

**It's  
still  
Free!**

**Mothers'  
Day  
Issue**

**BONAIRE**

May 11-18, 2007 Volume 14, Issue 19

# The REPORTER

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SINCE 1994



*Planet Eagle Ray  
A Different Perspective*

*Page 11*

Image by Albert Bianculli



“The Netherlands Antilles is in the epicenter of the worldwide cocaine business,” states



a joint report of the Office Drugs and Crime of the United Nations and the Latin American and Caribbean region of the World Bank, *Crime, Violence, and Development: Trends, Costs, and Policy Options in the Caribbean*, which was published last week. So don't be surprised if foreign customs officials question your visit to Bonaire even though Curaçao is the main source of the problem.

The persons that produced the 223-page report had two reasons for dedicating 12 pages to the case study of the Netherlands Antilles.

First, the Netherlands Antilles is one of the Caribbean countries that are being afflicted the most by drug smuggling. **It has the highest volume of cocaine per person in the world.**

“About 100 times more cocaine per inhabitant was confiscated in 2004 than in the US, more than 9 tons or a little less than 50 gram per each man, woman, and child on the islands.

Approximately 60% of all intercepted cocaine in the Caribbean was confiscated in the Netherlands Antilles. These figures increased enormously between 2001 and 2004.”

Second, the government of the Netherlands Antilles, in cooperation with the Dutch government, has pursued an innovative and successful policy in order to drive back the cocaine supply.

► The Customs Service of the Neth-

► There's a Rock 'n Roll revival hitting Bonaire. The **Flamingo Rockers** are playing weekly at the Divi Flamingo resort and other venues. Last Sunday, at the Sunrise Sports and Pool Bar they were the “warm-up band for” **Monkey Suit**, a musical group composed of talented high school age youngsters.



*Monkey Suit*

The Sunday Rockers sessions will be repeated on the first Sunday of every month. It's a unique opportunity for those rock music lovers who just can't stay awake for late night gigs and for families with kids who can enjoy the pool on Sunday at Sunrise 4pm - 7:30pm. The Rockers' special guest was Rhonda Bennet, who provides music lessons for Monkey Suit.



*“Prince” Lee on the bar at his place*

And **Lee's Bar** opened last Saturday night. Located at the old Swiss Chalet/Super Corner site (Kaya Bolivar 21), it offers a high energy night out with the rock tunes popular during the last century. Lee himself holds court and motivates the action. It's fun!

erlands Antilles has been taking the actions necessary to make it legally possible for those islands to qualify for the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA) of the US. **The CBTPA program allows Caribbean countries to export their product free of US duties.**

► Curaçao political parties PAR, FOL and PNP **signed an agreement last week confirming their willingness to form the new Curaçao Island Government**, with a minimal majority of 11 seats in the 21-seat Island Council to take office July 1. A draft program document is expected by May 11 that

the three parties can then discuss with their constituents. The new government is expected to approve the Final Agreement (*Slotverklaring*) with Holland, paving the way for the Dutch to take over most of Curaçao's debts in return for oversight guarantees. The former rivals FOL and PAR as government partners is proof of the old saying, “Politics make strange bedfellows. ”

► A Dutch Member of the European Parliament, Lambert van Nistelrooij, calculates that **Saba, St. Eustatius and Bonaire can claim several hundred million Euros in subsidy** from the European Union if they become mem-

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bers of the European Union (EU) in 2009 if the islands opt for an Ultra Peripheral Territory (UPT) status. The islands can become full members when the EU treaty is amended in 2009 and as soon as the islands become official members, they can apply for EU funds for underdeveloped regions.

However, they would also have to adopt EU rules just as any new EU

(Continued on page 3)

# Parrot Watch

## Bonaire's Cyber-Parrots Go Global!

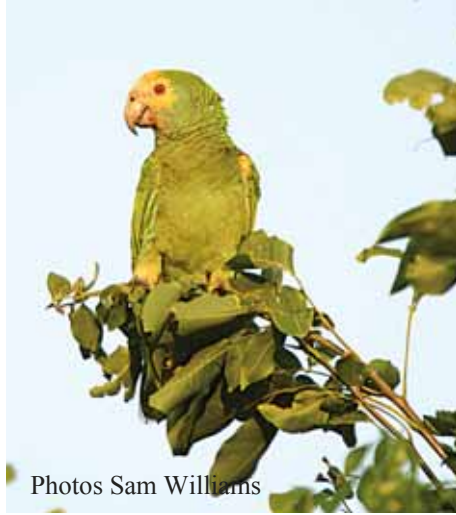
As if the 10-member-strong parrot team is not busy enough looking for nests all over the island they have found time to get their new website [www.parrotwatch.org](http://www.parrotwatch.org) up and running. Visitors to the website will be able to watch movies from inside the nests of wild parrots, follow the development of chicks and see wild parrot behaviour.

The stage will be set here on Bonaire and three wild parrot pairs will be introduced into the limelight. Each week there will be new nestcam movies from the three pairs. Parrotwatch.org visitors will also be able to 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, the site will have educational material from parrot facts through to online diaries from the project personnel describing their work. Website creator



Nestcam view (from 2006 pilot project)



Photos Sam Williams

Sam Williams said, "We hope this will capture people's imagination! Watching tiny chicks hatch from eggs in natural nests and following them as they develop into real characters that you can identify is just fascinating." A new feature here in *The Reporter* will be a small weekly update so readers can follow the chicks' progress.

To get access to all the movies parrotwatch.org visitors will have to sponsor a parrot pair online (through PayPal). The minimum donation is a trifling \$8 and 100% of this sponsorship money is used for conservation and research. Sam Williams and Rowan Martin, the lora conservation biologists on Bonaire and Parrotwatch.org, are closely linked with *Salba Nos Lora*, Bonaire's parrot conservation group that will benefit from sponsorship raised through parrotwatch.org.

So what are you waiting for?! Go check out [www.parrotwatch.org](http://www.parrotwatch.org)! Sam Williams

# Do You See Yellow Orioles?

Last week we printed an article explaining how to tell the difference between a Yellow Oriole and a Troupial. This Sunday (13<sup>th</sup> May) we want you to use that knowledge to help with an island-wide effort to census these two birds. This census is important to keep track of these species and to see how they fare in the future. The Troupial was introduced to Bonaire in the early 1970s and its population is flourishing. Conversely numbers of the Yellow Oriole may be in decline.

The count is simple. You just need to sit in your garden, or any other place you choose, and keep an eye on the birds around you, between 7 and 9am this Sunday morning. Count the MAXIMUM number of Troupials and Orioles you have seen at any one moment within 50 meters of where you sit, and then call STINAPA (717-8444) on Monday and tell them what you have seen. We need to know three things:

- 1) your location,
- 2) the maximum numbers you have seen and



Photos Sophie Williams

## Yellow Oriole

- 3) if you regularly put food out in your garden.

If you have any questions you can email us at [r.o.martin@shef.ac.uk](mailto:r.o.martin@shef.ac.uk)

We hope you have fun and enjoy looking after two of Bonaire's most beautiful birds! □ Rowan Martin



# Wind Power Farm For Bonaire

Wind will finally do more than push sailboats, wind surfers and kites for Bonaireans.

The trade winds blow almost constantly in Bonaire, but surprisingly no advantage has been taken up to now of this special gift the island has been given to produce electricity.

This is going to change now. Plans were presented last week to build a wind power park of 12 Enercon Turbines at Morotin, on the east coast near Rincon. Last Thursday a mini-seminar was held at the Divi Flamingo Beach Hotel by the companies that will be involved in the project. They want to have a facility operating in 2009.

The goal is for Bonaire to become the Caribbean's first fossil-fuel-independent island producing 100% of its energy needs. Four executives from energy concerns, Bonaire Holding Maatschappij (BHM), Aqualectra, KEMA and Econcern, gave a presentation about what the plan will be and the consequences of a wind park. Bonaire's present electricity and water company will be involved in the preparation and operation. Some day perhaps WEB can change its name from *Water en Energiebedrijf Bonaire* to *Wind Energy Bonaire*.

