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SOUTH FLORIDA NEWS



WORLD'S FASTEST WATER SLED MAKER OPENS FIRST INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS IN FORT LAUDERDALE

Ride the waves, on top and underneath, just like a dolphin aboard the latest luxury water toy, the SEABOB. It's the hottest high-performance toy on the market, poised to eclipse the jet ski in popularity and demand. Now, it will be easier for everyone from megayacht owners, charter boat operators and individual watersport's enthusiasts to buy and service this world's fastest underwater sled thanks to the opening of the manufacturer, Stuttgart, Germany-based CAYAGO AG's international headquarters in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

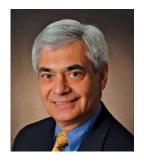
"We first introduced the SEABOB to the U.S. market in 2008 and its huge success made it an easy decision for the manufacturer, to build its first international offices in the heart of the U.S. yachting industry. The new facility enables us to exercise the same German standards of excellence," says Nils Kah, CEO of CAYAGO Americas, Inc.

This 7,000-square-foot headquarters, located on Marina Mile Blvd right off I95, includes state of the art offices, repair rooms, warehousing, epoxy floor coating for ESD (Electrostatic Discharge) prevention, a showroom and a SEABOB



testing pool. The Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show in November will be the very first show in which CAYAGO's US headquarters is represented.

The SEABOB, a DPV or diver propulsion vehicle, required no license, tags or registration, unlike a jet ski. Units are battery powered. The 64-pound model retails for \$8980 while the larger 77-pound model sells for \$12,380. CAYAGO also sells a hand cart which makes it easy to roll the SEABOB down the dock or beach. www.seabob.com



FIRST-EVER BENETEAU CEO FOR THE AMERICAS

There's a first-ever CEO for the Americas at French boat manufacturer, Group Beneteau, George Armendariz, formerly president of Nordic Tugs Inc. and before that Vice President and General Manager of Brunswick Marine Europe based in

Belgium, took this newly created position in August. He will coordinate the regional activities of the company's brands currently based in North, Central and South America, namely Beneteau, Jeanneau, Prestige, Four Winns, Scarab, Glastron and Wellcraft.

"As we go forward, we'll be harnessing the global strength of Groupe Beneteau to support our American brands and fortify our distribution channel in the US. I'm delighted with the receptivity to this message shown by our dealers at the recent meeting in Sarasota," says Armendariz.

Groupe Bénéteau is a world leader for mono and multihull sailboats, and continues to grow in the powerboat markets where it now plays a significant role. The company offers more than 200 models from 15 to 105 feet in length. www.beneteau-group.com

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UPGRADED WI-FI SYSTEM UNVEILED AT SANDALS MARINA AT EMERALD BAY, BAHAMAS

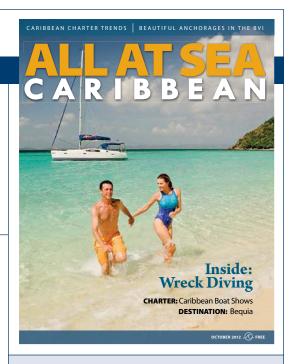
There's a new harbor-wide Wi-Fi system at Sandals Marina at Emerald Bay, in Great Exuma, the Bahamas. The new system augments the existing clubhouse only system used previously. "A major advantage of the new system is that in addition to having the privacy of Wi-Fi directly on your boat, it is far more comfortable speed-wise with multiple users. The previous system sometimes got frustratingly bogged down when numerous users logged on. This won't happen now," says marina manager, Dale Westin.



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BOAT POWERED BY 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY TO VISIT SOUTH FLORIDA & BAHAMAS IN 2020

The world's first vessel to be totally powered by renewable energy will launch on a six-year world tour in February, making stops in Miami and Nassau in 2020. Nicknamed the Solar Impulse of the Seas, in a nod to the plane of the nearly same name that completed its round-the-world trip using only solar energy this summer, the Energy Observer catamaran designed to be 100 percent powered by the sun, wind and selfgenerated hydrogen. The cat that's being converted for this venture is no novice to the circumnavigation scene. In fact, it won the Jules Verne trophy in 1994. The green upgrade will cost \$4.72 million and is a partnership between naval architects and the Grenoble, France-headquartered CEA-Liten Research Institute. www.energy-observer.org

STABILITY, SPEED AND SAFETY BUILT INTO **OCEAN MASTER'S NEW 31' CENTER CONSOLE**

No other center console on the market today can plane in the open ocean on one engine, if needed, it's that stable and safe, according to Mark Hauptner, president and founder of Ocean Master Marine, headquartered in Stuart, Florida. This is just one feature that makes the latest upgrades to the company's 31-foot tournament center console sport fishing boat so impressive.

