

**IT'S
STILL
FREE**

BONAIRE

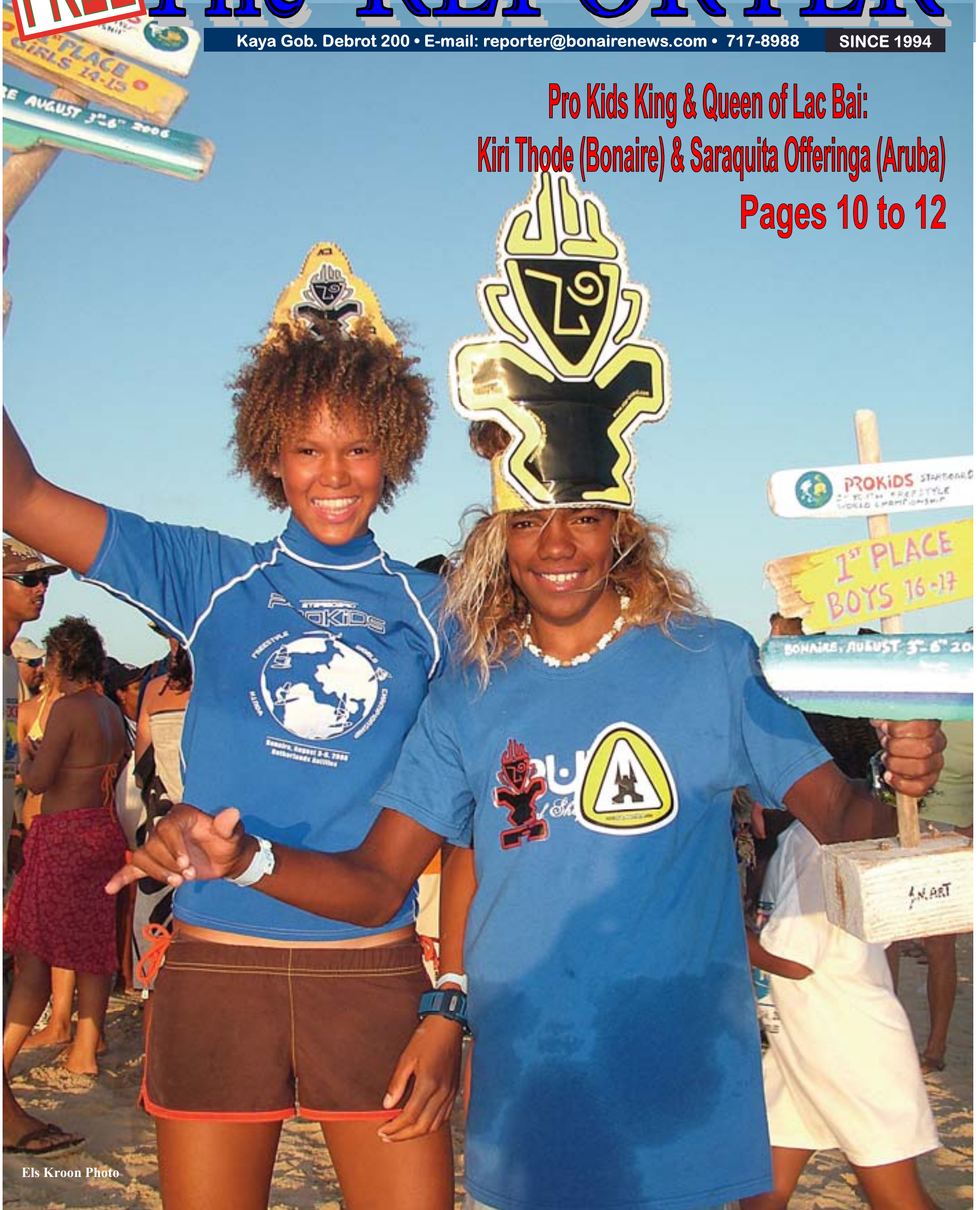
August 11-28, 2006 Volume 13, Issue 30

The REPORTER

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

SINCE 1994

**Pro Kids King & Queen of Lac Bai:
Kiri Thode (Bonaire) & Saraquita Offeringa (Aruba)
Pages 10 to 12**



Els Kroon Photo

Flotsam and Jetsam



In accordance with airline industry (ICAO) regulations a scanner has been installed at Flamingo Airport. Secure Solutions of Ontario, Canada, provided the scanner and on-site training for airport personnel. Luggage for all passengers flying internationally will be scanned and, as a result, hand inspection will be minimized.

► Continental announced its schedule for round-trip air service from Newark's Liberty International Airport. Beginning in mid-December planes will leave on Saturdays at 11:55 pm and arrive in Bonaire on Sundays at 5:40 am (Flight #1553). The return Flight #1556 will depart Bonaire on Sundays at 7 am and will arrive at Newark at 10:45 am.

After Daylight Savings Time ends in May 2007 the southbound flight will arrive in Bonaire on Saturdays at 4:40 am and depart the island on Sundays at 6 am (arrival and departures times from Newark will remain the same). Continental Airlines will use a Boeing

737-700 airplane with 124 seats with 12 first class and 112 coach class seats. The Continental Airlines flight is the first non-stop service to Bonaire from the Northeast US since the 1980s.

► The Curaçao-based airline, Insel Air, made a successful test flight to Aruba, Aruba to Bonaire and Bonaire back to Curaçao on Friday, August 4. The flights were the final steps towards obtaining its Air Operating Certificate set for on this Friday, August 11. It will begin with flights to Aruba and after that to other Antillean islands. This is a welcome addition to ABC island service.

Insel Air is also working on a lease agreement for MD-80 and MD-82 airplanes to begin flights to St. Maarten, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Haiti, Suriname, Miami and Venezuela. Insel Air, in a deal with Surinam-based SLM, already has one jet in Curaçao.

► Venezuela-based Avior Air began flying between Caracas and Curaçao on Wednesday, August 2. Because of the Curaçao Tourism Bureau's (CTB) subsidy Avior Air can offer lower ticket prices than Aeropostal and Aserca, the two other Venezuelan companies that fly to and from Caracas. A new, 108-passenger Boeing 737-200 will make the flight twice a week. The current price for a Curaçao-

Caracas round-trip ticket is about NAf700 to NAf 850. Avior offers prices around NAf400.

► Effective August 1, passengers booking KLM tickets will pay an additional charge of 7.50 euros when purchasing economy class tickets using their credit cards. The additional charge will be for all KLM flights and any type of credit card.



► The handling of the first KLM Boeing 747 airplane at the newly-built Hato Airport terminal in Curaçao was satisfactory, but the passengers had to use a ladder to get off the plane. However, passengers going back to the Netherlands used the new jet way. It was also the first time passengers were checked in at the new terminal. This was done by hand because of a technical problem with the new check-in system.

► Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez said on Thursday the nation would acquire a missile-based anti-aircraft defense system to repel a

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BONAIRE The REPORTER

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(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 2)
possible foreign invasion. The announcement came just days after Chavez agreed to buy some \$3 billion in weapons and military equipment from Russia during a two-week world tour following US moves to block Venezuelan military purchases.

“We are going to install a system of aerial defense with equipment that detects a target from 200 kilometers (124 miles) away and fires heat-guided missiles,” Chavez said during a speech.



► Frank Böhm, owner-operator of **DeFreewieler bike and key shop**, was in Long Beach, California, with other international water polo referees from the Caribbean. The group took the course, “FINA School for Water Polo Referees.” In order to maintain their licenses the referees must attend the course every two years. Frank is well known as a referee on the water polo circuit throughout the Caribbean and on Bonaire as the man to see for any bicycle needs or problems.



Checklist of the Birds of Bonaire by Jerry Ligon

► It’s not just an advertising brochure that naturalist **Jerry Ligon** has produced. It’s a comprehensive checklist of the Birds of Bonaire, put together over the years of Jerry’s guiding nature and bird lovers on the island. The list of 208 birds includes indigenous as well as “transits.” There are some nice photos too. You’ll find the brochures in shops around the island. Thanks, Jerry, it’s something we all can use. Contact him for Bird and Nature Tours, 791-6079 or email: jlignon@gmail.com

► **Bonaire is preparing for hurricane season storms.** Last week Governor Domacassé hosted a meeting to explain the island’s emergency procedures and to encourage island residents

(Continued on page 4)

coral glimpses

(a bit of information about corals presented each week by naturalist Dee Scarr)

Even with the polyps contracted, the mouths of these corals are visible □ *photo by Dee Scarr*



Bubbles from the Biologist

Did You Know...
Lobsters march in formation?

The Caribbean Spiny Lobster, *Panulirus argus*, migrates to deeper waters late in the year. Groups of up to 65 individuals have been observed marching along in formation, antennae to tail, towards deeper waters. They’ve been observed to march over seven miles per day! Scientists believe that these lobsters are migrating to deeper, calmer (and often warmer) waters to wait out the storm season. The migrations are usually associated with a drop in water temperature that is often associated with the onset of storms. Diminishing daylight hours could also be another factor that influences the timing of the migrations. Has anyone seen a lobster parade in Bonaire? If so, I would like to know! □ *Story by Carin Eckrich; photo courtesy of Manuel Mola*

Biologist Caren Eckrich founded and runs Sea and Discover, Bonaire's marine education center specializing in guided dives and snorkels for adults and adventure programs for kids. You may call her at 717-5322.



(*Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 3*) to prepare with stocks of canned food and water just in case. Although Bonaire is below normal hurricane paths, strong storms have been recorded in the past.

► Education Minister Omayra Leeflang has introduced a bill in Parliament to officially **make English, Dutch and Papiamentu the three official languages in the Netherlands Antilles.**

► **The Natalee Holloway case is still making news.** Last week a New York judge tossed out a lawsuit filed against Dutch teenager Joran van der Sloot by the parents of Natalee Holloway, who vanished in Aruba, saying it shouldn't have been filed in Manhattan. Holloway's parents alleged in the suit in February that Van der Sloot had imprisoned and sexually assaulted their daughter and was responsible for her mysterious disappearance last year in Aruba. In a 10-page decision Thursday, state Supreme Court Justice Barbara Kapnick cited an earlier ruling that found local taxpayers should not have to foot the bill for a complex case when their interest in the case was "so ephemeral." The lawsuit sought unspecified damages.

