
Amigos de Honduras

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SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT Joan M. Larimore (San Francisco del Valle, 1986-88)
amigosdehondurasjml@gmail.com

Our Amigos funds now stand at \$866.83. Why so low? We just made a \$1000 grant. Many thanks to those of you who have sent Grant funds with your membership dues. After reading the August issue of our Newsletter it's obvious that our dollars count. Many of you have requested additional copies to give to friends! Apologies are due to all members as I have continued to have a problem with my computer. The modem has been to the "computer hospital" which has corrected some problems but now I can't get Google and, of course, my emails. Thank you for your patience! I should be back online soon!

Amigos continues to stay in touch with Buiti Uganu and the two people working to preserve the language and culture of the Garifuna people of Honduras. If you are interested please contact me. **Fred Corvi's** search for all who have served in Honduras means that Amigos pick up an occasional new member. We are pushing 200 members now. Some of you have been with us since its inception in 1990. If the Oregon Reunion comes about as planned, we can celebrate 28 years in the place where Amigos was born!

In other money matters, **Terri Salus** reported that \$2215.08 remains in the Feb. 2016 reunion account. As agreed at the reunion, money is available for expenses for the next reunion and for the future Amigos de Honduras web page. Also only \$140 was raised for the Zika Honduras campaign so the money received was returned to the 3 donors or the reunion fund.

2016 DONORS TO THE GRANT FUND:

Steve Dylinski, Marie Beougher, Sigrid Brooks, Martha Goldstein, Frank Schwarz, Brenda Crumpacker, Maria Robinson, Lisa Kisling Thompson, Nick Anderson, Jenifer McCurry, Rodia Flores-Joslyn, Edward Fischer, Dale Schmitz, Ali Fujino, Deborah Moskovitz, Tricia Hammes, Lou (Marie) Collard, Carol Spangler, Loren Hintz, Ron Reafs, Maggie Mcquaid, Tanya Phillips, Arietta M.C. Wiedmann, Michael Hancock, Gordan Comstock, MD; Marlene Martin, John & Jeanne Evans

Many thanks to those of you who have donated to the Amigos de Honduras Grant Fund. For the rest of you: please donate! Your Grants Committee (Loren Hintz, Judith

Whitney-Terry, Suzanne Mills and myself) have recently approved a \$1000 grant. The money will go to AJARCO, Asociacion de Juntas de Agua Refugio Corralitos, for a latrine project near Los Planes, Francisco Morazan. Please email your grant requests or ideas to Joan at amigosdehondurasjml@gmail.com

HELP! We need two volunteers to help manage the Amigos de Honduras webpage on NPCA Connect. Free training provided. Contact Editor Loren Hintz at ldhintz@bellsouth.net

EDITOR'S CORNER

Loren Hintz (Olanchito, 1980-82)
ldhintz@bellsouth.net

Once again there are some follow up articles from the New Orleans reunion. Thanks for sharing. As editor I have enjoyed following the news emailed by members and also on the Facebook page. Please answer the pleas in this issue for help. **AYUDENOS!**

Since there is an election going on I posted on our PC Honduras Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2209604190/> asking how PCVs voted while in Honduras. I heard from Steve Weissman, John Kotula,

Lisa Yee, Sarah Brodbeck, Dan Moore, Anthony Ives, Russell Sanders. No one knew anyone who was able to vote electronically overseas. Folks in the 1980's said they mailed their ballots back to the US. (They had to arrive by election day and that was tough to do.) In the 2000s folks would take their ballot to the US Embassy in Tegucigalpa where it would be delivered to the US and mailed. (The volunteer would provide US postage.) To get the ballot most had a parent make a request and the ballot was mailed to Honduras. (I mailed my request in 1980 months in advance to Ohio Board of Election and received my absentee the day before the November election. Another received his ballot 2 weeks before the election.) More recently absentee ballots can be requested online & some states send the ballot back electronically. One expat (no longer PCV) complained that as of one week before the November 2016 election his absentee ballot had not arrived. Sarah writes: "Here's a tip: Take US forever stamps. You can drop them off at the embassy and they will include it in the official mailings to the states (will arrive much faster than sending via host country mail)"

NEWS FROM NPCA

55TH Terri Salus

Webpage: The biggest news is that three of us attended the Affiliates pre-conference September meeting and we plan to move forward with developing a webpage to be hosted on the NPCA SilkStart Platform. I have over \$2000 left in the New Orleans Reunion bank account at PNC, so, as I mentioned in February, We can use that money as seed

money to get the webpage going. **The catch is that we need someone with tech ability to work with NPCA/Silkstart to launch the site.** One thing we will not include is the contact list maintained by Steve Phelan (and greatly expanded by Fred Corvi et al.); rather, we will include a contact (Steve Phelan) for obtaining the list.

Reunions/Group Gatherings: Because of the summer 2016 Honduras Foreign Ministry transitions (the DC staff is virtually all new), the 2017 elections, and ongoing security concerns, we decided to cancel the February 2017 mission trip to Honduras. I still have the proposal, so after the 2017 elections, we can revisit this idea.

