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BONAIRE

October 6-20, 2006 Volume 13, Issue 39

# The REPORTER

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SINCE 1994

The Reporter with Nobel Peace Prize Winner in Africa  
Story below



**I**t's not everyday you get a Nobel Peace Prize winner reading *The Bonaire Reporter*, but knowing Wangari there was no doubt she was going to do this for me- holding our island's English language newspaper. There are three heroes in my life and they are my mom, Marvel Tromp, Mother Teresa and Professor Wangari Maathai. I must say I'm so blessed and honored to say that I met and know Wangari. She's a charismatic lady with a vision, a killer smile- one of the most intelligent people I have ever met.

#### Who is Wangari Maathai?

Born in a rural Kenyan Village in 1940, she was already an iconoclast (*a person who attacks cherished beliefs as shams*) as a child, determined to get an education even through most African girls were then uneducated. In her remarkable and inspiring autobiography, she tells of her studies with Catholic missionaries, earning Bachelor and Master degrees in the US, and becoming the first woman to earn both a PhD and to head a department in Kenya. She tells of her numerous run-ins with the

brutal government of Daniel Arap Moi and of the political and personal reasons that compelled her in 1977 to establish the Green Belt Movement, which spread from Kenya across Africa, and which helps restore indigenous forests while assisting rural women by paying them to plant trees in their villages.

Maathai's extraordinary courage and determination helped transform Kenya's government into democracy in which she serves as Deputy Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources and as a

Member of Parliament. Eventually her achievement was internationally recognized by the award of the **Nobel Peace Prize in 2004** for her 'contribution to sustainable development, human rights, and peace'.

I told Wangari that on Bonaire (she now knows where Bonaire is) we have three Wangari's : Kalli De Meyer, Dee Scarr and Elsmarie Beukenboom. □

*Delno Tromp—at right of Wangari Maathai in photo above.*

# Flotsam and Jetsam



Curaçao's Insel Air will soon be taking over an **MD-82 from the Croatian airline Air Adriatic**. The Surinamese Airlines MD-82 jet they wanted to use is still grounded in Zanderij (Surinam) because of defects. Flying an MD-82 means many former DCA or ALM pilots are available in Curaçao while the aircraft type already has type acceptance from the aviation department. "The plane is due here this week from Croatia," Transportation Minister Kenneth Gijsbertha said. Insel Air director Edward Heerenveen said, "We actually want to make 14 weekly flights between Curaçao and St. Maarten." Last month Insel Air started in business with a 19-passenger Embraer Bandeirantes.

► **Flying 14 times per week would mean overcapacity on an already saturated market**, said an observer in the aviation sector. Flying 14 times per week with a 140-seat aircraft translates into some 203,000 seats per year. The market on the Curaçao-St. Maarten route is about 52,000 to 53,000 passengers annually. DAE is already covering

this market with 14 flights per week with a prop-jet aircraft and plans to switch to a small jet soon.

► **Suriname Airways, SLM, the airline that was to provide the plane for Insel Air to fly between Curaçao and St. Maarten, is in serious financial trouble.** The Dutch airline website, *Luchtvaartnieuws*, reported that over 100 people will be laid off. SLM has one Boeing 747 that it acquired a few years ago from KLM for trans-Atlantic flights and an MD-82 that it now uses to fly to Curaçao and Aruba, which Insel Air wanted to use to fly to St. Maarten.



► **Since last Tuesday it is OK to put small amounts of liquids and gels in carry-on luggage.** The US Federal Government is lifting part of its liquid ban for carry-on baggage. Passengers will be able to carry on some liquids, including beverages purchased at the

airport. Travelers may also carry on some small toiletries, including toothpaste and moisturizer, but only if they are 3 ounces or smaller and zipped in a small (1 Qt.) clear storage bag.

► **Effective November 1, anyone who wants to get an American immigrant visa will need access to a computer.** There will be a global change in US visa application procedures where applications must be made online and then printed. The old method of writing out or typing applications will no longer be accepted.

► **Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba hope to reach basic agreement** with the outgoing Balkenende Cabinet on establishing direct relations with the Netherlands. If this week's talks in Bonaire with Kingdom Relations Minister Atzo Nicolaï are successful, they will be followed by a conference in The Hague on October 10 and 11 to complete the deal.

Some in St. Maarten and Curaçao, the two island territories that want to become autonomous countries in the Dutch Kingdom when the Netherlands Antilles ceases to exist, are now accusing the three other islands of selling out, allowing the Netherlands to successfully apply the "divide and rule tactic" and of pandering to neocolonialism.

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Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2)

► Bonaire Senator Ramonsito Booi is concerned that **political instability in Curaçao will hamper the continuation of constitutional change.** He is afraid that due to recent political ups and downs, Curaçao will not finish preparations in time. He said this would also affect the process for the “smaller islands,” which are trying to comply with arrangements already made with the Netherlands for a July 2007 dissolution of the Antilles. “When we were visiting the Netherlands the smaller islands tried to hoist their sail while the (political) wind was fair. There will be elections soon in the Netherlands, and you never know, a party that thinks differently about these political changes might win,” said Booi.



**Princess Maxima, and Crown Prince Willem-Alexander**

► Princess Maxima, the popular wife of heir to the Dutch throne, Crown Prince Willem-Alexander, **is expecting the couple's third child,** the Royal House announced last week. “The birth of the third child of His Royal Highness, the Prince of Orange, and Her Royal Highness Princess Máxima is expected in the second half of April 2007,” the House of Orange said in a brief statement. The couple already has two daughters, Amalia (2) and Alexia (1). Prince Willem-Alexander, the oldest son of Queen Beatrix, married in 2002.

► **Queen Beatrix will visit Aruba and the Netherlands Antilles from November 6<sup>th</sup> through 16<sup>th</sup>.**

The Queen starts her trip with a visit to Aruba, then on to Bonaire, St. Maarten, Curacao, Saba, and Statia. The themes of her visit are youth and social services. Highlights of her Bonaire visit will be school visits, an exhibition at Kas di Arte and a boat trip to Klein Bonaire.

Her visit to St. Eustatius on November 16 commemorates Statia-America Day when the island commemorates its salute in 1776 to the new American flag from the Dutch warship, *Andria Doria*. Holland was the first country in the world to salute the new country of America.

► US researchers say **that men from Aruba, the Netherlands Antilles and Anguilla are more likely than other Caribbean migrants to earn high reported incomes.** Researchers of the Migration Policy Institute, in their report

“Detailed Characteristics of the Caribbean-born in the US,” said Aruban men earn high median incomes of \$50,019, followed by those from the Netherlands Antilles and Anguilla.

The lowest median, earning \$29,844, were from the Dominican Republic, Haiti and the Bahamas.

► The Dutch meteorological agency, KNMI, announced **that September 2006 was the warmest Dutch September in 300 years.**

Weatherman Harry Geurts also said this year's July had been the warmest July in three centuries.

This year's September average temperature was 4 degrees Celsius higher than the long-term average. Normally there are just two days in September on which temperatures rise above 25 degrees, but eight such days were recorded last month.

KNMI has data dating back 300 years, when Nicolaus Samuelis Cruquius started



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## Bubbles from the Biologist



**Pelican** Jim Brandon photo

practicing this skill all day long, sometimes attacking silly things such as floating clumps of algae. It is thought that plunge-diving slowly damages the eye of a pelican, because, although it closes its eye just before hitting the water, the impact of hitting the water is traumatic. Over many years, the pelican slowly goes blind in the eye that it uses to hunt with. Then, it has to learn how to hunt with its other eye. When the other eye goes blind, the old pelican can no longer hunt and dies of starvation. □ C.E.

**A wonderful bird is the pelican.  
His beak can hold more than his belican.  
He takes in his beak  
Food enough for a week.  
But I'm darned if I see how the helican.**

Dixson Lanier Merritt

**Did You Know... Pelicans have sore eyes after a good day of hunting?**

Bonaire's Brown Pelican hunts by plunge-diving. The pelican hovers over the water, spots a fish, dives towards the water with its wings tucked in, and plunges headfirst into the water. This is a high-risk, high-impact skill that clumsy young pelicans must learn in order to survive. If you ever watch the young pelicans (gray in color), it seems as though they are

Biologist Caren Eckrich founded and runs Sea & 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.



(Continued on page 4)

*Flotsam and jetsam* (Continued from page 3) measuring temperature, air pressure, humidity and rainfall in 1705.



► After tests were carried out, **Curaçao's Queen Emma pontoon bridge was put back into operation last Thursday.** It had to be removed shortly after a recent renovation recently because of problems with the bridgehead connecting the bridge to land. It is one of Curaçao's top tourist attractions.

► **The crematorium in Curaçao has been in operation for a year.** To date, 59

bodies have been cremated, which is considerably more than anticipated. The facility is open to persons from other Antillean islands and Aruba.



**The representative of the Bonaire Rotary Club, Pieter Groenendaal (left), signs the agreement with the USONA Director.**

► USONA (The Foundation for Development of the Netherlands Antilles) has contributed in total an amount of **NAf2,2 million for 27 approved projects on Bonaire.** All projects receiving money from USONA met the criteria: Directly fighting poverty.

