

#1018 --- Monday, 11/9/15 -- News From St. Maarten / St. Martin



This Week's Stories

Airfare, Airlines & Weather News

Everything SXM Home Page

Island News

Lodging News

Members SECRET Website Login

St. Maarten and St. Martin "SXM" Weekly News

*St. Maarten & St. Martin's Most Relied-Upon Source
for Tourist-Oriented News & Information*

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From: www.jmbcommunications.com

Weekly News is part of JMB's St. Maarten / St. Martin website: www.everythingsxm.com

Add jeff1620@jmbcommunications.com to your address book to be sure you receive this newsletter every week. "Jeff1620" is a send-only email address. For Contact info, see Contact Us at the end of this newsletter.

Important Note:

You are receiving St. Maarten and St. Martin Weekly News because you subscribed to it and/or are a JMB Website Supporters member. Unsubscribe info is at the end of this newsletter. Stay with us for all the latest tourist-oriented news from St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM all year long. We now have nearly 250,000 readers around the world...

Get Important SXM News as it Happens & Lots of Pictures Too from our Facebook and Twitter Pages:



Protect your vacation and business travel with SkyMed Emergency Medical Evacuation Membership



Download PDFs of Recent Editions ---- Attention iPad, iPhone, and Android Users

This format has been further narrowed so it is now easily readable on all mobile devices. Scroll down for this week's news.

You can also download PDFs of all recent editions here:

http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml

On that page, the link beginning with the highest number is the most recent edition.

Get Your Own Free Weekly Copy of SXM Weekly News:

<http://www.everythingsxm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi?>

Just enter your email address at the top, and click SUBMIT. When you receive the confirming email, just click the confirming link and you're in.

TOP STORIES IN THIS ISSUE

Scroll Down for Full Table of Contents; this edition features many new stories about your favorite island:

This is Jeff Berger's / JMB Communications' *St. Maarten and St. Martin (SXM) Weekly News*, published every Monday all year long (Tuesdays during some holiday weeks). You're receiving this because you subscribed or are a JMB Website Supporters member. Scroll Down for Full Table of Contents; this edition features many new stories about your favorite island:

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23 news stories this week

Scroll down for our complete Table of Contents

Timeshare Rentals and Sales of the Week

Each week JMB randomly picks timeshare condominiums for rent and for sale in SXM from the huge selection at http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml and features them here.

To rent out or sell timeshares you own in SXM or anywhere else, worldwide, at no charge, join JMB Website Supporters. Visit http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml for info. Membership now delivers a growing list of 237+ St. Maarten and St. Martin-focused travel benefits, and your subscription also helps keep these weekly SXM newsletters coming.

SXM Timeshare Rentals of The Week:

RENTAL 1/3/2016 1/8/2016 Week 1 for 5 Nights. A great and cost effective way to extend your 7 night vacation to 12 nights or just enjoy 5 nights. To check availability, see photos, get resort info, click:

www.ronf.info/EverythingSXM-Jan3fbr.html . EZ return button right back here. \$750. Ron 310.722.2632.

ronfrankel@earthlink.net

RENTAL: January 16 to January 23, 2016 (week 3) Sapphire Beach Resort on Cupecoy Beach, sleep-four unit faces sunny Cupecoy Beach and the Caribbean Sea. Includes a genuine Jacuzzi whirlpool hot tub on the balcony, king size bed, full a/c, cable TV, DVD player, refrigerator with ice maker, marble bath, beautiful furnishings throughout. Resort has shops, restaurants, mini-mart, plus a large pool, whirlpool, and bar -- all on the ocean. Close to Starz Casino (formerly Atlantis World), many great restaurants including Dino Jagtiani's multi award-winning Temptation, plus Mullet Bay Beach, the Cupecoy clothing-optional beach, Baie Longue, and Baie Rouge on the French Side, with famous Orient Beach not much more than 20 minutes away. And did I say incredible restaurants? Now reduced to \$1049 for rent or \$3749 to buy. Photos available. Phone Jeff at (508) 747-8281 or email jeff@jmbcommunications.com

SXM Timeshare Sales of The Week:

SALE 11/21/2015 11/28/2015 Week 47 Ocean Club at Cupecoy, which is in between Mullet Bay and the French side. 2BR, 2 story poolside villa. Sleeps 6. Full kitchen, LR, dining area. AC, washer/dryer. Free WiFi, large pool w/bar. Renovated in 2012. Access to private beach. Buyer pays transfer fees. 2015 maintenance fees have been paid. \$5,200 Bob 732-276-6520 fsfan@yahoo.com

SALE: January 16 to January 23, 2016 (week 3) Sapphire Beach Club on Cupecoy Beach, sleep-four unit faces Cupecoy Beach and the Caribbean sea. Includes a Jacuzzi® whirlpool hot tub on the balcony, king size bed, full a/c, cable TV, DVD player, refrigerator with ice maker, marble bath, beautiful furnishings throughout. Resort has shops, restaurants, mini-mart, plus a large pool, whirlpool, and bar -- all on the ocean. Close to Starz Casino (formerly Atlantis World), many great restaurants including Dino Jagtiani's Temptation, plus Mullet Bay Beach, the Cupecoy clothing-optional beach, Baie Longue, and Baie Rouge on the French Side, and did I say incredible restaurants? Reduced to \$3749 (negotiable) to buy or \$1049 to rent. Photos available. Phone (508) 747-8281 and ask for Jeff or email susan@jmbcommunications.com .

Non-St. Maarten Timeshare Rentals:

See them all at http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml

St. Maarten / St. Martin Homes, Villas, Businesses, Commercial Properties, and Residential Properties for Sale (NEW): [Click to access our recommended real estate agents](#)

This Week's Stories

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"Like" Our "Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin" Facebook Site:



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/6297726366/>

"Like" Our Facebook SXM Timesharing Group People for Timeshare Owner Consumer Protection in St. Maarten

http://www.facebook.com/home.php?sk=group_205834172765083

Search the **SXM Weekly News** Archives:

Current Archives (Since 4/2014) in PDF Format (New):

http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml

Archives prior to April 12 2014 (old format):

<http://everythingxsm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi?flavor=archive:list=sxmweeklynews>

Check Out Our Linked-In "St. Maarten and St. Martin Travelers" Group (Free; Timeshare Focus):

www.linkedin.com

Get a growing list of 210+ Money-Saving SXM-focused travel discount benefits through JMB Website Supporters:

http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml

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Section Four: For Members Only (Revised 12/31/14)

- A. Where to Get Member Info: www.everythingsxm.com/secret
- B. Password Recovery Info: Your username is the email address you have registered with JMB Website Supporters. If you forget your password, click "forgot password" in the orange login box near the masthead at www.everythingsxm.com.
- C. How To Submit Rental or Sale Ads: Links are on the Secret Website (see a, above.)

Section Five: Where To Find Background Information for Travelers (**For New Readers**)

(Revised 12/31/14)

How To Get a **GROWING LIST of 230+** Money-Saving St. Maarten- and St. Martin-Focused Travel Benefits

Visit <http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret> , the *secret* site for JMB Website Supporters members only, for low fares to SXM from cities across the USA, Canada, and Western Europe, plus a total of a growing list of 200+ additional major travel benefits, including reduced-cost access to

Not a member yet? See http://everythingxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml . Cost: \$59 for one year, or \$99 total for five full years. Other durations available. Join us today...

Now a growing list of 200+ benefits... and more coming soon.

Contact Us:

[Revised 2/24/15]

All member discounts and benefits are explained in detail on the members-only *secret* website, <http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret> . If you're a JMB Website Supporters member and have a question not answered there, please contact us at support@jmbcommunications.com

NON-members who wish to contact us should write to jmbweb@jmbcommunications.com with the subject *Free Newsletter Recipient,* but due to the huge volume of mail received, we may not be able to respond individually.

Our main St. Maarten / St. Martin website: www.everythingsxm.com .

All JMB Newsletters Read *From JMB*

This newsletter and mail from JMB Website Supporters to members (including *Low Airfare Bulletins*) read *From JMB* in the subject area so you won't misinterpret them as spam.

THIS WEEK'S STORIES:

Stories are numbered; scroll down for stories of interest.

