

NAADV Queensday 2011

On a beautiful spring afternoon, May 8th 2011 to be exact, approximately 100 NAADV members gathered at the Swarthmore Community Center to celebrate Queensday 2011.

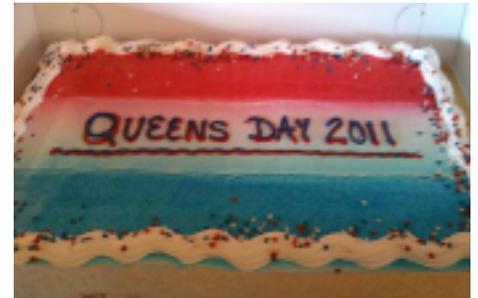
And yes, we may have met a week too late, as Koninginnedag is celebrated on April 30, but we did not have any less fun.

The kids participated in arts & crafts, and worked their way through a balloon toss, a zakloppen race, koekhappen, two piñatas, and, the hit of the day, the amazing tomato splash!

They could have their faces painted, and enjoy freshly baked pannenkoeken and poffertjes. Meanwhile the adults feasted on haringen met uitjes en roggebrood, bitterballen met mosterd, and lots of good drinks, while they could purchase lots of great stuff at the rommelmarkt.

Many thanks to all our volunteers for decorating the facility, doing the grocery shopping, baking pannenkoeken and poffertjes, and organizing all the kids games.

Hope to see you all again next year! CJ



The Queens Birthday cake was yummy.



The zakloppen race outside the Swarthmore Community Center.



Tomato Splash was a big hit.

July 16th from 2-6pm Join the NAADV's Annual Pool Party

Please join us (rain or shine) on Saturday, July 16th from 2-6pm for the NAADV's Annual Pool Party.

It promises to be an afternoon full of swimming, gaming, outdoor activities, and great food! This year the party is being held at the Broberg Family's residence in Berwyn, PA.

For those of you who hate swimming in cold water, the pool will be nice and warm, and the large hot tub will be toasty. Arriving in your bathing suit is a great idea, but there are also changing rooms available. There will be a life guard on duty!

A short walk from the pool there is a trampoline and a basketball area. Badminton and horseshoe toss will be available. The front of the house has a swing/slide area.

Inside there is an air conditioned games room which is filled with pin ball machines, foosball, air hockey, pacman/space invaders, and a pool table and ping pong table. There will be a fruitloop necklace making table, for the kids.

Drinks will be available and a late light barbecue lunch will be served, including a vegetarian option. You do not need to bring anything!

Hope to see you all there!

Pauline and Robert Broberg 610 695 4660
 429 Leopard Road, Berwyn Pa 19312
 (between Sugartown Road and Route 252;
 NOT between Sugartown and Route 3)

Directions from Paoli:

Head south on 252, and turn left onto Sugartown Road. After .5 miles take a left and continue on Sugartown Road. Go .6 miles and take a right onto Leopard Road. You will pass three houses on the left side of the road. Then you will see a mailbox, number 429. Go down this driveway. Park in one of the two parking lots or where directed.

The Daniels have been living in the USA since November 1966.

One of the last 'braindrain' people from Europe

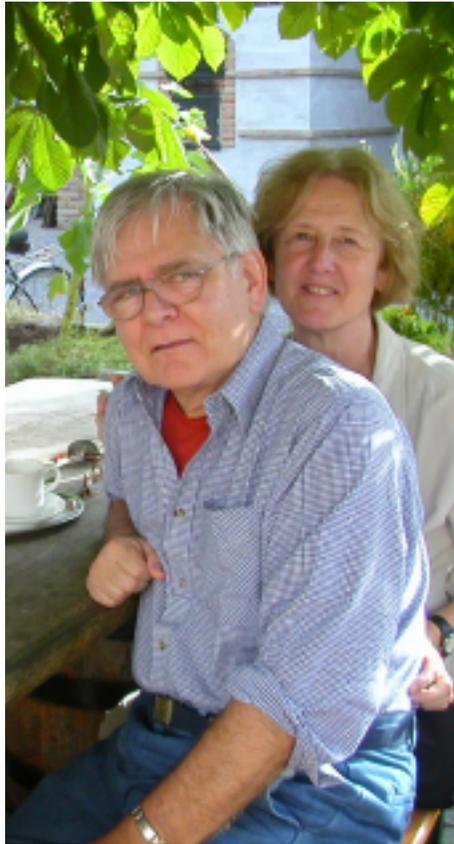
Louis and Nell Daniels have been living in the USA since November 1966. Louis was recruited by Westinghouse, at that time located in Essington, and they were intensively searching out young, recently graduated engineers in Europe as part of the so-called 'braindrain'.