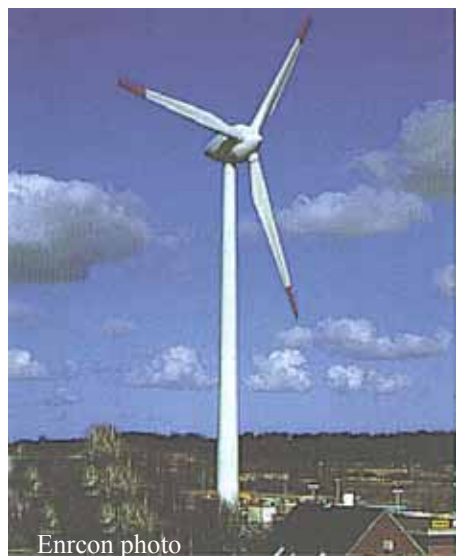
The project and the planning for the windmills are divided in two phases. The first is to place one wind turbine and to train personnel in Sorobon on the site of the now dismantled wind turbine that never functioned. That should begin next week; the turbines are on-island (see last week's *Reporter*). The official opening will be later. Training personnel is necessary; a big problem in Curaçao was finding people who weren't afraid of climbing the mills. As a solution to this Ecopower will build an elevator system. (*Perhaps they weren't aware that several Bonaire workers have had long experience with maintenance of the much taller radio towers at Trans World Radio and Radio Netherlands. Ed.*)

Phase two is to open a wind park with 12 turbines in Morotin, planned for the third quarter of 2008. At the same time a new diesel central power station will be opened near BOPEC on Bonaire's northwest corner. Windpark Morotin should be operating in 2009. The companies chose this year on purpose, as wind parks in other places will be opened in 2010, and they want Bonaire to be the first.

First speaker was Karel Tujeehut from Aqualectra, Curaçao's electric power provider. He spoke about the experiences Aqualectra had at the Tera Kora project in Curaçao, which has been operating and been studied since 1993. He explained that the main reason for planning a wind park is not even environmental. Instead, it's the increasing fuel prices that makes wind an attractive option. According to his studies wind energy can certainly compete with fuel and he expects that a windmill park can provide more than 50% of the island's energy by 2020 with an organic diesel factory as backup.

The two-year delay in setting up the project was explained by Tujeehut: "It's impossible to get a wind park operational earlier than 2009, as it's a demand and supply issue. There is more demand for wind mills in the world than there is a supply, which results in the price rising and a huge delay in delivering the turbines. If you order windmills now, there is a waiting period of two years."

Second speaker that morning was Roel Verlaan, manager and business developer for KEMA Caribbean. He explained that wind energy is a booming business nowadays and that it is being used in many countries. Verlaan: "The Caribbean coastline has



Enrcon photo

**Enercon E66 wind turbine**

the perfect wind situation. The winds are very stable, strong and are very predictable. It is the best place for wind energy and to use wind turbines to their full capacity. We chose Bonaire to run a project as an example for other islands in the Caribbean. The project on Bonaire will have a unique position in the world, and our goal is to make Bonaire as ecological as possible."

Third speaker, Stijn Janssen, strategic planner and developer for BHM, explained why wind is the perfect solution for WEB. WEB lost big money in the '97-'04 period. After a fire at its generating plant, WEB was forced to take a new direction. It was decided to seek an alternative way of producing energy. They want to get the energy on a 50/50 basis: 50% should be wind, the other 50 by using bio-diesel derived from algae. Janssen: "Bonaire will be the first to experiment with getting diesel fuel from algae, and many other countries are very interested in the outcome. We think a pond, two by two kilometers in size, will provide enough diesel for WEB for one year. The plan is to eventually not need oil from overseas anymore."

The last speaker, Gilbert Gouverneur, specialist in sun and wind energy for Ecopower, added to the presentation of the previous speakers saying that the main goal is to lower energy prices for now and for the future and that the environment also has priority. Gouverneur: "This project is very important for our existence on planet Earth."

After the presentation the audience had an hour to ask questions of the four project managers. Most questions were about the environmental changes that will occur when a windmill park is built. Elsmarie Beukenboom from the environmental NGO, STINAPA, especially fired a whole list of questions to the four presenters. Her concern was if the diesel plant were built on a piece of protected environment that permission should be asked of Bonaireans before it's decided to build. Beukenboom is afraid that STINAPA will have to fight against the whole plan if it's not involved in the entire project.

The algae-growing project was criticized because there hasn't been sufficient research yet as to what effect the project will have on the environment. Janssen explained that first a pilot project will be introduced to investigate what the effect will be on the environment, as the advantages are clear, but the disadvantages can be catastrophic. Gouverneur promised that Bonaireans will be kept informed. He also explained why the wind park will be placed in Morotin and not in Sorobon: "Sorobon has a weak electricity net; in Morotin we can have a better connec-

tion to the diesel plant. It is also out of the flight routes of flamingos so they won't be harmed. Tujeehut added to that: "People should be very happy with this project. The oil prices keep rising, and as long we are dependent on the import of oil, the prices will keep rising. So we have to create a way to be independent of the oil market by using solar and wind energy. We have to look at the total picture of this project and not just at some small disadvantages it will have." □

*Photo & Story by David Radomisli*



**Wind power presentation**



(*Flotsam & Jetsam Continued from page 2*) member would. To receive the funds, approval of all EU members who have veto rights in this process is needed. France, Spain and Portugal already have overseas territory members of the EU and are receiving substantial aid. The Portuguese Azores received 854 million Euros; the Spanish Canary Islands, 2.7 billion Euros; and the French territory Réunion in the Indian Ocean, 1.5 billion Euros during the last seven years.

► **Cooperation between STCB, STINAPA, and SELIBON continued on Earth Day.** Lagoen is clean again. For Earth Day, SELIBON cleaned the Lagoen beach with a loader and put two containers there for the STCB volunteers to clean by hand. Joining the clean up were SGB high school students who are doing volunteer work with STCB as part of their social science class. *Mabel Nava*



► **In the Dutch Antilles it's been a piece of cake to become a Dutch citizen.** Thousands of mainly Latin Americans take great advantage of this. A foreigner on the Antilles and Aruba is allowed to claim Dutch citizenship after a five-year legal stay without interruption. If a foreigner marries a person with Dutch nationality, then they can apply for Dutch citizenship after three years. The rules are much smoother than in Holland. The Antilles and Aruba are very attractive for people from Venezuela, the Dominican Republic and Colombia because the living standard is higher in the Antilles and it's easy to get a Dutch Passport.



► **Bonaire's cruise ship season is over.** The TCB thanks all who helped make it a big success - from the citizens of Bonaire who changed their driving patterns to the government officials who coped with the large influx of visitors. The Youth Tourism Club of Jong Bonaire under the guidance of Senaida Janga performed and danced on the pier to greet tourists and mark the end of the event.

► **Princess Ariane, the three-week-old daughter of Crown Prince Willem-Alexander and Princess Máxima, was in the hospital for a week** while being treated for a bronchial tube infection, the State Information Service RVD said last Wednesday. The Princess, born on April 10, was admitted to the Leiden University Medical Centre Hospital on Wednesday morning with a suspected lung infection. She returned home, healthy, last weekend.



*Youth Tourism Club of Jong Bonaire*

► **This coming Sunday is Mother's Day. For something special take Mom to the Brunch Buffet at Divi Flamingo, Calabas Restaurant, 11 am to 2 pm.** The cost is \$22(includes tax). Reservations recommended. **Call 717-8285.**

► **The Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) and event sponsors, Scuba Diving Magazine and Air Jamaica, just announced that Bonaire Dive Into Summer 2007 will take place June 1 – September 30.** The event will focus on scuba diving through a series of specialty topics including, photography, marine conservation and family activities.

Building on the successes of the past seven Dive Festivals, this summer-long event will spotlight Bonaire not only as a dive destination but also as an eco-adventure location, while keeping with the primary goal of providing activities where divers and snorkelers can experience Bonaire's natural treasures - above and below the water - and find out what they can do to help protect them.

All visitors to the island this summer will receive a FREE coupon book valid all summer long filled with valuable discounts for hotels, restaurants, shopping, activities, rentals and more. The coupon book will be available at various locations around the island as well as Tourism Corporation Bonaire (one per person). Sign up now. □

*G. D./L.D./D.R.*

► **The Bonaire Culinary team's practice dinner last Sunday evening at the SGB's Chez Nous was a total sellout.** There were many familiar faces of grand supporters of the team in the past as well as some new ones who were awed by the quality of the dishes. A big thank you to Mocky Arends of ALCON Wine and Liquor who generously donated the wines for the evening. The team is doing extremely well this year, having gained some valuable experience in previous "Taste of the Caribbean" culinary Olympics. And this year they've got their minds set on bringing home the gold! There will be four more "practice" dinners for the public. Sign up soon though because there are only 30 tickets available for each evening. See the invitation on page 4.



