

# STRI newsletter

April 13, 1995

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE - Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panamá

No. 15

## TUPPER CENTER SEMINARS

No noon seminar scheduled for Tuesday, April 18. If you are interested in giving a seminar please contact Neal G. Smith at the Tupper Center.

## PEOPLE

### Arrivals

- Juan Posada, STRI Latin American Fellow from the Universidad de los Andes, Apr 15-15 Jul, to study the effects of increased atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations on growth and carbon allocation patterns within plants after a simulated herbivory, on BCI.
- British Broadcasting Corporation crue, Apr 16-25, to film a segment for the program "Tropical Forest Research at BCI".
- Kathleen McEvoy, University of Georgia, May 18-13 Jul, to work with John Pickering on a Panamanian insect diversity survey and inventory, at BCI.
- Robert Percy, Mellon Senior Fellow and Fernando Valladares, Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow from the University of California Apr 20-15 Jun, to conduct integrative studies of photosynthesis and whole plant performance in the understory at BCI.
- Emma Peddie, David Thompson, Andy Shillabeer and Kyle Summers, Partridge Films, U.K., Apr 20-23 May, to film documentary "Poison Dart Frogs" in Bocas del Toro.

### Departures

- Francisco Rivera, Apr 16-22, to Reston, VA, to attend a course on "Wireless Networks."
- Stanley Heckadon, Apr 17-28, to Indonesia, to attend the Meetings of the Board of Trustees of the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), and to visit on-going research sites in the Indonesian archipelago.
- Nancy Knowlton, Apr 17-27, to the U.K., to present a paper at the "Species in Practice Symposium" and to consult with colleagues at the Universities of York and Oxford.
- Noris Salazar, Apr 19-28, to New York and Brusells, Belgium, on official business.
- Richard Condit, Apr 20-29, to San Juan, Puerto Rico, to attend the WWF Conference on Climate Change and Tropical Forests.
- William Wcislo, Apr 20-24, to Ithaca, New York, to attend the "G.C. Eickwort Memorial Symposium in Evolutionary Biology".

## THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

### Delegation of Authority

Leonor G. Motta will serve as Acting Director of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute from 16-19 April, 1995.

### From the Security Office

#### *De la Oficina de Seguridad*

Effective Monday, April 17, the exit gate of the Tupper Center parking lot will be closed from 6pm through 6am on working days. All vehicles must exit through the entrance gate.

On Saturdays, Sundays, Holidays and after working hours (6:00am through 6:00pm) only the main entrance door to Tupper will be opened. During that time, all Tupper users will sign a log book placed at the reception desk when arriving at the facility and before leaving ••• *A partir del lunes 17 de abril, la puerta de salida de autos del estacionamiento principal del Centro Tupper cerrará de 6pm a 6am. Para salir los vehículos deberán usar la puerta entrada del estacionamiento.*

*Durante los fines de semana, días feriados y fuera de horas de trabajo (6am-6pm) la entrada a Tupper será únicamente a través de la puerta principal en el nivel 300. Para entrar y salir, los usuarios de Tupper firmarán el libro de registro en la recepción del edificio.*

### "Sexual Harasment" Talk

#### *Charla Sobre "Acoso Sexual"*

There will be a talk on "Sexual Harassment" issues presented by Dr. Raymong George on Tuesday, April 25, 1995, at 1:30pm, Tupper Center Auditorium. EVERYONE is invited to attend. This presentation will have a duration of approximately three hours ••• *El martes 25 de abril de 1995 el Dr. Raymond George presentará una charla sobre el tema "Acoso Sexual", en el Auditorio del Centro Tupper, 1:30pm. Se invita a TODOS a asistir a esta interesante presentación, la cual tendrá una duración de aproximadamente 3 horas.*

### At the Tupper Center

- Wed, Apr 19 ■ T&A Workshop, SMR, 8am
- Fri, Apr 21 ■ BCI Guide Meeting, Small Meeting Room, 5pm

### At the Culebra Marine Reserve

- Tue, Apr 18 Balboa Elementary School
- Wed, Apr 19 Instituto Italiano Enrico Fermi
- Thu, Apr 20 Texas A & M Club
- Sat, Apr 22 Asociación de Secretarias Ejecutivas de Panamá (ASEP)

**At Barro Colorado Island Station**

- Sat, Apr 15 Visitors from Panama and the U.S. and Curundu Junior High
- Sun, Apr 16 *Dirección Regional de San Miguelito del Ministerio de Educación*
- Sat, Apr 22 CETIC and *Oficina de Educación Ambiental, Ministerio de Educación*
- Sun, Apr 23 SEK International

**Worthy Cause Update**

The Office of Human Resources wants to acknowledge the positive response thus far to the "Worthy Cause" mailing; several of you have already come by this office to contribute to Eric Amado's fund for his kidney transplant operation. Please, make checks to STRI and we will be glad to receive them here. All contributions will be coordinated through the Office of Human Resources. An account for Eric Amado has already been opened with STRI. Please also remember that there will be a "Happy Hour" at Hotel Continental on Friday, April 21, from 5-10pm to contribute to this worthy cause.

