

**It's Still  
FREE**

**BONAIRE**

November 9-23, 2007; Volume 14, Issue 35

# The REPORTER

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Since 1994



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Bonaireans In Italy?**

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Ruud Vermeulen photo



Confiscated arms

In a raid last week, 48 police officers, together with members of the voluntary corps VKB and directed by Bonaire's Prosecutor and police officials, arrested 10 suspects and confiscated stolen objects and firearms, including four air pressure pistols, one shotgun and a hunting rifle. The action took place to help resolve the many break-ins of late in homes, hotels, apartments and cars at diving locations. A special team under direction of Melvin St. Jago arranged the raids.

The police confiscated weapons and other evidence in five homes in Tera Korá and Antriol. Arrested were Bonaire-born R.R.P. (29), F.C.W. (34), R.F.E. (24), R.P.S.E. (22), I.P.S. (27), J.F.B. (20), E.A.W. (17), R.I.N.C. (24) of Colombia, I.J.P.P. (28) of Curaçao and a woman A.L.C-S. (40) of the Dominican Republic.

Prosecutor David van Delft's top priority now is getting the persons arrested locked up because there are not many cells in Bonaire and, according to Van Delft, all the cells in the House of Detention and the police cells in Kralendijk and Rincon are full.

According to Chief of Police Jan van der Straten, the crime level of the past two months has been unacceptable. "With the support of Minister Elvis Tjin Asjoe, the Lt. Governor and the Executive Council, the police could do their job this time. The police corps could use all technical means to investigate the break-ins," he added.

► Justice Minister David Dick

officially opened Bonaire's Actpol central reporting station for police, ambulance and fire department last week. It provides an integrated government information system for all police divisions Actpol is also part of judicial system. The system is very useful for tracking fines that the police give and the Public Prosecutor collects. The system allows the police to collect statistical information and data can be exchanged between all the islands of the Antilles and Aruba.

► A court decision in Aruba has interesting implications for US citizens in the Netherlands Antilles. **The decision says that, based on a 1957 treaty, Americans have to be given the same rights as European Dutch citizens.**

An Aruban Immigration Law, Article 7 paragraph 3 of the country regulation admission (LTU), says an alien can stay a maximum of three years (with an extension of a year) on the island. A Governing Board judge ruled that this cannot be applied to Americans because the Friendship Treaty of 1957 between the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the United States has precedence over the Aruban statute. He ruled that Americans must get, just like Dutch, a residence permit for an indefinite period of time.

Calvin Goodale, an employee of B.L. Harpert International a US company that is involved in the construction the Marriott Aruba Surf Club, had his permit renewal rejected and appealed successfully.

The treaty says that nationals of both countries can enter the territory of the other country and can stay there for three reasons: travel between the countries; management of a venture in which they have considerable capital or in which they are effectively busy to lead and develop; and for other aims taking into account the laws up to ad-

mission and stay of aliens. These points also apply to nationals of the US in a part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands outside Europe. The treaty says, moreover, that these nationals enjoy the same treatment as Dutch nationals who are not in that part born (ie: European Dutch).

► Currently, **the Netherlands Antilles has tax treaties with the Netherlands, Aruba, Norway, the US, and most recently, Australia and New Zealand,** stated Finance Minister Alex Rosaria. Having a treaty eliminates double taxation and opens the tax records of nationals of those countries to Antillean tax inspectors.

► For four days last week Bonaire was rocked by explosions as the **Dutch Navy disposed of dynamite** that had been stored unknowingly near the airport runway for years. A shack adjacent to Flamingo Airport held 1,130 kilos of explosives. Reportedly it had been there for more than 25 years and might have been used to blast the canals for the failed Flamingo Paradise Project near the Plaza Resort and Caribbean Court. At the request of Bonaire's Governor two explosives experts from Holland and three Curaçao navy ratings were called in to handle the demolition. After the chief of the explosive demolition Team analyzed the explosives he decided to destroy it because its age had made it unstable and transport was risky. Beginning Sunday, October 29, until all the dynamite

### Goodbye to Greta.

► After more than six years and nearly 300 stories, Features Editor Greta Kooistra, originator of "On The Island Since" and "Born On Bonaire" columns, has stepped down to pursue other interests. Greta says: "I would like to thank each and every one who was willing to give me their life story. It has been a privilege and an honor to talk to so many different people from so many different countries and walks of life." Greta was key in making *The Reporter* what it is today. We will miss her stories.



was finally exploded three days later, extensive precautions were used to avoid conflicts with flight operations.

► **The first of what may be many exceptions to imposing Dutch policies on Bonaire** after the breakup of the Antilles set for December 2008 came up last week. The organization of pastors representing several different religions on Bonaire presented a document outlining their objections to establishment

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# CLEAR BLUE WATER NEWS

## LMSP Volunteer Report

### BONAIRE'S REEF-WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROJECT



There is something that everybody on Bonaire – tourists, locals, cruise ships in port – contributes to: wastewater. Where does it all go? The ugly truth is that septic systems are inadequate and that there are locations in the island's interior where raw sewage is dumped directly into huge open trenches. What happens then? Is this untreated wastewater seeping into the ocean? Many think so, but thinking isn't enough. We need data in order to demonstrate that in fact this water is seeping into the coastal region and therefore affecting the reef. Data must lead public opinion because public opinion drives political action.

Wastewater is a problem in seawater and facilitates explosive algal growth that can wipe out a coral reef very quickly. The first step is to locate where the wastewater is being discharged into the ocean. Once it is located it can be tested for nutrients and, if necessary, human-only content. Then

the source can be identified and hopefully corrected.

Internationally recognized marine scientist Burt Jones and his associate Tom Reynolds of the Burt Jones Lab at the University of Southern California (USC), working with STINAPA and Ramon de Leon, Manager of the Bonaire National Marine Park (BNMP), began a Light and Motion Sensor Pilot Program (LMSP) in May of this year, successfully proving the feasibility of in-water data collection.

In that short period of time, the original goal of funding 20 white sensor arrays for Phase 1 was realized, thanks to the incredible generosity of people who care about Bonaire's reefs. The vision of expanding the pilot program into the Light and Motion Sensor Program is now a reality. In August Burt and Tom visited Bonaire and together with Ramon and volunteer Albert Bianculli began the implementation of the Light and Motion Sensor Program Phase 1.

*The Bonaire Reporter* did a feature story on the presentation and the LMSP, and in addition to becoming a major donor, has a weekly column about LMSP developments and volunteer news.

The latest "Rainbow" sensors deployed at all sites, presently 10 but to grow to 13 by year's end,

measure biological productivity/nutrient load that may be caused by runoff or seepages at three depths at every site. Twenty sites will be monitored in Phase 1.

What next? Once Phase 1 is complete a possible approach to Phase 2 would include funding for ultraviolet light sensors to be added to as many arrays as possible. Details are in development. Stay tuned!

#### YOU can help!

Please consider donating to the Light and Motion Sensor Program. Your contribution will make it possible to purchase, deploy and maintain sensor arrays over the next 10 years. This is a grassroots fundraising effort that needs your support.

Donations of any amount are welcome. You can even name "your" sensor!

Can you dive well? Volunteers are needed to take readings. (see report at right)

For more information contact: Ramon de Leon, Manager of the BNMP, [marinepark@stinapa.org](mailto:marinepark@stinapa.org) or Albert Bianculli, LMSP On-Island Coordinator, Volunteers and Fundraising, [directab@gmail.com](mailto:directab@gmail.com) or Blue McRight, LMSP Off-island Coordinator, Fundraising [blue-ness@earthlink.net](mailto:blue-ness@earthlink.net). ☐ Story and photos courtesy Albert Bianculli



"Going out, over the sand bottom, a spotted eagle ray crossed our path at about 15-20 feet depth. So we headed north, trailing it for about 5 minutes. Sensor Arrays look fine. Cleaned and read all. While reading at 20 meters, Prawphan pointed down. A turtle was making its way up the reef from the depths right under us. While we were reading at 12 meters, two tarpon came out of the blue, eyed us to see if we were doing our job right, then headed back out. Guess they were satisfied.

Checked all depths of arrays. My depth gauge is in feet. All approximately correct, so mooring line stretching seems to be OK now. Lavender frog fish near mooring area seems happy and healthy.

Caught up with the turtle we saw earlier on the way back. He was feeding around 45-50 feet. He more or less accompanied us back to our turn in point. Tried to read his tag in case the turtle people might be interested, but the turtle got a little too nervous when I moved in that close, so left it alone. He didn't seem concerned about us otherwise, as long as we kept about a 3 foot distance between us." *Bill and Prawphan Wildin* -Data Collection volunteers

## New Development - Perla Boneriano



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Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2)

of some Dutch norms and values when Bonaire becomes a municipality of Holland. **The document asks that laws relating to the legalization of abortion, prostitution and selling of drugs should not be applicable to Bonaire.**

Bonaire's Commissioner in charge of Constitutional Affairs, Anthony Nicolaas, accepted the document and stated that the Bonaire Government agrees with it in principle. The agreement established for the assimilation of Bonaire into The Netherlands makes allowances for cultural differences and offers the possibility of not implementing Dutch laws which are unsuitable for Bonaire.

