

**It's  
still  
Free!**

**BONAIRE**

March 16-23, 2007 Volume 14, Issue 12

# The REPORTER

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

SINCE 1994

## **Brasilwood Explosion!**

**Page 10**



View from Seru LARGU looking over Bolivia Plantation toward the Spelonk light

*photo by Laura DeSalvo*

# Flotsam and Jetsam

The Dutch government's representative who will be most directly involved with developing the new relationship between The Netherlands and the Antilles, the new State Secretary of Kingdom Relations, **Ank Bijleveld, will be paying an orientation visit to the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba** beginning Monday, March 19.



Ank Bijleveld

She plans to visit all islands and meet with the Antillean Governor, the Central Government and the Executive Councils of Curaçao, Bonaire, St. Maarten, St. Eustatius and Saba.

► A report by consultant James Dunnigan questions: **If Venezuelan dictator Hugo Chavez made a grab for Aruba, Bonaire and Curaçao, could the Dutch really do anything about it?** "The Dutch military is no slouch, having performed peacekeeping missions in the Balkans and has served alongside the US military in Iraq. However, these have been relatively small contingents of land forces as opposed to a major naval-air campaign which reclaiming those Caribbean islands would entail. The report concludes that because of long supply

lines and strategic factors, US and allied help would be needed to stop any aggression from Chavez.

► **Air France-KLM is reportedly preparing a bid for Alitalia** and could link up with investment fund Management & Capitali, which has already been shortlisted by the Italian government, daily *Finanza & Mercati* said without giving a source.

The Italian government holds 49.9% of Alitalia and is ready to sell a stake of at least 30.1% in the airline.

► Soon, Antillean students in the US, holders of non-Dutch passports and other travelers who need a non-immigrant visa (NIV) for the US will no longer have to travel to the American embassy in Caracas or Barbados.

**The American Consulate-general in Willemstad has started a test project for issuing visas locally.** The last time the US consulate issued a visa was years ago. Travelers with a Dutch passport do not need a visa to travel to the US.

With the new system visa requests are done online. The requestors complete and print the new Electronic Visa Application Form which minimizes the handling time. With the completed form the requestors go to the American consulate in Curaçao for an interview. The requestor's passport, for which an NIV is approved, is sent to Caracas

where the actual visa is printed. The passport and the visa is then FedEx'ed or mailed.

► The US State Department and the Homeland Security Department now require **all US citizens and foreign nationals to carry a passport or other accepted secure documents to enter or re-enter the US** from vacations or business travel (by air or sea) anywhere in the Caribbean, including Bonaire.

► **Parliament unanimously approved the National Official Languages Ordinance last week adding Papiamentu to the Dutch Kingdom's official languages.** Dutch, English and Papiamentu are now official languages.

Education Minister Omayra Leeflang gave Parliament members the first Papiamentu document from 1933, "Bibliography of the Papiamentu language of Maritza Coomans-Eustatia," and a copy of *E Kas Patras* (The Back House) of Anne Frank as a gift.

"Papiamentu can no longer be called a dialect. Together with the Dutch and English languages Papiamentu is now a language in the Kingdom," said Leeflang.

► **Twenty-four divers took part in another FREE buoyancy workshop**

(Continued on page 4)

## THIS BONAIRE WEEK: The REPORTER

### Table of Contents

Get Ready for Jazz Festival	4
Bonaire Ambassador (Ursula Vogt)	4
Capt'n Don's Award on Display	5
Ebo's Story	5
Letters	6
It Can Happen Here	
Scale is Important	
Join the Bridge Club	6
Bonaire Blooms	10
Bonaire Loras Go Global	10
New Photo Shop - Capture Photo at Divi	
Flamingo	12
Young ODA Journalists	13
Shrink Studies SCUBA (Trauma)	18

### WEEKLY FEATURES:

Flotsam & Jetsam	2
Picture Yourself (On Bonaire from Vlaardingen, The Netherlands)	7
Straight Talk	7
Classifieds	12
Pet of the Week ("Jack")	14
Tide Table	14
Reporter Masthead	14
What's Happening	15
Movieland Film Schedule	15
Shopping & Dining Guides	16
On the Island Since	
(Bert Poyck and Jo Bux)	17
Sky Park (Moon, Venus, Saturn)	19
The Stars Have It	19





► Last Monday the Bonaire Judo team returned from the Antillean Judo Championships loaded with five gold medals and four silver. The medal winners were Chalton Crestiaan, Naigel Coffie, Jason Troncon, Neshomar Anthony and Alejandro Sanchez pictured above. Well done! □BVO photo

(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 2)  
**at the Carib Inn.** "Entertained" by Bruce Bowker, owner and senior dive instructor on Bonaire, these divers got a lot of pointers and techniques to try on their next dive to improve both buoyancy control and their swimming skills underwater. Two weeks ago 28 divers took part. In total, over 200 pounds of unnecessary lead were shed. Not only does this help the divers but it saves the reefs from divers who wear too much lead and wind up hitting corals

► Looking for something "especially Bonaire?" **There's a wonderful selection of "Bonaire Image" greeting cards available at Chat-N-Browse.**

► Lawyers, car dealers, dealers in precious metals and stones (jewelers) and others are now required by the Central Government to help the **fight against money laundering and terrorism financing.** In the near future the National Ordinance regarding the reporting of unusual transactions (P.B. 1996, no. 21) and (P.B. 1996, no.23) will go into force.

It will be applicable to lawyers, notaries, car dealers, insurance companies and brokers, tax advisors, jewelers, real estate brokers and dealers in building materials.

The Unusual Transactions Reporting Center will be organizing information sessions in Bonaire and the other islands soon. More information is available from



► **Newest Citizens!** On Sunday, March 4, SEBIKI organized a **get together at Sunrise Restaurant for the mothers who participated in its pre-natal classes.** Sixteen mothers and their babies as well as some fathers took part. BVO photo

Tel.: 09-462-6588, ext. 21/24/26/31, Fax: 462 6522, Email: [mot.na@gov.an](mailto:mot.na@gov.an).

► **Forty-five years ago** some people on the island decided that Bonaire needed a service club and **so began the Bonaire Lions Club.** Over the years its contributions have been countless. This year in addition to a gala and a community party in Wilhelmina Park, they've renovated the Art school connected with Kas di Arte on the Promenade.



**Education Commissioner Dammers looks on as Lions President Ron Schleper presents Kas di Arte President Jacky Bernabela new keys.** Lions photo

(Continued on page 8)

## Get Ready for Jazz

It's not too early to think about attending the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Bonaire Heineken Jazz and Salsa Festival May 17 through 20. Performing will be wonderful artists including: Paoli Mejias Quintet from Puerto Rico, The WES group from Washington DC, Gerado Rosales Mon-gomania from The Netherlands and Venezuela, the Yuri Honing Trio from The Netherlands, Trio Jean Jacques Rojer from Curaçao, Affettuoso from Aruba, Oswin "Chin" Behilia from Curaçao, plus Bonaire's local and student bands with special guests, Boy Janga, Scott Katzev and Franklin Granadio



The main sponsor is Heineken with very significant sponsorship from RE/MAX Paradise Homes, Littman's Jewelers, Dive Friends / Yellow Submarine, Plaza Resort Bonaire, More for Less,



*Benji and Guus at last year's festival*

Rocargo, MCB, *The Bonaire Reporter*, and Omni Electronics.

The concerts and jam sessions will be held at **Kas di Arte, Fort Oranje, Little Havana, Plaza Resort, Divi Flamingo Resort and Bongos Beach**

All admission is free except for the main concerts on May 18 and 19 which will cost NAf30. Students pay half price.

For latest info go to [www.bonairejazz.com](http://www.bonairejazz.com) □ Press release

## Bonaire Ambassadors



Ursula Vogt from Switzerland was honored with the Bronze Ambassador medal for visiting the island of Bonaire for the last 10 years. Two friends of hers told her about Bonaire one day and of the nice, friendly little resort Palm Studio and Blue Divers, where they spent their holidays.

