

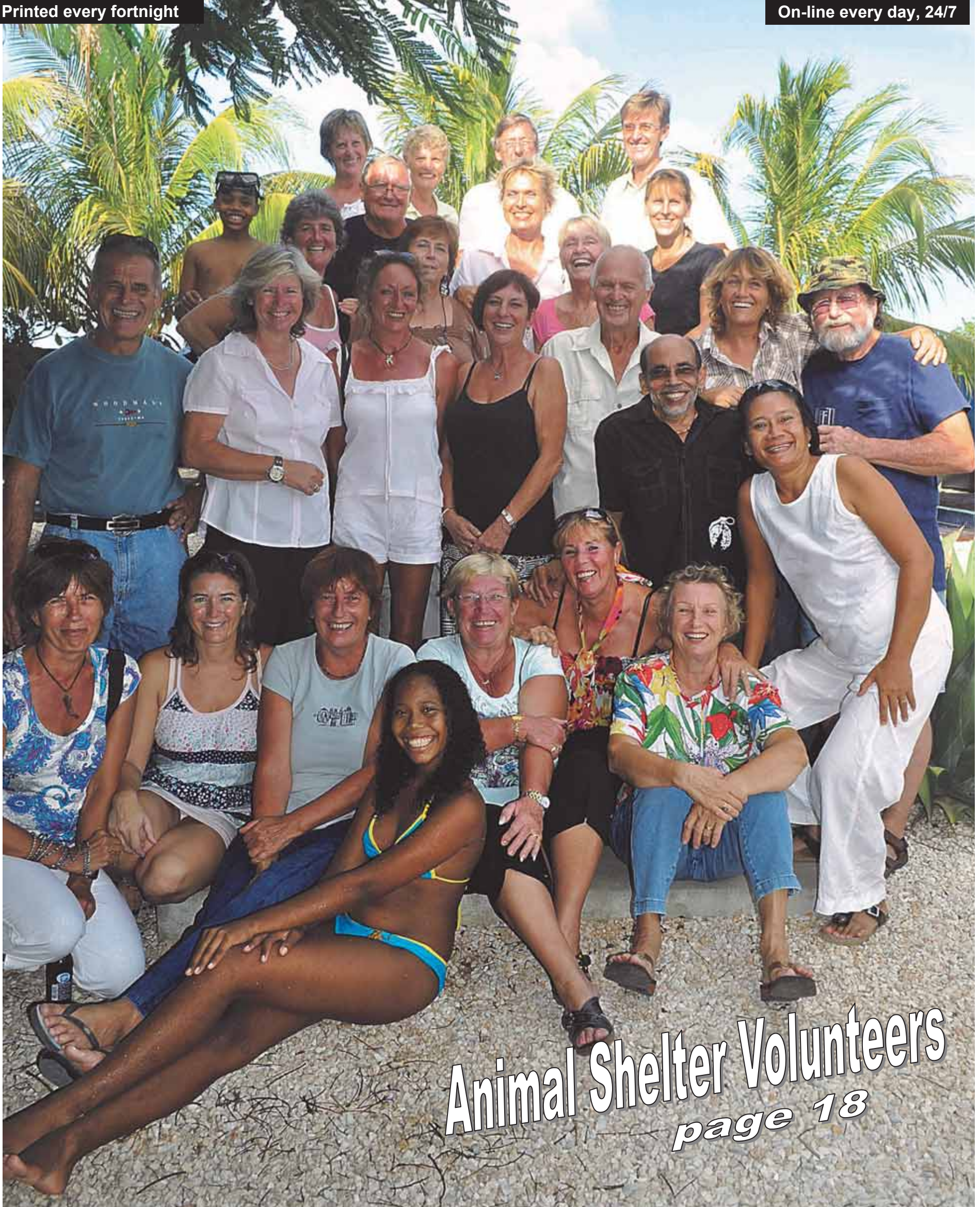
**It's Still
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BONAIRE July 30-August 13, 2010, Year 17, Issue 15
The REPORTER
Helping Bonaire Grow Responsibly

P.O. Box 407, Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles, Phone 790-6518, 786-6125, www.bonairereporter.com email: reporter@bonairenews.com Since 1994

Printed every fortnight

On-line every day, 24/7



Animal Shelter Volunteers
page 18

There will be no restrictions for use of the Bonairean flag and anthem following the island's integration with Holland in October,



stated a press release from the Regional Service Center (RSC). The Dutch tricolor flag will replace the Antillean flag. In the Netherlands, local governments, provinces and municipalities have their own flag and anthem. During official celebrations like Queen's Day the national anthem is played first, followed by the local anthem. The RSC recently received anxious questions about the survival of the flag and anthem of the island territory but stresses that the Netherlands has never, ever considered replacing the Bonaire flag and anthem. For the Dutch government, it is important that the character and culture of Bonaire is preserved. Flag, anthem and language are expressions of the island culture and will not be restricted.

►The September 3rd Referendum, to ask Bonairean residents what they think of the integration plan which the island leaders accepted from Dutch government, will cost \$250,000. Commissioner Anthony Nicolaas says the money is in the budget because the amount was already earmarked for an earlier Referendum which was cancelled. The electoral register for the September 3rd Referendum was completed last Thursday. According to the Referendum Regulations Dutch citizens who have been resident for 50 days before September 3 and are 16 years and older are eligible to vote. Non-Dutch residents who have a valid residence permit, with at least five years continuous residence in Bonaire at 50 days before the Referendum, can also vote.

► The Regional Service Centre

(RSC) sent a letter last month to all employees of the Island Territory of Bonaire, saying that it will take over from the Island Territory after October 10. The letter's contents led to controversy, questions and concerns especially from fire department personnel. Last week a follow-up letter was issued to clarify the first letter.

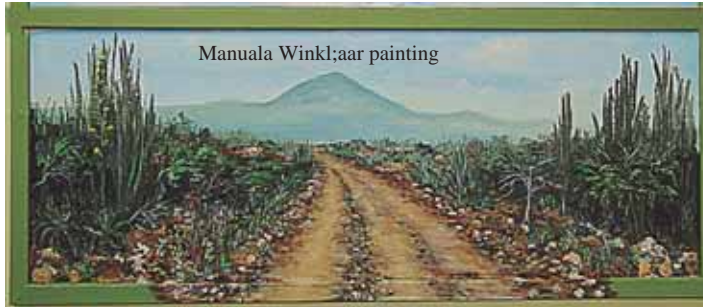
It specified that the position of the employee on October 10, rather than an arbitrary date, determines the employee's place in the new RSC-led organizations. Vacation days and other benefits accrued while working for the Island Government will still apply. The guiding principle is that there will be a job guarantee for all people who are currently employed by the Central or Island Governments when they switch to the RSC.

►The BES island RSC employees will, after 10-10-10, work for the Dutch Central Government.

The Netherlands will take over not only policy tasks but also implementation tasks like the fire and police departments and Customs. It's sort of like having the US House of Representatives be the boss of the workers in a small village fire brigade in rural America.

►Foreigners, European Dutch, St. Maarteners, Curaçaoleans and Arubans will have to have work permits or independent financial means if they want to live in Bonaire, St. Eustatius or Saba (BES islands) following the 10/10/10 transition. A spokesperson for Dutch Minister of Social Affairs and Employment, Piet Hein Donner, confirmed the rule last week. This ruling has upset some Antilleans on other Dutch Antilles islands.

►Commissioner of Health Marugia Janga announced that spraying insecticide to kill mosquitos, particularly the



► Proposed legislation, stalled for over a year, would protect nature and the environment and provide important benefits for the economy, public health and quality of life on Bonaire.

The *Aliansa Naturalesa di Bonaire* (The Bonaire Nature Alliance-Aliansa) has urged the Bonaire Executive Council (*Bestuurscollege*-the BC) to pass two important nature protection laws which have been languishing in draft form for over a year. Those laws are the **Island Resolution Marine Park Bonaire and the Island Resolution Nature Management Bonaire.**

In a recent letter to the government, Aliansa pointed out that the legislation to protect nature and the environment will affect Bonaire's economy, public health, and quality of life. While recognizing that the government has a burden of work to complete in 2010, Aliansa said that the laws are so important that the Bestuurscollege should fast-track approval.

The letter stated that the draft resolutions, which received careful scrutiny and public input, are vital to the economic sector. They would put in place specific regulations to protect and manage "the environmental assets - species diversity, quality of habitat, natural beauty - that are the signal draw" for Bonaire's tourism sector.

According to Aliansa, provisions of the resolutions "would affect public health by protecting water supplies from contamination and loss," and protect Bonaire's cultural heritage with provisions that "protect our traditional fishery, historically important species (conch, wayaka, sabal palm, among others) and threatened ecosystems (salinjas, mangrove wetlands, coral reefs, natural beaches)."

The legislation would also establish regulations which would safeguard natural areas "for the recreational enjoyment and spiritual well-being of the people of Bonaire."

Aliansa contended that the lack of legislation is resulting in turmoil and uncertainty, as evidenced by the recent incidents surrounding the development of Salina di Vlijt, and predicted that passage of the legislation would result in "better project outcomes and more clarity for permit-seekers, businesses and users, as well as clear direction for government agencies responsible for development, tourism, nature, infrastructure and public health." Aliansa is a network of nonprofit organizations on Bonaire, working in cooperation to protect and conserve nature and the environment.

Dengue fever-carrying *Aedes (Stegomyia) aegypti* mosquito will begin in the evening hours in the Tera Kora area.

The fumagant used is said not to harm human health.

Residents of Bonaire are advised to take precautions to eliminate standing water where mosquitos breed.

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Phone 790-8988
Phone 790-6518 / 786-6518
Available on-line at:
www.bonairereporter.com

**Printed Every Fortnight,
On-line Every day, 24/7
Next edition printing on
August 9, 2010**

**Story and Ad deadline:
August 6, 2010, 12 noon**



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POWER PLUS FOR BONAIRE PART 3 WIND POWER

Bonaire's 12 new wind turbines are perhaps the most visible symbol of the revolution in Bonaire's electrical power system. They loom above the rural landscape along the road to Rincon dwarfing other man-made constructions on the island.

You may wonder why they are not turning as you pass. They have been tested and found theoretically able to produce almost 100% of the island's current electrical power needs. But, for stable electric power, an oil-fired generator must also be running.

The wind turbines won't be connected to the Bonaire grid until unrelated problems with the oil-fired engines in the power plant are resolved. According to our sources, the island government is unwilling to accept turnover of the plant until all its problems have been resolved.

THE WIND TURBINE SYSTEM

- The 12 Enercon turbines can provide a total of 10.8 million watts (10.8 mw.), Each one has a power of 900,000 watts (900 kw.) Contrast this with the wind turbine at Sorobon, which has been used for training and tests, which supplies only a third as much, 330 kw. This is enough power to supply the more than 5,000 homes and business on the island... when the wind is blowing.

- They are Enercon E44, direct drive turbines (eliminating the gearbox problems that have crippled the wind turbines on Curaçao).

- The distance between each turbine is



Jan Spekkers photos

250 meters. (This minimizes turbulence resulting in wear and energy loss). The line of turbines is about 3 km. long.

The design of the wind farm took into account the comprehensive environmental study that was done before building. Additionally, power lines are underground and noise is minimized. Some environmentalists are concerned that bats and birds may blunder into the blades. That situation should be monitored when op-

eration starts.

