



# GUARANI News

Friday, 3 October 2008

**Paraguay's First and Only English Magazine**

**N° 404**

## CONTENTS

**Reminder: Stranger's Club informal luncheon –  
Thursday, 9 October 2008**

<b>From the Editor</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>From the Publisher</b>	<b>3</b>
<i>People in the News – Coming Events</i>	<b>5</b>
<i>Church Notices</i>	<b>6</b>
<b>News from France –</b>	
U.S. experts bring oldest voice recording to life from France	<b>6</b>
<b>News from the Republic of China (in Taiwan)-</b>	
Bringing Hope to the Remotest of Regions	<b>6</b>
<b>The Humour Corner</b>	
By Eduardo “Teddy” Abello & Donald Sym Smith	<b>7</b>
<b>World’s Easiest Quiz– Answers</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>IRB Mourns the Passing of Dr Roger Vanderfield OBE</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>MAIL BAG</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>STOP PRESS</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Guaraní News Pictorial</b>	<b>14</b>

---

## GUARANI News

Founded in Asunción 21 October 1982

Depósito Legal Ley N° 9.289

Publisher/Editor: Norman M. Langer

Our Cellular Telephone Numbers: for International calls

+(595-991) 724-217 for local calls in Paraguay 0991-724-217

E-Mail: [stranger@highway.com.py](mailto:stranger@highway.com.py)

Web Page: [www.strangers.com.py](http://www.strangers.com.py)

All rights reserved. No part of GUARANI NEWS may be reproduced without permission from the Publisher. Opinions expressed by named authors do not necessarily coincide with those of the Editor. The Editor will review any submission; however no responsibility is assumed for materials submitted. If you wish to be removed from our listing, send E-mail to [stranger@highway.com.py](mailto:stranger@highway.com.py) with the title REMOVE and accept our apologies

**2 GUARANI News - Friday, 3 October 2008**

## COVER

Paraguay's First and Only English Magazine



**GUARANI News**

Friday, 3 October 2008

N° 404

### *From the Editor*

*Date: Tue, 13 May 2008 09:54.* Two of nature's most spectacular forces produced an incredible brew in the skies of Chile as a volcanic eruption met a lightning storm. Tons of dust and ash from the eruption of the Chaitín volcano poured into the night sky just as an electric storm passed overhead. The resulting collision created a spectacular sight as lightning flickered around the dust cloud amid the orange glow of the volcano.

The eruption was all the more spectacular because the Chaitín volcano, 800 miles (1,290km) south of Santiago, has been dormant for hundreds - if not thousands - of years.

*Again my thanks to Ernest Wiebe.*

## *From the Publisher*

### *Beat this...*

When for the last weeks all international news had very little else to announce than how banks and financial institutions were going down the loo, and governments were being called in to bail the remainder, the following data, garnished come from a normally reliable source (an IBM advertisement in The Spectator, no less), make me wonder whether I should now hope to become a CEO in my re-incarnation and not a tennis or even a golf jock-strap.

“The combined revenue of the 1,130 CEO’S surveyed in the 2008 global CEO study has shown that they earn **2.224 trillion dollars!**”

Going a wee bit further along the subject of cash (mind you I haven’t got a dollar to my name)...and 2.224 trillion is eye boggling without a

doubt, will the US Congress dig up 700 billion or more to bail out Wall Street? What about the governments of Belgium, Luxembourg and Holland bailing out Fortis, who as you must be aware, is a private bank, to the tune of 11 billion dollars. Let us not leave out the U.K. where the government has taken to nationalizing several banks in order to save them from going under. And whilst mentioning speak Pounds Sterling -oops, yes, here I must own up that I do have a UK collection of the first minted decimal currency, a five-pound Winston Churchill commemorative coin, some old 2.5 Dutch Gilders and from my days in Spain a 50 Peseta coin. None of which I’m afraid will save the hard times yet to come.

Not for me to go throwing oil on these turbulent waters, yet as a citizen of this topsy-turvy financial world I have the odd feeling that



**HOTEL** ★★☆☆  
**WESTFALENHAUS**

TÜV  
CERT  
ISO 9001:2000



**Your other home...**



**HotelWestfalenhaus**

**Sgto. 1° M. Benítez 1577 - Asunción**

P.O.B. 13061 - Py-1749 - Asunción - Py

Tel. (00595 -21) 292-374 - Fax (00595 - 21) 291-241

E-Mail: [Hotel@Westfalenhaus.com](mailto:Hotel@Westfalenhaus.com)

Web: [www.westfalenhaus.com](http://www.westfalenhaus.com) [www.paraguay-travel.de](http://www.paraguay-travel.de)

<http://www.paraguay-restaurant.de>

money printing outfits will be very busy indeed for a very long time to come.

