

IT'S
STILL
FREE

August 5 to 12, 2005 Volume 12, Issue 30

The ~~BONAIRE~~ REPORTER

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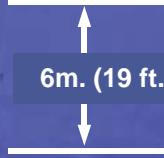
SINCE 1994

Windjammer Wreck Collapses

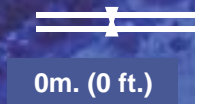
Story on page 18



Before



After



FLOTSAM AND JETSAM



One of our readers told us that **BonairExpress is being listed on Internet booking web sites as "Ecoair" airlines.** On visiting the Travelocity website we found it's true. Our requests to BonairExpress management for an explanation have so far gone unanswered. Is another name change on the way? Return Travelocity fares are \$50 higher than buying direct.



Ecoair Flight 2995	6:00pm Aruba, Aruba (AUA)	7:30pm Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles (BON)	1hr 30min - 1 stop Stop in Curacao, Netherlands Antilles (CUR)
Ecoair Flight 2963	10:45pm Aruba, Aruba (AUA)	12:15am - Tue, Oct 11 Next day arrival Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles (BON)	1hr 30min - 1 stop Stop in Curacao, Netherlands Antilles (CUR)
Ecoair Flight 2995 / 2983	6:00pm Aruba, Aruba (AUA)	11:15pm Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles (BON)	5hrs 15min - 1 stop Change planes in Curacao, Netherlands Antilles (CUR)

► American Airlines and Continental Airlines posted better-than-forecast earnings Wednesday, but Continental said it expected to post a full-year loss, underscoring the industry's ongoing challenges.

The figures for seats already booked or blocked to Bonaire from America for December 2004 - April 2005, as of July 15th according to the Sabre reservation data, are very encouraging. Available less than a month, Continental flights are already more than half full

Three carriers serving Bonaire report booked:

Month	Continental %	Air Jamaica %	American Eagle %
Dec 2005	67	65	98
Jan 2006	67	62	50
Feb 2006	61	65	62
Mar 2006	57	61	48
Apr 2006	71	53	46

► Air Jamaica, with its major maintenance issues behind it, is very optimistic about its prospects this summer. It plans 270 flights weekly in the peak season and 240 in the low season. **The carrier will, however, face its first true test when it goes up against the Fort Lauderdale-based low cost airline, Spirit,** which has bolstered its finances to upgrade its fleet, to do battle with Air Jamaica beginning in the winter season. Spirit fare to Montego Bay: \$208 plus tax and all fees (\$93).

► You can now fly 48-seat Dash turboprops directly between **Bonaire and Caracas on Thursdays and Sundays** thanks to a regular charter organized by Adventure Travel & Tours. Flight time is about 35 minutes. For more information about the flights and promotional round trip rates, contact Mrs. Karsna at

786-9444. Caracas is an alternative gateway to Europe and South America.

► The Bank of the Netherlands Antilles (BNA) reports that **the average mortgage interest rate during May in the Netherlands Antilles was 8.7%, the lowest rate for many years.** Also the credit interest rate went down to an average of 11.6%. It was 12.5% in 2003.

Saving Account rates have also dropped to 2.8% currently. In 2002, a 12-month cash deposit received 5.5% interest; in 2003, 4.9%; in 2004, 4.2%; and in May 2005, 4.1%. The BNA anticipates that the interest rates will go up again soon. Currently, the national government offers 7.25% on 10-year bonds.

► **The Annual Dutch Kingdom Games ended on Sunday in Curaçao.**

The Games consisted of four days of sports competitions among Aruba, The Antilles and The Netherlands. **Queen Beatrix visited the event as part of her 25th Jubilee Celebration,** and her presence proved as popular as ever. At the conclusion of the Games she offered words of gratitude that were not part of the planned program. She thanked the Aruban and Antillean population in general, and especially everybody who had contributed to the success of the day. "It was wonderful being one of you, even though it was for a short time. But I couldn't imagine a jubilee without having Aruba and the Antilles being a part of it." She continued saying that in her 25 years as queen, she always felt much attached to the islands. Every time she's visited she was warmly welcomed and that makes her feel at home. "I feel privileged being allowed to be your Queen. *Masha, masha danki.*" There was great applause when she spoke in Papiamentu.

She apologized for not having the time to visit the islands other than Curaçao but promised to return next year.

► Aruba tourism increased 14.68% during the first quarter of 2005. **There are no figures available for a Bonaire comparison.** According to the Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA), close to 20,000 American tourists per month visited Aruba during the first three months of this year. Based on previous years' figures, Bonaire receives about 2,000 American tourists per month.

► On Monday and Tuesday, August 8 and 9, **Criminal Court proceedings** will be held in the Judicial Complex at Ft. Oranje. Once a



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(*Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 2*) month judge(s) from Curaçao visit Bonaire to handle local cases. This month, following a recess for the month of July, the court lists 26 cases on its docket to be presided over by Judge L. A.J. de Lannoy. Charges include: shootings, thefts, robberies, defamation of character, seven cases of drug smuggling and much more. Proceedings begin at 9 am and end around 5 pm with a lunch break.

► **Bonaire residents should be on the lookout for suspicious looking faxes.** A local businesswoman received one and told us about a US government website that alerted her to the fraud. In this particular scam, an altered IRS Form W-8BEN, "Certificate of Foreign Status of Beneficial Owner for United States Tax Withholding," is sent purportedly from the IRS to non-US resident aliens who may have invested in US assets. You are asked to fill in the form and fax it to the phone number contained in the correspondence. Earlier this year, the scheme appeared in South America and Europe.

The scheme uses fictitious IRS correspondence and an altered IRS form in an attempt to trick the foreign persons into disclosing their personal and financial data. The information fraudulently obtained is then used to steal the taxpayer's identity and financial assets. The practice is called "phishing" for information.

Anyone who has received a fraudulent letter and form should report this by calling the toll-free fraud referral hotline at 1-800-366-4484, faxing a com-



► **Last Saturday the Goodhearted Youngsters Group (*Hóbennan di Bon Kurason*),** part of the Bonaire Youth Outreach Foundation, spent a part of their vacation working to give a facelift to the plaza across from the St. Bernardus Church in Kralendijk. In past years they helped paint the *Kolegio Kristu Bon Wardador* School and the Ka'i Mimina senior citizens center. Positive actions by Bonaire's youngsters don't get nearly the press coverage of negative actions, so one of the directors of the group felt it a good idea to spruce up a really public site. The work should be completed next weekend. Permission to do the work was given by Commissioner Yonchi Dortalina, and the paint by Krioyo Paint Bonaire. Thanks also to Felix Castillo who spontaneously provided refreshments and to Boeboei Martijn, who offered his pickup. For more information contact Sheloutska Martinus, at 786-5566 or Edward Bernabela at 786-4851.

plaint to 202-927-7018, or writing to the TIGTA Hotline, P.O. Box 589, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, D.C. 20044-0589. For more information, see the website <http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=127914,00.html>

► The cruise ship *Freewinds* will once again resume its series of **Cool Sunday Night Concerts** in the Wilhelmina Park. The first was held last Sunday. Concerts begin at **7:30 pm**. The *Freewinds* band along with special guests will perform at the gazebo in

downtown Kralendijk for an open-air free show for all to come and enjoy.

► If you want to experience all the diving Bonaire has to offer you should dive the east (wild) side of the island. **Golden Reef Inn has announced "Wild Side" dive packages** to make it an easy experience. In addition to seven nights accommodation in one of their well equipped, updated apartments you get six days of unlimited shore diving with all the gear you need typically, from three to six days of two-tank dives with Larry's Wild Side Diving, continental breakfast, room tax, a 4-door pickup truck and a variety of amenities. Prices range from \$779 pp to \$1,175 pp. For more information, visit www.goldenreefinn.com or email info@goldenreefinn.com.

Prepare for the next regatta to be held on **Saturday and Sunday, August 13-14** organized by the Canti Awa Snack and sponsored by Budget Marine and Hilltop. Sailing will be micro boats, Optimist, Sunfish, cats, fishing boats. To participate the cost is NAf20 per boat and you get entry, T-shirt, lunch, 2 drinks daily. Pass by Budget Marine to sign up. To watch from shore is free.

