# Amigos de Honduras

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November 2021

#### EDITOR'S CORNER

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Do you remember Roman numerals? I made mistakes with No. 2, XXVIV and No. 3, XXXIX! No. 4 is correct XXIX which means 2022 will be the 30<sup>th</sup> volume of **Amigos Newsletter**. **Share your old stories!** This issue has a list of Honduran NGOs you might consider donating to plus a number of PC stories. And elections. **Enjoy!** 

## TREASURER REPORT Anthony Ives (La Ceiba, 2003-5)

707-227-9932 luckyp49@yahoo.com

Treasurer's report for period ending October 31, 2021
Beginning balance July 1, 2021
\$3,753.25
Ending balance October 31, 2021

Ending balance October 31, 2021 \$8,193.73

Current balance: \$8,193.73 Total deposits and transfers from NPCA:

July \$ 0.00 August \$ 65.00 September \$ 30.00 October \$ 115.00

Total deposits and transfers from members and other sources:

July \$ 130.00 August \$ 215.00 September \$ 30.00 October \$5,330.00 \*

Total withdrawals and projects funded:

July \$ 120.00 August \$1,514.52 \*\* September \$ 0.00 October \$ 0.00

\* \$5,000 received from the Voyles Family Foundation designated for a project in East End, Cayos Cochinos. This project will be funded in January with further assistance from Rotary International. designated \*\*Funds for electrical system for elementary school Guillermo San Martin located in Aldea Danto, La Ceiba, Honduras in partnership with La Camara Junior, La Ceiba (JCI). Finally, I am pleased to announce that we are now officially a 501-3c approved organization once again with the IRS. Thank you for your patience. Remember your donations to **Amigos** Honduras is tax deductible! As of 7/29/21 please use this mailing address: Anthony Ives, PO Box 448, Lake Bay, WA 98349

### SECRETARY REPORT

Brenda Sims Crumpacker (Pespire, Choluteca, 1990-1) 509-758-4165

kbc.olympic@gmail.com

Thanks to all of you who have paid your membership dues. My records show we currently have 186 members including 4 new members. Sadly member Douglas Grove passed away in May. Just a reminder that your membership dues are \$15.00 per year or \$50.00 for 5 years. Your membership entitles you to a

subscription of our Amigos de Honduras newsletter that is printed February, May, August November. The back page of the newsletter, Membership Info, is how you can keep us updated. If you wish to change how you receive your newsletter please let me know. Thank goodness we are done with the blistering hot weather and fires. The rains and cooler weather have come and things are greening up. My roses have been putting on quite a show with lots of buds and beautiful blooms. I found reading Loren's excerpts from his diary from 1981 to be very interesting. They've inspired me to dig out and reread my old letters and diaries from my time in I look forward to Honduras. 'walking down memory lane' these coming rainy days.

Thanks to the following additional 2021 donors to the Amigos de Honduras Grant Fund: Scott Berg, Steven Dylinski, Jennifer & Matt Ter Molen, Evangeline Harris Tierney and Rob MacKay for a total of \$330. Remember to send checks to our treasurer at his new address. So far this year the Grant Fund has received \$630 in donations plus the special funds mentioned in the treasurer's report.

Looking for a gift? Hannah Engel-Rebitzer (RPCV Costa Rica) started collaborating with local artists to create maps of their city/country. She is helping a Honduran artist to

market her map. The majority of the profits go back to the artist. www.theworldmapscollaborative.co m

# SEA TURTLE RESCUE IN FONSECA GULF

Brenda Sims Crumpacker (Pespire, Choluteca, 1990-1)

Excerpt from my November 1990 Brenda Joins the Peace Corps letter to friends at home. From August through December every year the sea turtles are laying their eggs on the beaches in the Gulf of Fonseca. The Honduran government has set aside 15 days in August when the people are prohibited from gathering the eggs (they love to eat them). During this time biologists from the RENARE office set up 5 camps on the Gulf and gather and incubate the eggs and when they hatch return the hatchlings to the gulf. My PC friend Melba Shields was helping out and invited me to come one weekend to lend a hand. What an adventure!

