

From the Chair:

Have crayfish and other freshwater invertebrates, need attention...

One of the recent topics of conversations of the Chairs with our Museum director was how to expand relationships with affiliated government agencies. The Oceans Initiative has provided one opportunity to do this with NOAA/NMFS, to the benefit of marine invertebrates. However, IZ contains a significant component of freshwater collections that must not be forgotten. For example, when IZ curator Horton H. Hobbs, Jr. passed away in 1993, he left us with the largest freshwater crayfish collection in North America, approximately 280,000 specimens in 40,100 lots. The importance of this collection is augmented

by the fact that the United States is home to 64% of the world's crayfish species. Furthermore, 50% of the crayfish fauna in the United States is known to be in need of conservation attention. IZ still has about 84,000 crayfish specimens in 12,000 lots that



Procambarus leitheuseri Franz & Hobbs

Photo: H.H. Hobbs

have not been catalogued or entered in the database. Many of these specimens remain unidentified, and thus the data associated with them is unavailable to the scientific community. We are fortunate that at least a good number of crayfish researchers visit us every year to examine specimens, help us identify material, and update data. These researchers also continue to deposit types as well as duplicate specimens in our collections.

As the conservation and management of freshwater aquatic ecosystems, and the field of bioinformatics become more and more important, the IZ freshwater collections, in general, will represent an invaluable resource, and the Museum will have the opportunity to take a leading role once again. How can we best engage affiliated agencies so that they become interested in collection-based freshwater research that produces the basic data so fundamental for their missions? Would it not be mutually beneficial to fund positions in such research held jointly with research labs in various states? If so, could we serve as coordinators to put together a grander goal of, for instance, producing a synthesis of the North American freshwater invertebrate fauna? We should strongly explore these and other avenues.

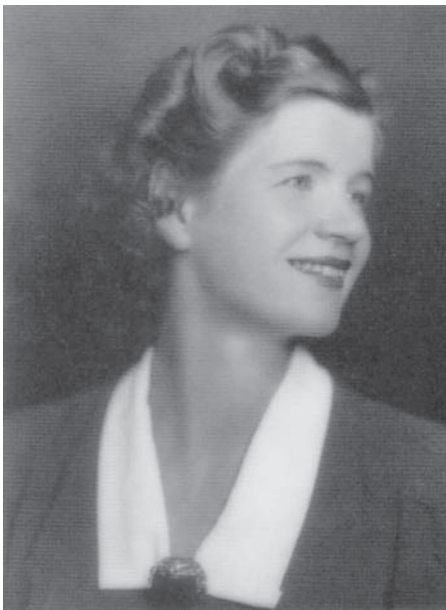


NEWSLETTER NO BONES

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FROM THE CRUSTACEAN GALLERY



Jocelyn Crane
11 June 1909 – 16 December 1998

Jocelyn Crane joined the New York Zoological Society as a research associate in 1930. She descended with William Beebe in the bathysphere to depths of up to 0.5 mile off Bermuda, and wrote articles on the results of these dives. She was awarded an honorary M.Sc. (1947) by Smith College, Massachusetts, and obtained a Ph.D. (1991) in Art History. She spent much of her career studying the morphology and behavior of fiddler crabs, culminating in her monumental monograph, *Fiddler Crabs of the World* (1975). She was Director of the New York Zoological Society (1963-1965), and Senior Research Zoologist with the Institute for Research on Animal Behavior. Jocelyn also studied mammals from Kurdistan, and had expertise in fishes, spiders, and mantids.

Torben Wolff recounted an anecdote about her resourcefulness in an article in the November 2000 *The Ecdysiast* which is retold here:

On her way back from Puerto Rico some years ago, Dr. Crane brought with her, for further study in New York, a bunch of fiddler crabs which were very much alive. She was stopped by a brusque officer when passing through New York customs. The officer knew his regulations regarding introduction of living animals which at that time were classified according to number of legs: Two legs and four legs: No! Six legs and eight legs: Certainly not! Many legs (millipedes, etc.): Impossible! Jocelyn smiled sweetly and asked the officer to count the number of legs on a crab. Ten was not included in the custom regulations. She picked up her crabs, beamed at the officer, and passed unimpeded through customs.

AWARDS

EXTERNAL

Cheryl Bright: \$35,000. MARPAT Foundation. *Geocoding and Digitizing Logs from Blake and Albatross Expeditions* [Co-PIs Maria-Elena Gutierrez and Karen Avery].