*Making the "lollypops" for the dessert: Isidoor van Riemsdijk (Rum Runners), Egbert deVries (Flamboyant), Coach Will Heemskerk (Will's Grill) and Vladimir Gijbertha (City Café) work on the "lollypops" that are part of the dessert course.*



# Parrot watching For Beginners

For the 10 biologists who are working in the field it's an everyday job. Get up before 5:30 am and drive into the hills of Washington Slagbaai Park. They go to their own location and keep track of parrots, write about their behavior and eventually try to find where their nests are. They keep in touch by using walkie-talkies. Last Saturday people on the island also had the opportunity to see them working and take part in research and join the biologists. The main goal is to get people interested in parrot watching and help them with their research. Those who don't want to get up so early in the morning may help the watchers by giving a monetary donation.

As a beginner, there are three qualities you need to obtain to become a true parrot watcher.

**One: Love for the environment.** Watching parrots is amazing, sitting high in the hills in the beautiful surroundings of Washington Slagbaai Park and listening to all the sounds and watching how parrots wake up, searching to find a nest and fighting for the best spot to lay their eggs, while the sun is rising. In the meantime there are also a lot of other things to observe. Every once in a while an Oriole flies by or a goat tries to pass behind you. In the trees there are some iguanas slowly trying to catch their breakfast.

**Two: Lots of patience.** There is a chance of sitting and waiting for weeks without finding any nests. But there's also a chance if you sit in the right spot you could find a nest the first day. Of course, you need to have quite some luck as well, to find a parrot's nest.

**Three: Very good eyesight and hearing.** The way to observe parrots is to follow them the entire time and keep track of their movements. When they fly around a lot but always come back to one exact spot, there is a big chance they are looking for a nest. Or they've already built a nest in that location. It's up to the parrot watcher to remember where the tree or crack in the rock is that the parrots always return to and check that place out. Also hearing is very important for parrot watchers. The sounds parrots make tells a lot about what's on their mind.

The parrot watchers gather at 5:30 in the morning at the entrance to Washington Slagbaai Park six days a week. There the biolo-



Rowan Martin watches for parrots

gists divide their tasks and everyone has their own location in the Park. Last Saturday, when the few people who were interested and who managed to get out of bed so early arrived they were divided between an equal amount of biologists.

One of the biologists is Rowan Martin who clearly has the three qualities listed previously. He goes out to research the parrots every morning, knows the names of a lot of other species in the Park and seems to have an instinct for spotting parrots.

Rowan has been studying and observing the Lora parrot for two years now. His enthusiasm for the bird is clear when he starts talking about it. His father was also crazy about birds as well, a trait Rowan obviously inherited. Parrot watching is a job for him, but if he couldn't do it as a profession it would be his hobby. The reason he's parrot watching is to investigate their behavior and what the reasons are for that behavior, what can be done about it and saving them from extinction. There is a limited number of Loras on the island. One reason for this was human poaching of young parrots to sell, a

# DO YOU SUDOKU?

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

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

## Complete solution on page 14

practice now forbidden by local and international law.

But the parrots also try to kill each other. Rowan: "It's strange how the Loras attack each other and try to destroy other Lora couples' nests. It seems they are trying to make sure no chicks get born. I'm very interested about the reason behind that."

When a nest is found, parrot watchers keep track of it the entire time, until the chicks fly out. They check the eggs every day and when the chicks are born they weigh them, and if necessary, feed them as well. The

watching takes about three hours. At 9 am, everybody gathers around the front gate again and talks about their findings and compares their notes. A better way of promoting their project, to show what their work is all about, and by letting visitors see it probably couldn't be found. For more information about the parrot watching visit

[www.parrotwatch.org](http://www.parrotwatch.org). □ Story & photo by David Radomisli

# Angela Saved From the Landfill



**M**any residents of Bonaire know Angela Allee and the illness that caught this girl at the age of eight, which left her paralyzed and speechless. To remember the beautiful, vivid girl that she once was, Henk Roozendaal painted her in 2004 on the side of the Cultimara supermarket— using the last photograph that was taken of her before fate struck.

All Cultimara murals are painted on stone walls, except Angela's. She was painted on three wooden doors that hide electrical meter boxes.

These doors were rotten and replaced a month ago by the WEB, without notifying Cultimara or the artist. WEB's intention was to dispose of the doors at the landfill. Only by a lucky coincidence were the doors saved. The middle panel has now been repainted by Henk Roozendaal.

On Mother's Day, Sunday May 13, at 12 noon, the result will be given by Cultimara to Angela and her mother Poppy (perhaps already better known as 'Mama Smile'). This small but sweet event will take place in the supermarket. □ *Henk Roozendaal*

## Picture Yourself With The Reporter

**WIN GREAT PRIZES!** Take a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter* with you on your next trip or when you return to your home. Then take a photo of yourself with the newspaper in hand. **THE BEST PHOTOS OF THE YEAR WILL WIN THE PRIZES.** Mail photos to Bonaire Reporter, Box 407, Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles (AN). E-mail to: [picture@bonairereporter.com](mailto:picture@bonairereporter.com). (All 2007 photos are eligible.) □

## Istanbul, Turkey



**B**onaire resident Renata Sanders sent us this photo from her trip to Europe. This was taken in Istanbul, Turkey on one of the bridges crossing the Golden Horn. □

## Bubbles from the Biologist

**D**id You Know... The Portuguese Man-of-War is not a true jellyfish?

It's a *siphonophore*. Yep. It isn't just one animal, but a colony of tiny animals all living together. Some of the animals sting and catch prey, others eat and digest, and others reproduce. I know which one I would want to be! A Portuguese Man-of-War has a sail that allows it to float on the surface. In fact, it can't propel itself, so it is left to the mercy of the winds. Their tentacles can reach a length of 9m and have a very toxic sting. If you or someone you know is stung, you can apply hot water to the affected area to denature the toxins. Or, if you don't have hot water, ice can also help by making the toxins less active and helps numb the pain.

A few fun facts: Loggerhead sea turtles are believed to be immune to the toxin since they feast on Man-of-Wars. Small fish find refuge from big predators among the tentacles of Man-of Wars. The bladder or sail must stay moist so Man-of-Wars rolls sideways every now and then to keep their bladders wet. If a predator is attacking, a Man-of-War can deflate its bladder and submerge. Way cool! □ *Caren Eckrich*



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 □ .





# Jazz Festival: full of international and local flavor

The Bonaire Heineken Jazz Festival will be a music fest of four days from May 17<sup>th</sup> through May 20<sup>th</sup>. Some big names will appear during this long weekend and the many bands will make for great music. This third festival will be full of unique international flavors, with jazz, salsa, local and world music. The bands will be playing at numerous venues.

The festival organizers' main goal is to attract as many people as possible, which means the entire population of the island. Guus Gerritsen is one of the main leaders of the festival and a jazz musician (saxophone) himself. "We made the ticket price as cheap as possible so it won't be a very big burden for local people to enjoy the festival as well. We also kept this in mind in regard to our selection of bands. For example, the band Oswin 'Chin' Behilia and Casava are huge attractions for locals. Even for students on the island, attending the festival won't be a

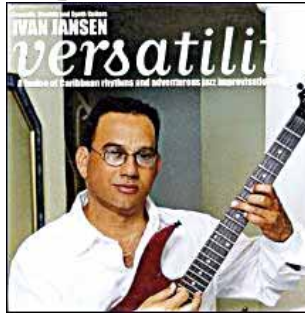
big problem, as they will receive a 50% discount on the tickets."

Gerritsen is very proud of the big names they were able to attract to the island with such a low budget. "We had a budget of NAf120.000. For a four-day festival that isn't very much, but we still managed to get some high quality bands." Gerritsen isn't exaggerating, as Gerardo Rosales Mangomania and the Paolo Mejias Quintet will be playing during the festival. These are very big names internationally and especially Mejias has been at the top for over 10 years.

Besides the music there is also more than enough to enjoy for people who are into other art forms such as poetry and art. In the Kas di Arte paintings from artists from Aruba, Bonaire and Curaçao can be admired every day as well as background jazzy poetry. The logo on the T-shirt for the jazz festival was designed by Bonaire's well-known artist Henk Roosendaal.

