

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

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Honorary Members:

John Heimans
George Vandenberg
† Ralph Van Heerden
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September 2010

August Picnic and meeting. Attending at the home of Stuart and Ai Ling Leven were: Franklin Ennik, HansPaul and Maury Hager, Hans Kremer, Stuart and Ai Ling Leven, Burt and Jo Ann Miller, Albert Muller, Paul Swierstra, George and Claire Vandenberg, and Fred Van der Heyden.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

A grand and sumptuous feast was enjoyed by all at our **summer pot luck picnic** hosted by the Levens. The weather cooperated with sunny, warm temperatures. Many thanks for all the contributions.

Honorary membership was bestowed on founding member **George Vandenberg** in honor and appreciation for his 40 years of service to NPofC, his contributions to the study of Netherlands area philately and in celebration of his 80th birthday. Congratulations George!!

We are pleased that **HansPaul Hager** and family have returned to the San Francisco Bay Area from the northeastern US.

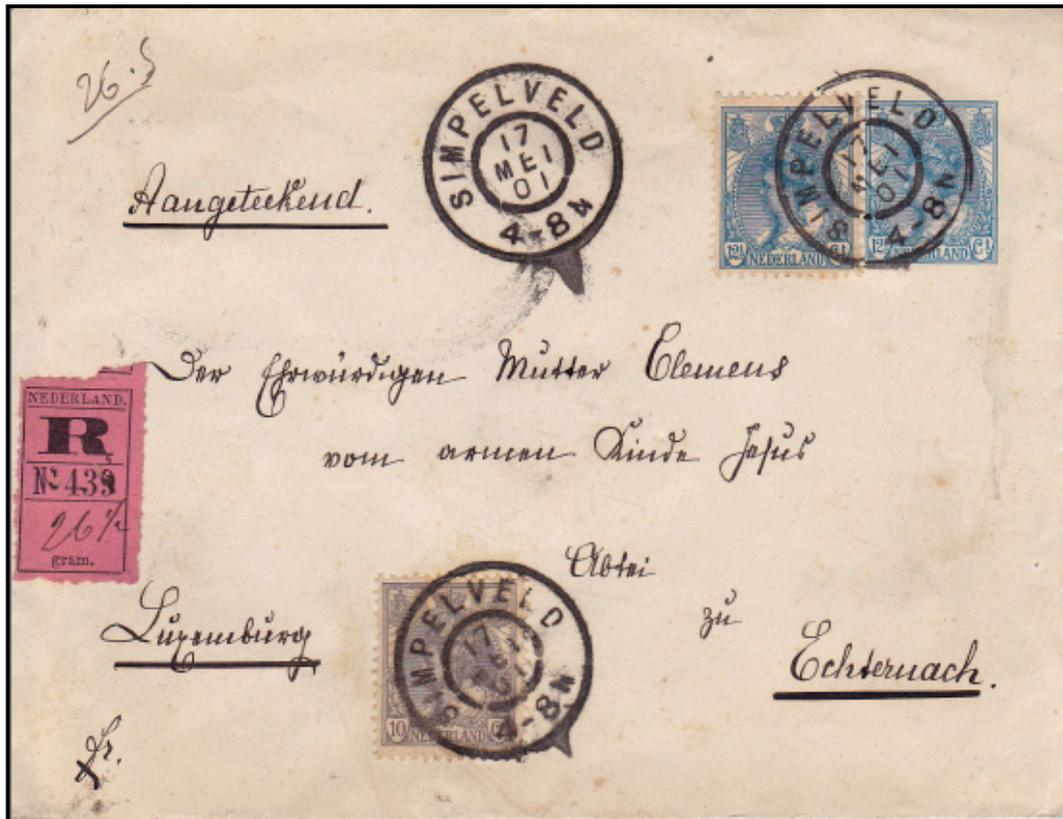
AROUND the TABLE

Paul Swierstra commented that correspondence sent to him from Paris, France arrives in 2 days and post cards with priority stickers sent from interior Netherlands arrives in 5 days. Mail sent from the Netherlands to the US *without priority stickers* can take up two months. Paul related that shippers/suppliers/publishers will often consolidate bulk items and send via air freight rates to lower their shipping costs, for example, sales and auction catalogs. The receiving consolidator then forwards the separate pieces as mail, be it surface mail, 3rd class, library mail or whatever can be used. The total cost for sending a catalog then becomes less than airmail/surface mail from origin to destination.

