

## February News Brief 2009

### *In this issue.....*

- *In Memoriam..Ray de Lugo*
- *Danish Trade Show*
- *DPNR Training Session*
- *CMI Corner*
- *Our Environment*
- *HTA Staff Profile*
- *Mark Your Calendars*

### **Danish Trade Show This Month**

The Department of Tourism is inviting all interested industry partners to join them in Herning, Denmark for the annual **FERIE for Alle** (Holiday for Everyone) trade show. The event, Scandinavia's largest business and leisure travel show, is scheduled for February 20-22. Last year's show featured 745 exhibitors and attracted more than 50,000 visitors. Participants should plan to arrive in Copenhagen on February 19 and travel by train that same day to Herning for show set-up. Return to Copenhagen is February 22 on a 7:00 p.m. train. Rooms have been reserved at the Scandic Hotel in Herning at a cost of \$243.00 per night. The cost of the train from Copenhagen to Herning round-trip is \$174.00. Individuals are responsible for coordinating and covering their personal travel and hotel cost, shipping/delivery and miscellaneous expenses in connection with the show. Contact Chantal Figueroa (crfigueroa@usvitourism.vi) at the Department of Tourism for additional details.



### **In Memoriam -Hospitality Veteran Raymond de lugo**

A fixture of our hospitality industry in the '70s and 80's, Raymond de lugo, passed away in December 2008 at the age of 69. He began his career in the industry at Bluebeard's Castle Hotel, spending 20 years at the property. Upon leaving Bluebeard's, he held executive positions at Carib Beach Hotel, Sea Cliff Hotel on Water Island and the Mahogany Run Condominium Association. Commissioner of Tourism Beverly Nicholson Doty remembers him fondly. "Mr. de lugo was one of my first mentors in the hospitality industry. I worked for Raymond in the early 80's at both Carib Beach Hotel and Sea Cliff Hotel. He remained my advisor and very dear friend for more than twenty-five years. Raymond made me think and always challenged me to take advantage of opportunities. But my fondest memory of Raymond is that he could always make you laugh. " De lugo is survived by his four children, numerous grandchildren and close friends.

### **DPNR Workshop**

The Department of Planning and Natural Resources is sponsoring a workshop just for you. General Managers, Hotel directors, Compliance Officers, Directors of Finance and Engineering can learn how to maximize the resources available through this government agency. The workshop will be held on February 12, from 8-12 noon at the Ritz Carlton Hotel. Topics to be covered include building permits, environmental protection, legal and planning, Fish & Wildlife, earth change permits, public water system, solid waste, and water pollution. This will be a very insightful workshop and we encourage everyone to attend. RSVP's are required. Contact Canika in the Association office at 774-6835 to reserve your space for this workshop.

**4002 Raphune Hill, Suite 304, St. Thomas, VI 00802  
340 774-6835 email: stsjhta@vipowernet.net**

## CMI CORNER

New rack cards have been designed and printed to highlight specific niche markets that the CMI will concentrate on this year. Specifically, promotional cards have been created for the adventure, romance, family, wedding, dive, shopping, and meeting/incentive markets. The cards will be sent to all Department of Tourism offices and will be distributed at tradeshow.



## HTA Staff Profile—Andrea Hamilton



Keeping a tight reign on the association's books is Andrea's task daily. Born and raised on St. Thomas, she has been in the accounting profession for over 20 years. She holds Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from Monroe College in New York. The proud mother of 2, Andrea enjoys spending time with her children and working closely with the St. Thomas Majorettes. She is currently working towards her Master's degree in finance with hopes of one day sitting for the Certified Public Accountant Exam.

## Our Environment—Recycling

The association's environmental subcommittee is encouraged by the new concerted effort by various organizations to ensure that citizens know the importance of recycling. Resorts such as Maho Bay have been recycling for over 4 years, barging cans to St. Thomas weekly. Sanitary Trashremoval Services in Subbase (775-3670) currently accepts aluminum cans for recycling. The current rate is \$.20 per pound. Simply place an additional bin next to your regular trash can. Bins clearly identified for recycled cans are available for purchase by visiting [www.flexcontainer.com/recycle-bin.htm](http://www.flexcontainer.com/recycle-bin.htm). Additional information about recycling can be found on our web site, [www.usvihta.com](http://www.usvihta.com). Don't forget to also join the Freecycle Network, a non-profit organization and movement of people interested in keeping good stuff out of landfills. Joining the network allows individuals and business to post and acquire items that are **free**. Just visit the web site, [www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org), enter your location and register. The site also lists locations where specific items can be recycled. Visit [www.vircd.org](http://www.vircd.org) for additional information on VI RC&D.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- February 18**      **Membership Reception**  
**5:30 pm @ Villa St. Thomas**
- March 18**      **Annual Membership Meeting—St. Thomas**
- June 15-19** **16th Annual Destination Symposium**  
**St. Thomas & St. Croix**
- Sept. 29-Oct. 2**      **Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Association Small Hotels Retreat**  
**St. Thomas**