► **Come get free tests at Xavier's Health Fair Saturday August 6th** 10 am to 2 pm. See page 7.

► This week's very pretty **Benetton model from Jong Bonaire** is Genesis St. Jago. The Benetton ad is on page 11. *G./L.D*

Four-Day Walkers Return



At the airport to welcome Nazario –friends and family

Bonaire's "Road Runner," Nazario Alberto, arrived at Flamingo Airport last week, greeted by his family and a few members of the well known walking group, *Pia Pia di Kunuku Bieu*. He was returning from the Four-Day Walk of Nijmegen in which he, Bòi Antoin and Roy Martines represented Bonaire and completed successfully.

Nazario, as we were told before, was only allowed to walk 40 km a day be-

cause of his age. But because it was so easy for him, he managed to complete the course in five and a half hours, starting at 6 am and ending around 11:30 am.

Nazario wishes to express his gratitude to all who made his journey and representation possible: a special thanks goes to Boutique Vita, the Island Government of Bonaire, Botika Bonaire and Ms. Amy Schermer. *Natalie A.C. Wanga/L.D.*



WEB photo

Another successful Bonaire athlete returned from the Four Days of Nijmegen – WEB employee Roy Martines is shown here with Ella of WEB who is presenting him with a t-shirt with the WEB logo. Roy was in the 50km per day class.

Congratulations, Roy!



Nazario shows the flag at check-in

Nazario's Medal for 3 participations

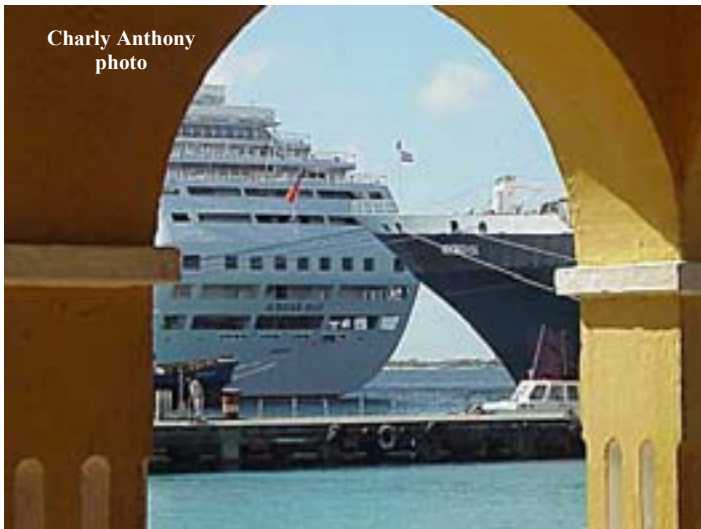
CRUISE SHIPS – A DEBATE

A reader, who is concerned that cruise ships do not support Bonaire as well as conventional “stay-over” tourism and, in some situations, the over emphasis on cruise ships may cause economic problems, sent us this clipping:

CHARLOTTE AMALIE, US Virgin Islands - ... St. Thomas is a major port stop for the gleaming floating cities that leave each week from Miami, Fort Lauderdale and San Juan.

The ships are teaming with moneyed tourists out for fun and frolic. But where do passengers spend their vacation money, on the ship or on the shore? Most vacationers leave their cruise ships for at least a short visit to the ports. Some choose shore tours. Others proceed to the shops and cafes. A daiquiri, a T-shirt and maybe a cheap watch. Later, it's back to the ship to dine and dance and gamble and wake up the next morning in another port.

"It's a home away from home," says Mark Fiske, a computer analyst in his 40s from



Two cruise ships in port

Anchorage, Alaska. "Touring by cruise ship," he says, "means less hassle and is less expensive than flying and paying for hotels. You stay onboard and enjoy your vacation."

Increasingly, this is the Caribbean traveler. And in the cash-strapped US Virgin Islands, there is a growing concern about dwindling numbers of tourists who stay in hotels, eat in restaurants, rent cars and ride in cabs. The number of overnight visitors to the US territory has fallen from 555,000 to 410,000 last year. During the same period, the number of arrivals by cruise ship shot up to 1.6

million. The problem is that even though cruise ship passengers now account for 80% of all visitors, they provide only 25% of tourism revenue, which is falling. For instance, Mark Fiske and his wife Deborah, a kindergarten teacher, bought nothing during the ship's 10-hour stay in port, and they seemed unimpressed. "The island needs more attractions," Deborah said.

What do you have to say about cruise ships visiting Bonaire? Write or e-mail The Reporter. (editor@bonairereporter.

OPINION on DEPARTURE TAX

Don't like Bonaire's departure tax? Well Bonaire is not alone in the area for charging a fee to leave. In fact it's about average. Here's a summary of fees in the region:

DEPARTURE TAXES AROUND THE CARIBBEAN

Anguilla	\$20	Haiti	\$30
Antigua & Barbuda	\$14	Jamaica	\$25
Aruba	\$37	Mexico	\$19
Bahamas	-0-	Puerto Rico	-0-
Barbados	\$12.50	St. Kitts/Nevis	\$22
Belize	\$15	St. Lucia	\$20
Bonaire	\$20	St. Maarten/Saba/ St. Eustatius	\$30
British Virgin Is.	\$15	St. Martin	\$25
Cayman Islands	\$25	St. Vincent	\$15
Curaçao	\$22	Trinidad & Tobago	\$16
Dominica	\$20	Turks & Caicos	\$30
Dominican Republic	\$10	US Virgin Islands	\$3
Grenada	\$20	Venezuela	\$34
French Caribbean	-0-		

What Are NGOs All About?

Activities of AMFO and the NGO Platform



Often they enjoy advantages over larger government and private sector institutions and can deliver services to hard-to-reach communities in a more efficient, cost-effective manner.

Factors for Success

Much of the success of an NGO comes from **dynamic leadership and committed staff**. NGOs can be more flexible, innovative and are affected less by bureaucratic constraints.



When I first heard people mention the term “NGO” I had no idea what they were talking about. That was about five years ago. I gathered NGOs were usually small groups of people dedicated to specific significant goals that receive little if any government funds. Bonaire had several such NGOs at the time and the number is growing. It is now officially tallied at 90 (see table below). NGO funding usually comes through donations, sometimes government assistance or other sources.

What is an NGO?

An NGO, I learned, can be many things. While NGOs vary greatly in size and orientation, most share the common goal of **helping people and benefiting society**. International and national NGOs support larger scale activities ranging from social welfare to environmental and political advocacy. NGOs in Bonaire provide services that include community organization, health, education, welfare and environmental protection.

NGOs also **help improve people's lives** through skills training and other livelihood programs. NGOs can prepare and carry out development projects and work to strengthen local institutions and promote community self-reliance.

NGOs make significant **contributions to social and economic development**.

Bonaire NGO Category	Number
Sports and Leisure	16
Socio-Economic	4
Nature and The Environment	9
Education and Training	10
Community Development	11
Art/Culture	13
Care and Welfare	15
Youth and Family	12
Total	90

Limitations

NGOs also have limitations. Many NGOs are **small in both size and scope** of operations and their impact is limited. NGOs can suffer from **financial and technical limitations**. Often focused on a specific concern or a specific location, NGOs **may lack a broad economic and social perspective**. Many smaller NGOs are loosely structured and may have limited accountability. **Management and planning may be weak or too flexible**.

NGOs can play many roles, for example:

Development and Operation of Infrastructure:

Community-based organizations and cooperatives can acquire, subdivide and develop land, construct housing, provide infrastructure and operate and maintain infrastructure such as wells or public toilets and solid waste collection services. They can also develop building material supply centers and other community-based economic enterprises. In many cases, they will need technical assistance or advice from governmental agencies or higher-level NGOs. An example in Bonaire is the FKPD facilities in Rincon and the Parke Publico project.

Supporting Innovation, Demonstration and Pilot Projects:

NGOs have the advantage of selecting particular places for innovative projects and specify in advance the length of time which they will be supporting the project - overcoming some of the shortcomings that governments face in this respect. NGOs can also be pilots for larger government projects by virtue of their ability to act more quickly than the government bureaucracy. Bonaire's CKB (Small Business Development) teaches people approaches to doing business, including starting new businesses.