Hans Kremer reminded us that after 14 years he is no longer Editor of the ASNP Magazine, *Netherlands Philately*. The new Editor is Alex Nuijten and he will be assisted by Tony Schrier and Erik Roos. The cover of the mailed copy is now multicolor but the articles will continue in black and white for now. Hans also showed us a colorful and ornate, privately printed telegram cover (*Gelukwenschtelegram* = Congratulations telegram) mailed in 1948 with a 2 cent postage stamp. Official telegrams sent by the PTT were printed in plain text and paid for with telegraph stamps. See the website: www.postzegelblog.nl augustus 20 for a similar illustrated example. Another interesting cover shown had an early pink registration sticker and was posted May 17, 1901 from Simpelveld, Limburg. For a short period, red wax seals were required on registered letters carrying valuables. However, in 1901 this was no longer required. The town of Simpelveld is located near the Limburg border with Germany

The **September 18th meeting** will be held at the home of Burt Miller, in Pacifica, CA starting at 1:00 pm. Burt's telephone number: 650-359-0858. For driving directions, please contact Burt.
The **October 16th meeting** will be hosted by Fred Van der Heyden starting at 1:00 pm. Fred's telephone number: 510-653-5253. For meeting location and directions, please contact Fred.

just northwest of Aachen, Germany. On the reverse are five red wax seals, plus two Belgian transit cancels of Liege-Valeurs (17 Mai 01) and an Echternach 18-5-01 (Luxemburg) arrival cancel. Valeurs stands for “value” which I make to mean “registered.”



Fred Van der Heyden showed us a graduation program of naval cadets from an Amsterdam tall ships mariners’ school; a copy of a vintage California auto road map, *Hamilton’s Illustrated Auto Road Map*, 4th edition, that reads almost like a GPS/MapQuest; and vintage post cards illustrating Yosemite Park and the canals of Amsterdam.

Stuart Leven passed around one of his albums of Netherlands East Indies with examples of long-bar town cancels.

George Vandenberg gave thanks and appreciation to NPofC for bestowing on him Honorary Membership and summarized his 40 years of interest in the study of Netherlands area philately. George also passed around a well displayed, representative mint collection of 1939-1945 Netherlands East Indies stamps which illustrates the various issues and printings just prior to and during the WW II years.

Franklin Ennik summarized his recent holiday trip to the Netherlands which included sightseeing in the country side of the provinces of Noord Holland, Friesland, Drenthe, Groningen, and Overijssel; visits to the Drents Museum in Assen; the Historical Association and Museum in Nieuwleusen; the Nienoord Park and National Carriage (Rijtuig) Museum in Leek; and the annual flea markets in Egmond aan Zee and in Dedemsvaart. Several restored examples of 19th Century post coaches, just like the line drawing featured

on the NPofC Newsletter masthead, were observed among the more than 350 restored carriages. Some very nice vintage post cards, with interesting post marks, were found at these annual flea markets.

CANCEL OF THE MONTH

The August winner is **Hans Kremer** with a 1897 small round cancel of **BEEK (LIMB:)**.

Shown is a **BEEK (LIMB:)** small round cancel dated July 2, 1897, with a single letter time interval of "4-8 N" (= 4pm to 8pm). The 4 hour time intervals were used only between noon and midnight at sub-post offices. Small round cancels were officially in use in the Netherlands from 1877 through 1894, when they started to be replaced by the large round cancel. Beek received its first small round cancel, **BEEK: LIMB:**, on November 8, 1880, but on April 4, 1892 an additional small round cancel was issued with a slightly different text: **BEEK (LIMB:)** as shown here. A large round cancel, to replace these small round cancels, was received on March 9, 1901.



"Recent" Beek dates from about 1150, although archaeological digs have established a human settlement as far back as 5,000 B.C., making it the oldest village in the Netherlands. Beek is situated in southern Limburg province, a little northeast of Maastricht on highway A2. Two other cities with the name of Beek are located in the province of Gelderland. The yellow-brown 15 cent Wilhelmina "with hanging hair" stamp was first issued in 1891. About four million of these stamps were sold. This stamp was most likely used to mail a postal parcel.

COVER OF THE MONTH

The August winner is **Hans Kremer** with a 1944 registered cover with a special stamp show cancel.



The cover shows the special cancel of the LIPA (*Ligue Internationale Philatélique et Aerophilatélique*) stamp show which was held June 2nd and 3rd, 1944 in the Pulchri Studio in The Hague.

The cover is a registered local letter for which the correct rate was 5 cent regular rate plus 10 cent registration surcharge, for a total of 15 cent. The letter is franked with copies of the 1943 1 cent “seahorse” and 2 cent “swan” of the Germanic symbols issue, plus the 12½ cent Maarten Harpertz. Tromp stamp of the 1943/1944 Naval Heroes issue. The letter is ½ cent over-franked.

