

**It's
still
Free!**

BONAIRE

February 2- February 9, 2007 Volume 14, Issue 6

The REPORTER

PO Box 407 - Email: Reporter@bonairenews.com - (599) 786-6125/6518

SINCE 1994



**Lions
Auction
Results**

Expert Auctioneers Aimed Ayubi and Papi Cicilia

Page 11

Flotsam and Jetsam

Americans flying to the Caribbean, Canada and Mexico are complying with a new law requiring them to show their passports to re-enter the US, the US Department of Homeland Security said. US Customs and Border Protection statistics show that since the law took effect Tuesday, only 164 passengers out of 80,058 – or 0.01% – did not have a passport, according to the Homeland Security Department. Travelers arriving at airports without their passports have been reminded of the new rule and handed passport applications but have not been penalized. More than 70% of Americans don't have passports.



en-

From a sample of 1,100 users, 32% said they had planned to get a passport, but only half of them had initiated the process. And one in five respondents said the new regulations would cause them to alter their travel plans.

Another poll by Travelocity said one in four people surveyed were unaware of the new passport requirements.

The George W. Bush administration said the move was necessary to help fight terrorism.

► **The University of the Netherlands Antilles (UNA) based in Curaçao will start with the *Lerarenopleiding Funderend Onderwijs* (Teachers' Training Basic Education) in Bonaire on February 5.** An introduction day was organ-

ized for students and instructors on January 27. Fifteen persons are enrolled.

A HAVO- or MBO-4 diploma is required for this study. It is also possible to take an entrance test. The last day to take this test will be February 24, and a new class will begin if there are 12 passing applicants. Currently, UNA is conducting a class in Papiamentu for teachers in Bonaire. The University plans to offer a law degree course in Bonaire next semester.



Herman Wijffels

► **The three parties involved in talks to form a new Dutch government expect to reach broad agreement on a new cabinet policy by the end of this week.** A spokesman for Herman Wijffels, the man coordinating the talks, said the negotiations were now nearing the end.

The Christian Democrats (CDA), ChristenUnie (CU) and PvdA (Labour) have been involved in talks on forming a new cabinet since the beginning of January. The Dutch general election was held on November 22.

► **Parliament is preparing a draft law exempting minimum wage earners**

from paying wage (income) tax as of January 1, 2008. The law will also mandate a 15% minimum wage increase for Curaçao, Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius. Just what this and other laws passed by the Central Government this year will mean when Bonaire joins with Holland in July 2007 is not certain. It will be up to the island territories as to when they will let the minimum wage increase go into effect.

► **Another draft law, this one affecting medical care,** was passed by Parliament last Thursday. Its objective is to cut into medical costs by establishing rules for medical practitioners and regulating the purchase of medical equipment. Among other things the law requires that medical practitioners maintain a proper medical history of all their patients. Any medical institution should be able to ask for and receive a complete medical history of a patient.

► **Airlines don't have to ask the government to set air fares,** as long as the companies don't try to bankrupt each other by selling tickets at less than cost, Transport Minister Omayra Leeftang announced this week. She mentioned as an example that Insel Air had been offering low air fares to travelers for their destinations. Until recently, in certain cases, the law stated that the request had to be at least 30 days in advance.

Opening the market of air fares applies to local companies with regular flights such as Insel Air, DAE, Divi and Winair.

► **According to the figures of the Central Bureau for Statistics (CBS),**

(Continued on page 4)

BONAIRE THIS WEEK: The REPORTER

Table of Contents

Letter	4
We Are All Responsible	
Guest Editorial	
Ideas About Bonaire Development	5
Part 2. The GOOD Example of Bermuda	
High School SBO Motivation Day	7
Bonaire on Wheels	
(Fichi's Landrovers)	7
Self Management Leadership Conference	7
Antique Houses (Kas di Caha)	8 & 9
Lora Count Results	10
Lion's Auction Action	11
Special Olympics Walk-a-Thon	
—Is HERE	13
Shrink Studies SCUBA (Obesity)	18
WEEKLY FEATURES:	
Flotsam & Jetsam	2
Biologists Bubbles (Humpback whales)	3
Coral Glimpses	3
Pet of the Week (Helen & Dorothy, Volunteer Gathering)	10
Picture Yourself (Arequipa, Peru)	12
Classifieds	12
SuDoku Puzzle	12
Straight Talk	14
Tide Table	14
Reporter Masthead	14
What's Happening	15
Movieland Film Schedule	15
Shopping & Dining Guides	16
On the Island Since (Linda Baker)	17
Sky Park (Winter Sky)	19
The Stars Have It	19
SuDoku Answer	19



Only 2 days before the Walk-a-Thon!

Bubbles from the Biologist

Did You Know...Humpback whale males come to the Caribbean with one thing on their minds?

The only reasons male humpbacks migrate to our waters is to mate. Female humpbacks come down to the Caribbean to mate or to calve. While in the Caribbean, the humpbacks don't feed because our waters don't produce the plankton masses required to feed these massive beasts. They live off their fat reserves (blubber). Although it is rare that humpbacks will migrate as far south as Bonaire, it's not impossible. Several were sighted last week close to shore. The one I saw was rolling around and flapping its tail repeatedly. This behavior could signal that: 1) it is a male trying to attract a mate; 2) the whale is playing; 3) or the whale is trying to remove parasites or dead skin. The whale I saw will eventually migrate back north to one of the following feeding grounds depending on which herd it belongs to: 1) Gulf of Maine; 2) Gulf of St. Lawrence; 3) Newfoundland/Labrador; 4) southwestern Greenland; or 5) Iceland-Denmark Strait. Perhaps it's still around or it will return next year when the waters are cool, so keep searching those blue waters that we love so much. □ C.E.



Humpback whale photo Tim Calver

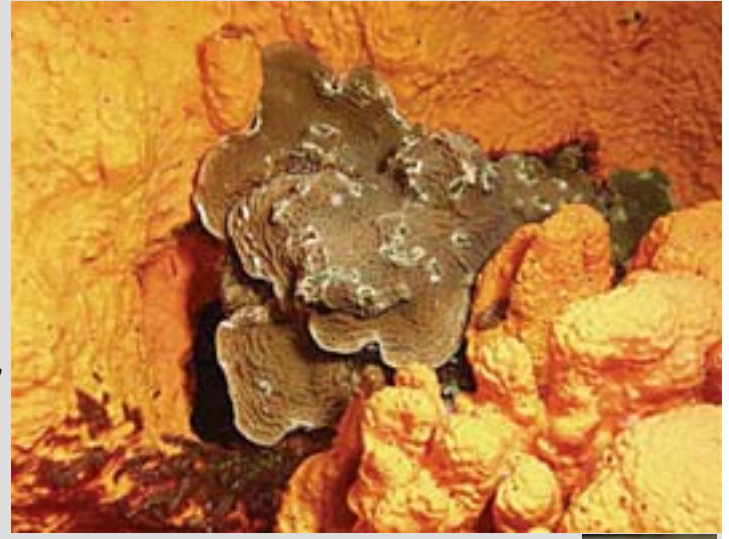
Biologist Caren Eckrich founded and runs Sea & Discover, Bonaire's marine education center specializing in guided dives and snorkels for adults and adventure programs for kids. You may call her at 717-5322.



coral glimpses

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

This lettuce coral at the Bonaventura dive site is successfully competing for space with the orange elephant ear sponge in which it rests. The coral growth is affected, though, especially at the top of the coral where it's growing up rather than out because of the sponge. □ Captions & photos by Dee Scarr. Dee's Photos restored by Jack Drafaahl of the Oregon Coastal Digital Center



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



What's Going On?



SBO Motivation Day
Story on page 7

photo: Herman van Leeuwen

(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 2)
the working population in Bonaire has increased 20% in the last 20 months. The unemployment rate dropped to 7%.

► Reportedly, **the building start of the new Divi (Sunset) Hotel** and also a few other large construction projects **will be in March.**

► Manager of the Bonaire National Marine Park, Ramon de Leon, writes, "Very soon the Bonaire National Marine Park will restart a survey in Lac. The idea is to redo the monitoring done by Cindy Lott in 1999-2000. As you already probably have noticed, Lac is getting busier every day. This area is ecologically very important for our coral reef system and is a very popular recreational area as well. Therefore, we need to do our best in order to obtain data that allow us to make the right management decisions. **The work will involve a lot of data collection (shallow water dives) of conch, macro-algae and other organisms. This project will take several weeks and will be coordinated by Sabine Engel.** Training will be provided for everyone interested in participating. If you want to participate or just know more about this program, please come Monday, February 5th at 4 pm to the STINAPA office at Barchadera."

► In the past *The Bonaire Reporter* and its predecessor, *Port Call*, **published 57 stories by Captain Don.** Publication recently has tapered off, although we plan to

print some soon again. **If you want to find out more about Captain Don, the author, go to: <http://captaindon.booksvarnsfairytale.com>** to discover three novels, three novelettes, 96 short stories and over 50 more waiting to be placed.