Gerritsen is not afraid that the demand for tickets will be higher than the supply. He expects there will be more than enough space in the locations where the bands will play. "The biggest bands will be playing at the beach sites, and there will be space for about 500 people, so I expect there will be more than enough space for anybody on the island who is interested in enjoying a band." □

David Radomisi



Ivan Jansen, one of the jazz stars who will perform



Robbie and Lando play in 2006

**3<sup>RD</sup> BONAIRE ★ Heineken<sup>®</sup> JAZZ FESTIVAL 2007**



**MAY 17-18-19-20** for details surf to [www.bonairejazz.com](http://www.bonairejazz.com)

Paoli Mejias Quintet	<b>THE ARTISTS</b>	Students Band Bonaire
The WES-Group	Trio Jean Jacques Rojer Oswin 'Chin' Behilia	Local Bands from Bonaire
Gerado Rosales Mongomania	Affettuoso	<i>Special Guests:</i> Boy Janga, Scott Katzev, Franklin Granadio
Trio Yuri Honing	Freewinds Band	



# The Jazz Program

As in previous years, the program includes not only Salsa, Latin jazz, American and European jazz, local (*Krioyo*) music but also a jazz-and-poetry concert at the waterfront Fort Orange on the opening evening, May 17, starting at 7:30pm. Following that, festival bands will perform at Wilhelmina Plaza near City Café.

Daily jam sessions at Little Havana will follow with festival musicians. Admission to all these above events is free.

The main concerts take place on the beach of the Plaza Resort near Topsy Seagull restaurant on May 18 and 19 and will feature the Paoli Mejias Quintet from Puerto Rico with salsa, Latin and Cuban jazz. It's been the main attraction of many jazz festivals. The WES Group from Washington, DC, will play too. This group stole the show at the Anguilla jazz festival.

Gerardo Rosales Mongomania, a sextet from Venezuela, will offer renditions of Salsa and Latin jazz.

After their Bonaire concerts, Trio Yuri Honing, an ensemble that performed several times at the prestigious North Sea Jazz Festival, will play a few concerts in Caracas, Venezuela.

Attractions from the region include Oswin "Chin" Behilia with a jazzy "World Music," will perform in the jazz-and-poetry presentation on the first day, joined by a quartet on May 18.

Ivan Jansen's quartet from Aruba will also perform a totally new repertoire.

The Jean Jacques Rojer trio from Curaçao, whose leader had the honor of performing at Carnegie Hall in a concert for young talented musicians with Paquito d'Rivera, will also be featured.

Bonaire's R&B band, Stingray, and the 10-year old orchestra, The Happy Band, will also perform in conjunction with international festival musicians.

On Saturday May 19, the orchestra comprising students of the SGB and the local school of music reinforced with festival musicians Franklin Granadillo and Scott Katzev will perform on the main stage.

There will also be a percussion workshop in Bonaire's school of music with guest musicians like Joost Lijbaart and Gerardo Rosales.

Admission fees are NAf 30 per evening or NAf 50 for two evenings. On presentation of their ID, students pay half price.

At 5pm on May 16 and subsequently on every day of the festival, there will be a "Polyrhythmic" exhibition of Antillean artists in Kas di Arte with live music and wine tasting. For more information on the festival, the artists, special packages, and accommodations, go to the website [www.bonairejazz.com](http://www.bonairejazz.com). □ *Press release*

# PETS OF THE WEEK

The Bonaire Animal Shelter is bursting at the seams with puppies these days. And two of the most popular and adorable are sisters Sharon and Shirley. Born on January 30 they were brought into the Shelter to be put up for adoption as the owners of their mother just couldn't handle any more dogs. So it's good news that the pups will have an opportunity for a happy life, and the mom is going to be sterilized so she too can live an unencumbered life without going into heat every few months.



"Sharon" and "Shirley"

Sharon and Shirley are full of personality. They're outgoing, friendly and sassy. They get along beautifully with the other pups in the puppy cage and have a rollicking good time playing all day long. Because they're smart little ones they'll be easy to train for someone willing to take the time. And you know it's always worth it when the result is a fine obedient and responsive dog. Of course these two are in top health; they've had their tests and check out by the vet and will be sterilized when they're old enough. All that is included in the NAf105 dog adoption fee. You can rest assured that pets from the Shelter are healthy and social and it's one of the best deals on the island. In fact since the first of the year there have been 52 adoptions from the Shelter. The Shelter on the Lagoen Road is open Monday through Saturday, 8 am to 1 pm. Tel. 717-4989.

Adoptions are going so well that some of our potential "Pets of the Week" were adopted before they even made it to the column! Now that's more good news. □ *L.D.*



# A Shrink Looks at SCUBA



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



## Peer Pressure, or Disappear Pressure?

Most of us have had the experience of being on a dive boat, or standing at water's edge, with a buddy who turns to us at the last minute and suggests that we do something marginally appropriate – photograph each other jumping in full scuba gear off Oil Slick Leap, or going down to the bottom of the reef “just for a minute.” At those moments we are subjected to “peer pressure” which is the social leverage that we feel when someone pushes us to behave in one direction or another.

Usually, if we feel a good connection and a sense of balance with the other person (or persons) we are able to have our judgment override the social pressure – “No, David, I’m not diving five hours before we have to fly back!” But sometimes, particularly when we are feeling a need to prove ourselves or need a sense of approval, it becomes more difficult.

Typically, when people think of peer pressure, they are referring to the influence exerted on an individual to engage in “anti-social” (BAD!) behaviors. Peer pressure is often cited as the culprit in smoking, drinking, drug use, dangerous sexual behaviors and eating fast food. But, there are also “pro-social” (GOOD) forms of peer pressure.

For instance, good pressure includes dive buddies or groups who insist on consistent use of precautionary decompression (safety stops), have good reef hygiene, and observe good hydration. The pressure exerted by the group has often made me a safer and more ecologically friendly diver than I might have otherwise been.

An online survey done by David Colvard, MD in 2004 found that 4% of women divers (of 413 female divers polled) and 2% of male divers (out of 1415 male divers polled) had experienced a negative encounter with peer pressure. Most of these experiences fit the “Hey, let’s...” category, where a buddy (or a group of buddies) pressures someone into taking part in a dive-related activity that was marginal or worse.

The data suggested that for men, the pressure seemed to be related to competition. But for women it was related to pressure to accompany their dive buddy on an activity that the buddy was already comfortable with. These last interpretations are largely speculative, but do make sense.

How should you deal with peer pressure to engage in risky activity? Probably the best advice is to dive regularly with a buddy with whom you are comfortable, and who dives at about your skill level. If you are very inexperienced, then diving with or near a divemaster is probably the best idea anyway. If you find yourself having regular concerns in this area (or haven’t yet found a set of good dive buddies), taking part in professionally organized activities is a good idea. Dive professionals will insist on things like good reef hygiene, safety stops, and good dive profiles.

If you are a woman who has been introduced to diving by a male partner who frequently presses you to move beyond your level of comfort, consider finding another partner with whom to dive, or suggest that your partner dive with another aggressive diver. Several years ago I came to Bonaire with my wife (who had become pregnant just before the trip) and another couple. He and I dove often and enthusiastically, sometimes by ourselves and sometimes with his wife. My wife and I took frequent snorkels on that trip (1000 Steps was her favorite) and everyone was happy. I have another dive buddy (who shall remain nameless, although his name usually appears on this column) who has a hard time finding buddies who will dive frequently enough to satisfy him and whose wife often refuses to accompany him when he goes on dive trips!

In reality, peer pressure in diving is similar to the effect that most people feel about drinking, smoking, and eating hamburgers. The final answer is always, “Get better peers.” □ *By Guest Shrink, Robert Mankoff, Ph.D., Medical University of the Americas, Nevis. Photos from David Colvard, M.D*



# Planet Eagle Ray



**W**e, as humans inhabiting the “Water Planet” named Earth may be unique in the cosmos. We don’t know that for sure. The vast unknown details of the universe exceeds what we do know about it.