► Last week State Secretary of Kingdom Relations Ank Bijleveld-Schouten said it is almost impossible for Curaçao and St. Maarten to attain country status by December 15, 2008. She made her statement in an interview with the Dutch newspaper *Spits*. The State Secretary also said she could see forms of political favoritism and corruption in the Netherlands Antilles. The arrangements for Bonaire, Saba and Statia, however, are continuing on schedule.

► **The Antilles government will again run the Post Office.** Canada Post backed out of their

2001 contract to run the Antilles postal system and were allowed to withdraw following a promise to pay a penalty that will ensure leaving a debt-free postal system behind. Canada Post must hand over the shares to the National Government without any financial indebtedness, just like the government did in 2001. When an agreement is signed the postal services on all five islands will be back in the hands of the Netherlands Antilles again. The Post office has 250 employees on five islands. Before the privatization and the transfer to Canada Post, the government was subsidizing the postal service to the tune of NAf 6 to 7 million annually. Now, according to a negotiator, Franklin Sluis, it is running more effectively and making a small profit. He admitted though that the traditional postal traffic has dropped considerably due to the Internet competition.

► **According to its interpretation of the laws and its own judicial responsibility, the Bonaire Executive Council (BC) doesn't think that it must pay an insurance claim** to the investor behind the suspension of the construction of the Mangrove Village project at Sorobon. The legal firm HBN Law advised the BC to reject the claim.

Following objections by environmental NGOs and the media, the building permit that the island government granted to Mangrove

Village two years ago was suspended by the Antilles' Governor and the suspension was supported twice by higher authority.

► **The old age pension insurance premium (AOV) will go up by another 1.5%** on January 1, 2008. In addition, the maximum wage limit based upon which the premium will be levied will increase from NAf 50.000 to NAf 72.000 a year. The old age pension maximum goes up by NAf 100 on January 1, the same date. Next year, the employee will pay 6% while the employer pays 7% of the total premium.

► According to the Director of the Central Bureau of Statistics (BS), Francis Vierbergen, **15% of the Bonairean population lives below the poverty line.** When comparing the islands of the Netherlands Antilles with each other Bonaire has the lowest proportion of poor people. Bonaire's economy overall grew by 3% last year to a total of NAf354 million. The expectation for this year is that the economy will continue growing, especially due to the increase in building activities. The construction sector grew by 9% and the hotel and restaurant sector by 8.6%.

► It was like a return to the old ALM days of cancelled flights and long delays. **Dutch Antilles Express (DAE) Airlines has had a rough few weeks with**

**many of its aircraft out of service for scheduled and unscheduled maintenance, one requiring an engine change.** While its competitor, Curaçao-based Insel Air, took up some slack many flights were delayed or cancelled. DAE has a fleet of five aircraft: three ATR turbo props and two

## Free Geology Lectures

The CIEE (Council on International Educational Exchange) Research Station Bonaire would like to announce the next lecture(s) in its public lecture series on November 15th from 7:30-9pm. There will be two speakers that evening and both lectures have to do with geology.

Dave Suek, a petroleum geologist and owner of Black Coral, LLC (a gas and oil exploration company), will be giving a lecture titled, **"The Geologic Origin and Current Setting of Bonaire."** **Claudia Johnson, Associate Professor at Indiana University, will speak on "The History of Corals - A Geologist's Perspective."** The lectures are free. CIEE Research Station Bonaire is located on Kaya Gob. Debrot 21. The phone number is 717-4140.



Fokker 100 jets. With these five aircraft, DAE carries out more than 210 flights per week.

► As part of its strategy for further growth, **DAE is on the verge of entering a far-reaching cooperation agreement with Winair, St Maarten's island-owned feeder airline.** Roland Duncan, the minister who represents the shareholder of the government-owned company, is non-committal. "There are possibilities. We are negotiating," said the minister.

We can grow and give better service with bigger airplanes if DAE is willing to cooperate. The plan was presented to the Council of Ministers and action is expected within two weeks," said Duncan.

DAE's predecessor BonairExel had tried to take over Winair three years ago when the latter was in a state of bankruptcy. The then-Exel-top executive Harm Prins (who was later indicted for financial crimes) was busy with the take-over purchase which never actually took place. Then the Exel aviation group dissolved in a scandal.

At that time, the Bonaire Participation Company BPM (whose principal is Bonaire resident Niek Sandmann) made a down payment of approximately NAf1.4 million for the Winair shares. Because the sale was not completed, BPM had the shares attached and instituted a lawsuit against Winair, which is ongoing. If the cooperation with DAE takes place the lawsuit will be

dropped.

Currently Winair has a small fleet of propeller aircraft and uses these to fly between St. Maarten, Saba, St. Eustatius, Anguilla, St. Barths, St. Kitts, Nevis and Tortola.

► **The Island Territory of Bonaire hopes that within six months it can start building up to 300 EPS (expanded polystyrene) homes** for its citizens and perhaps Dutch people desiring to retire in Bonaire. Three model homes are currently being built in Kunuku Warahama, southeast of Flamingo Airport. They were set to be finished this week. The houses are an initiative of the Bonaire government and Living-care Foundation of the Netherlands headed by Bram Troost. According to his blog, he believes "little public housing has been built on Bonaire in the past 10 years."

Based on its description it is similar to, but not identical to the plastic composite homes built by *Fundashon Kas Bonaireno* during the past few years. The construction technique fell out of favor following a fire in one of the houses in Antriol where the ceiling and floors melted.

► **A new fad today is customizing fish by dyeing or laser tattooing.** Wal-Mart is selling dyed Balloon Mollys. The fish have dots, hearts, lines and stripes. Some have purple and some have pink. Others have logos, messages, initials or characters lased into the

Continued on page 5

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Flotsam and Jetsam (Contin. from pg 4)



Tattooed Fish  
Internet photo

fish. Legislation is in the British parliament to ban the practice. So if you run into a fish with a logo on the Bonaire reef, it may have escaped from an aquarium and not a new species of blenny.



Photo by Chile

**Linda Ridley conducting her 1,000th survey**

► **Linda Ridley is now officially the 6th member of REEF's Golden Hamlet Club** which has as its main membership requirement entrants having completed 1,000 fish id surveys. According to Joe Cavanaugh of REEF, "This really is a tremendous achievement. Those of you who survey regularly understand just how much work goes into completing 100 surveys and submitting all that data. Now imagine 1,000 surveys." Beyond surveying, Linda, a resident of Bonaire, does a lot of outreach for REEF and is a frequent contributor to *The Bonaire Reporter*. We are sure she doesn't have any tattooed fish included in her 1000 surveys.

► **For cellular phone service MIO has the local reputation of offering the clearest and most reliable signal. And they offer super deals.** While not the biggest service provider on this island MIO is the largest provider of third generation (3G) mobile communications service in the Netherlands Antilles and the Cayman Islands. Its Website lists it having licenses to operate in Aruba, Bonaire, St. Maarten and the Cayman Islands, with strategic partners Qualcomm, Lucent, Sprint and Verizon. MIO is part of EOCG EOliver Capital Group in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. EOCG focuses its activities on developing countries.



► **Champagne Cher, a 105-foot megayacht owned by Cher and John Floyd, made contributions to several Bonaire charitable and environmental groups during her recent visit to the island.** Cher donated three boxes of clothes to the senior citizens at Kai Minima and passed out sunglasses to the elderly of Villa Antonia. Cher also donated money for a turtle tracking monitor with a donation to the STCB, Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire. Next July, a 60-person dive group from the US will celebrate this gift and STCB will coordinate the event to be a fund raiser. Following the gift-giving the yacht hosted a 'thank you; we appreciate you' party and celebration of Cher's 450th dive.

► **Chaly Anthony reminded us that in September a sign showing the streets and street names in Rincon was unveiled at the town square.** Now it easier to explore Rincon



John Floyd photo

► **If you want to purchase one of the calendars that benefit Jong Bonaire mentioned in the last issue you have a faster way than typing in the long web url link. Just go to: <http://www.bartlandheer.com>**



► **Antillean Wine Company, otherwise known as AWC, has started up its wine tasting Saturday evenings once again. Every second Saturday of the month (which this week is November 10) they throw open the doors to their warehouse on Kaya Industria #23, across from Warehouse Bonaire. From 7 to 9 pm you may taste from six to eight of their featured brands of wine for only NAf20 per person. It's an opportunity to taste great vintages and to meet old and new friends.**

This week we understand guests will also be offered a taste of Saskia's Mango Chutney, from her book, *Sailing and Cooking throughout the Caribbean*. The recipe and more from Saskia is on page 8.

(Continued on page 18)

### ► The Seventh Annual Bonaire Eco Swim is this weekend.

All the courses will start and finish at Capt. Don's Habitat and will be swum along the coast of Bonaire, allowing swimmers the opportunity to enjoy the beauty of Bonaire's tropical reefs, with the 10 K swimmers swimming to Plaza Resort and back. Swimmers will be allowed the use of mask, snorkel and fins.