SECTION 1: Getting There: Airlines, Airports, Cruises, & Weather

1. Home Stretch of Hurricane Season

The 2015 Atlantic hurricane season ends November 30. So far, so good, though heavy rains on Saturday 11/7 were predicted to bring localized flooding to the island.

Of course, storms have hit St. Maarten in past Novembers, so everyone on the island is taking nothing for granted.

For the latest on St. Maarten weather, go to everythingSXM.com and click Weather.

2. Severe Winter or Mild? Watch It On TV From SXM and Find Out...

Initial winter weather forecasts had been calling for a severe winter — just like last year. But more recent forecasts, recognizing the Pacific El Niño, are now saying this winter may be less snowy than last.

We don't put much stock in long-range forecasts. Neither do most meteorologists. Winter is going to be winter, with cold and snow. Why put up with that and you can be Orient beach soaking up the rays?

3. If You Haven't Reserved Airfare, Do It Now

Our unscientific sources are indicating that this coming winter may well be a record breaker on St. Maarten. Our own timeshare rental website is renting out weeks at a clip that is beyond anything we've ever seen, and we've been doing this for the last 13 years. (The ability to rent out St. Maarten timeshares you own is one of the benefits of JMB Website Supporters membership. See the article at the beginning of section 3 to join; there are currently 242 member discounts and benefits. Prices increase 11/11, next weekend, so do it now.)

Bottom line, if you have not yet made your air reservations to St. Maarten you should do it now. See articles 5 and 6.

4. Air Show At Princess Juliana Airport November 15

We don't have any details, but right now we know there is an air show at Princess Juliana SXM airport on November 15. We're sure it's not going to be a huge event since Juliana is a very active airport and security will always be tight there. As soon as we have details, we'll post them either in the next issue of this newsletter or, more likely, on our [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site](#).

5. A Great Source of Low Airfares & More Available Free to JMB Members

JMB Website Supporters now gives you access to a private, "members only" travel wholesale club that offers incredible prices not only on airfares but on packages not just to the Caribbean, but worldwide.

Retail travel sites — the ones whose names you know very well — are heavily regulated. But private travel clubs like this, which normally charge their members for membership/admission, are regulated differently and consequently, can offer much better pricing.

The organization providing these travel benefits has been traveling under the radar for 25 years and is only now making its travel reservations prowess publicly known. It's SkyMed Travel Club and it is entirely separate from the [SkyMed "takes you home" medical evacuation service](#) we've been recommending to you for years.

SkyMed Travel Club offers exceptional pricing on everything and almost invariably beats everyone else's pricing. We have found the pricing to be exceptional — even on the wildly popular river cruises that are a tourism phenomenon throughout Europe and are gaining popularity in the US.

Normally, this organization charges you \$99 to join plus \$99 annual renewals. But for our JMB Website Supporters members, the cost to join is zero as will be the cost for renewals. Go to the members-only Secret Website and click on the Low Airfare Grid for details on the SkyMed Travel Club. Log in through the orange login box below the masthead at [everythingxsm.com](#). Your username is the email address you have registered with Membership Services. If you forgot your password, click "forgot password" in the login box.

Do join the SkyMed Travel Club and use them to make all your travel reservations; you will not be disappointed once you've booked through them.

Not a JMB member? See the lead story in Section 3: *prices increase this month, so this is the time to join.*

6. Available to All: FlyTravelGo Is The Easiest-to-Use Travel Reservations Website

Check it out; it's remarkably fast and easy. All profits from our [www.flytravelgo.com](#) site help support *SXM Weekly News* and our SXM island discount program, JMB Website Supporters.

SECTION 2: Accommodations: Hotels, Inns, Timeshares

7. Same Business Day Timeshare Rental / Sale Ad Posting Available to JMB Members

About 10 days ago we told Platinum JMB members that they were entitled to use a special page on our site to submit timeshare rental / sale ads and that the ads would be posted the next business day.

Now we're making that even better: we'll usually be posting ads received by 6 pm EST *on that same day*, during the evening.

Platinum members are members whose memberships expire more than nine years into the future.

Article 4 of last week's (11/2) *SXM Weekly News* included detailed FAQ on the new program. You'll find the article online in our [SXM Weekly News PDF Archives](#).

