

Sustainable Grenadines News

Volume 6 issue 1

SIOBMPA making progress

The words 'MARINE PROTECTED AREA' are boldly printed across the moorings that recently arrived in Hillsborough, Carriacou. It's an exciting reminder that the Sandy Island Oyster Bay Marine Protected Area (SIOBMPA) will soon become a reality. A team of divers, led by Carriacou's Lumbadive and CMS/SMMA of St Lucia, will be installing the moorings around the boundaries of SIOBMPA.

has been set for July 31st, 2010.

A zoning plan, management plan and mooring feasibility study have already been developed for the area by the community and local stakeholders with support from other programs like Sustainable Grenadines Project (SusGren) the Caribbean Regional Environmental Program (CREP) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC).

SIOBMPA a reality

The SIOBMPA Co-Management Committee is working with the Ministry of Carriacou and Petite Martinique Affairs in organizing activities for the official launch of the SIOBMPA this summer. The launch date



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Look out for.....

- Earth Day
- Mayreau Regatta
- UWI Students visit
- SIOBMPA Launch

Unforgettable "Mayreau Memories"



History was created for Mayreau residents, with the launch of the book "Mayreau Memories". The book is the first to have been published about the small Grenadine Island.

Nancy Saul-Demers, a Canadian born Nova Scotia resident, was the brain child and energy behind the creation of such unembellished memories of Mayreau.

Nancy and her husband Lorne set foot on Mayreau over 20 years ago and have been visiting every year since. Over the years Nancy has been observing

the remarkable changes that took effect on the island and expects with the increase in land sales more development to take place. In an effort to capture and preserve the history and traditions of the island, Nancy decided to "put pen to paper".

It is important to note that the net proceeds from book sales go back to the development of Mayreau, a fraction of the sales goes to the local seller, and part will be made as charitable donations to the church, the school and the regatta committee.

"Mayreau Memories" not only creates history for Mayreau, but will also contribute to the improvement of the fragile economy of the island.

Source: Marslyn Lewis-Adams

Canadian Invasion!

SusGren has recently been gifted with the arrival of two new interns from Canada, participating in a partnership between SusGren, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Coady International Institute. Neil Ladell (left) and Rob Rankin (right) will be working on Carriacou and Union respectively for the next 6 months. Neil, an avid turtle conservationist, holds a M.Sc. in Environmental Policy and Regulation from the London School of Economics and brings 9 years of experience in social justice, gender and environmental issues to his placement.



Rob, an avid birder, studied in Lund, Sweden where he obtained an M.Sc. in Zoocology. Prior to this he participated in a sustainable development cultural exchange in India. SusGren is looking forward to a promising and fruitful partnership with these two bright and enthusiastic young men!



New Cooperative in Union Island



The Members of the Young Help Striders 4-H Club have shown considerable strength and are now seeing the fruits of their labor.

The club started its sea moss farming as a mini project supported by SusGren and with perseverance of its members have seen the project moved from a mini project into a business. The club registered and launched the newest Cooperative

in Union Island, the Ashton Multipurpose Cooperative (AMCO).

The Cooperative was registered on December 9, 2010 and as history will be told, it was the first Cooperative to be registered outside the office of the Department of Cooperative. The registration took place in the office of SusGren in Union Island.

Pickin' Salt

The Belmont Salt Pond lived up to its name when salt crystallized on the surface of the dry pond's muddy bottom on February 2, 2010. The residents of Union Island came out to harvest the salt in great numbers for days after the occurrence of this rare event. The white gold will be used in cooking, to corn fish, make ice cream, and was even sent to sell at the market in Kingstown, SVG.



A Cry for Rain

Residents of the Southern Grenadines are waiting in anticipation for the next rain cloud that will burst in the eastern sky.

Many locals indicated that this is the "worst dry season" they have experienced in a very long time.

The drought like conditions are leaving tanks dry. However, this was partially remedied when the MV Geronimo made an extraordinary stop at the Clifton wharf with water on board. The islanders put out their empty containers awaiting the CWSA truck as it passed along to distribute water.

While many Grenadine Islands have wells, they do not have rivers and streams for fresh water supply and they depend primarily on rain fall.

However, the forecasters predict that there will be no rain until June. Residents are eagerly awaiting the showers that will refill their tanks, moisten the earth for the crops and help restore some normalcy to their lives.

worst dry season!!



The Sustainable Grenadines Projects is implemented through collaboration among:

- * The Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES), UWI, Barbados
- * The Carriacou Environmental Committee, Grenada
- * Projects Promotion Lt., St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- * The Caribbean Conservation Association, Barbados
- * The Governments of Grenada and St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- * Numerous Grenadines NGOs

It is funded primarily by The Lighthouse Foundation, Germany. The Project office is located in Clifton, Union Island, St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Tel.: (784)-485-8779 E-Mail: susgren@vincysurf.com



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