



NAAM Newsletter

December 12, 2001

Quarterly newsletter of the Netherlands-American Association of Minnesota

President's Message

Dear members and friends of NAAM,

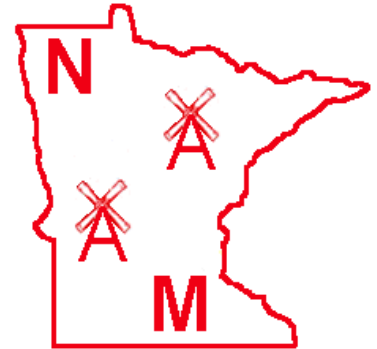
The Familietheater groep from Almelo performed in south Minneapolis on Sat., Sept. 29. It was hilarious Dutch-language comedy theater at its finest, with an acting troupe of six cast members. Everyone who attended reported delight. The only disappointment was that only 28 people showed up to enjoy it -- I got the impression that many Twin Cities Nederlanders found it too hard to believe that professional theater from the Netherlands could actually be available right here in Minneapolis/Saint Paul. But it was! Anyone curious may look at the Familietheater website (www.familietheater.nl). By the way, the troupe's tour of North America was filmed by BVN-TV for future broadcast.

Thank you to Jim and Carla Leebens, who opened their home and offered hospitality to the actors.

The University of Minnesota Dutch Studies Program once again hosted a splendid

celebration of Dutch-American Heritage Day on Nov. 14. James Parente welcomed all who attended, and Jenneke Oosterhoff and Ron Okenfuss led an enlightening and entertaining conversation about the unique joys and challenges of international marriages. Costumed Klompendansers gave a folkdance demonstration and invited the brave and adventurous to learn the steps. NAAM also took the occasion as an opportunity to give special appreciation and recognition to Henry and Dorothy Bierma and Kees Schot, longtime volunteers in many NAAM-related activities.

MANY THANKS are in order to the highly creative Sinterklaas committee for an outstanding party and visit from Sint and Pieten on Dec. 1. Particular thanks to: Shawn Corwin-Myland, Marieke Farrell, Marcia Haffmans, Judith Halvorson, Sabine Ibes, Carolien van Merksteijn, Brechtje Oonincx, Christine Stevens, Paul Vrijhof, Sylvia Vrijhof-Fruijtjer. Willem Ibes (Sabine's father-in-law)



kindly provided piano accompaniment for the Sinterklaas liedjes. John and Coby Buursema welcomed attendees and collected payment. Jim and Carla Leebens provided sweet treats for all to enjoy.

A clever addition to the program this year was traditional Dutch games during the gathering time. As the children visited and participated in each game, they received another stamp in a special passport.

As you can see, the dedicated efforts of many wonderful volunteers keep NAAM active and interesting. My thanks to you all for such great support and participation!

Mark Boorsma
NAAM President

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Consul's Corner

Second Chamber Elections May 15, 2002

Notice to all Netherlands citizens living abroad

On May 15, 2002 elections for the Second Chamber of Parliament will be held. All Netherlands citizens having the right to vote can take part in these elections, even if they reside abroad.

Anyone holding Netherlands citizenship, age 18 or older, can exercise their right to vote regardless of their place of residence.

How can you vote?

In order to vote you must register to vote in a timely manner. From November 14, 2001 to April 2, 2002 you can register for the voters' list for the Second Chamber Elections. Voters can apply for voter registration at their Netherlands Embassy or Consulate.

The application form can also be found on the internet-site of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs: (<http://www.minbuza.nl>)

Did you vote in the previous election?
Netherlands citizens residing abroad in 1998, who voted

in the 1998 Second Chamber elections, will automatically receive a new voter registration form from the municipality of The Hague. This form will be forwarded to the address given on the 1998 registration form. If a voter has moved, he/she is advised – for greater certainty – to apply for a new voter registration form.

Need further information?

Please visit the internet-site of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (<http://www.minbuza.nl>) or the Consulate General (<http://www.cgchicago.org>) for a description of the voter registration procedure.