**Support Group for Parque Nacional Soberanía****Apoyo para el Parque Nacional Soberanía**

On Thursday, April 6, the monthly meeting of the STRI Support Group for Parque Nacional Soberanía was held at the Gamboa Schoolhouse. Twenty five people attended, including grass roots leaders from five rural communities on the eastern boundary of the Park. Among the activities identified and programmed for the near future is a course to train young people from these villages as local nature guides. The next meeting of the Group will be on Thursday May 14 at 10am at the Gamboa Schoolhouse ••• *El jueves 6 de abril se llevó a cabo la reunión mensual del Grupo de Apoyo de STRI para el Parque Nacional Soberanía en la antigua escuela de Gamboa. Asistieron 25 personas, incluyendo dirigentes de base de cinco de las comunidades rurales que colindan con el Parque. Entre las actividades programadas está un seminario para capacitar a jóvenes de estas comunidades como guías naturalistas locales. La próxima reunión del grupo será el jueves 4 de mayo a las 10am en la antigua escuela de Gamboa.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS****Needed Help for Embera Village, Darien****Ayuda para una Comunidad Emberá en Darién**

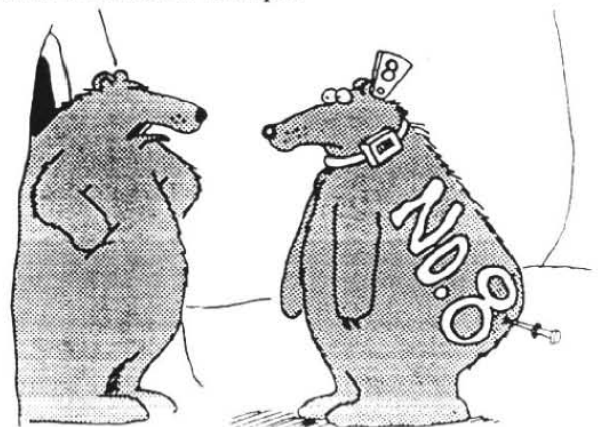
This is a request for help for the Emberá village of Tortuga on the Ucargantí river, a tributary of the Chucunaque, in Darien. This community, established 10 years ago, has 30 thatched houses and 220 inhabitants who live from the cultivation of plantains, corn, rice, hunting and fishing. On Friday, March 31, a fire burned

six of the dwellings with total loss of household goods. Fifty very poor people were left destitute, most being children. If you could spare used children's clothing, blankets, cooking utensils, etc. and spare "machetes" will be greatly appreciated. For contributions at STRI please contact María Luz Calderon, Office of Education (Stanley Heckadon after April 28) or call 34-7176 and ask for María Salazar or Edilberto Mezua ••• *Este es un mensaje de ayuda para el pueblo Emberá de Tortuga del Río Ucargantí, afluente del Chucunaque. Este pueblo, fundado hace 10 años, tiene 30 viviendas, de tambo y penca, y 220 habitantes que viven de la agricultura de plátano, arroz, maíz, y de la caza y pesca. El viernes 31 de marzo un fuego destruyó seis viviendas con pérdida total de los bienes hogareños de 50 personas, la mayoría niños. Se apreciaría enormemente si usted tiene ropa usada para niños, frascadas y utensilios de cocina, etc. para donarles. Machetes usados o nuevos serían de enorme utilidad. En STRI favor comunicarse con María Luz Calderón, Oficina de Educación en Tupper para entregar sus contribuciones (hasta el 28 de abril cuando regrese S. Heckadon) o llamar al 34-7176 y preguntar por María Salazar o Edilberto Mezua.*

**Deportes en STRI**

Los empleados de STRI se encuentran en proceso de organizar una "Liga de Fútbol" utilizando la cancha de Amador. Todos aquellos interesados en formar parte de la liga, deberán comunicarse con Cónsul Chamorro en Naos, Eric Lam en Tupper, Tivoli, Biblioteca y Pastor's House, y con José Sánchez en la Isla de Barro Colorado, para inscribirse y formar los equipos.

Todos los empleados de STRI están invitados a presenciar el juego por el campeonato de Bola Suave entre BCI y la Guardia Presidencial en Amador el día viernes 28 de abril a las 5:pm.



"Late again! ... This better be good!"