

**It's
still
Free!**

BONAIRE

March 2-9, 2007 Volume 14, Issue 10

The REPORTER

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

SINCE 1994

Bonaire's Bats Key to Cactus

Page 18

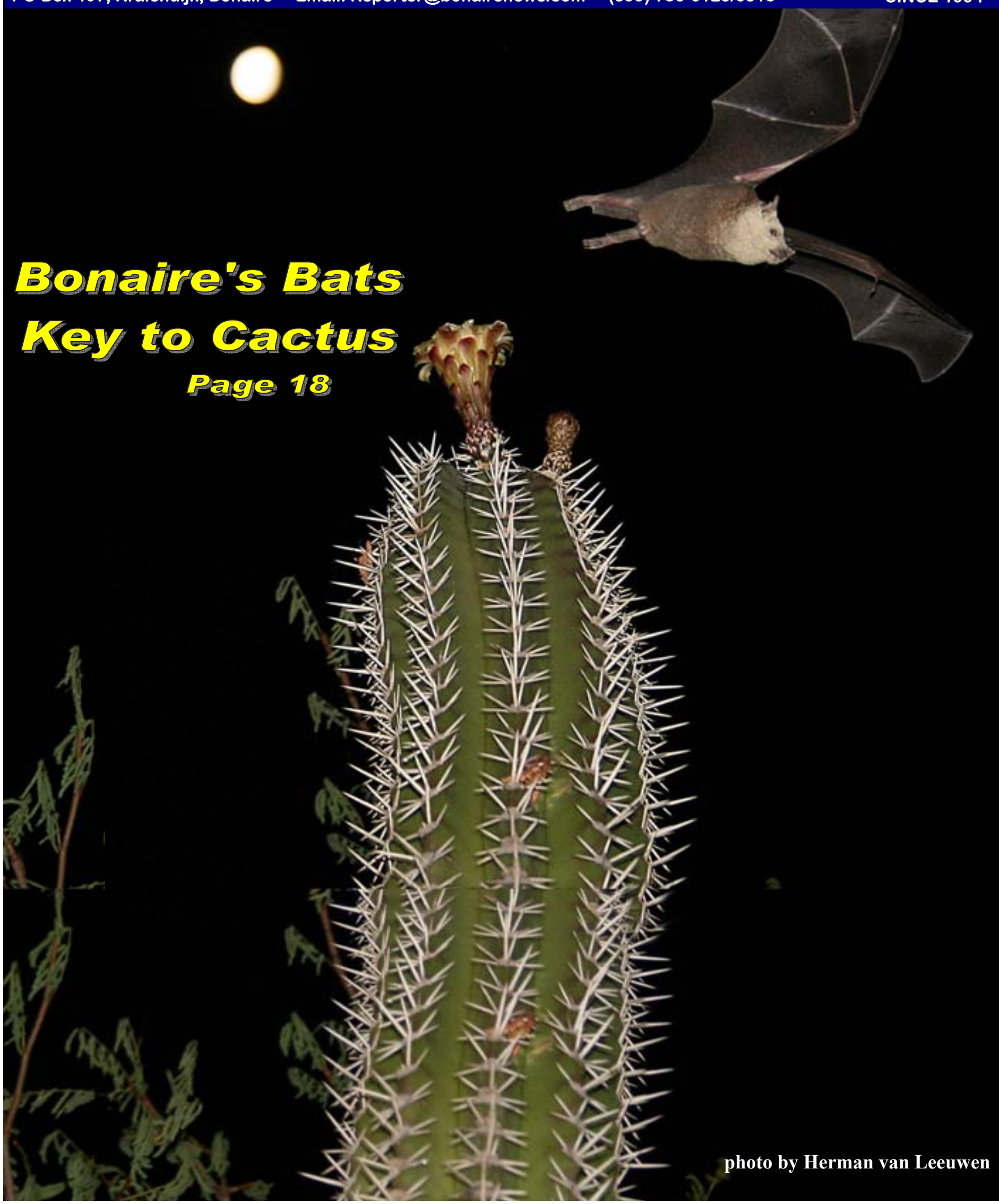


photo by Herman van Leeuwen

Flotsam and Jetsam

A new Dutch government, sworn in Thursday by Queen

Beatrix, and Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende, pledged to strive for stability after years of turmoil. Balkenende heads his fourth

Cabinet in just over four

years, a period overshadowed by the killings of right wing politician Pim Fortuyn in 2002 and controversial film maker Theo van Gogh two years later.

The new government was installed three months after parliamentary elections delivered a shift back to the center following four years of conservative rule.

The 16 ministers, 11 state secretaries and the Queen posed briefly for photographs on the steps of the Huis ten Bosch palace after a closed-door, oath-taking ceremony.

► **“The cabinet will pay the necessary attention to the transition process of the political restructuring of the Netherlands**

Antilles,” said Dutch Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende in the report of his formation activities that he sent to the Lower House at the opening of Parliament last week.

► **Ank Bijleveld**, who was sworn in last week as State Secretary for Kingdom Relations along with the rest of the new Dutch Government, hopes that the election results in Curaçao on April 20th “will be one that would let us make progress.” “I really hope that, because it is better for the people of



Balkenende cabinet ministers with the Queen Dutch info services

Curaçao.” She is not advising the people how to vote, but she does hope that the people will ‘think hard about the importance of the final statement.”

“If you consider the social-economic and financial aspects, then you will observe that what was agreed upon is simply good and the people can only benefit from them.” Curaçao did not sign the agreement which was signed by all the other Antillean islands because it allowed Dutch supervision of the Judiciary.

► Other than State Secretary Ank Bijleveld, **Justice Minister Ernst Hirsch Ballin is also going to be involved in Kingdom Relations.** “We have now agreed upon mutual involvement,” said the Minister during the press conference after the swearing in of the Balkenende IV cabinet. “The



State Secretary Ank Bijleveld will be responsible for restructuring the Antilles

Dutch info services photo



Justice Minister Ernst Hirsch Ballin

Dutch info services photos

person charged with forming this cabinet asked me to do this and said that he knows that I know the Antilles and Aruba very well and that I will do this with dedication.” “Mrs. Bijleveld will take on almost all the responsibilities of former Minister Nicolaï. Hirsch Ballin will deal with legislation. After they are done with all the negotiations, Hirsch Ballin will put them into legislation.” Bijleveld doesn’t expect any problems. “In addition to his other responsibilities, the Justice-Minister does the few things that have to do with lawmaking.

Hirsch Ballin will be responsible for the Statute, essentially, “for the amendments in connection with the restructuring of the Antilles and also for the legislation, the regulations to interpret the Statute.” Ballin praised former Minister Nicolaï: “He has done excellent work in the past and it was agreed to try to arrange the restructuring by December 15th, 2008.”

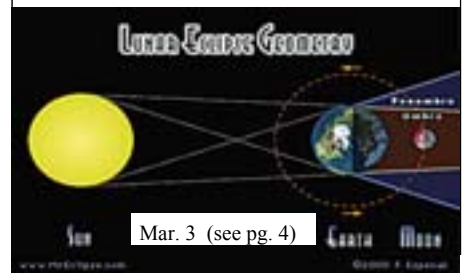
► **Ramonsito Booi reacted** to the announcement that a State Secretary rather than a full Minister would handle the Kingdom Relations portfolio: “We prefer (rather than a Minister) a State Secretary who will dedicate herself to the small islands rather than a Minister who does not have enough time.” According to Booi the fact that State Secretary Ank Bijleveld-Schouten belongs to the CDA party is good for Bonaire because the PDB has good contacts with that Dutch political party.

(Continued on page 3)

BONAIRE THIS WEEK: The REPORTER

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coral glimpses

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

Although flower coral doesn't build massive formations, the polyps grow and split like the polyps of massive formations. The polyp(s) in the center of the photo is (are) in the process of splitting; three split polyps surround it (them).

Caption & photos by Dee Scarr.



Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 2.

