

STRI newsletter

JANUARY 12, 1990

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panamá

No. 2

Seminars

No seminars scheduled for this week.

PEOPLE

Arrivals

- Robert Mihalik, University of Iowa, to work on the Forest Dynamics Project, January 10 until mid May.
- Carl Hansen, STRI photographer, January 15.

Departures

- Ira Rubinoff, STRI Director, on official business to Washington, D.C. for one week and then on vacation, January 13 - 27.

On Leave

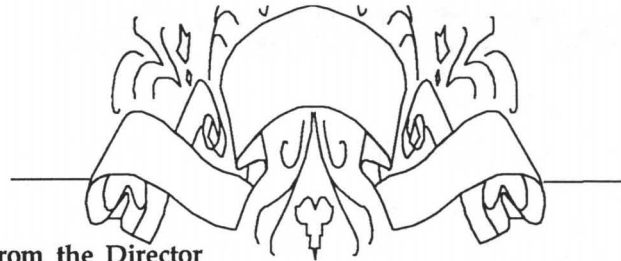
- Maria Lorena Ossa, January 16 - 19.

A Los Afectados Por La Invasión

Deseamos colaborar con empleados de STRI o personas allegadas al Instituto que hayan sufrido pérdidas como resultado de la reciente invasión. Para ello necesitamos conocer sobre estas personas. Si usted fue afectado(a), o conoce de alguien que esté en esta situación, favor comunicarlo a la secretaria de su instalación o llame directamente a Mónica Alvarado en la Oficina del Director, para ver como sus compañeros de trabajo podemos ayudarle.

Update on Field Work

During January and February, STRI researchers who wish to continue their field work should indicate their study site(s) on maps currently available with each facility secretary. This information should be sent to Alejandro Arce, STRI Security Officer, who will coordinate clearance for field visits with Alan Smith. Please contact Mr. Arce (Tivoli) if you should have any questions about approval.



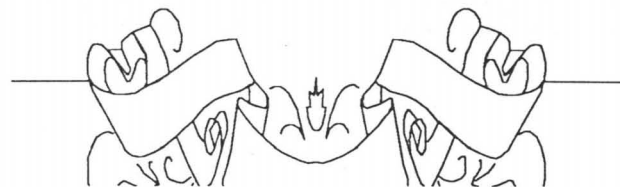
From the Director

Due to our continuing expansion and in recognition of the important role of visitors at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI), I am pleased to announce the establishment of a new Visitor Services Office at the Earl S. Tupper Center. The new office is headed by Ms. Gloria Maggiori, manager, with Ms. Maria Morello, assistant manager, and Ms. Isis Estribí, as clerical assistant.

The main functions of the new office are:

- To provide information, support and hospitality to all STRI visitors. This includes sending information and applications to visitors, making logistical arrangements such as housing, research and collecting permits, handling visitor registration and orientation.
- To make logistical arrangements for special visitors to STRI facilities, including day visitor groups to BCI, and to make travel arrangements for STRI staff.
- To administer mainland housing (Ancon, Diablo, Gamboa) and the Fortuna Field Station and coordinate maintenance needs with facilities management.

During 1989, STRI hosted 243 scientific visitors from 27 countries. As the local situation normalizes we can look forward to an increase in the number of scientific visitors. Moreover, STRI begins this decade with new facilities at the Tupper Center and Barro Colorado Island, and plans for a new marine dormitory, new facilities in San Blas, Galeta, and a floating laboratory. I hope that the new Visitor Services Office will be able to provide adequate support for the projected increase in visitors, and that all STRI employees will collaborate with this office to welcome and assist our visitors.



THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

News from Tupper

⇒ The following equipment is already available at Tupper:

- Computer Room (#404) - Dell 220 computer, two IBM PCs, a Laser Postscript and Epson printers, with software and statistical packages such as WP50, Wordstar, Lotus, Systat, SAS.
- Chemistry Lab (#401) - Stillwater and freeze dryer. Dry ice and icemakers will soon be available.
- Herbarium (#207) - 2 stereo zoom microscopes.
- Environment Chambers (#208) - 2 dry ovens.
- Instrument Lab - 2 stereo zoom microscope, 4 balances including an analytical balance with capacity by resolution of 210 x .001 g, 310 x 0.01 g, 12000 x 1 g, and 32/180 x 0.01/0.1 mg.

⇒ All persons who work or plan on working with general-use computers are warned to always have copies of files on a floppy disk since accidents can occur with the hard disks. Information files on hard disks will be 'cleaned' periodically.

⇒ All Tupper residents are asked to fill out a **work order** whenever any maintenance or custodial work is required.

