

**IT'S  
STILL  
FREE**

April 29 to May 6, 2005 Volume 12, Issue 17

# **The BONAIRY REPORTER**

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**SINCE 1994**



Francisco "Bubuchi" Janga and friend invite everyone to the 17th annual Rincon Day (Dia di Rincon) this Saturday, April 30.

**Ready for Rincon Day**

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# FLOTSAM AND JETSAM

Things are continuing to **heat up in the effort to restructure the Antilles**. Bonaire elected officials are pushing hard for bilateral talks with The Netherlands to define the direct-tie mandate from last year's Referendum. The opposition is emphasizing that those types of activities are premature and that all the other islands and Aruba must be involved. Curaçao will ask for its own judiciary and monetary system during the constitutional summit in St. Maarten this week. The target for reorganization of the Netherlands Antilles is July 2007. That date was proposed at the Summit Meeting of the islands that started this Tuesday.

► The US State Department recently reported that more than **two million American citizens visit the Antilles and Aruba every year** and that almost **6,000 American citizens live here**. The US is the biggest export trading partner of the Antilles with 21.3%, followed by Venezuela with 16%.

► **Forty of the 220 pilots employed by Air Jamaica** are set to lose their jobs over the next two months as the national airline continues to trim its staff as part of a cost-cutting plan at the debt-strapped company. At the same time, the airline announced last Tuesday that its board was in the process of completing its assessment and restructuring planning and expects to recommend a "new overall structure and strategy" to the government shortly.

According to the airline, Tuesday's job cuts were a result of the cutting of some

of its routes and the reduction on the frequency of flights on others. Bonaire routes were not mentioned in the announcement.

Tuesday's announcement by Air Jamaica came three months after the airline slashed 200 staff members, including 100 of its 500 flight attendants, in January as part of broad-based cost-cutting measures to return to profitability. Aside from the trimming of the number of its pilots and flight attendants, several management positions were also made redundant, while the salaries of top managers were cut. The airline eliminated flights to several destinations and returned at least three of its leased aircraft. (*Jamaica Observer*)



► **Divi Divi Airlines provides daily, daylight hour connections** between Bonaire and Curaçao. They recently acquired an additional plane, a Norman Islander. There was speculation that Divi would expand operations to Aruba, but a spokesman for the airline said that that was not an immediate goal. Some details on Divi Divi air follow:

**Fleet:** Two Norman Islanders, One

(Continued on page 8)

# 11 Years of Reporting



On Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup> *The Bonaire Reporter* celebrated its 11<sup>th</sup> birthday with a party at Pasa Bon Pizza for its staff, writers and colleagues from the Papiamentu language daily newspaper, *Extra*. Big thanks go to the readers over the years and especially the advertisers. It's they who support *The Reporter* and keep it free! □ *L./G.D.*

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**OPPOSING POINTS OF VIEW #1 - animal care on Bonaire**

**Response to**  
**"Bonaire Does Not Need an Animal Tsar,**  
*(The Bonaire Reporter, April 22-29 2005)*



Dear Editor,

In the last issue of the *Reporter* there was a letter to the editor written by Mr. Don Ricks stating his concerns about a new foundation that we are in the process of establishing, Foundation Animal Welfare Bonaire (FAWB). We had intended to introduce ourselves to the public next month after we registered the foundation. As it is, we are in the unfortunate position of having to begin our mission by correcting misinformation about the foundation. We would like to introduce ourselves now and give the public an accurate picture of the purpose and goals of this foundation.

Our purpose is to further the welfare of all animals on Bonaire, domestic, wild and feral.

The founders of FAWB are indeed recent arrivals (less than 2 years on Bonaire, although 2 of the members have lived in the Netherlands Antilles for a total of 8 years). We are also highly knowledgeable about, and dedicated to, the issues of animal welfare. Sometimes a new perspective is needed to identify, and address, the kinds of needs we are focused on. Yes, our scope is extremely ambitious, and absolutely necessary. We feel Bonaire should have the kind of umbrella organization which exists in many countries in the world, including Holland and other islands in the Netherlands Antilles.

FAWB's objectives include education, legislation, the sharing of information with the public, providing support for existing agencies, and the creation of new projects and resources to address needs which are not currently being met. Meeting these objectives will necessarily involve the monitoring of all existing agencies as well as island activities which affect animal welfare.

"Monitoring" is very different from "overseeing", and FAWB will have no authority to oversee or "interfere" with any agency, nor is it our intention to do so. It is our hope to work with and provide support and resources to any and all existing agencies concerned with animal care and welfare. We have already consulted with the island's veterinarians for their advice and input, and count on their active involvement in FAWB. We certainly have no intention of "supervising" them. It is not our intention to divert funds from existing agencies. On the contrary, we hope to provide more funding and resources to these agencies. Neither is it our intention to "duplicate the efforts of existing organizations" which "would channel capital into redundant facilities--including a second animal shelter--and could divert funding from established NGOs of proven competence and known motives" (Mr. Ricks).

We have no intention of duplicating existing facilities or programs. Specifically, we have no intention of starting a second shelter. We do intend to address needs which are not currently being met. One among many of these is the need to have "someone who investigates and intervenes when dogs and cats are neglected or abused" (Mr. Ricks). Accomplishing this would absolutely require more than a phone, a car and an office, hence our desire to someday build a facility for the care and rehabilitation of rescued animals. This would not be a redundant facility. Above all, we need education, legislation, and the exchange of information, and these will be our initial primary goals.

As to our "motives": very simply, we love animals. We want to work to do what we can to improve the lives of all animals on Bonaire. Once the foundation is registered and we have a Board, our founding group will dissolve. Board members

will serve limited terms. We are volunteers and will remain so. We will never be paid salaries by this foundation. We already have a wide base of support for our foundation. We have received a grant for our start up costs (from SBA in Holland) as well as a promise of funding for educational programs and an offer of land on which to someday house rescued animals.

We welcome your questions and your input. We are still in the process of forming our Board, which we hope will consist of local educators, veterinarians, community leaders and others concerned with animal welfare. Please feel free to contact us at [pettet@bonairenet.com](mailto:pettet@bonairenet.com) (Dutch) or [bandbfarm@yahoo.com](mailto:bandbfarm@yahoo.com) (English).

Ronald Tetteroo, Petra Tetteroo, Alexandra Brown, Susan Brown,  
 Jane Madden-(Founders of Foundation Animal Welfare Bonaire)

**'Animal Welfare' on Bonaire**

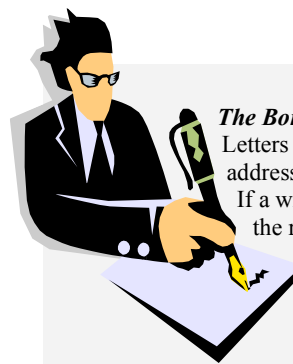
Response to FAWB letter (above):

The founders of FAWB say that, in my letter to the editor last week, I disseminated misinformation about their intentions. Now that I have read their response, I see that I did misinterpret some of their objectives (also printed in *The Reporter*). I did not realize that 'monitoring is very different from overseeing,' and that other animal care organizations on the Island need a group—perhaps more expert and loving?—to monitor their operations. Apparently I was incorrect in thinking that someone who said they intend to 'build a facility for the care and rehabilitation of rescued animals' meant they were going to build an animal shelter. And I was clearly in error when I assumed some of the founders of the FAWB would become salaried employees of the foundation. It is reassuring to know that all five of the people who signed the letter intend to serve as unpaid volunteers.

But as to the basic issue, I still disagree that Bonaire has a general 'animal welfare' problem that has been awaiting enlightened intervention. Established organizations are already looking after the donkeys, the goats, the loras, the bats, the turtles and the conch. The Animal Shelter takes in homeless cats and dogs. The flamingos are protected from over-flying aircraft. The fish do not have to worry about spear guns. The slaughter house is operated humanely. The 'protocols' for inoculating and euthanizing animals followed by both veterinary clinics seem professional and adequate. I suppose we might need new animal protection legislation, but perhaps it can wait until the crime protection legislation starts working more effectively.

On the other hand, we do have cases of abuse, neglect, and careless management of pets on the island. Which brings us to the need for a humane society—one with clearly conceived goals and a practical agenda—that could intervene where needed and could help nurture a better informed, more responsible and more loving animal-care culture.

Don M. Ricks



**The Bonaire Reporter welcomes letters from readers.**

Letters must include the writer's name and telephone number or e-mail address. Letters without that information will not be published.

If a writer wishes to remain anonymous or just use initials we will honor the request. Letters should not be more than 400 words in length and may be edited at the Editor's discretion. Send letters or diskettes to *The Bonaire Reporter*, Kaya Gob. Debrot 200-6, Bonaire; via fax 717-8988 or E-mail: [letters@bonairenews.com](mailto:letters@bonairenews.com)

OPPOSING POINTS OF VIEW #2 - diving the Windjammer

IT IS NOT PRUDENT TO DESCRIBE  
WINDJAMMER DIVES

Dear Editor,

In your issue of April 15 we had again a possibility to experience the writing talents of Mr. Bianculli. Clearly, Mr. Bianculli's ethics do not match his writing talents. First of, his show at Habitat contains pictures of marine life in distress and the handling of marine life, violating the long time, no touching, no handling spirit of the diving community on Bonaire.

Second he clearly did not get the gentle hint that was written by Roger Haug, some issues back and directed at him, to be extremely selective, about publication and executions of dives that are way beyond the recreational diving limits, such as the *Windjammer* dive.

Mr. Bianculli was part of the group that was diving the *Windjammer* recently in which a diver tragically died. Did it occur to Mr. Bianculli that his enticing words might have been part of the reason that this diver participated that day? We had the displeasure to hear Mr. Bianculli's story about that fatal dive, as well as from two other participants and a picture of exceptional bad organization emerges.

But it gets even worse. The *Mairi Bahn* started to disintegrate after the entrance to the site was closed by BOPEC. In other words while diving for this story as well as during that fatal dive Mr. Bianculli was violating the law. In the light of what happened, the very least Mr. Bianculli could do was to withdraw the story and apologize deeply for his mistakes. He did not and that makes him an affront to the diving community and an ordinary trespasser to me.

Bart Snelder

IT IS A DUTY AND IMPORTANT TO WRITE ABOUT WINDJAMMER DIVES

Response to Mr. Snelder's letter (above):

Dear Editor:

My presence at the *Windjammer* dive site on the day of the incident that Mr. Snelder mentions was totally independent of the four-person dive expedition that preceded my dive partner and me to the wreck. My observations of their procedures, preparation, equipment and dive execution can add valuable information to the diving community here on Bonaire and worldwide.



The discussion about the activity that I witnessed, in answer to a question presented by a member of the audience at my Sunday slide show at Habitat, is a clear indication of the desire by interested people to know the true facts surrounding this tragic event. My willingness to participate in an open, public forum to present that information is in support of all the principles of safe diving practices and procedures of the Dive Industry Certifying Agencies and DAN policy. A complete and factual debriefing of all parties following any abnormal incident, no matter how insignificant or unpleasant, is the usual process recommended by these same agencies.

Suppression of those facts, by any authorities, self interest groups or participants, is contrary to the very nature and spirit of the educational process within the diving community mentioned in your letter.

Experienced divers are a special breed of individuals. By nature, they are active, inquisitive, serious and passionate about the pursuit of diving freedom and the right of free access to the sea for ALL people. Many are also scrupulous protectors of the environment and everything within the marine world.

As a member of this group, with over 5,335 marine logged dives since 1968, I am an enthusiastic protector of these rights. As a self educated naturalist, any of my personal encounters and interactions with the creatures in the marine environment is handled with the utmost care and respect. I communicate with educated, professional experts in marine biology and the dive community to further my own education and experience. I freely share all my personal knowledge and field observations with them and any interested individuals by my writing and photo documentation.

Your suggestion that my adventure series about the *Mairi Bhan* was a contributing factor in the incident is absurd. The victim, in this case, was a frequent and longtime visitor to the wreck. His passionate pursuit of diving and photography is well documented. His interest and desire to personally visit the site fueled his ambition. The facts surrounding his fate must be presented to the public as a testament to his dedication and respect for his passing.

There are many dive sites on Bonaire that are more dangerous and challenge the experience of all divers more than the *Windjammer*. At this site the location of the wreck itself, on the lower sandy reef shelf, as the intended dive target, provides a limit to the depth and dive duration. At Karpata, for example, the slope and shape of the underwater terrain, with the presence of numerous large colonial Admiralty styled anchors with attached massive chains, lead and lure the unsuspecting or inexperienced diver down to depths far beyond their personal abilities or competence.

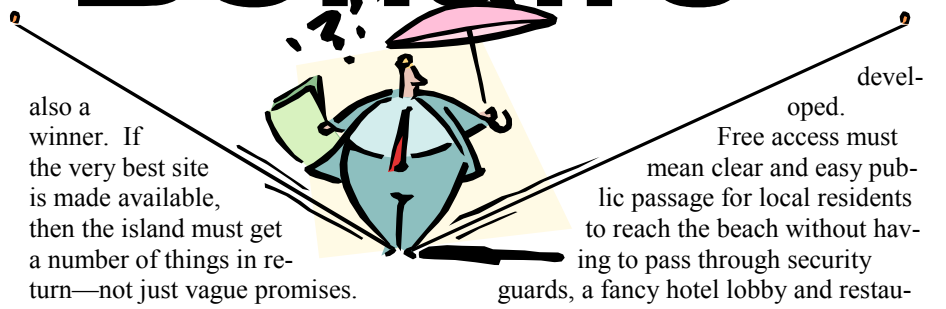
I wish to point out that my entrance to the sea at the site did not require passage over the BOPEC property and was within the accepted legal right of public access to the sea, as understood by all residents of the Antilles.

