

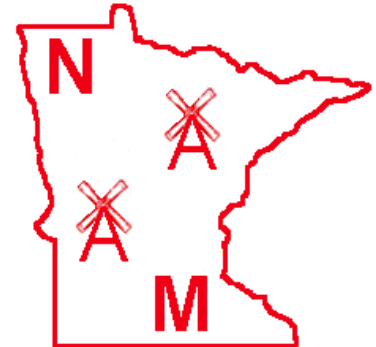


NAAM Newsletter

June 10, 2002

<http://www.dutchavenue.com/naam>

Quarterly newsletter of the Netherlands-American Association of Minnesota



President's Message

Dear members and friends of NAAM,

It is my pleasure to report outstanding participation in NAAM events and activities over the past few months. Fifty-five people attended the April 6 dinner and viewing of the video *Een Vorstelijk Huwelijk*. Thanks to the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Chicago Consulate General for their generous provision of this video and a monetary contribution to this celebration event.

Forty people attended a May 5 party to honor Koninginnedag and Bevrijdingsdag. Thank you to Albertjan and Mary Planten-Krell for hosting this delightful party at their home in Afton.

Many thanks to over one hundred volunteers who helped in the "Dutch" areas at the Festival of Nations, held April 25-28

at the Saint Paul RiverCentre. Shawn Corwin led the effort as general chairperson, David Boorsma led the café, Carla Leebens led the bazaar, and Beverly Singewald led the cultural exhibit (which featured the Alkmaar kaasmarkt). Klompenmaker Bob Siegel set up shop and also gave carving lessons to persons interested in learning this traditional craft. The folkdance groups, instructed by Christopher Yaeger and Florence Hart, performed marvelously. These many "Dutch ambassadors" gave tens of thousands of Festival-goers a tantalizing taste of the Netherlands. With sincere apologies if we overlooked anyone, the entire list of much-appreciated volunteers is printed on page 6 of this newsletter.

Thanks also to Ron van de Crommert, who has

developed a website for NAAM. Check it out online at <http://www.dutchavenue.com/naam>

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the NAAM summer picnic, to be held Sun., July 28 at Tartan Park (Lake Elmo). As an added attraction, Jacob and Jannie Schuyt have been invited to prepare and sell poffertjes at the picnic. Hope to see you there!

Have a grand summer!

Mark

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Event Calendar

Sunday, July 28 – Summer picnic at Tartan Park. With poffertjes!

Saturday, September 7 – Open house at the Dutch School “De Boekenwurm”. See page 5 for more information.

Saturday, October 12 – Familietheater Groep Almelo presents the live comedy performance “Champagne..... voor meneer!” in Dutch. See <http://www.familietheater.nl> for more information.

News

- NAAM member Tony van de Weghe has discovered the existence of a Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy ("de dikke en de dunne") organization in the Twin Cities area. The organization, which is named "Block-Heads", was founded in 1967 and counts approximately 300 members. Heerlen (Limburg, NL) also has a Laurel and Hardy organization.
- The Flemish-Netherlands Foundation “Stichting Ons Erfdeel” published on April 9 the tenth edition of the yearbook “The Low Countries”. This yearbook presents the culture and society of the Dutch language-area to the English-speaking world. The articles in this publication, by contributors from Flanders, the Netherlands and abroad, survey the living, contemporary culture of the Low Countries as well as their cultural heritage. The book counts 320 pages, and costs \$45. See <http://www.onserfdeel.be> for more information.

Links

<http://www.dutchavenue.com/naam> – NAAM’s brand new web site.

<http://boekenwurm.home.attbi.com> – home page of the Dutch school De Boekenwurm.

<http://www.familietheater.nl> – web site of the Familietheater Groep Almelo.

NAAM Remembers

Leon Willems, born in Maastricht on 5 May 1936, died on 10 May 2002 in Plymouth, Minnesota. Leon is survived by wife Tonny; daughter and son-in-law Francoise (John) Shirley, daughter Estelle Willems; grandsons Andrew and Nico Shirley; five sisters, one brother, and many nieces and nephews. A recently retired executive of Medtronic, Leon is gratefully remembered within NAAM as a past president (1982-84) and (along with Cor Linders, Engeliën Erenstein, Henry Bierma, Cootje Eichhorn, and Reitze van Giffen) as a member of the steering committee that legally incorporated the club on 25 February 1982.

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, MN 55422, tel: 763-529-7474, email: sarikfan@earthlink.net
- WANTED: a bean slicer (snijbonenmolen). Riet Laman, 763-757-2305, email willlaman@cs.com



Marathon for Cystic Fibrosis

Dear Friends,

On June 22nd 2002 I am running my first marathon: Grandma's Marathon in Duluth, Minnesota USA. I'm very excited about the opportunity to compete and cross the finish line.