Van der Sloot, who just finished his first year of college in the Netherlands, was "elated" by news of the decision, according to his attorney Joseph Tacopina. Holloway, then 18, was last seen leaving a bar in Aruba with Van der Sloot, also 18, on May 30, 2005. He and two friends, brothers Deepak and Satish Kalpoe, were arrested a few days later on suspicion of involvement in her disappearance.

Joran van der Sloot's father, Paul van der Sloot, was recently awarded a large cash settlement for false arrest by the Aruba police.

► Because of procedures involving the new immigration laws, the Island Government **announced changes in the days and hours for submission of some paperwork required for work permits and admission as a Bonaire resident:**

Petitions for residency and work permits will only be accepted on Tuesdays from 8-10 am.

Permits other than those above will only be accepted on Wednesday and Thursday from 8-10 am.

Take a number and wait to be called. If the petitions are for more than four

persons call for an appointment during the above days and hours: 717-5330 ext. 261.



► **These four prikichis, Brown-throated Parakeets (*Aratinga pertinax*), were strangled** by being tangled in a monofilament net. It is suspected they were accidentally trapped by someone trying to capture Loras, Bonaire's endangered Amazon parrots. Parakeets do not enjoy the same legal protection as Loras but it is a crime against nature to kill wild animals for no reason. Thanks to Elsmarie Beukenboom of STINAPA for calling public attention to this atrocity.



► Last week Bonaire Marine Park Rangers and Park volunteers explored the Kai area of Lac Bay and found **306 empty baby conch shells** in a few hours. What is especially tragic is that most of the shells were less than 4 inches (10 cm.) long, meaning they were too young to reproduce. Not only that, but the poachers get only a small fraction of the meat obtainable from a mature conch for the same work in breaking the shell and cutting the muscle. Because of human predation, collection of conch without a permit is prohibited in Lac Bay in order to give the once thriving conch a chance to re-



► Last Sunday 30 volunteers from *The Freewinds* and the sail-charter boat *Suave*, locals and visitors, including several from Pennsylvania who read the notice in *The Bonaire Reporter*, plus STINAPA personnel **cleaned up the main beach at Klein Bonaire.** All sorts of trash was collected and the sand was sieved. Everyone who visits Klein Bonaire is asked to take all their trash as well as any they find washed up on shore, back with them, and not to make open fires (BBQs are provided). □ STINAPA photo & press release

establish themselves. Unless this practice is halted Bonaire's conchs will soon be extinct.

► In a new forecast just released, American hurricane forecasters have slightly **reduced the number of storms** expected, but still say that the 2006 Atlantic Hurricane Season will be above average, with nearly the entire month of September covered in storm activity. They could not say, however, whether the storms would affect land or remain in the open ocean. The new forecast is for 15 named storms (down from 17), seven hurricanes (down from nine) and three major hurricanes (down from five). The forecast is still higher than the long-term average, which is nine named storms, six hurricanes, and two major hurricanes.

► **The oceans are teeming with 10 to 100 times more types of bacteria than previously believed,** many of them unknown, according to a study released on Monday that has jolted scientists'

understanding of evolution in the seas. Using a new genetic mapping technique, US, Dutch and Spanish scientists said they found more than 20,000 different types of microbe in a single liter of water from deep sites in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. Microbes make up more than 90% of the total mass of life in the seas, from bacteria to whales.



► On August 1st, **Match Consultancy launched its new training program** for 2006-2007, the Hospitality Awareness Program, at Divi Flamingo Resort. This program is a follow up of last year's Hospitality Training Program. This season Match Consultancy will have nine training seminars within the Hospitality Awareness Program between August and December. The seminars train hospitality sector employees to provide better service and improve their skills. Contact Annette van Rooijen at Match Consultancy, tel:

(Continued on page 5)

(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 4)
786-5711 or E-mail;
info@matchconsultancy.com, for more
information on the schedule and/or pro-
gram content.

► The **All Denture Lab** will be mov-
ing on **September 1**. They will be lo-
cated in Antriol, just off Kaya Korona
near Botika Korona, next to J.G. Hernan-
dez. Tel. 717-2248 or 787-3714. See
their ad on page 7.

► **Harbourtown Real Estate** is offer-
ing a **free appraisal** in case you decide
to take out home/building insurance
through their company. The appraisal
determines the rebuilding value so the
insurance will fully cover all eventual
damage and prevent being underinsured.
If you are interested please contact them
at 717-5539 to make an appointment. If
you are not on the island this can be done
by fax (+599-717-5081) or e-mail
info@harbourtownbonaire.com.



► A new advertiser
from the USA-www.
islandgenera-
tors.com- is selling
**diesel generators at
low prices** (ad on
page 12). The mod-
ern 6 kW unit pictured is only \$2,199
shipped free to AMCAR freight in Mi-
ami. You can arrange delivery to Bonaire
through Rocargo (717-8922) and have it
on-island in a week. Prepare for the
storm season or WEB problems.



► It's almost unbelievable to see this
sign at the edge of the mangroves (a
Ramsar site) near Sorobon bordering
Lac Bay: **Mangrove Village, coming
soon**. Luckily, no building permits have
been issued... yet. The impact of con-
struction with its attendant mess, the
sewage and presence of numerous
homes on that site is bad news for the
nearby mangrove lagoon that is the
nursery to Bonaire's sea life. But it's
great news for the hungry mangrove-
dwelling mosquitoes.



► **Louise "Lou" Reid**, (photo above) a
Scottish singer-guitarist, will perform
Friday evening, August 11, at Le Flam-
boyant. She's a small girl with a big, rich
voice.

► Welcome to new *Bonaire Reporter*
advertiser, **Caribbean Homes**, the
"refreshing realtor." Stop in at their
office on the waterfront, next to Watta-
burger and City Café, and meet the
friendly staff. See their ads in this issue.

► First it was billboards; now it's **paper
advertising flyers** tucked under your
windshield wipers. Last weekend at So-
robon people returned from the Pro Kids
event to their cars to find ads for a busi-
ness selling CDs, not only under their
wipers but also blowing in the wind. This
may be a good marketing idea in other
places but not in Bonaire with its high
winds that scatter these flyers and clutter
the landscape. STINAPA expressed its
displeasure with this form of advertising
last week when flyers for a real estate
development were found "flying" all
over SABADECO.

► Congratulations to Benito Dirksz and
his **Special Security Services (SSS)**
company. As of this month they have
been in business for 23 years, helping
to keep Bonaire safe. The company is
very community minded and has assisted
the police numerous times at crime
scenes. Keep up the good work, guys!

► Some of the cruisers on the yachts in
the harbor have re-instituted an old tradi-
tion here—the **Cruisers' Happy Hour**.
It's now on **Thursdays at Vespucci's in
Harbour Village Marina, from 5 to 7
pm**. Drinks are at happy hour prices and
snacks are free. **Everyone is invited**. It's
a good opportunity for people from land
and sea to mingle. The cruisers would
like to assist the Maria Hoppner home
for boys (ages 4 to 15) and ask that you
bring to the happy hour donations of
things they can use (clothes, towels,
shorts, socks, pens). They would also like
to have a shade cover for an outside sit-
ting area. □ G./L.D.

LETTERS

RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES

Dear Editor:

I am 15. I was born on Bonaire and have lived here all my
life. I am concerned about global warming and worried because
WEB still relies on fossil fuels to generate our power even
though we have abundant renewable energy sources right here
on Bonaire.

If you want to:

- Reduce your electricity bill
 - Reduce Bonaire's carbon footprint
 - Reduce fossil fuel usage, and
 - Protect Bonaire's reefs from coral bleaching,
- please contact WEB director Hubert De Palm at h.depalm@bmg.an
or 715-8244 and urge WEB to convert as quickly as possible to generating power
from the sun, wind, and waves.

You can send the same message to Council member R.R. Dortalina, the Commis-
sioner with responsibility for WEB, at ragi@bonairelive.com or by faxing 717-7153.
If you want more ideas about what you can do, please log on to my web
site: www.save-our-planet.tk

If you take the time to contact these two people, you will be doing so much to help
Bonaire and the world.

Masha danki!



Radinka Ustasia



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

Car Rental Agencies: At the Airport

• Airlines:
Aboard Divi Divi Air

• Banks:
MCB (Playa & Hato
branches),
RBTT

• Restaurants:
Bistro de Paris
Cactus Blue
Capriccio
City Café
Croccantino
Lost Penguin
Lover's Ice Cream
Pasa Bon Pizza

• Dive Shops:
Yellow Submarine
WannaDive
Carib Inn

• Shops:
Benetton
Best Buddies & Pearls
Bonaire Gift Shop
Chat 'n' Browse
City Shop
DeFreewieler

Exit Bakery
INPO
Larry's Bakery
Last Bite Bakery
Paradise Photo
Photo Tours, Playa
Plantation Furniture

Hotels:
Buddy Dive
Capt. Don's Habitat
Carib Inn
Caribbean Club, Hilltop
Caribbean Court
Divi Flamingo
Eden Beach Hotel
Golden Reef Inn
The Great Escape
Plaza Resort
Sand Dollar Resort

Supermarkets:
Bo Toko, North Salina
Cultimara
Montecatini
Progresso
Sand Dollar Grocery
Tropical Flamingo
Warehouse Bonaire

Government:
Bestuurscollege
Customs

Parliament Office
BVO

Others:
Bonfysio
Botika Korona
Caribbean Laundry
Fit 4 Life, Plaza
Hair Affair
Harbour Village Marina
Rocargo
San Francisco Hospital
TCB
Telbo

Bookstores:
Bonaire Boekhandel,
Flamingo Bookstore

Realty Offices:
Caribbean Homes
Harbourtown
Re/Max
Sunbelt

RINCON:
Chinese Store
Joi Fruit Store
Lemari Grocery
Rincon Bakery
Rose Inn

08/11/06

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

The Snack Bar Detectives

Their Mission: *To seek out the mysteries that lie behind the doors of Bonaire's snacks*



This week: **Mi Banana**
Kaya Nikiboko Nord



A whisper had been circulating about a snack bar in Nikiboko, Mi Banana. It certainly sounded tropical enough and what I had heard about the food was enough to get me on my way. It was said that it is located near a well known "Gentleman's Club" of which neither I nor Big D have any knowledge at all!