Wind power is intermittent; it's just the nature of, well, nature. Due largely to the unpredictability of weather, turbines typically generate only about one-fifth of the energy they'd make if they actually ran 24/7. That said, energy planners have devised tactics to make wind power reliable. One way the Bonaire power plant will do this is with batteries: four shipping containers full of special batteries and their control apparatus. It's the largest battery bank in the Caribbean.

During normal operation the oil fired power plant will be in operation as well and can be powered up or down depending on wind conditions. The designers of the system figure that, in the long term, 40% of the island's power will be produced by the trade winds.

The cost? Industry experts say that the latest turbines able to generate pollution-free electricity at less than 5 US\$ cents (NAf .0875) per kilowatt-hour, significantly less than even the most efficient oil-fired plant.

Science supports that strategy. A recent Stanford University study found that about one-third of the electricity wind farms generate can be counted on as a reliable source of around-the-clock power.

Bonaire's wind park is the cornerstone for the sustainable development of Bonaire and, along with its advanced fossil/bio fuel power plant, can make Bonaire an example for the rest of the world. Now if only it can start providing us electricity...

□

G.D.



The size of wind turbines dwarf the men installing the equipment.



Power lines from the turbines completely cross the island.



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On the Island Since... December 1990 - Mary DiSanza and Walter Stark

“It’s her fault! I was sitting on the couch in our home in Denver, Colorado, drinking a cup of coffee and reading the newspaper, watching the pack of November snow outside behind the glass door, where Mary was deicing the windshield of the car... She came running in and said ‘it’s not fun anymore! I’m tired of chipping off ice of the windshield and instead of going back and forth we should just move to the tropics!’

I was working with a dive shop in Denver, teaching and running group travel to the Caribbean. The two of us worked on computers during the day in Colorado and at night we taught diving classes in a swimming pool and during the weekends we did the open water dives. We had both been to different Caribbean islands, but not both to the same. We came down on vacation - Mary had never been here and I wanted her to see it first. Mary’s first thing was safety and she was very impressed with what one small island could do preserving the reef. While we were on vacation at Sunset Beach they

asked me: ‘Can you drive a boat? See that mooring over there? That’s Ibo’s Beach - take the dive boat and these six divers over there - my dive master didn’t show up!’ *He laughs.* ‘I brought the boat back in one piece and all the people and... I got the job! It was wild! We went back, sold the cars and the house in four weeks and put a bunch of stuff in storage and we came down to Bonaire in December. Anton van den Heetkamp had said we had to be back before Christmas.

The first eight years were fun. There weren’t many rules and as long as you didn’t bother anybody, nobody bothered you. Everybody helped everybody and people took responsibility for themselves. If you were running, people would stop and ask you ‘Do you need a ride?’ ‘No, I’m running!’ ‘Yes, I can see that - you must be late!’ We didn’t lock the house, we always left the keys in the car and nothing would ever happen. It was quiet - a better quality of life and it was a lot more challenging. It took you a day to go to all the stores to

get your groceries - La Portuguesa, Carniceria Latina, the bakery - there would be cornflakes, but no milk, there would be lettuce, but no salsa!’ ‘Back then’ *Mary says* ‘everybody - all the nationalities - were together. You got to see the world through lots of different eyes - it was so much more fun!’

Mary and I managed the dive shop at Sunset for nine years until Sunset was closed and... if it was still open, I would still be there! I started a small technical diving company - Rec Tek Scuba; we specialize in mixed gas dive training and rebreathers. The deep mixed gas is trimix - helium, oxide and nitrogen. We use the helium to reduce the narcosis and to lower the oxide percent so we can go deeper. We do the deeper searches for people when somebody is missing and we recover remains for the families so they can have some closure. That’s very seldom though. Our clients are a certain amount of people that wants to go deeper than the average recreation diver and we’re very lucky our reefs go very deep. There’s still coral at 330 feet - one hundred meters and we have a very nice wreck at 200 feet, so we have lots of things to see. We also found a lot of artifacts like old anchors from the salt days. We get many students from Europe and the



Mary and Walter - Then and Now

“We didn’t lock the house, we always left the keys in the car and nothing would ever happen.”

(Continued on page 5)






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On the Island Since (Continued from page 4)

States; they come down here to get the training, mainly because the water is nice and warm and clear. The dives are usually one and a half hour to three hours and in the States or Europe you would get pretty cold. Here you can swim around and see things. If you're diving a wreck in the Atlantic you don't see anything – you're just hanging on a line, freezing... Here it's much, much nicer!

"Well", Mary says, "Walter has Rec Tek Scuba and I have my own company – I do e-mail correspondence and reservations for hotels and resorts. So many smaller places can't afford to have a reservations department, you have such a small window 24-48 hours and if you don't answer the people, you lose their business, so, that's how I got started. I could see a lot of small places missing out on the business because they didn't have the staff or the people to answer quickly. People are very impatient these days!" *Mary and Walter belong to this special group of people that came here – not to make money – but because they fell in love with a virgin, innocent island with a very slow pace, beautiful laid back people and an ocean filled with fish and wondrous creatures.*

"When we arrived here, there was a marine park" Walter says 'but the dive shops were the ones who were taking care of the moorings. Bonaire has done so many firsts like they stopped the spear fishing, protected their reefs by putting the mooring system – so that people didn't destroy the reef with anchoring and several of the hotels have their own waste water treatments – at least it's not all going down the reef. Unfortunately they're undoing what they did. The government doesn't do anything to help protect the reef; sewerage treatment and the unrestricted fishing just cleaned out all the

larger fish and now they're cleaning out the small ones because there's no larger ones left. It's like the reef is a beautiful home – but no one is living there. It's really sad and hard to watch. I don't think Bonaire has done many new firsts recently. The government should have concentrated more on protecting the environment and on eco tourism. They should have limited the number of guestrooms – tourist rooms – because now the market is so diluted; they could have kept it more exclusive. It's not so much local people building and making money with apartments – it's off-island people. Well, I'm an off-island person with my own business and it's hard to throw stones."

"It would be nice" Mary says, "to retain a small town atmosphere, because in bigger places people tend to be colder and more private – not so friendly. People would say 'Bondia' and coming from a big city, it took me eight months to find out people didn't want anything from me – they just wished me a good day!" When we go back to the States it's fun because you're just visiting, but I couldn't live there anymore because the winters are brutal" Walter says "if I would go back... it would be Arizona or New Mexico where it's warm all year around and not so many people... like Bonaire!" He looks pensive: "It's kind of scary to hear people predict that the population could double in the next five to ten years... how it's going to change the island and who will those people be? Will they all be from the same country? There's so much unknown right now..." *Mary smiles a sweet smile:* "... it was all unknown when we came here – there's one thing for sure: On Bonaire I've never been bored – if you are, it's your own fault! We both have motor cycles and we both ride and we enjoy it – you see the island in a whole different way.



Walter, Mary and their pack

We've also explored almost the whole western coast at 200 feet, 60 meters – lots of old stuff like ballast stone piles and pieces and parts of ships and anchors. And now we're doing more traveling in South America. Before Chavez we went frequently to Venezuela, now it's Peru, Ecuador and we're looking at Argentina. I'll stay here and see what's going to happen – hopefully those 15,000 people don't move here, but the only thing that never changes is that there will always be changes.

Compared to the rest of the world Bonaire is still fairly quiet and safer than most places and the costs of living – for an island – is not too bad and the majority of the island is not built on yet – it's so pretty, so quiet and a million stars at night. I feel fortunate to live here. We need space, all humans need

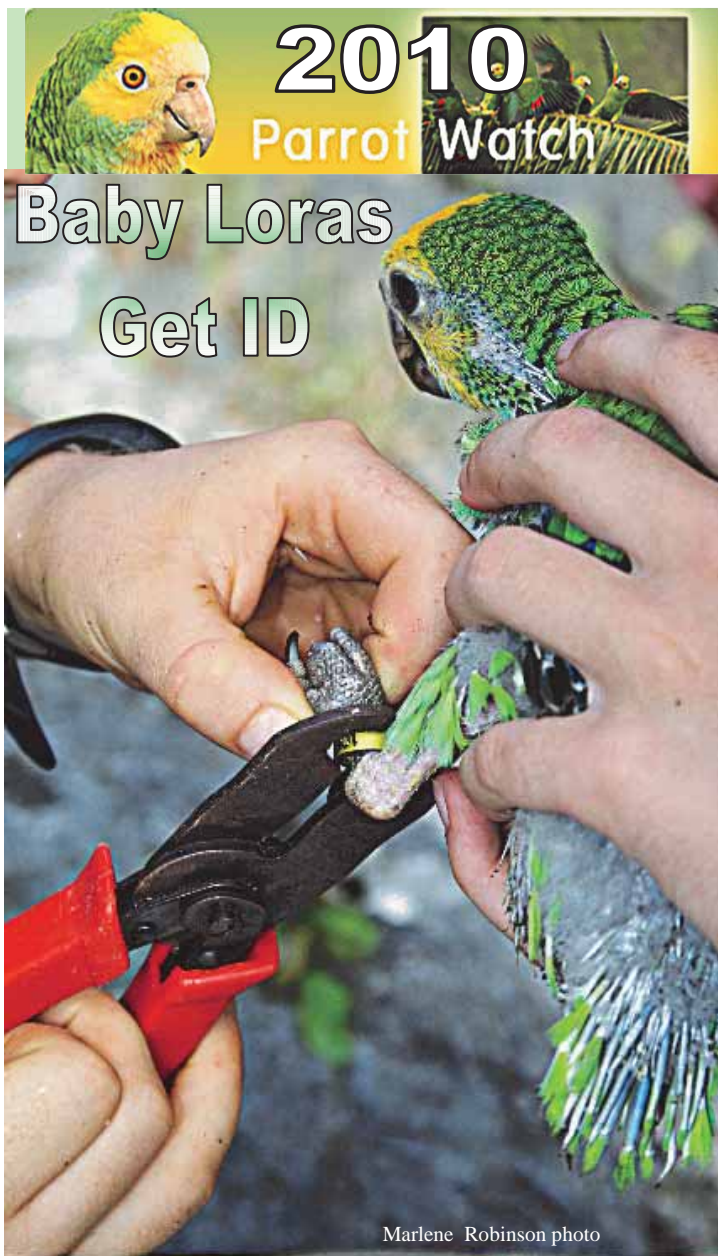
space.

We have few friends from those early days, Ernst Schilling, Jack and Karen, Marlis, George and Laura and some of the dive masters are still around. All those people were adventurous spirits and self sufficient – they belonged here and made it their home. Some people want it to be two worlds here – they want all the conveniences of home and Bonaire's ambiance – but, you just can't have it all. No... you have to learn to live in one world – this one." ■

Story & photos by
Greta Kooistra



					
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Marlene Robinson photo

The Lora chicks that remain in the nests are now entering what seems to me to be some kind of “adolescent” phase in their development. As well as referring to their appearance, it also applies to their attitude! They are finally beginning to resemble adult parrots as their quills burst open to reveal some stunningly coloured feathers. They are also becoming stronger and more mobile and have started to develop individual personalities already. As they become grumpy, noisy, and as they try to answer back, it’s definitely time to dress them up with their own piece of Lora “bling.”

