

Restaurant of the Month Braza Lena, YES PLEASE!

The Coconut Telegraph has chosen Braza Lena again as Restaurant of the Month because we wholeheartedly agree it is probably one of the finest dining experiences we have had in the Florida Keys or maybe anywhere in the world for that matter.

Braza Lena, located at Whale Harbor mile marker 83 oceanside in Islamorada, is an authentic Brazilian Steakhouse, or churrascaria. For \$39.95 per person the traditionally dressed gauchos, or meat carvers will bring you unlimited servings of top sirloin (picanha), garlic topped sirloin (picanha alho), filet mignon wrapped in bacon (filet com bacon), grilled lamb chops (caree de cordeiro), Brazilian sausage (salsichao), parmesan pork loin (lombinho com queijo) and roasted leg of lamb (pernil de cordeiro) to name a few. Everything is imported from Brazil.

At each place setting there is a little round card and as long as the green side that says "Yes Please" is up they will continue to serve you the finest in imported meats, turn the card over to the

red side and they will let you catch up to your plate.

The salad bar is to die for with over 50 items to choose from, we dare you to find a better one.

The staff is friendly, the service impeccable and even the restaurant manager Michelle, stops by the table to make sure that everything is perfect.

The ambience includes waterfalls, Brazilian art and music. Look for the flaming cauldrons of fire outside the front entrance.

Visit the bar first and check out the selection of fine wines, what a relaxing setting it is. The desert of mango creme is a must have.

Braza Lena is open Tuesday through Thursday 4:30 to 9:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday 5 to 10 p.m. and Sunday 2 to 9 p.m.

For reservations call (305) 664-4959.



An Opportunity to Learn How Dolphins Communicate

Story by Rachel R. Peine/Photo by Rich Peine

You may remember our story in the April issue about Castaway, a pregnant, deaf Atlantic Offshore Bottlenose dolphin who is being cared for at the Marine Mammal Conservancy (MMC) in Key Largo.

As we go to press, we're still waiting for the birth, but by the time you read this, the calf should have arrived. The big question is, "How will mom and baby communicate?"

A lot of people are interested in the answer. Scientists want to know how dolphin calves develop their communication skills, and they've never had an opportunity like this before. To enable the calf to communicate with other dolphins, a research group called SpeakDolphin.com (yes, that's their website address, too) has created the Dolphin Speech Link (DSL). It connects Castaway's lagoon at MMC to Dolphins Plus (2 miles away) via high-speed phone lines, underwater microphones and speakers, video cameras

and monitors.

The object is to enable the calf to hear and see the dolphins in the pod at Dolphins Plus, and to communicate with them. The communications will be recorded and analyzed to enrich the current knowledge of how dolphins learn to communicate.

According to the SpeakDolphin.com website, the group's mission is "to significantly expand communication between dolphins and humans." Founded by Jack and Donna Kassewitz, and based in Miami, SpeakDolphin.com is a project of Global Heart, Inc. (www.globalheart.org). Jack's work as a percussionist enabled him to translate music within dolphin vocalizations into songs that have been played on guitar and piano. He has also created a CD of dolphin songs that's available through the website.

We'll keep you posted as soon as we have new developments!



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Some Dance To Forget

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**Coconut's Dolphin Tournament
Third Place Winners**

The Coconut Telegraph caught up with the third place winners of this years Coconut's Dolphin Tournament. Pictured from left: Larry Deddy, Roger Garcia, Alex Debogory, Greg Deddy and John White.

The men fished on the "Manhole Cover". The boat is named after what the owners manufacture.

Congratulations to all the participants for another successful tournament.