



STE.NA.PA NEWSLETTER

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FRIENDS OF STE.NA.PA

ST Eustatius NATIONAL PARKs just restarted its program "Friends of STENAPA". All funds collected through this program are helping our foundation protect Sint Eustatius environment. When joining our program you will be provided with a membership card from which you will get many benefits (see list). The Board and the Management of STENAPA would like to thank local stores that are participating in the program, as well as the new members that joined "Friends of STENAPA". If you would like to receive more information on how to join "Friends of STENAPA", come by our office located in Gallows Bay Or call us at 318-2884.

PARTICIPATING STORES:

- Blue Bead Restaurant** 5% off meals (except daily specials)
- Kings Well Resort** 15% off hotel rates & food + beverages
- Mazinga** 5% off souvenirs & T-shirts (cash purchases only)
- Rivers Enterprises N.V.** 10% off store merchandise
- Smoke Alley Bar & Grill** 5% off meals (except during happy hours and when using your frequencycard)
- STENAPA Store** 15% off our merchandise, 10 % off Snorkeling Club
- Super Burger** 10% off one hot meal
- Trico Supplies N.V.** 10% off sand & gravel , 5% off ready mixed concrete

Help us save paper & money,
 If you would like to receive the
 e-mail version of this
 newsletter,
 please send us
 your e-mail address at
semp@goldenrock.net

TURTLE PROGRAM STARTING IN MARCH

A turtle tagging and hatchling monitoring program begins in March on Zeelandia beach and will continue through the end of nesting season in August. This project will provide valuable data on the endangered animals to Carib-

bean-wide marine researchers and Park managers through a linked database program. We would like to involve the community, especially youth, to participate in the beach tagging. If you are interested in the program, please contact the

Marine Park Office at 318-2884.



A WORD FROM THE MANAGER

STE.NA.PA

Executive Board:

Ronny Coutar, President
Siegfried Carty, V. P.
Jessica Berkel, Secretary
Jana Mason, Treasurer

Board:

Kay Boyd
Daniel Eaton
Jan van Duren

Manager:

Kay Lynn Plummer

Assistant Manager:

Gershon Lopes

I would like to thank volunteers Rozenn Le Scao of France and Stephan Göhlert and Mirjam Schneider of Germany, for their dedication to the mission and goals of STENAPA. Without their hard work, we would not be where we are today.

Since arriving on Statia less than a year ago, I have gained many valuable experiences, and have seen some large goals achieved in a shorter period of time than I first thought possible.

Thanks to progressive thinking by the Island Government and fast action by the local police, STENAPA has managed to help safeguard at least two marine species from becoming closer to extinction. With time, we hope to

develop better working relationships with local industries, especially the dive and fishing industries. We should all work together to accomplish shared goals and to help protect our marine environment for future generations.

Please pass by or call at the Marine Park office with any questions or suggestions which will help us to better manage our precious natural resources, both below and above Statia's waters.



Looking forward to the future

SNORKELING CLUB

Thanks to a much-needed grant, STENAPA was able to purchase enough snorkeling gear to initiate this year's snorkeling program. Assistant manager, Gershon Lopes, hopes that this program will foster future rangers of Statia. The snorkeling club takes place every

Wednesday at 2:30 and ends around 4:30. The course includes learning about marine life, conservation of marine resources, and basic snorkeling skills. The children are guided in the calm waters of Gallows Bay and are awarded a Skin Diver Certificate from the most recognized diving

organization, PADI.

It's never too late to sign your child up because new groups are formed frequently. This is the perfect opportunity for your child to learn how to snorkel and gain a better understanding of marine life.

BOTANICAL GARDEN GRANT AWARDED

STENAPA was awarded a grant for the Miriam C. Schmidt Botanical Garden by the "Prins Bernhard Natuurfonds/Prince Bernhard Fund for Nature". The funds given by this Dutch organization will make it possible for STENAPA to start with "Phase One". This phase includes the purchase and planting of trees, construction

of stairways, upgrading the greenhouse, and other improvements such as a second pump for irrigation, invasive exotic removal, and fencing to strengthen the perimeter fence. Another grant awarded by KNAP Fund will be used to purchase a strong 4x4 Mitsubishi truck for both the Marine Park and the Botanical Garden.

