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VISITORS AND EVENTS AT THE CHARLES DARWIN RESEARCH STATION, 1995

Compiled by: Heidi Snell and Gayle Davis

January

- Fishermen closed the entrance of CDRS & SPNG for 4 days.
- Gerald Wellington, Univ. Houston, Benjamin Victor & Mark Meekan, assistants arrived to study reef fish.
- The annual flamingo census took place.
- Sabine Tebbich began a study of Woodpecker finches.
- Sandra Guerrero, Catholic Univ. Ibarra volunteered in Environmental Education.
- Sharon Virtue, librarian, Univ. Toronto volunteered for two weeks in the CDRS library.
- Mark Jordan, Univ. New Mexico & Sarah Bouchard Kalamazoo College, MI, arrived to work with Howard & Heidi Snell on the lava lizard study. Monica Calvopiña & Cassie Holman completed the group.
- Peter & Rosemary Grant, Princeton Univ., arrived to continue their studies of Darwin's finches.
- Jorge Gómez-Jurado joined Marine Investigations as a Technical Assistant.
- Milton Arsiniegas, Technical Univ. Esmeraldas arrived as a thesis student in Botany.
- David Hicks, Manchester College, IN spent his sabbatical in Botany working on the status of *Opuntia*.
- Gary McMurtry, Fraser Goff, Univ. Hawaii, & James Sitmac, Los Alamos National Lab., NM; Alfredo Roldan, National Electronics Institution Guatemala, & Rosemary Andrade, Univ. Guayaquil, made a geologic study on Sierra Negra.
- January 24th Fernandina erupted near Cabo Hammond.
- Peruvian troops trespassed into Ecuadorian territory provoking a war & disrupting both countries. Effect in Galápagos was increased patrolling activity.
- CDRS personel presented a Quarantine Workshop held in San Cristóbal.
- Tomato & papaya plants found growing in the fishermen camps on Fernandina were eliminated.

February

- Anna Fitter, Galápagos Conservation Trust of England visited.
- Verónica Toral, Cuenca Univ., volunteered in Marine Biology.
- Sabina Estupiñán, Univ. Luis Vargas Torres, Esmeraldas, volunteered in Botany.
- Olav Oftedal, National Zoo, Wash. DC, & Frank Allen, continued work with the captive reptile program.
- Washington Tapia began thesis work on Isabela tortoises.
- The war between Peru & Ecuador ended.
- Jack Kepper, Canadian Fund & Alfredo Carrasco, CDF Quito, visited the Station.
- Rosemary Andrade volunteered for the Snell/Jordan lava lizard studies before returning to Univ. Guayaquil.
- Bruce Kernan USAID & Alfredo Carrasco checked projects and worked on a Marine Investigation proposal.
- Fernandina continued erupting.

March

- Alegría Mejía & Olga Quevedo, Univ. Guayaquil, arrived to volunteer in Protection & Monitoring.
- Daniel Evans, former Director of CDRS, visited with a group from the Point Reyes Bird Observatory, Calif.
- Roger Tinoco, Inspector National Institution Meteorology & Hydrology gave a course to the personnel of CDRS.
- Verónica Toral represented Ecuador/CDRS at the World Forum for Youth & Development in Israel.
- The National Television of Japan (NHK) made a live telecast from Galápagos from several locations.
- Hugo Valdebenito, Günther Reck & students, Univ. San Francisco Quito, arrived for an ecology course.
- Gustavo Yturralde, Univ. Guayaquil began assisting Mark Jordan with studies of lava lizards.

April

- Chantal Blanton left for the London CDF meetings.
- Helene Collombat, Pierre Rochette, ORSTOM & Pablo Samaniego, Quito, studied paleomagnetism.
- Heye Rumohr, Univ. Kiel, Germany gave a Marine Monitoring course.
- Yoshikazu Shimizu, Univ. Komazawa, Tokyo, and assistant Santiago Buitrón, Univ. San Francisco, studied the impact of introduced plants on *Scalesia* & native plants.
- Hal Whitehead, Linda Weilgart & children arrived in their yacht *Balena*, with assistants Katherine Payne, Jenny Cristal, Sascha Hooker & Shannon Gowans, Dalhousie Univ. Canada to study sperm whale behavior. Graciela Monsalve, CDRS & Flip Nicklin, National Geographic, joined the 1st trip. The 2nd trip Godfrey Merlen captained, Francis Nicolaidis, Nat. Fisheries Institute & Jimmy Peñaherrera, CDRS joined the group.
- Karen Rogers, Robin Rutledge, Robert Long, Scott Dummler, Stephen Kennedy & William Tidwell, Monsanto Co., evaluated results of "Round-Up" experiments on introduced plants. They also prepared a film on the use of herbicides for weed control.
- James Gibbs, Yale Univ., studied tortoise genetics.
- David Anderson, Wake Forest Univ. joined his Española field camp for studies of albatross & boobies.

