

STRI newsletter

May 21, 1993

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE - Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panamá

No. 21

TUPPER CENTER SEMINARS

Tue, May 25, noon seminar speaker will be Elisabeth K.V. Kalko, National Museum of Natural History, Washington D.C. and University of Tuebingen, Germany.

Echolocation and Feeding Behavior in Neotropical Bat Communities

Abstract

Both in species number and in ecological differentiation, bats (Microchiroptera) are the dominant mammals in the tropics. They are unparalleled in their choice of foods (insects, frogs, fish, birds, lizards, other bats, blood, fruit, nectar, pollen, flowers) and play indispensable roles in tropical ecosystems (e.g., pollination, seed dispersal, control of insect populations). I will present analyses of my ongoing field research and experimental studies on the echolocation and feeding behavior of selected bats in order to illustrate how the great diversity of morphology, physiology and sensory abilities are linked to the diversity of specific foraging modes and habitat use. I will also discuss possible evolutionary consequences of these adaptations for community structure in bats and interactions between bats and their food.

Tue, May 25, Duncan Thomas, environmental consultant invited by the CTFS will present a seminar at 2pm at the Auditorium.

Botanical and Forest Dynamics Research in Korup National Park, Cameroon

BAMBI

Thu, May 27, Bambi speaker will be Rolf Meier, Switzerland, at 7:45pm.

Ecology and Behavior of Native and Introduced Ants in the Galapagos Islands

Please arrange transportation with BCI.

PEOPLE

Arrivals

- Ann Budd, University of Iowa, May 23-5 Jun, to conduct studies on the systematics of scleractinian reef corals, at Ngaos.



Roy Watson and Stanley Fidanque, members of ANCON's Board of Directors with Ira Rubinoff at the opening of the new exhibit *Nuestros Bosques: Nuestra Herencia*. See page 4 *** Roy Watson y Stanley Fidanque, ambos síndicos de ANCON con Ira Rubinoff en la inauguración de la nueva Exhibición *Nuestros Bosques: Nuestra Herencia*. Ver página 4.

(Foto: Cortesía de ANCON)

- Smithsonian Castle Trio. See page 4.
- Gil Rosenthal, University of Texas at Austin, May 23-15 Aug, to work with Michael Ryan, in Gamboa.
- Marta Moncada, Latin American fellow from the University of Texas at Austin, May 24-21 Aug, to carry out a case study of Indian identity in the city, in Kuna Nega and Chivo Chivo, with Olga Linares and Jorge Ventocilla.
- Roy Caldwell, University of California at Berkeley, May 24-9 Jun, to do research on stomatopod populations, at Galeta.
- Tag Engstrom and Robert Duncan, Eckerd College, May 25-12 Aug, to work with Anne and Peter Meylan on the ecology and migrations of marine turtles, in Bocas del Toro.

SI Sesquicentennial Commemoration News

Elena Lombardo has been asked by Under Secretary Connie Newman to serve on one of the committees established for the Sesquicentennial Commemoration of the Smithsonian Institution. She will participate at the Marketing Committee chaired by Alice Burnette, Assistant Secretary for Institutional Initiatives. This opportunity will allow STRI to be present in the planning process of this important event for the Institution which will take place in 1996.

Departures

- Ira Rubinoff, May 21-6 Jun, to Norway, to attend the United Nations Environmental Programme Expert Conference on Biodiversity.
- Jeremy B.C. Jackson, May 23-27, to Washington D.C., to attend meetings of the Committee for the Formation of the National Biological Survey of the National Academy of Sciences.
- A. Stanley Rand and Lee Weigt, May 27-3 Jul, to Austin, TX, to attend the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists —Herpetologists's League— meetings. Then for a collecting trip by land through Central America.
- Eldredge Bermingham, May 27-23 Jun, to Austin, TX, to attend the ASIH meetings. Then on vacation and later to attend the meetings of the Society for the Study of Evolution at Snowbird, UT.

From STRI North

Mary Ann Lindgren of STRI's Washington Office will take a leave of absence from June to August to volunteer her services with a local youth group. She will be returning to STRI on Sep 1. In her absence, Christina Gajda, who has worked as an intern for the D.C. office during the past few months, will help Lucy Dorick and Lisa Barnett to cover liaison responsibilities and office operations. Christina studies International Affairs at the American University. We welcome her to the STRI community during the coming months.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW**At Tupper Center**

- Mon, May 24 ■ Talk by K. Slowik, *SI Castle Trio*, Auditorium, 5:30 pm.
- Tue, May 25 ■ Noon seminar by Elisabeth Kalko, Auditorium.
 - Seminar by Duncan Thomas, Auditorium, 2pm.
 - Behavior Discussion Group meeting, Large Meeting Room, 5pm.
- Wed, May 26 ■ Equal Employment Opportunities Training, Large Meeting Room, 8am-4pm.
 - Security Meeting, Conference Hall, 8:30am-12m.

