



Yachts, Sunfish and other fun water transports joined the water challenges in the two day Kanti Awa Regatta August 15-16  
 Story: Pam Teitel. Photos: Julie Morgan

## Kant'i Awa revives old-time regatta

If you know Playa Pabou, you know Kant'i Awa Snack, right next door to the Kas di Regatta. Gaston Chirino, the owner recalls the old days when the Regatta was about sailing, but also about the ambiance on and along the shore. The waterfront was bustling with action all day long with food, drink, kids playing and boats sailing. Gaston himself often organized many races, the last being 15 years ago.

Arnd Chirino, Gaston's nephew, one of those kids playing in the past, has grown up to become the organizer of the Kant'i Awa Regatta together with Jeamy Zaalman. With their memories and Gaston's stories, they gathered a great team to bring all those elements together for a great weekend at the waterfront.

Having regular events for the cruisers Arnd and Jeamy, now managing Kant'i Awa, have gotten to know many cruisers and were able to convince a large number of them to race their homes! Nine yachts joined the sailing races with some very tight competition. The first three boats finished within one and a half minutes of each other after over two hours of racing! Ronnie Ramos, visiting from Puerto Rico on Campechano, offered his expertise to our start committee headed up by Viktor Wijnandm, our race director, and Marjolein. The start boat, Ventura, was hosted by Enzo and Patricia visiting from Chile.

It was really great to get the cruising community to-

gether with the local boats and the local people both on the shore and on the sea.

There were more than 90 competitors registered in total with all the Yachts, Beach Cats, Sunfish A, Sunfish B, Optimist A Optimist B, Kite Foils and Wind Surf Foils, And then in front of Kanti Awa there were the Micro Boats, kayaks, Stand Up Paddle boards and adults sailing the tiny Optimists. This was as many boats as in the last Bonaire Regatta!

Between races, a great BBQ was prepared by Ruxi Grill, accompanied with plenty of drinks and music. This great event brought the community of Bonaire together with the visiting cruisers and the local boaters. The cruisers arriving on Bonaire are required to quarantine for two weeks prior to enjoying our island, so you know they are known to be Covid free, yet there was plenty of space for people to participate yet distance.

A few of the Micro boat racers surfaced for this competition and made a great showing. This time, they were able to race directly in front of the snack for all to see. With this new excitement, there is talk of workshops to build new boats, that could challenge other sailors to dust off their boats and join the next competition! (Most likely in November, so get started!)

With not quite enough wind for the kites and wind surfers, only the foilers found enough to rise to the oc-

casion! Kites started and finished at Kite Beach. They made their mark in the bay in front of Kanti Awa, while the wind surf foils ran their course from Kanti Awa. Many of the Sunfish sported the colors of the flag with the Blue Destination sails from the 2019 World sunfish competition here on Bonaire.

***Kant'i Awa Regatta, continued on page 5***



The Optimist boats are the training ground for young sailors at Bonaire Sailing School. Noa van Bourgonje (pictured) came in second in Opti B.

**More photos of regatta on our Facebook page.**

## Coronavirus threatens Curaçao bubble

Aruba and St. Maarten are high on the list of countries worldwide whose corona virus cases are growing the fastest. The Netherlands has recommended against travel to both islands, and TUI is returning passengers from Aruba to Holland and suspending flights. Curaçao and Bonaire have closed the “travel bubble” with Aruba and St. Maarten. Bonaire still has no current active cases, but Curaçao has experienced a small, worrisome burst of new cases, so the OLB is monitoring the situation and may close the Bonaire-Curaçao bubble as well.

Aruba has the fastest growing infection rate, per capita, in the world, plus the most total cases per capita since the pandemic began. So far 1,568 people have been infected, with a total of seven deaths. The island has had 34 new cases recently. Aruba reopened early, with some restrictions, to international arrivals on June 22. The resurgence of new infections is not blamed on visitors, however. The authorities say island residents, especially those who party, have failed to continue taking precautions. Ten American doctors who have been waiting on Curaçao as emergency stand-by have been transferred to Aruba.

Curaçao seems to be containing the coronavirus successfully. It has had 43 total cases, with a single death, since the pandemic began. It opened to visitors from selected European countries, with testing restrictions, on July 1, and has expanded its list of “safe” countries since.

Curaçao did experience a small uptick of eight new infections last week, all apparently passed through contacts among local people. The island responded by instituting Phase 2 restrictions. Phase 2 requires a broad range of group size limits for various kinds of events. Some requirements are precisely targeted. Choirs can not perform at church services; residents of old age homes may have visitors, but only one at a time with masks being worn; and customers may patronize bars and restaurants, but they must register at the door in case later tracing is required. Phase 3 restrictions might follow, which would essentially shut down Curaçao again.

When an employee of the MCB Bank in Rio Canario tested positive, the entire staff was required to quarantine for 14 days, the branch was closed for disinfecting, and health authorities commenced contract tracing. Curaçao has cancelled plans for Carnival 2021.

Bonaire still has had only five cases, all recovered. Tourists are beginning to return from designated safe countries, subject to pre-departure testing and provisions for immediate quarantine on the island if they display symptoms or test positive. The schools are open, public testing is available, and contact tracing is immediately activated if an infection is suspected. The OLB’s primary concern is the danger of public complacency. The government keeps reminding Bonaireans to continue to be responsible about good hygiene, social distancing precautions, and crowd limitations. *DMR*



### Ban kuida Boneiru!

Antrio! Pariba residents who missed the trash pickup during the Selibon residential cleanup have a second chance to get rid of waste. From August 26-August 28, residents can place their trash in bins opposite the Adventist Church in the Kaya Maria or in the Kaya Maria from August 25-August 27.



## Oil spill seriously affects Morrocoy National Park

According to the Centro de Comunicacion of the Asamblea Nacional, the official opposition to the Maduro government, the July 19 to 22 Morrocoy oil spill occurred at Refinery El Palito rather from a leaky tanker; was caused by operator negligence and inexperience; and is being hushed up by the government. The opposition also charges the spill was large—26,730 barrels—and “there are no signs of containment of the spill, neither near the refinery nor on the coast.”

The opposition announcement cites a study led by Professor Eduardo Klein, of the Venezuelan Society of Ecology and Remote Sensing at Simón Bolívar University. Professor Klein also reports that employees of Inparaques say that Cayo Borracho (Drunk Key) in Morrocoy National Park is seriously affected. They also say they “have been intimidated by the president of the organization, Josue Lorca, to prevent them from issuing opinions, disseminating videos or information about what is happening in the natural areas affected.” The Vice Minister of Eco-socialism had dismissed the seriousness of the ecological damage and is releasing no official information about the event.

“Klein’s study says the negative consequences on the ecosystem and its natural components can affect the national park for 50 years or more. In the meantime, reports have come in about a tanker loaded with approximately 1,300,000 barrels of oil in the Gulf of Paria that is at risk of collapsing. A major contamination of the Venezuelan coast and the southern Caribbean islands would result. *DMR*

## Bonaire still solvent, despite corona virus

According to the following story from the Dutch news site Koninkrijk.nu: Although the public body Bonaire has extra expenditure and less income due to the corona crisis, no financial deficit is expected in 2020. The latest implementation report shows that up to June 27.7 million has been received and 21.1 million has been spent. The Executive Council assumes that benefits and expenses will be in balance throughout 2020.

An additional one million has so far been spent on corona-related costs for quarantine, food aid and one-off financial aid for housing costs. The Executive Council has reserved an additional three million in additional expenditure for the rest of the year. The crisis has saved 1.3 million dollars in revenues - mainly from tourism - through the second quarter.

In a response to the implementation report, the Financial Supervision Council (Cft) states that it remains concerned about the financial management: “The Cft notes that a large number of projects have been invested with external parties. The Cft therefore reiterates its recommendation to ensure that the OLB provides effective monitoring of current projects, whereby risks in the implementation are identified and mitigated in a timely manner with the direct involvement of the responsible administrators.”

## Writer for master plan selected

MarkStra Caribbean, the Curaçao consulting firm of Tamira La Cruz, has been awarded the contract to write the BES Master Plan 2030. La Cruz, a Dutch national with an MBA from

**Flotsam & Jetsam, continued on page 4**

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## Covid on Bonaire

as of August 28, 2020

574 tested	7 positive 567 negative
33 in quarantine	2 active 0 deceased

## Dive Friends quarterly clean up proves successful



Team up to clean up, that's our slogan for the Quarterly Clean Up Dive! We had our third quarterly cleanup for 2020 on August 1st. Due to the current situation with COVID-19, all things are a little bit different than our previous cleanups but that was not going to ruin the fun (or any day for that matter!) We met with our Dive Friends staff and volunteers at our newest partner location, Resort Bonaire. Eddy, who manages the location, together with other staff members, made sure we were well prepared for our divers.

We welcomed groups of maximum nine divers total every 20 minutes to avoid crowds. Our buddy teams were no bigger

than three. Divers signed up in advance and chose a time to pick up tanks and listen to the briefing before entering our site, Bachelors Beach. It is a very popular site for locals to hang out. There is a food truck on the beach with delicious burgers and (mucho, mucho garlic) fries so we expected to collect a lot of trash.