### ***Did you know...***

That the greater parts of Paraguayan land are in the hands of the *campesinos* (farmers) and the so-called “sin tierras? (land-less).

A recent satellite mapping undertaken by the *Asociación Rural del Paraguaya* (Paraguayn Rural Association) has shown that the largest land extensions are in the hands of the *campesinos* and not in productive companies as past myths would have had us suppose.

The report details how in the Caaguazú area the “family” (*campesinos*) occupy 33.5% against 22% used by mechanized farmers and 5% by cattle ranchers. In the San Pedro area the percentages are even higher in regards land used by *campesinos*.

As to the punch line, when giving these figures, the investigative report states that 20% of the land in the hands of the *campesinos* is either not being used and when it is the yield is very poor regarding harvests. Of course if it was an ARP survey one would have to question how biased the results could have been.

### ***My deepest sympathies...***

Local rugby was greatly benefited in the early mid 1980’s to mid 1990’s when my dear friends Peter Logan, Geoff Bishop and Architect Horacio Amarilla were Chairmen of the Paraguayan Rugby Union and the world’s governing body, IRB (International Rugby Board), was chaired by Australian-born Dr. Roger Vanderfield, first in 1985 and then again in 1992.

Readers will find further down the report of the passing away of Dr Roger Vanderfield OBE to which I would like to add my own personal condolences to his family and the world of rugby, for it was under Roger Vanderfield’s terms in the IRB that I was the Paraguayan press correspondent.

### ***Hot potatoes...***

Readers will find under STOP PRESS two letters sent in by friends of mine, Peter Logan and David Kay. They (letters) represent, in journalistic language: “recourses to reply” seeing as they have both been under daily slanderous attacks from no less than a well known journalist (by her own insistence a recipient of international awards) in one of the leading Paraguayan dailies, the ABC Color

Peter’s letter, in Spanish, will hopefully be published in the ABC Color in order to clarify just what the Scottish lads have been doing and a summary of the Voluntary fire fighting groups existing in Paraguay of which he happens to be attached.

My personal friendship with Peter puts me out on the fence so to speak. As a journalist my readers will understand that I cannot take sides in the matter but as Publisher/Editor I feel it is necessary for me to bring to the public’s attention certain facts, which those friendships have made me aware.

David’s letter is in English and it seems that there has been misunderstandings due to language differences on both sides. The greatest misconception seems to reside in ABC Color’s belief that British taxpayers money is involved. Let’s get this straight; most of the equipment is received as donations, additionally the lads organize

**Intend visiting Asunción?  
You.ll find all the comforts by staying at the  
CHACO HOTEL**

**Mcal. Estigarribia corner Caballero  
Tel. (595-021) 443.527 - 492.066  
E-Mail: [info@hotelchaco.com.py](mailto:info@hotelchaco.com.py)**

fund raising events (as demonstrated on his Web site) to purchase certain items that have not been donated. As far as I am aware no British taxpayers money is used to buy any of the equipment.

What of course hurts me most, being a Paraguayan, fully aware of the precarious conditions under which our fire fighters have been equipped and trained in the past, that this entire hullabaloo, (a means to sell more papers?) will mean no more UK equipment and training assistance.

**Now read on and then have yourselves a wonderful weekend**

## **PEOPLE in the NEWS - COMING EVENTS**

### **BIRTHDAYS      OCTOBER**

**11 SOLENTE, Dr. Thomas**

**15 ANTONINI, HE Monsignor Orlando – *Legatus a latere***

**24 LUQUE MEDEL, Carlos “Zape”**

**26 CRAIG, Juan Roberto**

### **National Holidays Around the World**

#### **OCTOBER**

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| 04 Lesotho           | (1966) Independence Day  |
| 08 Croatia           | (1991) Independence Day  |
| 09 Uganda            | (1962) Independence Day  |
| 10 ROC-Taiwan        | (1911) Republic Day<br>(Anniversary of the Chinese Revolution) |
| 12 Equatorial Guinea | (1968) Independence Day  |
| 12 Spain             | (1492) National Day  |
| 13 Fiji              | 2nd Monday of October (1970) Independence Day                  |
| 24 Zambia            | (1964) Independence Day  |
| 26 Austria           | (1955) National Day  |
| 27 Turkmenistan      | (1991) Independence Day  |
| 28 Czech Rep.        | (1918) Czech Founding Day                                      |
| 29 Turkey            | (1923) Republic Day  |

**5 GUARANI News - Friday, 3 October 2008**

## **LUNCHEONS**

The Stranger's Club Asunción will hold an informal luncheon (N° 352) on **Thursday, 9 October 2008** at the Chaco Hotel (Mcal Estigarribia corner Caballero) that will commence at 12.15 p.m. with cocktails. The meal will be served punctually at 1 p.m.

