

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

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Honorary Members:

John Heimans
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December 2010

November meeting. Attending at the home of Hans Kremer were: Franklin Ennik, HansPaul Hager, Arno Kolster, Hans Kremer, Stuart Leven, Burt Miller, Albert Muller, Paul Swierstra, George Vandenberg, Fred Van der Heyden, and guest, Dr. Gert Holstege.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

2011 Membership dues. We discussed the subject of membership dues at our meeting and agreed to retain the established three-tier payment system that applies to the categories: regular (local) members, corresponding US and Canadian members, and corresponding foreign members. We also agreed to once again wave the membership dues structure for 2011 and take the respective costs from the special benefactor fund.

Arrangements have been made for our annual holiday dinner on Saturday, January 8, 2011 at the Three Flames Restaurant, 1547 Meridian Avenue, San Jose, CA 95125-5316 starting at 5:00 pm. The Three Flames Restaurant telephone number: 408-269-3133. Directions to the restaurant can also be found on the Internet. Members are reminded to bring copies of their 2010 monthly contest winners.

The slate of Officers for 2011 has been accepted and approved: President: HansPaul Hager, Vice President: Burt Miller, Treasurer: Stuart Leven, and Secretary: Franklin Ennik.

AROUND the TABLE

George Vandenberg passed around a copy of the philatelic pamphlet, *Curaçao, 1872–1925*, by Clarence W. Hennan, MD, published by the Chicago Philatelic Society; a commemorative paper and envelope sent from Port Canaveral, Florida from the Mercury Space project, “signed” by Astronaut Allen Shepard 1961; a 1947 DEI envelope sent from a Celebes amateur radio station; and a cover recently found in a San Jose Stamp Show sent from the Netherlands that was addressed to our late NPofC member, Ralph Van Heerden.

Franklin Ennik showed us a registered 1933 cover sent from Galang (Island), located south of Singapore, in the Riau Archipelago, Sumatra, to Austria. Galang Island was temporarily used after the Vietnam War as a refugee camp for Vietnamese Boat People during the determination of their refugee status and their subsequent resettlement in the USA, Australia and some European countries. Frank also showed a 1945 post-war airmail letter sent from Nymegen to Ithaca, NY....*Ithaca is misspelled Tihaca*; and a 1916 “made to order” commercial cover franked with a 1913, 3 cent Jubilee issue that is cancelled with the special stamp show

The **December 18th meeting** will be held at the Western Philatelic Library, 1500 Partridge Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94087-4953. The Western Philatelic Library telephone: 408-733-0336.
The **January 15th meeting** will be held at a location yet to be determined.

cancel, **UTRECHT / 23 SEPT. 1916 / Nat. (ionale) Postzegel Tentoonst. (elling)**. The cover is addressed to a well-known Utrecht stamp dealer of the period, H.C. Correljé. A boxed postal delivery marker **E 226** on the reverse indicates this envelope reached its destination on the **fifth mail delivery of the day**.



Dr. Gert Holstege summarized his recent activities regarding the *Handboek Postwaarden Nederland*: Supplements 40 and 41 are now available from Enschedé & Zoonen, and number 42 is in the preparation stages; the Queen Wilhelmina fur collar (bontkraag) issues are now finished, and the Princess Wilhelmina hanging hair series will follow. *Po&Po* has summarized on their website the postal rates from the DEI starting in 1877. There are plans the *Handboek* will have a major section on DEI postal rates for the period 1850-1876. Dr. Holstege advised us that philatelic researchers have permission to copy and use illustrations and excerpts of text from the *Handboek* provided they give proper citation credit to the *Handboek* and its authors; notifying the *Handboek* editors would also be a plus. He also cautioned us that at the current time the auction house business in the Netherlands is in a state of upheaval due to bad business practices by *some firms*. If any of us has plans to dispose of philatelic material via Netherlands auction houses, it behooves us to check out who is now considered reputable/credible and who is not until the dust settles.