We ring the Lora chicks when they are around 40 days old, once they have run the gauntlet of fending for themselves in the nest as young chicks and are so strong that we’re confident they will make it into the wild. If the Lora chicks make to around 40 days old it means they have escaped being eaten by cats and rats, and they have competed well with their siblings for the precious food delivered by their parents. By this point there are few threats other than poaching that will prevent them from making it into the wild.

Putting rings on the chicks is a very important part of the research work being done on the Lora. As well as being able to differentiate between chicks in a nest, it allows us to identify individuals in the wild after they’ve left the nest. We can then tell how old they are and where they came from. We can do this because the rings that we put on them are anodised (colour coded) and individually numbered. They are very different from the silver rings that were put on pet Loras. Although it might be near impossible to read the numbers on a ring on a Lora’s leg from afar, the colour of the ring is pretty easy to spot with a pair of binoculars. The combinations that we use allow us to get accurate information about the individual Lora just from seeing this...we might even have given it a name!

As well as all this information, ringing Bonaire’s Loras will help give us an idea of population structure and how long the Loras will live in the wild. We already know that they will live as long as 30-40 years in captivity; maybe they live longer in their natural environment?

The first Lora chicks were ringed in 2006 on Bonaire, so it will be a long time until we work out how long those Loras will live for. I think I will have retired by then! What we may be able to discover in the more immediate future is at what age Loras start to breed. Again, in captivity, they begin breeding at three to four years old, so now is the time for us to be looking for those first ringed Loras to be making their own nests. Will they behave like sea turtles and return to the same nesting area? Do they pair with birds of similar age? The answers that these small pieces of “bling” can provide about Lora life history are endless!

At this time of year, many Loras are coming into town to feed-both in Kralendijk and Rincon, so it’s a great opportunity to get your binoculars out to look out for a Lora with rings. As it is the younger Loras who tend to “hang out” in town and cause trouble, your chances are even greater!

If you see a Lora with rings, try to photograph it if possible, and send your picture to info@parrotwatch.org. Pay close attention to what colour ring is on which leg and it will provide us with a wealth of information

of the Loras whereabouts. Good luck! □

Rhian Evans

Evans is leading the Parrotwatch project team in its 5th year on Bonaire.



FIRST BARREL OF HERRING AUCTIONED FOR NAF. 5000 BENEFITING THE FOUNDATION FOR THE BLIND

A Dutch tradition benefited Bonaire’s less fortunate. On Sunday, 27th June, **Restaurant It Rains Fishes and Philip’s Cooking, Catering & Organizing** organized the 1st Official Dutch Herring Party. Traditionally the first barrel – brought ashore by BES commissioner Henk Kamp and Island Governor Glenn Thodé – was auctioned and the master of all auctions, Harry van Ouweelen, made it a spectacular auction.

The proceeds of the auction were NAF 5.000,00 which was presented to the Foundation for the Blind on Bonaire (*Fundashon Kuido pa Bista i Oido*). Around 150 people enjoyed a well organized party with free herring and Dutch *korenwijn*. snacks and the music of DJ Eric.

The herring party was also sponsored by Harbourtown Real Estate, Bon Bida Apartments, Duyn Bouwbedrijf and Wiebe’s Haringhandel Amsterdam. □ *press release*

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Letters to the Editor

OPEN LETTER- 100TH VISIT TO BONAIRE

Greetings all,

Little did I know in 1976 that my first visit to Bonaire to study land snails under the sponsorship of Lt. Governor St. Yago and dive with Captain Don Stewart would lead to a career interconnected with Bonaire and to some 100 more return trips! Bonaire became the focus of case study after case study of marine management and biodiversity in my Harvard University environmental management program, while dozens of research and study groups, students, magazine writers and photographers that I brought to the island all fell in love with the landscapes and the emerald sea of Bonaire

The early years of the Bonaire Marine Park and STINAPA with Roberto Henson, Eric Newton and others were a great adventure and while my efforts with the Carco Project and Mareculta were not as successful as hoped, both helped to lay the groundwork for future efforts around the world as to best practices in that field. The BMP's pioneering leadership in education, moorings, gloves policies, banning light sticks and spearfishing, creating the "Nature Fee" and so much more led to Bonaire's well deserved world wide recognition.

The efforts to save Klein Bonaire were a testament to international collaboration and stand to this day as the Hallmark of what a

committed group of concerned people can accomplish. It is indeed true that Bonaire is to conservation of nature as Greenwich is to time - with credit to Captain Don.

Watching Habitat grow and prosper has been something to behold. It is a very special place to a lot of people thanks to the steady hands of Don, Henry, Albert and Jack Chalk, a dynamic hotel staff and dedicated, talented dive guides. It is Jack to whom the island has turned again and again to serve on yet another committee and assist with yet another project. Besides founding Habitat, Captain Don has perfected the art, the craft and the science of sustainable living with Janet. The world could learn a lot from Don if it would just slow down and look and listen about such subjects as drip irrigation, the use of shade cloth, proper composting techniques, sewage, plant cultivation and off the grid energy production.

When I stepped off the Continental jet Saturday morning on what was the start of my Centennial trip to Bonaire, I waxed eloquent for the days of the ALM DeHaviland Twin Otter - the ABC Commuter- and its high pitched whine that for so many years was my 'magical mystery ride' to Bonaire from Curaçao. ALM was "our" airline and I miss it still. Over the years this gem of an island has become my second home as I have made many lasting friendships.

I owe much of my success to my students and field assistants and to the island and to the wonderful people of Bonaire, and especially to Habitat, Albert Romijn, Captain Jack Chalk and Captain Don Stewart. Mucho masha danki!!!

George Buckley



Picture Yourself With The Reporter... At the DMZ-Republic of Korea



During the current growing tension between North and South Korea, *Bonaire Reporter* commentator Jiri Lausman paid a visit to a last relic of the Cold War, the DMZ - the Demilitarized Zone - designated after the Korean War two kilometers away from the truce line on each side of the border. During the past years, four infiltration tunnels were discovered, built by the North Korean army below the DMZ. In the picture is Lausman with a safety helmet, before descending to the 3rd tunnel, running through the hard granite bedrock at a depth of about 73 meters below ground. Capable of moving a full division per hour, plus their weapons, it was evidently designed for a surprise attack on Seoul, the capital of South Korea, located only 44 km of the border. ■

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To Maggie Wynter, who following her High School graduation will attend Northeastern University



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DO YOU SUDOKU?

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. Answer on page 17.

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

► **There is a more environmentally friendly way to deal with mosquitoes, local environmentalists told *The Reporter*.** Instead of spraying insecticide which kills both the good insects as well as the bad, a spray can be applied to the waters where the mosquitoes breed. The sprays, including AGNIQUE® MMF and others, are not poisonous. They form a very thin film on the water's surface to modify the surface tension to stop mosquito larvae from maturing. Go to www.mosquitommf.com

► **Starting February 18, 2011, Continental Airlines will offer a second non-stop flight from Newark to Bonaire.**

- **Southbound** — Flight #1553 departs Newark Friday night at 11:55 pm and arrives Bonaire on Saturday morning at 4:22 am.
- **Northbound** — Flight #15 departs Bonaire on Saturday at 6 am and arrives Newark at 10:44 am.

Last return is scheduled for April 2, 2011. This flight schedule is in addition to their existing schedule (identical flight times) that departs Newark on Saturday nights, arrives Bonaire Sunday mornings, with the return to Newark later that morning.

► **Within three weeks Aruba's airport departure tax will be reduced from \$37 to \$20 for flights between Aruba, Bonaire and Curaçao.** The Ministers of Tourism of the three islands want to attract more passengers, said Aruba Minister of Tourism, Labor and Transportation, Otmar Oduber.

► **Usually reliable Insel Air got a double whammy last week** after a ground crewman drove a MD80 jet into a mobile air-conditioning unit, damaging both wings of the jet. Then the airplane that replaced it had problems with the navigational wiring after the uneventful flight from Curaçao to St. Maarten. Technicians flown in from Curaçao decided that the wiring problem had to be fixed on Curaçao so the aircraft returned to Curaçao without passengers.

The airline paid for the care of passengers who were stranded. After two days of repair the MD80 damaged by the ground crew made a test flight on Tuesday afternoon and was put back in service.

Passengers will receive a letter from Insel Air explaining what took place and offering their apologies. Although European rules for compensation do not apply to local airlines Insel Air is considering making 'a gesture' towards its inconvenienced clients.

► **THE HAGUE — KLM, ArkeFly and Martinair can no longer use technical force majeure to wriggle out of passenger claims** if a flight is delayed more than three hours upon arrival in Amsterdam. A cantonal judge in The Hague ruled against ArkeFly in a recent case. Until now ArkeFly, KLM and Martinair have denied that they have an obligation to pay passengers compensation up to €600 by using the argument of technical failure and *force majeure*. The companies are obligated to pay, according to existing European rules, even for overseas flights. For long distance flights the compensation is up to €600. The companies also have to accommodate the stranded or delayed passengers and pay for their accommodations.

► **Curaçao Airport Holding will finance two projects in an attempt to establish of**



► **Rotary International's highest honor is to be recognized as a Paul Harris Fellow. Recently, the Paul Harris honor was awarded to Rotary Club members Marisela Croes, Sara Matera and Ruud Vermeulen for their generosity and overall extraordinary contributions to the community.**

The award is named after Paul Harris, one of the Founders of Rotary who very involved in the development of Rotary which grew from a single club in Chicago in 1905 into the global organization we know today. According to the Rotary website The Paul Harris Award was set up in memory of his work to recognize outstanding contributions to the ideals of Rotary. It can be awarded by a Rotary Club to any person, whether a Rotarian or not, who is deemed worthy of the honor. A Paul Harris Award costs \$1,000 which is paid to Rotary Foundation. The recipient is known as a Paul Harris Fellow and receives a medalion on a blue and gold ribbon, a special lapel badge and a citation signed by the President of R.I. and the Chairman of Rotary Foundation Trustees.

a 'spaceport' on Curaçao. CAH-director Maurice Adriaens explains that if Curaçao wants to realize it's own "spaceport" someone will have to take the first step. Potential foreign investors want to see that Curaçao commits itself to such a project, says Adriaens. According to him, the runway of Hato airport is good enough for the space flights to take off and land. Bonaire is downrange of the spacecraft launch trajectory.

First \$70,000 will be made available to draw up the necessary space travel legislation. According to Adriaens, Curaçao does not have any legislation in this field yet and laws will have to be made to enable space travel via our airspace – if the island wants a "spaceport." A second project costing \$350,000 will be for the American builder of the spaceship to start to acquire the necessary permits in order to export the spacecraft.

► **THE HAGUE—It's been six weeks since the national elections in the Netherlands and there is still no new government** nor near-term prospects to form one. The liberal, labor, centrist and green parties said last Tuesday that 15 days of talks on coalition formation had failed. "It broke down on finances," said Liberal VVD leader Mark Rutte, whose party came out on top of the June 9 elections with 31 seats out of 150 in the lower house of Dutch parliament on public TV. "There will be no Purple-Plus cabinet," Rutte said, using the Dutch nickname for a centre-left coalition. The Antilles situation did not seem to be a factor in the formation talks. Dutch political analysts say the complex coalition negotiations could take months.

