

STRI newsletter

January 21, 1994

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE - Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panamá

No. 3

TUPPER CENTER SEMINARS

Tue, Jan 25, noon seminar speaker will be Stephen Beckerman, University of Pennsylvania

Subsistence, Settlement, and Slaughter

Abstract

A quarter century ago Robert Carneiro suggested that among Amazonian peoples there is a quantitative relationship between degree of sedentism and the ratio of the subsistence contribution of [agriculture + fishing]/[hunting + gathering]. Data since reported support a modified form of this hypothesis with the important qualification that warfare perturbs the relationship. Predictions about labor investment in settlement construction can be made.

BAMBI

Thu, Jan 27, Bambi seminar speaker will be Stephen Beckerman

War and the Bari

Abstract

The Chibchan speaking Bari of the Maracaibo Basin have been prey to larger and better societies for half a millennium, a situation that may be the rule among surviving tropical forest societies. Preliminary theorizing about warfare predicts some unexceptional and some unusual features of Bari society, but fails to anticipate others.

PEOPLE

Arrivals

- Tara and Douglas Robinson, University of Illinois, Jan 22-31 Aug, to study the role of birds in plant community maintenance in the tropics: effects of fragmentation, at Gamboa.
- Gustavo Ybazeta, Latin American intern from Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Perú, Jan 23, to study the molecular divergence and phylogeography of fish, at Naos.



Reporter and producer Jorge Modinger (third from the left) and crew from *Sábado Gigante Internacional* interviewed Gerhard Zotz and other BCI researchers, on Tue, Jan 18, in preparation for the visit to the Island of Mario Kreutzberger "Don Francisco" next Friday Jan 28 ••• Jorge Modinger, periodista y productor de *Sábado Gigante Internacional* (tercero de iz. a der.) y su equipo, entrevistaron a Gerhard Zotz y otros investigadores de BCI, para hacer los arreglos de la próxima visita de Mario Kreutzberger "Don Francisco," el viernes 28 de enero, a la Isla.

(Foto: M.A. Guerra)

- Elizabeth Losos, Director of the CTFS, Jan 23-31, to visit STRI and consult with colleagues. She will also visit San José, Costa Rica.
- Peter Glynn and Susan Colley, University of Miami, Jan 24-12 Feb, to continue studies of the effects of the 1982-83 El Niño event on tropical eastern Pacific coral reefs, at Naos.

Departures

- Carlos Tejada, Jan 25-29, to Ft. Lauderdale, FL, to attend the Technical Conference for Facilities Managers.
- Haris Lessios and Eldredge Bermingham, Jan 27-30, to Irvine, CA, to attend the National Academy of Sciences Colloquium *Tempo and Mode in Evolution*.

Elizabeth Losos: New CTFS Director

The Center for Tropical Forest Science appointed Elizabeth Losos as its new director in December 1993. Losos will be based in Washington, and will be visiting STRI this coming week. She received her Ph.D. in ecology and evolutionary biology at Princeton University, focussing on a study of the influence of seed dispersal on forest succession in the

floodplain of the Manu river in Peru. At the same time, Losos received a master's degree in public administration from Woodrow Wilson School of Public Affairs in Princeton. She obtained her BS in the history of science from Harvard. Before starting with the CTFS Liz was working as a policy researcher with the Wilderness Society. She has written on issues such as the Latin American debt crisis and its relationship to deforestation, the environmental effect of spontaneous human migration in Guatemala, and the relationship between federal subsidies and threats to endangered species in the U.S. Her current interests lie at the interface of ecology and economic policy, an area central to the goals of the CTFS. **CTFS News**

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

At the Tupper Center

- Mon, Jan 24 ■ Accounting Meeting, SMR, 3pm.
 Tue-Thu, ■ *Fundación Natura: Seminario de*
 Jan 24-27 *Planificación Operativa para el Desa-*
rrollo Sostenible, Conference Hall
 (CH), 8am.
- Tue, Jan 25 ■ Noon seminar by Stephen Becker-
 man, Auditorium (AUD).
 ■ OEC/Correa Meeting, SMR, 2pm.
- Thu, Jan 27 ■ Understanding Financial Reports,
 Large Meeting Room (LMR), 8:30am.
 ■ OEC slide show, AUD, 3pm.
- Thu, Jan 27 ■ General Scientific Support Staff
 Meeting, LMR, 1:30pm.