(Continued on page 7)

Small NGO makes...(Continued from page 6)

Facilitating Communication:

NGOs use interpersonal methods of communication and study the right entry points to gain the trust of the community they seek to benefit. They would also have a good idea of the feasibility of the projects they take up. The significance of this role to the government is that NGOs can communicate to the policy-making levels of government information about the lives, capabilities, attitudes and cultural characteristics of people at the local level. Some of Bonaire's environmental NGOs, like the Sea Turtle Conservation (STCB) work to change ingrained attitudes.

NGOs are also in a unique position to share information horizontally, networking between other organizations doing similar work. Bonaire's Aliansa Naturalesa brings together the island's conservation-minded groups to share ideas and lobby for environmental protection.

Technical Assistance and Training:

Training institutions and NGOs can develop a technical assistance and training capacity. SEBIKI teaches many Bonaireans about the care of young children.

Research, Monitoring and Evaluation:

Innovative activities need to be carefully documented and shared. Effective participatory monitoring would permit the sharing of results with the people themselves as well as with the project staff. AMFO and the NGO Platform, the "parents" of various Bonaire NGO groups, has staff to accomplish these objectives.

Source: How the World Bank works with Non-Governmental Organizations. The World Bank, 1990 and Workshop notes: "NGO Workshop" organized at the Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, October 17-21, 1988.

If you see a need in Bonaire that is not being filled by Government or existing NGOs you can start your own NGO. Next time we'll tell you how to do it.

What defines an NGO?

Now that we are closer to understanding what an NGO can be, what exactly is the "formal" definition of an NGO? Unfortunately the diversity of NGOs strains any simple definition. Usually it's groups and institutions that are entirely or largely independent of government and that have primarily humanitarian or cooperative rather than commercial objectives. A World Bank study came up with these nine definitions:

NGO

A non-profit making, voluntary, service-oriented/development oriented organization, either for the benefit of members (a grassroots organization) or of other members of the population (an agency).

NGO

It is an organization of private individuals who believe in certain basic social principles and who structure their activities to bring about development to communities that they are servicing.

NGO

A social development organization assisting in empowerment of people.

NGO

An organization or group of people working independently of any external control with specific objectives and aims to fulfill tasks that are oriented to bring about desirable change in a given community or area or situation.

NGO

An independent, democratic, non-sectarian people's organization working for the empowerment of economic and/or socially marginalized groups.

NGO

An organization not affiliated with political parties, generally engaged in working for aid, development and welfare of the community.

NGO

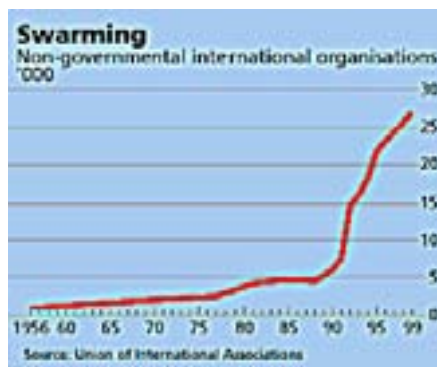
An organization committed to the root causes of the problems trying to better the quality of life especially for the poor, the oppressed, the marginalized in urban and rural areas.

NGO

An organization established by and for the community without or with little intervention from the government; they are not only a charity organization, but work on socio-economic-cultural activities.

NGO

An organization that is flexible and democratic in its organization and attempts to serve the people without profit for itself. G.D.



This Saturday Health Fair at Xavier



Two Xavier students check a woman's blood pressure at last year's health day.

Everyone is welcome! Come to Xavier Medical School's health fair this Saturday, August 6th from 10 am to 2 pm.

Do you need a quick checkup? Xavier medical students will check your blood pressure and glucose level. You can have an eye exam and learn your body mass index.

Do you have a health question? Medical students will explain diabetes, hypertension, BMI (body mass index, glaucoma and cataracts.



The school is on Kaya Prinses Marie, across from Boomerang Hardware.

There's food and entertainment for the children.

Bring the family

Kids--Parents--Grandparents!

AMFO: Kaya Gob. N. Debrot #31, Bonaire. Tel. 717-7776, Fax 717-7779, website: www.samfo.org, email: info-bon@samfo.org

NGO Platforma Bonaire: New address as of August 1: Plaza Terras, Kaya Grandi 23, Rooms E,F,G. Tel. 717-2366, Fax 717-2367, website: www.ngobonaire.org,

Picture Yourself with the Reporter Miami, Florida



Last month Bòi Antoin (L) and Ivan Wilson went to Miami to film some segments for the popular Papiamentu language TV show *HERENSIA* (Heritage). They filmed three shows featuring Hugo Gerharts who's lived in Miami for the last six years. Mr. Gerharts was a pioneer in Bonaire's tourism and aviation for 30 years. During their visit the *HERENSIA* crew visited the famous Bayside at night where they took a picture holding *The Bonaire 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. (All 2005 photos are eligible.)

New Restaurant Opens in Playa STIFLERS BAR AND GRILL

Stifler's Bar and Grill, a new restaurant, is now open on the site of the old Rendez-Vous Restaurant, next to the MCB Bank. Owner-chef Koert Prins, who's traveled the world as an individual and a chef, says, "Bonaire is where my soul wants to live right now." Raised in Holland, Koert comes from an international family – his father is Brazilian,



The Stifler Staff: Martin Rodenberg, Jolanda Prins-van der Schans, Koert Prins Aad Edenburg, Danielle Schmit

his mother is Chinese-Indonesian. Anthropology was his first field of study, but the lure of the kitchen captured him. He spent two years at a master class in Vienna and has been in the restaurant business since 1997.

He and his wife, singer and entertainer, Jolanda Prins-van der Schans, run Stiflers and say, "Get stuffed at Stifler's!" The name, Stifler, comes from a character in the film, "American Pie," and Koert picked it because "it's short and powerful."

The restaurant features grilled meats – chicken and beef on skewers, ribs, wings, Tex Mex – all big portions at low prices. Koert says, "The US beef here is of excellent quality and it's a good price." They're open from 5 pm until midnight, Monday through Saturday. Tel. 717-8454. It's a friendly place with personable people. Stop in, meet, and eat. *L.D.*

Harbor Cleanup Works



NetTech, N.V photo

Cleanup Dive teamwork

The quarterly Cleanup Dive in Bonaire's anchorage yields less trash each time it's done. It appears that education efforts about throwing trash in the sea are successful.

On Sunday, July 10, an 11-person group, met at the Yellow Submarine dive shop to prepare to clean the shallow shelf area used by visiting yachts to moor. The group consisted of three non-divers, who assisted on shore, and eight divers comprised of Yellow Submarine crew, visiting tourists, and Bonaireans. The group received an in-depth dive briefing which included topics such as body position while in the water, the type of trash to retrieve, how to deal with bulky and/or heavy trash, and how to be sure that any marine creatures were protected. Logistics as to making the dive were also included.

Within 30 minutes or so, the first bags of trash were brought to the surface, using lift bags, and removed from the ocean. They were immediately emptied, and all trash was inspected to be sure no marine creatures had been inadvertently included. After this, all trash was sorted and counted. During this cleanup, the following trash was collected and removed for proper disposal: 33 bottles, 31 pieces of fishing line, 2 fishing nets, 70 pieces of rope, 6 pieces of foam plastic, 52 pieces of other types of plastic, 24 pieces of glass, 11 pieces of rubber, 52 pieces of metal, 21 pieces of paper, 5 pieces of wood, and 42 pieces of cloth.

When compared to prior cleanups of the same area, it can be easily seen that the amount of trash being collected and removed is becoming less and less, a clear indication that efforts to educate locals and tourists alike about keeping Bonaire clean have been successful.

