

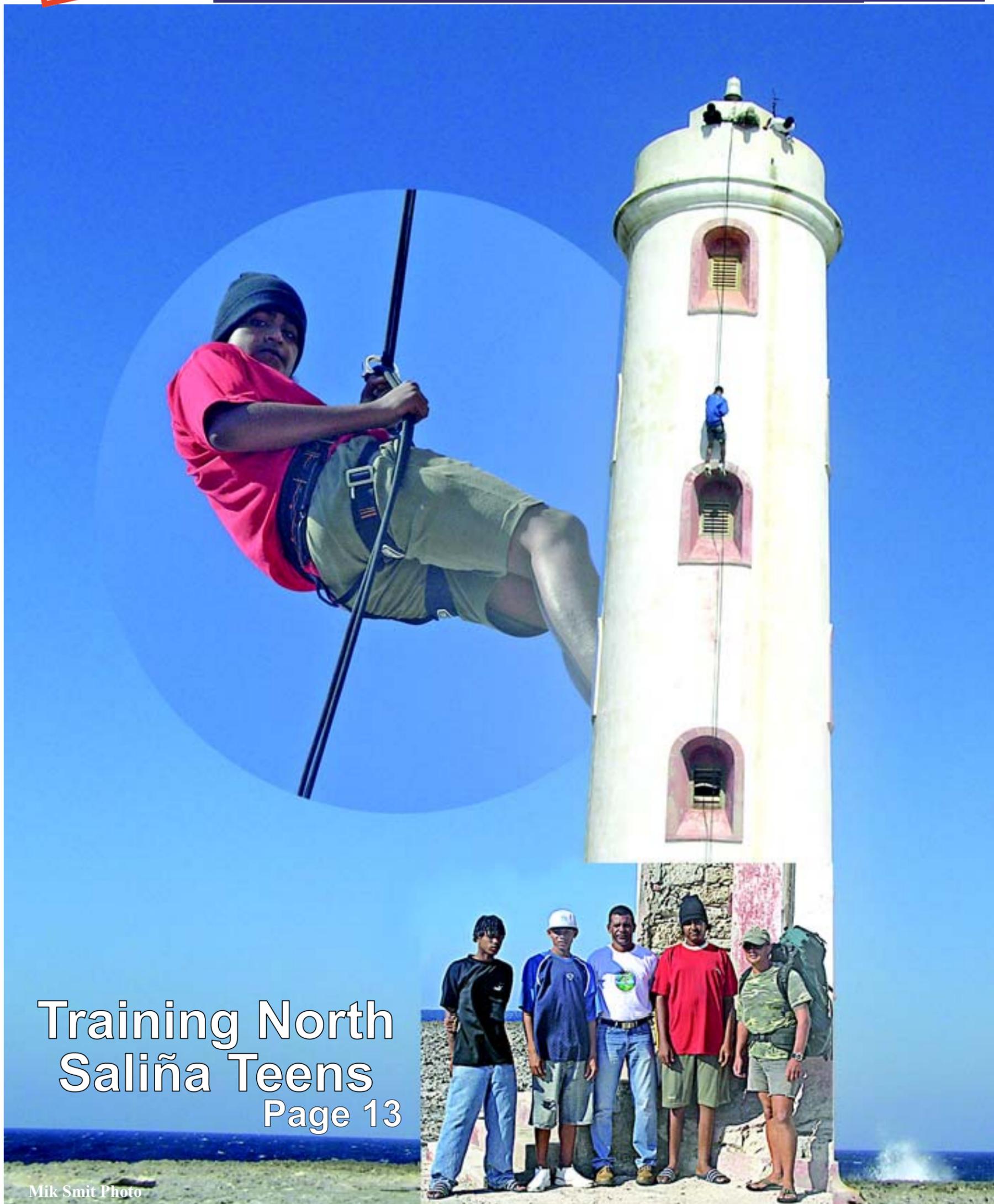
IT'S
STILL
FREE

July 29 to August 5, 2005 Volume 12, Issue 29

The **BONAIRE!** REPORTER

Kaya Gob. Debrot 200 • E-mail: reporter@bonairenews.com • 717-8988

SINCE 1994



Training North
Saliña Teens
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Mik Smit Photo

FLOTSAM AND JETSAM

Following a comprehensive investigation that gathered a significant quantity of evidence, on Monday morning **Bonaire police arrested two young men for the double murder of the Martis brothers** (see last week's edition of *The Reporter*). Detained for questioning were alleged ringleader, E.I. "Macho" Wanga, 20, of Kaya Djindja and L.E. Craane, 21, of Amboina. Suspect Wanga was arrested at his home and suspect Craane on his way to fish around Klein Bonaire. The police also confiscated several items and a vehicle but offered no additional details. The investigation is continuing.



A Bonaire "Ninja" arrest squad member brings one of the suspects into the police station.

► **The convicted criminals who robbed and beat two American residents in their home last year received considerable additional prison time** from the Joint Court of the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba as a result of the appeal of their case. The Court, ruling in appeal, denied their petition and INCREASED their sentences (except for one defendant, Dominico Wanga).



These are their current terms:
 Ellery Nicolaas: Prior Term 12 years, now, **15 years.**
 Valery Nicolaas: Prior Term 3 years and 6 months, now, **6 years and 6 months.**
 Ryan Frans: Prior Term 9 years, now, **12 years.**
 Sergio Mercera: Prior Term 12 years,

now, **15 years.**
 Dominico Wanga: Prior Term 30 months, unchanged.
 The decision has been universally applauded in the local community.

► **The Court of Appeals acquitted Udemar 'Shon Ma' Isidora, the police officer and former chief of the Hato Airport drug-busting team.** A key witness withdrew his accusation and others were out of the jurisdiction so could not be re-examined. On March 17 Shon Ma was found guilty and sent to prison for seven years. However, the Joint Court of the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba, ruling in appeal, found the evidence in the case insufficient to uphold the conviction. Shon Ma consistently denied having done anything wrong. He said he had been a victim of the underworld which supplied the prosecutor with false statements.

Shon Ma (56) has had a career with the police of almost 36 years.

► According to Ivar Asjes, Curaçao's Tourism Commissioner, **the government of Curaçao should be willing to start a new airline to solve the airlift problem of the island.** Last week, during the press conference, he admitted that the ruling coalition is considering a successor for the bankrupt DCA. He said, "The former DCA employees have enough expertise, so they can assist in the request for the required permits. We can start small. Some other companies have also started with just one airplane."

► **Last week Air Jamaica announced a new route system and flight schedule** as the airline seeks to emerge as a smaller, nimbler carrier. As part of its effort to reduce the losses, management cut the fleet from 20 to 15 planes, as well as staff and routes.

Among the routes cut are Boston and the Caribbean destinations of Antigua and St. Lucia. The airline is now flying to 10 US cities; New York, Newark, Los Angeles, Chicago, Orlando, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Fort Lauderdale, and Miami. There will be daily flights to Toronto, Canada, and London, England.

In the Caribbean, the airline will operate six flights weekly to Barbados, six weekly to Grenada, four flights per week to Curaçao, four flights per week to Nassau, Bahamas, five flights per week to Grand Cayman, three to Havana, Cuba, and **one weekly flight to Bonaire.**

► The group of small hoteliers trying to arrange **weekly air charters from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida,** is holding a meeting to discuss their plan this **Thursday, July 28th at 10 am at Jong Bonaire.** Interested parties should attend.



► **Aruba's ban on spear fishing will soon be lifted.** *Speared fish* Minister Wever folded to pressure from the National Spear fishing Association. Judicial Affairs Head, George Croes, last Monday said that spear fishing regulations "would be adapted to make it possible to shoot fish in certain areas in the Aruban seas."

Environmental organizations are angry. According to biologists, spear fishing harms the fragile reefs and damages the ecosystem because spear fishers select the largest fish. In addition, a spear gun is considered a deadly weapon.

Milton Ponson, a local spokesman for the Rainbow Warriors, lamented that the Minister had succumbed to the pressure. "It is sad that a federal ordinance to protect nature is being sabotaged for political gain, to get more votes and favors from members of the spear fishing group," he said.

► To commemorate the 25th anniversary of Queen Beatrix's coronation, the Kingdom partners will **mint a series of**

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Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2)
coins. The Antillean coins are designed by Tirzo Martha, an artist from Curaçao. The queen will mint the first coin at the Bank of the Netherlands. The coins will go on sale to the public afterwards.



A series of three coins will be minted: a silver five-guilder, a gold ten-guilder, and a five-guilder circulation coin.

► **The Bank of the Netherlands Antilles will be issuing a bond** on August 5 on behalf of the Government of the Netherlands Antilles with the main aim to refinance a maturing bond of NAf 32 million. The issue concerns a 7.25% loan with a maturity of 10 years with a semi-annual coupon.

The general public can subscribe to this bond issue at all commercial banks until 10 am on August 1.

► According to a poll conducted by the Central Bureau for Statistics (CBS), **a huge majority of the people in Curaçao and Bonaire believes their political world is corrupt** and corruption will grow in the coming years; 83% of Bonaireans believe that corruption undermines politics, and 80% see a similar effect on norms and values. On Bonaire 533 people (343 men and 190 women) were interviewed.

In Curaçao, where 2,076 people were interviewed, the situation is a bit worse. No fewer than 92% feel that corruption negatively affects politics; 91% believe norms and values are impaired.

Three questions were posed in the October 2004 perception poll:

1. How seriously do you rate the impact of corruption on your personal and family life, on politics and on morality in society?

2. Do you expect the corruption to change in the coming three years?

3. If you could eliminate corruption by magic, where would you act first?

Corruption was defined by the CBS as a phenomenon that has three elements: conflict of interest, nepotism and cronyism.