"We added two sets of lifting rails: a V-pad with its own lifting rails and two inset lifting rails aft. These changes, plus enhancements to the running bottom, have improved the Ocean Master 31's acceleration, speed, fuel economy, maneuverability, stability and overall enhanced its performance," says Hauptner, who adds that the 31's current design is the result of four decades of continuous upgrading based on real-world fishing in venues spanning from the Florida Gulfstream to the remote island of Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean where the vessel was in service to the U.S. Navy.

The 31 cruises at 34 mph where it will plane with one of its twin Evinrude® E-TEC® G2™ 300 HP engines tilted out of the water. Its top speed is 53 mph. Fuel economy when cruising at 30 mph has been recorded at 2.14 mpg, providing an astounding range of 600 miles. A turn-key Ocean Master 31' center console with dual 300 HP engines and top runs around \$219,000. www.oceanmasterboats.



ALL AT SEA

COVER SHOT:

SEABOB Opens First International Headquarters in Fort Lauderdale













Resort-style marina featuring 117 slips for vessels up to 180 feet. Daily and contracted rates available. Enjoy private pool & spa, tennis courts, two 18-hole golf courses, and Bourbon Steak, a Michael Mina Restaurant at Turnberry Isle Miami Resort, as well as shopping at nearby Aventura Mall. Private charters and sports fishing adventures may also be arranged.



N 25° 57.450′ W 080° 07.660′ MONITOR CHANNEL 68

UNIQUE MARINE SUPPORTS MARIA'S HOPE AND PROSPERITY, A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME

BY JILL ZIMA BORSKI



aria Estrada came to the United States from Italy 43 years ago for life-saving medical treatment. At that point, her diagnosis was six months to live. Now 61, Maria has given back to the U.S. ever since, in gratitude, through Maria's Hope & Prosperity, a non-profit organization that helps children and families in the local community, providing for their most basic needs. "This country did so much for me; I wanted to do something for it, to show my appreciation."

Children are dear to her because in each of their faces, she

sees what her daughter could have looked like. Her daughter died in her sleep at 28 days.

"I have a son, Roger Mailliard, a grandson, Lucien, and a granddaughter Naima now. But it is my husband, Peter Hopwood, who helps me every day. He is from England and it was him who found the beautiful flowers I sell."

Maria began by exploring what she could do to help the children at the Florida Keys Children's Shelter and by furnishing single parents what they needed. "Every day I sell flowers, blinking toys and leis. Businesses buy bouquets during the day, and then in the afternoon and evenings, I sell single flowers at restaurants and bars." All the donations benefit her charity.

Lazy Days Restaurant in Islamorada enables her to operate a showroom on their property. Guests can buy flowers there.

During Thanksgiving, Maria buys turkeys and other traditional fare and asks restaurants for help cooking them so she can deliver them to families in need.

At Christmastime, personal hygiene products, towels and one toy are given to children who might go without. "I gave 450 people these gifts last year. I have so much to do here."

A future goal is to create a community center for autistic children and anyone with disabilities. She wants to model it after one she saw in England.

One Upper Keys business that has signed on to support Maria's Hope and Prosperity is Unique Marine and all their employees. Unique Marine is a boat dealership that sells and services Robalo, World, Cat, Stamas and Cobia brands from its mile marker 93 location in Key Largo. Unique Marine is in its third year of helping and wants to encourage other businesses to climb on board in support of the charity.

Unique Marine's Todd Ebelein said Maria came into his business to sell flowers. He started listening to her story. "In all those years I saw her selling flowers, I had never known she was supporting children in the Florida Keys and the Dominican Republic. I'd never seen anyone work so hard and I thought it was amazing. A lot of people know [about her work] but it's the ones that don't know that make me want to help get the word out."

