

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

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March meeting. Attending at the home of Fred Van der Heyden's niece were: Franklin Ennik, Arno Kolster, Hans Kremer, Burt Miller, Paul Swierstra, and Fred Van der Heyden.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

Thanks to Hans Kremer a new Internet website has been established for members to find and view pdf formatted copies of the NPofC Newsletters beginning with the **January 2010 issue**. Monthly issues can now be found at: <http://www.npofc.org>. Please be aware that these monthly newsletter files are large and will take **several minutes** to download to your computer..... So, you have to be patient after you click on the link. Those members who have requested mailed copies of the newsletter will continue to receive them via that delivery.

AROUND THE TABLE

Arno Kolster passed around copies of two Dutch stamp auction catalogs: *Catalogus Filatelistische Jubilea 82-84*, (a celebration of) *60 Jaar Maandblad*, *75 Jaar Bond*, en *100 Jaar Filatelie*. This edition includes a long article about cross-border postal rates in force with adjacent countries during the use of the 1852 first issues of Dutch postage stamps. The other auction catalog was a current, bound edition of *Nederlandsche Postzegelgeving 24 t/m 26 maart 2011*. In it were lots of spectacular color illustrations of classic Netherlands and related philatelic materials, among other things.

Hans Kremer summarized his recent holiday trip to the Caribbean with a visit to the 'new' configuration of the former Netherlands Antilles Islands and a visit to the Curaçao Postal Museum. Hans showed us the 2009 postal rate cards of Aruba; a copy of the Netherlands 1939 (100 years railroad) commemorative with the "windshield wiper blade" plate fault, NVPH nr. 326 P; a 1909 'banana boat' (pakketboot) cover sent from Suriname to New York; a 1907 post card illustrated with a photo of famous 'Fillmore Auditorium' at the corner of Post & Fillmore Streets and sent from San Francisco, CA to De Rijk (N.H.); a clipping from *Linn's Stamp News*, March 21, 2011, featuring the first of a new, unique series of (70) personal stamps, featuring species of Netherlands birds, that with a special audio pen will play the song of the illustrated bird when you hold the pen point close to the stamp; and finally, a 1950s post card sent to the US with insufficient postage in which the postal clerk, by confusing the amount due (14 cents) and converting from Dutch cents to French (gold) centimes to US cents, over charged the due amount by two cents. UPU rules stipulate that **twice** the missing amount must be converted from the originating countries' currency to gold centimes to the receiving countries' currency and collected from the postal recipient upon arrival.

The **April 16th meeting** will be held at the home of George Vandenberg in San Jose, CA starting at 1:00pm. Anyone needing driving directions please contact George at (408)-270-6276,
The **May 21st meeting** will be held at the home of Stuart Leven in San Jose, CA starting at 1:00pm. Anyone needing driving directions please contact Stuart at (408) 978-0193.

Paul Swierstra summarized his recent trip to the Netherlands and passed around the new, increased 2011 postal rate schedules. On his wanderings about Amsterdam he came across the only remaining post office still operating in Amsterdam. This office still provides full postal service; mostly to the central downtown business/financial district known as the Stads-Opera or “Stopera.” Before the original post offices were all closed, postal offices and services were open and available only during set hours of the day, and often not convenient to many people. Now, postal services have been contracted to all manner of other businesses and locations, such as grocery stores, drug stores, department stores, shopping malls, etc. As a result, postal patrons can now transact their postal needs at many more convenient locations, and, for as long as the businesses are open.

Franklin Ennik passed around a business letter sheet franked with a 5 cent Willem III, post-dated July 25, 1887 and sent from Tilburg to Goirle (N.Br.); a 1913 business post card sent from Stedum to Groningen; an 1897 post card sent from Amsterdam to Bruxelles, Belgique and cancelled with a large-round Amsterdam-Antwerpen train cancel on the second trip of the day; and a drukwerk post card sent from Scheveningen-Kurhaus 3, postdated August 17, 1909, and arriving Brazzaville, French Congo September 20, 1909. That’s a 33 day journey via ship.