► DROB, the department that manages Bonaire's roads, announced **one-way rules for two streets in Antriol and Sabana-Kaya Sabana and Kaya Karpitan-** are in force. Look carefully to familiarize yourself with the new directions and international one-way signs. These modifications are necessary for the road safety according to DROB.

► **Young Dancel Elhage will travel to Holland for a month of advanced tennis training.** Other local youngsters who have participated in the course include Jovani Meeuwssen, Gino Meeuwssen, Quincy Oly and Monica Winkel. Tennis coach Robby Domacassé joins Dancel in the photo.



(Continued on page 6)

► After seven years of service, **Imre Esser announced his resignation as President of Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB)** and his intention to move back to the Netherlands with his family in the near future.

Imre had been president of the organization since 1999, and under his leadership STCB matured from a relatively simple field project to a multifaceted organization skilled at high technology research applications, fund-raising, and addressing sustainable development issues.

With Imre's resignation as president, the Board of Directors asked Andy Uhr to serve as acting president. The Board also extended invitations to Marlene Robinson and Bruce Brabec, island residents and long-time STCB volunteers, to join. Bruce has agreed and accepted the position of Treasurer. Marlene has also agreed and accepted special duties related to fund raising and grant writing.

The current composition of the Board and staff is:

Andy Uhr - Acting President/ Secretary; Bruce Brabec - Treasurer

Members: Imre Esser, Albert J de Soet, Allerd Stikker, Corine Gerharts, Diana Sint Jago, Marlene Robinson. **Staff:** Mabel Nava de Simal - Manager; Gielmon 'Funchi' Egbreghts - Field Manager/Ranger; Dr. Robert van Dam - Scientific Advisor.



Queen Beatrix, Elsmarie Beukenboom, Antilles Governor Frits Goedderdrag and Imre Esser during the Queen's recent visit. STCB Photo

LETTERS

WE ARE ALL RESPONSIBLE

Never before has mankind walked on such thin ice. No longer is our seemingly endless existence on this earth taken for granted. It is not even measured in 1000's of years but now in decades.

In 40 years or so we will have depleted 90% of the viable fish stocks of the oceans. Add a few decades and there won't be much oil. Give or take another decade and the south end of Bonaire may well be under water. Don't plan on using aluminum dive tanks to visit it. Aluminum will be \$1,000 an ounce, having used it all. (Sadly I can see people thinking they should hoard aluminum and make money instead of thinking of ways to correct the problems). We are using up our non-renewable resources at an alarming rate.

This is not fanaticism. This is no longer a joke about a few hippies in the US or Europe tying themselves to trees. This is 100's of millions of people who

can see farther than today, backed by countless scientists trying to do what they can to turn this downward trend around. We have been warned, but this falls on too many deaf ears. Too many are in denial. Too many do not even care. For them, money today is far more important than anyone's future. It is the world's politicians who are now the minority.

When we kill the trees, we are killing ourselves. When we bury the land under concrete, we are burying ourselves. When we empty the oceans, we are emptying ourselves.

No one is only a citizen of Bonaire. We are all citizens of the world and have a worldwide responsibility to do what we can. Just two of many examples - how can an island that is seeing huge

drops in fish population not install "No Take" zones immediately? How can an island famous for wind question the use of proven wind power over oil-fired generators which not only pollute the air, but add to global warming?

Bruce Bowker



IDEAS ABOUT BONAIRE DEVELOPMENT *continued from last week*

PART 2- The GOOD Example of Bermuda

As there are wrong models for the development of our island, there are also good examples. I recommend to the members of the Island Council of Bonaire to visit the island of Bermuda and speak to the Minister of Tourism and to the head of the Department of Planning. According to my experience during long years of cooperation with the main local construction company, Bermuda could serve as an excellent example for the development of our island.

Bermuda Island, a self-governing overseas territory of the United Kingdom, is in fact an archipelago of interconnected islands, 30 km long and 3 km wide at its broadest point. They are the world's northernmost coral islands, with excellent visibility and underwater life similar to that in the Caribbean. Particularly popular is diving the hundreds of Bermuda's wrecks. The reefs are one of Bermuda's most fragile environments, and large-scale reef kill occurred during construction of the USAF base (now Bermuda International Airport) during WW II.

Bermuda has a long history of environmental management, with Acts dating back to the early 17th century. In recent years the island has experienced considerable development pressures which threaten Bermuda's attractive and unique environment. Like Bob Bartikoski proposed for Bonaire in his October 2006 article in *The Bonaire Reporter*, Bermuda has its Development Plan of 1992, containing planning policies, zoning and land use provisions for the island. It is based on the Development and Planning Act 1974, the law that regulates all development in Bermuda. The governmental Department of Planning has as its main task to protect Bermuda's environment and to develop a sound ecotourism industry. Also in this respect, Bermuda can serve as an example for Bonaire.



Bermuda's Waterfront Internet photo

The densely populated island boasts a standard of living exceeded by very few countries in the world. Bermuda's economy relies on tourism (62% of the country's revenue) and financial services for international business. The tourism is focused on visitors with high household income. **There is a moratorium, introduced in 1974 (!), on construction of hotels.** A new hotel cannot be built unless another of equal size closes down. In order to protect the quality of island life, the number of cruise ships calling at the island has been reduced to only four a week. They may never berth during the weekend.

Some of the drastic measures concern the island traffic. The number of vehicles is limited to one car per household. The size of the cars is also limited. Only the Governor and the cabinet ministers may have bigger automobiles. Only locals may drive cars and there are no car rental companies. The transport on the island is provided by a smoothly operating public bus system and taxis.

Bermuda has been made popular by very rich people, mainly from the US. They have not been discouraged by very high taxes in connection with a house purchase. Besides the License to Acquire Property (22% of the purchase price), paid in advance, an additional, high stamp duty must be paid. Bermuda also has a



The solution to tourist traffic in Bermuda-scooters, called cycles by the locals, is probably unsuitable for Bonaire. Internet photo

very high import duty. On the other hand, there is no income tax, sales tax, capital gains tax and capital transfer tax. The prices of residential houses and condominiums have been soaring, particularly during the last five years. While the average price of a condominium in 2002 was \$400,000, it is now \$770,000; the average price of a house is now \$2.4 million. These prices are only for property owned by non-Bermudians. In order to protect the Bermudian citizens (61% black), there are strict regulations concerning owning and selling of properties. Non-Bermudians are permitted to buy houses and condominiums, but only from Non-Bermudians. Bermudians may not sell their house to a foreigner. Foreigners are

also not allowed to buy undeveloped land. There is, therefore, a big difference between the price of Bermudian and Non-Bermudian properties. In spite of that the government has built thousands of affordable houses for its citizens. More houses for low income people are still needed.

In spite of the mentioned restrictions and sky-high prices, the construction, particularly of luxurious condominiums in exactly specified areas, is currently booming. Local contractors are complaining that they need more workers, but no work permits for foreign labor are being given. According to the government, bringing people from abroad would mean higher crime (the current crime rate is very low), pressure on the infrastructure, on schools and medical facilities. Bermuda's natural resources are its people, and the government wants to protect them. The slogan of Bermuda, which I recommend also for Bonaire, is:

"Whereas many countries are spending a lot of money in order to change, we are spending money to stay the way we are."

It is evident that enforcing some of the mentioned measures, like car number limitation and no rental cars, given the high population density of Bermuda, would not be necessary on Bonaire. As well, the introduction of Bermuda's taxation and property transfer regulations doesn't seem to be feasible on our island, although the current prices of ocean front houses and land make it virtually impossible for the local inhabitants to acquire such properties. Nevertheless, I am convinced that application of the Bermuda development model would be much more appropriate for Bonaire than the model of Aruba. □ *Jiri Lausman*

Author's note: It was a very good idea to add a map of Aruba hotels to my article last week. However, four hotels are miss-

(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 4)

► **Dyrichemar "Rico" Martis**, who did such a good job during his brief tenure at the Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB), has taken a position as **Marketing Manager for Digicel**. He will continue as head of Tene Boneiru Limpi – The Keep Bonaire Clean foundation.

► **Karnaval is coming soon and this year the TCB, recognizing its cultural contribution** and the attraction to tourists and locals both, is encouraging creativity by offering a prize for the group whose theme recognizes consciousness of tourism and exemplifies "Welcome To Our Karnaval." Call 717-8322 and ask for Roosje van der Hoek for more information and details. You can also e-mail Projectscoordinator@tourismbonaire.com.

► **On Saturday, February 10, at 4pm, Bonaire Wellness Connexions will host a mountain bike tour through scenic areas of Bonaire.** All are invited. The route will start at the BWC Activity Center (Eden Beach Resort) and take the tourist road to Rincon then back to Eden Beach. To get more detailed information about the route email bonairewellness@flamingotv.net.