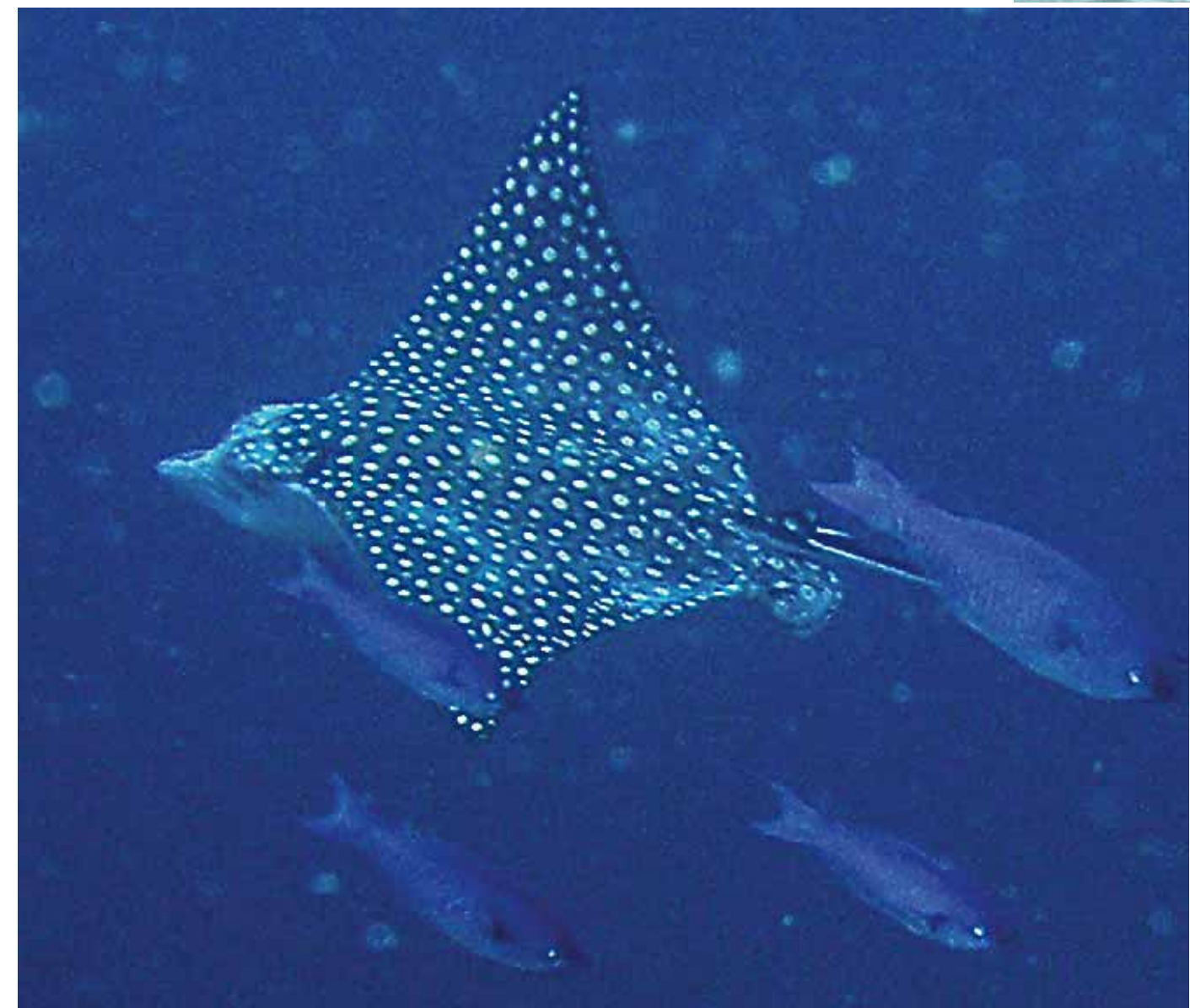
What are we? Who are we? Where are we? When will we know, we ask? The answers are here, all around us, but we are too distracted with trivial “survival needs” to ask the pertinent questions.

In the December 2006 edition of the *National Geographic Magazine* there was an announcement in the form of a Map Supplement titled, “The Solar System 12/2006,” detailing a “New Cosmic Order.” It seems that in August of 2006 the International Astronomical Union finally approved a concise but controversial definition of a lingering question, “What is a Planet?” With this key question resolved, for the moment anyway, the addition of the diminutive (1,430-mile diameter) and “far-out” Pluto (3.7 billion miles from the Sun) in 1930 to the planetary club has been reversed. We are now back to the pre-1930 membership of eight planets as exclusive membership in our solar system. In order of their distance from the Sun they are: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune.

Other candidates are pending. This month we announce our “candidate,” Planet Eagle Ray!

For many years I have had the pleasure of watching these “alien” creatures, Spotted Eagle Rays, fly in the great oceans of our planet Earth. They are truly of another world.

Spotted eagle rays are observed worldwide in tropical and warm temperate waters. Very sensible. They glide effortlessly and calmly through the water, solo, or in great flight formations of 20 or more individuals. Exhibiting a significant comfort zone. They are wary of our presence and avoid all close encounters with swift, evasive maneuvers, always in control. As playful, rapid swimmers they will make spectacular leaps out of the water into our



terrestrial atmosphere, as fun loving exhibitionists. Although much research is still needed on the life history of the Spotted Eagle Ray, it is known that this species shows high site fidelity (individuals often stay in or return to the same location), possibly related to food availability. This ray also interacts socially with other individuals within its own species.

Forget biology for the moment, and listen to my observations: When the Spotted Eagle Ray is hunting it is a “detect and killing machine!” Somehow, over eons it has developed sensors inside its head that detect electronic signals from the life source of living creatures, hidden from view **below** the sand, like a living metal detector. These signals guide it to the precise location of the hidden prey. Now, the action begins. Once these receptors have locked on to the life force of its prey (I think of it as its heartbeat), the Eagle Ray stops in its track and anchors itself into the sand with its pectoral fins

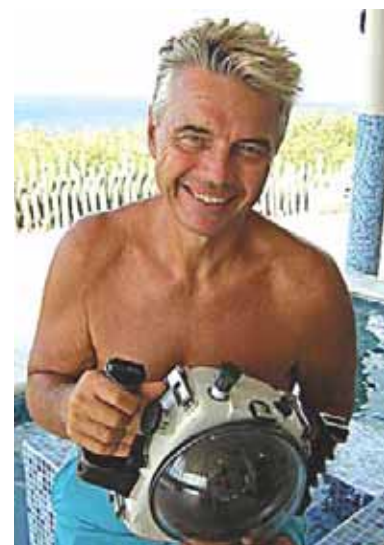
located at the base of its tail, flaps its wings and bobs its head to create an excavation directly (...it never misses) above the unsuspecting clam or conch (its favorite tasty delight). The predator, our Eagle Ray, yields the success and result of its efforts by releasing broken shells as it swims away. Catch them in your hands”... to share this intimate behavior. Now, this magnificent creature calmly resumes its pursuit over the ocean bottom.

Satiated, they will smile at you with an all knowing grin and resume the hunt, at their pleasure. They are awesome to observe and it is a rare experience to see and interact with these creatures from another world.

Join me on our next venture into the world of the unknown. Is it fact or fiction? You decide! □

Story & photos by © Albert Bianculli  
2007

*Author Albert Bianculli has been visiting Bonaire since 1970 and now lives on Bonaire full time. See his show every Monday night at the Casablanca Restaurant beginning at 6 pm. All images are original, un-retouched slides, shot on location and composed within the viewfinder.*





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

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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!

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**For Sale - 3 only - 80 cubic ft aluminum tanks. Only NAF 100 each**  
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**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 & Scooters**

**FIAT BARCETTA Cabrio, 1997,** yellow, with hard-top and windstop. Make an offer... Tel. 796-5591.



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**Property**



**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 rent: Luxurious new apartment for two persons.** NAf1.500 per month. Dishwasher, washing machine, boiler, kitchen machines, outside place to cook, including weekly linen. [monique@infobonaire.com](mailto:monique@infobonaire.com), 717 - 2529.

**Nice apartment for rent,** NAf500,00 all inclusive, one living/sleeping room, one bathroom, quiet neighborhood. Contact: [digital-is1956@hotmail.com](mailto:digital-is1956@hotmail.com) or call: 796 - 3637.

**Experienced Pet/House Sitter available-** Experienced Bonaire visitor (20 years) available to take care of your pets and watch your house water plants etc. In exchange for place to stay and use of vehicle for shore diving. I will pay my own air-food-diving etc. References upon request. 845-676-3812. Email [Joe@therhythmdogs.com](mailto:Joe@therhythmdogs.com)

**Reporter staff member wishes to house sit** long-term starting now. Call David 700-7536, email=[dradomisli@hotmail.com](mailto:dradomisli@hotmail.com).

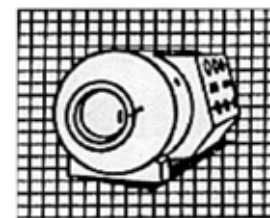
**Events**

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

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**LOST ITEM - REWARD!!!** I've lost my MP3-Player/Recording device "Iriver," color: black. I've lost important data... If you have found or seen it, please let me know and you will be rewarded! Call me at 511-7492 or 700-8253 or send an email to [iriver\\_lost@hotmail.com](mailto:iriver_lost@hotmail.com)

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from Madalief



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## WHALE SKELETON GETS A ROOF

*Bonaire's Washington-Slagbaai National Park is home to the largest reconstruction of a whale skeleton in the Caribbean. After drying in the sun for some years to harden, it was time for it to get overhead protection.*



*Jeff and Linda with Park Manager Fernando and Ranger Clifford*

Recently, frequent Bonaire visitors, Linda and Jeff Goldman, donated the materials for a roof over the impressive whale skeleton at the entrance to Washington Slagbaai National Park. This roof is an extension of the old roof above the terrace. A local contractor was appointed to build a suitable and protective roof, so now the future of the whale skeleton is secured.