Albert Bianculli



Sunset Beach

# Finding Balance for Bonaire



Like everywhere else in the world, our little island is faced with a constant balancing act. How do we preserve the idyllic, peaceful nature of the island while providing improved living standards for its population? The questions often boil down to: **Developing Tourism vs. Protecting the Environment. Short-term Growth vs. Long-term Sustainability. Jobs Now vs. Children's Future. Local Rights vs. Foreign Investment.**

Right now the issue is centered on whether the old Sunset Beach Hotel site needs a 570-room hotel. This article is the start of a series that will look at the issue of finding the right balance for Bonaire. We'll raise the question of whether we can find a balance that will fuel the tourist economy while protecting the environment, which brings the tourists in the first place. We'll also look at whether fueling the tourist economy will benefit or damage other local businesses. Too many new rooms at one time can have the opposite effect and create reduced occupancy rates at existing hotels. And we'll look at how to balance the rights and needs of the local population against the needs of potential developers – will the new jobs created be filled with Bonaireans or will we see an influx of foreign workers with no real benefit to the local community?

## Looking for Win-Win

The goal of this series is to help our government and our voters make good decisions so that the result is a win for all sides. What we don't want to happen is to stifle growth that will reduce airlift to the island. But we also don't want to see uncontrolled growth that will create the need for more foreign workers as happened in Aruba; or poorly planned growth that ruins the reef that lures the tourists. Examples of this can be seen around the world.

Let's start with the current questions: Does the island need a large, 570-room hotel, and is the best location for such a large hotel the old Sunset Beach Hotel site? If the answer to either the site or size question is 'yes,' then we must ask the very important question of 'How can Bonaire get the most value from such a deal?'

## Equal Exchange?

Clearly the Sunset Beach site is the prime location on the island. Its wide, clean beaches and central location make it the island jewel. We know what any developer will win from the site: ideal location, free or cheap land rights, tax holiday and an ongoing profitable business. Otherwise they would not be entering the deal.

So what should Bonaire get out of it? Any deal for this location must be carefully planned so that the island is

also a winner. If the very best site is made available, then the island must get a number of things in return—not just vague promises.

What would be equal value for such a prime location? Here are just a few suggestions which are discussed below: 1) permanently designed free (and easy) public access, 2) a guaranteed share of the jobs, 3) ongoing program for job training, 4) bond posted to prevent a half-completed job and the resulting "skeleton," 5) specific system to keep sewage completely off the reef and out of the ocean.

## Free Public Access

Historically Sunset Beach was a favorite place for local families as well as tourists. The public had free and easy access to the site and made frequent use of it. This free access must be preserved, regardless of whatever else is done with the site. And this free access cannot just be a vague promise in a contract, but must be clearly spelled out and designed into any plans that are

developed. Free access must mean clear and easy public passage for local residents to reach the beach without having to pass through security guards, a fancy hotel lobby and restaurants or even appearing to enter a hotel property. Take a look at Harbour Village for an example of how NOT to do it. Who would want to go to and from the beach with their gear, food, wet swimsuits and crying children if they

### Contract Point One

**So point one in any contract for the Sunset Beach site must be a separate public entrance, open 24 hours, which does not require walking through a new hotel. There must also be adequate parking for families who want to use the beach.**

have to pass through a fancy hotel?

### Guaranteed Share of the Jobs

The main reason for the island to accept a large hotel to the island is for the

*continued on page 7*

*(Continued on page 7)*

*Finding Balance (Continued from page 6)*

jobs it will provide. A 570-room hotel should create 300 to 400 jobs. But if the bulk of the jobs go to foreigners, it does not do the local population much good. And the jobs must be at all levels, not just the low and entry level positions.

But one problem with creating 300 to 400 new jobs is the fact that we do not currently have the workers from Bonaire to fill those jobs. Will we then have to import workers from South America, as Aruba has done? Or will the developer bring its own staff from other locations?

Perhaps a way to turn the problem into an opportunity is to put into the agreement with any developer the requirement for annual job training for our young people and re-training programs for older workers to move up the ladder. The job training should start while the hotel is still in construction so that when it opens there are local people in the jobs. Provision must also be made for a phase-out of a certain percent of foreign workers in case they are needed only at startup.

**Contract Points Two and Three**

**In any land deal our government must require a guaranteed minimum percent of Bonaire workers at the start and have that portion increase over time. The agreement must also include formal training and re-training programs for Bonaire workers at all levels.**

**“Skeleton” Prevention Program**

History provides some good lessons here. Remember the number of years looking at the half-complete projects like Caribbean Court and Eden Beach. The years that the Parker project sat and depreciated until bought for a song by the van der Valk family. And there is the still incomplete Esmeralda Project and the Dutch Rooster Apartment complex that is once again stopped. The damage to the island of such failed projects goes far beyond the visual. Workers are laid off and suppliers are left unpaid. The Central Government is still paying off on the Parker Project fiasco. Esmeralda is now in the hands

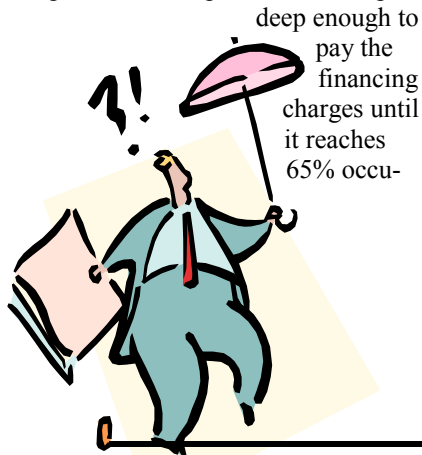


*The demolition of Sunset Beach — to be replaced with what?*

of a second developer who has profited from his deal without finishing the project.

The only way to prevent more failed projects is to first perform adequate ‘due diligence’ on the potential developer and the potential project to insure that the necessary funding is available. There are several retired developers on the island who estimate that a 570-room hotel will cost at least \$75 to \$100 million to build today. Even a mid-range hotel of that size with food and beverage facilities would cost over \$60 million. These numbers are supported by the 2004 International Hotel Development Cost Survey.

The financing alone will cost perhaps \$400,000 to \$500,000 a month at a minimum. That’s almost \$1,000 a month per room—just for the financing. At an occupancy rate of 65%, it will take about \$35 to \$45 dollars a day per room, again just to cover the loan financing. That means a very high room rate. Can Bonaire tourists (mostly divers) support another luxury hotel? Are the pockets of the potential developer



pancy? Let’s hope there are some development and financing experts examining the proposals before a contract is signed.

Beyond ‘due diligence’ there are other ways to help insure completion. The island should also require a bond to be posted or an insurance policy purchased to the benefit of Bonaire in case the project fails. The size of the bond must be enough to either tear down or complete the skeleton and the ownership of the project must revert to the island and not some bank where it will live in litigation for years.

**Contract Points Four and Five**

**A bond must be posted or insurance policy in place to protect the island in the event of a failed project. All plans (financial and construction) should be screened by a board of experts who deal in finance, construction and development and know what to look for.**

**Reef Protection Plan**

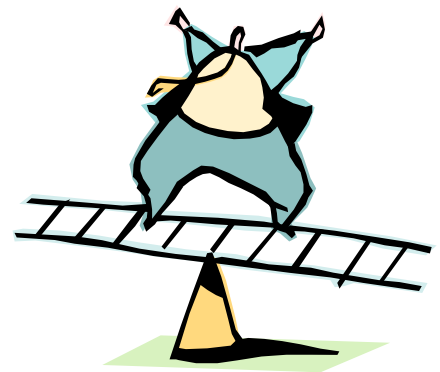
With what is known in the world today about the damage sewage does to a reef, there is absolutely no reason to allow new projects to put one drop of used water into the ocean. If a project is started before the proposed sewer system is in place, an alternate plan must be required that keeps all grey and black water away from the reef.

In the table below we have outlined the type of win-win deal that needs to be struck if Bonaire is to give away its

**Contract Point Six**

**A minimum four-stage tertiary treatment water management plant will be required as well as a plan for sewage pickup and removal from the site.**

prime beach location for development. In the next article we will look at the question of size. How many new beds does Bonaire really need? □ *Special to The Bonaire Reporter*



**Ideas for a Win-Win Contract**

Developer Wins	Bonaire Wins
Prime location on island	Guaranteed share of jobs at all levels (including the construction phase)
Free or inexpensive land	On-going job training by the developer
Tax Holiday	Permanent free, easy public beach access
Profitable, on-going business	Bond or insurance against incomplete job
Other incentives or concessions?	Protection for the reef from sewage

# Changes at Special Olympics



*Roosje, Delno, Suzy*

Last Saturday members of the FKPD (handicapped center), Special Olympics Bonaire and friends and family of Delno Tromp celebrated his birthday at Croccantino Restaurant. It was a goodbye party too for Delno as he's accepted a position with the UN-UNEP (United Nations Educational Program) in Nairobi, Kenya, Africa.

Delno has been the Caribbean National Director of Special Olympics and has worked diligently with Bonaire's teams for the last few years. Delno has been Director of US marketing for the TCB and was the innovator of the very success Bonaire Ambassa-

dors Program, among his many other accomplishments.

Ferina (Roosje) van der Hoek-Goeloe will take over as National Director of the Special Olympics Bonaire. Suzy Bakker will take over Roosje's job as the new PR Officer and Secretary of the Special Olympics Bonaire.

The parting gift for Delno, put together by Roosje, was a collage of photos of Delno and his friends during his life here in Bonaire.

All of us will miss you lots and lots, Delno! □L.D.

(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 2)

Cessna 402B (twin engine aircraft)

**Passengers:** 100 up to 150 per day;

**Freight:** Average 2 freight flights per week

**Staff:** 14 people; Internet site: www.flydivi.com – bookings can be requested on line

► **Dutch-CaribbeanExel was declared bankrupt Friday.** Most of its staff were hired by ArkeFly which will continue the Amsterdam-Curaçao route flying twice a week, expanding eventually to four flights a week. Tickets start at NAf767 which is competitive with KLM fares. Passengers holding DCEXel tickets can exchange them for new ArkeFly tickets. The airline flies

Boeing 767s.

The bankruptcy of DCEXel was coordinated with the takeover by ArkeFly who also took over HollandExel routes. ArkeFly is affiliated with the tour operator TUI Netherlands.

► **Two short circuits in the Bonaire power grid caused outages last week.**

The most serious was last Monday when there were two interruptions of service for most customers. The first failure was around 0715 and lasted about two hours. The second failure was around 1530, due to a short circuit in the cable between the power plant south of Belnem (former Trans World Radio site) and the central power plant at Hato.

A bird that flew into an overhead

(Continued on page 11)



## MAY 20-21-22

# Harbour Town Bonaire Jazz Festival 2005





3 MAIN CONCERTS FOR ONLY 30 NAF!

**May Wilhelmina plein**  
19 Welcome concert  
7:00 PM 

**May Plaza Resort**  
20 Denise Jannah, Ced Ride  
7:30 PM Cedric Dandaré,  
Avila Blues Houseband 

**May Bongo's Beach**  
21 Cuban Express  
7:30 PM X-Hale 

**May Kontiki Beach Club**  
22 Freewinds Band  
5:00 PM Stacey Francis  
Delbert Bernabela Band 

Sunset & late night sessions at City Café  
Jazzbrunch Rum Runners 11:30 AM May 22

Also thanks to:  
 • Toyota • Russel Insurance • Telbo • Benetton • Don Andres  
 • BonaireNet • BonaireExpress • Bonaire Reporter • Omni Electronics  
 • Plaza Resort Bonaire • City Café • Bongo's Beach • Kontiki Beach Club  
 • TCB • Bonaire Jazz Foundation • Rum Runners • Budget



## PWA is On The Way



Ann Phelan photo

Mosje Vingerhoets doing a one-handed Gecko Flak

**T**he countdown is on for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Maduro and Curiel's Bank Bonaire PWA King of the Caribbean set for May 15-22. This is the biggest event yet with over 39 males from nations around the world registered at this early date for Bonaire's first Grand Prix / World Cup event. More are expected to register in the weeks to come. The biggest news is in the Women's Division with over 14 women set to compete for \$15,000 in cash prizes.

Twin super stars, Iballa and Daida Moreno, are returning and bringing two top women from their home in Gran Canaria, Spain. Women from Germany, France, Venezuela and Sweden will be coming to make this year's women's division a not-to-be-missed event.

Pros are already on island training for this event. The popularity of Bonaire as a near perfect training ground brings sailors here early to prep for this King of the Caribbean. Attendance is important for all in the freestyle tour for 2005. Sailors attending the event score points that are cumulative towards the final scores for the top places. Naturally with its reputation as a well run event with great parties and top name pros, this is the place to be in May. □ *Ann Phelan*

## Fishermen's Dock To Be Repaired

**D**uring Hurricane Ivan in September last year the wood and concrete dock used by fishing boats in Kralendijk was badly damaged. The situation is still dangerous as parts of the dock are lying ashore.