This cleanup was closed with a BBQ dinner for all participants at Yellow Submarine. Cleanups are conducted on a quarterly basis, and are sponsored by Bonaire Yellow Submarine (a Dive Friends partner) and NetTech, N.V. The next Cleanup will be conducted on Saturday, September 17th, in conjunction with International Cleanup Day. Divers and non-divers alike are welcome—meet at 1 pm Bonaire Yellow Submarine on the seaside in Kralendijk. *Susan Davis*



VESSELS MAKING A PORT CALL:

Alter Ego	Flam	Noordhinder	Saptivart
Andren	Flying Cloud, USA	Natural Selection	Sportivento
Angie	Freestyle	Orion	Sylvia K
Anything Goes	Guaicamar I, Ven.	Pamala Jean	Sylvester
Augustine	Jan Gerardus	Papeete	Thetis
Bluestar	Josina	Pyewacket	Ti Amo, USA
Bright Sea	Key Lara	Santa Maria	Tish
Camissa, Chan Is.	Luna C. USA	Sandpiper, USA	Tothill
Cape Kathryn	La Baronne	Seascope	Triumphant Lady
Catchloo	La Serena	Sea of Time	Ulu Ulu, USA
Chalice	Maruva	Sea Witch	Unicom, Norway
Delphinus	Marisol	Shalimar	Varedhuni, Ger.
Durchess	Mimo	Silvestre	Ya-T, BVI
Elenoa	Moana	Sintella	Yanti Paratzi
Endangered Species	Moonrise	Sirius	Zenitude
Endorphan	Nelson	Sola 2	

Kids Windsurfing Camp

The glistening waters of Lac Bay were teeming with kids learning what may become the national sport of Bonaire - windsurfing. Bonaire Windsurf Place hosted a Kids Camp this past week for locals and tourists, providing an opportunity for all to get on the water and sail. Accompanied by youth members of the Bonaire Sailing Team, Patun Saragoza and Elvis Martinus had 17 windsurf newbies and some novices out on rigs learning the tricks of the sport. With shallow water, calm seas and moderate winds the kids easily picked up the basics as well as some advanced sail tricks. Some windsurf schools and instructors believe it's best to teach in groups for support and instruction. It was clear the kids were having a blast learning together. The laughs and cheers were heard clear across the water on the beach. And the parents were equally thrilled to have a



perfect place for their kids to spend their summer break. Children from the US, Curaçao, Holland and Bonaire attended the week-long camp.

In between on-the-water instruction, the kids met under the shade at the beach bar for an informal classroom instruction. Lunch was served and ice cream was on hand. Bonaire Kids Camp had all the fixings for the perfect summer treat windsurf style. *Story/photo by Ann Phelan- www.bonairecaribbean.com*

KRALENDIJK TIDES (Heights in feet, FT)

Remember: Winds and weather can further influence the local tides

DATE	TIME	HEIGHT	COEF
8-05	0:39	1.9FT.	76
8-06	1:08	1.8FT.	77
8-07	1:36	1.7FT.	77
8-08	1:56	1.5FT.	76
8-09	10:43	1.1FT.	72
8-10	9:22	1.1FT.	67
8-11	4:51	1.1FT.	61
8-12	4:58	1.0FT.	54
8-13	5:33	0.9FT.	49

Breeding Lora in Captivity

In cooperation with the STINAPA and DROB Lora preservation campaign



A lora blending in with the trees

Part Three

In the wild, Lora nest in tree and rock cavities. The best way to recreate this is to build a wooden nest box. The box should be made of at least 2 cm. thick wood because they may chew it. The size of the box needs to be around 60cm deep and 27x27cm wide. Near the top on the front you should make a hole that's around 8cm wide. I would suggest incorporating an inspec-

tion door two thirds down the box so you can access the chicks should you need to. Arrange this so you do not have to enter the aviary to inspect the box because otherwise it will be quite stressful for both you and the birds. Attach the box securely to the side of the aviary at head height or higher. The entrance should not face into the wind or have strong direct sunlight on it.

Wild nest sites have coarse surfaces on the inside the birds can grip, how-

ever, your manufactured box will not so you need to fix two vertical pieces of wood from the entrance hole to the base. Over this put mesh to create a ladder which the bird can climb. On the floor of the nest you should put some material such as wood shavings. Because of Bonaire's climate I would suggest this material be changed every so often to prevent any fungal build up or insect takeovers. If the pair shows no interest in the box after several years then something in their environment may need changing. The first thing to experiment with is the box. Reposition it, make it bigger, hang it at an angle, make it L shaped, just experiment.

It is unlikely that Lora will naturally breed until they are at least three years old, but this should not be a problem for captive Bonairean Lora, as all legal and banded birds will be older than this by now anyway. When you have had the birds together for five years without success despite your efforts to experiment with nest box shape, position and availability, and even moved the birds to a different aviary, then you must consider that you may not have a male and a female. Yes, you need to wait a number of years. This is a long-term proposal, and remember, a healthy Lora could live over 30 years. Alternatively, an inactive pair may still be a boy and a

girl but they just don't like each other so really there's no way to know!

There is no point in having a nice big house if there are no perches to move around on. Giving your parrots an interesting home can help keep them active which has health benefits because as with humans the more fit they are the stronger their immune system. Providing fresh wood is an easy way to give your Lora lots of enrichment for their body and their mind. Parrots chew the bark from wood and even eat it along

with sap. Chewing is also important for keeping their beaks in good condition. Your birds may also eat the leaves on the branches. Natural perching will give the parrots feet a variety of sizes to hold on to. This keeps their feet mobile and strong. Some perching should be fixed in posi-

tion, but it is good if other perching can move as that makes the bird balance. Use natural rope or even chain to create swings and swinging perches. Once the wood is chewed, replace it.

Ultimately, if your parrots like each other, then at the right time of year they will start to show it. Courtship can involve excited flashing of the eyes and tail fanning. Amazon parrots are not discrete, and you should definitely be able to tell when they are excited. They will be generally louder. You may see the male regurgitate some food for his

(Continued on page 11)



(Breeding Loras. Continued from page 10)

loved one which she will accept gleefully. Eventually, if he's in luck, all this courtship will swiftly lead to mating.

For parrot sex it's important that there be a solid perch. Typically the female sits there, while the male places his foot on her rump and the biological bits join. They may mate several times before the female lays her first egg. If you notice your birds are courting then it is a good idea to give them plenty of space so they can get on with their thing. After that the female will lay two to four eggs over a period of days, and she will begin incubating immediately. After approximately 24 days each egg will hatch. The chicks are helpless and blind at first, and they will develop quite slowly. It will be around nine weeks

before they fledge from the nest box, and even then they will remain dependent on their parents for several more weeks. During this period you must continue to offer soft foods. The chicks will gradually be weaned, and having a variety of soft food to eat helps them get started.

In reality if you are fortunate to have a pair of birds that are happy together and start to breed, then you really need to get more information! From Bonaire the Internet is probably the best place to get information. Two good websites to start with are: <http://www3.sympatico.ca/beddy/main.html>

<http://www.parrotpages.com/>

If you would prefer to get a book then I would recommend you look at any of

Rosemary Low's titles or the beautiful book *Genus Amazona* by John and Pat Stoodley . *Story & photos by Sam Williams*



Rebecca Tempest photo

Sam Williams is a graduate biologist who has extensively studied Bonaire's Lora. He will return next year to help a Lora breeding project.

Got something to buy or sell?

REACH MORE READERS than any other WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
by advertising in THE BONAIRE REPORTER

Non-Commercial Classified Ads (up to 4 lines/ 20± words):

FREE FREE FREE FREE

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Free adds run for 2 weeks.

Call or fax 717-8988 or email ads@bonairereporter.com

JANART GALLERY

Kaya Gloria 7, Bonaire Local Art, Art Supplies, Framing, and Art Classes. Open Tu-We-Th & Sat 10 am- 5 pm Friday 1- 7 pm; or phone 717-5246 for appt.

BONAIRENET

The leading consumer and business information source on Bonaire. Telephone (599) 717-7160. For on-line yellow pages directory information go to <http://www.yellowpagesbonaire.com>

CAPT. DON'S ISLAND GROWER

Trees and plants, Bonaire grown. 8000m² nursery. Specializing in garden/septic pumps and irrigation. Kaminda Lagoen 103, Island Growers NV (Capt. Don and Janet). Phone: 786-0956

Bonaire Images

Elegant greeting cards and beautiful boxed note cards are now available at Chat-N-Browse next to Lover's Ice Cream and Sand Dollar Grocery. Photography by Shelly Craig www.bonaireimages.com

MOVING INTO A NEW HOUSE?