Pieter and Aimee were our photographers and took pictures and videos of the day. The first group started at 10 am, the last group at 12 pm. The divers had a great time, who can blame them!?

**Clean-up, continued on page 8**

## Rijna sworn in for second term

Lieutenant Governor Edison Rijna has been reappointed for six years as Island Governor. During a ceremony in the hall of the Island Council in Pasangrahan, Lieutenant Governor Rijna took the oath from acting Kingdom Representative Jan Helmond. In his speech, Rijna thanked the Island Council, the various government departments and stakeholders for their cooperation over the past six years. Rijna said that he hopes to receive the same cooperation in the new period. The Island Governor also thanked the people of Bonaire for the support he has received and is counting on the same support for the next six years.



Bonaire's newest colorful wall art is on display at Trans World Radio. Sue Wijngaarden, the artist, can be contacted by email - [info@sue-artstudio.com](mailto:info@sue-artstudio.com) or Facebook [sueartstudioNL](https://www.facebook.com/sueartstudioNL).

## FOR SALE

# Well Established Holiday Resort



- Location : Santa Barbara
- Lot size : 4447 m2 / 47863 sq.ft. owned land
- Living area: 430 m2 / 4628 sq.ft - 7 bed / 8 bath



- Resort facilities: pool with jacuzzi, kitchen/breakfast area, upper level dining/party area with ocean views, rinse tanks, dive lockers, private parking etc.

**Listed for \$ 875.000 USD**

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the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, has more than 20 years of consulting experience in the Caribbean. Her deadline for submitting the master-plan is October 10. *DMR*

### Saint-Martin and Sint Maarten to cooperate in emergencies

On August 6, the French and Dutch Ministries of Foreign Affairs agreed verbally to cooperate bilaterally when Saint-Martin and Sint Maarten are responding to a joint crisis, such as a hurricane. They will permit personnel from each country free entry and movement between both countries when providing emergency relief. The legal framework will avoid jurisdictional complications like those the two parties encountered during Hurricane Irma in 2018.

In 2018 the two countries also issued a joint statement agreeing to cooperate in dealing with “reconstruction, security, anti-corruption, illegal immigration and fraud.”

The French embassy announced this latest agreement and called it “a unique case of European territorial cooperation

beyond national borders.” The Dutch Ministry has not publicly acknowledged the latest agreement yet, perhaps because the French statement also addressed the disputed sea border in Oyster Pond Bay. In negotiating a 2016 agreement that came into force on April 1, 2017, the two countries failed to agree on a precise boundary line. *DMR (Source, Koninkrijk.nu)*

### Mariadal grads can't register as nurses

Mariadal nursing training is recognized by the Ministry of Education, but BIG, the medical registration agency, considers the diplomas ‘foreign.’ Therefore graduates cannot apply for positions in Holland as “nurses.” The matter has been raised in parliament. *DMR*

### Big gasoline spill won't be prosecuted

In October, 2017, Bonaire was without gasoline for three days after a bad gasoline spill occurred while a tanker truck



# Ask Kate

## Bonaire real estate advice

**Question:**  
**Since I can't get to Bonaire because travel is shut down due to the virus, is it possible to buy a home without being there? Mike**

Hi Mike,

Yes, you can purchase a home on Bonaire without being on the island. My real estate partner Jean and I have sold three homes in the past month by doing a Skype or Facetime walk-through of the property with clients in other countries. We also offer 3-d tours that you can view anytime from your computer. If you need a mortgage, you will need to contact

a Bonaire bank to arrange an online meeting, prior to applying for a loan. You do not need to be present on the island for the closing, this can be done remotely also. If you have any questions, send us an email. We're happy to show you any property virtually so that your Bonaire home is waiting for you when you can return to Bonaire.

*Kate Butler and Jean Scearce  
Remax Bonaire*

**If you are looking to buy or sell a home on Bonaire, or if you have a real estate question for Kate, email her at [kate@bonaيرهomes.com](mailto:kate@bonaيرهomes.com). Tollfree from U.S.: 1-866-611-7362**

was being filled at Curoil's Hato distribution plant. The fire brigade responded promptly and covered the spill with foam, preventing what could have been a catastrophic ignition. Subsequently the Human Environment and Transport Inspectorate inspected the site, identified six safety violations, and temporarily shut

down the plant.

The Public Prosecution Service BES acknowledges that prosecution of Curoil for violating safety rules was warranted at the time. But it now realizes that it needed to file charges before October 2, 2019. The case has been dropped. *DMR ((Source Koninkrijk.nu)*

# POLICE REPORT

### Property crime

Two rear lights were stolen Friday, August 7, between 8:20 - 9:30 pm when the pick-up was parked in the lot of a Softball Park on Kaminda Lac.

Between Wednesday, August 12 and Thursday, August 13 during the afternoon hours thieves broke open a container at Kaya Industria South and took away 200 boxes of Corona beer.

A little later on August 13, a burglary was reported in a house at Kaya Avelino J. (Abechi) Cecilia. Thieves entered the house through a window and took away two televisions, among other things.

Around 6:30 am Sunday, August 16, the police station received a report that the window and glass front door of an electronics store on Kaya Amsterdam had been destroyed. The perpetrators stole a number of TVs and a telephone.

Between Saturday, August 15 at around 6 pm and Sunday, August 16 at around 8 am, tools were stolen from an unlocked car that was parked in front of a house on Kaya Mandolin. Thieves stole two drills, one saw, a grinder and a planer, all of the Makita brand. They also took away a tray with various carpentry tools and a black tablet from the Samsung brand.

In the night hours of Monday, August 17, between 1 and 1:30 am, thieves stole a MacBook Pro 2009 and a watch from an apartment in an apartment complex on Kaya Inglaterra. The things were in the living room and were taken away when the resident was in the bedroom for a while. The front door of the house was unlocked.

### Targeting tourists

On Saturday, August 8, between 4 - 4:30 pm at the Oil Slick Leap dive site thieves smashed the passenger's car window with a stone and took a green Longchamp backpack that contained a USB-C Hub for Mac-

book Pro and a power bank.

On Wednesday, August 12, between 11:40 am and 12:20 pm, thieves took away bags containing bank cards, a driver's license and sunglasses from an unlocked car at the dive site 1000 steps. A Coral pink iPhone XR and a purple iPhone 11 were also taken away.

On Tuesday, August 18, a burglary was reported in a tourist accommodation at the Bulevar E.E.G. Between August 15 and 18, unknowns took away a black iPhone, a white iPad mini, black / white slippers from the Adidas brand and a pair of black Nike sports shoes.

### Arrests

On the night of Sunday, August 9 to Monday, August 10, a man, 35, was arrested for assault and a woman, 24 years was arrested for obstruction.

Sunday August 16, around 10 pm, a man, 35, was arrested at a house in Bona Bista for assault.

### Traffic accidents & violations

On Friday, August 7, between 8:30 - 10 pm, a traffic check was held at Pasangrahan on Plaza Reina Wilhelmina in connection with the light transmission of the windcreens. A total of 20 vehicles were checked. Two fines were issued for insufficient light transmission and one for driving without valid insurance. The police have noticed that people are often mistaken in the difference between the light transmission and the percentage of the tint film. People who had 35% on their windshields were warned and asked to remove the tint film.

On Saturday, August 8, an evening traffic check took place on the Kaya C.E.B. Hellmund at the level of the customs pier. A total of 19 vehicles were checked, with seven fines for not wearing a seat belt, two for driving without a driver's license and one for not having valid insurance. The car

windows were also measured for the percentage of light transmittance in two cars; one car failed.

On August 9, the police station received a report at around 5:15 am about a unilateral collision on Kaya Korona. On the spot, the patrol found a car on top of the wells where petrol and diesel are supplied at a gas station. The fire brigade and the person in charge of Curoil were asked on site in connection with safety. The co-driver complained of head pain and was taken to hospital by ambulance. The driver was unharmed and stated that he was driving towards Playa on the Kaya Korona when he had to swerve for a donkey causing him to hit the wells of Curoil.

In the night of Monday, August 10, around 1:45 am, a unilateral collision with a pick-up took place on the Kaminda Onima. For some unknown reason, the driver lost control and the pickup ended up in a ditch. The driver was taken by ambulance to the hospital. The passenger was unharmed.

On Tuesday, August 11, a traffic stop was held on Kaya J.N.E. Craane for the use of child seats. A total of 20 vehicles and a scooter were checked. Four fines were issued for driving without a seat belt, two fines for driving without insurance and one fine for not wearing a helmet. Some drivers received a warning because they had child seats, but did not use it while there were children in the car.

Around 8 pm on Sunday August 16, two cars collided on Kaya Nikiboko South. Three occupants were taken to hospital by ambulance, one was more seriously hurt.