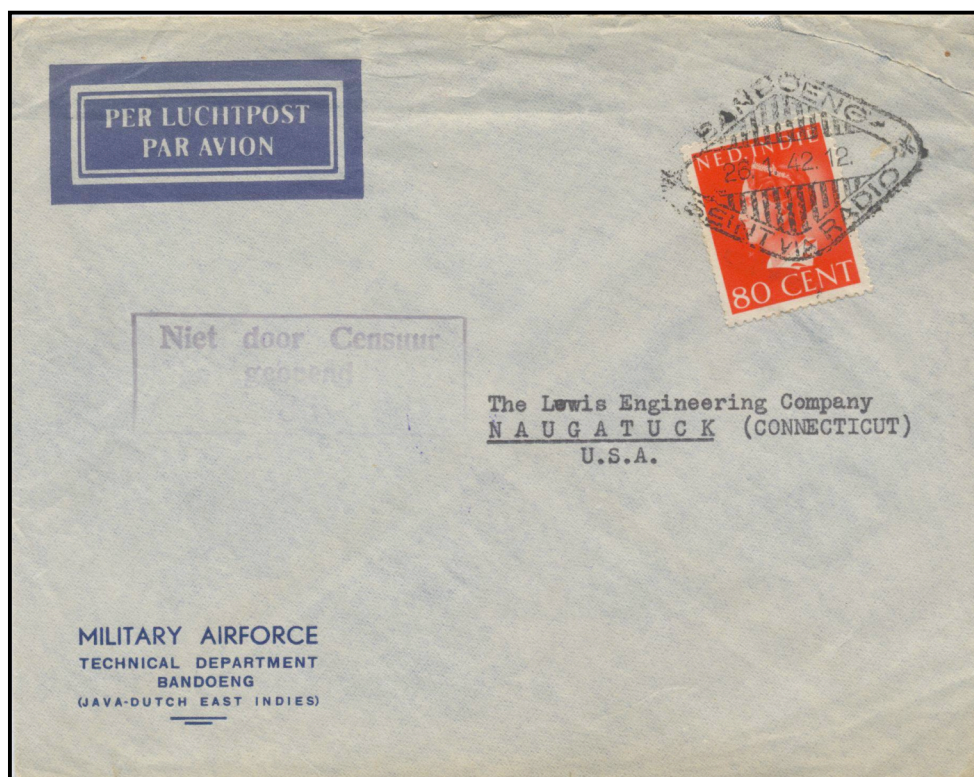
CANCEL OF THE MONTH

The March winner is **Hans Kremer** with a large round Enschede (Ov.) cancel post-dated 14 FEB 74 on an 1869, 2 cent brown-yellow *wapen* issue. Of interest here is that the indicated month, **FEB** is inserted backwards in the inner circle of the cancel. The exchangeable day, month and year were all separate pieces to be replaced by the postal clerk either daily, monthly or annually. Once in a while we see the result of a hurry up job.



COVER OF THE MONTH

The March winner is **Franklin Ennik** with an uncensored 1942 Dutch East Indies airmail cover with a **Bandoeng Seint via Radio** cancel.



The triangular **Seint via Radio** cancels were a kind of slogan cancel introduced in the Netherlands Indies in July 1931 and were used at post offices: Bandoeng, Buitenzorg, Cheribon, Medan, Makassar, Padang, Palembang and Soerabaja. These cancels were in use until 1935 but the Bandoeng and Soerabaja cancels were in continuous use until January 1942. The Bandoeng January 26, 1942 cancel shown here is a late use example on an 80 cent, 1941 Queen Wilhelmina issue (NVPH nr. 284, Scott no. 244).

This uncensored correspondence was sent from the Militaire Luchtvaart Hoofd v/d Technische Dienst (Headquarters of the Military Airforce Technical Department, Bandoeng, Java-Dutch East Indies) to the Lewis Engineering Company, Naugatuck, Connecticut. A Luchtvaart unit marker appears on the envelope reverse.

The **Seint via Radio** text urges correspondents to “*Please use radio telegram to send messages to Holland.*”

The Lewis Engineering Company, Naugatuck, CT was a pioneer in the manufacture of aircraft instrumentation.



Please note that the next meeting, April 16th at George Vandenberg’s home, is Theme Month with Queen Juliana as the subject. Members are reminded to bring Juliana related materials and memorabilia to share during the ‘Round the Table’ discussion. See short article on page 5.

Just another 1916 postal card, or is there more to it?

With thanks to Hans Kremer

On eBay I noticed the postal card shown here. Because it had a number of cancellations and an added on stamp, I downloaded it. Opening bid was \$8; too steep I thought.



Postal card sent October 13, 1916 from Bloemendaal to Woudenberg

The earliest cancellation on this card shows a continuous Krag type cancel dated **Haarlem/13.X.16. 7-8N**, but then I also notice a ½ cent stamp invalidated with a shortbar **Haarlem / 13.X.7^N / 1916** cancel. So this pre-imprinted 2 cent postal card was first cancelled between the hours of 7 and 8 pm (7-8N), but then again at 7 pm (7^N). Although chronologically 7 pm could be earlier than 7-8 pm I don't think the shortbar cancel was applied first.

When I checked the postal rates in existence on October 13, 1916 it turned out that the correct rate was 2½ cent, not 2 cent. A postal employee noticed this and had to make a decision. He could take the card back to the sender asking for another ½ cent, he could have put a postage due marker on it, which would mean that the recipient had to fork over 2½ cent (the minimum postage due amount in 1916), or he could put a ½ cent stamp on himself and ask the sender the next day to reimburse him. It's also possible that the sender himself added the ½ cent stamp and that two different cancels were used to invalidate everything. We will never know.