I rang D but he was on other business, so JJ, the tar with a thousand salty tales, was enlisted. We felt immediately welcome as we sat at the cozy bar. Our hostess greeted us with a warm Latina smile as we ordered our beer. A few locals sat around, chatting and laughing; it was all very relaxed.

As the evening fell, we decided to check out the menu. Despite Spanish being the language of choice, the menu was in English. I was surprised to see such a choice: local food such as Kabritu and Galinja were there as expected but also, a big selection from the grill as well as shellfish and other seafood. My many Polars had given me an appetite, the kind of appetite that only meat can satisfy. I spotted the Mixed Grill that boasted a bit of everything. Having seen that, I didn't

need to look any further.

We moved away from the bar and onto one of the tables. By this time, it was getting quite busy with a rather cosmopolitan clientele; the word had obviously got around. Our food arrived; I certainly wasn't going to be hungry after this. A large plate containing a pork chop, beef steak, chicken fillet, sausage, fries and salad. All this for just NAf20! We were given accompaniments of Guacamole and Spicy Salsa Sauce as well as the usual condiments. JJ had finished his steak and I was still only half way through my meal, but, never beaten, I got there in the end.

After our meal, our hostess continued to look after us, bringing us beer after beer as our bottles emptied. JJ talked long into the night about tales of bravery and daring on the high seas. To be honest, I think that he had had one too many Polars!

Next week, another Snack Bar, another meal, and, the return of Big D.

□ SBD

Kas di Arte,

"Homage to the Bonairean Artist"



(R to L) Marieke Postema-Roozenburg (SGB art teacher), Isabel (volunteer ex-SGB student, this year's best student), Elvio Cecilia (board member of Kas di Arte), help to fill out the paperwork for artists bringing in their work. Artist Nina Ledezma (standing next to her seated friend) and Hilda St. Jago

Last Saturday, August 5, artists of Bonaire were invited to submit their work to the Kas di Arte for the upcoming exhibition, "Homage to the Bonairean Artist," in November. Board members of Kas di Arte didn't know what to expect because this was the first time they'd organized such an event. Kas di Arte wanted to give the artists the opportunity of showing their work to the public and the public the opportunity to meet the artists.

And the surprise was really a surprise. From 8:45 in the morning until 1 in the afternoon, 36 people came in with a total of 96 pieces. Most were paintings, from small to works or more than one by one and a half meters. The subjects ranged from abstract to nature to people. There were also three-dimensional works of stone, driftwood, calabash, shells, mosaics, coral, clay, textiles (such as batiks),

leather and glass. From the start, everybody was looking at all the works. They were talking, enjoying the camaraderie of artist to artist. I think that most people were surprised by the high quality of all

the works - the works created by people who are inspired by the island. Some are true Bonaireans born on the island; some come from another continent like Europe, America or Africa. But they all have the same love for this beautiful island.

This week a jury will decide which works can be hung or stand

in the November exhibition.

But we want to give the public the opportunity to see all the work that was brought in to the Kas di Arte. So this Friday August 11, Kas di Arte will be open to the public from 5 to 9 pm to show these works from such a rich artistic community that exists on Bonaire. □ Wilna Groneneboom



SALSA Swings



One of Bonaire's most exotic places to dine, Salsa lives up to its initial impression with a gastronomically high plateau menu and a lot of details seen to. Starting with the Pesto Carpaccio or the Tuna Sashimi, for example, the menu takes us on a gourmet's road trip through homemade soups, favorite meat dishes like tournedos, ribs and veal schnitzel or more epicurean delights like duck breast, stopping along the way for a potpourri of pastas or seafood. Desserts tempt with crème brûlée, white chocolate ice cream or a mango dessert.

On Thursday evenings they pull out all the stops with the Famous Fish Market, where you choose how much you want (in increments of 100 grams) from an attractive and enticing array of fresh fish and seafood which is cooked to order for you. The chefs are helpful and knowledgeable. Fresh seafood soup, salads and home baked bread come with your order, as do hot side dishes.

Prices are moderate to expensive. Starters begin at NAf12,50; soups at NAf9,50; main courses at NAf22,50. Seafood starts at NAf27,50; pasta at NAf19.

The chefs present some great tastes, the setting is fascinating and the view is spectacular. Salsa is open seven days a week; now open for lunch as well as dinner. Drop by for a robust drink or mixed cocktail and check it out. Call 717-3558 for reservations. □ L.D.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, August 6th 2006

Welcome to the world, sweet
Aaliyah Madelief Thode.

May
God bless you and
may your life be
filled with love
and joy.

Congratulations to
a very brave mom,
Fleurtje Veldkamp,
and a very good
dad, Calo Thode.



Special thanks to
Dr. Dick van der Vaart (you're simply the best!) and Maria
"Zus" Janga-Martinus.—*From all your grandparents.*

Readers are invited to send their photos of their anniversaries, engagements or weddings to The Reporter. The photo and text will be printed free of charge.

STCB Turtle Tracking



Heit gets help going back into the sea STCB photo

‘**H**eit,’ a female hawksbill turtle, is still swimming around Klein Bonaire. It was thought that she would lay at least one more nest and possibly more. Hawksbills nest at intervals of approximately 14 days, and it is quite likely she will be with us for a while longer.

Bonaire’s sea turtles are tracked by

STCB (Sea Turtle Conservation) to learn more about their migratory patterns, their behavior at sea and where their marine habitats are located. On July 13, a transmitter was attached on this large adult female hawksbill turtle which was found resting on the reef in the area of Ebo’s Special, close to the nesting beach at Klein Bonaire.

Tracking of this hawksbill is made possible by a full sponsorship provided by Ria and Jeannette Heitkönig of Bonaire. Satellite tracking works through signals sent out by the transmitter, which is switched on whenever the turtle comes to the surface to breathe. These transmissions are then collected by Argos system receivers onboard weather satellites that circle the globe. Turtle locations are mapped frequently and available on the website located at www.bonaireturtles.org. □ *Andy Uhr*

Editorial Comment

Is it worthwhile to continue efforts to understand and protect sea turtles? A study, published in the August issue of *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*, says among other things that “turtle populations have declined significantly since the 17th century, with the number of green turtles living throughout the Caribbean falling from 91 million to 300,000 today and the population of Hawksbill turtles plunging from 11 million to fewer than 30,000 during this same time period. **The change represents a 99.7% drop in historic Caribbean sea turtle populations.**”

“The loss of even a single nesting site makes a permanent, irreversible dent in the sea turtle population,” said Loren McClenachan, who conducted the research with Jeremy Jackson and Marah Newman of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. □ *Ed.*

Picture Yourself with The Reporter

Mettingen, Germany

Bonairean Jeannette Nolen-Heitkönig, during her recent vacation, went digging for her roots in Mettingen, a small German town, from where her ancestors left for Holland in the 18th century. She remembered to bring along a copy of *The Reporter*.



SELIBON Honored

Of all Bonaire's government services perhaps the one that people appreciate most is SELIBON, which picks up and disposes of the island's trash. Last Friday the *bario* of Tera Kòrà, which celebrated its 156th birthday on August 1, gave special recognition to SELIBON employees. The Directors of the Community Center (Sentro di Bario), in the name of the people of Tera Kòrà, expressed their appreciation for the excellent job SELIBON does every day to keep their community, as



Lilian Solaina, along with Karel Pikerie and Rudsel Leito, accept the recognition plaque from Bòi Goeloe.

well as the rest of Bonaire, beautiful. □
SELIBON photo & press release

Galapagos Islands, Ecuador

Bonaire Reporter staff member, Wilna Groenenboom, writes, "This year we went on holiday to the Galapagos Islands with the whole family. My husband, Herman visited there five years ago. At that time I wasn't able to go because I was pregnant with Niek. This time we wanted our children, Almar and Niek, to view and also be a part of the special nature of those islands.

The guide explained to us that while visiting the animals of the Galapagos we had to respect their "house rules."

So when we met the sea lions they were the ones who decided when, where and how they wanted to play with us. And they do, whether you like it or not. Also the game of tag (*tikkertje*) is one of their favorites, Niek discovered. He didn't like it and started running very fast. So fast that the camera couldn't capture it well.

The photo (with *The Bonaire Reporter*) lets us see that because everyone respects the rules and keeps his distance, the animals aren't afraid of us. So we could read *The Reporter* within a meter of the sea lion. It was a unique and special moment, in a special place with a very special animal, that we will never forget." □



Almar and Niek answer the sea lion's questions about 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 2006 photos are eligible.) □

Windsurfing Report Pro Kids Freestyle 2006



Taty and Kiri duke it out in perfect conditions

This past weekend's freestyle windsurfing Pro Kids event was an over-the-top success, not to mention being Bonaire's first world-wide live webcast. And it was due to the vision of a Bonaire fisherman's son who believed in and revitalized the sport of windsurfing. Along the way he helped create sports career opportunities for young Bonaireans where none existed before.

Before the start of the three-day competition Elvis Martinus proudly announced that it would include nearly 100 youngsters, ages 2-18, from nine countries (Bonaire, Curaçao, Holland, Belgium, Aruba, Canada, France, Germany and Switzerland).