Ebelein has visited the Dominican Republic twice to see firsthand the generosity that Maria's Hope and Prosperity provides to underprivileged children. Maria's organization ensures that needy Dominican children receive at least one meal a day, as well as provides school uniforms so the children may attend school. "I have seen firsthand what an angel on earth can do for others."

Unique Marine and Maria's Hope and Prosperity also provided iPad computers to needy high schoolers last year, and school supplies for daycares and schools from Marathon to Key Largo this fall.

BOAT SHOW

FORT LAUDERDALE, FL

NOVEMBER 3 - 7 Fort Lauderdale **Boat Show** www.ShowManagement.com 800-940-7642

FT. MYERS. FL

NOVEMBER 17 - 20 Fort Myers Boat Show www.SWFMIA.com 954-570-7785

ST. PETERSBURG, FL

DECEMBER 1 – 4 St. Petersburg Power and Sailboat Show www.showmanagement.com/ st_petersburg/event/

FISHING TOURNAMENTS

BIMINI, BAHAMAS

NOVEMBER 10 – 13 BBGC Wahoo Smackdown www.biggameclub bimini.com

ISLAMORADA, FL

NOVEMBER 4 – 6 Redbone Celebrity Tournament www.redbone.org (305) 664-2002

NOVEMBER 10 – 12 The Cheeca Lodge All-American Backcountry Tournament www.cheeca.com/experience/ fishing/all-americanfishing-tournament

DECEMBER 1 - 3 Islamorada Sailfish **Tournament**

www.islamoradasailfish tournament.com/ ditournaments@aol.com 305-522-4868

MADEIRA BEACH, FL

NOVEMBER 3 – 5 Fall King of the Beach / Mad Beach Food Fest oldsaltfishing.org/ tournaments/

POMPANO BEACH, FL

DECEMBER 7 - 11 Operation Sailfish www.bluewatermovements. com/operation_sailfish/

STUART, FLORIDA

NOVEMBER 4 – 5 Stuart Sailfish Club Members Tournament www.stuartsailfishclub.com

DECEMBER 8 - 11 Annual Light Tackle Sailfish Tournament & Florida Sailfish Amateur Championship at Sailfish Point www.stuartsailfishclub.com/ tournaments.php

INDUSTRY CONFERENCE

ORLANDO, FL

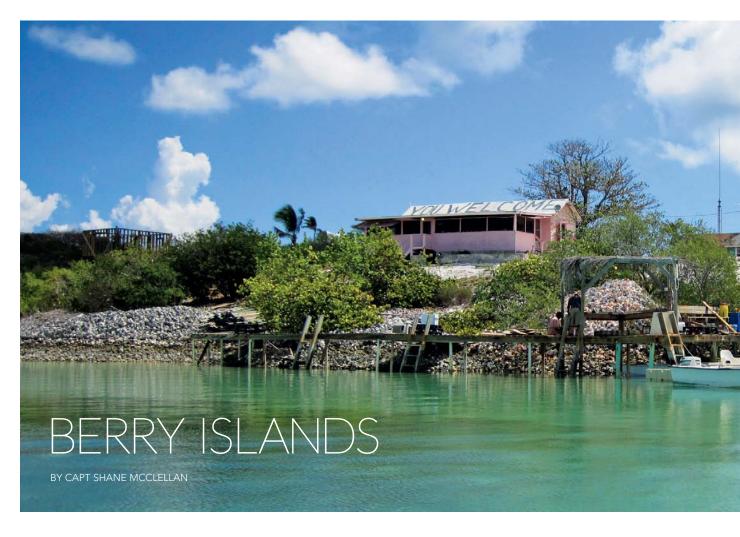
DECEMBER 5 - 8 Marine Dealers Conference & Expo MRAA.com/MDCĖ liz@mraa.com

Continued on page SF11

"We're calling on other businesses and individuals to help. We need more sponsors and donors to take action by donating, giving time or items that we need. Anyone can help; the children are our future" said Ebelein.

To volunteer, participate or to give, those interested may call Maria at 305-509-1106 or make a donation at the website, 0 www.mariahopeprosperity.org.