**The Rotary Club received NAf112,000 for the "Breakfast in School" project.** The money will be used by the Club to feed kids who go to school with an empty stomach. At the schools they will start their day with a healthy breakfast. They eat together under the care of the teachers which also provides them a sense of security and cooperation. The amount given covers just one year. The Rotary Club Bonaire will extend this project in the coming year by, for example, providing breakfast to the children during the vacation period.

► **The Bonaire Island Government is considering creating fish reserves in specific areas around Bonaire.** The government will ask local fishermen for their input and advice on the formation,

location and size of the zones. The "no fishing zones" are designed to provide havens for fish to thrive and reproduce without threat from man.

Although not conclusively proven, "no fishing zones" actually improve the number and size of fish caught in adjacent areas after as little as three years. Reports from St. Lucia and several other areas support these findings. Robert Stenick, an American biologist, has been studying Bonaire's fish populations in recent years and endorses the plan.

Bonaire already has two sizeable no-diving zones to serve as a reference for the impact of divers in other parts of the island.

► **SELIBON, Bonaire's waste management company, has begun a campaign to clean up the areas around the kunukus (farms) in the Kralendijk area.** They are astonished at the variety and amount of trash they are finding. They are asking people NOT to throw things from cars or dump things in the countryside. The landfill is free to individuals so there is no excuse.

► **Bonaire's is not a good place to discard batteries.** The chemicals in the common batteries used in electronic equipment are toxic and if dumped in Bonaire's landfill will eventually find their way into the groundwater and the sea. The campaign to remind our visitors to take their used-up batteries home with them is over, but the need is still there. **Please- take your batteries home to where their chemicals can be disposed of properly or recycled.**



► With the **era of mammoth cruise ships**, the Caribbean has been told that there could be implications for their popular ports of call. *The Freedom of the Seas* was the talk of the world when the mega ship was launched by Royal Caribbean. It has a capacity of 4,300 passengers and was then the largest ship in the fleet but that ship will soon be dwarfed by the sister vessel *Genesis*. The ship cost \$1.24 billion and can transport more than 6,000 passengers. The ship will displace about 100,000 tons, more than a Nimitz-class aircraft carrier. It is due to sail in 2009 and the question is whether Caribbean countries are ready to accommodate these mega vessels.

In Barbados, in order to accommodate the *QM2* last year, the port authority had to deepen its channel to Bridgetown Harbour. Bonaire installed new mooring points for the *QM2* and already has the depth of water to handle the big new ships. But can the island infrastructure handle a ship with the number of passengers that equals 50% of the island's total population? And does it want to?

► The Kooyman Group, which is expanding in St. Maarten and elsewhere, will **transform its business structure on**

(Continued on page 5)

(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 4)

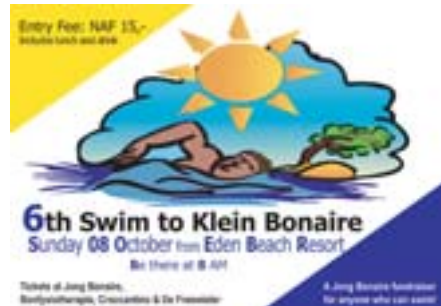
**January 1, 2007**, from the current Dutch model into a model with a board of directors. The future board will consist of three supervisory and two executive members. Bas Kooyman will resign from his current position as General Director to become Chairman of the Board. Kooyman employs 340 people in the ABC islands. This will increase to 390 when they open in St. Maarten at the end of the year.

► **Payment via MCB Maestro or Kompa Leon will now be accepted to pay for documents and services at the Civil Registry office.** Registry hours are Monday- Thursday 8 to 11.45 and 1.30 to 4, Friday 8 to 11.45 and 1.30 to 3.30.

► Radio Digital, the Papiamentu language, breaking-news station, 91.1 on the FM dial is now available on **TDS (wireless cable TV service) on channel 91.** Listen there for news, views and music as well as *The Bonaire Reporter* radio spot that advises, "Read it – You need it!"

Happy Third Anniversary and pabien to all the staff at Radio Digital 91.9 FM! You're doing a great job.

► **Bonaire Creations Calendar had a successful launch** last Saturday night at Antillean Wine Company's "home" on Kaya Industria. Multitudes of people showed up for the free wine tasting and snacks and socialized until late. See their ad on page 11.



► **This is it! Jong Bonaire Klein Bonaire Swim this Saturday, October 8, starting from Eden Beach.** Get your tickets at Jong Bonaire, NAF15 per per-

son. All ages invited. Price includes a tee shirt, lunch and a swim accompanied by volunteer boats. More information call 717-4303.

► **Her Majesty Queen Beatrix will open the art exhibit, "Homage to the Bonairean Artist," at the Kas di Arte on Thursday, November 9.** All the artists of the 88 selected works are invited to bring their art to the Kas di Arte on Saturday, October 21, between 10 and 10:30 am. After 10:30 at the Kas di Arte the artists will be given information about the opening ceremonies, so it's important to be on time.

► **The old E Wowo (The Eye) discothèque reopened last Saturday night as the "E Wow'I Karino Disco."** They'll be open every night during Regatta, then on Friday and Saturday nights until the wee hours. There's a "matinee" for young people on Sundays starting in the afternoon. The disco is located next to the Danilo Bowling in Playa. The owners and managers assure the public that there will be strict security at all times.

► **Want to join in the "Regatta Walk" organized by the Pia-Pia Walking Group from North Saliña?** It begins at 6am on Regatta Sunday at Kas di Regatta to beat the heat of the day. Last year about 100 people took part in the 10 km. walk. Sign up for NAF10 and get drinks along the way plus a sandwich, fruit and juice at the end. Call 786-0299 or 567-0782 to get a ticket

► The Organizing Committee of the 39th Bonaire International Regatta 2006 **needs a few volunteers with dinghies to assist during the races** of the smaller categories from Monday October 9 until Friday October 13. If you have a boat and you are interested in assist the Organizing Committee please pass by Kas di Regatta or contact Elvis Martinus 786-2288.

► **There will be no publication of The Bonaire Reporter next week.** The next issue will be printed on October 18.  
□ G./L. D.

► **Hooray for Captain Don's Habitat which celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Bonaire** and its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Curaçao with a big party last week.

On hand was Capt. Don Stewart, the founder of Habitat, who is recognized worldwide as a leader in the movement to protect our underwater environment. In 1976 he created Captain Don's Habitat and pioneered the "Diving Freedom" concept... a concept that was considered bold in its beginning but is now continually being embraced and copied by others. In 1987 Maduro Holding N.V. became the majority shareholder and was represented that evening by Henry van der Quast.

The drinks and appetizers at the party, provided by Floris Van Loo of Rum Runners Restaurant, were exemplary and included such treats as sushi (of the Japanese kind) and individual chocolate mousse cups.



*Captain Don, his partner Janet Thibalt and subject of some of his stories, Christy Dovale, at the celebration.*



*Present and past players at Habitat: past manager Albert Romijn, Margaret Thielman, the first employee, owner Henry van der Quast and Manager Jack Chalk.*

## Caribbean Club On a New Course

The 26-unit Caribbean Club Bonaire is now being run by Bonaire's Solar Management Company as of last Sunday. Managing Director Ruud van Baal says, it "complements perfectly the (Solar managed) properties (Buddy Dive Resort and Belmar Apartments). Caribbean Club Bonaire clearly will be the affordable alternative within the budget dive-leisure, family & (Eco) adventure market."

It has an on-the-premises full service dive shop, restaurant, bar and swimming pool. Daily rates start at \$60 per day for a studio.

Besides diving, Caribbean Club Bonaire is central to other activities like bird watching, hiking, mountain biking, cave exploration, snorkeling, kayaking, parasailing and trips to Washington Slagbaai Park. The "Oil Slick Leap" dive-site is just a giant stride away.

In the coming months the property will be upgraded with the focus on replacing furniture and inventory in the cottages, soft renovations, restocking and redesigning the on-premises dive shop and improving services.

The upgrading will be done with no disturbance to the guests. Eight, two-bedroom cottages are under construction adjacent the existing resort area and these will be integrated at the end of 2007. A 50+ unit resort is planned for the end of 2008. □ *Press release*



*Caribbean Club air view*

# STARS Of the SGB



**This week's star pupil:  
Babette van der Heetkamp**

**H**ow old are you, Babette? *I'm 13.*  
**What's your star sign?** *Leo*  
**In what group are you?** *T2B*  
**What do you want to become when you grow up?**

A stewardess. I like helping people and serving them. And I'm very good at languages which is exactly what I will be needing!

**Where are you from?**

I was born in the hospital on Curaçao. I've lived on Bonaire all my life. You could say I'm a *yu di Boneiru* (child of Bonaire).

**What do you like about living on Bonaire?**

Bonaire is a nice island, small, and everybody knows each other. It's beautiful too. I especially like Regatta time. Then you'll definitely find me out and about in town. (painting the daisies). Regatta time is my time.

**What's your favorite subject?** All the languages: Dutch, English, Spanish and Papiamentu.

**What's your least favorite subject?** Economics. It's very difficult. I have to put a lot of work into it.

**What would you like to change at the SGB?** I think there aren't enough people to watch the pupils at school. There should be more supervision.