Ten years ago she came here with her husband who is a dive instructor like she is and their two children, Dominik and Martina. Since then they have spent their diving holidays in Bonaire, year after year. Every year she's organized a two-week trip to Bonaire for their friends in their diving club. The groups vary from five to 10 people, who've enjoyed every day they were here.

Ursula says that since the first day she was in Bonaire she was infected with the "Bonaire virus." She loves Bonaire and its beauty on land and under water. She likes the friendly people and how Bonaireans keep their culture.

They stayed at Palm Studio/Blue Divers during all their visits and were very satisfied. They like the garden with the palm trees and the little pool.

On their homepage they have some pictures of Bonaire and nearly every week somebody asks about Bonaire and diving here. The only thing that she tells them is: "Go there, you must see it, you must feel it, you must smell it – it's something special, it's beautiful!"

Congratulations and thank you on behalf of the island and its people! *TCB release*

## **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](mailto:reporter@bonairenews.com)

[www.bonairereporter.com](http://www.bonairereporter.com)

# Capt. Don's Award on Display



BONHATA President Bous Scholts, Steve Littman, CURO head Bruce Bowker, Janet Thibault, Capt. Don, STINAPA head Elsmarie Beukenboom, Commissioner of Tourism Onnie Emerenciana, TCB head Ronella Croes, Adam Littman, Habitat head Jack Chalk

Last month Capt. Don's Hall of Fame Trophy was unveiled at the Departure Hall in Flamingo Airport. The award to Capt. Don was made two years ago in October and since then TCB together with co-sponsors worked on the project to place this important trophy in a special place. Now there's a beautifully designed display that can be seen by all our departing visitors at the Departure Lounge. The display was designed by Littman's Jewelers and was sponsored by TCB, STINAPA, CURO, BONHATA and Capt. Don's Habitat.

Capt. Don requested that he wanted to include a piece on Ebo (Hubert) Domacassé who was instrumental in getting Bonaire where it is. He feels the award is not just for him (Capt. Don) but for the island and therefore belongs to the people of Bonaire, especially to those who contributed to making Bonaire the Divers' Paradise.

## Here's bit About Ebo by Capt. Don, written in February, 1999:

“Two old gray haired ladies, tourists, pulled down their diving masks, locked arms and walked confidently down the old boat ramp to disappear into the sea. This was 1967 at the site of the once WW II internment camp, now the Flamingo Beach Club Bonaire (now Divi Flamingo).

A young Bonairean called Ebo stood watching, fascinated, as these ladies, perhaps older than his grandmother, simply adorned steel tanks and other basic diving gear and walked into the sea. He had watched Captain Don and his divers doing this for years - which stirred no real desire to learn. However, grandmothers?

Ebo had been born to the sea: sailed before he could walk, swam with the agility of a fish and dove, holding his breath, down into the reefs to remarkable depths, often without mask or fins. There was no part of the sea which brought him fear. Yet Scuba seemed to impose a caution that held him back from wanting to learn the art.

Ebo Domacassé is in many ways the heart of the Old Flamingo Beach Club. He was a trusted employee, often administrator, waiter, boat man hauling water skiers, fishing for others. And then as the bartender: as

natural as he was with the sea he was equally comfortable with all the international tourists.

Even though he had been around the shenanigans of this crazy Captain Don and had virtually watched the birth of the Caribbean's diving craze, there was a hidden reserve that restrained him from the desire of compressed air breathing. But now the grandmothers had touched a nerve. Not long after, Ebo donned his first tank and simply taught himself Scuba. Captain Don, having been that route himself, thought it a most natural thing and had simply cautioned Ebo: “Never do two tanks back to back. And pull this 'J' rod when you run out of air; it will give you enough air to get to the surface. But don't trust it. When it

fails, just come up slowly, but most important, never, never hold your breath. Just tilt your head back and breathe out slowly, kinda like whistling.”

Several years later Ebo was logging some hundreds of dives. A visiting Scuba instructor diving with Ebo was horrified that he had never had proper Scuba instruction. Ebo smiled, knowing that he had more than triple the instructor's underwater time. Nonetheless Ebo Domacassé was to become the first certified diver on Bonaire. Captain Don wasn't certified until five years later.

It was not the certification or instructor status that propelled Ebo into the throngs of the developing diving industry but his phenomenal compatibility with the reefs, fish and the sea. It was as if a new aquatic Tarzan had moved into the oceans of his fathers - to take charge. His desire has never been less than total conservation. He had compassion for his charges that over the years he guided through his virgin reefs, relaxed and with a constant awareness. Few historians know of his remarkable record of his unsung number of entries into the reefs - a shepherd to literally thousands of visiting divers who have ventured with him without harm or incident.

The sailor, Ebo, became a hero in 1968 when he bested Captain Don in a sailboat race that won him 27 cases of beer. It was the birth of the now famous Bonaire International Sailing Regatta (which this year will be the 40th).

The compassion for this man Ebo Domacassé, who has been unceremoniously awarded two reefs in his name- Ebo's Reef and Ebo's special - a gesture from other guides as well as from his wet guests, is enormous. There's a love and respect from every diving visitor whom he's touched. Many machos are vocal, but it was Ebo with his quiet ways and relaxed manners who has given so much of himself to the building of Bonaire's renowned underwater image.

It has been an honor to have dove with you Ebo.” □  
Capt'n Don./L.D.



# LETTERS

## IT CAN HAPPEN HERE

Dear Editor:

Last week's issue of *The Bonaire Reporter* contained my letter about detrimental effects of overfishing on coral reefs, and Dee Scarr's article about a **fatal disease that struck sea urchins** in the Caribbean in the early 1980s. The two topics are seemingly unrelated. However, this coincidence reminded me of a sad story in which these **two topics came together** in a very unfortunate way. This story has a great lesson, and it needs to be retold since it happened more than 20 years ago and many today never heard of it.

The large island of Jamaica was once surrounded by a beautiful reef that held some 60 species of corals. During the last couple of centuries, the population of Jamaica grew exponentially, while continually fishing. Overfishing in Jamaican waters can be traced back over 100 years. People removed more than half of the **large algae-eating fish** even before the 20<sup>th</sup> century. By 1973, both herbivores (parrotfish and surgeonfish) and carnivores (sharks, jacks, and groupers) were taken at a **rate that was twice - or even three times - the sustainable take.**

Here come the urchins. As fish disappeared, the population of this algae-eating competitor of fish exploded. This was good for the reef; during **the 1970s the reefs appeared to survive well**, as sea urchins took over the niche of herbivorous fish, keeping the fleshy, filamentous algae under control.

In 1980, Hurricane Allen smashed the Jamaican corals. As the reef began to slowly recover after the hurricane, the grazing urchins played a critical role in keeping down the algae so new corals could settle. Three years later, a disease attacked the urchins causing their mass mortality throughout the Caribbean. With **overfishing still rampant**, there were no major grazers left. Algae started to flourish. Clearly benefiting from the lack of grazers, algal coverage by the end of 1980s increased from 4% to 92%, with **live coral cover declining from 52% to a mere 3%**! The Jamaican coral reef died. The causes were the urchins' death after the hurricane damaged the reef, with **overfishing triggering** the reduced resilience of the reef ecosystem. Remember, the live coral reef coverage around Bonaire is about 47%, a little less than it used to be around Jamaica before 1980.