While there will be several "elite" swimmers competing again this year, the race is for FUN and is designed for all who wish to swim at their own pace, simply for the joy of swimming in the pristine waters of Bonaire. Awards will be given to top male and female finishers in the 10k, 5k, 3K and 1K races.

**Official registration will be Friday November 9th between 3 and 5:30pm at the BONHATA office next to the lighthouse at the Harbour Village Marina.** Registration fee for all residents of the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba is NAf25 for adults and NAf10 for kids when showing a sedula. This includes the registration fee, a pasta dinner, T-shirt, swim cap, and other goodies that you will find in a goody bag. Sponsors: Capt. Don's Habitat, Sand Dollar Condominium Resort, Maduro & Curiel's Bank Bonaire, Tourism Corporation Bonaire, Bonaire Marine Park, Bonaire Sailing Foundation, Aqua Moon Adventures, Rum Runners and the Bonaire Hotel and Tourism Association (BONHATA).



Bonaire EcoSwim - Race Start, © 2002 Patricia Sener.

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# Why Not Bike On Bonaire?



Mary Ann Koops photo

There aren't many bikes in the schoolyard

My students sometimes ask me whether I have a driver's license. When I say yes, they look at my bicycle a little bewildered. "Or maybe you don't have a car?" is usually their next question. But they are wrong again: I have a car and a license to drive it anywhere I want to go. They can't seem to understand that "anywhere I want to go" doesn't always have to involve movement by anything driven by a motor.

If it is not raining cats and dogs, I cycle to my work. So, I would say that would be almost every weekday. My students obviously think there is a screw loose in my head, but I enjoy it. On Bonaire people either drive a car or they walk, and cycling is out of the question. But lately I've started to see changes in that attitude. In the four years I've been working at the SGB school, I've seen a definite rise in the number of bicycles parked in front of the school. Not only are more children using them, but even some of my colleagues as well. There is no need for a special garage for bicycles yet, but who knows in a another four years...

A few days ago I had to wait for my ride home because of the rain, and I was complaining about how useless it was to be standing there with no place to go. One of my students said that her father was late ... again. So why not get a bike so you can go whenever and wherever you want? But no, she dare not do that because of the dogs that will run after you. In all the time that I have ridden a bike, only a few times have dogs actually come after me. The thing I always do that seems to work is to stop my bike. The dogs will usually run away from such a frightening sight: a woman standing still on a bike, very scary. Plus when dogs see more people on bikes they will get used to it: "Look, there are those weird humans on those metal things." I am safe on my route to work because the dogs see me every day.

However, dogs are not the number one reason not to use a bike. It's the sweating. It is true, but while you are cycling you are fine. Strangely enough it is the standing still part that gets you sweating.

I always bring an extra pair of pants to change into when I arrive at my work. It would be a shame to restrict your movement because of a little perspiration.

So why do I like cycling so much, that I prefer it to driving my car? It is good for body and spirit. The body will benefit from the extra exercise. And cycling helps to clear the mind. When you are frustrated or angry, getting behind the wheel will only aggravate your problems, because all those people on the road are driving so badly "just to pester you." On a bike, negative emotions are blown away by the wind.

I would like to see everybody moving (under their own power) more often, especially the youth. At this point we are beginning to resemble the people from another country. I won't use names, but the country starts with an 'A', and the president has a botanical name. In other words: we as a population are getting fatter. ( A 2003 health survey conducted by the Central Government showed that the percentage of obese people on Bonaire was identical to that of the nation mentioned by the author. *Editor*)

But before more people can get moving, the infrastructure of Bonaire needs to adapt to this more active type of motion. The only time I actually fear for my life while cycling is along Kaya Korona. Cars try to pass you even when there is an oncoming car. As a cyclist you have nowhere to go but crash against the kerb. I hope that next time when the whole street is turned upside down, they will plan a 50-centimetre-wide path to and fro for cyclists.

I see cycling as a solution to a number of problems. For example, you won't get the huge traffic jams at 7:20 am at the schools if half of the students arrived on a bike. Researchers have concluded that exercise in general will make you happier, so people will be less grumpy in the morning. No traffic jams, no grumpy people. With nice cycle tracks alongside the major roads of Bonaire, we will have a bright future. □ *Mary Ann Koops*


*Mary Ann Koops is a biology teacher at the SGB high school*

# DO YOU SUDOKU?

Sudoku means "the digits must remain single" in Japanese. To solve the puzzle, enter the numbers 1 through 9 to the partially filled in puzzle without repeating a number in any row, column or 3 x 3 region. For a tutorial visit the web site [www.Sudoku.shack.com](http://www.Sudoku.shack.com). **Solution on page 9.**

Supplied by Molly Bartikoski-Kearney (who has to solve all the puzzles first.)

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



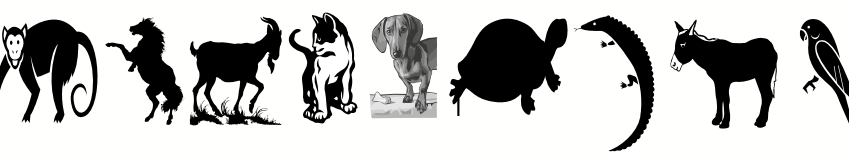
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# Bonaire Nature News



In its first month the joint SELIBON Recycling Foundation and Tene Boneiru Limpi effort—to eliminate plastic bags from the landscape with the cooperation of school children—has collected more than 35,000 plastic bags. The campaign has two more months to go to meet its goal of 100,000 bags. At its conclusion a drawing will be held

among the student participants for several prizes, the grand prize being a computer and a year of Internet service. The sponsors of the campaign are sure it will raise the awareness of the negative effects of discarded plastic on the environment, and leave Bonaire a cleaner island. □

SELIBON/ G.D.

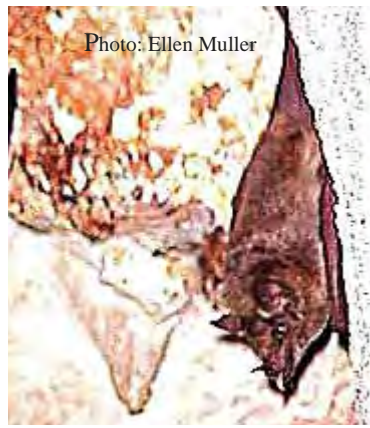


Photo: Ellen Muller  
*Glossophaga longirostris* »  
common long-tongued bat

John de Freitas and Anna Rojer of the Central Government's environmental institute, Carmabi, are making an inventory of endangered species of plants and bats on Bonaire, focusing on Washington Slagbaai National Park. The results will contribute to the set-up of proper nature conservation in the Park. Fernando Simal, Park Manager, called for the project and will participate in the effort. Eventually the goats, donkeys and wild pigs that are in the Park will be isolated because they threaten indigenous plants. Captain Don's Habitat supports the project and is accommodating the biologists of Carmabi free of charge. □ STINAPA



STINAPA continues to push for no fishing zones around the island, a measure that has improved fishing and allowed replenishment of fish populations elsewhere. The STINAPA campaign in conjunction with DROB's (Public Works) Environmental Section to educate the people and government officials, points out that the size and population of reef food fish like snappers and groupers (*robèki*, *purunchi* and *grastèlchi*) has dramatically declined as proven by the smaller catches made by local fishermen. STINAPA, after meeting with the fishermen's organization, concluded that the area from Punt'i Waya to the north of Harbour Village Marina and from Chachacha Beach to north of Plaza Marina must be protected. □ STINAPA/ G.D. STINAPA photo of past catch

## KAS DI NATURALESA

Bonaire's former Conservation Education Officer, Enit Scholten, now working with Dutch state parks, was been asked by STINAPA to start a foundation to establish a visitor's center for the environment on Bonaire to be called Kas di Naturalesa. In a recent meeting on Bonaire Enit invited people from different backgrounds (DROB, SGB, government, art, Mangazina di Rei, press, and several others) to brainstorm for the setup of the center. Six target groups were taken into consideration: adults from Bonaire, young children, older children, sun tourists, cruise tourists, and dive tourists. □ Mary Ann Koops



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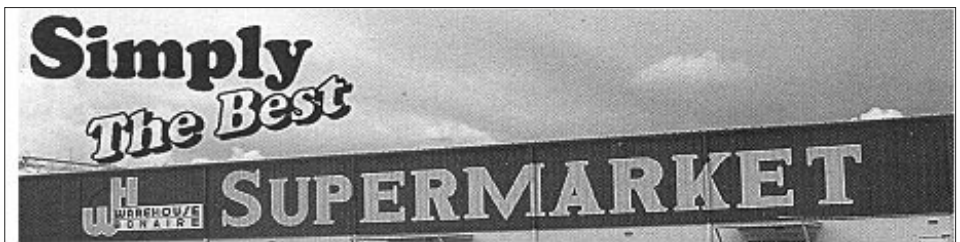
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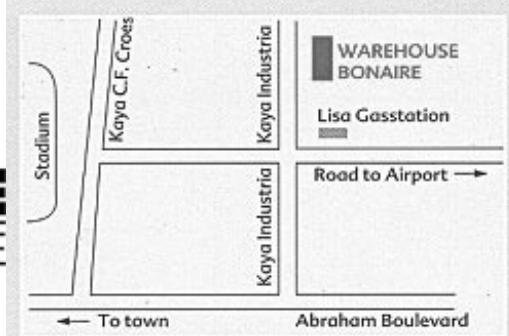


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# Sailing and Cooking Throughout the Caribbean

## Cooking with Mango

Meet Saskia Romeijn Vermeer, cookbook author, artist, sailor, wife and mother of two. Her beautiful little hard-cover book, *Sailing and Cooking throughout the Caribbean*, has just come out on Bonaire, Saskia has agreed to share some recipes from her book beginning in this issue of *The Bonaire Reporter*.



