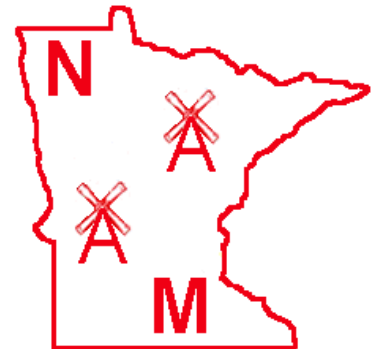




# NAAM Newsletter

March 16, 2002

*Quarterly newsletter of the Netherlands-American Association of Minnesota*



## President's Message

Dear members and friends of NAAM,

or telephone John Buursema at 651-455-2197.

What were the odds? After a winter that wasn't, a blizzard descended on us to postpone the planned March 9 viewing of the video *Een Vorstelijk Huwelijk*, featuring highlights of the February 2 wedding of Crown Prince Willem-Alexander and Máxima Zorreguieta.

Children and adults have been learning and practicing folkdances. Soon about ninety more volunteers are needed for the Dutch areas of the Festival of Nations, to be held April 25-28 at the Saint Paul RiverCentre. Please call Carla Leebens at 952-988-0852 to indicate the date and time you would like to work. Your help is needed in the café, bazaar shop, cultural exhibit, and klompenmaker's stall.

calendar now and plan to attend!

Many thanks to the contributors to this newsletter, and to Jan Witte who deciphers our scribbles, edits and publishes this letter, the purpose of which is to keep members and friends of NAAM informed of goings-on in the Netherlands-American community in Minnesota. Your interest and support keep NAAM alive and active.

This event is rescheduled for Sat., April 6, 2002. As previously planned, it will be held at the Chart House restaurant in Lakeville. After the video, dinner will be served, and music and dancing will follow. If you would like to attend, RSVP to me by e-mail (mboorsma@aol.com)

A borrel is planned for Sun., May 5 to celebrate Koninginnedag and Bevrijdingsdag. Reminders will be mailed, but please mark the date on your

THANKS!

Mark

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## Event Calendar

**Sat April 6** – dinner at the Chart House, Lakeville, including viewing of Een Vorstelijk Huwelijk, a video of Willem-Alexander and Maxima's wedding. Please RSVP to Mark by e-mail (mboorsma@aol.com), or telephone John Buursema at 651-455-2197

**Fri-Sun April 26-28** – the 70<sup>th</sup> Festival of Nations in Saint Paul. Read Mark's call for volunteers on page 1. More information on the Festival of Nations, visit <http://www.festivalofnations.com/index.html>

**Sun May 5** – Borrel to celebrate Koninginnendag and Bevrijdingsdag.

**Sun July 28** – Summer picnic at Tartan Park.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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, MN 55422, tel: 763-529-7474, email: [sarikfan@earthlink.net](mailto:sarikfan@earthlink.net)

## Oproepen

- Looking for two young men (or high school seniors) to periodically carry around a gondola at this year's FESTIVAL OF NATIONS. The theme of the Dutch exhibit is KAASMARKT (cheese market). Also looking for somebody to attend the booth for a few hours. If you are interested, please contact Beverly Singewald at 651-776-7504.
- The DANCE GROUP SCRAPBOOK, started by Jannie Schuyt, has been misplaced. It was last seen two or more years ago when book, music, etc., were transferred. This is not the book Cor Linders got from Carla Leebens. We would like the book so it can be added to. Have you seen it? If so, please contact Beverly Singewald at 651-776-7504.
- If you're interested in TRANSLATING OR TUTORING DUTCH, please contact Mark Boorsma. NAAM sometimes receives inquiries from persons seeking Dutch translators and tutors, and we gladly refer such requests.
- Want to try WOODEN SHOE CARVING at the Festival of Nations? Then call Bob Siegel at 262-242-1571, or write to 11458 N Laguna Dr, Mequon, WI 53092-3118.
- Online Interpreters is looking for people to work as DUTCH INTERPRETERS. Must speak fluent Dutch and English. Call 877-269-6646 or visit <http://www.onlineinterpreters.com>.