*Genady Filkovsky.*

## SCALE IS IMPORTANT

Dear Editor:

Jiri Lausmann has it exactly right in his recent letter, "Scale not the issue." Unplanned development is undesirable. But he has missed my point rather badly ("Out of proportion" in the previous issue). It is important that accurate information be available to the public. Grotesques should not be presented as real possibilities. That is worse than no information - it is scaremongering. □

*Ian MacDonald*



## What Do You Have to Say?

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

## Join the Bridge Club



► After many amazing bridge years with Kathy, **the Bonaire Bridge Buddies (BBB) will begin meeting at the airport restaurant.** Every week a lot of nice, educated and less educated people (in bridge) spend their Wednesday evenings playing together as real buddies. Play starts at 19.30 and goes on till 23.00 and will cost you NAf 2,50. For more information call Joop (717-5903 or 786-6003) or better mail [mahostar@flamingotv.net](mailto:mahostar@flamingotv.net) Don't feel uncomfortable if you just play for a short time. Give it a try! (*Herman van Leeuwen*)



Be an Angel -



Pass on The Reporter to a Friend

# STRAIGHT TALK

**I**t's all about dating, love, sex, friendship, and marriage - so let's talk. Email your relationship questions to my attention:

**Note:** Part 1 addressed the reader's perception of how most relationships are based on mutual understanding rather than true love, and how economics create tolerance for a breadwinner's misbehavior in a relationship. Part 2 addressed the reader's perception of three kinds of love. Readers can obtain all three parts of the Q&A session by sending an email request to: [betwills@mac.com](mailto:betwills@mac.com).



Betty Wills

## Question (Part 3, continuing) from: Better to rise than to fall in love.

*So how can you give advice to people who get mixed up in this mess of rules on one side and nature on the other? Nature is strongest and rules cannot harness it. I have the pleasure to know a little about love and I know several girl friends, some sexually active and others not. All I can do is help them, assist them, give them all I can and not possess them. I let them free and therefore they love me.*

**ANSWER:** I've always found it's better to give than to receive, which is why giving advice comes easy for me. I especially enjoy putting a humorous spin on it to help lighten the load. It makes life a little more pleasant when you can look back and laugh at yourself and some of the crazy things you've done. Your conclusion that *nature is strongest and rules cannot harness it* sounds more like a credo for wild animals than humans. The human conscience is nature's harness and serves to contain the beast in us. In other words, our conscience harnesses humanity with unspoken rules of civility. Some choose to listen to it; some don't. A lack of conscience is usually at the root of repeated transgressions, including acts of infidelity. Perhaps you've heard it said *a hard penis has no conscience*. True, but the man attached to it often does. If you are not being deceitful to your girl friends and they are happy in their relationship with you, knowing you have multiple sex partners, then it appears you're getting what you paid for - a mutual understanding in a relationship that exchanges sex for money. I wouldn't go so far as to call it "love," much less, "free love."

## JOKE OF THE DAY



A woman was chatting with her next-door neighbor.

"I feel really good today. I started out this morning with an act of unselfish generosity. I gave a \$20 bill to a bum."

"You gave a bum 20 whole dollars? That's a lot of money to just give away. What did your husband say about it?"

"Oh, he thought it was the proper thing to do. He said, 'Thanks.'" □



# Picture Yourself With The Reporter

## Following the Queen to Bonaire (from Vlaardingen, The Netherlands)



**A**nny and Johan van Winkelhoff were on Bonaire from mid- November through the beginning of December. They say they are mad to visit here and hope to continue for years to come. They titled this photo, Two Queens since their visit coincided with Queen Beatrix's. □

**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](mailto:picture@bonairereporter.com). (All 2007 photos are eligible.) □



► **Green Label Garden Center just got another delivery of clay pots** – a whole container’s worth, and what a selection- big, gigantic (Ali Baba sized), small ones and everything in between. There are simple, classic ones, some that are decorated, others in animal shapes. These pots are very popular items on the island so stop in and see them before they’re all sold out. Green Label is in Playa, across from Napa and around the corner from DeFreewieler. Open all day, Monday through Friday and on Saturdays until 1.



*Unloading pots into Green Label’s shop interior*

*(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 3)*

► Get your **2007 license plate sticker** by paying your road tax as soon as possible. Police checkpoints are continuing to be set up to check. **If you’re caught without one, your car is impounded.**

► The site for the **“Early” St. Patrick’s Day party, featuring the Irish Crooners** “(world famous in Curaçao and Bonaire”) is now at **Steve’s Red 7**, upstairs from the Bonaire Motorcycle Shop. It’s **Friday, March 16, starting at 10 pm and going on to the 17<sup>th</sup> (3 am)**. Entrance is free. There will be Irish stew, Guinness, Irish whiskey. Music by the Crooners will be traditionally Irish with some sing-along oldies. Guest musicians are welcome.



*The Jong Bonaire ping-pong (table tennis) team and advisors.*

► Two Saturdays ago youngsters at Jong Bonaire held a car wash to raise money for their great ping-pong team. They hope to be able to travel to Valencia, Venezuela, to take part in the World Tournament, the “ITTF World Junior Circuit.” Additional sponsorship is welcome. □ *Photo & story from Jong Bonaire*

► Saturday, March 17, is not only St. Patrick’s Day, it’s **Dia di Aruba**, but



it’s not just for Arubans. Everyone is welcome to their **big festival at the stadium parking lot** and it goes from 10:30 am to 2 am the next morning. There will be dancing, live music and great food from all over the Caribbean. The Arubans do know how to throw a party, so don’t miss it.

► One sure sign that elections are coming up is the **road repair is going on** around the island. Funded by poverty-fighting financial aid from Reda Social (you can go broke fixing your

*(Continued on page 9)*





*Asphalt crew*



*The paving machine in action*

car and tires from the damage done by bad roads) hot asphalt is being laid in Bonaire's neighborhoods.

The contractor in charge of the work is MNO Vervat (ex-Koop Tjuchem) managed by Dion Mulder under guidance from the Highway Department of *Dienst Ruimtelijk Ontwikkeling & Beheer* (DROB). The asphalt is shipped from Curaçao since Bonaire has no asphalt plant. Most work in Antrio is complete and is now underway in Rincon.

► Have you noticed the newly opened restaurant **Patagonia** in the Lighthouse at Harbour Village Marina? **This exciting new restaurant featuring Argentine cuisine and flavors is owned and operated by the Pablo Palacios family who are the originators of Argentine cuisine on the island.** The spectacular setting on the harbor equals the cuisine that comes from Chef Pablo's kitchen. Argentinean beef, tender and succulent, chicken and fish – all done to perfection the Argentinean way.

Enjoy fine cuisine, cold, cold drinks on their outdoor terrace with views of the water or in air-conditioning inside. Patagonia is open for lunch and dinner every day except Monday. Reservations are appreciated. Telephone 717-7725.

► **There's another realtor in Bonaire.** Bonaire Sunshine Homes, whose tagline is "realtor with a local touch" opened its doors with a press conference last week. It's a partnership of three people well known in Bonaire for other endeavors:

-James Finies, a Bonairean and who has over 20 years of banking experience.

-Elisabeth Vos, who came from Holland more than 15 yrs ago, a tennis pro at Harbour Village who created the is-



Celebrating our 25th Anniversary  
Rotary Club of Bonaire

"Support our Breakfast in Schools Program"

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



*'Chabe' and Governor Domacassé*

► **Catalina Elisabeth Francisca Paula-Frans, the oldest resident of Bonaire** and better known as 'Chabe,' celebrated her **104th birthday** last week. There was a party for her at her residence, Mariadal Foundation nursing home, where she lives. There was also a party planned at her family's home in Rincon. Notice the photo of her in younger days in the background.

land's superb youth tennis program and

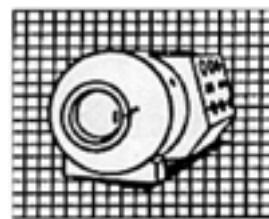
-Davika (Vicky) Bissessar, who made Bonaire her home eight years ago and is the driving force behind the popular children's Parke Publico.

The office is in the heart of Kralendijk.

► **Welcome back to advertiser, Warehouse Bonaire,** Bonaire's biggest air-conditioned supermarket with the biggest assortment of fresh meats, produce, dairy, bakery and canned and frozen goods. They have the best prices on the island and for good reason that's why the locals shop here. Fresh products come from Holland and the US and the bread is baked fresh daily. They're open Monday through Friday 8 am to 6 pm, non-stop, and on Saturdays from 8 am to 1 pm. Check out their website: [www.warehousebonaire.com](http://www.warehousebonaire.com) for detailed information and specials.