Platinum members only may submit Platinum ads here at the special ad submission page supplied to them. Traditional (non-Platinum) members must continue to submit ads through the "Submit an ad" interface on every page of [everythingxsm.com](#).

If you're a member, see the Membership Card we emailed you to determine if you're a platinum member. To upgrade to Platinum membership, go to the Membership Renewal Center on the Secret Site and extend your membership so it expires more than nine years into the future. You remain Platinum as long as your membership expiration remains more than nine years into the future.

How To Upgrade to Platinum-Status JMB Membership

You can gain all the timeshare selling / renting advantages of Platinum-Status membership by buying a Platinum Membership or by upgrading your current membership to Platinum in the Membership Renewal Center on the Secret Website.

Current members: Check your Membership Card for your current membership expiration date. Then go to [everythingxsm.com](#) and log in. Membership renewal duration choices will enable you to renew for the number of years you need to qualify for Platinum-Status membership, which becomes effective when your membership expires more than nine years into the future and stays there.

Nonmembers: Buy the longest-term new membership we offer [through PayPal](#) and then send us an additional \$20 per year so your membership *exceeds* nine years (10 years minimum for new Platinum memberships). To join, [go here](#).

Membership prices increase this Wednesday, 11/11 -- so if you're contemplating Platinum memberships, the wise choice is to join or upgrade now at our low current pricing.

8. Timeshares Continuing To Rent Out Very Quickly; Where To Find Them

Rentals of St. Maarten timeshares for next winter continue to proceed at what might well be a record pace. If you want to rent a St. Maarten timeshare for next winter or beyond, we strongly suggest you do it now. We have hundreds from JMB members [here](#).

SECTION 3: Island

9. Last Call: Beat The November 11 Price Increase --- Join, Renew, or Reinstate Your JMB Membership Now to Receive 242 Discounts & Other Benefits

Prices on all longer-term JMB new memberships, renewals, and reinstatements

increase November 11 -- join us today or renew / reinstate your membership to get our low current pricing.

What You Get:

- A growing list of 242+ discounts for restaurants, shopping, hotels, car rentals, activities, jewelry, art, and tons more
- Benefits including free ads to rent out timeshare or other condos you own in SXM and worldwide
- Low Fare Guidelines to help you know what fares are worth buying -- and which are just too high
- Big Discounts on SkyMed, the world's premier provider of medical evacuation services for Americans, Canadians, and ex-pats virtually anywhere you travel, including Cuba (see stories 17 & 18).

Here are our current JMB prices and details:

New memberships:

\$59 for one year but 3 years for \$95 or five years for just \$125

http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml

Renewal memberships:

One year \$39; Seven years just \$119

www.everythingsxm.com/secret Go to the *Membership Renewal Center*

Membership Reinstatements:

One year \$39; Seven years, \$125

<http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

10. Lal's Has Reopened

Lal's Curry in a Hurry Indian restaurant, which may well be the most popular Indian restaurant on the island, has reopened after a short vacation. Lal's is located on the water at Simpson Bay lagoon in the former gourmet Marche building, a short walk from where Neil Roebert's Celine Too motoryacht is moored.

The restaurant is one of our favorites on the island — great food, great prices, and a neat atmosphere. If you've never tried Indian food, this is the place to do it. You'll find food ranging from spicy to bland and from vegetarian to carnivore oriented.. Delicious stuff with great desserts. Tell Lal Jeff Berger's *SXM Weekly News* sent you.

11. Quite Amazing Progress on New Bar / Restaurant Construction at Orient Beach

All of the bars and restaurants between Pedro's & Kon Tiki were demolished last June in an effort to create a more modern tropical ambiance and increase the size of the beach. It took a while for the project to get going, but now it appears to be going forward full tilt. Some of the buildings are virtually finished and interior completion touches appear to be getting underway.

We don't know when these bars and restaurants will be reopening but we expect to find that out sometime next week. We'll let you know, most likely on our [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site](#), where we post a number of pictures and videos of the progress.