You may also contact:

The Consulate General in Chicago	(312) 856-0110
The Netherlands Embassy in Washington, D.C.	(202) 274-2627
The Consulate General in Houston	(713) 622-8000
The Consulate General in Los Angeles	(310) 268-1598
The Consulate General in New York	(212) 246-1429

Classifieds

- FOR RENT – Are you interested in spending time in Europe? There is a lovely B&B or 3-bedroom house for rent in the Ardennes Belgium, just south of Liege. For more information:
Fam. Verstege
Grandrue 15
6960 Grandmenil, Manhay Belgium
tel: 011-32-86456234
fax: 011-32-478327554
email: entre2pays@xs4all.be
internet: <http://www.xs4all.be/~entre2>
- Don't forget: For all your Dutch goodies and gifts:
Windmill Imports Inc.
1513 Mainstreet
Hopkins, MN 55343
tel/fax: 952-988-0852
email: windmill-imports@worldnet.att.net
- TWEE VLIEGEN IN ÉÉN KLAP - Buy prime oak&walnut fire wood and support the construction of a real Volendammer Botter (Kwak) in Minnesota. Read on in the 'Kwak Update' in this newsletter about the boat project. Erik Wardenaar, 2195 Bonnie Lane, Golden Valley, MN55422 Tel: 763-529-7474 email: sarikfan@earthlink.net



Consul's Corner

News About Your Dutch Passport

Effective October 1, 2001, new regulations regarding passports and identity cards (travel documents) will come into effect. From this date on you must allow for a waiting period before you receive a new document. The regulations on having your children's name added to your passport will also be changed.

Just a minute...

Be aware that for security reasons, effective October 1, 2001, all your relevant personal data for passports and identity cards will be processed at a central location in the Netherlands. The over-the-counter service will therefore no longer be available. Keep in mind that it may take up to three weeks before your passport is ready. You will be informed by your local Dutch mission when the document is available.

What do you need?

You must apply for a travel document in person at the nearest Dutch mission. You must bring your current travel document and a recent professional passport photo with you. This photo must be taken from straight ahead and not from the side. Children up to the age of eighteen who wish to apply for a passport need permission from both parents (or whoever has responsibility for the child). The same applies to children up to the age of twelve who wish to apply for an identity card.

Dutch School Update

Sylvia, Sabine and Judith have been working hard on setting up the school. The response to our poll was very good. Currently we have about 40 children of all ages that are interested and we welcome more. We are looking at having the school on Saturdays, focusing on Dutch language and culture. No knowledge of Dutch is necessary. We are working closely with the Dutch government (NOB) and will be subsidized by them. After the holidays we will start looking at possible school sites. If you know of a site that would be useful

Adding children to your passport

Children of all ages may have their own passport. Up to the age of fifteen they can also be added to the parent's passport. Therefore you must take your child with you to the Dutch mission. This is necessary for identification.

From now on, having children added to your passport will involve a waiting period of three weeks, because of the time needed to process the application in the Netherlands. Written permission of the parents/carers is required. Adding the child also requires a recent professional passport photo. This photo must be taken from straight ahead and not from the side. The child does not have to be present when the passport is collected.

Old document missing?

In the event of loss or theft of your passport or identity card, you must hand over a police report or report the loss at the Dutch mission yourself. You will need this report when you apply for a new travel document.

Additional information

Should you have any further questions, please contact the nearest Dutch mission or www.passportinformation.org

(The Netherlands Consul for Minnesota is Lyle Delwiche -- telephone 612-870-1006)

for a school setting, do not hesitate to contact us. We are still searching for a qualified elementary Dutch teacher, so if you know anybody please let us know! Currently we are looking at a starting date of September 2002. If you are interested in the school, would like to help or be on the board, please contact us:

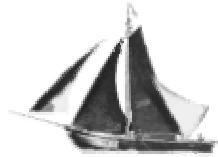
Judith Koppen - jkoppen@hotmail.com 763-533-1885
Sabine Ibes - Sabine@Ibeslandscaping.com
Sylvia Vrijhof - sylvia_paul@att.net



Kwak Update #1

This is a new entry in the NAAM Newsletter, and it will keep you updated on the construction of a 'Volendammer Kwak' right here in the Twin Cities. By sharing some of my experiences with fellow Dutch people you will learn some details of the construction of a typical Volendammer fishing sailboat, and hopefully it will interest you enough to come and check out the progress for yourself.