Kristian Fauchald: \$4,985. U.S. Department of the Interior/USGS. *Disposition of Biological Specimens from the Outer Continental Shelf and Continental Slope.*

Robert Hershler: \$207,392. Idaho Power Company. *Mid-Snake River Snail Genetics.*

INTERNAL (NH Central Collections Care Fund)

Jon Norenburg et al.: \$12,210. Collection Storage Equipment—Purchase of ultra-cold freezer.

Marilyn Schotte and Elizabeth Nelson: \$4,479. Cataloging orphaned collections of amphipod crustaceans into the EMu database.

Frank Ferrari and Chad Walter: \$24,460. Humes' Copepod Collection.

NEWSLETTER STAFF

Rafael Lemaitre
Chair, IZ

Elizabeth Nelson
editor
nelsone@si.edu

Rose Gulledge
assistant editor
gulledgr@si.edu

Ron Lindsey
library
LindseyR@si.edu

Please submit news or articles via
email or disk by the **15th of June.**

Publication in this newsletter does
not constitute publication in a taxo-
nomic or any other scientific context.

A P P R E C I A T I O N

*A Thanks for the Portrait**Molly Kelly Ryan*

In our Gallery of Carcinologists hangs a portrait of Dr. Boman F. Chhapgar, an internationally renowned marine biologist and one of two Indian carcinologists we have displayed.

In 2003, Dr. Ashok S. Kothari, friend and colleague of Dr. Chhapgar in India, and his nephew, Dr. Ajay P. Kothari of Maryland, visited me. They were happy to see our gallery and to enhance the biographical information we had on Dr. Chhapgar.

This year, Dr. A. P. Kothari returned from a visit to India with the gift of a book from the Bom-

bay Natural History Society, *Treasures of Indian Wildlife*, by Drs. Chhapgar and Kothari.

I quote from the back leaf of the book:

"...brings together articles, drawings, and paintings from valuable old books, journals, and gazetteers in the collection of the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS). The historical writings of wildlife and bird enthusiasts of the past paint a vivid picture of India's rich flora and fauna, in urgent need of protection today. Paintings, mostly of birds, and lithographs and sketches of animals and trees, scenery and monuments, many of which are



One of numerous color plates: **Himalayan Flameback** from 1832.

recognized as classics of their type, are mainly the work of eminent European wildlife artists of the 19th and 20th centuries. In the substantial section at the end of the book, gleanings from the miscellaneous notes section of early issues of the Journal of the BNHS provide lively snippets of information on species as wide ranging as red ants, mongoose, monitor lizard, python, cobra, cheetah, and darter. With the descriptive text and stunning visuals, this volume, like its predecessor, Sálím Ali's *India*, will be a prized possession for anyone with an interest in India and its natural history."

The NMNH library was delighted to accept this beautiful book.



The old lithographs are particularly enjoyable. This titled: *The Tiger Tracked Down* done in 1840.

PRESENTATIONS, RESEARCH & TRAVEL



Carrie Bow Cay Marine Field Station looking East. Photo: A. O'Dea

On January 24 **Allen Collins** gave a talk for the volunteers and staff at the Invertebrate House of the National Zoo. The talk was titled, *Beyond Cartoons – Why Sponges Are Cool*, and Allen reports it was quite fun!

Martha Nizinski attended the Mid-Atlantic Malacologists Meeting at the Delaware Museum of Natural History on March 4 and gave a short presentation. She also took several examples of gastropods and bivalves that have been collected on and around the deepwater *Lophelia* reefs off the southeastern coast of the United States for demonstration and consultation purposes. The meeting was hosted by Elizabeth Shea, a former post-doc in the NMFS Systematics Laboratory working with **Mike Vecchione**.

Klaus Rützler and three Smithsonian colleagues participated in the first Belize National Marine Science Symposium in Belize City, January 19–20. The conference brought together over 50 scientists, conservationists, and fisheries experts working on marine organisms from reefs, seagrass meadows, mangroves, and blue water, including commercial species and farming. The participants came primarily from Belize, Canada, the UK, and the USA.

