

**NETHERLANDS PHILATELISTS
of CALIFORNIA
(now in its 42nd year)**

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Honorary Members:

John Heimans
George Vandenberg
† Ralph Van Heerden
Website: www.angelfire.com/ca2/npofc

February 2011

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

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Our annual holiday dinner on Saturday, January 8, 2011 at the Three Flames Restaurant, San Jose, CA was a grand affair and enjoyed by all attendees. The restaurant was unusually busy with noisy revelers who, like us, thought this date would be a slow and quiet evening.

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

The NPofC donated a set of the 2011 *Scott Catalogue* and a copy of the recent text, *Australasia Airmails Vol. 2*, by Edwin Proud to the Royal Netherlands Philatelic Library KNBF in Baarn, Netherlands.

Congratulations to the Year-end winners of the Cancel, Cover and Other category contests: *Cancel*: Burt Miller; *Cover*: Hans Kremer; and *Other Category*: Franklin Ennik. We extend our many thanks to all those members who participated every month by submitting items from their collections to the contests.

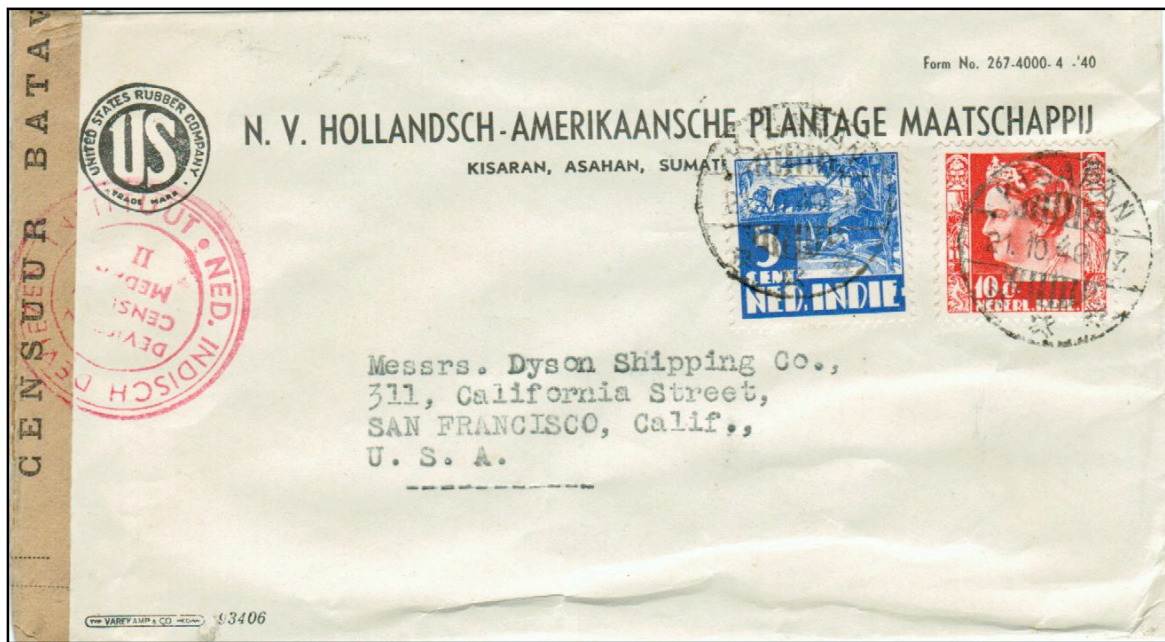
Congratulations also to Franklin Ennik who received an appreciation plaque for his 10 years of service as Editor of the NPofC Newsletter and the 40th Anniversary Yearbook.

AROUND THE TABLE

Fred Van der Heyden passed around an impressive collection of vintage year-end holiday and occasion post cards, including: Christmas (one with 1st issue TB seals), Valentine, New Year greetings, humorous Dutch themed, etc.; and an 1870 letter and circular for an automatic panel raising machine of the period.