There were many young couples arriving at about the same time and we had quite an international group and got together frequently for soccer games and other social activities.

Gradually many of these couples returned to Europe, they had just wanted the foreign experience to round out their education and marketability back in their home country. But we stayed on and have been living in this general area from the time of our arrival. We had the chance to travel a lot and were re-located for temporary assignment several times. Some interesting assignments took us to Trinidad, Paris and Houston.

Our children, Mark-Jan and Inge were born in 1969 and 1971 but it was not until 1978 that we found out about the NAADV by reading in the paper about a Dutchman Day at the U of P museum. There we met Sylvain and many others for the first time and enjoyed Goudse kaas, bitterballen and other treats. This was a great discovery and ever since we have hardly missed a Sinterklaas party or a Koninginnedag. It was a very important factor in keeping our children in touch with their Dutch heritage and they have fond memories of these events plus oudejaarsavonden with erwtensoep and oliebollen at the houses of Dutch members. It put us in touch with a community of Dutch emigrants, many of whom are still our friends.

Our children have had great educational opportunities in this country and have estab-



lished themselves in rewarding, professional careers. They are both married now and have given us 3 wonderful grandchildren, Annika who is almost 5, Lena 3 1/2 and Kasper who is 1 1/2. They live respectively in Virginia and Boston.

During the years with NAADV we have been very involved serving as Board member, editing de Brug, organizing the Sinterklaas party (he always arrived on a white horse which occasionally caused some anxious moments!) Our annual meetings used to be at the Germantown Friends meeting house

and were a big social event with a wonderful potluck supper. Nell served as auditor and still comes to the Sinterklaas party every year to welcome the families. It is very nice to see that the NAADV club is blossoming with so many young Dutch speaking children coming to see Sint.

Now we have been in this country for 45 years. What made us stay here for all these years? At first it was the adventure of everything big, new and different. Then the beauty of the countryside, the grandeur of nature and the huge open spaces took us in. We camped in national and state parks, where we could hike, sail and explore without the crowds while communing with nature. The friendly helpfulness of the people throughout the country and the optimistic can-do attitude appealed to us. The weather was another factor, even though the summers can get be a bit hot and sticky, at least it's really summer.

After spending more than half our lives in the US we still feel connected to Nederland, Brabant in particular, and we maintain very close contacts with all our relatives there. We read a summary of Dutch/European newspapers on line in the morning to keep up with political and cultural changes. We still love to visit and what we enjoy most is being able to go everywhere on your bike and relax on a "terrasje". In our hearts there always will remain some nostalgia for our home country but moving back there is not in our plans. After a few weeks we feel closed in and notice that our relatives there have made their own lives and that we are not a real part of that anymore. Vice versa our lives have gone in a different direction and we feel rooted here now and would miss not only our children and grandchildren but also the many friends we have made.

Colophon

"De Brug" is a newsletter for and by members of the **Netherlands-America Association of the Delaware Valley (NAADV)**. Please visit us at <http://www.naadv.org> for more information.

If interested in volunteering or attending a board meeting, please contact President Cisca Jansen: ciscajansen@gmail.com

Elections for board members are held yearly in the Spring at the Annual Meeting.

This Newsletter was kindly printed and distributed by the Lage Landen

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NAADV "Golden Reunion" Lunch

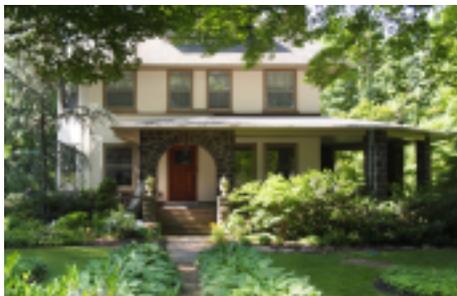
Calling all "Golden Members" of the NAADV for a reunion luncheon!

The NAADV is planning a reunion lunch on October 22, 2011 at the home of Rob and Deb Heerkens. The purpose of his lunch is to honor our long-standing members, and give them an opportunity to spend an afternoon catching up with each other.

Although the NAADV has many events throughout the year, we thought it would be nice to plan an event dedicated only to the "senior citizen" members.

Anyone who was ever connected with the NAADV and considers themselves too old for "koekhappen" or "zaklopen" at Koninginnedag is welcome to attend. This event will be free of charge. Also, if you know of old friends who also would like to attend but are no longer members of the NAADV, please let us know so that we can be sure to send them an invitation.

Because there are people who do not like to drive, or cannot drive, "drivers" will be avail-



able to pick you up, and bring you back home afterward.

We are looking forward to seeing our older friends, so please mark your calendars!

If you would like to attend, or if you know of others who would like to attend, or if you would like to volunteer to be one of the drivers, please call Rob and Deb Heerkens at 610 964 8558, or send an email to deborahkowl@yahoo.com.