Hopefully more grants will be awarded in the near future to complete the project.



Entrance of the Miriam C. Schmidt Botanical Garden



**"In the end, we will
conserve only what we
love,
we will love only what
we understand,
and we will
understand only what
we are taught"**
**Baba Dioum,
Senegalese
conservationist**

NEW YACHT MOORINGS INSTALLED

The Statia Marine Park, with help from Nature Foundation St. Maarten, installed six new yacht moorings during the week of January 21 through 25. The installation equipment is very expensive, so the Saba Marine Park, St. Maarten Nature Foundation and Statia Marine Park share use and expense of it.

The Nature Foundation originally traveled to Statia to help the Marine Park install boundary buoys around the Marine Park Reserves, but decided to change missions and use Paul's skills to



Paul Ellinger from Nature Foundation St. Maarten

improve the yacht mooring system because it seemed the more urgent of the two projects.

The Marine Park used most of its grant-funded mooring materials on these new yacht mooring systems, so the boundary buoy project will have to wait until more funding comes through.

Many thanks to the St. Maarten Nature Foundation for helping the Statia Marine Park make its yacht moorings stronger and safer.

VOLUNTEERS GIVE MANY THANKS TO DONORS

We would like to thank members of the STENAPA board for donating goods to improve our living conditions at the Botanical Garden.

Gifts that were donated include a new stove, pillows, sheets, cooking utensils, and shelves.

Also we would like to thank Rivers Enterprises for allowing STENAPA to conduct a raffle to win a CD Changer / radio player (see side photo). Each number costs naf 10 or US\$ 6. The money collected will be used towards the purchase of a gas operated refrigerator for the volunteers. The final draw is scheduled for the 3rd of February



Many thanks to the people that have donated their time to help our foundation:

Curt Coker

Don Johnston

John Gall

Mike Johnson

The Morning Glory Foundation

LILY "THE VOLUNTEER DOG"

Lily was donated to us by Andres Mercera three months ago. Lily is now a guard, watch, and company dog for the volunteers at the Miriam C. Schmidt Botanical Garden. She loves living behind the mountain. She also helps keep goats out of the Botanical Garden.



Lily

Lily is sponsored by Mrs & Mr van Duren and we would like to thank them very much for their efforts.

Mr van Duren is also a member of STENAPA's Board.

**St. Eustatius National
Parks Foundation**

Phone: 599-318-2884
Fax: 599-318-2913
Email: semp@goldenrock.net



Please visit our website.
www.statiapark.org

ST. EUSTATIUS NATIONAL PARKS FOUNDATION IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION, WE ARE ALWAYS IN NEED OF FUNDING. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP US AND SPONSOR OUR NEWSLETTERS, WE ACCEPT DONATIONS AT:

**ST EUSTATIUS NATIONAL PARKS
GALLOWS BAY
ST EUSTATIUS, N.A.**

THANK YOU.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

We are looking for Board Members. If you are interested in joining the board of STENAPA, please send a letter of interest to our office located in Gallows Bay.

So far, six students from around the world have traveled to Statia to volunteer for ST Eustatius National Parks. Rozenn Le Scao of France helps the manager in the office with just about everything. She has been with us for six months and will be here for at least two more. Rudy Woods and Theresa Paulson from the U.S. completed six months of volunteer work in January. Mirjam Schneider of Germany helped maintain trails in The Quill while taking many photographs which will appear in our new Quill brochure. She

also helped anywhere else she was needed and completed her three month internship in December. Stephan Göhlert, also of Germany, is our Botanical Garden intern. He also helps maintain trails and staff the office on the weekends, as well as anything else that needs to be accomplished. Stephan will complete six months of practical training with us in March. Ben Cotton of the U.S. recently arrived to fulfill a four month volunteer position in the Botanical Garden.

Two more volunteers will arrive by the end of January, and the volunteer program will be ongoing until sustainable funding can be found in order to hire paid employees.

Some volunteer accomplishments so far include:

- 1- Preliminary development of a master plan for the Botanical Garden.
- 2- "Friends of STENAPA"
- 3- Educational programs
- 4- Regular beach clean-ups
- 5- Design of trail leaflet
- 6- Most of this newsletter!
- 7- And much, much more