However, I am aware of several opportunities for folks to get together:

--Florida (April 2017): Scott Berg is planning a smallish 1970s gathering
 --Santa Fe (10/19-23/2017): Jack Riehl is planning a Group 8 reunion
 --Honduras Election Monitoring (November 2017): Phyllis Shelton is looking into opportunities to monitor the Honduras elections (Jackie Van Anda and Phyllis participated in the past)
 --Portland (~June 2018): Phyllis Shelton is taking the lead on this, our next "Big Reunion"

Stay Connected: Once we get the webpage up and going, communication about the reunions/gatherings should flow easier. I believe that one does not need to be a member of NPCA to access the group webpages, but since, as Glenn Blumhorst shared with us in New Orleans, NPCA membership is **FREE**, all are encouraged to join (<http://www.PeaceCorpsConnect.org>). Also, Peace Corps Office of Third Goal is mounting a big push to

get all RPCVs and staff into the database; sign up at www.peacecorps.gov/rpcv or send an email message to ThirdGoal@peacecorps.gov.

VERIFICATION OF PC SERVICE

As RPCVs age 'tis time to look at retirement. Terri Salus reported that "a friend told me that I should contact PC to 'buy back' my Peace Corps time so that it can be credited to my federal pension. Also, the position I applied for asked for certification of Peace Corps service. (I did not have the certificate at the time I applied, but PC HR can retrieve it). Folks can go to <https://www.peacecorps.gov/returned-volunteers/support-services/certifications-service/> to request a Certification of Service and/or their Description of Service." In North Carolina there was a proposal in the state legislature to 'buy' Peace Corps service and have it count for teacher pension. (It was tabled until 2017.) Any other advice?

RECENT OBITUARIES

Compiled by Fred Corvi et al.

Richard Mackinder 1987-88
<http://mobileobits.mlive.com/obituaries/grandrapids/obituary.aspx?n=Richard-Mackinder&pid=146878060&referrer=0&preview=True>

David S. Guardella 1976-78
<http://www.usaidalumni.org/alumni/tributes/>

Alice Taggart Seabrook 1985-1986
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/statesmanjournal/obituary.aspx?n=Alice-Taggart-Seabrook&pid=178131475>

Earl "Charlie" Shostak 1966-68
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/bostonglobe/obituary.aspx?n=EARL-SHOSTAK-CHARLIE&pid=174119735>

&

June von Ruden 1969-1970 (Wife of PC Physician Dale von Ruden)
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/sanluisobispo/obituary.aspx?n=June-von-Ruden&pid=179479087>

Catharine "Cate" Stratton 1983-85
<http://www.vnews.com/obituaries/21277884-95/catharine-cate-ranney-stratton>

LESTER LAMM

Dave Knaggs (Group IV Honduras 1964-66)

On September 20, 2016 all the Amigos de Honduras lost a dear friend and lifelong supporter. **Lester Lamm** (Group IV Honduras, 1964-66) died in his home state of Oregon at the age of 72. Lester entered the Peace Corps at 20 and from that time on referred to this experience as the "defining event of his life." In a very real sense Lester remained a Peace Corps volunteer in spirit and action for the remaining 52 years. Over that time Lester visited 60 countries across the globe. After graduation from the University of Western States (formerly Western States Chiropractic College), he taught school and opened a healthcare clinic in Kathmandu, Nepal, where he served the impoverished country and its delightful people for several years. On his return to the States he spent 28 years as a doctor, professor, and higher education administrator for the University of Western States, which focuses, as did Lester, on using interpersonal relations, science, and precision as the foundation of effective chiropractic treatment. Amigos de Honduras sends its heartfelt support to the family and

friends of Lester Lamm. The world was a better place while Lester was in it, and his spirit lives on through those of us who continue to share his commitment and passion.

ZAMORANO

Frank Almaguer PCV/ Belize (1967-69); PC Country Director/Honduras (1976-79); and American Ambassador to Honduras (1999-2002)

I first became acquainted with The Pan American Agricultural University, commonly known as Zamorano, in 1976, the year I became PC Country Director in Honduras. At that time, we had PCVs assigned to the school, including Nancy and Larry Fitton, among others. When I returned to Honduras as ambassador in 1999, PC/H was no longer assigning PCVs to Zamorano, but the reputation of the school had continued to grow in Honduras and throughout Latin America as a place where young men and women from all socioeconomic backgrounds receive a world-class education in a setting where they also acquire values that those of us who are part of the Peace Corps family uphold: commitment to education and to hard work, respect for other cultures, and fostering of opportunities for those who have the talent but lack the means to get ahead. That is why, shortly after I "retired" in 2011, I was pleased to accept an invitation to serve on the **Zamorano Board of Trustees**, a collegial body of 16 men and women from throughout the Americas that establishes the policies and oversees the management of this private, not-for-profit institution.

Even those not familiar with the work of Zamorano cannot escape seeing the school's lovely campus when they travel some 30 kilometers east of Tegucigalpa on the road to **Danli**. The pristine campus and excellent facilities may have led some to assume that this was a "wealthy school for rich kids." Nothing could be further from the truth, but Zamorano does prove that a well-managed institution with a clear vision and sense of purpose can accomplish a great deal with limited resources, while keeping up with the changing needs of our time.