Although the Island Government applied to Holland for disaster relief, it hasn't yet arrived. Nevertheless the Island Government has decided to fix it, using their own funds. Repairs are expected to be completed soon. □ *Press release*



Mingel Martis, head of DROB- Public Works Department, Commissioner Jonchi Dortalina and Mr. Ridderstaat look over the Fishermen's Dock

## Mooring Info

**S**TINAPA Bonaire has extended its contract with Harbour Village Marina for the administration and maintenance of the Kralendijk yacht moorings. Their responsibilities under this contract include checking in boats after they clear Customs and collecting the



\$10 daily mooring fee. Harbour Village Marina keeps 25% of that fee in return for their work. They can also provide STINAPA brochures containing information on the Bonaire National Marine Park, Washington Slagbaai National Park and water sport rules and regulations. Harbor Village Marina will provide access to the Bonaire National Marine Park orientations and sell the STINAPA Nature Fee Tags. In addition they perform twice daily tours of the mooring field for a yacht count and mooring inspection as well as provide maintenance for the floats and lines. STINAPA can be reached at 717-8444 if you want further information. □ *Press release*

### KRALENDIJK TIDES (Heights in feet, FT)

Remember: Winds and weather can further influence the local tides

DATE	TIME	HEIGHT	COEF
4-29	5:02	2.0FT.	79
4-30	6:02	1.9FT.	69
5-01	7:06	1.8FT.	60
5-02	1:11	1.3FT.	56
5-03	3:23	1.2FT.	58
5-04	4:55	1.1FT.	65
5-05	6:18	1.1FT.	74
5-06	7:46	1.0FT.	82

### VESSELS MAKING A PORT CALL:

Andiamo	Honalee, USA	Santa Maria
Adventure Quest	Infinity	Sandpiper, USA
Angelos	Jan Gerardus	Sirius
Argo	Klsey	Sylvia K
Bernard	Lava	Take It Easy
Bright Sea	L'Quila, BVI	Ti Amo, USA
Calacanto	Luna C. USA	Tish
Camissa, Chan Is.	Lusistra	Tomorrow
Cape Kathryn	Maki, France	Ulu Ulu, USA
Clemencia	Nails	Ulysses
Felicity	Natural Selection	Unicorn, Norway
Flying Cloud, USA	Ouf	Varedhuni, Germany
Gabrielle	Pyewacket	Ya-T, BVI
Galandriel	Rusty Bucket	Yanti Paratzi
Guaicamar I., Ven.	Sabbatical	Zahi, Malta

# Rincon Day – A Real Bonairean Event

Francisco “Bubuchi” Janga, son of the late “Mr. Rincon,” Broetje Janga, is following in his father’s footsteps and heading up the organizing committee for the **17th annual Rincon Day (Dia di Rincon) this Saturday, April 30**. Those people who are on the committee are those who, as Bubuchi explains, “people who know the traditions, what Rincon Day is supposed to be. It’s for everyone, not just for the people with money. Those people who have a lot of knowledge of our culture don’t have a lot of money.”

The excitement actually begins the night before with a “pep rally” of cars, flying Rincon flags, which will gather at the Stadium in Playa at 6 pm and parade through the different barios (neighborhoods), arriving in Rincon around 7 pm. Stands selling food and drinks will have been set up in the streets of Rincon and it’s *Ban Topa* (let’s all meet) time where there’s dancing in the streets.

Saturday the camaraderie continues. There will be music everywhere, with three main stages set up for entertainment and several smaller ones nearby. There will be parades, games, bands, fun. Bring your camera for great photo opportunities!

Stands will be selling all that good Rincon traditional *comida* (food) like *kabrito stoba* (goat stew), *boka dushi* (sweet things), *bachi bach i* (a stew made from many parts of the goat – said to be delicious). The stands themselves are works of art, the creators using the native materials growing on the island. This year there will be a compe-



Rincon flag at the 2004 Rincon Day

petition for the best ones.

If you really want to be “in,” get yourself a Rincon Day tee shirt for NAf10 or 12, for adults and children. They’re sold at the Rincon Centro di Bario, the Rose Inn and at Anna Nicolaas’ store in the village.

Groups from Bonaire, Curaçao and Aruba will be on hand to entertain. Due to the lack of airline capacity between Aruba and Bonaire, the four groups from Aruba are actually chartering a plane from the US to get here! It’s that important to them to be here for Rincon Day! □ L.D.



Food and drink stand 2004 Rincon Day

## The Schedule

### FRIDAY, APRIL 29

**Car Cavalcade (*Optocht ban Rincon*)** starts at the stadium in Playa at 6 pm, goes through all the barios and ends up in Rincon at 7 pm. In Rincon, stands set up for food and drink and music in all the bars and restaurants until ???

### RINCON DAY, APRIL 30

**MCB 5 km/17.5 km run** with prizes. Starts at the Stadium in Playa at 7 am. Call COMCABON, Richard Pietersz at 717-8629 or 780-7225.

**Mass at the Church in Rincon**, singing, celebration of Queen Beatrix’s 25 years of investiture, raising the flag, 8 to 10 am

**Walk to the Plasa Commerce** – Announcements, speeches by honored guests, including the “Padrino” (godfather) of Rincon Day, former Prime Minister Miguel Pourier, 10 am

### WHERE’S & WHEN’S

**Stage 1, Plasa Commerce** 10:30 am. Activities continue until 4:30 pm

**Stage 2, Centro di Bario** – 11 am to 5:30 pm – skits, music, etc.

**Stage 3, Den Bus di Pedon** – Entertainment from 11 am to 4 pm

**Credit Union** (front of the church) – En-

tertainment, children’s games, from 11 am to 4:30 pm

**Strea di Oro** – (past church, on the right, on the way to Washington Park) Entertainment from 11 am to 5:30 pm.

### PARADES

**Note: The first three parades all start at 2 pm. If you just stand in one place you’ll be able to see them all.**

**Parada di Maskarada** – A parade of those wonderful masked characters who usually appear on January 1. (Route: Kaya Para Mira, Kaya Commerce, Kaya Rincon, Kaya Marino, Kaya C.D. Crestian, Kaya Para Mira)

**Parada di Antaño** – A parade of older people in old time Rincon dress. (Route: Kaya Marino, Kaya E.B. St. Jago, Kaya Rincon, Kaya Commerce, Kaya C. D. Crestian, Kaya Marino)

**Parada di Karnaval** – An “old time” Karneval parade (Route: Kaya E.B. St. Jago, Kaya Marino, Kaya Rincon, Kaya Commerce, Kaya E.B. St. Jago)

**Parada di Simadan** – **The grand finale.** Everyone is invited to join in, link arms and do the Simadan dance to the famous Simadan song. Starts at 5 pm. (Route: Kaya Piedra Pretu, Kaya Commerce, Kaya Rincon, Kaya E.B. St. Jago, Kaya Commerce, Kaya Rincon, Kaya E.B. St. Jago, Kaya Commerce, Kaya Rincon)

**Midnight** - Closure □ L.D.

## Hubentut pa Cristu Selling Books for Rincon Day



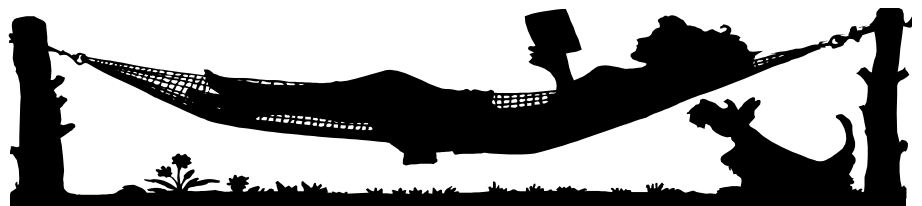
During the Rincon Day festivities this Saturday stop by the stand next to the Protestant church where there will be lots of second-hand books for sale – including children’s books and books in English. All of you who love to read are welcome! The stand is run by the *Hubentut pa Cristu* (young people for Christ).

Elly Oudshoorn writes that about 40 years ago there was a successful youth group at the Protestant Church in Rincon. As the members left the island the club declined. But two years ago, members of the church who were once members of the Hubentut themselves, wanted to revive the club where the youth of Rincon could come for activities. With the support of many people they started to rebuild the old building connected to the *kerki* (church) of Rincon. With the financial help of “Wings of Support,” KLM personnel, new inventory will be purchased. New furniture was delivered two weeks ago, thanks to them!

But they need material to keep the youngsters busy with handicrafts like painting, sewing, woodworking, playing ping pong, etc. so they need to raise money. They’re also looking for second hand computers.

This year at the stand they have plenty of good books and all the profit goes towards getting everything they need for the club.

For more information or if you can help, call Elly Oudshoorn, tel. 717-3227 or 786-0870. Email: [aeoudshoorn@flamingotv.net](mailto:aeoudshoorn@flamingotv.net) □



(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 8) power line most likely caused the first short circuit. This has happened several times in the past. To avoid this, warning balls were placed on the cables. The second power failure was fixed around 1700.

► According to the Bonaire Economics Department there has been **more construction** of houses, more extensions and more other small construction and renovations in 2004 than in 2003. The total construction value was 78% more than in 2004.

► On March 1<sup>st</sup>, the **cost of a first request for a work permit increased** from NAf350 to NAf550 per year. A renewal will now cost NAf375. Work permits for short term projects are NAf250 for three months. These fees will increase again in March 2006, from NAf550 to NAf750 for first permit requests and from NAf375 to NAf500 for renewals. Work permits for short term projects will go to NAf350. Requests for changes in work permits for foreign employees will be considered as first requests and will be charged with the new applicable rates. In 2004, 520 work permit requests were approved, 17 (2.44%) were denied; 148 business licenses were granted, an increase of 47 over 2003.

► The **free Spanish classes** sponsored by the Consulado General de la Republica Bolivariana (ak.a.Venezuela) **are filled until October-November.** For more information call 717-8275 between 9 am and 3 pm.

► New on Bonaire - **Pedisa Day Spa is offering a "White Peel" for the face.** The concept of using acids for a vigorous renewal of the skin is very old. Cleopatra wrote a book in which she described the use of fruit acids to renew and beautify the skin, and it was an ancient "best seller" for 200 years Today's acids speed skin turnover, remove skin lesions and

restore the firmness, elasticity and internal moisture-holding properties. Pedisa's treatment is totally comfortable and leaves your skin young looking and silky smooth. Call them at 717-4111 for more information. Pedisa Day Spa is located across from the post office, next to the parliament members' building. See their ad on page 4.

► Mother's Day is only a week away, Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>. You can send a **short message telling Mom your feelings for her with a free advertisement in the Classified section of The Bonaire Reporter.** Fax 717-8988 or e-mail mom@bonairereporter.com.



► **Looking for some great deals? Check out The Great Escape.** For example, how **about an Amstel or Polar beer for NAf1?** That's what they cost on Friday from 7 to 8 pm, which follows the two-hour Happy Hour from 5 to 7 pm. Perhaps you might like to take Mom to their Sunday Brunch, which begins at 10 am, or rent one of their new DVDs. See their advertisement on page 24.

► **Healing Touch** classes are about to begin again on Bonaire. If you want to learn more about this proven technique to help heal yourself and others join the free orientation class on **Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, from 7-8 pm at the Caribbean Club Bonaire at Hilltop.** See the notice on page 6 for more details and contact numbers.

► **This week's Benetton model is nine-year-old Ore Cristely Cranston.** The Benetton ad is on page 12. □ L./G.D.



**Tickets for the main concerts are now on sale at City Cafe, TCB, Kon Tiki Restaurant, Bongos Beach, Plaza Resort and the Bonaire Boekhandel.**

**Only NAf30 for the FULL 3-DAY PROGRAM.**



*Jazz Group -sketch by Harry Henson*

**D**uring the Festival Week 25+ musicians will perform. They include: Denise Jannah, Ced Ride, Avila Blues House band, Cuban Express, X-Hale, Bernabela Bislip Project, *Freewinds* Band with special guests, Stacey Francis, Latin Quarter, Bonaire Jazz Trio, Stingway and many others.

The Bonaire Jazz Foundation provides support to the SGB High School and the Centro di Barios with funds that broaden musical education. They gave a fundraising concert aboard the *Freewinds* just for that purpose When SGB students serve drinks and food at Wilhelmina Plaza on the 19<sup>th</sup> of May, the revenues from that will go to the school and sentro di barios.

Not only will the Festival organizers give away 20 tickets for the main concerts to SGB students with musical talents and interests, they will donate 25% of the Festival profits to the same groups. So get your tickets now. What's the delay? □

G.D.



*Kaya Korona just before blacktopping*

► The first section of the **rebuilt Kaya Korona was opened last weekend.** Due to the heavy rain, there was a significant delay in the reconstruction.

Now, another section, up to North Saliña, will be rebuilt at a cost of NAf5.5 million. This road was totally reconstructed, including the foundation, and will serve as model road for the other roads of Bonaire such as Kaya Betico Croes. The road building budget for 2005 is NAf12 million.

# BBC on Bonaire Playground Dedication

“Blue Planet” Assistant Producer Jo Ruxton and Cameraman Michael Pitts were on the island for the last three weeks, filming Bonaire topside and under the sea. Six years ago BBC was here doing extensive filming of the flamingoes and the salt pyramids. This year Jo and Mike spent a lot of time at Washington-Slagbaai National Park and other wilderness areas. They filmed the iguanas in the water at Pos Mangel, the blowhole, the salt works. At Fontein they built a hide (blind) 25 feet high from which to observe the Bonairean Lora. “I had to climb over razor blade rocks to do it,” laughs Mike.



