

STRI newsletter

November 2, 1995

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE - Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panamá

No. 44

TUPPER CENTER SEMINARS

Tue, Nov 7, noon seminar speaker will be Elizabeth Kalko
*Organization and Long-Term changes
in a Neotropical Bat Community*

NAOS LABS LUNCHEONS

Since both Fri, Nov 3 and Nov 10 are Holidays, no luncheon seminars are scheduled.

PEOPLE

Arrivals

- Ulrich Mueller, Earl S. Tupper Fellow from Cornell University, Nov 5-31 Dec, to study the evolution and ecology of the attine-fungus symbiosis, at Naos.
- Stephen Rehner, STRI's molecular evolution fellow from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Nov 5-Aug '97, to study the molecular phylogenetic analysis of Attine fungi and neotropical Lepiotaceae, at Naos.
- Troy Mielke, University of Pittsburgh, Nov 7-21, to work with Walter Carson in a community level experimental test on mammal and insect control on the tropical forest diversity, at BCI and Gigante.
- Seigo Higashi, Hokkaido University, Japan, Nov 9-30 Nov, to carry out sociobiological studies on neotropical social insects, at BCI.

Departures

- David Roubik, Oct 31-15 Dec, to Gabon, Africa, to do research at the Makanda Field Station.
- Ana Maria Ford, Nov 2, to Washington D.C. to work at the STRI Developmental Office at SI. Her new Group-Wise address is SIWP01.STRIDC.FORDA and her internet e-mail is SIWP01.STRIDC.FordA@ic.si.edu.
- Elena Lombardo, Nov 8-17, to Curitiba, Brazil, for the opening of the exhibit "Parting the Green Curtain" at the Universidade Federal do Paraná. She will also sign a cooperative scientific agreement between STRI and the University, which will facilitate STRI's palaeoecological research program in Brazil.
- Paul Colinvaux, Nov 11-20, to Curitiba, Brazil, to attend the opening of the STRI's exhibit at the UFP. Then to La Paz, Mexico, to attend the Pole-Equator-Pole workshop.

From the Library ••• De la biblioteca

The STRI Library will be closed on Friday, Nov 3 and Saturday, Nov 4, for a long weekend to celebrate Panama's Independence day and Flag's day ••• La Biblioteca de STRI no laborará los días 3 y 4 de noviembre en celebración de los día de la independencia de Panamá de Colombia y el día de la Bandera.



(Photo: Courtesy of Cristina de Alba)

News from SI, Washington D.C.

"Georgina de Alba is this year's very-deserving recipient of the Secretary's Award for Excellence in Exhibits and Public Programs. Through this award, the Institution is recognizing Georgina's outstanding contribution to developing exhibits and public programs that expand the Smithsonian's public audience. The award honors the advances Georgina has made through STRI's Latin American Internship Program, the establishment of the Marine Education Center at Culebra, and the development of a variety of public awareness and educational outreach efforts in Panama. The award will be presented to Georgina during a ceremony to be held in Washington on Tuesday, November 7."

Georgina de Alba, de STRI, fue seleccionada este año para recibir el Premio del Secretario por Excelencia en el Desarrollo de Exhibiciones y Programas Públicos. A través de este honor, la Institución Smithsonian reconoce los grandes logros de Georgina por su labor en la coordinación y desarrollo de programas y exhibiciones para la educación pública que enriquecen el conocimiento sobre las actividades del Smithsonian. Esto incluye el Programa de Becas para Latinoamérica, el Programa de Educación Marina en el Centro de Exhibiciones de Culebra, el Programa de Visitantes en Barro Colorado, la Red de Talleres de Arte Infantil Kuna, la publicación de la serie "Naturaleza Tropical" en el diario "La Prensa", una extensa

participación del personal de la Oficina de Educación en actividades a favor de la conservación del medio ambiente tropical terrestre y marino, publicaciones que describen el trabajo de STRI en los trópicos para la audiencia hispanoparlante, exhibiciones educativas y el programa de voluntarios "Tras Bastidores", que se llevan a cabo bajo su liderazgo. La ceremonia de premiación se llevará a cabo en Washington, el martes, 7 de noviembre. Sus compañeros en STRI queremos felicitarla por tan merecido reconocimiento, así como nos sentimos muy orgullosos de que este año, nuevamente, un funcionario del Instituto haya recibido uno de los mayores honores que el Smithsonian ofrece a sus empleados más distinguidos. Anteriormente, en 1991, Elena Lombardo recibió el premio Robert A. Brooks por Excelencia (Hic Submit et Perfect) en Administración.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Test on Tupper/Tivoli Computer Server