George Vandenberg passed around photos taken at the Three Flames Restaurant dinner; several 1940s packet boat covers; a cover cancelled on the 1959 maiden voyage of the *S.S. Rotterdam*; a 1941 shipping company cover cancelled in Saba, Netherlands Antilles; a dual franking cover commemorating the long standing cooperation between the Netherlands and Holland, Michigan; and a series of registered commercial covers sent by the Netherlands Indies company, N.V. Hollandsch- Amerikaansche Plantage Maatschappij. See next illustration.

The **February 19th meeting** will be held at the home of John Heimans in San Jose, CA starting at 1:00 pm. Anyone needing driving directions please contact John at 408-264-5752.
The **March 19th meeting** will be held at the home of HansPaul Hager in San Jose, CA starting at 1:00 pm. Anyone needing driving directions please contact HansPaul at 408-770-9132.



The Hollandsch-Amerikaansche Plantage Maatschappij (Holland-American Plantation Co.) was started in 1911 and eventually (through a couple of name changes and consolidations) became one of Indonesia's oldest plantation companies. The company is now called PT Bakrie Sumatera Plantations. Their first commodity interest in Indonesia was natural rubber but they later expanded into sustainable palm oil production. These sought-after export products support the high Asian regional demands for biodiesel oil, food products and other chemicals. However, there is a serious down side to the push for planting rubber and palm oil plantations: In the last 15 years more than 20 million hectares of virgin forest have been destroyed/cleared but only about half have been planted into production.

In 1990 the company was listed on the Jakarta and Surabaya Stock Exchanges. This censored commercial envelope is posted 21 October 1940 from Kisaran, Sumatra.

Palm oil production is the most productive sustainable oil commodity (in Indonesia ??), with one hectare of palm oil producing 5000 tons or 6000 liters of crude oil, far higher than that of either soya or corn which produces only about 446 and 172 liters respectively.

References:

See numerous Internet links in Google

Biofuel Industry in Indonesia: Some critical issues.

PT Bakrie Sumatra Plantations TBK

A brief history – Bakrie Sumatra Plantations

Hans Kremer showed us a series of recent Dutch holiday mail envelopes franked with the various 95 cent stamp varieties now in use; the APS magazine article featuring the recent realignment of the Netherlands Antilles; a couple of banner brochures illustrating the 2011 USA stamp program; a 1946 news article advising the US public they no longer needed to indicate AIRMAIL on outgoing mail; and a copy of the new reference text by Kees Adema, *Netherlands Mail in Times of Turmoil. Vol. 2. The French Napoleon Era 1795-1815.*

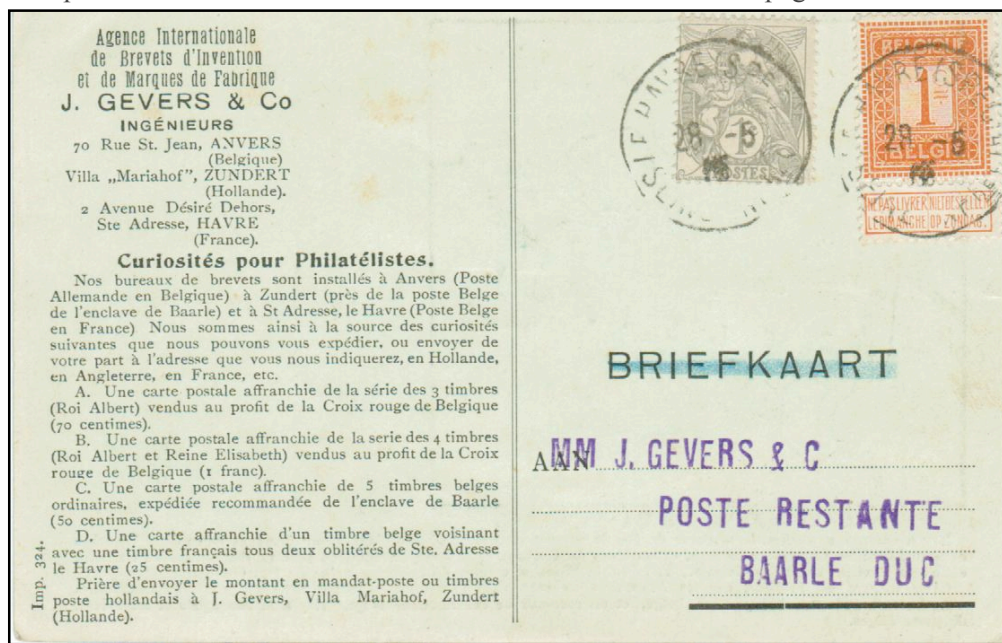
Paul Swierstra showed a recent catalogue of the Dutch stamp auction house, Corinphilia Veilingen; a notice from the USPS that *all of the 2011 US 1st class stamp issues* will be non-denominated “forever stamps” and that the rate on 1st class mail above one ounce will increase to 20 cent/per ounce for the next 3½ ounces beginning 17 April 2011. Post cards will be upped to 29 cent. See the internet websites: **beyondtheperf.com** and **USPS.com**. Paul has been updating the ASNP library listings, which now number 588 entries, and entering them onto spreadsheets.