### Mango/Mangifer

The mango is native to southern Asia. It spread early on to Malaya, East Asia and was introduced to the Caribbean in 1770 by Deguigne de la Bergerie.

The mango tree can grow to a height of almost 90 feet/30 m. The fruit, when young, is more or less dark green, turning yellow, orange or red when it is ripe. A ripe mango will be soft to the touch with a yellow-orange or red blushed skin. If the fruit is still a bit hard, let it sit at room temperature for further ripening.

### Mango Chutney

#### What you need:

-4 big mangoes, preferably green ones (or use a 2 lb/1 kilo bag of diced mango from the frozen section in your local supermarket)

- 1 cup raisins
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 2 cups water
- 2 Tab lime juice
- 4 tsp. hot chili sauce or sambal oelek

#### What to do:

Peel and cut 2 1/2 mangoes in small pieces. Wash the raisins, put them in a medium saucepan and add all other ingredients except the ginger.

Bring to a boil, then turn down the heat. Cover and let simmer for almost an hour. Check every 15 minutes and stir.

Remove the lid, add the remaining mango plus the ginger and simmer for another 15 minutes. If it appears too liquid, leave the lid off for the

last 15 minutes. If it appears too thick, add more water.

Cool the mango chutney to room temperature before placing in a clean jar with a tight fitting lid. It will keep well in the refrigerator for a few weeks, although mine gets eaten sooner than that. If it's put in a sealed *weck-pot* (canning jar) it can be kept in a cool, dark spot for up to three months.

### Salad with Cheese and Mango

#### What you need:

- 1 cup /150 g. Gouda cheese
- 1 big mango
- 1/2 an iceberg lettuce
- 1 cup/100gr. Walnuts

#### For the vinaigrette:

- 2 Tab lime juice
- 4 Tab olive oil
- 2 Tab mayonnaise
- 1 tsp. mustard
- 1 tsp. orange marmalade
- salt and pepper

#### What to do:

Make the vinaigrette by stirring all the ingredients together and set it on the side.

Cut the cheese, mango and lettuce



Saskia in a mango tree.

into strips.

Crumble the nuts and mix with the salad ingredients. Serve the vinaigrette separately on the table.

You may find mangoes at the Venezuelan fruit market or the local supermarkets or maybe you have a friend on the island with a mango tree in the garden. Keep that friend! ☐

Saskia Romeijn Vermeer

Pick up a copy of *Sailing and Cooking Throughout the Caribbean*. It is for sale at Antillean Wine Company, Buddy Dive Shops, Flamingo Bookstore, Island Fashions, Jibe City Surf Shop, Kontiki Beach Club, Photo Tours retail, Sorobon Resort and Valerie's Airport Shops

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## Letters to the Editor

### Topics:

1. Mass Tourism Impact
2. Crime Fighting?

This letter, in both Papiamentu and English, was delivered to members of The Island Council and The Executive Committee on behalf of Concerned Citizens of Bonaire. The questions asked are of vital importance to Bonaire and its future and is information that all island residents should have. When answers are forthcoming they will be sent to The Bonaire Reporter so that a clearer picture of where we, as an island, are going and what the future holds for us. The following is an version edited to fit.

TO: Lt. Governor Herbert Domacassé:

We are a group representing business owners and citizens who have **serious concerns regarding the drastic increase in the number of cruise ships** carrying thousands of tourists to our island. After much discussion with island business owners as well as residents of Bonaire we realize that there are many questions regarding the impact of this tremendous influx of visitors and their ships for which we have no answers. We are submitting to you our questions in the hope that you can answer them for us.

#### Financial Questions

1. Will the passengers on these ships pay a head tax?

If yes, how much will they pay and when will they pay it?

If yes, will any of it go to the BNMP and if so, how much?

If the passengers will not pay a head tax, why not?

2. How many guilders are being invested in the attempt to get 10% of the cruise ship tourists to return to Bonaire?

3. If the 10% goal is not reached in a timely manner will this program continue?

If it continues, how long will it go on before it would be acknowledged that it has reached a point of diminishing return?

4. What method will be used to determine if an incoming tourist is here as a result of being a cruise ship visitor?

5. In order to determine the direct financial impact of

cruise ship visits on the citizens of Bonaire we would like to know:

6. How many Bonaireans will be directly employed on cruise ship days as tour guides, taxi drivers, etc and how many who are not Bonaireans will be employed.

7. How many shops see an increase in sales on cruise ship days?

8. How many local businesses see a decrease in sales on cruise ship days due to residents not shopping in Kralendijk and suffer losses due to shoplifting?

9. How many other types of businesses are losing money?

10. What information is available showing regular visitors not coming back during cruise season due to a negative atmosphere created by cruise ship days?

11. Because a vacation on a cruise ship is drastically different from a vacation on Bonaire, has research been done to determine if the average cruise ship passenger profile is a good match with Bonaire?

12. What fees does Bonaire receive from cruise ships and are they equal to the fees paid by cruise ships visiting other Antillean islands?

#### Environmental Questions

1. Hasn't the issue of sustainable tourism been defined by those involved in bringing the cruise tourists to Bonaire? If so, what does it say?

2. Since cruise ship tourism has been identified by major environmental studies as one of the top reef threats, what are we doing to protect our reefs against the ships and their multitude of passengers?

3. Is there a plan to supervise cruise passengers in order to avoid overcrowding of our reefs? Isn't there a government law addressing the overcrowding of reefs by divers?

4. Do all the ships visiting Bonaire have their own on-board sewage treatment facilities? If not, what is Bonaire providing?

5. Can Bonaire's infrastructure handle the increase in on-island sewage and water use as a result of the large number of cruise

passengers? Emphasizing the importance of this issue are the recent findings of the nutrient tests conducted around Bonaire that show that the levels are at the edge of becoming hazardous to the reefs.

Because there is no waste water treatment facility, has a study been done concerning the effect of the effluence of thousands of cruise tourists on our waste disposal methods? Are any interim solutions to this problem in place?

6. The *Freewinds* has admitted to dumping salt water on Bonaire. Will other cruise ships be allowed to do the same? Will independent testing of any waste water that is off-loaded be done?

We realize that a great deal of work has been done to bring the cruise ships to our island. Our concern is whether enough research has been done to determine how much of an increase we can absorb before what makes us unique has been degraded to the point that we have nothing left to offer visitors. We are on the road towards mass tourism; how massive do we want to get?

We are known for being able to offer a unique experience to our visitors under normal circumstances. But how can we, on a regular basis, offer this experience to thousands of cruise tourists all in one day while maintaining our peaceful island atmosphere for our faithful returning stayover guests? We only have so many buses and so many taxis and so many sailboats and water taxis which can only carry a limited number of people on each trip. It doesn't matter if we have two thousand or two hundred thousand here in one day – we can only accommodate what we can accommodate. This is exactly our concern. Have we REALLY done our homework? Do we REALLY know at what point we will go from mass tourism to critical mass?

We would therefore like to request a meeting with representatives of the government to better understand the position of Bonaire as it relates to tourism.

-Signing for the group, Susan Porter, Secretary



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To The Editor:

I read with interest the letter from the angry Bonaire businessman regarding the increase in crime and the lack of police intervention. I also read with some degree of interest and a great deal of amazement the plans of TCB to fight crime on Bonaire. The solutions proudly presented by Ronella Croes include a letter of warning to all guests; a Community Mentor program; and a new report form for visitors to use making it easier to report that they've been had.

How, may I ask, is this in anyway a deterrent to our current band of

criminals?

As far as the other two 'solutions' are concerned, they are providing after-the-fact help to angry and distressed visitors and residents. Can anybody at TCB or the police department say NIGHT PATROLS? Has the thought crossed their minds that certain areas are being targeted by these sophisticated burglars and should receive special police attention at night?

Lord help us all if the best they can come up with is a way to help residents and visitors report their losses.

A Confused Bonaire Resident


## SOLUTION TO DO YOU SUDOKU?

Puzzle on page 6

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

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# Reflections

As the holiday season approaches we thought it appropriate to reflect on some basic principles that apply to most faiths, even if they are not Judeo-Christian based.

Pastor Baran explains...

### What are the Ten Commandments?

The Ten Commandments are ten laws in the Bible that God gave to the nation of Israel shortly after the exodus from Egypt. (*Exodus 20:1-17 and Deuteronomy 5:6-21*). The first four commandments deal with our relationship with God. The second six commandments deal with our relationships with one another.

(1) "You shall have no other gods before me." This command is against worshipping any god other than the one true God. All other gods are false gods.