While running is fun, my inspiration to reach the finish line are kids and young adults who suffer from cystic fibrosis (CF). Cystic fibrosis is the number one genetic killer of children and young adults. It is a devastating illness that affects the function of the digestive system and lungs and leads to life threatening infections. There are 30,000 kids and young adults in the USA who suffer from CF and the median survival age is 32 years old. Although there has been great progress in the treatment of this disease, currently there is no cure.

Since we have moved to the USA, my wife Sylvia has been a volunteer with the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in Roseville, Minnesota. During one of the events organized to raise money for the disease, we got to know AJ and Jake Olson. Let me introduce you to my friends.



AJ Olson age 2 and Jake Olson age 1 are from Woodbury, Minnesota. When AJ was born, he was very sick and had problems digesting food. He nearly died before the doctors finally found out that he had CF. When AJ was sick, there weren't enough vitamins staying in his body so he went blind.

At the same time of the diagnosis, AJ's mom was pregnant with Jake and found out before he was born that he had CF too. The good news is that they found it early and started treating him right away so he doesn't have as many problems as AJ.

Even though AJ and Jake have only been around for a short time, every minute is precious to them. Time is not their friend. CF is a deadly and miserable disease and is killing AJ and Jake by clogging up their lungs, and their bodies won't absorb food. Jake and AJ have to take several medicines every day and do lung treatments at least twice a day for the rest their lives. Their family is working and praying hard for a cure before it's too late.

My hope is that one day AJ and Jake will be free from the burden of CF and run their own marathon. Until then, I'm asking you to support me in finding a cure for cystic fibrosis. Please consider a pledge per mile or km (remember a marathon is 26 miles or 42 km!) or a flat donation of \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500 or whatever you can afford. Credit card donations are accepted, too. All of the proceeds from my race will go to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Minnesota Chapter. Over \$.90 of every dollar collected by CFF goes to fund the research necessary to eradicate this awful disease.

AJ & Jake make me feel fortunate everyday. The least I can do is help them in my own way to live a life of quality and quantity. Please let me know if you want to sponsor me. Thank you very much for your support.

Running for a cure,
Paul Vrijhof
428 First Street North B505
Minneapolis, MN 55401

e-mail: sylvia_paul@att.net or paul_vrijhof@cargill.com
phone: 6123320688 or 6127479750 (cell)

P.S. If you would like to be more involved in the mission of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, please call Jill Evenocheck, Executive Director at 651-631-3290 or e-mail jevenocheck@cff.org, web address is <http://www.cff.org>



Kwak Update 3

This is the third of the 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. Through this series of updates we hope you will come and take a look some day and check out the progress for your self, and maybe even give a bit of boat building a try for yourself. For reference to some terminology, an illustration of a kwak was printed in the last newsletter (March 2002). The illustration was drawn after an illustration by Peter Dorleijn in his book 'Van gaand en staand want II, Volendam en Marken'.

With winter gone for good and the mosquitos still asleep, I have been working on some pieces with great pleasure. To cut the strongly curved 'stuiten' from strongly curved logs, I had made a track for the sawmill that would follow the bend in the logs. Eventually I did get the saw to ride smoothly across the track, and I could cut some slabs out of the curved logs. As I cut open the first log, some unexpected rot showed up, and I was lucky to get two 'stuiten' out of the largest log, instead of the anticipated four 'stuiten' I hoped for. Because of the rot, the log also did not exactly fit the required curve of the 'stuiten', and had to divert from the traditional way. Traditionally one would take an oversized curved slab and produce the right 'zeeg' by lowering the middle bend a bit by letting the piece turn around its ends. Then one would plane away the sides and top and bottom again so that the sides are vertical and the top and bottom nearly horizontal again. As I did not have enough wood in the log to cut two oversized slabs, I decided to do it my way. I decided to roughly cut the 'voorstuiten' to almost their actual size, rather than an oversized slab, with the chainsaw following the grain of the wood as much as possible. Then I would try to bend the pieces further at a later time after heating them up with steam. Going with the grain of the wood lowers the chance that the piece will crack during steam bending. Another curved log was longer and less curved, and it was cut in a similar way to later steam bend the 'achterstuiten' to their right curve and 'zeeg'. During steambending cracks easily start at small cuts. To prevent this, the stuiten have been smoothed and sized with an electric handplaner and are now drying in my garage. The steam bending of these 'stuiten' is going to be a challenge in itself. First, I have to increase the curve, then the 'stuiten' must receive the required upswing ('zeeg'). With a beam that is 20 cm high and 14 cm