The NMNH Caribbean Coral Reef Ecosystems Program (CCRE) was represented by four papers, including one by Klaus, Director of CCRE: *Caribbean Coral Reef Ecosystems: 30 Years of Smithsonian Marine Science in Belize*. Condensed versions of the papers have been published as extended Abstracts (see *Publications* section). Klaus also presented eight posters by CCRE staff and associates (Klaus was a co-author on three of these) and the display by Duran and Rützler (*Ecological speciation in a mangrove-reef sponge*) won first prize in the poster competition.

As President of the Cephalopod International Advisory Council (CIAC) **Mike Vecchione** (Director of NMFS National Systematics Laboratory) provided leadership for the triennial international cephalopod meetings from February 2–10 in Hobart, Australia. Along with the Governor of Tasmania, Mike opened the general symposium, and at the end he closed the meetings. During the symposium he chaired two sessions, presented an oral paper and a poster, and co-authored three other oral presentations. He also participated in a workshop on Southern Ocean cephalopods prior to the symposium. Throughout the entire time Mike lead a series of Executive Council meetings dealing with a broad range of scientific topics. The conclusion of the meetings marked the end of Mike's three-year term as CIAC President. **Clyde Roper** also attended.

Rafael Lemaitre traveled March 15–17 to Long Beach, California, invited by the Aquarium of the Pacific to participate in a team of crustacean experts planning a crustacean exhibit.

On March 29 **Mike Vecchione** presented an invited talk at the French Embassy on *Seeing Life in the Deep Sea*. The talk was part of a seminar jointly organized by Galatée Film and the Census of Marine Life. The seminar, entitled *New Ways of Seeing Life in the Oceans: Views from Science and Film*, provided an introduction to the plans for the new Galatée film *Oceans*, and to discoveries and methods of the Census of Marine Life research program. The event brought together researchers and staff members of the project *Oceans*, the new film that French Director Jacques Perrin has started shooting in the same spirit as his previous world-acclaimed works *Winged Migration* and *Microcosmos*.

A T O L W O R K S H O P



Front row (seated), left to right: Jody Martin, Keith Crandall, Megan Porter; second row (seated): David Waugh, Rodney Feldmann, Carrie Schweitzer; back row (standing): Dale Tshudy, Rafael Lemaitre, Regina Wetzer, Rafael Robles, Darryl Felder, Sammy de Graves. (Absent: Chris Tudge)

Photo: R. Gullede

Assembling the Tree of Life (AToL) Grant and Workshop

Rafael Lemaitre, IZ Chair and Curator/Research Zoologist, and **Chris Tudge**, SI Research Associate, are collaborators in a recently funded \$3-million, 5-year NSF grant. Their project, entitled *Collaborative Research: AToL: Morphological and Molecular Phylogeny of the Decapod Crustaceans*, is part of the Assembling the Tree of Life (AToL) effort. Participants of this grant include: Keith A. Crandall, PI (Brigham Young University), Rodney M. Feldmann and Carrie E. Schweitzer (Kent State University), Joel W. Martin (LA County Museum of Natural History), and Darryl L. Felder (University of Louisiana at Lafayette).

The first of several summit workshops was held 22–24 March, 2006 in IZ. Participants and collaborators met to discuss a work plan to analyze decapod phylogeny based on molecular, morphological, and paleontological characteristics, and to examine our vast decapod collections. There are as many views on the evolution of the Decapoda as there are experts willing to offer an opinion. The study being planned will be the first time a “total evidence” approach is used to study decapods, so hopefully clear relationships among the various subgroups will emerge.

Present were: Rafael Lemaitre, Keith Crandall, Sammy de Grave, Megan Porter, Rodney M. Feldmann, Carrie E. Schweitzer, David Waugh, Joel W. Martin, Regina Wetzer, Darryl L. Felder, Rafael Robles, Dale Tshudy. (Additional details in Visitors section.)

Allen Collins, National Systematics Laboratory of NOAA, is also working on an AToL effort, the *Cnidarian Tree of Life Project*, which was described in the *Natural History News*, volume 3, number 5.