Burt Miller stated he is spending time updating his plate fault collections and displaying the plate fault examples alongside the normal stamp as a comparison. Burt also handed out copies of CDs with images of the 2009 and 2010 monthly cancel, cover and other category contest winners rather than the usual color paper copies.

Arno Kolster for some time has been seeking a copy of the *Handboek Postwaarden Nederland* and was recently successful in obtaining a copy, as well as, an original notebook copy of P.F.A. Van der Loo's *Forgeries of Netherlands Stamps and former Colonies*.

Stuart Leven shared with us the news that he recently was successful in bidding on a large lot of pricy Netherlands Indies Bestel Huis covers which were sent to him via New York by insured, registered mail. Unfortunately, when the package arrived in New York it was mistakenly (??) put into the regular mail stream and hasn't been seen since. Be wary and be on the lookout for these covers.....

Franklin Ennik passed around a cover franked with a personal stamp of an artist painter, Joyce Ennik, who lives in De Rijp, Netherlands; a 1971, 20 cent postal card; a 1906 letter franked with cijfers and with a small round *Haren (GRON.)* cancel sent to Egmond aan Zee; a post card with a 1897-1947, 50th anniversary cancel of Arnhem Postzegel Tentoonstelling; a Christmas envelope franked with a private Port Betaald stamp and delivered by the SANDD delivery company; and a ca. 1915 curiosity post card with *dual French and Belgian franking* illustrating the Baarle Duc region within the Netherlands. The front side of the post card is illustrated here. For additional information see page 6.



CANCEL OF THE MONTH

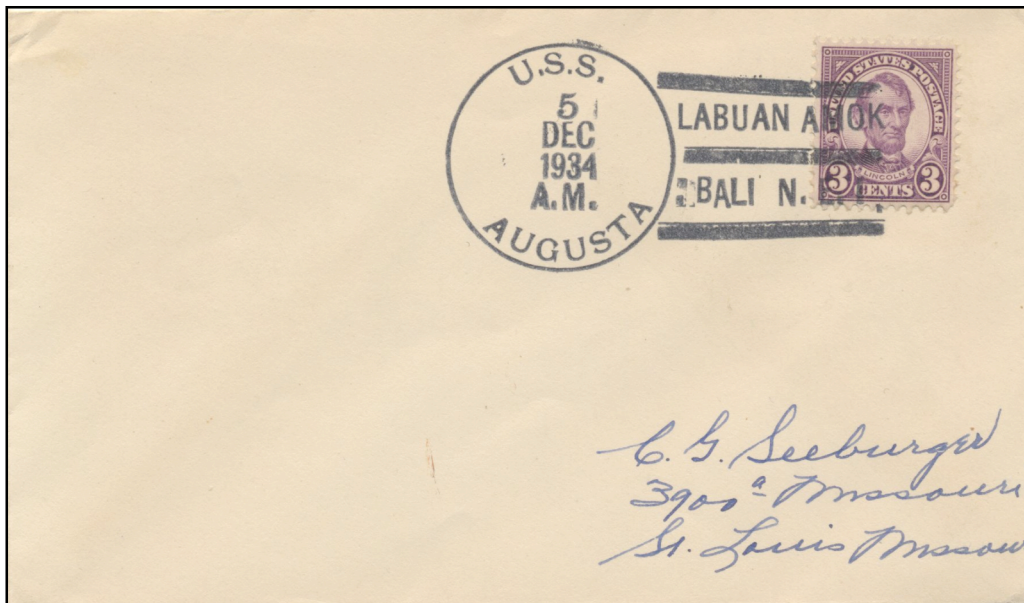
The January winner is **Franklin Ennik** with a small round cancel of 'sHertogenbosch on a ½ cent cijfer.