I understood that she was going to be at Punta Raton so there I went. I got the last (only) bus out there getting to Punta Raton about 4:15 pm. Once there I really had no idea where, exactly, I was going. I asked where the turtle project was and got a ride further down the beach. I arrived at a rustic house on the beach where the people said the project was even further down the beach. I was a little (read LOT) concerned by this time – it was too late to go back. So on I went escorted by a group of giggling little girls. We walked about half a mile before we reached the camp.

Well, Melba wasn't there, just Honduran Natural Resources (RENARE) biologists. The person in charge was a woman, Martha Margarita Garcia, the only other one there and (thankfully) she said I could stay and help. Besides Martha there were 8 men working at the camp. We ate dinner and then retired to hammocks — one of the guys graciously let me use his, to rest until 10:00 pm.

The turtles come ashore at night at high tide to lay their eggs. They dig a deep hole above the water line where they deposit about 80 to 130 eggs which have soft, but durable shells very similar to a ping pong ball. The female then covers the eggs with sand and returns to the water. For these 15 days the biologists, volunteers and soldiers patrol the beaches every night. When a turtle is spotted they wait until she has returned to the water then collect the eggs and take them to the camp where they are 'seeded' in another, protected nest. Data is noted i.e. date, # eggs, ID of female (if she has one), etc. In 45 days the eggs hatch and the little guys head instinctively for the water. Turtles start laying at about 13 years of age and return to the beach on which they were born.

The night I was there walking the beach the weather was clear and calm. Without any light pollution the heavens were full of stars and I even saw several falling stars. I walked with a Recursos biologist and a soldier whose bumping gun provided the only sound. They were very nice and patient with me and my halting Spanish. Unfortunately we didn't see any turtles on our stretch of beach that night but 7 nests were recovered. I didn't learn the numbers

for that year (1990) but Martha Margarita told me that the previous year 14,540 eggs were recovered and 9,879 turtles were returned to the gulf. I was able to go back for an afternoon to see the hatchlings with Melba and Jorge Betancourt PC APCD. What a wonderful experience!

## TALES FROM HONDURAS I Kent Myrick (Tela 1962-4)

Awhile back, you asked something about Vignettes from our PC days. Here's a story I just remembered: United Fruit Company was always great in helping us and working with us. When I started working out in the Carib village of Tornabé, they wanted to build a community center, like the one Van helped with in San Juan. The fruit company donated a house to me that they were going to demolish, for our use. It was somewhere on the outskirts of Tela – I don't remember exactly where.

I got 5 or 6 of the prisoners from the Tela Presidio to dismantle the house. I took them out to where it was in the jeep – or actually with a couple of them hanging onto the outside of the too-crowded jeep! Remember they only held 4 people comfortably! Anyway, I took the men out to the house and they began the dismantling of it. They carefully took it apart, board by board, saving every tiny part, including all the nails.

I drove out to Tornabé to tell them they could go and move the house parts later that day, or the next day. I had arranged to go back and get the men after several hours. When I got there, everything was piled up neatly, including every nail and bolt. But the men — the prisoners! — were GONE!!! OMG! I figured I would be a prisoner soon! So I drove back to the Presidio to give the alcalde the

bad news – and there were all the men! When they finished dismantling the house, they just walked back to town to the Presidio!! Editor Note: Thanks to Carol Welsh Somma who shared news of their 2021 Honduras I zoom reunion and collected this story from Kent.

# SUPPORT HONDURAN NGOs Loren Hintz, (Olanchito, 80-82)

Every November I include in the newsletter trust-worthy charities working in Honduras shared by RPCVs. The home page of our Amigos webpage still has the list of organizations I posted a year ago after the hurricanes hit Honduras in 2020.

https://amigosdehondurasrpcv.weebly.com/ The Dec. 2020 newsletter and Feb. 2021 issues, also on the website, have more details of organizations that helped with hurricane relief. Please consider donating to the organizations I am highlighting here. I have donated to/or have personal experience with the first 9 organizations.