Elvis ("Piskechi" to his life-long friends) was Bonaire's first windsurfing champion more than 25 years ago, but

winning wasn't always uppermost in his mind. Windsurfing as the national sport of Bonaire was. He and his supporters worked tirelessly to make that happen and were so successful that a score of Bonaire youngsters have sailed professionally in events all over the world. Manufacturers even began to produce boards especially designed for these pro kids. Starboard, the maker of the Pro Kids line of windsurfing boards was the title sponsor.

The vision snapped into sharp reality this past weekend with the successful completion of the Pro Kids Freestyle Windsurfing Competition at Lac Bay.

Pro Kids was a great success by all accounts. The weather was superb with mostly steady trade winds in the high teens, making all sorts of maneuvers possible. □ G.D.

(Continued on page 11)



"Baby Kids," Bonaire's future champs



Pals with attitude

Some highlights:

At one extreme was the adorable Baby Kids class; at the other the 18 plussers featuring Bonaire's own Taty Frans and Quincy Offringa from Aruba. The wind was more than sufficient for some nice planing conditions allowing the freestylers to do what they do best: Flakas, Gonzagas, Chachos and other space age-named moves.

Event organizers Jessie Sint Jago and Liesje Saragoza, windsurf moms themselves, made sure the kids had T-shirts, rash guards and were well fed. Magnolia's Snack provided the delicious food for the day. Susie and Tinho Dornelas once again flew in from Florida to provide a professional race organization, a challenge with so many young competitors. Their crew of volunteer judges and staff made things move smoothly all weekend.

The press in the house including crews from the ABC and the infamous Dasher, a windsurf video guru who shot much footage for a future DVD. Dasher began covering the Bonaire kids when Kiri Thode was just five years old and has videoed their success. So many windsurf moms and dads volunteered to make this international event happen. Word on the beach was the weekend was nothing short of perfect.

Bits Bonaire and Telbo UTS used their technical expertise to present live streaming video on the website www.prokidsfreestyle.com.

There were parties with great food and music and of course some awesome entertainment. Magic happens when an entire community comes together to put on something special for the kids. Windsurfing has become a national pastime here, transforming the lives of some and impacting many. Special thanks to all the sponsors and volunteers who made Pro Kids 2006 a great event.

□ Ann Phelan



Pro-Kids-14-15 Girls winners: Mallory, Andrea, Sarahquita with Taty Frans

Pro Kids continued on page 12



Pro-Kids Champion mom, Della Thode with her son and overall winner, Kiri





The spectators are entranced



First timer Harley, just two and windsurfing, with coach and grandma

Pro Kids Final Results:

Boys 8-9 years

- 1. Jurgen Saragoza BON
- 2. R. Da Costa Comez CUR
- 3. Nico van der Woude CUR

Boys 11-12 years

- 1. Amado Vrieswijk BON
- 2. Youp Schmit BON
- 3. Dylan Robles BON

Boys 12-13 years

- 1. Ezri Heymans BON
- 2. Albert Jan Klijn CUR
- 3. Clifton Piar BON

Girls 8-9 years

- 1. Chanel Vrieswijk BON
- 2. Marvelly Velandia BON

Girls 10-11 years

- 1. Kelhi Nahray Rog CUR
- 2. Maria Louise Klijn CUR

Girls 12-13 years

- 1. Puck Vingerhoets BON
- 2. Astria Peter CUR
- 3. Chelsey Domacasse BON

Girls 14-15 years

- 1. Sara-Quita Offringa ARU
- 2. Andrea Simal BON
- 3. Mallory DePalm BON

Boys 14-15 years

- 1. Bjorn Saragoza BON
- 2. Mosje Vingerhoets BON
- 3. Hendrik Balentien BON

Boys 16-17 years

- 1. Kiri Thode BON
- 2. Jeager Sint Jago BON
- 3. Arturo Soliano BON

Amateur 18+

- 1. Tati Frans BON
- 2. Choko Frans BON
- 3. Quincy Offringa ARU

Champion of Champions

- 1. Kiri Thode BON
- 2. Saraquita Offringa ARU
- 3. Mosje Vingerhoets BON □



Going, Going, Gone



Taty at speed

Windsurfing Report

Bonaire Pros Dominate in Fuerteventura

Taty Frans takes 2nd place

Kiri Thode takes 4th place

Tonky Frans takes 5th place!



Taty



Kiri



Tonky

“It was a very hard competition in the Canary Islands, but we survived the challenges sufficiently to obtain great scores,” according to Bonaire’s pro windsurfer, Tonky Frans (NB-7).

Tonky is competing in the Professional Windsurfing Association (PWA) 2006 World Tour. Along with him were several other Bonairean professional windsurfers including his brother Taty Frans, and his cousin Kiri Thode. The latest event they attended was in Sotavento, Fuerteventura, which ran from July 21st to the 31st. Tonky explains, “Fuerteventura has always been one of my favorite spots to windsurf. The conditions are comparable to Bonaire so that is one less hurdle for the windsurfers from Bonaire. This year the people’s expectations of us were very high. I even received an email from a friend telling us to have an all-

Bonaire final... And we nearly did!”

The first elimination round was very successful for Tonky. “My heats were flawless and I was just enjoying the action. I was very determined to get in the finals. During my last heat of the first elimination round the judges chose Gollito (a pro windsurfer from Venezuela) over me, leaving me in second place.”



Tonky Frans Shows them how at Fuerteventura John Carter (PWA) photo.

The next day there was no competition at all because of the lack of sufficient wind to guarantee consistent heats. On the third day of competition the second round of eliminations continued. “During this second elimination I did not sail as consistently as I did in the first round,” Tonky says. “I was winning one heat and losing another and failed to keep my second position. Therefore I ended up in fifth place of the event. My brother Taty fought his way up to second place of the event and Kiri’s performance was good for a fourth place. So we nearly got an all-Bonairean final. I am content with my fifth place for this event, especially when I compare it to my performance

during this same event back in 2005! An improvement of 300% is something!”

Right now Tonky is in Gran Canaria awaiting an event in the Netherlands. “My board sponsor asked me to consider not attending the Silvaplane event in Switzerland for strategic reasons of the brand. And if my sponsor asks me so... I better follow their advice. I still have two weeks to go. When you want to get home badly, 14 days are a lot! Especially when you know that the other Bonairean riders are already long gone to the island! □

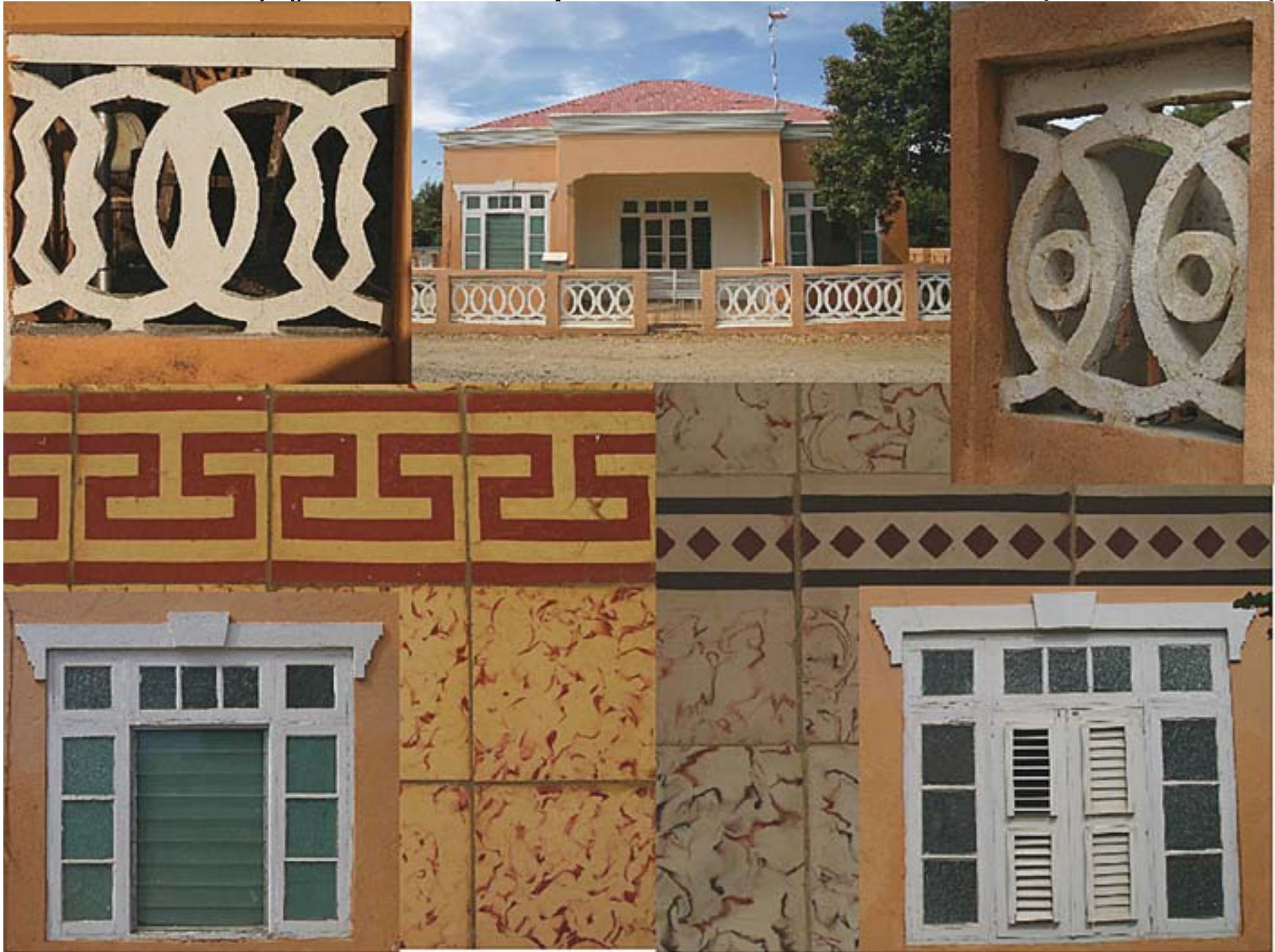
Tonky Frans with Sapphira Coffie

Antique Living Houses of Bonaire

Cas di Porchi Estefano Janga

by Wilna Groenenboom

Preserving Bonaire's Architectural Heritage



In this **Cas di Porchi** house lives Estefano Janga, born in 1928, 78 years young, who still works as a housepainter. Before 1950 he worked on Aruba. His father, Marti Janga, who passed away in 1994, reached the age of 101. He was a bricklayer his whole life. So Estefano comes from a strong family.