At around 4:15 pm on Monday August 17, on Kaya Skandélchi a Tomos moped ran into a stationary pick-up. The driver of the moped took too much of a turn and hit the pick-up head-on. The driver of the moped had lost his upper front teeth and had some scrapes. He was taken to hospital by ambulance. The driver did not have a driving license and will receive an official report.

On Monday 17, around 5 pm, a flatback truck and a scooter collided at the intersec-

tion of Hanchi Amboina, Kaya Papa Cornes and Kaya Marcela. The truck arrived from the Hanchi Amboina and wanted to drive straight on into Kaya Marcela. The driver did not see the scooter that was driving on the Kaya Papa Cornes towards Kaya Korona and hit the scooter at the level of the right front wheel and dragged the scooter up the Kaya Marcela. The driver of the scooter complained of back and stomach pain and was taken to hospital by ambulance. He did wear a helmet. The driver of the truck could not show a valid driver's license and received a ticket.

On Wednesday, August 19, a check was made for incorrect parking in the Center Area. In addition to warnings and a single official report, a car was also towed away. The owner of the removed car was able to collect the car from the police station after payment of the towing costs.

At around 12:15 pm on Thursday August 20, a car and scooter collided on Kaya Nikiboko South. The car was driving towards Tera Kòrà when a car in front of it turned into a side street. The scooter collided with the car that had to brake suddenly. The driver of the scooter was injured and was taken to hospital by ambulance.

On Thursday August 20 around 6:20 pm, a motorcycle and a car collided on Kaya Avelino (Abechi) Cecilia. The driver of the motorcycle was injured and was taken to hospital by ambulance. The car and engine had serious damage. The driver of the car received a police report for driving without a driver's license and without valid insurance.

### Fire

At around 9 pm on Friday, August 7, the police station was notified that there was a fire in a mondi on Kaminda di Lac. Upon arrival of the patrol, the fire appeared to have a surface area of six by three meters and it was five to six meters high. The fire brigade arrived and put out the fire. No one was hurt.

# Letters & Opinions

The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed by the various authors and forum participants do not necessarily reflect the opinions, beliefs and viewpoints of The Bonaire Reporter.

## Letter to the editor about the Aug. 12th issue article, "Can Bonaire's Donkeys be saved."

No donkey should be removed due to prejudice, convenience, or personal profit. As I and others read this article, we find a bit of misinformation. We assume information was given by persons that do not have the proper historic information, no wildlife experience and/or bias.

True, our historic donkeys were brought here by the Spaniards and left in the wild state as breeding stock. Some were taken from the wild and used for work as only the elite had vehicles. Kunuku owners kept their loved donkeys as part of the family. When Donkey Help arrived, they removed well cared for donkeys from family's and left the elderly persons in tears. We assume they needed donkeys to show persons to gain funding. Donkey Help then collected female donkey with the idea that without the females the males would not fight, WOW? Before the Sept. 2013 elimination contract, they already had 350 female donkeys in captivity. Disrupting families is not the answer. As land and water access was removed due to uncontrolled building, they became more condensed. As for the nuance issues, complaints from persons that did not secure their trash cans or closed their gates, this has been resolved mostly with public awareness by Bonaire Donkey Protection League. Traffic problems occur due mostly to speeding or alcohol. 700 female donkeys have been removed and in captivity so the remaining males fight for the few females left. Removal of Historic Donkeys to protect the sea? If that were true after 500 years, we would not have a reef. (The benefits of our Historic Donkeys far surpasses the

minimal damage). Also nothing should be removed from an echo system without a proper impact study. Not even a worm. The Kibrahacha Foundation sounds local? Are there locals on the Board? This was a "desk Study". A lot of what we presented to them was not used. Lack of accidents were mostly due to repaired water basins by BDPLF that put water in the back country. It kept donkeys away from town and roads. Population? A count was done by us and one by George Thode both had under 400 in the wild. Absence of ground cover? As we all know, most due to salt air on the seaward sides. Donkeys reseed and are responsible for many trees we now have. Donkeys are key in ensuring the soil remains fertile.

Solutions: Proper unbiased impact study to keep the Historic Donkey population to an amount that is not an issue for Bonaire, correct the pipes from houses that go directly into the aquifer, stop the strip mining that removed many trees and has land barren, do not allow Round Up or other pesticides, control the people population until our infrastructure is ready. Do not allow 700 donkeys in a concentrated area, peeing on the ground near the mangroves. Do not let animals be buried with the killing poison in them to contaminate rather burn them. There is much more that is not mentioned by those that want our historic donkeys eliminated.

Fences are not the answer to protect our Special Nubian Ass donkeys in the wild. Water far in the Mundi and population control is.

*Al Catalfumo*

## Reopening Airspace to North America

The author of this letter sent to Governor Rijna asked The Reporter to publish it.

Dear Governor Rijna,

My congratulations to you and the island of Bonaire for doing a splendid job of keeping your citizens safe as we all cope with this unprecedented world-wide pandemic. Bonaire, under your leadership has been a shining model of excellence to the rest of the world. You have managed to keep your citizens healthy, however I am sure your economy is suffering terribly. I can only wish that the United States had taken this virus more seriously in the beginning. The following plea to reopen Bonaire to travelers from North America is in no way a criticism, but merely a few humble suggestions that you might want to consider in determining when and how to safely reopen Bonaire to the world at large. I have enjoyed Bonaire beginning in 1988. For more than thirty years, I have traveled to Bonaire a total of 96 times and am a proud home owner on Bonaire in the community of Hato. My dream is to return to our favorite destination, Bonaire, as soon as possible.

I would urge you to consider several safe alternative possibilities and consider reopening to North American travelers in the near future. The choices are difficult, but I believe there is both a scientific and common sense way to reopen to travelers from the United States and minimize the health risks to your population. This plan would be similar to the precautions Bermuda has implemented. First, you could require anyone traveling to Bonaire to have a current negative Covid-19 test that is no older than 72 hours upon arrival at the airport. Second, you could implement a mandatory admission protocol that would require visitors to be tested on the third day after arrival and

again on the seventh day after arrival. If necessary, you could also require an additional test on the 10th day. If anyone tests positive they and those in their party would be required to quarantine at facilities acceptable to Bonaire, at the expense of the traveler.

A program similar to this would come as close as possible to assuring the local citizens that they would be safe from viral spread from foreign travelers and would allow Bonaire to reopen its economy to the world in a safe and effective way. It is no secret that a great majority of the economy of Bonaire relies on tourist dollars. While reopening to some countries in Europe may have slightly eased the economic strain on your economy, the island really needs to fully reopen to the world in order to fully ease the economic strain on your citizens. If you implement a plan similar to the one addressed herein, you do not have to choose between "health and wealth", but could have both. By ordering frequent testing by visitors and enforcing quarantine in the few cases where necessary, you can have the best of both worlds; implementing a program which comes as close as possible to assuring the maintenance of good health for your people while also reigniting a healthy and robust tourist economy.

Governor, thank you for taking the time to read and consider my proposals. On behalf of all of us around the world who love and miss our home away from home, Bonaire, thank you and I wish you and the people of Bonaire continued good health and prosperity. With warmest and best regards, I remain, *Sincerely,* Lonnie Hoover

## Kant'i Awa Regatta, continued from page 1



Renewed interest in Microboats is prompting ideas for a workshop to encourage old and new sailors to dust off their boats or build new ones and join the next contest. Carrying on the tradition is Farid Ayubi with two of his Microboats.

Sunday afternoon completed the competitions with kayak, SUP and Optimist races for anyone to take part. Not only did they have to race, but, the SUP racers had to begin sitting and get up and go, while the adults in the 'opti' races had to begin in the water and get in the tiny boats without tipping them over before sailing. It was entertaining for all on shore for sure!

At the awards ceremony Sunday night, the winners were surprised with beautiful trophies hand crafted by Jopie Soliano. Throughout the weekend there was great music provided by Mimoun, DJ Marv, Kabes and more!

Besides those already mentioned above, Ton Nuijten, Alexander Tromp, Pamela Teitel, Kabes Soliano Bon Sailing, BSSA Sailing Association and STINAPA were of a great help in organization and safety. Of course, without assistance and sponsors none of this could be possible; Alfa and Omega, Black Ice, Bondigro, Budget Marine, Budget Car Rental, Chirino Dental

Results	
Cruisers:	First - Taima 1; Second - Piano; Third - Papyro
Beach Cat:	First - Ton Nuijten
Kite Foil:	First - Christiaan Zweers; Second - Pieter Sweers; Third - Maarten Cicilia
Wind Foil:	First - Nigel Hart; Second - Bimbi Clappers; Third - Hendrick Clotida
Sunfish A:	First - Sipke Stapert; Second - Alfred Ramon Martis (Yellowman); Third - Ton Nuijten
Sunfish B:	First - Kyren Ogenia; Second - Luca Davidsson; Third - Aline Brommel
Optimist A:	First - Gilbert Lai; Second - Paxienrocque Martis
Optimist B:	First - Yemina Mary; Second - Noa van Bourganje; Third - Osdally Mary
Micro Boat 30"	First - Everardo Janga; Second - Farid Ayubi
Micro Boat 35"	First - Everardo Janga; Second - Farid Ayubi; Third - Farid Ayubi
Micro Boat 40"	First - Farid Ayubi; Second - Everardo Janga; Third - Sandro Joosten
Kayak	First - Christiaan Elderson
SUP	First - Wijnand de Wolf
Adult Optimist	First - Walter Benschop

Clinic, Foster BV, JC Herrera, Jibe City, Kite City Bonaire, Now Immigration, Obersi Group, Ruxi Grill and Sweet Treats Bonaire all offered great support to make this a reality.