Zamorano was founded in 1942, initially with the financial support of Sam Zemurray, who ran the United Fruit Company in the 1930s and 40s and who envisioned a training center for agricultural workers. Zemurray had the foresight to turn to a leading American botanist, agronomist, and educator, **Dr. Wilson Popenoe**, to organize and lead the school. Popenoe had done much of his scientific work in Latin America and, among other accomplishments, founded the Lancetilla Experimental Station near Tela to study endemic plant diseases. The first class of "agronomos" graduated in 1946 and Popenoe shaped the school we know today until 1957.

While committed to serving the agriculture needs of Latin America, Popenoe went further and from early

on was committed to developing social values and leadership qualities among his students. He instilled discipline and ensured that students not only learned in the classroom but also engaged in “learning by doing.” This is why the school, which is now a university-degree granting institution, begins its day even before sunrise, as students participate in multiple “modules” in the field, from land preparation to post-harvest production and marketing, throughout their four-year academic program.

Today, Zamorano is financed principally by individual donors, as well as periodic grants from USAID, NGOs such as Kellogg’s, and scholarship support from Latin American governments and private firms. **In recent years, agribusiness, as well as environmental and sustainable development programs, are increasingly at the center of the school’s curriculum.** Its extensive academic programs seek to help address the main challenges facing Latin America with climate smart agriculture, globally relevant research, sustainable poverty reduction strategies, viable management of natural resources and environmental conservation, as well as the creation of opportunities for rural youth. Zamorano is best known throughout Latin America for the quality of the students it graduates. Zamorano forms leaders who are hard-working, disciplined, and ethical and have a desire to apply what they learn at Zamorano for the betterment of their own countries and communities.

One of the school’s strengths is the diversity of its student body, with

young men and women originating from diverse socioeconomic, ethnic and cultural backgrounds, and national origin. The school went co-ed in 1984 and **today more than a third of the students are women.** Some two-thirds of the 1,300 students – who hail from 19 countries - receive financial aid to pursue their studies and, in most cases, return to their country of origin in professional endeavors. Some 25% of the students are from Honduras and most receive tuition support from the Honduran government or other local sources.

Grounded in a commitment to social responsibility, Zamorano also engages with its surrounding Yeguaré Valley communities to address issues of common concern, for example, access to water, food security and the marketing of local products. Some of the “learning by doing” modules involve students working hand-in-hand with nearby farm communities. **The campus is also engaged in an effort to reduce its carbon footprint.** Recently, Zamorano installed solar panels that already produce one-third of the campus’s energy needs. Recycling of all waste is universally practiced and the use of water bottles, which have become a principal source of trash in Latin America, is no longer permitted on campus.

I joined the Zamorano Board of Trustees because I am convinced that the school changes lives and is committed to transforming the region into one that is more stable, secure, economically productive and socially conscious. My experience to-date looking at Zamorano from the inside bears out the impressions from the outside that I had going in.

I encourage all of the RPCV/H community to visit the Zamorano website at www.zamorano.edu and learn more about the school. **And I do encourage everyone to consider making tax-deductible contributions to the work of the school, particularly for the scholarship fund.**

PHILIP SANSONE AND THE WHOLE PLANET FOUNDATION

As Fred Corvi adds to the PC Honduras data base more stories appear. Recently he connected with Philip Sansone, RPCV La Mosquitia 1971-73. Philip is the founding president and executive director of the Whole Planet Foundation, a Whole Foods Market foundation. The Whole Planet Foundation is a private 501-c-3 nonprofit started by Whole Foods Market in 2005 for the sole purpose of funding microfinance organizations (MFIs) in countries where Whole Foods source product. See www.wholeplanetfoundation.org

They do not, however, fund microloans for the farmer-suppliers, but, rather, to the poorest women (mostly, 88%) in those communities. The foundation has disbursed over \$58M in the last ten years. The first project was in Costa Rica where Philip trained for his second Peace Corps assignment in Paraguay (1974-77). In Honduras were the third and 19th projects. The first was with Fundación Adelante in La Ceiba and the second is with Familia y Medio Ambiente (FAMA) where Whole Planet supports their Communal Bank and Solidarity Group at four branches: **Bonito Oriental, Talanga, Tocoa and Choluteca.** As of May 2016, FAMA overall has 21 branches and are in 15 of the 18 departments. The

foundation has donated a total of one million dollars to the Honduran projects.



Philip is the President and Executive Director of Whole Planet Foundation, overseeing operations, programmatic direction and financial management. Philip brings over 44 years of expertise and experience to the mission and operations of the Foundation. His diverse and far ranging background focuses on three distinct arenas in international development: entrepreneurship, subsistence agricultural cooperatives and microfinance in developing countries.

As an entrepreneur in Austin, Texas, Philip founded **Book People** – one of the largest independent bookstores in the country, where he continues to serve on the Book People Board of Directors. Philip was also the director of Multimedia, a business unit of Whole Foods Market's Wholepeople.com and importer of indigenous arts and crafts from the developing world. In the international development arena, Philip managed community development projects in Latin America for the Peace Corps and USAID and in Afghanistan for a non-governmental organization.

In the 1970's as a subsistence agricultural cooperative specialist, Philip worked for seven years with small subsistence farmers in Latin America and more recently in Afghanistan to encourage farmers to choose alternatives to the opium

poppy cultivation. He was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Honduras where he worked with the Misquito Indians for almost three years on the Patuca River in La Mosquitia, and in Paraguay for four years helping to start agricultural cooperatives.