Make it more livable from the start.
FENG SHUI CONSULTATIONS
Interior or exterior design advice, clearings, blessings, energy, healing, China-trained. Experienced. Inexpensive.
Call Donna at 785-9332.

LUNCH TO GO

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

SALT TREASURES BONAIRE

100% natural body salts "Scrub Me" 100% natural Bath Salts available at Chat-n-Browse, KonTiki and Jewel of Bonaire or call 786-6416 for more information.

JELLASTONE PETPARK

Pet boarding / Dierenpension Day and night care. phone: 786-4651 www.bonairenet.com/jellastone/

BE?

Are you having trouble collecting an old debt from BonairExel?

Is BonairExpress claiming that they don't owe you the money because of a name change? Call 717-7488 or email: greatescape@bonairelive.com

JODY'S FASHION

European vogue for the modern woman. Call for an appointment 717-5215.

JODY'S FASHION

Europese mode voor de moderne vrouw. Bel voor een afspraak 717-5215.

For Sale

For sale **Baby Macaw**. Information telephone/fax. 717-2006 fam. Jonkman

WINDSURF SAIL 3.5m CARBON FIBRE MAST/BASE STAY AND BOOM Naf 300.00 WINDSURF BOARD – STARBOARD – EXCELLENT FOR BEGINNERS OR CHILDREN Naf 525.00 KITE SURF CABRINHA BLACK TIP KITE 10m WITH BAR AND LINES Naf 525.00 KITE SURF CABRINHA BLACK TIP 12m WITH BAR AND LINES Naf 525.00 ACCESSORIES – CHILDREN WAIST HARNESS Naf 45.00, ph: 717-3640; 786-0816. pelican@flamingotv.net

Like new Samsung 13.1 cubic ft. refrigerator NAf500 786 4399

LADA NIVA (jeep) for sale 1991-4X4 drive 1.6 Cyl. 95.000km NAf5.400 717-2844 or 786-2844

Volkswagen VW VAN 1988 2 Liter engine- automatic NAf6.900 717-2844 or 786-2844

Property, Sales & Rentals

House For Rent: 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 1 kitchen, 1 sitting room, 2 porches. Kaya Korona #103. Tel. 785-3835.

For Rent: Comfortable 2-bedroom beach villa-weekly or monthly-choice location-privacy & security. Phone (Bon) (599) 717 3293; (US) (570) 586 0098. **May 20 until Jan. 8th.** info@pelicanreefbonaire.com or www.pelicanreefbonaire.com

Wanted

Volunteers to index back issues of *The Bonaire Reporter* (English) and *Extra* (Papiamentu). Call 717-8988 or 786-6125.

Bonaire Chef Team Victory Dinner

Last Wednesday at the SGB high school Chez Nous Restaurant the Bonaire Culinary and Bartender Team made their Bronze Award winning three-course dinner and Silver Award winning cocktails. It was a fun event without all the pressures from judges, press and 1,200 participants as in the Miami "Taste of the Caribbean" culinary Olympics - just pure fun cooking.

Ludo Nicolaas was MC for the evening and there was a special appearance by Lt. Governor Hubert Domacassé who gave the team warm congratulations. The Governor was presented with a culinary team cap which he immediately put on.

The 60 guests were served by a remarkable team of very efficient waiters – FORMA students who are finishing their theory part and preparing to move to practical stage (trainee) lessons this week. This was a trial run for these students to work in a private sector event, and they did a fantastic job. Jobs well done too by teachers Angela Marsera (FORMA) and Vernon "Nonchi" Martijn (SGB hotel school).

Cheers to our Culinary Team Members! You did a fine job! Sara Matera



Silver Medal Winner, Bartender Brad Conner, kept pumping out his winning vodka and rum drinks



Culinary Team member Vernon "Nonchi" Martijn surveys the appetizer course



FORMA waitresses with their teacher, Angela Marsera

Children's Career Day 2005 at Maduro & Curiel's Bank-Bonaire



Every year Maduro & Curiel's Bank holds a "Children's Career Day," where the children of bank employees visit their parents' place of work to learn about what they do.

Last Monday, July 26th, 29 youngsters took part in this year's event. In the photo is Sr. Evert Piar, the Managing Director of MCB-Bonaire, with the kids, the bank's future stars. MCB Press Release & Photo

Pet of the Week

She's beautiful, she's elegant and she's totally relaxed. That's "Sandra," the calico cat. As you may know already, nearly all calicos are female. Sandra was found at Buddy Dive and when she was first brought into the Bonaire Animal Shelter she acted shy, but that was only temporary. Now that she's in the care of the Shelter's staff and the devoted volunteers she's blooming and everyone agrees she's such a sweet personality. The vet has estimated her age at about one and a half years. She's healthy, has had her shots and testing for feline leukemia and is personable and social. The adoption



"Sandra"

fee – Naƒ75 – includes all that testing and shots and sterilization. You may meet the lovely "Sandra" at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Friday, 10 am to 2 pm, Saturdays until 1 pm. Tel. 717-4989.

It's kitten AND puppy season again at the Shelter. Now is the time to check it out because there's such a large selection of healthy and social pets up for adoption. So far this year, we were told by Shelter Manager Jurrie Mellema, there have been 95 adoptions – which proves again that this is the place to come for the best in pets.

**Volunteer
Handyman
Needed**

One more note: If anyone has some time to spare to give the Shelter a hand with some odd repair jobs it would be most appreciated! Call Jurrie at 717-4989.
L.D.

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Published **weekly**. For information about **subscriptions, stories or advertising** in **The Bonaire Reporter**, phone (599) 717-8988, 791-7252, fax 717-8988, E-mail to: **Reporter@bonairenews.com** **The Bonaire Reporter**, George DeSalvo, Publisher. Laura DeSalvo, Editor in Chief. Address: Kaya Gob. Debrot 200-6; Bonaire, Neth. Antilles. Available on-line at: **www.bonairereporter.com**

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Production: Barbara Lockwood

Distribution: Yuchi Molina (Rincon), Elizabeth Silberie (Playa); **Housekeeping:** Jaidy Rojas Acevedo. **Printed by:** DeStad Drukkerij, Curaçao

WHAT'S HAPPENING

THIS WEEK

WEEKLY MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Late Show
Call to make sure (Usually 9 pm)
The Longest Yard
(Adam Sandler)

Early Show (Usually 7 pm)
Madagascar

Kaya Prinses Marie Behind Exito Bakery
Tel. 717-2400
Tickets - NAF10,50 (incl. Tax)
High Schoolers - NAF7,75

NEW FILMS BEGIN FRIDAY
CLOSED MONDAY TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY

SATURDAY 4 PM
Star Wars Episode III

MICRO MOVIE REVIEW

Seen in *Movieland Cinema:*
MADAGASCAR, by Eric Darnell and Tom McGrath. Let's face it, it's hard to put out a good animation movie that is equal to *Shrek*, *The Incredibles* or *Finding Nemo*. Those are hard movies to follow because there were so many original jokes in those films, but *Madagascar* is by no means a bad movie. In fact, I will still rate this pretty high, as I enjoyed it without watching the clock. I think it as a moderately funny movie. Decent lines, some funny moments. But the good news is that many kids will enjoy this. There is plenty of light humor, especially with the penguins who steal the show most of the time. *Dodo*



regatta@budgetmarinebonaire.com

September 1-6—Annual Bonaire Motorcycle Tour.
Sunday, October 9—Jong Bonaire Annual Swim to Klein Bonaire, 8 am, Bongo's Beach
October 9 - 15- International Bonaire Sailing Regatta

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
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**-great prizes, 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 -Multimedia dual-projector production by Albert Bianculli, 8.30 pm, Capt. Don's Habitat.
Wednesday (2nd and 4th) Turtle Conservation Slide Show by Andy Uhr. Carib Inn seaside veranda, 7 pm
Thursday from June 16 to July 28, Basic Fish ID Yellow Submarine Dive Shop at 6:30 pm
Friday- Week in Review Video Presentation by the Toucan Dive Shop at Plaza's Tippy Seagull, 5 pm. 717-2500.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Bonaire Arts and Crafts (Fundashon Arte Industrial Bonaireano) 717-5246 or 717-7117
The Bonaire Swim Club- Contact Valarie Stimpson at 785-3451 or Valarie@telbonet.an
Cinnamon Art Gallery - Volunteers

to help staff gallery during the day. Call 717-7103.