Jill Zima Borski is chair of the Florida Outdoor Writers Association board of directors and her website is www.jill-zimaborski.com.



his issue lets visit the Berry Islands where the population is only about seven hundred people, most of which are in Bullock's Harbor. Due to the many wealthy seasonal residents, some of which own their own island in this 15-20 mile long curving chain, the Berry Islands can say they have more resident millionaires per square mile than any other place in the world.

We are starting at the north end of the chain by anchoring in between Little Stirrup, which is owned by Royal Caribbean and renamed Coco Cay, and Big Stirrup, which is owned by Norwegian and has a small lighthouse you can visit. Given that this harbor is called Slaughter Bay and it has very limited protection, you only want to stay here in settled weather. The fun part here is sneaking ashore and hanging out with the cruise ship guest. I found Royal Caribbean's island to be most fun and there is even a small plane in the swim area.

It was moved here and not changed on the chart so I spent over an hour at our next stop, Bullock's Harbor, looking for it. What I found instead was a little blue hole and a small shipwreck that is only four feet deep, so anyone can feel comfortable snorkeling around it. Ashore you can find a marina and the only settlement in this chain of islands. Take advantage of the services available because we will not see civilization until our last stop.

Now due to the northeast portion of the Great Bahama Bank we have to sail around the Stirrup Cays on the outside of the chain to get to our next stop, Hoffman's Cay. Here you will find a big blue hole, which are usually the collapsed roof of an underwater cave. This one has 15 foot cliffs all around it you can jump off of and swim in the 100+ feet deep water. If you are wondering how you get back up don't worry, there is a hidden trail making it very easy.

About a mile south is Devil's Cay. This is a great island to hang out on the beach and relax. Across the way on Gaulding Cay you can find a small cave worth checking out and someone set up a hammock with an old fish net.

About two more miles south is Little Harbor Cay with Flo's Conch Shack. This place is literally in the middle of nowhere,



but has a very good reputation as a great place to grab a bite and hang out. Sadly Flo is no longer around to run the place and I think it suffers without her. The thing that amazed me was the sheer number of conch shells it takes to make the piles around the shack!

All the islands south of here are privately owned, but that does not stop you from being able to anchor at them and most don't mind if you walk on the beach. Over at Whale Cay there is an old lighthouse you can explore if you want to chance it. On Chub Cay there is a marina and housing development that use to be very exclusive. It has since gone bankrupt and when I was here cruisers were allowed to walk around the grounds and swim in the pool, which was a real treat. Even better is the snorkeling at Mama Rhoda Rock across the inlet.

Visit www.svGuidingLight.com to read more from Captain Shane about the Bahamas, Caribbean, life aboard, world traveling, and more.

Continued from page SF9

POKER RUN

KEY WEST. FL NOVEMBER 9 – 14

Key West Offshore Poker Run flpowerboat.com/project/key-

west-offshore-poker-run/

SAILING REGATTA

FORT LAUDERDALE, FL

DECEMBER 3 - 4 Laser District 13 Grand Prix Championships www.lyc.org 954-524-5500

MIAMI, FL

NOVEMBER 9 – 12 Nassau Cup Ocean Race www.nassaucuprace.org/# 305-858-1733

NOV. 26 - DEC. 3 Melges 24 Miami World Championship www.usmelges24.com

DECEMBER 9 - 11 Melges (NA) Miami Winter Series Event No. 1

www.melges20.com

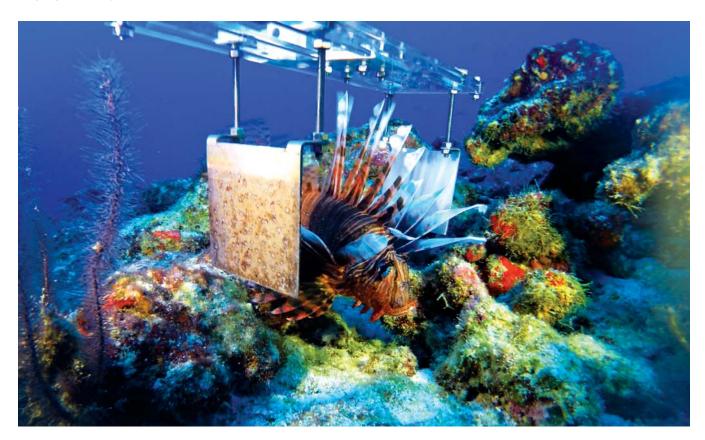
DECEMBER 26 – 30 Orange Bowl Regatta www.coralreefyachtclub.org