- **1. Amigos de Honduras Grant Fund.** We now have tax exempt status! Mail checks to our treasurer with Grant Fund in the memo line. As of 7/29/21 please use this mailing address: **Anthony Ives**, PO Box 448, Lake Bay, WA 98349
- Publication of Honduran ecotourism project: Guide to the Butterflies of Honduras by RPCV. Donate funds Missouri to Conservation Heritage Foundation. https://mochf.org/donate-online/ once inside their website look for "Designation: Wherever most needed." Where there is a little downward pointed arrow there is a list of projects and there you will find "Butterflies of Honduras." You can also send a check to: P.O. Box 366,

Jefferson City, Missouri, 65102-0366

- 3. CAMO Central American Medical Organization (RPCV founded, focusing on western Honduras) <a href="https://www.camo.org/">https://www.camo.org/</a>
- 4. SHI Sustainable Harvest International (RPCV founded, focusing on agriculture), <a href="https://www.sustainableharvest.org/">https://www.sustainableharvest.org/</a>
- 5. **HSN Honduras Solidarity Network** (of Alliance for Global Justice, supporting local groups)
  <a href="http://www.hondurassolidarity.org">http://www.hondurassolidarity.org</a>
- 6. Catholic Relief Services (of CARITAS),

https://www.crs.org/our-workoverseas/where-we-work/honduras

- 7 **Solidaridad** (Honduran children and education organization) <a href="https://www.facebook.com/websolidaridad/">https://www.facebook.com/websolidaridad/</a>
- 8. For refugees UNHCR www.UNrefugees.org/
- 9. For children UNICEF www.unicefusa.org
- 10. Honduras Hope https://www.hondurashope.org/
  Honduras Hope is a New Hampshire-based non-profit, support a variety of programs in the Honduran communities of Plan Grande, San Jose de Machigua and Yoro.
- 11. **CEPUDO:** Capacitacion, Educacion, Produccion, Unificacion, Desarrollo, Organización <a href="https://cepudohonduras.org/">https://cepudohonduras.org/</a>
  CEPUDO began with a program

called "Women in Development." Works with communities in Honduras to overcome conditions of extreme poverty by providing shelter for those most in need, relieving hunger through monthly aid, and bringing hope to the youth through education

- 12. La Ceiba Rotary Club https://www.facebook.com/Club-Rotario-La-Ceiba-347403445381072 George Harast's wife is president. Email harastn@ymail.com
- 13. RPCV Thomas Carter's organization

aguapuraparaelpueblo.org is working in Ocotepeque department repairing community water systems, working **Proyecto Aldea Global** https://www.paghonduras.org/

- 14. RPCV Steve Rice: 1973-76 works as the volunteer treasurer for International Heath Service of Minnesota (I.H.S.). We are a 501(c) (3) nonprofit 100% volunteer organization that provides direct health, dental, surgical and eye care services in Honduras. We work primarily in the Gracias a Dios region. Our web site is www.ihsmn.org. IHS can be reached contact@ihsmn.org International Health Service; 3500 Vicksburg Ln N, PMB405; Plymouth, MN 55447
- 15. Frank Almaguer shared 2.14.21 the following organizations: Nuestros Pequenos Hermanos; Farm of the Child (in Trujillo); CEPUDO (North Coast); CARITAS (Catholic Church); Hogar Enmanuel; CARE; World Food Program; Red Cross; REMAR Honduras; Casa Sor Maria Rosa;

Casa Alianza; One World Surgery Center.

# MEMORIES OF ANA ROSA DE ORTIZ Compiled by Loren Hintz



Ana Rosa Ortiz with Bill Metzger 1981 (Photo by Loren Hintz)

Frank Almaguer: I just want share with the RPCV/H community that I was informed this morning by Lucy Zuniga that Ana Rosa Ortiz passed away yesterday 8/16/21. As some of you may remember, Ana Rosa was the long-time Education Program manager at PC/Honduras. Ana Rosa was a colorful character, with strong equally views and strong commitment to education and to her PCVs. She loved the PC and all it stood for. Subsequent to PC/H service, she was elected as a Deputy in the Honduran Congress and maintained long-distance ties with many of her RPCVs.