Most of the Cas di Porchis were built around the 1950s, and in the Nikiboko area we can find some very attractive examples. As I already mentioned two weeks ago, everybody can recognize them by their square shape. They always have a front porch built "inside" the house. The more decorative houses have the "inside" porch on the left or right side of the house. And those with the "half built out" porch have it mostly on the front side of the house.

The porch and most of the fence around this property are decorated with round open cement concrete forms fit into a horizontal concrete construction (see photo top right and left). The Janga house even has three different types of "circles."

During the 50s, people wanted to let in more light in their houses so glass was combined with the normal wooden shutters. This glass was mostly colored. Nowadays, to let in even more light, some of the wooden shutters (right bottom)

have also been replaced with glass (left bottom).

In the 50s, as people had become taller, the doorways and the walls of these houses were built higher, giving the house a more open view.

These Cas di Porchis were built to the owner's specifications, not a house inherited from the family. The owner's budget determined what kind of materials were used and how detailed it could be.

This is a "rich" house that has tiles from Aruba inside (center photo right).

And on the porch we can see beautiful tiles from Bonaire (center photo left).

Janga's house has a painted decoration in each of the four upper corners in the living room, more or less a silhouette of the top of the pillars by the porch (photo right). This house has many beautiful original details, those above the windows on the outside and the horizontal lines in the gutters around the house.

The Cas di Porchi houses, as far as I know, are not mentioned in the governmental "List of Monuments of Bonaire." If this is true then it is not so strange. In the 70s and 80s when people like Ank Klomp started to do research and investi-



gation into the antique houses of Bonaire these Cas di Porchis were only 20 to 30 years old. Now, 30 to 40 years later, we look with different eyes at this style of house. For me this house has much style and character.

The Thonet chair we can see in the photo at right is more than 100 years old and belongs to Estefano Janga. It came from his paternal grandmother.

This chair model is one of the 50 million chairs which Thonet made between 1859 and 1910. Like the Thonet chair shown



Thonet chair

two weeks ago in this column, this one was also made of wood that was dampened, then steamed and bent into a form and then dried. On Bonaire we can still see some quite beautiful and different styles of Thonet chairs. □

Wilna Groneneboom



Wilna Groenenboom is an artist and photographer who teaches art at the SGB high school



Marjoleine poses with the pearls

A New Shop Best Buddies & Pearls

The new owner of Best Buddies, now called “**Best Buddies and Pearls**” on Kaya Grandi, is Marjoleine Gramsma, a face familiar to many on Bonaire. Marjoleine came to the island as a child from Holland with her parents in 1989 and started school at Papa Cornes. She graduated from SGB four years ago and returned to Holland for further study, but the lure of the island drew her back. Retailing is her specialty, having worked and trained at H & M clothing retail stores in Holland. When the opportunity to own her own shop came up she took advantage of it.

Along with fashion and gifts one of the shop’s specialties are freshwater pearls that come in wonderful soft colors, in necklaces, bracelets and other designs. It began when Marjoleine’s aunt returned from China and brought her a pearl necklace as a gift. Marjoleine was so impressed with these new fashionable pearls that she knew she had to feature them in her shop.



These freshwater pearls are found in bays and rivers in China, where they’re cultivated from freshwater mollusks. The most common color for these cultured peals is white, but there are some other natural colors such as lavender, dark purple, cream and pink, depending on the type of mussel.

There are multiple pearl beads harvested from one oyster. They come in different shapes: oval, rice, button and off round.

Stop in at Best Buddies and Pearls and say hi to Marjoleine and see what exciting new items she has for sale.

□L.D.



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Free adds run for 2 weeks.**

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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.

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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>

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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

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

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GUIDED TOURS

Would you like to visit Bonaire's beautiful caves with a professional guide? Night tours and snorkeling also available. Please call: 540-0389

For Sale

Plantronics PC Speaker Headset switch. New in box. Unused. Allows you to use headphones or speakers without having to unplug them each time.

NAf26 Call 717-8819 8 am to 5pm

For sale: Dinghy, AB Marine RIB

Ventus 9VL, Hypalon (UV-resistant !) 2.90 meter, 48 kg. As new, Used once only, April 2006, Price: USD \$2,300. contact42@gmail.com

Epson Printer Cartridges for Epson Stylus printers, Model numbers: C64 / C66 / C84 / C86 / CX 4600 / CX 6400 / CX 6600. Color 3-pack has never been opened. The black cartridge was opened, never used, and tightly re-sealed. 50.00 guilders for everything. You can have the Epson printer if you would like to use it for spare parts, or as a small boat anchor. Please call after 18:00 (6:00 PM): 717-6537

Carib Inn has **new dive tanks** available once again. Contact Carib Inn at 717-8819 or stop by, 8 am to 5 pm.

Digital Camera for Sale: Olympus C-5050Z, 5 megapixel digital camera for \$150.00. Call 717-7814 (afternoon) or e-mail ellen@flamingotv.net.

For sale: large **modern mirror**, square Plexiglas (you can look through it) with a triangle-shaped mirror in the middle, NAf50, tel. 786-5591

FOR SALE: Boat, Container, bottle cooler and freezer. Tel 786-0730

For Sale: Wooden five-drawer **desk**, pecan finish, in very good condition, NAf 200.00; Top Quality Wooden Two-Drawer **Filing Cabinet** (made by Kimball), very good condition NAf 100.00; **Chest of drawers** with five drawers, wood, good condition, great for storing spare parts, etc., NAf 85.00 ; **Ceiling fans** with four-light units, white, various size downrods, 220 v, NAf 90 each, or NAf 500.00 for all six.; 3 **different TV/VCR stands** available, all wooden finishes, one is NAf 40.00, one is NAf 50.00, and one is NAf 60.00 - please call 717-2848.

DO YOU SUDOKU?

Sudoku means "the digits must remain single" in Japanese. To solve the puzzle, enter the numbers 1 through 9 to the partially filled in puzzle without repeating a number in any row, column or 3 x 3 region. For a tutorial visit the web site www.sudokushack.com.
□ Molly Kearney (who has to solve the puzzles)

5			3	9		7		2
		6		8				1
4	9				5			6
	7		2		4		3	9
		1			7	8		
6	2		5					1
2			6				5	3
9				2		1		
1	3		5	9				4

Complete solution on page 18.

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

Remember: Winds and weather can further influence the local tides

DATE	Time	Ht.	Time	Ht.	Time	Ht.	Time	Ht.	COEF
8-11	2:19	1.7FT.	10:13	1.0FT.	15:40	1.3FT.	18:23	1.2FT.	102
8-12	3:27	1.5FT.	10:28	1.1FT.	16:20	1.4FT.	21:02	1.2FT.	99
8-13	0:03	1.2FT.	4:42	1.4FT.	10:32	1.1FT.	17:15	1.5FT.	92
8-14	2:07	1.1FT.	6:40	1.2FT.	10:06	1.2FT.	18:05	1.7FT.	82
8-15	3:27	0.9FT.	18:52	1.8FT.					70
8-16	4:25	0.8FT.	19:43	1.9FT.					59
8-17	5:21	0.8FT.	20:25	2.0FT.					52
8-18	6:08	0.7FT.	21:12	2.1FT.					50

Cars For Sale



BMW 520i – 4-door sedan, 1991, white, excellent condition. NAf8,000- Call 785-9041

1998 Toyota Camry, Black, Fully equipped. In good condition. NAf 12.500. Call 786-6550

For Sale: **2000 Nissan Sentra**, 4 door, auto/ac, NAf7.000 email- LadyLarson@Hughes.net

LADA NIVA (jeep) for sale 1991-4X4 drive 1.6 lt.; 95.000km NAf1,800 717-2844 or 786-2844

Wanted

Washington Park needs a donation of two first stages from old regulators (or new) with a BCD inflator hose only. This is in order to be able to assist the people with flat tires inside the park. Contact Fernando Simal, Park Manager, at 717-8444 or 788-9015 -email: washington-park@stinapa.org

Wanted Cont.

Who would like to take one of my beloved cats? I leave the island and can't take them with me. They are between 2 and 3 years old. They are all special. 786-3015.

Vacation Rental

Cozy guest cottage available. Studio with kitchen, a/c, cable TV, two single beds (or king) pull-out sofa, bikes, kayak, porch, yard and private entrance. Five minute walk to seaside promenade; 10 minute walk to town. \$50/night. Contact: seabeans@hotmail.com



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Pet of the Week

Handsome "Boris" must have a lot of Collie in him with his beautiful, longish multi-colored coat and his bright, quizzical expression. Although his fur is long it's fairly easy to take care of because it's like that of a "herding dog." His outer coat, like a true Collie, is straight and harsh; his undercoat is soft and furry.

Boris is six years old and has been trained to sit and lie down and he loves to play with a ball. He's friendly, playful, very intelligent and a quick learner. He needs a home where he can get plenty of exercise. Boris was brought in because his current owner said their yard was too small. He's been castrated and is in excellent health. This fellow is a prime pick at the Bonaire Animal Shelter right now.

You may see him at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday, 8 am to 1 pm. Tel. 717-4989.

So far this year there have been over 80 adoptions at the Shelter. People are beginning to realize that a pet up for adoption from Bonaire's Shelter is healthy and social, and it's one of the best deals in town. The adoption fee includes testing, shots, worming and even sterilization. Stop by and see the all the great pets for yourself.