► Eefje van der Straten-van Twillert will open her art exposition at Kas di Arte this Sunday 4 March at 6 pm.

She is a well known Aruban artist who studied in The Netherlands and has also designed stamps and illustrated books. Over the past year the sea was a source of inspiration to the artist.

Her art tells a tale about the sea, a tale which is in fact not yet finished because new things are always being discovered. This show features 30 works focusing on the sea around Bonaire. The exposition will be open daily from 4 March from 5-7.30 pm. Entry is free. □



One of Eefje's works on exhibit Kas di Arte photo

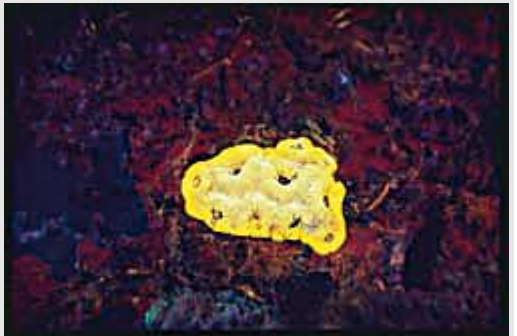
Flotsam continued on page 4.

Bubbles from the Biologist

Did You Know...that there are hundreds of invisible corals, anemones, and fire-worms in the rubble and sand areas that most everyone ignores?

It's incredible! Last week, I had the distinct pleasure of diving with Dr. Charles Mazel, a leading scientist in the field of marine fluorescence. We went out with specialized equipment that he developed (and which is available through his business, NightSea) in search of fluorescence. With a blue light and visors that fit on the outside of your mask, there's no need to even search! Brilliant oranges, greens, and yellows belonging to all sorts of critters jumped out at us. And gorgeous fireworms were EVERYWHERE! I saw several stunning anemones and nudibranchs that I had never seen in over 15 years of underwater observations and research. Teeny tiny coral spat (juvenile corals) and anemones would glow brightly but – POOF – would simply become invisible (too clear to detect) when I would switch off my blue light, remove my visor and use my normal dive light.

What an excellent tool for scientists studying coral recruitment! So, if you (photographers and instructors especially) think that contacting the bottom in the sand and rubble zones is harmless, you're dead wrong. This experience has changed my views and will indeed change my behavior when I'm cruising over sand and rubble areas. What a revolution and inspiration to the reef's complexity and abundance of life! □ Caren Eckrich



Fluorescence coral Photos by Charles Mazel

Caren Eckrich teaches Coral Reef Ecology and Scientific Diving to American University students at the CIEE Research Station Bonaire. She's also the Director of Sea & Discover, a marine education center offering interactive learning programs to kids and adults. You can reach her at 717-5322 □ .



(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 3)

► **Commissioner Harlton 'Onnie' Emerenciana has instructed the Economic Affairs and Labor Administration (DEZA) to conduct a quick scan to get an idea of the number of persons who are unemployed and of those who are employed but are looking for another job.** The department also wants to get an overview of persons who want to start their own business and instances where businesses are looking for workers. In connection with this, DEZA will organize a "walk and meet" at the end of this month. This is a new concept where DEZA employees invite proprietors and other clients of DEZA to meet. Five different groups will be arranged: the economy of Bonaire, the labor market, permits requests, the future, and complaints.



Commissioner Harlton 'Onnie' Emerenciana
BVO photo

DEZA believes this exercise is very important to guide the economy of Bonaire in the desired direction. Commissioner Emerenciana also says that DEZA will soon publish the figures that illustrate the current economic situation.

In addition DEZA will establish a help desk for complaints in order to improve service. There were several informal complaints on DEZA in the past years. If someone is not satisfied with a DEZA response he or she can submit a complaint

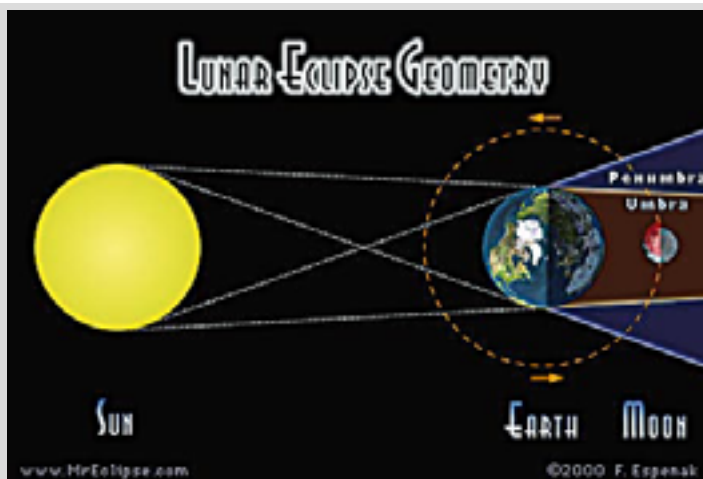
to the head of DEZA who must give an answer in writing within three weeks. If the person does not receive a reaction within the three weeks, he/she can send a letter to the office of the Lt. Governor who also has three weeks to handle the complaint.

Complaints about service or staff can be sent by e-mail to afdDEZA@bonaireeconomy.org, or by letter to Kaya Amsterdam # 21 or phone 717-5330 extension 236.

► **Last Saturday's American Eagle flight from San Juan was diverted to Curaçao because there were no lights at the airport.** Sections of Bonaire also experienced an outage on Saturday when WEB lost power. After circling to wait for power to be restored from the airport's emergency electric plant the ATR began the final approach after the lights came on again. However, before it could land the power failed again. The plane then flew to Curaçao. Passengers had to wait in the plane on the tarmac for the aircraft to be refueled and then it returned to Bonaire, landing just before midnight.

► **This week campaigning for Bonaire's Island Council will begin in earnest.** Contending are: UPB-Patriotic Union (color: green); the current majority party led by Ramonsito Booi; the ADB-Aliansa Demokrátiko Boneriano (color: red), the coalition of PDB Democrat, PABOSO-Socialist and PAN-Labor led by Jopie Abraham; and the PRO Pro Development (color: orange) a new political force led by Benito Dirksz. Elections are set for April 20.

► Almost two and a half years have passed since the moon plunged completely into the Earth's shadow. **But since you are on Bonaire you should be able to see an excellent total eclipse of the moon right after sunset on Saturday, March 3.** The eclipse will already be in progress when the Sun sets and the Moon rises, two events that happen almost simultaneously on a lunar eclipse night. Because some of the sunlight that strikes our Earth is diffused and scattered by our atmosphere, its shadow is not completely dark. Enough of this light reaches the Moon to give it an eerie coppery glow even when it's totally eclipsed. It is anticipated that during the upcoming total eclipse the Moon will glow brightest across its upper portion, while its lower part (closest to the center of the shadow) will appear a darker shade of brown or chocolate color.



► **Enhancement and protection of Bonaire's kunuku lifestyle is one method of preserving the island's culture.** Recently, under its current President, Sidney Manuel, Kriabon has been more active than ever. Kriabon is an agricultural cooperative that protects and advances the interests of Bonaire's farmers, *kununkeros*. Last month it held a meeting to lay future plans.



Kunuku highway Marian Walthie photo

The main points discussed included a campaign to promote the husbandry of animals and planting on farms and gardens; taking a census of farm animals and ear-tagging or otherwise marking them, improving the security of the farms and

protecting them from rustling and vandalism. LVV, the government agricultural

(Continued on page 5)

BONAIRE The REPORTER has moved!

The Bonaire Reporter has moved its headquarters to the Bolivia plantation area of Bonaire.

The new address is Bonaire Reporter, P.O. Box 407, Kralendijk, Bonaire, Neth. Antilles.

The telephone numbers are: 786-6518 and 786-6125.
Backup numbers are: 796-6125, 790-6518 and 790-8988

Email and website remain the same:

reporter@bonairenews.com

www.bonairereporter.com

There is no fax number at this time.

(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 4)

service managed by Rocky Emers, will provide technical assistance and cover 50% of the costs for many activities. Animal veterinary services are also subsidized.

