

**NETHERLANDS PHILATELISTS
of CALIFORNIA
(now in its 41st year)**

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April 2010

March meeting. Attending at the home of Albert Muller were: Franklin Ennik, John Heimans, Arno Kolster, Hans Kremer, Stuart Leven, Burt Miller, Albert Muller, Paul Swierstra, George Vandenberg and Fred Van der Heyden.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

WESTPEX 2010, the West Coast's premier stamp exhibition will hold its 50th Annual Stamp Show at the San Francisco Airport Marriott Hotel, 23-25 April 2010. The Show will include: the Western Philatelic Library duplicate literature sales, 300 + frames of exhibits, a 75 dealer bourse, stamp auction, youth and beginner area, club meetings and seminars. A \$5.00 admission fee is good for 3 days. For further information, see their internet website: www.WESTPEX.org.

The NPofC has reserved Room 5096 at the Show on Saturday 24 April 2010 at 11:00am for a general informational meeting that is open to the public. Come join us if you plan to attend the show. Find out what we've been up to.....Look for our NPofC advertisement in the WESTPEX 2010 program.

AROUND the TABLE

Burt Miller showed us an album from his modern stamp booklet (postzegelboekjes) collection with its many varieties, including examples not included in the specialty catalogue.

Hans Kremer passed around a completed copy of a long article entitled, "Western New Guinea, a postal history," by Han Dijkstra, that has been serially published in ASNP's *Netherlands Philately*. Hans also passed around several reference texts: a copy of the book *Luchtpost Onderinvloed van Oorlogs Omstandigheden*, by Hans Aitink (*Po&Po Posthistorie Series # 25*); the book *Understanding Transatlantic Mail*, volume 2, by Richard F. Winter; and the book *Nederlands-Indie in Oorlog,, Correspondentie van 10 mei 1940 tot december 1949*, by P.R. Bulterman. As a follow up on previous comments by Hans on the 1942 wartime Winterhulp lottery slogan cancels that featured a pig.....**what was the significance of the pig in the cancel?** At this time the symbol of the pig signified 'good luck'. Another slogan cancel, just before the May 1940 invasion by the Germans, urged Dutch citizens to take their annual vacations in peaceful Netherlands (while you can). Hans also showed a postcard posted 1899 from Roermond to Rotterdam that arrived in 6 hours (!!) and a letter sent 1928 with a special trial, delivery marker (besteller stempel). See following article page 3.

The **April 17th meeting** will be held at the home of George Vandenberg, 8232 Claret Court, San Jose, CA 95135 starting at 1:00pm. George's telephone number: 408-270-6276.
The May 15th meeting location has yet to be determined.

Stuart Leven passed around a windowed, commercial envelope franked with PERFINed stamps and sent via airmail to the Netherlands East Indies.

John Heimans showed us examples from his plate fault collection of the Netherlands 1869-1871 (wapen) coat of arms series and 1876-1894 (cijfer) number series; 1/3 cent instead of 1/2 cent; a backwards printed 1/2 cent; GENT instead of CENT; and a thick L of Nederland on the 1/2 cent cijfer issue.

Paul Swierstra indicated that he still has a long run of the Bulls Eye Cancel Club Bulletins available in the NPofC library for anyone who would like them.

Fred Van der Heyden passed around a collection of circa 1940s Dutch cigar bands; a collection of Dutch picture postcards featuring bicycles; a Dutch picture book, *Koning Thialf*, about ice skating and a series of photos and articles about Oakland, CA Jack London Square showing Jack London's log cabin and J.M. Heinold's "Last Chance Saloon."

Albert Muller showed us selections from his collection of stamps featuring paintings by Dutch and Flemish artists.....these by Vincent van Gogh.

George Vandenberg passed around several WW I era censored covers: a registered cover containing checks sent from a trust banking company in the Netherlands to the USA; a censored letter sent from Rotterdam via Brussels to Johannesburg, Transvaal; and a cover with an early slogan cancel of the 1920s.

CANCEL OF THE MONTH



The March winner is **Hans Kremer** with a perfectly centered, small round, 1896 cancel of Bergen op Zoom on a 5 gulden postbewijs stamp.

Shown here is a Bergen op Zoom small round cancel dated August 24, 1896, with a single letter time interval indicator of "1-2 N" (=1-2pm). Small round cancels were officially in use from 1877 through 1894, when they started to be replaced by the large round cancel. Bergen op Zoom received its first small round cancel on November 14, 1878, the last one on December 8, 1894. It did not receive a large round cancel

until March 13, 1897. The last known date of use of Bergen op Zoom's small round cancel was January 11, 1900.

Bergen op Zoom (located in the southwestern corner of the province of North Brabant) was granted city status probably in 1266. In 1747, during the War of the Austrian Succession, the French army laid siege to it. After seventy days of siege, the city was taken and thoroughly



Blaeu map of Bergen op Zoom, 1649



sacked; the garrison was slaughtered. Due to this battle, the name of the city can be seen on one of the arches on the Arc de Triomphe in Paris (source: wikipedia.com).

The cancelled stamp is a five guilder 'postbewijs' stamp. From December 1, 1884 through December 31, 1899, one could pay one's bill by using special stamps. Payment was made by attaching the appropriate amount of postage to an especially designed form (a 'postbewijs').

COVER of the MONTH

The March winner is **Arno Kolster** with a folded letter franked with two 5 cent, 1852 Willem III issues.

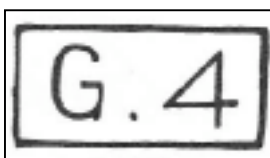
This folded letter is franked with two 5 cent pale blue (plate IV positions 92 and 87) and tied by an Amsterdam Type C half round cancellation dated December 29, 1859.

The cover also has a forwarding agent marker "E.C. Quien / Amsterdam" as well as a half round Utrecht back stamp with illegible date.



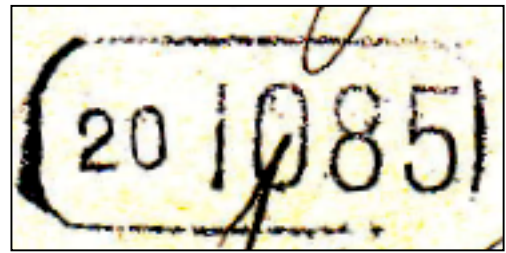
A lesser known type of mailman delivery cancels

with thanks to Hans Kremer



Most of us are familiar with the usual delivery cancels, such as, for example G.4, where the G signifies the seventh (!) mail delivery of the day and 4 represents the badge number of the postal employee delivering the mail. However, for a short period of time the Amsterdam and 's-Gravenhage post offices used a different kind of cancel, a so-called 24 hour cancel.

Instead of the use of letters (A, B, C, etc.), the time of delivery was indicated by a number, ranging from 1 thru 24. In the example shown here the time is 20 (=8pm), while the employee number is 1085.



These cancels were only used for mail delivered to post office boxes.

Although the address on the cover shows a regular street address, it was addressed to a company (Firma Rath en Doodeheffer). The letter probably arrived at the Amsterdam post office earlier in the evening, too late to be delivered that day but by putting it in the company's post office box an employee of that company would be able to pick it up first thing in the morning or even later that night.

According to P.C. Korteweg this type of cancel was used in Amsterdam (using black ink) from 1927 thru 1929. The 's Gravenhage cancel (usually in violet) was used as late as 1931.

Reference:

P.C Korteweg, *De Stempelrubriek uit "De Philatelist", 1927-1939*, NBFV, Utrecht, 1991

<http://www.gradstaat.nl/bestel/bestel1-en.htm> (English)