**What do you like about the SGB?** I like my new class. I was in a different group last year. I was in K2 (ex. Kader level, a combination of learning theory and learning how to put that into practice - a preparation for higher education). I like the lessons so far. I worked hard last year to get here. *(That she definitely did! Well done girl! YM)*

**What are your hobbies?**

Dancing, listening to music and working behind the computer. □

Interview by: *Yvette van der Moolen*; *Van der Moolen is an English teacher at the SGB. Assistant / photographer: Sue-Ann Mo (T2B)*



## Good News! The Bonai project restarts!



Bonai kids with Dr. Havisier and Jackie Bernabela

**O**n September 25, Dr. Jay B. Havisier and Jackie Bernabela from SKAL visited the SGB. Their goal: giving a couple of lectures about the well praised project, Bonai, in order to recruit a new batch of enthusiastic students to participate this year. I asked Dr. Havisier's permission to do an article about it in the Bonaire Reporter and he loved the idea, so here goes!

Currently living in St.Maarten, Dr. Havisier will be travelling to and from Bonaire on a regular basis to be able to run his beloved project, Bonai.

I attended their lecture with group Havo 3b, and they were very excited indeed. One of the students even decided to become an archaeologist on the spot. How did we know this? He was proclaiming it from the top of his lungs at the end of the session.

Bonai is looking for students between the ages of 15 and 18. No more than 20 students can participate; otherwise the group will become too big.

Already, 50 or so students have signed up, so there will be the tough task of eliminating some students. It's tough but it's still a good thing: if we don't have any enthusiasts the project can't run. The new group will meet once a week. This project having achieved so many great things in the past years, I for one am definitely excited to find out what this year will bring.

Some of Bonai's achievements are:

Archaeological excavations where they found the remains of a native teenager; inspired the protection of the Onima rock paintings; a study of the museums on the ABC Islands and creation of their own in Fort Oranje; the reconstruction of a whale skeleton at the entrance of Washington Park, and much more.

The main goal of this project is to let pupils learn things by actually doing them instead of just reading about them in textbooks, a direct link with the new teaching methods. The pupils sometimes become teachers themselves when they get the chance to exchange their findings and achievements with students of similar projects abroad. They've also had the opportunity to educate archaeologists at the International Association for Caribbean Archaeology (IACA Congress).

This project isn't only about Archaeology, but a combination of that with social studies, history, biology, science and anthropology. They also learn how to do great surveys and ....very important for their educational progress.....great reports. All in all I think we can safely say that the students who get the chance to participate will have a great time ahead of them and receive a huge amount of skills for future education and most importantly..... life. □ *Yvette van der Moolen*

**Bonai leaders are:**

Dr. Jay B. Havisier  
 Ms. Jacky Bernabela  
 Mr. Hubert Vis.

## Picture Yourself with The Reporter Wisconsin River near Mazomanle, Wisconsin, US.



**H**ere's Pahle (say Polly) Hausmann spreading around *The Reporter* at the naturalist beach on the Wisconsin River near Mazomanle, Wisconsin, US. It's her second favorite place to be, she says. Could Bonaire be the first? □

**WIN GREAT PRIZES!** Take a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter* with you on your next trip or when you return to your home. Then take a photo of yourself with the newspaper in hand. THE BEST PHOTOS OF THE YEAR WILL WIN THE PRIZES. Mail photos to Bonaire Reporter, Kaya Gob. Debrot 200-6, Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles (AN). E-mail to: [picture@bonairereporter.com](mailto:picture@bonairereporter.com). (All 2006 photos are eligible.) □

# Bonaire's Student Chef Ambassadors to Italy



*Student chefs off to Italy – Varenia Richards, Yoshebed Martis, Grensley Pieter, Roderick Serberie with teacher Vernon “Nonchi” Martijn*

Off to Italy last Saturday went our four young culinary student ambassadors for three weeks of total immersion in Italian cuisine. Since 2002 Bonaire culinary students have been invited to the province of Emilia Romagna where they study cuisine under some of the finest chefs on the planet, learn about wines, visit markets, cheese factories, experience the Italian culture and live with other students from around the world. Bonaire's “ambassadors” have impressed the Italian officials so much that new students have been invited back every year. Except for 2003, when there was no funding, Bonaire has sent four deserving students every year. The students return as self confident individuals. Some have even returned to Italy to continue their studies and trainee sessions. Others have continued their education here at a higher level. Some of them are working in local restaurants.

Unless further funding is found from the E.U. this may be the last group of young Bonaire culinary students going to Italy. □L.D.- Photo by A. Sealy

Note: See related article “Born on Bonaire.” Vernon Martijn – page 17

# The Snack Bar Detectives

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



**This week:** El Topical. Kaya Nikiboko Noord 50

It was back to basics this week; just me and the big man, D. We started as normal in a local hostelry. Being great advocates of whetting our appetites with a little aperitif, we imbibed in our usual quota of Polars.

Sometime later (the actual elapsed time being something of a blur) we made our way to El Topical. It is a deceptive place. From the outside it appears to be very small, however, once inside it takes on Tardis-like proportions.

We sit ourselves down at the long bar and take a look around. The first thing that you notice is the air conditioning. This time of year it is a welcome treat. First things first, two Polars to keep our alcohol levels topped up. We are given a menu by our host. The usual wide range of foods is there for the taking, Chinese and local, side by side.

I glance around at the diners. The meals look tasty and the portions ample. We decide to take the same on this occasion, two portions of ribs to start followed by sweet and sour pork. The kitchen sits at the end of the bar for all to see. The chef disappears in a haze of flames and a mist of aromas. With hardly enough time to crack open our third bottle, our food is placed before us.



We tackled our huge plate of ribs, jostling forks to get to the best ones. The sweet and sour pork was superb. I have yet to find two sweet and sour dishes from different snack bars that taste the same. They all seem to have their own special way of preparing them. The sauce itself was a winner, just the right combination.

Enjoying the cool environment, we stayed a little longer. Big D chatting to one of the locals while I watched Champions League Football. After eating, I usually have to drink for two as D will not touch alcohol after food. It's a task that I undertake with some gusto!

At the end of the evening we ask for the check. Unbelievably it came to less than NAf40. With so little spent, I pondered on the idea of further refreshment. However, with my Wife waiting for me at home with access to a rolling pin, I decided against it. There is always next week! □ SBD

## Ready for ...

# BOON WATER

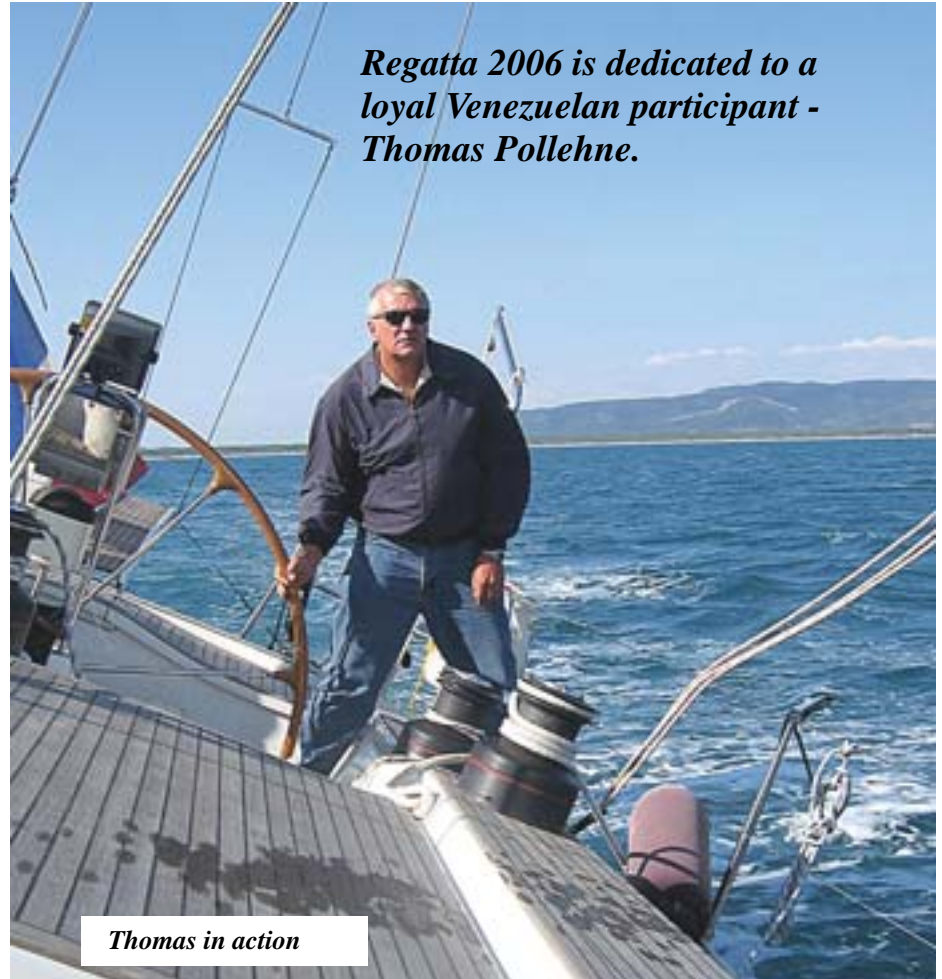


*A starting line whoops!*

The 39th edition of the Bonaire Regatta is fast approaching. Official events begin Sunday, October 8, and run through Saturday, October 14 (see schedule following). Racing and Festival activities are planned all along Playa Pabou from Regatta House to Wilhelmina Park. In addition to the usual classes of sailors and windsurfers a new event called "Splash" has been added. There's lots of interest from Aruban, Curaçaoan and Venezuelan participants, and this year's Regatta is dedicated to a long-time Venezuelan competitor, Thomas Pollehne, captain of the

*(Continued on page 9)*

## Regatta Dedication



*Regatta 2006 is dedicated to a loyal Venezuelan participant - Thomas Pollehne.*

*Thomas in action*

The 2006 Bonaire International Sailing Regatta is dedicated to a dear Bonaire friend and loyal Regatta participant, **Thomas Pollehne**. Thomas, besides participating in the Bonaire Regatta for years, promoted the Bonaire Regatta among friends and yachters in every regatta he visited or sailed in in Venezuela and in the region.

