



First Donkey Calendar presented

During the live broadcast of TeleAruba's morning program Nos Mainta the first Donkey Calendar 2011 was presented. Well-known comedienne and television host Tica Basha Bao received the calendar out of the hands of president of the Donkey Sanctuary Aruba, Desiree



Eldering. From now on this wonderful calendar is for sale for AWG. 25,-. It is absolutely a stunner: a great cover, 12 beautiful pages with large donkey pictures and a mention of all the important dates in the year. All of the above even leaves enough space for notes. The photos have been shot on Aruba; they show the donkeys in their habitat in a colorful way. The calendar format is A3; twelve sponsors have made the printing of the calendar possible – their names and logos are discreetly displayed. Proceeds go directly to the Aruban Donkey Sanctuary.

The calendars are for sale at the sanctuary, En Vogue Coiffures, Bestial, Home & Nature and at veterinarian Contreras. During busy shopping days we can be found at Superfood supermarket – we shall certainly be there on Saturday, November 20.

Animal Day cancelled (or postponed)?

We had planned our annual Animal Day party for Sunday, October 3, but unfortunately continuous rainfall, exceedingly much water, had made entrance to the sanctuary virtually impossible. So we had to decide to cancel the event. We are not sure yet whether we can hold the event another day or wait until next year. We'll keep you posted!



Regards from Spain

We have sponsors as far away as Spain. One of our most important sponsors is the Dutch Mighty company. The owner of the business can be found on Aruba at least once a year and he always visits the sanctuary. And every time he surprises us with a wonderful donation. We have sent him and his wife a T-shirt at their vacation address in Spain. And we have received this nice photo in return: our gesture was much appreciated!

Sanctuary fills wish lists



Around Sinterklaas and Christmas children make long wish lists. And often they include items that we sell in our shop. To be able to make things easier, we will be manning a sales booth at supermarket Superfood on November 20th. Of course we shall be selling our new calendar, but also many other gifts for the season.



Our donkey Ban Ban has already promised that he will give acte de présence at Superfood.

Winning name for baby donkey



On World Animal Day our successful contest to name a just-born donkey ended. An English tourist had the honor to pick the winning name from the bowl. That name is Thunder. Very apt, as we have had incredibly much thunder and lightning these past few weeks on Aruba. Heather Carman is the happy winner of the contest; she received an original painting by local artist Desiree Eldering (indeed, the same as our president).

We wish to thank all our participants to the contest, we now have a list of wonderful spare names. And Thunder can be admired every day at

the sanctuary; on weekdays from 9 am until 4 pm; in the weekends from 10 am until 3 pm.

Fertile period of time



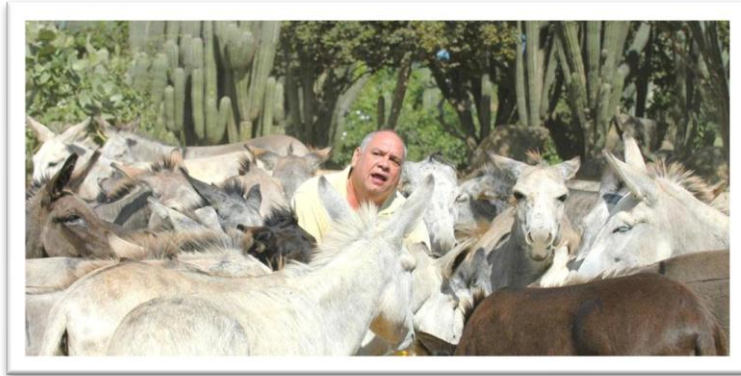
Not only Thunder was born on Aruba, also Primrose and Boefie are newborns. With Boefie we had a few problems in the beginning, because she was not too steady on her legs. Checking with the vet showed us that it was not something serious and that the problem would be solved by itself. And indeed, the three little ones are all

doing fine. In the picture you can see that Boefie's legs were a bit strange at first, but that everything is fine now.



Ramiro fenced in

Sometimes there is lots to laugh in the sanctuary. Our photographer Luc came by to shoot some photos of the donkeys for the news items. We are sending pictures and stories about our donkeys to the newspapers to try and interest future adoptive parents. An activity that is



doing a lot of good: six newspapers publish the weekly articles and we regularly receive visitors who have been attracted to come and visit us through them. Also the number of adoptive parents is increasing; we get spontaneous calls of people who wish to adopt the 'donkey of the week'.

As Luc was planning to drop in, he had asked beforehand not to feed the donkeys, as one only sees donkeys' behinds when they are eating. When Luc was ready the donkeys were hungry and restless. Our volunteer came out of the container with a wheelbarrow filled with donkey food and the hungry donkeys could not wait any longer and tried to steal food from his wheelbarrow. Ramiro got closed in and he had to call for help: he was totally fenced in by obtrusive donkeys. And just at that moment Luc shot this great picture. So funny! We have made Ramiro volunteer of the month because of this, he has deserved the honor!

Watty retires

We would like to introduce Watty to you, one of the donkeys of the sanctuary. And not just one of the donkeys: he is a gentleman of a respectable age (49), the oldest living donkey living with us. Since a few weeks Watty has retired. That was necessary, as he was not real quick anymore when it came to getting food. To safeguard his nutrition, he now has been separated from the group; Watty now gets his own, privately served brunch, lunch or dinner, which he can enjoy at his leisure. His health is fabulous, just a chronic ear infection and so expectations are that he will easily grow to be 50 years old. He still has a will of his own, and when he has to do something he does not wish to do, he hits out with his hind legs like a youngster. Volunteers as well as colleague donkeys know that this golden oldie can hit real hard. Tio Mexico also knows it; the two have retired together and now they keep each other company.





At the very last moment

Just before we closed this newsletter we received terrific news. Our donkey Storm is now mother of a beautiful little donkey. Still a bit weak, but getting addicted to mother's milk really fast, he has been named Pegaso. Pegaso was named by volunteer Maritza, who was present at the birth. We'll keep you posted!

Our volunteer

In this column we introduce a volunteer to you:

Ramiro F. Robleto

Born: on October 2, 1959

Profession: technician

Expert in: repairing washing machines, dryers, refrigerators and air conditioners

Hobbies: reading, watching tv and walking

Life's motto: treat animals with respect

Most beautiful spot on the island: Sabana Liber's water tank

Your best memory on the island: my first visit to the sanctuary

Your greatest disappointment on the island: how some people treat animals

Volunteer since: September 2010

What is your job at the sanctuary? I feed the donkeys every Sunday and do various maintenance jobs

What would you like to change at the sanctuary? We need more volunteers to lighten the load of the existing volunteers and to better assist the visitors

What would you like to change on Aruba? The climate, especially when you're carrying stuff at the sanctuary.