(2) "You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them.

This command is against making an idol, a visible representation of God. There is no image we can create that can accurately portray God.

(3) "You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses His name." This is a command against taking the name of the Lord in vain.

(4) "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to

the Lord, your God.

5) "Honor your father and your mother." This is a command to always treat our parents with honor and respect.

(6) "You shall not murder." This is a command against the premeditated murder of another human being.

(7) "You shall not commit adultery." This is a command against have sexual relations with anyone other than your spouse.

(8) "You shall not steal." This is a command against taking anything that does not belong to us without the permission of the person to whom it belongs.

(9) "You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor." This is a command against testifying against another person falsely. It is essentially a command against lying.

(10) "You shall not covet your neighbor's house, wife, servants, ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

This is a command against desiring anything that does not belong to you. Coveting can lead to breaking one of the commandments listed above: murder, adultery, and theft. If it is wrong to do something, it is wrong to desire to do that same something. □

Rev. Totoram Baran  
(Bonaire's International Bible Church)

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# Young Chefs In Love (With Italy)

“The future is bright for Bonaire’s tourism,” said Culinar Bonaire Foundation’s Sara Matera, “and we are confident this program will enrich every young professional in Horeca here on Bonaire.” Sara is talking about the long running student chef exchange program that she, Ruud Vermeulen and Moreno Binelli put together with the Emilia Romagna region of Italy in 2002. Since then 26 culinary students from Bonaire have travelled to Italy, along with teacher Vernon Martijn (this year with teacher Liz Rijna), to spend four weeks in total immersion, Italian style - sleeping, eating, studying, cooking and working at schools, *Serramazzone* and *Cesenatico*, in Carpi and Modena respectively. They study with students from all over the world. The Emilia Romagna region is considered to be the very pinnacle of cuisine and produce in Italy. Famous products from the region are *Parma* ham, *Parmigiano Reggiano* cheese and *Balsamic vinegar*. The young chefs do wine tastings, visit museums and castles, the factories for balsamic vinegar Parmesan cheese, and



Today it's about pasta

even the Ferrari car factory. If you're an aspiring chef, going to Italy is like finding the Holy Grail. In that country chefs are considered to be members of one of the loftiest of professions and their kitchens lack for nothing. The Bonairean students have studied with some of the finest chefs, working hands on with breads, pastries, pastas, herbs and spices, meat carving, deboning and learning to use new techniques

and tools. There are strict rules and regulations along with rigorous training.

Sara continues, “These have been invaluable life experiences for these young people. They’re learning from the professionals themselves about the dedication and passion it takes to pursue a career in the culinary arts. And they’ve made new life-long friends and have taken a bigger step in understanding the cultures of other countries.” Our young chefs return as different people – confident, assured and walking tall.

The students from Bonaire have conducted themselves with dignity and impressed the Italians, so much so that eight different students were invited back to Italy to participate in a three-month work study program during the summer in 2004, 2005 and 2006. In fact, some of them became so proficient in Italian that they acted as translators for the students coming in October.

Although room and board is provided by the respective schools there still has to be money raised. For transportation, uniforms, equipment, and more. The students work hard, participating in fund



An Italian instructor and Bonaire’s Moreno Binelli with SGB students in Italy: Norison Conquet, Samantha Clarinda, Elvienne Sint Jago, Derrick Piar, Jobinella Winklaar and Robertico Bernabela

raising dinners, BBQs, bartending cooking and serving at community events. They got a lot of help from individuals and organizations. One year airline tickets were made possible by anonymous donations of award-points in the KLM Flying Dutchman and Northwest Airlines Frequent Flyer Miles. This year was nearly a disaster as AMFO withdrew the expected funds. But private people came forward and put up the money and seven students were able to participate in the program in Italy.

Nearly all these students have continued in the restau-

rant business –by further study and/or work in Bonaire, Holland and Italy. They’ve done well. One of them from the very first contingent, Vladimir Gilsbertha, was a member of Bonaire’s Culinary Team made up of professional chefs. Yoan Lopez is working in a Michelin star Restaurant in Rimini; Alexis Ramirez and Felix Torres are in Riccione with renown Chef Antonio of Il Girasole; Bram Schmidt is in cooking school in Holland—just to name a few.

Part of life’s lesson is getting off island and given the chance to have a worldwide

perspective, to make career choices from what they have seen and the people they’ve met. All of us in Hospitality here in Bonaire want and need these students back on Bonaire, but we all must realize that they need the exposure abroad to make themselves even more valuable to become trainers for our next generation.

As ex-Lt. Governor Richard Hart said after seeing the high gastronomical quality put out by these students, “Bonaire is becoming an island known for providing top chefs.” □ L.D./Sara Matera

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The 22<sup>nd</sup> of a series of Bonaire Reporter articles by J@n Brouwer, featuring some of Bonaire's interesting vehicles that are "on wheels."

## Nando Statia and his Beloved Volkswagen Beetles



A photograph of the two Beetles, owned by Rolando (Nando) Statia. The Volkswagen on the left was made in Brazil in 1983. The car is fitted with an "aftermarket" Rolls Royce front and a special classic rear. The Beetle on the right is an original example of German craftsmanship, constructed in Wolfsburg in 1973. (The rim, mounted on the tree on the very left hand side of the picture, holding a garden hose, is also a Volkswagen product!) (Photograph by J@n Bouwer)

Rolando R. Statia (Nando) lives in Nikiboko, on Kaya Avelino J. Cecilia. Rolando was born on the happy island of Bonaire in 1950 and he has served as an *operationeel ambtenaar* for over 30 years at *Landsradio and Telecommunicatiedienst Nederlandse Antillen*. Rolando is retired now. He is a very happy person. He enjoys life and loves his cars.

Nando: "I bought my first Volkswagen Beetle in 1970. The car had been built in 1967 in Wolfsburg, Germany, and it was fitted with a 1300cc engine. All Volkswagens were four cylinder air-cooled boxer (opposed cylinder) engines in those days. They liked fuel and were very reliable for the time. My first Volkswagen was fitted with an old six-volt electrical system made by Bosch. Sometime in the 70s I bought another Beetle. This model was fitted with a 12-volt electrical system. The car didn't run so I took all the 12 volt parts from the vehicle and I converted my first Volkswagen to 12 volts. In those days six-volt batteries were becoming scarce.

Nando walks to his two cars. The cars are well protected against the sun and the rain by an impressive shed.

He continues. "I bought this orange colored Volkswagen Beetle in 1978. I bought it from Udo Luesse, a German who worked at Trans World Radio. He had bought the car brand new in Germany and he brought it to Bonaire. In 1978 I bought it from him. I paid NAf. 3.050 for it. The car was manufactured in 1973 and it is fitted with a 12-volt electrical system. Originally it was a 1200 cc model but later I took an old 1300 cc engine from my first Volkswagen, had it overhauled, and fitted it in this orange Beetle. So while this car was made in 1973 the engine was manufactured in 1967. And the car is reliable and running every day! I've owned this car for 29 years now and it is still serving me well!"

The original design of the Volkswagen was made by Ferdinand Porsche in 1931. In 1933 Adolf Hitler (not a driver, but very interested in vehicles) asked Porsche to re-design the car to make it more suited for the working class people. Hitler's plan was to create a kind of savings scheme for the Germans: ("Fuenf Mark die Woche musst Du sparen, willst Du im eigenen Wagen fahren" — "Save five Marks a week if you want to drive your own car."). Over 300,000 people paid into the plan. The prototypes of the Volkswagen Beetle were called the "Kdf-Wagen" (German: *Kraft durch Freude* -- "strength through joy"). They appeared from 1936 onwards.

The first cars were produced in Stuttgart, the later cars were manufactured in the new built town of KdF-Stadt, later renamed Wolfsburg. Only a handful of cars were produced by the time the war started. Hitler needed the money saved by his citizens to produce his war equipment. One Volkswagen Kdf cabriolet was presented to the leader on his birthday in 1938. In April 1945, KdF-Stadt and its heavily bombed factory were captured by the Americans and subsequently handed over to the British.

Over 20 million Beetles were manufactured over the last 50 years. On July 30, 2003, the last Volkswagen Beetle rolled off the production line in Puebla, Mexico. It was car number 21,529,464 and was immediately shipped off to the company's museum in Wolfsburg, Germany. On Bonaire, some 10 Beetles, in all kinds of condition, running and not running, still exist. □J@n Brouwer

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# Turtles On The Move

**B**onaire's Sea Turtle Conservation group (STCB) continues to track its last turtle of the season, the female Green turtle, "Darwina." She appears to be more of a tourist than other turtles that have been tracked. After making side trips to the coast of Venezuela in early September and Curaçao in mid September, she returned to Bonaire on September 21 to deposit more eggs in a sixth nest on September 27. "Darwina" had already nested five times during her summer 2007 visit.



On September 29 she set off once more, this time northwest from Bonaire swimming an average of 50-60 km./day. She visited some offshore banks around Jamaica, passed the Cayman islands and Swan Islands and headed towards Central America.

