

IT'S
STILL
FREE

BONAIRE

November 25-December 2, 2005 Volume 12, Issue 44

The REPORTER

Kaya Gob. Debrot 200 • E-mail: reporter@bonairenews.com • 717-8988

SINCE 1994

Day of the Child Page 11



Flotsam and Jetsam



Senator Ramonsito Booi

The Antilles Central Government has fallen because Bonaire political strongman, Senator Ramonsito Booi, withdrew his two seats of support and left Prime Minister Ys without the necessary (13 member) majority for his coalition government. Senator Booi kept to his promise to pull his UBP party out if the Central Government didn't come up with funds to allow full services to resume at Bonaire's San Francisco Hospital. Booi will now approach Holland directly for support, something he said he couldn't do if he was part of the problem—the Central Government.

Said the Senator, "It's not the coalition that I have a problem with. It is the Central Government. I must conclude that the problems of the island territory of Bonaire are not being addressed. I ask myself if a politician from Curaçao could defend the closure of its airport

and hospital."

Prime Minister Ys wasn't happy. "By withdrawing support for government you don't solve problems. That is done by sitting at the table," said the Prime Minister reacting to the announcement that the UPB party of Bonaire is abandoning the coalition, leaving Ys' Cabinet without a majority in Parliament.

► Compounding the issue of **neglect by the Central Government** was an incident at the airport last Friday night. One air traffic controller had called in sick and his colleagues at first refused to come in because their employer, the Central Government, had not made proper arrangements. As a result Flamingo Airport was closed for several hours and flights had to be diverted.

Parliamentary elections are due in January, 2006, so a new election or government reorganization is unlikely. Booi is expected to hand in his party's portfolio later this week. Whether he will join a new government after elections, if invited, is a question.

The withdrawal is not expected to affect Bonaire's representation at the first **Round Table Conference** to begin the critical negotiations for the restructuring of the Antilles which starts Saturday, November 26.

► **The crisis at San Francisco Hospital has eased** as we go to press. The Central Government said they could

come up with NAf800.000 now and another NAf400.000 later in the week. The hospital is again admitting patients and supplies are replenished. However, a shortfall of NAf3 million still exists.

► Legislation has been proposed in the Central Government Parliament to **raise the old age pension (AOV) to NAf1.000 per month**. The current AOV pension is NAf536. Bonaire recently decided to add NAf100 to that for "needy" pensioners.

► **A new airline, Insel Air, says it is ready to start flying between the Antillean islands**. Their ultimate plan is to regional, then go trans-Atlantic.

Transportation Minister Omayra Leeftang confirmed that the budding airline had indeed followed permit procedures and all that remains is to type certify their aircraft. They plan to use an Embraer Bandeirantes that carries 19 passengers, a plane that needs certification by the Aviation Administration.

The company also met with Atlantic Airlines, another airline that wants to start flights from Curaçao with a Boeing 737 as soon as possible. The Insel Air International partnership was founded 12 years ago and was intended to replace DCA after it went bankrupt. It received a business permit earlier this week, and joins other airline wannabes like Curaçao Airways, PIAS, and Trans Caribbean Airways, as well as Curaçao Airways. Insel Air has submitted its manuals, which were approved. As soon as the aircraft is inspected, the company can start with the flights.

► **KLM announced its winter schedule**. It will continue to fly five times a week using an MD-11: Amsterdam-Bonaire-Quito/Guayaquil- and return (between January 30 and March 25, 2006, it drops to four flights per week) and seven times per week using an MD-11:-Amsterdam-Bonaire-Lima- and return.

► **BonairExpress had two aircraft out of service for several days last week**. In St. Maarten stranded passengers, including the Governor of the Netherlands Antilles, Frits Goedgedrag, and Prime Minister Etienne Ys flew KLM's Amsterdam-originated 747 to Curaçao. Besides the ATR 42 aircraft stranded by a technical problem in St. Maarten there was another in Curaçao. Combined with the rain, conditions were chaotic. Most afternoon and evening flights were cancelled. Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Floris van Pallandt of BonairExpress said, "KLM had open seats on the St. Maarten-Curaçao route. I was happy to solve the problem this way," he said. Normal 'Express schedules resumed Tuesday

To further add to the chaos of local air travel an air traffic controller called in sick around 7:30 pm on Friday night and the airport was left without direction. The American Eagle flight had to return to Puerto Rico. At 11:30 pm the tower was manned again, allowing normal landings of KLM but very late arrivals for BonairExpress and American Eagle.

(Continued on page 4)

BONAIRE The REPORTER

IN THIS ISSUE:

Antique Houses (Pasangrahan)	3
Editorial: Measure AMFO Fairly	4
Letter: TEC Diving	3
New TDI Instructors	8
Barracudas Swim Team	9
Tracking Three Turtles	9
Gardner (Rain & Rock Gardens)	10
Day of the Child	11
Dietitian: Asparagus	13
Old World Look New Walls (Paint)	18
Beaujolais Nouveau is here	18

WEEKLY FEATURES:

Flotsam & Jetsam	2
Special Olympic Spotlight (Angelica Castillo)	7
Picture Yourself (Quito, Equador & Caracas Race Track, Venezuela)	8
Vessel List & Tide Table	9
Classifieds	12
Pet of the Week (Volunteer Myrthe with "Diane")	14
Reporter Masthead	14
What's Happening	15
December Cruise Ship Schedule	15
Shopping & Dining Guides	16
Born on Bonaire & On the Island Since (Frans Booi & Maggie Booi-Kaiser)	17
Sky Park (Mars, Venus & Three Cosmic Birds)	19
The Stars Have It	19

Antique Living Houses of Bonaire

The Pasangrahan

Preserving Bonaire's Architectural Heritage

by Wilna Groenenboom



Sinterklaas (Santa Claus) is coming to town! And he will arrive at the historic Pasangrahan first. After being gone for a year Sinterklaas and his *Zwarte Pieten* (Black Pete) helpers are expected to land via boat in Bonaire this Saturday at 10 am at the North Pier. He arrived in Holland two weeks ago, but it took a bit longer for him to get here.

Two years ago Sinterklaas stayed in the Pasangrahan. That is maybe not so strange because this building started its career as a hotel for civil servants from Aruba and Curaçao. At that time there were no hotels on Bonaire. Perhaps to impress these persons, they put the building in the middle of the city center of Kralendijk.

The construction and decoration of the architecture was and is very beautiful, with many horizontal and vertical lines. You can see this not only in the shutters, windows and doors, but also in the plaster above the shutters, under the gutters and on the corners of the building. Today, however, it can use some plaster and paint before it is too late! □
photo and text by Wilna Groenenboom.



(Flotsam & Jetsam. Continued from page 2)

► **The Antillean economy is still growing but at a slower rate** than in 2004 and 2003, while inflation is increasing, according to the First Quarter Report of the Central Bank. The Second Quarter Report is expected at the end of this month. January, February and March showed a real growth of the gross domestic product by 0.4%, compared to 1.3% a year earlier. The real growth is the nominal growth minus inflation. Inflation for all islands increased by 2.6% for the first three months of the year, with Bonaire registering a 1.8% jump. However, the **rate of inflation in Bonaire has decreased to 0.1% in October** compared to a 0.4% growth in August. Over the past 12-month period the inflation rate was 1.5%. Moving the price index up was food (+0.4%), especially meat and fish and personal care items (1.1%). Costs for health care (-0.3%) and beverages (0.2%) declined; **beer goes down but bread rises.**

► “Projekto Pa Pueblo” (PPP- Project for People) was inaugurated last month with **the start of construction of 34 homes in Nikiboko North.** It's a joint project of the Government, a private developer and the Postal Savings Bank. It's aimed at providing affordable housing. Additional PPP homes are planned near Wanapa and Tera Kora.

► **The Antillean Post Office has a new website** where lots of postal infor-



mation is available: <http://www.npostna.com/>

► The tropical depression that drenched Bonaire became **Tropical Storm Gamma.** That was the same November day that brought record rainfall and lots of damage to Bonaire last year. This time the heavy rainfall began Wednesday. Many homes and streets were flooded and electrical power went out following a lightning strike near WEB's Hato plant. The heavy downpour further eroded Bonaire's poorly maintained roads, and ruts and potholes are everywhere.