A Volendammer Kwak is a large (15,5 m) type of 'botter' used primarily in Volendam for the 'kwakkuilvisserij' where the boat pulls a large net behind the boat on the former Zuiderzee. They were only used in Volendam, while elsewhere around the Zuiderzee people used the smaller 'botters' (13 m) to pull similar nets with two boats. A Kwak has a high bow and low stern, the front half has a deck, the back half is open except for a small deck at the very end, and a 'deken' with 'bun' to keep the catch alive. The bottom is flat to allow sailing in shallow waters and the boat has side boards to prevent drifting away to the side during sailing. The boat has a 15 m high mast, which is unsupported to allow handling of nets without obstruction. Only a front stay is there to carry the front sail or 'fok' in addition to the main sail or 'grootzeil'. Because the mast is unsupported, it has to be very well supported by the bottom and deck of the boat, which are very heavily constructed for that reason. The boat is almost entirely oak, except for the deck (wooden shoes on an oak deck would be too slippery when wet) and the mast which are usually made of pine or spruce. In Holland they used 'Wintereik' or 'Zomereik', and here in Minnesota White Oak and Bur Oak (leaves with rounded lobes) have comparable properties. Red oak (leaves with pointed lobes) is not suitable because it rots too quickly. Oak is amazingly suitable for boat building, as three blessings come together in one species. It bends very well when heated up by steam or fire, it is very durable and hard, and it splits very easily, which was particularly useful for early boat builders like the Vikings who had to split trees to produce boards for their boats.



I started thinking about building a Kwak in January 1997, but only started to collect oak crooks and logs during the second half of 1998. You cannot buy crooked oak wood anywhere, so I contacted tree trimmers and kept my eye open for oak trees that were dead or had to be removed for other reasons. The entire boat will now be constructed from such 'waste' wood, which means that no trees will be felled specifically for the boat. You need a large selection of crooks to fit the many knees and ribs in, and the hull and bottom must be made of boards out of long straight logs. I have collected quite a selection so far (you will be amazed to see what beautiful wood is regarded as waste) and I am in the process of cutting them up into beams, boards, ribs and knees with the large band saw mill I built for that purpose. Beside boat building materials, I am also producing a lot of excellent firewood which I am trying to get rid of for a friendly price (see the classifieds in this newsletter) and which will help to fund part of the project.

I am inviting any of you to come check out the progress and maybe learn some old boatbuilding skills like steam bending and plank fitting in the process. Another way you could help is to keep an eye out for White & Bur oak trees in your neighborhood that are dead or need to be removed for other reasons. If they are not too close to a building I can even help remove the tree myself. Last year I helped our dear friend Cor Linders remove a dead white oak tree from his yard, and the crooks will be part of the boat. You can contact me at 763-529-7474 or email: sarikfan@earthlink.net

I will try to write an update of the project and add some construction details every quarter, and this way try to keep you informed. Come and see me some time, it is really interesting, and oak smells so good!!

Erik Wardenaar



Klompdancers Update

The Dutch Dance group has had a very productive year. Under the able tutelage of our instructor/choreographer, Christopher Yaeger, the group has added a number of new dances to its repertoire and has been working hard at polishing performance techniques.

Last May was especially busy. In addition to the usual performances at the Festival of Nations in St. Paul, we were asked to perform at a benefit reception and dinner at the benefit of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts on May 2. The benefit was a kick-off to the annual spring-themed exhibit at the MIA where local florists create spectacular flower arrangements to complement various paintings and sculptures throughout the gallery. The four couples that participated in the performance voted it a grand experience.

Of course, the Festival of Nations followed the MIA appearance on May 5 and 6, but that was not the end of the schedule by any means. Because of our involvement with the KLM/NWA Five year celebration for the Memphis Amsterdam flight press conference last year, we were recommended to go to Memphis, Tennessee, and dance at the 25th annual "Memphis in May International Week". Memphis in May is a month-long festival that draws thousands of participants. This year the International theme was the Netherlands. We were sandwiched in between the Beale Street Music Festival weekend and the world famous Bar B Que Festival. Ten dancers from the Nederlandse Klompdancers traveled to Memphis to perform.