□L.D.



"Boris"

DO YOU SUDOKU?

And the solution is:

(puzzle and directions on page 16)

5	1	8	3	9	6	7	4	2
7	3	6	4	8	2	5	9	1
4	9	2	1	7	5	3	8	6
8	7	5	2	1	4	6	3	9
3	4	1	9	6	7	8	2	5
6	2	9	5	3	8	4	1	7
2	8	7	6	4	1	9	5	3
9	5	4	7	2	3	1	6	8
1	6	3	8	5	9	2	7	4

WHAT'S HAPPENING

MOVIELAND

WEEKLY MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Late Show

Call to make sure (Usually 9 pm)

The Fast and The Furious: Tokyo Drift (Lucas Black)

Early Show (Usually 7 pm)

Superman Returns

Kaya Prinses Marie Behind Exito Bakery
Tel. 717-2400

Tickets - NAf14 (incl. Tax)

NEW FILMS BEGIN FRIDAY
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
THURS THRU SUN
2 MOVIES 7 & 9PM
MON THRU WED. 1 MOVIE 8PM

SATURDAY 4 PM
Garfield 2

THIS WEEK

Thursday, August 11—Admirals Hour happy hour at Vespucci's, Harbour Village Marina, organized by yachtsmen/women 5 to 7. Everyone welcome, cruisers and non-cruisers alike. Will support Maria Hoppner home again this week. The 9 boys resident there (ages range from 4 to 15) need clothes, towels, shorts, socks, pens and also a shade cover for an outside sitting area. Bring items to happy hour.

Friday, August 11 – Pre-exposition at Kas di Arte of all works submitted for the November exposition, "Homage to the Bonairean Artist" - 5 to 9 pm at Kas di Arte. **Come see these works from the rich artistic community that exists on Bonaire.** More on page 6.

Friday, August 11—Lou Reid, Scottish singer-guitarist, performs at Le Flamboyant, 7—8:30 pm

COMING

Saturday, August 26—End of the month Flea Market at Parke Publico— 3 to 8 pm – General info call Vicky 786-1592. Booth info call Elisabeth 717-6907/565-5225

Sundays August 27, September 3—Bonairean Night at Divi Flamingo's Calabash Restaurant with all the local specialties and more. Live Music. \$20-total. Call for reservations 717-8285 ext. 444.

Wednesday, September 6 - Bonaire Day will be celebrated in the bario of Amboina

Saturday, September 16 -Quarterly underwater cleanup. All welcome-divers and non-divers alike. Meet at Yellow Submarine at 1 pm.

REGULAR EVENTS

Daily (more or less)

• HH 2 for 1 (on all beverages) 5-7 pm, **Divi Flamingo Balashi Beach Bar**

- HH—**Buddy Dive**, 5:30-6:30
- HH **Cactus Blue** (except Sunday) 5 to 7 pm,
- 2 for 1 appetizer with entrée, **Cactus Blue**
- **Divi Flamingo Casino** open daily for hot slot machines, roulette and black jack, Mon. to Sat. 8 pm–4 am; Sun. 7 pm–3 am.
- Daily - by appointment -**Rooi Lamoenchi Kunuku Park Tours** \$12 (NAf12 for residents). Tel 717-8489, 540-9800.

Saturdays

- **Grill Night on the Beach, Buddy Dive**
- **Rincon Marshé—**6 am - 2 pm. Enjoy a Bonairean breakfast while you shop, fresh fruits and vegetables, gifts, local sweets, snacks, arts, handicrafts, candles, incense, drinks, music. www.infobonaire.com/rincon. **Extra big Marshé 1st Saturday of the month.**
- **All You Can Eat BBQ** at **Divi Flamingo** with live music, 6 to 9 pm, NAf26.50. Call for reservations 717-8285 ext. 444.

Sundays

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

Mondays

- **Caribbean Night** - live local music— **Buddy Dive.**
- **Soldachi Tour of Rincon**, the heart of Bonaire, 9 am-noon. \$20-Call Maria 717-6435
- **Kriyoyo Night BBQ Buffet** featuring Chef Gibi and Los Princes Mariachi, **Golden Reef Inn**. Band 7 pm, BBQ at 7:30 pm. Reservations \$20, walk ins \$25. Drinks available for purchase. Call 717-5759 or email info@goldenreefnn.com

Tuesdays

- **Live music by the Flamingo Rockers**, 5-7 pm **Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar**
- **Wine & Cheese/** \$1 glass of wine, 5-7 pm, **Divi Flamingo Balashi Beach Bar**
- **Buy a Bucket of Beer & get free chicken wings**, 5 to 7 pm, **Cactus Blue**
- **Caribbean Gas Training free** "Beyond Gravity – An Evening with DIR," 6 pm, **Bonaire Dive & Adventure** 786-5073.

Wednesdays

- **Open Mike Night** with Moogie, 7 to 9 pm, **Cactus Blue**
- Live music by **Flamingo Rockers, Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar** 5-6:30 pm
- **Beach BBQ 7-10 pm & Live music by Flamingo Rockers -The Windsurf Place** at Sorobon
- **Movie Night at Buddy Dive**

Thursdays

- **Live music by the "Flamingo Rockers"** 5-7 pm—**Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar**
- **"Admiral's Hour"** for yachtsmen and others, **Vespucci Restaurant, Har-**

bour Village Marina. HH drinks, gratis tapas, 5-7 pm..

Fridays

- **Harbour Village Tennis, Social Round Robin** 7 to 10 pm. \$10 per person. Cash bar. All invited. Call Elisabeth Vos at 565-5225
- **Live music by the "Flamingo Rockers"** **Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar** – 5-7 pm
- **Swim lessons** for children by Enith Brighitha, a Dutch Olympian, at Sorobon from 1330 to 1630
- **Manager's Bash**—free Flamingo Smash & snacks, **Divi Flamingo**, 5-7 pm
- **Manager's Rum Punch Party, Buddy Dive Resort**, 5:30-6:30 pm, followed by **All You Can Eat BBQ**
- **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

FREE SLIDE/VIDEO SHOWS

- **Saturday- "Discover Our Diversity"** slide show-pool bar **Buddy Dive**, 7 pm, 717-5080
- **Sunday - "Bonaire Holiday"** -Multi-media dual-projector production by Albert Bianculli, 8.30 pm, Capt. Don's Habitat. 717-8290 .
- **Monday- Dee Scarr's "Touch the Sea"** slide show at Capt. Don's Habitat, 8:30 pm. 717-8290.
- **Wednesday (2nd and 4th) Turtle Conservation (STCB) Slide Show by Bruce Brabec.** **Carib Inn** seaside veranda, 7 pm, 717-8819.
- **Wednesday –Buddy Dive Cocktail Video Show by Martin Cecilia,** pool bar **Buddy Dive**, 7 pm, 717-5080

BONAIRE'S TRADITIONS

Kas Kriyo Rincon—Step into Bonaire's past in this venerable old home that has been restored and furnished so it appears the family has just stepped out. Local ladies will tell you the story. Open Monday thru Friday, 9–12, 2-4. Weekends by appointment. Call 717-2445.

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

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.

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

Cancer Survivor Support Group Majestic Journeys Bonaire N.V. Lourdes Shopping Center 2nd Level Kaya LD Gerharts # 10. Call 717-2482/566-6093 for details

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 Forma 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, 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 welcome.

Rotary lunch meetings **Wednesday**, 12 noon-2 pm - Now meeting at 'Pirate House', above Zeezicht Restaurant. All Rotarians welcome. Tel. 717-8434

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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

The Bonaire Swim Club- Contact Valarie Stimpson at 785-3451; Valarie@telbonet.na

Cinnamon Art Gallery - Volunteers to help staff gallery. 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— Call Roosje 786-7984

Volunteers to train children in sports. Contact Quick-Pro Track and Field - Rik 717-8051

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 event info to:

The Bonaire Reporter

Email reporter@bonairenews.com

Tel/Fax. 717-8988, Cell. 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. 538	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
Cactus Blue Blvd. J. A. Abraham 16 (half-way between town and Divi Flamingo) 717-4564	Moderate Dinner Closed Sunday	Trend Setting Menu Bonaire's newest hot-spot to eat and drink. Margaritas a specialty Owner-operated for top service
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 Dinner Closed Monday	Bonaire's Most Romantic Restaurant where dining is a delight! Tuscan Chef David 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 Breakfasts Only	Bar-Restaurant poolside—under the thatched roof. Breakfast Buffet 7:30-10 am every day Happy hours 5 to 7 daily.
The Last Bite Bakery Home Delivery or Take Out - Now in Playa—next to Xerox 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 made from scratch.
The Lost Penguin Across from MCB Bank in downtown Kralendijk Call 717-8003.	Low-Moderate Breakfast, Lunch, Early Dinner until 4 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. 780-1111	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
Salsa On the Waterfront across from City Café Downtown... but miles away in atmosphere 717-3558	Moderate Open for Lunch and Dinner	Fantastic food in a fantastic setting. Varied menu. Special Fish by Weight menu on Thursdays. Best views of the harbor.
The Bonaire Windsurfing Place At Sorobon Beach Get away from it all.	Low-Moderate Open from 10-6 pm daily, Wednesday night BBQ at 7 pm	A genuine sandy beach restaurant cooled by the trade winds Top quality food and friendly service BBQ night a specialty