Photo: Enjoying the Kanti Awa Regatta waterfront activities in their own way - Fanny Mercera and Amkia Ellane





# Reef Glimpses

## A History of Fish Feeding on Bonaire: Part 2

### What We Learned About Feeding Morays

The woman walked past the Dive Operations Manager with a raw fish filet in her bare hand. "What's the fish for?" he asked. "I'm going to feed a spotted moray we see out front," she replied, "while my husband takes photos." He warned her to leave moray feeding to the professionals but could only convince her not to carry the filet barehanded, so she used a plastic bag. "Remember, the eel can't tell the difference between the food and your finger, and the eel doesn't care," was his parting comment.

The couple did the dive successfully, and proudly told everyone about the great shots they'd gotten (this was in the days of film, so they couldn't show the photos), and about how efficiently she had drawn the moray out of the reef by offering a piece of fish and then moving it back, not releasing it to the moray until the entire moray was out of the reef. They were psyched for a second moray dive, and even collected a few onlookers.

The second dive began as planned: they found the moray, which came out and took food just as it had done in the morning. They got the photos they wanted without even using all the fish filet she'd brought in a plastic bag and the group swam off along the reef slope.

Then the unexpected happened. Although the divers were finished with the moray, it turned out that the moray wasn't finished with the divers, or, more accurately, the moray still wanted to eat. As the divers swam upcurrent, the delicious aroma of freshly fileted fish escaped from the plastic bag and drifted back to the moray. Already out of its resting place, with its

hunger stimulated but not sated, and having been rewarded by the diver for following the food – the moray followed the food.

Neither the woman nor her buddy saw the moray zipping along; the onlookers saw it but couldn't get their attention. The moray swam faster as the scent got stronger. It came up from behind the woman and bit where the scent was strongest, along the opening of the bag, onto her forefinger. Once it realized it was biting on something unexpected, it released her finger and darted back to the reef. She was treated on Bonaire and medevac'd back to the US, but her sliced finger was permanently damaged.

Although the moray was taught by the woman to follow food for a reward, the chaos that resulted when it grabbed her finger apparently caused the eel to forget this lesson, so everything ended up okay for other divers. The moray showed no ill effects.

What was to be learned from this?

Lesson #2 (Lesson #1, from the Bonaire Reporter previous issue, being Don't Scatter-Feed): Don't Move the Food Away Once You Offer It! For starters, it's just plain rude. If manners don't mean anything to you, though, look at it this way: although moving the food away may succeed at getting a critter out of its sanctuary, it also teaches the critter to chase the food. Morays are quick learners since the food, from their perspective, is fleeing prey; they move after it faster and faster.

A moray can always move faster than you can. *More moray info next time.*

*Dee Scarr*



I stopped near the den of "Captain Don" the spotted moray and showed him to my buddy, who took some pictures. Then I took out my gloves, and, before I could put them on, Captain Don emerged from the pipe and eagerly began to examine the gloves and my hands. We were both calm and I stroked his chin barehanded before I put the gloves on and served lunch.

I used brightly-colored gloves whenever I fed morays, to help the moray distinguish fingers from food. On this day, I learned that Captain Don interpreted my behavior differently: for Don, the gloves meant that food was on its way!

Photo notes: this photo was taken more than two decades ago (I think the Marine Park tag reads 1994), when diving the pier was unrestricted. It was a popular site for night diving, but was almost never dived by day. "Who wants to dive that junk heap?" was a popular opinion (which was fine with me). I worked with Captain Don several times a week for more than two years; his skin stayed healthy and he showed no ill effects from our visits.

In coverage of the Taste of Bonaire, July 26, we published an incorrect contact phone number for Marleen G's Murano art creations. The correct number is 599-782-6848. This particular Bonaire critter shadow box is 10cm x 10cm (approx. 4x4 in)



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# Did You Know that the oldest parts of Bonaire were formed over 100 million years ago?

Did you know that the oldest parts of Bonaire were formed over 100 million years ago? Some areas of Bonaire were formed because of volcanic activity on the sea floor during the Cretaceous period; that is right around the same time that dinosaurs like T-Rex were dominating the earth.

rock actually moves as if it was liquid. The last layer, the one we live on, is the crust. You should think of the crust as a set of distinct plates that float on top of the mantle. As the mantle moves around, so do the plates!



**Figure 1. Representation of super-continent Pangea 335 million years ago. Source: <https://www.visualcapitalist.com/incredible-map-of-pangea-with-modern-borders/>**

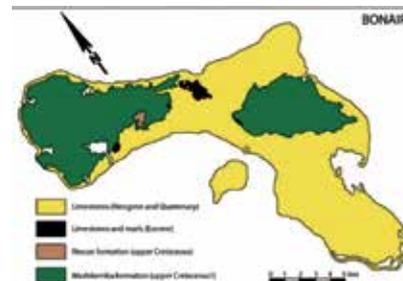
Scientists estimate that our planet is over 4.5 billion years old. During this time, land masses formed and disappeared many times over. While maps may give us the impression that continents and their locations are fairly stable, the truth is that we are constantly in a state of flux. The main engine behind the movement, formation, and destruction of land is plate tectonics. Think of our planet as a giant ball composed of multiple layers. At the very center of the earth is a solid ball composed of iron and nickel and the temperature of this inner core is hotter than even the surface of the sun! This inner core is surrounded by a second layer of metals. But because this layer is not exposed to the same high pressures as the inner core it is liquid. The next layer in our planet ball is the mantle. The mantle is a layer of solid rock. But, if we look at the mantle over geological time of over millions and billions of years, this solid

About 335 million years ago a map of the globe would look very different. Scientists theorize that at that point all the available land was concentrated in one continent, a super continent if

you will, called Pangea. But slowly, over the next 175 million years, the different parts of the continent began to separate and drift apart. The forces that caused the super continent to separate are still active today! As a matter of fact, most continents will move between two to 10 cm per year. And this movement is not just confined to continents. Small islands also move. Bonaire specifically drifts about 12 mm per year! As the plates move, sometimes they move away from each other and other times they collide. All these plate interactions result in the formation or destruction of new land.

higher than it is today. It's theorized that the sea level could have been up to 60m higher than what it is today during a period of extreme warming when all the ice on land had melted. Bonaire has appeared and disappeared many times over during its history and we expect this cycle to continue. In the next 11 to 15 thousand years, it's almost certain that Bonaire will once again disappear beneath the waves.

*Roxanne-Liana Francisca. STINAPA Biologist. Connecting People With Nature*



**Figure 2. Map of the composition of Bonaire. Picture from Leon Pors' presentation on the geology of Bonaire**

The oldest rocks on Bonaire, the Washikemba formation found in two areas on the island, are the result of volcanic activity. The vast majority of the island however is the result of limestone deposition from ancient reefs and other animals that made hard exterior skeletons over 30 million years ago. Interestingly enough, many of the fossil corals we can identify in these depositions are remarkably similar to the corals alive on our reefs today. These depositions were formed at a moment in time the sea level was much



The "Queen of the Night" and/or "Lady of the Night" has been making appearances all over Bonaire in the past week and there will probably be more in the coming weeks. Rudy Vermeulen discovered the blooming cactus in full bloom on his early morning walks and took this and other photos. This type of cactus is said to bloom only once but this specimen is so large that the blooms have been appearing over several days. The blooms attract both bees and bats.

Rudy said, "Every morning as soon as the daylight/sunlight starts the plant shuts down the production and/or release of sweet liquid in the flowers, and the bees disappear. Amazing how the plant saves or regulates energy here."

There are several similar species of this type of Cereus cactus on Bonaire but this South American cactus is Cereus hildmannianus according to plant specialist Quirijn Coolen.



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## Quarterly clean up, continued from page 3

Going out for a beautiful dive and doing something good for the ocean that gives you major karma points is always a good idea!

The first group returned after about an hour and we started counting and sorting the trash right away. There was less than we expected, and bags returned half full or even less, which is a good thing!

Dive Friends collected 30 kilos of trash, mostly plastic but also some big and heavier pieces of metal. All the sorted trash was put in separate containers provided by Selibon. We are lucky that our local trash company is also invested in recycling and the environment. They help us out at all our cleanups by providing containers and picking them up afterwards.

We are also lucky with our partners be-

cause one of the bonuses at Resort Bonaire is their restaurant, Paradise Pizza! They offered all the staff and participants a nice lunch deal and nobody could resist a delicious pizza and soda after their hard work.