November named-storms aren't strangers to the Atlantic Basin. Last year, Tropical Storm Otto flared in the open Atlantic Ocean the last day of November, and who on Bonaire can forget the effects of Hurricane Lenny whose 6th anniversary was last week. Gamma is the 24th named storm of the Atlantic hurricane season, extending this year's record. The previous record of 21 named storms had stood since 1933. Will there be a Storm Delta?

► **It's the Caribbean bargain of the season.** People living in downtown Detroit can soon board a plane and head to the tropics for less than 10

(Continued on page 6)

OP ED PAGE—EDITORIAL

MEASURE AMFO FAIRLY

Werner Wiels resigned as the head of AMFO (The Antillean Co-Financing Office) on November 7. Wiels told the Curaçao *Amigoe* newspaper that he didn't want to be “a disturbing factor” in the ongoing investigation into AMFO's operations. He is not suspected of embezzling AMFO funds or any illegal activity.

We believe Mr. Wiels deserves a lot of credit for taking the helm of a new organization that brought a bounty of benefits to the Bonairean people as well as those on other islands. Over the past year just about every issue of *The Bonaire Reporter* carried news of a positive contribution of AMFO to fight poverty, help the aged, inspire youth, develop community ties, assist the environment or preserve culture.

But from the start Werner Wiels was in an almost impossible position politically. He was distributing funds that people formerly received from the local and central government- a clear threat to the established power structure. That structure had been deemed unworthy and inadequate by the organizations who wanted their donated funds to go to people who needed it

most. They specified a new, non-government office, to do that, and AMFO was formed from scratch. AMFO had to define its own procedures as it grew as well as guide the budding NGO Platforms on all the islands. Dealing with five different groups of well meaning, but often untried people, was a major challenge to success. But it did succeed.

Criticism of AMFO, to its credit, came from the bean counters, the people focused on accounting for each guilder donated, rather than law enforcement authorities. And while their criticism may be justified, the AMFO-NGO Platform-Needy People chain worked well on a large scale, per-

haps better than anything else that was done before to meet the goals of efficiently reducing the effect of poverty and improving social conditions.

If the auditors' report causes the decision makers to eliminate AMFO, then the Antilles, and especially Bonaire who participated 100% with the program, will lose big-time. And the biggest losers will be the people who can afford it least.

Let's remember Werner Wiels by the good he did and give him a medal, not the cold shoulder. And then ask him to take his job back. □ G.D.



Antillean Medefinancierings Organisatie



TEC DIVING



Dear Editor:

As promised, the next dives on the newly discovered wall came sooner than I expected. (Divi Dive Operations Manager) Serge de Groot promoted TEC diving at the recent DEMA show in Las Vegas. Two divers signed up for some TEC instruction. Two weeks ago I started two classes simultaneously. Erin C. Turner from Monterey, CA signed up for an Advanced Tri-Mix class and Geo Hirst from Las Vegas NV for Advanced Nitrox and Stage Deco class.

On one of the Trimix dives we searched for the *Sea Explorer* (sunk after an on-board explosion). We started at the airport area for 25 minutes bottom time (BT) at 200 feet, unfortunately with no results. Maybe it takes a deeper dive to find it. Till next time.

The next dive was planned to 240 feet for 20 minutes at the newly discovered wall. But the dive site was occupied so we choose another. After swimming

north for 12 minutes we came to the deepest part of the wall. Even from 240 feet there was no bottom in sight. Coming to the limit of our BT time we started our ascent. The first deep stop was at 140 feet. In the distance we saw a pale shadow approaching us. As it got closer we saw it was a Spotted Eagle Ray. This became a most weird encounter. As we ascended to the other decompression stops it stayed with us. The total Deco Time was 71 minutes, and the curious animal stayed with us, swimming circles around us till the last stop at 10 feet. What an amazing encounter. Later I found out that divers from Toucan Diving had also met the curious Eagle Ray.

On Friday Erin's final dive was planned to go to 330 feet for 12 min BT. It cost \$84 each for the Tri-Mix blends and we took three different decompression mixes. We left at 8:15 am. After preparing the gear we entered the water for a planned 102-minute total time dive.

We descended to 150 feet on the travel mix, required because the bottom mix contains less oxygen. We approached the gas switch. TX 12/50, 12% Oxygen and 50% Helium; the rest is Nitrogen, to begin the descent to 330 feet. After three minutes we reached 330 feet and started cruising south. Looking up at the drop off can be described in one word, "awesome." Looking down we could see a visible sand bottom at an estimated 400+ feet. Towards the end of the BT it seemed to go deeper and deeper below us. The water temperature was 71°F, a good 12°F difference from the warmer water at 50 feet.

With this new perspective we can conclude that it is not a straight-down wall as it looked when we first discovered it. But there are walls and steep plateaus and again walls. Some cliffs are like a hang-over rock where you could virtually go under Klein Bonaire - a totally dramatic view with a special beauty. During the ascent to the first stop at 190 feet, on the way up I got charged by a big spotted moray at 300 feet. I gave some strong fin kicks and avoided the confrontation. A long deco followed and I am looking forward to the next dive on this site.

I'd like to congratulate Erin Turner for being the first woman to earn the highest level of TEC training certification, Advanced Tri-Mix Diver, on Bonaire. During an interview she said, "The week was a great experience and superb diving." Bonaire proved to be an excellent training area and above all a beautiful and easy environment to TEC dive. She hoped that Bonaire would one day get another deep wreck. "It will make Bonaire even more attractive to TEC Divers." I sure would agree on that...

The Divi Dive team is happy to announce that we have four TED instructors on staff. Because of the growing interest in TEC diving we are planning to add a gas booster in the near future so we get more efficiency out of the blending station, and it could cut the consumer price on gas blends.

Roger Haug and Serge de Groot

(*Flotsam & Jetsam. Continued from page 4*)
bucks. Spirit Airlines is offering a special deal that lets Detroiters fly to Jamaica for **\$9 each way**. Would-be travelers have been entitled to book their flights since November 7 and travel dates must be between November 10 and December 14. What would a fare like that mean to Bonaire?



► Keep an eye on Kralendijk Bay for a **new sailboat**, a restored *Volendammer kwak* with dark brown (tanbark) sails. It was once at home on the Zuiderzee. Soon artist Fred Ros (famous for his underwater art show off the WannaDive pier) will be offering a variety of trips so you can inspect this genuine floating antique for yourself. We hear that Sanikolas will use it to make his appearance in Kralendijk this Saturday. It's tied up at the Nautico Bonaire dock downtown.



► **Five youngsters representing several different Bonaire organizations attended the Youth Summit** in St. Eustatius (Statia) last week under the guidance of Soeraly Pourier. Poverty and other issues of special interest to young people in the islands were discussed. Attending for Bonaire were Richardro Emerencianan of the Bonaire Youth Outreach Foundation, Christopher Frans of the Rincon Youth Group, Reginald Manuel of Jong Bonaire, Krystel Rombly represented Scouting, and Ruthbella St. Jago of the Rincon Sentro di Bario.

► Mexico's Congress passed a tourism ministry-backed law **introducing tax-free shopping for international tourists as of July 1, 2006**. Spearheaded by the Secretary of Tourism, the law—which passed with little opposition—is designed to increase competition in tourism and foster private investments. Bonaire's tourism has never seen as many visitors as it did before the imposition by the Central Government of the OB sales tax in the mid-1990s.



► **Portraits of Bonaire, the very popular and opulent "coffee table" book by writer Guus Gerritsen and artist Henk Roozendaal is being reprinted as a second edition** and will be available next month. There will also be a follow up to the book, *Portraits of Bonaire- Volume 2*. The authors have already begun the interviews and portraits that will be included in the new book; it will be published in the second half of 2006.