ROBOT KILLER MAY SOLVE SOUTH FLORIDA'S IONFISH PROBLEM

BY CAROL M. BAREUTHER

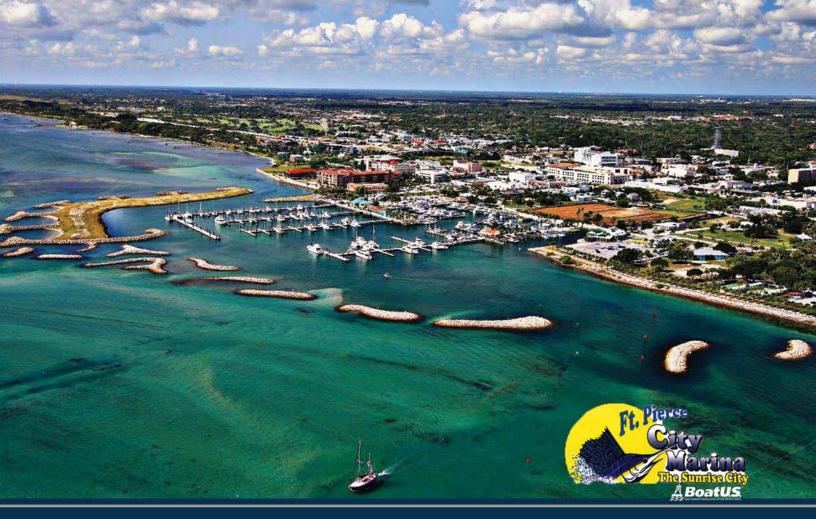


here's been a roar in the marine environmental community over the past few years about the dangers of lionfish. This Indo-Pacific region and Red Sea native, named for its mane of red, brown and white spines, has invaded the southern Atlantic, Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico where they can wreak havoc on native fish populations and overall reef habitat. Spearfishing derbies to catch and remove lionfish are a popular way to try to rid the waters of this beast. However, scientists have come up with a brand new way to hunt: a lionfish killing robot. It's a method that could make it easier to develop a market for this delicious fish.

PROBLEM IN SOUTH FLORIDA

The first lionfish were reported off Florida's Atlantic Coast near Dania Beach in 1985, according to the Florida Fish &





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Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FFWCC) website. These precursors to the larger schools seen today are thought to have come from the release, intentionally or unintentionally, of these fish from home aquariums. While just a few made their way into Florida's coastal waters this way, the lionfish has a prolific ability to reproduce. In fact, one female lionfish, which is mature in a year, can release masses of eggs (somewhere between 12,000 to 15,000) as often as every four days and these egg masses can drift for nearly a month.

"We don't conduct stock assessments of lionfish, but what we do have to define their population are anecdotal reports, sightings reported on our website and reports via our Report Florida Lionfish app," explains Amanda Nalley, the Tallahassee-based public information specialist with the FFWCC's Division of Marine Fisheries Management. "As a result, we've heard people say that there doesn't seem to be as many lionfish in South Florida as in the North of the state. We don't believe that to be true; that there are indeed just as many in the South and in the Keys. What may make lionfish less visible is that there are more people in the water removing them, especially in the Keys. In addition, there are a greater number of reefs, both natural and artificial, and other hiding places in the south that makes the lionfish less visible than in areas where there is less habitat and they are

A ROBOTIC SOLUTION

visible in epic numbers."

It was a scuba diving trip some 1000 miles' northeast of south Florida, in Bermuda to be specific, that Colin Angel and his wife Erika came face-to-face with the lionfish problem. There, in a casual conversation between dives, the idea bubbled up to build a robot that could kill this pesky invader. The thought was far from far-fetched to these Massachusetts Institutes of

Technology alum. Even more so since Colin is the chairman and chief executive of iRobot, a Bedford, Massachusetts-based company that makes household robots that vacuum, mop, clean pools and scrub gutters. Colin returned home and founded a non-profit corporation, Robots in Service of the Environment (RISE). RISE, whose mission is to apply scalable robotic technology to solving large-scale environmental challenges, has since developed the prototype of a robot that uses electricity to zap, kill and collect lionfish.

