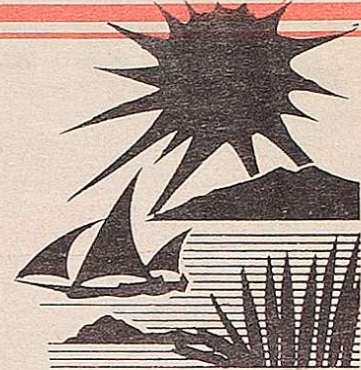




the Islands' Nautical Scene



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Dive! Dive! Dive! Or Not

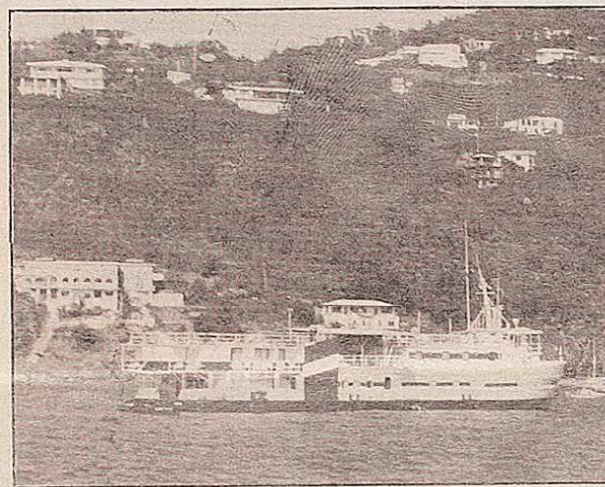
By: Susan Barry

An aquanaut is someone who is trained to live and work under the water. It is not a mainstream lifestyle choice but for those who would like to spend as much vacation time as possible under the sea there is the Aquanaut Explorer.

Captain Rob Newnam and his wife, Chief Purser Barb, took time out recently to talk about the life and times aboard the 156-foot ship laying-by just off Frenchmen's Reef, St. Thomas.

"Yes, you could call us a luxury dive cruise but we're not exclusively for divers," said Barb. "In fact we have an on-board Non-Divers Association."

Capt. Rob agreed and added, "We work with everyone from beginning divers to



A former scientific research vessel, the *Aquanaut Explorer* now serves as a luxury dive cruise ship, though it is not exclusively for divers.

macro-photographers to well within the limits of safety. The instructors are very good at keeping track of the passengers to see that they are

within the limits on the charts. We had one fellow, who has been diving with us several years in a row, who celebrated his 100th dive this year.

"Between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. we schedule five dives," he said.

The Aquanaut Explorer, in her past incarnation was a science vessel which researched seismic activity. Built in Port Arthur, Texas in 1964, she sails under the Honduran flag.

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Int'l Marigot Yacht Club Hobie & Laser Races

The International Marigot Yacht Club held their second Hobie Cat and Laser race, part of a six month series, last Sunday. The northerly positioned Orient Bay was semi-protected from southerly winds and swells caused by an area of bad weather, an Upper Level Trough, compelling a few groans from Hobie Cat enthusiasts about the wind.

St. Martin / St. Maarten's fleet of 10 Lasers and 8 Hobie Cats participated. The racing course was an enlarged oblong of five buoys, including the starting / finishing line. Two races were held in the morning and the Hobie Cats' second race was spiced with a course encircling the island of Tintamarre. After a relaxed luncheon they resumed ardent racing with another four laps around the buoys.

The beach was crowded with Sunday sunbathers, holiday
Continued on page 20

When Yuppies Turn Good

By Susan Barry

It is 9 a.m. on a weekday and Bruce Bachenheimer, captain/owner and resident on Deliberate, is enjoying his coffee under a palm tree. He is relaxed, tanned, newly bearded and barefoot.

"This time last year? By 9:30 in the morning the major part of the trading day was already over," said the former Senior Trader from Westpac Banking Corporation, the oldest and

largest bank in Australia.

"I would have been staying up to 2 or 3 a.m. getting calls from Tokyo, then awake at 4:30 or 5 to receive the calls from London and at the office on Wall Street by 7 a.m. In those days it was grey pin stripes, now going formal means carrying my shoes with me," he laughs good-naturedly.

Bachenheimer graduated with honors from Pace University in 1983 with a degree

in business and a knowledge of and interest in Japanese language and culture. His first job after college with as a trader with the Bank of Tokyo.

"When I started I thought it was money market but I ended up trading billions of dollars in the first week," he said.

While much of the world is sleeping the banks of the world conduct their business through the banker's bank, the Federal Reserve in New York.

Money is bought, sold and borrowed, accounts squared, fortunes made and lost. And it's guys like Bachenheimer who are making the deals.

"You might have half an hour to do billions of dollars worth of business. In the trading room you could do anything. It was a jungle and most of the guys were like little animals.

"It's not like mainstream
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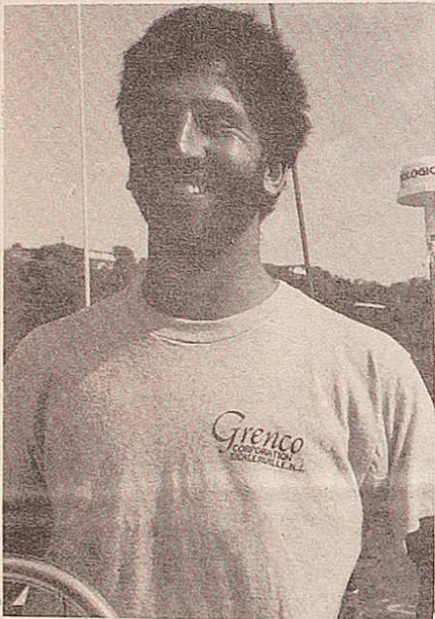
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When Yuppie Turns Good

Continued from page 1

banking where you transfer into the loan department or something. By age 30 the game is over."