Regents' Publication Program Reminder

The Regents' publication program will be funded in FY'94 with applications due June 1, 1993. The program will be jointly administered and funded by the Assistant Secretary for the Arts and Humanities and the Assistant Secretary for the Sciences. The major aim of the revised program is "to encourage members of the Smithsonian's

research staff to produce published works of significant scope that are scholarly in substance and tone and address either an audience of specialists or a broader readership." There will be \$60,000 available in FY'94; proposals will be accepted for any amount up to \$30,000. Interested staff should get guidelines from the Director's Office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS**De la Oficina de Recursos Humanos**

Nos complace dar una cordial bienvenida al Ing. José R. Perurena, quien viene a ocupar la posición de director de reglas de seguridad (*Safety Officer*) a partir del 1ro. de julio. Perurena obtuvo licenciaturas en Ingeniería Aeroespacial y Mecánica en North Carolina State University. Ha trabajado como ingeniero de ambiente y seguridad (*Environmental and Safety Engineer*) en EE.UU. y tiene experiencia como instructor en reglamentaciones y temas relacionados con seguridad. El Ing. Perurena trabajará temporalmente en las oficinas de seguridad en Tivoli. Le deseamos éxito en su nuevo trabajo en STRI.

Scanning Electron Microscope

The scanning electron microscope (SEM) facility at the Tupper Center will be open for general use beginning Jun 1. Jorge Ceballos has accepted the position as the part-time SEM technician. He initially will be available on Tuesdays from 4-9pm and Saturdays from 8am-4pm. Users of the SEM will be asked to schedule their appointments at least two weeks in advance. Preparation of specimens (drying and coating) will be carried out by Ceballos as they are received, and he will then carry out scanning and photography of the samples during appointments with individual researchers. The microscope also comes equipped with a "low vacuum" tube, which means that specimens do not have to be dried and coated before they are viewed. This will enable investigators to photograph plants, animals, or other materials without alteration of the specimens.

Charges for using the SEM will be \$2.50 for each picture taken. Sample preparation and scanning time is included in the cost. Researchers who want to use the scope during the month of June should submit their time and date requests to Dolores Piperno ASAP. We encourage the permanent staff, fellows and STRI visitors to make use of the SEM.

For Rent

Furnished one-bedroom apartment, "Flamenco" Building, Marbella, Bella Vista (back of Chase Manhattan Bank). \$750. Call Clarita Wright, Tel. 64-1462.



STRI Renews Paper Recycling Efforts

STRI Renovará Esfuerzos en el Programa de Reciclaje de Papel

At their first meeting on May 13, members of the recently established Paper Reuse-Reduce-Recycle (3Rs) Committee decided to initiate the following steps to increase recycling efforts at STRI:

- Each main facility will have a 3Rs Representative: BCI: Oris Acevedo; Galeta: Carlos Guevara; Gamboa: to be determined; Library: Angel Aguirre; Naos: Ursula Schober, Procurement: Mercedes Arroyo; Tivoli: Leopoldo León; Tupper Center: Maria Luz Calderon.
- Representatives will identify recyclable paper and distribute standardized collection containers at each facility.
- Representatives will visit each office to explain easy and efficient use and collection of paper for recycling, upon request. If you have any suggestions regarding the improvement of 3Rs of paper (and other goods) at STRI, please send them to Ursula Schober, Naos.

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En su primera reunión el 13 de mayo, los miembros del nuevo comité de Reducción-Reuso-Reciclaje (RRR) de papel decidió iniciar los siguientes pasos para aumentar nuestros esfuerzos en el RRR de papel en STRI:

- Todas las instalaciones tendrán un representante de RRR de papel: en BCI: Oris Acevedo; Galeta: Carlos Guevara; Gamboa: por nombrarse; Naos: Ursula Schober, Oficina de Compras: Mercedes Arroyo, Tivoli: Leopoldo León, Centro Tupper: María Luz Calderón.
- Los representantes identificarán el papel que es reciclable y distribuirán contenedores estandarizados para recogerlo en cada instalación.
- Los representantes visitarán las oficinas que deseen explicaciones sobre el uso más eficiente del papel y su reciclado.

Envíe sus sugerencias relacionadas con el mejoramiento del programa de RRR de papel (u otros objetos) en STRI a Ursula Schober en Naos.



STRI's Accounting Department celebrated Accountant's Day dining at the Marriott Hotel on Tuesday, May 17 ••• Con diferentes actividades alusivas, el Departamento de Contabilidad de STRI culminó el Día del Contador con un almuerzo en el Hotel Marriott el pasado martes 17 de mayo.