**The BBC Team: Michael Pitts and Jo Ruxton with Lora**

According to Series Producer Karen Bass of the BBC Natural History Unit, they’re doing the natural history of the whole Caribbean – the islands, reefs, hurricanes, the coast from Panama to the Yucatan. They’ll be covering the different ecologies: in Cuba the caves and the bats, in Dominica and St. Lucia, the volcanoes; in Bonaire and Aruba they’ll zero in on the desert – the geological and topographical points, with an emphasis on cactus.

The filming is for a four-part, one-hour-each, series on the Caribbean: Firstly, an overview of the whole Caribbean, including its geology. The second covers “treasure islands,” their corals, man made artificial reefs, and piracy. The third is about Hurricane Hell – how animals cope. The fourth and last is on the mainland Caribbean: Panama, Nicaragua.

In filming on Bonaire Mike used more than 20 rolls of film, Super 16, each about 10 minutes long. (Cost per roll is about \$350, including processing and transferring.) Underwater, he used 10 tapes of 40 minutes each

“This island is a real revelation,” says Mike. “There’s so much more on land, adds Jo, “It’s not just an island with white sands. It has a complete character of its own.”

Underwater they worked in places where people don’t normally go. “We filmed tube anemones and yellow-headed jawfish. We were pretty amazed at how close we could get to the fish. The fish were unafraid,” Jo says, “The (Marine Park’s) ‘no touch’ rule is working well here!” At night they went underwater to film the blooming corals and unusual fish like the trunk and the cowfish. Mike added that it was great working with Hendrik (Wuyts) of ScubaVision. “He helped us so much with his local knowledge.”

Jo tells us that Mike, an independent cameraman, is rather a celebrity in England. Winner of two Emmys he’s been filming nature, historical dramas and archeology for 20 years. With Mike DeGruy he filmed “Amazon Abyss” for the Discovery Channel, where, unintention-

ally they discovered four new species of fish in the river. “We divers, going down to 40 meters to film, saw what we thought were interesting fish,” says Mike. “It turned out that they had never been seen before! Going down to 90 meters our ROV filmed two more!” Mike continues, “The Amazon is amazing; at some point near Manaus (Brazil) it’s 18 miles wide.”

Mike also has fun relating how he set out to film the Siberian tiger, in the times when the country was still under Communism. “For six weeks I was in the forest in Siberia, searching and waiting. One night we heard one, but we never did see one.”

Jo was 14 years in Hong Kong working with World Wildlife in conservation issues, especially trying to curtail the building of the new Hong Kong airport as it was endangering the environment of the of the pink dolphin. She now operates out of England for the BBC. She and the “Blue Planet” team worked for five years in 200 different locations to film the epic eight-hour series. “We had 2,500 hours of footage,” she recalls.

Will film be replaced some day by video? At this point film still offers more latitude in exposure than video. However, a future BBC series, “Planet Earth,” will be done in high definition video, the cutting edge technology in video today.

Hampered by overcast skies, the team nonetheless got great footage, they reported. On their final day they filmed the island from a helicopter. □L.D.



**Vicky Bissessar, President of The Dare To Care Foundation, keynotes the festivities surrounding the inauguration of the Playground Project.**

Last Sunday hundreds of people as well as top island officials showed up to witness the placing of the first stone for the *Parke Publiko Boneriano*, a public park for all Bonaireans but especially for the children and elderly.

Davika, Vicky to her friends, Bissessar founded the We Dare to Care Foundation to meet her goal in 2002. Now in April 2005, realization of the project is in sight.

Vicky, a mother of four, decided to commit her time, energy and fundraising efforts to get a public playground and park in a central spot in Bonaire. Armed with an idea, she set out to convince and bring together a group of people to further develop this project. Last Sunday she saw the first concrete step of her dream come true.

“I feel we urgently need to focus on

our kids from ages one to 12 years,” she said. “Our kids are the future leaders of this island and we owe it to them to prepare them as best we can. They need a basic playground where they can interact, play and develop their abilities through playtime.”

Based on its comprehensive plan, the island government granted the foundation an option on a 3.480 m<sup>2</sup> piece of land of behind the hospital, and AMFO, the Antillean co-funding Foundation provided a grant of NAf419.399,00 to supplement private donations. □ G.D.

# DIVING with DEE

## What Can We Learn from Sponges?

It was 1982. We were finally able to get back into the water after the first wind reversal I'd seen on Bonaire. Although I'd expected to find devastated reefs, the coral heads I saw were mostly unaffected. Later, when Captain Don asked me how the reef looked, I told him the sponges had some silt on them but the coral looked fine. Don informed me that I should dust the sponges. "Dust the sponges?" I repeated, incredulously, "Do you think I'm crazy? Why in the world would I dust sponges?"

If you know Don at all, it should be no surprise to you that I did dust sponges. If you know me at all, it should be no surprise that it only took about 10 years for the reason to register on me.

Remember that sponges pull seawater in, filter out oxygen and food, and push the filtered water back into the sea. Sponges don't reverse their current, so any silt that lands on a sponge is actually held there to some extent by the sponge's intake current. The more silt there is on the sponge, the more difficult it is for the cells of the sponge to suck water in; the less seawater the sponge can filter, the less oxygen and food the sponge can acquire.

But that's not the only consequence of silt on a sponge.

Once there's silt on the sponge, algae will sooner or later begin growing on the silt. Where there are algae there will be, eventually, a damselfish to farm. Damsels are ambitious farmers who are always ready to extend their holdings. Under normal circumstances algae is prevented from growing on sponges by the sponge's outer surface. The damsels nibble away at this surface, and algae begin to grow on the nibbled spots.

The sponge on which I watched this process take place disintegrated in less than 10 years.

Don was right, as usual. Fanning the silt from sponges does help.

### There are a few things to keep in mind before fanning sponges:

- You don't want to actually touch the sponge at all, just fan the water near it with your hand. (Occasionally someone asks me if it wouldn't clear more silt if they used their fins instead of their hands. The answer is NO; fins are too big, our hands give us just the control we need. Also, we're likely to kick the sponge with our

fins, which defeats the purpose of helping it.)

- If a great glob of silt falls onto coral or another sponge, fan that one, too. More usually the silt dissipates in the water.
- Be very careful around sand bottoms! Fanning silt off a sponge around sand can stir up more silt; move extra slowly until you see the results.
- Be very careful around photographers! Once the fanning begins, the silt in the water won't help underwater photos. Try to be considerate of the photographers' needs as well as those of the sponges.
- Check the sponge for other animals before fanning it. I prefer not to disturb the arrow crabs, soapfish, and balloonfish I occasionally see on silty sponges. Once in a while I see a frogfish on a sponge I'm about to fan, which is wonderful – but more often the frogfish's camouflage works and I only notice it because it sways differently from the sponge when I dust.
- Dusting sponges is an especially useful activity when you're cold: the vigorous movements will not only help the sponge, they'll warm you up!

One very nice consequence of sponge-dusting is that you pay more attention to sponges. You're more likely to notice the delicate pattern of waterways that encrusting sponges have, or the compartmentalized exterior of an azure vase sponge.

### You may also notice clues to the past of a sponge:

- Look for scooped out sections of tube sponges where a sponge crab has clipped away a piece of sponge.
- Notice the way those scooped-out sections grow back, often with a new tube.
- Look around multiple tube sponge formations for other tubes that may have broken off the main one and attached nearby. Where did they attach? What new growth is occurring?



*A sponge with a history. In the past, a sponge crab clipped a piece of sponge for itself, diagonally, from the end of this purple tube sponge tube. The tube healed itself at the end of the crab's cut closest to the sponge's base. The extension beyond the healed tube end is the part of the original tube end that the crab did not take; its edges are rounding, and new tubes are emerging from it.*

**Always consider the relationship between a sponge's shape and its location.** The shape of a human being, or a scorpionfish, or a butterfly is pretty much determined by its species. Sponges – like plants – grow in response to their environments.

One of my favorite adaptations I've only seen once. I was snorkeling in an area where strong currents move in and out of Lac Bay. This sponge was growing from a rock in such a way that the current -- no matter how strong it was -- could push the sponge to the ground. When the current lessened, the rock rolled back and the sponge was vertical again! The sponge and rock functioned together like that inflatable toy clown with sand in its base: no matter how much you push it down, it always returns to a vertical position.

### One of the best places to look at sponge growth is beneath Bonaire's Old Pier.

First of all, because of the heavy shade the pilings are not hospitable to most corals, which compete with sponges for space on the reef. With only orange cup coral to compete with, sponges grow in great profusion and great variety.

Second, because during a Pier renovation from 1988 to 1991, 50 of the Pier's pilings were scraped bare of growth. The Sponge Reattachment Project tied more than 555 sponges back onto the reinforced and the denuded pilings. These sponges were tied to the pilings vertically, for maximum contact with the piling. Their growth patterns vary interestingly.

Third, because after Hurricane Ivan's

surge broke many sponges free of Old Pier pilings, volunteer divers tied another hundred or so sponges to the pilings. These sponges were attached in various ways, depending on the individual teams who were tying, so they give us even more chances to watch sponge growth.

**Another wonderful thing about sponges and Bonaire: we can watch sponges grow.** Whether you're an off-island subscriber to *The Reporter* or a resident of Bonaire; whether a snorkeler or scuba diver, you can select a few sponges in one or more of the underwater places you especially like, and keep an eye on them. You could photograph them, or log a complete description every month or every visit, including what other creatures are living around them. Our own Adopt-A-Sponge Project – what great information we'd get from that! □ *Story and Photo by Dee Scarr*



*Dee Scarr conducts "Touch the Sea" dives. They will enhance your diving forever. Call 717-8529. See her slide show "Touch the Sea" at Capt. Don's Habitat, Mondays, 8:30 pm.*

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#### CAPT. DON'S ISLAND GROWER

Trees and plants, Bonaire grown. 8000m<sup>2</sup> nursery. Specializing in garden/septic pumps and irrigation. Kaminda Lagoen 103, Island Growers NV (Capt. Don and Janet). **Phone: 786-0956 or 787-0956**

#### LUNCH TO GO

Starting from NAf5 per meal. Call **CHINA NOBO 717-8981**



#### MOVING INTO A NEW HOUSE? Make it more livable from the start

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#### Bonaire Images

Elegant greeting cards and beautiful boxed note cards are now available at Chat-N-Browse next to Lovers Ice Cream and Sand Dollar.  
*Photography by Shelly Craig*  
[www.bonaireimages.com](http://www.bonaireimages.com)

Visit **Gallery "MyArt"**  
Marjolein Fonseca-Verhoef  
Call: **785-3988**

#### HOUSE SITTER

Mature woman whose family is on island, **looking to house (and car) sit.** June 27 to August 4. Experienced with pets. 717-3726.

#### FOR SALE

**Ex-rental SCUBA equipment** from Cressi Sub and Tusa for sale at Buddy Dive Resort Dive Shop. Prices start as low as US\$20. Opening hours 8 am - 5 pm 7 days a week.

**Authentic 45 lb. CQR anchor,** \$110 (US). Contact S/V *Gabrielle* on VHF 77

For Sale: Six 2-packs of **Yellow Bug Lights**, 60 watts. NAf10/each. 791-6167

#### WANTED

Scuba Vision is preparing for a new film production and is **looking for adult male actors** able to perform in front of a camera with a good voice to express emotions. It will be a short film, subject is still a secret, the acting will be very easy and the best performance will be used. For more information e-mail [info@scubavision.info](mailto:info@scubavision.info) or call 786-2844

WANTED: Dutch family is looking for an **apartment / house to rent** from 18 June to 1 August 2005. Willing to take care of pets and plants. E-mail Janny at: [bvjs@planet.nl](mailto:bvjs@planet.nl)

WANTED: **Volunteers** to index back issues of the *Bonaire Reporter* (English) and *Extra* (Papiamentu). Call George at 717-8988 or 786-6125.