## NAAM Remembers

- ROMBOUTS, PATRICIA JEAN, age 48, passed away Mon. Jan. 28, 2002 in Minneapolis after an extended illness. Patti was born in Muskegon, MI on March 12, 1953 to Anthony and Helen Rombouts. She was 1971 graduate of Reeths-Puffer High School. She had attended the University of MN and was a member of NAAM. Patti had been employed by the Greyhound Corp in Minneapolis. Pat is survived by her parents; three sisters, Susan Percy of Birmingham, Cathy Rombouts of Muskegon and Lynn (Dale) Guenthardt of Ludington; a brother, Casey Rombouts of Mesa, AZ; aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and friends and her cat, Faline.



## Kwak Update 2

This is the second of a new series of entries in the NAAM newsletter, and it aims to keep the readers updated on the construction of a 'Volendammer Kwak' right here in the Twin Cities. The boat will be constructed almost completely out of white and bur oaks, most of them salvaged from highway construction projects. Through this series of updates we hope you will come and take a look some day and check out the progress for yourself, and maybe even give a bit of boat building a try for yourself.

To process the logs and crooks into boards, beams and knees, I first built a bandsaw mill which cuts horizontal slices of logs. The log is stationary, while the saw itself rides on a track, so it works somewhat like a cheese slicer, familiar to most people with Dutch roots. This saw has so far proven to be a versatile tool, allowing me to cut straight beams as well as beams with a curve. The 'plecht' on the front halve of the boat has a gentle 'plecht' curve, near the center of the boat being about 7 cm higher in the middle compared to the sides. Several pieces in the boat need to have this curve cut into it. Moving from the front to the center of the boat, we first find 'het krophout', a massive block of wood, connecting 'plecht', 'voorsteven', 'berghout' and 'boeisel', the under surface of which has to fit the 'plecht' curve. Then, we see about thirteen 8x8 cm 'plecht' supports, followed by the 95x13 cm 'mastbank' mid-ships, which is a heavy curved slab with a square hole in the middle to support the otherwise unsupported mast. Behind this 'mastbank' on top and at the end of the 'plecht' there is a heavy 'waterbalk' that adds to the strength of 'het zeilwerk' (a centrally located, more or less rectangular, frame that supports the mast) and serves to prevent splash water to stream directly off the 'plecht' into the boat (hence the term 'waterbalk'). Below this 'waterbalk', we find the 'onder-waterbalk' which is essentially an oversized 'plecht' support at the end of the 'plecht'. Running over the 'plecht', just in front of the mast, there is the 'fokoverloop', an 8x10 cm beam with a steel ring around it on which the front sail is fastened. Then further back in the boat there is a 'grootschootoverloop', an 18x18 cm curved beam with a steel ring around it, on which the 'grootschoot' attaches to set the main sail. At the very end of the boat, a small deck ('het achterhuisje') exists with the same deck curve as the 'plecht'. To produce all of these pieces, the versatility of a home built saw became apparent.

Shaping the heavy 'mastbank', for instance, took me an afternoon of sawing. It took people, who were restoring an original Volendammer Kwak (VD 172) in Holland, several weeks to shape an oversized beam with a planer into a curved slab. With my home built sawmill, I could simply bend the track in a gentle curve equal to the curve of the 'plecht' across the boat. The saw will then cut the slightly curved log in the same curve, and I was able to shape all of the curved pieces that way. The pieces are now slowly drying in my garage in Golden Valley. Other pieces of the boat require a different approach, again relying on the versatility of a home built sawmill. The strongly curved thick bumper-edge protruding from the hull, running from the 'voorsteven' to the 'achtersteven' is divided into a strongly curved 'voorstuit', the nearly straight 'berghout' and the strongly curved 'achterstuit'. The strongly curved pieces ('voorstuiten' and 'achterstuiten') cannot be steam bent from straight beams, and must be cut from curved logs. I have found a few logs with strong bends in it, and some of these actually fit the shape of the 'stuiten'. To cut these logs into curved slabs, I have built a special curved track, on which the saw can ride around the bend, following the bend in the log in a horizontal plane this time. After adjusting the position of the wheels a bit, and changing the locomotion of the saw on the track, I hope the saw will now ride smoothly along the bend.