At the Culebra Marine Reserve

- Mon, Jan 24 *Escuela San José, Arraiján*
 Tue, Jan 25 Fort Gulick Elementary School
 Wed, Jan 26 *Instituto Comercial de Panamá*
 Thu, Jan 27 *Escuela 24 de Diciembre*

II Seminario de Educación Ambiental en Bocas

Del 17 al 21 de enero el Grupo de Trabajo de Bocas del Toro lleva a cabo el *II Seminario de Educación Ambiental Formal* para docentes de áreas costeras de Bocas, en instalaciones de ANCON, y en la sede de la Gobernación de Bocas del Toro. El Grupo de Trabajo está conformado por el Ministerio de Educación, IN.RE.NA.-RE., STRI, el Ministerio de Política Económica, el Grupo Caribaró, el Grupo Molokri, CATIE, UICN y ANCON. El seminario-taller, auspiciado por el Programa "Educational Outreach" del Smithsonian, cuenta con 18 participantes y 6 instructores. Los participantes visitarán el Parque Nacional Marino de Bastimentos, Boca del Drago y la Finca Agropastoril de ANCON, en giras de trabajo.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

XII Congreso Científico Nacional

Ciudad Universitaria Octavio Méndez Pereira
 La Vicerrectoría de Investigación y Postgrado de la Universidad de Panamá celebrará el XII Congreso Científico Nacional, dedicado a las ciencias naturales y exactas, biomédicas, agronómicas, de la tierra, el mar y la tecnología. La fecha tope para la presentación de los resúmenes de las ponencias es el 18 de febrero. Deberán constar de por lo menos 5 pág. de texto. Cada investigador podrá sustentar dos ponencias. Cuota de inscripción para profesionales \$10, para profesores, \$5, y para estudiantes \$2. La cuota deberá pagarse antes del 18 de febrero. Esta incluye el costo del programa, certificación de participación, memoria y servicio de cafetería. Para mayor información favor de llamar al 23-9985 • 64-4242.

Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research

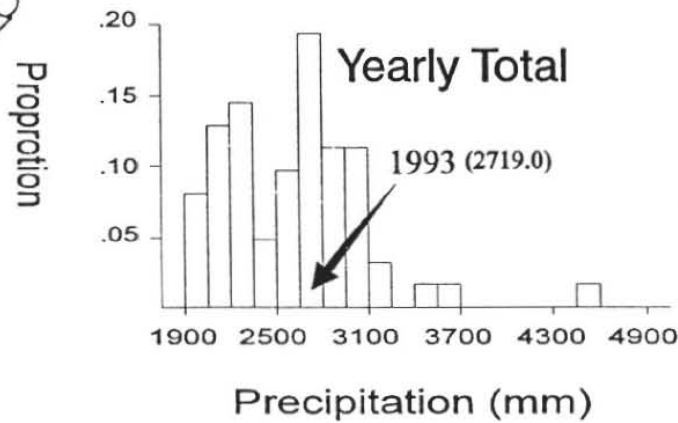
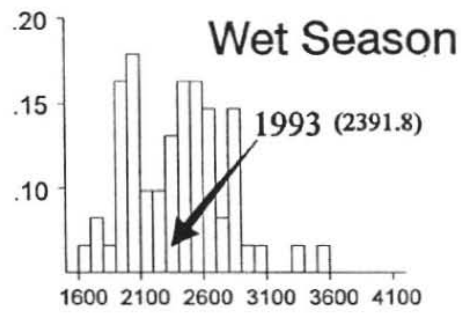
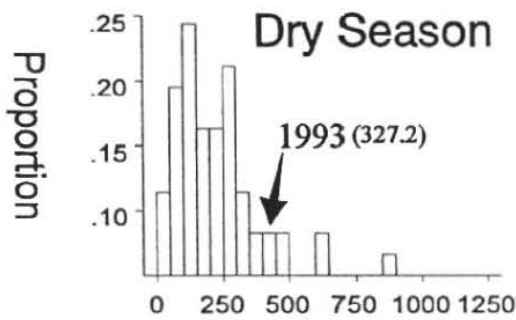
The WGFAR is a non-profit private foundation created to support research in all branches of anthropology, and closely related disciplines concerned with human origins, development and variation. The Foundation provides small grants (\leq \$12,000) to encourage innovative approaches in basic research for specific expenses or phases in a project; regular grants for scholars holding the doctorate or equivalent qualification in anthropology or related discipline; a limited number of Richard Carley Hunt Postdoctoral Fellowships (\leq \$7,000) to scholars within five years of receipt of the doctorate to aid the writeup of research results for publication; and predoctoral grants to aid doctoral dissertation or theses research. The WGFAR also has a program for conference grants (\leq \$10,000), developing countries training fellowships (\leq \$12,000), and international collaborative research grants (\leq \$25,000). Applications should be initiated at least nine months in advance of the anticipated starting date of training. For more information, application procedures and guidelines, please visit the STRI Office of Education, at the Tupper Center.

From the Office of Development

When you receive annual reports and/or donor honor rolls from your alma mater(s), send them to the Office of Development after reading it instead of deep-sixing them. These are invaluable to the ongoing individual research efforts. Since the philanthropic universe is actually a finite one, those that give to your schools, are people who may also like to give to the Smithsonian. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Seasonal Distribution of Rain ••• Distribución Estacional de las Lluvias

A comparison of seasonal rainfall patterns on BCI since 1929 reveals that 1993's dry season (January-April) was approximately 42% wetter than the long-term average while the rainy season (May-December) was only slightly (4%) above average. A detailed analysis of 1993 meteorological data will be available soon. For more information, contact Steve Paton, Tupper Center ••• *Un estudio comparativo de los patrones de precipitación pluvial en Barro Colorado desde 1929, demuestra que la estación seca de 1993 (de enero a abril) fue 42% más húmeda que el promedio a largo plazo, mientras que la estación lluviosa (de mayo a diciembre) fue solamente 4% más húmeda. Más adelante se pondrá a disposición un análisis detallado de la información meteorológica de 1993. Para mayor información, favor de consultar con Steve Paton, Centro Tupper.* **ESP Meteorological News**



Season

	Dry	Wet	Total
Minimum	30.5	1666.6	1935.5
Maximum	898.0	3567.0	4465.0
Mean	230.2	2382.9	2613.1
St. Dev.	156.8	392.2	453.2

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

Measuring and Monitoring Forest Biological Diversity Symposium

Washington D.C., May 1995

The Smithsonian Biodiversity Programs at MAB and NMNH, and the UNESCO MAB Program will sponsor the *Measuring and Monitoring Forest Biological Diversity* symposium. In concert with numerous host-country and international sponsors, the Smithsonian has established long-term forest research plots in Latin America, the Caribbean and China to conduct surveys and monitor forest diversity in protected areas. At several of the research sites, information has been gathered to warrant a discussion of results and methodologies. This three-day symposium will bring interested parties together with researchers from Beni Biosphere Reserve in Bolivia, Manu Biosphere Reserve in Peru, the Kwakwani area of Guyana, Luquillo Biosphere in Puerto Rico, St John Biosphere Reserve in the U.S. Virgin Islands and Dinghustan Biosphere Reserve in China's Guangdong Province. Findings and various procedures for conducting long-term monitoring will be the central focus. The symposium will also provide the forum for invited and voluntary papers describing and comparing forest dynamics in relation to the vegetation and fauna of the sites. Cost: Approximately \$150. For more information, contact Francisco Dallmeier, Forest Biodiversity Symposium, Smithsonian/Man and the Biosphere Biodiversity Program, 1100 Jefferson Drive, S.W., Suite 3123, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C. 20560.