This is the 1876-1894 ½ cent cijfer issue (NVPH nr. 30, Scott no. 33) dated August 14, 1889, with a single letter 3-4 N (afternoon) time stamp. The cijfer stamps were used for postage mainly on printed matter (drukkerij), newspapers and postcards.



COVER OF THE MONTH

The January winner is **Stuart Leven** with a cover from the U.S. Asiatic flagship, heavy cruiser *U.S.S. Augusta* while making a port call at LABUAN (sic) AMOK on the Island of Bali.



The *Augusta* had previously stopped at Labuan Island on the northern side of the Island of Borneo on this 1934 tour of South Asia and the ship's postal clerk has also used the spelling of that island for this port stop. The Bali Bay stop was in fact Laboehan Amoek (see arrow) and has a similar pronunciation as Labuan Amok as seen in the killer bar cancel of the *U.S.S. Augusta*.



OTHER CATEGORY OF THE MONTH

The January winner is **HansPaul Hager** with “a wet stamp” revenue marking with the intertwined initials of King Lodewijk Napoleon.

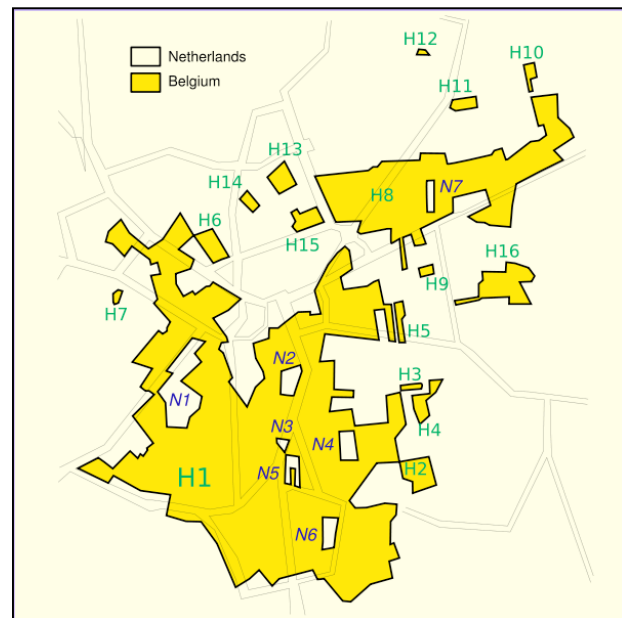
Prior to the reign of Emperor Napoleon’s brother, Lodewijk Napoleon, as the monarch over the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the familiar VOC revenue markings were widely used on documents and mail to indicate payment of fees. Lodewijk reigned from 1806 until July 9, 1810. Shown here are two less frequently encountered examples, a **6 St(uiver)** and **12 St(uiver)** marking with the intertwined initials of



Lodewijk Napoleon, LN, on fragments cut from documents of the period. These “wet” revenue markings were also used on documents in the Netherlands Indies after March 13, 1809.

The Baarle Nassau and Baarle Hertog enclaves on the Dutch-Belgian border.