Anyone interested in joining in should meet at Eden Beach Resort Activity Center at 4 pm. Participation fee is NAf15 per person (\$8.43) and includes drinks and fruits. Advance sign up is available now at Eden Beach Activity Center Monday through Saturday from 9am to 5 pm, or you may sign up on the day of the tour. Helmets are necessary. (Bonaire Wellness Connexions



Some of the group from the last trip.

► **Bonaire has a new free newspaper.**

Named *Makubekèn*, a word used in old Papiamentu never even heard by lots of Bonaireans. It dates back to when news was passed around by word of mouth. It seems fitting for a newspaper that focuses on the natural environment of Bonaire and what it means to the



local people. (See last week's *Reporter* for a story on the kick-off of the campaign.) The paper will be sent free to all homes on Bonaire four times a year and will be available at other spots around the island too.

Makubekèn is part of STINAPA's campaign, *Nos ta biba di Naturalesa*, designed to show the value of environmental conservation to Bonaire's citizens. It's written in Papiamentu with some Dutch. Look for it in your mailbox at the end of the week. If you don't get a copy and want one, call STINAPA 717-8444 or e-mail info@stinapa.org

► **This coming Saturday, February 3, from 3 to 7 pm and every first Saturday of every month the "We Dare to Care" Flea Market is held in the Parke Publico**

Bonairiano (behind the hospital). It's free. Just come and browse to find that deal. There are hundreds of used or new items for sale at the market for very low prices. You can find stoves, china, antiques, furniture, books, wines, plants, board games, clothes, electronics, baby stuff, toys, video tapes and much more.

Want to sell your stuff? The "We Dare to Care Foundation" rents out spots for NAf5 (bring your own table) or rent one with space for NAf 10. Individuals, NGOs and businesses are welcome.

Drinks and snacks are available. The funds from our "We Dare To Care" stand and fees from the spots go to the maintenance of the Parke. For more information call: 786-1592, 510-4050, 786-9377 or 787-0466. □ L./G.D.



AKIB leaders, headed by President Sidney Manuel (3rd from right) met with government officials, AKIB photo

► This past week representatives of **AKIB, The Bonaire Businessmen's Association**, met with **Governor Herbert Domacassé** and the **Commissioner of Labor and Economics**, Onnie Emerenciana, to discuss the activities and new directions for the group. At the same time they presented the first edition of their new newsletter in Papiamentu and English that offers valuable information for the business sector. The newsletter, named the *Bonaire Business News*, will be published quarterly. In addition to other innovations AKIB will create a "One-Stop Business Center" to handle business questions quickly and efficiently.

High School SBO Motivation Day



photo: Herman van Leeuwen

Last Friday, January 26, was the big day for all SBO-Administration students: their first Motivation Day, prepared and organized with the utmost care by the teachers and Charite Coffie and Sharon Bol. When the bus carrying the students arrived at Sorobon, the Administration 3.3 class was already there, busily decorating their section for the day so they had the decided lead on the other classes.

When the games started at 9:30 in the morning all the students were ready for them. The games were created to encourage teamwork, which was the goal of the day. At the end of the games there was a match between teachers and students. The students turned out to be the stronger parties. Then it was lunchtime.

After lunch there was one more game to play, and then the results of the games were announced. Class 3.3 finished as the best team. The second and third places were divided among the Classes 3.1 and 2.1. With a very small difference the combination of the Classes 2.2/3.2 finished as the last team. Around 3 o'clock the bus came to bring the students back to school.

Hopefully next year there will be another Motivation Day because at the end of the day all participants agreed that there had been wonderful teamwork between all the students and their teachers. □ *Jeroen Seegers*

Self-Managing Leadership Conference

Some of Bonaire's best and brightest attended a Self Managing Leadership Conference Saturday and Sunday at the Sport Hall. Led by Bentley College Professor Emeritus of Management, Edward Wondoloski, the participants were challenged to question their purpose, values, vision and barriers to success. Entertaining lectures were interspersed by student participation in "learning to listen" interviews with others, creating individual life "time lines," small-group work and inspir-



Professor Wondoloski (at right) with organizers Erna Chirino and Nerry Gonzales

BONAIRE ON WHEELS

A series of Bonaire Reporter articles by J@n Brower, featuring some of Bonaire's interesting vehicles that are "on wheels."

Fichi and His Fleet Of Land Rovers

The house of Philip (Fichi) Bernabela along Kaya Gilberto F. Croes, Kralendijk, is literally surrounded by old British built cars, especially Land Rovers. On the left hand side of the house a beige short-body model Land-Rover pick-up, Series III, is parked.



Fichi recently imported the car from Curaçao. At this moment the car is "under construction," but one day he will definitely fix it and drive it along the quiet unpaved roads of Bonaire.

On the other side of the house, along the small road, two other Land-Rovers are sitting: one short-body pick-up, a Model 88, and one long-body pick-up, a Model 109. Both cars are painted green, beige and black, camouflage colors. All the Land Rovers were built in the late 60s or the early 70s. All are fitted with the same reliable cast iron four-stroke, four-cylinder overhead valve engine of 2,286 cc, that generates the relatively small amount of 81 British horsepower.

On the other side of Kaya Gilberto F. Croes lives one of Fichi's best friends, Erwin Phelipa. Erwin also owns a Land Rover, an open Model 109, painted light blue. The owner drives his rugged vehicle every day.

Fichi also uses his Land Rover every day. There is a big metal drum in the back of the car. Every day, seven days a week, year after year, Fichi drives his Land-Rover to the *Pos di awa* (well) to fill the container with water for his goats and pigs at his *kumuku* (farm) in the *mondi* of the island.

Fichi is very proud of his old British cars. He has owned Land Rovers since 1975 and he maintains them himself. Only in the case of an emergency does he ask other specialists for help. On the island there might be 10 Land Rovers at the most, and hardly anybody knows anything about British-sized bolts and nuts, Smiths gauges, Lucas ignitions, Girling springs and Zenith or Solex carburetors. On this island a Land Rover owner has to be independent and do almost everything himself.

In the garden of the Bernabela family there is also a Hillman Husky station car, built in 1972, and a cute little Austin Mini Moke, built in approximately 1970. Both cars are more or less complete, but they are quietly waiting for some attention. In another location Fichi saves his stock of spare parts: a pile of old Land Rover parts - chassis, axles, wheels, brakes, shafts - parts enough for a lifetime.

Fichi is a relaxed and a busy man. During the interview he took the time to talk to me, but in fact he and a friend were preparing things for a float for the upcoming carnival. Thanks for your time, Fichi. Enjoy life! □ *J@n Brower*

ing films ("What's Right with the World," "The Man who Planted Trees")

They learned "Rule #6" (Don't take yourself so X@!! Seriously), how to turn failure into feedback, how to recognize the "downward spiral," the "Dolphin Dive," (a vehicle to reach your inner being), a trick for handling anger and many other exercises in self-examination. At the closing Jon Hilgers played on his guitar and sang a song he composed based on a poem by

Mother Theresa. John was accompanied by Erna Chirino.

The result of the conference - a very fulfilled group of people - an audience with "smiling eyes."

The program was presented by the Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University to help individuals to develop their internal leadership skills through understanding of their purpose, vision and values. □ *L.D.*



Antique Living Houses of Bonaire

Everybody knows Kaya Grandi and everybody knows the Best Buddies Building on the street. Without looking very carefully you might say we don't **really** know this building.

This was a house built around the 1920s but not for an ordinary family. When a house was built of stone with a tile roof and a second floor, then most likely a *Shon* (important person) lived there. More often than not the *Shon* or landlord was also a business man. The ground floor was used as a shop or store, as it still is today. The second floor was where the family lived.

In the old days they called this street *Breedestraat* (broad or main street), just like they have a *Breedestraat* (Broad Street) in New York City (formerly New Amsterdam) and in Willemstad on Curaçao. Originally this street served as the border between the fort and the buildings behind. Now days it's called Kaya Grandi, the main street of Kralendijk.

This building is so beautiful with so many lovely and traditional old details inside and out – most of them still in very good condition.

The photo collage is dominated by a big blow-up background photo of a black skirting board on the floor connected on the right side with a white skirting board around a doorway. Every door, built-in cupboard and window is decorated with such a "frame." Most of the rooms have a traditional wooden ceiling which is hidden behind a modern floating panel ceiling that we often see in shops.

In the left photo on the facing page we can see that the owner has removed part of this modern ceiling. Even the wooden ceiling has a beautiful skirting board (center photo top). If they want to have their high, spacious atmosphere back, they have only to remove this modern unattractive ceiling.

One of the doors inside has a remarkable star above the doorway (photo top this page).

The outside of the building is domi-



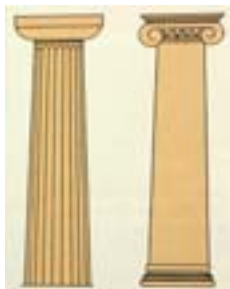
nated by the Greek architectural elements (500 to 146 BC). It appears as though the building has been built of large cut

stones, as the Greek used to do in their temples. But in this case coral

stone was used and plastered over to give the appearance of cut stone. The ridge piece covering the gutter is also decorated in the Greek style. And under the balcony we see Doric style columns (the left illustration of the two columns). We can recognize them by their simple capital on top and "feet" on the bottom. The column itself has vertical fluting. The Ionic (at right) is more commonly used on Bonaire, called here Tuscan column or *Pilã Toskano*. But it appears mostly without the typically curly volute on top.