Bonaire National Marine Park - 717-8444.
Bonaire Animal Shelter -717-4989.
Donkey Sanctuary - 560-7607.
Jong Bonaire (Youth Center) - 717-4303.
Sister Maria Hoppner Home (Child Care) Tel. 717-4181 fax 717-2844.
Special Olympics - Contact Roosje 717-4685, 566-4685

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 **2nd and 4th 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 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

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

Send events to The Bonaire Reporter
Email reporter@bonairenews.com
Tel/Fax. 717-8988, Cel. 791-7252

Saturday, August 6—First Saturday of the month Big Rincon Marshé— Lively, open-air market—food, produce, gifts, plants, music, friendliest people on the island. In the town square. 6 am to 2 pm. www.infobonaire.com/rincon

Saturday, August 6—Health Fair at Xavier 10 am to 2 pm. Free health tests, see page 7.

Sunday, August 7—Fun Run sponsored by Comcabon, 2/4/5k. 7:30 am. Call Richard Pietersz 717-8629, 780-7225

Sunday, August 7—Freewinds Concert, 7:30 pm, Wilhelmina Park

COMING

Saturday, Sunday, August 13-14- Sailing Regatta, sponsored by Canti Awa Snack, Budget Marine, Hilltop Caribbean Club—Micro boats, Optimist, Sunfish, Cats, Fishing boats. Sign up at Budget Marine. Cost is NAF20 per boat and you get entry, T-shirt, lunch, 2 drinks daily. Email:

DINING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue

RESTAURANT	PRICE RANGE / WHEN OPEN	FEATURES
Bella Vista Restaurant Sea Side Restaurant at Buddy Dive Resort 717-5080, ext. 525	Moderate. Breakfast and Lunch Dinner during Theme nights only. Open every day	Magnificent Theme Nights: Saturday: Beach Grill; Monday: Caribbean Night; Friday: Manager's Rum Punch Party and All-You-Can-Eat B.B.Q
Bistro de Paris Kaya Gob. N. Debrot 46 (half-way between hotel row and town) 717-7070	Moderate Lunch and Dinner Closed Sunday	Real French Cooking in an informal setting Superb dishes prepared with care and love by a French chef Owner-operated Eat in or Take away
Brasserie Bonaire Royal Palm Galleries Kaya Grandi 26, Next to Re/Max, 717-4321	Low- Moderate Lunch and Dinner Open 11 am -2:30 pm 5:30-9 pm Closed Saturday and Sunday	Lots of parking in big mall lot Kitchen Open 11am-2:30 pm, Dinner 5:30-9 pm Breezy terrace with airco inside—Also serving big sandwiches at dinner
Calabas Restaurant & Chibi Chibi Restaurant and Bar 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 highest standard of cuisine.
Crocantino Italian Restaurant Downtown at Kaya Grandi 48 717-5025	Moderate-Expensive Dinner Closed Monday	Bonaire's Most Romantic Restaurant where dining is a delight! Tuscan chef prepares exquisite dishes with authentic ingredients. Be served in a garden setting under floating umbrellas or in air-conditioned comfort. Take out
Den Laman On the water, just off the traffic circle 717-4106	Moderate-Expensive Breakfast, Lunch Dinner Open 7 days	Creative cuisine on the seaside. Top chefs from Amsterdam cook in an open modern kitchen featuring induction cooking. Seafood a specialty.
The Great Escape EEG Blvd #97—across from Belmar 717-7488	Moderate Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner Open 7 days	Bar-Restaurant poolside—under the thatched roof. Caribbean cuisine. Champagne brunch on Sundays 10 am to noon. Happy hours 5 to 7 every day.
Hilltop at Caribbean Club Bonaire On the Tourist Road, 2 mi. north of Town 717-7901	Moderate-Expensive Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Closed Sunday	Quiet country setting, lovely landscaping, friendly staff Happy Hour from 5-7 pm, BBQ on Tuesdays Gourmet chef creates unique daily specials
The Last Bite Bakery Home Delivery or Take Out 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 gourmet class items -always from scratch- for take out or delivery only.
The Lost Penguin Across from MCB Bank in downtown Kralendijk Call 717-8003.	Low-Moderate Breakfast, Lunch, Early Dinner until 6 pm Closed Tuesdays & Wednesdays	Watch the bustle of downtown from this street side Caribbean-style bistro owned and run by a European educated Master Chef and his wife.
Pasa Bon Pizza 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 Real Thing! 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
Stiflers Bar & Grill Kaya L.D. Gerharts 3 (next to MCB Bank) 717-8584	Low-Moderate Open from 5-midnight, closed Sunday The late night place for food	Get Stuffed at Stiflers! Ribs, Burgers, Sandwiches and more Grilled meat a specialty



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.

ART GALLERY

Cinnamon Art Gallery non-profit gallery for local artists has continuous shows. Each month a new artist is featured. Stop by. Free entry.

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.

Dive Friends Bonaire (Photo Tours Divers-Yellow Submarine) -low prices - on the seaside at Kralendijk, at Caribbean Club, Caribbean Court and the Hamlet Oasis. Join their cleanup dives and BBQ.

WannaDive - They make diving fun while maintaining the highest professional standards. In town at City Café and at Eden Beach.

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, DVD rentals, 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, slides, items and services. **Now-full digital services.**

REAL ESTATE / RENTAL AGENTS

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

Mike Boom & Associates - Broad assortment of homes and properties. View on their website www.bonairealty.com or office in town

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. 717-2345

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.

SUPERMARKETS

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

Amina and Galil Kartodikromo

“We couldn’t stay in Surinam. Everything we did failed from the time guerilla leader Ronnie Brunswijk made his entrance and the civil war broke out. Before we had a very good life in Moengo, the little village where we lived. We worked hard, but we could afford everything we needed.”

Ronnie Brunswijk is still living in Moengo. He’s one of the richest men in Surinam, but he got rich by destroying the country. Galil was working for his brother, a contractor in Moengo. The workshop was at Patamacca, a palm oil plantation. In the daytime he worked in the factory and drove a truck. After work he went to pick up the palm pits that people gathered with the help of donkeys and had put alongside the road and then Galil dumped the harvest at the factory. In his spare time, as a hobby, he had cleared a plot of land and planted 2,000 banana trees and pumpkins.

In 1986 the civil war broke out and Brunswijk set Patamacca on fire. Galil and I had known each other practically all our lives as we are both from Moengo, but the day when Brunswijk and his guerillas closed the town and blew up the roads and bridges with dynamite and we became completely isolated for a whole month, we started to talk. He was 19 and I was 20. I thought he was a cute guy. I loved his hair, full and with lots of curls, and he was into motor cross.”

“I thought Amina was a very nice girl,” Galil says. “She used to pass by my house on her bicycle; that’s how it started!” “My parents loved Galil instantly,” Amina laughs. “Of course our parents knew each other. We both have Javanese ancestors and we’re Muslim and my parents were ever so happy with my choice as he was a quiet boy!”

As soon as it became possible we moved to Paramaribo. We’d lost everything because of the war. When Galil’s brother started a ranch at Leliedorp, Galil became the foreman, handling the construction and the cattle. Every day he had to travel the dirt roads, horrible roads, full of holes. When they’re dry they’re like quicksand; when it’s rainy season they’re just plain mud! Part of his job was to deforest the jungle. One day when he was working with his chainsaw a heavy branch fell on his head, destroyed his teeth and left him unconscious. They took him to the hospital. He recovered slowly, but after that he didn’t want to work there anymore so he began as a salesman at SAB, the Surinam Alcohol Company, for the next five years.

