personnel that will end in late February. The course includes fresh water diving, deep ocean diving, rescue and nocturnal diving. In the photo, the group practices at the Amador pool ••• El 14 de diciembre José Carlos Espino (izquierda) y Michael Lang empezaron a dictar un curso de 100 horas sobre buceo científico a personal de STRI. El curso terminará a finales de febrero, y habrá incluido para entonces buceo en agua dulce, en profundidades marinas, rescate y buceo nocturno. En la foto, el grupo se encuentra practicando en la piscina de Amador. (Foto: A. Montaner)

Departures

- Olga F. Linares left for France and Senegal on Monday, Jan 4. In Paris, she will edit a volume on tropical forest peoples for UNESCO. In Senegal, she will continue her research among the Jola of Casamance.
- Richard Condit, to Washington, D.C., Jan 10-16, to attend an international biodiversity workshop at the SI.
- José Espino, to Florida, Jan 10-29, to attend various diving training courses.
- Leo Van Valkenhoef and Juan C. Roqueiro, Jan 11-14, to Cincinnati, OH, to attend a special training for repair and maintenance of equipment.
- George Angehr, to San Juan, Puerto Rico, Jan 14-20, to visit the US Forest Service and the University of Puerto Rico, to consult with colleagues regarding the CTFS programs.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

New Express Mail Schedule

Please send your express mail correspondence to the Procurement Department by 12 noon or call to let them know that you will be using express mail that afternoon. This is necessary because the STRI cashier closes at 2pm and the procurement office needs to request the funds to send express mail correspondence.

From BCI ••• De Barro Colorado

Please remember to call Vielka Liao when visiting BCI to coordinate lunch and transportation. On BAMBI days the boat will leave for Gamboa at 9pm sharp. We appreciate your cooperation ••• Favor de recordar comunicarse con Vielka Liao cada vez que visiten la isla, para coordinar el almuerzo y el transporte. En días de BAMBI el bote saldrá de regreso a Gamboa a las 9pm en punto. Gracias por su cooperación.

For Travelers ••• Para los Viajeros

For those who travel in and out of Panama through the Tocumen Airport, please lock the doors and close the windows of your vehicles to avoid inconveniences ••• Para aquellos que viajan entrando o saliendo de Panamá a través del Aeropuerto de Tocumen, favor de trancar las puertas y cerrar las ventanas de sus automóviles para evitar inconvenientes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

At Tupper Center

- Tue, Jan 12
- Japanese Women's Association, 10:45 am-12:45 noon, Exhibit Hall.
 - Behavioral Discussion Group, 12 noon-2 pm, Large Meeting Room.
 - TREC-Committee meeting, 1:15 pm-3pm, Small Meeting Room.
 - Staff Lecture, by Jeremy Jackson, 5:30pm-7pm, Auditorium.

The scientific staff meeting was moved to Tuesday, Jan 19.

Invitation to Bajo Mono

Invitación a Bajo Mono

José Renán Esquivel from Boquete, Chiriquí has invited Ira Rubinoff, STRI director, to visit an area known as Bajo Mono, located near where the new road between Volcan Baru and Boquete will be constructed. Dr. Rubinoff extends this invitation to any member of the STRI scientific staff who wishes to accompany him.

This region (1500 m above sea level) offers a variety of habitats that may be of interest not only for agricultural research but also to those interested in biological studies. This humid tropical forest (+ than 2500 m above sea levels at certain points) is home to birds like quetzals, toucans, eagles, wild turkeys etc., mammals like deers, tapirs, felids and a wide variety of insects. Those interested please contact Elena Lombardo before January 20 to coordinate the visit ••• José Renán Esquivel, de Boquete, provincia de Chiriquí, ha extendido una invitación a nuestro director, Ira Rubinoff para que visite el área conocida como Bajo Mono, que se encuentra en el proyecto de carretera que unirá las tierras altas del Volcán Baru, con el municipio de Boquete. Por este medio, el Dr. Rubinoff desea hacer extensiva esta invitación a otros miembros del personal científico del STRI. La invitación menciona que esta región, que está a 1,500 metros sobre el nivel del mar, ofrece una variedad de hábitats que pueden ser de interés no solo para la investigación agropecuaria, sino también para conocer científicamente la flora y fauna, y poder así preservar la diversidad biológica que existe en esta zona. En este bosque tropical húmedo, que en algunas partes se encuentra arriba de 2,500 metros, existen aún animales como los quetzales, tucanes, águilas, pavos, etc., además de mamíferos como corzos, tapires, felinos y una amplia variedad de insectos. Interesados favor de comunicarse con Elena Lombardo antes del 20 de enero de 1993 para coordinar la visita.