People with high incomes said the impact on their personal and family life is small, while low-income people say they suffer because of the influence of corruption. About half the respondents said corruption should be eliminated among politicians first

► A combined operation of the Coast Guard of the Antilles and Aruba, the



Bales of Cocaine

Royal Navy, detectives in St. Maarten and Curaçao, the customs police, the Venezuelan Coast Guard and US Coast Guard netted **1,000 kilos of cocaine at sea 80 miles northeast of Bonaire.** The 32 bales of drugs were hidden in several compartments on board the Venezuelan fishing boat *Madre Querida*. The street value of the drugs was about \$29 million (50 million guilders). The boat was headed for St. Maarten. Six persons were arrested, all of them Venezuelan nationals.

► Beginning October 1st **Dive Friends Bonaire will offer a free upgrade to unlimited Nitrox** with a purchase of any consecutive six-day dive package. They also offer the PADI Nitrox Specialty Course. Photo Tours Divers and Yellow Submarine are divisions of Dive Friends Bonaire, a new company focused on providing the best in diving services. Yellow Submarine opened a second location at Caribbean Club Bonaire, just an eight-minute drive north of Kralendijk. Photo Tours Divers and Yellow Submarine, are PADI Gold Palm Resorts and National Geographic Dive Centers as well as active REEF Field Stations. For more information contact Dive Friends Bonaire via email info@dive-friends-bonaire.com, or visit the Web site at www.dive-friends-bonaire.com.

► A total of 38,225 of the 43,206 participants (88%) who started the **Four Day Walk of Nijmegen, including our Bonairean team, completed it.** According to Natalie Wanga, Nazario Alberto, the "Bonaire Road Runner," once again 'out walked' himself by doing 40 km. in 5½ hours each day! He's having some troubles with his 56-year-old knees right now, but it's just a matter of resting before he's as fast as ever. (Read his inspirational story in last week's *Bonaire Reporter*, page 8). In addition, both Bòi Antoin (40 kilometer class) and Roy Martinus (50 kilometer class), Bonaire's other walkers, finished in good standing.

This was the 89th year for the Walk that draws participants from across the Dutch Kingdom and around the world. Partici-



Bòi Antoin, center, the Editor of the extra Papiamentu language newspaper is congratulated at the finish.

pants walk 40 or 50 kilometers each day. As they entered the city of Nijmegen, at the end of the walk on Friday, all were cheered by well wishers who flanked the roadside. Paul Comenencia, the Antilles' Plenipotentiary Minister, greeted the Antillean finishers from Sint Maarten, Sint Eustatius, Bonaire and Curaçao.

Nazario is scheduled to arrive at Flamingo Airport on Friday evening around 8:15 pm. All are invited to welcome him home.



Off to Trinidad: Dr. Jay Haviser, Douglas Abraham, Mireille Nicolaas, Christopher Maldonado, and Fleur Veldkamp

► Under the guidance of Dr. Jay Haviser, four young people, members of the Bonai group, are participating in the **International Association for Caribbean Archeology 21st Congress** at the University of the West Indies in Trinidad. The students will give a presentation of the work they've been doing in Bonaire. The trip was made possible with the help of AMFO and the Prins Bernhard Fonds.

The students will write up the results of their trip in an article for *The Reporter*.

► Desirée, of **Yoga for You**, reports that **Beginning Yoga classes will start Tuesday, August 2, and every Tuesday thereafter, from 5 to 6 pm at the Harbour Village Spa.** Call 786-6416 for more information and/or to sign up.

► The models in the **Benetton ad** on page 18 are Jonathan and Crestely Cranston. G./L.D



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DESTROYING DIVE TOURISM?

Dear Editor,

Is the government of Bonaire trying to destroy all the dive businesses on that island? Is there a sinister plot to see diving stopped? It certainly seems so.

What would happen if there was no diving on Bonaire? The first reaction of most people is that the economy would fall apart and the island would go bankrupt. But think about this a bit more. If there was no diving then there would be few to keep a watch on the reefs and the overall ecology of Bonaire. With all those people out of the way, beaches could be blasted into the coral shoreline. Then huge hotels could be built anywhere, and look at the huge kickbacks a few people would enjoy from this.

Since before the beginning of the Marine Park users' fee, the dive operators said they asked that everyone be charged. For years they asked and were told no. Asked again and told no again. One person even suggested at the very first meeting to have a 5% sales tax and have everyone pay equally. (That person certainly had some foresight.) Think of how much money has been lost by not charging all users \$10 since the beginning.

And now when the government finally gets around to thinking, they do charge the others \$10 but raise the dive tax by 250% but not to cruise ship divers who pay only \$10.

The government for some reason has decided, after never thinking about it before, to make all the dive operators have their air storage tanks inspected even though some types cannot be inspected. This could force many operators to spend \$1000's in new tanks when in reality it is not necessary. There is also a plan to charge for piers. And who knows what other new charges will come up.

Even though the dive industry brings in a huge percentage of the island's income, cruise ships seem to be the favorite of the government at this time, even though 100

cruise ship people will spend less than one diver and those cruise ships create people pollution among many, many other things. It looks like someone thinks that at the end of the year, the total number of visitors to Bonaire is far more important than the money spent here. Would you really want 60,000 cruise ship people spending only about 20% of what perhaps only 20,000 would spend? 60,000 people bashing the island for a few hours and leaving Bonaire, caring less what happens to it and spending nothing.

Kite surfers have taken over dive sites. These surfers generate basically little income for the island but chase divers away. Some people say that the number of divers coming to Bonaire might decline. They are probably correct since the government seems to be doing as much as it can to chase them away.

The list goes on. Yes, it does seem someone in the government would like to see diving stopped.

J. Kelly

POLICE COMMISSIONER JAN VAN DER STRAATEN

Dear Editor,

It was a nice surprise to read in your last issue that the Aruba Police Commissioner Jan van der Straaten had been appointed Bonaire's Commissioner of Police at the start of next month.

On Aruba, everybody knows him and his very efficient fight against crime on this island.

Very well known for his success in fighting crime in Holland, he came to Aruba several years ago by special request of the desperate government of Aruba to stop the critical security situation on the island. Under his lead, the crime wave was stopped and the security of the citizens on Aruba improved dramatically. Whenever a crime was committed, Jan van der Straaten was among the first police officers coming to the site, during the day or night or weekend.

His leading role in the Aruban Police Corps was exceptional because, unlike on the other Caribbean Dutch is-

lands, there are practically no Dutchmen in top positions on Aruba (Another exception is the current Dutch director of the Aruba Airport Authority who, with his experience from leading the operation of the Amsterdam Schiphol airport, has already scored first successes in his effort to improve the desperate financial situation of the Aruba airport).

The arrival of Van der Straaten means certainly an important contribution to the fight against the current rising crime and to improving the continuously worsening personal security on Bonaire. Also his lovely wife, a known painter who shows her work also in a gallery on Aruba, will be certainly welcome.

Jiri Lausman

We reported last week that Jan van der Straaten was to be named Bonaire's new Police Commissioner effective August 1st based on a report in La Prensa. Up until now, however, official releases say only that Commissioner Straaten will hold discussions with the Justice Department about coming to Bonaire.

Perhaps getting out from under the Natalie Holloway case will be a relief. Ed

HOW THE MONEY FLIES AWAY

Dear Editor,

Please note that when you fly with TRANSAVEN that you have plenty of money for the various Airport Taxes: First Bonaire International Tax, \$20. On your return flight, first Bs.14.700 for the local airport tax from, and then another Bs.80.000 for the International Tax when you leave Venezuela from Valencia. These taxes add another +/- \$54 to your airfare. Make sure you have the money in cash on you. They can not change US dollars or give change in US dollars.

IMPORTANT: Make sure you get the GREEN Copy from your immigration form or you will have major trouble leaving Venezuela!

Roger Willems

A SMALL NGO on Bonaire Makes a Big Difference



Activities of
AMFO and the
NGO Platform

*“Friends desert me . . . I cry all night . . .
so sad to be blind”*

Nemencio Winklaar

To lose one’s vision is terrible; it can also be very lonely. “Friends desert me . . . I cry all night . . . so sad to be blind,” were some of the thoughts of Nemencio Winklaar, the talented Bonaire musician who became blind at age 42. He was one of the first beneficiaries of the Bonaire Foundation for the Blind. Mr. Winklaar passed away, but he is remembered as a gifted singer and guitar player in Rincon who felt the sting of blindness.

What is the Foundation?

The Foundation, *Fundashon Bonairiano pa Siegunan*, has assisted Bonaireans with vision impairments and blindness for almost 30 years. Currently it serves nine adults, and the Foundation

is conducting a survey to find others who need their help. “We believe there are over 40 people on the island with low vision or total blindness,” says Roxanne Timp, secretary of the Foundation and one of its four volunteers. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), “low vision” refers to “visual impairment that cannot be corrected with medical treatments, glasses or contact lenses, and which reduces an individual’s ability to carry out important life activities including obtaining an education, living and traveling independently, being employed, and enjoying and seeing visual images.”

Helping and Learning

Bonaire’s volunteers want to provide more counseling, care and tools to help

their clients lead independent lives. People who have trouble seeing need to do all the daily activities that sighted people do and take for granted. They must know how to measure ingredients for cooking, identify money denominations, shop, do banking, read and write with magnifiers or with

Braille, keep up with the news, clean, garden, recognize food stuffs in cans and boxes, match clothes to wear, identify correct medicines, use clocks, phones, TVs, radios, use large fonts on a computer, rearrange their homes to accommodate their decreasing vision, navigate around the house or neighborhood safely, and especially how to continue to do what they enjoy.