► **HAGUE--After the failure of center-left coalition talks in the Netherlands, Queen Beatrix has appointed Minister of State Ruud Lubbers as the new coalition negotiator.**

His task is to investigate which combination of parties will command enough support in the Second Chamber to ensure a stable government. The Queen has asked him to report back "at very short notice." It has been six weeks since the June 9 general election, and still no new government has been formed

THE HAGUE-- In a strange turn of events last week **Desi Bouterse was elected Surinam's new president.**

Bouterse, a former military dictator and convicted drugs trafficker, emerged as the winner of the May general election with 23 of the 51 seats in Parliament. He is not welcome in the Netherlands, said Foreign Minister Maxime Verhagen in a statement. While the Netherlands will respect the result of Suriname's democratic election it will only have contact with Bouterse out of necessity, Verhagen said. "We cannot ignore the fact that Bouterse has been sentenced to 11 years in jail in the Netherlands for drugs smuggling," the caretaker minister said. "He is not welcome in the Netherlands other than to serve his prison term." Verhagen acknowledged that, as president, Bouterse enjoys immunity under international law. Before the election Bouterse was also on trial for his role in killing 15 political opponents in December 1982.

Many Bonaire residents are from Surinam. The South American country became a Dutch colony in the 17th century and gained full independence in 1975.



Affordable home under construction

► **This weekend, Friday and Saturday, July 30 and 31, from 9 am to 5 pm, there will be an Open House of the newly completed "affordable house" sponsored by Bonaire Sunshine Homes.** It's at Kaya Nikel in Nawati. Just after turning onto the Santa Barbara Road take the first left, a dirt road, then a second left and you'll see the house on the right.. There will be free

BonQuiz #34



Flamingo Road

Unless you look down as you wander through downtown along Kaya Grandi you will miss these flamingos in the sidewalk....Yes! Years ago coral "rock" was used to create art and souvenirs. As children, my sisters and I would paint rocks and sell them to tourists at Zee Bad, the old Flamingo Beach Hotel. The coral rock is also found at the entrance to Landuis Karpata and inside Slagbaai's buildings where cut-off stag horn coral has been placed vertically in the cement.

Q) Who is the artist who created these flamingos? When was it done? Answer on page 17

BonQuiz appears regularly in *The Reporter*. It's prepared by Christie Dovale of Island Tours. To arrange a tour, contact her via her website:

IslandToursBonaire.com Phone 717-4435 or 795-3456
Email: christie-dovale@hotmail.com



snacks and music. The house prices start at Naf 97.500. Those who sign up to build this summer will receive a free septic tank. More information in the Sunshine Homes ad on page 6.

► Show your support for the sport that is making Bonaire famous.-Windsurfing. Take in some of the events at the **ProKids Freestyle Competition that begins at Lac on Wednesday, July 28.** See story on page 10.

► **Don't forget to say to our advertisers, "I heard about you in *The Reporter*." It's their support that keeps *The Reporter* free.** If you have a favorite shop that doesn't advertise remind them that they can improve their business if they do. ■G./L. D.



BONAIREAN VOICES

BONAIREAN FOOTBALL

We can still remember the emotions in the Soccer City Stadium in Johannesburg, Africa. The sounds from the vuvuzela horns during the soccer games are still fresh in our memory. But it's not over. The pressure is still on. Today it's time for Bonaire. The play-offs leading to the champion soccer team in Bonaire have begun. Sometimes we forget where some of these Bonairean champions started off. Most of them began when they were youngsters of only five years and they grew with the game until today they are young men of 17.

Today we will introduce you to the Amboina Dolphins soccer team founded on November 8, 2003 by the late Phil Katzev, his wife, Laraine, and Mr. Ricardo "Cado" Alberto (49). Ricardo, known as Cado, is the president, trainer and coach of the Amboina Dolphins. The team has total of 42 children between the ages of five to 13 years. The kids are divided into separate age groups. At five years they start getting acquainted with the soccer ball. From six to eight years old they become part of the "Baby" soccer team, then from nine to 11 years they're on the "Super Baby" soccer team. Since 2005 the Amboina Dolphins have won awards like the Orfik Awards for "Baby" and "Super Baby" soccer tournaments. In 2006 the Dolphins won the Lifida (Aruba Soccer Bond) Award and 1st place in the International Tournament Award. In 2007 Lifida organized the International Soccer Tournament, and the Dolphins won 3rd place.

As "Cado" Alberto tells us, "In 2007 a star was born in the Amboina Dolphins Soccer Team. Jurgen "Cuchi" Rojer at the age of 13 was scouted by the Aruban soccer team selection for advance training in Carabobo, Venezuela. Today he is a one of the best player in the Juventus soccer team in Bonaire. While he was in Venezuela his training started at 8 in the morning, but before that, at 6 am, he and the others had to sit at the breakfast table to eat oatmeal, corn flakes, wheat bread, eggs, fruit and natural juices. For lunch they had chicken with mashed potatoes, vegetables and the famous Venezuelan arepitas. In the early evening they could choose from an extensive menu of fish, vegetables, milk, juices. Then after that, no more eating until 6 the next morning. An athlete's diet is very important for good performance in the field. In 2008 the Amboina Dolphins won the Luus Swaen Cup for Third Place. In 2009 the team trained with other Bonairean teams to prepare for the 2010 event in Aruba, the Vale Hernandez Cup Tournament organized from the 24th to 26th of September 2010. The Amboina Dolphins soccer team will travel with 30 kids, departing on the 24th of September at 10 in the morning and they'll return the 26th. With good discipline we will triumph.

I believe nutrition is very important for children. It has to start at home. Children train from 10 until 11:30 in the morning. Some parents bring their children to the

field and the child hasn't even eaten yet or with a pastechi in hand. It's important for the children to have eaten two hours before training. I think it will be very effective to give parents information about children's eating habits, especially if they want to become athletes. We invite parents to come to our meetings or information nights to learn how to help the child in the sport field and how to take care of their children's soccer material. Only some of the parents come to assist. Mr. Nefthali Rier (35), another of our coaches, has been with the Amboina Dolphins soccer team for three years already and has a long background as a sports leader. He is a trainer, physiologist, child psychologist and has a background in nutrition." As Nefthali says, "I hope Bonaire can organize a soccer tournament for children between six to 17 years old."

Cado continues. "The main and most important issue in soccer for youngsters is to give the child the opportunity to develop in this sport. We have to organize tournaments for the children and not for our own personal goals. If the board has some problems it shouldn't reflect on the children because it could influence the



The Amboina Dolphins Soccer Team

children in a negative way with negative consequences. Let's contribute to the welfare of the children, and indeed in this way we are helping our country, Bonaire."

So as grown ups we have to do some thinking about our sports here in Bonaire. Do you have some thoughts already

how you can help? ■
Story & photo by Sio-mara Albertus



Send your comments to *The Bonaire Reporter*, P.O. Box 407, Bonaire, or email reporter@bonairenews.com.

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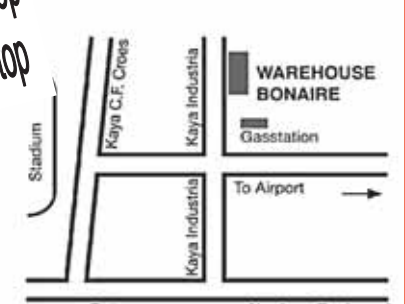
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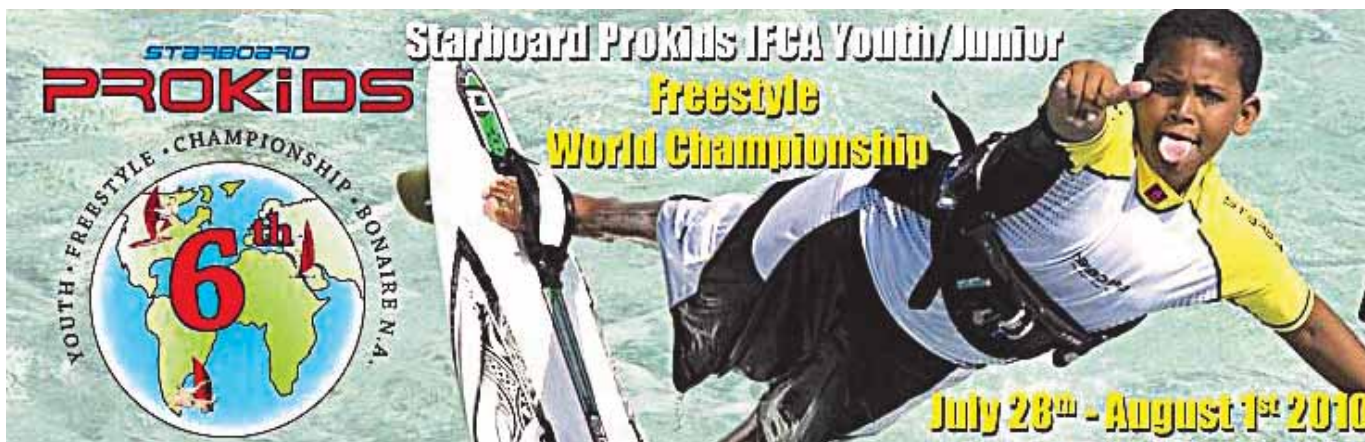


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The Island of Bonaire welcomes competitors from all over the globe to the STARBOARD PROKIDS IFCA Youth/Junior Freestyle World Championship event this week. Bonaire's week-long event includes competition, music, food and beach culture. Organizers invite island residents and visitors to visit Sorobon Beach to cheer on the competitors and take part in the after-race events. A schedule of the action is at right.

Bonaire is to windsurfing as the Dominican Republic is to baseball. Youngsters from these places vault international boundaries to become superstars of their sport. It's not that Bonaire kids are born to windsurf. They are trained and coached almost from the time they can walk to handle a board and sail like an extension of their bodies. Of course it helps that the conditions on Lac bay are close to perfect when it comes to learning to windsurf. But it's really the dedication of individuals like Elvis Martinus and Patun Sargoza who are there to guide and instruct. ■ G.D.



A product of the emphasis on Bonaire kids windsurfing is 15-year-old Youp Schmit. He has reached the pinnacle of his young windsurf career as he prepares to enter his first Professional Windsurfing Association (PWA) European event in Fuerteventura July 27-August 2.

