

"Short Liners"
by Harry Simons

I watched the Dutchman
get out of bed
and as he stood erect
the fan hit his head



Member Jacqueline Yates took this photo in Holland illustrating the Dutch spirit during World Cup!

The Annual Pool Party made a splash...



f We **f** Photos!
Please join our Facebook
page and share your
NAADV event photos!



**2014
Upcoming Events...**

- October 19: Golden Reunion
- November 15: Rijsttafel
- December 7: Sinterklaas
- December 14: Holiday Borrel

Go to naadv.org for event details and make sure you sign up for e-blasts!

Stay Current...

www.naadv.org: for all the latest events as well information about the club.

Electronic mailing list: enter your e-mail address on our website homepage for event info and announcements.

Mail: current members will receive mailings about upcoming events as well as this quarterly newsletter, De Brug.

We are always looking for Brug contributors and welcome your stories and member news for the next newsletter. We also welcome guest editors so if you are interested please contact info@naadv.org!

Publication of the Netherlands-America Association of the Delaware Valley, Inc.

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"De Brug" is a newsletter for and by members of the NAADV • FALL 2014 • www.naadv.org

Catching up with the NAADV!

You hear it every day.... How was your summer? Great, but it went by so fast! It doesn't seem that long ago that we were all piling into Fado to see the first FIFA World Cup game against Spain. Everyone's nerves were on edge. Would Holland get revenge or would they lose to Spain again, and in the first round no less! Well, the game unfolded like a dream... first one goal, then another, then another. By the 5th goal the Dutch fans were beyond happy as the Spanish fans quietly left the pub. Then there were the

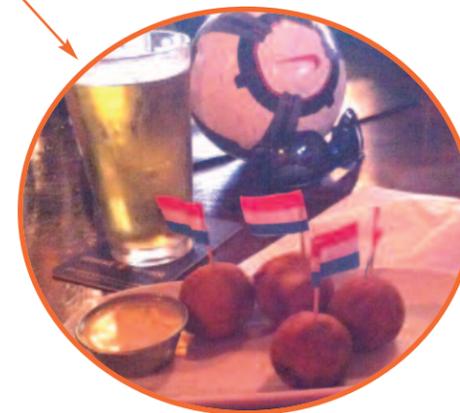
bitterballen....

Fado did their best to mail order them but, by the time they arrived the game was almost over and they were not kept cold enough in transit. So, for the next game Fado offered us homemade bitterballen – who can say no to that? Apparently no one since they sold

out well before the first half was over. Fado had a best seller! It was great to see the pub packed with orange game after game and although they did not make it to the finals, Holland played with heart and did what no one really thought they would do! Hup Holland and, watch out Germany, European Cup is only 2 years away!

This summer also brought us the annual pool party, graciously hosted by Monique and Jan Nieman at their Ardmore home. The weather was great and so was the turn out. Lots of new and old faces turned up for a great day of BBQ and swimming. The teenagers created a mini NAADV all their own and the younger ones did not want to leave the pool.

Sadly the Belgian Beer party, which was supposed to be held this September, had to be canceled due to a tragedy in our hosts' family. We wish them our deepest condolences. No word yet on whether the event will be rescheduled but it will be posted on our website and in an email if we do!



See the pool party photos on the back!

Top to bottom: Shelly and Matthijs making some tough calls; Monique Nieman with Dutch visitors happy to catch the game in the USA; Erwin and Harry cannot believe their eyes!

MEMBER PROFILE:

Meet Herman and Tineke Mens *as interviewed by their son Erik Mens*

Herman and Tineke Mens have been members of the NAADV for 20 years and live in Berlin, NJ.



How did you guys meet?

Couldn't miss, we were neighbors in Lisse. We grew up together and share many of the same friends.

Tell me about your family.

We were married in 1971 and have three children, Judith, Erik and Sander who were all born in the Netherlands.

What made you decide to come to the U.S.?

Herman: I was working for my family's flower bulb business and decided to travel with my dad to the United States in the 1960's. In 1966 he decided to retire from the business and I continued making the US trips year after year. The business was based in Lisse and was growing both in the Netherlands and US but the majority of the sales were originating in the US. In 1986 we decided to move as family to the US to be closer to the market and focus on the business.

How was the transition for you and your kids?

Our kids were young at the time. Judith was 11, Erik was 8, and Sander was 5. The transition for Herman was not as big as it was for Tineke and the kids. The kids started attending school after only 2 days, having no English background which initially was a bit of an adjustment. However, kids are like a sponge at that age and they picked up the language very quickly and started adjusting to life in the US.

What were some differences you noticed between Holland and the US?

Some of the differences we noticed were a big change in the climate. The climate in Holland in September was traditionally cool but that first September was very hot and humid impacting how long the kids were able to play outside. Another difference was the sports mentality. In the Netherlands it was more about inclusion and the well roundedness of the participants. In the US the mentality was a little more focused on winning. We also very much missed being able to bike everywhere. We were used to biking around Lisse and biking to Langevelderslag to go to the beach during the Summer. Also, for the kids being on a school bus versus being able to walk to school was a bit of an adjustment. On the flip side there were also many new opportunities and adventures to be had. In Holland

we had very limited space around the house but in the US we had a lot of land where the kids could run around and play. In the Winter the kids loved the snow outside and took the opportunity to build an igloo. We also took advantage of what the country had to offer and visited many of the national parks. Finally, the people were very welcoming and open and we made several friends who lived on our street and even though they moved away we are still friends with them.

