

SEMINAR NEWS

RICHARD WEBER, park planning advisor for UNESCO-MIDA-RENARE, will be our speaker for the luncheon seminar at Ancon on Tuesday, February 12. His subject will be:

Alternative Futures for the Darien
National Park

COMINGS & GOINGS

Expected to arrive for one week is JAMES HOWE, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Dr. Howe is a Fellow of the Wilson International Center working on: "The Marsh Darien Expedition and the Kuna Revolution of 1925: An Ethnohistorical Study."

Arriving, February 10th is RACHEL HAMPSHIRE, British Museum (Natural History) with C. WITHEFOORD, to conduct studies as part of a project on the Flora Mesoamericana. They will be in Gamboa until April.

BARBARA CUSATTI will be on annual leave until March 4. During her absence JUDITH WINTER will be "holding the fort" at BCI.

HELY CORTEZ will be on annual leave until February 20, and AUDREY de SMITH will be filling in for her.

SCIENTIFIC STAFF MEETING

The monthly scientific staff meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 12th at 9:30 a.m. in the Ancon Conference Room.

GUADALUPE FIELD STATION

GLORIA MAGGIORI at the Tivoli Office is now in charge of scheduling for use of the Guadalupe Field Station in Chiriquí. All visits, including by the STRI staff, must be coordinated through her.

PLAN AHEAD

Carnival celebrations in Panama will start on Friday, February 15 and end Wednesday, February 20. Banks, for example, will be closed Feb. 18-19 and will open to the public Wednesday afternoon 1-3 pm.

CENTRAL AMERICAN WILDLIFE POSITION

Applications are invited for a new position, under a joint program of World Wildlife Fund-U.S. and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, with responsibility for developing and coordinating a wildlife management and training program in Central America and the Dominican Republic. The position will be based in Costa Rica. Candidates should have at least a masters degree in wildlife biology or related field, two years of work experience in Latin America, including substantial work with natural resources management agencies, be fluent in Spanish and English, and have a demonstrated ability to write effectively and work cooperatively with people. Position commences no later than 1 August 1985, and sooner if possible, and is for one year with possibility of renewal. Send curriculum vitae and names of 3 references by 30 March to: Dr. Curtis Freese, World Wildlife Fund-U.S., 1601 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009.

PANAMANIAN FOLK DANCES

Every Saturday morning, from February 16 - March 16, there will be a presentation of Panamanian folk dances at the ruins of Old Panama. Co-sponsored by the Panamanian Tourist Institute (IPAT) and Kodak Panama Limited, the presentation will be performed by the Petita Escobar Folkloric Goup, and will last two hours, beginning at 10 a.m.

SMITHSONIAN'S 'DESK IN THE JUNGLE'

The Smithsonian World Special "A Desk in the Jungle" hosted by David McCullough was aired in the US on Jan. 9th. The following are excerpts from a review the NY TIMES T.V. critic John Corry:

"Consider the life of a Smithsonian scientist: it is not a bad way to live. The world is his, or her, oyster, with academic pursuits going hand in hand with adventures in far-flung places...."

"Some previous editions of 'Smithsonian World' have suffered by giving us too much. Like the Smithsonian Institution itself, they were bursting....The segments in tonight's program, however, are nicely joined; they flow. Moreover, the Smithsonian scientists we see do interesting things."

Starting in the Caribbean, describing work in Aldabra and then, "A moment later, we are on a tiny island in the middle of the Panama Canal, where Katie Milton, a physical anthropologist studies howler monkeys....Milton...says science is like art: 'a different way of looking at things.' Meanwhile this viewer wasn't exactly sure why Miss Milton was studying the howler monkeys, but thoroughly enjoyed watching her do it. This 'Smithsonian World' is pleasant and stimulating watching."