Pollehne was born in Caracas, Venezuela, on July 3rd 1957, and is married to Sabine Pollehne. Both are of German descent and are blessed with two kids, Joy

*(Continued on page 9)*



# Regatta 2006

## Tentative program of the 39th Bonaire International Sailing Regatta -2006

### Thursday, October 5th

18.00 - 19.30 Press/Sponsor meeting Kas di Regatta

### Saturday, October 7th

14.00 - 18.00 Pre-registration Kas di Regatta

### Sunday, October 8th

05.00 - 10.00 1st FCB Bicycle Tour 36km Wilhelmina Park (start)

07.00 - 10.00 3rd Pia Pia Regatta Walk Kas di Regatta

07.00 - 10.00 6th Swim to Klein Bonaire Eden Beach (start)

09.00 - 14.00 Registrations (including micro and fishing boats) Kas di Regatta

18.30 - 19.30 Skippers meeting/Opening Regatta Kas di Regatta

19.30 - 20.30 All Nations Parade\* Kralendijk Streets

20.00 - 01.00 Opening Regatta Festival Regatta Boulevard

### Monday, October 9th

07.30 - 17.00 Sailing Races Kas di Regatta

12.30 - 13.00 Press Briefing Kas di Regatta

14.00 - 17.30 DJ Music / Activities Kas di Regatta

17.00 - 20.00 After Sail Happy Hour Kas di Regatta

20.00 - 01.00 Regatta Festival Regatta Boulevard

### Tuesday, October 10th

10.00 - 17.00 Sailing Races Kas di Regatta

12.30 - 13.00 Press Briefing Kas di Regatta

14.00 - 17.30 DJ Music / Activities Kas di Regatta

17.00 - 20.00 After Sail Happy Hour Kas di Regatta

20.00 - 01.00 Regatta Festival Regatta Boulevard

### Wednesday, October 11th

08.30 - 10.30 8th Annual Kayak race round Klein Bonaire\* Kas di Regatta

10.00 - 13.00 Freestyle Windsurfing Kas di Regatta

12.30 - 13.00 Press briefing Kas di Regatta

14.00 - 17.00 Microboat races Kas di Regatta

14.00 - 17.30 DJ Music / Activities Kas di Regatta

17.30 - 18.30 21st Comcabon-WEB run\* WEB office

18.30 - 22.00 Participants BBQ Party Kas di Regatta

20.00 - 01.00 Regatta Festival Regatta Boulevard

### Thursday, October 12th

10.00 - 17.00 Sailing Races Kas di Regatta

11.00 - 13.00 Kayak Races Kas di Regatta

12.30 - 13.00 Press briefing Kas di Regatta

14.00 - 17.30 DJ Music / Activities Kas di Regatta

15.00 - 17.00 Fishing boat races Kas di Regatta

14.00 - 18.00 Microboat races Kas di Regatta

17.00 - 20.00 After Sail Happy Hour Kas di Regatta

17.30 - 19.00 Workingboat Parade\* Kralendijk Harbour

19.30 - 23.00 4th Int'l Ladies Softball Tournament\* La Sonrisa Ball Park

20.00 - 01.00 Regatta Festival Regatta Boulevard

### Friday, October 13th

10.00 - 17.00 Sailing Races Kas di Regatta

12.00 - 12.30 Press briefing Kas di Regatta

14.00 - 18.00 4th International Softball Tournament\* La Sonrisa Ball Park

14.00 - 19.00 Music / Activities Kas di Regatta

14.00 - 16.00 Microboat races Kas di Regatta

20.00 - 21.30 Award Ceremony / Closing Regatta Kas di Regatta

21.30 - 03.00 Regatta Festival Regatta Boulevard

### Saturday, October 14th

10.00 - 18.00 Finals International Softball Tournament La Sonrisa Ball Park

20.00 - 03.00 Closing Regatta Festival Regatta Boulevard

### For information about:

- **The All Nations Parade**, contact Felix (Papy) Cicilia, phone (5999) 5607440
- **Kayak Races**, contact Andre Nahr at Bonaire Dive and Adventure phone (599) 7172227
- **FCB Bicycle Tour**, contact Fundashon Cas Bonairiano (FCB) phone 717-8042 or 717-8157
- **Comcabon/Web Regatta Run**, contact Mr. R. Pietrsz phone (599) 717-8629
- **6th Swim to Klein Bonaire**, contact Jong Bonaire phone 717-4303
- **Working Boat Parade**, contact Capt. Ulf Pedersen of *Woodwind* phone (599) 786-7055
- **4th International Softball Tournament**, contact Edsel Pieter phone (599) 786-0406
- **1st FCB Regatta Bike Tour**, contact Gerald Silberie phone (599) 717-8042 □

(Ready for Regatta 2006. Continued from page 8)

yacht *Volare*. See the accompanying story to learn about this well-liked competitor. Racing competitor sign up and registration is on Sunday, October 8, at Kas di Regatta (Regatta House) for all boat classes including Fishermen and Microboats. There's a lot more than sailing during Regatta Week. On Sunday there's a 5 am Bicycle Tour followed at 6 am by the Third Annual Pia Pia walk, then at 8 am, the Sixth Annual Swim to Klein Bonaire. The All Nations Parade, starting at 7:30 pm, through the Kralendijk streets, leads up to the official opening and the beginning of the Festival. Early Monday, the yachts start the Around Bonaire race and the Lac Bay race, while the smaller boats begin their week-long competitions. During the day there's the Regatta racing. In the evenings there will be a tremendous Festival program of music, dancing and socializing centered around waterfront Wilhelmina Park. The groups include Kòrsou Chispa, Magic Sound, Tipico Rozal, Rhydd'm and from Aruba, Mega, ZOZ and Dejavu. Another important event at this year's festival is the recognition of the 25th Anniversary of the Regatta Anthem (Himno di Regata) honoring its composer, Agustin Kroon. Don't forget the many other Regatta activities including the Workboat parade, the kayak race around Klein Bonaire, footraces, the ladies Softball Tournament and much more. Over 50 sidewalk stands will offer lots of food, drinks, games and novelties to satisfy Regatta party people and street strollers. □ *BSaF*

(Regatta Dedication, *Thomas Pollehne*. Continued from page 8)

Melanie (21) and Christian Thomas (19).

At 16 he participated in his first Sunfish World Championship in Aruba in 1974, where he ended up sixth and won the first race. In total he participated in six Sunfish Worlds.

Pollehne's first big boats were the *Cisne*, a Columbia 42, and a 30' Dufour. He also crewed on the yacht *Supercilious*, a Swan 44, on which he attended races in Curaçao and Bonaire.

In 1981 Thomas took part in the Bonaire Regatta for the first time on his own boat, *Tentación*, a Tartan Ten. In 1982 he started sailing his new Dehler DB 1, *Luv*, which he kept and raced in every Bonaire Regatta through 1988. His next boat was a Swan 441, *Casse Tete*, which he owned and captained until 1992. From 1992 to 1998 Thomas switched to a more cruising type of boat, a Hunter 54 named *Toy Box*. Thomas never sailed the Regatta with this boat but sailed during that time on the well known boats, *Piolin* and *Tweety*.

Beginning in 1998 Thomas returned to the Regatta every year, except one, aboard the famous *Volare*. This year will be his last Regatta as owner of the *Volare*, as the yacht will be handed over to one of his longtime buddies and crewmember, Carlos Serfaty.

Thomas has big plans for 2007 to participate in the Atlantic Rally for Cruisers (ARC) on his new boat *Taima*, a brand new Hanse 630e to be launched early 2007. Thomas is planning to spend a season in the Mediterranean and hopefully will be back in Bonaire with the *Taima* for the 2008 Bonaire International Sailing Regatta.