This Sat, Nov 4, the new computer server for Tupper/Tivoli complex will be tested. The test is scheduled to be from 1-5pm approximately. During the test, the Tupper/Tivoli network would be down, and neither Internet, GroupWise, E-mail or any other "lan" application will run. All e-mail communications to Panama will be delayed, since they will be waiting at SI until the test is completed. This does not apply to Naos and Gamboa "lan" service which will work as usual, with the exception of the e-mail communications sent by users in Panama. These e-mail messages will be held on the server until the communication Tupper/Tivoli is reestablished.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

From the Visitor Services Office

It has been two or more years since rentals were increased for STRI housing. After reviewing costs, occupancy rates, etc., it has been determined that increases are necessary to be able to continue providing housing for fellows and visitors. New rates will become effective on Jan 1, '96, applicable to everybody, including current tenants. There will be a "low season" from Apr 1-31 May and Sep 1-31 Dec and a "high season" from Jun 1-31 Aug and Jan 1-31 Mar. The average increase for the low season will be 15% and for high season 20%. Rental rates will vary according to the locations. Every current tenants will be informed of the new rates applicable to their unit.

At the Tupper Center

- Tue, Nov 7 ■ Noon seminar by Elizabeth Kalko, AUD
- Behavior Discussion Group, SMR, 1pm
- Scientific Support Staff meeting, LMR, 2pm
- Wed, Nov 8 ■ CEASPA meeting, LMR, 9am

At the Culebra Marine Reserve

- Tue, Nov 7 Escuela Internacional de Panamá
- Wed & Thu Escuela El Japón
- Sat, Nov 11 Grupo de Voluntarios de Ancón

At Barro Colorado Island Station

- Sat, Nov 11 Groups from Colón, Panamá and CEMAD
- Sun, Nov 12 Groups from Instituto Episcopal de la Chorrera and from La Policía Ecológica de Panamá

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Conferencia de Prensa sobre Simposio de Corales

El lunes 30 de octubre, los miembros del comité organizador del VIII Simposio Internacional de Arrecifes Coralinos ofrecieron una conferencia de prensa para ampliar información sobre el desarrollo del simposio y el programa público que se ofrecerá durante el congreso. La conferencia de prensa contó con la asistencia del rector Gustavo García de Paredes y Carlos Arellano Lennox de la Universidad de Panamá, y Elena Lombardo, y Luis D'Croz, de STRI. Correspondentes de medios locales e internacionales asistieron al evento, llevado a cabo en la Sala Ricardo Miró, Biblioteca Simón Bolívar, Universidad de Panamá.

STRI

Mini-Bookstore

Christmas Sale!



Baratillo de Navidad en la Librería de STRI
Best discount ever for STRI personnel from Nov 9-17. For general public from Nov 13-17. Don't miss it! ••• Los mejores descuentos posibles para el personal de STRI desde el 9 hasta el 17 de noviembre. Para el público en general, del 13-17 de noviembre. ¡No se lo pierda!

MISCELLANEOUS

Se Vende

- Radiograbadora National doble casetera, radio AM-FM, salida para CD: \$65. Martín Mitre: 228-1015.
- 1988 Jeep Cherokee Pioneer, 4x4; a.c. automatic, gas, multilock security, trailer hitch ball, power windows and locks, fog lights, excellent condition, \$8,500, o/b/o. Fernando Pascal, a/w/h at 262-1686.

From the Editor ••• Nota al Lector

Some news are being left out of the Newsletter due to several unpredictable reasons. Stop by my office, Tupper #340 for information you may be interested in •• Varias noticias no se han publicado en el "Newsletter" debido a razones impredecibles. Pase por mi oficina, Tupper #340, para información que puede ser de su interés.