The athletic comparison is apt. According to Bachenheimer the average age of a trader is in the mid-twenties, recent college graduates, sharp, computer-literate, competitive folks. One mistake can mean instant dismissal. But he survived in the arena for eight years before setting sail to the Caribbean.



Salt Water Yuppie: Bruce Bachenheimer

"The change in trading really came about when the interest rates went through the roof in the late 70's and then the 80's boom in the market but by the late 80's, with the global recession, there was a slow down and the boom was over. The extravagance and parties were over."

The era of the Young Upwardly Mobile Professional - Yuppie - came to an end for many at the end of the 1980's-the Me Decade. The tales of excess are amusing in retrospect.

"Oh sure there were private planes to Nantucket for the weekend and sometimes at the end of a day you would take the limo or a helicopter to Atlantic City to gamble for the night."

"I guess the most common thing was the dinners. It was not at all unusual or difficult to spend \$1000 per person on dinner. In eight years of living in New York city I very seldom went to the same restaurant twice and I always ate out."

"And the brokers would do anything for you. Because the market is so huge and so liquid a big part of it is personal

relations. They would give traders limo cards - so that you could go home after dinner or whatever. I knew of one guy who took the limo to Los Angeles," he said with a belly laugh.

Bachenheimer was there to enjoy the E Ride and reflects on it without regret.

"A lot of yuppies knew it was a fun and easy ride and knew it would end. They used the ride to save for the downward mobility of enjoying life more. And they had

deeper ambitions. They were educated, thinking people. One guy I know is now curator of a mineral museum in New Mexico."

The former Life in the Fast Lane trader now lives aboard his 36' Pearson cutter, *Deliberate*, in Great Cruz Bay, St. John. Having thoroughly researched various types of sailboats the Pearson was chosen for her seaworthiness and excellent condition.

"On the way down here we hit two full hurricanes and some storms and she felt like she was on railroad tracks," said Bachenheimer.

Deliberate made the voyage from Connecticut to Norfolk, Virginia offshore. The Norfolk to Beaufort, North Carolina was on the Intercoastal Waterway. From the ICW to the Virgin Islands the computer navigation equipment died. "So I used the sextant. We sailed into Culebra thinking it was St. Thomas but - hey - it was a 1300 miles voyage and we were only off by 30 miles, so that's not so bad. What was bad was that our first landfall was just at sunset so we couldn't go in and had to sail all night to St. Croix."

"But the best part of the trip is being on watch by yourself and seeing the sun come up over an endless ocean."

Having finally arrived in the Virgin Islands in November Bachenheimer has decided to stay for the season. "I just intended to stop here in St. John to see an old New York neighbor, Gerry Metcalfe. But when I got here the island is just as beautiful as I remembered it from when I was eight

years old and camping at Cinnamon - so I decided to stay."

"I had planned not to work for a few years but now I want to work for the park service. I really think they do a good job here. I guess that's the hidden ambition of a trader - to be a ranger. You do more good in one day as a ranger than in years as a trader." That's the Eagle Scout talking.

A native of rural New York Bachenheimer has always loved the outdoors. "Where I

lived there was no store or anyplace to go. We were surrounded by park land and it was a big hiking and camping area. Sailing is camping on the water."

And camping on the water is the new chosen lifestyle for Bruce Bachenheimer. He has chosen it as deliberately as he has named his home wherein hangs a poem he wrote:

DELIBERATE

I went to the seas to live deliberately

Abandoning this harried life which somehow seduced me

Knowing that harsh reality would constantly challenge me

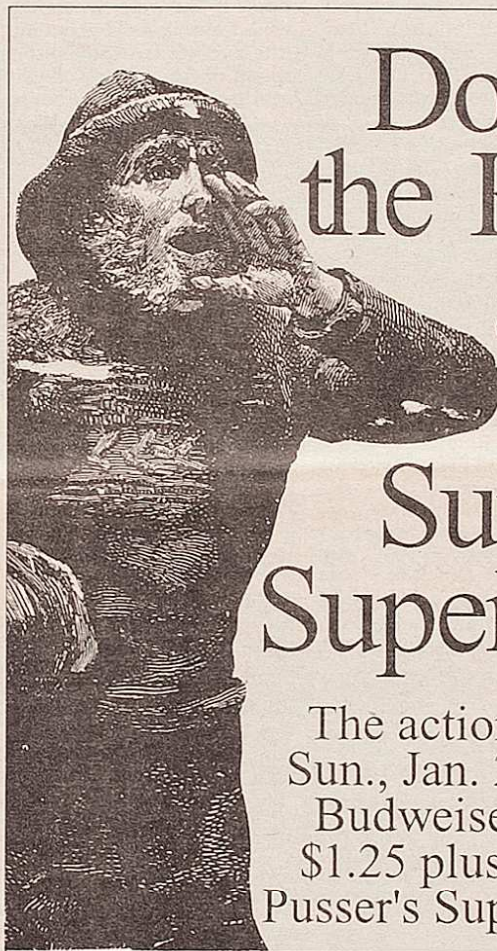
Liberating the fleeting spirit buried deep within me

Longing to see the works of the Lord

Quietly deliberating dreams from vain desires coerced subliminally

I must go down to the seas today

Before these dreams and I quietly fade away.



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