thick, that is going to be challenging. To do this, I am building a series of 5-6 steel posts inside my garage, to which the 'stuiten' will be forced with hydraulic jacks. Then, the 'stuiten' will be bolted to sliders on these posts, and cranked down in the middle to produce the 'zeeg'. Bolting them onto the sliders will prevent the 'stuiten' to turn away from vertical while cranking them down in the middle. Several hours of heating with steam will hopefully make this possible. To heat the wood, I need to build a plywood box around the 'stuiten' that will be connected to a steam producing setup. Traditionally, boards for 'huid' (4 cm) and 'vlak' (7 cm) are bent by heating them up above a fire, and bending 'stuiten' (14 cm thick) has to my knowledge never been attempted. With steam I hope to heat up the wood much better than with fire. I might also attach a temporary steel band on the outside curve of the stuit that will prevent breaking. It forces the wood to only compress on the inside curve, and not stretch on the outside curve because of the steel band. I will keep you posted on how this works out.

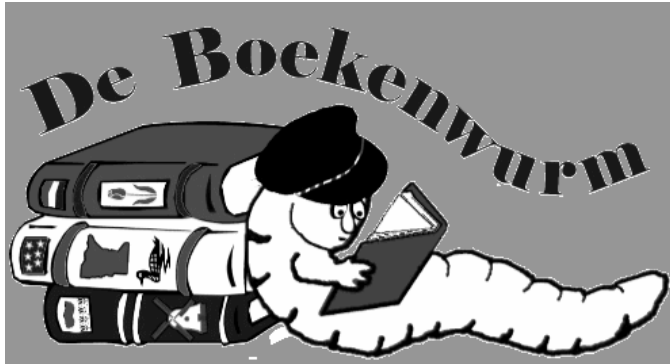
Now that the stuiten are cut, I have removed the curved track and reinstalled the 40 foot straight track to cut the rest of the pieces like 'kielbalk', 'berghout', 'boord', 'huidplanken', 'vlakplanken', etc. I am now forcing the track in the same curve as the 'berghout' so I do not have to bend a 20 cm high, 14 cm thick beam to fit the curve and 'zeeg' required. The 'boord' is going to be a thinner beam (12 cm) so it will be cut from a straight slab and later bent into position.

I recently received an email about some oak trees that need to be removed for the Light Rail system to the International Airport. They wanted to find some good use for the wood, rather than having them chipped up and discarded. I expect to be able to cut some knees and ribs out of these trees. This is how most of the wood for this boat project has been acquired: waste from highway construction projects, and trees that need to be removed for other reasons. 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. Firewood is also still available for a friendly price to support the project financially. Just keep it in mind for the coming winter. I will have enough for everybody.. You can contact me at 763-529-7474 (home) or email: sarikfan@earthlink.net

Erik Wardenaar



Boekenwurm Update



It all seems to come together! De Boekenwurm has found a location: starting Saturday September 21 from 9 till 1 we will be at the Windom Community Center, 5843 Wentworth Ave. S in Minneapolis. There will be a meeting for all the parents on August 7 in the evening at the Community Center. The parents will have a chance to sign up and receive all the information they need from the brand new school board. An open house will be held Saturday September 7 from 10 till 12 for all the new students and their parents but also for anyone else who would like to meet the staff and take a look at the classroom or wants a real Dutch cup of coffee.

There was a setback however: the teacher we found was not able to renew her visa and has returned to the Netherlands. That leaves us with a big problem! So if anyone knows of a way they can help us, please contact us as soon as possible!!!

De Boekenwurm is working together with Stichting Nederlands Onderwijs in Buitenland (NOB). Our goal is to be able to offer all children a chance to explore the language and culture. The NOB mainly works with children who are Dutch citizens and will return to the Netherlands at any given point in time so that they can keep up with their peers in the Netherlands. De Boekenwurm will try to create an environment to blend the American heritage with the Dutch heritage and culture. Our hope is that when you enter the classroom of De Boekenwurm you will feel right at home – a Dutch home that is.

If you have great ideas or want more information you can visit our website at <http://boekenwurm.home.attbi.com>
Or call Sabine Ibes at 612-869-1350, Sylvia Vrijhof at 612-332-0668

See you at our open house!!!

GBU for you?

I like to introduce to our members of NAAM a fraternal organization established 110 years ago. Headquartered in Pittsburgh, it has 41 districts in various parts of the USA. At this time I am the president of the GBU in Minnesota (District 402). The GBU offers its members life insurance, annuities, IRA and Roth, and Educational IRAs.