⇒ The following persons moved into the Tupper Laboratory and Office Building this week:

- Fourth floor: Stanley Rand and Roberto Ibañez,
- Fifth floor: Olga Linares,
- Sixth floor: Martin Moynihan.

Atencion Contratistas y Asistentes

Todos los contratistas y asistentes que cobran los 15 y 30 de cada mes deben avisar por escrito a Lorena Ossa, en "Accounts Payable" en Tivoli, cuando se hayan mudado para el nuevo Centro Tupper. Estas personas deben retirar sus cheques de ahora en adelante con la cajera en Tivoli. Su cooperación permitirá que puedan cobrar a tiempo. Gracias.

Holiday /Dia Feriado

Monday, January 15, is Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Day and a STRI holiday.

Avoid Dangerous Areas

People have been robbed and vehicles vandalized along Frangipani Avenue and in the area of the DENI at Ancon. Most cases involve persons who are stopped at a traffic light. These areas should be avoided or precautions taken if you must take these routes.

Assistants Available

- **Robert Bastarache** received a BS in wildlife biology from West Virginia University in May 1989, and is interested in working for a researcher at STRI. Can pay travel expenses. He worked the summer of 1988 in Peru, and has experience with telemetry, native wildlife ID, trapping methods, and population sampling techniques. (1000 Seaton Lane, Falls Church, VA 22046, 703-536-1998)
- **Elizabeth Kowalski** graduated from Texas A&M University in December with a B.S. in marine biology, and is looking for a job at STRI. She had a student internship with the Marine Biomedical Institute in 1988, and worked with the Texas Marine Mammal Stranding Network for three years. She has experience with water chemistry work and computers. (7501 Heards Lane, Apt. 122, Galveston, TX 77551, 409-744-9395)
- **Susan M. Moegenburg** graduated in December with a BS in zoology from the University of Wisconsin at Madison; she is interested in working with conservation biology in the tropics. Ms. Moegenburg worked as a research assistant at the university's Limnology Center, and took a course in conservation biology in Costa Rica. (4605, Wessex Drive, Brookfield, Wisconsin 53005, 414-781-2375)

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Ecos de la Fiesta Navideña



La Fiesta de Navidad el 15 de mes pasado fue todo un acontecimiento. Al inicio nuestro Director, el Dr. Ira Rubinoff, dió una cordial bienvenida a todos los presentes e invitó a una visita preliminar del nuevo edificio Tupper. La tónica de la noche además de la exquisita comida y alegre música fue el sociodrama "La Directora de Teatro" donde las actrices y actores María, Marcos, Isis, Alicia, José Luis y la directora Nereida Ying de Hernández recibieron nominaciones para el OSCAR 1990.

Queremos agradecer al comité organizador encabezado por María Morello y Nereida Hernández sus esfuerzos para lograr que esta actividad fuera todo un éxito. Un agradecimiento especial a Melissa y Alejandra Motta, quienes ayudaron con las actividades del comité y se encargaron de la rifa.

Photo by C. Hansen. De izquierda a derecha: Carmen Sucre, Ana María Ford, María Morello, Nereida Hernandez, Isis Estribí y Rosa Zambrano.

Conferences \ Congresses

International Conference on Conservation of Tropical Biodiversity: *In Harmony with Nature*.

June 12 - 16, 1990.

Subang Jaya, Selangor, MALAYSIA.

Organized by the Malayan Nature Society and the Ministry of Science, Technology & Environment.

Contact: Conference Secretariat, Malayan Nature Society, P.O. Box 10750, 50724 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

(See your bulletin board for more information.)

Applications are invited for *INTERNATIONAL COORDINATORS* to assist the Steering Committee of the Fifth International Conference on Artificial Habitats for Fisheries. Investigators, in countries outside the United States, who are interested in serving should send a brief resume of their current experience with artificial habitats to:

Robert S. Grove, Conference Chair
Section of Fishes, Natural History Museum
900 Exposition Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90007.
Fax: 213-746-2999, Tel: 213-744-3373.