► All interested persons are invited by STINAPA to a free talk by Dr. Peter Mumby from the University of Exeter about **"The Resilience of Coral Reefs and the Importance of Parrotfish,"** this Friday, March 16, at 8 pm in Capt. Don's Habitat Conference Room. Dr. Mumby is here with Dr. Robert Steneck, STINAPA's main advisor in the Fish Protected Areas project. Do not miss this opportunity to learn about the ecological importance of Parrotfish in coral reef systems. G./L. D.

**We want to build a new one!**



**Support Dive Safety  
Support The Chamber  
MCB 868.384.00**

Recompression  
Chamber Foundation  
Since 16 January 1986  
PO Box 335 Bonaire

COVER STORY

# BONAIRE BLOOMS



**B**onaire is blooming bright yellow! And it's the best show in years. Now's the time to see swaths of yellow blossoming trees especially up and down Seru Largu and along the north western coast of Bonaire. The trees are Bonaire's signature Brasilwood or Dyewood (*Brasia* in Papiamentu) tree. When it blooms it's often confused with the ki-brahacha which also has a yellow blossom, but much larger.

The Brasil is a relatively small tree with deep grooves in its trunk and branches. It has short heavy thorns and the leaves are pinnated and roundish.

Bonaire nearly lost all of its Brasilwood trees with the popularity of the wood being used as a red dye. Acres of these trees were cut down and shipped to Holland where it was rasped to extract the dye.

Sadly, in areas where the Brasils have been cut down they've been replaced by the nasty, thorny Cossie which is very adept at covering open places quickly, leaving no room for other trees. It's an example of how easy it is to destroy nature and how difficult it is to restore it later. □L.D.

# Bonaire Loras Go Global via Cyberspace



*Lora chicks in tree nest*

**I**n an ambitious attempt to raise support and awareness, the Bonaire Parrot Project will soon launch its very own website. Visitors to [parrotwatch.org](http://parrotwatch.org) will be able to follow the progress of our endangered *Amazonia Barbarenius* parrots as they attempt to raise young. For the first time it will be possible for peo-

ple worldwide to follow wild parrots as their eggs hatch and the chicks grow.

Three lora pairs will be in the limelight, and each week there will be new movie clips from inside their nests. Parrotwatch visitors will also be able to

*(Continued on page 11)*

*(Loras go Cyperspace. Continued from page 10)*

view movies of the parrot parents, of the parrot team doing chick check ups, interviews and much more. As raising awareness is a big motivation of the venture there will also be a lot of educational material from parrot facts through to online diaries from the project personnel describing their work.

To get access to all this material visitors will have to donate a small amount to the parrot project online. It will be possible to compare the details of the three pairs and their nests and choose which to sponsor. Or parrotwatch visitors can sponsor project volunteers, each with their own top trump style profile! The funds raised will go to supporting the important research taking place and conservation efforts by the parrot team and their on-island partners, *Salbas Nos Loras* (SNL).

On Bonaire the parrot team with their partners SNL will be encouraging local participation in schools and community groups. There will be free access for schools, and for every international donor, parrotwatch will give a Bonairean school child a parrot sticker. Once the site is up and running they hope to run a Papiamentu version of the site too.

Research student Sam Williams who first visited Bonaire to work with the lora in 2003 is currently covering all the setup expenses in order to launch parrotwatch



*Young chicks (above) and*



*Older chicks (to the right)*



in time for the parrot breeding season. He hopes to attract sponsorship for the venture from eco-conscious businesses and organizations so parrotwatch can really take off.

Businesses and organizations will be able to sponsor parrotwatch and at the same time secure a great banner advertising opportunity on the site. The parrot team will be marketing the website globally using every conceivable opportunity and they hope to draw a great deal of attention to Bonaire and the lora. There will also be a whole host of activities in 2007 where donors will get great positive publicity. To find out more and discuss how you could be involved contact

[sam@parrotwatch.org](mailto:sam@parrotwatch.org). □ *Story by Sam Williams; photos by Rowan Martin & Sam Williams*

## 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](mailto: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. 8000m<sup>2</sup> 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-Browse next to Lover's Ice Cream and Sand Dollar Grocery. Photography by Shelly Craig [www.bonaireimages.com](http://www.bonaireimages.com)

### Searching For GOOD Maid Service?

For Quality House Cleaning  
CALL JRA

Serving Bonaire for more than 14 years Honest, Reliable, Efficient, Thorough, Low rates, References. One time or many Phone 785-9041 ... and relax

### LUNCH TO GO

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

### OUTDOOR SPORTS

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

### JELLASTONE PETPARK

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

### Vacation Rental

Cozy guest cottage available

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



### SUPPORT BONAIRE

The Island you love could use your help! **Support Bonaire, Inc.** provides support to Bonaire's non-profits. To learn more about making a US tax deductible donation visit [www.supportbonaire.org](http://www.supportbonaire.org) and help make a difference!

### For Sale

For sale **Bambou style Bed** NAf 400,00 Phone: 717-2791 after 6pm

**Wicker Bedroom Set** – Queen-size mattress and spring, headboard, dresser, mirror, 2 nightstands, vanity table. Like new condition. Call 717-2208.

**For Sale- Wireless Router:** Connect to internet cable- NAf 185; **Starting motor** for large trucks (heavy machines- Ford, Lincoln, Chrysler, etc) - NAf190; **Oil filter** for same NAf- 39; **Swift Binoculars** ---great portable size, powerful - NAf 87 b/o; **Leather Goods**-- boots (2 bl. 2wh. 1 gray. ladies) belts, ladies fashion vest--- boots NAf42-72 b/o; vest NAf 52. b/o . **Household items**, (baking pans ,linens, cooking pots & pans, utensils) b/o AND MORE CALL: 700-5418

**Fantastic Phantom bag-less cyclonic canister vacuum cleaner** practically new, NAf200-. Call 786-3117.

**Two windsurf custom built Protec boards with covers, calbert race sails, 2 booms and miscellaneous parts** please call 795-3456 asking price NAf 750,00 will negotiate! All must go!

**Tae Kwondo suits belts/ helmet/leg, body and arm shields.** Call 795-3456 asking price NAf 300- will negotiate- all must go!

**Sailing Yacht for sale-41 Ft. Hans Christian**, blue-water ready. Immaculate condition. Completely refit rigging, instrumentation, etc. 2005-too much to list here. Located in Bonaire. Serious Inquires only please. Contact Ron at [captronbon@yahoo.com](mailto:captronbon@yahoo.com). Include "BOAT" in the subject line.

**NIKONOS III – Camera and Macro tube Set.** Still the best UW camera for macro shots. Original owner. NEVER been flooded. Ideal back-up camera. Complete NAf200. Call George 786-6215.



### Cars

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



For Sale: **Kia Spectra 2002**, A/C, Radio, 4 doors. In very good condition. Price: NAf 9500,00. Call: 786-1230\

# New Photo Shop Opens

capturing your adventures, one memory at a time



“We go the extra mile for our customers,” Capture Photo owner Cathy Lapsys says proudly. “We’re a full service photo operation and everything is state of the art.” “And for those who are new to underwater camera photography, don’t worry, we’ll work with you to capture your memories, one at a time.” The new photo shop at Divi covers all the bases: underwater photography classes, underwater videography, camera rentals, film camera accessories, digital image processing, matting and

framing (up to size 13” by 19”) – just to mention a few of their offerings. And they have some interesting “swimming fish,” “garden buddies,” colorful flags and unique gifts for the garden and home.

Cathy, experienced in early childhood education, wants the shop to work with kids, both visitors and residents, to introduce them to the art of photography. “We’d like to do summer camps, after school programs and offer scholarships in the field. We want to make a difference on the island.”

Capture Photo is an affiliate of the world’s largest underwater Camera repair facility, Sub Aquatic Camera Repair Company located in California. They’re located at Divi Flamingo Beach Resort & Casino, tel. 717-8285, ext. 419. □L.D.