A while back a blind man from Bonaire went to Curaçao to learn Braille and to learn how to walk with a cane. “I’d like to be able to offer that training here on Bonaire, too,” says Louise Coffi Green, a volunteer for almost 28 years. That will begin to happen, when in November, Elka Coffi, Foundation president and volunteer, will receive training to work with people who have



Barbara Bianculli
photo

**Bonaire Foundation for the Blind volunteers,
(left to right) Roxanne Timp,
Louise Coffi Green, Elka Coffi**

low vision, blindness and other disabilities. Louise adds, “We’d like to learn more about causes, prevention, and treatment of vision problems. Then we can help our members understand their doctor’s visits, and perhaps we can help identify vision problems earlier, even in children, so they can be treated.” Parents shouldn’t wait until children are reading or staring at computers all day to get their eyes checked. Every year spent straining to see out of one good eye can further compromise vision in the other eye.

Networking with Foundations on Other Islands

Thanks to funding from AMFO, Louise, Roxanne, and past president Harlton Emerenciana were able to par-

(Continued on page 7)

Small NGO makes... (Continued from page 6) participate in meetings with the foundations in Curaçao and Aruba in May. "We want to improve our knowledge so we can offer better services to the people of Bonaire. We don't want them to have to travel to Holland, Curaçao, or Aruba. One family moved from Bonaire in order to receive care for their children," says Roxanne. Louise adds, "At one meeting, we had the pleasure of meeting a man named Gino who thanked the volunteers in Aruba. He started to lose his sight when he was six years old due to *renitis pigmentosa*. At first, eyeglasses helped him, but his condition was one that couldn't be cured. His vision deteriorated, and by age 16 he had lost most of his sight. He became depressed and did not want to continue his education. But with the help of Aruba's Foundation for the Blind, he received counseling and textbooks on CDs to help him finish school. He then entered the University of Aruba and studied law. He has just graduated and started a job in the legal field. He appreciates the help that the foundation gave him and is proud that he can function as an independent member of society. He even built his own house with the help of his friends and lives there with his eight-year-old daughter." The Foundation for the Blind makes a big difference.

Employable?

Unfortunately, less than half of the people with blindness or low vision ever become employed. Most do not receive the rehabilitation necessary to help them enter the work force or do not find an employer who is free of the prejudiced stereotype of the "helpless blind." Very few visually handicapped people find jobs as Jim Dunbar did in the ABC mid-season drama "Blind Justice." Jim portrayed a police detective who proves

that the disabled can lead independent and productive lives. In real life, there are NASA scientists, chefs, doctors, investment bankers, federal judges, state representatives, biologists, physical therapists and artists with vision loss, who are known not for their disability but for their accomplishments. Helping the visually impaired overcome this stereotype is one of the jobs the Foundation of the Blind is doing. With the help of a social worker, a seamstress who had become blind received the tools and training she needed to get a job sewing again. Another person blinded in an accident secured a job with Curacao's Foundation for the Blind.

Social Activities

One morning a week for most of the year, Bonaire's Foundation for the Blind uses its small bus and two volunteer drivers to take the "members," people with low vision, to a central meeting place in Tera Cora where they can socialize and sometimes play Bingo. This organization may be small, but its impact is huge. "The members are so happy when it's Wednesday and they can get together," smiles Louise, who also visits them at their homes when she passes by. "And, of course, they phone and support one another. Sometimes we tour parts of the island, and they especially enjoy visiting the large cruise ships in port. During the early part of the month, when the pensions arrive, they have a little money to spend so we take them shopping. The volunteers help them to find their purchases. At Christmas we enjoy a special dinner together. We would like to have a place to gather more often than once a week," adds Louise, "but we must find a building first. We hope the Bonaire Platform and AMFO can help us with that."



What do they Need?

A place of their own would also be where they could store their supplies which are now scattered in various homes. "We're lucky to have some Braille and large print books that were donated to us by *Goede Doelen*, a charity foundation in Holland. It happened because a lady from Holland was diving here with Andre Nahr. She has three children with *renitis pigmentosa* and wanted to help people with vision problems on Bonaire. Andre told her, 'See Roxanne at MCB!' So this year we will receive more books from Holland!" smiles Roxanne.

Those of us with good vision take for granted what we are able to see. "At one meeting, we had our eyes covered to experience being blind," remembers volunteer Roxanne. "We had to walk, recognize different foods, and pour water into cups! It was difficult!" The blind

can experience the visual images while hearing the music. How else might we help the visually impaired?

Technology offers wonderful assistance to people with low vision. There are walking canes that either vibrate or issue tones when approaching an obstacle, talking barcode readers to help identify items in the house or store or even to identify the color of clothing material, talking bank cash machines, video magnifiers, a handheld talking GPS system, and talking lampposts in London that give directions. Also, Wal-Mart is testing a robot that leads a shopper to desired products by reading tags on aisles and shelves!

Will all this technology be needed on Bonaire? Perhaps not, but it shows that businesses are thinking about the people with low vision. Are we? The Bonaire Foundation for the Blind is! You can help them with donations or services. Do you know someone with deteriorating vision who needs the help of the Bonaire Foundation for the Blind? Call Louise Coffi Green at 717-8171.

Barbara Mason Bianculli



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musician, Stevie Wonder, knows the difficulties personally. One of his recent music videos is artistically described orally so people with vision loss

Windsurfing Diva Week



The first class for Windsurfing Divas

The premier Diva Women's Windsurf Week was wonderful. Twelve women traveling from as far away as Finland experienced a "women only" learn-to-windsurf week. Three local women, Natalie Wanga, Carlendy Agudelo and an aspiring teenager, 13-year-old Nicola Diamondaldas, were part of the class.

The clinic was taught by Floridian Beth Powell Winkler, an annual visitor to the island who simply loves spending time getting folks up sailing. A windsurfer for over 20 years, Beth and her husband, Greg Winkler have found Bonaire a windsurf paradise. They leave their windsurf business in the Banana River of Florida and spend two windy weeks in Bonaire.

This year, Beth took three days out of her vacation schedule to teach this driven and motivated group of students. For all it was a great success.

Carlendy, a children's after-school program manager, has sailed before but wanted to take it to the next level. By the end

of the course, she was in a harness, flying across the water on her rented gear. The smile on her face was telling as to her personal satisfaction.

Natalie, a self-employed woman of many talents (including *Bonaire Reporter* correspondent) took time off her busy schedule to become a Diva



Windsurfer. Natalie was determined to learn the basics and spent lots of time on the water practicing the maneuvers learned on the land stimulator set up by the Bonaire Windsurf Place.

Nicola took it to another level. Watching her friend sail she wanted to learn this challenging sport. Instead of hanging out all day on her vacation, she has been working at her family's business to save money to buy a board. When she read about the clinic in *The Bonaire Reporter*, she immediately contacted the organizer for a slot. This bright eyed, gregarious teen was on the beach ready to learn. By the end of the clinic she had donned a borrowed harness, advancing quickly, and

become a new member of Bonaire's youthful windsurf elite.

Both locals and visitors alike shared the same sentiment that it was very empowering to learn in a small group of women. By day they were on the water learning the basics and advancing in their own skill level. At lunch they sat in the shade talking strategy, gear and form. At night they dined at local restaurants laughing and sharing stories well into the night.

The next Diva Women's Week will be in the winter of 2006. For more details email ann@bonairewindsurfing.com.



Instructor Beth Powell Winkler gives pointers to Carlendy Agudelo

Story and photos by Ann Phelan (www.bonairecaribbean.com)

Our thanks to . . .

Diva Women's Week was sponsored by Caribbean Wind & Sun Vacations, The Bonaire Windsurf Place, Starboard, Hot Sails Maui, Budget, Kontiki Resort and Croccantino Restaurant.

JePoBon - Bonaire's Puppet Theatre for Youngsters

Maria Elena Domacassé, the Chairwoman of JePoBon reports:

"Last year JePoBon (Jeugdtheater en Poppenspel Bonaire – Bonaire Puppet Theatre for Youth) was supported artistically and business wise by Speeltheater Holland, and we put on the performance, "Réke Buriku Rek'e." In one year we gave 25 performances in the Antilles and 15 in Holland, and we'll continue the performances in the future. Next season JePoBon will come up with a new production.

In order to keep a professional level it's necessary to gather knowledge and experience. Jackie Bernabela will be participating in training and workshops all through Europe. Later she will direct, without any more help, the production, "Jakono." She'll be teaching theater to Bonaire's youth and give young talents an opportunity to develop.

A workshop will be given in each elementary school, and a selection of children will be trained, in 10 afternoon sessions, in all the different aspects of show business like voice, improvisation, how to handle lines and movement. One of the children will be selected to work with actors Kathy Thielman and Gina Maria Correa in the new production.

Also, the audience will be encouraged to participate actively in the play, instead of just watching it passively. *Translation by Greta Kooistra*



Back row: Carlos, Jacky, Gina, Lula, Maria Elena. Front row: Nelly and Ketty

Picture Yourself with the Reporter Delft, The Netherlands



Here's Shandal, Wicho and Daisy Thode on their recent vacation in Holland. They had made a stop in Delft to read *The Bonaire Reporter*. In the background you can see one of the very nice towers in Delft.

WIN GREAT PRIZES! Take a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter* with you on your next trip or when you return to your home. Then take a photo of yourself with the newspaper in hand. **THE BEST PHOTOS OF THE YEAR WILL WIN THE PRIZES.** Mail photos to Bonaire Reporter, Kaya Gob. Debrot 200-6, Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles (AN). E-mail to: picture@bonairereporter.com. (All 2004 photos are eligible.)

Join the Mountain Bike Race

Andre Nahr of Cycle Bonaire is planning to hold a mountain bike fun race on the afternoon of **Saturday, July 30**. This will be a low key type race without a lot of hoopla and big prizes. Everyone will ride one lap of the same course, at the same time. I think the distance is about 19.6 kilometers, with a number of challenging hills. There is a shorter course available for those wanting to avoid the rough climb up to



Santa Barbara. The first 25 finishers will receive a water bottle as a prize.