It was a delightful end of a very successful day. We found out bachelor's beach is cleaner than we thought and we made it even cleaner plus we got to hang out with super enthusiastic divers. There were even a few divers participating for the first time, which is always nice!

Until the next quarterly cleanup we will focus on cleaning our house reefs at least once a month for our 'adopt a dive site' project.

Hope to see you at our next quarterly cleanup dive on October 17th!

Story Monique Kooijman;  
Photos Pieter and Aime

## 800 Americans stranded, US and Venezuela squabble

According to the Miami Herald, approximately 800 Americans, stranded in Venezuela by the coronavirus, have applied to be repatriated. An unknown number of Venezuelans in the U.S. want to return home as well. The two governments claim they have been negotiating for months to find a way.

The Maduro government says it will allow the Venezuelan airline Conviasa to fly the Americans home and bring back stranded Venezuelans. The U.S. Venezuelan authorities know that is "a false offer" because Conviasa is not allowed to fly to the U.S., having been sanctioned by Trump administration.

The U.S. has proposed "dozens" of alternative arrangements to bring the Americans home using private carriers

and routing the flights through third party countries. The Venezuelan's response has been firm and consistent: the Americans can return to the U.S. at any time—on Conviasa.

The U.S. is one of the more than 50 countries that recognize Juan Guaidó, president of the Venezuelan National Assembly, as the legitimate interim president of Venezuela rather than Maduro. Reportedly, the U.S. and the Guaidó's shadow government have successfully negotiated a repatriation plan.

In the meantime, the dangers to the Americans stranded there increase daily. The Venezuelan health care system, weak to begin with, has been overwhelmed by the corona pandemic. *DMR*

Send us your photo with The Reporter in print, iphone, ipad or computer - Picture Yourself!

## Ask a Geek by Brian Niessen Time for a coronavirus update...



"THE COMPUTER SAYS I NEED TO UPGRADE MY BRAIN TO BE COMPATIBLE WITH ITS NEW SOFTWARE."

That headline either got your attention, and you are reading this OR.... right, you're not reading this.

Since there are no problems to solve from a computer or technology point of view this week, I thought it was time for a little levity and laughter.

Remembering your password: I decided to make my password "incorrect" because if I type it in wrong, my computer will remind me, "Your password is incorrect."

Q: What did the spider do on the computer?

A: Made a website!

Q: What is the biggest lie in the entire universe?

A: "I have read and agree to the Terms & Conditions."

"I just got fired from my job at the keyboard factory. They told me I wasn't putting in enough shifts."

I saw a driver texting and driving. It made me so mad I threw my beer at him.

And the ever present Autocorrect errors: "Autocorrect has become my worst enema."; "1 in 5 children will be getting a visit from Satan this Christmas."; "Joe Smith died last night. His funfair is next

monkey."

Automated Phone Systems: "If you understand English, press 1. If you do not understand English, press 2."

I was in a couple's home trying to fix their Internet connection. The husband called out to his wife in the other room for the computer password. "Start with a capital S, then 123," she shouted back. We tried S123 several times, but it didn't work. So we called the wife in. As she input the password, she muttered, "I really don't know what's so difficult about typing Start123."

And one last one: I'm at the library, and for some reason, when I plug my flash drive into the computer, it doesn't show up. I keep trying, but nothing happens. As an IT major, I know I can figure this out. So I spend 15 minutes changing settings and inserting and removing the flash drive. Then a girl sitting next to me taps my shoulder and says, "You're plugging into my computer, not yours." (LOSER!)

Need help?  
See the Geek's business ad on page 10.



## A Garden? Just Do It! Coffee grounds and egg shells

There are so many things that we throw away which can be so useful in gardening. One of those things is coffee grounds, and you can use it as fertilizer.

The benefit of using coffee grounds as a fertilizer is that it adds organic material to the soil. It improves drainage, water retention and aeration in the soil. The used coffee grounds will also help microorganisms, beneficial to plant growth, thrive as well as attract earthworms.

If you don't use coffee yourself, go to coffee shops and restaurants for coffee grounds; you can get them for free. The coffee grounds are incredibly beneficial as a mulch and very good for the hard reddish clay soil that we have here on Bonaire.

On the other hand, too much is not good. Grounds consist of very fine particles that are prone to lock together. This



Eggshells with coffee grounds mix with compost in my sweet potato - spinach container

turns them into a barrier that will resist water penetration and eventually result in

plants dying of thirst. Also avoid spreading coffee grounds around seeds or seedlings as they may inhibit germination and growth. And don't use thick blankets of it to mulch around plants, as some plants are more sensitive to caffeine than others.

The best way to use coffee grounds is to mix it with other organic matter such as compost or leaf mold before using it as mulch. An alternative is to rake your coffee grounds into the top layer of soil so that it can't clump together. Variable particle sizes are key to good soil structure.

Coffee grounds contain a good amount of the essential nutrient nitrogen as well as some potassium and phosphorus, plus other micronutrients. Coffee grounds can be used as a slow release fertilizer by sprinkling them thinly onto your soil or into your compost heap.

For the purposes of composting, balance it with carbon-rich materials such as dried leaves, woody prunings or even newspaper. This is the widely accepted way to be safe and beneficial.

As I said earlier, worms love coffee grounds and are attracted to them, which is very good for your soil. It's also a natural pesticide to slugs and ants. These bugs don't like coffee grounds and they will look for another place (in your garden) to live.

Coffee grounds with eggshells tend to offset the coffee grounds low PH which makes compost perfect for your plants. Use a coffee grinder to make eggshells into a fine powder to put into your compost. Eggshells in the garden are useful due to the calcium as it moderates soil acidity while providing nutrients for plants. Eggshell powder is very good for selected plants like tomatoes guarding against blossom end rot and tipburn in cabbage.

So with all this knowledge in your pocket, coffee grounds and eggshells are no longer waste but useful products in your garden. Start with them, just do it.

Angliet, Nature lover

# What's Happening

<del>Saturday</del> Aug. <del>29</del>	Nos Zjilea Cultural Event <b>CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE</b>
Sunday Aug. <b>30</b>	Sunrise Hike of Brandaris, Washington-Slagbaai Park 5-8am \$10, STINAPA (+599) 717 8444 LVV open house
Sunday Sept. <b>6</b>	Bonaire Day (legal holiday)
Saturday Sept. <b>13</b>	Clean Coast Bonaire 4pm Te Amo Beach

## Every Saturday

**Pakus di Pruga- Flea Market store sponsored by the Animal Shelter** from 8am till 4pm Open but with "social distancing" requirements

## Weekdays+

**Washington Slagbaai Park** will be open Monday to Friday from 8am to 5pm.  
**Bonaire Public Library:** Mon. 1-5pm; Tues - Thurs. 8am -5pm; Fri 8am-4:30pm; Sat. 8am-12 noon.

## Clubs & meetings

**Open Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting.** Every Thursday, 7 - 8 pm. International Bible Church, Kaya Papago 104 in Hato (Behind Bon Bida Spa & Gym and Bon Bida apartments). All are welcome to attend.

**12 Step Meeting** Wednesdays at Bonaire Basics, Kaya Korona 47. Meeting starts at 7:15pm. Info: 12stepsbonaire@gmail.com



## Upcoming Events

Oct. 17th Quarterly Clean Up Dive  
Nov. 20th Instructor Development Course



**Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) has announced that the Taste of Bonaire events are cancelled for 2020.**

For more information contact Angelo Domacasse at 717 8322 or email [angelodomacasse@tourismonaire.com](mailto:angelodomacasse@tourismonaire.com)

# Meeting set to legalize cannabis

Cannabis Vereniging Bonaire (CVB), a non-profit association to legalize medical and recreational marijuana, will hold their first meeting August 30 at Tera Kora Ranch.

The group will lobby the government for a well regulated, legal cannabis industry on Bonaire for both medical and recreational purposes.

CVB will apply for cannabis related permits for members. And they will provide support for cannabis related business on the island.

The cannabis association Bonaire currently has approximately 100 members and is looking for more members and board members. A contribution of \$25 every quarter is suggested for operating expenses of the association.

Anyone is welcome to attend the first 'free' CVB meeting at Tera Cora on August 30, 7 to 8:30pm.

Sign-up to attend at <http://rb.gy/v7e56y>.

CVB founders are: Ralph Nolen, Desiree Croes and Bano Pourier.



Rijksdienst  
Caribisch Nederland

## Customs BCN intercepts drugs in Bonaire and Saba

In the morning hours on Wednesday, August 19th, during a regular check of travelers and their luggage at Flamingo Airport on Bonaire, customs found 850 grams of marijuana on a female passenger. The female passenger, who was noticed during the check of the passengers of a flight from Curaçao, was

then checked by Customs. During the check, several packages of marijuana were found on the suspect's body. Customs has confiscated the marijuana and the suspect, 46, was arrested. The drugs and the suspect were handed over to the Kmar for further investigation.

On Wednesday, August 12th, Customs on Saba found approximately 470 grams of marijuana and 100 grams of cocaine in a freight shipment during a regular check. The consignment recipient, a woman, 41, has been arrested by the KPCN. The drugs were hidden in or between foods.