► **The Logos II "Book-Ship" has returned to Bonaire**. It brings much more than just books, offering a unique and unforgettable experience to all who come onboard. The international crew of 200 people represents over 45 different nations. In addition to books, the *Logos II* also offers a program of on-board conferences. During its 10-day stay in Bonaire, conferences will be held for all age groups. The purpose of

the conferences is to share Biblical principles as a basis of their lives. Crew members will take their outreach program into schools, the jail and other locations, with the purpose of serving the community and sharing a message of love and hope. The *Logos II* will be berthed at the North Pier in Kralendijk.



The Book Fair is open to the public from November 23 to 30, Tuesdays to Saturdays, from 10am to 10pm, and on Sunday and Monday from 2pm to 10pm.

► The Netherlands edition of *Amigoe*, the Dutch language newspaper that carries Antillean, but mostly Curaçao, news will soon **only be available on line**. The printed edition will not be published after November 24. Mailed subscribers will be able to get credit for conversion to the on-line edition which will be available for a fee after December.

On-line newspaper reading is the wave of the future. Even some people in Bonaire, who can get the printed edition free, choose to subscribe on-line.

The Bonaire Reporter is free in print and has been available on-line by subscription since 2000. The current ver

(Continued on page 7)

(Flotsam & Jetsam, Continued from page 6)

sion is designed to be either viewed on the screen or printed out at home. It includes all photos in color and every story in the printed edition. Although individual ads are absent, the Dining and Shopping Guides are shown. Go to www.bonaireporter.com to check it out and sign up. It makes a great gift.

► A confidential study of **Curaçao's Isla Refinery** reveals no easy alternatives for solving its problems of pollution and inefficiency. The conclusions of a Strategic Orientation Studies (SOS) report on the Isla-refinery ordered by the Curaçao Island Executive Council (BC) said a \$1 billion in investment is necessary to keep the Isla refinery open. Early closing will cost \$500 million. The dismantling of the refinery and the cleaning up of the grounds will cost an additional \$400 million. Postponing the investment is not an option, because the refinery will be obsolete and forced to shut down in 2019 or sooner. Bonaire gets most of its fuel from that refinery.

► The model in the Benetton ad this week is Jong Bonaire member, **Jermainy Diaz**, who's pictured in the Royal Palm Galleries Mall, in front of the ReMax office. The **Benetton ad** is on page 20.

► John Janga, the winner of the Divi Song Festival in Aruba last weekend, will be the **special guest star at Sunday's (December 4th) Bonairean Night** at the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort. Music by Kanja Brabu and dance

by Grupo Kayena starting at 6 pm. It's authentically Bonairean and costs only \$20 including a welcome drink at the Calabas Restaurant.

► **We apologize for the late delivery of the free edition of *The Bonaire Reporter* last week.** Although it was prepared and printed on Wednesday on schedule, using emergency power during the downpour, six bundles of newspapers, each the size of a large suitcase, "disappeared" after being delivered to the airport in Curaçao. Perhaps difficulties at the airport and the curtailed schedule of flights were a contributing factor. On Friday morning the papers were reprinted but didn't arrive from Curaçao until 3 am on Saturday.



► **Join us in offering thanks as part of one of the best American traditions – Thanksgiving Day.** Even with some of the occasional inconveniences that Bonaire offers we still wouldn't trade life here for anywhere else. For Bonaire as it is –we are thankful. And thank you-readers and advertisers. □ *G.L. D.*

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



This Angel-faced girl is just as sweet as she looks.

When we first met her, almost two years ago, she was this very shy, very reserved young lady. We have seen her grow both personally and skillfully.

She practices bowling on Saturdays and spends her Tuesdays at the pool participating in the swimming program.

She has her own style for bowling, which consists of the usual bowlingflair combined with a smooth slide of a baseballplayer! Wonder how she can do it? You'll have to see it for yourself!

Her best friend is Eliane Rosario, who was two weeks ago in the Bonaire Reporter.

Angelica is an inspiration to us, because she reminds us that every experience, however small, can help us grow in life.

Angelica: You "grow" girl!

Athletes oath:

"Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt".

Become a volunteer today!

Join our enthusiastic group of volunteers. Your help is very much needed. Contact Roosje van der Hoek at 786-7984 or mail at info@specialolympicsbonaire.org

Be a sponsor!

Your contribution will be greatly appreciated. Our account number is 105.780.04 at Maduro & Curiel's Bank Bonaire N.V. or if you wish you can mail a check to:

Special Olympics Bonaire
Maduro & Curiel's Bank (Bonaire) N.V.
P.O. Box 366
Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles



Picture Yourself In the Reporter in Quito, Ecuador

Rita Lepsche (center), who lives in France but has two sons on Bonaire, sent us this photo from Quito, Ecuador. In the photo she is posing with *The Reporter* with a group of doctors who specialize in natural medicine. □

and at

Caracas Race Course, Venezuela



Bonaire dive instructor, Pepe Mastropaolo, is reading his *Bonaire Reporter* at the 10th National Race for the Venezuelan Supercross Championship for Team Honda. Next year Pepe, who also plays a fine saxophone, will represent Bonaire riding his motorcycle at International Supercross events. □

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 TDI Instructors At Divi Dive Bonaire

Beginning this month a TDI (Technical Diving International) instructor training course was organized at Divi Dive at the Flamingo Beach Resort. Dive Operations Manager Serge De Groote and Director of Technical Diving Roger Haug, managed to get David Burroughs on island. David is vice president sales and marketing of TDI and an instructor trainer as well. The three proud instructors from Divi Dive Bonaire achieved the following levels: Emile Van Aesch became extended range instructor and gas blender instructor and got qualified for several other technical specialties. Jose Mas-



Advanced Instructors Emile Van Aesch, Jose "Pepe" Mastropaolo and Geertje De Groot

trotaolo got the extended range instructor ranking as well, and Geertje De Groot became an advanced nitrox-deco procedures instructor and extended range diver.

Just certified as instructor, Geertje De Groot gave her first advanced nitrox-deco procedure course this week to brothers Johan and Frans Van Kessel from Holland. Congratulations to them! For 2006, Serge and Roger are planning to expand the project with a full rebreather service. Check it out and see what more is coming in the deep and fascinating world of technical diving at Divi Dive Bonaire! □

Photos and story by Roger Haug



Brothers Johan and Frans Van Kessel with their instructor Geertje De Groot

Albert Bianculli photo

Let Bonaire follow you home

**SUBSCRIBE TO THE
BONAIRE REPORTER**

BY MAIL \$95
ON THE WEB \$35
CALL 717-8988
E-MAIL SUBS@BONAIRENEWS.COM
WWW.BONAIREREPORTER.COM

Bonaire Barracudas Swimming - a team sport

A team of 13 diehard Bonaire Barracuda age group swimmers along with their coaches and parents took the 6 am flight to Curaçao on November 12 to compete in the 3rd Curaçao Open swimming competition of the 2005 - 2006 season. The team spent the hours before the meet at the *Nederlands Antilliaanse Voetball Unie (NAVU)* facility next door to the *Sentro Deportivo Korsow (SDK)* pool, preparing mentally and physically for the upcoming competition.



Swimming - a team sport

Boys and girls 10 years and under swam in the morning session which started with warm up swimming at 10 and competition at 11. Bonaire has three ranked swimmers in the 10 and under class who have the possibility of qualifying in one or more events for the Netherlands Antilles National Championships to be held in Curaçao December the 9th - 11th. Rankings and invitations will be issued on December 6th. This is the first year that Bonaire swimmers have been eligible to qualify for Nationals.



Giada Binelli receives congratulations from her teammates for her 50 meter butterfly performance. Her time was 38.51 seconds.

After the morning session it was back to NAVU for a healthy lunch and rest before returning to the pool at 5 pm for the 11 years and older category events. Fellow Barracuda swimmers and fans cheered Giada Binelli (Girls 13 - 14) on as she swam times in both the 50 meter butterfly and 50 meter backstroke under the qualifying times for Nationals.

parent volunteers and our sponsor Tecno-bar for making this trip possible. □
Valarie Stimpson

Volunteer Opportunity

The Netherlands Antilles Swimming Federation and the *Bonaireaanse Aquatics Club Barracudas* will be holding an introductory swimming officials clinic given by Mr. Eddy Solomon, FINA representative, on Saturday, November 26th. The clinic is free. The Barracudas wish to invite anyone interested in participating to contact Valarie Stimpson at valarie@telbonet.an to sign up. □

It was back to the airport to catch the 11 pm flight home and a day off before swim practice on Monday. Many thanks to the Barracuda coaches and

Tracking Turtles



'Albert'

'Albert' picked up some speed over the weekend to 80 km per day. Then he increased his speed once again, and is now traveling at a rate of 85 km per day. He is still moving west and is now approximately 1100 km from Klein Bonaire.