After a recent turn to the southwest "Darwina" is continuing to move in the general direction of Honduras' Bay Islands. She is currently traveling at a pace of approximately 40 km per day and is 1,940 km from Bonaire. She's swum over 5,300 km since she was equipped with a transceiver around six months ago.

Located about 65 km off the northern coast of Honduras, the Bay Islands group consists of three main Islands (Roatán, Guanaja, and Utila), three smaller islands (Barbareta, Morat, and Helene), and 65 smaller cays. Between these islands and the mainland are the Cayos Cocinos (Hog Islands). They are all popular SCUBA diver destinations.

Darwina is equipped with a transmitter that sends signals to Argos receivers aboard NOAA satellites when she surfaces. The Argos system then calculates her position and forwards the data to ground receivers. □ STCB

# Bubbles from the Biologist

## Did You Know...

Baby fish can hear a reef beckoning? During mating, most coral reef fish get together in pairs or groups and release eggs and milt up high in the water column. In general, the eggs drift away from the reef on surface currents and hatch into tiny larvae within 24 hours. It takes from three weeks to three months until they are mature enough to settle on a reef, in a seagrass meadow, or in a mangrove swamp. Until recently, scientists believed that larval fish were at the mercy of the currents and it was the luck of the draw if they were transported to a habitat where they could settle and grow into adults. Now, scientists have discovered that as the larvae mature, many become very mobile and can swim faster than most currents. They also have an incredible level of endurance. In Australia, marine biologist Ilona Stobutzki fashioned home-made raceways and found that larval surgeonfish could swim for eight days without food or rest – a distance of approximately 100km! This discovery may mean that some fish don't automatically drift away from their reef of origin and they certainly don't just drift with the currents. Scientists also believe that larval fish can detect a reef from as far as one kilometer away perhaps by using their sense of smell or by listening for reef sounds – waves crashing, shrimp snapping, or small rubble being washed back and forth near the shore. □ Caren Eckrich



Image from the Australian Museum Fish Site

Biologist—Author 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 .

**Have you an interesting story to tell? Have comments to share about life on Bonaire? Then send them to *The Bonaire Reporter*. Between 500 and 700 words and an accompanying photo is best.**

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# DINING GUIDE

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<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— starting at 6 pm	<b>Indulge your whim—beef seafood, chicken, vegetarian</b> Mondays—All you can eat and special slide shows starting at 6 pm Great value anytime.
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# SHOPPING GUIDE

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DATE	Time	Ht.	Time	Ht.	Time	Ht.	Time	Ht.	COEF
11-09	12:10	1.9FT.	22:30	0.9FT.					73
11-10	12:41	2.0FT.	23:15	0.8FT.					76
11-11	13:17	2.0FT.	23:54	0.7FT.					77
11-12	0:36	0.7FT.	13:49	2.0FT.					77
11-13	1:13	0.7FT.	14:27	1.9FT.					76
11-14	1:44	0.7FT.	15:13	1.9FT.					72
11-15	2:09	0.7FT.	15:58	1.8FT.					67
11-16	2:27	0.8FT.	16:57	1.8FT.					60
11-17	2:34	0.9FT.	17:53	1.6FT.					53
11-18	2:31	1.0FT.	9:43	1.4FT.	13:22	1.4FT.	18:58	1.6FT.	49
11-19	2:20	1.0FT.	9:27	1.6FT.	15:32	1.3FT.	19:58	1.4FT.	49
11-20	2:09	1.0FT.	9:42	1.7FT.	16:58	1.1FT.	21:09	1.3FT.	56
11-21	1:58	1.0FT.	10:08	1.9FT.	18:13	1.0FT.	22:22	1.2FT.	67
11-22	1:34	1.0FT.	10:44	2.0FT.	19:31	0.9FT.	23:42	1.1FT.	79
11-23	11:28	2.1FT.	20:36	0.8FT.					90
11-24	12:10	2.2FT.	21:48	0.7FT.					98
11-25	13:00	2.2FT.	22:43	0.6FT.					102
11-26	13:50	2.1FT.	23:30	0.6FT.					102
11-27	0:10	0.6FT.	14:42	2.1FT.					98
11-28	0:59	0.6FT.	15:39	2.0FT.					89
11-29	1:34	0.7FT.	16:32	1.9FT.					78
11-30	2:01	0.8FT.	17:33	1.7FT.					66
12-01	2:19	0.9FT.	10:03	1.5FT.	14:06	1.4FT.	18:24	1.6FT.	53

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

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## HAPPENING SOON

**Crafts Markets at Wilhelmina Park on Cruise Ship Days, 10 am—2 pm:** Tues., Nov. 13-Veendam; Wed., Nov. 14-Crown Princess; Tues., Nov. 20—Emerald Princess; Wed. Nov. 21-Sea Princess; Fri., Nov. 23-Aidavita

**Now until December 31—MCB's 45th Anniversary Celebration**—See page 4

**Saturday, November 10—7th Annual EcoSwim.** See story page 5 or go to [www.aquamoonadventures.com](http://www.aquamoonadventures.com)

**Thursday, November 15—Geological lectures at CIEE, Kaya Gob. Debrot 21.** Free. Tel. 717-4140. See page 4.

**Saturday, November 17- Mountain Bike Tour 50km** Bonaire Wellness Connexions, Eden Beach, 785-0767, email [info@bonairewellness.com](mailto:info@bonairewellness.com)

**Sunday, November 18: Mountain Bike Tour at Washington Park** see above

**Sunday, November 18—Dia di Gracia**—Contribute what you don't need to be given to the needy. Call Meredith Nicolaas (717-4658 or 786-2024), Shela Winklaar (510-7412) or Mamita Fox (717-2953 or 796-1919)

**Thursday, November 22—Fundashon Kuido pa Besta i Oido (Foundation to Aid the Blind & Deaf) Fundraising Thanksgiving Dinner,** Chez Nous at the SGB, 7—10 pm. Donation: NAf55. For more information and/or purchase tickets call 569-7610 or 785-0518.

**Saturday, December 1—Bodybuilding Competition.** More information contact Judel at 786-0290

**Sunday, December 2- 2nd BWC Mountain Bike Race**

**Wednesday, December 5—Day of the Volunteer.** See page 19

**Friday, December 7 - Bonaire Animal Shelter Bi-Annual Art Auction Fund-raiser,** 786-0466

## REGULAR EVENTS

- The popular SGB High School restaurant, **Chez Nous**, has recently re-opened to the public. Four-course meal with welcome cocktail. Seating begins at 6 pm. For reservations and information on which evenings, email: [keeslee-man@telbonet.an](mailto:keeslee-man@telbonet.an)

- HH 2 for 1 (all beverages) 6-7 pm, **Divi Flamingo Balashi Beach Bar**

- HH—50% off- **Buddy Dive Resort**, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

- Divi Flamingo Casino** open daily for hot slot machines, roulette and black jack, Monday to Saturday 8 pm—4 am; Sunday 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) with live mariachi- **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](http://www.infobonaire.com/rincon). Extra big Marshé 1st Saturday of the month, 6 am-2 pm.

- All You Can Eat BBQ** at **Divi Flamingo** with live music, 6 to 9 pm. Call for reservations 717-8285 ext. 444.

- Wine Tasting at AWC's** warehouse, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

- Soldachi Tours**—See the real Bon-

aire and be transported back in time. Learn about the history, culture and nature by Bonaireans from Rincon. Call Maria Koeke for more information—796-7870.

- 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.

- Mountain Bike Training for riders of all levels (also Tuesday)** at 5pm. Bonaire Wellness Connexions, Eden Beach, 785-0767, email [info@bonairewellness.com](mailto:info@bonairewellness.com)

## 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

- Dinner and a Show at Casablanca Argentinean Grill**—Reporter writer **Albert Bianculli** presents his **Multi-Image Production "Bonaire Holiday"** at 6:30pm, 7:30 pm & 8:30pm

- "Dive & Dine" Buddy Dive Resort**, 6:30 –9:30 pm

- Soldachi Tour of Rincon**, the heart of Bonaire, 9 am-noon. \$20-Call Maria 717-6435

## Tuesdays

- Margarita & Taco Tuesdays!** With \$2.50 Margaritas and a Taco bar! Plus Live music by the Flamingo Rockers, 6-8pm **Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar**

## Wednesdays

- Beach BBQ & music at The Windsurf Place at Sorobon**, 7—10 pm. Reserve ahead. Tel. 717-5091, 717-2288. (see back page)

- "Live Cooking by the Chefs"** with live music by the Flamingo Rockers Unplugged - **Buddy Dive Resort**, 6-10 pm

## Thursdays

- Flamingo Rockers**, at **"Admiral's Hour"** for yachtsmen and others, Vespucci Restaurant, Harbour Village Marina. HH drinks, gratis tapas, 5-7

## 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

- Friday Weekly Market at Wilhelmina Park** with local art, music and food; summer fashions, jewelry, glasswork, Bonaire pictures, driftwood art, paintings and all kinds of Bonaire souvenirs, 9 am to 2 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, Live music by Flamingo Rockers, **Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar** 6-7 pm

- Free Rum Punch Party** (5:30- 6:30 pm) with Moogie Nation, followed by 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- Land & Ocean Bonaire** by Fish-Eye photo staff, 8 pm on the big screen in front of Bonaire Dive & Adventure.