# Making Bonaire "Accessible"

Just like anybody else...

Although the rights for handicapped persons were established in 1992, a lot of people and organizations still seem to misunderstand this and act accordingly.

And if you have a family member with mental retardation or another handicap, you know how this hurts. As a family member you can take care of and provide for your loved one but it is hard when the parents pass away. And it is even harder when the siblings pass away. The person who stays behind has nobody left to care and love them.

Most of the time the handicapped person is placed in an institution, a home or other kind of facility.

In the old days the only staff available were people who really needed work. And hopefully, they loved the job and

loved the ones they cared for. Later this situation changed. Big mental hospitals (because that is where persons with mental retardation or other handicaps were placed) began to train their staff. And as a worker one could specialize to work with this specific group of "patients". Because that is how they were seen and treated, as a patient.

But around 1968 there was an international social change and the persons with mental retardation were considered people like everybody else. The retardation could not get fixed, but one could train them, teach them, guide and love them.

That meant that they could suffer from depression, hormonal imbalance, arthritis, etc. Every person in a home was seen by ortho-pedagogic specialists and the staff training was highly specialized and the

patients became persons. They were not seen and treated as children anymore.

In every institution or home the staff attended meetings and their "clients" were discussed. Every staff member had a group of "clients" that they were responsible for. Every decision was taken together with the parents of a close family member.

When there were no family-members left, an organization like "Humanitas" could be approached and they would provide a well-trained "mentor", appointed by a family judge. This was an important step because persons with mental retardation have a right to privacy. In an institution or home, the staff is staff. Like everybody else a person with mental retardation needs somebody who is there just for them that they can trust. Many

people with handicaps or mental retardation are often diagnosed with depression because they do not feel heard or seen and cannot express themselves to be seen or heard.

This is why staffing, education and training are important. Organizations need to provide staff who vary in age and experience. When working with people, one needs to have an affinity. This is even more true when working with a group of special people. Because even though it is 2020, one still hears people call this group of special people, "children." And if they are called children, they are treated like children, and not like anybody else.

*Ria Evers-Dokter.*

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## Canine Communication

In this day and age, we humans have countless ways of communicating with one another from social media, to video chat, to yelling across the street to a friend. Our human communication relies heavily on spoken (or written) language with only a fraction of the information transmitted via nonverbal cues like body language. Dogs on the other hand, rely much more heavily on non-verbal communication. This difference can make it hard for us to understand them and we often find ourselves thinking, what exactly is my dog trying to say to me?

## Tail Wagging

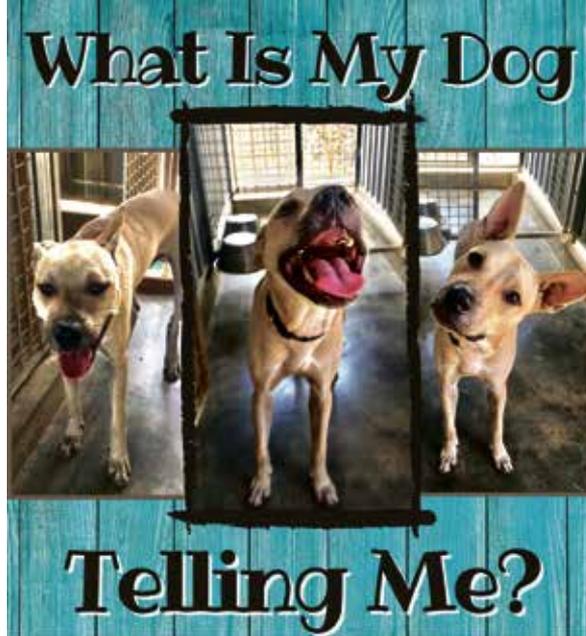
Like most people when we think of dog body language, the tail is the first thing that comes to mind. A wagging tail however does not always automatically mean a happy dog. Basically the faster the dog is wagging his tail, the more excited he is.

Big, slow wagging (think of the way the tail seems to “wag” the whole body of your dog) with a lower tail is the sign of a happy and content dog. A “tighter” and faster twitching tail is a dog on high alert, usually with the tail lifted up taller while the body is tense and the stance is firm. Essentially the higher the dog holds his tail, the more assertive (and potentially aggressive) he is feeling.

On the contrary, if he is holding his tail down very low or tucked in between his legs, this is a sign of fear or stress. The neutral tail is relaxed and in-between. Every dog may have a slightly different looking “neutral” position and it is important to regard the tail as only one component of a whole display of other body language signals to best read what your dog is feeling.

## Body Posture

A dog’s overall posture can tell you a lot about his mood and intentions. A dog cowering low near the ground is signaling stress or fear. A more extreme version



of this is when he lowers himself all the way down or even rolls over (along with his tail between his legs). This is a dog basically saying “I mean no harm” and showing submission by trying to appear as small as possible.

The opposite is the upright and tense posture of a dog on high alert. His weight will shift towards his shoulders and it will look like he’s leaning forward. He will lift his head up high and his ears will be erect and pointing forward. The dog’s hackles (hair along the spine of the dog) may also be fluffy and raised up. This often indicates a high interest in something and is not always a bad sign. Be extra sure to take notice of the tail when he is alert like this to read for signs of aggression (fast twitching tail in a high position) or over-dominance. In a case like this, he is trying to appear as large as possible.

An easy posture to recognize is the famous “play bow” where the dog places his front legs and chest on

the ground with his back legs and bum up in the air. This is usually accompanied with a wide wagging tail, alert eyes, and a partially open mouth with a relaxed tongue hanging. As it sounds, this posture is a signal that “I like you and I want to play!”

## Other More Subtle Expressions

Believe it or not, dogs also have different facial expressions just as we do, except that they may use them in slightly different ways. For example, many dogs lick their lips when feeling anxiety or discomfort, and may even yawn in times of stress. Their eyes may show a high alert status and may even indicate that they sense a threat with a wide open “cold” stare. Relaxed droopy or partially open eyes are present with a content and laid back pup. Many dogs also even smile! They bare their teeth just as they would when feeling aggressive, but the big difference is in reading the rest of his posture. If he is wagging his tail and moving a lot with a relaxed body, he is indeed very happy and excited! If he is tense and stationary with ears pointed back and obvious growling, then he is feeling threatened and showing aggression.

No one single body language signal tells the whole story of what your dog is feeling. You always have to take in consideration the entire body and the symphony of signals that your dog is giving you to get a better idea of what he is saying. The more you pay attention and spend time with dogs (especially your own dog), the faster you will become a master at interpreting their special “language”. Learning more about what your furry friend is saying develops a deeper bond of trust and respect between you both and helps you understand just how happy he is to have a human like you. *Story by Amy Weir*



## Pet of the Week: Will Feral



**Meet Will Feral!** Will is about one and a half years old, and a very handsome, neutered grey tabby cat. When he arrived, he was a feral cat and not used to humans at all, hence the name Will Feral! With some time, he learned that the staff and volunteers at the shelter are here to love him and cater to his every need. It took baby steps, first he had to accept the humans, then he needed to accept the other cats...all of which he did very well! He is a beautiful grey tabby, who loves to lounge around, even while drinking his water! He has a very “unique” tiny squeaky meow that makes him stand out in the crowd of kitties at the Animal Shelter. He is very loving and lovable. Will Feral is truly a success story of a feral cat becoming an adoptable cat for your family to love and enjoy.

Come by to visit him at Animal Shelter Bonaire, Kaminda Lagun 26, Animal Shelter Bonaire, Mon-Fri 9-12 and 3-5, Sat from 9 am-3 pm non stop. You can also call us for info at 701-4989. *Story and photo, Travis Sullins*



## Bonaire’s sky park Orion and Venus

### Orion grabs his morning star

Your friendly star nerd Trace here with some early-morning star gazing for you.

Head outside before sunrise, and look to the South East because you’re going to welcome Orion back to our skies! In the early summer, Orion is hidden by the sun, but as Fall approaches he returns. Since he’s back, let’s equip him with a new maul -- Venus the Morning Star -- if you look a bit to the Left of Orion, you’ll see a bright spot, that’s Venus!

Venus, is the next closest planet to our sun. It’s about the same size as Earth but has a terribly toxic temperament. The Soviet Union landed a probe on it in December 1970 -- it only lasted 20 minutes.

Anyway, we all know Orion can’t REALLY grab Venus, but our neighbor planet will chase Orion across the sky all morning, so enjoy the view while you Keep Lookin’ up!

### Ain’t nothin’ but a Heavenly G, baby

Any morning this week pre-dawn, look east and you’re going to see bright, beautiful, Venus. Right now, she’s flying through a huge asterism (a prominent pattern of stars smaller than a constellation) formed by the brightest stars of numerous constellations: the ‘Heavenly G’!

Start in the middle of the G with red Betelgeuse in Orion. Hop to Aldebaran in Taurus, then back to Orion for super-bright Rigel, then to Sirius in Canis Major, Procyon in Canis Minor, Castor and Pollux in Gemini and FINALLY Capella in Auriga!