We need volunteers to be positioned around the course to make sure the bikers don't get lost, so everyone is welcome to participate in one fashion or another.

The start will be at 4:30 in the afternoon on Saturday at Cycle Bonaire, next to the Den Laman Restaurant (on the west side of the traffic circle). The finish will be at Cycle Bonaire too. I'd recommend arriving at Cycle Bonaire well before 4 pm. to sign in etc. The entry fee is NA\$10. Helmets and good working brakes are required for the fun race. Andre says that helmets and bicycles are available at Cycle Bonaire, but one should inquire ahead of time. You can call them at 717-2229 for more information.

Brad Swanson

KRALENDIJK TIDES (Heights in feet, FT)

Remember: Winds and weather can further influence the local tides

DATE	TIME	HEIGHT	COEF
7-29	5:32	0.9FT.	47
7-30	6:21	0.8FT.	45
7-31	7:07	0.7FT.	49
8-01	7:54	0.7FT.	56
8-02	8:29	0.7FT.	63
8-03	9:07	0.8FT.	68
8-04	0:06	2.0FT.	73
8-05	0:39	1.9FT.	76

VESSELS MAKING A PORT CALL:

Angie	Freestyle	Pamala Jean	Sylvester
Anything Goes	Guaicamar I, Ven.	Santa Maria	Ti Amo, USA
Augustine	Key Lara	Sandpiper, USA	Tish
Bright Sea	Luna C. USA	Seascope	Triumphant Lady
Camissa, Chan Is.	La Baronne	Sea of Time	Ulu Ulu, USA
Cape Kathryn	La Serena	Sea Witch	Unicom, Norway
Chalice	Marisol	Silvestre	Vaalenza
Delphinus	Mima	Sintella	Varedhuni, Ger.
Endangered Species	Moonrise	Sirius	Venus
Endorphan	Noordhinder	Sola 2	Ya-T, BVI
Flam	Natural Selection	Sportivento	Yanti Paratzi
Flying Cloud, USA	Orion	Sylvia K	Zeelander



AMBUSH AT SEA

Pirates are as much a threat today as in colonial times. Maritime claims for loss of property and life are commonplace events. In the days of empire building, disenchanted seamen turned pirates were simply opportunists taking advantage of the chaotic atmosphere of world order. Others, the so called “legitimate agents” representing and appointed by the appropriate king, were roaming the high seas searching for likely prey. Some were given “Charters” and “Land Claims” for new found territories and even elevated to positions as governors to administer justice in the newly established colonies of the “Motherland.” The same authorities that claimed the right to bring law, order and religion to these new territories and their inhabitants sanctioned the lawless and ruthless behavior of these cutthroat pirates.

A common ploy used by pirate captains to accomplish their task was to hoist and display a friendly flag to lure the unsuspecting ship closer for the capture. It was just like fishing. The ship’s mast was the fishing pole and the flag was the bait. If the target ship (the prey) slowed or stopped to inspect the flag (the bait) or allowed the pirate ship (the fisherman) to get within striking distance, the ambush was completed.

Ambush under the sea

Beneath the sea there are numerous “pirate fish” hiding in ambush waiting for an opportunity to capture their next

meal. They have adopted many different techniques and developed specialized biological features to satisfy their daily need for nourishment. We’re diving the leeward side of the Bonaire, the sea is calm, and it is possible to enter the water anywhere from the shore road to explore the shallow protected reef that rims this side of the island. This easy access and gently sloping underwater reef structure makes it possible for free diving snorkelers to also experience the hunting behavior of these flesh-eating piscivores. Let’s explore together!

As we approach the top of the reef crest, at a depth of 15 feet (4.5 meters), we can see one of the most common “ambush predators” hiding within the gently swaying branches of a Giant Sea Rod. The long slender body of this adult Trumpet fish is poised in a vertical posture, moving in rhythm with the soft coral branches. Its head is pointing down toward a swirling mass of small silver fish at the base of the thick stalks. It will strike with lightning speed, rocketing forward and simultaneously engulfing one or several targets with its specialized hinged jaws.

Safe diving with a purpose and plan

Fish watching requires patience and concentration. Under the sea, with everything in perpetual motion, it is difficult for most visiting divers to remain motionless for more than a few moments. During these observation excursions,



Frogfish

my diving partners seldom remain at my side and some have even fabricated elaborate excuses to avoid another “boring” return visit. On this day, my enthusiastic partner is on her own mission of discovery. We have devised a safe dive plan and effective search pattern to satisfy both our needs. I will start my search with a coral head at the center of a 10 foot (3 m) wide circle. My partner, needing more terrain to roam, will keep me in sight and search in an increasingly larger circle around me. When we find something of interest we will use our tank bangers to alert each other. It seems to be a perfect marriage of science, safety and simplicity.

Searching for the master of deception

Within minutes of deploying to our positions I hear the rapid metallic clanging of my partner’s signal device. I glance in her direction, and she performs a fantastic display of underwater gyrations only possible in a weightless environment. I reach her side as she points toward a large formation of algae-covered tube sponges. At first the sponges appear to be dead and almost colorless. The tubes are of various sizes and have a slightly pinkish hue. I fail to see the source of the ecstatic nature of her pleasure. She looks at me in disbelief and moves closer to point at two lumps of discolored sponges at the base of the formation. In that instant I recognize the unmistakable sight of two pair of eyes within the lumpy forms. She has

discovered a pair of creatures that have developed one of the most elaborate forms of feeding in the sea, a male and female Longlure Frogfish. Let’s examine them together.

We are watching two Frogfishes that are some of the most sought after fish on the reef by interested divers and swimmers when snorkeling. It is said that Bonaire has one of the largest frogfish populations in the Caribbean. **The trouble is finding them. Here’s why.** Frogfishes have tiny, cold looking, black eyes just above and behind their huge mouth. The fish are multi-colored, short, fat, lumpy, globular and grotesque eating machines with rough,

Continued on page 11

thick, flesh-like skin, formed by modified scales, covering their body, rounded dorsal, anal and tail fins. Frogfishes also have the ability to change their overall pattern and coloration, within a short time, to perfectly match their surrounding environment. While lurking on a colony of sponges, one of its favorite ambush perches, it will develop numerous, round, ocellated* body markings with black centers, surrounded by various shaded colors to resemble the out-current siphons of the sponges. Today, the smaller male fish seems more interested in attending the larger female with her swollen lower mid-section, than eating. I’ll get back to that later.

(Continued on page 11)



Frogfish (Continued from page 10)

Hunting and fishing underwater

Swimming ability, as in the case of the agile Trumpet fish we watched earlier, is not at all important to this master of deception. As a matter of fact, you can often observe the frogfish “walking in an ungainly, stumbling gait” on its two sets of paired pectoral and pelvic fins that resemble stumpy legs complete with toes, rather than swimming. These

“four legs” aid the Frogfishes in another way, adding stability to a most unique feeding behavior. The frogfish uses its deceptive disguise not to stalk its prey but to conceal itself from the prey that unwittingly comes to it. To accomplish this, the Frogfishes have developed the most elaborate body adaptation and method of deception for eating purposes under the sea. They have modified the spine in front of the first dorsal fin into a long, thin, whip-like transparent rod, hinged, directly over their mouth. The fishing pole is tipped with a fleshy appendage that appears to be a piece of bait.

Lying in wait, when a potential meal is near, the frogfish purposefully lowers the pole from its resting place on its head and dangles and jiggles the bait from side to side, fishing, directly in front of its mouth. As

a curious creature enters the strike zone, the frogfish crouches down, lowers its dorsal, retracts the lure, and, as if shot from a cannon, opens and blows its mouth outward to twelve times normal size. The victim is sucked through the mouth into the stomach in the fastest recorded strike of any vertebrate predator, a mere six milliseconds (0.006 seconds). The attack is so swift that schooling fish seldom react to the loss of one of their neighbors. Repeated use of this fishing apparatus takes its toll

*Ocellated means "having spots". Ocellus are markings, or spots, that resemble simple eyes.

but damaged or lost pieces can be regenerated in as short as five days.

Dietary habits and mating ritual

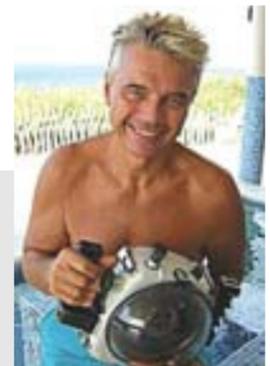
Frogfishes are not picky eaters. Three-fourths of their diet is fish, a testament to the success of the pole and lure technique. They also consume crabs, mantis shrimps, other crustaceans, and seem to be immune to the poisonous spines of scorpion fishes, a regular item on their menu. Size is also not important, and it has been reported that squirrelfish longer than the frogfish have been found in stomach contents. Frogfish also feed at night, attracting the lateral line sensors of nocturnal prey with the vibrations of the jiggling lure and the use of chemical substances.

The pair we are watching are not fishing and the male is busy nudging, nibbling and leaning on the swollen female. He periodically displays erect fins and presses his pectoral fins against her balloon shaped abdomen. The female frogfish will swell for several days and then violently release a large gelatinous raft of eggs tightly wound together like a ribbon. The male will simultaneously saturate the egg mass by ejecting sperm which is absorbed into the pores of the egg structure with seawater. Within days the tightly wound ribbon, that will contain from 50,000 to 250,000 eggs,

will soften and unwind to a length exceeding 3 feet (1 meter)! The individual eggs part and enter the plankton flow as pelagic yolk-sac larvae.

We do not have time to wait for this monumental and exhausting event on this visit, but will return shortly for more observation of these amazing creatures. I hope you will join us on that next adventure into the deep.

Story and Photos © Albert Bianculli 2005



Albert Bianculli has been visiting Bonaire since 1970 and now lives on the island full time. See his show every Sunday night at Captain Don's Habitat Aquarius Conference Room beginning at 8:30 pm.