**FOR SALE: TOYOTA FUN CRUISER BY THE FIRST OF APRIL.** Color: green, 10 yrs.old, 11.000 km., original owner, perfect condition, price \$8.000 Call: 717-3453 or email [blok.luuk@gmail.com](mailto:blok.luuk@gmail.com)

### Property, Sales & Rentals

For Rent: **one fully furnished tropical house in Republic Santa Barbara** area with great views and garden. Serious buyers looking to buy urgently: **One Sabadeco house with pool.** Call Bonaire Sunshine Homes 786 1592, 510 4050.

**Large House for rent** 4 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms!!! Call 717-8603

**Fully furnished tropical house** in Republic Santa Barbara area with great views and garden for rent. Call 786-1592, 510-4050.

For rent: **One room plus one bathroom apartment**, water, electricity, cleaning included. NAf. 500,00 a month, 796 - 3637, [digitalis1956@hotmail.com](mailto:digitalis1956@hotmail.com)

**Harbour Village Marina Front Condo** For Sale- Large one bedroom, 2 bath apartment located



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

**FOR SALE: CHOICE LOCATION** Playa Lechi Beach Villa with private beach and secure gated entrance. Two bedrooms. Take a virtual tour at [www.pelicanreefbonaire.com](http://www.pelicanreefbonaire.com) e/mail: [info@pelicanreefbonaire.com](mailto:info@pelicanreefbonaire.com) PHONE: 599-717-5058 or contact your broker. (Brokers protected)

### Lost & Found

Found: **One Walt Disney's children's watch.** 796 - 3637, [digitalis1956@hotmail.com](mailto:digitalis1956@hotmail.com)

Lost: **License plate, registered: MF - 28.** J@n Brouwer. 796 - 3637. [digitalis1956@hotmail.com](mailto:digitalis1956@hotmail.com)

### Wanted Jobs

**MAINTENANCE EXCELLENT AND PERFECT** A sincere Bonairean expert is offering you his services in maintenance, house, roof and framework painting. **Just call 560-6287.** We are at your service.

**Cleaning lady (speaking Spanish and Papiamentu) is looking for part-time work.** Please call J@n Brouwer: 796 - 3637 or mail: [digitalis1956@hotmail.com](mailto:digitalis1956@hotmail.com)

### Wanted Staff

**Part-time Administrator wanted.** Must be multilingual-English, Papiamentu, Dutch. Call 512-6375. □

### Wanted

**Cricket Buddy Needed** Do you have Direct TV / Satellite TV and will watch ICC World Cup Cricket (March 30- April)? I seek a cricket buddy as I do not have Direct TV. I can watch any games but am really keen on the Windies, India, Ireland and Bermuda. Please email [ann@antiguacaribbean.com](mailto:ann@antiguacaribbean.com)

**Looking for Astarians in Bonaire** to start a study group. Phone: 512-6375

### Events

**Holistic 3 day Retreat** Planned June 2007 by visiting expert on Ayurveda, involving yoga, massage & diet. Direct questions to email [flumming-bird@yahoo.com](mailto:flumming-bird@yahoo.com) □

**Reporter Ads Work And they are free for personal use and inexpensive for business.** Call 786-6518

# Young ODA Journalists



**ODA journalists and supporters- front (l-r): Pierryson Thielman, Ronald Coffee, Tansy Piar, Jose Minguel Anthony, Richandró Emerenciana middle (l-r): Renata Martiszoon, Mariselle Evertsz, Gabriela Marchena, Louise Ritchie, Juliana Ogando, Witono (Janto) Djamin back (l-r): Zjenon Evertsz, Neyza Bernabela, Joe Ritchie, Dennis Martinus**

The team of young people that does the radio broadcast, Outreach in Action (ODA), took part in a special course taught by Florida A&M University journalism professor Dr. Joe Ritchie and his wife, Louise, a journalism expert as well. The 16-hour course at the pre-university level was financed by the Florida Association for Volunteer Action in the Caribbean and the Americas, Inc. (FAVACA).

FAVACA is a private not-for-profit organization formed in 1981 by Florida Governor Bob Graham. FAVACA's Florida International Volunteer Corps is the only program of its kind in the US. A state appropriation, voted annually since 1986, provides a funding base for an estimated 150 volunteer missions to Central America and the Caribbean this year. Dennis Martinus, the organizer of the

course, believes the youngsters should be exposed to the ideals of journalism and freedom of expression in a democratic country.

The course covered topics like reporting ethics, interviewing skills and researching stories. The Ritchies were lavish in their praise of Bonaire and its people. Mrs. Ritchie said, "We appreciate Dennis' vision to bring together young people to do something really important. The type of education and facilities these youngsters have are available in only a few US high schools like Beverly Hills High and Philips Andover, which President George Bush attended." Dr. Ritchie added, "We have been very impressed by these youngsters."

On the last evening of the series of classes, which ran from 5 pm to 9 pm all week, the students offered a presentation of some of what they learned to members of the Bonaire Press Corps. It was professionally done with live, recorded, multimedia, Power Point and slides--very 21<sup>st</sup> century. Following the presentation they challenged the members of the press with provocative observations with the goal of improving the local press, demonstrating their



**A mock interview was part of the presentation- Don't do it like this.**

newly acquired experience very well. The Ritchies declared Bonaire to be their favorite Caribbean island. □ G.D.



**Richandró Emerenciana presents a gift to the Ritchies on behalf of the ODA team**

# Pet of the Week

Handsome "Jack" is showing how alert and smart he is. He looks like a Pointer, especially in this stance, but the furry ridge down his back shows that there was a Rhodesian Ridgeback somewhere in his ancestry too. When he was found wandering on the street Jack was pretty skinny and bedraggled, but after being brought into the



"Jack"

Bonaire Animal Shelter all that changed. He got extra food, lots of attention and good medical care and he's turned into this handsome creature. And to show how much he appreciates it he just adores people. And from what the Shelter staff has observed he will make an excellent watchdog. You may meet him at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday, 8 am to 1 pm. Tel. 717-4989.

Don't forget: **This Sunday is the concert on the Freewinds to benefit the Shelter Sterilization Fund.** It starts at 7:30 pm. Tickets are NA\$25 and available at the Shelter or from the Shelter Board of Directors. □L.D.



Be an Angel ...  
Pass on The  
Reporter to a  
Friend

**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
3-16	2:55	1.1FT.	10:42	1.9FT.	18:32	1.0FT.	23:25	1.2FT.	71
3-17	4:20	1.1FT.	11:36	1.8FT.	18:44	1.0FT.	23:53	1.3FT.	84
3-18	0:18	1.4FT.	5:49	1.1FT.	12:25	1.6FT.	18:49	1.1FT.	94
3-19	1:02	1.6FT.	7:26	1.1FT.	13:34	1.5FT.	18:47	1.2FT.	100
3-20	1:50	1.6FT.	9:24	1.0FT.	14:49	1.3FT.	18:29	1.2FT.	103
3-21	2:47	1.8FT.	11:23	1.0FT.					101
3-22	3:50	1.8FT.	12:53	0.9FT.					95
3-23	4:52	1.9FT.	14:04	0.8FT.					85
3-24	5:56	1.9FT.	14:59	0.7FT.					74
3-25	6:54	2.0FT.	15:49	0.7FT.					62
3-26	7:50	1.9FT.	16:27	0.7FT.					52

**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:** David Colvard, Capt. Don, Jack Horkheimer, Jong Bonaire, Greta Kooistra, TCB, Michael Thiessen, Herman van Leeuwen, Sam Williams, 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)

**Norbit**  
(Eddy Murphy)

Early Show (Usually 7 pm)

**Smokin' Aces**  
(Ben Affleck)

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

March: Charlotte's Web

### THIS WEEK

**Friday, March 16**—Free Talk, "Resilience of Coral Reefs & Importance of Parrot fish" by Dr. Peter Murphy, Capt. Don's Habitat Conference Room, 8 pm (sponsored by STINAPA)

**Friday, March 16**—Early St. Patrick's Day Celebration with the Irish Crooners from Curaçao. The site has been changed. Steve's Red 7, upstairs from the Bonaire Motorcycle Shop, 10 pm to 3 am (March 17). Free entrance. Irish stew, Guinness, Irish whiskey, etc. Guest musicians welcome. See page 8.