In the last few years Thomas started a small development business in Bonaire with his friend and partner, Jos Schoonen. They've begun building a group of houses near the airport, called the *Regatta Residences*. This is just a sort of an excuse in order to have the opportunity to visit Bonaire regularly on one his boats, to keep on sailing Bonaire's superb waters. □ *BSaF/BAT*

# Antique Living Houses of Bonaire

Billboards & Bonaire's Antique Houses

by Wilna Groenenboom

Preserving Bonaire's Architectural Heritage



## Signs and Billboards

Lately there has been a lot said about the size and number of billboards on the island and how they deface the landscape. One in particular, from a new cell phone company, got a lot of attention with its red colors – which were like a red cape to a bull. But is this the first company to do this on such a scale?

As we look at Les Galeries Shopping Mall on the Kaya L.D. Gerharts we see some interesting things. The center section of “Les Galeries” (photo center below) is an old and traditional building. Its right and left wings are “new” additions, with an attempt to make them in the same style as the old original. We can clearly see that on the gutter decoration on top of the walls (photo left below). The traditional wooden shutters were probably not practical so they put in modern, functional windows

which aren't really attractive, in my opinion.

But how many people can see the beauty of this old original section of Les Galeries? It is hidden behind a very long billboard. In the photo it has been painted white but probably in preparation for some new billboard text. It goes around nearly three quarters of the building, covering the balconies which could make the appearance of this building much more interesting.

On Kaya Grandi we see more or less the same style of houses. Compare the gutters, half pillars and the style of the roof in the photo middle above with the one below. In this old building we see that the beautiful balconies give a lot of shade, and under them we see some little signs, not too big, but big enough to see what kind of shop it is.

I appreciate the Jewel of Bonaire Gift Shop on the right rather than the Bonaire

Welcome Shop on the left which has a little added-on roof that's not in character with the rest of this beautiful building. And above this roof they've hung a garish neon sign.

In the top left photo we see all the “congestion” of more signs, cement, iron, steel and ugly banners. To add to the picture, the streetlights are standing askew.

Instead of so much iron and concrete why can't we plant some palm trees in the ground, not just in more cement pots. The palms won't hinder or interfere with our view of those old beautiful buildings and they can even provide some shade. They can make the street more attractive.

Why do we need such big signs in the center of Kralendijk? Nearly everyone who lives here knows where to get things. Cruise tourists mostly stroll through the center of town and can see very clearly what kind of things are sold in these shops.

They don't need big, flashy signs up above their eye level.

Tourists are not only interested in what's sold in these shops; they also like to take photos of the old buildings in the center of Kralendijk to show their family and friends how attractive and beautiful Bonaire is. It is very hard to take an interesting photo if a building is covered with big neon signs.

□ Wilna Groenenboom

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



## "Hidden Wonders - 'Shamefaced Box Crabs'"

**H**ave you been feeling' crabby lately? You know what I mean, like your head is bunched between your shoulders and you want to pinch somebody else's head off? Well, it's more than just an attitude for some, and for those poor souls, there is simply no adjusting. But, take heart, it could be worse!

Well, I'm really speaking of the true crabs of the world, those that live and thrive along our shores and in the sea. Can you imagine what it would be like to have 10 legs (two of which you have to eat with), be terminally flat-chested and humpbacked with no neck or head to speak of, and have eyeballs that stick out on stalks? You would be spending your life hiding in holes or hidden under the sand to keep from being eaten. I'd be a little crabby too under those circumstances.

But regardless of what appears to be a seriously sad state of affairs to us, crabs are pretty well adjusted creatures. Not only do they deal with their seemingly grim set of circumstances, but they have thrived in their underwater realms. They have also managed to come up with some very colorful and creative ways to stay alive. As they say, if you are going to have an attitude, then you might as well make the most of it.

### A crab with an attitude

Whatever dishonorable deed the Box Crabs' ancestors committed, we may never know, but now the poor souls are forever covering their faces in shame. So much so that Box Crabs' alias is the Shamefaced Crab. All of the Box Crabs have a "pinched in" area located on the top of their carapace, but their most distinguishing feature is that the crab appears to be hiding its face with its claws. The claws fit perfectly against the

shell, making a compact box of a crab.

Stanley is a large 15cm (6 inch) wide, brightly colored **Flame Streaked Box Crab**. He is a burrowing crab who draws water through his gills and is often seen spouting it out of his head like a fountain. His claws are like scissors, resembling a can opener, and are used to rip open hermit crab shells. Scientists examined whelks and cone shells preyed on by these crabs and found that the crab is unable to open left-handed shells because it only has a tool for peeling them on its right claw. The crabs have a special tool on their claw, a tooth that's used like a can opener, so, if you imagine trying to use a right-handed can opener with your left hand - it's very hard to do; just another little crabby dilemma.

Who are his enemies? Well just about anything with jaws and teeth that can crunch. In their larval stages, box crabs are free floating plankton, with little mobility or protection of their own. They can be sucked in and slurped up by even the tiniest of other marine creatures. As they grow, their likelihood of life loss in this manner decreases. Once they have attained the real crab look, with their sharp claws and spiny outer shells, they are better prepared to protect and defend themselves.

Box Crabs inhabit sandy bottoms and like to live in areas of mixed sand and rubble. Not only are they shame-faced, but shy, instantly burying themselves up to their eyeballs in sand to hide from any threat. Look for them early in the morning or on night dives in the shallow sand flats close to shore. Approach slowly, close to the bottom and delight to the clandestine behavior of this hidden wonder. □ *Story & photos© Albert Bianculli 2006*



*Stanley offers a glimpse of his face*



*Stanley, the Flame-streaked box crab, with his claws retracted.*

## Shelter Dog Wash "Cleans Up!"

The long-awaited second annual Shelter Dog Wash was last Saturday in the parking lot of sponsor, Warehouse Bonaire. The Shelter board said there were far more people this year than last and they earned NAf850 for the Shelter. All the pups got special washes with fine quality soaps and a nice gift of a box of dog treats from Warehouse at the end.

Dogs of all sizes, races, colors, furs and temperaments got the full treatment. Some enjoyed the attention; others would have rather skipped it. Thanks to all the volunteers who got in there with the soaps, brushes and hoses -and to Murielle Spychala (Water Planet), Bob Lassiter, Flamingo Communications and of course, the Warehouse. You all made it a big success. All the proceeds go towards helping to keep our exceptional Bonaire Animal Shelter open. □L.D.



Francey and Patricia washing "Mr. T," who is not so sure it's a good idea!  
Bob Lassiter photo

### Bonaire Reporter Classifieds— Are still free Got something to buy or sell?

Non-Commercial Classified Ads (up to 4 lines/ 20± words):  
Free ads run for 2 weeks.

Commercial Ads only NAf0.80 per word, per week.  
Call or fax 717-8988 or email ads@bonairereporter.com

#### JANART GALLERY

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

#### MOVING INTO A HOUSE NEW TO YOU?

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

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

#### 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](http://www.bonaireimages.com)

#### JELLASTONE PETPARK

Pet boarding / Dierenpension Day and night care. phone: 786-4651 [www.bonairenet.com/jellastone/](http://www.bonairenet.com/jellastone/)

#### SUPPORT BONAIRE

The Island you love could use your help! Support Bonaire, Inc. provides support to Bonaire's non-profits. To learn more about making a US tax deductible donation visit

[www.supportbonaire.org](http://www.supportbonaire.org) and help make a difference!

#### LUNCH TO GO

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

#### Cars, Scooter For Sale

BMW 520i – 4-door sedan, 1991, white, excellent condition. Fast, beautiful. A CLASSIC! Call 785-9041



FIAT Barchetta (cabriolet) 1.8, 1997, yellow, with hard-top, NAf 20,000, tel. 786-5591.



Red Suzuki Samurai 1993 and Peugeot scooter 1993 - available at end of Oct. Tel: 786-2927

#### For Sale

For Sale - Netgear (cable Ethernet) router. Perfect shape. NAf50. Call Bruce at 717-8819 8 am to 5 pm

For sale: 2 Protec custom built race windsurf boards, 3 Calbert race sails, 2 booms and misc. parts. Contact Ernst at Jibe City

For Sale - 25 ft long regulator hoses. 2 available. New never used. US \$ 70 each All Stainless Steel stern bracket in perfect condition. Up to 225 HP. Increases performance, helps gas mileage, better steering, more interior space. 80 cubic ft dive tanks. Used in good condition. NAf125, Call 717-8819 8 am to 5 pm

## 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.Sudoku Shack.com](http://www.Sudoku Shack.com).

□ Supplied by Molly Kearney (who has to solve all the puzzles first)

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

Complete solution on page 14.

