

NAUL NEWSLETTER

*Netherlands America University League
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NAUL Future Events

Sunday, September 7, 2014. The Annual Fall Reception begins at 4 PM at the home of Janet and Ton Broos, 1405 Harbrooke Avenue, Ann Arbor 734-994-9276. This is a members only event and a good way to spend a Sunday afternoon. The reception is a pot-luck affair, with members providing finger foods or desserts. The NAUL will provide drinks. Any questions, call Janet or Ton Broos or hospitality chairperson Els Nieuwenhuijsen at 734-995-1817 or elsni@comcast.net.

Friday, September 19, 2014. A NAUL presentation by **Peter G. Rose, at 5 PM in the Kalamazoo Room of the UM's Michigan League, 911 N. University, Ann Arbor.** The title of her lecture is *The Influence of the Dutch on the American Kitchen*. Rose was born in Utrecht and educated in the Netherlands and Switzerland. She came to this country in 1964. She is a noted food teacher, historian, lecturer and author. She has written several books including the translation of a 17th century Dutch cookbook "The Sensible Cook: Dutch Foodways in the Old and New World". The title of her latest book is "Delicious December: How the Dutch brought us Santa, Presents and Treats."

In addition to her NAUL presentation, Ms. Rose will speak to the Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor on, Sunday, Sept. 21, from 3 to 4:30 PM, Ann Arbor District Library, Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower Pky. Ave. They extended an invitation to NAUL members who

may wish to attend her lecture, *Art in Food and Food in Art: A slide talk on food and drink in 17th Century Dutch Masters and their relevance to the American Kitchen today.*

Tuesday, October 14, 2014. A NAUL presentation by Erik Zuiderweg. Erik, a Professor of Biological Chemistry, will talk about his research at the University of Michigan. This event will take place at 7:30 PM in Gretchen's House on Dhu Varren Road, Ann Arbor.

Thursday, November 20, 2014. The UM's DeVries-VanderKooy Memorial Lecture. The speaker will be Russell Shorto. Time and place to be announced later.

Saturday, December 6, 2014. NAUL's annual Sinterklaas Celebration. Gretchen's House on Dhu Varren Road, Ann Arbor. Details in the next Newsletter.

UPDATE

Remember there were rumors that the consulate in Chicago was shutting its doors? In order to save 40 million euros, the Dutch government was going to close 10 embassies, as well as the consulates in Antwerp, Milan, Munich and Osaka. However, lately the economy has improved and these closures have been cancelled. Also, the sale of the embassy in London will be profitable: some say around 100 million euros (sold to the Arabs or the Russians?). Anyway, The Netherlands has 108 embassies, 24 consulates and 10 permanent representatives, such as at the European Union in Brussels. You still will have to travel to Chicago to renew your Dutch passport.

From Ton Broos: We read and translated the poem by the Dutch Dichter des Vaderlands (Poet Laureate Anne Vegter). What more is there to say?

MH 17

Twintig keer naar het journaal gekeken en
het is nog steeds
waar: zomaar in het web gevlogen van de
oorlog van anderen.

Bestaat er in het Russisch ook een woord
voor schuld,
woord voor genade, noem het woord dat
macht niet duldt :

voor zulke pijn heb je niet eens een woord.

Twintig keer naar het journaal gekeken en
het is nog steeds
moord. Je zoekt de weefsels van dit abrupt
verhaal. Je vindt het woord, who cares of het
bestaat of niet:
Wereldverdriet.

MH17

Looked at the news twenty times and
it is still
true: just flown into the web of
other people's war.

Is there a word in Russian
for guilt,
a word for mercy, name the word that
power does not tolerate:
there is not even a word for such pain.

Looked at the news twenty times and
it is still murder. You look at the tissues of this
abrupt story.
You find

the words, who cares whether they exist or
not:
World sorrow.

Note of the translator: 'wereldverdriet'
cannot be rendered in one word in English,
and the last lines were made plural.
Alternatively, I thought of 'global grief' or

'world sadness'. Also 'tissues' for 'weefsels' is
of course a biological interpretation, instead
of 'fabrics' or even 'webs'. (TB)

Other Events of Interest

If you happen to be in New York City in the
next six months, be sure to visit the
Metropolitan Museum to view the Met's
extraordinary collection of Van Gogh
paintings. For the first time in more than a
decade, all of the museum's 17 paintings by
Vincent Van Gogh are being shown at the
same time. The museum says that the
paintings will stay together for six months.

***Coming from the Frick Collection to the
Mauritshuis***

In a quid pro quo the Frick Collection will be
lending a significant number of paintings,
sculptures and decorative objects to the
Mauritshuis next year. Earlier this year the
Frick was the beneficiary of a loan from the
Mauritshuis of Vermeer's *Girl With a Pearl
Earring* and Fabritius's *The Goldfinch*. Both
are small house museums: the Frick, a
limestone mansion built for Henry Clay Frick, a
coal and steel industrialist. It is similar in spirit
to the Mauritshuis which was built for Count
Johan Maurits of Nassau-Siegen, who was a
professional soldier and governor of the Dutch
colony in Brazil from 1636 to 1644. The
Mauritshuis show, entitled "A Country House
in New York: Highlights From the Frick
Collection" will include items only acquired
after the death of Henry Frick who stipulated
in his will that artworks he acquired (about
two-thirds of the Frick collection) cannot be
lent to any institution. The show will be seen
from February 5, 2015 through May 10, 2015.
It will include paintings by Van Eyck, Memling,
Reynolds and Gainsborough and "The White
Horse" by John Constable.