Acting Seminar Officer

Dolores Piperno will serve as acting seminar officer starting this week, until September. All visiting scientists and students at STRI are welcome to give seminars. Please contact Dolores at the Tupper Center.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESEARCH

Insect Behavioural and Evolutionary Ecology Using Molecular-Genetic Methods at Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC, Canada

Opportunities available for highly-motivated students in Ph.D. program interested in using state-of-the-art molecular methods to address outstanding questions in behavioral ecology. Current questions being addressed include the evolution of social behavior and the evolution of reproductive mode and mating systems in insects. Methodology being used includes PCR and DNA sequencing for phylogeny reconstruction and comparative analysis, and allozyme and DNA analyses of relatedness and population structure. Projects are well funded, and may involve fieldwork in Australia or India. Preference given to candidates with some previous laboratory and/or field experience, and all candidates are strongly encouraged to apply for NSERC and other Graduate Fellowships. Studies may be initiated any time after mid 1993. Please send CV and brief description of research interests to: Dr. Bernard J. Crespi, Department of Biological Sciences, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC, Canada, V5A 1S6, email: Crespi@sfu.ca. Inquiries concerning Post-Doctoral work are also welcome.

STRI NEW PUBLICATIONS

BRYOPHYTORUM BIBLIOTECA

BAND 46

A Revision of the Pantropical Moss Genus
Leucophanes Brid.

by
NORIS SALAZAR ALLEN
With 2 tables and 71 plates



J. CRAMER

in der Gerbrüder Borntraeger Verlagsbuchhandlung
BERLIN • STUTTGART 1993

Coffroth, Mary Alice, Lasker, Howard R., Diamond, Margaret E., Bruenn, Jeremy A. and Bermingham, Eldredge. 1992. "DNA Fingerprints of a Gorgonian Coral: A Method for Detecting Clonal Structure in a Vegetative Species." *Marine Biology* 114: 317-325.

Condit, Richard, Hubbell, Stephen P. and Foster, Robin B. 1992. "Recruitment Near Conspecific Adults and the Maintenance of Tree and Shrub Diversity in a Neotropical Forest." *The American Naturalist* 140(2): 261-286.

Salazar Allen. 1993. *A Revision of the Pantropical Moss Genus Leucophanes Brid.* Berlin: in der Gerbrüder Borntraeger Verlagsbuchhandlung.

The Smithsonian's Chamber Music Program

The Smithsonian Institution houses one of the finest collection of musical instruments in the world at its Museum of American History. As early as 1963, the Smithsonian was producing and presenting concerts by international musicians with music matched to instruments from specific periods of music history. In 1976, the Smithsonian

Chamber Players was founded as ensemble-in-residence at the National Museum of American History to allow a valuable collection of restored instruments to be heard as well as seen. The success of this group lead to the establishment of the Smithsonian String Quartet (1981), the Smithsonian Chamber Orchestra (1982), and the Castle Trio (1983). It is this last group that will arrive in Panama this week-end to give a concert on Tuesday, May 25 at the Teatro Las Huacas, ATLAPA, as part of the *Asociación Nacional de Conciertos* program. This performance is being sponsored by STRI and the US Information Service. The Castle Trio's members Lambert Orkin (pianist), Marilyn McDonald (violinist) and Kenneth Slowik (cellist) will be joined in this performance by Larry McDonald (clarinet) from the Oberlin Group. Cellist Kenneth Slowik is also the artistic director of the Smithsonian's Chamber Music Program and will give a talk at STRI on the Smithsonian's historical instrument collection.



**NUESTROS BOSQUES:
NUESTRA HERENCIA**

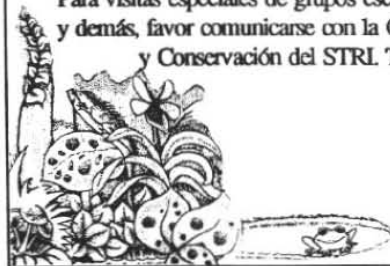
EXHIBICION ITINERANTE DE LOS BOSQUES TROPICALES DE AMERICA

La Asociación Nacional para la Conservación de la Naturaleza
A N C O N
y el Instituto Smithsonian de Investigaciones Tropicales
S T R I

le invitan a recorrer los
BOSQUES TROPICALES DE AMERICA

Fecha: del 19 de mayo al 1 de julio de 1993
Lugar: Centro Earl S. Tupper, Ave. Roosevelt, Ancón
Horario: Domingo a Jueves de 1:00 pm a 5:00 p.m.

Para visitas especiales de grupos escolares, institucionales y demás, favor comunicarse con la Oficina de Educación y Conservación del STRI. Tel. 27-6022



"La naturaleza puede
satisfacer todas las
necesidades del hombre,
pero no su ambición"

M. Gandhi