#### 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
10-05	5:29	1.1FT.	11:19	1.5FT.	17:04	1.1FT.	23:22	1.6FT.	84
10-06	0:19	1.4FT.	5:26	1.1FT.	11:53	1.6FT.	18:35	1.0FT.	94
10-07	1:48	1.3FT.	5:06	1.2FT.	12:33	1.7FT.	20:16	1.0FT.	100
10-08	13:27	1.8FT.	22:05	0.9FT.					103
10-09	14:17	1.9FT.	23:29	0.8FT.					101
10-10	0:41	0.7FT.	15:20	1.9FT.					95
10-11	1:43	0.7FT.	16:17	1.9FT.					85
10-12	2:31	0.7FT.	17:21	1.9FT.					73
10-13	3:12	0.7FT.	18:15	1.9FT.					60
10-14	3:48	0.7FT.	19:11	1.9FT.					49
10-15	4:14	0.8FT.	19:58	1.8FT.					41
10-16	4:36	0.9FT.	12:01	1.4FT.	13:56	1.3FT.	20:40	1.7FT.	39
10-17	4:51	1.0FT.	11:19	1.4FT.	15:40	1.3FT.	21:29	1.6FT.	43
10-18	4:51	1.0FT.	11:19	1.5FT.	17:02	1.3FT.	22:09	1.5FT.	50
10-19	4:29	1.1FT.	11:32	1.6FT.	18:16	1.2FT.	22:47	1.4FT.	57
10-20	3:50	1.1FT.	11:48	1.6FT.	19:46	1.1FT.	23:41	1.3FT.	64

#### Vacation Rental

Cozy guest cottage available Studio with kitchen, airco, cable TV, two single beds (or king) pull-out sofa, porch, yard and private entrance. Five minute walk to seaside promenade; 10 minute walk to town. \$50/night. Contact: [bonairecottage@aol.com](mailto:bonairecottage@aol.com)

#### Harbour Village Marina Front Condo For Sale

Large one-bedroom, two-bath apartment located in a secluded all condo building away from the hotel traffic. Full kitchen and laundry, tons of storage space, large patio with walkout to marina dock. Private owner. [www.luxurybonaire.com](http://www.luxurybonaire.com)

#### Wanted

Seeking fellow Astarians to study together or start a study group here in Bonaire. Please call 512-6375

2 persons with sailing experience (open water navigation) needed to accompany me for sailboat delivery from Miami - Bonaire sometime late Nov. - early Dec. All expenses paid. Call Thomas 786-5352. □

SNOW SKIING GETAWAY? Park City, Utah, home available in exchange for your Bonaire holiday home. Contact: [johnbenz@hotmail.com](mailto:johnbenz@hotmail.com)

#### LAW OFFICE VAN DIJK

has relocated.  
New address: Kaya  
Industria 15b  
(new building opposite Lisa  
Gas Station)  
P.O. Box 184  
Bonaire  
Tel. (0) 717 2825  
Fax (0) 717 2826  
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# Pet of the Week

Perky little "Sasha" came to the Bonaire Animal Shelter as a very shy dog. She came from a Spanish speaking household and all of a sudden she was confronted with people speaking in Dutch, English and Papiamentu. "What is all this?" she wondered. "I don't understand anything!" But it's only been a short time and Sasha is showing her fine adaptability. She's happy, peppy, smart and full of fun... and now she's beginning to understand the new languages.

Sasha, at nine months, is just about full grown into a medium size dog. And her outstanding black and white fur coloring makes us think she could be considered a "tuxedo dog." (Black and white cats are often referred to as "tuxedo cats.")

Shelter Manager Jurrie Mellema reports that there are some very nice puppies that are up for adoption right now.

Very good news: So far this year there have been 80 sterilizations, mostly on dogs, that have been done thanks to the Shelter's Sterilization Program. If you can help contribute to this vital issue on the island, send your contribution to "Sterilization Fund" MCB Account #106164 10, or go via [www.SupportBonaire.org](http://www.SupportBonaire.org) for on-line credit card donations. □ L.D.



## DO YOU SUDOKU? ANSWER

And the  
solution is:  
(puzzle and  
directions on page 12)

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

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## MOVIELAND

### WEEKLY MOVIE SHOWTIMES

#### Late Show

Call to make sure (Usually 9 pm)

- 05 Oct Accepted (Justin Long)
- 12 Oct Snakes On A Plane (Samuel L. Jackson)

#### Early Show (Usually 7 pm)

- 05 Oct World Trade Center
- 12 Oct Accepted
- 19 Oct Snakes On A Plane

**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 October:  
Barnyard: The Original Party Animals**

**THIS ISSUE'S EVENTS :  
October 6 to 20.**

**September 7—October 15—Coral Spawning in Bonaire.** See September 1<sup>st</sup> issue of *The Bonaire Reporter* for complete timetable.

**Saturday, October 7—Big Rincon Marshé**—a real Bonairean experience. Stands selling gifts, plants, produce, music, drinks, local foods, BBQ, community discussions “*bou di ramada*” Not to be missed! [www.infobonaire.com/rincon](http://www.infobonaire.com/rincon).

**Sunday, October 8 - Jong Bonaire Klein Bonaire Swim.** Get to Eden Beach by 8.

**Sunday, October 8 “Regatta Walk”** organized by the Pia-Pia Walking Group from North Saliña -6am start at Kas di Regatta for the 10 km. walk. Call 786-0299 or 567-0782 to get a ticket. Cost NAf10 includes drinks, fruit, sandwich, juice.

**October 8-14—Bonaire Regatta** and Festival: sail races along shoreline in Kralendijk Bay start Monday with Around the Island Race. Festival events begin Sunday with stands, games, food and drink. No school this week. See pages 8 and 9.

**Sunday, October 15 - Rotary Club Bonaire Fundraising concert** on the *Free-winds*

**October 20-23—Mountain Bike events** sponsored by “Offroad Valley Bikers” from Curacao. Locals invited to participate.  
**October 20—race in Washington Park;**  
**October 21—Island bike tour.** Call De-Freewieler, 717-8545, or 510-3790, 560-4055. [WWW.orvb.org](http://WWW.orvb.org).

### COMING

**Saturday, October 21—Attention: Artists in “Homage to the Bonairean Artist”**—Bring your art to the Kas di Arte between 10am and 10:30 am. After 10:30 di Arte you’ll hear infor-

mation about the opening ceremonies (see page xx).

**October 27, 28, and 31 – Friday, Saturday, Tuesday - “Nightmare Crib” Haunted House** at Capt. Don’s Habitat, 8 pm – 11 pm. Entrance – NAf7,50 to benefit FKPD & the children’s ward at San Francisco Hospital.

**Friday, November 10—Arke Fly’s “Back to Rock n Roll concert,** Plaza. See page 6

### 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 Sun.) 5-7
- 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.
- By appointment -**Rooi Lamoenchi Kunuku Park Tours** \$12 (NAf12 for residents). Tel 717-8489, 540-9800.
- **Parke Publico** children’s playground open everyday into the evening hours.

### 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](http://www.infobonaire.com/rincon).
- **Extra big Marshé 1st Saturday of the month, 6 am-2 pm.**
- **All You Can Eat BBQ at Divi Flamingo** with live music, 6 to 9 pm, NAf26,50. Call for reservations 717-8285 ext. 444.
- **Wine Tasting at AWC’s warehouse**, 2nd Saturday of the month, 7 to 9 pm, Kaya Industria #23, across from Warehouse Bonaire. Great wines. NAf20 per person for 6 to 8 wines.
- **Flea Market every first Saturday of the month** from 3.00 pm until 7.00 pm at Parke Publico. Everyone welcome to buy and to sell. NAf5 per selling table. For more information and reservations for a spot, call 787-0466.

### Sundays

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

### Tuesdays

- **Live music by the Flamingo Rockers**, 5-7 **Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar**
- **Wine & Cheese/ \$1 glass of wine**, 5-7, **Divi Flamingo Balashi Beach Bar**
- **Buy a Bucket of Beer & get free chicken wings**, 5-7, **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, 7-9, **Cactus Blue**.
- Live music by **Flamingo Rockers, Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar** 5-6:30.
- **Movie Night at Buddy Dive**

### Thursdays

- **Live music by the Flamingo Rockers, Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar**, 5-7



2005 Photo by Marcel Nahr

## It's Back - the “Nightmare Crib” Haunted House!

Volunteers are preparing for the second annual event, “Nightmare Crib” Haunted House at Captain Don’s Habitat during Halloween. This is a fund raiser for FKPD, a center for the handicapped in Rincon, and for the children’s ward at the hospital. The workers could use some of the following items: pillows, body parts (fake of course), manikins and wood. “Helping Hand Volunteers” for assembly of the “Nightmare Crib” are also needed. Please phone 717-8290 (dive shop) for more details on how and when you can help. The “Nightmare Crib will be open for those not of the faint of heart on October 27, 28, and 31<sup>st</sup> (Friday, Saturday, Tuesday) from 8 pm until 11 pm. Entrance will be NAf7,50 with all proceeds going to the two groups mentioned.

Mark your calendars, you will not want to miss the “Nightmare Crib”! □ *Janice Huckaby*

- **“Admiral’s Hour” for yachtsmen and others**, Vespucci Restaurant, Harbour Village Marina. HH drinks, gratis tapas, 5-7

### 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
- **Swim lessons** for children by Enith Brighitha, a Dutch Olympian, at Sorobon from 13.00, for children 0 – 18.
- **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 .  
**Wednesday (2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>) 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

### 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.  
**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 RBTB 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 **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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.an  
**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

**Protestant Congregation of Bonaire.** Kralendijk, Wilhelminaplein. Services in Papiamentu, Dutch and English on Sundays at 10 am.

Rincon, Kaya C.D. Crestian, Services in Papiamentu on Sundays at 8.30 am.

Children’s club every Saturday at 5 pm in Kralendijk.

Sunday School every Sunday at 4 pm in Rincon. Bible Study and Prayer meetings, every Thursday at 8 pm. in Kralendijk.