#### PROPERTY, Sales & rentals

**For Sale: Special Offer: Chalet in Valencia,** Venezuela, in private zone. 1,000 sq. meters property, 1,000 sq. meters green zone. Chalet is 215 sq. meters. Built in 1999. Downstairs: living area with open, built-in kitchen, office, guest toilet, laundry. Upstairs: master bedroom with bath, terrace; 2 additional bedrooms, 1 bath. Many trees. Documents in order. **717-4111**

**For Rent: Comfortable 2-bedroom beach villa**-weekly or monthly-choice location-privacy & security-**May 1st until Dec. 15th.** Brochure available. Phone (Bon) (599) 717 3293; (US) (570) 586 0098. **May 20 until Jan. 8th.** [info@pelicanreefbonaire.com](mailto:info@pelicanreefbonaire.com) or [www.pelicanreefbonaire.com](http://www.pelicanreefbonaire.com)

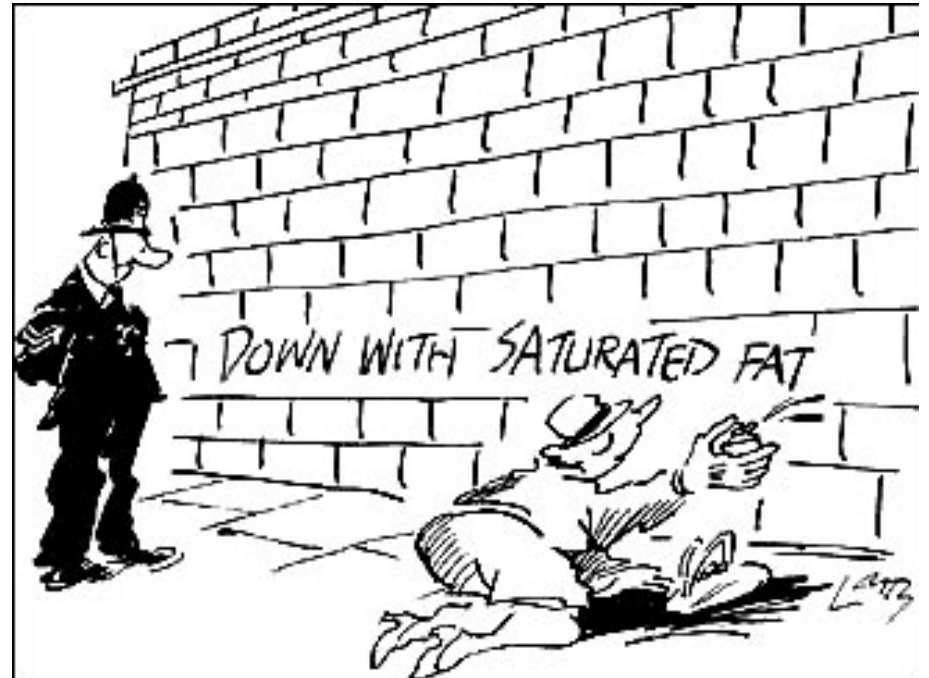
#### DOG TRAINING CLASSES

Dog training classes by Elly Albers will begin soon. Sign up before **May 15. 786-5161**



## Ask the Dietitian

### Some Tips to Cut Down Saturated Fat in Your Low-Cholesterol Diet !



The amount and the type of fat (saturated fat) that you eat has a great effect on blood cholesterol levels. Here are some tips to cut down fat, especially saturated fat from your diet:

- Do not exceed 2 egg yolks a week
- Consider a serving size 100 grams of meat, poultry or fish. This is the size of a deck of playing cards. For example ½ chicken breast, 1 chicken thigh or 1 drumstick
- Trim all visible fat from meat, and remove skin before cooking poultry.
- For milk, use a serving size of 2 glasses for adults. If you drink whole milk, try 2% fat milk and progress to 1% and ½% fat milk, and then, possibly to skim milk.
- Select cheeses marked with 40+, 30+ or 20+. Low fat cheese contains as much calcium as high fat cheese.
- Choose frozen desserts with no more than 3 grams of fat per serving.
- Regular yoghurt has more than twice the amount of calcium as frozen yoghurt.
- Oils are good choices for cooking. Select canola, corn, olive, safflower, sesame, sunflower, soybean, etc.
- Select a margarine containing no more than 2 grams of saturated fat per tablespoon.
- Macadamia nuts and coconuts are high in saturated fat.
- A serving size of oil or margarine is 1 teaspoon.
- Most desserts are rich in calories. Choose desserts that are low fat or fat free.
- Select desserts with no more than 3 grams of fat per serving.
- For special occasions, prepare cakes, pies, and cookies with margarine or oil, milk with no more than 1% fat, and egg whites or egg substitutes.

**Foods that must be included in any diet are fruits and vegetables. They contain little or no fat and are low in calories (except coconut and avocado). They are good sources of fiber and vitamins. Your menu should include 3-4 servings of vegetables and 2 servings of fruits every day:**

- For cooking use a non-stick cooking spray to prepare pans for cooking.
- Do not forget that fat-free products are not calorie free. Some fat free desserts have so much sugar or other sweetener added that they are only slightly lower in calories than the original food.
- Read the label for the amount of food listed as one serving. Remember, if you eat more than a serving, you get more of everything - calories, fat, saturated fat, and cholesterol. □ *Angélique Salsbach*

*Angélique Salsbach, a dietitian with Bonaire's Department of Health and Hygiene, has a radio program every other Tuesday 9 to 9:30 on Bon FM. Write her at [diitian@bonairenews.com](mailto:diitian@bonairenews.com)*



#### LOST LORA



Lora with ID ring lost near Vos di Bonaire. Says "Hola, Mami," "Sabroso." Call Marlis, 717-7741.



**Big porch sale:** Sat. May 7, 2005 9:00 AM-1:00 PM at Kaya Hurlanda 16. Various households together: furniture, baby crib, clothes, toys, books, household items and much more.

# THE BONAIRE GARDNER

This week I will write about the strength of tropical plants. I thought about that this week driving on the Promenade where some strange tourists found it necessary to break off the branches of several Coconut Palm trees. I felt that they would die because a palm should always have a branch at the heart to stay alive. But last



*Tuteurutu (Caesalpinia pulcherrima)*

week, after maybe two months, I was very pleased to see that they all had new sprouts again, and with a little help from good watering and maybe some strong Nitrogen-fertilizer they will be okay. This again proved to me that especially Coconut Palms are really tough creatures. We knew this from the periods after Hurricanes Lenny and Ivan, where a lot of palms were really beaten up but came back very nicely. This also goes for a lot of other types of tropical plants, so don't give up too quickly on them if for some reason they are not looking well. The only exception to that is maybe the recent outburst of the mealy bug that seems to kill some varieties. If the infected plants are looking dead, please don't hesitate to take them out and get rid of them.

In my last articles I wrote about hedging plants, and I ended my last story with some flowering types of hedge plants. I've already written a lot about Oleanders, as they are used so much on Bonaire and are really strong and colorful. Just a small reminder – there are a lot different types available, even on our small island. We grow and plant 12 different types, and they all vary in height and thickness, so if you plan on planting some Oleanders as a hedge, make sure you use the right variety. They come in white, salmon, yellow, peach red pink and everything in between!

The Tuteurutu, or *Caesalpinia pulcherrima*, is well known on Bonaire too, but not used so much as a hedge. They grow very easily without a lot of water and bloom all year round. They can stand wind, salty areas and just require a little bit of good organic soil. They come in yellow, orange and red, and all have really nicely shaped flowers. The orange and yellow types grow the strongest and highest, but the red one makes a thicker hedge. The only problem is that if you want them to grow as a hedge, you have to prune them regularly. After they bloom the top part dies and they sprout out again underneath, but all those dead parts look a bit ugly. But after blooming they get a lot of brown seed pods that the parrots really like, so if you don't mind the dry parts, please leave the pods on and enjoy the birds, and prune them afterwards.

Another good quality of this plant is that when they are growing thickly, they get a little spiny and make excellent covers against walls, if you don't want unexpected visitors entering your property.

The security situation is, unfortunately, becoming more and more important and brings me to my next article, Plants and Safety. It's too bad to have to write an article about this topic, but we do get a lot of questions about it.

So I hope to meet you again in two weeks. In the meantime, keep watching out for the drought and water your plants because the wind is still dry and strong! □

*Ap van Eldik*

**Ap van Eldik** owns Green Label Landscaping which designs, constructs and maintains residential and commercial gardens. Two nurseries and a garden shop in Kralendijk carry terra cotta pots from Mexico and South America. Phone 717-3410. **NOW OPEN SATURDAYS, NON-STOP 9 TO 4.**

## Picture Yourself with the Reporter Truk Lagoon, Chuuk, Federated States of Micronesia



According to John and Sue Ciurczak from Haledon, NJ, USA, they never go anywhere without *The Bonaire Reporter*! They sent us three pictures of themselves in Truk Lagoon, Chuuk, Federated States of Micronesia with it. They wrote, "We spent several days on land at the Blue Lagoon Resort on the island of Chuuk, then spent a week on the live-aboard dive boat *Truk Aggressor II*."

Our favorite photo was the one of them on the *Heian Maru*, taken by Alan Lawlor, (a crew member on the *Truk Aggressor*).

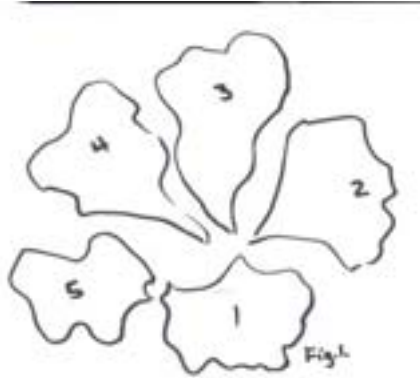
Maybe they should sell their underwater newspaper housing for the use of very busy Bonaire divers who don't want to miss a single issue of *The Reporter*. □

**WIN GREAT PRIZES!** Take a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter* with you on your next trip or when you return to your home. Then take a photo of yourself with the newspaper in hand. THE BEST PHOTOS OF THE YEAR WILL WIN THE PRIZES. Mail photos to Bonaire Reporter, Kaya Gob. Debrot 200-6, Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles (AN). E-mail to: [picture@bonairereporter.com](mailto:picture@bonairereporter.com). (All 2004 photos are eligible.) □

## Flowers for Mother's Day

How about drawing Mom a flower for Mother's Day?

I chose one of our island flowers, the hibiscus, to demonstrate how easy it can be to draw flowers. After choosing and picking the flower off my neighbor's bush, I took many photographs before peeling it apart to check out each section thoroughly. To start your drawing, follow these five easy steps:



1. Draw the flower one petal at a time. (fig.1) The hibiscus has five petals. Practice drawing each petal separately. When I draw this flower, I mentally think of the texture, feel and look of each section. Think of words like soft, fluffy, smooth, light, and curly as you work your way around the edges. It even helps to say those words out loud to get the motions of your fingers to respond.

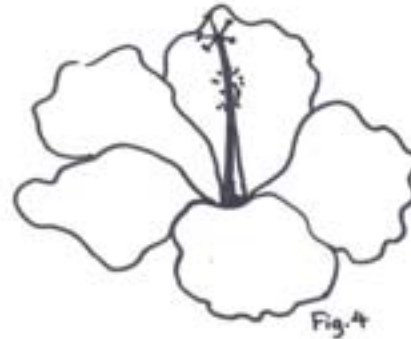
Fig. 2



2. Draw the pistil, which is the stalk-like part in the center. (fig.2) Notice how it is larger at the base and gets slender towards the top. The base is the area of the ovary. At the end of the pistil you will have five little straight lines with oval dots on the ends of each one. These dots are the stigmas. They receive the pollen during fertilization. Then add all the little dots midway. These are the anthers that contain pollen and are usually yellow. (Please excuse me if all the scientific information isn't exactly correct. I went to [www.enchantedlearning.com](http://www.enchantedlearning.com) to get help with the biological names and their example flower was not a hibiscus!)



3. Now that you have mastered the parts of the flower separately, it is time to put them all together. Lightly draw a dotted line in the shape of an oval. (fig.3) Draw in five guide line marks for each of the five petals. Draw in the base of the pistil about 1/3 of the way from the bottom.



4. It is now time to connect the dots. (fig. 4) Remember to go softly, lightly and curly around the flower edges. Talking out loud is allowed and is actually a sign of a good dedicated artist.



5. Use a colored marker or paint to make it bright and cheerful.

**Happy Mother's Day.**  
JanArt; Janice Huckaby©



This article is part of a series by Janice Huckaby of JanArt. Call 599 717-5246 or 791-5246 for information on art lessons or to view her artworks ☐



## Pets of the Week



*Kittens, kittens, kittens*

Just to show you that we weren't kidding about it being "kitten season" at the Bonaire Animal Shelter, here's a photo showing five kittens from two or maybe three different mothers having lunch from one of the moms. Right now at the Shelter there are about 20 kittens ready for adoption. And their moms, who are also social, well adjusted and healthy cats, are looking for homes too.

Kittens are adorable, but there are never enough homes to take them all in. The Shelter has a Sterilization Program that can help. If you have a pet that is constantly going into heat or always running away looking for a mate, call Shelter Director Jurrie Mellema at 717-4989. He can make arrangements with the veterinarians to have your animals sterilized. It makes for a much better life for them and a better companion for you.

So far **this year there have been 55 adoptions**, cats and dogs, and **all** these animals have been sterilized or will be when they are old enough.

Interestingly, there are **fewer puppies being brought in to the Shelter since the very successful Massive Sterilization Program last October**. For two weeks veterinarians from Holland, the US and Canada and volunteers, working nearly non-stop, helped sterilize 222 dogs!

Stop by the Bonaire Animal Shelter on the Lagoen Road and see for yourself what a fine job they're doing with the healthy and social cats and dogs they have for adoption. They're open Monday through Friday, 10 am to 2 pm, Saturdays until 1. Telephone 717-4989. □*L.D.*

## YOGA FOR YOU

### *The Principles of Good Practice*

*"The posture becomes perfect  
when the effort of achieving it vanishes."*

The most important guideline to bear in mind in yoga is always to coordinate your breathing with your movements. Listen to your breath, as it will let you know how far you can go into a pose. Breathe slowly and deeply through your nose throughout the practice.

The whole idea is to regulate your breathing but not to strain it. You'll soon find that this comes naturally and that you can learn to use your breathing gently to increase a stretch safely. Listen to your body and relax if you feel the overwhelming need to do so between postures.

**The Child's Pose is absolutely wonderful to totally relax yourself.**

Take it easy; always release a big stretch slowly, again keeping your breathing slow and steady. Pull your spine upwards in all positions, creating lightness in your body.