The next Kriabon meeting is set for 31 March.

► **Hollywood has its Oscars and around the same time Bonaire has its Duofest.** Last Monday the competition for Bonaire's best duos was held aboard the cruise ship *Freewinds*. The envelope please...

Most Promising: Joulaiika Molina & Simon Quant for *Si te hase falta*

composed by Oscar Alberto/Abudelo Molina, arranged by Byron Tromp

Most Popular: The Shining Stars Duo - Gilberto Martis & Syphard Willem

Composer-First Place: Mary Tjin-A-Sjoe for *Balor di Amor*

Composer-Second Place: Jon Hilgers for *Silent Place*

Best Arrangement: Orlando Tjin A Sjoe for *Balor di Amor*

Third Runner-up: Duo Dulsura- Dinayda Figaroa & Wesley Sint Jago for *Mi ta mi só*, composed and arranged by Byron Tromp.

Second Runner-up: Duo HEAVEN- Janina Cicilia & Yelrish Nicolaas for *Huntu den Orashon*, Composed by Janina Cicilia/ Sigfried Molina, Arranged by Sigfried Molina

First Runner-up: THE SHINING STARS Duo- Gilberto Martis & Syphard Willem

for *Balor di Amor*, composed by Mary Tjin A Sjoe, arranged by Orlando Tjin A Sjoe

Overall Winner: LOTUS Duo - Jon Hilgers & Martina Gerling for *Silent Place*, composed and arranged by Jon Hilgers



Winners Martina Gerling & Jon Hilgers

► The oceanographic research ship *Savannah* has been investigating the seabed around the power plant in Curaçao and there is speculation that soon it **will do the same around**

Bonaire. It is checking the sea bottom in anticipation of a seawater cooling project for Aquaelectra, Curaçao's electric power provider. The seabed was mapped up to a depth of 900 meters. The temperature at this depth is 5.5°C. The water from there will be piped up to the shore and used to provide cooling for nearby resorts.

The target for completion is April 2008. The cool



Savannah Internet photo

water system is expected to provide savings of 20 to 50% of the current energy costs.

► This is not an April Fool joke. **The Bonaire Tower is one of the four buildings at the Park Island development**, a premium four-tower designer condominium complex that offers upscale community living in its own exclusive district at Dubai Marina. Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates on the Persian Gulf, is one of the main competitors for tourism in the world; Bonaire rises to 28 storeys above the flat. The island towers, built amidst cascading and stepped water features, palm trees and terraced planting beds, offer a choice of one and two bedrooms. □G./L. D



The "logo" for the new foundation

► **The first steps to get Bonaire an encyclopedia were begun with the formation of the foundation *Fundashon Ensiklopedia Bonaire***, abbreviated to FEBON. The main mission of the foundation is to establish encyclopedic information for Bonaire. The idea to start this project originated during the second half of 2005 after Henry Toré, Frans Booi and Bòi Antoin worked together on a commemorative book for the Maduro & Curiel's Bank Bonaire. They involved other persons, like John Schermer, a person who cherishes a great love for Bonaire and who has done research at the National Archives of the Netherlands Antilles. At a later stage Maria Elena Domacassé-Vis, Nathalie Schermer, Hubert Vis and Dick Dissel also joined this group.

If you have information to contribute to the encyclopedia visit the (Papiamentu/Dutch/English language) website www.febon.org, email info@febon.com or call 717-8482. If you wish to contribute to this project you can make a deposit to FEBON in MCB account 114.259-03

Hands Across the Sea



Bòì Antoin, SKAL's Hubert Vis, Mayor Baukje Galama, Governor Domacassé, Edith Strauss-Mercera, Ruud Vermulen, Mayor Joke Geldorp, Co DeKonig

Many wonderful things have been accomplished when people of like minds can sit down and just have a chat.

That's been happening this week as two mayors of Dutch islands are on Bonaire and meeting for four days and discussing things that islands have in common. Their islands are considered "municipalities" of Holland, as will be Bonaire in December 2008.

Baukje Galama is mayor of Vlieland (population: 1,700) and Joke Geldorp, mayor of Texel (population: 15,000) and both have been touring the island, visiting the Mangazina di Rei, Gotomeer, the

Windsuring Place, Washington Park, Klein Bonaire and other sites and talking with their counterparts on Bonaire. Their trip was arranged and paid for by the de klos club (see story on page 11) and other sponsors.

At a round table discussion at Mangazina di Rei this Tuesday, there was an animated exchange of ideas coming from Governor Domacassé; journalist-historian Bòì Antoin; head of SEK, Hubert Vis; Mangazina's "Godmother," Edith Strauss-Mercera; and de klos member Co de Konig.

(Continued on page 14)

LETTERS

FROM AN OVERSEAS SUBSCRIBER

Dear Bonaire Reporter:

...Thanks for the great newspaper! It really keeps me up to date on island happenings. It seems as if there is more going on in Bonaire than here in New York!

Bob T

NOT ARUBA

Dear Editor:

As more and more people move to Bonaire who really would rather live in Aruba (apparently they cannot get permits to live there) these "newly arrived" want to make Bonaire into Aruba. This is obvious with all the building going on, the major increase in traffic and the demand for more and more.

The current government says (lies) that Bonaire will not become an Aruba, but it only takes a simple glance around to see what is happening and what the plans are. More hotels, more big hotels, more apartments, more big apartments and on and on while continually telling the Bonaire people that Bonaire will not become an Aruba and all this is for their own good. Own good? Has the quality of life gotten better? NO.

Those who have been living on Bonaire for a long time and do not want to live on Aruba had better seriously get their priorities straight in the April elections. The unfortunate thing is, though, that so many "newly arrived" have now dictated policy and can vote, turning Bonaire into what they want and not what the older, longer time residents and citizens want, a huge number of whom cannot vote.

Jack Kelly

OUT OF PROPORTION

Dear Editor:

I just saw the Feb 23-March 2 *Reporter* and the Envirowatch photos. Without having much opinion to offer on the development of the waterfront, I think I have to object to the lower picture. The photoshopped apartment buildings are all four storeys high, but differ from each other in total height by up to 100% !! Unless someone is planning twenty-foot ceilings in their apartments this is not credible. It would be interesting and useful to see an accurate rendering of the planned waterfront so that one might fairly judge.

Ian M.



The Bonaire Reporter welcomes letters from readers. Letters must include the writer's name and telephone number or e-mail address. Letters without that information will not be published. If a writer wishes to remain anonymous or just use initials we will honor the request. Letters should not be more than 400 words in length and may be edited at the Editor's discretion. E-mail: letters@bonairenews.com


Celebrating our 25th Anniversary
Rotary Club of Bonaire

"Support our Breakfast in Schools Program"



Photo Copyright 2006 Antissa Thompson

Rotary Bonaire Foundation
 PO Box 240, Kralendijk, Bonaire N.A.
 Acct. 114.238.08 with MCB Bonaire

It's About Reef Conservation

The International Accolade Foundation headquartered in Bonaire has announced plans for growth and expansion in 2007.

The foundation recognizes individuals the world over for their efforts to protect, manage and educate the population about ocean and reef conservation. Collectively, the recipients of the Accolade Award have had a wide impact on people of all ages.

The foundation aims to spread the word about these people's efforts so they are recognized for their accomplishments while at the same time inspiring others to follow in their footsteps.

In recent years, the International Accolade Foundation has honored such luminaries as Bill Acker (Yap), Maggie Booi-Kaiser (Bonaire), Bruce Bowker (Bonaire), George Buckley (US), Jack Chalk (Bonaire), Din Domacassé (Bonaire), DEMA (US), George and



Dee Scarr was one of the early recipients of the medal. On her right is George Buckley, a member of the Accolade board. On the right, Captain Don and Janet Thibault

Laura DeSalvo (Bonaire), Jack and Sue Drafahl (US), John C. Fine (US), Geri Murphy (US) and Dee Scarr (Bonaire).

