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Museum of Comparative Zoology

NEWSLETTER

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No MCZ staff members or students are planning trips to the moon this summer, but we will have representatives almost everywhere else. Giles Mead, on an expedition to the Indian Ocean, has been sending back colorful picture post-cards marked Nairobi, Dar es Salaam, Zanzibar, Bombay, etc. Bryan Patterson is going to Kenya again, taking with him graduate student, Bill Sill. Barbara Lawrence has been in the Near East. Bill Newman has been to Florida and Puerto Rico on crustacean business. The Cottrells, on a trip around the world, plan to give special attention to New Guinea, Australia, and the Philippines. Dr. Chickering, Associate in Arachnology, has just returned from Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Trinidad and Panama, bringing with him gallons of spiders. Allen Brady, Paolo Tongiorgi, Jon Reiskind, and Michael Dix have been to Florida to pick up any spiders left behind by the Levis and Joe Beatty in March. Dave Hill, Francois Vuillermier, and Dave Norton are in Ecuador. We hope the travelers take time out from their field work to write newsworthy notes for the next issue.

Tilly Edinger, in honor of her retirement, was fêted by the museum staff at a Faculty Club luncheon on 15 May. Dr. Edinger is now in Europe, where she attended the 50th Anniversary celebration of the University of Frankfurt am Main (her Alma Mater), and received an honorary M.D.

Philip Darlington has been elected to the National Academy of Science.

Ernst Mayr participated in a symposium on "The Genetics of Colonizing Species," under the auspices of the International Union of Biological Sciences, held at Asilomar Beach in California in February. Dr. Mayr is now in Europe, combining work and vacation. He is to lecture in Frankfurt and in Prague, where he is attending the IUBS Symposium, and plans to round out his trip doing some field work with E.B. Ford in Cornwall, England.

Dr. Mayr was recently elected to honorary membership in the Asociacion Ornitologica del Plata, in Buenos Aires, which publishes the journal, El Hornero.

Dr. Romer spent three weeks in England, mainly in connection with a revision of his Vertebrate Paleontology textbook, and later lectured at the Sorbonne. He visited three former students: John Chase, exchange professor at Newcastle; Bob Carroll, working at the British Museum; and Keith Thomson, now at University College. In November he will go to Argentina with Mrs. Romer, Arnie Lewis and James Jensen, formerly of the preparation department here, now at Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah.

Dr. Romer was elected a corresponding member of the Bavarian Academy of Science.

Howard Barraclough Fell was appointed Curator of Invertebrate Zoology as of 1 March 1964. Dr. Fell comes to us from Victoria University in Auckland. Rooms and cabinets in his fourth floor MCZ headquarters have been painted and research equipment is being assembled. The Fells and their three children are living at Whittingtons while the latter are on Sabbatical.

Dr. Newman is collaborating with Willard Hartman in a summer invertebrates course at the Peabody Museum, Yale. "Barnacle Bill" went for a dip in Puerto Rico a few weeks ago and came up with a species of barnacle that has not been seen since Darwin described it.

Andy Meyerriecks is teaching a field course this summer at Drumlin Farm in South Lincoln, Mass. Every spare minute he spends in the MCZ library, catching up.

There will be several newcomers to the Mollusk Department in September. Dr. Barry Wilson, from the University of Western Australia, Nedlands, will be with us for a year on an Evolutionary Biology grant to study Indo-Pacific Mytilids. Mr. José Stuardo, from the Instituto Central de Biología of the Universidad de Concepción, Concepción, Chile, is a special student and will be here for at least a year working on South American marines, especially eastern Pacific Mytilids, though his first year will probably be confined to course work.

Ken Boss is with the US Fisheries in Washington, working in the mollusk department at the USNM. He will be going on cruise 7 of the Indian Ocean Expedition on the "Anton Brunn."

Joe Rosewater and Bob Robertson were on the "Te Vega," participating in the Indian Ocean Expedition. Joe is now Associate Curator in the mollusk department at the USNM, and Bob is at the Philadelphia Academy.

We were sorry to hear that R. Tucker Abbott of the Philadelphia Academy lost his wife this past year.

Don and Helen McMichael are as busy as ever. Don has been moving into new quarters in the Australian Museum and revamping exhibits, along with his research work.

Arthur Clarke is now Curator of Mollusks at the National Museum of Canada. He had a profitable trip to the Hudson Bay area last year and will work on the drainage systems of the western side of Hudson Bay this summer.

Joe Vagvolgyi has been at the University of Florida in Gainesville, but next year will be at Brooklyn College, closer to skiing.

Tom Pulley writes that the new Natural History Museum in Houston is coming along.

Dick Johnson spent a few weeks in spring examining Unio types at the University of Michigan and will be doing some fresh-water collecting with his family in the Southeastern states during the summer.

Dick Foster participated in Indian Ocean cruise 4b from Bombay to the Gulf of Oman last fall and brought 90 gallons of material back for the collection. In August, after visiting museums in London, Copenhagen, Leiden, Amsterdam and Rome, he will spend some time at the marine lab at Inhaca Id., near Lorenzo Marques, Mozambique, and will be on board the "Anton Brunn" for Indian Ocean Cruise 8, trawling and dredging in the Mozambique Channel up to Somalia and ending at Mombasa, Kenya.

Patricio Sanchez recently paid a visit to the MCZ, as well as to the National Museum and several California institutions. He is astonished to see how rapidly refurbishing is progressing at the MCZ and fears that the special atmosphere of the Museum will soon be lost.

Garth Underwood writes from the University of the West Indies that he has received the first award of one of the newly instituted Principal Research Fellowships, tenable at a government institution in the United Kingdom. He plans to spend the three years working on Colubridae, especially, in the Reptile Section of the British Museum, Natural History.