May

- Edison Encalada volunteered in Protection.
- Nelson Zabala, Carlos Valle & students, Univ. San Francisco Quito, arrived for an ecology course.
- Scott Shouse, US Peace Corp, arrived for the Agroforestry Program on Isabela.
- Peter Glynn, Susan Theodosiou, Univ. Miami, Joshua Feingold, Univ. Nova, & Rafael Menoscal, Polytechnical School, studied El Niño effects on Galápagos corals.
- Cleveland Hickman, William Ober, Larry Hurd & 14 students, Univ. Wash. & Lee, censused littoral zone invertebrates & made a study of a sea cucumber systematics.
- The CDRS research vessel *Beagle* had repairs completed & made the first voyage of the year.
- Peter Hodum, Univ. of Dalhousie, joined Hal Whitehead.
- Carlos Beltrán volunteered in the Computer Center.
- Duncan Porter worked in the CDRS Herbarium.
- Craig MacFarland, President of CDF, visited CDRS.
- Heidi (Captain) & Howard Snell, Marco Altamirano & Eric Craig, Univ. New Mexico, arrived at Española aboard *Prima* after a 3-day sail from Salinas, Ecuador.
- Chantal Blanton attended meetings in Quito.
- Pádraig Whelan joined CDRS personel for Quarantine meetings on several islands.
- Napoleón Vargas, arrived to be the CDRS Manager.

June

- Adelaida Herrera ex-volunteer CDRS & Ron Sjustedt ex-Peace Corp, were married.
- Jennifer Grace, Univ. New Mexico arrived as a field assistant for the Snell's.
- Conley McMullen, W. Liberty College, WV photographed plants for a plant guidebook.
- Terry Naumann, Univ. Idaho & assistant Rommel Villagómez, Polytechnic School conducted a geologic study on Isabela.
- Napoleón Vargas became the CDRS Subdirector.
- Robert Miller, Univ. New Mexico joined the Snell's.

July

- Don Miles, Ohio State Univ., joined the Snell's to study speed & endurance of lava lizards.
- Dennis Geist, Jeff Standish & Robert Reynold, Univ. Idaho joined Terry Naumann for geological studies.
- Goats were found on top of Volcan Wolf, northern Isabela by Geist's geologic team.
- Gillian Key, Metropolitan Univ. Manchester, UK, discussed future plans for rodent studies.
- Kornelia Rassmann, Univ. N. Wales, UK, arrived to continue the genetic study of land & marine iguanas.
- Robert Dowler, Darin Carroll, Angelo State Univ., TX & assistant Diana Vinueza, Univ. Guayaquil, arrived to study endemic rats on Fernandina.
- María Soledad Luna, Univ. San Francisco, Quito, volunteered in Public Relations.
- Syuzo Itow, Univ. Nagasaki, & Ondina Landazuri, Central Univ. Quito, studied endemic & introduced plants.
- Fernando Ortiz, Fundacyt, gave information for scholarship students.
- Carla Abrams, US volunteer student began studies on Matazarno trees in the National Park.
- Alfredo Carrasco & Canadian Fund representatives visited.

August

- Ed Louis, Texas A&M & Joe Flannagan, Houston Zoo, arrived for the tortoise genetics study.
- Lázaro Roque volunteered as Museum Curator.
- Hernán Vargas became the CDRS Ornithologist.
- Monica Soria & Paola Buitrón volunteered at CDRS.
- Pool Segarra, Catholic Univ. Quito arrived as a volunteer for Monitoring.
- Chantal Blanton traveled to Quito for several days of CDF related meetings.
- Linda Cayot attended the wedding of her niece, Maryn McFarland to her student, Milton Yacelga.

September

- Goats were seen on Pinta, SPNG began eradication.
- CDRS access was blockaded & the SPNG offices on all islands were invaded for two weeks.
- Representatives of the American Consul in Guayaquil & Embassy, Quito arrived to assess the local situation.
- Long-time CDRS employee, Arnaldo Tupiza Chamaidan, died in an accident on Isabela.
- The new Tortoise Center on Isabela was officially named in honor of Arnaldo Tupiza Chamaidan.
- Martin Wikilski, Univ. Washington & Corina Thom, Jesko Partecke, Germany & Lorena Zambrano & Cristóbal Alarcon, Univ. Guayaquil arrived to continue the studies of marine iguanas on Santa Fe.
- US Ambassador to Ecuador, Peter Romero and group met briefly in Puerto Ayora & Villamil then circled Isabela with Priscilla Martinez, CDRS on the military launch *25 de Julio*.
- Maryn McFarland returns to CDRS as a volunteer.
- Jacinto Gordillo received the 1995 Ecuadorian Planeta Azul award.

October

- Friedeman Köster filmed on Plazas.
- The World Festival of Birds was celebrated in the islands promoted by the CDRS.
- María Soledad Luna became a volunteer for Public Relations.
- CDF meetings were held in Guayaquil.
- David Anderson, Ana Agreda, Tatiana Santander, Luis Vinueza, Leslie Clifford, and Kate Huyvaert began their studies on boobies, albatross and *Opuntia* on Española.

- David Steadman, Univ. Florida and Winter Vera CDRS, collected subfossil material from Floreana.
- A group from the Harbour Branch Institute arrived for marine prospecting and studies of deep water fish.

November

- Craig MacFarland, President CDF and Alfredo Carrasco, CDF Quito visited CDRS.
- Cynthia Palmer, US. Dept. of Energy, assessed the island's solid waste problems.
- María Elena Guerra began as Administrative Assistant.
- A group funded by USAID arrived for a consultancy on a potential Galápagos shipyard.
- Miguel Casares and Beatrix Scharman, Zurich Zoo began work on the reproductive cycle of tortoises.
- Evelyn Schulle, a Swiss volunteer began helping in Public Relations.
- Sacha Jalink arrived to volunteer for a month in Public Relations.

December

- Sabine Tebbich and Birgit Fessler, Austria began a Carpenter finch study on Santa Cruz.
- Diane Davies, Sara Thompson and Maria Clara Espinosa, Univ. Calif. Santa Cruz arrived with information panels.
- Peter and Rosemary Grant continued their studies on Darwin's finches.

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