STRI LIBRARY NEW BOOK LIST

ANALYSIS OF BIOGEOCHEMICAL CYCLING PROCESSES IN WALKER BRANCH WATERSHED (DW Johnson & RI van Hook, eds., 1989) **QH344.A52 1989X STRI.**

APPLICATIONS OF CONTINUOUS AND STEADY-STATE METHODS TO ROOT BIOLOGY (JG Torrey & LJ Winship, eds., 1989) **QK644.A67 1989X STRI.**

AN ATLAS OF THE ULTRASTRUCTURE OF VIRUSES OF LEPIDOPTERANS PESTS OF PLANTS (MG Chukhril, 1987) **SB945.L63C513 1987 STRI.**

BEHAVIORAL ADAPTATION TO INTERTIDAL LIFE (G. Chekazzi & M. Vannini, eds., 1988) **QL121.N27 1987X STRI.**

BIOMEMBRANES : MOLECULAR STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION (RB Gennis, 1989) **QH601.G435 1989X STRI.**

CRITICAL LEVELS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF NATURAL SYSTEMS (AV Zhimunskii & VI Kuzmin, 1988) **QH313.Z4513 1988X STRI.**

EARTH RISING : ecological belief in an age of science (D. Oates, 1989) **QH540.7.O27 1989X STRI.**

ECOLOGICAL ENGINEERING : an introduction to ecotechnology (SE Jrgensen & WJ Witsch, eds., 1989) **TD153.E28 1989X STRI.**

EMBRYONIC DEVELOPMENT AND INDUCTION (H. Spemann, 1988) **QL955.S66 1988X STRI.**

EVOLUTION AND ITS INFLUENCE (A. Grafen, ed., 1986) **QH371.E92 1989X STRI.**

THE GENETICS OF DROSOPHILA (TH Morgan et al, 1988) **QL537.D76M67 1988X STRI.**

HYDROTHERMAL VENTS : a case study of the biology and chemistry of a deep-sea hydrothermal vent of the Galapagos Rift : the Rose Garden in 1985 (JJ Childress, 1988) **QE241.H99 1988 STRI.**

IDENTIFICATION OF ESSENTIAL OILS BY ION TRAP MASS SPECTROSCOPY (RP Adams, 1989) **QD416.A225 1989X STRI.**

INTERNATIONAL CODE OF BOTANICAL NOMENCLATURE (International Botanical Congress (14th : 1987 : Berlin, Germany), 1988) **QK96.I61 1988 STRI.**

INVERTEBRATE HISTORECOGNITION (Workshop on the Mechanisms, Ecology, and Evolution of Historecognition in Marine Invertebrates (1987 : Bodega Bay, California), 1988) **QL362.85.W67 1987X STRI.**

THE MOLECULAR BIOLOGY OF THE MAJOR HISTOCOMPATIBILITY COMPLEX OF DOMESTIC ANIMAL SPECIES (CM Warner et al, eds., 1988) **SF757.234.M64 1988X STRI.**

PELAGIC SNAILS : the biology of holoplanktonic gastropod mollusks (CM Lalli & RW Gilmer, 1989) **QL430.4.L28 1989X STRI.**

PHYSICALLY-BASED MODELLING AND SIMULATION OF CLIMATE AND CLIMATIC CHANGE (NATO Advanced Study Institute on Physically-Based Modelling and Simulation of Climate and Climatic Change (1986 : Erice, Italy), 1988) **QC980.N37 1986X STRI.**

THE PLANT-BOOK : a portable dictionary of the higher plants utilising Croquist's An integrated system of classification of flowering plants (1981) and current botanical literature arranged largely on the principles of editions 1-6 (1896/97-1931) of Willis's A dictionary of the flowering plants and ferns (DJ Mabberley, 1987) **QK11.M29X 1989 STRI.**

PLANT STRESS-INSECT INTERACTION (EA Heinrichs, 1988) **SB931.P53 1988X STRI.**

PLANT TAXONOMY AND BIOSYSTEMATICS 2nd edition (CA Stace, 1989) **QK95.S775 1989 STRI.**

PRACTICAL HANDBOOK OF MARINE SCIENCE (MJ Kennish, ed., 1989) **GC11.2.K46 1989X STRI.**

PRIMATE VOCAL COMMUNICATION (D. Todt et al, eds., 1988) **QL737.P9P6754 1988X STRI.**

PRINCIPAL COMPONENT ANALYSIS IN METEOROLOGY AND OCEANOGRAPHY (RW Preisendorfer, 1988) **QC871.P88 1988X STRI.**

PROCHLORON, a microbial enigma (RA Lewin & L. Cheng, eds., 1989) **QK569.P73P76 1989X STRI.**

QUATERNARY EVOLUTION AND BIOGEOGRAPHY OF THE LARGE SOUTH AMERICA CANIDAE (Mammalia, Carnivora) (A. Berta, 1988) **QE882.C15B46 1988X STRI.**

RIO NEGRO, rich life in poor water : Amazonian diversity and foodchain ecology as seen through fish communities (M. Goulding et al, 1988) **QL632.B6G698 1988 STRI.**