On each corner (photo at right) we see a fluted pilaster strip *Leshinan vertical ku gruff*). This is a half column which was common during the Roman period. On the top half the column has a long vertical strip, which changes to horizontal small strips on the ground floor.

The wooden balustrade on the balcony



is made of beautiful abstract figures, except on each corner (middle photo below). It looks like an abstract bird!

Above each window and door we see a horizontal decoration which we call in Dutch *luifel* (awning). They appear only on the two shop windows in front on the ground floor (photo left below). This design is difficult to find on Bonaire, however, Bambu Restaurant has one on each window and door.

To reach the second floor now days we must climb the stairs behind the two buildings. It was different in the past. When you stand between the Best Buddies Building and Atlantis on Kaya Grandi you can see a door on the second floor. When Atlantis was built the staircase had to be removed.

A beautiful building, well kept and preserved, soon hopefully to be more of a "living" space because the second floor is to be renovated, keeping it as original as possible. If it's restored properly it can compete easily with the high quality of architecture on Curaçao.

The meaning, "living," can have two meanings: one, as a house for a family to live in. But it can also mean that it can be made into a museum, with its traditional kitchen, bathroom of the 20s, furniture, curtains, lamps - all from the same period. One room could be devoted to displaying old photos, books and much historical background information from the time when they began building this house.

A better location I can't imagine. It would not only be of interest to the tourists, who will love it, but also for our local people young and old – so that we don't forget what a rich culture and architecture that Bonaire has had. □

Story & photos by Wilna Groenenboom

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



Pets of the Week

One thing about the Bonaire Animal Shelter – the residents all get along really well. Here, taking it easy in the cat cage “bunk beds,” are “Helen” on top and “Dorothy” on the bottom. Helen is about three years old, is grey and black and has two black “necklaces” around her neck. And she’s got two-toned whiskers too. Her bunk mate, Dorothy, has dark teardrops on her eyes. She’s a little over a year. Both these laid back and relaxed kitties have excellent dispositions and would most likely fit in well to a loving family environment. And, like all the other animals up for adoption at the Shelter they’re healthy, have had their shots, testing, worming and are sterilized. You may see them at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday, 8 am to 1 pm. Tel. 717-4989. Website hosted by volunteer Bea Jones of Colorado: www.bonaireanimalshelter.org.



“Helen” on top;
“Dorothy” on bottom



Shelter staff, volunteers and spouses

Last Sunday afternoon some of the volunteers at the Bonaire Animal Shelter got together for a social time around the pool at the Yacht Club Apartments. It’s thanks to people like them that the Shelter is able to keep its doors open to receive unwanted cats and dogs on the island. Shelter Managers Jurrie Mellema and Marlis Tiepel joined the crowd as did the members of the Shelter Board. □ *L.D.*

Lora Count Results

About 50 volunteers spent early Saturday morning last weekend at 22 different sites around the island counting Loras, the endangered Bonaire parrot, *Amazona Barbarendis*. A count has been done nearly every year since 1980 and usually around this time of year.

The results for 2007: the Lora population is stable at around 650 birds. More birds were counted at the 11 sites outside Washington Park’s 11 sites this year than last. Experts Odette Doest from Curaçao and Sam Williams from the United Kingdom traveled to Bonaire especially for the count. Sam, together with its colleague Rowan Martin, is also conducting a three-year study of the birds and provided a pre-count briefing to the volunteers.

Following the count there was the traditional breakfast at the entrance to Washington Park, sponsored this year by STINAPA.

Interestingly, Bonaire has more than 600 captive Loras registered, about the same number as in the wild. Currently it is forbidden to capture wild Loras, an offense punishable by a fine and confiscation of the bird. If you see a caged Lora without a ring around its leg contact STINAPA or DROB. □ *Elsmarie Beukenboom/ G.D.*



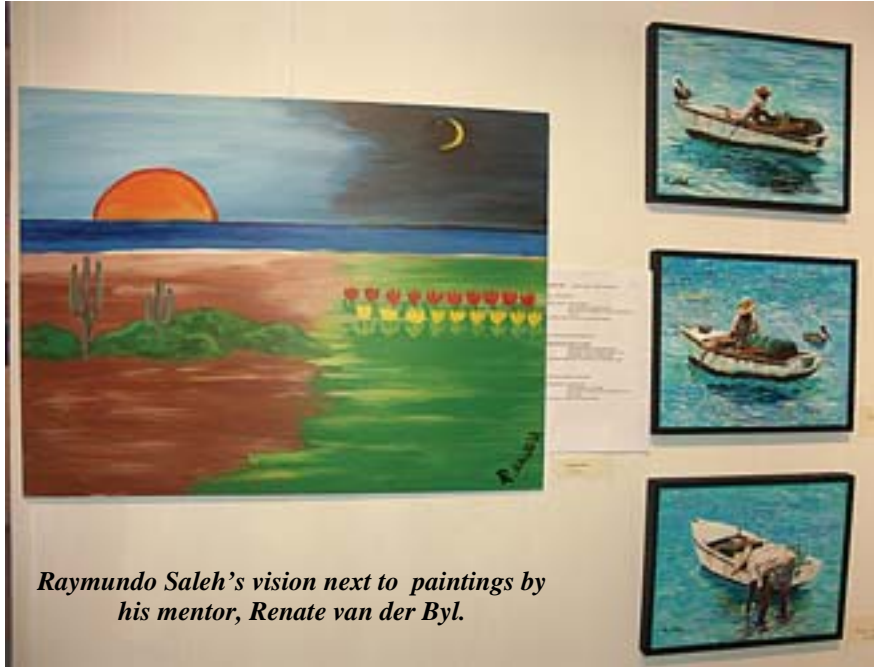
Loras in the morning sun

Sam Williams photo



Lions Auction Action

Last Sunday's Lions Club fundraising event was a resounding success with NAf17,800 raised just from the selling of the art works created last week by some of Bonaire's better known citizens. The top prices went to Capt. Don for his "Accolade on the Cover of Time Magazine" and MCB Bank Manager Evert Piar's, "Bonaire Is Not For Sale" paintings.



Raymundo Saleh's vision next to paintings by his mentor, Renate van der Byl.

The event was beautifully organized from the start when local artists were teamed with the "celebrities" to create art works that expressed their vision of Bonaire in its planned closer relationship with The Netherlands. The works were displayed for a week at the Kas di Art

alongside some of the work of the individual guiding artists.

There was universal agreement that the event was innovative and enjoyable for everyone involved. Hats off to the Dis-sels for their work in leading the Lions organization of the event. □ G.D.



Elsmarie Beukenboom seemed to not want to let her sculpture creation go.



Lots of interest in Notaris Maartense's artwork

If you're wondering, here's what the "celebrity" artists' works were sold for:

Carlene Petersen	NAf400,-	Jackie Bernabela	350,-
Raymundo Saleh	500,-	Ernst Wesselius	900,-
George de Salvo	350,-	Herbert Domacassé	2800,-
Capt. Don Stewart	3000,-	Richard Hart	250,-
Martin Maartense	1300,-	Nolly Oleana	350,-
Geraldine Dammers	500,-	Jan van der Straten	400,-
Boi Antoin	800,-	Elsmarie Beukenboom	1100,-
Ramonsito Booi	1100,-	Evert Piar	3000,-□

Picture Yourself with The Reporter Arequipa, Peru



Peggy Bakker and Greta Kooistra at the Plaza des Armas in Arequipa (population over a million) in the southern highlands of Peru. The "White City" is one of the most impressive colonial centers of Peru and it's dominated by the active volcano El Misti. One of the towers of the cathedral on the picture fell in 2001 when a severe earthquake struck, but was quickly repaired. Arequipa is an extremely lively city; lovely people, delicious food, great culture and it is the jumping-off point for some of the best outdoor adventures in Peru. □

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, Box 407, Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles (AN). E-mail to: picture@bonairereporter.com. (All 2007 photos are eligible.) □

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 786-6518 or 7866125 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.

IS YOUR 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. 8000m² nursery. Specializing in garden/septic pumps and irrigation. Kaminda Lagoen 103, Island Growers NV (Capt. Don & Janet). 786-0956

Bonaire Images

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

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 and help make a difference!

JELLASTONE PETPARK

Pet boarding / Dierenpension
Day and night care. phone: 786-4651

Searching For GOOD Maid Service?

For Quality House Cleaning

CALL JRA

Serving Bonaire for more than 14 years
Honest, Reliable, Efficient, Thorough,
Low rates, One time or multiple service
Phone 785-9041 You'll be glad you did.

