

STRI newsletter

February 24, 1995

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE - Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panamá

No. 8

TUPPER CENTER SEMINARS

Tuesday, February 28, noon seminar speaker will be Pedro León Azofeifa, SI Burch Fellow, Universidad de Costa Rica

Deafness and Depression: Hunting Disease Genes in Costa Rican Families

PEOPLE

Arrivals

- James Roper and 14 students from the University of Pennsylvania, Feb 27-19 Mar, to give the Tropical Field Ecology Course, at the Gamboa Schoolhouse.
- Kyle Harms, Princeton University, Mar 1-30 Jul, to study the resource heterogeneity and the establishment of non-pioneer tree species, at BCI.
- Keitha Dattilo, SI National Museum of Natural History, Mar 1-Oct 31, for the re-census of the 50 hectare plot on BCI.
- Sabine Stuntz, Technische University, Germany, Mar 1-30 Apr, to work for Klaus Winter, at BCI.
- Frode Odegaard, Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, Mar 1-1 Jun, to study host specificity in beetles (Coleoptera) in tropical forests, at Tupper.

Departures

- Eldredge Bermingham, Mar 3-19, to Las Vegas, Nevada, to consult with Andrew Martin, then to Santa Fe, New Mexico, to attend the Keystone Symposium "Molecular Approaches to Marine Ecology and Evolution".

THINGS TO KNOW

From the Visitor Services Office

We wish to remind all visitors that Carnival will be held from Saturday, February 25 to Wednesday, March 1 (Ash Wednesday) this year. All government offices and banks, and many private enterprises will be closed throughout these festivities.

From the Library ••• De la Biblioteca

The Library will be closed for move from March 2-7 ••• La Biblioteca permanecerá cerrada del 2 al 7 de marzo por mudanza.



Jackie Howard (center), who oversees the Department of Defense's Legacy Program that has provided support for several studies at STRI, visited Panama to review current and future projects. In the photo, with Nancy Knowlton and Lisa Barnett, they discuss the Tropical Marine Biodiversity Initiatives, at the Naos Laboratories ••• Jackie Howard (centro), quien supervisa el Programa "Legacy" del Departamento de Defensa, el cual ha ofrecido apoyo a varios estudios en STRI, visitó Panamá para revisar proyectos presentes y futuros. En la foto, con Nancy Knowlton y Lisa Barnett, discuten las Iniciativas para Biodiversidad Marina Tropical, en los Laboratorios de Naos.

(Foto: A. Montaner)

For Pipeline Users

The padlock to Pipeline Road, in Parque Nacional Soberanía has been broken, and INRENARE installed a new one on Thu, Feb 23. Anyone needing a new key, please see Maria Leone, at the Visitors Services Office. Duplicates will be available after March 1.

For Scientists Working at Parque Natural Metropolitano

STRI, the Patronato and the Alcaldía of Panama City, are working jointly so that the topographical studies and the alignments for the proposed routes of the Panama-Colón highway and the Corredor Norte will not affect the integrity of this unique Park where so many long-range biological studies are being carried out with funding from the European community and North America.

At the Tupper Center

Tue, Feb 28 ■ Noon seminar by Pedro León Azofeifa, AUD.

At the Culebra Marine Reserve

Thu, Mar 2 Fundación Teen Challenge
Sat, Mar 4 Brownies Troop
Sun, Mar 5 Universidad Santa María La Antigua

At the BCI Island Station

Sat, Feb 25 Visitors from Panama City and the U.S.
 Sun, Feb 26 Instituto Profesional y Técnico de Veraguas
 Sat, Mar 4 Universidad Santa María La Antigua
 Sun, Mar 5 Visitors from Panama City.