Beverley Holloway Kuschel writes from 156A Cleveland Terrace, Nelson, New Zealand, that her small daughter and large house and garden leave her little time for beetles. However, she hopes to arrange for a regular baby-sitter so that she can continue work on her revision of New Zealand Anthribidae.

James Moulton, Associate Professor of Biology at Bowdoin College, writes that after the International Congress of Zoology last summer, where he enjoyed meeting many old MCZ friends, he participated in a Conference at Beaufort on the Biology of Estuarine Animals at the Marine Lab of Duke University. He also taught at the NSF Summer Institute in Biology at Bowdoin. Dr. Moulton's research is in acoustical biology.

Isa Farfante Canet's book on zoology was published in Cuba after she left. She succeeded in getting a few copies through her brother, who is still in Cuba, and kindly gave one to the MCZ library. Isa is now in Washington working at the USNM and in the Smithsonian Oceanographic Sorting Center.

The Laurents have left for Tucumán, Argentina, where Dr. Laurent has accepted a position at Instituto Lille. Friends bade them farewell at a party given by the Mayrs and Ernest Williams.

Andrew Konnerth, of the preparation department, has left the museum to accept a position at Woods Hole.

Guy Bush and Allen Brady completed their Ph.D. work during the winter. Guy is now studying chromosomes with Prof. M.J.D. White at the Department of Zoology, University of Melbourne, Parkville N2, Victoria, Australia. Allen will leave in fall to take up teaching and research duties at Hope College in Holland, Michigan. In the meanwhile he is continuing his lynx spider revisions.

After completing his thesis, Ira Rubinoff left for Panama for two or three months. In a letter of June 4th he wrote: "We arrived safely in Panama after only nominal delays at the hands of Pan American. Everything seems perfectly quiet and stable in Panama although bullet holes, gutted buildings, and anti-yankee slogans serve as grim reminders that things were pretty serious in this "non-violent" place not too long ago. The Smithsonian has supplied us with a station wagon which was recently given to them by the Army. I should have been apprehensive of anything the Army gave away. It has been a constant source of trouble and irritation but undoubtedly will be operating perfectly by the time we are through with it. For several days I couldn't believe that we were back in Panama because things were operating so smoothly but then I realized that it was an artifact of all administrative offices being closed because of the holiday. Everything is back to infuriating normalcy."

John Smith and Francois Vuillermier deserted the ranks of desirable bachelors by taking wives this spring. Mrs. Beryl Simpson Vuillermier is continuing her graduate botanical studies at the Herbarium.

Betsy Witte spent a "potentially mute" two months at the Goethe Institute in Murnau, Germany, where German was the only common language spoken in a large international group. However, she discovered she was quite fluent in German when she spent a week in Rome, before returning to Cambridge.

Our librarian, Jessie Bell MacKenzie, became the wife of Capt. Edwin A. MacDonald, USN, ret., on 11 April in Appleton Chapel. Participating in the ceremony were MCZ friends, Robert Cushman Murphy of the AMNH, who served as best man, and Hudson Hoagland of the Worcester Institute, who took his place as "father" of the bride. Capt. MacDonald, a graduate of Annapolis, served as commanding officer of two destroyers during World War II. He was Deputy Commander of Deep Freeze operations in the Antarctic and head of the Antarctic ship group during the last six years of his naval career. Recent awards for his polar work and services include the Belgian Government's "Order of Leopold," the Royal Geographic's "Patrons Medal," and the US Navy "Legion of Merit." He is the author of numerous articles concerning icebreaking, exploration, charting and adventure in the polar regions. Capt. and Mrs. MacDonald enjoyed a brief holiday in the British Isles, including some fishing in the Outer Hebrides.

Mrs. Marjorie Ainsworth has rejoined the library staff, after an absence of eight years, as Assistant for Circulation and Reference. Linda Kaplan, formerly of the Boston Univ. Library is now in charge of Exchanges.

Connie Carter's trip to Great Britain and France this summer will include a course on slugs and snails given by John Peake of the British Museum (Natural History) at the Juniper Hall Field Centre in Dorking, Surrey. A visit with Myra Smith, a punt on the Cam, and a tromp through Regent's Park are also on the docket.

Dr. Simpson's new book, *This View of Life*, was published in March by Harcourt, Brace and World.

Harvard Press has published a facsimile of the 1st edition of Darwin's *Origin of Species*, with an introduction by Ernst Mayr.

Volume X of "Peters" Check-List of Birds of the World, including Babblers, Thrushes, and Gnatcatchers, is now available.

Berlese's *Acari, Myriopoda et Scorpiones*, a rare item that the Library has lacked, has recently been acquired.

The publications committee announces a new look for the Bulletin. Starting with a new volume this summer, it will be printed by the Allen Press in Lawrence, Kansas and will be similar in format to *Evolution*.

At a winter meeting of the Natural History Seminar, Tilly Edinger jotted down the following tribute to that institution: "One MCZ participant at the International Congress of Zoology was surprised at how much she understood, even knew, of topics discussed and papers read outside her own field, then realized, always learned at the Lunch-Seminar, which, actually, constantly serves the motto of the Congress: "reunion of Zoology from its separate specialties."

If any of them should happen to find a spare moment, the museum ladies can now relax in the new Ladies Lounge, Room 302-A, next to the elevator. We are indebted to the generosity of a good friend for the funds necessary to furnish the room.

Are you doing anything this summer? Going somewhere? Thinking about something? Your MCZ friends would like to hear about it. Drop a line to the NEWSLETTER and we'll promise you good press notices.

Lorna Levi, editor