All images are original, un-retouched slides, shot on location and composed within the viewfinder.

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BONAIRENET

The leading consumer and business information source on Bonaire. Telephone (599) 717-7160. For on-line yellow pages directory information go to <http://www.yellowpagesbonaire.com>

CAPT. DON'S ISLAND GROWER

Trees and plants, Bonaire grown. 8000m² nursery. Specializing in garden/septic pumps and irrigation. Kaminda Lagoen 103, Island Growers NV (Capt. Don and Janet). Phone: 786-0956

Bonaire Images

Elegant greeting cards and beautiful boxed note cards are now available at Chat-N-Browse next to Lovers Ice Cream and Sand Dollar. Photography by Shelly Craig www.bonaireimages.com

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SALT TREASURES BONAIRE

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JELLASTONE PETPARK

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BE?

Are you having trouble collecting an old debt from BonairExel?

Is BonairExpress claiming that they don't owe you the money because of a name change? Call 717-7488 or email: greatescape@bonairelive.com

For Sale

For sale **Baby Macaw**. Information telephone/fax. 717-2006 fam. Jonkman

WINDSURF SAIL 3.5m CARBON FIBRE MAST/BASE STAY AND BOOM Naf 300.00 WINDSURF BOARD – STARBOARD – EXCELLENT FOR BEGINNERS OR CHILDREN Naf 525.00 KITE SURF CABRINHA BLACK TIP KITE 10m WITH BAR AND LINES Naf 525.00 KITE SURF CABRINHA BLACK TIP 12m WITH BAR AND LINES Naf 525.00 ACCESSORIES – CHILDREN WAIST HARNESS Naf 45.00, ph: 717-3640; 786-0816. pelican@flamingotv.net

Like new Samsung 13.1 cubic ft. refrigerator NAf500 786 4399

Toyota Land Cruiser- Prado 1997, only 58,050 KM, airco, tape deck, excellent condition inside and out \$15,800 or NAf28,000. Call 717-3267

LADA NIVA (jeep) for sale 1991-4X4 drive 1.6 Cyl. 95.000km NAf5.400 717-2844 or 786-2844

Volkswagen VW VAN 1988 2 Liter engine- automatic NAf6.900 717-2844 or 786-2844

Property, Sales & Rentals

House For Rent: 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 1 kitchen, 1 sitting room, 2 porches. Kaya Korona #103. Tel. 785-3835.

For Sale: Townhouse in Belnem, across from Bachelor's Beach with Ocean views- 2 bedroom, 1½ bath townhouse 1,184 sq. feet. Lot- 3,767 sq. feet. Ocean views from master bedroom balcony. Laundry room and outdoor storage cabana. Tropically landscaped. Furnished, ready to rent or move in. Excellent income or 1st time home in Bonaire. Private Property. No association, dues or fees. Email for pictures and other info. \$125,000.00 US dvrliz1@aol.com

For Rent: Comfortable 2-bedroom beach villa- weekly or monthly-choice location-privacy & security. Phone (Bon) (599) 717 3293; (US) (570) 586 0098. **May 20 until Jan. 8th.** info@pelicanreefbonaire.com or www.pelicanreefbonaire.com

Wanted

Wanted: a Handyman! We are looking for an all round experienced handyman for a small-scale resort on Bonaire for about 12 hours a week. For more information or to apply for the job please call Marieke Schmitz, phone number 717-3630 during office hours.

Wanted: Looking for a roommate. Own bedroom and bath. Share living room, kitchen and 2 porches. Center of Kralendijk. Call Marika 786-6124 or Otto 786-9637.—

Adventure for North Saliña Youngsters

COVER STORY



Mik Smit photo

“And this is how to do it.”

Mik Smit, who heads the Stitching (Foundation) Project, is providing socialization training for North Saliña youngsters. Recently the project involved abseiling down the Spelonk lighthouse. Other efforts of the Stitching Project involved the Aspiring Ranger Program and working with the Maria Höppner Foundation. The abseiling instruction was by Hans Voerman of Outdoor Bonaire (785-6272 or 717-4553). In the photo are the boys, R. Mata, C. Sunter and R. Alberto, their coaches, L. Winklaar and C. Mercera, and instructor Hans Voerman.



Mik Smit

Press Release

Traveling Turtle Update

Reporting the 2005-6 season on Bonaire's breeding sea turtles

It appears that Puerto Rico does indeed have a resident population of at least one loggerhead turtle and that “Happy” has reached her home feeding grounds in the Vieques Passage. It took her 20 days to travel home having first entered the Vieques Passage on July 18. To reach her destination she swam over 1,100 km and is approximately 735 km from Klein Bonaire.

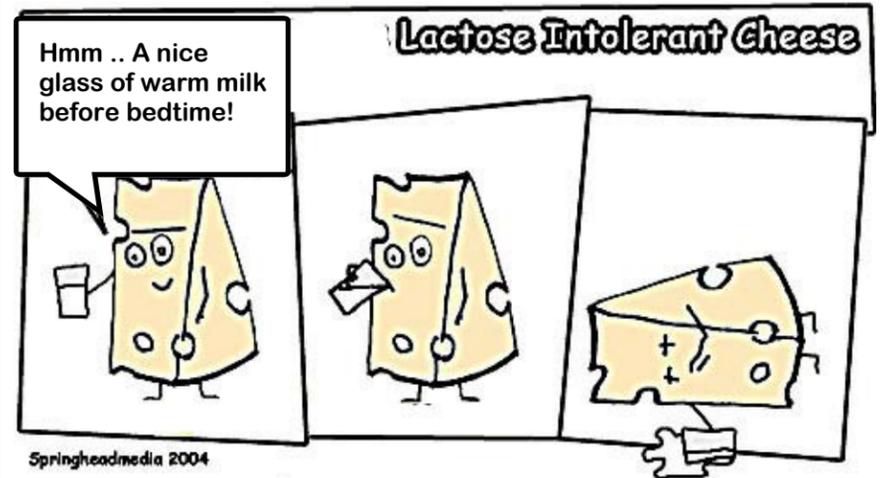
This will be the final satellite tracking update for “Happy” unless she decides to continue her travels. If she does we will keep you posted.

Andy Uhr



Ask the Dietitian

What is Lactose Intolerance?



Springheadmedia 2004

Lactose is another word for the milk sugar in cow, sheep and goat milk. All milk and milk products contain lactose. Lots of people have a problem with lactose intolerance. Their digestive system complains when they consume lactose. Lactose intolerance is common among people with dark skin*. The complaints are gassiness, cramps, discomfort and diarrhea.

What's the Cause? The cause of lactose intolerance is simple. In order to digest lactose your body needs to split it into smaller sugars. The key to making the split is an enzyme called “lactase,” which, like other necessary enzymes, is made by the body. If your body makes too little lactase, then milk sugar will go undigested, causing the unpleasant symptoms of lactose intolerance. Perhaps you were once able to drink all the milk you wanted, but it isn't the case anymore because lactose intolerance may develop at any time during the adult years. As we grow older, our bodies produce less lactase. There are a lot of possible causes of lactose intolerance. To mention some:

- infection or inflammation of the digestive tract
- stomach or intestinal surgery
- drugs
- irritable bowel syndrome
- radiation
- alcoholism, etc.

Of course the cause can also be genetic.

How to Deal with it. If you are lactose intolerant, you should follow a diet that limits lactose. Most patients do not need to eliminate lactose completely from the diet, but only minimize their intake. Many people who are intolerant to lactose can bear a certain amount in their diet, for instance, one glass of milk, but spread over the day and not all in just one shot.

All milk and milk products are rich in lactose, but milk products that contain less lactose can be tolerated more easily. Milk products that contain less lactose are yoghurt, *karne melk* and *kwark*, American cheese, Monterey jack, mozzarella and Parmesan. Because of the way it's processed Dutch cheese does not contain lactose.

Milk and milk products are also rich in calcium and vitamin B₂. So if you eliminate them from your diet, they should be replaced with other products that contain those ingredients. Good sources are soy milk and soy milk products or lactose free milk, all of which are usually available in island supermarkets. *Angélique Salsbach*

* According to medical journals as many as 75% of all African Americans and Native Americans and 90% of Asian-Americans are lactose intolerant. The condition is least common among persons of northern European descent.

Ed.

Angélique Salsbach, a dietitian with Bonaire's Department of Health and Hygiene, has a radio program every other Tuesday 9 to 9:30 on Bon FM. Write her at dietitan@bonairenews.com □



Pet of the Week

This adorable pup, "Sonya," was found on Kaya Grandi and brought in to the Bonaire Animal Shelter by some very kind people who wanted to save her. Sonya is definitely worth saving! Already she has shown good dog character, and although she's small, she's tough and can hold her own with the other boisterous dogs in her pen. She just needs to find the right loving and appreciative owner. If you think you qualify stop by the Animal Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Friday, 10 am to 2 pm, Saturdays until 1. Tel. 717-4989.