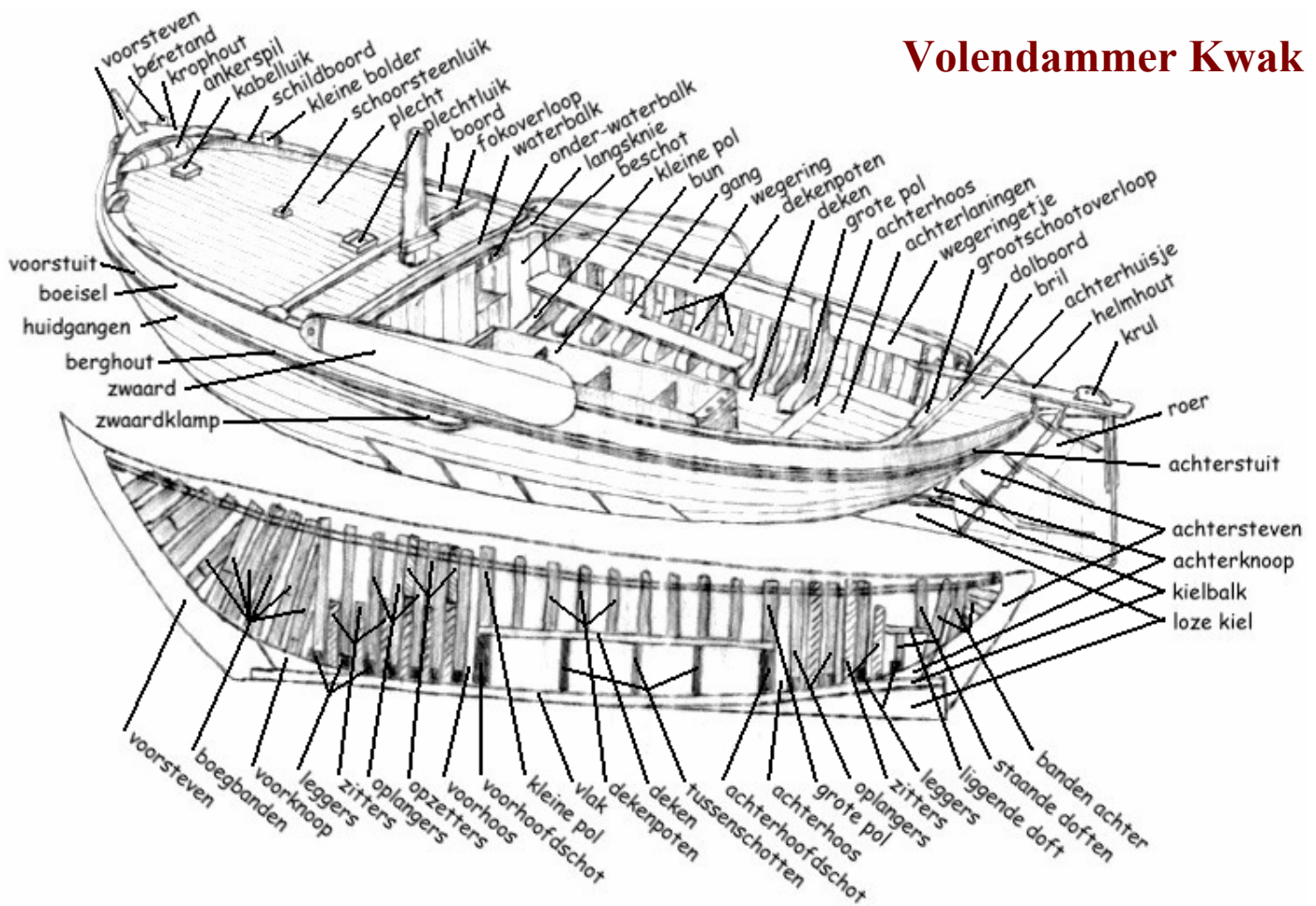
Cold winter weather, black ice on Lake Harriet and a speed skating oval in Roseville have kept me away from the saw a bit during the latter part of this winter, but as soon as the weather improves, I will be back on the job in Almelund to process the rest of the logs, and I will keep you updated through future NAAM newsletters. Again, in case you know of any oak trees that need to be removed in your neighborhood, I am always looking for more oak crooks. I am also trying to get rid of some excellent firewood, which I am selling for a friendly price to support the project financially. You can contact me at 763-529-7474 or email: sarikfan@earthlink.net