Not all the businesses will be returning, either because of higher rents or other reasons. We've heard one of those not coming back may be Andy and Cheryl's Baywatch. As many readers know, Andy and Cheryl's was a great French side tradition. From New Jersey and New York, Andy and Cheryl brought Jersey shore cooking with some great Italian recipes to the island for about 25 years. Andy passed away a couple of years ago and Cheryl had been running the restaurant ever since.

Andy's son Drew Smith, who inherited his dad's culinary passion, is talking about opening a restaurant in the US. We will keep you posted....

More stories are below.

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Publicity, and lots more. Plus, JMB Website Supporters
members Get Hefty Discounts from JMB Communications.

It's what else we do.

JMB Communications: www.jmbcommunications.com

Way More Than SXM

12. Like Cigars? We'll Have News About "Das Cigars" In Our Next Issue

If you enjoy premium handmade cigars, Das Cigars on the Dutch side is the place to get them.

We'll be visiting later this week with Andi Siegers, who heads the company. Expect much more information here in about a week.

13. Prizes Added In Our Eight Vacation Giveaway; What They Are & How It Works

During the last week there have been many changes in our eight vacation giveaway, which occurs next March and will celebrate us surpassing 4.5 million visits to everythingSXM.com.

First, we've added many new prizes. As of this minute here they are:

- Dinner for two at Mario's Bistro, Porto Cupecoy
- Dinner for two at Beau Beaus (Oyster Bay Beach Resort)
- Dinner for two at Infinity (OBBR)
- Dinner for two at Sushiitto
- Dinner for two at Pineapple Pete
- Dinner for two at Daniel's by the Sea
- Dinner for two at Spiga
- Dinner for two at Lal's Curry In a Hurry
- Dinner for two at Toppers
- Dinner for two at Toppers By The Sea
- Dinner for two at Vesna Taverna

More prizes will be coming.

We will draw the vacation winners live on the air on Island 92 radio in mid-March. The first person drawn this time will not necessarily be the Grand Prize winner, as has been the case in the past. After we give away all eight vacations, we'll call the winners back randomly. The first person picked gets our selection of some of the prizes

above, and others; that will be our first-runner-up prize. The second person called at random will get our Grand Prize, which has our selection of dinners and other prizes.

As always, anyone who doesn't answer loses and will not be called back again.

Here are our vacation prizes:

- [Mary's Boon Beach Resort](#);
- [Oyster Bay Beach Resort](#);
- [La Vista or La Vista Beach](#)
- [Summit Resort](#)
- [Baker's Suites](#)
- [Club Fantastico](#)
- [Hotel L'Esplanade](#) OR [Le Petit Hotel](#) OR [Blue Pelican](#)
- [Simpson Bay Resort](#)

Enter here:

http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/getting_here/entry-form-for-our-seven-vacation-giveaway.shtml

Full rules are on the page.

14. In Crime Ratings, The News About SXM Is Positive

Take a look: <https://www.thedailyherald.sx/regional/53308-yahoo-travel-questions-safety-of-visitors-to-the-caribbean>

15. News About Rima's Online Site

From Mr. & Mrs. Rima:

Dear loyal Rima customer,

Due to over-popularity of Rima's authentic goods, there have been reports of imitation official Rima online stores being run by unauthorized, unofficial individuals.

We would like to bring to your attention that www.RimaSxm.com is the only Rima's own official online store that sells genuine Rima products.

Other than that, we do have authorized online re-sellers. But we ask you to please check their authenticity by checking with us.

You can email our dedicated team handling this at email@rimasxm.com

Please report any suspicious websites, offers or purchases that you have made in the past as well.

It will help us serve our loyal customers better and we can make sure you are always getting the authentic, high-quality goods that you know Rima Beach World for.

Regards,

Mr. & Mrs. Rima

Co-founders

www.RimaSxm.com

+91 8800371300 (Whatsapp us 24 hours!)

16. Reminder: No JMB Membership Card, No Discounts or Benefits in SXM

JMB members who don't have their JMB Website Supporters membership card will not be able to get any discounts in St. Maarten or St. Martin. We've told this to our partners across the island and we're also nearly finished modifying all of our discount vouchers to reflect the fact that they must be used with a valid JMB Website Supporters membership card. Bottom line, bring your card: you are not entitled to JMB discounts without it.