S E M I N A R S

Jody Martin (Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County). March 22, *Global Biodiversity: Implications from historical trends in Crustacean systematics*

In connection with the search for the Sant Chair, staff also enjoyed other seminars on a wide variety of topics:

David K. Jacobs (University of California at Los Angeles), January 30, *Genes, geology and biotic history of the Pacific Coast: 1) How paleoceanography led to the radiation of the modern coastal fauna, and 2) Human impacts and what is "natural" on the California coast?*

Gustav Paulay (University of Florida/Florida Museum of Natural History), January 31, *Diversity and diversification of the reef fauna.*

Daphne G. Fautin (University of Kansas), February 3, *Marine biodiversity: oceans of data.*

J. Emmett Duffy (Virginia Institute of Marine Science), February 1, *Discovering social shrimp: a model system for integrated marine biodiversity research.*

Cindy L. Van Dover (College of William and Mary), February 21, *Biogeography and biodiversity of chemosynthetic faunas in the deep sea.*

VISITORS

- Keith Bayha**, Dauphin Island Sea Lab, Dauphin Island, Alabama (01/26/2006–01/30/2006). **Sponsor: Allen Collins**
- Arthur Bogan**, North Carolina State Museum of Natural Sciences, Raleigh, North Carolina; photographed freshwater gastropod type material, and conducted library research (02/16/2006). **Sponsor: Bob Hershler**
- Philippe Bouchet**, Museum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, France; collaborated with researcher on marine mollusks project (03/01–03/06/2006). **Sponsor: Ellen Strong**
- Nancy Budd**, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa; examined fossil corals and consulted with Dr. Cairns (01/09–01/10/2006). **Sponsor: Steve Cairns**
- Luis Carrera-Parra**, ECOSUR, Chetumal, Mexico; studied eunicean polychaetes and eunicid types (03/27–04/10/2006). **Sponsor: Kristian Fauchald**
- Saggie Cohen**, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel; completed research on Glycymerididae (01/17–01/23/2006). **Sponsor: Ellen Strong**
- Keith Crandall**, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah; attended the Assembling the Tree of Life (AToL) Workshop (03/22–03/24/2006). **Sponsor: Rafael Lemaitre**
- Sammy De Grave**, Oxford University Museum of Natural History, Oxford, United Kingdom; attended the Assembling the Tree of Life (AToL) Workshop, and examined U.S. species of *Palaemonetes* in the Crustacea collections (03/20–03/24/2006). **Sponsor: Rafael Lemaitre**
- Susan DeVictor**, SE Regional Taxonomic Center, Charleston, South Carolina; examined octocoral collection, and consulted with Drs. Bayer and Cairns (03/13–03/17/2006). **Sponsor: Steve Cairns**
- Darryl Felder**, University of Louisiana, Lafayette, Louisiana; attended the Assembling the Tree of Life (AToL) Workshop (03/22–03/24/2006). **Sponsor: Rafael Lemaitre**
- Rodney Feldmann**, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio; used the Crustacea collections to compare fossil decapods to Recent decapods (01/03–01/06/2006); worked in the Crustacea collections (02/07/2006); attended the Assembling the Tree of Life (AToL) Workshop, and worked in the Crustacea collections (03/20–03/24/2006). **Sponsor: Rafael Lemaitre**
- Frank Gilbert**, Pacific Conchological Club of Los Angeles, Bellflower, California; studied two mollusks families, Conidae & Mitridae (03/27/2006). **Sponsor: Jerry Harasewych**
- Peter Hovingh**, Utah Museum of Natural History, Salt Lake City, Utah; examined western US and Canadian leech collection (background information for monograph) (03/06–03/07/2006). **Sponsor: William Moser**
- Danny Jones**, Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina; studied crayfish, *Cambarus (Hiaticambarus)* species (01/09–01/13/2006). **Sponsor: Karen Reed**
- Francis Kerckhoff**, Flanders Marine Institute, Oostende, Belgium; examined barnacles and used the barnacle collection at MSC (01/19–02/15/2006). **Sponsor: Linda Cole**
- Eric Lazo-Wasem**, Peabody Museum of Natural History, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut; delivered echinoderm collection for identification by Cynthia Ahearn (03/16/2006). **Sponsor: Cynthia Ahearn**
- Jody Martin**, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Los Angeles, California; attended the Assembling the Tree of Life (AToL) Workshop (03/22–03/24/2006). **Sponsor: Rafael Lemaitre**
- Andre Morandini**, Universidade de Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo, Brazil; examined jellyfish collection, and conferred with Dr. Allen Collins (01/23–01/28/2006). **Sponsor: Steve Cairns**
- Thongchai Ngamprasertwong**, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand; examined USNM holdings of Thailand leeches and land leeches (family Haemadipsidae) (01/03–01/06/2006). **Sponsor: William Moser**
- Tatsuo Oji**, University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan; examined USNM holdings of stalked crinoids (Echinodermata) (02/16). **Sponsor: Cynthia Ahearn**
- Anderson Oliveira**, Universidade Estadual do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; conducted faunistic studies of Brazilian fauna (02/27–03/03/2006). **Sponsor: Kristian Fauchald**
- Dennis Opresko**, Oak Ridge, Tennessee; studied antipatharian collection (02/26/2006). **Sponsor: Steve Cairns**
- Gordon Paterson**, The Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom; studied deepwater polychaetes from the Pacific Ocean (03/27–04/07/2006). **Sponsor: Kristian Fauchald**

