

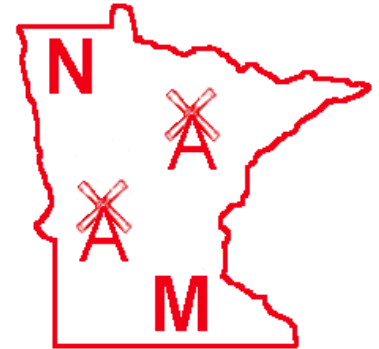


NAAM Newsletter

December 21, 2002

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

Quarterly newsletter of the Netherlands-American Association of Minnesota



President's Message

Dear members and friends of NAAM, YOU to all who volunteered!

It has been a very busy fall! Familietheater, Annual Meeting with a delicious Indonesian dinner, Klompdansen Open House, Dutch-American Heritage Day, and Sinterklaas party. Whew! I have to stop to catch my breath.

I hope you took the opportunity to enjoy one or more of these recent events. Your interest and participation in NAAM events inspire your Board to keep offering them, so don't be a wallflower – come and be a part of it all.

a nice dinner and hiring a band were becoming prohibitive. So, the next event is not determined yet, but the brainstorming has included these possibilities: IMAX theater, Old Log Theater, Chanhassen Dinner Theater. Your own suggestions would be welcome!

The Sinterklaas party was delightful. Christine Stevens outdid herself in dreaming up a creative and imaginative skit to welcome Sint and Pieten. Many, many people pitched in and helped to make the party a great success. So, THANK

Your Board is currently discussing options for a winter event. In the past, a New Year dinner/dance was held, but participation and interest in this particular event had greatly diminished. The NAAM Board felt that the costs involved in catering

Happy holidays to you, and best wishes for a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year 2003!

Mark

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Meshuggah Nuns

NAAM has negotiated a group discount for the comedy show Meshuggah Nuns at the Chanhassen Dinner Theatres: \$25 per person for the show on (Superbowl) Sunday January 16. If you are interested, please contact Mark (507-931-3401 or mboorsma@aol.com).

We need at least 20 confirmations before the end of the year!

About the show:

Traditional *Nunsense* shenanigans PLUS an Ample Supply of JEWISH HUMOR! Hilarity reigns supreme when four nuns

and a Jewish actor take over the entertainment on a cruise ship



Event Calendar

Superbowl Sunday, January 26 – NAAM negotiated a group discount for the comedy show Meshuggah Nuns at the Chanhassen Dinner Theatres. See front page.

March – dinner and film in the Chart House, Lakeville. Just like in 2002, but with another film. Details such as date and film to be determined.

Sunday, April 27 – the traditional borrel and Het Wilhelmus at Albertjan's in honor of the Queen.

Thursday, May 1 through Sunday, May 4 – Festival of Nations.

Sunday, July 27 – Summer picnic.

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 for the special NAAM price of \$80 for a fireplace cord, and support the Volendammer kwak project (read more about it in the 'Kwak Update' in this newsletter). Erik Wardenaar, tel: 763 529 7474
email: botterman@attbi.com

Internet Links

NAAM – www.dutchavenue.com/naam

Dutch School – boekenwurm.home.attbi.com

NOS Journaal –
www.omroep.nl/nos/nieuws/index_origineel.html

News

Moira Derr Halvorson

Congratulations to Neil and Judith Koppen-Halvorson, on the birth of a daughter! Moira Derr Halvorson was born Nov. 19, 2002. Big brother Morgan is adjusting to the shock of a new sibling in the house.

NAAM Remembers

Hans Boertjens

Sympathy and condolences to the family of Hans Boertjens, who died Nov. 2 at the age of 84. Funeral was in Minnetonka on Nov. 8. Hans is survived by wife, Jacomina "Minnie"; daughter Tonia (Ron) Carlson; sons John (Marjie), Carl (Connie), and grandchildren Tricia, Troy, Alan, Giselle, and Adrienne.

Before declining health prevented them, Hans and Minny were very involved in the activities of NAAM. They helped annually in the "Dutch" areas of the Festival of Nations, for example. Also, Hans often visited school classrooms to talk with students about the Netherlands. Hans served on the NAAM Board of Directors from 1986-1988.