Loren Hintz: I transferred from El Salvador Feb. 29, 1980 and was always impressed on how effective and caring she was. We PCVs knew her as Ana Rosa or Lic. Ana Rosa de Ortiz. She was PCH Staff APCD- Education late 60s to late 80s. As an education volunteer we were expected to work when school was not in session and I spent several months late 1981-82 in Tegucigalpa at the National University and

Pinares School and got to know her better. She had me organize her office closet which was full of PC memories. She had lots of contacts including with the Honduran Armed Forces which came in handy sometimes when volunteers ran into trouble or PC projects needed logistical help. She was involved with several private schools universities. After Peace Corps, she (Diputada Ana Rosa Andino Matamoras) was a member in the Honduras Congress representing PINU (Partido Innovación y Unidad Social Demócrata.) until 2009 and ran for Central American Parliament. in 2013. At the 50th Peace Corps Reunion in DC in Sept. 2011 she received La Orden of Salva Vida along with reunion organizers Steve Phelen & Terri Salus, RPCV Tom Camero and Honduran Amb. Jorge Ramon & Sra. Mariza Veiga Hernandez-Acerro who provided Salva Vida cerveza for the event. She from her home moved Tegucigalpa to El Hatillo.

Raymond Dodd: Ana Rosa de Ortiz. Frustrating at times. Overly enthusiastic at others. An essential doorway into government agencies and NGO's. Many did not fully understand the full benefit of having her on your side. Others knew well how her support could smooth the way to positive connections and success. She believed in Peace Corps, she believed in a positive future for Honduras and she believed in PCV's playing a key role. I didn't always agree with her but she asked difficult questions and explained perspective energetically. However, if you could present a well-supported argument, she was not just open to changing her mind, but much more importantly, open to learning. Once you had her, you had her passion. Ana Rosa became a force in the environmental education movement in Honduras and brought broader

access to environmental awareness outlets for her country. An asset, an ally, a challenge, also, a friend. RPCV Honduras 1982 – 1984 Asociacion Hondureña de Ecologia, AHE and Ministerio de Recursos Naturales, RENARE

Therese Salus: I was not in Ana Rosa's sector (I was in Community Development, with John Salazar and Armando Votopaz). I did not know Ana Rosa well, but I admired her for what she did for PCH and for her country. I last spent time with Ana Rosa in October 2011, when she came to Washington, DC for the Peace Corps 50th anniversary celebration. I was surprised when Ana Rosa contacted me because the Almaguer house was full with other guests and Amalia Alberti was out of town, so she needed to stay with me until Amalia returned home. Ana Rosa shared that she had contacted Frank, who had agreed to pick her up from Dulles airport in VA (not far from their home) and deliver her to my house in MD (far from their home). Ana Rosa had my contact information because I, with Steve Phelan, organized the PCH activities for more than a hundred people coming from all over the country for the celebration. Hosting Ana Rosa was fun -- and challenging (but nothing that could not be addressed by dipping rosquillos into a cup of coffee). After her visit to Washington, DC, Ana Rosa headed Michigan to visit her daughter, Ana Lizette Ortiz.

# Tom y Miriam Schutter-Murillo: I butted heads with Ana Rosa more than once (let's call it delayed adolescence on my part). But over time I learned to appreciate her enormous heart--her kindness and deep interest in my well-being. She was also an excellent model of the "Tigre" that an educated Catracha has to be to earn the respect and love

of her family, her community, and her country. Gracias, mi maestra. Descanses en los brazos de su Salvador.

Scott Berg: My most vivid memory of Anna Rosa was how proudly she waved the Honduran flag as we marched across the Memorial Bridge in Washington, DC during the 50th anniversary of Peace Corps. She clearly loved her country and Peace Corps, which is what matters most. Que le vaya bien! Photo: Terri Salus



Mary and Tigre: Ana Rosa was a gem! She met our group in Florida for our staging and introduced us to totopostes and timochenko on the flight to Tegus! She was also good friends with the director of the school I worked with as a volunteer. I remember one time we returned to visit Honduras and we were visiting the family of the school director in Santa Rosa. They gave me her phone number in Tegus so I could reconnect and chat with her. She offered me a job at the University she was associated with in Tegus! I'm sure I would have been totopostes greeted with timochenko if I had accepted. May she rest in peace. Our condolences to her family. Abrazos.

Patricia Leibman: I have very fond memories of Ana Rosa from my time in Honduras (1969-1971), although I had no continuing contact with her after we left. I remember her support to our jobs in education, as well as visits to her home and family. One particular memory for me was input she gave me for our wedding. She told me, "Your mother is not here, so I am going to give you advice."