Members and their guests Gs. 50,000 – Non Members Gs. 80,000 (Cost does not include soft drinks nor wines).

***To reserve your place please call Mr Langer: 0991.724 217***

Confirmed attendees. **Humbert Solente**, Chairman Paraguayan-French Chamber of Commerce; **John Helmfelt**, Honorary Treasurer; **Alexander Neuendorff**, past Chairman; **Michael Becker**, Private Consultant; **Henry Bergerón**; **Mariano Canova**, Director/Manager Chaco Hotel; **Dieter Plesky**, a Camp Member of the Stranger's Club who will be travelling up from Buenos Aires; **Guillermo Curry**, Dr. **Héctor Sosa Gennaro**; **Divina Ayala**; **Janine Patterson**, Chairman Dervish Publications; **Viggo** and **Elizabeth Friling** who'll be arriving from Norway to attend the event and **Vladimir Ionescu**, Honorary Consul of Rumania.

**NOTE:** The bi-annual visit by Stranger's Club Members and guests to the Robles-Berkemeyer ranch in Valenzuela, that was tentatively scheduled for Saturday, October 18, has been put forward to (again tentatively) Saturday, 8 November.

## **ROBERT SCHULZE**

### **Public Translator**

**Reg. N° 863**

**Spanish - German / German - Spanish**

***Other languages: English - French***

**Tel. 0992-297.268**

**E-Mail: rob\_bcn@rtlworld.de**

## CHURCH NOTICES

**ST. ANDREW'S ANGLICAN CHURCH** - Avda. España 1357 (near corner of General Santos) Services in English every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. For further information, contact the Diocesan Office Tel. 200-933. *Vicar: Rev. Patrick Butler* – Tel. 206 934

**CATHOLIC MASS in ENGLISH** – Held at the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate (Misioneros Oblatos de Maria Inmaculada). The address is Quesada between Molas and MacArthur. Mass starts at **11:00 am** on Sundays.

To check English Mass timetable call: 371-056 or 390-907

The priest is **Father Ranulfo Veron, C.S.S.R**

## NEWS FROM FRANCE

### U.S. experts bring oldest voice recording to life from France

Striking a chord in the history of recorded sound, an 1860 voice recording of a French folk song was recently discovered and translated into sound by American experts. The clip is believed to predate, by 17 years, Thomas Edison's "Mary Had a Little Lamb," formally credited as the oldest recorded voice.

Last month, First Sounds, a group of audio historians, recording engineers, and sound archivists who work to preserve mankind's earliest sound recordings, announced that the one-line excerpt of the song is believed to be both the earliest recognizable record of the human voice and the earliest recognizable record of music.

The Parisian inventor Edouard-Léon Scott de Martinville, who created visual recordings of sound waves with a phonoautograph, produced the 10-second clip of "*Au claire de la lune*". Using a needle that moved in response to sound, the device recorded a pattern of sound waves onto paper previously blackened by the smoke of an

oil lamp.

On March 1, the French Academy of Sciences sent digital scans of Scott's paper to researcher David Giovannoni, who, in collaboration with other audio historians, took on the task of transforming the paper tracings into sound. Scientists at the Lawrence Berkeley National laboratory (LBNL) in California used a "virtual stylus" to read the very high-res digital scans they had made of the sooty paper.

The resulting sound, said to be "like a ghost singing to you", was played at the annual conference of the Association for Recorded Sound Collections at Stanford University and was also posted on the Web.

**Source:** News from France – French Embassy Press & Information Service

## News from the Republic of China (Taiwan)

### Bringing Hope to the Remotest of Regions

The Solomon Islands might not feature prominently in travel literature here in Taiwan, but some Taiwanese considered it their duty to pay a visit to this island nation. In July 2006, a Taiwan ICDF Mobile Medical Mission (MMM) operating in conjunction with Chung-Ho Memorial Hospital crossed the oceans to spread the seeds of love to this Melanesian archipelago.

The Solomon Islands is made up of 21 large islands and countless small ones. As people of Austronesian descent, they share genetic ties with Taiwan's aborigines. Easygoing and warmhearted, they made the MMM's visit unforgettable. Nonetheless, it is no easy thing having to move from island to island for clinical visits.