Don't attempt the full pose until you are sure you can master it in proper alignment without discomfort. It is so important to listen to your body and not push it beyond its limits.

Be aware of your alignment at all times, and never force your body to stretch further than it is able.

Finally, stay relaxed! The aim is to remain mentally relaxed while stretching and strengthening your body physically. The more relaxed you are, the easier you will find it to perform the asanas (poses), and the greater the benefits. Above all, keep smiling while you are practicing, this will stretch your facial muscles as well, and enjoy the experience of a deeper knowledge of your body, mind, breath and heart.

Be the change you wish to see in yourself. □ *Desirée*

*Don and Desirée of  
"Yoga For You"  
offer classes from  
beginners to ad-  
vanced.  
Call 717-2727 or  
786-6416*



# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## Take a trip to *Isla di Yuana* and *Isla di Pedro*

Reserve Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup> (Labor Day) to take a Bonaire trip of discovery to the mysterious islands of Lac Bay.

That's when The Bonaire Friends of Nature (*Amigunan di Naturalesa*) are planning an excursion to Iguana Island (*Isla di Yuana*) and Pedro Island (*Isla di Pedro*). "The Friends" are Bonaire-born people who cherish the natural environment of their island. Only with the guidance of Bòi Antoin, Nolly Oleana and a few others can you discover where the islands are.

To join them, take the road from Kralendijk toward Sorobon. Pass the well with the windmill, and opposite the next big land survey marker look for parked cars. If you get to Kon Tiki you've gone a bit too far.

A boat will leave the shore near the road to visit the *Isla di Yuana* when there is a group of 8-10 people waiting. The trip takes about 10 minutes.

In earlier times the island served as a source of limestone. Once there was a road connecting it to the main island, making it easy for fishermen 60 years ago to come out and set their nets and traps. It's an island of miniature plants and trees. The *Kadushi* and the *Yatu* cactus grow tall, but the trees like the Saddle tree and the *Palu di Sia* (gum tree) are short and stunted like bonsai because of the wind and poor soil.

About the same distance away is *Isla di Pedro*, the southernmost island of Lac. You may have to wade through a channel about 80 cm. deep to get there, so bring shoes and clothes that don't mind getting soaked. On arrival all will receive a glass of natural lemonade and a sorghum pancake.

Pass by the *Extra* newspaper office to sign up. Call 717-8482 for directions if you don't know where it is. The cost is NAf25 per person which includes a delicious BBQ with fish soup on the Kon Tiki beach from 12 to 4 pm. If you don't take the tours you can still have the BBQ for NAf10. □ *G./L.D./Bòi Antoin*



The mysterious *Isla di Pedro*

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

**WEEKLY MOVIE SHOWTIMES**  
 Call to make sure: Usually 9:00 pm

**Hitch**  
 (Will Smith)

Early Show (usually 7pm)  
**The Pacifier**

Kaya Prinses Marie  
 Behind Exito Bakery  
 Tel. 717-2400  
 Tickets - NAf10,50 (incl. Tax)  
 High Schoolers - NAf7,75

NEW FILMS BEGIN EVERY FRIDAY

**SATURDAY 4 PM**  
**Robots**

## THIS WEEK

**Saturday, April 30 - World Tai Chi Day.** Ron Sewell is hoping to organize an open meeting for anyone interested in talking about what Tai Chi may have to offer them. Anyone already practicing Tai Chi will be especially welcome. Call Ron at 717-2458 for information.

**Saturday, April 30-Rincon Day, Queen's Birthday**—See page 10 for schedule and information. Washington-Slagbaai Park will be closed for the day.

**Saturday, April 30—COMCABON MCB 5 km / 17.5 km run with prizes.** 7 am. Call Richard Pietersz at 717-8629, 780-7225.

**Saturday, April 30 - Windsurfing Race**

**Sunday, May 1—Labor Day**  
**Sunday, May 1 (Labor Day)- Trip to the islands of Lac Bay-** Departures from 12 noon until 4pm from the beach in front of Kon Tiki Restaurant. If you want to see the part of Bonaire off the beaten path, this is for you. Cost is NAf25 per person. More details on page 18. Call 717- 8482 (Extra newspaper). (page 18)

**Thursday, May 5—Healing Touch Free Introductory Class,** 7-8 pm, Caribbean Club Bonaire (page 6)

**Monday, May 2-** Labor Day Holiday

**Thursday, May 5—** Holiday: Ascension Day

## COMING

**May 15<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> - King of the Caribbean at Lac Bay.** The event will kick off the 2005 PWA Freestyle Tour. For info, see [www.pwaworldtour.com](http://www.pwaworldtour.com) or [www.bonaireworldfreestyle.com](http://www.bonaireworldfreestyle.com)

**May 19 to 22—Bonaire-Harbourtown JAZZ FESTIVAL—** (see pages 8 and 11)

**May 19: Welcome Concert at Wilhelmina Park.** Happy hour and late night jazz in cafes and restaurants

**May 20: Main concert at Plaza Resort.** Happy hour and late night jazz jam sessions at City Café and other places

**May 21: Main concert at Bongos**

## MICRO MOVIE REVIEW

Seen recently in  
 Movieland Cinema:

**THE PACIFIER** by Adam Shankman, starring Vin Diesel. This movie is great for what it is meant to be, a family friendly comedy. It has funny moments, touching moments, it gives you chuckles and even a few laughs. It isn't trying to win awards or stun the audience with special effects. You sit down, watch it, laugh a little, think about how cute the kids are, then go on with the rest of your day. I think it is a decent, light movie worth at least a matinee viewing. I'm sure the kids will love it and I guess some grown ups will do too. Vin Diesel is a big muscular guy who walks around in tight t-shirts so if you're attracted by that you'll have a jolly good time. □  
*Dodo*



**Beach.** Happy hour and late night jazz jam sessions at City Café and other places

**May 22: Main concert at Kon Tiki Beach Club.** Brunch concert on location not yet decided. Jazz all over the place plus three main concerts for only NAf30! Website: [www.bonairejazz.com](http://www.bonairejazz.com)

## OCTOBER 2005

The International Bonaire Sailing Regatta October 9 – 15, 2005.

## EVERY WEEK

**Saturday Rincon Marshé opens at 6 am - 2 pm.** Enjoy a Bonairean breakfast while you shop: fresh fruits and vegetables, gifts, local sweets and snacks, arts and handicrafts, candles, incense, drinks and music. [www.infobonaire.com/rincon](http://www.infobonaire.com/rincon)

**Sunday** -Live music 6 to 9 pm while enjoying a great dinner in colorful tropical ambiance at the **Chibi Chibi Restaurant & Bar.** Open daily 5 to 10 pm. Live **Fla-Bingo** with great prizes, starts 7 pm, Divi Flamingo

**Monday -Soldachi Tour of Rincon, the heart of Bonaire,** 9 am-noon. \$20-Call Maria 717-6435

**Tuesday -Harbour Village Tennis, Social Round Robin** 7 to 10 pm. \$10 per person. Cash bar. All invited. Call Elisabeth Vos at 565-5225 /717-7500, ext. 14.

**Wednesday -Meditation at Donkey Beach** from 7:30 to 8:30 pm. Open to all. Call S.H.Y. 790-9450

**Friday -Manager's Rum Punch Party, Buddy Dive Resort,** 5:30-6:30 pm

**Friday- Open House with Happy Hour** at the **JanArt Gallery** at Kaya Gloria #7, from 5-7 pm.

**Daily-** The **Divi Flamingo Casino** is open daily for hot slot machines, roulette and black jack, Monday to Saturday 8 pm– 4 am; Sunday 7 pm– 3 am.

**Every day by appointment -Rooi Lamoenchi Kunuku Park Tours** Bonairean kunuku. \$12 (NAf12 for residents). Tel 717-8489, 540-9800.

## FREE SLIDE/VIDEO SHOWS

**Saturday- Discover Our Diversity** Slide Show, pool bar Buddy Dive, 7 pm 717-5080

**Sunday - Bonaire Holiday** -Multi-media dual-projector production by Albert Bianculli, 8.30 pm, Capt. Don's Habitat.

**Monday Dee Scarr's Touch the Sea** slide experience **28th.** Aquarius Conference Center, Capt. Don's Habitat, 8:30–9:30pm.

**Wednesday (2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>) Turtle Conservation Slide Show** by Andy Uhr. Carib Inn seaside veranda, 7 pm

**Friday- Week in Review** Video Presentation by the Toucan Dive Shop at Plaza's Tippy Seagull, 5 pm. 717-2500.

## CLUBS and MEETINGS

**AA meetings** - every **Wednesday**; Phone 717-6105; 560-7267 or 717-3902.

**Al-Anon meetings** - every **Monday** evening at 7 pm. Call 790-7272

**Weekly BonaireTalker Gathering and Dinner at Gibi's - Tuesday - 6:30pm** - call 567-0655 for directions.

**Bridge Club - Wednesdays,** 7:30 pm at the Union Building on Kaya Korona, across from the RBTT Bank and next to Kooyman's. All levels invited. NAf5 entry fee. Call Cathy 566-4056.

**Darts Club** plays every other **Sunday** at City Café. Registration at 4, games at 5. Tel. 717-2950, 560-7539.

**JCI. First Wednesday of the Month-** Junior Chamber International Bonaire (JCI Bonaire or formerly known as Bonaire Jaycees) meets at the ABVO building, Kaminda Jato Baco 36 from 7:30 to 9:30pm. Everyone is welcome. Contact: Renata Domacassé 516-4252.

**Kiwanis Club** meets at APNA Plaza, Kaya International, every other **Tuesday,** 7 pm. Tel. 717-5595, Jeannette Rodriguez.

**Lions Club** meets every **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday** of the month at 8 pm at Kaya Sabana #1. All Lions are welcome.

**Rotary lunch meetings Wednesday,** 12 noon-2 pm - Rendez-Vous Restaurant, Kaya L.D. Gerharts #3. All Rotarians are welcome. Tel. 717-8454

## BONAIRE'S TRADITIONS

**Mangasina di Rei, Rincon.** Enjoy the view from "The King's Storehouse." Learn about Bonaire's culture. Visit typical homes from the 17th century. Daily. Call 717-4060 / 790-2018

**Visit the Bonaire Museum** on Kaya J. v.d. Ree, behind the Catholic Church in town. Open weekdays from 8 am-noon, 1:30-5 pm. Tel. 717-8868

**Washington-Slagbaai National Park, Museum and Visitors' Center.** Open daily 8 am-5 pm. Closed on some holidays. 717-8444/785-0017

**Sunday at Cai-** Live music and dancing starts about 12 noon at Lac Cai. Dance to the music of Bonaire's popular musicians.

**Rincon Marshé-** every Saturday - 6 am to 3 pm. Open market in Bonaire's historic town.

**Soldachi Tours show you the Rincon area. Alta Mira Nature Walking Tour at 6:30 am. Town Walking**

tour at 9:30, Bus Tour at 10. Call Maria at 717-6435 to reserve.

## CHURCH SERVICES

**International Bible Church of Bonaire** – Kaya Amsterdam 3 (near the traffic circle) **Sunday Services at 9 am; Sunday Prayer Meeting at 7:00 pm** in English. Tel. 717-8332

**Protestant Congregation of Bonaire.** Wilhelminaplein. Services in Papiamentu, Dutch and English on **Sundays at 10 am. Thursday Prayer Meeting and Bible Study at 8 pm.** Rev. Jonkman. 717-2006

**The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints,** Kaya Sabana #26 Sundays 8:30 - 11:30 am. Services in Papiamentu, Spanish and English.

**Catholic San Bernardus** in Kralendijk – Services on **Sunday at 8 am and 7 pm** in Papiamentu 717-8304 .

**Saturday at 6 pm** at *Our Lady of Coromoto* in Antriol, **in English.** Mass in Papiamentu on Sunday at 9 am and 6 pm. 717-4211.