**Saturday, March 17**—St. Patrick's Day Dance Party with the Flamingo Rockers, DJ Papa, Sunrise Restaurant at Sand Dollar, 9 pm-1 am. NAf20 in advance (at AWC across from Warehouse Bonaire), NAf25 at door (includes food)

**Saturday, March 17**—Dia di Aruba Festival featuring live bands, dancing groups, stands selling local and international foods. 10:30 am until 2 am (Sunday). Stadium parking lot. More information call Bea Boekhoudt 796-9126. — See page 8

**Sunday, March 18**—Show to benefit the Bonaire Animal Shelter Sterilization Program, aboard *Freewinds*, 7:30 pm. Tickets sold at Shelter NAf25.

**Tuesday, March 20**—Spring Begins

**Until March 26**—Art Exhibit of works of Eefje van Twillert van der Straten, Kas di Arte, open 5-7:30 pm.

**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: Wed. Mar. 21—Crown Princess

### COMING

Arts and Crafts Markets at Wilhelmina Park on Cruise Ship Visiting Days starting 10 am to early afternoon: Tues. Mar. 27—Lili Marleen, Veendam; Wed. April 4—Crown Princess, Thurs. Apr. 5—Queen Mary 2; Tues. Apr. 10—Lily Marlene, Sea Princess

**Sunday, April 1--29<sup>th</sup>** Kontest di Fli (Kite contest) in the field behind Kooyman's. All day from 9 am. Sign up at Flamingo Book Store. Entrance fee is NAf3,50 for children; NAf7,50 for adults.

**Sunday April 1**—Palm Sunday  
**Sunday, April 1**—Walk through Plantation Bolivia area with Bòl Antoin—Meet at site of old airport, Rincon Road, across from license plate-flag display, 6:15 am. Sponsored by Top Health Fitness Center. Tel. 786-8908.

**Monday, April 2**—Full moon

**Tuesday, April 3**—Passover

**Friday, April 6**—Good Friday

**Sunday, April 8**—Easter

**Saturday, April 28**—World Tai Chi

**Qigong Day**—more information as date approaches

### 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 ambience at the **Chibi Chibi Restaurant & Bar, Divi Flamingo**. Open daily 5-10 pm

- **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 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.**

- **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

### 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- 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

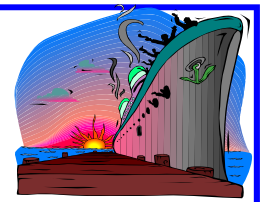
**Bonaire Museum** on Kaya J. v.d. Ree, behind the Catholic Church in town. Open weekdays from 8 am-noon, 1:30-5 pm. Tel. 717-8868

**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-

**Sunday, March 18—Benefit Show-Bonaire Animal Shelter Sterilization Fund aboard the Freewinds 7:30 pm. Tickets at Shelter, 717-4989.**



6105; 560-7267 or 717-3902.

**Al-Anon meetings** - every Monday evening at 7 pm. Call 790-7272

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

**Weekly BonaireTalker Gathering and Dinner at Gibi's** - Tuesday - 6:30 pm - call 567-0655 for directions.

**Bridge Club** - Wednesdays, 7:30 pm at the FORMA Building on Kaya Korona, across from the RBIT Bank. All levels invited. NAf5 entry fee. Call Cathy 566-4056.

**Darts Club** plays every other Sunday at City Café. Registration at 4, games at 5. Tel. 717-2950, 560-7539.

**JCI - First Wednesday of the Month**-Junior Chamber International Bonaire (JCI Bonaire, formerly known as Bonaire Jaycees) meets at the ABVO building, Kaminda Jato Baco 36 from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Everyone is welcome. Contact: Renata Domacassé 516-4252.

**Kiwanis Club** meets at APNA Plaza, Kaya International, every other Tuesday, 7 pm. Tel. 717-5595, Jeannette Rodriguez.

**Lions Club** meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at 8 pm at Kaya Sabana #1. All Lions welcome.

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

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Bonaire Arts & Crafts (Fundashon Arte Industrial Bonaireano)** 717-5246 or 7117  
**The Bonaire Swim Club**- Contact Valarie Stimpson at 785-3451; Valarie@telbonet.an  
**Bonaire National Marine Park** - 717-8444.

**Bonaire Animal Shelter** -717-4989.

**Donkey Sanctuary** - 560-7607.

**Jong Bonaire (Youth Center)** - 717-4303.

**Sister Maria Hoppner Home (Child Care)** Tel. 717-4181 fax 717-2844.

**Special Olympics**— Call 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

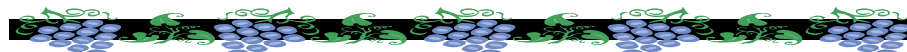
Send event info to:

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
<b>Balashi Beach Bar</b> <b>Bar and Beach Service</b> 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.
<b>Bella Vista Restaurant</b> 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	<b>Buddy's Magnificent Theme Nights:</b> 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)
<b>Bistro de Paris</b> Kaya Gob. N. Debrót 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	<b>Real French Cooking</b> in an informal setting Superb dishes prepared with care and love by a French chef Owner-operated Eat in or Take away
<b>Cactus Blue</b> Blvd. J. A. Abraham 16 (half-way between town and Divi Flamingo) 717-4564	Moderate Dinner Closed Sunday	<b>Trend Setting Menu</b> Bonaire's newest hot-spot to eat and drink. Margaritas a specialty Owner-operated for top service
<b>Calabas Restaurant &amp; Chibi Chibi Restaurant and Bar</b> At the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort Waterfront 717-8285	Moderate-Expensive Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Open 7 days	<b>Biggest BBQ Buffet on Bonaire every Saturday</b> from 6-9pm. Only NAf 28 or \$15.75.
<b>The Great Escape</b> EEG Blvd #97—across from Belmar 717-7488	Moderate Breakfast Sandwich Lunch 10 am-12 noon	<b>Bar-Restaurant poolside—under the thatched roof.</b> Breakfast Buffet 7:30-10 am every day Super beer selection—Happy hours 5 to 7 daily.
<b>The Last Bite Bakery</b> Kaya Grandi 70 717-3293	Low-Moderate Open Tuesday through Saturday 7:30am-5:30pm; Sat. 9am-2pm	<b>NAf10 take out lunch every day -</b> main dish with 2 side dishes. Special on Tuesday and Thursday: Lasagna.
<b>Papaya Moon Cantina</b> Downtown— Kaya Grandi 48 717-5025	Moderate Open everyday except Tuesday For Dinner	<b>Margaritas a Specialty</b> 2 for 1 Happy Hour 6-7:30 Incredible Mexican Cuisine
<b>Pasa Bon Pizza</b> On Kaya Gob. Debrót ½ mile north of town center. 780-1111	Low-Moderate Open from 5-11 pm Wednesday-Sunday	Bonaire's best. The <b>Real Thing!</b> Freshly prepared pizzas made with the finest ingredients. Salads, desserts. Eat in or take away. Nice bar too. Call ahead to eat-in or take out 780-1111
<b>Patagonia Argentinean Restaurant</b> At the lighthouse, Harbour Village Marina 717-7725	Moderate Lunch Tuesday-Friday Dinner Tuesday-Sunday	Authentic Argentinean Cuisine Owned and operated by the Pablo Palacios Family from Argentina The beef is here and more.
<b>The Bonaire Windsurfing Place</b> At Sorobon Beach Get away from it all.	Low-Moderate Open from 10am-6 pm daily,	A <b>genuine sandy beach restaurant</b> cooled by the trade winds Top quality food and friendly service. Reserve for the <b>Wednesday Beach BBQ.</b>

## 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!**

## 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.**

## PHOTO SERVICES

**Capture Photo** at the Divi Flamingo. Photo classes, camera rental, digital processing, all state of the art!

## 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.**

## SUPERMARKETS

**Warehouse Supermarket on Kaya Industria**—Biggest air conditioned market with the, largest selection and lowest prices on the island.