Outreach plans for 2007 include the construction of a comprehensive Web site, the creation of a society of friends



called the Accolade Divers, as well as the activation of Accolade Units around the world which can assist with identifying local members of the diving community deserving of recognition.

It is the foundation's goal that, by the end of 2007, one award can be announced each week. The organization can be reached at callingintheclan@yahoo.com.

The Accolade was founded in 2005 by Captain Don and is located on Bonaire. Initially providing award recognition to Bonaire's leaders in the dive and conservation areas, in 2006 the foundation expanded to include international locations and awardees. □ *Press release*

Functional Buildings

Antique Living Houses of Bonaire
by Wilna Groenenboom

Preserving Bonaire's Architectural Heritage



Antique Living Houses of Bonaire

Using Old Techniques for Modern Living

Although some people say it's not true, quite a number of people know things are not going well with our environment and nature in many different ways. If you have seen the movie, "An Inconvenient Truth," by Al Gore, I don't have to explain to you what and why. If only 25% of this movie is true then we still have a big problem, not only world wide, but also on our beautiful little island, Bonaire.

More and more houses on Bonaire are being built with glass windows which cannot be opened. So those households must have their air conditioning on day and night to cool the house. The demand for electricity on Bonaire is rising, but it's also the case in the rest of the world. Making electricity consumes a lot of natural oil resources. Combining that with all the other things we produce from oil is depleting the oil sources rapidly. In maybe 25 to 35 years this oil will be inaccessible or so difficult to dig up that we won't be able to use this source any more. Making electricity out of oil also produces CO₂ what is also very bad for our environment.

But what has this all to do with "Antique Living Houses of Bonaire?" Maybe we don't need high tech solar and wind generators to cool our houses. Why don't we look around and make use of the ways our ancestors built their homes – a good combination of building techniques that came from the three continents: America, Africa and Europe.

In the past the people had no electricity to cool their houses so they had to discover how to make use of nature to have a pleasant inside temperature.

The first inhabitants of Bonaire were the Indians. They used to sleep in hammocks. From Africa came a *Kas di Bara*, which was made of twigs, mud and plastered with white clay. The slaves from Africa used to sleep on the ground, so the ground had to be as cool as possible and clean. So they used "cold" stones on the ground. Searching for those stones was done most effectively between 2 or 3 in the afternoon, when they could feel whether the stones were cool or not.

The Indians also brought the *hadrey* (porch) or gallery made of cactus wood. In the open air museum, Mangasina di Rei, we can see an example of such construction. This "open" style *hadrey* was built on the south side of the main house. The open construction of the cactus wood let the wind through. The shade of the



Cactus wood house at Mangasina di Rei

shade of the *hadrey* cools down the hot wind, and by the time this wind finally comes into the main house it has turned into a nice cool breeze.

Maybe the positioning of the house was even more important than the materials that were used. If you build your house from east to south the sun can't heat the walls as much, so the inside of the house stays cooler. A beautiful example of this we can see in the four old houses (photo left below) on Kaya Gob. Debrot. They aren't positioned in line with the street or the sea, but with the daily rising and falling path of the sun.

As times changed the materials used for the *hadrey* also changed. The "open" cactus wood wall changed into a massive, closed coral stone wall.

If you are going to build a new school it can be of utmost importance to design it with nature in mind. Five days a week, from 7:30 am until 3 or 5 pm, people work and study inside these buildings. The SGB and SBO have more than 55 classrooms with more than 1,000 students and over 100 teachers. How much better the working climate conditions

could be - better for teacher and student. The VSBO and SBO (Achi Tours side) classrooms were built in 1978 and range from north to south, 100% on the windward side - all with metal shutters. It's very pleasant with a light wind, but when there's a lot of wind the shutters clanging can sound pretty raucous.

On the TKL-Havo (Kaya Korona) side most of the classrooms were built in 1975 and go from east to west (photo right above). The walking path under the roof is very airy and refreshing, but the way the classrooms are laid out makes it nearly impossible for the breeze to enter through the fixed glass windows, half of which cannot be opened. Even a ceiling fan can't do much about this heat. How strange it is that nearly all of the "100% wind positioned" classrooms have an air conditioner. The air conditioning must work on full power because of the "open structure" of the closed metal shutters. The curtains in front of the shutters give some help, but still a lot of cool air is escaping and cooling the outside of the classrooms. The classrooms are dark with no natural daylight. Some teachers work more than eight hours a day in artificial light! Wouldn't it be better to put the air conditioners in those classrooms with "fixed" glass windows, with less waste of light and lower air co costs? And scientists have proved that working with natural daylight is better for your mind and body.



The SGB with closed shutters, almost no place to study in the fresh air.

The newly built TKL-Havo Director's office isn't protected from the sun. (top right photo, left building). The big windows offer a good view, but with this short roof the sun pours in. Had the roof been constructed a little bit longer it could have provided natural shade. In the classrooms on Kaya Amsterdam it's more or less the same problem. The big palms that have been planted cut down somewhat on the sun's rays, but not enough to be effective.

The Kolegio Kristu Bon Wardador seems to me a very good example of a naturally built school. By adding a second floor, the roof of the first floor isn't directly heated by the sun. The roofs of all the buildings are all so long that even at noon the first and second floor windows are in shade (photo middle below and top left). All the windows have glass shutters, so the wind and sunlight can come in freely. The extension of the big roof prevents direct sunlight from coming into all the classrooms (photo top left). In some places the walls on the first floor aren't directly constructed under the walls of the second floor, thus preventing direct sunlight into the first floor classrooms.

The concrete floor between the different buildings serves as the playground for the children. Even though it is a hard surface, it keeps the dust down outside and inside the classrooms and it is easy to bike on. The drainage in the playground was so well planned that even with a short, heavy rain, the area is soon dry. That's a big difference compared with the "frog concerts" coming out of the different pools on the SGB-SBO ground after heavy rain.

Children of the Kolegio Kristu Bon Wardador can sit in the fresh open air, under a tree which gives a lot of natural shade, on a concrete bench. These benches may be too light a construction for the SGB and SBO students. "Watta Burger style" heavily constructed benches may be better. And there are many willing useable trees in and outside of the Yellow zone.

During the time when the school in Rincon was being built (small middle photo) life was simple and easy.

□ Story & photos by Wilna Groenenboom

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



A Shrink Studies SCUBA



TWR building mural (see column 1)

Believe it or not, I had never heard of Bonaire until Dave Farrar of Gypsy Divers in Raleigh (North Carolina) recommended it to another family with whom we were planning a dive vacation. We had the usual stressful travel experience dealing with now-defunct ALM, but Lynn and I fell in love with Bonaire as soon as we arrived. We bought a studio unit at Sand Dollar Condominium Resort for family vacations and our future retirement and began bringing our friends. The fellowship at International Bible Church of Bonaire and the underwater scene and Bible verse on the side of the Trans World Radio building inspire my photography of the Lord's underwater creation.

A look at the Table of Relative Risk of Panic that was in the column two weeks ago shows why Bonaire has long been known as "Diver's Paradise." While I have not dived all around the world like some of my dive buddies, I have dived

West Palm Beach, the Florida Keys, San Diego CA, Cozumel, Eleuthra, St. John USVI, Nevis WI, and North Carolina's "Graveyard of the Atlantic" wrecks. Bonaire offers many advantages that make it a preferred dive destination for many divers, especially those who might already be prone to panic due to above average trait anxiety, i.e. Nervous Nellies. Someday I would like to see statistics on all those dive students who panic on their first or second open water check out dive and never complete their certification. At least one very large training agency has told me they do not track the incompletes.

Among the top relative risk factors for dive panic are fear of the unknown, cold water, poor visibility, task overload, fear of scrutiny or embarrassment, loss of orientation, fatigue or overexertion, low on air or out of air, deep dive, separation from buddy or instructor, strong current or surge, and entrapment or entanglement.