To reach the Marau Area Health Center at the top of Marau Sound, the medical services team took a small boat and disembarked to discover that this village of 860 people had neither running water nor electricity, let alone a paved road. These were the type of people who

needed medical aid the most. The medical team seized every moment of daylight and treated 189 people in one day. Once darkness fell, they packed up and returned to their accommodation, to rest before an early start the next day. The next morning, however, heavy rain started to fall, and the ocean turned rough. The original plan to go by boat to the village of Sukiki, on the island chain's Weather Coast, before 7 a.m. was therefore postponed.

Around 9.30 a.m., the rain began to subside, and the anxious team members unanimously voted to carry on with their plan despite the ferocious waves. The members got into two small boats and were tossed about on high seas for more than two hours before finally reaching the shores of Sukiki in one piece. Since it was nearly 1 p.m., they only had five hours before they had to return to base again.

Time was pressing, and the team had no choice but to use every moment effectively. Luckily, the whole village was mobilized to help move equipment and medicine to a church on the hill. A crowd of a few hundred began to gather and waited with excitement outside the church because this was the first time doctors from a foreign country had ever come to this village. Stepping onto the land, the members of the MMM were making history in bringing their love and care to this remote corner of the ocean.

Completely forgetting their lunch, the MMM staff immediately got down to business. Indeed, so focused were they that the village chief eventually had to tell the villagers to stop queuing to allow the team members to eat and rest for a while.

The MMM members recommenced work but with dusk drawing near and another two hours of sea travel ahead of them before returning to base, the village chief once again spoke up, imploring the Taiwanese team to call it a day. Meanwhile, the villagers helped the team launch the boat into the ocean, where the waves were even higher than in the morning.

The team left with heavy hearts and a good deal of anxiety about the conditions, but they had to get back to the capital city of Honiara by the morning of the next day to prepare for their next stop. At the end of their time in the Solomons, the members of this MMM expressed the hope that, by taking the initiative, they would help encourage more people to take an interest in these friends in need, in a far-flung corner of the world.

**SOURCE:** Taiwan ICDF

### **The Humour Corner**

*By* Eduardo "Teddy" Abello & Donald Sym Smith

#### **Rugby in Heaven**

Two 90 year old men, Mike and Joe, have been friends all of their lives.

When it's clear that Joe is dying, Mike visits him every day. One day Mike says, 'Joe, we both loved rugby all our lives, and we played rugby on Saturdays together for so many years. Please do me one favour, when you get to Heaven, somehow you must let me know if there's rugby there.'

'Joe looks up at Mike from his death bed,' Mike, you've been my best friend for many years. If it's at all possible, I'll do this favour for you.'

Shortly after that, Joe passes on. At midnight a couple of nights later, Mike is awakened from a sound sleep by a blinding flash of white light and a voice calling out to him, 'Mike—Mike.'

'Who is it? Asks Mike sitting up suddenly. 'Who is it?'

'Mike—it's me, Joe.'

'You're not Joe. Joe just died.'

'I'm telling you, it's me, Joe,' insists the voice.'

'Joe! Where are you?'

'In heaven', replies Joe. 'I have some really good news and a little bad news.'

'Tell me the good news first,' says Mike.

The good news,' Joe says,' is that there's rugby in heaven. Better yet, all of our old friends who died before us are here, too. Better than that, we're all young again.

Better still, it's always springtime and it never rains or snows. And best of all, we can play rugby all we want, and we never get tired.'

'That's fantastic,' says Mike. 'It's beyond my wildest dreams! So what's the bad news?'

'You're on the team for Tuesday.'

### **Finding Jesus**

A drunk stumbles along a baptismal service on a Sunday afternoon down by the river. He proceeds to stumble down into the water and stands next to the Minister.

The Minister turns, notices the old drunk and says, 'Mister, are you ready to find Jesus?'

The drunk looks back and says, 'Yes sir, I am.'

The Minister then dunks the fellow under the water and pulls him right back up. 'Have you found Jesus?' the Minister asks.

'No, I didn't!' said the drunk.

The Minister then dunks him under for a quite a bit longer, brings him up and says,

'Now brother, have you found Jesus?'

'No, I did not!' says the drunk again.

Disgusted, the Minister holds the man under for at least 30 seconds this time, brings him up and demands, 'For the grace of God, have you found Jesus yet?'

The old drunk wipes his eyes and pleads, 'Are you sure this is where he fell in?'