Philip has a BBA from Texas Tech University, **is conversant in Spanish and can exchange basic pleasantries in Guarani and Misquito.** Philip is a firm believer in the power of free markets, honest yet limited government and “conscious capitalism” to create prosperity and individual dignity.

1969 WAR (PART 2)

Earlier this year, John Quick shared his 1969 Honduras/El Salvador war article. Many others emailed stories. They are only lightly edited. I hope you will find them interesting.

First my own story (10 years after the war). **1. I, LOREN HINTZ,** was first a volunteer in El Salvador, 78-80; and because of their Civil War transferred to Honduras (Olanchito) 1980-82. I could not travel directly between the two nations because they still did not have relations. I had to fly from San Salvador to Guatemala (TACA) and then change planes for Tegucigalpa (TANSAHSA). My landlady in Olanchito always complained that after the Salvadorans left Honduras (including farms in the Aguan Valley) it was much harder to buy produce and vegetables. Also everyone repeated that what stopped the Salvadorans was the Honduran Air Force and that is why they continued to be held high in orgullo.

2. TOM RYSAVY For our 2 years, I was stationed in **El Corpus**, a small town in the hills, southwest of Choluteca. I extended my term for 6-8 months to finish up a couple of

projects, get married, and play in the Torneo Nacional de Sofbol, etc. I moved down into the PC house/office in Choluteca where the Lampes had lived. Because I had a lot of CU projects, I kept my one room in El Corpus. The night of the Bombings, all the towns were blacked out so as not to be targeted. It happened that I was in El Corpus the night of the attacks. I, we, were instructed to stay put. Finally, after 2-3 days of no significant "war activity", I was cleared to go down to Choluteca - one of the Honduran cities that was bombed. As I neared the house, I could see that area was pretty messy. One of the bombs landed about a block from the office, completely wiped out one house and damaged a few more adjacent ones. I entered by the back gate, noticed some debris and topical damage. When I went into the bedroom, I looked up and saw a fairly large hole in the tile roof and about a 50-60 lb. chunk of adobe, etc., smack in the middle of my bed. Except for timing I might have been the only Cholutecan casualty of the futbol war.

The days and evenings that followed saw a few ground troop incursions by both armies. **I actually made a couple of treks between Choluteca and the Salvador border with some Honduran officials to witness first-hand the war damages.** Mostly, a few holes in the ground, nationalistic graffiti sprayed on buildings and small concentrations of Honduran troops at outposts. I think, I do have slides of a couple of those treks. It really wasn't treated very seriously, especially in the South. Probably the ado was more serious in the larger cities. Fact is, neither country was in a position to finance a war - especially over unsportsmanslikeness at a soccer game. Although some border skirmish and other political

issues were raised during the negotiations, it kind of turned out to be "not much ado about not much of anything" Anyway, it was kind of an interesting "adventure".

3. MARIO MARTIN Let me add another anecdote. One of your fellow volunteers who finished his tour just before the War and was driving North asked me if I could give him a 3ft square aerial photo of San Pedro Sula I had hanging on the wall at the **Direccion de Obras Publicas**, where you worked with me. I did and later I was informed that the Salvadorans confiscated the photo as a piece of valuable intelligence for the pilots who a few days later dropped bombs on our cities.

4. DALE SCHMIDT I'll add a bit more information, for what it's worth. Over the years that Frances and I have made almost annual trips back to Honduras, I have heard from Honduran soldiers who fought in the '69 war (including two brother-in-laws) that the Honduran Army was trying to cut off any Salvadoran advance to northern Honduras and to Olancho. They say that the belief at the time by those in the military was that El Salvador was trying to take over/gain some of Honduras's territory and the best lands for agriculture, food and timber since it needed more land, resources and food for its people.

This may fit in with the account of large numbers of Salvadoran farmers/people who had to leave their homes and land in Honduras. It took many, many years for the two countries, with outside assistance, to actually mark the border between them. In fact, in my recent years' travels in El Salvador and Honduras, I've heard some people say that there are still a

few un-defined areas along the border. It is interesting to listen to the "other side" from Salvadorans. However many "younger than us" Salvadorans and Honduras were not yet born or of sufficient age in 1969 to even know or remember anything about this short war. They only know what older persons tell them about it or perhaps some written history.

5. MARK WENTLING I also received via you the message from Marty Scherr about this same subject. For the record, I left **Nueva Ocotepeque** shortly before the July 1969 war to join up with **Dick Feutz and Buz Tomasino** to romp through Europe. Incidentally, I am attempting to write a fifth book that is something of a fictionalized history of the time between 1933 when a great flood/landside destroyed old Nueva Ocotepeque (Antigua) until the soccer war in 1969. The tentative title of this book is "*Cayaguanga*." I am therefore interested in receiving any information anyone has on the soccer war.