We all look forward to finding a sea horse or frogfish or octopus or seeing something new or different, like a whale shark or manta ray. If your name is Jerry Ligon, then you might even discover a

new species of goby or blenny. But, it is hard for me to imagine what unknowns there might be in the Bonaire Marine Park that would strike fear in a diver aside from suddenly having Charlie the Tarpon as your "up close and personal" dive buddy on your very first night dive off Capt. Don's Habitat or Sand Dollar.

The usually warm, clear, blue water around Bonaire qualifies as "Tidy bowl" diving to me, especially compared to the 10-cm visibility I encountered a few years ago when I agreed to check out the clogged drain in a park's chilly duck pond. I suppose a diver could get task overloaded on Bari Reef, but only because he or she was carrying too many cameras while doing REEF fish surveys and trying to keep his or her kids from taking off each other's weight belts. The people of Bonaire and the dive professionals are so friendly and encouraging that I cannot imagine how anyone could fear scrutiny or embarrassment.

With the reef within easy swimming distance from shore and easily identifiable landmarks both underwater and along the shoreline, I am not sure how anyone could become disoriented on Bonaire. Diving is so easy here that fatigue and overexertion are rarely problems unless a diver is on his seventh or eighth dive of the day. (Women are smarter than that.)

Divers on Bonaire can run low on air or out of air. My daughter's dive buddy once had to grab my octopus (see photo) after waiting forever for her to photograph a bashful fish. New divers who have not mastered efficient breathing or those who actually chase fish trying to get a better picture can run low, but they are the exception.

Relatively deep dives are possible on Bonaire, but hardly necessary. Some of the diver fatalities on Bonaire have resulted from poorly planned and poorly executed deep dive attempts. For my purposes pursuing the next winning photo contest shot, I rarely need to go below 20 meters.

If a diver gets separated from a buddy on Bonaire, then it is probably because a photographer's dive buddy got tired of waiting or somebody was just plain not paying attention. Usually, the only significant current or surge on Bonaire is found on the windward and southern wild sides visited by Wild Larry's



octopus-breathe

SEAL wanna-be's. There are a few dive sites on Bonaire where you could get entrapped or entangled, but I have not heard of any recent diver fatalities from such. Not that it is impossible. My son once received a torrent of scolding after an unplanned penetration and swim through the Hilma Hooker without dive lights "leading" his sister and my friend Jonathan's kids. Meanwhile, I had to hover outside hand-holding the kids' panicky mother who just happened to be another psychiatrist with whom I had trained at Duke University Medical Center. Funny how that works.

All in all, it is my professional opinion, as a psychiatrist and clinical researcher and divemaster, that Bonaire has about as low a relative risk for panic as any place short of a swimming pool. Wait a minute. My initial confined water training in 1979 was in a poorly maintained motel swimming pool in West Palm Beach that could have easily doubled as a filthy duck pond.

Bonaire, just what the Dive Psych ordered. Fill as prescribed. Accept no substitutes. □ *David Colvard*

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. □



HELP FROM THE TOP



In attendance at the informal award presentation at the home of Ruud Vermeulen were Co de Koning, Ramonsito Booi, Kees Storm, Ruud Vermeulen, Richard Hart, George DeSalvo, Edith Strauss-Marsera, Rob Strauss and Imre Esser. Not pictured, Laura DeSalvo, Sara Matera. Photos by Ruud Vermeulen and Laura DeSalvo

Formalization of close ties with Holland may be more than a year away but a group of 12 philanthropic Dutchmen is doing things right now to make it better for Bonaireans. The group, a delegation from a 45-member club which was founded more than 24 years ago, is cryptically known as “*de klos*,” the Dutch word for bobbin; another translation of which “*de klos zijn*” is to be the “fall guy.” However, the group is anything but that. It is made up of the top men, CEOs and such,



***De klos* member Co de Koning presents a check to Mangazina de Rey founder, Edith Strauss Marsera.**

of some of the largest and most successful companies in The Netherlands. What bonds the group especially is not that they were invited to join the “club” after they reached the top, but when they were new, lower-level managers. Interestingly the companies these men lead employ, on the average, 16,000 people, more than the population of Bonaire even if you count the tourists.

The group was inspired to action following a presentation last month made by Bonaire’s Senator Ramonsito Booi and Economic Minister Burney El Hage about Bonaire’s direction in its relationship with The Netherlands. The group was “mesmerized by Bonaire,” said Co de Koning, the organizer of the *de klos* visit and presentation, one of the two founding members of *de klos* (the second being Kees Storm). The actions were not what Bonaireans are used to seeing Dutch businessmen do, like buying property to develop and resell.

De klos’ chosen task is to support Bonaire’s culture, environment, people, especially children, in a variety of ways. It will begin with five initiatives:

1. Support for Mangazina di Rey
2. Support for Sea Turtle Conservation (STCB)
3. Sponsoring an album of Tintin stories in Papiamentu (already available in 68 languages and soon in Papiamentu, thanks to the work of historian/journalist Bòi Antoin), to be printed in May.
4. Expansion of the market for Bonaire aloe
5. Support for the visit, taking place this week, of the mayors of two environmentally-protected Dutch islands, Vlieland and Texel, in the Wadden Sea east of The Netherlands. (See page 6.)

Financing for the Tintin (*kuijfe*) project is by *de klos* and six companies: Bonaire’s Bonaire Air Services (BAS), Bonaire Management Holding (BMG), Bonaire Law, Maduro Holdings (Habitat), Playa Trading, Rocargo and from Holland, KLM.



KLM’s CEO Kees Storm smiles as he awards Senator Ramonsito Booi a silver bobbin, *de Klos*. Note: The silver object Senator Booi holds in his hand is the “Silver Bobbin Prize,” the first time this prize was awarded to anyone, for his decisive presentation which triggered the *de klos* support program.

The Tintin album, the delightful “*E Kas-Flor i Sol*,” will be given free to all school children from 9-13. More details will follow.

In future issues *The Reporter* will describe more of these projects and also two upcoming *Klos* initiatives concerning research on biomass energy through algae and a school milk program for children. □ G.D.

Pet of the Week

It's amazing what one can find under a shipping container. A Good Samaritan found a mother dog with two puppies, barely alive, and brought them to the Bonaire Animal Shelter. The mother was in such bad shape that she had to be put down, but her two puppies, "Dilan," and his sister, "Dorothy," were saved. Today, both pups are real beauties – fat and sassy. You'd never believe that they had such a close call with death! And Dilan has the most gorgeous eyes – pale and beseeching and intelligent. He's a soft fawn color and should grow up to be a medium sized dog. Right now he and his sister are about three months old, they've been examined and tested by the vet, have had their shots, been wormed and will be sterilized when they're old enough. They're ready to go to a good and appreciative home. You may see them at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday, 8 am to 1 pm. Tel. 717-4989.



"Dilan"

Good news: Our "Pet" last week, snow white kitty "Francine," and her brother, "Floyd," also white, were both adopted thanks to the photo of Francine in this column. Congratulations to the new owners and their gorgeous new pets.

So far this year the Shelter reports that there have been 20 sterilizations, thanks to the Sterilization Fund, and 20 adoptions. They're doing it right! □ L.D

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

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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)

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

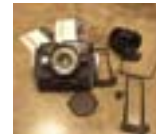
Complete solution on page 19.

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"PORCH SALE - SUNDAY MARCH 4, #15 Kaya Lisboa, 2 - 6.00pm. Baby items, windsurfing gear, household stuff and more...."

For Sale: All (furniture, pots & pans, mattresses, dive gear, printer/scanner, clothes, plumbing tools and much more): porch sales 3rd+10th March at Kaya Mercurius 2, Belnem. 9:00 till 16:30. Call 717-4494 for an appointment.

Boi's Nature Walk



We started out before sun up.

Last Sunday, historian, editor, writer, archivist and outdoorsman, Bòoi Antoin, led another of his famous nature walks. At 6:15 in the morning in the dark, 45 enthusiastic walkers met under the cross on Seru Largu, ready to follow Bòoi on another of his "historical adventures" – this time down the east side of Seru Largu and into the depths of the Bolivia plantation. The expedition was sponsored by Top Health Fitness Center.

