

NAUL NEWSLETTER

Netherlands America University League
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Finally - www.naul.info

We are very pleased to announce that we finally have our own website – [naul.info](http://www.naul.info). This is thanks to Erik Zuiderweg who, at the last Annual Meeting volunteered to take on this task. With the help of his artist daughter Mieke, they have produced a very impressive display. The website contains the history of and general information about the NAUL. You can see the latest and past newsletters, upcoming events, contact information, and some things that every Dutch expat living in the US should know.

Let us know what you think about this site. If there is something you would like posted to the website, send the information to Erik Zuiderweg, zuiderweg@umich.edu, with a copy to Ton Broos, tonbroos@umich.edu. Anyone wishing to contribute to the Newsletter should send the information to editor Janet Broos, janetbroos@comcast.net.

Of Interest

Now on line – the Honor Roll of the Fallen of the war years 1940-1945 can now be accessed online from anywhere in the world www.erelijst.nl. Visitors can search the database which is designed as a book of names. The listings show particulars such as surname and given name, date and place of birth and, if known, place of death. Visitors to the website can leave a flower on the page of those fallen they know or are related to, Currently the data base holds the names of about 18,000 people known to have died as a result of action or in the line of duty. Ton found his uncle's name on the list.

Soccer

It already seems like a long time ago that many of us were cheering the Dutch team during the World Cup finals. Ann Arbor's dutchies were well represented in the overflowing crowd at Connor O'Neil's Pub on Main St. Young and old, students and families all were cheering on the Dutch boys. Our crowd matched the Olés of the Spaniards with Hup Holland Hup. We loved it all, - even as runner-up. In Amsterdam, hundreds of thousands of fans lined the canals to cheer the players as they cruised the waterways of the city, swigging beer and blowing vuvuzelas. Scores of small boats, most blaring out loud music and packed with dancing revelers, followed the 'official' flotilla. Arjen Robben said it best, "Spain may have won the World Cup, but we have the best supporters in the world."

Koninginnedag (Queen's Day) after 125 Years

Queen's day, as it is now known, began as an initiative by a citizens group called the Liberal Union as a day of national unity. It started 125 years ago to celebrate the birthday of Princess Wilhelmina on August 31. Until 1890, when she became Queen, it was known as Prinsessedag or Princess' Day, and then changed to Koninginnedag. Wilhelmina rarely attended the Queen's Day festivities. After Juliana ascended the throne in 1948, Queen's day was celebrated on her birthday, April 30. Juliana became much more involved in the festivities. In 1980 when Beatrix succeeded Juliana, she decided, as a tribute to her mother,

to keep the holiday's date unchanged. Every Queen's day Beatrix takes her family to a province in the Netherlands. Since 1981, they have traveled to every province and to over fifty towns and cities in the country.

During the German occupation in 1940-1945, the celebration was not held. It was cancelled in 2001 out of concern for the spread of the Foot-and-Mouth cattle disease.

Are Brussels Sprouts really Belgian?

Who knows! The origin is rather murky. Some sources say they originated in the 17th century as a spontaneous mutation of the original cabbage species. The University of Georgia claims it to be a mutation of the savoy cabbage that originated in the Brussels area in the 16th century. A 'thousand headed cabbage' was referred to in a French study of 1587. Fact is that sprouts were being sold in Brussels and environs in the 18th century. However, French botanist Dalechamps described them as early as 1586 and they appear as illustration in his book of 1615. They reached the US around 1800 through French settlers in Louisiana.

Events:

Get you calendar and pencils out to take note of the following events we have lined up for the Fall.

In **September** – The Fall reception for NAUL members to welcome the Netherlands Visiting Professor. Date has been tentatively set for Sunday, September 26, 2010, pending Professor Hosli's availability. Details will be sent by card and e-mail.