'Jenni'

No signals were received turtle from 'Jenni.' in the past few days. STCB is still attempting to obtain information about her last recorded location. Her last reports indicated that she might have been at her feeding grounds.

'Mariposita'

'Mariposita' increased her speed to a rate of 98 km per day. She appears to be turning slightly to the northwest. The next day she slowed down significantly and is now traveling at a rate of 72 km per day. She is headed more toward the west. She is approximately 485 km from Klein Bonaire.

Andy Uhr & Mabel Nava

KRALENDIJK TIDES (Heights in feet, FT)

Remember: Winds and weather can further influence the local tides

DATE	TIME	HEIGHT	COEF
11-25	2:36	1.0FT.	31
11-26	2:10	1.0FT.	34
11-27	1:41	1.0FT.	43
11-28	1:13	1.0FT.	54
11-29	11:05	2.0FT.	66
11-30	11:37	2.1FT.	77
12-01	12:12	2.1FT.	87
12-02	12:56	2.2FT.	94
12-03	13:43	2.1FT.	97

VESSELS MAKING A PORT CALL:

Alter Ego	Galivanter	Pizazz
Always Saturday	Gdansk	Samba
Andrea	Good Hope	Santa Maria
Annka	Goril Two	Sandpiper, USA
Angie	Guaicamar I, Ven.	Scintella
Arcadia	Jan Gerardus	Sirius
Augustijn	Jennifer	Spartivento
Aurora	Kantinka	Syjoli
Batje	Karminda II	Sylvia K
Bright Sea	La Baronne	Tatoosh, Cayman Islands
Camissa, Chan Is.	Lazorone	Ti Amo
Cape Kathryn	Longo Mai	Tigger
Cheers	Maggi	Ulu Ulu, USA
Corail IV	Midwatch	Unicom, Norway
Delphinus	Natural Selection	Unimak
Double Boggey	Nexus	Varedhuni, Ger.
Eclipse	Nirvana	Water Musik
Endorphan	Noorhinder	Williwaw
Flying Cloud, USA	Okura	Ya-T, BVI
Freestyle	One Way Wind	Yanti Paratzi
Future	Pacific	Zahi, Malta

Bonaire's First Investment Conference

Bonaire means Business

Visit our Tradeshow
at Plaza Resort Bonaire

on:

Thursday, November 24 10:00 - 18:00
Friday, November 25 10:00 - 20:00
Saturday November 26 09:00 - 12:00

Entrance is FREE



www.bonaireinvestment.com

For more information call: 717-3618

THE BONAIRE GARDNER

Lots of Rain and Rock Gardens

In my last articles I wrote about creating a **rock garden**. Maybe after this week it would be better to write about creating a pond in your garden! Wow, did we have a lot of rain this week! I hope you didn't have too much flooding and none of your plants were washed away. As always, when I have to update you, here are some things to remember after this very nice rain, which is for the plants of course!



A red Euphorbia pulcherrima

- I've seen some **Bougainvillea** falling over, heavy with blossoms and new growth, Bougainvilleas don't have a very good rooting system, so when the soil gets very wet they can just fall over. The thing to do is to prune them back a lot, put them back straight, maybe tie them to a stick or wall and add some new firm *diabaas* (dirt). In that way they will be spared.

- Also with the flooding and heavy rain many of the "**dams**" around the plants have been washed away or become flattened out. Make sure before the plants dry out to dig them in them again and make it easier for the plants to collect the water. Also, once the sun returns the topsoil can become very hard. Especially older gardens get these problems so make sure that you do some raking and in some cases add some organic soil to enrich the garden.

- After it's been raining so much a lot of **nutrients can be washed away**. We see that especially in potted plants. So in a few weeks, make sure the plants get enough nitrogen by adding a fertilizer like the Peters or Miracle Grow. You can easily see when there's a lack of Nitrogen when the plant's leaves very quickly turn yellow, affecting the whole leaf.

But most of all, see how beautifully green everything is!

-If the soil is really wet, wait a few days before planting. Even **Cactus or Succulents** can be planted now, no problem.

This brings me to our earlier topic, the **lower rock garden plants**. There is a large number of flowering types that are useful for this purpose. It is important that all the plants you use shouldn't get too big and shouldn't need a lot of pruning because everything should look as natural as possible.

Some **Red Euphorbia** types are really nice and have white, red or yellow flowers, and they all stay small.

Another great plant is the **Broadleaf Lily** with great white flowers, which, although it is very common here, is so nice in a rock garden. They spread out a bit and give you a very nice green accent. One of my favorite flowering plants to use in a rock garden is the **Desert Rose**, with amazing red flowers that bloom all year round. This is also one of the best plants for pots if you are not sure your plants will be watered enough. And there are also some really nice Cactus-like plants with great flowers, like some **Aloe varieties**, **Stapelia (Stinkbloem)** or the **common Magdalena**. They grow without too much attention and give a very nice accent to the lower part of a rock garden.

Next time more about this topic when I'll write something about what rocks to use. □ *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.**



COVER STORY **Day of the Child**



Spiderman lives

Bonaire celebrated the 2005 Day of the Child with a fun get together for children at Jong Bonaire followed by a march through downtown Kralendijk to Wilhelmina Park. The event was sponsored by SEBIKI, an organization that concerns itself with children, from pre-birth to six years, and Jong Bonaire. In 1998 the Antilles Government declared it was to be celebrated each year on November 20. This year, the Day of the Child celebrated the Right to Play. The importance of play to children's well being is highlighted in the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child, Article 31 of the Convention, states that children have the right to rest and leisure and to engage in play and recreational activities. □ *G.D.*



Kralendijk march

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

Commercial Ads only NAf0.70 per word, per week.

Free adds run for 2 weeks.

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

www.bonairenet.com/jellastone/

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

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.

FENG SHUI CONSULTATIONS

Interior or exterior design advice, clearings, blessings, energy, healing, China-trained. Experienced. Inexpensive.

Call Donna at 785-9332.

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

Is your computer slowing down, not responding the way it used to? It might be a virus or spyware. Let the professionals fix it. Bonaire Automation (next to Hitess) Call **717-4306**

For Sale

For sale: **Stroller NAf75** and **kid's seat for bicycle NAf75**, Items are as new. Tel. **717-7977**

1996 Suzuki Vitara (jeep) with bikini top, great shape. NAf6.000. Call **717-7648**

Suzuki Vitara. jr. 1997 NAf 7.500,- . Tel. **786-5854.**

Giant brand mountain bike – NAf300 Call **717-7648**

For sale: Scubapro 7mm **wetsuits**. 1 x male, XL. 1 x female M. \$50 each. **Weights** 1, 2 and 3 kg. weights. \$2,5 per kg **Pony bottle** 30 Cu. Ft. \$100. Also lots of small stuff! Call Rogier **791-2439**

For Sale: **Refrigerator**: A big refrigerator with 2 sliding doors. Height: 59 Width: 30 Depth: 19 Inches \$1.672; **Slicing machine**: To cut meat and cheese \$ 500; **Freezer**: Height: 3 Width: 4 Depth: 2.5 Ft \$ 175; **Horror movies** \$1 a piece; **Christmas Decorations/ Jeans** size 32 and 38, **Food warmer** small.; **Food Cooler**; **Food processors**; **Food mixers**; **Letter Board**; And more. **PHONE: 790-7674**

For sale: Chair solidly built **Oak Antique Chair NAf100**. Also **Persian Rug**. Beige/Yellow. Call Rogier **791-2439**

2 Sky Kennels for dogs, 1 large (E-class acc. to KLM), 1 extra large (F-class) NAf150 and NAf300 tel. **786-5582**

N.V. FOR SALE- Registered for environmental and educational consulting. On going and active. Send inquiry to bonnv4sale@aol.com

Brand New. Never Used. Scubapro Classic Air BCD, Size large Only \$399. Call or visit Carib Inn 717-8819

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



GODDARD CATERING GROUP BONAIRE

announces an immediate opening for employment:

Assistant Storeroom Supervisor/ Storeroom Supervisor-in-training

Education: Minimum HAVO/MAVO

Language: Papiamentu and English

Physical ability: Some heavy lifting required, freezer work.

