

STRI NEWSDR. MONTGOMERY ON "QUE PASA" SHOW

On Wednesday, April 9th at 4:00 p.m., Dr. Gene Montgomery will be the guest on the SCN "Que Pasa" Show. Dr. Montgomery will be describing his manatee sighting project.

JACK BRYAN RECEIVES 15-YEAR SERVICE PIN

Last Monday, March 31st, Jack Bryan, STRI's Captain, received his pin for 15 years of service as a federal employee at an informal ceremony attended by Naos employees, Doctors I. Rubinoff, and M. Robinson, and Mr. Tom Borges.

SLIDE PRESENTATION ON "LAS GAVIOTAS" AT ANCON CONFERENCE ROOM

On Wednesday, April 9th, at 2:30 p.m. in the Ancon Conference Room, Ing. Samuel Bern, Coordinator of the GRUPO DE TECNOLOGIA APROPIADA, will give a slide presentation on his visit to "GAVIOTAS", in Colombia.

Everett G. Martin of The Wall Street Journal described the GAVIOTAS experiment as follows:
"Here on the lonely tropical savanna of the Orinoco River basin, 300 miles from the nearest town, a colony of youthful Colombian engineers and scientists has created a gadgeteer's paradise.

Some of the gadgetry may end up being so much scientific doodling, but the goal of the engineers and scientists who shuttle between this research center and the capital, Bogota, is highly serious. It is to produce techniques that are tailor-made for the small farmers and settlers whom the government hopes to attract to the hot grasslands, an area about the size of Nebraska whose thin soil is low in nutrients because they are easily washed away by rain.

....At the same time, the planners don't want to destroy the delicate environment by plowing up the thin soil; by cutting down the stream-side trees (that keep the soil from being even more depleted by the rains) for fuel; or by destroying the grass cover.

What the technicians of Las Gaviotas have accomplished so far has applications beyond Colombia, and the technicians are in constant demand to explain their work to other tropical countries that want to develop similar areas. The work fits in well with the "appropriate technology" theory, which holds that most of the technology of the industrialized nations is too sophisticated and expensive for the needs of poor nations and that more suitable technologies are therefore required.

Anyone with interest in the subject is invited to attend this slide presentation.

ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES

April 7 - Leaving Mr. Luis del Rio on official business. Mr. del Rio will be at the SI in Washington, D.C. for one week.

Expected to arrive April 7-8, is Dr. Alan Smith, who will be returning to STRI after being away at the Univ. of Penn. and in Kenya. WELCOME BACK!

April 10 - Leaving Dr. Neal Smith for Costa Rica, to attend the meetings of the Board of the Organization of Tropical Studies. Dr. Smith will be away for 4 days.

SEMINARS

The seminar for Tuesday, April 8th has not been scheduled yet. Please check your bulletin boards for any seminar notices that may be posted in the beginning of the week.

There will be an informal seminar on Thursday evening, March 10, at 7:30 p.m. in the Naos Conference Room. This seminar will be given by Rene Mariscal, from the University of Panama, and will be on:

"Alimentacion y Territorialidad del cangrejo Pachigrapsus transversus"

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 14 - 17 - Symposium signalling the completion of "The Flora of Panama" at the University of Panama

April 19 - 20 "Up with People" musical performance at the Colegio Javier

DISTRIBUTION

STAFF

STUDENTS

VISITORS

BULLETIN BOARDS