Wednesday, October 13, 2010 – UM's 15th DeVriesVanderKooy Memorial Lecture. We learn that this year's invited lecturer will be **Anton van Kalmthout**, Professor of Criminal Law and Migration Law at Tilburg University and Honorary Professor in Comparative Criminal Law at Krasnoyarsk State University (Russian Federation). Since 1993, he has been active as an expert for the Council of Europe, the Netherlands Helsinki Committee, and the European Union and Penal Reform International. He is legal advisor and

project leader for the Surinam Government with regard to the reformation of sanctions and the prison system. Since 2006, he is a member of the Committee for the Prevention of Torture, Inhuman, Degrading Treatment, and Punishment of the Council of Europe. He is the author of more than 200 articles as well as several books on sanctions-systems, prisons, probation and criminal policy. He lives in Tilburg, the Netherlands. His talk is entitled ***Illegal Immigration and Human Rights in the Netherlands***. The lecture will be held in the Michigan League, Michigan Room beginning at 8 P.M, with a reception following the lecture. An invitation from the UM's Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures will be sent to all NAUL members.

Wednesday, November 3, 2010 – The return of **Philo Bregstein**, author and filmmaker. Many will recall that Philo was the DeVries-VanderKooy lecturer in 2004 when he showed scenes from his film *In Search of Jewish Amsterdam*. Philo was also the second writer-in-residence at the University of Michigan in 1982-83. Philo's presentation will be on the new American edition of *Ashes in the Wind: The Destruction of Dutch Jewry* by Jacob Presser. Details for his visit are not yet complete. We will send an update via card and e-mail.

Tuesday, November 16, 2010 – The UM's Wallenberg Lecture and Medal Presentation. We believe that this lecture may be of interest to some NAUL members. The 2010 Wallenberg lecturer and medal recipient is Denis Mukwege. Dr. Mukwege is a leader in the movement to highlight the problem of sexual violence in the Congo. He is the director of the Panzi Hospital in eastern Congo and specializes in the treatment of women who are victims of sexual violence.

Saturday, December 4, 2010 – NAUL's Annual Sinterklaas Party
We return to Gretchen's House for this for members' only popular annual event. It is not too early to mark your calendars to celebrate Sint's visit to Ann Arbor. Sign-up sheet and details will appear in the next Newsletter.

The Netherlands Visiting Professor at the University of Michigan

We recently learned from the Director of European Studies, European Union Center, that the Royal Netherlands Academy has decided to discontinue funding for the Netherlands Visiting Professorship (NVP). It saddens us to know that this 60-year-old program will no longer exist because of budgetary difficulties. **Madeleine Hosli** of Leiden University, the Visiting Professor for the fall semester 2010, will be the last participant in this most successful and time-honored program. The European Union Center plans to honor her visit on **October 7, 2010** with a lecture and a reception celebrating the 60 years of cooperation between the University of Michigan and the Netherlands. Prof. Hosli's lecture is *The Importance of Actor Cleavages in Negotiating a European Constitution*, from **4-5:30 PM, 1636 International Institute**. NAUL members are invited to join that gathering.

Other Events of Interest

Rembrandt Exhibition – from September 27 through October 15, 2010 **“Pursuit of Faith: Etchings by Rembrandt in the Thrivent Financial Collection of Religious Art”**. Original prints, and a copper plate. Curated by Shelley Perlove, Professor of Art History, UM Dearborn. Mon-Fri 10AM – 6:30 PM and Sat-Sun by appointment, 734-756-8643. Opening night reception, September 24, 2010, 4:30 – 8:00 PM at the UM Dearborn's Berkowitz Gallery, with a lecture starting at 6 PM by Thomas Rassieur, Minneapolis Institute of Art, “Rembrandt's Learning Curve: Technique and Spirituality.

A new twist on spekuloos.