### **WORLD'S EASIEST QUIZ -**

#### **Again the questions:**

- 1) How long did the Hundred Years' War last?
- 2) Which country makes Panama hats?
- 3) From which animal do we get catgut?
- 4) In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution?
- 5) What is a camel's hair brush made of?
- 6) The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after what animal?
- 7) What was King George VI's first name?
- 8) What colour is a purple finch?
- 9) Where are Chinese gooseberries from?
- 10) What is the colour of the black box in a commercial airplane?

#### ***The answers***

#### **ANSWERS TO THE QUIZ**

***Remember, you need 4 correct answers to pass:***

- 1) 116 years
- 2) Ecuador
- 3) Sheep and Horses
- 4) November
- 5) Squirrel fur
- 6) Dogs
- 7) Albert
- 8) Crimson
- 9) New Zealand
- 10) Orange (of course)

### **IRB Mourns the Passing of Dr Roger Vanderfield**

The International Rugby Board was extremely saddened to learn that former IRB Chairman Dr Roger Vanderfield OBE has passed away aged 80. Vanderfield, who was also Australia's representative on the IRB Council for over 20 years, was an instrumental figure in

the introduction of the Rugby World Cup.

“A man of great stature, Dr Vanderfield’s contribution to the Game was massive. As a referee he was one of the most respected officials of his era, and presided over 1,000 first class matches. He channeled the same degree of passion and enthusiasm for the Game into his role as IRB Council Member for Australia and also as Chairman of the IRB. As someone who had such a strong association with the Game his death will be mourned throughout the Rugby community,” said IRB Chairman Bernard Lapasset.

“Dr Vanderfield will best be remembered as an important driving force behind the introduction of Rugby World Cup. He was serving as Chairman of the International Rugby Board when, in 1985, the Australia and New Zealand Unions launched a joint feasibility study for the creation of a World Cup tournament. It was a concept that he was prominent in championing,” added Lapasset.

Dr Vanderfield’s Rugby career started in refereeing and he officiated at more than 1,200 games between 1952 and 1976, including 14 Tests and 18 international representative matches.

A move into the Game’s administration beckoned. In total he served for 23 years as Australia’s representative on the IRB Council (between 1973 and 1996), served twice as Chairman of the IRB in 1985 and 1992 and was the Chairman of the inaugural IRB Medical Advisory Committee. Dr Vanderfield also served as President of the New South Wales Rugby Union and the Australia Rugby Union in the 1980s.

In 1976 Dr Vanderfield became an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) and in 2006 he was appointed Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for Service to the community through delivery of health care services, and to Rugby Union. The medical community will also mourn his passing.

“Dr Vanderfield will be remembered not just as a great stalwart and champion of Rugby both as a referee and an administrator, but also

**9 GUARANI News - Friday, 3 October 2008**

as a dedicated IRB Chairman,” added Lapasset. “The thoughts of everyone at the International Rugby Board are with Dr Vanderfield’s family at this difficult time.”

## **MAIL BAG**

*Hello Norman,*

It was a nice surprise to have received your email. Thank you for the birthday wishes and thoughts for my family.

Estamos muy bien y recordamos siempre con mucho cariño a nuestro querido Paraguay y a todos los buenos amigos.

Cada semana espero con alegría el Guarani News con las noticias y fotos del Stranger’s, por favor dale de mi parte a TODOS LOS SOCIOS mi afectuoso saludo.

Recibe un fuerte abrazo,

**Fernando J. Guardia**

## **STOP PRESS**

Luque, 30 de Septiembre de 2008

**Señor**

**Aldo Zucolillo, Director,**

**Mabel Rehnfeldt, periodista**

**Diario ABC COLOR**

**ASUNCIÓN – PARAGUAY**

**Objeto:** Hacer uso del derecho a réplica – Ley N° 1262/87- para aclarar a la ciudadanía y autoridades sobre las notas aparecidas en páginas 02 y 03 del Diario ABC COLOR del **30 de Septiembre de 2008.**

De mi mayor consideración:

Me dirijo a Ustedes y por medio de su Diario a la ciudadanía y a las autoridades, en referencia al Artículo publicado en el día de la fecha, páginas 2 y 3, con el fin de solicitar el derecho a réplica, referente al

tema expuesto.

Sacar de contexto un hecho. Decir medias verdades o presentar una situación inexistente como tal. Negarse a profundizar en una investigación consultando con todas las partes afectadas. Generalizar hechos aislados tergiversándolos y maximizándolos malintencionadamente y minimizar un hecho tan importante como lo es que los bomberos voluntarios paraguayos viven un antes y un después de la cooperación británica-escocesa, generan una justa reacción y ameritan este esfuerzo explicativo.