Now you might ask yourself; what is a whale skeleton doing in the Washington Slagbaai National Park? This juvenile Bryde's whale (*Balaenoptera edeni*) was impaled on the bow of a cruise ship and arrived at Bonaire on the morning of January 11, 2000. The

baleen whale (meaning it has no teeth) was about 13 meters long and about 11 metric tons in weight. After being allowed to decay at the salt works it was assembled between November 2004 and April 2005 by the BONAI Youth Group, led by Dr. Jay Haviser, and put on display.

About four years ago Linda and Jeff Goldman donated the materials for the construction of the terrace at the entrance of the Park. The new whale exhibit roof also forms part of the entrance.

Linda and Jeff were married at Capt. Don's Habitat five years ago and have shown a great affection for our island in many ways. STINAPA, the NGO in charge of the Park, is grateful for the donation to the whale exhibit. If you are interested in making donations to STINAPA Bonaire, or the marine or national park please contact them at [info@stinapa.org](mailto:info@stinapa.org) or call 599 - 717- 8444.

□ *Karen Winona van Dijk*



*Bonai group assembles the whale's backbone*

**Sudoku Answer/Solution: Puzzle on page 6**

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



**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
5-11	2:31	1.3FT.	8:02	1.5FT.	15:03	1.0FT.	21:44	1.5FT.	51
5-12	4:15	1.2FT.	9:11	1.4FT.	14:56	1.0FT.	21:53	1.6FT.	58
5-13	5:43	1.1FT.	10:14	1.3FT.	14:46	1.1FT.	22:17	1.8FT.	68
5-14	7:03	0.9FT.	11:44	1.1FT.	14:28	1.1FT.	22:50	1.9FT.	80
5-15	8:19	0.8FT.	23:33	2.0FT.					90
5-16	0:14	2.1FT.	9:35	0.7FT.					98
5-17	1:02	2.1FT.	10:35	0.7FT.					102
5-18	1:50	2.1FT.	11:36	0.6FT.					101

**Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter**

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## MOVIELAND

### WEEKLY MOVIE SHOWTIMES

**Late Show (Usually 9 pm)**  
Call to make sure

**The Lookout**  
(Joseph Gordon-Levitt)

**Early Show (Usually 7 pm)**  
**I Think I Love My Wife**  
(Chris Rock)

**Kaya Prinses Marie**  
**Behind Exito Bakery**  
Tel. 717-2400

Tickets - NAf14 (incl. Tax)

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

**SATURDAY 4 PM**  
May: A Night at the Museum

### THIS WEEK

**Friday, May 11 - Mother's Day fund raising party at Don Paranda for the FKPD (foundation that assists persons with disabilities) 8 pm.** Three musical groups and a dance group will entertain. Bar, snacks and salad are included in the NAf50 price. Tickets available from FKPD staff, at Angelo's and the Bonaire Bookstore in downtown Kralendijk.

**Sunday, May 12 - Come Celebrate Mother's Day at a Brunch Buffet at Divi Flamingo, Calabas Restaurant.** 11 am to 2 pm, \$22 (includes tax). Reservations recommended. 717-8285.

**Sunday, May 13 - Island wide Oriole Count - details on page 3 & MegaFM**

**Sunday, May 13 - 4th BWC Mountain Bike Tour Program:** 3:45 pm Registration, 4:10 Discussion of the Route, 4:15 Tour Starts at the Eden Beach Resort NAf15 per person (includes drink + fruits). Helmets compulsory.

**Thursday, May 17 - 26 JAZZ FESTIVAL** See story on pages 8 and 9

**Thursday, May 17 - Ascension Day Holiday, Banks, Govt., shops close**  
**May 17-20 - 3rd Annual Bonaire Heineken Jazz Festival.** More information: www.bonairejazz.com. See pages 8 & 9

### COMING

**Sunday, May 31 - Full Moon**  
**A Sunday in June - Washington Park Birthday Celebration**

**Sunday, July 1 - 15th Annual Dia di Arte in Wilhelmina Park - All day and evening starting at 10 am.** Artists, musicians, craftsmen and top notch local foods and drinks. Participants: sign by starting May 31. Call Edwin Martijn 786-8400, Mishuyla Sint Jago 786-2292

### 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

- **Reporter writer Albert Bianculli presents his Multi-Image Production "Bonaire Holiday"** at 6:30pm, 7:30 pm or 8:30pm, Casablanca Argentinean Grill

- **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

- **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...** usually a real blast

- **Live music by Flamingo Rockers, Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar** 5-6:30.

- **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 Sunrise Poolbar and Sportsclub, 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.

**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 Bruce Bowker's Carib Inn (717-8817) at 7pm.

### BONAIRE'S TRADITIONS

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

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

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

**Washington-Slagbaai National Park, Museum and Visitors' Center.** Open daily 8 am-5 pm. Closed on some holidays. 717-8444/785-0017

### CLUBS and MEETINGS

**AA meetings** - every **Wednesday**; Phone 717-6105; 560-7267 or 717-3902.

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

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

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

**Bridge Club - Wednesdays, Bridge Club:** Wednesday 7.30 p.m. at Flamingo Airport (Technobar), airco, all levels, NAf2,50. **Call Joop 717-5903, or be there in time (7.15 p.m.)**

**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. In Papiamentu, Dutch, English on Sundays 10 am. Rincon, Kaya C.D. Crestian, Services in Papiamentu on Sundays at 8.30 am. Children's club Saturday 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 - 11:30am. 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 Antrio, in English. Mass in Papiamentu on Sunday at 9 am and 6 pm. 717-4211.

**Assembly of God (Asemblea di Dios),** Kaya Triton (Den Cheffi). In English, Dutch & Papiamentu on **Sunday at 10 am. Wednesday Prayer Meeting at 7:30 pm.** 717-2194

Send event info to:

**The Bonaire Reporter**

Email [reporter@bonairenews.com](mailto:reporter@bonairenews.com)

Tel:786-6518 or 786-6125



**Celebrating our 25th Anniversary**  
**Rotary Club of Bonaire**

**"Support our Breakfast in Schools Program"**

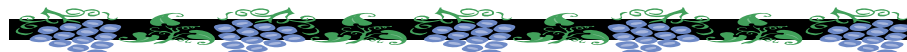


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Rotary Bonaire Foundation  
PO Box 240, Kralendijk, Bonaire N.A.  
Acct. 114.238.08 with MCB Bonaire



# DINING GUIDE



See advertisements in this issue

RESTAURANT	PRICE RANGE / WHEN OPEN	FEATURES
<b>Balashi Beach Bar</b> 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.
<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>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>Casablanca Argentinean Restaurant</b> One block south of the Post Office 717-4433	Moderate Lunch Tues-Sat—11:30-2:30 Dinner 7 nights—6 pm	<b>Indulge your whim—beef seafood, chicken, vegetarian</b> Mondays—All you can eat and special slide shows starting at 6 pm
<b>Hilltop Restaurant</b> At the Caribbean Club Bonaire—on the scenic Rincon Road 717-7901	Moderate Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner	<b>Bar-Restaurant poolside—in Bonaire's hill country</b> Frequent Dinner Specials Happy hours 5 to 6 daily, to 7 on Tuesday BBQ night.
<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>

# SHOPPING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue



## AIRLINES

**Divi Divi Air.** Bonaire's "on time airline" with 16 flights a day between Bonaire and Curaçao. Your first choice for inter-island travel. Now flying to Aruba.

## APPLIANCES /TV/ ELECTRONICS/ COMPUTERS

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

## BANKS

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

## BEAUTY PARLOR

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

## BICYCLE / SCOOTER/ QUADS

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

## DIVING

**Carib Inn** is the popular 10-room inn with top-notch dive shop and well stocked retail store. Best book trade on Bonaire. Good prices on regulator repair, dive computer H.Q.

**Dive Friends Bonaire (Photo Tours Divers-Yellow Submarine)** -low prices - on the seaside at Kralendijk, at Caribbean Court and the Hamlet Oasis. Join their monthly cleanup dives and BBQ.