Belgian Newsflash

Vlamingen in de wereld—Philadelphia Chapter The Philadelphia chapter of "Vlamingen in de Wereld" is (finally) being started by Daisy van den Hooff-Mertens. For more information about upcoming events and if you would like to be added to the database, please email Daisy at rdvdhm@msn.com or visit viw.com.

Fleming Builds Penthouse for Robert De Niro

Source: New York Post - 05/11/11

Flemish architect Axel Vervoordt has recently designed the penthouse of a New York hotel owned by actor/director Robert De Niro. The 88-room luxury hotel, located at 377 Greenwich Street, built on a vacant lot, had to be in keeping with the specific style of the district. Axel Vervoordt and architect Tatsuro Miki only used recycled materials found around the city to revamp the current structure of the hotel. **EB**

Nederlands voetbal on display in America

As any Dutch person I like the opportunity to root for our football teams.

We all know how crazy the Dutch fans can get. When the NAADV invite came out to attend an Ajax game I tentatively agreed. However, before I knew it the tickets were already bought for us, so now we were definitely going. Once Ajax looked to become the Landskampioen I started to get excited. I have to add that I only found out about Ajax standing from my American colleague Chris Blake who is a huge Ajax and Holland fan. I in turn convinced him to come to the game and he has since embraced the NAADV.

Going to see Ajax was a great chance to get my kids interested and expose them to their

Nederlandse roots. OK, so we had to drive to Washington DC, road-trip! I have driven to NY to see Manchester United v. AC Milan, so this was not going to keep us from going. We had a great time tailgating with the NAADV group and found an abundance of Ajax fans at the stadium. Oh, they played DC United, but that was not important. All that mattered was to see the red and white and there were plenty of fans in orange.

After an exciting first 10 minutes in which Sulejmani scored both my kids and the Ajax team appeared to be bored. I was able to motivate my oldest pretty quick by getting him to actually watch the game instead of staring in all directions. However, it took Ajax until the last



The men from the NAADV outside the stadium.

15 minutes of the game to get back into an attacking mode. At this point they were battling a 1-1 score and trying to avoid a humiliating loss. We had to wait until the 87th minute when Anita scored the winning goal for a final score of 2-1 Ajax.

After the game all the kids got their ultimate treat as the Ajax players all came up to the fans to sign autographs. We have a banner full of them. You could see the kids pride on their faces and I know for sure Ajax has some new fans.

Thank you to Ajax for becoming Landskampioen and coming out to share it with your fans in the US.

Goed man! Great stuff!

AvR



The Ajax players are checking if everybody is there before the kick off.

ELECTRONIC MAILINGLIST

Have you received the new NAADV e-Newsletter yet?

Please send an email to info@naadv.org if you would like to be added to the mailing list. Any suggestions on topics for the e-Newsletter can be sent to that same email address.

And please join us on Facebook for the latest news and updates on events.



Rotating Editorship

Starting in 2011, each production of the Brug will be overseen by a different editor.

The last Spring edition was created by Gerald van Wilgen. Many thanks to Gerald, who did the writing and editing for de Brug many years! His biggest contribution was the 50th anniversary of the NAADV where he was the author of the book with 50 years of stories from old and new members.

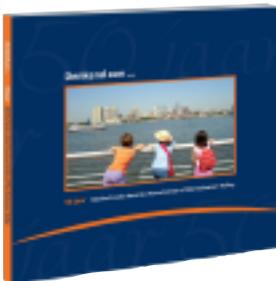
This edition is edited by Cisca Jansen, and the two upcoming Fall and Winter edi-

DUES ARE DUE!

Your membership dues are now due. If you did not pay yet, please do so now. If you already paid, thank you! Please contact Stefan Lint if you did not receive a dues letter. Also, please keep the NAADV informed about any address changes or changes in familial status.

Stefan Lint, Director of Membership

201 Brookline Boulevard
Havertown, PA 19083
email: stefan.lint@gmail.com
tel: 610.609.1360



tions will be overseen by respectively Elisabeth Boeynaems and Hans Scholten.

If you are interested in submitting an article, or becoming one of the editors in 2012, please contact Cisca Jansen at ciscajansen@gmail.com.



Upcoming Events

- July 16: Pool Party
- Sept. 17: Belgium Beer Party
- Oct. 22: 'Golden Reunion' lunch at the Heerkens Residence
- Nov. 5: Rijsttafel
- Dec. 3: Sinterklaas
- Dec 18: Holiday Party
- March: Spring Borrel and Elections
- May: Queensday
- June: Golf

Be a member, and you receive flyers at your current membership address for upcoming events and on the electronic mailing list from the NAADV.

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

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