El servicio de bomberos voluntarios en el Paraguay es un capítulo de nuestra historia reciente, que es mal conocido por la ciudadanía paraguaya, prensa y autoridades.

Hace exactamente 30 años que surgió el primer Cuerpo de Bomberos Voluntarios en Asunción, 29 años el segundo en Encarnación y 21 años el tercero en Colonias Unidas, Itapúa. Hace 15 años existían en nuestro país sólo cinco Cuerpos de Bomberos, los que decidieron fundar una Federación que los represente y que tenía entre otros objetivos la fundación de Cuerpos de Bomberos Voluntarios en las comunidades que no contaban con el servicio. Hoy existen en el Paraguay 58 Cuerpos de Bomberos Voluntarios, 57 de ellos, Asociados a la Junta Nacional de Cuerpos de Bomberos Voluntarios del Paraguay (Entidad que reemplazó a la Federación por vigencia de la Ley N° 1431/99) y un solo cuerpo no asociado, el Cuerpo de Bomberos Voluntarios del Paraguay (CBVP), hoy no asociado, a pesar de haber sido uno de los Socios fundadores de la Junta Nacional y con representación mayoritaria en el Consejo Directivo. El CBVP. se retiró de la Junta Nacional al obtener la complicidad de algunos Senadores para asegurarse la mitad del presupuesto que para el servicio de Bomberos tenía destinado el Estado en concepto de aporte. Hoy el aporte del Estado cubre el 35% del costo operativo del CBVP. (declarado recientemente ante la Comisión Bicameral de Presupuesto

del Congreso Nacional) y menos del 5% del costo operativo de los restantes 57 Cuerpos de Bomberos voluntarios del Paraguay, distribuidos en todo el territorio patrio, integrantes de la Junta Nacional.

La fundación y el sostenimiento de Cuerpos de Bomberos Voluntarios, para suplir la ausencia del Estado en tal vital e insustituible servicio público, aunque aparentemente natural y fácil, constituye una ciclópea tarea que involucra no sólo a los conocidos Bomberos Voluntarios Combatientes, sino que a un numeroso grupo de responsables ciudadanos colaboradores, los Bomberos Voluntarios Activos, que desde sus cargos de administradores, como el caso mío de Director de Servicios Internacionales de la Junta Nacional y no Tesorero como se menciona en el Artículo periodístico, contribuimos con nuestro trabajo al sostenimiento de los mismos, demostrando que los paraguayos podemos coadyuvar con el Estado en la construcción del país seguro, protegido y próspero que todos anhelamos.

¿Sabe la Señora Mabel que el servicio de bomberos es uno de los servicios públicos más costosos y riesgoso que existe? ¿Sabe la Señora Mabel cuántos Cuerpos de Bomberos cuentan con carros de bomberos gracias a la cooperación británica-escocesa y que la totalidad de los cascos seguros e indumentaria segura, equipos de respiración autónoma, herramientas, su uso correcto, reparación y mantenimiento se deben a la cooperación obtenida por la “Operation Florian” e “internacional Fire & Rescue Association” (IFRA). Todo el equipamiento de vestuario con que cuentan los Cuerpos de Bomberos Asociados y gran parte del parque automotor fueron obtenidos gracias a esta cooperación internacional y con ello nuestros bomberos han podido cumplir con el rol social.

La cooperación obtenida de la “OPERATION FLORIAN” es fruto de una gestión que me cupo realizar en la anteriormente denominada “Federación”, que generosamente se compartió con el CBVP.

(amarillos) hasta su conclusión, a consecuencia de hostilidades y descortesías de los dirigentes del CBVP (amarillos). Igual suerte estuvo a punto de correr la cooperación de (IFRA), lográndose mantener por la gestión de la Junta Nacional y los Cuerpos asociados. Hacemos votos que la publicación de la Señora Mabel, por la forma desdeñosa en que se refiere a la Organización IFRA. no termine ahuyentando esta invalorable colaboración.

La publicación de la Señora Mabel Rehnfeldt en el Diario ABC COLOR, páginas 2 y 3 del 30 septiembre, lejos de desmoralizarme o aterrorizarme, constituye una brillante oportunidad para hacer conocer las verdades que conllevan el sacrificado y patriótico servicio que prestan los bomberos voluntarios y las organizaciones que conforman (hoy más de 57). ¡Quien mejor que una periodista de la talla y prestigio de ella para consolidar y concienciar este trabajo!