NEW STRI PUBLICATIONS

- Jones, John. 1993. "Analysis of Pollen and Phytoliths in Residue from a Colonial Period Ceramic Vessel." In: *Current Research in Phytolith Analysis*, edited by D.M. Pearsal and D.R. Piperno.
- Piperno, Dolores. 1993. "Phytolith and Charcoal Record from Deep Lake Cores in the American Tropics." In: *Current Research in Phytolith Analysis*, edited by D.M. Pearsal and D.R. Piperno.
- Piperno, Dolores and Pearsall, Deborah M. 1993. "The Nature and Status of Phytolith Analysis." In: *Current Research in Phytolith Analysis*, edited by D.M. Pearsal and D.R. Piperno.
- Salazar Allen, Noris. 1993. "Editorial." *Briolatina* 31.
- Windsor, Donald M. and Choe, Jae C. 1993. "Origins of Parental Care in Chrysomelid Beetles." In: *Novel Aspects of the Biology of Chrysomelidae*: 111-117, edited by P.M. Jolivet, M.L. Cox and E. Petitpierre. The Netherlands: Kluwer Academic Publishers.

Wolda, Henk. 1993. "Diel and Seasonal Patterns of Mating Calls in Some Neotropical Cicadas. Acoustic Interference?" *Proc. Kon. Ned. Akad. v. Wetensch* 96(3): 369-381.

MISCELLANEOUS

Coro de Música Viva

El Parque Natural Metropolitano, el INAC y el Coro de Música Viva, han organizado una función en el Teatro Nacional el miércoles 2 de febrero a las 8pm, a fin de recaudar fondos para programas de educación ambiental, protección e investigación del Parque Metropolitano. Boleto a la venta en Librería Argosy, Discoteca Allegro y el Parque Metropolitano, Ave. Juan Pablo II, Tel. 32-5516. En STRI, comunicarse con Mónica Alvarado.

Russian Sailing Expedition in Panama

De Rusia con Amor

The San Pedro, San Pablo and San Gabriel wooden replicas built in Karelia, Russia, can be visited at the Yatch Club in Balboa until Jan 21 approximately. Call Kira S. de Carrasco at 50-2082 for more information ••• *De Vladivostok han llegado las réplicas de "San Pedro", "San Pablo" y "San Gabriel", construidas en un pequeño astillero de Karelia. Llevan viajando 12,000 millas y pronto emprenderán un viaje por los seis continentes incluyendo más de 150 países. Por ahora, están anclados en el Yatch Club de Balboa, Amador por una semana más. Para visitarlos llame al 24-3773 de 7-7:30 am y a las 9pm. En horario de oficina llamar al 50-2082, a Kira S. de Carrasco. Los expedicionarios poseen diapositivas de la construcción de estos barcos de madera y sus trayectorias y experiencias.*

Looking for a Summer Job

Michelle Theberge, first year student in biology at the University of Guelph, Ontario, is looking for paid or volunteer work at STRI. Some experience on marine and wildlife research. Has worked for David Gaskin, University of Guelph and Andy Read, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute. Available May through July. CV available at the STRI Office of Human Resources.

Lost ••• Perdida

Procurement metal truck with red handle. Please return it to Everardo Curney, Mail Room, Tupper ••• *Carretilla de carga de metal con manubrio color rojo. El que la haya tomado, favor de devolverla a Everardo Curney, Oficina de Correos en Tupper.*