Leadership ability: Necessary, experience preferred.

Computer skills: Intermediate to advanced necessary

Drivers license: Needed, rijbewijs C a plus.

Other: Must be reliable, accurate with numbers, and able to work closely in a team environment. Good conduct letter and keuringskaart required.

Please apply in person at Kaya Internashonal z/n or fax your CV to fax number 717-2989.

Boat works completed October 2nd.
Asking NAf14,000
Call George 786-6518/717-8988.

For Rent

For rent: for upcoming six weeks. Nicely fully furnished **1-BR apartment**, incl. cable TV/internet, airco, alarm, washing machine etc. with big porch and nice garden in quiet neighborhood. Tel.- **717-7977**

Modern house Santa Barbara www.posada-bonaire.com +599 **785-0918**

Three bedroom apartment in Hato, completely furnished; Interested? Contact Amanda at Harbourtown Real Estate **717 – 5539**

Boat for Sale



It breaks my heart to sell the undefeated Bonaire Sail-Fishing boat-class A winner, *Laurita*. Would cost \$20,000 to replace. Refit at Blonk

Wanted

PARTNER WANTED



The Bonaire Reporter is looking for a partner. Join us to **"Publish in Paradise."**

Working partner with writing/editing skills, business sense, and energy desired. Call *The Reporter* at 717-8988, 786-6518.

Tutor Needed - Nov. 21- Jan. 5. 8th Grade Geometry. Please email ann@bonairewindsurfing.com.

Looking for **house sitter** 17th December to 6th January. Clean, centrally located house. Must be responsible animal lover. Please call: Donna **785-9332**

WANTED- We are looking for a full-time experienced **Assistant to the Operations Manager** for a small-scale resort on Bonaire. For more information or to apply please call Marieke Schmitz phone number **717-3630**.

Ask the Dietitian

Asparagus – Queen of Vegetables

Nowadays it's easy to find fresh asparagus on Bonaire. You should try this nice tasting vegetable! Asparagus contains few calories and is very rich in carotene, Vitamin C and Selenium.

Below are two low-fat recipes for this tasty vegetable.

Asparagus Vinaigrette (4 servings)

- 1 lb. asparagus, tough ends trimmed
- 2 Tab. no-salt-added tomato paste
- ½ cup orange juice
- 2 Tab. reduced-sodium vegetable broth or water
- 2 Tab. red wine vinegar
- 1 tsp. Dijon mustard
- 1 tsp. olive oil, preferably extra-virgin
- ¼ tsp. salt

In a large pot of boiling water, cook the asparagus until just crisp tender, about 3 minutes. Drain well and pat dry on paper towels. Arrange the asparagus on a serving platter.

Put the tomato paste in a small bowl. Whisk in the orange juice, broth, vinegar, mustard, oil and salt until well combined. Spoon the vinaigrette over the asparagus and serve.

Calories: 47; Fat: 1g; Carbohydrates: 7g; Protein: 2g

Helpful hints:

When buying asparagus select spears with moist-looking, unwrinkled stems and tight tips. If the stems are very thick, you may want to peel the tough outer skin with a vegetable peeler. Refrigerate asparagus for no more than a day or two, wrapping the bases of the stems in moist paper towels and placing them in a plastic bag. Be careful not to overcook the asparagus. The spears are at their best when they are still firm to bite.



Asparagus-Cheese Puff (4 servings)

- ¾ lb. asparagus, tough ends trimmed, cut into ½-inch pieces
- 3 Tab. flour
- 2/3 cup low-fat (1%) milk
- ¾ cup canned white kidney beans, rinsed, drained, and mashed
- 2 egg yolks
- 1½ oz. crumbled goat or feta cheese
- ½ tsp. dried tarragon
- ½ tsp. salt
- 1/8 tsp. cayenne pepper
- 6 egg whites
- 1/8 tsp. cream of tartar

Preheat the oven to 375°F. In a medium saucepan of boiling water, cook the asparagus until barely tender, about 2 minutes. Drain well and blot dry on paper towels.

Place the flour in a large saucepan over medium heat and gradually whisk in the milk until no lumps remain. Bring to a boil and cook, whisking frequently, until the mixture is slightly thickened, about 4 minutes. Remove from the heat and stir in the beans. Whisk in the egg yolks, cheese, tarragon, ¼ teaspoon of the salt and the cayenne until well combined.

In a large bowl, with an electric mixer, beat the egg whites, the remaining ¼ teaspoon salt, and the cream of tartar until stiff, but not dry, peaks form. Stir about 1 cup of the egg whites into the milk mixture, then gently fold in the remaining egg whites. Gently fold in the asparagus.

Spoon the mixture into an 8-cup soufflé mold and bake for 30 minutes or until the soufflé is golden brown, puffed, and just set in the center. Serve immediately. Calories: 164; Fat: 5g; Carbohydrates: 15g; Protein: 14g

Helpful hints:

For variety, replace the asparagus with cauliflower, green beans or broccoli. Be sure to use the cream of tartar, since it helps stabilize the beaten egg whites and increases volume as well.

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 dietitian@bonairenews.com □



Pet of the Week



Melinda Plasse photo

Volunteer Myrthe (16) with "Diane"

Here is teen Shelter volunteer Myrthe with puppy "Diane." For the last several months Myrthe has been coming to the Shelter to help out Saturdays, and the dogs and the cats all look forward to her arrival. What would the Shelter do without its volunteers? Not such a good job because it is they who help the staff feed, clean and keep the pets familiar with people.

You might call this lovely dog with Myrthe a "slow starter." Diane was brought in by the dog catcher at 10 weeks old because the people couldn't handle any more dogs. At first she was shy and retiring, but little, by little, she opened up as she gained confidence, beginning to show her alert and intelligent nature. She'll be easy to train and a good guardian of her owner and family. She's had all her shots, is sterilized and in tip top health. You may see Diane at the Shelter, open Monday to Friday, 10 am to 2 pm, Saturdays until 1. Tel. 717-4989.

This week we have a guest photographer, Melinda Plasse, a New Yorker who was on vacation in Bonaire with her

The Shelter is having a very interesting fundraiser soon. Last year's event was such a success that there had to be a repeat. It's an **Indonesian Dinner and Art Auction on Thursday, December 8, at Bongo's Beach, and all the proceeds go to the Shelter.** As it was last year, many well-known artists of Bonaire have donated pieces to be sold.

Dinner is at 6 pm, followed by the auction at 8:30. Tickets are the same as last year – NAf45.

You are welcome to attend just the auction if you like.

Tickets for the event are on sale at the Bonaire Animal Shelter (717-4989), from Lydia Juijn (717-8721), Hans Wennink (717-3207) or Paul Wichers (787-0466 cell). □L.D.

husband. While he went diving she volunteered at the Bonaire Animal Shelter every day for a week of her vacation. She took this shot during her visit. Thank you, Melinda! □L.D.

©2005 The Bonaire Reporter

Published weekly. For information about **subscriptions, stories or advertising** in **The Bonaire Reporter**, phone (599) 717-8988, 786-6518, 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**

Reporters: Wilna Groenenboom, Roger Haug, Jack Horkheimer, Greta Kooistra, Mabel Nava, Angélique Salsbach, Valarie Stimpson, Michael Thiessen, Andy Uhr, Ap van Eldik

Features Editor: Greta Kooistra **Translations:** Peggy Bakker, Sue Ellen Felix

Production: Barbara Lockwood

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

WHAT'S HAPPENING

WEEKLY MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Late Show
Call to make sure (Usually 9 pm)

Flightplan
(Jodie Foster)

Early Show (Usually 7 pm)

In Her Shoes
(Cameron Diaz)

Kaya Prinses Marie
Behind Exito Bakery
Tel. 717-2400

Tickets - NAf14 (incl. Tax)
Children under 12 - NAf12

NEW FILMS BEGIN FRIDAY
CLOSED MONDAY TUESDAY
AND WEDNESDAY

SATURDAY 4 PM
Sky High

THIS WEEK

November 22 to December 1 – Book Fair Ship Logos II docks in Bonaire at the North Pier. The Book Fair is open to the public Tuesdays to Saturdays from 10 am to 10 pm and on Sunday and Monday from 2 pm to 10 pm. For more information about on board events and conferences, call 529-5895.