- Tuesday—Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire** presents the *Sea Turtles of Bonaire Slide Show*. Every 1st & 3rd Tuesday, **Buddy Dive Resort**, 7 pm—717-3802.

- Wednesday- Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire** presents the *Sea Turtles of Bonaire Slide Show*, every 2nd & 4th Wednesday at Bruce Bowker's Carib Inn (717-8819) at 7pm.

- Wednesday—Diving Facts And Fiction - An Evening with DIR** slide/video show by Caribbean Gas Training, 8 pm, Bonaire Dive & Adventure, 786-5073

## 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 : 560-7267 or 717-3902.

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

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

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

- Bridge Club** - **Wednesdays**, 7.30 pm at Sunrise Pool Bar. all levels, NAf2,50. Call Joop 717-5903 or be there by 7:15. **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 - 'Pirate House', above Zeezicht Restaurant. All Rotarians welcome. Tel. 717-8434

- Toastmasters Club** meets every two weeks. For more information call Crusita de Palm at 786-3827 or Lucia Martinez Beck, at 786-2953.

## 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](mailto: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, Sundays, 10 am.
- Rincon, Kaya C.D. Crestian,** in Papiamentu, Sundays, 8:30 am.
- Children's club, Saturdays, 5 pm, in Kralendijk

- Sunday School, Sundays, 4 pm, in Rincon.
- Bible Study and Prayer meetings, Thursdays, at 8 pm, Kralendijk.

- New Apostolic Church:** 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, Sunday at 8 am and 7 pm in Papiamentu, 717-8304.

- Our Lady of Coromoto in Antriol*, Saturday at 6 pm 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)

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## How to Look Back in Time Over Two Million Years Ago

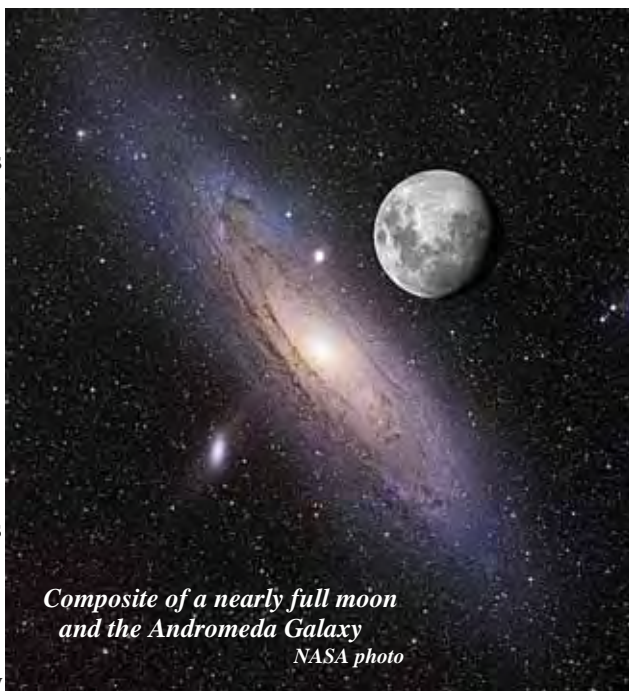
**G**reetings, greetings fellow star gazers. You know, everyone is fascinated with the concept of time travel and although actually going back in time is just a thing of science fiction you actually can look back in time and see things as they existed long ago. Let me tell you.

Go out on any moonless night in the November Sky Park between 8 and 10 pm, which means that this week and the first half of next week are very

good because there'll be no moonlight in early evening. And make sure you're some place where it's really dark out, away from Kralendijk lights. First look almost overhead and you'll see four stars which if you could connect with lines trace out a square. It's called the **Great Square of Pegasus**, the winged horse, and marks the main part of his body. Next look north for five bright stars which if you connect with lines will look like a squashed out letter "M." This is the constellation, **Cassiopeia the Queen**. Finally take the brightest star in Cassiopeia and draw a line straight up to the brightest star of Pegasus' square. Then if you look about two thirds of the way up that line from Cassiopeia you will see a tiny faint cloud which through a pair of binoculars will look even more cloudlike but which isn't a cloud at all.

In fact it is the most distant object we can see in the universe with the naked eye, so far away that we have to measure its distance in terms of the **speed of light**. Now we all know that light is the fastest moving thing in the universe and that it travels at the speed of 186,000 miles per second. Since our **Moon** is about 250,000 miles away it takes its light about 1 1/3 seconds to reach us. So in reality we always see the Moon not as it exists now but as it existed 1 1/3 seconds ago. Our **Sun** on the other hand is 93 million miles away, so far away that it takes its light 8 1/3 minutes to reach us, which means that we never see the Sun as it exists right now but as it existed 8 1/3 minutes ago. The great **Andromeda** galaxy, however, is something else. Indeed it is so incredibly far away that it takes its light more than 2 1/2 million years to reach us. So when we look at the Andromeda galaxy we actually see it not as it exists now but as it existed 2 and 1/2 million years ago.

Think of it. When you look up at this dim cloud this week and next you are seeing something as it actually existed about the time Australopithecus, the Lucy creature, walked on this earth, long before the appearance of modern man, long before any creature on **Earth** learned how to use fire. And what's equally astonishing is if you take a time exposure photograph of this dim cloud through even a good amateur telescope you will see that it is a giant spiral pinwheel of billions of stars, a great galaxy very similar in shape to our own family of stars, the **Milky Way** galaxy, but over two times larger. Wow! So get out this week and travel back in time. It's easy, it's fun, it's science, it's real. □ *Jack Horkheimer*



Composite of a nearly full moon and the Andromeda Galaxy  
NASA photo



# THE STARS HAVE IT

For the Month of November 2007

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

**ARIES** (Mar. 21- April 20) You will be on the rampage this month. Don't confide in any relatives whom you know have a tendency to meddle in other people's affairs. You may be admired by colleagues and employers for your diplomatic way of handling your work and those you work with. Don't let any small misunderstandings get in the way. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21- May 21) Take time to reevaluate your motives regarding friendships. You can certainly gain popularity; however, don't do it by paying for everyone else. Travel will be good if you are seeking knowledge. Try looking into new ways to make extra money. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21) You may get some opposition. Personal changes will be to your benefit. You should try to elaborate on an idea you have regarding a product or service for the home. Find out if they have other commitments. You may want to make plans to take a vacation together. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) You may find that your mate is well aware of the circumstances. Don't let your partner get you going. You are best to travel or attend lectures or seminars. You're likely to encounter new partners if you take short trips. You must look into your options. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug 22) You'll be angry if those you live with aren't pulling their weight. Try not to get involved in other people's problems. You will communicate easily and should be able to accomplish all that you set out to do. Travel and entertaining conversation will be informative and uplifting. Your luckiest events will occur on a Saturday.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) You need to look into some private matters before you can proceed with your plans. Protect your interests legally if necessary. Focus, and concentrate on yourself and your future. Be careful not to overexert yourself. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Your questions will help you ferret out secret information. Try to accommodate them without infringing on your own responsibilities. You are best to avoid such unsavory circumstances, especially if you're in a group situation. Escapist tendencies will result in a poor reputation and a lack of confidence. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Your involvement in organizational events could open doors to new and exciting opportunities. Travel should open doors that lead to exciting new adventures. You could overreact to emotional situations regarding your relationship. You can discuss your intentions and ideas with your colleagues or friends this month. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) You must be extremely careful not to let relatives or friends interfere in your personal life. Don't let your personal partner hold you back. Take the time to sort out your personal papers and double-check your financial investments. You will find it easy finalizing personal papers if you make an effort. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Good friends will give you honest answers. Be sure to catch up on overdue correspondence and help those you love find solutions to their dilemmas. Your partner will blow situations out of proportion. Try not to allow others to burden you with additional responsibilities. Your luckiest events will occur on a Sunday.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Travel will entice you; however, a tendency to overspend is quite possible. Don't go overboard; start small and work toward building it up slowly. You can become obsessed with detail and must be sure to divide your time appropriately. This could be the cause of a dispute that may result in estrangement. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) You will easily capture the interest of those you talk to. Travel or short trips will probably be your best outlet. Your communication skills will bring you popularity and increased self esteem. Try to keep an open mind. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday. □

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# Pet of The Week

Puppy "Luca" has just about the most gorgeous black fluffy ears in the Bonaire Animal Shelter. What a darling! Those ears and his curly tail are set off by his body's smooth short haired black fur. He's alert and inquisitive and would love to be someone's beloved pet. When his mother was killed he and his siblings were found and taken care of by some good Samaritans. But there were so many puppies that the Samaritans couldn't keep them all so after some good quality time where they were fed and loved they were brought into the Shelter to be put up for adoption. So although Luca and his litter mates were once lost they were found and given a good life. That shows in this dog's personality and character. As are all the other pets up for adoption, Luca is in top health, has had his shots, worming and other tests and is ready to go. Even his sterilization, when he is old enough, is included in the dog adoption fee of NAf105. And of course, he's social! To see him and the other adoptable pets visit the Shelter on the Lagoen Road, now open Monday through Saturday, 8 am to 1 pm and 3 to 5 pm. Tel. 717-4989.