Since you moved in 1986, have you gone back to Holland frequently?

Tineke: "In the beginning we went as a family every 2 years. However, when the kids were older, Herman and I started going every year. We still really enjoy going back and riding bikes and eating een patatje met or a haring. We have spent so much time in either country that if we land in Amsterdam or Philly we feel at home."

Are you still in the bulbs business?

Herman: "No, I decided to sell the business and am now happily retired. Our children have all moved out and still speak Dutch with us. We do our best as a family to try to maintain the language and traditions. In fact, our granddaughter who is 4 is being raised bilingual and it's a joy to see how she is able to speak both languages so well at such an early age. Groetjes!"



P3: Philadelphia Plays For Peace

Our president Harry Simons put together a team of NAADV men to play for Team Europe in this local soccer tournament on September 14th. Harry, Ivo, Maurice Koningstijn, Gerald van Wilgen and Roderik Alewijnse headed down to Edgely Field in Fairmount Park. They had a draw with team Latin America and lost to Africa. It was great day for soccer, sportsmanship, and cultural exchange! On the 21st they will play team Middle East.

In Requiem

We are a social club with an emphasis on Dutch/Belgian-themed events that give us joy in the presence of friends, children and guests. As such, you typically anticipate the Brug content to be light and fluffy. Case in point, directly after July's WC soccer tournament, I submitted an article named 'Orange Blues', on how the performance of the Dutch team affected me for better or worse.

But four days after the finals, on July 17th, news trickled in of a plane crash. Flight MH 17 departing from Schiphol with 298 passengers on board was downed over Eastern Ukraine. An indiscriminate act of mass murder, of incomprehensible magnitude had occurred. No survivors... The victims included 193 Dutch passengers and many prominent HIV/AIDS researchers on their way to a convention.

Suddenly the WC seemed insignificant by comparison.

Confrontation and loss of life through violent wars is nothing NEW to mankind. Terrorism, however, has been more recently practiced by a broad array of political organizations to further their objectives. An abiding characteristic is the indiscriminate use of violence against non-combatants for the purpose of gaining

When Disaster Strikes

The Dutch National Soccer Team was slowly and steadily making its way towards the final stage of the World Cup, we, the 'Orange Legion,' stood as one behind them. The Dutch community at home and abroad cheered the team's victories and subsequently mourned the tragic loss against the dreaded Argentinians. Instantly this shared excitement of the World Cup seemed futile when we found out that fellow countrymen were killed in the July 17 attack of Malaysian Airlines Boeing 777. Almost 300 people died in this senseless assault, 198 of them were Dutch. It seemed we all knew at least one person who had lost a loved one. We all were furious and grief-stricken simultaneously.

Our emotions were ignited by images of victims lying in the fields still strapped to their chairs and by stories of people looting the crash site. Soon after the tears of fury were displaced by tears of sadness. The moment that broke my heart, and I will never forget, happened right after the first plane with remains of some of the victims landed in Eindhoven. 60 or 70 hearses were stoically waiting on the tarmac, seemingly ready to load in the coffins. Right after this plane came to a standstill there was an 'eternal' one minute of silence. Throughout the country everybody stopped; traffic halted, swimming

publicity for a group, cause, or individual.

If we observe the trouble spots in the world today – and there are many on multiple continents to report, including Europe – it's clear that terror warfare seems to have the upper hand; killing at random, targeting civilians and in the process displacing millions of innocent people who are joining the ranks of refugee status. All the while depriving the young from good nutrition, safe environments and much needed education. It raises many questions within: How many lost generations is it going to take to break that cycle? What is it going to take TO stem the tide before it hits home again?

I can only hope that the surviving families, friends and all of us throughout the world shocked by this cowardly act, find ways to cope with devastating losses. And that peace, at some point, will bring stability in these troubled regions. I strongly believe that there will be bad elements in society. Yet good will prevail over bad. If you don't believe that, how can you make it through the next day?

Harry Simons
NAADV President

pools became quiet, shoppers paused. During this moment the camera cut to the officials conscientiously moving away from the families and friends of the loved ones yearning for their lost child, husband or parent. Although they were not visible, underneath the sound of the blowing wind I could hear their heart wrenching wailing. It reminded me of the wailing of the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo who were begging their Government for the remains of their sons and daughters who disappeared in the Dirty War. It reminded me of the people roaming the streets of New York City after 9/11 handing out posters of their loved ones, hoping someone had seen them alive. It reminded me of the biggest fear I have as parent.

We Dutch are very capable and certainly not shy to vocalize our criticism towards each other, our politicians, our stubborn ways, our traditions etc. but, when disaster strikes we have a way of banding together that is not only unique but so powerful that although I live thousands of miles away surrounded by others, I find solace and relief in this bond. Even after being away for all these years I feel I am more Dutch than I was ever before, not because of who I am, but because of what I am part of.

Gerald van Wilgen