We got married in 1988. I have four brothers and one sister; Galil has three brothers and six sisters, but we only have two sons: Shaieb, 13, and Sharief, 11. They are good students; I can’t complain.

The road to Bonaire was easy. My brother, Amin Darmaoen, had come here in 1991. He worked for Den Laman until he left for Holland three years ago. When Galil came to visit him he was offered a job immediately.” “I didn’t go back for three years,” Galil says, “only to say goodbye to my family and to tell them I was going to stay on Bonaire for good. It all happened fast. Amina stayed with her parents for five months until I was settled and had their papers arranged and then they came.

“...the day when Brunswijk and his guerillas closed the town and blew up the roads and bridges with dynamite and we became completely isolated for a whole month...”

The first impression I got from Bonaire was, how empty! I only saw dry trees and there was such a strong wind! But the sea was wonderful. I could go fishing anywhere, anytime! In Surinam it rains every day with no wind at all. The humidity is very high and it’s very hot. We fish in rivers and creeks, but when you live in Paramaribo it takes a lot of planning to go fishing for the weekend. I’m a good fisherman. I used to go in my boat, but the engine isn’t working anymore, now I’m fishing from the shore and in the saliñas. The other day I caught a *Karanja* that weighed 15 kilos!” *He shows me the jaw of the fish: It has the canine teeth of a pit bull! He grins: “I always catch the rarest fishes!” “We made a good soup with the head and we had nice filets,” Amina says, looking proudly at her husband. They are a lovely, hardworking couple: Amina and Galil Kartodikromo. She’s outgoing, spontaneous and always ready for a joke, and he’s a nice quiet guy.*

“We are doing okay,” Amina laughs. “We never fight! You can’t have a fight with Galil. I talk and he doesn’t say anything back... what’s the fun of that! When I arrived in Bonaire there was so much wind at the airport I thought I was going to be blown away! I thought

it would be beautiful, with skyscrapers, just like Holland! But I found it’s just like Moengo; it’s quiet and I got used to it, I was never a city girl anyway. Aside from missing my family, it has been easy here.

“Not for me!” Galil says. “I was working with a girl who spoke only Spanish, a language I didn’t know. Papiamentu I had never heard of! But I worked with eight guys and learned the bad words first! I took a quick course for a week and after that I picked it up myself. I started working for Kooyman’s in 1996. I applied and started the same day. Three months later I became the yard chief, which I still am. Amina works at Plaza, doing the breakfast service.

It’s funny. In Surinam I had migraines all the time, but here I’ve had them only once or twice. Maybe it was because of the situation, the stress. My father died of a stroke because of the civil war. He had just retired and worried so much about what was happening. The country has gone down tremendously and poor people have become poorer. When I left Surinam we got one dollar for 16 Surinam Guilders. Now it’s 2,500 Guilders for one dollar!

I think we’re doing so much better here. We got our land and started clearing it in January 2001. In March this year (2004) we moved into our house. We built it ourselves, but we’ve had help from the guys from work and our neighbor, Eddie Campos. The house has turned out very solid. It was built block by block. Hopefully it will be finished in two more years, but now we can live here and don’t have to pay rent. All our spare time goes into the house. Sometimes I rest for half an hour but then I think, No! I’ve got too much to do. Before we started building I went fishing a lot. Now I’m thinking only of the house.” “The fishes must be happy,” Amina laughs, “They are having a holiday.”

“We didn’t participate in the kite contest this year either; it was the first time we were not there since 1996! Over the years we’ve won 32 trophies. The kites Galil designs are always very different. Once he made a Javanese with a skirt; it was the strangest kite they had ever seen.” “I make them of bamboo,” Galil fills in, “but it’s hard to get. I find it on the beach, but most of the time it’s too old and doesn’t bend. I wanted to participate at Dia di Arte with kites, but I



The Kartodikromo Family

didn’t have time. Amina’s biggest hobby is to sing and to laugh. She does karaoke nights and song festivals.”

“I go out to sing and sometimes after karaoke I go to City Café. Galil doesn’t like to go out so I go by myself or with friends and I love to dance. We also like to cook, especially fish soup with corn, the way they make it here, absolutely delicious. But no *funchi* for us. It has no taste. We like spicy food with lots of pepper. Once, when Galil’s brother was here and saw so many doves he invented a trap that worked very well and we made dove stoba. It was good.

As we are Muslims we go to the mosque, but mostly when it’s Ramadan. It’s open every day, but we’re working hard, so there isn’t always time to go. But I’m sure God will forgive us! We have to live too. Antilleans don’t know what it means to be a Muslim. When you explain you have to tell them it’s the ‘Arab faith,’ then they understand.

It’s good to be here; there’s time to live, to see the sunrise and to get home five minutes after work. Now we think we’ll stay here and that’s what we hope for. We don’t know what the future will bring in Holland or in Surinam, but if it’s up to us we prefer to stay here. That’s our choice.”

Greta Kooistra
Reprint of the story that first appeared in The Bonaire Reporter in May 2004





**HERE LIES THE MAIRI BHAN
THE LEGENDARY "WINDJAMMER" SHIPWRECK
BORN: December 7, 1912
DIED: March 23, 2005
AGE: 92 years, 3 months
BONAIRE**

This is a hard trip. The waves, driven by the prevailing winds, are pitching our small boat from side to side. A six-foot (2 meter) ocean swell is moving us up and down like an elevator gone wild, trying to figure out where to stop. We are determined to complete our mission and return to photograph and document the recent demise of the legendary "Windjammer," the wreck of the *Mairi Bhan*, on the northwest coast of Bonaire.

Lying at rest on her starboard side, in almost perfect condition for over 92 years, the hull recently collapsed. Her supporting deck braces, weakened by the corrosive action of the sea, were no longer able to bear the weight of her iron hull plates and the increasing burden of coral growth. Together with my enthusiastic dive partner, a veteran of several hundred dives on this shipwreck, I plan to examine and photograph the collapsed hull from the outside.

The Historic Ship and Her Life at Sea

The *Mairi Bhan* was constructed for Captain P.J. McIntyre of London by the Barclay and Curle Company in Glasgow, Scotland, and completed in early 1874. She was a well appointed, full-rigged ship, with three giant masts, double topsails and unusual top-gallant yards on the forward and mainmast. Designed for speed, she carried an immense spread of canvas for her 1,378 tons of riveted iron hull plates and teakwood decks. The "Bonny Mary," one of the most handsome high-class clippers built to harness the power of the wind, carrying 479 immigrant passengers, completed her maiden voyage to New Zealand on July 25, 1874, in the record time of 70 days! (The great circle distance between the two places is 8,170 miles - 13,145 km.- but the ship covered over 10,000 miles, an average of about 150 miles per day!)

After more than 15 years of successful "blue water" crossings and with the advent of the new, more reliable, scheduled steamship services, the *Mairi Bhan* was sold to Italian merchant traders and converted to a cargo hauler. On her last trip, in December 1912, she carried hundreds of large wooden barrels filled with asphalt from the La Brea tar pits in Trinidad for shipment to Marseille, France. Pitch Lake, the largest in the world at 114 acres, was the source of asphalt used for paving the first streets in Chicago, New York and Paris. Captain Razeto reported encountering a severe storm after one day's sail out of Trinidad that blew the ship off course toward Bonaire. An oil lamp ignited a raging fire on board the ship, burning the sails, restricting the crew's ability to sail and properly set the anchors. In a real life "Dante's Inferno," the bursting barrels released the warm tar, exploding the fumes, fueling the fire that consumed the main deck. The Captain ran the clipper aground on Bonaire, saving the crew. The impact severed her tall mainmast at the deck, toppling it onto shore. Heaving in the giant waves, she eventually heeled over on her starboard side, filled with seawater and slid down the sloping reef, dragging the mast and attached rigging behind and coming to rest on the sand shelf at 195 feet (59.5 meters) under the surface.