Along with his superstar teammates, Taty Frans, Kiri Thode and Tonky Frans, Endro Finies is also making his PWA European debut. Youp at age 15 is the youngest competitor. Fuerteventura is best known for incredible winds and very challenging windsurf conditions. Youp has trained since last year for his entry into the Pro level in the PWA. When he last spoke to this roving reporter he felt he had reached a point in his career where he needed to push his skills to the limit. While he won his class in previous Pro Kids Events Youp realizes the PWA offers a greater challenge. He is excited to make his debut and hopes to let the windsurf world see a glimpse of his brilliance. ■ Ann Phelan

Daily Schedule

Wednesday July 28
14:00 - 16:00 Registration on the Beach
17:00 - 17:30 Press Meeting
18:00 - 18:30 Opening Ceremony
19:00 - 22:00 Domino, Bolas and Live Music

Thursday July 29
09:30 Skippers Meeting
10:00 - 17:00 Freestyle / Slalom Competition
18:00 - 22:00 BBQ, Steel band, Night Sailing, Bolas and Domino

Friday July 30
09:30 Skippers Meeting
10:00 - 17:00 Freestyle / Slalom Competition
18:00 - 22:00 Happy Hour, Live Band, Bolas and Domino

Saturday July 31
09:30 Skippers Meeting
10:00 - 17:00 Freestyle / Slalom Competition
10:00 - 17:00 On the beach: Kids program, Panchito Club, Bouncer World
18:00 - 22:00 Latin Night, Bolas and Domino

Sunday August 1
09:30 Skippers Meeting
10:00 - 14:00 Finals Freestyle and Slalom
10:00 - 16:00 Beach Festival
17:00 - 22:00 Awards Ceremony, Live Music

Public events in *italics*




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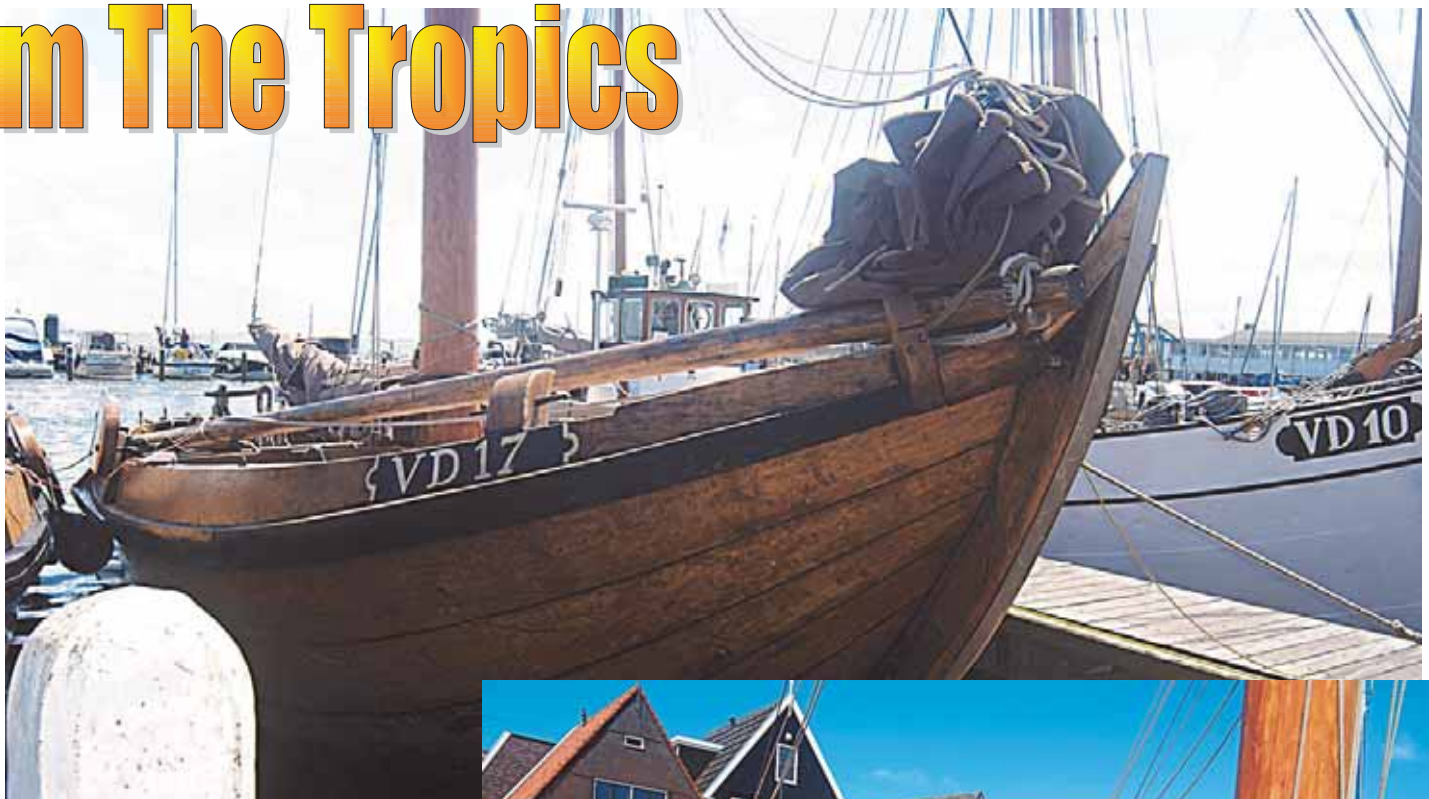
It was not too long ago that the VD 17 with its blood red sails was a familiar sight cruising the leeward coast of Bonaire. This large wooden vessel, called a *kwak*, is one of only four that still exist. These stout workboats hail from the North Holland town of Volendam, thus the “VD” designation.

In its heyday, Volendam was a fishing capital hauling in enormous amounts of eel for the Dutch dinner table. To accomplish that task, the *Volendammer kwak* was born. These sail-powered fishing boats were built to withstand the rigors of the challenging Zuiderzee, now called the IJsselmeer. Fishermen hauled in a ton of eel at a time, storing the valuable catch in bins below deck until delivered ashore. The crews were small, typically one or two sailors and perhaps a young boy on board as an apprentice. The eel were brought in with a *kwakkuij*, a large net hung from two poles. The net was dragged from the stern of the boat, and when filled with eel, pulled on board by hand. It was arduous work. The prowess of these hardy Dutch sailors assured the economic success of North Holland fishing villages like Volendam.

The VD 17, built in 1919, is one of 243 *kwakken* from this golden era. The boat is immense. It weighs 30 tons, has a beam of 17 feet and an overall length of 52 feet. Two sails, a gaff-rigged main and a large jib, comprise over 450 square feet of sail. The boat was used until 1958 when it, like the rest of the *kwak* fleet, could no longer compete with modern fishing boats. This proud, powerful sailboat went through years of neglect until Fred Ros, currently a resident of Bonaire, found it rotting in a field. He and a number of volunteers began restoring the boat in Spakenburg, the Netherlands.

By 1999, the VD 17 returned to the water as a charter boat where it took tourists on day trips on the IJsselmeer. The money earned from this endeavor and other donations funded a total restoration of the *kwak*. Once complete, Ros shipped the boat to Curaçao in 2005 and then sailed it to Kralendijk.

For the next five years, the VD 17 graced the Bonaire coastline, working again as a day charter boat. Early this year the *Stichting Zuyderzee Cultuur Volendam*



purchased the boat. The SZCV is a non-profit, cultural organization dedicated to preserving the rich fishing heritage of Volendam. The organization was offered a generous interest-free loan from a group of local business owners eager to return the VD 17 to its homeport.

The *kwak* now joins three others in the Volendam harbor-- the VD5, VD 84 and VD172. These floating monuments, all belonging to the SZCV, are sailed by the organization’s members on Wednesday nights. The boats are also used for charters, which helps pay for the fleet’s maintenance.

“I’ve already got an idea how much work it is to keep such a boat in sailing shape,” says Harry Miller, a *kwak* helmsman and SZCV member. “Commercially speaking, it is virtually impossible. It requires so much maintenance. You ask yourself sometimes and wonder how the old fishermen were able to do it.”

While the VD 17 will be missed here on Bonaire, it is in need of further restoration after years in the harsh, tropical sun. In addition, the SZCV is preparing for the construction and operation of a historic shipyard called the *Krommer*, comprising two slipways and carpentry workshop. It is fitting that the old *kwak* now returns home and joins its sister ships in Volendam for the next chapter in its long life.


■ Article & photos by Patrick Holian



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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Cruise Ship Calls -Information provided by the TCB

Date	Day	Ship name	Time	PAX
Every Sunday through Tuesday	From now through Spring 2011	Scientology ship <i>Freewinds</i>	Arrives 0630 Departs 2200	150

CLOSE-IN EVENTS

Friday, Saturday, July 30,31—Open House at the ‘affordable house,’ Kaya Nikel, Nawati, 9-5. See ad on page 6.

July 28 - August 1 - 6th Annual Starboard Pro Kids Freestyle World Championship. A week of activities with special focus on young children participating. An internationally recognized windsurfing competition which is the meeting point of different countries around the world. Schedule and more on page 10 and website: www.prokidsfreestyle.com

Saturday, August 7—Big Monthly Rincon Marché, 6 am to 2 pm. Some of the friendliest people in Bonaire selling gifts, crafts, fruits and vegetables, local foods. Stroll the plaza and meet new friends. Music, great ambiance.

Friday, August 13 -The Classical Music Board Bonaire presents a Three Generations Recital at 8 pm in the Plaza Resort at the Cacique hall:

-**Willem Statius Muller**, 80 years old and still gives recitals in America and Europe.

Annette Statius Muller, his daughter, a gifted and experienced pianist, **Alexander Kraft van Ermel**, grandson. Winner of the international piano festival of Aruba. Details page 13.

Saturday, August 14 – Big Flea Market at the Bonaire Animal Shelter. Books, kitchen stuff, carpets, bric-a-brac, clothes, mugs, puzzles, games, DVDs, CDs, a walker and more, 11 am to 5 pm at the Shelter on Lagoen Road. Drinks and snacks during the market. All proceeds go towards keeping the Shelter open for unwanted cats and dogs. Donations of items may be dropped off at the Shelter now until Friday, August 13. More information **717-4989**.

August 22 -28 Celebrate Our Planet Week featuring a Lifetime Award presentation to Dr. Eugenie Clark .

Sunday, September 5- Local Fishing Tournament

Sunday, September 5- Duo Test International Competition

Monday, September 6 -Bonaire Flag Day (legal holiday)

October 24 -Bonaire Xtreme Duo MTB race

REGULAR EVENTS

- **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 cooler evening hours.

Saturdays

- **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. **Big Marché first Saturday of the month**—www.infobonaire.com/rincon.

- **Wine Tasting at Antillean Wine Company’s warehouse** on Kaya Industria, **second Saturday of the month**, 7-9 pm. Snacks and tasting of six wines for \$10 (NAf17,50) per person. Tel. 560-7539.

- **Soldachi Tours**—**See the real Bonaire and be transported back in time.** Learn about the history, culture and nature by Bonaireans from Rincon. Call Maria Koeks for more information—796-7870.

Mondays

- **Soldachi Tours of Rincon**, the heart of Bonaire, 9 am-noon. \$20-Call Maria, 717-6435-[best island tour value](http://www.bestislandtour.com)

- **Meet the Captain Night at Captain Don’s Habitat Bar**— Get up close and personal with Bonaire’s dive pioneer. The Captain will autograph your copy of his newest book [Reef Windows](http://www.ReefWindows.com).

Fridays

- **Harbour Village Tennis, Social Round Robin** 7-10 pm. \$10 per person. Cash bar. All invited. Call Elisabeth Vos at 565-5225

FREE SLIDE/VIDEO SHOWS

Sunday— Creature Feature— John and Suzie Wall of Buddy’s Digital photo center present a multimedia slide presentation about Buddy’s House Reef - pool bar Buddy Dive, 6:30-7 pm, 717-5080

Monday-Dee Scarr’s Touch the Sea Slide Presentation, Capt. Don’s Habitat, 8:30 pm. 717-8529

Wednesday - Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB) presents an informative slide show: *Sea Turtles of Bonaire*, at 7pm, every **2nd and 4th Wednesday** at Bruce Bowker’s Carib Inn (717-8819)

BONAIRE’S TRADITIONS

Kas Krioyo 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 December 25th. and January 1st. **Call 788 - 9015 or 796 - 5681**

CLUBS and MEETINGS

AA meetings -every **Wednesday** at 7pm. Phone: 786-4651 or 786-7971

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

Bridge Club - Wednesdays, 7:15 pm— All levels, NAf2,50, call Renata at 796-5591 to find out the evening’s location.