STRI January Birthdays

Fernando Pascal	4
Carlos Guevara	7
José Sánchez	8
Enrique Marciaga	17
Joe Wright	17
Wilbert Forde	20
Digna Matías	20
Carlos Espinosa	21
Eladio González	25
Roxana Durán	28
Francisco Sánchez	29
Agapito González	29
Leonor Motta	30
Noris Salazar	30



From: 365 Ways to Save our Planet

• Page-a-Day Calendar •

Use the telephone whenever you can to cut down on the need for trips in your car. Call shops and service centers with questions instead of driving to them; you'll really save a lot of time, fuel and CO₂.

ASISTENTE DE INVESTIGACION

Yolanda Jiménez, del Parque Natural Metropolitano, desea brindar sus servicios como asistente de investigación en STRI. El horario de que dispone es de 8-12. Tiene un título de Biología en la Universidad de Panamá en Zoología, y tomó 3 de las 6 materias para el título en Botánica. Posee extensa experiencia en trabajos de campo realizados en el Parque Natural Metropolitano. Recientemente, recibió el curso de Manejo y Conservación de Areas Protegidas de 3 meses de duración en la ciudad de Monterrey, México. Fue becaria Exxon de STRI para terminar su tesis en microbiología y anteriormente había obtenido una beca de asistente para el proyecto del Sendero del Parque, también del STRI. Maneja programas de Wordperfect, Word, Pagemaker, y tiene conocimientos básicos en Excell y Dbase. Interesados favor llamar al Parque al teléfono 32-5516 y 32-5552 de 1-4 o al 60-3765 durante las mañanas y después de horas laborables. Para referencias puede ponerse en contacto con Daniel Holness, director del Parque Natural Metropolitano o con Elena Lombardo del STRI.

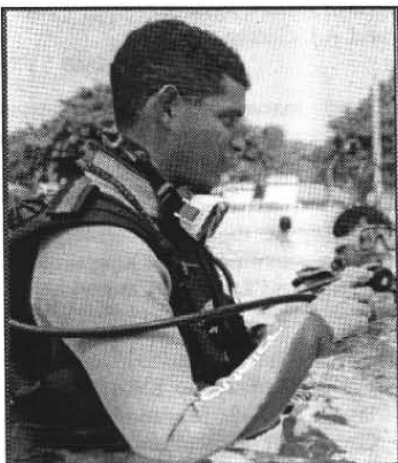


On Thursday, Dec 31, STRI employees from the Tivoli, Tupper and Library complex greeted the New Year at an informal lunch, made possible by those who attended that contributed with food or refreshments.

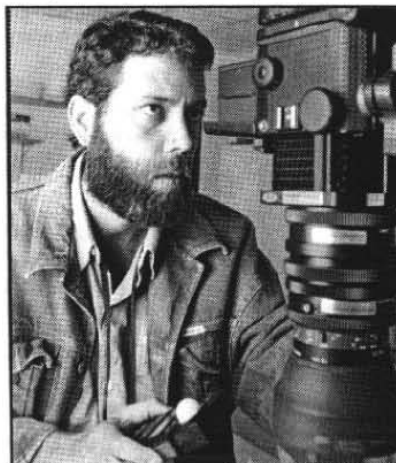
(Photo: A. Montaner)

During 1992 ••• Durante 1992

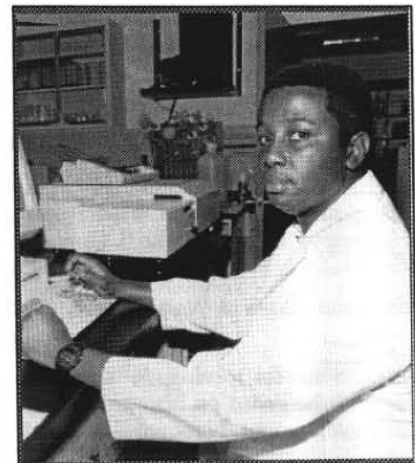
STRI added three new members to its permanent staff, who were selected from a large pool of applicants.
 STRI añadió tres nuevos miembros a su personal permanente, quienes fueron seleccionados de una extensa lista de aplicantes.



