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NEWSLETTER 04 OF MARION 47: JULY 1990

HALLO TO ALL YOU PEOPLE BACK THERE IN THE RSA. WELL, THE MONTH STARTED OFF ON A VERY LIVELY NOTE WITH THE CELEBRATING OF MIDWINTER. THE PARTY WAS ONLY HELD LATE SO THAT THE CATHUNTERS COULD BE PRESENT. THE THEME FOR THE PARTY WAS 'NERDS', AND YOU CAN JUST IMAGINE WHAT 20 LONGHAIRE, BUSHY-BEARDED CHAPS DRESSED UP AS NERDS LOOKED LIKE. THE PARTY FLOWED INTO WHAT WAS THE MAIN EVENT OF THE MONTH - OUR FREE TELEPHONE CALL ON SUNDAY 1ST JULY. FOR MANY A TEAM MEMBER GREAT APPREHENSION SET IN AT THE THOUGHT OF WHAT TO SAY TO THE PEOPLE BACK HOME. A GREAT SILENCE OVERTOOK THE BASE AS MANY A MEMBER SOUGHT SILENT SANCTUARY TO BE ALONE WITH HIS THOUGHTS OF THE LOVED ONES BACK HOME. THIS SILENCE WAS SOON OVERCOME BY THE THOUGHT OF ANOTHER FREE PHONECALL AT THE END OF THIS MONTH. THE HUNTERS PACKED UP AND PULLED OUT ON THE 4TH WITH GREAT DETERMINATION FOR THE WONDERS THEY WOULD PERFORM THIS SEUSION. JACHA, OUR PAINTER, ROUNDED UP WHOEVER WAS LEFT IN BASE AND PLACED PAINTBRUSHES IN APPREHENSIVE HANDS. HE THEN BRIEFED US THAT THE KITCHEN LOOKED VERY DULL AND NEEDED BRIGHTENING UP A BIT. WE NOW HAVE A KITCHEN PAINTED IN A FULL SPECTRUM OF NEON COLOURS. THE COMPLETION OF THE PAINTING WAS DULY FOLLOWED BY: 'AN ON THE SPOT KITCHEN WETTING PARTY'. THE PARTY, AS ALL GOOD PARTIES ON MARION, WAS TAKEN THROUGH TO THE EARLY HOURS OF THE MORNING. JACHA, ONE OF THE FEW LEFT STANDING, WHILST RELIEVING URGENT NEEDS OUTSIDE, STUMBLED ONTO A FIRE BLAZING UNDER THE KITCHEN. HIS IMMEDIATE NEEDS SUDDENLY FORGOTTEN, A GREAT BELLOW ESCAPED HIS THROAT SOUNDING SOMETHING LIKE THIS: 'DAARS 'N VUUR ONDER DIE BASIS'. THIS JARRED SOME OF US INTO IMMEDIATE ACTION WHE EIN THE FIRE WAS IMMEDIATELY EXTINGUISHED AS WELL AS ALL THE FIREMEN. THE INCIDENT WAS TO MARK THE START OF STEVE 'HANDYMAN' NAUDE'S NIGHTMARES AND JACHA 'PAINTER, FIREMAN' POTGIETERS ROAD TO FAME. ON THE DAY ANDRE 'VOEL' FOURIE ANNOUNCED TO THE DENTIST WITH GREAT APPREHENSION THAT HE HAD TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT, JACHA DYED THE CURTAINS OF THE DINING ROOM. JACHA IS NOW NOT ONLY OUR PAINTER AND FIREMAN, BUT OUR INTERIOR DECORATER AS WELL. IN THE DAYS TO COME ANDRE 'VOEL' FOURIE AND HENDRIK 'TROPICALIS' PANSEGROUW, GAVE LONGRIDGE HUT A GREATLY NEEDED SPRING CLEANING. UNDAUNTED BY THICK MIST THAT HAS SET IN THEY NAVIGATED BACK TO BASE BY THE HELP OF ALBATROSS NESTS -THANK YOU AND WELL DONE ANDRE AND HENDRIK. STEVE 'HANDYMAN' NAUDE AND GERHARD 'WEATHERMAN' JONKER LEFT TO CIRCUMNAVIGATE THE ISLAND AND PERFORM WELL NEEDED REPAIRWORK TO THE HUTS. THIS WAS TO MARK GERHARDS FIRST TRIP ROUND. THE DAY THEY LEFT ALL WERE SUMMONED TO THE KITCHEN WHERE THE CONTENTS OF THE ONE FREEZER HAD TO BE TRANSPLANTED INTO THE OTHER AS THE MOTORS HAS BURNT OUT. STEVE AND GERHARD HAD TO COME BACK FROM THEIR FIRST EXCURSION. STEVES NIGHTMARE HAD BECOME WORSE. TWO EVENTS, ONE OF MINOR CONSEQUENCE AND ONE OF GREAT HISTORICAL VALUE MARKED THE NEXT DAY BEING THE 11TH OF JULY IN THE HISTORY BOOKS. FIRSTLY BRUCE 'MEDIC, DENTIST' LAWSON LEFT FOR ANOTHER ROUND-THE-ISLAND TRIP AND SECONDLY ANDRE 'BISCUIT KING' BOTHA AND PAUL 'PICASSO' MUNTING SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE FIRST WINTER ASCEND OF STATE PRESIDENT SWART PEAK; STATE PRESIDENT SWART PEAK BEING THE HIGHEST PEAK ON THE ISLAND STANDING 1230 M ABOVE SEALEVEL. THEY COMPLETED THE ASCEND IN JUST OVER TWO AND A HALF HOURS FROM WATERTUNNEL HUT. ANDRE FOURIE CELEBRATED HIS 30TH BIRTHDAY ON THE 18TH IN TRUE MARION FASHION WITH A BIRTHDAY CAKE. HE IS NOW SUFFERING FROM VERY SORE RIBS AND BRUISED ELBOWS. THE POSITIVE OUTLOOK ON THIS IS THAT IT WAS ONE REALLY GOOD PARTY. THE HUNTERS RETURNED TO THE BASE ON THE 22ND/23RD ON A VERY HIGH NOTE HAVING REACHED THE 50 MARK. MANY A TALE WAS TOLD OF EXPERIENCES LOST AND FOUND. ANDRE FOURIE AND BRUCE LAWSON ARRIVED BACK AT BASE ONLY TO BE SERVED A MASSIVE SIT-DOWN MEAL AT 0015. THE MEAL WAS COOKED BY JACHA AND DEON 'HOT TODDY' MULLER. THEY'VE WON THE PRIZE FOR THE TWO BEST CHEFS THIS MONTH.

WEATHER DATA FOR THIS MONTH:
AVG PRESSURE: 1004.4 HPA
AVG TEMPERATURE: 5 DEG C
AVG HUMIDITY: 87 ?
AVG SUNSHINE: 2 HOURS PER DAY
TOTAL RAINFALL: 216.4 MM
AVG SEA TEMP: 5.1 DEG C
HIGHEST WIND-GUST: 97 KM/H
NUMBER OF DAYS WITH 1 MM OR MORE RAIN : 27

TC
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NEWSLETTER BY BRUCE LAWSON
WEATHER DATA BY DANIE FERREIRA