Out of their cars and walking down the mountain road the group was able to appreciate the countryside, the flora and the fauna up close as the sun rose and the birds awakened.

First stop was the field where Bonaire's first airport was established where Queen Juliana arrived to visit in 1936. Looking down at the island for the first time, we were told by a fellow walker, she exclaimed to the pilot, "Why it looks like a (Dutch) potato farm!" Later, we hope, she was to realize the true beauty of the island and its surrounding coral reefs. Standing on a small (maybe five by seven meters by 5 meters) concrete pad, Bòoi explained that this was where everything took place: airport immigration, emigration, police, customs - all of it!



Bòoi shares some stories.

Hiking past kunukus alive with goats, sheep and geese and acres of newly planted sorghum we came upon the ruins of the entrance to the Bolivia Plantation, complete with gate pillars and the house of the "vito" – overseer.

Later we encountered upon another concrete pad relic. This was the tennis court for the American soldiers who were stationed at the base here during World War II, Bòoi explained.

Walking through the *mondi*, enjoying the nature and the ambiance, was conducive to friendly conversations between good friends, acquaintances and even strangers with strangers.

On the return trip, as the group approached Seru Largu, on the hillside there appeared a dramatic dash of yellow. It was a single old Kibrahacha tree, exploding with its short-lived blossoming – and it seemed like it was just for us! □ L.D.

Picture Yourself with The Reporter Bata, Guinea Equatorial, Africa



Czella Williams (holding the copy of *The Reporter*) writes: "On a recent trip to Africa, I found the children hungry for knowledge. There are as many as 80 children in some classrooms. These are a few of the students I visited, who are studying English at a Baha'i school in Bata, Guinea Equatorial, Africa. They were happy to speak English with me and were extremely inquisitive about *The Reporter*. In fact, they asked me to please give them *The Reporter* and I did. They immediately made copies of the pages, passed them out among themselves and were reading what was happening in Bonaire as I left." □

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.) □



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Wilna Gronenboom photo

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Edith Strauss-Mercera (center) shows some of the Bonairean crafts in the Mangazina de Rei shop to Mayors Baukje (l.) Galama and Joke Geldorp (r.)

(Hands Across the Sea. Continued from page 6)

“We are five Dutch islands,” the mayors said, “but because our populations are small we have to come together to cooperate.” In fact these islands do cooperate with their neighboring islands in the Wadden Sea: 25 German ones and three Danish. As well as being friendly with each other they lobby for sea safety

as they’re located on one of the busiest sea highways in the world with huge oil tankers and ships passing close.

With the news that the island of Bonaire will soon become a municipality as well, the idea sprouted in the minds of some of the de klos members: why not get the islands together to meet each other and share some thoughts and ideas.

They thought it was particularly important as historically the larger municipalities on the Dutch “mainland” would very much like to have these Wadden Sea islands as part of their “domain.” Until the announcement of this island-meeting trip, the Dutch press paid little attention to the small islands. “What?” they ask. “Could they be demanding ‘status aparte’ like Aruba?” “Who’s paying for this trip – is it the government?” (neither the Dutch nor the Bonaire government are paying; it’s the de klos group and sponsors). The little guys are all of a sudden getting a lot of attention.

The mayors are getting a whirlwind trip, but they seem to be enjoying it immensely as are those who’ve met and had the opportunity to talk with them. Thanks, members of de klos. By opening up lines of communication you’ve accomplished a remarkable deed. □ L.D.

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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
3-02	1:55	1.2FT.	2:55	1.1FT.	11:52	1.8FT.	20:10	1.0FT.	77
3-03	1:44	1.3FT.	4:24	1.2FT.	12:25	1.7FT.	20:25	1.0FT.	80
3-04	2:07	1.3FT.	6:00	1.3FT.	13:05	1.5FT.	20:29	1.1FT.	81
3-05	2:40	1.4FT.	8:19	1.3FT.	13:40	1.4FT.	20:02	1.2FT.	79
3-06	3:24	1.5FT.	12:02	1.2FT.	14:08	1.3FT.	18:48	1.2FT.	76
3-07	4:05	1.6FT.	14:28	1.1FT.					71
3-07	4:05	1.6FT.	14:28	1.1FT.					71
3-08	4:48	1.6FT.	15:02	1.0FT.					65

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

MOVIELAND

WEEKLY MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Late Show

Call to make sure (Usually 9 pm)

Primeval

(Dominic Purcell)

Early Show (Usually 7 pm)

Apocalypto

(Mel Gibson)

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NEW FILMS BEGIN FRIDAY

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THURS THRU SUN

2 MOVIES 7 & 9 PM

MON THRU WED. 1 MOVIE 8 PM

SATURDAY 4 PM

February: Night At The

Museum / 'N beetje verliefd

March: Charlotte's Web

COMING

Sunday March 18, Fundraising concert on the Freewinds, 7:30 pm. Tickets sold at Shelter NAf25. Tel. 717-4989.

Arts and Crafts Markets at Wilhelmina Park on Cruise Ship Visiting Days starting 10 am to early afternoon:
Tues. Mar. 13 – *Lili Marleen, Sea Princess*;
Wed. Mar. 21 – *Crown Princess*; Tues.
Mar. 27 – *Lili Marleen, Veendam*

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** \$21 (includes tax). Discounts for residents and local people. Tel. 717-8489, 540-9800.
- **Parke Publico** children's playground open every day into the evening hours.

Saturdays

- **Steak Night On the Beach** (a la carte) - **Buddy Dive Resort**, 6–10 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.
- **Bike Trips**—Meet at Eden Beach Activity Center 4 pm. Free. Helmets mandatory. 785-0767
- **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**, 6–9:30 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 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.
- **Beach BBQ 7-10 & Live music by Flamingo Rockers -The Windsurf Place** at Sorobon—Reserve ahead. Tel. 717-5091, 717-2288
- **Caribbean Night A la Carte - Buddy Dive Resort**, 6—10 pm
- **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- 9:30 pm

Fridays

- **Mixed Level Yoga** 8:30am, Buddy Dive 786-6416
- **Harbour Village Tennis, Social Round Robin** 7 - 10 pm. \$10 per person. Cash bar. All invited. Call Elisabeth Vos at 565-5225
- **Live music by the "Flamingo Rockers" Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar**, 5-7 pm
- **Swim lessons** for children by Enith Brighitha, a Dutch Olympian, at Sorobon from 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, 7-10 pm, **Buddy Dive Resort**

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. (No show Feb 26 and March 5)
- **Tuesdays & Wednesdays—Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire** presents the *Sea Turtles of Bonaire Slide Show*. Every 1st & 3rd Tuesday at Buddy Dive Resort (717-3802) at 7:00pm. Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday at the Bruce Bowker's Carib Inn (717-8817) at 7:00pm.

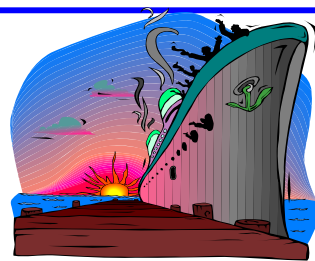
BONAIRE'S TRADITIONS

- **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 -**

Note: The Bonaire Animal Shelter Fundraising Show to benefit the Sterilization Fund aboard the Freewinds is March 18, not March 4.



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 Antrioi, 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

THIS WEEK

Saturday, March 3 – Big Monthly Rincon Marshé - Now a Bonairean tradition – stands selling gifts, fruits and vegetables, candles, drinks, BBQ, local foods and sweets, music, friendly people, 6 am to 2 pm. In the center of Rincon. www.infobonaire.com/rincon.