*José Carlos Espino, Diving Officer
 (Photo: A. Montaner)*



*Antonio Montaner, Chief Photographer
 (Photo: M.A. Guerra)*



*Aurelio Virgo, Plant Physiologist
 (Photo: A. Montaner)*

STRI NEW BOOKLIST

- The Balance of nature?: ecological issues in the conservation of species and communities / Stuart L. Pimm.
QH541.P558 1991X STRI.
- Bird of life, bird of death: a naturalist's journey through a land of political turmoil / Jonathan Evan Maslow.
QL696.T7M37 1986X STRI.
- Birds of East Africa: their habitat, status and distribution / P.L. Britton, editor; paintings by Rena Fennessy.
QL692.E13B61 STRI.
- CRC handbook of avian body masses / by John B. Dunning, Jr.
Ref QL697.D86 1993X STRI.
- The Common names of North American butterflies / edited by Jacqueline Y. Miller.
Ref QL548.C66 1992X STRI.
- Conserving biodiversity: a research agenda for development agencies: report of a panel of the Board on Science and Technology for International Development, U.S. National Research Council.
QH75.C6818 1992X STRI.
- Creation and evolution: myth or reality? / Norman B. Newell.
BS651.N46 1982X STRI.
- Environmental physiology of the amphibians / edited by Martin E. Feder and Warren W. Burggren.
QL669.2.E58 1992X STRI.
- The Essential Darwin / Robert Jastrow, general editor; selections and commentary by Kenneth Korey.
QH365.D25A25 1984X STRI.
- Frogs of Boracia / W. Ronald Heyer ... [et al.].
QL668.E2P92 1990 STRI.
- Guidelines for diagnostic work in plant virology / S.K. Green.
SB736.G79 1991 STRI.
- Historia natural de un valle en los Andes, La Paz / Eduardo Forno y Mario Baudoin, editores.
QH115.H67 1991 STRI.
- An Introduction to behavioural ecology / J.R. Krebs, N.B. Davies; drawings by Jan Parr.
QH371.K73X 1987 STRI.
- Manual of methods in aquatic environment research: part 11 biological assessment of marine pollution, with particular reference to benthos / John S. Gray, Alasdair D. McIntyre, Jos Stim.
QH541.15.M64B43 1992 STRI.
- Medicinal plants of West Africa / Edward S. Ayensu.
QK99.A44A93X STRI.
- Neem: a tree for solving global problems: report of an ad hoc panel of the Board on Science and Technology for International Development, National Research Council.
SB317.N43N44 1992X STRI.
- Pepper diseases: a field guide / Lowell L. Black ... [et al.].
SB608.P5P42 1991 STRI.
- Plant lectins / A. Pusztai.
QK898.L42P87 1991X STRI.
- Pollen analysis / P.D. Moore, J.A. Webb, M.E. Collinson.
QK658.M663 1991X STRI.
- Primary productivity of grass ecosystems of the tropics and sub-tropics / edited by Stephen P. Long, Michael B. Jones, and Michael J. Roberts.
QK938.P7P75 1992X STRI.
- Proceedings of the 7th International Wadden Sea Symposium / edited by N. Dankers, C.J. Smit & M. Scholl.
QH159.I58 1990 STRI.
- Processing of oceanographic station data / by JPOTS editorial panel.
GC24.J74 1991 STRI.
- Red list of Chilean terrestrial vertebrates: proceedings of the symposium "Conservation Status of Chilean Terrestrial Vertebrate Fauna": organized by the Chilean Forest Service (CONAF), held on April 21-24, 1987, in Santiago, Chile / edited by Alfonso A. Glade.
Ref SK352.C75 1987 STRI.
- Se nourrir en foret equatoriale: anthropologie alimentaire des populations des regions forestiere humides d'Afrique / textes et documents de l'equipe de recherche "Anthropologie Alimentaire Diffrentielle" (E.R. 263 du C.N.R.S. (E.R.263) Musum, 1989.
GT2853.A35S47 1989 STRI.
- Serpientes de Ecuador / C. Perez-Santos y A.G. Moreno.
QL657.E2P43 1991 STRI.
- Sex in nature / Chris Catton & James Gray.
QH481.C37 1985X STRI.
- The Skulking way of war: technology and tactics among the New England Indians / Patrick M. Malone.
E78.N5M35 1991X STRI.
- Studies of high-altitude seabirds, v.1. Behavioural, energetic, and oceanographic aspects of seabird feeding ecology / edited by W.A. Montevecchi and A.J. Gaston.
QL671.P83 1989 STRI.
- Structure, functioning and management of ecosystems: proceedings of the first International Congress of Ecology, The Hague, the Netherlands, September 8-14, 1974.
QH540.I58 1974X STRI.
- Tetraonidae and phasianidae of the USSR: ecology and morphology / M.A. Kuzmina; scientific editor Douglas Siegel-Causey; [translators, P.M. Rao and D. Siegel-Causey].
QL696.G285K8913 1992X STRI.
- Vegetable soybean: research needs for production and quality improvement; proceedings of a workshop held at Kenting, Taiwan, 29 April-2 May 1991 / S. Shanmugasundaram, editor; organized by: Council of Agriculture, Republic of China; Provincial Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry, Taiwan; Asian Vegetable Research and Development Center.
SB205.S7V42 1991 STRI.