**Assembly of God (Asemblea di Dios),** Kaya Triton (Den Cheffi). In English, Dutch & Papiamentu on **Sunday at 10**

**am. Wednesday Prayer Meeting at 7:30 pm.** 717-2194

**New Apostolic Church,** Meets at Kaminda Santa Barbara #1, Sundays, 9:30 am. Services in Dutch. 717-7116.

\* \* \*

Send events to *The Bonaire Reporter* Email [reporter@bonairenews.com](mailto:reporter@bonairenews.com) Tel/Fax. 717-8988, Cel. 791-7252

# DINING GUIDE See advertisements in this issue

RESTAURANT	PRICE RANGE / WHEN OPEN	FEATURES
<b>Bella Vista Restaurant</b> Sea Side Restaurant at Buddy Dive Resort 717-5080, ext. 525	Moderate. Breakfast and Lunch Dinner during Theme nights only. Open every day	<b>Magnificent Theme Nights:</b> Saturday: Beach Grill; Wednesday: Mexican Night; Friday: Manager's Rum Punch Party and All-You-Can-Eat B.B.Q
<b>Bistro de Paris</b> Kaya Gob. N. Debrot 46 (half-way between hotel row and town) 717-7070	Moderate Lunch and Dinner Closed Sunday	<b>Real French Cooking</b> in an informal setting Superb dishes prepared with care and love by a French chef Owner-operated Eat in or Take away
<b>Brasserie Bonaire</b> Royal Palm Galleries Kaya Grandi 26, Next to Re/Max, 717-4321	Low-Moderate Lunch and Dinner Closed Sunday and Monday	Lots of parking in big mall lot <b>The place for a Quick Lunch and a Cozy Dinner</b> Breezy terrace with a/c inside
<b>Caribbean Club Bonaire</b> On the Tourist Road 2 mi. north of Town 717-7901	Moderate-Expensive Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Closed Sunday	<b>Quiet country setting, lovely landscaping, friendly staff</b> Happy Hour from 5-7 pm Gourmet chef creates unique daily specials
<b>Calabas Restaurant &amp; Chibi Chibi Restaurant and Bar</b> At the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort. Waterfront 717-8285	Moderate-Expensive Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Open 7 days	Get a view of the beach and turquoise sea while enjoying a breakfast buffet or à la carte lunch and dinner at the 'Chibi Chibi' restaurant & bar. Inspiring vistas and the <b>highest standard of cuisine.</b>
<b>Crocantino Italian Restaurant</b> Downtown at Kaya Grandi 48 717-5025	Moderate-Expensive Dinner Closed Monday	<b>Tuscan chef prepares exquisite dishes.</b> Authentic ingredients and romantic setting make dining a delight. Be served in a garden setting under floating umbrellas or in air-conditioned comfort. Take out too.
<b>Garden Café</b> Kaya Grandi 59 717-3410	Moderate Monday-Friday, Lunch & Dinner Saturday, Dinner. Closed Sunday	<b>Finely prepared Middle Eastern cuisine plus Venezuelan specialties.</b> Excellent vegetarian selections. Pizza and Latin Parilla
<b>The Great Escape</b> EEG Blvd #97—across from Belmar 717-7488	Moderate Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner Open 7 days	<b>Bar-Restaurant poolside—under the thatched roof.</b> Cuban Chef prepares Caribbean cuisine. Champagne brunch on Sundays 10 am to noon. Happy hours 5 to 7 every day.
<b>The Last Bite Bakery</b> <b>Home Delivery or Take Out</b> 717-3293	Low-Moderate Orders taken 8 am-4 pm; Deliveries 6-7:30 pm, Closed Sunday	Enjoy a delicious dessert or savory baked meal in the comfort of your home or resort. This unique bakery offers <b>gourmet class items</b> -always from scratch- for take out or delivery only.
<b>The Lost Penguin</b> Across from MCB Bank in downtown Kralendijk Call 717-8003.	Low-Moderate Breakfast, Lunch, Early Dinner Closed Tuesdays & Wednesdays	Watch the bustle of downtown from this street side <b>Caribbean-style bistro</b> owned and run by a European educated Master Chef and his wife.
<b>Pasa Bon Pizza</b> On Kaya Gob. Debrot ½ mile north of town center. 790-1111	Low-Moderate Open from 5-11 pm Wednesday-Sunday	Bonaire's best. The <b>Real Thing!</b> Freshly prepared pizzas made with the finest ingredients. Salads, desserts. Eat in or take away. Nice bar too. Call ahead to eat-in or take out 790-1111



# SHOPPING GUIDE See advertisements in this issue

## APPLIANCES/ TV/ ELECTRONICS/ COMPUTERS

**City Shop**, the mega store, has the island's widest selection of large and small home appliances. Fast service and in-store financing too.

## BANKS

**Maduro and Curiel's Bank** provides the greatest number of services, branches and ATMs of any Bonaire bank. They also offer investments and insurance.

## BEAUTY PARLOR

**Hair Affair.** Expert hair cutting, styling, facials, waxing and professional nail care.

## BICYCLE / SCOOTER/ QUADS

**De Freewieler** rents scooters and quads; professionally repairs almost anything on two wheels. Sells top brand bikes. Have your keys made here.

## BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

**APA Construction** are professional General Contractors. They also specialize in creating patios and walkways with fabulous sprayed and stamped concrete pavement.

## DIVING

**Carib Inn** is the popular 10-room inn with top-notch dive shop and well stocked retail store. Best book trade on Bonaire. Good prices on regulator repair, dive computer H.Q.

## FITNESS

**Bonfysio** offers comprehensive fitness programs to suit your needs whether they be weight loss, sports or just keeping in shape. Convenient schedule.

**Fit 4 Life at the Plaza Resort Mall.** Classes in Pilates, Aerobics, TaeBo and more. Professional trainers, fitness machines and classes for all levels.

## GARDEN SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

**Green Label** has everything you need to start or maintain your garden. They can design, install and maintain it and offer plants, irrigation supplies and garden chemicals.

## GIFTS, SOUVENIRS AND LIQUOR

**The Bonaire Gift Shop** has an wide selection of gifts, souvenirs, liquor, dive watches, digital cameras, things for the home, T-shirts all at low prices.

## HOTELS

**Golden Reef Inn** is the affordable alternative with fully equipped studio apartments in a quiet Bonaire neighborhood. Just a 3-minute walk to diving and the sea.

## The Great Escape

Under new management. Quiet and tranquil setting with pool and luxuriant garden in Belnem. Cyber Café, restaurant and bar.

## METALWORK AND MACHINE SHOP

**b c b- Botterop Construction Bonaire N.V.**, offers outstanding fabrication of all metal products, including stainless. Complete machine shop too.

## PHOTO FINISHING

**Paradise Photo** in the Galleries Shopping Center offers fast, fine processing for prints and slides plus a variety of items and services for your picture-taking pleasure.

## REAL ESTATE / RENTAL AGENTS

**Harbourtown Real Estate is Bonaire's oldest real estate agent.** They specialize in professional customer services and top notch properties.

**Re/Max Paradise Homes:** International/US connections. 5% of profits donated to local community.

**Sunbelt Realty** offers full real estate, rental, and insurance services. If you want a home or to invest in Bonaire, stop in and see them.

## REPAIRS

**Bon Handyman** is here if you need something fixed or built. Ultra reliable, honest and experienced. Electrical, plumbing, woodworking, etc.

## RESORTS & ACTIVITIES

**Buddy Dive Resort** offers diving, Adventure Fun tours including kayaking, mountain biking, cave snorkeling and exploration.

## RETAIL

**Benetton**, world famous designer clothes available now in Bonaire at prices less than those in US. For men, women and children.

## SECURITY

**Special Security Services** will provide that extra measure of protection when you need it. Always reliable.

## SHIPPING

**Rocargo Freight** Air and sea shipments in/out of Bonaire. Customs agents. Professional and efficient. **FedEx agent.**

## SPA—DAY SPA

**Pedisa Day Spa**—for all your body and wellness needs. 40 years of experience Classic and specialty massages, Reiki, Reflexology and more.

## SUPERMARKETS

**Tropical Flamingo** is convenient, clean, modern, efficient and has the lowest prices on Bonaire. Located behind NAPA.

Visit **Warehouse Bonaire** to shop in a large, spotless supermarket. You'll find American and European brand products. THE market for provisioning.

## VILLAS

**Bonaire Oceanfront** villa for up to nine people: five kitchens, five bathrooms. Ideal for divers.

## WATER TAXI

**Get to Klein Bonaire by Ferry.** Ride the *Kantika di Amor* or *Skiffy*. Hotel pickup.

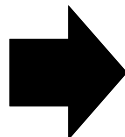
## WINES

**Antillean Wine Company.** You've tried the rest; now try the best: best prices, highest quality wines from around the world, kept in a cooled warehouse. Free delivery.

## YOGA

**Yoga For You.** Join certified instructors Desirée and Don for a workout that will refresh mind and body. Private lessons too.

**ATTENTION BUSINESSMEN:**  
Put your ad in *The Bonaire Reporter*.  
Phone/Fax 717-8988, Cel 791-7252



**Mother's Day is next weekend, Sunday 8 May.** Take advantage of the advertising power of *The Bonaire Reporter*. Tell sons and daughters about the special items that you carry that would make perfect gifts. Restaurateurs can use the pages of *The Reporter* to let families know of the special meals they will offer on Mother's Day. There is space in the next two editions of *The Reporter* for your message. Call 717-8988 or 791-7252 or 786-6125

## Anton Sieverding

“The first time I came was in 1977, because my family had repeatedly asked me to join in some projects they had on Bonaire. Bon Villas at Sorobon was one of those projects. My family owned 80 hectares of land there which had to be developed. At the time I wasn’t so eager to come; I was 35, had my own architect office in Holland, and I was certainly not planning to stay. Nevertheless, I developed all the plans for Bon Villas, and we started constructing the first 10 apartments and a restaurant, the one that’s now called Kon Tiki.

I’d been traveling back and forth to Holland, but when I realized how much my love for the island was growing I decided to stay.

It was 1981. I came with my wife Ria, my son Mark who was 11, and Vronie, my 13-year-old daughter. Mark went to Papa Cornes elementary school and Vronie to SGB. The children found the island very special and odd at the same time, but they liked it and adapted rapidly. In the beginning Ria enjoyed it too, but after a while, because of all the years I’d been traveling, she and I had grown apart. She decided to return to Holland and we divorced. Vronie stayed with me and Mark went with Ria, but he came back and then Vronie went to Holland to complete her studies.

Bonaire in those days was paradise - hardly any crime and very quiet - a cozy little island you fell in love with immediately. In the beginning I was mainly occupied with the project at Sorobon, but once I’d decided to stay, it went wrong. The project seemed too comprehensive, and Bonaire wasn’t ready for it. I only had a couple of hundred guilders left, and I thought of jumping on the plane, back to Holland where I had everything, but instead I started a construction company together with Marcel Busman: Busi Construction N.V. I thought there would be a need for something new as the prices of the established construction companies like Albo were very high.

Our first big project was the post office. We had a wheel barrow and some spades and no money at all, so we contracted the job out to Cornelis Jansen. Soon after though, we partnered with Monument Repair Curaçao and Albo Aruba. Together we did some real big projects like the complete renovation of Flamingo Beach Hotel; we built the rice mill; and we started with the construction of Sand Dollar.

Then Aruba got its ‘status apart,’ and the partnership with Albo Aruba became a problem as now taxes had to be paid on all the materials and goods. It became too expensive, so we dissolved the partnership in a friendly way and I went on by myself. We did a real big concrete job at BOPEC and started with Buddy Dive. Then the *pensionados* (retired persons) came... and suddenly lots of mansions

had to be built.

But with the *pensionados* the era of negativity began. The construction sector suddenly had to deal with all kinds of people who smelled money. Everybody whose quality and schooling were at least doubtful started his own construction company. The government hardly checked on social security obligations or taxes that had to be paid, so a situation was created in which these new people could build for 30% less than the established construction companies. For me there was no need whatsoever to play this game any longer, so I decided to hand over all construction activities to my partner and to occupy myself solely with concrete and cement. I started Concrete and Cement Industry (BCI). We supplied all the construction companies with everything you could name in concrete. For years we were very successful and participated in the construction of real big concrete works like the sea promenade, a magnificent project of which I am very proud, and that I carried out together with De Antillen N.V. and BWM.

**“But with the (coming of the) *pensionados* the era of negativity began. The construction sector suddenly had to deal with all kinds of people who smelled money. Everybody whose quality and schooling were at least doubtful started his own construction company.”**

*Anton Sieverding (62) is a no-nonsense man; self-confident, straight and to the point. Although he’s retired, he’s sitting at his office accompanied by his son Mark. “Mark studied motor vehicle techniques and MEAO in Holland. When he came back to Bonaire he started with me as the second man. Eight years ago he wanted to do something for himself and we bought Island Rentals and expanded the business. We combined it with the rentals of the apartments we have and made packages. The apartments we still own, but Island Rentals and BCI have been sold.*

*Now I’m ‘playing *pensionado*.’ I don’t know what it means exactly, but it’s fun! The only activity I’m still involved in to keep myself busy is the rental of the apartments and consulting in constructional engineering... only if I really like it! Now that I’m not working anymore I spend my time fishing and it gives me peace. Once in a while I go to a bar to chat with people, but I never stay out late.*

*About 10 years ago I met my second wife, Feli, here on Bonaire. She’s Do-*



Anton Sieverding

*minican, but when we met she’d been living in the Antilles for many years. The moment our relationship got serious I told her to have her children come to live with us as I knew they’d have much better opportunities here. So, we raised her daughter Nancy and son Juan. Now Juan is in Holland with the Air force and doing really well. Nancy lives and works here and she has two children, Johnny, 5, and Pablo, 7.*

*It’s great to be a grandfather, an enrichment to my life! I’m spending a lot of time with those two little guys, and the good thing about being a grandparent is that when you get tired you can bring them back to their parents! When my children were young it was different as I was working, but we had always open house, lots of friends and we did a lot of fun things together with other families. Seven years ago my daughter Vronie came back to Bonaire when she was offered a real nice job at the hospital. I don’t think Mark and Vronie intended to come back, and I never asked them to because I feel you can’t ask your children such a thing. But having them here has added so much to my life. I’m very happy to have my complete family with me. When I look back at my life, I often think about the choice I made to stay here.*

*When I see my old friends in Holland I know I would have been better off material wise if I’d stayed there, but here I found far more ways to have a nicer life. There have been real good times. I’ve always worked very hard and at the top I had 71 people working for me, but I always knew how to combine work with free time and traveling. For 16 years I’ve been doing business with Venezuela, and I know Caracas better than Curaçao, and I’ve got my friends there too. On Bonaire*