"The benefit of a robot is that it can get to depths that divers can't reach," explains John Rizzi, executive director of RISE, which plans to conduct its first ocean test in Bermuda by the end of the year and put its first robotic lionfish killer into commercial use in May or June of 2017. "Basically, you can sit on a boat, the robotic unit is tethered and you control it remotely from an iPad, It's like a video game. Basically, the robot is equipped with a camera so you can track the fish. When you find them, you position the fish between the front two discs, zap them with an electric current and collect them. We plan to develop recreational and commercial models at a price that makes it economically incentivizing to bring these fish to market and sell them."

EDIBLE MARKET

Lionfish do make for good eating.

"Lionfish do have venomous spines that can cause injuries, but the flesh is not poisonous. In fact, it's very tasty and is served in many restaurants. Recently, Whole Foods in Florida has started selling lionfish and you can order them at Publix Super Markets," says FFWCC's Nalley.

For more information on Lionfish in Florida, visit the FFWCC's website at: http://myfwc.com





Nurture Belize — protecting fishing areas from development and destruction

Florida Keys — working with guides/anglers to protect and improve fisheries for the future

Bahamas — flats and mangrove conservation

Project Permit — population study, what, when, and how they tick

Boca Grande, Florida — juvenile tarpon habitat restoration



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web at www.bonefishtarpontrust.org or email us at info@tarbone.org.

KANICHÉ XO - BARBADOS

RUM BY CLINT AND TERRY BORAM

ne day we got a strange text message. "We're having a rum tasting this week. What would you recommend?" We couldn't type fast enough. After giving him a list of our favorites he texts back, "Have you ever had Kaniché?" Honestly, we had never heard of it. A few days later he presented us a bag with Angostura 1919 (AAS, August 2016) and Kaniché XO. He said, "It's National Rum Day this Wednesday (August 16). Celebrate!"

Kaniché XO Double Wood is produced by Maison Ferrand of Cognac, France. The company is now renowned for their exceptional Pierre Ferrand Cognac and distinctive fine spirits thanks to a young business student, Alexandre Gabriel. In 1989, he stopped by the stagnant company as part of a school project and offered his business expertise to help

them expand their business. Once the project was complete, Mr. Gabriel was offered a partnership and has been with the company ever since.

Today, as CEO, Mr. Gabriel spends much of his time revitalizing artisanal spirits. Kaniché XO rum is distilled in Barbados then aged in bourbon casks before being shipped to Cognac, France. There, the rum is aged in small-cask French oak barrels for months rather than years – a technique from the 18th and 19th centuries. Maison Ferrand believes this gives their rum "even more elegance, refinement and roundness."

HE SAID

The nose is interesting with toasted wood or maybe coal in a pot belly stove. The sweet notes are molasses and a very slight hint of vanilla. There is a strong alcohol note on the nose which goes away on the palate. My mouth is filled with vanilla, berry, melon and floral notes. The finish is smooth and lingers long enough for me to ponder the wood note. Knowing the producer, my gut says I should be getting an oak hint however, it's just not there for me. I will say though, I can tell great care was taken to age this rum properly.



SHE SAID

This rum is actually confusing me. On the nose, I immediately get a harsh alcohol burn which eventually smooths out to an inviting orangey, leather. The sip coats the palate as does a finer rum. What I smelled is what I got on the palate. It's almost syrupy without being sweet. Another sip brings out some vanilla with a pinch of cinnamon. It's warming, soothing and strangely enough, inviting. Unlike Clint, I get no fruit or floral. And that pot belly stove stuff, I think he's dreaming of cooler weather.

OVERALL

Kaniché XO is a curious rum. It promotes the double wood but neither one of us can pinpoint the wood. Yet we keep sipping because it is actually good in its own strange way. We would share with others just to get their take. This one has us stumped but in a good way.

3.75 OUT OF 5



SIPPING RUM SCALE

- 1 An expensive mixer
- 2 A quick celebratory shot
- **3** Wouldn't be embarrassed to share with friends
- 4 Are my friends worthy of a sip
- **5** Special moments rum

ABOUT CLINT AND TERRY: We have sampled many a dram over our 33 years of marriage and quite often we don't fully agree. Could be the difference is male/female taste buds. Or, somebody is just wrong.