

The Newsletter
of the Bahamas
National
Trust

IN THIS ISSUE

Jollification

National Women's Week

Deloitte & Touche

Halloween Spooktacular at
Leon Levy

Membership Highlight
Linda Sands



P.O. Box N-4105
Nassau, Bahamas
Tel: 242-393-1317
bnt@bnt.bs www.bnt.bs

Jollification Jingled All the Way



Commonwealth Bank volunteers with BNT mascot Scout.

The BNT's Annual Christmas Jollification once again heralded the beginning of the holiday season. The event, which features over 80 artisans and culinary vendors is the major fundraiser for The Retreat Garden, one of four National Parks on New Providence. The event is sponsored by Commonwealth Bank, Bristol Wines and Spirits, Caribbean Bottling, Bahamian Brewery, Bahamas Waste and Bahamia Rental.

Once again the Jollification Members' Evening featured complimentary beverages courtesy of Bristol Wines and Spirits and a special membership

promotion by Caribbean Bottling and Commonwealth Bank.

"The special Coca Cola T-Shirts featuring a Polar Bear emoji and the gift cards from Commonwealth Bank were great promotions which really helped our efforts to increase BNT membership", said Katrina Cartwright, BNT Membership Officer.

"We were very pleased with the event this year", said Patrick Thomson, Treasurer for The Retreat Garden and BNT Council Member. "Despite the threat of inclement weather for the weekend attendance was good and our vendors once again showed

great gifts and crafts in an extremely professional manner. Commonwealth Bank was once again an exceptional partner, handling all the banking and having their staff working the gate and all ticket booths".

continued on page 2



Follow Us on
these Social
Media Sites



Jollification continued

continued from page 1



Cara Douglas from Caribbean Bottling with BNT mascot Scout.

Jollification brings together great food, crafts and family fun. One of the highlights this year was the Junkanoo Rush-Out featuring Genesis Junkanoo Group on Saturday sponsored by Florida's Natural and Bluebird Juice, products sold by Asa H. Pritchard.

"Asa H. Pritchard has been a long term sponsor of our Children's Crafts area which features recycled and upcycled Christmas crafts and is very popular with families attending the event", said Lynn Gape, BNT Deputy Executive Director.

Last year proceeds from the Jollification provided support for a new garden storage shed, repairs and maintenance of The Retreat buildings and pavilion, redesign of The Retreat paths and Green Hell and electrical upgrades for the garden.



Jollification vendor and artist Trevor Tucker, believes in making good use of his time!

Jollification continued



Asa H. Pritchard staff are all smiles at Jollification.



Bahamian Brewery featured Presidente beer from the Dominican Republic.



Discovery Club volunteers encourage you to support the BNT by purchasing sodas.



Bristol offered an amazing selection of holiday spirits.



BNT Education officers Steffon Evans and Christina Roberts taking a small respite from their busy day in Children's Crafts.



BNT Science Officer, Lindy Knowles, updates BNT members Amanda and Peter Graham on exciting new science initiatives.

National Women's Week

National Women's Week focuses on Women and the Environment



Pictured from left to right: Stacey Wells-Moultrie (SVE Consulting), Shenica Campbell (BREEF), Eleanor Phillips (TNC), Hon. Melanie Griffin, Portia Sweeting (BNT), Karen Panton (BNT), Karen St. Cyr (Ministry of Education).

Minister of Social Sciences and Community Development the Hon. Melanie Griffin said this year's National Women's Week focuses on women who work in the environment: it provides an opportunity for the public to salute the work and contributions so many women make towards keeping the islands of The Bahamas, and the waters and air, free of pollutants, plastics and harmful toxins.

Minister Griffin was speaking at the soft opening of the exhibition on "Women and the Environment" as a pre-launch to National Women's Week 2015 at the Ministry of Education, November 20, 2015. National Women's Week will be celebrated from 22nd to 28th November, 2015 under the theme: "Women and the Environment: Creating Partnerships for Sustainable Development".

"National Women's Week, which was established some twenty-four years ago, commemorates the day that women in The Bahamas voted for the first time on November 26, 1962.