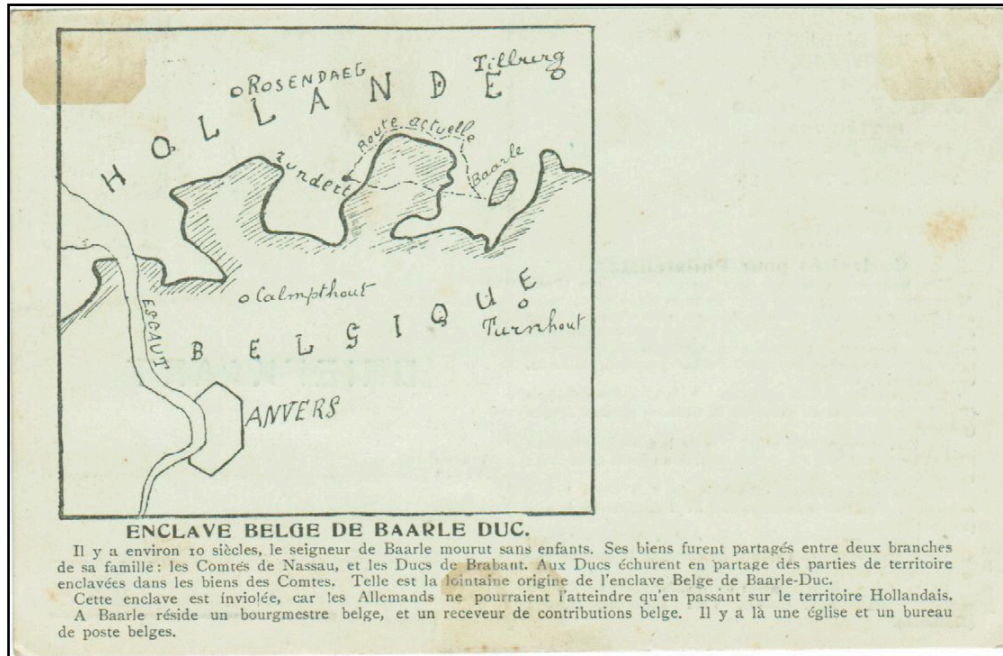
One of the most complicated border regions in Europe are the enclaves of Baarle Nassau and Baarle Hertog (= Baarle Duc) located (mainly) about 5 km inside the border of Netherlands and consisting of 24 separate parcels of land. This border complexity results from a number of equally complex medieval treaties, agreements, land swaps and sales beginning in the 11th Century between the Lords of Breda in the Netherlands and the Dukes of Brabant in Belgium. Belgium declared its independence from the Netherlands in 1830. These enclave distributions were finally ratified and clarified as part of the borderline settlements arrived at during the Treaty of Maastricht in 1843. One Nassau enclave is located *within* the border of Belgium.



N = Baarle Nassau 8 enclaves.

H = Baarle Hertog (= Baarle Duc) 16 enclaves.

Many attempts were made to settle the question as to which country should claim the enclaves. The World Court finally settled the issue in 1959 in favor of Belgium. The border lines are clearly marked on the ground and often cut through the middle of fields, barns, homes, shops and restaurants. The various regulations and laws that apply to each country are strictly enforced and adhered to by the citizenry. When asked whether they like this situation, they all reply in unison “they wouldn’t have it any other way.” The Baarle enclaves are often cited as a model solution to border disputes. The reverse of the post card is illustrated below.



The enclaves became important during WW I when many tens of thousands of Belgian refugees flooded into neutral Netherlands to avoid the war. The Dutch government accommodated the flood of refugees at considerable cost but ultimately refused to accept any compensation for the cost at war’s end. Because of the declared neutrality of the Netherlands, the Germans did not invade the Belgian enclaves.

References: See many links and illustrations that can be found on the Internet for **Baarle Nassau** and **Baarle Hertog**. And also <http://ontology.buffalo.edu/smith/baarle.htm>

Shortage of card stock paper causes the PTT to reduce the size of postal cards.

At the end of WW II the Dutch infrastructure and economy was suffering from shortages of everything and it took several years to catch up. Shown here are two examples of *Bericht van Adreswijziging* (address change) cards that are reduced to 74 x 104 mm rather than the regular 90 x 140 mm.

