



SEMINAR

No luncheon seminar scheduled for Tuesday, November 5. Check bulletin boards for last minute scheduling.

ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES

Nov. 3 - Leaving, HENK WOLDA, for one week at the Smithsonian Press, to attend to final details regarding the publication of the book on Xenarthra. He is expected to return November 9.

Nov. 3 - Leaving, FERNANDO PASCAL, for official business at the Smithsonian Office of Design and Construction. He will return November 27.

November 4 - Arriving, GENETTE HEMLEY, from World Wildlife Fund-U.S., for a 3-day visit of the Iguana Management Project.

Nov. 5 - Arriving, BOB AYER, Comptroller at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, for a 4-day visit.

November 7 - Leaving, DAGMAR WERNER, for a 10-day consulting visit of the project: "Biology and Conservation of a Tupinambis Population" in Argentina.

ON LEAVE

ALEJANDRO HERNANDEZ, chief game warden, beginning October 28, for one month.

FLORENTINO GOMEZ, launch operator, from November 1st, for four weeks.

CONTEST TIME FOR NEW STRI T-SHIRTS

All STRI employees and associates are welcome to submit a work of art to be used in new T-shirts. The participant can submit one or more designs, but only one work per participant will be selected. Designs selected will be awarded a \$100 prize! The deadline for submissions is November 15. Please submit designs to MARIA MORELLO, Tivoli.

LIBRARY NEWS

A new leisure reading shelf has been established at STRI Library directly behind the copying machine. Based on the idea of "bring one-take one," the material will be circulated to STRI personnel, and will consist of both fiction and non-fiction. All contributions will be accepted.

***** A TODOS LOS EMPLEADOS

Ya que el 3 de noviembre cae en domingo se aprobó que el 4 de noviembre sea feriado. Los empleados que deben trabajar este día se les dará tiempo compensatorio. El transferir el día feriado al lunes sólo se ha aprobado para la fecha del 3 de noviembre.

CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER 1985						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Nov. 4 - STRI holiday (celebration of Nov. 3rd, Panama's Independence from Colombia).

Nov. 11 - STRI holiday (celebration of Veteran's Day -U.S.). It is also the celebration of "El Grito de la Villa de Los Santos" (Nov. 10), beginning the independence movement from Spain --- an official holiday in the Republic of Panama.

Nov. 12 - Scientific staff meeting at 9:30 am in the Ancon Conference Room.

Nov. 28 - Thanksgiving Day (U.S.) ---a holiday for STRI employees. This year Thanksgiving falls on an official holiday in Panama also, Nov. 28, (Panama's independence from Spain).

NEW DIRECTOR OF NMHN

Secretary Robert McC. Adams announced on October 30 the selection of ROBERT S. HOFFMANN, Professor at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, and curator of mammals at the University of Kansas Museum of Natural History, as director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History. Dr. Hoffman, one of the leading U.S. experts on mammals, will assume his new duties in the spring of 1986. He succeeds Richard S. Fiske, a geologist, who was director from January 1980 until July 1985, when he resigned to resume his research on volcanoes.

Dr. Hoffmann is an expert in systematics and ecology, two of the keystones of the research interests of the National Museum of Natural History, which is responsible for the preservation and conservation of the largest collection (81 million items) of natural history specimens and artifacts in the US. The museum's 120 scientists conduct research on animals, plants, fossil organisms and earth and lunar minerals, and in anthropology. Results are shared with the public through publications, exhibitions and education programs. About 6 million people visit this museum annually.

HEALTH BENEFITS OPEN SEASON

From Nov. 4 - Dec. 6, pre-Treaty federal employees can join or change health benefit plans.

A TIME OF GIVING

Once again, the STRI gamewardens are organizing a Xmas Party for the children of Las Pavas, the community adjacent to the Barro Colorado Nature Monument. They would appreciate donations of toys (new or old), used clothing and shoes (any size). Please send these to the attention of BARBARA CUSATTI.

SMITHSONIAN FUNDS

-The House of Representatives, by voice vote, approved a \$15.7 million authorization for fiscal 1987 for planning and construction at two Smithsonian Institution science facilities. The measure would authorize \$4.5 million to construct a new base camp at the Whipple Astrophysical Observatory in southern Arizona and \$11.2 million for four construction projects at STRI. (HR 1483, Oct. 7).

-The U.S. Congress has still not approved a budget for FY 86, and we are still operating on a "continuing resolution" until November 15. The following glossary might be helpful with all this budget terminology.

The Federal Budget: a Glossary

Appropriations bill: Legislation that provides money to specific programs that have been established under authorization bills. There are 13 separate appropriations bills covering various aspects of federal spending. For example, one measure includes all the programs operated by the Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, and Labor, and related agencies.

Authorization bill: Legislation that creates federal programs. Authorization bills generally define the scope of a program and how it should operate. Most include spending ceilings, but some are less specific, calling for spending of "such sums as are necessary." Most programs must be authorized before any money can be appropriated for them.

Budget authority: The authority granted to a federal agency to make commitments that will result in immediate or future spending. That is generally not the amount that will be actually spent in a particular year, but it is usually a limit on how many new spending commitments an agency can make.

Budget outlays: The amount that is actually spent on a particular program. It includes the amount of budget authority that has been given to the program plus the amount of money left over from previous years in which spending was less than anticipated.

Budget resolution: Legislation that sets Congressional spending priorities for a particular

fiscal year. The President does not have to sign the resolution, as it is simply meant to be a guide for Congress as it writes its spending and tax bills.

Continuing resolution: Legislation that allows government departments to continue operating when their appropriations bills have not been enacted by the start of the fiscal year.

Fiscal year: October 1 to September 30 for the federal government. The fiscal 1986 budget refers to expenditures made from October 1, 1985, through September 30, 1986.

Reconciliation: The process used by Congress to direct its various committees to make changes in a law or laws, usually to reduce spending or increase revenues. Those changes make it possible for Congress to stick to the spending levels in the budget resolution.

Rescission: An act of the President that cancels the spending of money that has been appropriated but has not actually been spent. Congress must approve the rescission within 45 days of the President's request.

Supplemental appropriation: Legislation that provides extra money not provided in regular appropriations bills. Spending that is considered so urgent that it can't wait until the appropriations process takes its course is usually included in a supplemental bill. For instance, a shortfall in the amount of Pell Grant money available for poor students can be taken care of through a supplemental appropriation.