**WannaDive** - They make diving fun while maintaining the highest professional standards. In town at City Café and at Eden Beach.

## FITNESS

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

## FURNITURE, ANTIQUES

**The Plantation** Has lots of classy furniture and antiques at very competitive prices. Stop in to see great teak furniture and Indonesian crafts.

## GARDEN SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

**Green Label** has everything you need to start or maintain

your garden. They can design, install and maintain it and offer plants, irrigation supplies and garden chemicals. Incredible selection of pots.

## GIFTS, SOUVENIRS AND LIQUOR

**The Bonaire Gift Shop** has a wide selection of gifts, souvenirs, liquor, dive watches, digital cameras, things for the home, T-shirts - all at low prices.

## NATURE EXPLORATION

**Outdoor Bonaire** for individually guided kayaking, hiking, biking, caving, rappelling/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.

## 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.

**Valeries Airport Shops** — Convenient shopping for unique items, magazines, gifts and more.

## 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?



# Born on Bonaire

## Jeanette Nolen-Heitkönig

“My father lived in the center of Amsterdam, Damstraat 1, where they had a clothing store. The name J. Heitkönig was cast in concrete on the front of the building. My grandparents came from Germany during WW I, together with other German families who worked in the ready-made clothing industry. When my father was about 30 he went to Aruba to work, and when WW II broke out they threw him into the internment camp on Bonaire, most likely because of his German name, as a precautionary measure.

When he was released he went to work for L.D. Gerharts. He had to travel frequently back and forth to Curaçao where he met my mother, Rose Marie Anne Rigaud. She was born on Bonaire but worked as a teacher on Curaçao. They were married in April 1947 on Curaçao, then came to live on Bonaire where I was born on October 19<sup>th</sup> 1948. My sister Ria was born in March 1950, also on Bonaire.

We always lived in Playa Pabou. My father opened a shop where he sold souvenirs, dive articles and electronic equipment. When people had pictures that had to be developed he'd send them to Curaçao by boat. It would take about three weeks for them to return; those were different times. He also had a photo studio and he'd make wedding pictures, first communion pictures and family portraits. Those photos he'd develop himself.

I went to St. Bernardus School, then my sister and I went to a boarding school in Curaçao for awhile. Then we came back to Bonaire where we attended Lourdes MULO. I had a fantastic childhood; we swam a lot and went around on our bicycles. It was very cosy in spite of the fact that there wasn't much to do. My mom was a teacher at St. Bernardus School and at the Friar's school. Many a boy has been a student of hers.

Because my mom was working we went out for dinner frequently. There was Zeezicht restaurant, Mona Lisa, Mentor and Copa Cabana (what's now Surinam Bar) and Palermo Bar (now Far East Bar). The menu would be kabritu stoba, piska ku sous kriollo, steak and pork chop and once in a while, nasi goring. That was great because then my father and I would have a beer!

My dad loved animals. We had all kinds of birds, turtles, iguanas, even a monkey and a boa constrictor! The story of the boa constrictor goes like this. There was this American lady, Harriet Burkhart, who would come to the Flamingo Beach Hotel to have a drink at the bar and then she would always sing "Summertime" while she was carrying a small boa constrictor around her neck. One day the snake disappeared and she asked all the children from Nort di Salina and Hato to look out for it and she would pay them all some money,

but alas, the boa was never found. Some years later, a group of five men from Nort di Salina spotted a big snake at least three meters long in a gap in the rocks of Seroe Largo. It was big and fat, full of chicken and iguana! The night before it was found I'd been dreaming that I was camping on a beach in front of a house in Hato and that I felt something squirming around my leg and I yelled, 'Take Harriet's snake away from me!' The next day my mom told me, 'They've found a big snake and your dad just came home with it!'

After MULO I went to Holland together with my sister. One year I followed 'vormingsklas,' a wide range of subjects to see which profession would fit me best. I took a receptionist course for one year. I wanted to work for KLM as a stewardess because my plan was to see the world. But the moment I had a chance to be hired as a stewardess my dad became ill and my mother asked me if I could please run the business for a year. I came back to Bonaire and I never left again.

I really liked the shop, but my modern ideas were not appreciated by my dad so I

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**“I hope that the authentic character of Bonaire – the landscape, the sea and the horizon - won't be sacrificed to so-called progress...”**

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went to work for Don Stewart at Flamingo Beach Hotel as a receptionist. Those were the days. It was such fun! You had to do everything. When guests were arriving in the middle of the night you had to make the beds, you had to help in the kitchen, serve tables in the restaurant and take personnel home at three in the morning!

Then somebody came up with the idea to contract some happy ladies from Colombia and the place got quite a different image, but it didn't last long. Nevertheless, the tourists kept on coming. We had a lot of return guests and it was a great atmosphere. If you ever read the book, *Don't Stop the Carnival*, you'd recognize so many situations, it was hilarious! My last job there was as assistant manager. When Don moved to Hotel Bonaire and started with Aqua Venture, I moved with him.

I also worked as a production secretary with Cornell Wilde's movie, 'Shark Treasure.' Eddy Statie, Basilio Marin and Rene Hakkenberg were in it. Then I bought a ticket and flew to Europe for a six-week vacation; when I came back TCB had called because they were looking for someone to do the PR for a soon-to



Jeanette Nolen-Heitkönig

-be established oil terminal. And so I started working for BOPEC in 1974. I did public relations and later on I was an oil-movement scheduler and then purchasing assistant, purchaser and now I am the coordinator of BSSE: safety, security and environmental.”

*Jeannette Nolen-Heitkönig is a very special lady; she's fun, she's strong, she's her own person and she faces life whatever way it comes – she's cool.*

“In May 1980 I married Ralph Nolen. He'd come to Bonaire from New Orleans. He was a tugboat captain and had to bring a boat here and when he got to know me, he never left again. We have two children, Natalie (24) and Ralph III (17). Natalie studies in Holland, she did her bachelor's in personnel, labor and organization and now she's doing her master's in management, communication and organization. Ralph will graduate from HAVO this year and he also wants to study in Holland.

I've always been a hard worker and nothing has ever been too much for me; I've learned how to fly a plane, how to shoot with Tirabon, the shooting club. I was a member of the tennis club, of the secretary association and of the parent's council of Sint Bernardus School, later on Kristu Bon Wardador elementary school.

In the early 90s I came on the board of STINAPA. Friar Candidus asked me if I wanted to because my father loved animals and nature. That's why he thought I would be interested. I am the vice president and I have an independent seat, so I only represent myself. My motivation is that I find it important that nature be taken care of and STINAPA was the first one to start doing so. Not only do they take care of nature, but they also inform youth and

involve them in the protection of the environment. If we don't protect our environment there won't be anything left in a couple of years and that would have consequences for the future and our children. Wouldn't it be a shame if Bonaire becomes developed like Aruba or St. Martin? And what if your grandchildren can't eat fish anymore and don't know what an iguana looks like?

I hope that the authentic character of Bonaire – the landscape, the sea and the horizon - won't be sacrificed to so-called progress, because I think if we don't have that anymore, many people will grow unhappy inside and then it would be too late. And something else – those horrendous looking cruise ships - can't they dock at BOPEC? They disrupt the town and what for? For a T-shirt they're buying?

I will always stay here I guess, but if Bonaire becomes like Aruba, then I'm off... I'll move to the wilderness of the US where you don't see anybody!

In three years I will be retired. First I need a year or two to reorganise the house because as it is now I'm only in and out and on the weekends I'm taking care of my mom when her help is out. My father died in 1987 and my sister lives in Holland. After I retire I would like to have a small business of my own because sitting at home is nothing for me. I'm glad I stayed on Bonaire, I think life is easier here and I hope I still can do something for the island.” 0

*Story & photo by Greta Kooistra*



# Barracudas in Aruba



Tirzah Richards starts in Lane 2

Ask any of the nine Bonaire Barracuda swimmers who participated in the 8<sup>th</sup> Dutch Caribbean Invitational Swim Meet what they liked best about the event and the answer will be, "It was in Aruba." The international competition was organized by the Swimming Federation of Aruba (AZB) and held at the Roly Bisslik Pool in Saveneta April 27 – 30. For the past seven years the Swimming Federation of the Netherlands Antilles (NAZB) organized the Dutch Caribbean competition in Curaçao.

Three hundred fifteen (315) swimmers representing 11 clubs from Aruba, Curaçao, Bonaire, Sint Maarten, Suriname and Trinidad & Tobago as well as five unattached swimmers from Barbados and the US participated in the meet. There were 128 events swum in the competition.