*I’ve seen many people coming and going, but it has always been easy to make friends - people of all ages and social status - that’s so easy here, unlike in Europe where society is much more complicated.*

*One of the negative things I experienced here personally, when crime was at its peak about four years ago, was that people attacked me in my home and I was shot. I can only say that I was happy to survive, but it has been a difficult time. I went to the south of Spain to see if we could live there, but I didn’t like it. No culture, just a mixture of Dutch, British and German shops and restaurants.*

*Bonaire is small, but at the same time very big, it’s not an empty village because so many people from all different cultures and nationalities live and visit here and there’s always time to talk and exchange opinions. I hope for the island that we’ve reached the lowest point, that we can let go of Curaçao and that Bonaire will get the chance to develop. Curaçao has never showed any respect for us, and it has prevented us from growing. I hope our government will also see to that everyone in all sectors will pay their taxes so that Bonaire will finally have some resources and we can offer our children a future on the island and well educated Bonaireans can come back.*

*As for my future, when I retired people said, ‘And now you’re going back to Holland, I suppose!’ Well, after so many years I feel more Antillean than Dutch and I have no plan whatsoever to leave.”*

□ *Photo and story by Greta Kooistra*



Greta Kooistra

# MAIRI BHAN, the Mystery Clipper Ship

As my dive partner and I descend, side by side, comforted by the warm embrace of the deep blue sea, unanswered questions about the sinking of the great clipper ship *Mairi Bhan*, continue to confuse us. My thoughts are crowded with conflicting reports, rumors and factual evidence we have encountered at the wreck site. With every clue we uncover more doubts emerge about the circumstances surrounding the untimely arrival and sinking of the clipper ship now known as "The Windjammer Wreck" off the northwest coast of Bonaire. On this visit to her resting place on the lower reef shelf, we will be confirming the size and length of the slack anchor chain that remains dangling from the port side. There are no bow anchors anywhere near the wreck site, and there is no chain at all in the starboard locker. A large spare admiralty style anchor, which was secured to the forward main deck, remains in place and is now surrounded and partially covered by the 5-6 foot (1-2 meter) thick tar flow from the forward cargo hold.

## The Questions

Was it possible for the clipper to make landfall on Bonaire after one or two days' sail from Trinidad, more than 400 miles off course to the west? Why did the Captain choose the deserted north shore of Bonaire to ground the ship on December 7, 1912? How did the ship respond to the last maneuver ordered by Captain Razeto? Why is the bow of the ship pointing to the southeast into the prevailing wind? Where are the main anchors, were they salvaged or deployed? Was the ship on fire in gale force winds as the captain reported? Did the ship remain on the surface for a time after she hit the upper reef? Let's explore the possibilities together...

## Finding Answers

...Barbara sights the wreck and signals a change in our course toward the bow of the ship. As we approach the graceful curve of the hull, terminating at the bowsprit, we can see the slack chain in the white sand below. It is not stretched out as it should be if it were secured to the massive port side anchor. It lies in a haphazard, zigzag pattern on the bottom, and then it rises from the sand and disappears into the port side chain locker. We plan to locate, inspect and measure the last link. Then, if we have enough time at our depth of 195 feet (59.5 meters), we will measure the length of the remaining chain.

The last link of the anchor chain is perfectly formed and undamaged. Each of the

links measure 14 inches (35.5 cm) long, and the total length of remaining chain is 204 feet (64 m). A sailing clipper of this size would normally carry a chain of two or three times the length of the ship for each of her primary anchors. Under normal operating conditions you would never drop both bow anchors at the same time and risk tangling the chains. At the wreck, the starboard anchor and all the chain are missing. The port side anchor and approximately 400 feet (120 m) of its chain are lost. Were the chain and anchors salvaged, or do they lie on the bottom at another site along the reef?

Inside the forward cargo hold we inspect the tar flows and the only barrel we have found, left behind after the sinking. The entire "pool" of tar has spilled from the ship in one continuous mass. It is now "frozen" in time much like lava from a volcano after it cools. There have been reports that it continues to move away from the ship at a rate of 5-6 inches (12-15 cm) each year. It appears that most of the barrels either burst or burned, along with the teak main deck, which allowed the massive tar flow to occur when the ship hit the bottom of the sloping reef. Any obstructions, such as the iron beams, the mast, and deck supports, created temporary dams, causing the tar to back up and then stop in place as a waterfall in winter.

## Scenario

A raging fire on board the stricken ship would have burned the canvas sails and restricted the crews' ability to sail and properly set the anchors. In a real life "Dante's Inferno," the bursting barrels released the warm tar and the fumes further fueled the fire which eventually consumed the main deck. It converted the ship into an open "tanker" and would account for the rapid chain of events that has left behind these clues.

Captain Razeto reported encountering a severe storm after one day's sail out of Trinidad that blew the ship off course toward Bonaire. Under normal wind and weather conditions the clipper would travel approximately 200-250 miles each 24 hours. It would be possible for it to cover the more than 400-500 miles from Trinidad to Bonaire in two days. The storm would severely limit the captain's choices to make land fall and restrict the maneuverability of the huge vessel. Normally this ship would be towed into and out of port. There was no possibility for that service on Bonaire at the time of her arrival on December 7, 1912. Without an



The anchor dwarfs the diver

engine onboard or power assistance, it would be impossible to sail the clipper into the harbor of Kralendijk. With deep water surrounding the island there was a chance to drop the anchors close to shore and allow the crew to escape the inferno. Did the ship sail around the seaward side of Klein Bonaire and make for some lights on the northern shore at Karpata?

## A Desperate Attempt to Save the Ship?

On previous dives at Karpata we have explored two very large admiralty anchors, with attached chains, on the deep slopes just below 180 feet (55 m). Both of these anchors are at the exact same depth, approximately 90 feet (27 m) apart, securely hooked into the protruding reef, with their chains stretched away from shore into deep water. They are pointing north toward the Bonaire Petroleum (BOPEC) fuel storage facility. The size of the anchors exactly matches the spare anchor on the sunken forward deck of the *Mairi Bhan*. The chain links are also the same dimensions as the remaining port side chain on the wreck. The compass heading on the stretched line of chain matches the lie of the sunken clipper. In a final last ditch effort to save themselves, did the crew of the *Mairi Bhan* drop both bow anchors at the same time in an attempt to slow or stop the ship close to shore at Karpata?

This attempt may have turned the ship into the wind, twisting and breaking the anchor chains at or near the surface. Now, with the wind and waves pushing the vessel further north toward the shoreline that juts out to the west, it could have grounded itself on the shallow reef, close



to shore at the BOPEC site. Striking the bottom and rocking in the giant waves may have caused the dismasting of the main mast. As the boat heeled to starboard, the sea would have rushed into the open deck, dragging the ship down the reef slope to the lower shelf where she now lies at peace. Was this an unfortunate accident at sea or did the captain and owners take advantage of circumstances to suit their purposes?

Barbara signals to me that our visit today is over. We emerge from the mid-section of the ship and start our ascent, escorted by the magnificent school of jacks. We reach the surface after our decompression and safety stops have been completed. As we debrief, we decide to continue our search for the true facts behind the sinking of the mystery clipper ship. □ © Story and photos by Albert Bianculli

**Free Multi-Media Show Sundays**  
**Bonaire Holiday** Multi-media dual-projector production by Albert Bianculli, 8.30 pm, Capt. Don's Habitat. Windjammer photos, old and new are featured. □



# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it, just look up

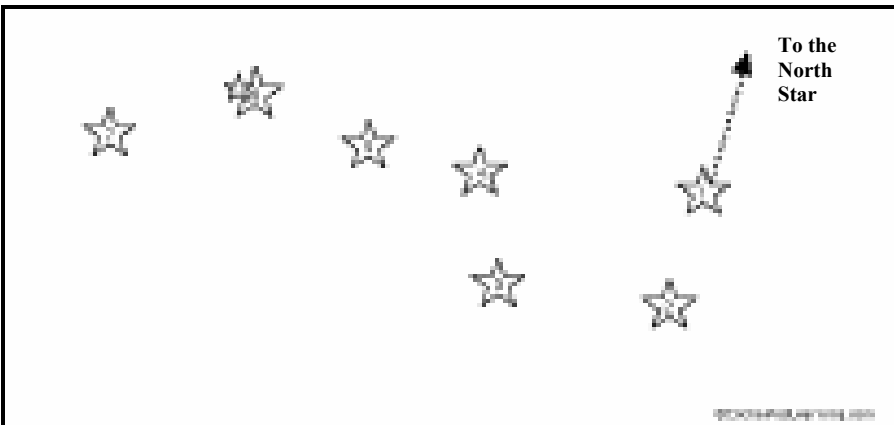
## An Update on One of the Most Beloved Star Patterns in the Heavens: The Big Dipper

Every year in early evening in May the star pattern known to North Americans as the **Big Dipper** (Ursa Major-The Great Bear to Europeans) reaches its highest point in the heavens. And although every year we tell you how to find it and give you some fascinating facts about it, this year we've got some nifty updates. So if you think you really know the Big Dipper you may be in for a surprise.

On any night during the first two weeks of May, about an hour after sunset Sky Park time, face due north. High above the horizon you'll see four stars which, if we connect with lines, form a cup, and three stars to the east which, if connected by lines, form a handle. And a cup with a handle like this in early rural North America was called a dipper, which people used to dip water out of a bucket.

According to some early American natives, however, the four stars which make the Dipper's cup represented the body of a bear, and the three handle stars were three Indian braves tracking the bear across the northern heavens. In England the Big Dipper is known as "the plow" or "King Charles' wagon." And indeed the Big Dipper can look like either a plow or a wagon, although it's upside down at this time of year.

Now one of the most interesting features about the Big Dipper is that you can always use the two stars in the end of the cup to find the **North Star**, which is the end star of the handle of the **Little Dipper**.



To find it yourself simply shoot an arrow through these two stars, and measuring five and a half times the distance between them you'll land smack dab on the North Star, which is not as bright as many people suspect. Another interesting point about the Big Dipper is that if you look closely at **Mizar**, the middle star of the handle, you'll see that it is not one but two stars. The second star is named **Alcor**, and together they're called the **horse and the rider**. But even more interesting is that things are always changing in the field of astronomy because as we develop more sophisticated astronomical tools we can more accurately measure things in the cosmos. So some of the distances we gave you to the stars in the Big Dipper in the past have been refined.

Mizar is 78 light years away, which means that the light we see from Mizar left it 78 years ago. Alcor is 81 light years away, as is the star next to it, **Alioth**. And the star next to it, **Megrez**. **Phceda**, above Megrez, is 3 light years farther away, 84 light years. **Merak** is just 79 light years away which further means that all of these stars belong to a group approximately 80 light years away and that they're all moving together in the same direction through space. That leaves the end star in the handle, **Alkaid**, at a distance of 101 light years, and **Dubhe**, the star at the end of the cup, at a distance of 124 light years. So there you have it: our old friend, the Big Dipper, with new refined distances to each star. Reacquaint yourself! □

Jack Horkheimer



# THE STARS HAVE IT

For the week:  
April 29 to May 6, 2005  
By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

**ARIES** (Mar. 21- April 20) Entertainment should include sports events or physical activities. Keep the promises you've made or you can expect to be in the doghouse. Your mate could get on your nerves if he or she backs you into an emotional corner or puts restrictions on your time. Don't try to get even without having all the facts. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21- May 21) Secret love affairs may be enticing; however, you must be prepared for the restraints that will follow. It might be best to spend time fixing up your premises and making changes that will be appreciated. Help those incapable of taking care of their personal affairs. Voice your opinions and contribute to the debate. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21) Be careful that you don't spend too much time with a person belonging to someone else. Do not borrow or lend money or belongings to friends or relatives if you wish to avoid any hassles. Be willing to listen, but don't be fooled. Past partners are likely to reappear. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) Older members of your family may try to take advantage of you. There'll be difficulties if you spend too much. Your emotional stability may influence the changes taking place in your personal life. Avoid overloading your plate. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug 22) Think before you act. Unforeseen circumstances will disrupt your daily routine. You will attract members of the opposite sex readily. Try to keep your opinions to yourself. Check into art objects or precious stones. You can do well in group endeavors. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Travel will stimulate your need to experience exciting new things. You might find group functions tiring. Romance may be likely if you travel. You can come up with solutions to the problems responsible for inefficiencies at work. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Be careful not to confuse issues when discussing the matters at hand. Try to visit friends or relatives you don't get to see often. You should make special plans for you and your lover. It might be best not to spend your money on luxuries this week. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Look into family outings or projects. Children may be less than honest with you. This could be a serious relationship. You may have a problem at work with a female co-worker. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) You need more time to think this whole situation through. You will find that unfinished projects at home will be most satisfying. You can get ready to celebrate your new direction. Romantic encounters are evident through travel or educational pursuits. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) You could find yourself having problems with co-workers and employers. You will find that superiors may not see situations as you do. Try to find another time to present work or ideas this week. You can meet someone who will become very dear to you if you get out and socialize. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Equilibrium in your romantic life is likely if you treat your partner well. Travel and communication will be lucrative for you. Hidden assets can be doubled if you play your cards correctly. Be sure to question any detail that you feel could leave you in a precarious position at a later date. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Be prepared to neutralize any threats. Avoid getting too close to co-workers or employers. Try not to overspend on luxury items. Don't let your emotions interfere with your professional integrity. Your lucky day this week will be Monday. □