What do we mean by "social?" It's those pets who can get along with other pets and with people and who love doing it. I was in Los Angeles recently and visited a shelter/pound. They were very proud of their facilities, but the pets didn't reflect it. In nearly all cases each dog and each cat is kept in its own separate kennel,



"Luca"

alone. What sad faces there were! There is no interaction between them. No time to socialize or get used to being part of a pack and enjoying the camaraderie that a pack engenders. I asked why they were all separated. They said "One may be sick and give it to the others." Or "They might fight with the others." At the Bonaire Shelter every animal that is brought in is quarantined and checked by the vet. It is observed by the staff before it is put in with the others. Is it quiet? Is it dominant? Friendly? After evaluation it's put in an appropriate kennel with others like it. It seems to

work just fine in Bonaire and contrary to what's often the case in the US, adopted dogs here don't have to go through "rehabilitation" to become social. They're that way already.

**Another note:** Lost dogs that are brought into the Shelter will be kept in quarantine for three days. If the owner does not claim it in that time, the dog is evaluated the same as all those brought in. It doesn't make any difference whether it is a puppy or an adult dog. If it's social and healthy it will be given its shots, worming, neutered and put up for adoption. L.D.

Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 5)

► The popular SGB High School restaurant has recently reopened to the public. Seating begins at 6 pm. You can make reservations through e-mail to keeslee-man@telbonet.an

► Calling all artists. If you would like to donate a

piece of your work for a very good cause, now's the time. The Bonaire Animal Shelter is having their next Bi-Annual Art Auction Fundraiser on Friday, December 7, and would very much appreciate local artists' (or visiting artists') art work to auction off. This is one of the big events that provides funds to allow the Shelter to remain open and take in

unwanted cats and dogs. And if you're not an artist, put the event on your calendar. Call 787-0466. More news as the date nears.

► Don't forget to tell restaurateurs and storekeepers, "The Reporter sent me." Their support keeps The Reporter free. □ L./G.D.

## Picture Yourself With The Reporter The Colosseum, Rome, Italy



Claudia and Marco sent us this very beautiful picture of Claudia with the Bonaire Reporter in front of the Colosseum in Rome, Italy. The night lighting makes the photo very special.

They write, "We live in Rome and we went there that night to celebrate our third month of marriage! We love Bonaire and when we are there on vacation (three times this year!) we always read it. We hope to see our picture published! Ciao."

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

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# Bonaire's NGOs Helping People Help Themselves

# Current Events



**James Finies,  
NGO Platform President**

In this edition of *The Reporter* we begin a new series about Bonaire's NGOs. Each month the Annemarie Klöne will tell you about one of Bonaire's lesser known NGO's to describe their work for the community.

The Bonaire NGO Platform is an umbrella organization to assist all non-governmental organizations to accomplish their tasks and acquire funds. Over a hundred NGOs are associated with this platform. Combining their strength helps to achieve their goals of improving the welfare on the island.

As you may know the term NGO is a catchall term for Non-Governmental Organizations, groups formed to do specific tasks and solve problems for the public good but who are not a part of any government department. They are usually set up as non-profit foundations.

First up: an introduction of NGO Platform Bonaire.

## The NGO Platform: Supporting All NGOs On The Island

Most non-governmental organizations (NGOs) on Bonaire are run by volunteers with too little time and even less money. They often establish needs in the community but lack the time, skills and means to develop a successful project to address these issues. Some of the NGOs are run out of people's homes, without so much as a computer.

In 2002, when it had become clear that the NGO field was in



*Preparing for a workshop*

need of support and coordination, the NGO Platform Bonaire was founded. The NGO Platform functions as a platform organization for all non-governmental organizations and issues on Bonaire.

Over a hundred NGOs are associated with the Platform, which means they can call or come by the office for information and support with projects, events and fundraisings, applications for funding, administrative tasks and lots more. Members can also use the meeting room, copy and fax machine and borrow equipment such as a beamer for presentations.

The NGO Platform office is staffed with two employees and is overseen by a board of seven to 11 members, who are all volunteers. They function as representatives of different parts of the NGO field, in order to create more coordination and get people to work together on their common goals.

The current president is James Finies, who has been an active member in the non-profit field for many years. He is also one of the founders of the Public Park behind the hospital and of the Bonairean Sports Federation.

The NGO Platform also develops projects of their own but which are for the benefit of the entire NGO field, such as workshops on how to apply for funding, an informative website and a Volunteer Center opening this January at the NGO Platform office.

Orlando Meijer is one of the members of the board. He has been with the Platform since 2005 and represents all the organizations for the elderly on Bonaire. Through his experience he developed the Volunteer Center for Bonaire.

"Many volunteer organizations are lacking sufficiently trained and experienced staff and have trouble coping with increasing

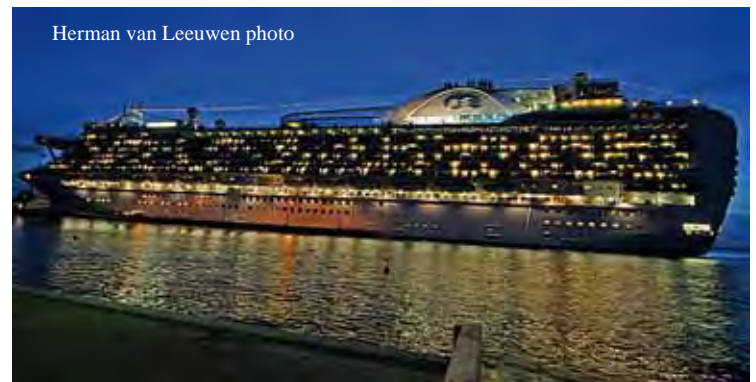
demands. For volunteers it is getting harder each day as more is asked of them and they run the risk of burning out. We want to increase the number of volunteers and support them in their work and also support the volunteer organizations."

The Volunteer Center is set up to get the right people for the right jobs and vice versa, but it also works in such a way that the NGO Platform can keep track of the volunteer field and jump in when they spot particular needs, for example by organizing workshops and by using the tools the Volunteer Center offers to set up a volunteer policy for the island. "I really hope the Volunteer Center will be an extra support system for the entire NGO-field," Orlando Meijer continues. "Bonaire has a very active NGO field, and with this project we hope to make things better for the volunteers and the volunteer organizations, so their projects can be implemented successfully and the whole Bonairean community can benefit!"

December 5, the International Day of the Volunteer, will be celebrated together with FESBO, which is organizing an event for this occasion. On this day the sign up for the Volunteer Center also starts, so everybody who is interested in volunteer work is welcome.

For more information on Bonaire's NGOs, the Volunteer Center, if you have ideas for projects or want to make a donation, you can visit the NGO Platform Bonaire office above Botica Bonaire at Kaya Grandi 23F, or call 717-2366. □

Story and photos by  
Annemarie Klöne



Herman van Leeuwen photo



TCB photo

The cruise ship season began on Bonaire with the arrival of the *Crown Princess* (top) two weeks ago. Since the last issue of *The Reporter* three large multi-thousand passenger cruise ships have called on the island. On November 2 the *Emerald Princess* made its first call and was presented with a welcome memento. The welcoming Bonaire delegation included Rob Sint Jago (Harbormaster); Roosje van der Hoek-Goeloe (TCB); Robert Trenidad and Ludwig Baletin (Customs); Erling Gosepa and Hugo Meijer (S.E.L. Maduro Shipping, the ship's agent); Arlene Engelhart and Elmer Martilia (Education) and Silvin Lomp (Bonaire Security Force). □ TCB Press Release

## Divi Flamingo gave over NAf 1,600 to their employees last month.



Divi photo

In the photo are some of employees of the Divi Resorts' "Give Me 5" program which gives \$5 dollars each time an employee gets his or her name mentioned favorably on the guests' comment card as exceeding guests expectation.

As an addition a NAf100 bonus was given to employees who completed the Tourism Awareness Program initiated by TCB. "It provides a great fresh look and training for everyone," a participant said, "and I even learned something about my own island," □

Press Release

The Bonaire Reporter is published every two weeks. Look for the next issue on November 22. And it's still

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# STYLISH WELL MAINTAINED VILLA

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This beautiful home is located in the quiet residential area of Hato which is also very safe for children. It's location guarantees good breezes. The house is furthermore situated in convenient proximity to the center of Kralendijk and many well known dive sites.

**Lay out:**

Entrance through wicket- and sliding gate to the cozy front porch. On the left side one finds the double garage as well as the spacious working area. One enters the home through the front door into the living room with colorful open kitchen which is equipped with double sink, fridge and stove. The living room is adjacent to the back porch from where the study is to be reached. The study can also very well be used as third bedroom. On the right side of the living room one finds the master bedroom with private bathroom. The guest bedroom with bathroom is situated on the left side of the home leading to the covered work shop and garage.

**Unique selling points:**

The quiet and friendly neighborhood  
The excellent state of repair and atmosphere  
The mature tropical garden with ample space for an extra apartment.

**Specifics:**

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