Barracuda swimmers who qualified for Finals and their results were: Giada Binelli, Ryda-Luz Emer, Asdrubal Marcano, Tirzah Richards, Olivier Wagemakers and Rooske Wagemakers also



Samson Evertsz's (center) "game face"

swam for the Barracuda team.

The Dutch Caribbean wrapped up on Monday night with a buffet dinner for swimmers, coaches and meet officials after the completion of events. During the closing it was announced that Aruba will host the 9<sup>th</sup> Dutch Caribbean Invitational in April, 2008.

□ Valarie Stimpson

## Final Results- Bonaire Barracuda Team members

Date	Swimmer	Age	Event	Category	Place
27/04	Evertsz, Samson	11	100 m butterfly	Boys 11-12	6th
	Evertsz, Samson	11	200 m IM	Boys 11-12	8th
	Winkel, Philip	14	50 m breast-stroke	Boys 13 - 14	8th
	Marcano, Luis	8	50 m breast-stroke	Boys 8 & under	9th
	Marcano, Luis	8	100 m freestyle	Boys 8 & under	10th
28/04	Evertsz, Samson	11	100 m back-stroke	Boys 11 - 12	5th
	Evertsz, Samson	11	200 m butterfly	Boys 11 & over	8th
	Evertsz, Samson	11	50 m freestyle	Boys 11 - 12	8th
	Winkel, Philip	14	100 m back-stroke	Boys 13 - 14	10th
29/04	Evertsz, Samson	11	50 m back-stroke	Boys 11 - 12	5th
	Evertsz, Samson	11	200 m freestyle	Boys 11 - 12	9th
	Winkel, Philip	14	50 m back-stroke	Boys 13 - 14	6th
	Marcano, Luis	8	50 m back-stroke	Boys 8 & under	7 <sup>th</sup>
	Marcano, Luis	8	200 m IM	Boys 8 & under	5 <sup>th</sup>
30/04	Evertsz, Samson	11	50 m butterfly	Boys 11 - 12	7th
	Evertsz, Samson	11	100 m freestyle	Boys 11 - 12	10th
	Marcano, Luis	8	50 m freestyle	Boys 8 & under	9th
	Winkel, Philip	14	50 m butterfly	Boys 13 - 14	10 <sup>th</sup> Tie

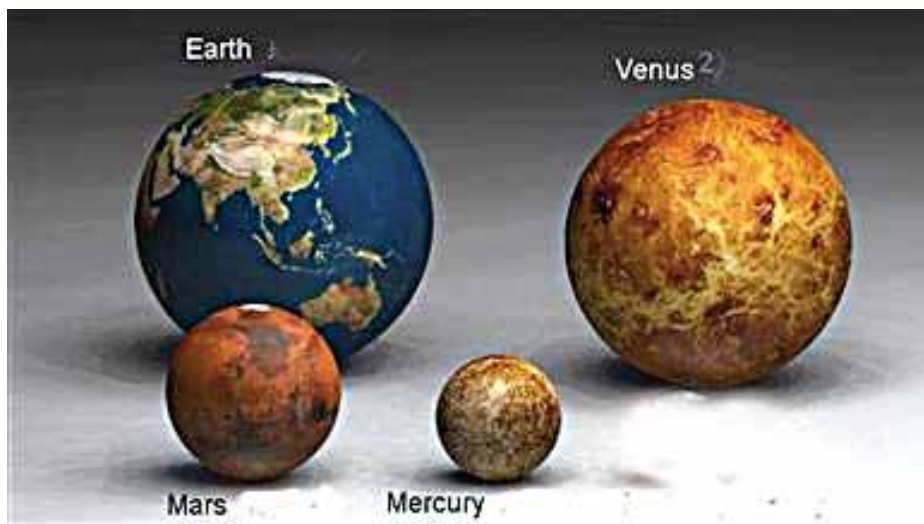




# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it... just look up

## The Moon Visits the Two Planets Closest to the Sun



1) Earth 2) Venus 3) Mars 4) Mercury

Because of a certain sit-com, "Third Rock From The Sun," almost everyone knows that planet **Earth** is planet number three from the **Sun**. But do you remember which planets are number one and two? I'll give you a hint. Planet number one is only a thousand miles bigger than our own **Moon** and planet number two is almost the same size as our planet Earth. And next week you can use the Moon to find both of them.

On Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at dusk while there's still some twilight out face west and if you've got a really clear, flat, unobstructed horizon you will see an exquisite crescent Moon parked right above a bright pinkish light which is planet number one, 3,000-mile-wide **Mercury**. It's named for the swift Roman messenger of the gods, which is an interesting coincidence because Mercury is the fastest moving of all the planets. In fact, while it takes our Earth 365 1/4 Earth days to make one trip around the Sun, Mercury makes one trip around the Sun in only 88 Earth days, which means that if you're 30 Earth years old you'd be 124 Mercury years old.

Now if we draw a straight line up and to the left of Mercury it will connect with an extremely brilliant, dazzling white light which is planet number two, 8,000-mile-wide **Venus** which is almost the same size as our Earth. And since it is the second fastest moving planet, if you are 30 Earth years old, you'd be almost 49 Venus years old, but that's still better than being 124 on Mercury. Now Venus is the brightest of all the planets and is the one always depicted in history, even on flags, all the way back to the time of early cave paintings, whenever there's a Moon close by.

And that's what we're going to see Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup> because the Moon will be so close to Venus it will take your breath away. So on Thursday look for Mercury and the Moon. Then on Friday you'll see the Moon almost exactly half way between Mercury and Venus.

But the best night, the night you must mark on your calendar, will be Saturday night the 19<sup>th</sup> when an even bigger crescent Moon complete with gorgeous **Earthshine**, which will look like a mysterious dark full Moon nestled within the crescent, will be parked only one degree away from Venus, which is about the width of two full Moons, but which astronomically speaking is super, super close! And believe me no matter where you happen to be on Saturday evening you'll be able to see these two paired together for almost three hours as the two of them slowly drift down toward the horizon. Don't miss this please! Mercury and the Moon on Thursday, the Moon between Mercury and Venus on Friday and an almost beyond belief pairing of the Moon and Venus on Saturday! It doesn't get much better than this. □ *Jack Horkheimer*



# THE STARS HAVE IT

Sunday, May 6 to Saturday, May 12 2007

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

**ARIES** (Mar. 21- April 20) Take advantage of your attributes and lure the mate of your choice. Extravagance will be a problem. Organize social events or family gatherings. You can buy or sell if you're so inclined. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21- May 21) Don't point your finger unjustly at others. You will have the stamina and the know how to raise your earning power. Be prepared to make changes to your personal documents. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21) Travel will enhance romance and adventure. this week will be hectic. Avoid joint ventures and steer clear of groups that want you to contribute financial assistance. Look after financial transactions this week. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) You'll be dropping friends for no apparent reason. Don't force your opinions on friends or relatives unless you are prepared to lose their favor. Think before you act. Rewards, gifts, or money from investments or taxes can be expected. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug 22) Don't push your luck with your boss. Don't involve yourself in the emotional problems of those you work with. Sudden trips will take you by surprise. You may be frustrated by the way situations are being handled in your personal life. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) You may have a problem keeping secrets. You can expect to have problems with your mate if you've been spending too much time away from home. Problems with relatives and friends could surface. You will find that money could slip through your fingers. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Emotional matters may not be easy for you to handle. Stick to your own projects and by the end of the day you'll shine. You will get along well with your colleagues this week. New projects may lead you into a dead end. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Don't overdo it. You need to enjoy yourself. Your high enthusiasm will be sure to inspire anybody around you. Your interest in helping others may take you back to school. You can expect the fur to fly on the home front. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Emotional relationships will be plentiful if you attend group activities. Don't overspend on friends or children. Get into some activities that will help you in making new friends. Your mind is on moneymaking ventures. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) You can make career changes that may put you in a much higher earning bracket. Female members of your family may be difficult to deal with. Your ability to communicate with ease will win the hearts of those you are in touch with this week. You can win points if you present your ideas this week. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Lack of funds may add stress to your already uncertain situation. Short trips will be educational. Do not get involved with individuals who are already committed to others. Your lack of attention may have been a factor. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) You can make sound financial investments if you act fast. Get the whole family involved in a worthwhile cause or cultural event. Professionalism will be of utmost importance. Unexpected visitors are likely. Be prepared to do your chores early. Your lucky day this week will be Monday. □