

## Newsletter January, 2025



### Dear friend of our Donkey Sanctuary,

We would like to start off this Newsletter by wishing everybody a very happy and healthy 2025. We hope that you will be able to keep supporting our sanctuary in the new year.

2025

With this Newsletter, we shall keep you up to speed of what has been happening at our shelter during the past few months.



### Kromoor

Kromoor has officially retired; he is now living with his elderly peers. We estimate that he was born in 1988, so he is now a respectable 37! Recently he had some problems walking, but fortunately he is doing fine again after a visit from Guillermo, who trims the hooves of our donkeys.

### Cranberry and Pumpkin

In October, we received notice of a donkey with a painful leg; she had been spotted in the Colony behind San Nicolas. When we arrived, it appeared that there was a mare, who could not stand on her front leg. She was standing with her baby in a spot where she could be caught relatively easily. Although it has not been easy as pie, Cranberry and her daughter Pumpkin have been living with us since October. An X-ray showed that her wrist was injured, but that has healed well. When we did a pregnancy echo, Cranberry appeared to be pregnant, but unfortunately not by one of our new Bonairean stallions. The father is Aruban. As Pumpkin is now between 9 and 12 months old, Cranberry will make us happy us with a brother or sister for Pumpkin. We shall start thinking of a great name...





### **Patience, patience**

It appears that our Bonairean donkey babies do not wish to be born. In October 2023 the first mares were joined with a Bonairean male in a separate enclosure - last June echoes were taken and we thought that 4 of the 10 mares were pregnant. But we are still waiting and waiting - our patience is wearing thin by now! Xena and Woods are certainly pregnant, but we are still unsure about Coco and 7-Up.

### **Garvo Diervoeders, GLE Caribbean and Louis Venhorst Forage**

Last October Desiree visited our feed (Garvo Diervoeders) and hay (Louis Venhorst Forage) suppliers in Holland. It was wonderful to meet the people on the other side of the e-mails and



WhatsApp's. Desiree brought presents, of course, because the sanctuary is super happy with Garvo and Venhorst. They are absolutely great and always support us where and when they can. Desiree did not have time enough to meet GLE Caribbean, our transport partner, but that is something for her next trip. They are also wonderful people.



### **Kittens**

We regularly receive kittens from our friends at Criollo Trappers and Sgt. Peppers, both animal rescue foundations. These kittens are sometimes very scared, but some are surprisingly social. They come to us to get used to people and for quite a few kittens, we have been able to find new homes. Unfortunately, that was not the case for Drag Queen and Gremlin. Drag Queen's heart showed a minor malfunction and we did not wish to get him a new home when he might die soon. Both Drag Queen and Gremlin got a new name: Smarties and Skittles. Skittles is a black male, which nobody wanted to adopt. Smarties and Skittles can stay with us at the shelter: after Swa had died, they could join our family of animals and pets



Another walk-in was Sweep. He has feline aids, a contagious disease, and we are looking for a home for him where he will be the only cat. All our cats will be neutered and spayed. Most visitors love our cats, and that is why we have started an adoption program for them as well. For \$ 20.-- you get an adoption certificate with a letter attached and in this way you can adopt one of our six cats. Your money will go to the Animal Welfare Alliance Aruba where they spay and neuter cats. Up to now, 170 kittens and cats have been adopted and with the money, 243 cats were operated.

### **Would you like to help us with a donation?**

That is very easily done via the donation button on our website: [www.arubandonkey.org](http://www.arubandonkey.org)

#### **Or by bank:**

Aruba: Aruba Bank 40.03.025 Swift code: ARUBAWAX Nederland  
Nederland: Ing Bank BIC/SWIFT Code INGBNL2A  
IBAN NL50INGB0665468202 (Stichting Red Onze Ezel Aruba)

**Hopi Danki!!**



### Shopping ideas

Thea and Desiree are our in-house artists, who paint Christmas ornaments; these are sold during the year in our shop. In 2024 a whopping 372 ornaments have been sold! They are only for sale in our shop - we do not ship them.

Another fun thing to buy in our shop is the book *The Blue Horses in Oranjestad* with stories about Aruba. Proceeds go to local charities, mainly cat- and dog rescue organizations, but also to our donkeys. The book *Goudkoorts* (in Dutch) is also a great buy: filled with photos and stories, it showcases this island's incredible history.

### Nebula



And we are ecstatic: on December 23 a baby donkey was born. Her father's name is Pluto and he is one of the Bonairean males at the sanctuary. The baby's name is Nebula (in the tradition of the names of stars and planets) - easy for us to know her parentage. We are super happy with Nebula and hope that she will lead a happy and healthy life with us.