17. Questions & Answers About Medical Evacuation

Here are updated questions and answers about SkyMed, the folks who fly you home on an ICU-equivalent medical evacuation jet when you become critically ill or injured while traveling. *It's a life-saving flight that could easily cost you upwards of \$45,000 in cash in advance without SkyMed; thousands of you have bought it through us.* To learn more, see www.skymed.com/jmbspecial .

Q. Why do you promote this?

A. We first heard about SkyMed in a mailing years ago from the old Pelican Resort. We thought the idea had great merit for many people and started promoting it in St. Maarten Weekly News.

Several months later, driving back to Sapphire Resort after dinner in Grand Case, my wife was very hot and felt nauseous. She started making unusual breathing noises and passed out. Dinner had involved no drinks for either of us and we never drank much anyway; I feared a mini-stroke.

When we arrived at Sapphire minutes later, I immediately called an ambulance. She was treated symptomatically at the resort and later, felt much better.

Although we later discovered that her incident was related to a serious food allergy, it was a big wake-up call and we became much more interested in getting SkyMed membership for ourselves.

Later, based on the number of people we were referring to them, SkyMed phoned me and suggested I become a representative. I declined, saying I didn't have time. The SkyMed executive who had called, Rolly Jodoin, said they would simply provide a webpage for my referrals to use when signing up so SkyMed could track my signups and pay me rep commissions. Instead of simply referring people to SkyMed, I would continue to do what I had done for a number of months and they would compensate me based upon sign-ups. It made sense, since I was joining on my own after being scared by the incident related above and I expected to recommend SkyMed long-term anyway.

That's how it started. I have since signed up several thousand JMB members and readers to SkyMed memberships, *dozens of whom have suffered serious medical emergencies in St. Maarten and elsewhere for which they have had to use the service.* Every one of them with whom I've spoken has told me the evacuation was handled with military precision and consummate professionalism. SkyMed transported them by ambulance from the hospital located near where their incidents occurred to the plane, then by jet to their destination city, then in another waiting ambulance to the hospital where a medical team familiar with the situation was waiting and had a bed reserved for them. *SkyMed makes an average of about three dozen calls to make all this happen.*

Q. What's so special about SkyMed? Aren't these services all the same?

A. Not by a long shot. Most other programs take you to "the nearest appropriate facility," *not* home like SkyMed. If you're in SXM, that means *SkyMed competitors* would likely take you to Puerto Rico. Some others also raise prices after you reach a certain age. Or they cancel you on a particular birthday, or cancel your membership when you get sick. *SkyMed does none of that.* Sign up for SkyMed today and when you reach age 109 you pay the same price as everyone else. No age discrimination at all -- as long as you pay your membership fee you're good to go.

Q. What other evacuation-related services do you offer besides the evacuation itself?

There are 18 other services, some of which you've never even thought about but all of which are important. You'll find them on our downloadable SkyMed Benefits PDF, now on our [SXM Weekly News PDF Archives](#) page.

Q. Do they cancel me if I get really sick?

A. No, they don't. Once you're a member, as long as you continue to pay your membership fee your membership continues regardless of your health or age, if you buy an annual or multiyear membership and keep it in force. SkyMed does not throw you out if you get sick. If you allow your membership to lapse, you will need to reapply to determine if you're still medically acceptable -- so just don't let it lapse.

Q. I have a few medical issues and I'm in my late 60s. Does SkyMed only accept people in phenomenal health?

A. In its brief application process, completed online or by phone or in person with a rep, SkyMed asks for your name, DOB, current medications, medical conditions, and hospitalizations in the last six months. It also asks where you want to be transported should you need a medical evacuation. It now also requests your passport number to help expedite customs / immigration should you require an international medical evacuation flight. *The vast, vast majority of applicants are readily accepted.* You do not have to be in "phenomenal" health at all.

Q. We stay away for weeks at a time. Do we have to tell SkyMed where we're going?

A. No, you don't. As long as you're home in the US or Canada more than six months per year, you're fine. If you spend more than half of each year away (in aggregate), then you're considered an expatriate (ex-pat) and would need a program custom-tailored for ex-pats because you are away a majority of the time and that means you represent increased exposure. That program is called NATO - the North American Transport Option. Even as an ex-pat living in SXM, you can still be transported back to your city of choice in the USA.