If anyone wishes to send a note of sympathy, Hans' daughter's address follows:

Tonia Carlson-Boertjens
20847 S Acorn Ridge Dr
Frankfort IL 60423-8138

Finally

If you have news or anything else that you'd like to share in the newsletter, send it to Jan Witte by email (jwitte@mn.rr.com) or mail (5336 Bryant Ave S, Minneapolis MN 55419).



Once Upon a Forest

In January 2003, The Children's Theatre Company in Minneapolis will produce the world premiere of *Once Upon a Forest* by renowned Dutch theater artist Moniek Merckx. CTC artistic director Peter C. Brosius has been impressed for many years with the innovative theatrical style of Dutch and European artists. It was with great pleasure that he invited Moniek Merckx to develop a world premiere production in CTC's new play lab, THRESHOLD. The play has been in development for several years and has involved many exchanges, including geographic, cultural and theatrical. The result is an exciting retelling of the stories of the Brothers Grimm.

Once Upon a Forest uses a highly choreographed, non-linear and visual language to take an inventive look at the stories of Snow White, The Brave Little Tailor, Hans the Hedgehog and Dumpling. The production is a jigsaw puzzle of components including classic and lesser known characters, contemporary music and, of course, the struggles between good and evil that exist inside their individual stories. It also includes a grand struggle between good and evil in which all the characters come together as a united force. The stories are retold in a refreshing new voice and theatrical style, one more familiar to and recognized by the Dutch and Europeans. This play, a world premiere, is the introduction of this style of theater to Minnesota audiences. The show previews January 21-23, 2003, opens January 24 and runs through March 8, 2003.

Once Upon a Forest is conceived and directed by Dutch theater artist Moniek Merckx, inspired by the fairy tales of the Brothers Grimm, and written by Moniek Merckx and Elissa Adams (CTC's director of New Play Development). Original music is co-composed by Dutch composer Joop van Brakel and CTC's music director Victor Zupanc, with scenic design by Dutch designer Sanne Danz, costume designs by Laura Crow, and lighting design by Geoff Korf. Development of *Once Upon a Forest* was supported, in part, by Theater Instituut Nederland and Netherlands Consulate General.

Tickets for *Once Upon a Forest* are on sale now at the box office at 612-874-0400. Special offer for NAAM members: buy 4 tickets and get the 5th for \$10. Just call and mention that you are a NAAM member.

Dutch-American Heritage Day

On Nov. 14, NAAM teamed again with the University of Minnesota Dutch Studies Program to host a borrel celebrating Dutch-American Heritage Day. The borrel was held at Nolte Center on the Minneapolis campus.

Carla Leebens (Windmill Imports) catered a variety of hors d'oeuvres. The Dutch Studies Program provided drinks, with Ray Wakefield doing the honors as faculty bartender.

Jenneke Oosterhoff provided an overview of the classes currently offered in the Dutch department, including a course with particular attention to the literature of the colonial period. Though a sensitive subject, the colonial theme provided the gathering with a springboard for reflective and thoughtful conversation about the legacy of Dutch colonial pursuits.

Several in attendance had either been born in Indonesia, or had served there in wartime. Their shared experiences provided a fascinating slice of living history.

NAAM thanks the Dutch Studies Program for their warm hospitality. Thanks also to all who attended – your participation was greatly appreciated.

Dutch II Class

NAAM member Ron van de Crommert will teach a Dutch II class this winter through Bloomington Community Education. This 9-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 class will be taught on nine Monday nights, 7-9 pm, between January 27 and March 31, 2003 (there will be no class on February 17). The class will be held at Jefferson High School at 4001 W. 102nd St. in Bloomington. The cost of the class will be around \$86. An additional materials fee of \$10 is payable to the instructor in class.

You can register for the Dutch II class through Bloomington Community Education at 952-681-6132. Visit www.dutchavenue.com/classes for more information. You can also call the teacher directly at 952-944-0945 or send him an e-mail at dutch@mn.rr.com.