Conferences aboard the ship: Friday November 25 -- Youth Conference (14 – 21 years old) – Sex, Drugs & Self Esteem -Are they of any true values? 8 pm, NAf5.

November 24-26– Bonaire Investment Conference

Saturday 26 November, Wilhelmina Park - International Night With music, dances, dramas and a challenging message. Entry free for everybody, Wilhelmina Park, 7 pm

Saturday, November 26 - First Round Table Conference to begin the critical negotiations for the restructuring of the Antilles

Saturday, November 26 -The Netherlands Antilles Swimming Federation and the Bonaireanse Aquatics Club Barracudas will be holding an introductory swimming officials clinic given by Mr. Eddy Solomon, FINA representative. The clinic is free. Contact Valarie Stimpson at valarie@telbonet.an to sign up.

Saturday, November 26 – Darts competition, City Café, 7 pm, free to all Aboard Logos II

Sunday, November 27 - The Vacant Chair – Men's Conference From Men to Men. What responsibilities do we have? 7 pm, Speaker: Lt. Governor H. Domacassé, NAf5.

Tuesday, Wednesday, November 29-30-Coral ID Course. Call Bonaire Marine Park 717-8444 for information.

Arts and Crafts Markets at Wilhelmina Park on Cruise Ship Visiting days, starting around 10 am to early afternoon: Tuesday, Nov. 29-Aida Vita

Saturday & Sunday, November 26, 27-Long Distance Walk—29/44 km & 29/41 km. Comcabon 717-8629, 780-7225.

Saturday, November 26– Surinam Day Celebration.

COMING UP

Sunday, December 4- Divi Flamingo Resort Bonairean Night - Music by Kanja Brabu and dance by Grupo Kayena. Special guest star John Janga, who won the Divi Song Festival in Aruba last weekend. Time: 6 - 9 pm, \$20 includes a welcome drink at the Calabas Restaurant.

Sunday, December 4 - First edition of a **Monthly Jazz Brunch at Den Laman.** Music by the Bonaire Jazz Group (Lando, Guus, Chris and Benji) plus guest musicians from the island and abroad. Broadcast live on Bon FM 102.7 -

For info and reservation call 717-4106. Advance bookings will get 10% discount on the \$25 menu.

Thursday, December 8 - Indonesian Dinner and Art Auction to benefit the Bonaire Animal Shelter, 6pm -NAf45. Tickets available at the Animal Shelter (Tel. 717-4989), from Lydia Duijn (Tel. 717-8721), Hans Wennink (Tel. 717-3207) and Paul Wichers (Tel. 787-0466 -cell)

REGULAR EVENTS

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

Saturday—Mountain Bike Ride— Everyone is welcome. It's free. Bring a bike and your own water. Fitness trainer Miguel Angel Brito leads the pack. Telephone him at 785-0767 for more information.

Saturday -Wine Tasting at AWC's warehouse, 6 to 8 pm, Kaya Industria #23. Great wines - NAf2,50 a glass.

Sunday -Live music 6 to 9 pm while enjoying a great dinner in colorful tropical ambience at the **Chibi Chibi Restaurant & Bar.** Open daily 5 to 10 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.

Every Tuesday Night @ 6:30pm - BonaireTalker Dinner/Gathering at Gibi's, known for great local food. Call Gibi at 567-0655 for details, or visit www.BonaireTalk.com, and search for "Gibi."

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

Friday- 5-7 pm Social Event at JanArt Gallery, Kaya Gloria 7. Meet artist Janice Huckaby and Larry of Larry's Wildside Diving. New original paintings of Bonaire and diver stories of the East Coast every week

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 Slides 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 Show at Captain Don's Habitat, 8:30pm

December 2005 Cruise Ship Schedule

Day	Date	Ship Name	Time	Pier	# PAX	Line
Fri	Nov.25	Wind Star	0800-2300	N.Pier	150	HAL
Tue	Nov.29	AidaVita	1300-2000	S.Pier	1260	P&O Ger
Mon	Dec.05	Veendam	0930-1730	S.Pier	1440	HAL
Tue	Dec.06	Silver Whisper	0800-1800	N.Pier	388	Silversea
Tue	Dec.13	Sea Princess	1200-1900	S.Pier	1950	Princess
Tue	Dec.13	AidaVita	1000-2000	N.Pier	1260	P&O Ger.
Sat	Dec.17	Silver Whisper	0700-1600	S.Pier	388	Silversea Cruises
Mon	Dec.19	Arcadia	0800-1800	S.Pier	1968	P&O Cruises
Mon	Dec.26	Braemar	0800-1700	S.Pier	720	Fred Olsen
Tue	Dec.27	AidaVita	1000-2000	S.Pier	1260	P&O Ger.

Call 717-8290 for info
Wednesday (2nd and 4th) Turtle Conservation Slide Show by Andy Uhr. Carib Inn seaside veranda, 7 pm
Wednesday –Buddy Dive Cocktail Video Show by Martin Cecilia pool bar Buddy Dive, 7 pm 717-5080

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 - 6:30 pm - call 567-0655 for directions.

Bridge Club - Wednesdays, 7:30 pm at the Union Building on Kaya Korona, across from the RBTT Bank. 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 9:30 pm. 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 - Now meeting at 'Pirate House', above Restaurant Zeezicht. All Rotarians are welcome. Tel. 717-8454

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Bonaire Arts & Crafts (Fundashon Arte Industrial Bonaireano) 717-5246 or 7117

The Bonaire Swim Club- Contact Valarie Stimpson at 785-3451 or Valrie@telbonet.an

Cinnamon Art Gallery - Volunteers to help staff gallery during the day. 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 7174685, 566-4685

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.

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 Cheffí). In English, Dutch & Papiamentu on **Sunday at 10 am. Wednesday Prayer Meeting at 7:30 pm.** 717-2194

Send event info to *The Bonaire Reporter*
Email reporter@bonairenews.com
Tel/Fax. 717-8988, Cel. 786-6518

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 11 am-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.
Croccantino 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 too.
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. Cuban cuisine. Champagne brunch on Sundays 10 am to noon. Happy hours 5 to 7 every day.
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

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.

COMPUTERS

Bonaire Automation B.V. fills all your computer needs: hardware, software, supplies, service, repair and more.

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 a 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.

Nature Exploration

Outdoor Bonaire for individually guided kayaking, hiking, biking, caving, rapeling/abseilen and more reservations : 791-6272 or 717-4555 E-mail : hans@outdoorbonaire.com

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.

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.

VACATION CLUB

Lower the cost of vacationing in Bonaire. Visit Perfect Holiday Solutions to discover how you can get discounts and more. Free gift for learning how.

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 786-6518

Frans Booi and Maggie Booi-Kaiser

“We first met at Cinnamon Art Gallery. Bonaire’s master artist, Winfred Dania, had an exhibition of his paintings. I fell in love with one of them and wanted an explanation. Winfred was called but he couldn’t explain in English so Frans was asked. He’d been explaining the paintings as Winfred can only communicate in Dutch and because he’s deaf it’s especially hard. We started talking. I bought the painting, and we made an appointment to meet at the museum the next day.”

Frans: “So, the following day when I showed Maggie the book I wrote, *The Book of Uncle Louis*, she saw that the painting she’d bought was connected to another painting of Winfred’s, like one was the beginning and one was the end of what basically is the Bonairean mythology. She bought that painting too.”