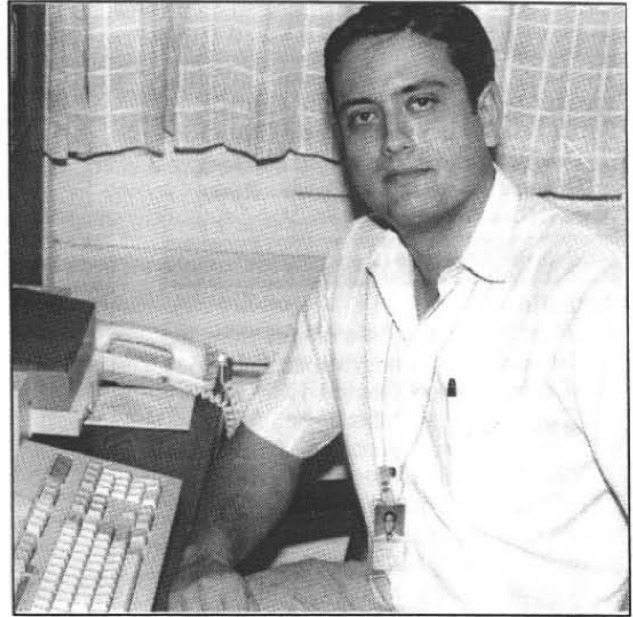
At the Gamboa Schoolhouse

Mon, Feb 27 through Sun, Mar 19, the Tropical Field Ecology Course, by Jim Roper, University of Pennsylvania.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Obituary ••• Murió Fausto Bocanegra

Fausto Bocanegra, or "Don Boca", died on Sun, Feb 12. He came to STRI (at the time the Canal Zone Biological Area) in 1951, as BCI's first animal keeper. Since then, and until his retirement in 1988, he worked at BCI as animal keeper, launch operator, gamewarden and tour guide. In his honor, the newest nature trail, currently used by visitor groups, was named "Fausto". His friends and co-workers will always remember this big man, with an even bigger smile ••• *Fausto Bocanegra, mejor conocido como "Don Boca" murió el domingo 12 de febrero. Llegó a STRI (entonces "Canal Zone Biological Area") en 1951, como el primer encargado del cuidado de los animales en BCI. Desde entonces, y hasta que se jubiló en 1988 siguió trabajando con los animales, operando lanchas, como guardabosques y guía de visitantes. En su honor, el sendero natural más nuevo de la Isla, en uso actual de los visitantes, fue bautizado "Fausto". Sus amigos y compañeros siempre recordarán a este hombre grande, con su sonrisa aún mayor.*



(Photo: A. Montaner)

We welcome Fernando Caballero, new security specialist, who started working for STRI on February 5th. Caballero graduated in biology at the University of Panama. His working experience has been in security, since he worked for seven years for the Canal Protection Division, PCC, patrolling the Panama Canal areas. He has training in industrial safety, physical security and has a U.S. license to navigate in Panama Canal waters ••• *Deseamos darle la bienvenida a Fernando Caballero, nuevo especialista en seguridad, a partir del 5 de febrero. Caballero es graduado en biología en la Universidad de Panamá, aunque su experiencia de trabajo ha sido en el campo de la seguridad. Trabajó durante 7 años en la División de Protección del Canal, Comisión del Canal de Panamá, patrullando áreas montañosas y selváticas. Tiene entrenamiento en seguridad industrial, seguridad personal y licencia para navegar en las aguas del Canal de Panamá.*

FROM HUMAN RESOURCES

Notice of Opening

Applications for editorial assistant will be accepted effective immediately, to work at the Naos Marine Laboratories. The selected person will be in charge of overseeing the publication of the abstracts and the proceedings of the 8th International Coral Reef Congress, to be held in June, 1996, organized by STRI and the University of Panama. Candidates must have the ability to write and edit in English and Spanish, have experience in translation, familiarity with word-processing or desktop computer programs and have demonstrated ability in dealing successfully with deadlines. Additional desirable qualifications include a background in biology or geology; experience in library research and ability to deal with scholars from different countries. This contract that will begin on Sep 15, 1995 and end on Feb 28, 1997. Interested candidates please send C.V. and letter indicating expected compensation to the Office of Human Resources, Attention: 8th International Coral Reef Congress, STRI, P.O. Box 3353, Balboa, Ancon, before March 15, 1995.

STRI Birthdays for March

- Victor Castillo 3
- Harilaos Lessios 4
- Lazlo Vegh 6
- Alberto Gonzalez 8
- Everardo Curney 11
- Mario Bernal 12
- Rosa Zambrano 25
- Richard Condit 29
- Ana María Ford 30