La señora se fija muy bien en la letra y omite mencionar el espíritu de la Ley, que fuera creada para apoyar y consolidar a estas insustituibles organizaciones de servicios a la comunidad. Pretende presentar como un delito o pecado una gestión llevada adelante para compensar servicios (Seminarios, Talleres, Cursos de Capacitación y Asistencia en los incendios forestales) que prestaron colegas argentinos.

Presentar como una venta con fines de lucro una operación compensatoria, de bienes no registrables entre Entidades Sociales sin fines de lucro, que con anuencia de los benefactores se han entregado, en nombre de los mismos benefactores, algunos equipos sobrantes y otros de imposible utilización en nuestro medio por razones climáticas, que habían sido solicitados por los colegas bomberos argentinos, ¿o es que los bomberos voluntarios paraguayos son los únicos sujetos de recibir ayuda solidaria de colegas de otros países? ¿Qué perjuicio pudo haberse ocasionado al Erario Público? ¿Se cometió algún delito

que peligre al Estado o a la ciudadanía?

Nuestros benefactores no sólo hacen el trabajo en forma personal de obtener materiales en su país, juntar las donaciones, almacenarlas, cargarlas en un container, trasladar el mismo a puerto, embarcarlo, venir al Paraguay para enseñarnos su uso, lógicamente por cuenta de los beneficiarios; eso se llama gestión internacional. Pretender ridiculizar a nuestro benefactor por gustar de una conacional parece más bien pretender originar una novela barata carente de seriedad.

El Servicio de Bomberos Voluntarios, por ser cosa tan seria, no debe ser presentado como una disputa de colores, ni como una pelea entre capitalinos y el resto del país, ni ser perjudicado por el accionar de la prensa. El Paraguay no debe derrochar sus recursos, tanto humanos como materiales; somos un país emergente que debe brindar imagen de seriedad a todos los habitantes y a todos los que circulan por nuestra patria. El Paraguay debe defender la igualdad de derecho, no deben existir ciudadanos de segunda categoría o Entidades privilegiadas en desmedro de otras.

En la historia de la gente que trabaja pueden surgir luces y sombras. La cooperación británica-escocesa ha de ser el capítulo más luminoso en la historia de la cooperación bomberil paraguaya. Estamos seguros que no existe igual.

Esperando la atención del Señor Director, aprovecho la oportunidad para saludarles,

Atentamente,

**Pedro Logan**

**This space is available for 52 weeks**

**@ 200 Euros**

**Call Norman Langer**

**0991 -724-217**

***International Fire and Rescue Association  
12 Logie Place, Dunfermline, Fife  
Scotland, KY12 9BS  
Charity number Sco 033401***

**30/09/08**

Dear Sir

I am writing this letter very worried in relation to what I consider incorrect statements made in the ABC newspaper both yesterday and today. This reporter is supposed to be an internationally awarded journalist; however in this particular case she surprises me and I find some of her statements are pure fantasy. She has incorrectly translated information for which I will give her the benefit of the doubt but also confused issues and things to my mind in a very warped manner. I will explain in answer to her allegations.

She says that I assist Paraguay because I have a girlfriend in Paraguay and although this is none of her business I will further explain. I have had a girlfriend there for only 1 year but at our committee meeting in 2003 in Scotland our committee decided on a 10-year plan to assist Paraguay; this includes 1 training mission per year. Our first mission to Paraguay was October 2004 and she says Peter says it was 2005 I am sure he just made an error with the dates, nothing bad I am sure. Yes equipment was sent at our request to Argentina but it is through the Junta who do a fantastic job. It is unviable for IFRA to send both a container to Paraguay and 1 to Argentina as we do not have the equipment to provide that level of assistance. This was agreed at a meeting with Argentine firefighters, and 2 directors of IFRA in Asunción. She also states that Peter last year says 40% of equipment goes to Paraguay and this year it is 80%, she never asked me about this or I would have told her she has mixed up issues –I will explain 80% OF EQUIPMENT WE COLLECT IN BRITAIN GOES TO PARAGUAY AS PER OUR COMMITTEE AGREEMENT 2003, 40% WAS THE

**12 GUARANI News - Friday, 3 October 2008**

AMOUNT OF EQUIPMENT FROM EACH CONTAINER WE SENT THAT THE BLUE FIRE SERVICE GOT, (remainder was 10% TO ASUNCION BRIGADES AND 50% TO THE YELLOWS) this continued until last year when we withdrew from assisting the yellow fire service due to lies they told us and when 6 were caught by port security stealing from a container that we sent.