Saturday, March 3 – Monthly Flea Market at Parke Publico 3 – 8 pm. Special this week will be food from around the world. For only Naf5 you may purchase a "Worldly Plate" which includes samples of foods from Mexico, India, Bonaire and Italy. There will be stands selling clothes, books, bric-a-brac and more. Two NGOs, the Foundation for the Blind and the Bonaire Animal Shelter, have stands there as well and all proceeds go to the foundations. More information 787-0466.

Sunday, March 4 – Art Exhibit Opening - Eeffje van Twillert van der Straten. Kas di Arte, 6 pm. Exhibit continues until March 26. Opening hours 5-7:30 pm—More on page 3.

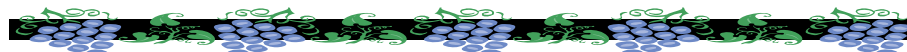
Tuesday, March 6—Unicollege Parents Information Evening, 7-8:30 pm, Kaya Amstrdam #3 (see page 6)

Thursday, March 8—Unicollege Open house for new students, 2-4 pm, Kaya Amsterdam #3 (see page 6)

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

Arts and Crafts Markets at Wilhelmina Park on Cruise Ship Visiting Days starting 10 am to early afternoon: Tues. Feb. 27 – *Lili Marleen*; Tues., Mar. 6 – *Veendam*; Wed. Mar. 7 – *Crown Princess*;

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—10 am - . Lunch daily 11:30 Dinner on theme nights 6—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 (7-1- 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 ingredients. 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.

DAY SPA

Day Spa by Nubia offers relaxing body and facial treatments, nail and foot care, waxing. Special packages for Divers and Honeymooners.

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. Electric,

cal, 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
Email: reporter@bonairenews.com

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

Born on Win de Grijze

“The Plasa Machi Mimi on the boulevard where the Venezuelans sell fruits and vegetables was my grandmother’s. She sold fish there practically until she died in 1986 at the age of 94. Last year the plasa was officially named after her. Her real name was Bernabe Everts, and she raised me. Everyone thought she was my mom and to me she was the queen.

My mother is Petra Candida Everts-de Grijze, a Bonairean who now lives in Curaçao. My father, from Curaçao, was stationed as a soldier on Bonaire. He was Sergeant Major Marco de Grijze and his father was Dutch. When they met in Bonaire my mother already had my sister, Lourdes. When I was born in 1943 they got married. When I was eight my family and I moved to Curaçao. After primary school I went to technical school with the friars at Brakkeput. I had a wonderful childhood.

At 17 I returned to Bonaire and lived with my grandmother. She took care of me, did everything for me; I didn’t do anything; I went fishing! It didn’t last very long though; when I was 18, I went to sea, working for KNSM, the Royal Dutch Shipping Company. First we sailed the Caribbean, then we went to Holland and back. When I was furloughed I didn’t go back because I had enough money!

So, on Bonaire I started working for Trans World Radio, building the transmitting towers. Eddy Rijna and I were the only ones who climbed the towers. After the job was done they didn’t need us anymore and I went back to sea, working for Dammers van der Heiden, a shipping company just like KNSM except with smaller ships. We went everywhere: to Panama to deliver electronic equipment, through the Panama Canal to Ecuador where we picked up bananas for Miami, then to the coast of Africa to pick up fish for Puerto Rico, as the Japanese fishing there weren’t allowed to sell it in Puerto Rico. It was a great job! I’d signed for eight months twice, and when my time was up I went back to Bonaire.

The day I arrived I didn’t go straight home; I went to some bars and it lasted all night long! I fell asleep in Kaya Grandi, right on the street in front of ‘Centro.’ A friend of mine, Police Inspector Franssen, woke me up and I said, ‘I didn’t do anything!’ He answered, ‘I know! But we’ve been looking for you for a long time! Someone from Radio Netherlands asked who built the TWR towers. They need you there!’ Franssen took me to Radio Netherlands; I started working for them right away as the foreman, in the same condi-

tion Franssen had found me in the street! Everyone knew me as ‘Win di Machi Mimi,’ so when I went to take a nap to get rid of my hangover the other workers said, ‘Hey, don’t do that! The new foreman, de Grijze, will be here any minute!’ Because of the name, they were expecting a Dutchman!”

Win de Grijze (61) grins. Sitting in his old chair in his garage, Muffler King, and surrounded by his people, engines, cars and noises, he’s completely at ease and enjoys telling his story. “I had wonderful years working for Radio Netherlands - 20 years in all. I have a very good pension; they have the best labor agreement in the Antilles! I didn’t resign my job, I got the caisson disease and after that bone narcosis in my shoulder joint. I am the first bone-transplant patient in the Antilles.

I used to dive a lot; I could go tremendously deep without the aqua lung. Percy Sweetnam and I were the first friends of Captain Don, but I never worked for Don commercially. I wanted to be free and I didn’t want the responsibility. With Percy, Victor and another Aruban guy we got a big job on Curaçao: cleaning the *Queen Elisabeth I* underwater. We started in Curaçao, then to Aruba, then to Trinidad where we finished the job.

“The most beautiful thing about Bonaire is the people; forget about politics. Everybody knows one another and practically everybody is related by marriage!”

I had the accident because I’d made a mistake. I was diving with two bottles and stayed too long underwater. When I came up they went to refill the bottles and I went skin diving, spear fishing, without waiting an hour. But I didn’t add that time to my diving time. After my bottles were filled I went diving again; when I came up... bang! Luckily there were some YMCA doctors on the island. They put me under water for one hour, then I was taken to Curaçao by plane, a plane that had to fly very low. After I’d recovered I couldn’t go back to the Radio Netherlands towers anymore. Dr. Welvaart talked with my boss and they gave me a job for half days - washing cars, making coffee - but it didn’t work out, not with my salary! I left, so someone else could replace me. They’ve always treated me well and

now, whenever I go there, they make me feel I’m still one of them.

So, I started Muffler King in 1982, and

my hobby is fishing. I built my first boat, a small one to start with, and now I have a real big one, the *Triple J*, named after my two daughters, Juliette and Julisa, and my son Jerwin. I married their mom, Zena Dammers 30 years ago here on Bonaire. She was the cutest; everything about her was just so nice. Now we have two grandchildren, Jean-Marc and Jarrold. I also have another daughter Mary and a granddaughter, Emily. My daughter Juliette is the woman I appreciate most in my life. We’re one of a kind; we understand each other perfectly well.

Yeah, I did a lot and I still do a lot. I take a lot of young kids who don’t go to school or have a job out to sea. I talk to them and try to teach them something and it works; most of them find good jobs after a while. I’ve got a countless number of friends, here and on the other islands, and so I feel I’m the richest guy in the Antilles. But my best friends are the ones from my childhood: George Ammerlaan, Rafael Damascus and Doei Diaz.

I did some crazy things when I was young. Ivan Floris, who now owns the crusher and who was working at the time as the chief mechanic at the Ford garage, and I read a book about helicopters. He’d gotten an engine and every weekend we worked on it. The first flight of our helicopter was quite impressive; we pulled the starter string... and up it went... straight into the electric cables! Never ran so fast in my life! All of Antriol was out of power! Crazy things! I’m not so active anymore; I’m trying to pay off my taxes and hope my son Jerwin will take over Muffler King. Then I’m going fishing!

I’ve never wanted to live anywhere else but here in Bonaire. Life was so

Bonaire

This is a reprint of an article that appeared in The Reporter in April, 2005. Greta Kooistra will return with a new column next week.



Win de Grijze

easy. I built this garage with friends, and we built each other’s houses. Everyone helped each other; that was how Bonaire was in the old days – very beautiful. Now we have lots of foreigners. I’m not against them, but every person brings the good and the bad from his own culture and that’s how things start to change.

The Central Government in Curaçao has made many people leave because they were never interested in Bonaire and they never helped us. Then the tax collectors office finished it off by hunting for the small businesses, and that meant death for everyone. They destroyed our economy instead of helping the people and it’s like this in all the Antilles, except for Aruba. We’d be better off if we had a direct connection with Holland.