## 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?



# On the Island Since ... 1999 and 2005

## Bert Poyck and Jo Bux

“When we were children we lived on the same street in Sittard, a town in the south of Holland, but we didn’t really know each other because I was 17 and into girls and Jo was seven and playing soccer. It was here on Bonaire that we became neighbors again.” Bert Poyck: “In the early 90s I used to travel frequently to Curaçao for business and that’s how my wife, Miep, and I decided to come this way when we retired. In Holland I had a wholesale business in building materials and an import/export company which entailed a lot of traveling to Asia, but as I suffer from asthma I wasn’t functioning well. Especially during the winters I felt really bad and it came to a point that I said ‘Enough! I’m going to spend the last part of my life in a nice climate!’

We chose Bonaire because of its tranquility and we went to live at Lagoen Hill. The first couple of years we worked in resort management, but soon enough we decided to become *penhionados* full time. Now I am into photography and I sell the photos to tourists at the local cruise ship market and to resorts as wall decorations. I play guitar every day and Miep and I walk a lot through the *mondi*. We’re no divers, we don’t snorkel, but we do enjoy the island. This is home!”

Jo Bux: “In Holland I was a professional soccer player with Fortuna Sittard for 10 years, but originally I was a geography teacher. During my career as a soccer player I was teaching five hours per week, but when I stopped playing soccer those hours were too little to make a living and at the time there was no need for teachers so I opened several CD shops and a CD wholesale business. Music had always been my hobby and it was the right time because CDs were just being introduced to the public. I worked in the business for 20 years, then more and more people started downloading music, so I sold the business right in time.

My wife Dymphie and I were playing with the idea of doing something different, and as she was working in the fashion industry we decided to do that. Then we thought, ‘Why shouldn’t we do it in a nicer climate!’ We met Bert and Miep at a party of a mutual friend in Holland. They were already living in Bonaire at the time. We’d just been to Aruba to look around but we didn’t like the lifestyle there, so we were very interested to hear what they had to say about Bonaire. By the end of the party we decided to

visit Bert and Miep on Bonaire.

It took us some years before we finally came, but the moment we set foot on the island in 2004 it was love at first sight, and we came to live here in 2005. We bought the house next to Bert and Miep and we really like it here. We’re still working. We have a fashion and CD shop at the house. I also deliver music to restaurants and I sell Bonairean music, bachata and meringue, at the cruise ship market. It’s funny because more and more locals come to the house to buy CDs with music from the old days, from Europe and the US, like ABBA and Roy Orbison!”

---

“So now we have a long-term commitment to the music school. We wanted to do something for the Bonairean youngsters and we think this is the right way.”

---

Bert: “When Jo and I met at the party of this friend we found out not only that we’d lived in the same street when we were kids but also we had other things in common. Jo knew a lot about music because he worked in the business and my lifetime hobby had been rock & roll. I was a guitar player; I wrote songs and played in several bands. I was a child of rock & roll: the Everly Brothers, Chuck Berry and Little Richard - those were my idols!

So, one night on Bonaire the four of us were chatting about all the people we know in the music business and then we said, ‘Let’s try to get some Dutch bands to come to Bonaire to perform!’ We did-



Jo Bux and Bert Poyck

n’t know what we’d gotten into. We’d already contacted Rene Schuman and Angel Eye, and then it came to a point that we had to set a date and book them. After that we started looking around for sponsors. Luckily all the business people we approached were positive, especially because of the fact that if there would be any money left we would donate it to a Bonairean cause. To show our appreciation to the sponsors we offered them a buffet before the concert and an after party with the artists. Everybody had a real good time! Rene Schuman and Angel Eye made a video clip here on the island, with images from Bonaire. Maybe someone, TCB or Bo-TV, wants to use it. If so they can contact us. That was last year.

For this year we’re planning to get an artist to perform during the Regatta, so there will be no entrance fee and the show will be for everyone to attend. We absolutely don’t want it to be an elite ‘Makamba’ affair. The response from the Regatta organization was positive and we hope our sponsors will react the same way as they did last year and hopefully new sponsors will step in as well. We are also interested in bringing real good bands from South America, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic or Jamaica. If someone has contacts there we would seriously like to talk about it.

From the very beginning it was clear to us that we wanted to set up a non-profit foundation because a lot of money is involved when it comes to organizing such an event. So, we founded Fundashon Bonaire Entertainment and decided to support the music school after talking with its secretary, Ricardo Vos,

and with Boy Janga. Music, like sports, is something that keeps the kids off the street. Ricardo Vos said, ‘It should come to a point that the children become ‘addicted’ to music.’ It’s also good for the Bonairean music so it will remain. Ricardo told us they wanted to complete the whole reorganization of the music school first (they’re also looking for another location) before we hand the money over to them. After that the money will be used to pay for music lessons for those who cannot afford it. Our goal is that those children will eventually form a band. We shall support them in every way, not only financially, but also with our know-how and through our connections in the music business. We will still be busy with music but in cooperation with the music school. The staff at the school has the idea that when a child plays in a band he or she is part of a team. They are responsible for one another and they also stimulate each other.

We got the impression that the music school takes it very seriously, and we’re confident that everything will turn out well. It’s also an obligation we have to our sponsors. So now we have a long-term commitment to the music school. We wanted to do something for the Bonairean youngsters and we think this is the right way. We wanted to do something together with the local people. That’s what this is all about!”□



Story & photo by Greta Kooistra

# A Shrink Studies SCUBA

**Training**

www.DivePsych.com

## Treating Traumatized Divers

For those of you who were wondering following last week's story, my greatest phobia is nostophobia, the fear of returning home at the end of a great dive vacation, especially on Bonaire. But, for some divers the problem is anticipatory anxiety about the next dive when the last one was psychologically traumatic.

The first traumatized experienced certified diver I ever "treated" was a clinical psychology graduate student who wanted to dive on her honeymoon but who could not even put her face back in the water after a particularly bad experience on her last dive in Mexico.

The standard treatment for phobias is 90 to 120 minutes of prolonged exposure and response prevention to "reprogram" the autonomic nervous system's hyperarousal response, etc. So, she and I spent several hours one Sunday afternoon in a pool doing slow deep diaphragmatic breathing and very gradual progressive desensitization and prolonged exposure and response prevention. When she would start to get anxious we would slow down and she would belly breathe until she was ready to proceed to the next step. Eventually, not only could she go under and breathe comfortably from her regulator, but she was repeatedly taking her equipment off and on in the deep end. After returning from their honeymoon her new husband reported he had hired a private divemaster to be her dive buddy as a precaution, but she had been able to dive successfully in Hawaii without panicking.