Sinterklaas visits Twin Cities

On Sun., Dec. 1 at Saint Andrew Lutheran Church in Eden Prairie, 250 people gathered in hopeful expectation of a visit from Sinterklaas and Zwarte Pieten. Windmill Imports provisioned the gathering with wonderful treats for young and old alike. Waiting children played Dutch games, including sjoelbakken, spijkerpoepen, zakspringen, bliklopen, and Schimmeltje prik (ouch! Hey! Watch it there!).

Emcee Albertjan Planten welcomed the crowd. Dr. Willem Ibes, Professor of Piano at Saint John's University, graciously lent his considerable talent to accompany the singing of Sinterklaas liedjes. Then Albertjan began to wonder aloud when and whether Sint would arrive. An express letter came, unfortunately with the news that Sint had gone to the wrong place, and could not possibly be on time. But an eccentric inventor, Professor Primula, offered the use of her amazing time machine to transport Sint.

It worked! But too well – it took us all the way to Easter, as a big bunny hopped into room. So, it was clearly time to go back. But wait! A Halloween trick-or-treater means we now went too far into the past. By now Professor Primula is working the bugs out, and soon delivers Zwarte Piet, and soon after, Sinterklaas himself appears at the window!

Intrigued by the invention that transported him there, Piet announced that he too is an inventor, and proceeded to demonstrate his fantastic enlarging machine. Things go in small, and come out BIG (with unhappy tax consequences for the emcee when he tosses in his wallet).

The students from de Boekenwurm do presentations for Sint and Pieten, and all the children gather around their special visitors.

Where does one begin to thank the MANY people who helped make this party such a success? Certainly kudos go to Christine Stevens, Annemarie Schutte, Sabine Ibes, Sara Payne, Shawn Corwin, Carla and Jim Leebens, Paul Vrijhof, Elise Konigsmann and her friends. Also to the many helpers with set-up and clean-up: the families Bastiaens, Larson, Al, Middeldorp, Schot, and everybody else. You know who you are, and NAAM deeply appreciates all your willing help!

Klompdancers Open House

On Oct. 21, the Klompdancers of Minnesota held an Open House at Faith Christian Reformed Church in New Brighton. Attendees learned two folkdances: Jan Pierewiet and Hakke-Tonne. Dutch treats were served as refreshments.

The dance group invites any interested persons to join any time. Professional dance instruction is provided; no prior experience is necessary. The group performs at various events, including the Festival of Nations.

For more information, contact Christopher Yaeger at 612-333-3532.

Live Dutch Comedy in Mpls

Almelo-based Familietheater Groep toured North America to perform their comedy drama, Champagne ...voor meneer! The acting troupe (Erik Graumans, John Donders, Ton Krieger, Annet van der Laan, and Ine van der Vorst) and light and sound technician Jaap de Vries arrived in Minneapolis to stage their show on Sat., Oct. 12.

Sixty-seven people enjoyed the play, which was staged at Armatage School in south Minneapolis. Carla and Jim Leebens graciously provided hospitality and lodging for the troupe, which needed to get an early start in the morning in order to make their next performance date – in Chicago the very next day!

Familietheater Groep ships their van over from the Netherlands. They transport all their own sets, lighting, sound system, costumes – everything necessary for complete professional theater – from one city to the next. They had applied this year to Guinness World Records, hoping to set a record for the “biggest, fastest, self-supported theatre tour ever made in the shortest time.” An unfortunate vehicle breakdown in California prevented them from getting as far south as they had hoped – they had to cancel a planned Mexico City performance, so the “record” may have to wait for another year.

If you have Internet access, you may learn more about Familietheater Groep at their website: www.familietheater.nl





AYUSA Global Youth Exchange, a non-profit International Student Exchange Program, is searching for loving parents and families for both boys and girls ages 15-18 from The Netherlands. They will be arriving in mid August for the school year. Our students speak English, have insurance and bring their own spending money.

At AYUSA, we believe that the greatest way to learn the true heart and soul of a culture is not through a tour of its monuments, but by opening your heart and home to a young person from a distant land. All across the world, teens yearn for more knowledge of the American way of life, our language and our ideals. When you choose to host an AYUSA international exchange student, prepare to embark upon a unique and exciting journey. Simple day-to-day activities, family dinners or holiday traditions become brand new experiences with a fresh perspective and new insight. Along with a suitcase and passport, these amazing young people bravely carry their heritage and values across the world with the hope of living, learning, and sharing with an American host family.