The invitation to Memphis included nine free roundtrip tickets on Northwest Airlines and hotel accommodations. A per diem was allotted to each performer and a crew of volunteers was assigned to drive us to our performances and entertained us in the evenings. The expense to the company was minimal. Yet the experience was priceless. Being flown to a gig makes everyone feel like a celebrity.

Christopher Yaeger wrote an educational program and we presented at four Memphis-area schools. The dance group was the most requested of all the talent available at the festival. At each school the group presented Dutch folk dances, a description of the Costume and an introduction to the Dutch language. The students were delighted with the wooden shoes and had plenty of

questions for the dancers. In addition, the group performed four times at the Memphis Botanical gardens. Members of the group were on Memphis television on a segment shot live on Beale Street.

During our stay we met guests from the Netherlands. A wooden shoemaker, a Delft painter and a folk group called "Folkcorn". We made new friends and expect to stay in touch with them. There is hope that we will travel to the Netherlands someday and perform with them again. We have high hopes.



This trip was a landmark for the group; we were treated like professionals and the dancers performed with consistent grace and proficiency. The audiences enjoyed the show and Klompdancers will be talked about in Memphis for years to come. Most of all, the group demonstrated that small tours are possible and that Dutch dance can be enjoyed by a diverse crowd. The program can now be reproduced at schools and organizations here in Minnesota. With a little promotion we could conceivably perform several times a year in addition to the Festival of Nations. This will make the group stronger and give the Dutch more presence in the community. Not to mention the enjoyment the dancers have being on stage.

After taking some time off over the summer, the group was asked to perform as guests of the Ethnic Dance Theatre at the Rhinefest on September 8. The Rhinefest was a weekend-long festival held on Harriet Island in Saint Paul. There exhibit booths with food and crafts representative of all of the countries along the Rhine River. The Harriet Island Pavilion Stage was filled with performers from those countries as well. The Ethnic Dance Theatre was engaged to perform folkdances from countries such as Germany, Austria, and Switzerland, and we of course took care of demonstrating the Dutch dances. Our gig ended with a combined EDT/Klompdancer audience participation dance. You really had to be there, but trust us, it was glorious fun.

(continue on next page)



Klompdancers Update (continued)

As we look to our goals for the coming year, we want to invite any interested potential dancers out there to come to an open house rehearsal on Monday, January 14, at 7 pm at Faith Reformed Church. We welcome all ages and skill levels to watch and participate in some of the dances, and also meet some fun and interesting people.

As an added incentive, there will be refreshments! If you have any questions about the open house, please call Cor Linders at 651-484-1551, or me at 952-431-4760 (I'm usually easier to reach by e-mail, though, at e_katuin@hotmail.com).

Elaine Katuin

Back to School

Bloomington Community College

After the immensely successful Beginning Dutch class taught by NAAM member Ron van de Crommert through Bloomington Community Education, there will be another two classes in January 2002. The Beginning Dutch class will be offered again. In addition, there will be a new Dutch II class, which follows up on the Beginning Dutch class.

The **Beginning Dutch** class will be taught on nine Tuesday nights, 7-9 pm, between January 29 and March 26, 2002. The **Dutch II** class will be taught on eight Wednesday nights, 7-9 pm, between January 30 and March 20, 2002. Both classes will be held at Jefferson High School at 4001 W. 102nd St. in Bloomington (corner of France Ave. and 102nd St.). The exact cost of the classes is not known at this point, but it will be around \$70 for each class. An additional materials fee of \$10 is payable to the instructor in class.

You can register for these Dutch classes through Bloomington Community Education at 952-885-8500. For more information, visit <http://www.dutchavenue.com>. You can also call the teacher directly at 952-944-0945 or send him an e-mail at dutch@mn.rr.com.

University of Minnesota

The Dutch program at the University of Minnesota announces its courses for Spring semester 2002.

Dutch 1002, second-semester beginning Dutch, for students with basic language skills in every-day-life situations. Mo-We-Th 4.00-5.30.

Dutch 1004, second-semester intermediate Dutch taught by Brechtje Beuker, for students with advanced language skills able to speak and write about a variety of (more abstract) topics. Course materials include a novel and a film based on the novel.
Mo-We 6-8.10

Students who do not need these courses for a degree can register under 4002 or 4004 for less credits and less tuition.