We actually have sent over 40 fire engines and ambulances to all the following countries

**BOSNIA**-IFRA HAS SENT 6 MISSIONS TO BOSNIA, INCLUDING APPLIANCES, EQUIPMENT AND TRAINED HUNDREDS OF FIREFIGHTERS

**KOSOVO**-IFRA HAS SENT 1 MISSION TO KOSOVO INCLUDING AN APPLIANCE AND EQUIPMENT AND ALSO TRAINED 30 FIREFIGHTERS

**SERBIA**-IFRA HAS SENT 3 MISSIONS TO SERBIA INCLUDING APPLIANCE EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING

**ALBANIA**- IFRA HAS SENT 2 MISSIONS TO ALBANIA INCLUDING APPLIANCES AND EQUIPMENT AND ALSO TRAINED MANY FIREFIGHTERS

**TURKS AND CAICOS**-IFRA HAS SENT 3 APPLIANCES AND EQUIPMENT TO THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

**NAMIBIA**-IFRA HAS SENT 1 MISSION AN APPLIANCE AND FORMED AND TRAINED A LOCAL FIRE BRIGADE

**PARAGUAY**-IFRA HAS SENT 7 MISSIONS TO PARAGUAY INCLUDING APPLIANCES, EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORMS AND INSTRUCTED HUNDREDS OF FIREFIGHTERS

**PANAMA**-IFRA SENT 1 MISSION INCLUDING APPLIANCES, EQUIPMENT, UNIFORMS AND TRAINED 2 LOCAL BRIGADES

**LIBERIA**-IFRA SENT 1 MISSION TO LIBERIA INCLUDING APPLIANCES, EQUIPMENT, UNIFORMS AND WE FORMED AND TRAINED A LOCAL BRIGADE

**ROMANIA**- IFRA HAS SENT EQUIPMENT THROUGH OTHER CHARITIES TO ASSIST THE LOCAL BRIGADES IN ONE OF THE NEEDY AREAS IN ROMANIA

**KASHMIR**- IFRA SENT 2 MISSIONS TO KASHMIR TO ASSIST IN HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE IN THE REGION

**CUBA** – IFRA ASSISTED 2 OTHER CHARITIES IN SENDING EQUIPMENT AND APPLIANCES TO THIS NEEDY COUNTRY.

Not exactly a small amount of assistance. *Also she indicates that I said we work for the British government* –this was not understood correctly, I said we are administered and audited by the government annually and they are happy with what we do.

She also says our website focuses on the social side, I have been on it and fail to see what she sees, we have some charity fundraisers where we raise money and that is normal fundraising in this country .She also says “Do the English tax payers know the end destination of their donations” I am Scottish we are based in Scotland and the Tax payers know everything as we are audited annually...

This country SCOTLAND IS ABOUT 400 MILES FROM LONDON (AT LEAST 100 MILES FROM THE BORDER TO OUR BASE IN FIFE). T

he Junta, Peter Logan and others in the Blue fire service in particular have done so much to improve the fire service in Paraguay and they do not need to resort to using journalists with very incorrect appreciations.

Should she continue making incorrect and aggressive statements I am considering taking legal action in this matter!

**David Kay**

Director/Chairman

International Fire and Rescue Association

**13 GUARANI News - Friday, 3 October 2008**

## A truly unique legacy

*Norman M. Langer*, the Founder of the Stranger's Club Asunción, has produced a CD Rom that includes the Club's 25 years history together with picture coverage of luncheons 300 and 350 not to mention a Memorabilia section containing many more unpublished pictures. Attendees of the 350th Luncheon have received their free copy as previously announced, but for the hundreds who were not able to be present, yet may wish to have a copy, please send in your request to [stranger@highway.com.py](mailto:stranger@highway.com.py) and receive an Internet order form.

## Stranger's Club Asuncion



## SILVER ANNIVERSARY

*Part I - 1983 - 2008*

*Part II - Luncheons 300 & 350*

*Part III - Memorabilia*

**DERVISH** HOTEL ★★★★★  
EDITORIAL WESTFALENHAUS  
RESTAURANTE FRIEDENKA

CD's come in Acrobat Reader format

## KOREA'S NATIONAL DAY

On Thursday, 2 October HE Joo Teck Kim and his wife hosted a reception at their residence to commemorate the Day of the Foundation of the Korean Nation and the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary since becoming the Republic of Korea.



Centre piece stage from which the Korean choir sang the National Anthems of both countries.



Ambassador **Joo Teck Kim** (centre) and his wife together with Gral. (R) **Lino César Oviedo**



*Left:*

First Lady **Mercedes Lugo de Maidana** (centre) together with **Mirtha Maidana Lugo** and **Dr. Edgar Ynsfrán Ugarriza** of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. *(All photos N.M. Langer)*