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

The Hash House Harriers running and walking club meets every **second Wednesday** for a one hour walk throughout Bonaire. The location changes each week. The contact number is **700-4361**

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

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

Lions Club meets every **2nd and 4th Thursday** of the month at 8 pm at Kaya Sabana #1. All Lions welcome. For more information call 510-0710.

Rotary lunch meetings Wednesdays, 12 noon-2 pm - Divi Flamingo Beach Resort upstairs in Peter Hughes meeting room above the dive shop. All Rotarians welcome. Tel. 717-2066

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

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: Centro di Bario Nord Saliña, Sundays, 10 am. Services in Dutch. 700-0379 .

International Bible Church of Bonaire, at SGB High School auditorium (Kaya Frater Odulfinus, off Kaya Korona.) Sunday services in English at 9 am; Sunday evening prayer meeting at Por’s home, 7 pm. Fridays, 6 to 8 pm, Light & Life Club, children 5 to 12 yrs. Tel. 717-8332.

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

Ministerio di Kristu Hesus Services Sunday mornings at 10 am at Jong Bonaire Youth Center in English, Dutch and Papiamentu. Preaching the full gospel. Contact: 786-2557.

Prayer and Intercession Church, in English. A full Gospel Church located temporarily at Kaya Alexandrit # 20, Santa Barbara, Republiek. Services are held on Sunday mornings from 10am until 11:30am. Bible studies in English are on Monday nights from 7 to 8 pm. Contact: 717-3322

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints: Kaya Sabana #26, Sundays: 9 am Sacrament Services (Translation to English and Papiamentu upon request) 10:20 Sunday School, 11:15 RS/YM/YW/PH Primary held from 10:20-12 noon Visitors welcome: Call 701-9522 for Information.

Send event info to:
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Who’s Who on The Bonaire Reporter

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The Bonaire Reporter, George DeSalvo, Publisher. Laura DeSalvo, Editor in Chief. Address: P. O. Box 407, Bonaire, Neth. Antilles. Available on-line at: www.bonairereporter.com **Published every two weeks**

Reporters: Stephanie Bennett, Brian Czornyj, Christie Dovale, Rhian Evans, Dr. Jay Havisier, Patrick Holihan, Jack Horkheimer, Greta Kooistra, Ann Phelan, Stanley, Michael Thiessen

Unattributed photos are by the editor or publisher.

Distribution: Yuchi Molina (Rincon), Elisabeth Silberie & Georgina Sanchez (Playa), Divi-Divi Airline

Housekeeping: JRA. **Printed by:** DeStad Drukkerij, Curaçao

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July	And	August					
Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
Fri 30	03:33 / 0.48 ft	11:26 / 0.00 ft	17:52 / 0.53 ft			6:22	19:02
Sat 31		00:32 / 0.26 ft	04:27 / 0.40 ft	11:38 / 0.02 ft	18:07 / 0.63 ft	6:22	19:01
Sun 01		01:36 / 0.18 ft	05:19 / 0.32 ft	11:50 / 0.03 ft	18:29 / 0.74 ft	6:22	19:01
Mon 02		02:28 / 0.11 ft	06:09 / 0.25 ft	12:06 / 0.01 ft	18:56 / 0.84 ft	6:22	19:01
Tue 03	Last Quarter	03:16 / 0.04 ft	06:54 / 0.19 ft	12:26 / 0.01 ft	19:28 / 0.94 ft	6:22	19:00
Wed 04		04:02 / 0.01 ft	07:36 / 0.14 ft	12:53 / 0.04 ft	20:04 / 1.02 ft	6:23	19:00
Thu 05		04:47 / 0.05 ft	08:19 / 0.10 ft	13:25 / 0.06 ft	20:43 / 1.08 ft	6:23	19:00
Fri 06		05:32 / 0.08 ft	09:07 / 0.08 ft	14:04 / 0.07 ft	21:26 / 1.11 ft	6:23	18:59
Sat 07		06:15 / 0.10 ft	10:04 / 0.08 ft	14:52 / 0.05 ft	22:12 / 1.09 ft	6:23	18:59
Sun 08		06:58 / 0.11 ft	11:10 / 0.12 ft	15:50 / 0.00 ft	23:01 / 1.04 ft	6:23	18:58
Mon 09	New Moon	07:39 / 0.12 ft	12:23 / 0.20 ft	17:05 / 0.07 ft	23:55 / 0.95 ft	6:23	18:58
Tue 10		08:19 / 0.12 ft	13:35 / 0.32 ft	18:43 / 0.14 ft		6:23	18:58
Wed 11		00:55 / 0.83 ft	08:59 / 0.12 ft	14:38 / 0.47 ft	20:32 / 0.16 ft	6:24	18:57
Thu 12		02:02 / 0.69 ft	09:38 / 0.11 ft	15:34 / 0.63 ft	22:17 / 0.12 ft	6:24	18:57
Fri 13		03:14 / 0.57 ft	10:19 / 0.09 ft	16:26 / 0.79 ft	23:45 / 0.04 ft	6:24	18:56

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The Endangered Ones

RESIDENTS OF BONAIRE'S UNIQUE NATURAL WORLD FACE CHALLENGES.

What does it actually mean to be an endangered species? There are many definitions but basically it is a population of organisms that is at risk of becoming extinct due to diminishing numbers, environmental changes or increased predation. Unfortunately, Bonaire has a number of plants and animals that fall into this category in the sea, in the air and on the land. Here are three examples.

In the sea...

Bonaire is known for its sea turtles—the hawksbill, the green and the loggerhead. These aquatic animals come here to feed and lay eggs. Regrettably, they face dangers while living along our coastal waters. Take, for instance, what happened in April this year when Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire's (STCB) Mabel Nava and Robert Van Dam were diving near Lac Cai.

"We saw a Green turtle with fishing line coming out of its mouth. We also saw that it was missing its right front flipper. Robert and I captured the turtle and when we surfaced, a fisherman helped us get it to shore."

Upon further inspection, it was obvious the fishing line had cut off the animal's flipper and a hook was deeply embedded in its intestines. Nava called veterinarian Fulco de Vries for help. After a thorough examination it was determined that the turtle was severely emaciated and would not recover. A sedative was administered and the turtle was euthanized to put it out of its misery. STCB has noticed an increase of turtles in distress in past years.

"We need to educate people that fishing line and hooks left behind are real threats to sea turtles," explains Nava. "They are killers. So are plastic bags and cups tossed carelessly in the sea. Turtles see these objects as jellyfish, which

they love to eat. Once ingested, the plastic can kill the animal. It is everyone's responsibility to keep these harmful items out of the water, and help these endangered animals."



Nesting parrot

In the air...

Recently, parrot scientist Rhian Evans spotted an unusual aerial battle in progress near Playa Frans. "I was doing nesting observations along 100 meters of cliffs. Five pairs of Loras were fighting over two nest sites. They were showing a lot of aggression."

Evans and her colleague Sam Williams believe that this behavior is indicative of a serious problem for Bonaire's endangered parrot: nest site limitation. Loras do not make their own nest cavities. Rather, they are dependent on the local environment to provide sites. But Bonaire has been heavily deforested during the centuries.

"You just don't see those big old trees like wayaká any more," explains Williams. "These parrots nest in wayaká, watapana and palu de seu. There are fewer of these trees around. It's probably why the Loras now nest in cliffs as well. That's not normal for this genus of parrot."

But even the cliff nest sites are vulnerable due to increased housing development on the island. "Loras don't put up with much disturbance near their nests," explains Evans. "Even after con-

struction is finished, the parrots won't return to the cliff sites if people living in the homes create too much noise."

For Bonaire, this has become a numbers problem. Fewer nests mean fewer parrots, a smaller genetic pool. That, in turn, can make the Lora population extremely vulnerable to disease or natural disasters like a severe tropical storm. A sizable population is key to avoiding catastrophe.

The Parrotwatch Project, headed by Williams and Evans, is tackling the problem of decreasing nest sites. The team is constructing nest boxes out of natural materials to give the parrots alternative nesting sites. But, according to Williams, until development is better regulated and the goat overgrazing problem is solved, limited nesting for the parrots will continue. "You can't increase population growth without dealing with social issues as well. You need to ensure that people are sympathetic to the Loras increasing their numbers."

On the land...

Some call it "the wood of life." It is three times as hard as oak and is often referred to as ironwood. The wood is so dense that when thrown in water, it sinks. Here on Bonaire, we call this splendid tree wayaká, pokhout or *Lignum vitae*.

But since 2007, wayaká is listed as an endangered species under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES). Historically, the tree was harvested here to make durable pulleys for sailing ships, ideal since the wood lubricates itself with resin from within. But overgrazing, excessive harvesting and indiscriminate land clearing has allowed secondary plant cover to take over much of Bonaire's landscape, a significant challenge to this slow growing tree.



Green turtle tangled in fishing line

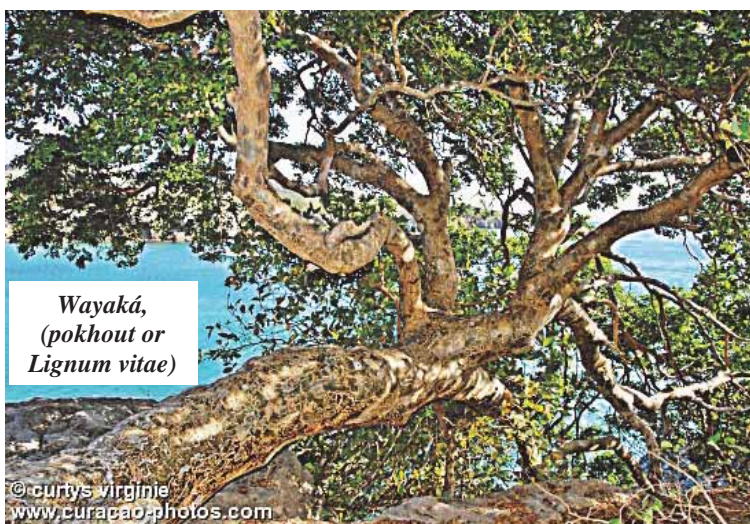
"Uncontrolled land clearing and goats are the major threats," states STINAPA's Elsmarie Beukenboom, director of Bonaire's national parks foundation. "A nature ordinance, a framework of laws, has passed, but the island resolutions that include *beschermingsmaatregelen* (protection measures) have not."

Until this legislation is enacted, trees like the wayaká will have no protection. They offer shade and shelter for a variety of plants and animals. Plus, the wayaká provides critical nesting sites for many birds including Loras. As a stop-gap measure, STINAPA and Salba Nos Lora have done some reforestation work planting wayaká and other tree species on Klein Bonaire and at Pos Nobo in protected plots. Unfortunately wayaká is a poor candidate for reforestation due to its slow growth. It takes 20 years for it to mature. Therefore,

the fate of this tree and others is in the hands of the Bonaire government. "The government just needs to put its signature on the island resolutions," continues Beukenboom. "But for that hand to grab the pen, it's a very long process."

* * *

These are but three examples of plants and animals that are facing challenges as Bonaire's development moves forward. What can you do to help preserve these living wonders? Volunteer at Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire. Join Salba Nos Loras. Volunteer for a STINAPA tree-planting event. Most importantly, contact the Governor (Gezagboneiru@gmail.com) or the environmental commissioner (Anthony.nicolaas@gmail.com) and inform them of the importance of protecting these endangered species in the sea, in the air and on the land. ■ STCB press release, P.H.