Retrace your steps with a line connecting these and you’ve drawn a GIANT LETTER G in the heavens! Looking at stars is looking back in time -- and as the original G, Snoop Dogg, said, “You’ve got to go back

in time if you want to move forward.”

Share this asterism with me on Twitter if you spot it and Keep Lookin’ Up!

*Source: <https://www.stargazersonline.org>. Hosts: Trace Dominguez & Ata Sarajedini.*

## HELP WANTED!

**Do you love cats or dogs? Not afraid of hard work?**  
Animal Shelter Bonaire needs you! (Two positions – one cat/ one dog)

**CAT PERSON** Animal Care Giver/Level 2:  
Five days per week, Sunday – Thursday, 8 am – 1 pm, 25 hours per week

**Requirements:**

- Love of cats
- Physically able
- Good people skills
- Basic computer skills
- Speak, read and write basic English (Papiamentu a plus)
- Bonaire sedula
- Clear conduct record

**DOG PERSON** Animal Care Giver/Level 1:  
Three days per week, two weekdays  
8 am- 1 pm and 3-5 pm, Saturday, 8 am-3 pm nonstop, 21 hrs week

**Requirements:**

- Love of cats
- Physically able
- Good people skills
- Speak, read and write basic English (Papiamentu a plus)
- Bonaire sedula
- Clear conduct record

If you are interested please email [animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com](mailto:animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com) with your C.V. for an interview appointment. Salary based on qualifications.

**DO NOT RESPOND VIA FACEBOOK OR MESSENGER.**

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# Stricter measures to protect Bonaire against coronavirus

## OLB press release

Sept 2, 2020

Bonaire now has four people with whom Covid-19 is active. In both cases that have been added, source and contact research is still in full swing. Both persons have been tested in recent days. One of them was quarantined at home. The other person was tested in the Drive Thru by the Public Health Department.

Now that the corona virus is on the island, measures must be taken to prevent it from spreading.

### Curacao

The “air bubble with Curaçao will be suspended from September 4, 2020. Everyone who comes from Curaçao has to be quarantined for 14 days. Residents of Bonaire can come back. Visitors to Curaçao are allowed to come if they have an exemption. Everyone must complete the health declaration. Passengers with complaints related to Covid-19 will not be admitted.

### Europe

Passengers from Europe must show a neg-

ative test result from Monday, September 7, otherwise they will be quarantined for 14 days at their own expense. The test must be done a maximum of 72 before departure.

The potential for the coronavirus to spread must be taken seriously. That is why additional measures are being taken to counter this.

### Events

All events involving singing, dancing and music are prohibited. No more than 50 people are allowed to attend public events. A maximum of 25 guests may come to private parties. This number of 25 guests also applies to events at snacks, cafeterias, bars and restaurants, trük di pan and on beaches.

### Sport

Sports activities may continue but without an audience. Gyms can stay open but receive half of the people to keep 1.5 meters away.

### Catering industry

Catering establishments must follow the guidelines for Covid-19. Guests must provide

their name and phone number. These are kept for 21 days.

### Convenience store

All supermarket customers must do their shopping with a trolley. Shopping is allowed with a maximum of two people to keep 1.5 meters away.

### Work

Keep as much as possible 1.5 meters apart at work and use protection. During meetings, employees must keep 1.5 meters away. Regularly air all workplaces. Everyone in the workplace, so employees and customers, must follow the hygiene instructions.

These measures are there to protect the community on Bonaire. Take care of yourself and the people around you.

## New measures to travel from Curaçao to Bonaire will apply on Saturday 5 September

OLB press release Sept 2, 2020

Kralendijk - The measures announced to travel from Curaçao to Bonaire will take effect on Saturday, September 5. The number of positive cases of Covid-19 is on the rise. As a result, it has been decided to suspend free travel from Curaçao to Bonaire. Curaçao is now considered a high risk country by Bonaire.

Aruba and Sint Maarten were previously considered high-risk countries and the so-called “air bubble” has also been suspended for those islands. Anyone who travels to Bonaire from Aruba, Sint Maarten and Curaçao requires permission from the Lieutenant Governor and will be quarantined for 14 days. Residents of Bonaire who wish to return must also have permission from the Lieutenant Governor. Everyone who comes to Bonaire is expected to complete the health declaration. The Health Declaration must be completed digitally via [www.bonairepublichealth.org](http://www.bonairepublichealth.org).

Persons on Bonaire who wish to travel / travel abroad do not require the consent of the Lieutenant Governor. The person must meet the entry conditions of the destination country.

## Supervision & Enforcement checks more strictly for compliance with corona measures

OLB press release Sept 2, 2020

Kralendijk - The new situation surrounding Covid-19 forces us all to be alert to prevent the spread of the corona virus. In the coming days, inspectors from the Supervision & Enforcement Directorate will inform the hotel and catering industry and retailers about the new situation. Companies will be approached and informed in the coming days. These visits are there to make everyone aware of the importance of complying with the new rules.

The emergency ordinance also applies to boats. Parties and tours on the boats are not allowed without proper measures. A maximum of 25 guests may come to private parties. Port inspectors will supervise this.

Where necessary, Supervision and Enforcement will act. In the event of non-compliance with the Emergency Ordinance, inspectors will provide instructions on how to comply with the rules. If this does not lead to compliance, this will lead to an official report or an order subject to a penalty.

# Another active case of Covid-19 found on Bonaire

## OLB press release

### August 28, 2020

Kralendijk - A second active case of COVID-19 has been established on Bonaire. It concerns a resident of Bonaire who returned a few days ago from a visit to Curaçao. The person is now being treated in the hospital. This person is in isolation, so the chance that others will become infected is very small. The source and contact investigation has started. The contacts are called by the Public Health Department, and the close contacts are quarantined. They are tested in case of complaints.

The fact that another case of Covid-19 has been diagnosed on Bonaire shows how important it is to follow the hygiene instructions. Avoid crowds, keep 1.5 meters away and wash your hands regularly with soap and water. Take care of yourself and the people around you.



# One person with Covid-19 on Bonaire

## OLB press release

### August 27, 2020

Kralendijk - Another positive case of Covid-19 has been discovered on Bonaire. Now it is about someone among the local population. The infected person is in isolation and his health is being monitored. Contact inquiries are currently being conducted to determine whether the sick person may have infected others as well.

This week, when testing people with respiratory complaints, a person was found who had been infected. The person has almost recovered. He remains in isolation for at least 24 hours after he has fully recovered. The housemates remain in quarantine and are tested.

Until now it is not clear where this person contracted the infection. To date there is no known contact with people from Curaçao, Aruba or the Netherlands. This means that the source of the contamination is not yet clear. The Public Health Department is conducting further research into this. All close contacts of this person during the period that this person was ill are mapped and then called. These close contacts are also asked to be quarantined up to 14 days after the last contact. This is not necessary for people who have had a fleeting contact. The following applies to everyone: stay at home with complaints and get tested.

Close contacts of positively tested individuals are monitored by the Department of Public Health and are advised to stay at home, not go to work, or receive visitors. In case of complaints, contact Public Health so that testing can take place.

#### Drive-thru

Anyone who has or receives complaints can have themselves tested. Call for an appointment to 0800-0800. On Monday afternoon, August 31 from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm, the Public Health department is organizing another Drive-thru. It is intended for people with minor complaints. Call for an appointment to 0800-0800. If you do not receive an immediate answer, the employees are in conversation. Please call again later. You can call to register every day from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

#### Preventing contamination

Infections can be prevented by keeping a good distance of 1.5 meters, not visiting places where many people are and, above all, washing hands well and often.





# Government to empty BOPEC tanks

## RCN press release

August 26, 2020

### ILT's enforcement actions at BOPEC

The Environment and Transport Inspectorate (Inspectie Leefomgeving en Transport (ILT)) has decided on imposing an order for administrative coercion (last onder bestuursdwang, LOB) at the oil terminal BOPEC on Bonaire.

A number of the tanks and pipe-lines of the company must be emptied on short notice, because the risk of leakage increases. BOPEC turns out not to be able to take away the safety risks. The ILT considers this unacceptable and is taking the necessary measures in order to take away risks to people and the environment. The costs will be recovered at BOPEC later on.

During the inspection of ILT, Department of Waterways and Public Works (Rijkswaterstaat), Inspectorate SZW and the Fire brigade, it was determined that all of the necessary improvement projects of the past few years, due to a lack of funding from the Venezuelan parent company, have stagnated. In April of 2020 follow-up inspections were to take

place, however, due to the corona virus, these inspections had to be cancelled. In the meantime the situation at the company has deteriorated further. There are still 5 tanks filled with fuel oil, but due to the bad conditions of the jetties, ships cannot load or unload the oil at BOPEC. The company reported in late July that the floating roof of the largest tank has a leak. As a result, the roof can fill up with rainwater and sink during heavy rainfall. A sinking roof can cause major damage to the tank wall, allowing the contents to flow out.