Maggie: “The other thing we learned the first time we met was that there was a spiritual connection. Frans’ wife, Elia Statius, had died a year before, and my husband, Nick Kaiser, had died in the same period. After I’d picked up the second painting Frans asked me to go out for lunch. I said, ‘Let’s go to KonTiki,’ but he said, ‘Maikiey’s Snack!’ “We had *kabritu* (goat) and he told me about his cooking and his idea to create a solar water plant for individual use and the third world. We were having a great time and he asked if I’d like to help him. I said, ‘No!’ To me he looked like someone between 60 and 80! He had this strange outfit - I remember the suspenders - he just looked like 80! Then he took me back to Playa. As we passed by his house on Nikiboko North, he clicked open the automatic doors of the gate and I think, ‘Oh my God, a dirty old man!’ But it turned out he was just showing off his new automatic system to open the gate. He was so proud of it - so sweet, so innocent!”

During our lunch he had said, ‘You must try my *kabritu* sometime; stop over!’ So one day I stopped at his house and he nearly died because here was this strange woman at his door. He said, ‘Why are you here?’ “And I answered, ‘To eat *kabritu*!’ ‘I have no *kabritu*,’ he said. It was so embarrassing! Nevertheless, he offered me some tea and days later when he came over to my house to hang the painting he asked me out to dinner.

From the first moment we’d met we felt something was coming. So, that night after dinner we walked around town and he showed me where he was born, in the house where now Maduro Travel sits, and he told me all his family’s history. During the walk we started holding hands and at 2 am we came to City Café; we

jumped on the dance floor and surprised all the young people!”

Frans Booi (61) and Maggie (59) Booi-Kaiser are vibrating; they’re full of energy, of life, full of plans and they’ve just started off!

“Maggie is beautiful and I love her; it’s just a bunch of things: her smile, her thoughts, the good communication we have and the fact that we are soul mates and we have the same interest in many things. And at our age we have to look after each other and help each other and take good care of our health.

I don’t have projects just for this life; I have projects for the other existences too. I don’t believe in eternity of life or in reincarnation; that’s not going to happen. Let’s say we learn in this life; that’s the most important reason for living. You learn to be a bird, a fish, a tree, an animal. These things you call totems because they are the animal part of your spirit. But you also learn to be human, all the different kinds of humans, and the ultimate learning is how to be a personality that is an essential part of the community - a full grown person. You have to learn about your own community: the wisdom, the language, the history and the principals. The group has personality too, and that’s what you call culture.

“From the first moment we’d met we felt something was coming...”

The last thing you learn as a person is that you are a stone and that stone is what we call matter, material or mother. All these things - the animals, the trees, the plants and the stones - have a soul. You cannot destroy matter or energy; it only changes image, form. So, as matter, as material you are eternal. So, if you are a stone you have eternal life and you are unified with the origins. When I go diving or hiking with Maggie we sit and I tell her all the old stories about that certain area, about the plants and the animals, the medicines and the myths. Bit by bit I’m writing it all down, documenting it.”

Maggie says, “One of our projects is marking all the concrete tables at the historical and tourist’s sites and we will also publish an accompanying book. Frans built all these tables and the obelisks when he was head of the Department of



Frans Booi and Maggie Booi-Kaiser

Culture and Education from the 70s until the early 90s. My company in the States is donating it, and Frans is telling me what to write. We’re doing it together, but it’s his brains and information behind it. He is the historian of the island. One of our other projects is to publish a map with all the old names of all the old places and a book with all the old stories to go with it. But there are so many more other projects.

When we got married people were afraid that Frans would lose his identity and not worry about the culture anymore. But of course that will never happen; it’s one of the reasons that I love him! Frans is also an inventor; he works with AutoCAD inventor, very sophisticated stuff. He’s a teacher, he is a sculptor, an artist and a musician and he just knows everything there is to know about Bonaire. My sister calls him a ‘true Renaissance man,’ very dedicated in everything and he also supports me in everything. I went from working all the time to playing all the time - that’s a big change! When I see myself chopping my way through the bushes with my machete I feel cool! And I never crawled like an iguana into a cave before! We’re having so much fun!

I was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Ten years ago I came with my husband to Bonaire to dive. Four years ago we bought the house in Belnem on the sea and we spent a whole year renovating, traveling back and forth and E-mailing. It was fun, really fun! Then, on our way here to take over the house, my husband of 37 years died of a heart attack at the airport in Jamaica. He never saw the house finished. So I didn’t come; I took him home. After a couple of weeks I ran away from home to Bonaire.

The first time I didn’t stay that long, but every time it became longer and longer and then, after a year I met Frans.

When Frans and I fell in love I told my son Tom, ‘I think I am in love.’ He said, ‘You hardly know that man and if he really loved you he would be here anyway!’ I told Frans and he came on the next plane! My whole family was going nuts-my six sisters, my daughter-in-law they were so upset! They told me, ‘You don’t know him; you don’t know what his intentions are!’ Like I was 16! So I gave a big beach party at Lake Michigan where I lived. My mother asked Frans, ‘Are you rich?’ and he said, ‘I am not poor!’”

Frans laughs: “And everybody was telling me how brave I was to come all by myself! The next trip we came to the States I said, ‘I want to talk to Tom.’ But Tom already knew what was coming and he didn’t like it. So he gave me a lecture about ‘You don’t get married that fast,’ etc! We said, ‘Sure, we’ll wait till next summer.’ We waited a year, but we had lots of things to do and marriage was just one of our projects.

We got married this year on August 26 at Seroe Largo,” Maggie says, “The whole island was there... it was beautiful. We’ve been very lucky, very blessed, because Frans’ daughters Lizbeth and Desiree and my son Tom and daughter-in-law Jody, my two grandsons Caelen and Simon, all get along well. We have such wonderful families, everybody has been beautiful.” She laughs: “Once when Jody saw me going out with my machete, she cried out, ‘My mom with a machete! It’s too much! You’ve gone over to the other side! You’re totally gone! You’re not coming back?’ And I said, ‘I won’t.’ □

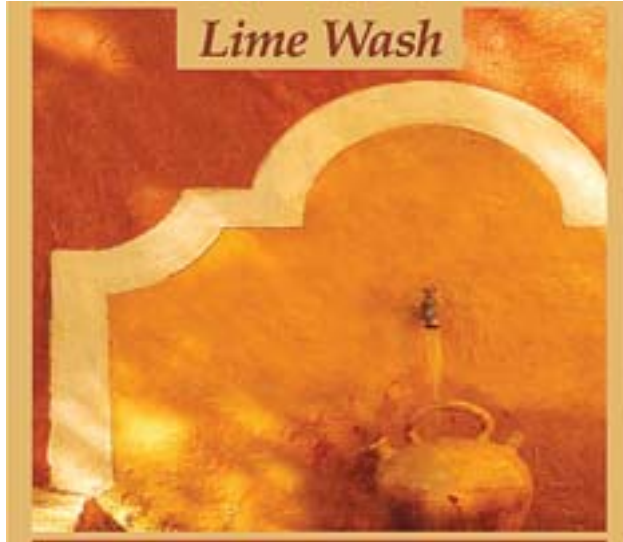
Story and photo by Greta Kooistra



An Old World Look for Your New Walls

Now available in Bonaire is an ancient natural product that gives a whole new "Old World" look to buildings and homes. It's a lime wash that was used before "paint" was invented – on the Coliseum and on the Acropolis for instance. Now it's being re-discovered and used on architecture in France, Spain and around the Mediterranean, the rest of Europe and in Mexico. It gives a softer and more aged look than regular paint. It's non-toxic and perfect for new concrete buildings because it allows the walls to breathe, making the interiors cooler. And it lasts.

Côté Sud N.V. in Curacao carries the product and has 40 different color pigments, with which you can make al-



Côté Sud Lime Wash Paint

most unlimited color choices. Prices are similar to paints available on the island. For more information and prices, call Michel Nataf at 09-510-2086 or email: m.nataf@interneeds.net. □L.D.

Beaujolais Nouveau is here!

Bistro de Paris was the scene last Thursday evening of the grand arrival of the annually touted French Beaujolais Nouveau. The new young wine traditionally always makes its debut at destinations all over the world on the third Thursday of November. Of the approximately 120 million bottles produced, 60 million are drunk that first night, according to ALCON's Mocky Arends, who imports the wine for Bonaire.