Jim Barborak: So sorry to hear this. Ana Rosa also played an extremely important role in promoting environmental education in Honduras. Que descanse en Paz. Don: Thank you Frank for passing on this sad news. My condolences to family and friends. Kimberly Ramirez: so sad

Carminda Sierra: Ana Rosa was a very dedicated woman and she loved her job and her Volunteers. vou rest in Peace dear Ana Rosa. Donald Clark: I am in shock. She was so full of life. She was my counterpart when I was Director of Education from 1967-1969. She was a dear friend. Jean Melby Wikoff: Ana Rosa was an effective Director of Education. I served under her leadership, wisdom, and vision for advancement of Special Education Teacher Training from 1980-1982. She will be greatly missed.

Kenneth Michael Frazier: I remember that just after we had gotten out of training that Ana Rosa's mother-in-law died. Gwen and I went to the viewing. Needless to say it was not a wake like we were would see in Central Pennsylvania. Everyone was dressed in black. Between the lack of black clothing and not being very good at Spanish (it was just after training) and Ana Rosa coming up and hugging Gwen I felt we stuck out like a sore thumb.

She was a great boss and always understanding.

Victor Latham: It was fall, 1973 and I had just turned 22. I was in Siguatepeque and feeling very homesick and depressed. I did not want to leave the house. I was supposed to be working with math teachers. One of the other volunteers in my group contacted Ana Rosa and she drove the nearly 3 hours from the capital to speak with me. She mentioned that there was a math cursillo taking place in Jesus de Otoro that I might enjoy. I guess she saw something in me that I did not because that was my turning point. I finished out my 2-year tour and then spent nearly another eight years in country. She will be greatly missed.

Suzie Fulton Giberson: Wonderful woman. Arthur Thomas: What a great mentor. Jobeth Anderson: I think of her often very kindly also.

Gi Sella: I remember waiting on the side of the road one early morning waiting for the first bus out of my site into Tela when I saw one the Peace Corps mobiles ... land rovers? And it was her on her way from Trujillo. I had a challenging night and she showed up right at the perfect moment. Just when I needed her most. Carole Ann Davies: I remember one year she brought me a cake when her Site Visit to Marcala coincided with my birthday.

Lori Johnston: I was a volunteer 1985-87. So many memories of this very special lady. What stands out most is how much she believed in us and our ability to help out in her "pueblo." I was one of many young people, most of us fresh out of college, armed with a degree in special education and zero Spanish when I arrived in September of 1985. We were pretty brazen to call ourselves teacher trainers! One of

my favorite (or most frightening) memories is driving with Ana Rosa. She was a terrible driver and scared the living daylights out of me! Well, one time I finally convinced her to let me drive for a bit. I knew the highway well and had no trouble maneuvering the sharp curves and potholes. When we got closer to the check point where the busses were stopped, I was understandably concerned about the fact that I was driving. You need to picture this, a very young and blonde gringa at the wheel, no I didn't stand out at all! She told me not to worry, we would be fine. The closer we got, the more anxious I got. As we approached the check point, the soldiers were waving at us to stop and she told me to just keep driving! She smiled that big smile and waved at the soldiers and me to do the same. Unbelievably, that was it. I was so sure that we would be followed and pulled over. As I saw the soldiers fading in the rearview mirror, they were still waving at us to stop. She was fearless! She was a wonderful person. I often thought of her over the years and wished that I had maintained contact. She left this earth a better place for sure.

Her daughter Ana Lizette Ortiz organized a GO FUND ME fundraiser for medical treatment this past summer and shared this final post: As you know, we did our best to provide quality of life to my mother, Ana Rosa Andino, through a bypass surgery so she could eat. However she had a systemic heart attack right after surgery. Sadly, her body was too weak from fighting a long battle and passed away on August 16th. Those who knew her know she was a good lover and warrior. Now she is resting with God. Thank you very much for all your donations as we know your thoughts and compassion was for my mother. May God bless you and multiply you in every way.

## NPCA and RPCV NEWS

Loren Hintz (Olanchito, 80-2)

Amigos de Honduras in May completed our reaffilation process with NPCA. Loren Hintz has been attending monthly the affiliate virtual meetings when available. We voted for the winner of the Loret Miller Ruppe Award. He also attended the Special Virtual 60th Anniversary Conference. Amigos leaders Brenda, Tony and Loren voted to support the NPCA sign-on letter to urge President Biden and Congress to fund and support Peace Corps. See https://www.peacecorpsconnect.or g/ for news of National Peace Corps Association.