Wayaká, (pokhout or *Lignum vitae*)

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Opening Bonaire's Dive Sites

Reef Windows
Opening Bonaire's Dive Sites



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by Captain Don

Travel back to the exciting, early days of Bonaire diving. To make you part of these adventures, I have included my Captain Don red ribbon depth gauge as a handy bookmark. Come diving with me and learn the true stories behind the names of Bonaire's dive sites.

New Foal at Animal Friends

On the first of July one of our horses gave birth to a female horse (filly). We had bought the mother from a neighbor who couldn't take care of her anymore. Maribell, the mare's name, was very skinny and very scared.

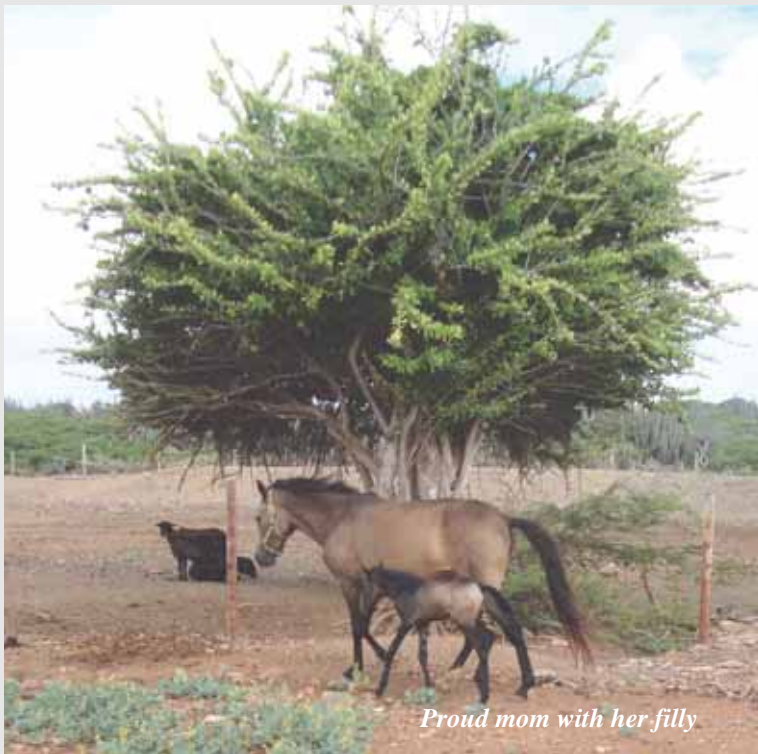
After a few months Funchi Egbrechts, owner of the Animal Friends Farm, saw that she was pregnant. But Bregje, the girl next door who is building a horse riding farm, told us Maribell was only getting fat because she was eating so much! Fortunately, Funchi was right, and here she is, a wonderful cute high heels horsy!

Her real father is a white Paso Fino, named King, who has since left for Curaçao, but Jafar, the male Harry van Houwelen gave us, is standing in as a very good father and is taking good care of his adopted daughter!

What to name her is still undecided but we are thinking about it. Perhaps it could be a nice puzzle for this summer holiday! Please come and visit our Animal Farm and bring your old veggies, especially apples.

Maribell loves and needs them. The Animal Friends Farm is in Washikemba. Drive out the Lagoon Road and almost at the end you will see an Animal Farm sign on the right hand side. Follow the signs and you'll be there.

□ Press release



Proud mom with her filly



New filly with Joyce, an ardent admirer

ABVO Story-Bonaire's Civil Servants' Labor Union

Bonaire's civil servants have a labor union, the ABVO (Civil Servants Union of the Netherlands Antilles), founded in 1936. At that time the islands were not called the Netherlands Antilles but "Colony of Curaçao and the Dependencies" ("Onderhorigheden").

Organized labor unions were unknown in Curaçao or Bonaire in those days. However, there were organizations that organized the workers like those in the harbor from 1922. Felis Chacuto, a sailor from Curaçao who was living and working in the US and who knew about labor unions, decided to lead the harbor workers in a strike against the shipping company, KNSM.

This strike was very hard and also the women of those workers participated carrying stones they took from the streets and gave to the strikers as "bullets" against the military police which was sent by the Colonial Government to break the strike.

After several years, on the 14th of April 1936, Mr Dr M.F.da Costa Gomez, who had finished his studies as a lawyer in the Netherlands, returned to the island and with some other civil servants who had the courage to speak up for their rights without fear founded a union for the Civil Servants which we know nowadays as the ABVO.

The ABVO was first named the A.C.A.B (Algemene Curaçaosche Ambtenaren Bond) and its first board consisted of Dr M.F.da Costa Gomez (a civil servant at the Openbaar Ministerie), who became the first secretary, and P.Th.S.Krafft (Director of the Post Office), as the president. The vice president was L.F. Jansen (Government Accountant), the second secretary, E.A.Romer



Founder M.F.da Costa Gomez

(Public Receiver), and Mgr Amado Romer, treasurer. F.M.Lampe (Court member), second treasurer, C.H.Balbain de Verster and the commissioners R.J.Beaujon Jr, L.de Hoop and J.W.Peiliker (Head of the Communication Service of the Government). The union's Articles of Incorporation were approved on May 16, 1936. □ Stanley

Body Talk

CELIAC DISEASE OR GLUTEN INTOLERANCE

Because of a huge variety of symptoms, Celiac disease is more often than not mis-diagnosed as either having a stomach bug, gas and/or having eaten something "off." These are just some of the early symptoms but could also include **weight loss, cramps, joint and bone pain, allergies and fatigue.**

In fact, if I only gave you these symptoms and said put the name of a "disease" to them, I bet that you could think of a few names that these symptoms would apply to. Celiac disease is a multisystem disorder, with symptoms that are just too wide-ranging to meet any tidy diagnostic check-list, and because of all the possible symptoms, could take years to be correctly diagnosed.

So what exactly is Celiac disease? It is a digestive disorder characterized by a toxic reaction to gluten, the protein component found in certain grains like wheat, rye and barley. Gluten is that sticky, binding substance that gives breads and pastas their elasticity and texture, but because gluten is an all-purpose stabilizer and thickener, manufacturers add it to a large range of consumer products like medications, coffees, packaged spices, envelope seals, lipsticks, hairsprays and marinades.

Gluten damages the tiny, hair-like villi lining your small intestine and prevents your body from absorbing the nutrients it depends on to survive. When the body is being starved of vital nutrients, year in and year out, is it any wonder that disease sets in.

Because of its varying symptoms, gluten intolerance in adults seems to take many years to be diagnosed, but it is almost always "triggered" by either a severe bacterial intestinal infection, weakening the gut, or some physical or emotional trauma. Many people believe that it is a "childhood" disease, but there is enough evidence that it can affect people of any age. Possibly the most obvious symptoms of this disorder is mild to severe stomach cramps after certain foods, a continuous "hunger" even after a meal, fatigue and being left bloated and gassy.

If you have had some of these symptoms for "some time," but your lab tests showed nothing abnormal, yet you continue to feel "unwell" after you have eaten, start tracking your symptoms every time you put "food" into your mouth. Within a very short time, you should have a clear idea which symptoms are caused by which "foods." Note that when I talk about "foods" I also include drinks, snacks and alcohol, in short, everything that enters your mouth to be consumed.


Armed with this information, you should have a celiac panel blood test done, although it cannot deliver a conclusive celiac diagnosis. What it can do is rule out celiac disease, or determine where you fall on the risk spectrum.

Once celiac disease is confirmed, the ONLY way to better health is not through medication, but to lead a gluten-free life. Now this could be a very, very tall order for any sufferer on Bonaire. Yes, there are some gluten-free products available, but thorough research is necessary to determine whether any of the products you use contain gluten.

IF YOUR TUMMY CRIES "TREASON", THERE HAS TO BE A REASON! □ Stephanie Bennett

Author Stephanie Bennett was born in Cape Town, South Africa, where she studied herbs, minerals and nutrition. Before moving to Bonaire she continued her studies in UK, and now researches Bonaire health issues. She is the owner of the Essence Nutritional Center





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Science At Slagbaai



Students from the Bonaire program participated in the archaeological work

A month-long scientific fieldwork and archaeological excavation at the Washington-Slagbaai National Park on Bonaire, under the supervision of Dr. Jay Havisser, is complete for the time being. For two weeks of this fieldwork the St. Maarten SIMARC students joined the Bonaire BONAI students and four students from Leiden University to survey, record and excavate archaeological sites in the Park at Gotomeer and Slagbaai. Most of the sites on Bonaire were prehistoric sites. This meant that in addition to finding cannonballs, historic ceramics and old bottles, the students were also finding mostly old shell piles and prehistoric stone tools. Prehistoric shell samples were taken for radiocarbon dating in a laboratory in Holland. These radiocarbon dates will be one of the most important results of the prehistoric research, in that they will tell us the precise dates of occupation at these sites. As for the historic period sites, various small structures around Slagbaai Salina were precisely located that had not been previously identified. One of the known sites that was dated included the old battery fortification near Playa Slagbaai which seems to be from

the late 17th century, almost 200 years older than the Plantation House Slagbaai. Another important historical site recorded was the late 19th - early 20th century homestead area of Labra, where many old structures are still located and this site may well be the focus of future archaeological-anthropological research in the park.

It was really important for the high-school students to watch and learn from the Leiden university students about archaeological fieldwork techniques. Another significant aspect of the fieldwork on Bonaire was that all of the lab work (cleaning artifacts, analyzing and cataloguing artifacts) was done right there at the field lab in the old Slagbaai Plantation house. This way all the artifacts can stay on Bonaire, and the analyzed data will be taken back to St. Maarten for Dr. Havisser to make the final report by the end of the year.

The final phase of this project will be for two Bonaire students and two St. Maarten students, together with Dr. Havisser, to make a presentation of the research results at the International Congress for Caribbean Archaeology (IACA) to be held at Martinique in July of next



Leiden University Students show the high-schoolers modern scientific methods

year.

The objective of this project, thus far, has been reached with the identification and documentation of important archaeological sites in the Slagbaai-Gotomeer area. It has also become a unique and productive way for the high school students to serve their communities by slowly uncovering evidence of their cultural past, and at the same time they have also personally matured in the process. This was the reward for digging in the blistering heat and seeing the real hard work that is archaeology, all together with fellow Bonaire and Aruba students who have the same interests in researching and preserving our heritage.

The St. Maarten Archaeological Center (SIMARC) and Bonaire Archaeological Institute (BONAI) were granted substantial sponsorship from the Mondriaan Foundation and Leiden University (both of the Netherlands), for three-phase archaeology and museums research. The first two phases of this research were conducted in June-July 2010, and were a co-operation between the SIMARC and BONAI youth and science groups on St. Maarten and Bonaire, together with four students from Leiden University. The

archaeological fieldwork on Bonaire was initially requested from STINAPA-Bonaire by Elsmarie Beukenboom and done in accord with Alca Sint Jago of DROB Bonaire, while the Aruba museums and sites visit were in co-operation with the Aruba Archaeological Museum. This project is also the first official application of the 'Valetta (Malta) Treaty' on Bonaire, which is the international standard for archaeological research as ratified by the Netherlands in the 1990s and the Netherlands Antilles in 2007. □ Dr. Jay Havisser, Press Release

BonQuiz Answer



Bon Quiz (from page 8)

Q) Who is the artist that created these flamingos? When was it done?