As a nonprofit organization, the GBU is able to provide its members with the highest return possible. It invests mainly in grade A bonds, and for the last ten years has returned over 6% in principal. Fraternal benefits are: scholarships, newborn child benefit, orphan benefit, medical alert benefit, Concordia language village, monthly magazine, membership contest, social and community activities, Hertz car rental discounts and prescription drug discounts. Our district has nine meetings every year (with social activities), a picnic, x-mas party and other activities (food shelve drive, tree planting day and help in the Meals on Wheels program).

If you like to learn more about the GBU, please feel free to call me, Kees Schot, at 612-522-2803. I do not receive any financial gain if you invest in the GBU. But having IRAs in mutual funds as well as in the GBU, I feel more confident with the money I have in the GBU, and I think some of you might feel the same way.

All it takes to become a GBU member is to buy a life insurance policy or open an annuity. I think the GBU gives you peace of mind.

Kees Schot

More information on the GBU can be found on the internet, at <http://www.gbu.org>



Festival of Nations Volunteers

Many thanks to everybody who volunteered at this year's Festival of Nations!

George Andeweg
Stephanie Austin
Gina Bartcheller
Sander Biehn
Dorothy Bierma
Henry Bierma
Dyan Bilderbeek
Lucinda Bjornoy
David Boorsma
Jennifer Boorsma
Marilynn Boorsma
Mark Boorsma
Peter Boorsma
David Bottema
Lammert Bottema
Sara Bottema
Theresia Boute
Coby Buursema
John Buursema
Sam Carlson
Tristan Carlson
Shawn Corwin
Bonnie Danielson
Karen Davis
Lani Dohmen
Megan Dohmen
Rachel Dohmen

Brittany Dokter
Daphne Dokter
Doug Dokter
Romy Dokter
Joann Doornink
Lloyd Doornink
Lidy Flom
Nicole Godeke
Margot Groenevelt
Florence Hart
Johan Hart
Annelies Hellemans
Kees Hengeveld
Sharon Hess
Nate Hessburg
Ryan Hoftyzer
Rose Hogendorf
Walter Hogendorf
Roger Huss
Sabine Ibes
Truus Ingebritson
Faith Jamnik-Loggers
Sarah Jochems
Ge Joosten
Elaine Katuin
Juliana Kimball
Joan Klocow

Karla Klocow
Melinda Krueger
Riet Laman
Carla Leebens
Jim Leebens
Cor Linders
Josie Linders
Aletta Loggers
Blanka Luedtke
Kelly Meath
Elly Mettler
Ron Mettler
Jackie Mickschl
Scott Myland
Debra Neutkens
Julia Neutkens
Cristine Nielsen
Kris Noel
Angelle van Oploo
Chanda Peens
Jacobus Peens
Lorraine Peterson
Albertjan Planten
Mary Planten-Krell
Amy Readence
Linda de Roode
Frits Roozendaal

Ed Rosenwinkel
Dawn Schot
Kees Schot
Beverly Singewald
Jos-Marie van der Spek
Theresa Sykora
Andrea Tatley
Rosalyne Tempelman
Tara Terhorst
Skye VanGrasstek
Louise Van Bergen
Sue VandeKamp
Maikel van de Mortel
Stephanie van de Mortel
Bonnie van de Weghe
Tony van de Weghe
Edwin van Riessen
Judy Vliem
Erik Wardenaar
Katy Warner
Ben Wasscher
Karen Weber
Jan Witte
Jean Wolfgram
Patrick Wolfgram
Christopher Yaeger



NAAM Membership

NAAM now has 125 member households and well 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 opropen) are gratis.

New Members

NAAM welcomes the following new members:

Paula & Carl Bayley (Minneapolis)
Inkie Brons (Inver Grove Heights)
Johanna & Duncan Clyborne (Plymouth)
Jay & Barbara Fonkert (Saint Paul)
Benno Groeneveld & Kathy Wilson (Saint Paul)
Jan & Pam Landsteiner-de Looze (Eden Prairie)
Chantal & Keith Luehmann (Mound)
Kristi Pluimer (Hopkins)

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
612.922.3142, windmill-imports@worldnet.att.net
Cor Linders, Vice President
651.484.1551, cornelind@aol.com
Albert-Jan Planten, Director
plantenkrell@aol.com
Jan Witte, Secretary
612.822.3350, jwitte@mn.rr.com

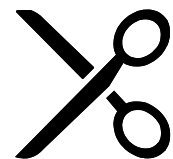
I want to (check one): join NAAM and receive all the membership benefits!
 renew my membership for 2001

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

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



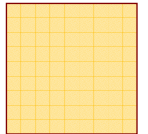
NAAM

Quarterly newsletter
of the Netherlands-
American
Association of
Minnesota

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Netherlands-American Association of Minnesota
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