For those who know NIJNTJE

Dick Bruna, 86 year old father of Nijntje is
retiring. No more new adventures for the
world famous little rabbit. Bruna stopped
drawing in 2011, but now there are no more

stories either. The formula of the books was: nijntje without capital letters, 24 pages with text on the left and a drawing on the right hand side. Recently, we saw Nijntje at the final stage of the Tour de France in Paris. The reason for that was because next year, the Tour will start in Utrecht where there is a Nijntje museum and Nijntje is Utrecht's mascot. Nijntje has been translated into 40 different languages and Bruna's books have sold millions of copies. Dick Bruna was inspired in 1955 when he saw rabbits jumping on the beach in Egmond aan Zee. In the USA, we know this cute little rabbit as Miffy.

Herring Rituals

According to Russell Shorto writing in the NY Times, Dutch cuisine is an "overall downer" except for herring which is the standout in their "cultural menu". Maatjes (herring) are made by steeping young fish in a light brine mixture which results in not quite raw flesh, rich and oily with a bright flavor. As every Dutchman knows there are two ways to enjoy this delicacy – the Amsterdam way and the way of everyone else, which the Amsterdammers think is wrong. The non-Amsterdam way is to hold the fish by the tail, tilt the head back, open the mouth and lower the fish in. In the Amsterdam way, the fish is presented on a paper plate, cut into slices or on a roll, served with raw onions and sweet pickles. Stop at a canal-side bench and enjoy.

Snert in South Philadelphia

In the restaurant "Eetcafé Noord in South Philadelphia, owner Joncarl Lachman, gives snert, the national comfort food of the Netherlands, a prominent place on his menu. Apparently Philadelphians love it! He serves it topped with a lekkerbekje (deep-fried haddock) – not for me on snert thanks! Other Dutch dishes on the Eetcafé menu include stamppot, broodje haring, and bitterballen. Lackman's menu is not exclusively Dutch. He includes dishes from the cuisines of Scandinavia, Belgium, and France. Visit the website www.noordphilly.com

Trivia

Keukenhof set a record for visitors this year – more than one million. The park is open from March 20 through May 17 annually. In 2015 the theme of the park will be Vincent van Gogh commemorating his death 125 years ago

The Brussels region is third on the list of the most prosperous regions in Europe. The top region was Inner London, followed by The Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, then Brussels, with Hamburg and Bratislava making up the rest of the top five.

In Western Europe it is more expensive to eat-out in the Netherlands than it is anywhere else.

Adrian Boeyens (Pope Adrian VI elected 1522) was born in Utrecht. He built a palace there in the hopes of retiring in his native Utrecht. He never lived in that palace, having died in Rome in 1523. The cause of his death was unspecified, or was said to be the result of kidney failure. Some believe that he was poisoned by those who did not approve of his efforts to rein in Church excesses.

Schiphol-English

Perhaps you have heard it too: the peculiar English from the announcer at Schiphol airport. According to Marc van Oostendorp, on the website Neder-L, the first vowel in 'gentlemen' sounds almost like the [a] in 'Jan'. Dutch has a complicated vowel system, but English is even more complicated. In Dutch we pronounce the vowels in 'piet-pit-peet-pet-paat' with a raised tip of the tongue. In English there is an extra [ae] in 'bad', which is somewhere between 'pet' and 'paat'. Van Oostendorp cannot explain this peculiar pronunciation, other than that someone started it and all the colleagues copied it. This did happen probably also with that typical Dutch uncle admonition at the airport when they announce 'You are delaying the flight' to slow passengers. **Compiled by the editorial staff.**

Word origins from New York

Bowery: from bouwerij (the old Dutch word for farm).

Brooklyn: from the Dutch town Breukelen.

Bronx: name for 17th century Dutch settler Jonas Bronck.

Coney Island: Conyne Eylandt (Konijneneiland) rabbit island.

Greenwich Village: Greenwyck (pine area).

Hell Gate: Helle Gadt, the perilous currents in the East River

Long Island: Lang Eylandt

Staten Island: Staten Eylandt – named in honor of the Staten Generaal (States General).

Yonkers: named after Lord (Jonkheer) Adriaen van der Donck who had an estate in that area.

The Dutch defend their castles (sandcastles that is)

Along the North Sea in the town of Noordwijk, a group of children formed groups of 8 to 10, beside piles of cordoned off sand. They had one hour to complete their sandcastles topping each with a white flag. This competition was to see whose castle could withstand the tide longest, as the sea would eventually invade and destroy their work. As a nation, the Netherlands has succeeded in staying dry but global climate change threatens to raise sea levels by as much as four feet by the end of the century. The sandcastle building exercise is an effort to make children aware of the, as yet far-off forecasts that will shape their adulthood and old age. A report, recently released, by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in the Netherlands pointed to an “awareness gap” among Dutch citizens. The report did much to get the sandcastle competition off the ground. It is hoped that awareness among the young of the dangers of rising tides will encourage them in the future to pursue careers in the technical fields of water management.

In Closing

The Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor publish a Newsletter “**Repast**”. The latest issues feature “Quadricentennial of Dutch-American Food”. In the first one there was an article by Peter Rose (see above). In the second one Janet and Ton Broos write about Dutch cooking, with exciting recipes. Lekker hoor!

NAUL Dues

Dues payments were due on January 1, 2014. Look on mailing label of this Newsletter to see if your dues are up to date. If it does not show (14), your dues are late. Categories are:

Couple or family with young children	\$30.
Individual or Senior Couple	\$20.
Individual Senior or Student	\$10.
Sustaining	\$50.
Sponsor	\$100.

Send your payment to;

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