200,000 copies of the 2 cent Germanic symbols “swan” stamp were punched with a PERFINed cross design and printed on the back (over the gum) with a number and text **PRIJS 15 CENT / toeslag ten bate / Ned. Roode Kruis**. Most cancellations of this PERFIN are CTO (cancelled to order). Two configurations of the PERFINed cross design exist.

A Unique Cancel: UTRECHT (EXP. VOOR BELGIË). with thanks to Hans Kremer

Being mainly interested in postal history, one of my favorite Websites is www.postalhistory.com. It is a commercial site that offers worldwide philatelic covers at reasonable price. At any time there are hundreds of Dutch covers for sale on this site. One of these covers is shown here. I paid \$25 for it. Why?



What got my attention is the **UTRECHT (EXP. VOOR BELGIË)** shortbar radertype cancel like the example shown to the right. I had never seen it before or was even aware of it. I passed on the information about this cover to Bert van Marrewijk whom I consider the ultimate expert on anything having to do with the radertype cancels. I asked him if he thought it would be worth \$25. He replied that he thought so, so I bought it.



Upon receipt I forwarded a front and back scan of it to Bert asking for additional information. He replied:

“This cancel was used between 1914 and 1919 to send large bundles of mail (via Aachen in Germany) from Belgian refugees in the Netherlands, destined for “home” (i.e. Belgium). It is an administrative cancel and was mainly used to cancel the wrappers and labels used to bundle these letters. It was not often used on singular letters, only on returned registered mail and other types of *unusual mail*.”

As can be seen we are dealing here with a returned registered letter, because on the front one can notice a red **TERUG NAAR:** (Return To:) cancel and on the back, also in red **TERUG MOET – OPEN – ZYN** (*Sent back, (letter) has to be open*).



I was still looking for more information about this cancel and that’s why I also consulted Cees Janssen and he came up with the official announcement of this cancel

and a copy of the cancel that was made for the PTT’s “book of issued cancels.” It turns out that the **Exp** part of the cancel stands for **Expeditiebureel** (forwarding office). The cancel was first issued February 26, 1915 and ended its run by the end of 1918, or early 1919.

A straight line cancel with the same name was issued in January of 1915.



An announcement in the *Nieuwe Rotterdamsche Courant* (N.R.C.) of February 21, 1915 mentions that all letters and postcards destined for locations in Belgium will be forwarded through Utrecht, and from there onwards to Aachen, Germany before being sent on to Belgium.



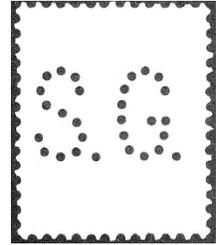
In Utrecht all mail will be checked to see if it complies with the various rules and regulations. A number of employees are assigned to this task. If a rule is violated the item will be returned to its sender.

This then must be the explanation of the cover shown here. It was a closed registered mail letter and most likely according to the regulations such a letter should have been sent in an open, not closed

envelope.

The cover has a number of date cancels. The letter was cancelled respectively: ENKHUIZEN May 28, 1918, then UTRECHT (EXP. VOOR BELGIË) on May 29, 1915, 1 p.m. and finally on the back ENKHUIZEN May 29, 1918, 6 p.m.

As a 'bonus': this envelope is franked with three different denomination stamps, all perforated **S. G.** The perfin **S. G.** stands for *NV Sluis en Groot's Koninklijke Zaaiteelt en Zaadhandel*. The Perfin catalog mentions 1918-1929 as the period of use of the **S.G.** perfin..... so this is an early use of their perfin.



For my \$25 I had many hours of fun, learned something and maybe you the reader did too.

A stamped, reply letter goes awry due to misplaced address label. Editor

Roeland Suylen sent along a courtesy stamped, addressed envelope to a correspondent in the village of De Rijp (NH.), with the expectation of getting a reply from him. The correspondent put his return address (house number **74**, and postcode **1483 BE**) in the upper left corner and put the letter with his reply in the outgoing post box. It is common in the Netherlands to give only the house number and postcode as a return address on letters.

The TNT sorting machine kicked the letter out of the mail stream because it couldn't find the address in the proper area on the envelope. For some reason Roeland Suylen applied his address sticker too high on the envelope thus making it appear to the sorting machine as a return address. The postal clerk applied a **FRANKERING GECONTROLEERD** (franking control) sticker on the letter and returned it to the sender in De Rijp.

Sometimes.....robots can think.