If you find an abandoned dog please take it to the Shelter. It makes sense because you're giving the dog a chance at life. It will be examined by the vet to see whether it's healthy, tested for heartworm and given its shots. If it's a healthy dog and it's "social" (gets along with people) it will be put up for adoption. And it will be neutered when it's old enough. The Shelter is the best "headquarters" to visit if you want to adopt an animal. All the above exam, shots, sterilization, etc. are included in the adoption fee of NAf105 for dogs. Cats are NAf75. *L.D.*



WHAT'S HAPPENING

WEEKLY MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Late Show
Call to make sure (Usually 9 pm)

Madagascar (Cris Rock)

Early Show (Usually 7 pm)
Batman Begins

Kaya Prinses Marie Behind Exito Bakery
Tel. 717-2400

Tickets - NAf10,50 (incl. Tax) High Schoolers - NAf7,75

NEW FILMS BEGIN FRIDAY
CLOSED MONDAY TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY

SATURDAY 4 PM
Star Wars Episode III

THIS WEEK

Friday, July 29, Saturday, July 30—Remy DeHaas of Light Senses Curaçao will conduct a seminar: “The angels want to help you heal your life.” Practical information to help you give your life a different touch. Practical and spiritual tools to help you heal your body, relationships, career, family. Topics include Loving Touch, Power of Angelic Prayers, Healing Angel Meditation, etc. 9 am to 6 pm. July 29- Papiamentu; July 30-English. NAf80. Sign up: Mary: marytimmermans@telbonet.an or Odette van Barneveld: barny1011@hotmail.com

Saturday, July 30—“Sixties” Pool Party, Hilltop Restaurant at Caribbean Club—prizes for best costumes 8 pm. 717-7901

Saturday, July 30- Mountain Bike Race at Cycle Bonaire starts 4:30 pm. See story on page 9

Sunday, July 31—Big Fair at the Hollandse Patio in Tera Kora. Dancing, music, Magic Ed from Aruba, activities for children, food from 8 different countries: Bonaire, Colombia, Curaçao, Venezuela, Santo Domingo, Peru, Surinam, Trinidad

COMING

Saturday, August 7—Rincon Marshé—Lively, open-air market—food, produce, gifts, plants, music, friendliest people on the island. In the town square. 6 am to 2 pm. www.infobonaire.com/rincon

Sunday, August 8—Fun Run sponsored by Comcabon, 2/4/5k. 7:30 am. Call Richard Pietersz 717-8629, 780-7225

Saturday, Sunday, August 13-14- Sailing Regatta, Regatta House. —micro boats, optimist, sunfish, cats, fishing boats. Sign up at Budget Marine by July 29: regatta@budgetmarinebonaire.com

September 1-6—Annual Bonaire Motorcycle Tour.
Sunday, October 9—Jong Bonaire Annual Swim to Klein Bonaire, 8 am, Bongo’s Beach
October 9 – 15- International Bonaire Sailing Regatta

EVERY WEEK

Saturday Rincon Marshé opens at 6 am - 2 pm. Enjoy a Bonairean breakfast while you shop: fresh fruits and vegetables, gifts, local sweets and snacks, arts and handicrafts, candles, incense, drinks and music. www.infobonaire.com/rincon

Sunday -Live music 6 to 9 pm while enjoying a great dinner in colorful tropical ambiance at the **Chibi Chibi Restaurant & Bar**. Open daily 5 to 10 pm. Live **Fla-Bingo**—great prizes, 7 pm, Divi Flamingo

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

Tuesday -**Harbour Village Tennis, Social Round Robin** 7 to 10 pm. \$10 per person. Cash bar. All invited. Call Elisabeth Vos at 565-5225 /717-7500, ext. 14.

Wednesday -**Meditation at Donkey Beach** from 7:30 to 8:30 pm. Open to all. Call S.H.Y. 790-9450

Friday -**Manager’s Rum Punch Party, Buddy Dive Resort**, 5:30-6:30 pm
Friday- Open House with Happy Hour at the **JanArt Gallery** at Kaya Gloria #7, from 5-7 pm.

Daily- The **Divi Flamingo Casino** is open daily for hot slot machines, roulette and black jack, Monday to Saturday 8 pm– 4 am; Sunday 7 pm– 3 am.

Every day by appointment -**Rooi Lamoenchi Kunuku Park Tours** Bonairean kunuku. \$12 (NAf12 for residents). Tel 717-8489, 540-9800.

FREE SLIDE/VIDEO SHOWS

Saturday- Discover Our Diversity Slide Show, pool bar Buddy Dive, 7 pm 717-5080

Sunday - Bonaire Holiday -Multi-media dual-projector production by Albert Bianculli, 8.30 pm, Capt. Don’s Habitat.

Wednesday (2nd and 4th) **Turtle Conservation Slide Show** by Andy Uhr. Carib Inn seaside veranda, 7 pm

Thursday from June 16 to July 28, Basic Fish ID Yellow Submarine Dive Shop at 6:30 pm

Friday- Week in Review Video Presentation by the Toucan Dive Shop at Plaza’s Topsy Seagull, 5 pm. 717-2500.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Bonaire Arts and Crafts (Fundashon Arte Industrial Bonieriano) 717-5246 or 717-7117

The Bonaire Swim Club- Contact Valerie Stimpson at 785-3451 or Valerie@telbonet.an

Cinnamon Art Gallery - Volunteers to help staff gallery during the day.

Call 717-7103.

Bonaire National Marine Park - 717-8444.

Bonaire Animal Shelter -717-4989.

Donkey Sanctuary - 560-7607.

Jong Bonaire (Youth Center) - 717-4303.

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

Special Olympics - Contact Roosje 717-4685, 566-4685

CLUBS and MEETINGS

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

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

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

Bridge Club - **Wednesdays**, 7:30 pm at the Union Building on Kaya Korona, across from the RBTT Bank and next to Kooyman’s. All levels invited. NAf5 entry fee. Call Cathy 566-4056.

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

JCI. First Wednesday of the Month- Junior Chamber International Bonaire (JCI Bonaire or formerly known as Bonaire Jaycees) meets at the ABVO building, Kaminda Jato Baco 36 from 7:30 to 9:30pm. 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 are welcome.

Rotary lunch meetings **Wednesday**, 12 noon-2 pm - Rendez-Vous Restaurant, Kaya L.D. Gerharts #3. All Rotarians are welcome. Tel. 717-8454

BONAIRE’S TRADITIONS

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

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

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

Sunday at Cai- Live music and dancing starts about 12 noon at Lac Cai. Dance to the music of Bonaire’s popular musicians.

Rincon Marshé- every Saturday - 6 am to 3 pm. Open market in historic town.

Soldachi Tours show you the Rincon area. Alta Mira Nature Walking Tour at 6:30 am. Town Walking tour at 9:30, Bus Tour at 10. Call Maria at 717-6435 to reserve.

CHURCH SERVICES

New Apostolic Church, Meets at Kaminda Santa Barbara #1, Sundays, 9:30 am. Services in Dutch. 717-7116.

International Bible Church of Bonaire – Kaya Amsterdam 3 (near the traffic circle) **Sunday Services at 9 am; Sunday Prayer Meeting at 7:00 pm** in English. Tel. 717-8332

Protestant Congregation of Bonaire. Wilhelminaplein. Services in Papiamentu, Dutch and English on **Sundays at 10 am. Thursday Prayer Meeting and Bible Study at 8 pm.** Rev. Jonkman. 717-2006

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Kaya Sabana #26 Sundays 8:30 - 11:30 am. Services in Papiamentu, Spanish and English.

Catholic San Bernardus in Kralendijk – Services on **Sunday at 8 am and 7 pm** in Papiamentu 717-8304 . **Saturday at 6 pm** at *Our Lady of Coromoto* in Antriol, in English. Mass in Papiamentu on Sunday at 9 am and 6 pm. 717-4211.

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

Send events to *The Bonaire Reporter*

Email reporter@bonairenews.com

Tel/Fax. 717-8988, Cel. 791-7252

DINING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue

RESTAURANT	PRICE RANGE / WHEN OPEN	FEATURES
Want your restaurant listed here?	It's easy and not expensive	Call <i>The Reporter</i> at 717-8988 or 791-7252 for info
Bella Vista Restaurant Sea Side Restaurant at Buddy Dive Resort 717-5080, ext. 525	Moderate. Breakfast and Lunch Dinner during Theme nights only. Open every day	Magnificent Theme Nights: Saturday: Beach Grill; Monday: Caribbean Night; Friday: Manager's Rum Punch Party and All-You-Can-Eat B.B.Q
Bistro de Paris Kaya Gob. N. Debrot 46 (half-way between hotel row and town) 717-7070	Moderate Lunch and Dinner Closed Sunday	Real French Cooking in an informal setting Superb dishes prepared with care and love by a French chef Owner-operated Eat in or Take away
Brasserie Bonaire Royal Palm Galleries Kaya Grandi 26, Next to Re/Max, 717-4321	Low- Moderate Lunch and Dinner Open 11 am -2:30 pm 5:30-9 pm Closed Saturday and Sunday	Lots of parking in big mall lot Kitchen Open 11am-2:30 pm, Dinner 5:30-9 pm Breezy terrace with airco inside—Also serving big sandwiches at dinner
Calabas Restaurant & Chibi Chibi Restaurant and Bar At the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort. Waterfront 717-8285	Moderate-Expensive Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Open 7 days	Get a view of the beach and turquoise sea while enjoying a breakfast buffet or à la carte lunch and dinner at the 'Chibi Chibi' restaurant & bar. Inspiring vistas and the highest standard of cuisine.
Crocantino Italian Restaurant Downtown at Kaya Grandi 48 717-5025	Moderate-Expensive Dinner Closed Monday	Bonaire's Most Romantic Restaurant where dining is a delight! Tuscan chef prepares exquisite dishes with authentic ingredients. Be served in a garden setting under floating umbrellas or in air-conditioned comfort. Take out
Den Laman On the water, just off the traffic circle 717-4106	Moderate-Expensive Breakfast, Lunch Dinner Open 7 days	Creative cuisine on the seaside. Top chefs from Amsterdam cook in an open modern kitchen featuring induction cooking. Seafood a specialty.
The Great Escape EEG Blvd #97—across from Belmar 717-7488	Moderate Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner Open 7 days	Bar-Restaurant poolside—under the thatched roof. Caribbean cuisine. Champagne brunch on Sundays 10 am to noon. Happy hours 5 to 7 every day.
Hilltop at Caribbean Club Bonaire On the Tourist Road, 2 mi. north of Town 717-7901	Moderate-Expensive Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Closed Sunday	Quiet country setting, lovely landscaping, friendly staff Happy Hour from 5-7 pm, BBQ on Tuesdays Gourmet chef creates unique daily specials
The Last Bite Bakery Home Delivery or Take Out 717-3293	Low-Moderate Orders taken 8 am-4 pm; Deliveries 6-7:30 pm, Closed Sunday	Enjoy a delicious dessert or savory baked meal in the comfort of your home or resort. This unique bakery offers gourmet class items -always from scratch- for take out or delivery only.
The Lost Penguin Across from MCB Bank in downtown Kralendijk Call 717-8003.	Low-Moderate Breakfast, Lunch, Early Dinner Closed Tuesdays & Wednesdays	Watch the bustle of downtown from this street side Caribbean-style bistro owned and run by a European educated Master Chef and his wife.
Pasa Bon Pizza On Kaya Gob. Debrot ½ mile north of town center. 790-1111	Low-Moderate Open from 5-11 pm Wednesday-Sunday	Bonaire's best. The Real Thing! Freshly prepared pizzas made with the finest ingredients. Salads, desserts. Eat in or take away. Nice bar too. Call ahead to eat-in or take out 790-1111



SHOPPING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue



APPLIANCES/ TV/ ELECTRONICS/ COMPUTERS

City Shop, the mega store, has the island's widest selection of large and small home appliances. Fast service and in-store financing too.