**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 pm in English. Tel. 717-8332

**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](mailto:Email_reporter@bonairenews.com)

# DINING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue

RESTAURANT	PRICE RANGE / WHEN OPEN	FEATURES
<b>Bella Vista Restaurant</b> Sea Side Restaurant at Buddy Dive Resort 717-5080, ext. 538	Moderate. Breakfast and Lunch Dinner during Theme nights only. Open every day	<b>Magnificent Theme Nights:</b> Saturday: Beach Grill; Monday: Caribbean Night; Friday: Manager's Rum Punch Party and All-You-Can-Eat B.B.Q
<b>Bistro de Paris</b> Kaya Gob. N. Debrot 46 (half-way between hotel row and town) 717-7070	Moderate Lunch Monday - Friday 11 am-3 pm Dinner Monday -Saturday 6-10pm	<b>Real French Cooking</b> in an informal setting Superb dishes prepared with care and love by a French chef Owner-operated Eat in or Take away
<b>Cactus Blue</b> Blvd. J. A. Abraham 16 (half-way between town and Divi Flamingo) 717-4564	Moderate Dinner Closed Sunday	<b>Trend Setting Menu</b> Bonaire's newest hot-spot to eat and drink. Margaritas a specialty Owner-operated for top service
<b>Calabas Restaurant &amp; Chibi Chibi Restaurant and Bar</b> At the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort. Waterfront 717-8285	Moderate-Expensive Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Open 7 days	Get a view of the beach and turquoise sea while enjoying a breakfast buffet or à la carte lunch and dinner at the 'Chibi Chibi' restaurant & bar. Inspiring vistas and the <b>highest standard of cuisine.</b>
<b>Crocantino Italian Restaurant</b> Downtown at Kaya Grandi 48 717-5025	Moderate Dinner Closed Monday	<b>Bonaire's Most Romantic Restaurant where dining is a delight!</b> 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.
<b>The Great Escape</b> EEG Blvd #97—across from Belmar 717-7488	Moderate Breakfasts Only	<b>Bar-Restaurant poolside—under the thatched roof.</b> Breakfast Buffet 7:30-10 am every day Happy hours 5 to 7 daily.
<b>Pasa Bon Pizza</b> 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 <b>Real Thing!</b> Freshly prepared pizzas made with the finest ingredients. Salads, desserts. Eat in or take away. Nice bar too. Call ahead to eat-in or take out 790-1111
<b>The Bonaire Windsurfing Place</b> At Sorobon Beach Get away from it all.	Low-Moderate Open from 10am-6 pm daily,	A <b>genuine sandy beach restaurant</b> cooled by the trade winds Top quality food and friendly service

# SHOPPING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue



## 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.

## APPLIANCES /TV/ ELECTRONICS/ COMPUTERS

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

## BANKS

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

## BEAUTY PARLOR

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

## BICYCLE / SCOOTER/ QUADS

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

## 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 monthly 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

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

## 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.

## 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.

## 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

**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!**

## 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, rapelling/abseilen and more reservations : 791-6272 or 785-6272 E-mail : hans@outdoorbonaire.com

## PHOTO FINISHING

**Paradise Photo** in the Galleries Shopping Center offers fast, fine processing for prints, slides, items and services. **Full digital services.**

## 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 most experienced 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 fast.

**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.

**Best Buddies and Pearls**—Stunning fresh water pearl jewelry, fashion, gifts, t shirts. Under new management.

**The Touch Skin & Body**—Birkenstock shoes for men and women. New styles

## 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.**

## TOURIST SERVICES / INTERNET

Make **Chat 'n' Browse** your headquarters for phone service, Internet connection, gifts, Brunotti and Reef featured... In the Sand Dollar Mall.

## WATER TAXI

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

## 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.

## 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.

## ATTENTION BUSINESSMEN/WOMEN:

Put your ad in *The Bonaire Reporter*.  
Phone/Fax 717-8988, Cel 786-6518

Did you know that listing in the Guides is FREE for weekly advertisers?



# Born On Bonaire

## Vernon "Nonchie" Martijn

"My mother is Melvina Emers; my father was Francisco Martijn. He worked with the telephone company, and he and my mother had a snack bar in Rincon - where Keesshan Snack is now. I went to Luis Bertran primary school, but only until the first grade. Then my parents got divorced and my mom, my two brothers and I went to Holland. I was seven years old. It was exiting; everything was new.

We knew very few Dutch words and so we communicated more or less with sign language in the beginning. My mom spoke Dutch because she'd learned it at school. She asked the teachers at our school how we could learn to speak Dutch more rapidly and they told her it would help a lot if she'd speak Dutch with us at home. Well, we, the brothers, ended up speaking Dutch amongst ourselves and with mom we would speak Papiamentu! Sometimes it still goes like that.

First we stayed with family, then we moved to Rotterdam for a couple of months. Later we were offered a brand new house in Echt in the province of Limburg. I went through elementary and high school, then studied Middle Professional Education, specializing in the hotel and restaurant business. It must be in my blood because not only my mother cooks very well but so do my aunts. In fact so does the whole family.

As an intern I worked all over Limburg in well known restaurants and hotels like 'Le Premier' in Ohe en Laak, in 'La Ville Blanche' and Castle 'Grote Hegge' in Thorn, in 'Bosch Hotel' in Vlodrop and in 'Land Hotel Cox'. After graduation I went to Rotterdam, lived with an aunt, and worked for several months with BRN catering company, then for a year as a chef at the Aula Congress Building at the Technical University in Delft. When I was working in Delft I took a vacation to Bonaire with a cousin, and here I met Rochaima Winklaar. It was plain and simple: love at first sight! I decided to go back to Bonaire, also because my mother had gone back three years earlier."

*Vernon Martijn (34) is an enthusiastic, open-minded, easy-going man with a natural authority and a beautiful smile.*

"I was 22 and started working as the sous-chef at Rum Runners at Capt. Don's Habitat. Rochaima went to Curaçao to finish school; that gave me time to get used to all the new things, like the American system and the fact that service had to be fast. It was a challenge to cook the Caribbean dishes, the big fish and the enormous steaks. The people around me thought I spoke Papiamentu badly. Also there were quite a few Latin people working in the kitchen and I didn't speak

Spanish at all. But little by little I began to understand the 'kitchen-Spanish' - we laughed a lot!

Because I'd been away for so long I now saw the true beauty of my island, and the kitchen at Rum Runners had a stunning view. After two years I became the chef. I stayed there for five years, and during my last year my mom opened her own place in Rincon, the Rose Inn.

One day Johnny Wever, who was the unit director of the technical department at SGB high school, asked me if I would like to teach there. I started in 2000. It was a bit tough in the beginning because I wasn't used to working as a teacher. I figured it would be best to imitate my teachers when I was a student. My very nice colleague, Pietermel de Vaan, taught me a lot, helped me and coached me through it. It's a pity she isn't here anymore. The students tried to see how far they could go with me; after they found out how far that was when we could start working. They knew I'd been working in restaurants and they were curious to see what I could tell them.

"We interviewed (the students) to see what their fantasy was about working in the hotel and restaurant business and when we'd tell them that it had to do a lot with washing dishes and cleaning up, there'd be boys who'd start to cry: 'But Sir, I don't even have to do that at home!'"

You can do a lot with students but you also have to see what they like. And if they are interested in the profession it makes everything easier. We interviewed them to see what their fantasy was about working in the hotel and restaurant business and when we'd tell them that it had to do a lot with washing dishes and cleaning up, there'd be boys who'd start to cry: 'But Sir, I don't even have to do that at home!' Then they had to consider whether another profession wouldn't be better for them! We don't make choices for the students; they have to do it themselves. In 2002, I started with teacher education. I didn't finish it, but now I picked it up again, and if everything goes well I hope to finish next year.

In 2003 my partner, Rochaima, who's also a chef, started the mini-snack 'Nonchie's Fresh Food' at Cultimara. I'd



Vernon "Nonchie" Martijn

cook for her in the mornings and she ran the shop with Vladimir Gijsbertha, one of my students. They did it for three years, but when she became pregnant with our second son, the doctor prescribed bed rest for her, and at the same time I had to go to Italy for a month with the SGB students who were going to work as interns there. It became very hard to keep the business open and she had to stop. Now Rochaima works as a chef in the hospital kitchen, and she likes it this way because once she comes home the job is finished and she can give all her attention to our boys, Deandre (7) and Rovion (1¼).

When I had just started at the SGB I had a lot of conversations with Sara Matera of the culinary team which participates in the 'Taste of the Caribbean' competitions of the Caribbean Culinary Federation. When she and her partner Ruud Vermeulen went to one of the wine shows in Italy they met Andrea Biondi of the AECA office which manages an exchange program for culinary students and professionals. When Sara came back she said, 'I have a very good idea, but we have to see where we can get the finances.' First we talked to the school board and the director and Nolly Oleana who was the unit director. Everyone was very enthusiastic. That's how it all started. We talked it over with the parents. My colleague, Pietermel, worked very hard to get the funds together, and in 2002 we went for the first time with a group of seven Bonairean students to a very fancy and strict hotel school in Italy for a month. I accompanied the students; Sara was the coordinator; Ruud the financial man; and Moreno Binelli, the translator. It was fantastic. The students behaved so well. It was very exciting for them as some of them had never been to Europe and they were really amazed. Because the kids did so well we were invited to come

back, but in 2003 there were no finances because Sara was working in Aruba. In 2004, when Sara was back, we went with a group of students from Aruba, Curaçao and Bonaire; we did the same in 2005. Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, we'll be going again. This time there will be four students from Bonaire and four from Curaçao and we'll be going for three weeks. (See related article on page 7) Working with young people has changed me a lot. It makes you think about your own children too. You're not only a teacher, you're also a mentor and you have to guide them and at the same time you get to know them better.