Just to add to what Diane reports below. I did not keep a diary, but in my two years in Nueva Ocotepeque, the tension between Honduras and El Salvador about the border was constant. One thing fueling this tension was the large presence of El Salvador campesinos. Many of the farmers I worked with were from El Salvador and they were mistreated by the Honduran security forces. Sometimes I felt like I was more in El Salvador than Honduras. Radio,

TV, newspapers and most of the money we used was from El Salvador. It was easy to travel into El Salvador and hard to travel overland into Honduras. I made friends with the border authorities and they would let me slip over the border. I would grab transport to San Salvador and go to **Pete's Place** (near the U.S. embassy) and have a shake, hamburger and fries, before returning to Nueva Ocotepeque. I did that a few times. It only took a few hours. I once visited with a PCV in San Marcos, just a short distance across the border on the Honduras side. I note that many of the inhabitants of Ocotepeque did not like the Honduran government in power. Ocotepeque was a Liberal bastion, former home town of the last president, **Villeda Morales**, and the 'foreign' Nationalista were fully in control of Ocotepeque. More tension.

I read regularly newspapers from El Salvador and there were often lengthy article about why Ocotepeque should be part of El Salvador. I recall one article where Queen Isabella's explorers climbed a mountain and claimed all the land they could see for El Salvador and that included Ocotepeque. One of the first things the Guanacos destroyed was Ocotepeque's imposing military cuartel. I heard that the soldiers fled in fear of their lives, sometimes killing their own people so they could steal their clothes. They did not want the El Salvador soldiers to catch them in military uniforms. Many people fled over the mountains to neighboring Esquipulus on the border with Guatemala. Sadly, the community development center I helped build with Ocotepeque's American priests was also bombed as it was near the airport. I heard that maybe 1,500 people were killed in this 100-

hour war and that it only came to an end when the OAS reps locked representatives from both countries in a room and would not let them out until they came to an agreement. After that, Ocotepeque was a DMZ zone for many years. At least this conflict prompted Honduras to get busy with paving a road into Ocotepeque. In conclusion, the soccer war was the final trigger to lighting a long-standing conflict between the two countries.

Saludos, Marcos

6. DIANE MCCORMACK Hello to all of the readers. I am Diane McCormack and I served in Nueva Ocotepeque from 1967 to 1969. I dug out my journal to share with you my perspective of that scary time.

July 3, 1967 Tomorrow is Independence Day in the US and Honduras is in danger of being attacked by the Salvadorans at any moment. My comadre Rosa woke me this morning to relate that the SASHA plane was shot at by the Salvadoran soldiers. The plane may have come close to the border, but it was clearly a civilian plane. It appears that someone got trigger happy and for a few minutes all hell broke loose. The Honduran air force had 4 planes here very soon which impressed and scared me a bit. Licha and Carlos (the family I lived with) hurriedly packed a few things and thought about joining the hundreds of people fleeing the town to seek safety in **Esquipulas, Guatemala and Santa Rosa de Copan**. The people in the streets resembled busy ants carrying their hastily packed bags and hurrying to safety. A few stores have packed up their merchandise to prepare for departure. Since we heard no more fighting, we decided to stay put. The mayor claimed that the town was still safe. I imagine there will be a lot of looting tonight since entire families have left their

homes unattended. I have packed my few valuables including my passport and cash in case I need to leave. The Organization of American States, OAS, are expected to arrive here tomorrow. They have been in El Salvador since Monday. I have decided not to visit any of my rural elementary schools until things cool down. At Licha's suggestion, I made an American flag to put on our front door to deter looters. Ricardo cautioned us that bombs do not see flags.

July 14, 1969 When the Americans flew into Nueva Ocotepeque to get me and Dennis (the other PCV), we were both AWOL. I was staying with friends in San Pedro Sula and Dennis was off on another assignment. The Peace Corps director later joked that I had better intelligence regarding the potential war than anyone, but it was really just lucky that I was away. I experienced the war that night as a black out without any bombing. I was worried sick about my family and friends. The news stories were much exaggerated, but people were being bombed and killed.

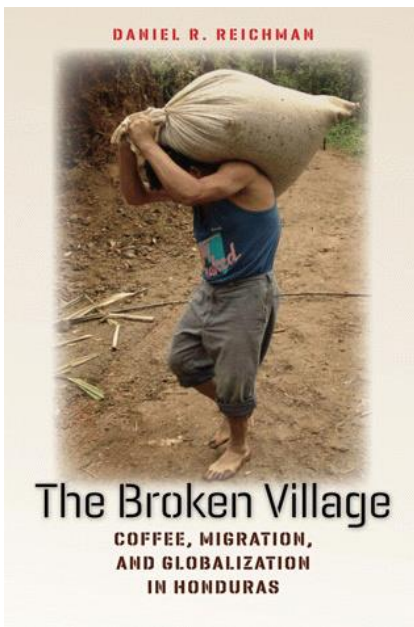
August 8, 1969 (My first journal entry since returning to NO) Wow was I happy to find my diary among the millions of things the **Guanacos** (slang for Salvadorans) left strewn around the floor. War is certainly different when you experience it. A friend came into the house with me and what a mess we found. The house had been used for the few days of the war by the soldiers. The American flag that Licha had borrowed from her colegio (she was the principal of the local high school) was thrown on the bathroom floor. I could not see the floor of my bedroom because of all the papers, books, and clothing discarded there. I have lost many things of value: 90% of my clothing, jewelry, books, radio, clock, water filter, and photographic

slides. I found myself grateful for the few things they had left me. I ended up wearing the few clothes that I had packed up to give away to the poor. There was nothing left in the stores to buy. My losses are small when compared to the losses of other people. Licha cried when she realized that all of her kitchen appliances, television, and stereo and anything of any value was gone. Most homes in town had been sacked before the Salvadorans retreated.