Windjammer Shipwreck Reborn on Bonaire

New discoveries are exciting. For SCUBA divers, it seems that shipwrecks are the pinnacle of ecstasy. For the archeologist, the wreck is a frozen time capsule of information. For the fortune-hunter, visions of valuable artifacts and treasure are paramount. For me, I seek knowledge. I can only imagine the level of excitement for the divers who happened to rediscover the wreck of the *Mairi Bhan* in the mid-1960s. At that time, reaching her with limited equipment and little training was a great challenge. The lure of discovery surely helped those brave individuals to overcome their own fears of the unknown.

The sight of the intact ship must have been awe-inspiring for them. It was the same for me when I first met her in 1980. She was lying on her side, in near perfect shape and form, sleeping. It was a rare event to view her entire body in the deep

indigo blue sea concealing her sensuous curves. Like a lover hiding beneath the folds of satin sheets, she tantalized me with glimpses of her magnificent proportions. There was no other like her anywhere on earth. Overcome by passion, I risked everything to revisit her bedside time and time again. Obsessed, I photographed her from every angle, in her reposed modeling position. Over the years, seeking answers to my endless questions about her past, I have persuaded my diving partners to help me sketch and measure many of her vital parts.

The Tragic Death of My Mistress

Today, as we descend, I am overcome with melancholy memories of a previous visit ...

The end of my affair, like most tragedies, was swift. With a soft voice my lover warned me of danger. It was our usual Wednesday rendezvous, March 23, 2005. On that day there appeared to be dark green, dye-stained water seeping out from the edges of the riveted, overlapping hull plates, and her interior was cast in an impenetrable wall of suspended, dark green/black sediment. I did not enter. I later learned that, at that moment, she was in the agonizing throes of internal decomposition.

... We reach the top of the hull. It is twisted and deformed. Gaping cracks in the thick plates are mute evidence of the torture endured by the proud lady. The bowsprit superstructure, guillotined, has fallen 16 feet (5 m) to the sand below. The smooth, curved line of the keel, now almost pointing up toward the surface, is

broken in places and sags inward. Over her entire length of 239 feet (75 m) there are bulges and fractures caused by broken ribs and internal components crushed under the great weight and pressure. The rudder, once horizontal, is vertical, and looms above the overturned stern like the tail of a giant aircraft ready for takeoff.

We complete our survey and photographs and, with a stunned expression, my partner signals that we have reached the limit of our time for this brief dive. As we slowly rise, I turn and wave to my stricken friend, vowing to return and comfort her. Join me on the next encounter to examine the "New Wreck of the Windjammer of Bonaire." *Story and photos © Albert Bianculli 2005*



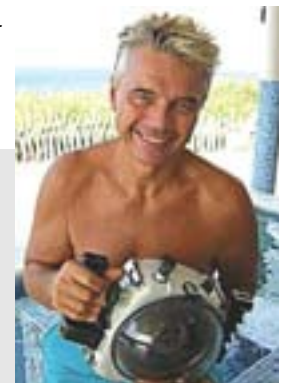
Windjammer stern before collapse March 23rd.



Windjammer stern after collapse March 23rd.

Albert Bianculli has been visiting Bonaire since 1970 and now lives on Bonaire full time. See his show every Sunday night at Captain Don's Habitat Aquarius Conference Room beginning at 8:30 pm.

All images are original, un-retouched slides, shot on location and composed within the viewfinder.





**BONAIRE
SKY
PARK***

***to find it, just look up**



This time-lapse photo (you can see the stars rotated) from 2004 captured two meteor trails in about 5 minutes

The Moon Visits the Two Brightest Planets and the Perseid Meteor Shower Visits Earth

Next Sunday the **Moon** visits the brightest planet, **Venus**, and on Tuesday the second brightest planet, **Jupiter**. And early Friday morning the **Sky Park** gets a visit from the **Perseid Meteor Shower**.

This Sunday, August 7th, 45 minutes after sunset, face due west where you'll be greeted with a sight that will take your breath away, a sight that has been depicted in art since artists began drawing. The pairing of the two goddesses of the night - the beautiful planet Venus and our sister satellite, the Moon in the shape of a wonderful crescent complete with **Earthshine**, which looks like a black full Moon nestled within the crescent. Up and to Venus' left is the second brightest planet, Jupiter, and on Monday night, the 8th, the crescent Moon will be right between them. But then on Tuesday the 9th a slightly fatter crescent will be parked just alongside and beneath it. Don't miss these two close pairings because they are among the most beautiful cosmic sights you'll ever see. Remember, Sunday, the 7th, the Moon visits Venus, and Tuesday, the 9th, it visits Jupiter.

And if that's not enough to hold you for one week, on Friday morning, the 12th, from 2 am to dawn, the annual Perseid Meteor Shower will pay a visit to **Earth**, and this year should be wonderful because there'll be no bright moonlight to wipe out the dimmer meteors. To see this meteor shower plan to go outside around 2 am, Bonaire Sky Park time, and stay outside until twilight begins. But if you've got only an hour to spare, go out an hour before it gets light out because that's when you'll see the most meteors. Face northeast and you'll see our old friends, the **Seven Sisters**, and just to their left the dim constellation **Perseus**, which is where the Perseid Meteor Shower gets its name because all the meteors appear to originate from this part of the heavens. To see any meteor shower properly you need several things: dark skies far away from lights, a lawn chair, a blanket, plenty of patience and your trusty old naked eye. If you're far from downtown you may see 20 to 40 meteors per hour, most very faint but a few very bright.

But just what are meteors anyway? Well, although they look like shooting stars they are in fact simply specks of comet debris slamming into our Earth's atmosphere at speeds so fast that they cause the atmospheric gasses surrounding them to heat up and glow, making streaks of light. And every August our Earth plows directly into a cosmic river of comet debris left by **Comet Swift-Tuttle**, and this is what causes the Perseid meteor shower. So every time you see a Perseid meteor streak across the sky Friday morning remind yourself that what you are actually seeing is a tiny piece of comet litter plunging to its fiery death. Wow! *Jack Horkheimer*



THE STARS HAVE IT

**For the week:
August 1 – August 7, 2005**
By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) You will do well if you mingle with the brass this week. You will have a problem sorting out your true feelings when it comes to your relationship. Put your emotional energy into passion, not anxiety Money can be made if you use your ingenuity. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Put your thoughts into action. If everyone wants to do their own thing, let them. You can make changes to your living quarters that should please family members. You will attract members of the opposite sex readily. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Talk to an older family member you have helped in the past. Entertain those who can provide you with valuable information and knowledge. Don't be shy to promote your own interests. You will have the getup and go to contribute a great deal to groups of interest. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) You can discuss your findings behind closed doors with your boss. New relationships will surface through work related events. You may be able to impart knowledge that's innovative to those searching for a new angle. Your lover may feel rejected. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Friends from your past may come back into your life. Travel may change your attitudes with regard to your philosophy. Don't reveal anything about your personal life that could be used adversely. You can expect to have some problems with skin, bones, or teeth if you haven't taken proper care of them. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Don't expect romantic encounters to be lasting. Your partner could make you angry if they steal your thunder or embarrass you in front of others. Your lack of interest in your partner is a problem. Financial limitations are likely if you take risks. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Take care of any paperwork concerning institutional or governmental agencies. Your ideas can be put into action. You will have a problem dealing with groups. You can learn valuable information if you listen and observe what others are doing and saying. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Try to calm down and listen to your partner's complaints. Compromise may be necessary. When the work is done, they may serve you for a change. Problems with skin, bones, or teeth may mess up your schedule. Your ability to put a deal together will surprise others. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Instant romance could be yours if you go out with friends. Romantic encounters are evident through travel or educational pursuits. Put your plans into motion by presenting your intentions to those who should be able to give you financial support. You're best to channel your energy into work. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Don't be critical or overly opinionated with dislikes; it could cause disapproval and unwanted opposition. Focus your efforts on details, and keep to yourself in order to finish your work. Do not let them in on your plans if you want things to run smoothly. You may win favors if you present your ideas and include your family. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Spend time with friends or family. Your romantic inclination should lead to a committed relation ship. It may be a disappointing time emotionally. You need to make your lover feel wanted, not like a piece of the furniture. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Your mate will be pushing you to do things that you really don't want to do. It might be time to shake a leg and do a personal make-over. Don't get involved in joint ventures. There could be opposition or temper tantrums on the home front. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.