I'm glad I came back to Bonaire because I always wanted to do something for my island. I am satisfied; I am enjoying my life, especially after the motivation speech Curtis Zimmerman gave in Miami when I was there with the culinary team. I recognized myself in many issues he mentioned, like you have to rely on yourself and dare to take risks and don't look back to what has been and to compliment someone is always helpful.

I chose to become a cook and when you choose something you have to go all the way and do it with your heart. I am still young and I have my plans and I think when Bonaire grows a bit, let's say up to 18,000 people, and when we get a few more tourists our economy would be better, because there has to be employment so that people can work. Our future is not only in the hands of the government, we ourselves have to work on it too." □

Story and photo by Greta Kooistra



# Beach Clean-up

On Sunday, September 25, a beach clean-up was conducted at No Name Beach on Klein Bonaire. The clean-up was organized by STCB and STINAPA as part of the annual International Coastal Clean-up effort sponsored by the Ocean Conservancy. No Name Beach is Bonaire's primary Hawksbill and Loggerhead nesting beach, and maintaining unobstructed access to beaches for egg laying females is extremely important to the survival of these endangered animals.

As in other years, the cruise ship *Free-winds* supported the effort, providing food and drinks, as well as extra volunteers.

Thirty two people participated in the clean-up and 37 bags of trash were collected. The trash was sorted and the types of trash collected was recorded on data forms which are sent to the Ocean Conservancy. Ocean Conservancy releases an

annual report with the results of the clean-up sites all over the world and the data is used to help formulate strategies for reducing marine debris.

The International Coastal Clean-up is the world's oldest and largest volunteer

effort to clean up our marine environment. Each year, volunteers remove trash and debris from their local beaches, rivers, lakes and streams – along shorelines and under the water. Since 1986, over five million volunteers in 123 countries have

cleaned 130,000 miles of shoreline – over five times the circumference of the earth.

□ *Andy Uhr and Mabel Nava*



*The clean-up crew at No Name Beach*

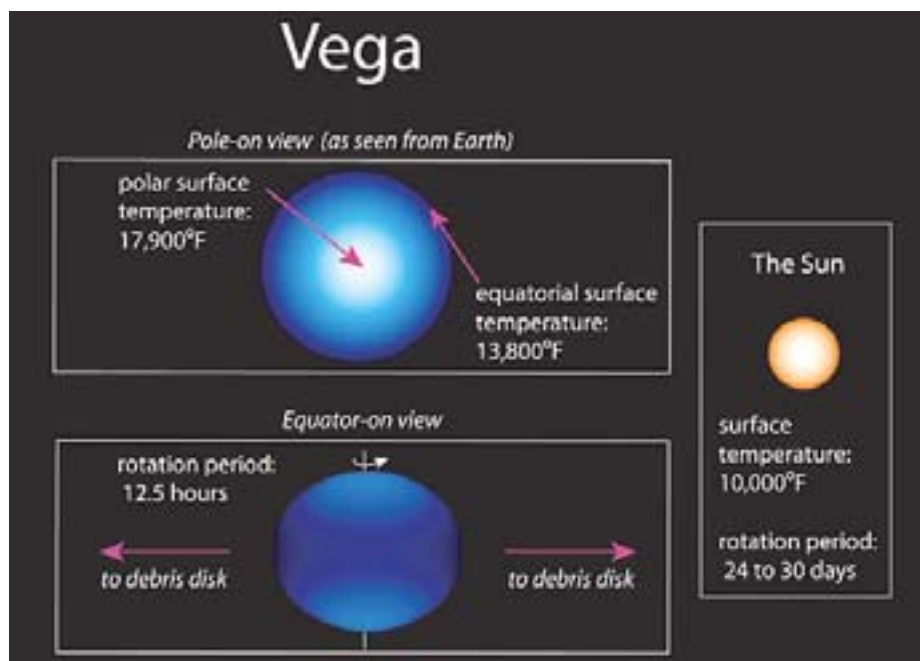




# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it... just look up

The Apex of the Sun's Way

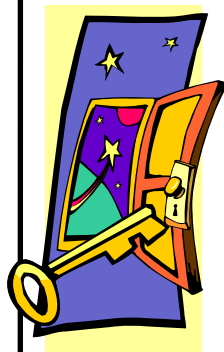


On any night in early October an hour after sunset Sky Park time look almost overhead you will see three brilliant stars which if we draw lines between them would create a triangle. A triangle traditionally called the **Summer Triangle** and which strangely, is still very high in the heavens after sunset throughout October. Its brightest star named **Vega**, belongs to the tiny constellation **Lyra the Harp**. Its next brightest is **Altair** in the constellation **Aquila the Eagle** and the third brightest, **Deneb**, which marks the tail of **Cygnus the Swan**. Now although I shouldn't play favorites my favorite is the brightest, Vega, the 5<sup>th</sup> brightest star we can see from Earth. It glistens a crisp sharp blue white, which tells us that it is a much, much hotter star than our own yellow-orange Sun. Indeed, compared to our Sun's surface temperature of 10,000 degrees Fahrenheit, Vega burns a fierce 17,000 degrees. And whereas our Sun is just a little under 1 million miles in diameter, Vega is almost 3 million miles wide. Indeed, if we could place our Sun and Vega side by side, Vega would be 60 times brighter.

But the thing I really like to think about when I gaze up at Vega on these crisp autumn nights is that our Sun and all its planets, including our Earth, are racing toward Vega at the incredible speed of 12 miles a second, that's over 43,000 miles per hour which means that every year we get almost 400 million miles closer. However even though Vega is only 25 light years away, nevertheless at this speed it would take our Sun almost half a billion years to reach it. Astronomers call this point in space toward which we are rushing "The Apex of the Sun's Way". How lovely. How poetic. So some night this month, perhaps on one of the evenings of Indian Summer, go out just after sunset, look almost overhead, focus on Vega and if you have a vivid imagination, let your spirit soar and you might almost feel our tiny Earth hurtling through space toward this magnificent star and "The Apex of the Sun's Way". □ *Jack Horkheimer*



Finding Vega in Lyra



# THE STARS HAVE IT

Sunday, October 1 to Saturday, October 7, 2006

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

**ARIES** (Mar. 21- April 20) In return, the satisfaction you get is enough for you. You can look around for the right place and enlist some of your friends to help you move. Stick to your work and avoid emotional confrontations. Social events should be the highlight of your day. You will easily charm members of the opposite sex. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21- May 21) Try to get others to stand behind your good judgment. Changes in your home will be positive. Property investments should pay off. You'll feel much better when your slate is clean again. You can come up with future trends in creative fields. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21) You can make wonderful contributions to any organization that you join. Don't blame others for your own stubbornness. You are best to avoid joint ventures, and whatever you do, don't lend to friends or relatives. Traffic will be busier than you anticipated, so try to get a head start if you have made plans to travel. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) Sudden changes regarding work and colleagues are apparent. Your unique approach to life will interest others. Opportunities to travel will develop through peers. Short trips will prove to be more fruitful than you imagined. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug 22) You can persuade even the toughest opponents to think your way. Your ability to charm others will bring added popularity. Coworkers may not be on your side. Concentrate on work or make changes to yourself. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Your determination and stamina will make your work look flawless and effortless. Don't let them blame you. A long discussion is in order if you wish to clear the air. You need to do more research before you make your final decision. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Don't turn down an invitation or a challenge that could enhance your chances of meeting someone special. Uncertainties are still prevailing. You can get into self awareness groups or look into physical enhancement programs. You may not have the same ideas when it comes to what you both enjoy. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Try to put your money away for a rainy day. Don't try to deal with important issues or make changes that will upset the apple cart. You can make new friends who could turn into intimate connections if you join clubs or take creative courses. You can get a lot done if you get your hands on the right equipment. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Your involvement in groups will be favorable for meeting new and exciting individuals. Don't let the erratic behavior of someone you live with interfere with your professional performance. Try not to skirt issues if you think you'll hurt someone's feelings. Responsibilities with respect to older relatives may be a burden. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Get together with friends who like to participate in indoor sports. Someone you care about may not be too pleased with you. Don't be too eager to start any debates. Family trips or projects should be on your mind. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) You can make money through solid investment plans. Keep your thoughts to yourself for the time being. Any intimate relationships with colleagues will lead to gossip that could easily affect your position. You can put in some overtime and make extra cash. Your lucky day this week is Sunday.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) You may have difficulties finishing projects you start. Your high energy should be spent pleasing your mate. You will be erratic and quite likely to make personal mistakes. Don't shy away from potential mates they want to introduce you to. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday. □