Dutch 3012, a conversation and composition course for students with advanced language skills. An excellent course for students who have taken Dutch in the past and wish to brush up on their speaking and writing skills. Course materials include several literary readings and film. Mo-We 6-8

Dutch 3310, a literature course for advanced students. This course takes another look at how the Second World War continues to inspire writers such as Gerard Reve, Harry Mulisch, Marga Minco, Jeroen Brouwers and others. Several films will be viewed and discussed. A great course for native speakers who do not want to lose their Dutch. Times TBA, possibly Friday 6-8.

Dutch 3510, "Mystic Writings of Hadewijch", an exciting course on "the most interesting and passionate of medieval mystics" taught in English by Ray Wakefield. T 4.40-7.10

Last but not least, we would like to draw your attention to our upcoming Summer Dutch Institute, our intensive Dutch language program for summer 2002. Learn Dutch in 8 weeks, June 17-August 9, Mo-Fr 9.05-12.05. Take a culture course in the afternoon, Dutch 3510, July 15-August 9, M-F 1.25-3.20. Total immersion! For more information, visit our website: <http://esc.cla.umn.edu/SD.htm>

For more information on the spring and summer courses, contact Jenneke Oosterhoff at (612) 625-0738 or ooste003@tc.umn.edu.

Prettige kerstdagen en een gelukkig Nieuwjaar wenst u het Nederlandse programma aan de Universiteit van Minnesota!



NAAM Membership

NAAM now has 57 member households and over 300 households on our mailing list! To become a NAAM member, or to renew your membership for 2002 (our fiscal year started in October), please fill out the coupon below, write a check payable to NAAM and mail both to:

Mark Boorsma
 P.O. Box 67
 Cleveland, MN 56017-0067

Membership Benefits

- ✓ Quarterly Newsletter, highlighting social activities, Consulate information and more.
- ✓ Reduced or free admittance to events. **Membership dues more than pay for your participation!**
- ✓ Videotape conversion. To convert PAL format videotapes to NTSC (American) format, send your tape(s) to: Cor Linders c/o NAAM, 10 Thompson Lane, St. Paul, MN 55127. Please include blank tapes and \$5 per tape (check or cash) for postage. For members only!

Advertising

Ad prices are: \$80 for a one-page ad, \$40 for a half-page, \$20 for a quarter-page. 25% discount for repeat ads (in successive newsletters). Advertisers must be or become paying members. Classifieds are \$1 per line, with a minimum of 3 lines. Non-commercial ads (such as news and oproepen) are gratis.

New Members

NAAM welcomes the following new members:

Peter & Kathryn Fakkeldij (Mpls), Vicky Ras (Coon Rapids), Jan & Karen Weber (Maple Grove), Ingrid Boersma (Eden Prairie), Susan Cos (Savage), Cindy DeJong (Minneapolis), John & Marlene Feddema (Edina), Jim & Annemarie Foley (White Bear Lake), Sharon Hanson (Minneapolis), Brian & Leontine Larson (Deephaven), Arlis VanderSloot (Minneapolis), Bert & Judy Worries (Blaine)

NAAM Board

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 John Buursema, Treasurer
 buurs27@aol.com
 Judith Halvorson, Director
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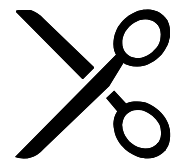
I want to (check one): join NAAM and receive all the membership benefits!
 renew my membership for 2002

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

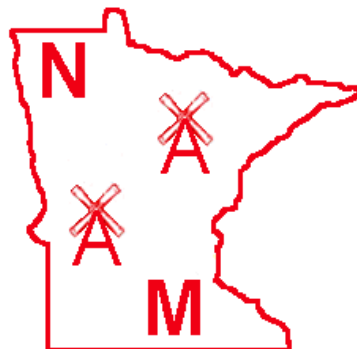
Membership type (check one): \$20 – family
 \$10 – individual
 \$10 – senior



NAAM

Quarterly newsletter
of the Netherlands-
American
Association of
Minnesota

December 12, 2001



Netherlands-American Association of Minnesota
c/o Mark Boorsma
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Cleveland, MN 56017-0067



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