The ILT believes that this tank and four other tanks should be pumped empty as quickly as possible. To do this, two empty but previously renovated tanks must first be inspected and tested. With the use of administrative coercion, the ILT takes matters into its own hands and will order the inspection and testing of the renovated tanks and the transfer of oil. The necessary actions are discussed in advance with BOPEC, in order to use their knowledge and experience as much as possible.

## April, May, & June Corals

Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM				DAYS AFM				DAYS AFM			
			CALENDAR DATE				CALENDAR DATE				CALENDAR DATE			
			SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> *	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS	17-Apr	18-Apr	19-Apr	20-Apr	17-May	18-May	19-May	20-May	15-Jun	16-Jun	17-Jun	18-Jun
			18:48	18:48	18:48	18:48	18:53	18:53	18:53	18:54	19:01	19:01	19:01	19:02

\*Monthly "DLAB" spawning has been observed from April to October in Curaçao, Bonaire, the Dominican Republic, and Mexico. We don't yet know if this occurs across the entire region. New observations are highly encouraged!

## July Corals

Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			CALENDAR DATE													
			SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME		
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> *	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS	4-Jul	5-Jul	6-Jul	7-Jul	8-Jul	9-Jul	10-Jul	11-Jul	12-Jul	13-Jul	14-Jul	15-Jul	16-Jul	17-Jul
<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i>	Great Star Coral	15-165 min AS	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04
<i>Colpophyllia natans</i>	Boulder Brain Coral	35-110 min AS														
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Early group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	40-60 min AS														
<i>Dendrogyra cylindrus</i>	Pillar Coral	90-155 min AS														
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Late group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	220-270 min AS														

## August Corals

Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			CALENDAR DATE													
			SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME		
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> *	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS	3-Aug	4-Aug	5-Aug	6-Aug	7-Aug	8-Aug	9-Aug	10-Aug	11-Aug	12-Aug	13-Aug	14-Aug	15-Aug	16-Aug
<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i>	Great Star Coral	15-165 min AS	19:00	19:00	18:59	18:59	18:59	18:58	18:58	18:57	18:57	18:56	18:56	18:55	18:55	18:54
<i>Colpophyllia natans</i>	Boulder Brain Coral	35-110 min AS														
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Early group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	30-70 min AS														
<i>Dendrogyra cylindrus</i>	Pillar Coral	90-155 min AS														
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i>	Pineapple Coral	100-160 min AS														
<i>Acropora palmata</i>	Elkhorn Coral	140-190 min AS														
<i>Acropora cervicornis</i>	Staghorn Coral	150-190 min AS														
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella annularis</i>	Lobed/Boulder Star Coral	185-250 min AS														
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella faveolata</i>	Mountainous Star Coral	185-250 min AS														
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Late group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	220-270 min AS														

## September Corals

Latin name	Common name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			CALENDAR DATE													
			SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME		
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> *	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS	1-Sep	2-Sep	3-Sep	4-Sep	5-Sep	6-Sep	7-Sep	8-Sep	9-Sep	10-Sep	11-Sep	12-Sep	13-Sep	14-Sep
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i>	Maze Coral	10-70 min AS	18:45	18:44	18:44	18:43	18:43	18:42	18:41	18:40	18:40	18:39	18:38	18:38	18:37	18:36
<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i>	Great Star Coral	15-165 min AS														
<i>Colpophyllia natans</i>	Boulder Brain Coral	35-110 min AS														
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Early group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	30-70 min AS														
<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i>	Smooth Flower Coral	75-270 min AS														
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella franksi</i>	Boulder Star Coral	90-150 min AS														
<i>Dendrogyra cylindrus</i>	Pillar Coral	90-155 min AS														
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i>	Pineapple Coral	100-160 min AS														
<i>Acropora palmata</i>	Elkhorn Coral	140-190 min AS														
<i>Acropora cervicornis</i>	Staghorn Coral	150-190 min AS														
<i>Stephanocoenia intersepta</i>	Blushing Star Coral	160-210 min AS														
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella annularis</i>	Lobed/Boulder Star Coral	185-250 min AS														
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella faveolata</i>	Mountainous Star Coral	185-250 min AS														
<i>Siderastrea siderea</i>	Massive Starlet Coral	210-280 min AS														
<i>Pseudodiploria clavosa</i>	Knobby Brain Coral	210-255 min AS														
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Late group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	220-270 min AS														
<i>Madracis senaria</i>	Ten-Ray Star Coral	all night														
<i>Agaricia humilis/Agaricia agaricites</i>	Lettuce Coral	all night														

## October Corals

Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			CALENDAR DATE													
			SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME		
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> *	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS	1-Oct	2-Oct	3-Oct	4-Oct	5-Oct	6-Oct	7-Oct	8-Oct	9-Oct	10-Oct	11-Oct	12-Oct	13-Oct	14-Oct
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i>	Maze Coral	10-70 min AS	18:25	18:24	18:24	18:23	18:22	18:22	18:21	18:20	18:20	18:19	18:19	18:18	18:18	18:17
<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i>	Great Star Coral	15-165 min AS														
<i>Colpophyllia natans</i>	Boulder Brain Coral	35-110 min AS														
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Early group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	30-70 min AS														
<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i>	Smooth Flower Coral	75-270 min AS														
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella franksi</i>	Boulder Star Coral	90-150 min AS														
<i>Dendrogyra cylindrus</i>	Pillar Coral	90-155 min AS														
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i>	Pineapple Coral	100-160 min AS														
<i>Stephanocoenia intersepta</i>	Blushing Star Coral	160-210 min AS														
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella annularis</i>	Lobed/Boulder Star Coral	185-250 min AS														
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella faveolata</i>	Mountainous Star Coral	185-250 min AS														
<i>Siderastrea siderea</i>	Massive Starlet Coral	210-280 min AS														
<i>Pseudodiploria clavosa</i>	Knobby Brain Coral	210-255 min AS														
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Late group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	220-270 min AS														
<i>Madracis senaria</i>	Ten-Ray Star Coral	all night														
<i>Agaricia humilis/Agaricia agaricites</i>	Lettuce Coral	all night														

## November Corals

Latin name	Common name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			CALENDAR DATE													
			SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME		
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> *	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS	31-Oct	1-Nov	2-Nov	3-Nov	4-Nov	5-Nov	6-Nov	7-Nov	8-Nov	9-Nov	10-Nov	11-Nov	12-Nov	13-Nov
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i>	Maze Coral	10-70 min AS	18:10	18:09	18:09	18:09	18:09	18:08	18:08	18:08	18:08	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07
<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i>	Smooth Flower Coral	75-270 min AS														
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i>	Pineapple Coral	100-160 min AS														

## August/September/October Sponges, Gorgonians, & Others

Latin name	Common Name	DAYS AFM														
		CALENDAR DATE														
		SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME			
<i>Holothuria mexicana</i>	Donkeydung Sea Cucumber															
<i>Hermodice carunculata</i>	Fire Worm															
<i>Diadema antillarum</i>	Long-Spined Sea Urchin															
<i>Neofibularia nolitanae</i>	Touch-Me-Not Sponge															
<i>Plexaura, Pseudoplexaura, Eunicia</i>	Sea Rods															
<i>Plexaura homomalla</i>	Black Sea Rod															
<i>Ophiuroidea</i>	Brittle Sea Star/Serpent Star															
<i>Pseudopterogorgia</i> spp.	Sea Plume															
<i>Spirobranchus aianteus</i>	Christmas Tree Worm															

### Legend

Days AFM: Days After the Full Moon  
 min BS = Minutes Before Sunset  
 min AS = Minutes After Sunset

Pale Blue: Spawning may be possible but more data are needed! This species is understudied on these dates and times. Please help us make new discoveries by diving these windows!

Pale Yellow: Spawning is possible - has been observed on these dates

Bright Orange: Spawning is likely - often observed on these dates

Red: Spawning is very likely - reliably observed on these dates

### To Observe Spawning

- Make multiple dives on multiple nights
- Dive in a place with high coral cover
- Enter the water before predicted times
- Dive shallower than 50 feet to maximize bottom time
- Use a moderately bright dive light
- Scan the water column for clouds of spawn

### Notes

- Predictions are based on observations from previous years but this does not guarantee spawning will occur. When in doubt, go for a dive!
- Spawning times vary based on local sunset times. To look up your local sunset times, visit [www.sunandmoon.com](http://www.sunandmoon.com).
- Your discoveries help coral research. Please report your spawning observations (species, date, time, location, and pictures if possible) to [carmabilog@gmail.com](mailto:carmabilog@gmail.com). To contribute to the CRC spawning database, contact [v.chamberland@secore.org](mailto:v.chamberland@secore.org)
- Special thanks to everyone who contributed their spawning observations over the past 25+ years! We wish you a safe and productive spawning season!
- Citation: Vermeij, M.J.A., Chamberland, V.F., and Marhaver, K.L. "Coral Spawning Predictions, Southern Caribbean 2007-2020." CARMABI, Curacao.