Erik Wardenaar

*Page 4 shows a drawing of a Volendammer Kwak.*



## Volendammer Kwak



### New Dutch II Class

NAAM member Ron van de Crommert will teach another Dutch II class this spring through Bloomington Community Education. This 8-week class is intended for people who have already taken the Beginning Dutch class (also taught by Ron) or are at a comparable level. It builds on everything you have learned so far. You will expand your vocabulary and get more comfortable speaking the language in a variety of everyday situations. We will also do more reading and listening.

The Dutch II class will be taught on eight Wednesday nights, 7-9 pm, between May 15 and July 10 (there will be no class on June 5). The class 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 class is not known at this point, but it will be around \$65. An additional materials fee of \$10 is payable to the instructor in class.

The Beginning Dutch class will be taught again in the fall, as well as a brand-new Dutch III class.

You can register for the Dutch II class through Bloomington Community Education at 952-885-8500. Visit <http://www.dutchavenue.com> for more information. You can also call the teacher directly at 952-944-0945 or send him e-mail at [dutch@mn.rr.com](mailto:dutch@mn.rr.com).

### Dutch Children School Update

The Dutch school now has a name! De Boekewurm is the name of our school and we now have a start date! Saturday September 21st will be the start of the first class. We are also very excited to announce that Wieke Van Baalen will be our teacher (if all legal technicalities can be worked out). Now we need your help in making this happen, we need sponsors. Would your business or corporation be willing to help? Know someone who can make a donation? Then please call Judith at 763-533-1885. Interested in joining our Stichting (no, this is not a lot of work) or helping us set up this school, call Judith. We are sending out an informational letter to all parents who have signed up in the last few months. If you do not receive this letter then either I have lost your address or you never signed up. If you are interested please call Judith or e-mail me at [jkoppen@hotmail.com](mailto:jkoppen@hotmail.com)



## NAAM Membership

NAAM now has 108 member households and close to 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:

Anneke Jessup (St Paul), Kris Noel (St Paul), Pieter & Inez Nouwen (Hutchinson), Alexander Patist & Susan Dennison (Plymouth), Gerrit Jan & Pamela Jonkman (Wayzata), Mary Elizabeth Van Olinda (Monnetonka), Robert & Sandra Larson (Minneapolis), Jan & Alison Slaats (Saint Paul).

Welcome to the club!

## NAAM Board

Mark Boorsma, President  
507.931.3401, mboorsma@aol.com  
John Buursema, Treasurer  
buurs27@aol.com  
Judith Halvorson, Director  
763.533.1885, jkoppen@hotmail.com  
Carla Leebens, Director  
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651.484.1551, cornelind@aol.com  
Albert-Jan Planten, Director  
plantenkrell@aol.com  
Jan Witte, Secretary  
612.822.3350, jwitte@mn.rr.com

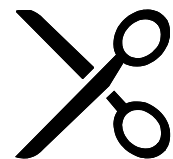
I want to (check one):  join NAAM and receive all the membership benefits!  
 renew my membership for 2001

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

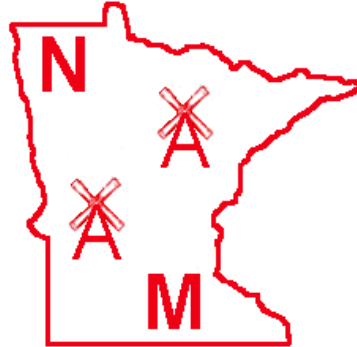
Membership type (check one):  \$20 – family  
 \$10 – individual  
 \$10 – senior



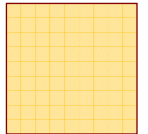
NAAM

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