A) Asyla Ten Holt, who is a thriving artist living on Curaçao. She created the flamingoes in 1987.

Sudoku Solution

Puzzle on page 7

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

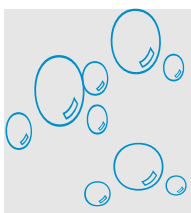


Birthday Congratulations

Happy Birthday to Reporter feature writer-Grandma, Greta Kooistra (July 27), and her Granddaughter, Madalief Thode (August 6)!

We all miss Madalief who is with her mother, Fleurtje, who is studying in Holland.





Bubbles From the Biologist

Did you know...

the ocean helps us fight cancer? Enter **eribulin**, a drug that scientists derived from a specific species of sea sponge—a type of organism abundant on coral reefs like those on Bonaire. Eribulin has been clinically shown to extend the lives of women suffering from terminal breast cancer by up to a year, potentially allowing them to attend their grandson's graduation or their daughter's wedding. More effective and producing fewer side effects than conventional drugs, eribulin received a priority review from the US FDA, meaning doctors fighting cancer will soon have another weapon in their arsenal. Who would have thought that an organism sharing its name with a kitchen tool we use to scrape grime off our plates could extend peoples' lives? Well, now we have one more solid reason as to why we must act now to protect our treasured reefs—as one day they may help to protect us! ■ **Brian Czornyj**



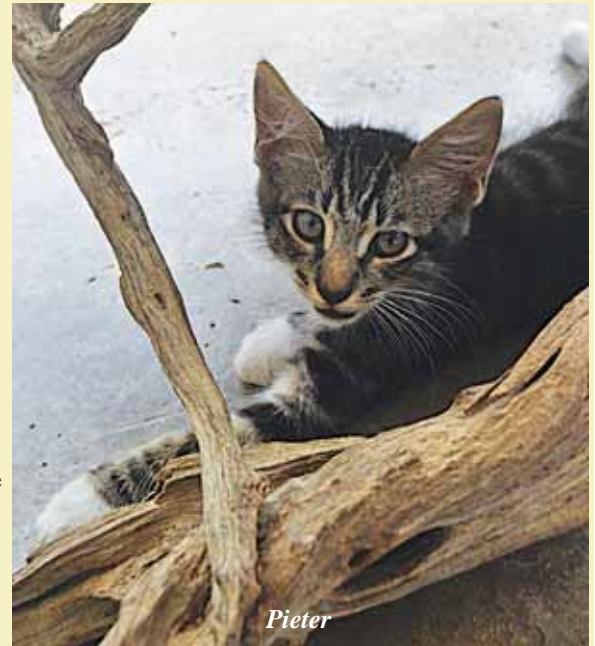
Sea Sponge- Courtesy of <http://kinesic.files.wordpress.com/2009/02/>



Studying biochemistry and economics at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, PA, Czornyj hopes to attend graduate school and study marine natural products to seek new cures for diseases. Brian attended CIEE Research Station Bonaire's summer program

Pet of the Week

We couldn't resist taking a photo of this darling little cat, "Pieter," hiding out among the branches in the cat cage at the Bonaire Animal Shelter. Jane Disko Madden, kitty guru of the Shelter, explains. "Pieter is a very fuzzy, very funny little guy! He arrived with his sister, Petra, as seven-week-old, very feral kittens. With the love and encouragement of the Shelter staff, they were nurtured into loveable sweethearts now 10 weeks old! Petra has been adopted and will begin sailing the Caribbean with her co-captain in the next few weeks. Pieter is waiting for his forever companion to arrive. Pieter's grey, brown and black striped fur is extremely soft and fuzzy and along with his white mittens and socks he'll be a very photogenic pal. He is not afraid of anything....dog, cat or person...and will play with cats five times his size and win the play battle! But when playtime is done, he'll curl up in your lap for a dose of pets and an afternoon snooze."



Pieter

Of course, like all the other adoptees at the Shelter, Pieter is in excellent health, having been checked out by the vet, had his test for feline leukemia, wormed and will be sterilized when he's old enough. All this is included in the cat adoption fee of NAf 75. You may meet him at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday, 9 am to 1 pm and from 3 to 5 pm. Tel. 717-4989. The Shelter has a marvelous website which is kept up to date by Shelter Manager Marlies. It's full of the latest Shelter news, history, information about the Bonny Superdog program, "happy endings," inspiring photos and even the current "Pet of the Week." WWW.BonaireAnimalShelter.com. Link from the website and see the **new Shelter video** which stars some well known, popular pets and staff.

And don't forget the Shelter Flea Market on Saturday, August 14! ■ **Laura DeSalvo**

Cover Story

Animals Shelter Volunteers Socialize

On Sunday, July 18, those very valuable volunteers who give their time to the Bonaire Animal Shelter got together at the Chill Out Bar to socialize with each other and to view the premier of the new Bonaire Animal Shelter video. The video was made by a creative young local film producer and impressed the crowd. The film shows graphically what the animal problems are, primarily too many unwanted cats and dogs, and how they are dealing with them. Shots of the Shelter residents are interspersed with short interviews with some of the Shelter staff. Informative, creative and entertaining. You may view the 20 minute video via the Shelter website: WWW.BonaireAnimalShelter.com or go directly to Youtube. ■

Laura DeSalvo

Digicel Donates!



Internationally, the Digicel cellphone company is a prime contributor to the Special Olympics Program. Last week the Bonaire office donated NAf 25.000 to them. Bravo!

Don's Captain



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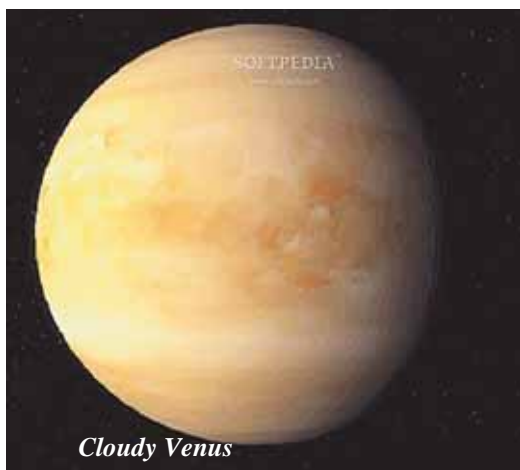


BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

The Incredible Planet Threesome of August 2010

Are we ever going to open August with a cosmic super show because you'll be able to watch three planets forming a planetary triangle come closer and closer until on Sunday night August 8th they'll all meet in a circle less than 5 degrees wide. And that my friends is super close! Plus we'll even throw in an appearance of the first planet from the Sun for the first week of August.



Cloudy Venus

On Sunday night, August 1, 45 minutes after sunset face west in the Sky Park. And before we move on to our planet threesome let's handle the first planet out from the Sun first: tiny 3,000-mile-wide Mercury, which you'll see just above the horizon looking rather pinkish. It's called the pink planet because it never gets very high above the horizon so we always see it through dusty, dirty layers of our Earth's atmosphere which make it look pink. Binoculars will really help.

And now for the super goodie threesome: simply look up to Mercury's left and the brightest planet of them all will be super dazzling, 8,000-mile-wide, Earth-sized Venus. The reason it's so bright is that it is completely covered by clouds which act like a mirror and reflect brilliant sunlight. It's so bright it has often been misidentified as a UFO. Up to its left you'll see two wonderful planets both about the same brightness, but much dimmer than Venus, tiny, half-the-size-of-our-Earth-and-Venus, 4,000-mile-wide, rouge-gold Mars, and just above it, super beautiful through a telescope, the ringed planet, 75,000-mile-wide Saturn, whose rings look almost edge on to us right now.

You'll notice that these three planets form a nice triangle. The fun part is that we can watch it shrink and become a much tighter triangle night after night, finally ending up in a 5 degree wide triangle Sunday, August 8. This Sunday, August 1, Mars and Saturn are only two degrees apart. One half of a degree is as wide as a full Moon so we could fit four full Moons between Mars and Saturn. The distance between Venus and Saturn and Venus and Mars, however, is roughly 7 degrees, which means we could fit 14 full Moons between Venus and Saturn and Venus and Mars. Watch the changes. Monday August 2, Tuesday August 3, Wednesday August 4, Thursday August 5, Friday August 6, Saturday August 7 and then Sunday August 8. All three of them form a much different looking triangle and could fit in a circle less than 5 degrees wide, which is 10 full Moons wide.

So mark Sunday August 8 as the night you have to go out 45 minutes after sunset and see a super planet threesome just above the horizon. But remember even though they look close they are not. Indeed, on Sunday August 8 Venus will be 72 million miles away, Mars will be 189 million miles away, Saturn, however, will be a whopping 951 million miles away. This shows us that appearances from planet Earth can be very deceiving when it comes to the planets. Start your planet watch this Sunday August 1 and on Sunday August 8 you'll reap your planet reward. ■



Jack Horkheimer



THE STARS HAVE IT

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen
August 2010

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Renovations or purchases made for your home will pay off. A little rest will do wonders. Your ability to be a self starter will help get things done and motivate others. Your efforts won't go unnoticed; however, someone you work with may get jealous. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Someone around you may not be trustworthy. Focus on forming business partnerships. Stand up and propose your ideas, and you'll be surprised how many people will follow you. Don't push your mate if you want to keep this union going. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Your dedication and fortitude when dealing with humanitarian groups will enhance your reputation. Don't make mountains out of molehills if you want to avoid conflict. Don't expect new acquaintances to be completely honest about themselves. Make changes around your house and plan to do some entertaining. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) All your energy should be directed into money-making opportunities. Try to enlist the help of those you trust in order to fulfill the demands being made of you. You will find that you are able to clear up a number of small but important details. You're in the mood to spend time with your lover. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) A trip to visit relatives should be rewarding. Don't be too quick to respond to a plea for help. Rely on the one you love for support and affection. You will find their philosophies worth exploring.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Romantic opportunities will develop through friends or relatives. Avoid letting children and friends borrow. You'll find travel or involvement in large groups gratifying. Your mate will enjoy helping out. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) If you're uncertain of your feelings, keep your opinions to yourself. You could have a change of heart if an old flame waltzes back into your life. Unexpected bills may set you back. This is a great day to mingle with people you would like to impress. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Do your own thing without drawing attention to it. Expand your knowledge and sign up for courses and seminars. You might not be as reserved on an emotional level as you'd like. You'll have great insight. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Don't let your emotional upset interfere with your professional objectives. Limitations with females could lead to unfortunate circumstances. You will find that friends or relatives may not understand your needs. Don't overspend on luxury items. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Don't hesitate to sign up for creative courses or physical fitness programs. Travel will be fun and entertaining. Avoid any over indulgences. Your contributions will be valued and helpful. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Don't overreact if your partner has a poor attitude. Control your temper by getting immersed in your work. Partnerships will be successful. You will need to do a lot of research if you wish to get to the bottom of things. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) You can expect to face opposition on the home front. Pleasure trips will bring you into contact with new and interesting people. You may be uncertain about some of your coworkers and your boss. You'll find it easy to talk about your feeling this month. Don't hesitate to find out what your mate's intentions are. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday. ■

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