Up to October 16, 1916 you had to pay an extra ½ cent (these days you would call this a convenience fee) for a pre-imprinted postal card; after that date you paid just for the postage, not extra for the card. New postal cards of 2 (for local use) and 3 cent were printed, (now costing 2 or 3 cents respectively, without having to pay an extra ½ cent surcharge), to be available as per October 16. It turns out that these cards were 'released' early. The *N.R.C* newspaper notice of *16 oktober 1916* (see next page) mentions october 12, but Geuzendam lists October 14, 1916 as earliest known date. The October 13th 2 cent postal card shown here corrects this date.

Overgangsmatregelen. a. Bij het publiek nog voorradige Rijkbriefkaarten met zegelopdruk van 1½ en 2½ cent kunnen tot nader bericht zonder bijbetaling tegen briefkaarten met zegelopdruk van 2, resp. 3 cent worden ingewisseld.

Desgewenscht kunnen de bestaande briefkaarten, welke nog bij het publiek voorhanden zijn, worden opgebruikt, na bijplakking door den afzender van een frankerzegel van ½ cent. Geschiedt dit niet, dan worden de kaarten belast met het port der ontoereikend gefrankeerde briefkaarten. De nieuwe briefkaarten (met zegelopdruk van 2, resp. 3 cent) zijn van Donderdag 12 October 1916 af op de postkantoren verkrijgbaar.

After unearthing this information I no longer found that \$8 was too much for the cover. I ended up bidding on it and (for \$8) I now am the owner of it.

References:
Geuzendam's Catalogus van de Postwaardestukken van Nederland en Overzeese Rijksdelen, 8e editie, PO&PO, 2008.
Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant. 16 October 1916.

A 1934 Crisis stamp - Juliana's first stamp. With thanks to Hans Kremer

The Netherlands, like most other countries, went through a severe depression from about 1930 through 1939. Extremely high unemployment was one of the unfortunate symptoms of this world-wide economic condition.

In order to alleviate some of the problems the government set up a National Crisis Committee (NCC), whose main function was to collect funds to help the needy.

One way to collect funds was to issue surcharged stamps and postal cards.

The postal cards appeared in 1933; however, the stamps, due to other priorities, had to wait until 1934.



Figure 1. Surcharged Crisis Postal Card of 1933.

Then, Princess Juliana was the Honorary President of the NCC and depicting her on the two surcharged stamps to be issued was the preference of the NCC. Originally only one stamp (6 cent plus a 9 cent surcharge) was proposed, but the PTT suggested two stamps, both depicting Juliana.



Figure 2. Sketch of Juliana made by P. van Baarsel.

Queen Wilhelmina however thought that that would be too much, so in the end Queen Wilhelmina appeared on the 5 cent + 4 cent stamp, while Princess Juliana became the subject of the 6 cent + 5 cent stamp.

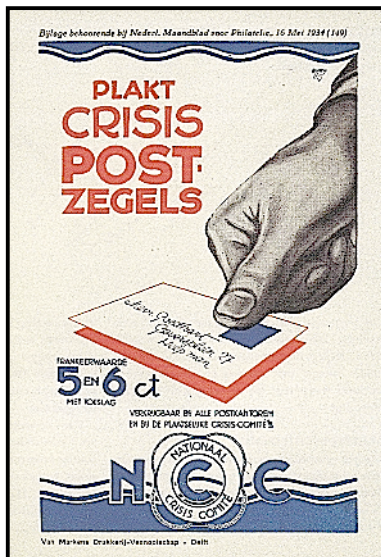
Figure 3. The first stamp with Princess Juliana on it (1934).



When you read the background history of many of the Dutch stamps, coming up with a design that satisfied the designer, the PTT and often the King or Queen was not easy. A fair number of first designs were rejected and this

was also the case here. Making it even more complicated was the fact that the Crisis stamps were designed by two people; the 5 cent (Wilhelmina) by Fokko Mees and the 6 cent (Juliana) by Pieter van Baarsel.

Mr. van Baarsel had earlier designed the 5 cent and 12½ cent denominations of the 400 Year William of Orange stamps (1933), so he was not new to the game. Juliana posed especially for him in order to make some sketches, which could be used as the basis of the stamp design.



After some back and forth correspondence a final design was agreed upon and the stamp was released on April 28, 1934 (a Saturday), two days before Juliana's 25th birthday so just in time for people to be able to apply the stamp to letters mailed on April 30. The 6 cent rate paid for a domestic letter.

The total surcharge collected from the 6 cent stamp sales was about fl. 40,000.

To promote the two Crisis stamps posters were put up in the post offices urging people to buy them.

Figure 4. Crisis stamp poster (1934).

References:

Handboek Postwaarden Nederland, Section C-20:1-13. Johan Enschedé. Ongoing publication.

www.postzegelblog.nl/2009/11/08/economischecrisis-hobbys-schieten-er-bij-in/

www.postzegelontwerpen.nl