Continued on p. 9

R E S E A R C H

*No sex please, we're sand dollars**Dave Pawson*

The common five-holed sand dollar, *Mellita* species, occurs in shallow water along the east coast of the US, and in the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean. IZ Research Collaborator Doris Vance, her sister Joyce McCullough, and I have been experimenting with hybridization of *Mellita* from off both coasts of Florida, and in the process we learned that this animal reproduces year-round. At any time of the year, spawning (release into the seawater of eggs or sperms) can be easily induced non-injuriously by injection of a little 0.5 molar potassium chloride (KCl) solution. While visiting the Smithsonian Marine Station at Fort Pierce, Florida March 5-8, we traveled in the *Sunburst* and collected sand dollars just south of the Fort Pierce Inlet. We trawled up a dozen healthy-looking specimens and brought them back alive to the lab.

Usually all of these animals would release clouds of sperm and many thousands of eggs immediately upon injection, and combining eggs and sperm would result in virtually 100% fertilization. I was astonished to find that, upon injecting our March 2006 animals with KCl, one specimen released a tiny amount of sperm after about five minutes, and another released about 50 misshapen eggs after about ten minutes. None of the other 10 animals showed any sign of spawning. As expected, when the sperm and misshapen eggs were mixed, no fertilization occurred.

This dramatic “lifestyle change” in *Mellita* off Fort Pierce could not be attributed to any unusual conditions of temperature or food availability (these animals eat sand!), and all we can suggest at present is that the October 2005 hurricane Wilma, which battered this area, causing tremendous wave action inshore and offshore, somehow traumatized these animals, and affected their ability to reproduce, at least for the time being. We plan to check on west coast Florida sand dollars sometime in the next few weeks.

Thanks much to Valerie Paul (Director), Hugh Reichardt, and Woody Lee, and all of our Smithsonian Marine Station at Fort Pierce, for their support and help.

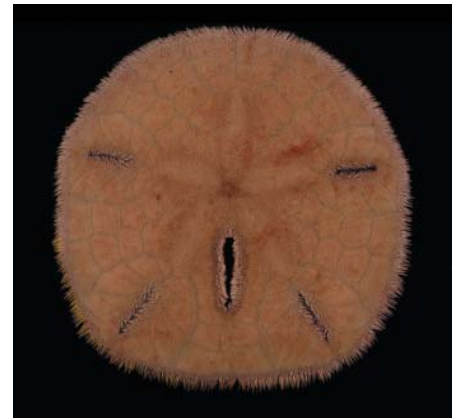
*Mellita* sp.

Photo: W. Lee, SMSFP

K U D O S

Carol Butler, Registrar for NMNH, presented **Chad Walter** with the Registrar’s annual *Order of the Paper Clip* award. This recognition was a result of Chad’s tireless efforts over the past three years to resolve the problems with IZ’s legacy acquisitions and borrows, and formally close them. He has resolved documentation problems involving hundreds of old transactions, some dating back to the 1950s and early 1960s. According to the Registrar, IZ is not the only department with a transaction backlog, but we are, thanks to the efforts of Chad and those assisting him in this work, making tremendous progress in resolving them.

I Z O N T H E W E B

New features added to Isopod Website**Marilyn Schotte**

Part of the Invertebrate Zoology Department website since 1995, *The World List of Marine, Terrestrial and Freshwater Isopods* (<http://www.nmnh.si.edu/iz/isopod/>) has been growing for over 10 years. It currently lists the 10,401 species of isopod crustaceans known in the world. Updating, performed by Marilyn Schotte, is accomplished by scanning library journals and the Zoological Record, and recording information in reprints sent by colleagues.