ART GALLERY

Cinnamon Art Gallery non-profit gallery for local artists has continuous shows. Each month a new artist is featured. Stop by. Free entry.

BANKS

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

BEAUTY PARLOR

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

BICYCLE / SCOOTER/ QUADS

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

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

APA Construction are professional General Contractors. They also specialize in creating patios and walkways with fabulous sprayed and stamped concrete pavement.

DIVING

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

Photo Tours Divers-Yellow Submarine -low prices - on the seaside at Kralendijk, at Caribbean Club, Caribbean Court and the Hamlet Oasis. Join their cleanup dives and BBQ.

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

FITNESS

Bonfysio offers comprehensive fitness programs to suit your needs whether they be weight loss, sports or just keeping in shape. Convenient schedule.

Fit 4 Life at the Plaza Resort Mall. Classes in Pilates, Aerobics, TaeBo and more. Professional trainers, fitness machines and classes for all levels.

GARDEN SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

Green Label has everything you need to start or maintain your garden. They can design, install and maintain it and offer plants, irrigation supplies and garden chemicals.

GIFTS, SOUVENIRS AND LIQUOR

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

HOTELS

Golden Reef Inn is the affordable alternative with fully equipped studio apartments in a quiet Bonaire neighborhood. Just a 3-minute walk to diving and the sea.

The Great Escape

Under new management. Quiet and tranquil setting with pool and luxuriant garden in Belnem. Cyber Café, DVD rentals, restaurant and bar.

METALWORK AND MACHINE SHOP

b c b- Botterop Construction Bonaire N.V., offers outstanding fabrication of all metal products, including stainless. Complete machine shop too.

PHOTO FINISHING

Paradise Photo in the Galleries Shopping Center offers fast, fine processing for prints, slides, items and services. **Now-full digital services.**

REAL ESTATE / RENTAL AGENTS

Harbourtown Real Estate is Bonaire's oldest real estate agent. They specialize in professional customer services and top notch properties.

Mike Boom & Associates - Broad assortment of homes and properties. View on their website www.bonairealty.com or office in town

Re/Max Paradise Homes: International/US connections. 5% of profits donated to local community.

Sunbelt Realty offers full real estate, rental, and insurance services. If you want a home or to invest in Bonaire, stop in and see them.

REPAIRS

Bon Handyman is here if you need something fixed or built. Ultra reliable, honest and experienced. Electrical, plumbing, woodworking, etc. 717-2345

RESORTS & ACTIVITIES

Buddy Dive Resort offers diving, Adventure Fun tours including kayaking, mountain biking, cave snorkeling and exploration.

RETAIL

Benetton, world famous designer clothes available now in Bonaire at prices less than those in US. For men, women and children.

SECURITY

Special Security Services will provide that extra measure of protection when you need it. Always reliable.

SHIPPING

Rocargo Freight Air and sea shipments in/out of Bonaire. Customs agents. Professional and efficient. **FedEx agent.**

SUPERMARKETS

Visit **Warehouse Bonaire** to shop in a large, spotless supermarket. You'll find American and European brand products. THE market for provisioning.

VILLAS

Bonaire Oceanfront villa for up to nine people: five kitchens, five bathrooms. Ideal for divers.

WATER TAXI

Get to Klein Bonaire by Ferry. Ride the *Kantika di Amor* or *Skiffy*. Hotel pickup.

WINES

Antillean Wine Company. You've tried the rest; now try the best: best prices, highest quality wines from around the world, kept in a cooled warehouse. Free delivery.

YOGA

Yoga For You. Join certified instructors Desirée and Don for a workout that will refresh mind and body. Private lessons too.

ATTENTION BUSINESSMEN/WOMEN:
Put your ad in *The Bonaire Reporter*.
Phone/Fax 717-8988, Cel 791-7252

Indira Tibusay Dugarte de Castro

I was born in Merida, Venezuela, July 25th 1973, the only child of a journalist and a nurse. I always wanted to be a lawyer, and I graduated from the University of the Andes with a degree in criminology, a new field in Venezuela.

I started working at the Ministry of Interior and Justice and then was transferred to the chancellery, which belonged to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Immediately I was sent to Bonaire. It was my first job in the consular corps abroad, and I couldn't choose. It was 'take it or leave it'; otherwise I would have remained in the Ministry.

I'd never been to Bonaire before. I arrived at three o'clock in the afternoon with my mother who came with me because I was single. I was very impressed with the view of the island from the air. The colors of the sea at Donkey Beach were something I'd never seen before! The same day my mom and I went to the salinas. It was beautiful, just amazing. The day after our arrival I started working with my predecessor; then after a year, I started on my own.

After I was on Bonaire for only two months I met Luis Castro from Caracas here at the consulate. Luis was working at the Plaza in the auditing department at night. He didn't have the position of night manager, but he was doing the work of one."

"When I came to the consulate, Indira treated me so well that I fell in love immediately," Luis says, *cuddling his wife. He's a big, spontaneous guy, radiating pride and love, all focused on this little fragile woman who's sitting behind her desk - the Consul General of Venezuela on Bonaire - Indira Tibusay Dugarte de Castro.* "We got married March 15th 2003 in Caracas. It was easier for the whole family to do it there. Then we honeymooned in Puerto La Cruz and Margarita. After we got married my mom went back to Venezuela, not that she and Luis didn't get along, but she felt she didn't have to take care of me any longer and she missed the family.

My job has a lot of different aspects. Being the Consul General of Venezuela on Bonaire means that I'm representing the government of the *Republica Bolivariana de Venezuela*. So I assist the Venezuelan community by arranging everything concerning documents, notary functions and general assistance. I enjoy every bit of everything. The office is working very well, and I feel I've made a change. It's going much better.

There is a variety of Venezuelan people on the island - from businessmen to blue collar workers. Many of them come to the consulate with all kinds of problems, looking for a solution. There

are about 460 registered Venezuelans here, and the most common thing I do is passport renewals and arranging visas for foreigners. For instance all foreigners who go to Venezuela by boat have to come here first to get a visa. We're the only official consulate on Bonaire, and we've been here for a long, long time... ever since 1936!

Another thing that falls under my responsibility is the Venezuelan Institute which offers free Spanish lessons, ceramic lessons and music lessons. Our budget pays for that. Every year there is a different program and I make an operating plan to accomplish it. We are doing all this for the local community because we have cultural and historical bonds with our sister countries in the Caribbean. The Institute also coordinates cultural activities of Venezuelans living here. I'm also responsible for the the 5th of July celebration, our Independence Day. This year six members of the juvenile symphonic Orchestra of Venezuela came, and we celebrated in the Casa Coral at Harbour Village. Eighty people were invited, mostly local government people and Venezuelans living here. As I can't invite 460 people at the same time, I change the list every year. It's a lot of work for just the three of us working at the consulate.

"There is a variety of Venezuelan people on the island - from businessmen to blue collar workers. Many of them come to the consulate with all kinds of problems, looking for a solution."

When I'm not working I love to go to the beach, Bongo's Beach, as we live in Eden Beach apartments. At first I went scuba diving with my husband, but now I like the beach better. I also love 1000 Steps. The view and the beach are spectacular. We don't like to go out at night; we both like to cook our Venezuelan dishes like *arepas*, *sancocho* and *pabellon*. How long we will be here? I don't know. You see, once they say you have to come back, you have to go back. I love Venezuela very much and I miss my country and my family, but right now I like it here and I enjoy every moment of it.

To me, the most important thing in life is to achieve something you decided you wanted to do. I am ambitious for my dreams and my goals. I work for my



Luis Castro and Indira Tibusay Dugarte de Castro.

dreams - a great family with a solid base. I would love to have two children, but I'd like to wait a year or two as I am only 32. I was raised as an only child, and I wouldn't want that for my children. On one hand you get spoiled, but on the other hand you feel lonely."

Luis has come back to join Indira for their picture and after it's done he says: "I was working in a hotel in Venezuela and got an offer to come and work at the Plaza. Eight years ago I was working in a hotel in Curaçao. Curaçao has very nice beaches, but there's no security. You don't feel as safe as you do here. For me Bonaire is paradise. It didn't take anything to adapt; it was so easy. After I was here for three months I met Indira. I love her personality and her ideas about values and principals and... she's a beautiful woman. I came here for a good job, then I met Indira and she became my wife, so... I love Bonaire! We have friends of all nationalities, like the island has so many nationalities. The local people here are really nice and easy going. I know this because I've worked with them and I was lucky to find such good people. After Plaza I worked for a while at The Morgan's Tavern at the Lighthouse at Harbour Village. Now I'm waiting for something new. Meanwhile I'm here at the consulate, boring my wife! My father is a Spaniard from La Palmas, Canary Islands. I've been there too: it's full of tourists - 5 million per year - but the place doesn't look nice.