Nearly every year Mocky has hosted a party to celebrate the arrival – and they're always a big surprise. This year the wine was delivered by Anna in her husband Orlando's 1930 Ford Sedan Model A.

Beaujolais Nouveau is made from the Gamay grape in the Beaujolais area of France. The grapes are picked in September and through a fast, but difficult process, ends up in the bottles by November. It's made to be drunk early.

ALCON has a limited supply of the exciting new wine. Call them at 717-0168. Thanks to Patrice and Fred of the Bistro de Paris Restaurant and Mocky and Conchita of ALCON liquors for making this such a festive occasion.

Antillean Wine Company just received a fine 2005 Beaujolais Nouveau, Chateau Cambon, produced by wine maker Marcel Lapierre. It's a rare Beaujolais produced the natural way.



The 2005 Beaujolais Nouveau arrives with Anna in a 1930 Ford Sedan Model A

Lapierre makes beaujolais according to his own stubborn ideas; no artificial fertilizers, no chemicals, he ploughs the vineyard (a labor intensive rarity nowadays) and so captures the natural yeast of the vineyard. It's one of the few wines in the world without any sulphur.

This is the real thing, not a high alcoholic grade wine that tastes like banana sweets because of the yeast added for mass-production, but beaujolais like it used to be and is supposed to be: light, fresh, fruity, thirst quenching; wine to share with friends.

Come taste on **Saturday, November 27th** at Antillean Wine Company, Kaya Industria 23 L1-L2 (across from Warehouse) between 6.00 and 8.00 PM at only NAf2,50 per glass. □ L.D.



WHERE TO FIND THE REPORTER

Snip and save so you can always find a copy of The Bonaire Reporter if there are no more at your favorite spot

Airport:

Car Rental Agencies,
Airport Arrivals Area

Banks:

MCB (Playa & Hato),

Restaurants:

Bistro de Paris
Brasserie Bonaire
Capriccio
City Cafe
Croccantino
Hilltop at Caribbean Club
Lost Penguin
Lover's Ice Cream
Pasa Bon Pizza

Shops:

Benetton
Bonaire Gift Shop
Cinnamon Art Gallery
City Shop
DeFreewieler
Exito Bakery
INPO
Paradise Photo
Photo Tours, Playa

Hotels:

Buddy Dive
Capt. Don's Habitat
Carib Inn
Caribbean Court
Divi Flamingo
Eden Park Hotel
The Great Escape
Harbour Village Plaza
Sand Dollar

Supermarkets:

Cultimara
Montecatini
Progresso
Sand Dollar Grocery
Tropical Flamingo
Warehouse

Bookstores:

Bonaire Boekhandel
Flamingo Bookstore

Realty Offices:

Harbourtown
RE/MAX
Sunbelt

Government Offices:

Bestuurscollege
Parliament Office
Customs
BVO

Others:

Bonfysio
Botika Korona
Caribbean Laundry
Fit 4 Life
Hair Affair
Harbour Village Marina
Rocargo
San Francisco Hospital
TCB
Telbo
Yellow Submarine

RINCON:

Chinese Store,
Joi Fruit Store,
Lemari Grocery
Rincon Bakery

Still can't find a copy? Visit our office at Kaya Gob. Debrot 200-6 or Call 717-8988



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it, just look up



Super Bright Venus and Mars Share the Sky with Three Cosmic Birds for Thanksgiving Week

Cosmically speaking, American Thanksgiving week is super because in addition to the usual Thanksgiving turkey on the table we have our annual appearance of three cosmic birds in the sky, which you can see right after dinner all week long, plus this year they are joined by the two currently brightest planets **Venus** and **Mars**.

On any clear night this Thanksgiving week, about 7 pm Sky Park time, face west where you'll see the brightest planet of them all, super-bright Earth-sized Venus. Then if you look higher above the horizon you will see the three bright stars which mark the points of what is officially called the **Summer Triangle** but which every November I unofficially call the Thanksgiving Poultry Triangle. You see, historically these stars have been associated with cosmic birds.

The highest star is **Deneb**, the bright tail star of **Cygnus the Swan**. So in addition to our Thanksgiving turkey we have a heavenly swan to be thankful for. The bright star farthest to the left, **Altair**, is the brightest star of another bird, **Aquila the Eagle**. But the brightest of the three stars and closest to the northwest horizon is **Vega** the brightest star of **Lyra the Harp**, which strange as it may sound has had more feathery incarnations than the other two put together. You see Lyra was not always a harp. In fact, long ago before it became a lyre it was a cosmic turtle. But before it was a turtle it was a bird of one sort or other.

Ancient records tell us that Lyra's association with birds goes back over 2,000 years. In ancient India Lyra was seen as a heavenly vulture, and in Babylon as a great mythological storm bird named Urakkhga. Some desert peoples of ancient Arabia saw it as two birds, the desert eagle, and would you believe, a cosmic goose? Lyra was also once known as an osprey and a wood falcon. Anyone for a wood falcon or osprey drumstick? At any rate only in the past couple of hundred years or so have we in the west seen Lyra exclusively as a lyre. In fact at the time of the American Revolution these stars were still seen as a bird - an eagle - but holding a lyre in its beak. But since then the eagle has flown away and only the lyre remains. So perhaps we should play lyre music after Thanksgiving dinner.

At any rate this Thanksgiving weekend, after you've had turkey up to here, just step outside after dinner and look for some birds of a different feather. And thank the heavens above you'll never get them in your leftovers. But if three cosmic birds and super bright Venus aren't enough for you then simply face east and high above the horizon you'll see the planet which is now Number Two in brightness because it is so incredibly close to Earth - super-bright, rouge-gold **Mars** which will make this Thanksgiving week extra special. □ *Jack Horkheimer*



THE STARS HAVE IT

For the week: November 20-26, 2005

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) You will back yourself into a corner if you are baited and your stubbornness will only make matters worse. Do not trust others with important information. Talk to someone you trust if you need advice about broaching the subject. Your emotional life may be up in the air if your mate has been going through a change of heart. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Take time to deal with authority figures or government agencies. It's time to reevaluate your motives. They won't pay you back and you'll be upset. You will be emotional with regard to your personal life. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Don't overlook that fact that someone you care about may be hiding something. Hassles with female colleagues may lead to problems with your boss. Accomplishment is yours if you direct yourself accordingly. Older family members may try to put unreasonable demands on you. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Unique forms of entertainment could capture your attention and bring about a romantic interest. Don't get into heated discussions. Talk to people who can give you important knowledge. Get down to business and do the work yourself. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) You can meet potential new mates if you socialize with friends. You may find your self in a romantic situation. This is a great day for a trip. Discuss your objectives with partners or peers. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Romance is likely if you can bring yourself to go out with friends. Be prepared for an active but rewarding time. Your words will be taken out of context if you're evasive with coworkers or employers. Try not to attempt to do something unless you are fully intent on following through with the plans. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Pleasure trips will promote new romantic encounters. Changes could be overwhelming. Avoid letting children and friends borrow. New partnerships will develop if you join investment groups. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) You might just as well let others do their own thing. If you can't get away, make plans to do something special with friends or relatives. You may have difficulties with in-laws or family members. Your mate is going to want and need some attention. Your lucky day this week is Wednesday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) The answers can only come from within. Opportunities to make financial gains through investments look promising. Get involved in groups that will help you meet established individuals. You can help other people with their financial problems by setting up a budget for them. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Do something together and you'll be surprised how sweet a deal you can make. Major moves will be emotional and not necessarily to your benefit. You must get out and mingle. Be courteous if you wish to avoid major delays. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) You need to do something energetic and different. Tell them to get out of the mess they are in and then you'll consider getting together with them. Relatives may not be telling you the whole truth about a family situation. You might be overly emotional when dealing with your partner. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Changes in your home are apparent, and you must be willing to bend if you don't want to find yourself alone. Don't count your chickens before they hatch. Your lack of attention may have been a factor. Favors will be offered readily. Your lucky day this week will be Monday. □