The list is searchable by suborder, family, genus and species names, as well as by type locality. There is a short video of a terrestrial species and a nascent photo gallery of common oniscidians (terrestrial species) that you may encounter in your backyard (see example). Miniposters of these images can be downloaded onto a personal computer and printed for classroom use.

With the help of Jim Kochert from IT, the database is now downloadable to a PC so that researchers can obtain printouts of any part or all of the database. Most recently a list of links to other isopod websites enables the user to cruise through relevant sites to obtain general information and pictures. The site will be part of the museum's Ocean Portal website, part of the new Ocean Sciences initiative.

In preparation is an illustrated, interactive electronic key to isopods of the northwest Atlantic from northern Canada, along the eastern seaboard, and the Gulf of Mexico to the Yucatan Peninsula. This feature, hopefully to be added this year, will provide an on-line key to over 350 isopods with illustrations, depth and habitat information.



PUBLICATIONS

- Britayev, T.A. and K. Fauchald. 2005. New species of symbiotic scaleworms *Asterophilia* (Polychaeta, Polynoidae) from Vietnam. *Invertebrate Zoology* 2(1): 15-22.
- Collin, R., M.C. Díaz, J. Norenburg, R.M. Rocha, J.A. Sánchez, A. Schulze, M. Schwartz and A. Valdés. 2005. Photographic identification guide to some common marine invertebrates of Bocas Del Toro, Panama. *Caribbean Journal of Science* 41(3): 638-707.
- Collins, A.G., P. Schuchert, A.C. Marques, T. Jankowski, M. Medina, and B. Schierwater. 2006. Medusozoan phylogeny and character evolution clarified by new large and small subunit rDNA data and an assessment of the utility of phylogenetic mixture models. *Systematic Biology* 55(1): 97-115.
- Leal, J.H. and M.G. Harasewych. 2005. *Tractolira delli*, a new abyssal Volutidae (Gastropoda: Neogastropoda) from off eastern Antarctica. *Zootaxa* 1071: 39-45.
- Petit, R.E. and M.G. Harasewych. 2005. Catalogue of the superfamily Cancellarioidea Forbes and Hanley, 1851 (Gastropoda: Prosobranchia)—2nd edition. *Zootaxa* 1102: 1-161.
- Rützler, K. 2006. Caribbean coral reef ecosystems: Thirty years of Smithsonian marine science in Belize, pp. 52-53. *Proceedings, Belize National Marine Science Symposium*. Hugh Parkey Foundation for Marine Awareness and Education, Belize City, Belize.
- Schwartz, M. and J.L. Norenburg. 2005. Three new species of *Micrura* (Nemertea: Heteronemertea) and a new type of Heteronemertean larva from the Caribbean Sea. *Caribbean Journal of Science* 41(3): 528-543.

VISITORS CONTINUED

- Gustav Paulay**, Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida; used the echinoderm library (02/09/2006). **Sponsor: Christopher Mah**
- Timothy Pearce**, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; examined the land snail collection at MSC (03/13–03/17/2006). **Sponsor: Linda Cole**
- Fredrik Pleijel**, Tjaerno Marine Biological Laboratory, Sweden (01/09–01/12/2006). **Sponsor: Kristian Fauchald**
- Megan Porter**, University of Maryland at Baltimore County; attended the Assembling the Tree of Life (AToL) Workshop (03/22–03/24/2006). **Sponsor: Rafael Lemaitre**
- Hector Reyes-Bonilla**, Universidad Autonoma de Baja California Sur, La Paz, Mexico; studied eastern Pacific shallow water *Scleractinia* (02/22–02/25/2006). **Sponsor: Steve Cairns**
- Rafael Robles**, University of Louisiana, Lafayette, Louisiana; attended the Assembling the Tree of Life (AToL) Workshop (03/22–03/24/2006). **Sponsor: Rafael Lemaitre**
- Guenther Schuster**, Eastern Kentucky University; studied crayfish of Alabama (01/09–01/13/2006). **Sponsor: Karen Reed**
- Carrie Schweitzer**, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio; used the Crustacea collections to compare fossil decapods to Recent decapods (01/03–01/06/2006); worked in the Crustacea collections (02/07/2006); attended the Assembling the Tree of Life (AToL) Workshop, and worked in the Crustacea collections (03/20–03/24/2006). **Sponsor: Rafael Lemaitre**
- Megumi Strathmann**, Friday Harbor Laboratories, University of Washington, Friday Harbor, Washington; examined USNM holdings of sea stars (*Echinodermata*) (01/10–01/13/2006). **Sponsor: Cynthia Ahearn**
- Richard Strathmann**, Friday Harbor Laboratories, University of Washington, Friday Harbor, Washington; examined USNM holdings of sea stars (*Echinodermata*) (01/10–01/13/2006). **Sponsor: Cynthia Ahearn**
- Chris Taylor**, Illinois Natural History Survey, Center for Biodiversity, Champaign, Illinois; studied crayfish from Alabama (01/09–01/13/2006). **Sponsor: Rafael Lemaitre**
- Lori Tolley-Jorden**, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama; photographed type specimens of Pleurocerids with Dr. Arthur Bogan (02/16/2006). **Sponsor: Bob Hershler**
- Dale Tshudy**, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, Edinboro, Pennsylvania; examined lobster specimens in the Crustacea collections for cladistic analysis (03/12–03/16/2006); attended the Assembling the Tree of Life (AToL) Workshop, and worked on the Crustacea collections (03/22–03/24/2006). **Sponsor: Rafael Lemaitre**
- David Waugh**, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio; worked on the Crustacea collections (02/07/2006); attended the Assembling the Tree of Life (AToL) Workshop, and worked on the Crustacea collections (03/20–03/24/2006). **Sponsor: Rafael Lemaitre**
- Regina Wetzer**, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Los Angeles, California; attended the Assembling the Tree of Life (AToL) Workshop (03/22–03/24/2006). **Sponsor: Rafael Lemaitre**