Brant Miller announced his song, "Highway of My Dreams" from my CD "Roots, Rhymes & Branches, "(https://brantmillermusic.com) was played Nov. 21 on WTBQ radio's Hootenanny Cafe, hosted by Ion Stein!

Peter Bauer Peña Blanca, Cortés 1985-8 reports: Skills learned in Peace Corps still with me. I have been selected to receive a U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Honor Award this year, 2021 as a member of the Nursing Home Outreach team and the Regional Language Access Program (LAP) Outreach Team. The Nursing Home Outreach had a large program impact and gave exemplary service in outreach to over 4,500 nursing homes identified with a COVID-19 outbreak between 11/2020 & 3/2021. And the Regional Language Access Program (LAP) Outreach Team helped assuring health equity and was for exceptional work identifying, developing, translating and distributing Medicare educational materials to people with limited English proficiency.

Late 70s Honduras PC reunion was held at Custer, SD Sept. 2021



We are sad to share that RPCV Ann M. Maurer Bauer passed away Oct. of this year. Ann served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Paraguay doing environmental education with schools in Itacurb; La Cordillera and in Honduras, serving on a new wildland management team "at the end of the road" on the edge of the Rio Platano Biosphere Reserve in Dulce Nombre de Culmi, Olancho. She learned beekeeping in Paraguay and through inquiries at the Honduran Peace Corps office about who could help, she met her future husband, Peter, also from the Bay Area. He had served as a beekeeping volunteer in Honduras and was training new volunteers.

## ENDEMIC HONDURAN BUTTERFLY Robert Gallardo Robert Gallardo (1993-6, La Ceiba, Mosquitia)

Three years and three months ago Roger Medina and I were in the highlands southwestern Honduras. That area eventually converted into a mega hotspot for seeing many of the regional endemic highland birds. I named it "Opatoro-Guajiquiro" after two small Lencan towns located along the southern end of the Montecillos Mt. range. This trip, however, would mark the first of many where we would scour the 7,000ft., 29 km. ridgeline in search of butterflies as we embarked on a third natural history publication: "Guide to the Butterflies of Honduras." It is the only area that I know of in Honduras that has large patches of Mountain Fuchsia

(Fuchsia paniculata), albeit many have been lost due to recent roadwork and the building of more homes. These are not your everyday household Fuchsias. These are gigantic shrubs, reaching heights of small trees, and they produce a profusion of pink blooms for a few months of the year that center on the short dry season. Hummingbirds love the nectar and Chlorospingus love the fruits. They are also a magnet for swallowtails, sulphurs and skippers. I had always 'noticed' the butterflies on those flowers during bird watching tours with clients, but never really stopped 'to smell the roses.' It was now time to look at these flying flowers seriously.

We had stopped at the first group of Fuchsia and there were a lot of butterflies. I noticed a small, darklooking one and it was near the top of a huge plant. I had attached many extension tubes to the net and waited patiently for the butterfly to come into range as it bounced in between flower clusters. Luck was on my side as it descended into range and I caught it. It had a dark basal color, but when seen in good light it was purplish-pink and had a bright orange fringe on all wings, an orange bib and an orange-tipped abdomen. What a spectacular butterfly. We saw only a few more that day, but we were able to capture only one more because they all flew too high. I had my Mexican butterfly book with me and figured that this belonged to the genus Jonaspyge, but it did not match up with any of the known species.

Upon returning home I sent photos to a couple people who really know their skippers and they said that in all likelihood that it was new for science. **Wowza!** As a child I had never fathomed that I would one day find something new for science. We had to go back to see if we could find

more and try to gather some more info on them. Easter Week was upon us and instead of flocking to the beaches of the north coast like 'normal' people we headed for the mountains. This time Olivia and Moises joined us. Only a week had passed since the first finding, but this time there were a lot of **Jonaspyge** skippers on the mountain.