It also serves to highlight the achievements and contributions of women to the

growth and development of The Bahamas".

The Minister said the photos and short biographies of the women showcased in the exhibition are but a small representation of the many, many women who work in the field of the environment.

"Some of them are household names and trailblazers, like Sam Duncombe (Re-Earth), Lynn Gape (Bahamas National Trust), Eleanor Phillips (The Nature Conservancy), Melonie McKenzie (Environmental Health), Margo Blackwell (The College of The Bahamas), Casuarina Mckinney-Lambert (BREEF), and Lisa Benjamin (Environmental Law, COB). Others such as Felicity Burrows, Stacey Moultrie, Dr. Thalia Micklewhite, Kristal Ambrose and Nikita Shiel-Rolle are the ones who will shape and guide our future".

Considering that many of the environmental agencies in the Bahamas are led by women, BNT's Director of Education, Portia Sweeting, worked with the Ministry to organize a webinar which allowed Hon. Melanie Griffin and women from the environmental industry to speak and interact with 100 senior high school

girls from schools across the Bahamian archipelago in a one hour panel discussion on November 24th from 1:30 to 2:30 PM. The webinar was extremely successful and focused on the issue of climate change and how it would affect The Bahamas. Margo Blackwell of the College of The Bahamas was the moderator and representing environmental agencies from across The Bahamas were Lakeisha Anderson (BNT), Olivia Patterson (Friends of the Environment, Abaco), Gabrielle Douglas (ANCAT), Shenique Albury-Smith (The Nature Conservancy) and Nikiti Shiel-Rolle (Young Marine Explorers).

Minister Griffin very succinctly sent a message of action to the young people participating in the activities by saying, "Each of us can be an example to others who are not environmentally conscious. Let us create and seek out opportunities to flex your environmentally conscious muscles. Remember that the change begins with each of us taking positive steps toward the goal of sustainability".

Education

Deloitte & Touche: True Corporate Conservation Partners

Deloitte & Touche accounting firm completed its third annual National Parks Impact Day on Friday, Nov 27. The team of 20 young people assisted the Education Department with research and construction of a two educational exhibits that will teach patrons about native plants and birds. As a part of their orientation this year, the BNT Education Officers gave a native plants and teas presentation and taught them how to brew bush teas.



Deloitte & Touche volunteers work together to construct educational exhibits.



Collaborative efforts are always the best!




Support our Discovery Club Raffle!

Tickets Available at
The Retreat
Village Road, Nassau

Tickets: **\$2 each** or Raffle Book: **\$20 each**

Halloween Spooktacular at Leon Levy

On October 31, 2015 the Leon Levy Native Plant Preserve hosted its annual “Halloween Spooktacular”. In addition to the Rotaract Club of Eleuthera, who partners with The Preserve each year on this event, a host of volunteers helped to create a festive and frightful evening for “trick or treaters” of all ages. Local artist, Monique Carroll provided face painting for the littlest of the guests, while students from Preston Albury High School’s drama club and Island School staff brought the haunted trail to life, spooking any who dared to venture into the, “Forest of Fright”. The Island School also provided an educational booth teaching guests about the truly terrifying invasive species, lionfish, and giving guests an opportunity to sample the tasty fish prepared in a fritter. Visiting scientist Joe Wasilewski, spent time showing off a few of The Preserve’s resident snakes, who, while a bit scary to some, are absolutely harmless and incredibly important to the forest.

Costumes were everywhere and Preserve staff presented a coordinated look with each staff member “rockin’” Star Trek themed attire. Prizes were awarded for the best kids and adult costumes. The kids winner shined in a Baymax character costume and the best adult costume dazzled in a conservation themed beach plastic design. The contest winners were both awarded Levy Preserve gift bundles. All in all, this annual event was indeed “spooktacular”, eerily educational and filled with lots of fun, food, drinks and sweet treats for all.



Best Kids Costume winner with Falon Cartwright (Preserve Manager) and Kenwood Cartwright (Rotaract Club of Eleuthera President).