Bonaire has everything for tourists, for divers and eco-tourism. It has it all! Bonaire has great potential to exploit it, but it has to do better. The problem is the travel connections. Once you have a Hilton, a Marriott or a Sheraton, Bonaire will boom! I would like that for the island. I love to dive - Hilma Hooker or the Plaza. At the Plaza you can see eve-

rything: octopus, lobster, turtles and manta rays. It's beautiful! We feel at home here. But we bought an apartment in La Tahona, in Caracas, because we feel Venezuela will always be our base, wherever we go. Indira would like to have a diplomatic career and that's fine with me, because I can always work in the hotel business, but Venezuela is the place where we will end up. It's our country. Our family lives there, and I like the diversity of the climate and the vegetation: the cold, the heat, the mountains and the plains. I know my country from one end to the other. But now is no time to go. It's the rainy season and everywhere it's dangerous with the flooding. We have been exploring every part of Bonaire as well. We have been to the caves and all the beaches and Washington Park which is very beautiful. It's not such a big island, but it's also very diverse. And I do like the local food!" *He rubs his belly and laughs:* "What do you think!"

"The only thing I miss here are fashion shops. There aren't enough as I love clothes," *Indira says* "but it's good for Luis. *He says:* "That's why I like it here, much better for my wallet!" "No, just kidding, he's a very loving husband and he spoils me a lot, but he likes to joke! I would like to have more shops here, but that's about it. Frequently we have family and friends coming over and when we take them around, time and time again everybody agrees that Bonaire is paradise!" *photo and story by Greta Kooistra*





Photography in the Modern Age

The Digital Shootout in Bonaire is underway (July 23 - 30, 2005) as we go to press.

Bonaire old timers may recall when Bonaire was one of several locations for the Nikonos Underwater Shoot-Out. For many, this was their first exposure to Bonaire's macro-rich waters. The last Nikon Shoot-Out on Bonaire was in 1998, but the growing interest in digital underwater photography has led to a new event, happening this week on Bonaire. It's The Digital Shootout and is sponsored by housing maker, Light & Motion, Backscatter, Jim Watt, Adobe, and Wetpixel.com, among others.

In addition to a photo and video competition, the week's events also feature a number of tutorials and seminars aimed at making attendees better photographers and editing software users. And, in some ways, this sort of education is vital, especially for those making the transition from film photography to digital photography.

Digital photography has evolved greatly since its introduction to the masses in the early 1990s, with newer cameras featuring greater resolution and color ranges, faster focusing, crisper imagery – all in an effort to meet the capabilities of film, and in some cases overcome film's limitations. All this comes at a price, of course. While you can get pretty decent pictures with a \$20 disposable film camera (but high per roll processing costs), you're looking at hundreds of dollars for something producing similar quality in digital, and if you want to match the capabilities of a high end film camera, the price for a comparable digital camera can run into the thousands, as can housings for such cameras. One can argue that the savings in film and film development costs will ultimately make up the difference though.

Underwater film photographers also swear by certain types of films, for example Fuji's Velvia, which produces rich, saturated reds, purples, and oranges, in comparison to the more flat variants produced by regular films. To get the same results with digital cameras, you have to use special software in addition to whatever photo editing software you might use. And that's an added expense. Try Fred Miranda's Digital Velvia or Opanda's Digital Film for this.

Digital cameras also let you take vast numbers of pictures on a single "roll" of digital film – typically hundreds of pictures with a large enough memory card. I have found both with myself and with other digital photographers that this leads to more "lazy" photography. You are no longer limited to 36 pictures per roll, where you have to make each picture count. You can now take dozens of pictures of the same subject, and then immediately see if you captured what you wanted, and better yet, delete the ones you don't want. With my film background, however, I rarely delete as I want to see the bad (or at least not

great) pictures I took and learn from them as well.

And even not-so-great pictures can be salvaged, thanks to the inherent assumption with digital photography that some sort of imaging software will be involved in producing a final image. On the low end this may be a package like Adobe Photoshop Elements or JASC's PaintShopPro, and on the high end the veritable Adobe Photoshop.

One of the biggest problems in photography – film or digital, is lighting. I was a spoiled underwater photographer – I always shot with a strobe (flash) in TTL (synchronized with the camera). With digital cameras underwater, that usually isn't possible, and you typically have to rely on the built-in flash, and then use that to trigger an external strobe for better lighting of the scene. Such slave strobe photography is a real challenge – one you can somewhat counter with all those extra exposures offered by digital cameras.

For those of us who don't get it right even after multiple attempts, there is always Photoshop. *Article and images Copyright © 2005 by Jake Richter*

Jake Richter's "digitally painted" works appear at the Cinnamon Art Gallery on Bonaire. Jake can be reached at jake@bonairecreations.com

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BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it, just look up

The Three Bright Stars of the Summer Triangle Ride High In August's Night Sky

Every August, after it gets good and dark out, the three wonderfully bright stars of the **Summer Triangle** ride high in the heavens. And although they look almost the same brightness to the naked eye, nothing could be farther from the truth.

During the first two weeks of August, around 10 pm Sky Park time, face east but way up high in the east not far from overhead. There you'll see three bright stars, the brightest of which is the first point in the Summer Triangle, and the closest to overhead, **Vega**, the fifth brightest star in the entire sky shining at what astronomers call 0 magnitude. This makes it roughly 2½ times brighter than the other two bright stars of the Summer Triangle, the first magnitude stars **Altair** and **Deneb**. And if indeed we connect these three very bright stars with lines we'll know where the name Summer Triangle comes from.

Now each star is the brightest star of the constellation to which it belongs. Vega belongs to the constellation **Lyra the harp**. Altair belongs to **Aquila the eagle** and Deneb is the tail star of **Cygnus the swan**. We can learn a lot about how bright and how far away stars really are just by looking at these three. One would think that Vega, since it is the brightest, is the closest, but it's not. In fact it is so far away that it takes its light 25 years to reach us. Thus we say Vega is 25 light years away. It is almost 1/3 farther away than dimmer Altair which is the closest of the three, only 17 light years away, which means we see the light that left it only 17 years ago. So why is Vega so much brighter?

Simple. Vega is a much bigger and much hotter star. Compared to our almost one-million-mile-wide Sun Vega is almost 2 1/2 times as wide, whereas Altair is only 1 1/3 times the width of our Sun. So next time you're out with friends star gazing, and if someone in your group is 17 years old, you'll be able to say, "Hey, look at Altair. We're seeing the light tonight that left that star during the year you were born." And if someone in your group is 25 years old, simply say, "Hey look at Vega. The light we're seeing tonight is the light that left it during the year you were born." Kind of a nifty way to time travel huh?

But what about Deneb, which is only slightly dimmer than the closest, Altair? Well it is a whopping 1,500 light years away, which means we see now the light that left it 1,500 years ago. So if it's almost as bright as 17-light-years-away Altair, it must be a much, much bigger star. And in fact it is a whopping 116 times the diameter of our Sun. Wow! In fact, as astronomer Fred Schaaf puts it, "Deneb releases as much light in one night as our Sun does in a century."

So get out any night in August and look for the three bright stars of the Summer Triangle riding high close to overhead. It's fascinating plus it's fun!

Jack Horkheimer



THE STARS HAVE IT

For the week:
July 25 to July 31, 2005
By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Difficulties with female members of your family may result in estrangements. Don't vacillate about asking for assistance if you need it. Don't count on getting any help from those you live with. Your energetic nature and ability to initiate projects will add to your popularity. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) You may experience setbacks due to additional responsibilities with loved ones. Your talents might just be discovered. You can take advantage of opportunities if you are quick to make a move. Promotions will be yours if you have acted professionally in times of crisis. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) It's time to reevaluate your motives. You must be sure not to be frivolous, because as the saying goes, easy come, easy go. You're in need of love. You must try to include your mate in your activities this week. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Be careful when using machinery or electrical equipment. Communication must be open, precise, and honest. You may find it difficult to communicate. Your emotions are soaring and if you don't get your way, look out world. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Everything is moving quickly, just the way you like it. Let others know what your intentions are and be honest in your approach. You may make someone else look bad. This time was meant for love. Make creative changes to your residence. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) You should be looking at ways to spoil yourself. Overindulgence could lead to problems with digestion. Try to spend more time with children and relatives. Tell them to get out of the mess they are in and then you'll consider getting together with them. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) You will find that uncertain individuals will want to draw you into joint ventures. Expect some flak. Talking to those you trust and respect will help you sort out any problems. Don't let any money slip through your fingers this week. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) You may divulge private information without realizing it this week. You will be emotional about your personal life. Try to channel your energy into physical work. You are apt to meet someone special on your journey. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Put your efforts into your work or money making ventures rather than your emotional life. You can learn valuable information if you listen and observe what others are doing and saying. Avoid any gossip and be careful that you aren't misinterpreted. Comfort is a necessity. Check your motives. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) You are best not to confront situations that deal with in-laws or relatives. Rely on the one you love for support and affection. If you're feeling uncertain, spend some time alone and reevaluate your motives as well as your needs. Your devotion will be persuasive. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Cultural activities will prove to be quite enlightening for everyone. You can make drastic changes in your professional direction this week. You may find that someone you live with is not too happy, but you can't really do anything about that right now. You like to stay busy and now is your chance to do just that. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Lend an ear to children; it can make a difference. Your ability to deal with others will help you in getting the support you need. Family responsibilities are escalating. Your position may be in question if you haven't been pulling your weight. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