SHOPPING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue



<p>AIRLINES Divi Divi Air. Bonaire's "on time airline" with 16 flights a day between Bonaire and Curaçao. Your first choice for inter-island travel.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>BAKERIES The Last Bite Bakery—Now in town next to Xerox. Fresh baked specials every day. Make it a regular stop.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>BEAUTY PARLOR Hair Affair. Expert hair cutting, styling, facials, waxing and professional nail care.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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 monthly cleanup dives and BBQ.</p> <p>WannaDive - They make diving fun while maintaining the highest professional standards. In town at City Café and at Eden Beach.</p> <p>FITNESS Bonfysio offers comprehensive fitness programs to suit your needs whether they be weight loss, sports or just keeping in shape. Convenient schedule.</p> <p>Fit For Life at the Plaza Resort Mall. Classes in Pilates, Aerobics, TaeBo and more. Professional trainers, fitness machines and classes for all levels.</p>	<p>FURNITURE, ANTIQUES The Plantation Has lots of classy furniture and antiques at very competitive prices. Stop in to see great teak furniture and Indonesian crafts.</p> <p>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. Incredible selection of pots.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>HOTELS The Great Escape Under new management. Quiet and tranquil setting with pool and luxuriant garden in Belnem. Cyber Café, DVD rentals, restaurant and bar. New! Spa!</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Nature Exploration Outdoor Bonaire for individually guided kayaking, hiking, biking, caving, rappelling/abseilen and more reservations : 791-6272 or 717-4555 E-mail : hans@outdoorbonaire.com</p> <p>PHOTO FINISHING Paradise Photo in the Galleries Shopping Center offers fast, fine processing for prints, slides, items and services . Full digital services.</p> <p>REAL ESTATE / RENTAL AGENTS Caribbean Homes, "the Refreshing Realtor, " specializing in luxury homes, condos, lots, rentals and property management. Harbourtown Real Estate is Bonaire's oldest real estate agent. They specialize in professional customer service, top notch properties and home owners insurance. Re/Max Paradise Homes: Lots of Choices—International/US connections. 5% of profits donated to local community. List your house with them to sell</p>	<p>fast.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>REPAIRS Bon Handyman is here if you need something fixed or built. Ultra reliable, honest and experienced. Electrical, plumbing, woodworking, etc. 717-2345</p> <p>RESORTS & ACTIVITIES Buddy Dive Resort offers diving, Adventure Fun tours including kayaking, mountain biking, cave snorkeling and exploration.</p> <p>RETAIL Benetton, world famous designer clothes available now in Bonaire at prices less than those in US. For men, women and children. Best Buddies and Pearls—Stunning fresh water pearl jewelry, fashion, gifts, t shirts. Under new management.</p> <p>SECURITY Special Security Services will provide that extra measure of protection when you need it. Always reliable.</p> <p>SHIPPING Rocargo Freight Air and sea shipments in/out of Bonaire. Customs agents. Professional and efficient. FedEx agent.</p> <p>WATER TAXI Get to Klein Bonaire by Ferry. Ride the <i>Kantika di Amor</i> or <i>Skiffy</i>. Hotel pickup.</p> <p>WINDSURFING The Bonaire Windsurfing Place can fulfill all your windsurfing dreams and more. They offer expert instruction, superb equipment on a fine beach. Lunch and drinks too. BBQ and windsurf videos Wednesday nights.</p> <p>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. Shop at Kaya Industria 23, Tuesday-Saturday 9 am-12 noon.</p>
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Born On Bonaire

Evaristo Damiano "Ruman" Leoneta.

"I was born in Antriol Pariba on October 26th 1932. My father was Pablo Leoneta, my mother, Bernasita Leoneta-Wanga. My grandmother was Maria Leoneta Felix. When she gave birth to my father the midwife went to register the baby and they asked her, 'What's the mother's name?' And she answered, 'Maria Leoneta,' so one of my grandmother's first names became our family name.

I grew up on a kunuku north of the landfill with my brother and sister. We had goats, sheep and pigs and we grew watermelons, pumpkins and corn. My father also made charcoal to sell, but we ourselves cooked on wood. Every day we walked from the kunuku to school and back. In the sixth grade you could get typing lessons, but school ended at 3 and typing class would start at 5. You were not allowed to stay at school or in the street, so I had to run home, then a little while later I had to go back again. Those were not compulsory classes and after a month I told my father, 'I don't want to do this anymore, it's too much.' My father said, 'You have to learn because in our time we couldn't go to school and this is all I can offer you. You can go by donkey, but not all the way to school because the donkey can stay at the house where you were born in Antriol, but you have to make a small pack of corn leaves so the donkey will have enough to eat.' To ride a donkey... it wasn't done, nobody wanted that... but it was a solution. When we got the results from typing class, we, the kids from the kunukus, came out best!

At 13 I finished elementary school and for us there was no other education. We were not allowed to stay at home, so we had to find an employer. I went to someone called Jacob and from him I learned masonry and carpeting. When I was 17 I decided to go to Curaçao to find a job. For a short while I worked for a construction company until I met all the Bonaireans who were working with CSM (Curaçao Steamship Company). I also applied for a job and on September 1st 1949, I started sailing as a Jack-of-all-trades. Two years later I became a helmsman and I steered the ship and stood watches.

A cousin of mine who was on the same ship was always reading and writing and studying. One day I asked him what he was doing and he said he was taking a correspondence course. He offered to arrange it for me too and I chose to do English commercial correspondence. Fourteen months later I received the "declaration," a diploma, and as a present I got a 'gentlemen's pen,' a fountain pen. I thought, 'now I have this paper but

what am I going to do with it?' But the word got out and people came to me asking me to write letters for them and that's what I did for years.

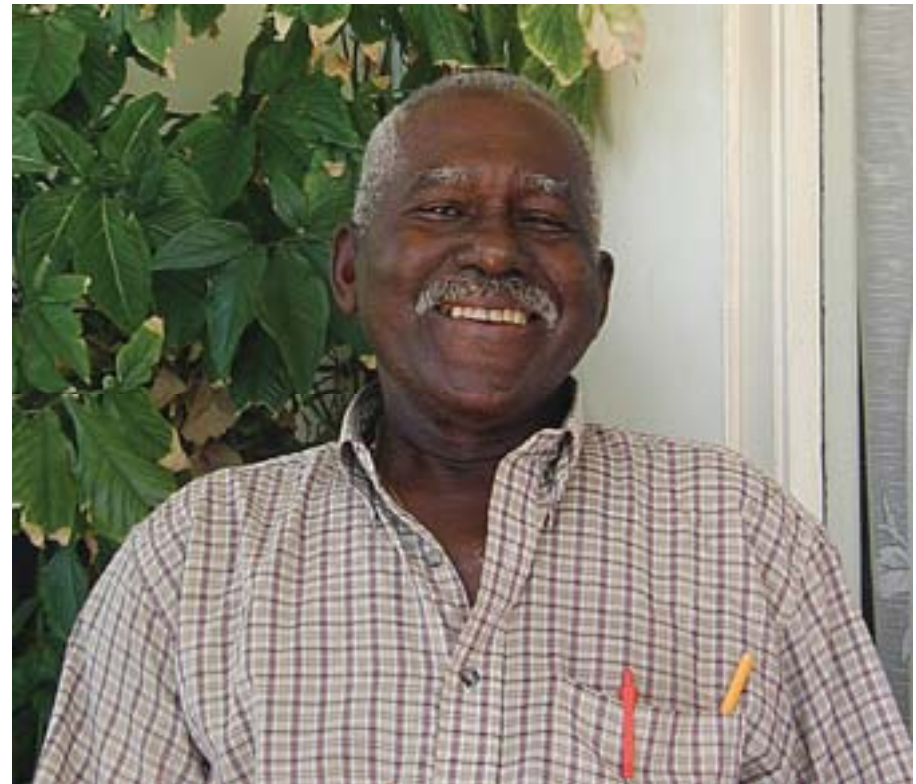
From 1949 till 1960 I sailed from Aruba and Curaçao, back and forth to the Venezuelan ports. In 1958 CSM began to modernize and many ships were sold and a lot of people panicked. In August 1958 I had married Rosa Julia Adriana de Palm and I didn't want to lose my job. Married and no job – that was bad... Some of my friends came to me asking if I could write an application letter to CPM (Curaçao Petroleum Company) and they got the jobs. Now they are retired and they have their pensions, but Ruman doesn't have a pension... At the time I wasn't interested because Rosa didn't want to live on Curaçao."

"At 13 I finished elementary school and for us there was no other education. We were not allowed to stay at home..."

Ruman Leoneta is a good-natured, dead-honest and solid person; he is a sweet man and still very handsome.

"I came back to Bonaire in December 1960. What was I going to do? Many people heard I was back and they came asking me if I could build a wall or lay tiles. Then the priest of the Coromoto church in Antriol decided that one entrance was not enough and that a church should have at least three doors, so I took the job. The priest in Kralendijk asked me if I could demolish the concrete pulpit and the communion bench. After that I built some houses in Nort di Salina and Antriol. As the boss I was making NAf76 per week.

One day an American from Trans World Radio (TWR) came to me and asked if I could build a couple of houses for them on the coast in Belnem. There were no houses in Belnem, only at the very end of what was a dirt road at the time, stood two little houses. I put a team of 17 people together and finally I could use my "declaration" as I had to write the wage sheets and the lists of materials in English, because in those days everything had to be imported. I made NAf100 a week, working five and a half days. In two and a half months I built two houses and they gave me a bonus of NAf500, and that's how I built my own house in Nikiboko. In two years I built 12 houses in Belnem and two in HATO for TWR. They gave me a letter of recommendation saying that in the States it meant a lot when you started your own business.



Evaristo Damiano "Ruman" Leoneta

I started my own company in the early 70s. In 1976 I was approached by someone from Curaçao who was the director of a road construction and construction company to partner with him as he had to build the Luis Bertran School in Rincon and 50 houses. That night I couldn't sleep, but I did take the offer and within a month I'd lost 10 kilos working like a horse! To make a long story short, the company got into financial problems within a year. The owner sent the director away for a vacation and together with the bank it was decided that Mr. Leoneta had to finish everything. I managed, but it cost me a lot because they put an attachment on the heavy equipment and my guarantee money, NAf30.000, my savings of many years. I also found out that they'd never paid my old age government pension, NAf60.000. I finished the project and I started all over again when I was 46.