Burt Miller passed around a visitekaart franked with a 2½ cent cijfer and sent from Bommel (Gld.); a post card with a Volendam street scene franked with 12½ cent postage to Germany; a copy of the 1993 block souvenir sheet, *Tien voor uw brieven* (NVPH nr. M113), see nrs. 1571-1572 and a letter addressed to Karlsruhe, located about 75 km. south of Mannheim, Germany. The sender, Rotterdam Coal Company, is writing to Raab Karcher & Cie, a major, multi-industry leader, in the brown coal producing region of southwest Germany.



This commercial cover is franked with three, 10 cent stamps of the 1923 Wilhelmina Jubilee issue, date cancelled October 10, 1923. The foreign (buitenland) postal rate in 1923 was 20 cent for the first 20 gram plus 10 cent for each additional 20 gram, so this letter must have weighted up to 40 grams.

Hans Kremer showed us a new book by Cees van Hoek entitled, *De Kleine Uurstempels van Nederland van 20.5 tot 23.8mm. De Postkantoren. Deel 1*. This is a further refinement on the study of small round cancels and the implication is that another volume will follow this one. Hans also passed around a recent cover sent from the Netherlands to the US franked with a 44 euro cent rouwzegel (mourning stamp), NVPH nr. 2484. Death notices franked with these mourning stamps receive expedited handling by the Dutch postal system as well as a reduced rate and Hans is looking into the background of these special-use stamps. Hans passed around his recently acquired 2011 edition of the *NVPH Catalogus*. A Dutch language preview of the DVD-ROM version can be viewed on the NVPH website through www.nvph.nl. Click on the link *Catalogi*, and then on *Catalogus op DVD-ROM*.

Arno Kolster showed us an *oversized set* of advertising (?) cinderellas illustrating the 1913 Jubilee issues, 1-10 guilders, inscribed A.W. Neitveldt Nieuwendijk Amsterdam.

CANCEL OF THE MONTH

The November winner is **Burt Miller** with a straight-line cancel of sub-post office Rijnsburg on an 1872 15 cent Willem III issue. Rijnsburg (Z.H.) had its beginnings in the 6th century as a village and fort located on the Rhine River as it empties into the North Sea west of Leiden. In 2006 the municipality, together with Valkenburg, was added to the municipality and city of Katwijk. Rijnsburg's claim to fame is that the Dutch philosopher Benedict de Spinoza lived there from 1661-1663. Ref: *Wikipedia.com*.



COVER of the MONTH

The November winner is **Burt Miller** with a registered cover sent from Amsterdam, via Bandoeng, Java, on the 1931 Abel Tasman flight to Melbourne, Australia.



It is franked with several high-value semi-postals (NVPH nr. 201 x 2, nr. 202 x 3, nr. 210 and nr. 211 x 2.). The cover was cancelled with Amsterdam-Tulpplein cancels on 25.V.31. A Netherlands Indies 1 gulden, Kapitein-vlieger Pattist nr. 13 was added as required on the ABEL TASMAN flights.

The cover is back-stamped BATAVIA CENTRUM on 9.5.81 (wrong year). An ABEL TASMAN / .BATAVIA CENTRUM cancel was applied on 11 mei 1931 and it arrived in Melbourne on May 19th and backstamped again REGISTERED / MELBOURNE on May 28th. The letter was back-stamped



UNCLAIMED and returned to Amsterdam per instructions on the back, since it was not called for after 5 days. It received a receiving cancel from Amsterdam Central Station on 30.V.31 and returned to sender. The Registered label was circled in blue because it no longer applied.

OTHER CATEGORY of the MONTH

The November winner is **Hans Kremer** with a 10 stamp block of Surinam nr. 3 C, perforated 12½ x 12.



The 2½ cent, Koning Willem III of Surinam was first issued on October 1, 1873. Seven perforation varieties have been found in limited quantities amongst the denominations of this 1873-1889 series. However, from 1880 through 1888 the 12½ x 12 comb perforated 2½ cent denomination had a run of about 245,000 stamps. The un gummed block of ten stamps shown here comes from that large issue.