Outdoor Sports

Rock climbing/Rapelling/Abseilen
Every Saturday. Call Outdoor Bonaire 791-6272 / 785-6272

LUNCH TO GO

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

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.

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

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

Complete solution on page 19.

Vacation Rental

Cozy guest cottage available

Studio with kitchen, aircro, cable TV, two single beds (or king) pull-out sofa, porch, yard and private entrance. Five minute walk to sea-side promenade; 10 minute walk to town. \$50/night. Contact: bonairecottage@aol.com



FOR SALE-Deawoo Nubiria 98 In Good General Condition -Few Scratches and repair needed. Book Value is Fl 8000. Selling Price Fl 5000 Call-717-6997.

Property, Sales & Rentals

I'm looking for a family house with 4 bedrooms. Please call 522-7450

Looking for Work

Cleaning lady (speaking Spanish and Papiamentu) is looking for part-time work. 568 - 9506.

Spanish speaking lady with some English is looking for work as a full time, live-in maid. 700 - 9577.

Wanted

Who has seen our little gnome (kabouter)? He is almost completely orange and is wearing a pointy cap. He disappeared on January 14 between 2 and 6 p.m. We miss him very much. Call 786-5591.

Kitchen/Prep/Dishwasher needed- part time Some English preferred. Last Bite Bakery call: 717-3293.

Cashier needed part time. Dutch, English, Papiamentu preferred. Last Bite Bakery call: 717-3293. □



Porch Sale on Feb 4 at 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Address # 110 Sabadeco Terrace

Pls check this website <http://thai4real.spaces.live.com>

The Bonaire Reporter is looking for a person to do layout for the weekly editions.

Must be very competent with Microsoft Publisher and familiar with Microsoft Office programs. Great part-time job and could possibly be done from home.

Call George or Laura at 786-6125 or 786-6518.

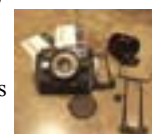


For Sale

DANGER: If you are using a first stage from a scuba regulator to fill flat tires etc and do not have a 2nd stage attached, it is possible, if the first stage fails, to have the hose explode. Carib Inn has a limited number of pressure relief valves at \$10 each to protect both you and the hose. These are small and simply screw into one of the LP ports on the first stage. Carib Inn 717-8819 8 am to 5 pm.

NIKONOS III - Camera and Macro tube Set.

Still the best UW camera for macro shots. Original owner. NEVER been flooded. Past Nikonos Shoot-Out winner. Complete NAf250. Call George 786-6215.



For sale -Dive tanks - 80 cu ft. aluminum. NAf125 Call 717-8819 8 am - 5 pm

Cars For Sale

1995 Toyota 4-Runner 5 Speed, 4 Wheel Drive Excellent Condition 11.500 NAF or \$6,650 US Call 700-0089 or 717-8019



FIAT BARCHETTA Cabrio, 1997, yellow, with hard-top and wind-stop. NAf 16,000 Tel. 786-5591.



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



The Special Olympics Walk-a-thon

The Fifth Annual Special Olympics Walk-a-Thon is on Sunday, February 4. No matter who you are you're welcome to join the groups and individuals who will be walking, biking, roller blading, whatever, from the Slave Huts to the Pasa Dia in Rincon. No matter whether it be rain or shine, the Walk-a-Thon will go on.

Every single year Norka's Place has been the first refreshment stop.



Get Your Ticket Now- Only Af25
Includes a T-shirt, canvas carrying bag, water bottle and a hot meal at



Even if you don't want to make the trek yourself you can be a sponsor of one of the groups or an individual person...or just buy a ticket and watch from the sidelines.

Tickets are only NA/25 and it all goes to send our Special Olympic athletes to compete in this year's international games in Shanghai.

The route is historically important – the road taken by the slaves between Rincon and the salt pans where they labored.

“How To” for Participants

Everyone meets at

Ex-head coach Elizabeth Wigny, the woman who started the Walkathon tradition five years ago)



GET YOUR TICKETS FROM Chat 'n' Browse
Obersi Electronics (Xerox)

Bowling di Danilo

Or from the Board of Directors:
National Director Claire Sealy
President Lupe Uranie
Treasurer Suzy Bakker
Head of Coaches Chio Semeleer
Board Member Aura Kock

the Slave Huts in the southern part of the island at 5 am, where the 30-kilometer walk begins. You may leave your car at the Stadium in Playa and take the FKPD bus which leaves at 4 am sharp to take you to the Slave Huts starting area. At the end, you'll be able to get a ride back to your car from the Pasa Dia in Rincon. Bikes also will be transported back to the Stadium. Along the route there will be refreshment stops every five kilometers.



Bicycle riders are welcome too

Some Recommendations from the pros who've done it:

Don't wear new shoes. Make sure yours are broken in already. Wear shoes a half to one size larger than you normally wear. Put baby powder on your feet. Then put Vaseline on your toes where you might have chafing. Bring along flip flops to change into if you can no longer wear your shoes. ☐



Is Here - Sunday!

TITLE SPONSOR 2007
Maduro & Curiel's Bank Bonaire



Also J.C. Herrera, Ennia

Jordy Bernabela won the first prize for the 2007 Special Olympics Bonaire logo that



will appear on the T-shirts this year. Jordy is in the 6B class at Kolegio Papa Cornes. The prize was a laptop computer. Jordy's proud parents are Nataly and Eder Bernabela.

The Red Cross will be on the road to make sure everyone is okay, and pickup trucks will be patrolling to give a lift to the tired ones. At the Pasa Dia you'll get a certificate and a delicious hot meal and drink and time to re-hash the day.

See you there! ☐L.D.



Special Olympics board members with logo contest winner Jordy Bernabela.

Can't Do The Route? But you can sponsor a walker or a group...

And... buy the book, "Recipes for Success,"

compiled by Delno Tromp for \$10 and all proceeds go to Special Olympics. It's sold at shops around town.



STRAIGHT TALK



It's all about dating, love, sex, friendship, and marriage - so let's talk. Email your relationship questions to my attention: reporter@bonairenews.com.

Question from: "Used and Taken For Granted"

Betty Wills

Dear Betty,

My boyfriend and I have been living together for about a year. We're great together and really do love each other. I'm 25, and he's 10 years older. We were both married before, and each has children. He shares joint custody of his son and daughter, ages 15 and 10. I'm a stay-at-home Mom with full custody of my five-year-old daughter. My daughter loves and respects my boyfriend, but his kids feel the opposite about me. To them, I'm nothing more than a maid, cook, and chauffeur. My boyfriend and I rarely argue, but when we do, it's usually about his kids. He wants me to act like his wife and be a mother to his kids. The problem is, I'm not his wife, and right now I'm feeling used and taken for granted. He hasn't asked me to marry him because he doesn't want to jump into another marriage until he feels comfortable it's going to work. He bought me a promise ring for Christmas, but what does that really mean?

ANSWER: Uhm, he ran out of gift ideas? I guess a promise ring is better than ring around the collar, a bathtub ring, a ring in your nose, or the ring-a-ding-ding of yet another bill collector. There are all sorts of rings, but the only one that says marriage is a wedding ring. Sounds like your guy is gun shy after his failed marriage. If he truly is gun shy, forget the shotgun wedding! Start waving a gun at him, and chances are he'll disappear forever. I'm not talking about a real gun, rather I'm talking about relationship pressure, which to some guys is the same as holding a gun to their heads. If he truly wants to spend the rest of his life with you, you won't need a gun, although handcuffs might be fun.

We teach people how to treat us – it's learned behavior - so if you allow his children, to disrespect you, they will. You can't make them love you, but you can gain their respect. One good thing about children is that they don't stay children forever. Some even mature into responsible adults. Bide your time, exercise patience, enjoy your life together, and maybe by next Christmas you'll have that wedding ring. □

JOKE OF THE DAY

Marriage is a three-ring circus:



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
2-02	12:46	1.9FT.	22:06	0.9FT.					87
2-03	13:25	1.8FT.	22:31	0.9FT.					85
2-04	13:54	1.6FT.	22:49	1.0FT.					82
2-05	14:16	1.5FT.	22:58	1.1FT.					75
2-06	7:02	1.4FT.	22:40	1.1FT.					68
2-07	6:52	1.5FT.	21:24	1.1FT.					60
2-08	7:12	1.7FT.	17:11	1.1FT.	18:12	1.1FT.	19:11	1.1FT.	51

Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

Take The Reporter Home—Subscribe Yearly Mail to US \$110; On-line \$35
Published weekly. For information about **subscriptions, stories or advertising** in **The Bonaire Reporter**, phone (599) 786-6518, 786-6125, E-mail: Reporter@bonairenews.com

The Bonaire Reporter, George DeSalvo, Publisher. Laura DeSalvo, Editor in Chief. Address: P. O. Box 407, Bonaire, Neth. Antilles. Available on-line at:

www.bonairereporter.com

Reporters: Elsmarie Beukenboom, Bruce Bowker, J@n Brouwer, David Colvard, Caren Eckrich, Jiri Lausman, Jack Horkheimer, Greta Kooistra, Dee Scarr, Jeroen Seegers, Michael Thiessen, Betty Wills

Features Editor: Greta Kooistra **Art Editor:** Wilna Groenenboom **Translations:** Peggy Bakker **Production:** Barbara Lockwood **Distribution:** Yuchi Molina (Rincon), Elizabeth Silberie (Playa); **Housekeeping:** JRA . **Printed by:** DeStad Drukkerij, Curaçao

©2007 The Bonaire Reporter

WHAT'S HAPPENING

MOVIELAND

WEEKLY MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Late Show
Call to make sure (Usually 9 pm)

Dreamgirls
(Beyonce Knowles)

Early Show (Usually 7 pm)
Rocky Balboa
(Sylvester Stallone)

Kaya Prinses Marie
Behind Exito Bakery
Tel. 717-2400

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

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
January: Happy Feet

THIS WEEK

Wednesdays in February – Happy One Year Birthday at Cactus Blue Restaurant. Dine there and win great prizes; music by Moogie. Open 5 pm until late. J.A. Abraham Blvd. #12. Tel. 717-4564

Saturday, February 3—Big Monthly Rincon Marshe—A Real Bonairean Tradition—Rincon Style—Stands selling gifts, fruits & vegetables, drinks, herbs, local foods & BBQ 6 am to 2 pm.