Q. Does SkyMed cover pre-existing conditions?

A. Yes, after a 90 day waiting period. To make sure you're covered for everything when you travel, including pre-existing conditions, just buy your annual or multi-year Ultimate SkyMed membership more than 90 days ahead of your initial date of travel.

Q. I seldom travel now. Do you have short-term plans?

A, Yes, at about \$18/day per family or about \$9/day for singles. Since they only last a specified number of days, they end when the term of coverage ends. If you want another short-term plan later, you must apply again and medically requalify. Annual plans cost roughly \$1.30/day for your entire family (parents and minor kids); plans for singles are less. And Annual plans are renewable without medical requalification, assuming they haven't lapsed.

Q. I'm from Canada. May I join SkyMed? I have to get back to my province if I'm seriously ill or my health insurance won't work.

A. Both Americans and Canadians are eligible to join SkyMed.

Q. Is there a best time to buy?

A. Yes -- exactly like fire insurance, buy it before you need it! Now is a particularly good time because JMB is offering special benefits and discounts; see next story. Those incentives won't be around forever.

Q. Where does SkyMed provide service?

A. SkyMed plans are focused on members' needs. Most members travel within about 34 countries so SkyMed's basic plans cover all those countries: the USA (all 50 states), Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, all the nations of the Caribbean including Cuba, plus Belize and Costa Rica.

On annual plans you can buy a \$100 annual rider to cover the rest of the world. SkyMed's "Ultimate" plan, available in three- and five-year versions, covers you worldwide except for places you'd probably not want to visit anyway -- such as Iran, Iraq, Syria, Somalia, North Korea, and Afghanistan, to name some.

SkyMed Takes You Home™; What else matters?

For more, see skymed.com/jmbspecial or email Jeff Berger directly at jeff@jmbcommunications.com with the subject SkyMed. If you include your phone number, he'll call you about SkyMed as well, to answer any other questions you may have including all pricing options. Or call us any day during regular business hours, Eastern Time. Our number is 508-830-3456.

18. Our Double SkyMed Bonus

----- SkyMed On Sale: Lots of Life-Saving Benefits, Low Cost -----

If you've been thinking about buying SkyMed but just haven't done it, this is the time.

SkyMed takes you home when you become critically ill or injured while traveling — home to

doctors and hospitals you know and trust. With rare exceptions, your medical insurance from the US or Canada isn't valid in St. Maarten. There is also no trauma center there, and the sophisticated medical care available at leading US hospitals is not present in St. Maarten / St. Martin. So if you become critically ill or injured, you really do need to get home to the US or Canada and get the help you need.

Thanks to this sale, that has now become a whole lot easier. There are two key reasons.

First, for every year of SkyMed medical evacuation protection you buy from us during the sale, you get an equivalent year of JMB Website Supporters membership free, on us, which brings you an increasing spectrum of benefits and discounts, soon to number close to 250. If you are already a JMB member, we will extend your membership on us for a number of years equal to your new or upgraded SkyMed membership. If you are not a JMB member and buy SkyMed through us, we will establish a JMB Website Supporters membership for you equal to your new or upgraded SkyMed membership's duration of one year or more.

SkyMed costs next to nothing when you buy it for a few days (less than \$18/day per family), or it costs \$499 for a family plan covering an entire year. The critically important advantage of buying yearly coverage is that you are covered for as long as you continue to renew your membership regardless of your age or health at the time of the renewal. Buy a "short term" plan for a week or so, and you must requalify medically every time you re-apply for another short-term plan.

That same crucial benefit also applies if you get a SkyMed three-year or five-year "Ultimate" membership, the best they offer. (It's also what Jeff has had for a number of years).

The SkyMed Ultimate normally sells for a three-year or a five-year term. One critical advantage of the Ultimate — besides the fact that it covers you around virtually the entire world — is that you are covered in case the price of crude oil makes a U-turn and starts skyrocketing again; jet fuel is a big part of the cost of a medical evacuation. A five-year Ultimate membership will cost you either \$59 per month per family, or much less if you prepay it and are a JMB Website Supporters member.