This series of stamps was designed by F.C. ten Kate and Virey Freres of Paris, engraved by E. Schilling of Berlin and printed by Enschedé & Zonen.

Recent postal strikes in the Netherlands

with thanks to Hans Kremer

With the recent postal strike of November 16, 2010, the earlier postal strike of 1983 comes to mind.

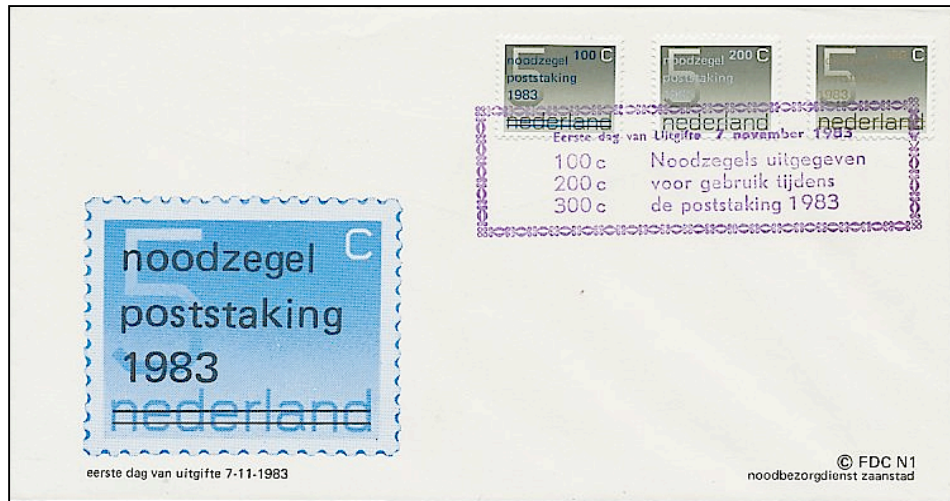
In 1983 the economic situation in the Netherlands was rather poor. The government decided that cut backs were necessary and one of the 'victims' of these measurements was the civil servants (among those were the people working for the PTT). They were asked to take a pay cut of 3½ %, something they were not willing to do. Result: a nationwide strike, which lasted a couple of weeks. No mail was delivered (except for funeral notices), greatly inconveniencing a lot of businesses. It was of course a great opportunity for the private mail delivery services and several of these issued their own special stamps, however, none went as far as the **Noodbezorgdienst of Zaandam** which overprinted *real stamps*. Ultimately the civil servants were ordered back to work by a judge thus ending their unsuccessful strike.



On November 7, 1983 three stamps were issued by a Mr. Rob Nihof. The name of the company he set up for this was the **Noodbezorgdienst** (Emergency Delivery Service) with offices in Zaandam. The 5 cent ‘Crouwel’ stamps of 1976 (NVPH nr. 1108) were overprinted in sheets of 100 in three denominations: 100 cent blue, 200 cent silver and 300 cent gold. Nihof was eventually prosecuted for his efforts.

The text of the overprints was **noodzegel/poststaking/1983** (emergency stamp/ postal strike / 1983). Mr. Nihof even created First Day Covers for his forgery. Of course all of this was just ‘maakwerk,’ a product to enrich the creator

This Rob Nihof is somebody you probably shouldn't do business with. He is banned from eBay, but he shows up under different names as well, such as Thomasbeheer, Stampgrossier, Nihod, Selectstamps, and Bor Tohin. So, beware.



A 75 cent stadpost cinderella, with the text **poststaking 1983**, was issued in Augustinusga (Fr.) by *Stedspost Fryslan*. To support the 2010 strike, 10-stamp sheets of 44 cent personalized stamps were also sold.



Later on, ‘forever stamps’, with the inscription **Red de Postbode. NL / Poststaking 16 November 2010** (Save the Mailman/Postal Strike November 16, 2010), appeared with a “1” on it as well. The latter two stamps, REDDEPOSTBODE.NL, are legitimate stamps.