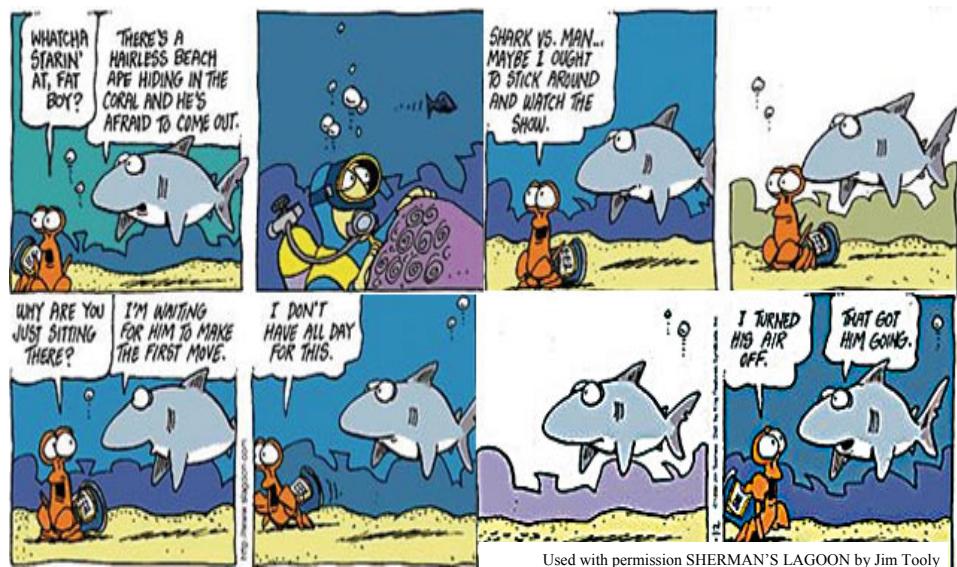


Photo by Francisco Buisson

Last winter I received an email from Liz Mercure, Senior Supervising Producer for CNN in Atlanta. This is how she recently explained her problem to *Scuba Diving* magazine writer Selene Yeager:

"I was certified to dive in 1981. My husband says I am part fish and that I must dive twice a year to keep my gills from growing over. I was always totally comfortable in the water, completely fearless.

In 2004 I was diving in Honduras. My group began chasing a turtle. We kicked very hard to catch up. I suddenly couldn't get my breath. I was hyperventilating at about 70 feet. I stopped swimming and hovered, trying to catch my breath. The edges of my vision got dark and my heart was pounding. I thought I was going to pass out. My buddy stayed with me until I felt better, then we continued the dive.



Used with permission SHERMAN'S LAGOON by Jim Tooley

Sporadically after that dive I would have instances of my heart racing, being short of breath and diminished vision. It was a feeling of abject terror. There would be no warning at the onset, but it was usually within the first 5 minutes of a dive. I started going on shallow dives only (40-50) feet, but it kept occurring. This went on for about two years. I was diving less and less, although I never stopped diving. I would always stay down and work my way through the attack. Once the attack stopped (after about 3 minutes) the rest of the dive was calm and uneventful. I didn't know if it was physiological or psychological, but the more I read about panic attacks, the more I realized that's what it was.

I love scuba diving so much that I couldn't allow this fear to ruin my favorite activity. I read an article on panic attacks in *Scuba Diving*. It quoted Dr. Colvard, so I contacted him. We had a good discussion on the phone and he sent me some CDs on ways to understand and manage panic. Most of it was designed for beginning divers and not someone like me, an experienced diver who had a sudden onslaught. Near the end of the tape they described how to slow your heart rate by

deep breathing from the diaphragm. I practiced doing it. I found it worked in all sorts of stressful situations.

On my next dive trip, as soon as my heart started beating faster I would employ the technique. I never again went into a full blown panic attack. I struggled with it for the entire week, having the beginnings of one on almost every dive. I was able to resume deep diving (80-100').

On my last two dive trips (Puerto Rico and Mexico) I had no problems at all. I am as comfortable in the water as I always was. It was gone as quickly as it began. I even got winded on a dive in Puerto Rico but never came close to a panic attack. I just slowed down, caught my breath and kept diving." □ David Colvard.

Tom Griffiths, EdD, produced the *Training Exercises for Controlling Diver Stress & Panic* that Liz used. Free MP3 files of the program can be downloaded from my website DivePsych.com. D.C.



Tom Griffiths

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](http://www.DivePsych.com) which provides evidence-based information for divers on psychological and stress factors in scuba divers. □ Most photos supplied by author





# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it... just look up

The Moon and Venus Make an Exquisite Showing on the First Night of Spring plus a Super Close Pairing of the Moon and Saturn

As if by some super kind of cosmic magic on the very first night, in fact on the very first moment of Spring this year, the **Moon** and **Venus** will form an exquisite picture of the kind that will not only take your breath away but which has stirred the emotions of humankind since our species first began to look up at the heavens. Plus on the second night of Spring the Moon and Venus will make yet another breathtaking sight, almost as if to say that this Spring is going to be absolutely beautiful. Then only one



The Moon and Venus

week later the Moon will come so close to **Saturn** it will make you want to grab your binoculars or a small telescope. Let me show you.

On Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> the first night of Spring, one hour after sunset face due west where you will see an absolutely spectacular pairing of an exquisite crescent Moon and the most brilliant planet of them all, 8,000-mile-wide, **Earth**-sized, Venus which is only 406 miles smaller in diameter than our own planet. But what will make this pairing so exquisite is the fact that this slender crescent Moon will look as if a dark, grey-black full Moon is nestled within it. We call this phenomenon **Earthshine** because, whereas the bright crescent is sunlight directly reflecting off of the Moon, Earthshine is sunlight that reflects off of our Earth onto the Moon and then bounces back to Earth again. So in effect the dark ghostly full Moon is really sunlight bouncing off our Earth's brilliant clouds and oceans onto the Moon's unlighted surface, thus the name "Earthshine."

Now since spring begins at precisely 8:07 pm Sky Park Time, Tuesday night, this means that if you're on Bonaire when you look at the Moon and Venus you'll be seeing them just before Spring begins. And in case you're clouded out on Tuesday, you'll have a second chance to see an equally exquisite pairing of these two 24 hours later on Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup>, the second evening of Spring when the Moon will be the same distance above Venus as it was below it the night before. Don't miss this please because I can't think of a more sensational cosmic way to welcome in the beginning of the new season.

Then as night after night goes by the Moon will slowly grow larger. And on Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup> around midnight you'll see an exquisite **gibbous** Moon, half way between first quarter and full, parked less than one degree away from 75,000-mile-wide ringed **Saturn**. And if you have access to a small telescope this would be the time to use it because they will both fit within the same field of view and will absolutely blow you away! □ *Jack Horkheimer*



# THE STARS HAVE IT

Sunday, March 11 to Saturday, March 17

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

**ARIES** (Mar. 21- April 20) You should be doing something special with children. Try to keep your cool; you may be a tad frazzled by all the rushing around. Lighten up your serious attitude Property purchases should be on your mind. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21- May 21) Don't be alarmed. A better diet, exercise, or a change to a relaxed atmosphere could be ways to soothe your nerves. For now just do the best you can. Your energetic nature and ability to initiate projects will add to your popularity. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21) You may find that your mate is well aware of the circumstances. Try to include friends and relatives in your activities. You will enjoy the interaction with youngsters and take great pride in the projects you've completed. You might have some problems balancing your books. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) You'll communicate easily and develop new friendships. False information is likely if you listen to idle chatter or gossip. In-laws or relatives may oppose your personal intentions. Don't let any small misunderstandings get in the way. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug 22) Your need to put great detail into everything you do may cause you to miss the overall picture. Try not to jump to conclusions. Offers of joint ventures are likely. You are exceptional at presenting your ideas. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) You can make money if you concentrate on producing services that will make domestic chores easier. A little volleyball or other outdoor sports should be on your agenda. You will tend to overeat this week. If you have to deal with large institutions, be careful not to make waves. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23)

Your hard work will pay off; advancement looks positive. You will want to complain about the injustice that is going on. You must take care not to overexert yourself if involved in sports. Try to iron out any friction over money with your mate or conflicts could prevail. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Try to address the real issues in order to turn things around. Secret affairs will eventually backfire on you. Don't push your luck with authority. You will need to finalize important deals this week. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Deception is apparent. It's a great week to attend social functions. You will be on the rampage this week. You will be accident prone if you aren't careful this week. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Involvement in groups of interest will bring you in touch with important individuals. Take a break; you can finally mend any disputes on the home front. You are apt to meet someone special on your journey. Do not sign your life away. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Your emotional state could leave you vulnerable and confused. The key to feeling good about yourself will be to do something about it. Limitations on the home front can be expected if you have been restricting your mate's freedom. Let go of the past in order to progress. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) You won't get the reaction you want from your mate this week. Confusion could result when communicating with others. Tell them to get out of the mess they are in and then you'll consider getting together with them. Try not to get backed into corners. Your lucky day this week will be Monday. □