During the years I built dozens of houses. In 1999 I stopped working and came home and it felt good. My wife Rosa was a hardworking, sweet lady. We had six children and she never allowed me to leave the delivery room for one second until the baby was born! During her life she wrote down everything that happened in our family, and she did that until three weeks before she passed away. She died, surrounded by all of us, at home, July 15th 2003. I feel her spirit is always with me. I never thought that she would go first, and after being together for almost 45 years there is this loneliness, and I think everybody who's experienced it knows what it feels like even though my children are always around.

I feel blessed with our children, of

whom I am very proud. They are sweet, thoughtful, tender and talented. Our sons, Johnny and Dwight, won the Tumba festival last year, and Dwight is studying at the conservatory in The Hague and he has his own band. He is very successful and has won lots of prizes. Three weeks ago he performed with Oscar de Leon in Holland. We have eight grandchildren, one of them, a little boy, died when he was still in his mother's womb and it was a great loss.

My life, the way I see it, is good. I am healthy. As a hobby I cook for myself and sometimes for other people. I still have some goats and geese to worry about. I visit old friends, and with one of my sons-in-law I am in the Bonaire Easy Riders motorcycle club. I wouldn't want a change in my life.

Of course Bonaire has changed over the years. I don't know what our politicians are doing every day and so I don't know what they're worth, but compared to what we, the oldies, are getting in government pension, about NAf550 per month, I think their salaries are extravagantly high. Of the money I get, I pay 32% in water and electricity because I think a garden without trees and plants is not healthy. How do you live if you don't have children? Luckily I can still talk, my eyes are good, I try to stay active because I don't want to rust. And when I retired I never thought that I could still use my brain 14 years later and tell you everything about my life, that's the truth!" □

Story and photo by
Greta Kooistra



Snorkeler's Notebook:

The first time it happened a trunkfish was the culprit. Something about the way it floated lazily along like a strange, spotted hat made me laugh out loud, breaking the seal of my mask and flooding my nostrils with burning saltwater.



But I couldn't help but find the mirth in the triangular-shaped "clown of the reef" with the perpetually pursed lips. I am certain that it is my anthropomorphism that causes me to find humor on the reef since obviously there is nothing inherently funny about the daily activities of the reef's creatures. I'm sure some would find me a bit peculiar to guffaw at a snapper chasing a crab right into two banded shrimp who chased the crab right back into the snapper, but in those few moments of predation (I think), it looked like a chorus line of motley fellows dancing awkwardly to a song only they heard. Without a doubt, the underwater world is always on the edge of tragedy--someone getting eaten, someone losing a home, etc.--but comedy usually arises in the midst of tragic cir-

Humor on the reef

cumstances involving unusual characters and bizarre behaviors. And there are plenty of these on the reef that can elicit a laugh if you are in the right mood.

Three of my favorites are the French Angelfish, the Queen Triggerfish, and the Queen Angelfish: all have such outrageous, garish make-up jobs that you are tempted to take away their lipstick, eye-liner, and mascara. With her white lips, the French Angelfish looks like she needs a matching set of white "go-go" boots to party down at the local disco. The Queen Triggerfish, well, let's just say that her overdone violet and black lines might be found in the local brothel sitting on a bar stool luring customers. The Queen Angelfish, however, has a bit more sophistication to her cosmetic design, even wearing an iridescent blue crown that might be found on a drag queen in the Castro district of San Francisco. In spite of their cosmetic excess, all three seem to be taking life pretty seriously, not realizing how ridiculous they look to me at that moment.

A few chuckles can also be had at the expense of the Soapfish, the Flounder, and the Scorpionfish--all of whom try to make themselves "invisible" but inevitably fail to hide an errant fin or a moving eye-ball. I always smile when I find a Soapfish stuffed into a crevice or under a rock because it seems to have forgotten a tail or a fin. I must

admit the Flounder is pretty good at camouflaging itself in the sand, but its shifting eyes say, "Please, please I'm not really here!" But the smug Scorpionfish is the funniest, trying to disguise itself as a weed and a rock at the same time. Except I never laugh at a creature whose spines could do me harm.

The slapstick moments on the reef are my favorite. In fact I can often hear in my head the soundtrack from some crazy cartoon like the Roadrunner when the Bar Jacks chase the screaming Silversides back and forth under a dock or when a school of panicky Squid squirt every which way to escape the human snapping her fingers in their direction. Just recently at Tori's reef I found a Stingray buried in the shallows, eyeing both me and the Shark-sucker on its tail with equal animosity. I immediately personified the ray and imagined it yelling, "Hey get that freeloader off me; I really don't like hitchhikers leaving suction marks on my tail." And, almost every time I snorkel, I find Groupers and Bar Jacks hovering over some exasperated eel trying to find a snack, kind of like



Queen triggerfish

Larry and Curly (of the Three Stooges) following Moe. Now I know the marine biologists would have perfectly sane and scientific explanations for all these characters and behaviors, but I prefer the ones I create for myself in order to get my daily quota of healthy laughs.

In the end, however, as I am sure every snorkeler and diver knows, the joke is on us, because after all, we look the most farcical on the reef--stuffed like sausages in skin-tight suits, eyes bulging out behind masks, and mouths sucking on regulators or snorkels. I can tell by all the fish eyes rolling in my direction that the humor is mutual. □

Pauline Kayes

Pauline Kayes, part-time resident on Bonaire, is a college professor of English, Humanities, and Women's Studies from Champaign-Urbana, Illinois.



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

The Perseids Meteor Showers



Look closely to see the meteor during full moon. V. Castro photo

I've got some good news and some bad news for you. The good news is that **The Perseids**, traditionally the best meteor shower of the year, will occur this Sunday morning, August 13, but the bad news is that a four-day-past-full Moon will be in the sky. That means that its bright light will hide all but the brightest of The Perseids. But the good news again is that The Perseids frequently have very bright, very fast meteors so you may see a few.

This Sunday morning, August 13th between 3 am and sunrise, face northeast and although it is summer time don't be surprised to see some of winter's brightest stars. To your right will be **Orion the Hunter**, **Taurus the Bull** and **Gemini the Twins**. And up to your left, the dimmer stars of the mythical hero **Perseus**, for whom this meteor shower is named. You see, meteor showers are always named for the constellation from where the meteors appear to originate. But in case you've forgotten what a meteor is, let me explain.

Meteors are simply tiny specks of comet debris which slam into our **Earth's** atmosphere and light up. You see, every time a comet visits our **Sun** it sheds tons of debris in its path. And eventually this debris gets spread out all along the comet's path. Now whenever our Earth plows directly into any path of comet debris these tiny pieces of debris slam into our Earth's atmosphere. But because they plunge through our atmosphere, traveling many miles per second, their friction causes the atmospheric gasses surrounding them to heat up and glow, making visible streaks of light. And we call these streaks of light meteors, or incorrectly "falling stars."

The meteors we see during the Perseid meteor shower each August are the debris of a comet named **Swift-Tuttle** whose debris-filled orbital path our Earth plows through every August. It is one of the oldest recorded meteor showers in history and has been seen every August for over 2000 years, although you'll see only the brightest ones this year because of the bright moonlight.

Take a blanket or a chair outside early this Sunday morning, lie back with your feet facing northeast, then slowly scan the sky as long as possible because the longer you stay out the better your chance of seeing a few bright Perseids. And let me give you the single most important rule for observing a meteor shower, which is: You must constantly scan the sky and have patience. You may see no meteors for 20 minutes or so and then all of a sudden two or three may flash by all at once. But each time you see a Perseid streak across the sky this Sunday remind yourself that what you're actually seeing is a tiny piece of comet litter plunging to its fiery death. Head for the shower! □ *Jack Horkheimer*



THE STARS HAVE IT

Sunday, August 6 to
Saturday, August 12, 2006

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Be prepared to jump quickly if you wish to stay in the forefront of your industry this week. You'll communicate easily and develop new friendships. You may have difficulties while traveling or problems dealing with close friends or relatives. Be honest in your communication and don't lose your cool. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) This is not the time to be extravagant. If they want help that's great, but if they try to take credit for your work, you will have to set them straight. You must be careful not to reveal secrets or get involved in gossip. Groups and organizations that indulge in social events to raise money will be conducive to meeting new and exciting lovers. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Your talents might just be discovered. Be prepared to counteract the damage that adversaries are about to create. You may want to pull out some of those unfinished project you've got tucked away. Don't promise to deliver the goods if you aren't positive that you can meet the deadline. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) You will find that money could slip through your fingers. Do not trust others with important information. Unstable relationships are likely. You can look into new jobs, but don't count on getting help from someone who may have promised you assistance. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Don't make promises you can't keep. Your emotional stability may influence the changes taking place in your personal life. New hair, new outfit, new you. Don't make a move; your confusion has caused this dilemma and you are best to back away and reassess the situation. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) You can make financial deals, but it may be best if you're not using your own cash. You are best not to say too much to colleagues. Your determination and sheer desire to do your own thing will be successful. Romance will develop through work. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Some of your new friends may not be that trustworthy. You need to do something that will make you feel better about yourself. Chances to express your ideas and beliefs can bring popularity as long as you're not arrogant. It's a good time to make changes to your living quarters that will give you more space. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Don't put your professional reputation on the line. You will be emotional about your personal life. Avoid extravagance or risky financial schemes. Expect to pay more than anticipated for entertainment or other purchases. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Your competitive nature will enable you to win any contest you enter. Don't make any drastic changes or begin new projects this week. Don't make excuses. Be discreet about any information you uncover. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Be careful how you deal with colleagues. Changes in your domestic scene are apparent. Better still, take your mate and let them foot the bill. Strengthen your position among your peers. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Be careful signing important contracts this week. Feeling under the weather may be a result of overindulgence. You are best to stick to yourself this week. Partnerships with creative people could lead to financial gains. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) You need to start planning that vacation. Make arrangements to meet friends at your local dance club. Your obviously unique way of doing things has caught the eye of someone in a higher position. This may not be the time to lend or borrow. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday. □