The entire story, and drama, goes on from that initial finding up to this day. But in a nutshell: I found someone in the U.S. who was willing to do all the lab work (DNA and genitalia) pro-bono. This instantly proved that it was, in fact, new for science. There was then a long lull in the whole process as we were investigating the possibility of setting up an international event to auction off the right to name it. All proceeds would have gone toward our ongoing field work or even toward the publication of the future book. Then we had our permit 'issue' come forth and then Covid. To shorten the story a bit more we got some donations from some great people in the U.S. to help pay for our official research permit. This took eleven months and two lawyers, but we did it!! We also found someone who really wanted to name the butterfly. Joe was our savior. With the continued assistance of the Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation they were able to help Joe acquire the right to name this gorgeous skipper after his late mother, Elizabeth. Joe came this year and we spent time at the Lodge at Pico Bonito then here at Emerald Valley. There is so much to see here and most people do not even realize it. Next year he wants to return and see his mother's Firetip in the highlands. It will be an honor to take him there to see it. Here I present to you Honduras' first endemic butterfly, Elizabeth's Firetip, <u>Ionaspyge elizabethae</u>



## **NEWS OF HONDURAS**

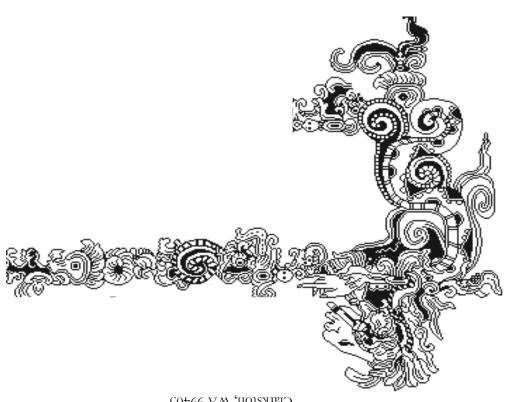
compiled by Loren Hintz.

According to Worldometer 11.26.21 the number of COVID-19 cases in Honduras has dropped to almost zero although the vaccination rate is only 39%. By the time this newsletter is printed, the Nov. 28 Presidential Election results should be known. Honduras prohibits polling less than one month before the election. In mid-October Salvador candidate Nasralla dropped out and endorsed his 2017 running mate Xiomara Castro (LIBRE) causing her to be in the lead over Nasry Asfura (National) in some polls but not all. However, polling according to most Hondurans are skeptical of the fairness of elections and expect the National Party to win by cheating. 12.1.21. CNE Update: With 50% votes counted, Xiomara Castro leading with 53%, National 34%, Liberal 9%.

Aviacionline.com October 15, the Honduran government unveiled the Palmerola International Airport, which will serve Tegucigalpa. It is 75km north of Tegucigalpa. It will replace Un aeropuerto entre los más peligrosos del mundo, Toncontin. Construction should be complete by May 2022. It will be next to the joint US/Honduras José Enrique Soto Cano Military Air Base Comayagua Valley. Mongabay.com 5.13.21 has reported an illegal road being built in Rio Platano Biosphere Reserve. Meanwhile (6.21.21.mp.hn) 3 men were arrested in La Tigra National Park using a bulldozer.

				Amigos de Honduras :	\$15 🖵
Amigos de Ho	onduras N	/lembersh	ip Info	NPCA Supporter (Basic FREE):	\$50 🗖
Use this form to renew membership or notify us of a change in address. Or, copy and give to a friend who you think might like to keep in touch with Honduras and RPCVs. Other than your name, enter only the info that has changed.				Amigos, NPCA & another groupname of other group	<b>400</b> —
•	·	· ·		5 year membership Amigos:	\$50
Name(s)				Contribution to projects Amigos Honduras:	will fund in
City				Total Amount Enclosed:	
State	ZIP		_		
Phone:	e-mail address		☐ I would prefer to receive my		
Peace Corps Info:					newsletter in .pdf format.
	to	Group #	Site(s)		
Job					
Post-Peace Corps Exp	eriences (occupa	ation, marriage, chi	ildren, travels,	interests)	
Make check payable to A	migos de Hondur	as: NEWER ADD	RESS Mail to	Anthony Ives PO Box 448, Lake Bay, W	A 98349 11/21

Aviso: the date on the mailing label is the expiration date of your membership - please renew if you're due!



Amigos de Honduras C/o Brenda Sims Crumpacker 2827 Olympic Court Clarkston, WA 99403