Annual Meeting

Seventy-two people attended NAAM's annual membership meeting, held Fri., Oct. 18 at Unity Church in Saint Paul. Arriving members socialized and enjoyed beverages well-provisioned by NAAM Secretary Jan Witte. Then, while the delicious smells of dinner wafted from the kitchen, a hungry crowd did their best to keep the prior meeting short and to the point.

John Buursema, NAAM Treasurer, reported on the fiscal health of NAAM, with thanks also to Beverly Singewald and Joan Klocow, who had audited the financial records and found them to be in order.

Consul Lyle Delwiche invited those present to sign a remembrance book for Prins Claus, and also provided a brief update on the recent collapse of the Cabinet.

NAAM's many volunteers were recognized. Over 100 "Dutch" volunteers helped at the 2002 Festival of Nations. Chairpersons for the Festival were acknowledged and thanked (Shawn Corwin, Carla Leebens, Beverly Singewald, David Boorsma, Cor Linders and

The host family/student bond is the most important part of the AYUSA program. Your exchange son or daughter looks forward to full participation as a member of your family. This includes sharing quality time as well as household chores. Your student will strive to create a special friendship with each member of your family. Young children enjoy a patient, playful, big brother or sister. They often learn bits of foreign language ahead of their peers, and develop an early appreciation for cross-cultural friendship.

Older children and teens often look to this new family member for companionship and shared interests. A trip to the mall or attending a sporting event becomes a new experience, appreciated through the eyes of an exchange sister or brother. American teens develop a more open-minded perspective, and a greater thirst for world knowledge -- better preparing them for work in the global marketplace of the future. Adult families without children at home, enjoy filling their nest with the laughter and warmth of a new son or daughter. Students love the undivided attention, and enjoy exchanging ideas and customs with their host mom and dad.

To learn more about our program or see any of our available students contact Shannen Schmiege at 651-206-7757 or check out our Minnesota Website at: www.orgsites.com/mn/ayusa

Florence Hart). Mindful of all volunteers, Beverly Singewald was recognized for outstanding service.

Judith Halvorson gave an update on the exciting new Dutch school, de Boekenwurm, which already has a strong enrollment of 40 students.

Albertjan Planten invited the formation of an Oranje committee to assist in planning and hosting the annual Koninginnedag celebration.

With thanks to outgoing Board member Cor Linders, elections were held. Carla Leebens was re-elected to another term, and Ron van de Crommert was elected to a first term.

By now appetites were keen, and dinner was served. A delicious Indonesian sampler included chicken sate, babi ketjap, sambal goreng telor, sajoer, kroepoek, and seroendeng. Elly Mettler and team worked their magic in preparing such a tasty feast. Many thanks to all who helped!



Kwak Update 5

This is the fifth 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, an illustration of a kwak was printed in the newsletter of March 2002

We had a wonderful week of boat building with my father, Kees, and brother Klaasjan. What a great way to spend time with family, and we made a lot of progress too. First we finished the construction floor, and then we cut some wood at the saw in Almelund. We came home with some pieces from which we sculpted the two 'knopen', the 'voorknoop' and the 'achterknoop'. These roughly triangular pieces connect the 'voorsteven' and the 'achtersteven' with the 'kielbalk', completing the curved line of the entire structure. Below the back half of the kielbalk, the 'loze kiel' is attached. Traditionally this 'loze kiel' was put on after the entire boat had been completed, but I saw no reason to wait with that. Another difference is that I connected all the pieces of the keel ('voorsteven', 'kielbalk', 'voorknoop', 'achtersteven', 'achterknoop', and 'loze kiel') with threaded $\frac{3}{4}$ inch rods and nuts, instead of the traditional steel pins. The advantage of this is that with the threaded rods one can really pull everything together, and it will remain tightly connected, whereas with just steel pins the boat would eventually become loose. Traditionally the fishermen would sometimes try to overcome this by adding large steel bands around the boat, just to extend the life of the boat a little further. I also sandwiched a layer of asphalt felt in-between components, which could prevent rot at these contact points. Traditionally people sometimes used moss (Sphagnum) instead for the same reason.