August 11, 1969 I cannot visit my rural schools so I am the jefe of Bodega # 2 where I distribute donated rice, beans, tortillas, and bread to the many people lined up each day. Meat and eggs are scarce. The refugees and the food keep pouring into the bodega every day. I see no end to the long lines or the census that we are trying to complete. Many buildings show the damage from bombing. There are tales of dead bodies, but I have not seen any. I have seen anti Honduran graffiti on the walls of various buildings. Nothing is back to normal here.

October 18, 1969 I have been very busy writing up a list to replace the sewing machines that were lost in the soccer war. It was such a short war, but there were deaths and many economic losses.

October 29, 1969 The sewing machine circle is a vicious one. We began this morning with 48 sewing machines and have just 23 left for tomorrow. The first complaint about a sewing machine has been registered, but I refuse to take the machine back because I fear that everyone will want to change their machine. That is all that I can share with you about my "soccer war" experience. Best wishes to all, Saludos, **Diane McCormack**



THE BROKEN VILLAGE: Coffee, Migration and Globalization in Honduras by Daniel Reichman, ILR Press, an imprint of Cornell University Press, 2011 reviewed by Alan Waugh, San Pedro Sula 1973-75

The Broken Village is a cultural anthropologist's analysis of how people cope with rapid social change today. The village of La Quebrada, a pseudonym, was once a thriving coffee-producing village high in the mountains of central Honduras. The end of the cold war, collapse of a world coffee order in 1989, Hurricane Mitch in 1998, political choices in Tegucigalpa, the increase in the number of NGOs working in Honduras, and the rise of globalization all changed La Quebrada. Reichman begins with intimate case studies of four men and their families in an attempt to answer the deceptively simple question: why do people leave La Quebrada to migrate to the United States? He believes the decision to migrate is not necessarily a rational one, but is

instead driven by social and cultural values.

The residents of La Quebrada have lived with social inequality, violence, political conflict, and economic instability for generations. As coffee farmers, their fortunes have long been tied to the ups and downs of global markets. Chapter 3 is a well-written overview of the past 30 years of Honduran history told through the life story of a La Quebrada coffee farmer, *cooperativista* and local leader. Hondurans began migrating north in large numbers much later than Salvadorans and Guatemaltecos, and began doing so in the early 2000's, the time Reichman lived in La Quebrada. The social changes wrought by migration presented qualitatively new challenges to the existing social structure of the village.

The once-functioning local economy became dependent on migrants working in distant places such as Long Island and South Dakota, former neighbors who now lived in ways most people in La Quebrada struggled to comprehend or explain. Many of the markers of status that had defined life, such as land ownership, advanced age, education, and political connections, were being replaced by knowledge of how to migrate successfully to the United States (and come back), and earnings remitted to family members in Honduras. The new reality of migration created a sense of confusion, of economic crisis, of sociocultural disintegration.

The remainder of the book is a look at villagers' responses. Some categorize migrants as "needy" or "greedy" or the "lazy." A coffee

cooperative created to process the cherries and market the beans collapses, something Reichman explains too minimally to draw any reasonable conclusion about. A fascinating chapter examines two new churches in town, one very conservative Pentecostal and the other, featuring sermons over the internet from Puerto Rico, declares affluence is good, dancing and drinking are normal human activities. A chapter examines pros and cons of fair trade coffee from the point of view of growers. **In the end, Reichman believes the villagers are concerned migration north threatens social reproduction,** an anthropological term for the continuation of social structures such that the society, in this case, La Quebrada, can continue. The Honduran government has chosen to focus on export business, and chosen to reduce funding of social welfare services. NGOs have dramatically increased their work in the country. And migration has increased.

Reichman argues villagers in response to the social disintegration around them adopted strategies of individual action rather than relying as they once did on the nation-state or the collective community. One can invest time and energy in any one of a number of religions; one can label the neighbor "greedy" for heading north; one can grow fair-trade coffee (for individuals in the U.S. who make the individual decision to purchase it); one can migrate oneself to the U.S. People with minimal comprehension of the larger context of global trade, national policies and regional history are faced with juggling economic motivations and communal social

responsibilities, and are indeed capable of making decisions through which they attempt to make sense of it all for themselves and their families.

With the rise of global corporations and world orders such as the European Union and the Trans-Pacific Partnership, the role of individual national governments necessarily diminishes. Time and again while reading *The Broken Village* and reflecting on the theorists Reichman quotes in support of his assertions, I couldn't help but think of Trump supporters . . . afraid of and not comprehending the rapid social change occurring in the United States, attempting one way or another to make sense, to make meaning of what's happening in their lives and communities, and individually striking out against what has been to advocate for an absolutely undefined and ephemeral future.