Saturday, February 3—Flea Market sponsored by We Dare to Care Foundation at Parke Publico behind hospital. 3-7 pm. Call 786-1592, 510-4050. More on Page 6

Sunday, February 4—Fifth Annual Special Olympics Walk-a-Thon—See Page 13.

Saturday & Sunday, Feb. 3 & 4 – Bonaire Tumba Festival 2007 – Adults on Feb. 3; Children on Feb. 4 – Telbo Festival Center

Sunday, February 4—Super Bowl XLI—City Café, 5 pm

Sunday, February 4 - Bonaire Hotel and Tourism Association (BONHATA) 10th Anniversary Awards, 6 to 10 pm, Sunrise Restaurant, Sand Dollar Condominiums. Tickets at the BONHATA office, NAf50 each and includes a welcome drink, substantial snacks and happy hour prices all night. Marion Wilson at 717-5134, Fax 717-8534, E-mail: marion@bonhata.org. See page 4.

Monday, February 5—Lac Bai Survey Meeting, STINAPA office at Barcadera. All persons interested are invited, 4 pm. More on page 4.

Until March 30—Guest Artist Markus Taurer Exhibit at the Cinnamon Art Gallery.

COMING

Saturday, February 10 - The 2nd BWC Mountain Bike Tour. Meet at Eden Beach Resort Activity Center at 4 pm. NAf15 per person (includes drink + fruits). Sign up at Eden Beach Activity Center Monday through Saturday, 9am - 5pm or day of the tour. **Notice:** Helmets are compulsory for the tour and can be rented at Eden's Activity Center

Arts and Crafts Markets at Wilhelmina Park on Cruise Ship Visiting Days starting 10 am to early afternoon: Tues. Feb. 6 -*Maasdam*; Wed. Feb. 7, *Crown Princess*, Mon. Feb. 12, *Lili Marleen*, Tues. Feb. 13—*Veendam*, *Sea Princess*; Wed. Feb. 21 - *Crown Princess*; Thurs. Feb. 22 - Silver Wind; Tues. Feb. 27 - *Lili Marleen*

REGULAR EVENTS

Daily (more or less)

- HH 2 for 1 (all beverages) 5-7 pm, **Divi Flamingo Balashi Beach Bar**
- HH—50% off **Buddy Dive Resort**, 5:30-6:30
- HH **Cactus Blue** (except Sun.) 5-6
- 2 for 1 appetizers with entrée 6-7, **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

- **Steak Night** On the Beach (a la carte) - **Buddy Dive Resort**, kitchen open 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm
- **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, 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 to 7 pm, 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 ambiance at the **Chibi Chibi Restaurant & Bar, Divi Flamingo**. Open daily 5-10 pm
- Mondays**
- **Beginning Yoga** 6.30pm Harbour Village 786-6416
 - Fish or Meat **Dinner Special for only \$10,-** **Buddy Dive Resort**, kitchen open from 6:00 pm - 21:30 pm
 - **Soldachi Tour of Rincon**, the heart of Bonaire, 9 am-noon. \$20-Call Maria 717-6435

Tuesdays

- **Advanced Yoga** 6.30pm Harbour Village 786-6416
- **Live music by the Flamingo Rock-**

ers, 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**.
- **Beach BBQ 7-10 & Live music by Flamingo Rockers -The Windsurf Place** at Sorobon—Reserve ahead. Tel. 717-5091, 717-2288
- Live music by **Flamingo Rockers, Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar** 5-6:30.
- **Caribbean Night A la Carte - Buddy Dive Resort**, kitchen open from 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Thursdays

- **Live music by the Flamingo Rockers, Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar**, 5-7
- **"Admiral's Hour" for yachtsmen and others**, Vespucci Restaurant, Harbour Village Marina. HH drinks, gratis tapas, 5-7
- **Buddy's Bingo Show - Buddy Dive Resort**, 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm

Fridays

- **Mixed Level Yoga** 8.30am Buddy Dive 786-6416
- **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
- **Free Rum Punch Party** (5:30 pm - 6:30 pm) & All-u-can-eat BBQ (7:00 pm - 22:00 pm) - **Buddy Dive Resort**
- **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
- Monday—Dee Scarr's "Touch the Sea"** Slide Show, Capt. Don's Habitat, 8:30 pm. Call 717-8290.
- Wednesday (2nd and 4th) Turtle Conservation (STCB) Slide Show by Bruce Brabec.** Carib Inn seaside veranda, 7 pm, 717-8819.

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 Bonaire Talker 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.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 Claire 717-8290

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

Tel: 786-6518 or 786-6125

DINING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue

RESTAURANT	PRICE RANGE / WHEN OPEN	FEATURES
Balashi Beach Bar Bar and Beach Service At the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort Waterfront	Open every day 8am - 8pm. Happy Hour, two for one, 6-7 pm.	Extensive snack/salad/burger. Menu available daily from noon.
Bella Vista Restaurant Sea Side Restaurant at Buddy Dive Resort 717-5080, ext. 538	Moderate. Breakfast daily 6:30 am - 10:00 am. Lunch daily 11:30 - 17:30 am. Dinner on theme nights 6:00 pm - 10 pm.	Buddy's Magnificent Theme Nights: Sat. - Steak Night A la Carte; Mon. - Fish or Meat Dinner Special (\$10,-); Wed. - Caribbean Night A la Carte; Fri. - Free Rum Punch Party (5:30- 6:30 pm) and All-u-can-eat BBQ for \$ 19.50 (7:00 - 10:00 pm)
Bistro de Paris 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 to 10 pm	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	Biggest BBQ Buffet on Bonaire every Saturday from 6-9pm. Only NAf 28 or \$15.75.
The Great Escape EEG Blvd #97—across from Belmar 717-7488	Moderate Breakfast Sandwich Lunch 10 am-12 noon	Bar-Restaurant poolside—under the thatched roof. Breakfast Buffet 7:30-10 am every day Super beer selection—Happy hours 5 to 7 daily.
The Last Bite Bakery Kaya Grandi 70 717-3293	Low-Moderate Open Tuesday through Saturday 7:30am-5:30pm; Sat. 9am-2pm	NAf10 take out lunch every day - main dish with 2 side dishes. Special on Tuesday and Thursday: Lasagna.
Papaya Moon Cantina Downtown— Kaya Grandi 48 717-5025	Moderate Open everyday except Tuesday For Dinner	Margaritas a Specialty 2 for 1 Happy Hour 6-7:30 Incredible Mexican Cuisine
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 ingredi- ents. Salads, desserts. Eat in or take away. Nice bar too. Call ahead to eat-in or take out 790-1111
The Bonaire Windsurfing Place At Sorobon Beach Get away from it all.	Low-Moderate Open from 10am-6 pm daily,	A genuine sandy beach restaurant cooled by the trade winds Top quality food and friendly service. Reserve for the Wednesday Beach BBQ.

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. Now flying to Aruba.

APPLIANCES /TV/ ELECTRONICS/ COMPUTERS

City Shop, the mega store, has the island's widest selection of large and small home appliances, furniture, TV, computers, cell phones and more. 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 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.

WATER TAXI

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

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, Monday-Saturday 9 am-12 noon.

ATTENTION BUSINESSMEN/WOMEN:

Put your ad in *The Bonaire Reporter*.
Tel. 786-6518, 786-6125

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

On the Island Since ... 1989

Linda Baker

“I am originally from Canada and I knew for a long time I was going to live in the Caribbean, but I didn’t know where. Then I started diving in Canada; it was okay but not my favorite thing to do. I went straight to Australia and Fiji and dove there. Then I took another class in Canada, met some more divers and went to Curaçao for a two-week diving vacation and... I still wasn’t hot!