For a five-year SkyMed Ultimate, non JMB members pay \$3495 in advance; JMB members pay only \$2495 through us — and remember, because of the bonus we mentioned above, when you sign up we will also give you a five-year JMB membership *enabling you to save that \$1000 on a five year Ultimate membership. That discount is not available to nonmembers.*

For answers to questions about SkyMed, or to sign up, regardless of whether you are a current JMB member, and to get these JMB membership bonuses and discounts, call JMB Communications weekdays during normal business hours at area code 508-830-3456 and ask for Jeff. This offer can be withdrawn at any time, so please do it soon. That's \$1000 off a five-year Ultimate plus a free JMB membership or membership extension -- available only by calling our office. You can learn more about SkyMed at www.skymed.com/jmbsxm but these JMB discounts are not available online. JMB members only, see www.skymed.com/jmbspecial . You can also contact Jeff at jeff@jmbcommunications.com with the subject SkyMed.

When you sign up for the bonus SkyMed memberships shown above, email support@jmbcommunications.com and tell us. We'll verify the signup and that it is through us, then process your bonus. But do it soon... this won't last forever.

19. Why We're Giving Away Eight SXM Vacations, & How to Enter

See story 13, above... we don't want you to miss this.

20. Interact With Fellow SXM Visitors on Our Everything SXM Facebook Page

Our [Everything St. Maarten Facebook Site](#), which has been around for several years, covers SXM happenings in words and pictures from its thousands of users, and enables people to ask questions, get answers, post trip reports, etc. We also post things there between issues of *SXM Weekly News*.

Besides that ... the 5000th person to "like" that page will be among the "Final 60" people we call when we give away eight vacations early next year. You are welcome to join our Facebook Site.

21. Where to Find Past Issues of SXM Weekly News

Look here for our PDF archives: http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml

22. Restaurant of The Week

This feature returns in our next issue.

23. Tech Talk:

This column returns this month.

Rent Out or Sell Your Timeshare (both SXM and Worldwide) -- Frequently Updated

JMB members can run up to 10 free ads on our website per 12-month period to rent out or sell St. Maarten / St. Martin timeshare weeks they own -- or any timeshares, anywhere worldwide. If you're not a member, learn more about membership here: http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml .

Want to rent or buy a week?

2015 St. Maarten / St. Martin Timeshare Weeks For Rent or Sale are posted at http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml Listings are now updated every few weekdays. Ads are free (no commission) but are accepted from JMB Website Supporters members only.

Meet Our Sponsors (updated 9/27/13) Returns Next Issue

SECTION 4: For Members Only (Constantly Updated)

- A. Where to Get Member Info: www.everythingsxm.com/secret
- B. Password Recovery Info: Your username is the email address you have registered with JMB Website Supporters. If you forget your password, click "forgot / change password" in the orange login box near the masthead at www.everythingsxm.com. To change your password, click that same link.
- C. How To Submit Rental or Sale Ads or Update the Price in an Ad: See www.everythingsxm.com/secret .

SECTION 5: Background Information for Travelers (For New Readers) Updated 10/18/15

See www.everythingsxm.com.

CONTACT US

JMB Website Supporters members wishing to contact us should visit the secret site, www.everythingsxm.com/secret , for detailed JMB Website Supporters information. JMB members can email us at [support\[at\]jmbcommunications.com](mailto:support[at]jmbcommunications.com). If you have misplaced your password, you can get a new one by clicking the orange "forgot password" link below the masthead at www.everythingsxm.com.

About Email Address Changes / How To Unsubscribe (Updated 9/7/13)

To unsubscribe, click the Unsubscribe link here: <http://everythingxsm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi> You CAN NOT unsubscribe either by replying to this email or, if you are an AOL user, by clicking the *spam* button on AOL.

To change your email address, visit <http://everythingxsm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi> , select *2014 St. Maarten Weekly News* list, and follow the unsubscribe instructions. Then, subscribe your new email address. JMB Website Supporters members no longer need to notify Membership Services of the new email address for continued Secret Site access and to receive Low Airfare Bulletins. We'll be notified automatically.

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<http://www.everythingsxm.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi?>

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