After connecting all the pieces in this fashion, I managed, with the help of a neighbor, to pull the entire construction upright onto the steel tube in the middle of the floor. Then cables were attached to both the 'voorsteven' and 'achtersteven'. One cable runs from tip to tip, and can be adjusted to the right length, in accordance with the dimensions in the construction drawings. Other cables keep the keel upright. The next step constituted the making of a tent construction over the floor that would keep rain and snow off. A second cable now runs over the structure, supported by two posts that are held up by more cables.

This second center cable will serve to hang the top of the tent from. Two other parallel cables run on either side of the floor, and will hold the two edges of the tent. The tent will be suspended from these cables through small steel rings. The entire tent will be removable by pulling the tent to one side, while the steel rings slide across the cables. By hanging the 40 x 60 foot tarp on a total of 93 tarp holders, I hope to prevent rips and tears during windy days, when the whole tent will start flapping around quite violently.

During the fairly mild and dry fall I have been going to Almelund frequently, cutting as many logs as possible into usable lumber. One great challenge is to determine what I am going to use the logs for, and how thick to cut the boards. When I am not sure, I usually cut the log into one inch boards, yielding some beautiful lumber, some of it with nice character, some of it quarter-sawn, that I can sell or use for the interior of the boat. I have also started to cut some walnut logs I have into 4 cm thick, 14 cm wide planks that I will use for the deck. I am still looking for more walnut logs, so if anybody knows about a walnut tree that needs to be removed, please let me know. I know I missed a great walnut log at the reconstruction of the intersection of highway 100 and highway 81 in Robbinsdale. Sadly, that tree has been converted into wood chips entirely.

So far the recent progress. The next phase will involve placement of some 'leggers' across the kiel, and then the 'vlak' below those to form the bottom. I will first need to finish, however, the reconstruction of the existing vertical band saw into one with a fixed horizontal table of which I already spoke in the previous update. With beautiful black ice now on the lakes, I will be doing some more skating on some local lakes and rinks, which will keep me from doing too much boat work. I will keep you updated. Again, in case you know of any oak or walnut 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 special NAAM-price of \$80 for a fireplace cord delivered and stacked, to support the project financially and to get rid of all that firewood. Just keep it in mind for this and coming winters. I will have enough for everybody. You can contact me at 763-529-7474 (home) or email: botterman@attbi.com

Erik Wardenaar

Erik Wardenaar



NAAM Membership

NAAM now has 160 paying member households! To become a NAAM member, or to renew your membership for 2003 (NAAM's fiscal year started October 1), 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.
- ✓ 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:

- Koen & Ann Bastiaens, Eagan
- Pieter Bierma, Cottage Grove
- David & Beth De Point, Fridley
- Hans-Peter & MaryAnn de Ruiter, Saint Paul
- Donald Holzschuh, Minneapolis
- Pieter & Kelli Jagersma, Forest Lake
- Peter & Nel Kortsmid, Mahtomedi
- Marc Tullemans, Eden Prairie
- Frank & Brenda VanderVeur, Alexandria
- Barbara Veenstra & Sheri Veenstra, Champlin
- Frederic Vereecken, Minnetonka
- Piet & Leontine Zaal, Tonka Bay

NAAM Board

- Mark Boorsma, President
507-931-3401, mboorsma@aol.com
- John Buursema, Treasurer
buurs27@aol.com
- Ron van de Crommert
952-944-0945, dutch@mn.rr.com
- Judith Halvorson, Director
763-533-1885, jkopp@hotmail.com
- Carla Leebens, Director
612-922-3142, windmill-imports@usfamily.net
- Albert-Jan Planten, Vice Director
plantenkrell@aol.com
- Jan Witte, Secretary
612-702-4160, jwitte@mn.rr.com

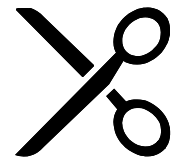
I want to (check one): join NAAM and receive all the membership benefits
 renew my membership for 2003

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 21, 2002



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



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