If you can't get to New York to try Wafels & Dinges speculoos spread on your Belgian waffles, you might want to try the spread available from Vander Veen's in Grand Rapids. The NYTimes recently featured the spread in their food section describing it as a “spread made from gingerbread cookies...that

are a traditional treat for St. Nicholas Day in Belgium” (not to mention the Netherlands). The Wafels & Dinges version sells for \$7.95 for 14 ounces from the company's truck and website wafelsanddinges.com. Closer to home, you may want to check out VanderVeen's website, thedutchstore.com. They sell Lotus Foods speculoos spread, manufactured in Enkhuizen for \$5.99 for a 14 oz jar. Delicious. P.S. It looks like creamy peanut butter, is invented in Belgium and therefore spelled with two oo's not aa's.

Stuff and Nonsense

If you are in Abu Dhabi and need ‘geld’ you can retrieve some from the latest in money machines. Real gold comes out of these machines in 1, 5, 10 and 30-gram withdrawals. We don't know what folks do with all that gold but we hear these machines are a big success.

Big thirst – The owners of a South African hotel had a problem. The water in the bubble bath on a terrace always disappeared. The owners thought there was a leak in the pool, and called for a plumber. However, on investigation, no leak could be found. Then, an elephant was spotted drinking the water. He emptied the pool in one long drink. Happily, the owners found a new watering hole for the elephant in the neighborhood. “Still” said the owners “the animal is welcome in our hotel”. We hear that elephants can easily drink 200 liters of water in a day.

The Dutch Corner

The Dutch corner is still on vacation. Lia van Leer who regularly wrote this column has decided she can no longer continue to do it. Those of you who feel that “something” in the Dutch language is an important element of the Newsletter may want to consider volunteering to continue the column. There are usually only four Newsletters per year. If you are interested, in writing the Dutch Column, please contact editor Janet Broos by e-mail, janetbroos@comcast.net or by calling 734-994-9276.

In Memoriam

Since the last newsletter in April, we have learned of the deaths of two NAUL members.

Anna Herkhof, died peacefully in her home on May 2, 2010. Anna was 94 years old, a venerable age. The Dutch lunch group will remember Anna accompanying her daughter Magda Herkhof to the weekly gathering for Dutch speakers. Anna was born and married in the Netherlands. The family emigrated to the United States in 1960 and settled in Ann Arbor. She had five children, (3 daughters and 2 sons), numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Our heartfelt sympathy to the family.

Lilian Akemann, died on May 31, 2010. We learned from her husband Nick that Lilian had been ill for some time. Lilian and Nick were long-time NAUL members who sadly could not be very active in the last couple of years. Some of us will remember the time that the NAUL had an office on Liberty Street. Lilian was a volunteer staffer in that office and could always be counted on to be on the job. She was quite a talented artist, as well as a devoted wife and mother. The Akemanns emigrated to the US and have lived in the South Lyon area for many years. I am sure Nick would appreciate a card. His address is 9579 Marina Drive, South Lyon, MI 48178.

On the Mend

Kim Lie – recovering after successful surgery to repair subdural bleeding after a fall at home. His wife Mado Lie tells us that Kim is making progress in his rehab program. We hope that Kim is up and about soon. Mado reminds us of how fragile life is and how lives can change in just a few seconds.

Members' Survey

The NAUL has established a group e-mail of the contact addresses of members. We hope that in the near future we will be able to send reminders by e-mail only. For the time being, Newsletters will be sent by regular mail and eventually we hope to send hard copies of the

Newsletters to only those who specifically request one. We would appreciate your input on these pending changes. At present, there is no change in the current procedures. You will continue to receive cards for late breaking events as well as e-mail reminders and hard copies of the Newsletters. Let us have your thoughts regarding this. E-mail janetbroos@comcast.net.

Dues Reminder

Look at the label on this Newsletter. If it doesn't show 10 or later, your 2010 dues are overdue.

Family	\$30	Individual	\$20
Senior	10	Student	10
Senior Couple	20	Sponsor	50
Sustaining	100		

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