Our politicians have good capabilities, but they shouldn’t be so divided. Once, in Miami when I was visiting a good friend he went to Cuban political meeting. As I was waiting there for him I met the president of the meeting, and when I told him I was Antillean he said, ‘There are two politicians of great caliber in the Antilles whom you should always support. One is Don Martina and the other one Ramonsito Boo!’ I was so proud! In Miami of all places!

The most beautiful thing about Bonaire is the people; forget about politics. Everybody knows one another and practically everybody is related by marriage! We’re all people and nobody is perfect. All my life I’ve had the most beautiful times and I think it will last... There has never been another place for me; I love Bonaire tremendously.” □

Story & photo by Greta Kooistra



What makes bats so important to Bonaire? It's only that they are crucial to holding the whole island's soil together and controlling the mosquito population.

Bats are Bonaire's only native mammals and are vital to the balance of our ecosystem. They're crucial to the pollination of the cactus, our main plant species, agave and fruit trees. They pollinate the flowers and disperse the seeds. Most cactus bloom only at night and it is the bats who are the chief pollinators. Research was done in Curaçao, where the scientists covered some cacti so they couldn't be pollinated. As the scientists expected, the cacti eventually died from lack of being pollinated by the bats during the night.

Our cactus not only holds the island's earth together but it provides food and homes for parrots, iguanas, lizards and on down the chain.

Imagine also an island without its insect eating bats. Just one lone bat can eat 600 to 3,000 mosquitoes an hour! Consider the alternative.

In past years eight species of bats have been reported as living on Bonaire: insect eaters, flower and fruit pollinators and fish eaters. But things have changed a lot, which have affected those numbers.

Housing construction near and on top of caves, blasting near the airport, cave diving, snorkeling and spelunking – all have disturbed the habitats of these misunderstood "keystone species." Bonaire needs its

Bonaire's Bats – Our Precious Native Mammals



Bat feeding headfirst on cactus flower nectar Herman van Leeuwen photo

bats to pollinate the cactus, which holds the whole island together. It needs its insect eaters to keep the mosquito population in control.

In 2000 a group of people from govern-

ment, the dive and tourist industries, the nature education coordinator and a member of the media met to form an organization called Bonaire "BAT" (Bat Action Team). Because bats are Bonaire's only native

New Cave Guide



Recently the TCB awarded cave guide certificates to Wilco Candzaat from the staff at Captain Don's Habitat and Rick Antonio Aguilar from the Black Durgeon. (pictured above with TCB's Ronella Croes) □ TCB Photo

mammal and because of their important to the islands' ecosystem the BAT team gathered information and mounted an education and awareness campaign targeted at the residential population, both adults and school children, as well as towards the visiting tourist.

Currently, the government has an agreement with six tourist businesses on the island, allowing them to have only registered cave guides to enter four "sacrificial" caves.

How many bats does it take to keep our island in balance? That figure has not been determined, but by the time it becomes an issue it may be too late.

And there's such a simple solution: **Stay out of the caves where the bats are living and raising their young.** □ *L.D.*



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

The Wonder and Majesty of The Four Brightest Stars of Orion The Hunter

Almost everyone knows that the most famous star pattern of winter is **Orion, the Hunter**. And although everyone loves his red shoulder star, **Betelgeuse**, Orion's other three bright stars are also quite wonderful.

On any clear night in February, from 7 to 9 pm, Sky Park time, look almost overhead to see Orion in all his glory. The dead giveaway is the three equally spaced stars in a row, which mark his belt. Above them are the two bright stars which mark his shoulders, and below are the two bright stars which mark his knees. Betelgeuse comes from an Arabic word which means "armpit of the giant" and is correctly pronounced Bet-El-Gerz. But most people pronounce it Betelgeuse so they can remember it because if you stepped on a beetle you'd get red beetle juice. At least that's what lecturers in planetariums have been telling kids for years.



Constellation Orion

At any rate Betelgeuse is a giant red variable star. When it contracts to its smallest size it is 500 times as wide as our million-mile-wide Sun, but when it expands to its largest size it is almost 900 times as wide. And its red color indicates that it is a much cooler star than our yellow Sun. Orion's other shoulder star is named **Bellatrix**, which in Arabic means the conqueror. And although it is much smaller than Betelgeuse it still is three solar diameters, which means it is three times as wide as our Sun. And it is a pale blue-white star, which means that it is many, many times hotter than both red Betelgeuse and our yellow Sun.

Orion's right knee is a white super giant star named **Rigel**. And it is much larger than Bellatrix, 60 solar diameters or 60 times as wide as our Sun. His other knee star named **Saiph** is blue in color and is likewise a super giant, although somewhat smaller, 38 solar diameters, which makes our Sun really look puny next to it or any of Orion's four brightest stars.

Now although experts disagree as to the exact distance of each of these stars from **Earth**, they are all hundreds of light years away, which means that when we look at them we see them not as they exist now but as they existed some time in the past depending on how far away they are. For instance, when we look at Bellatrix we see it as it existed 300 years ago because it is 300 light years away and it takes that long for its light to reach us. We see Betelgeuse as it existed 500 years ago because it is 500 light years away. But as far away as his shoulder stars are his knee stars are much, much farther. Indeed, Rigel is 1,000 light years away and Saiph is 1,400 light years away. Wow!

So there you have it: the shoulder and knee stars of Orion the Hunter, each one much larger than our own Sun and so far away that no one alive will ever live to see what they actually look like in the present time. Something to think about and marvel at. **And don't forget the total lunar eclipse on Saturday, March 2 at sunset!**

DO YOU SUDOKU? ANSWER

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

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



THE STARS HAVE IT

Sunday, February 25 to Saturday, March 3

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Take time to do something nice for yourself. Romantic opportunities will be plentiful if you get out and mingle. Uncertainty about your relationship is prevalent. Get more involved in group efforts at work. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Listening can be more valuable than being a chatterbox. Your mate will appreciate your honesty. Don't rely on others to do your work. Take the time to help those less fortunate. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Your dynamic, determined approach will win favors as well as a helping hand. Recognition will be yours if you meet your deadline. Give everyone in the house a physical chore that will help burn off some of the excess energy. Opportunities to get ahead will be evident. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) You can expect to have a passionate time if you go out with someone you are romantically interested in. Your own small business on the side sounds pretty lucrative. Problems with relatives and friends could surface. You may find yourself in an uncomfortable situation if you have overloaded your plate unintentionally. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) You are best to stick to yourself this week. Get together with those you find men tally stimulating. Plan a nice evening for two. Being unappreciated by your boss could make it hard to do your work effectively. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Difficulties will result if you have to deal with controversial groups this week. You will feel tired and rundown if you have allowed yourself to get into a financial mess. You may find that family members may not be too easy to get along with. Throw yourself into your work. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Your devotion will be persuasive. Be prudent and don't be led down the garden path. You will have to help family members sort out unfortunate difficulties. Your efforts won't go unnoticed; however, someone you work with may get jealous. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Don't use the interstate as a racetrack. Difficulties with females you live with could cause emotional stress. You must not lead someone on or show interest in them for the wrong reasons. Try spending the day catching up on any responsibilities that need to be taken care of. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Try to spend some time on your own. You will accomplish the most in the work environment this week. Make sure all of your travel and driver's documents are in proper order. You will be able to get your own way if you use your intellectual charm and knowhow. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Opportunities to make financial gains through investments look promising. Find a quiet spot where you can work diligently and stay out of the way. Don't play on your partner's emotions. Don't avoid situations that may deteriorate; try to mend them. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) You can make financial deals that will bring you extra cash. You can make some money if you get involved in a conservative financial prospect that is presented to you. Keep a lookout for any individuals eager to confront you with unsavory situations. You can anger others quickly this week. Avoid overspending on items for your home. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Praise will be yours if you have been pursuing your goals. The talk you have may be eye-opening with regard to your present situation. Insincere gestures of friendliness are likely to occur. Secret love affairs may be enticing; however, you must be prepared for the restraints that will follow. □