IN THE MEDIA



Photo courtesy of Michel Segonzac

Rafael Lemaitre was quoted in the March 13 edition of news@nature.com. In the story *Divers discover exotic crab* writer Emma Marris described the capture of a blind white crab bristling with hairs from a hydrothermal vent located about 1000 km south of Easter Island. A team organized by the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute led the expedition.

Pictures of the specimen, named *Kiwa hirsuta*, were shown at the International Crustacean Conference in Glasgow in July of 2005. The function of the crab's 'hairs' is still unknown, but Lemaitre believes they might be used to comb edible materials from water or mud.

Although Lemaitre calls the find "amazing", he is not so excited about the potential of the large crab (7" long) as food. "It probably does not have a lot of muscle to sink your teeth into, and things that live near hydrothermal vents that contain sulphur are probably not very tasty."

SPOTLIGHT ON STAFF

*Invertebrates Now Showing**Yolanda Villacampa*

On Saturday, March 22, IZ staff participated in the grand opening event of the deep sea IMAX movie, *Aliens of the Deep*. **Cindy Ahearn, Linda Cole, Tyjuana Nickens** and **Yolanda Villacampa** rolled out the outreach carts and displayed IZ specimens including vent worms and vent clams that were discussed in the movie. On view were many other specimens of echinoderms, mollusks and tunicates. The staff fielded questions from the numerous museum visitors who were curious and fascinated by the displays. Mollie Oremland, Education Specialist, coordinated this event.



Above, left: Cindy Ahearn awakens interest in echinoderms; above: Linda Cole shares her enthusiasm for tunicates.

Photos: Y. Villacampa

Left: Tijuana Nickens and Yolanda Villacampa with 'the real thing' – a sampling of vent animals like those featured in the film plus various mollusks.

Photo: M. Oremland

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE -The Invertebrate Gourmet

A menu item from a restaurant featuring “Nuevo Latino Cuisine” advertised “Grilled duck breast served with Puerto Rican style mashed planarians.” Must get recipe.....

LIBRARY

NEW TITLES:

INVERTEBRATE LIBRARIES

November 1, 2005 – March 27, 2006

Eve, C. *Echinoderms: keys and notes for the identification of British species*. Synopses of the British Fauna, new series, 56. Shrewsbury: FSC Publications. 2006.

Gosteli, Margret. *Environmental influence on shell characters in alpine Arianta arbustorum (Gastropoda, Helicidae)*. Bern: Naturhistorisches Museum Bern. 2005.

Gustavson, Kent, Huber, Richard M., and Ruitenbeek, Jack (Editors). *Integrated coastal zone management of coral reefs : decision support modeling*. Washington, D.C.: World Bank. 2000.

Hoff, C. Clayton. *The ostracods of Illinois, their biology and taxonomy*. Illinois Biological Monographs, 19. Urbana: University of Illinois Press. 1942.

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