Brave guests enter the “Forest of Fright”.



Snake Exhibit with scientist, Joe Wasilewski



Preserve staff in Star Trek costumes.

Staff Highlight



Anwar Rolle

Anwar Rolle is BNT's newest Park Warden. He has always loved plants and animals and is now able to explore that more in his new role. The Primeval Forest National Park in Nassau is a favourite because of its history and array of Bahamian medicinal plants. On a regular day at The Retreat you can find Anwar on bird walks with the Education Department and he can now identify 10 new species of birds. His job at The Trust is most enjoyable because he is able to interact more closely with the environment, there are a variety of jobs to do each day and the BNT team has become like family. He lives by the saying "Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery and today is a gift; that's why they call it the present".



Bahamas National Trust

NASSAU OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

Christmas Eve
9am - 1pm

New Year's Eve
9am - 1pm

Christmas Day
Closed

New Year's Day
Closed

Boxing Day
Closed

www.bnt.bs



BNT P.O. Box N4105 Nassau, The Bahamas Tel: (242) 393-1317 Fax: (242) 393-4978 Email: bnt@bnt.bs



Primeval Forest National Park & The Retreat

CLOSED

Christmas Day
Closed

Boxing Day
Closed

New Year's Day
Closed

www.bnt.bs



BNT P.O. Box N4105 Nassau, The Bahamas Tel: (242) 393-1317 Fax: (242) 393-4978 Email: bnt@bnt.bs

BNT BULLETIN

Membership Highlight Linda Sands



BNT Member Linda Sands has been exhibiting at the BNT Christmas Jollification since 1993 when she first shared a booth with her friend Mary Clarke. Linda's unique cork figurines are often Christmas themed but also highlight the marine environment with turtle and crawfish figures. This year her cute cats and dogs even had a patron drive all the way from Lyford Cay as she just "had to have one".

While many of her figures are quite detailed, Linda says she always makes the little \$1 reindeer out of cork so that children have something to buy.

ART FOR THE PARKS ABACO

12 Days of Christmas Abaco Style

DECEMBER 11 - 13, 2015
 Friday, December 11, 6pm - 9pm
 Saturday, December 12, 10am - 6pm
 Sunday, December 13, 11am - 3pm

- Fine art
- Unique local crafts
- Holiday music
- Delectable cuisine and festive treats
- Local Handmade quilt raffle
- Unique gifts and accent pieces
- Pictures with Santa
- Sidewalk chalk art

Featured will be performances from Saxophonist Rashad Reckley, a junkanoo rush out and much more...



www.bnt.bs



BNT Abaco Office Tel: (242) 367-6310
 Fax: (242) 267-6309 Email: knills@bnt.bs



Event Calendar

Festival Noel

Friday, December 4, 2015 - Grand Bahama

Art for the Parks

Friday, December 11 - 13, 2015 - Abaco



Bahamas National Trust
 P. O. Box N-4105, Nassau, The Bahamas
 Tel: 242-393-1317
www.bnt.bs | bnt@bnt.bs

GRAND BAHAMA'S OFFICIAL
 WINE TASTING
 ARTSHOW
 CULINARY
 COMPETITION
 ALL UNDER THE STARS

BRISTOL
 WINES & SPIRITS
 presents

Festival Noël

We're Legal!

FRI, DEC 4TH, 2015 | 7-10PM
 RAND NATURE CENTRE
 SETTLERS WAY

CHEF NOËL COMPETITION
 GUEST ARTIST: MATTHEW WILDGOOSE
 COLOMBIAN EMERALDS JEWELRY SHOWCASE
 LIVE MUSIC: DEREK GAPE + 2 LEFT FEET

TICKETS: \$55/\$50 IN ADVANCE/BNT MEMBERS
 \$60 ON THE DAY (FOR ALL)

Available at Bristol Wines & Spirits, Rand Nature Centre,
 The Art of Giving & Barefoot Marketing

Thanks to Our Valued Sponsors

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT
 G.B. NATIONAL PARKS

TEL: 352-5438 | WWW.BNT.BS