NEWS OF HONDURAS

Gordan Comstock shared: [Ataques de Hambre](#) is a fascinating book for early Spanish readers (like me, for instance!). It is a most amusing retelling of classic fairy tales by **Eric Herman** RPCV from Morazán, Yoro. See <https://www.amazon.com/Ataques-Hambre-Spanish-.../.../1535314796>

Robert Gallardo, author of [Field Guide to the Birds of Honduras](#) is leading a fundraising trip. "Attention all birders. Myself and others are attempting to get my Honduras bird book translated into an all-Spanish edition and am looking for ways to fundraise. I am offering a fund

raising bird tour (in Honduras) that will be led by myself and will run from Feb. 15-25, 2017. If you are interested or know anyone that may be interested please ask for the trip itinerary. This tour starts at the onset of the dry season when the birds start to become more vocal in preparation for the breeding season. Don't miss out."

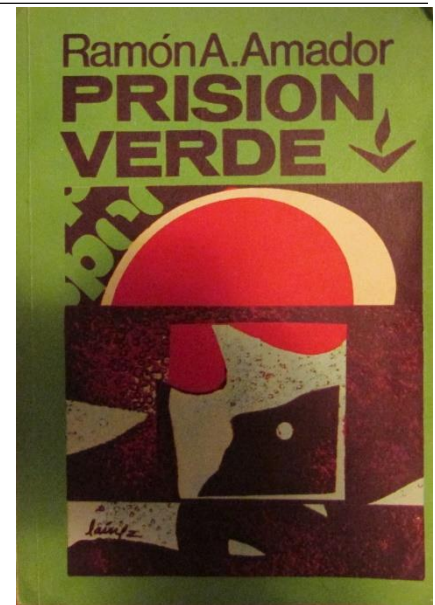
Contact:
rgallardo32@gmail.com

The UK daily **The Telegraph** has listed Honduran currency specifically the **one Lempira** note as among the 16 most beautiful bills of the world. The bill was first introduced in 1931.



USAID has completed its five year **ProParque** program in 2016. Several PCVs and RPCVs worked with Honduran parks and NGOs that received funds for various projects. The **Honduras Birding for Conservation Tour** has made CNN in Español! The point here is that the Honduran government, and Honduran public, and the Spanish speaking world that saw this, now know that birds and conservation are significant and important! It's a tiny step, but a step nonetheless. See www.hondurasbirdtour.com.

The 100th Anniversary of the birth of **Ramon Amaya Amador** was celebrated in Olanchito, Yoro this year. Amaya wrote the novel [Prision Verde](#) about the Honduran Banana Plantations and workers strikes. He also wrote [Cipotes](#) which is being turned into a movie about Honduran shoe shine boys.



Union leader Andres Victor Artiles died this fall at age 90. He was leader of the 1954 strike which resulted in recognition of labor unions in Honduras. He belonged to la CTH Confederación de Trabajadores de Honduras, la FESITRANH, la Asociación Nacional de Campesinos de Honduras (ANACH), la Federación Central de Sindicatos de Trabajadores Libres de Honduras (FECESITLIH). **Television HCH.**

Miriam Miranda was honored 10/18/16 with the Carlos Escaleras environmental prize for the defense and protection of ancestral garifano lands in Honduras. She is president of OFRANEH. The prize is named after an environmentalist and who was murdered in 1997 while trying to protect the Caribbean resources. Miranda has been threatened by the police and the Interamerican Commission of Human Rights has attempted to offer her some protection. **(ACAN-EFE)**

The Department of State continues to warn U.S. citizens that the level of kidnapping, crime, and violence in Honduras remains critically high. Transnational criminal organizations conduct narcotics trafficking and other unlawful activities throughout the country and use violence to control drug trafficking routes and carry out criminal activity. Other criminals, acting both individually and in gangs in Tegucigalpa, San Pedro Sula, and other large cities, are known to commit crimes such as murder, kidnapping, extortion, carjacking, armed robbery, rape, and other aggravated assaults. Honduran law enforcement frequently report highway assaults and carjackings by criminals posing as Honduran law enforcement throughout Honduras, including remote areas of Choluteca, Olancho, Colon, and Copan Departments. Gracias a Dios: Travelers to the department Gracias a Dios should note that it is a remote location where narcotics-trafficking is frequent, infrastructure is weak, government services are limited, and police or military presence is scarce. The U.S. Embassy has restricted U.S. government personnel travel to Gracias a Dios due to credible threat information against U.S. citizens by criminal and drug trafficking organizations. U.S. citizens traveling to Gracias a Dios should consider postponing their travel. **8/4/16 US State Department**

Honduras accepts U.S. deportees in hopes of greater cooperation The U.S. Department of Homeland Security returns up to 200 Honduran nationals a day to the Central American nation, according to a top Honduran diplomat. Corrales was appointed this month to serve as a special envoy to the United States. He is charged with improving ties with the United States as the two

countries work together to stabilize Central America and reduce the surge of migrants to the north. While some nations refuse to accept deported individuals, Honduras accepts thousands each month. It's just one way that the government is trying to show the U.S. that it's dedicated to working on improving local conditions. But when asked about whether some of those deported face life-threatening dangers upon their return, Corrales was noncommittal. The administration worked with Congress to secure \$750 million to help Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala fight poverty and violence. The three nations have become some of the most violent in the world. Each is in the top 10 for homicide rates, according to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. The Obama administration has recognized the violence and taken steps to ease the asylum process for Central Americans. But the administration has been criticized for focusing more on stopping and returning migrants than on protecting them from violence in their homelands. Last year, 32 percent of U.S. deportations were to the region, including 20,000 to Honduras. **Meanwhile, an expansion of the United States' Central American Minors Program has seen only 267 people admitted.** The government has received 9,500 applications. **Franco Ordonez fordonez@mcclatchydc.com**