I can remember what changed it. When I was taking another course I had this light-bulb moment and I thought: This could be my ticket out of here. My field was therapeutic recreation and my specialty was using arts and crafts as a tool for educating. I’d started working in the field with blind people when I was 13, then with autistic kids when I was in high school. That’s what I did before graduation. When I got my degree I was either overqualified or under qualified. Mostly they wanted me in management, but I wanted to work with the kids. I never got a job in the field. But I needed work, so for a joke I went down to the railway – they were hiring – and they hired me. So yeah, 13 years later I was disgusted – I hated my job. The people were great but the work sucked. It was office work and I don’t do office work!

When I got my instructor’s certificate I put my resume with PADI-Canada and waited for a phone call. I was at my brother’s house when I got a call from Anton Heetkamp of Dive Inn. I bounced off walls; nobody believed it and the only question I asked was ‘When do you need me?’ They replied: ‘As soon as possible!’ I went to work the next day and handed in my resignation; this was so unusual for me. Two weeks later I called Anton back to ask all the important questions, packed up the house and then came to Bonaire.

We worked at Sunset Beach and I did seven months there. Then I made the decision to go to work for Bruce Bowker who was looking for a new instructor and... that’s it! I am still at Carib Inn and it’s going to be 16 years in May. With Anton we’d work six days a week, but with Bruce we work five – wonderful... two days off – heaven!

The first few years I rented and then I bought the house here in Nort di Salina. It’s been 14 years in this house. Bonaire was small, quiet and peaceful; it was unique and it had not been westernized yet and I loved it. We used to joke that there were no traffic lights, but now I am waiting for that to be changed... I

don’t like the way the island has changed; I think it’s very, very negative and I am afraid that the Bonaireans and we who have been here very long are going to lose our quality of life. There was crime back then, but there’s more of it now and it’s harsher. It’s sad for me to see all the Bonairean houses being ripped down and being replaced by mansions and condos. The places that I used to walk in nature are no more; there are fewer and fewer every year and... it sounds so negative but it really truly burns through my soul how they are changing it. My biggest worry is that the Antilleans are going to be pushed to the side and the middle class in general will shrink and the lower class is going to get much bigger.

“...I don’t like the way the island has changed; I think it’s very, very negative and I am afraid that the Bonaireans and we who have been here very long are going to lose our quality of life...”

What I am seeing is that when all the real estate businesses came in the prices went from guilders to dollars and I am afraid the Antilleans who are growing up now will end up in government housing. If I hadn’t bought this house when I did there’s no way I could afford a house now. It scares me, but only because I come where I’ve come from and I have seen it and there’s no way back. Foreigners can always go home, but the Antilleans have nowhere to run. I am concerned. I am lucky where I live; I am still with all the Antilleans – in the heart of Bonaire. Again, I don’t want to sound so negative and if I had the solution for the island I would work on it, but I have no idea. They have to cut down building, they have to sit down and talk about what they’re doing and not to have just a mish mash of buildings going up everywhere. The environment has to be considered, that’s the number one priority.”

Linda Baker is a true person with a big heart and a lot of common sense. She’s truly sad and worried about the direction the island is heading for and that doesn’t make her a negative lady, only a very realistic one.

“I travel a lot and I’ve made it around the world finally. I’ve made six of the seven continents, but I still haven’t fig-



Linda Baker

ured out what to do with Antarctica, ha! ha! Yes, I do look at other places as a possible alternative option to Bonaire, but I still haven’t found it – Bonaire is still my home. I thought I’d found Utopia, but it’s gone. However... if they stop right now, I could stay. It’s heart wrenching, because honestly, I don’t see it happening. I was trying to remember when I started to sound so negative, because that was not the me when I got here. I still love walking through Washington Park with my buddy Kalli, and I still enjoy running, especially from Oil Slick to BOPEC and I still enjoy riding my bike in the kunuku. When I was younger I used to travel to cities because I wanted to party. Then I was introduced back into nature and now I travel!

I completed my A-list, the four most important things I wanted to do: 1. Make it around the world. 2. Climb Kilimanjaro. 3. See Africa. 4. Run a marathon. I am still working on my B-list, but on the top of it is to do the Iron Man one day. I used to say I was going to do the Iron Man for my 70th birthday; I would retire at 65 and that would give me five years of training, ha! ha! At 30 I took up scuba; at 40 I did the triathlon; at 50 I did the marathon and now I’m heading for the Iron Man: 2.4 miles swim, 112 miles biking and a 26.2 miles run.

Of course I don’t feel negative all day long; there are many things that give me joy. I have my pets, I have my orchids and I count fish with Reef. Since I started my orchids, about seven years ago when I went to Costa Rica, I started asking around for other people buying them for me and that’s how I met people who are growing them. I wasn’t having any success with orchids until about two years ago. Now they are all

blooming for me! Recently I met someone from BOPEC who’s thinking of shipping them in from Indonesia and he and I are thinking about getting together with other orchid people to make that dream come true! So, there may be an orchid club one day.

I could talk about traveling forever. I love traveling. I look for culture, foods and lifestyles. One of my favorite places in Africa was at an orphanage. An African, Kenyan couple has one child of their own. She loves children and started adopting and it never stopped. When I first arrived there were 150 children. I went off and came back and she’d picked up three more. And when I went to Tanzania for three weeks I returned and there were two more. Last I heard through Delno Tromp that she’s gotten three more babies! It’s a small building on a small piece of land and they started a school and they’re building a church and the children were all so happy and grateful for what little they have. It was just a happy, happy place! I can donate to a place like that and I can go and volunteer for a while, but I can’t live that lifestyle because I need money to travel. I couldn’t live in a really poor place, I couldn’t live in a shanty-town, but also I could never live in Monte Carlo or Dubai. I just want it to be medium; work a regular job, have a beat-up car and a place to call home because my life has never been about money and keeping up with the Joneses. The one thing I can’t give up is traveling; it’s my addiction – there are still mountains to climb and oceans to swim...” □



Story & photo by Greta Kooistra

A Shrink Studies SCUBA



Bonaire dive buddy Andy Owens on the Wild Side of Bonaire David Colvard

When I wrote two weeks ago that I would “report the survey results on decompression symptoms and their relationship to obesity, an area of some question in the dive literature,” I had no idea what a firestorm that would set off.

My Bonaire dive buddy Andy Owens, who has already lost a great deal of weight and is trying to lose more, let me know what he thought of it:

“What you don’t get, because you are skinny, is that the reason there are a lot of big divers is that it is a sport that they can do, so let’s be careful not to take that away, too. I used to be 380 and I could dive better than 90% of everyone I ever dove with when I was at that weight. If you are morbidly obese, then a little extra DCS (decompression sickness, “The Bends” to the layman) risk is the least of your concerns. The highest risk for DCS is bad dive technique. I think that if big divers are properly trained, then the risk you might see in the numbers could be reduced.”

When I sent my survey data chart of DCS symptoms versus BMI sorted by gender (Table 1) over to friends at Divers Alert Network, I got this response from Vice President of Research Richard (Dick) Vann, Ph.D.:

“This is interesting, David, and consistent with the literature of the past 50 years or so (see Bove’s *Diving Medicine 3rd edition* page 156 and Bennett & Elliott’s *The Physiology and Medicine of Diving 4th edition* page 383). For fat animals and for fat humans in the early days of diving (probably before the 1956 USN tables), there was an unambiguous correlation between weight/obesity and DCS risk. A number of published studies indicate that this is no longer true for humans although it is still true for animals.”

“Why might this be? My supposition is

that human dive procedures have become much safer than they used to be (before the USN tables) both in the overall DCS incidence and DCS severity. Further, I suppose that obesity is a risk factor for serious DCS but not for mild DCS. I can’t prove this right now, but we are working on methods that may allow us to estimate separate probabilities for mild and serious DCS while controlling for the dive profile. This might be helpful. So, you can see from your own data why data are so important and why received wisdom (in this case increased DCS risk with increased BMI) needs to be questioned rather accepted without thought.”

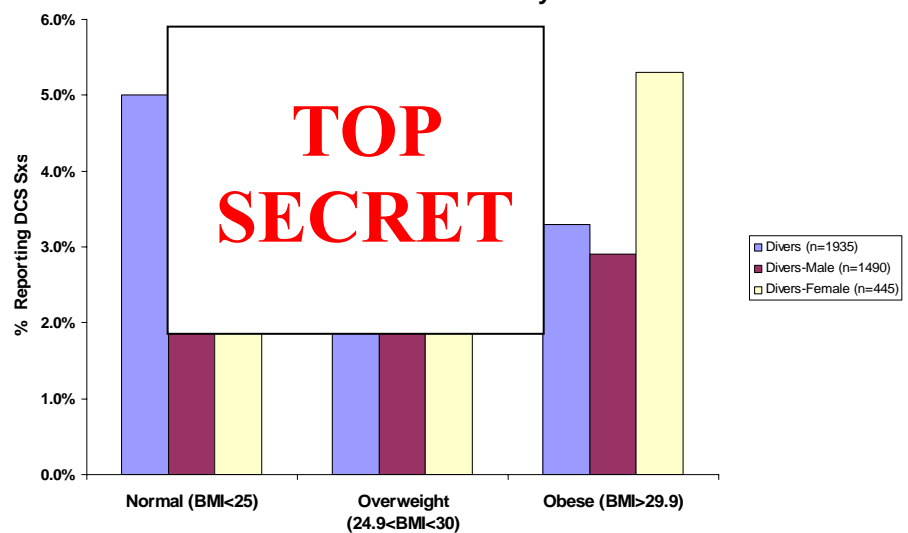
I also heard from Neal W. Pollock, Ph.D., Research Associate, Center for Hyperbaric Medicine and Environmental Physiology at Duke University Medical Center: “I am quite uncomfortable with your association of BMI and DCS. Most importantly, BMI does not provide a measure of body composition. As you have observed previ-

ously, high BMI values can also indicate relatively high muscle mass. While elevated body fat may be more common, the data are confounded by not knowing what type of tissue is responsible for the high values. More direct estimates of body composition such as those relying on skin-fold thickness or hydrostatic weight are necessary to talk about obesity. Using BMI is just stirring up muddy waters with a very muddy stick. There is enough ambiguity in the fatness/DCS argument to not want to add to it. I encourage you to postpone the discussion until you get more relevant data.”

If you still want to know what I found and promise not to ever tell anybody, then please feel free to email me at david@divepsych.com and I’ll check your security clearance.

Next week Andy and I will focus on helping overweight people dive more safely. □ David F. Colvard, M.D

Table 1. Scuba Divers Reporting Decompression Symptoms in 2003 as a Function of Body Mass Index



David F. Colvard, M.D., is a private psychiatrist and clinical investigator in Raleigh NC, and a divemaster. He hosts the website www.DivePsych.com which provides evidence-based information for divers on psychological and stress factors in scuba divers. □

Sunbelt Realty
Your own piece of Paradise
Kaya LD Gerharts 8
Tel 717 65 60
info@sunbelt.an www.sunbelt.an

Home-Beauty-Income-Appreciation—this Villa has it all!

Cross the road and step into the Caribbean from this **stylish, superb Bonaire property**. Adjacent to a small, full-service hotel making it perfect for your full-time home, seasonal get-away or income rental. Architect designed with flowering inner garden, the villa, exemplifying both Caribbean and Antillean architecture, is perched just above the ocean. View of the sea from nearly every room! Quality construction, very low maintenance.



Living room, modern kitchen, three bedrooms, (one a separate apartment), Airco, 3½ baths, Travertine floors and baths, luxury fittings, atrium, two terraces, mature tropical gardens and much more.

Lot: 811 sq. m. (8730 sq. ft). House: 226 sq. m. (2433 sq. ft.)

\$535,000 Contact Sunbelt Realty (Ad at left)



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

Winter Skies

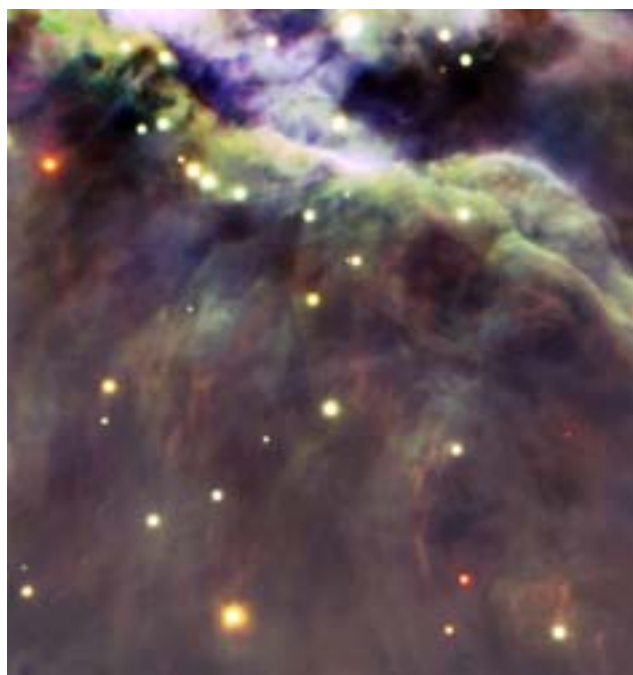
In the Sky Park winter sky you can see more bright stars in a shorter time than in any other season. Plus winter skies contain some of the most incredible cosmic objects you can ever see with the naked eye. And one of the most wonderful and my personal favorite is a star which really isn't a star at all.

Anytime during the next few weeks in early evening face east where you will see winter's most famous constellation, **Orion the Hunter**. Three evenly spaced stars in a row mark his belt, and above them two brilliant stars mark his shoulders, and below two more mark his knees. And although I usually talk about these brightest stars every January, this year I'd like to zero in on one of Orion's dimmer "stars" because as magnificent as Orion's bright stars are, it is one of his dimmer stars that is one of the most awesome wonders of our nearby universe.

To find it simply look below his three evenly spaced belt stars for three more evenly spaced, much, much dimmer stars which make up his sword. And then if you look very carefully at these three stars you will notice that no matter how sharp your eyesight is, the middle "star" always seems to look fuzzy and slightly out of focus. And that's because this so-called middle star is not a star at all but something we call a **Nebula**, which is a great cosmic cloud of gas and dust out of which brand new stars have been and are still being born. In fact this nebula, the **Orion Nebula**, is a stellar womb, a birthplace and nursery of stars, a place where new stars are being created. And incredibly you can see this great cloud and some of the new born stars embedded in it with even the cheapest pair of binoculars. And even better, with a small telescope you'll be able to see the four recently born stars which illuminate this vast cloud. They are arranged in the shape of a baseball diamond and are called the **Trapezium**.

Now although the Orion Nebula looks tiny to the naked eye, in reality its size is mind boggling because there is enough material in this nebula to produce over 10,000 stars the size of our **Sun**. In fact, it is an outrageous 30 light years in diameter, which means it takes 30 years for light to travel from one end of it to the other; so huge it would take 20,000 of our solar systems lined up end to end to reach from one edge of the Nebula to the other. Or to put it another way, if the distance from our **Earth** to the Sun were only one inch, the distance across the Orion Nebula would be 12 miles. Is that mind boggling or what?

So get outside to see the wonderful fuzzy middle "star" in the sword of Orion and experience some of the awe and wonder of winter's brilliant night skies. □ *Jack Horkheimer*



Trapezium



THE STARS HAVE IT

Sunday, January 28 to Saturday, February 3

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) You may get upset with peers or relatives. Look into alternate means of supporting your financial burdens. Romantic encounters are evident through travel or educational pursuits. You will be able to pick up on future trends if you keep your eyes peeled for unique ideas. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Your creative imagination will help you in coming up with unique ideas. You can discuss your intentions and ideas with your colleagues or friends this week. Get involved in creative projects that could turn into moneymaking ventures. You can make alterations to your appearance that everyone will admire. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Make those phone calls and pay your bills. You are ready to blow up and your stress level has gone into overdrive. Your philanthropic contributions will bring you praise. Don't let your emotions interfere with your professional integrity. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) You can offer your help to others, but back off if they appear to be offended by your persistence. If you join intellectual or cultural groups, you should meet individuals who stimulate you. Trips will be more than adventurous. Lovers may prove unworthy of your affection. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) You will learn a great deal from the foreigners you meet. You can have quite the romantic adventure if you take time to get to know your mate all over again. Relationships will be emotional this week. Sit back. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Watch for empty promises that may give you false hope. Spend time getting into physical activities with your lover. Jealousy may be a contributing factor to your emotional ups and downs. Do something that will be stimulating and creative. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Put aside any decisions concerning your position at work. You need to pamper yourself for a change. You can make changes that will enhance your appearance. Help if you can, but more than likely it will be sufficient just to listen. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) You could experience unusual circumstances and meet eccentric individuals. Your outgoing nature might work against you this week. Your unique contribution to the organization will enhance your reputation. It will be important that you have your priorities straight. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Organization will be the key to avoiding discord and family feuds. Don't count your chickens before they hatch. Residential moves will be favorable, and larger quarters the most probable direction. Organize your day to avoid any setbacks that might ignite temper flare-ups. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Look into physical activities that will help get rid of some of that tension you may be feeling. Pamper yourself; you deserve it. You would be wise to socialize with as many people as possible. Look before you leap. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Make plans to meet again in the near future. Real estate ventures will be to your advantage. You should consider getting your whole family involved in a project at home. Your self esteem will come back if you take part in organizational functions that allow you to be in the lime light. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) You can get others to do things for you but be sure not to overpay them or lend them money. Electrical problems may be an issue. Get involved in groups that can offer intellectual stimulation. This week is not the day to try to come people by giving them ultimatums. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday. □

DO YOU SUDOKU? ANSWER

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

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