The body of the **Honduran Miguel Angel Nazar** was found near McAlean, Texas in August. He had snuck across the US-Mexico border hoping to find work and to send money to his five year old daughter. His family received a phone call saying he was lost and thirsty in the Texan desert. His phone battery failed, Texan police were notified but

no one was able to find him in time. **(La Prensa) [Sonia Nazario](#)**, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of **Enrique's Journey: The Story of a Boy's Dangerous Odyssey to Reunite With His Mother**, says U.S.-funded violence reduction programs in Honduras have worked and should be expanded to other Central American countries. The United States has sent nearly \$100 million to violence prevention programs in Honduras, which have rapidly reduced homicides in pilot neighborhoods. The deescalating violence has made an impact in the States, which has seen less and less unaccompanied minors who flee the violence and enter the country as illegal immigrants. **(8/18/16)**

Two Agrarian Activists Murdered in Honduras Jose Angel Flores, leader of the **United Farmworkers Movement of Aguan, or MUCA** by its Spanish initials, and member Silmer Dionisio George were shot in northeast Honduras after leaving a meeting in the town of Tocoa. In recent years, MUCA has seized thousands of acres of land, much of it privately held palm oil plantations that previously had been cooperatives cultivated by the same farmworkers. **U.S. Ambassador to Honduras James Nealon condemned the killings in a statement Wednesday.** The United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Honduras said in a statement Wednesday that both Flores and George had been designated to receive protection by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights since 2014. The statement also said that Flores had reported an attempt on his life in April 2015. The killings follow the murder in March of environmental activist **Berta Caceres** who had been awarded the **Goldman Environmental Prize** for her work to preserve land. After

President Manuel Zelaya was ousted in a military coup in 2009, farmworkers seized about 27,000 acres of farmland. Dozens of people have died in fighting over the occupation of the land. In May 2010, the government and MUCA agreed to reduce the violence in the Bajo Aguan Valley. But of 27,000 acres the government promised to restore to the farmworkers, only 10,000 acres have been handed over, the U.N. statement said. "Authorities in Honduras must take immediate action to effectively protect those who work to promote and defend the basic human rights of all in the country," said Amnesty's Americas director Erika Guevara-Rosas. **AP 10/19/16**

Efrain Cuellar reported the death 8/16/16 of wild cat known as *Oncilla* or *Tigrillo* (**Leopardus tigrinus**). It was found near El Pino near Pico Bonito National Park run over by a vehicle on the paved highway CA13 that goes between La Ceiba and Tela near Agroforestral Corinto home of the Corinto Pearls tourist project. The 'leopardo tigre' is a carnivorous mammal of the Felidae family. It is a nocturnal mammal found in tropical forests of Central and South America. In this same area about a year ago another individual was killed as are many other local fauna including tacuazines, zorrillos, boas, cusucos, This area should be declared by ICF Insituto de Conservacion Forestal as a **Biological Corredor** between the Wildlife Reguge of Cuero y Salado and Pico Bonito National Park.



IN HONDURAS, A SPIRITUAL AND POLITICAL AWAKENING FOR TIM KAINE By Jason Horowitz 9/2/16

In September 1980, as violence and civil war erupted throughout Central America, a quiet American left Harvard Law School to volunteer with Jesuit missionaries in northern Honduras. Around him, the United States-backed military dictatorship hunted Marxists and cracked down on the Catholic clergy for preaching empowerment to peasant farmers. But some locals also looked warily on the bearded and mop-haired Midwesterner in their midst.

Just a few hours south, the [Central Intelligence Agency was using Honduras](#) as a staging ground in its covert war against Latin American communism, with right-wing forces training for operations in El Salvador and Nicaragua. "Some of the people were wondering what's going on, who is this guy?" [Tim Kaine](#), then a 22-year-old volunteer and now the Democratic nominee for vice president, said in an interview. He understood why. Far from being a C.I.A. operative, Mr. Kaine was a young Catholic at a crossroads, undergoing a spiritual shift as he awakened to the plight of the deeply poor in Honduras. In its far-flung pueblos, banana plantation company towns and dusty cities, Mr. Kaine embraced an interpretation of the gospel, known as liberation theology, that championed social change to

improve the lives of the downtrodden. In Honduras, his recitation of the traditional Catholic mealtime blessing changed to "Lord give bread to those who hunger, and hunger for justice to those who have bread."



Tim Kaine, right, with students in El Progreso, Honduras, in September 1980. Credit via Tim Kaine

Honduran military leaders, American officials and even Pope John Paul II viewed liberation theology suspiciously, as dangerously injecting Marxist beliefs into religious teaching. But the strong social-justice message of liberation theology helped set Mr. Kaine on a left-leaning career path in which he fought as a lawyer against housing discrimination, became a liberal mayor, and rose as a Spanish-speaking governor and senator with an enduring focus on Latin America. It also gave Mr. Kaine a new, darker view of his own country's behavior. "It was a very politicizing experience for me because the U.S. was doing a lot of bad stuff," he said. **"It made me very angry. I mean I still feel it."**

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