

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

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May 2011

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

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

WESTPEX 2011. NPofC has reserved a meeting room at the upcoming WESTPEX 2011 Stamp Show, which will be held 29 April – 1 May 2011 at the San Francisco Airport Marriott Hotel. NPofC will meet Saturday, April 30, 2011 in Room 6096 at 12:00 noon. This general meeting will be open to all members and the public. For general information about the WESTPEX Show.....see westpex.com. There will be 300 exhibit frames and a 75 dealer bourse. The Western Philatelic Library will also be present with a wide selection of philatelic literature and tear-sheets for sale.

Name change for the TNT postal authority. Due the sharp competition of private delivery firms in the Netherlands and swift changes in the EU postal business community, the TNT postal authority will change its name, once again, this time to **PostNL** as of May 31, 2011. Other EU postal systems are also revamping their images with new logos.

April was declared Queen Juliana Theme Month and members were urged to bring philatelic and other items illustrating Juliana to share during the Around the Table portion of the meeting.

AROUND THE TABLE

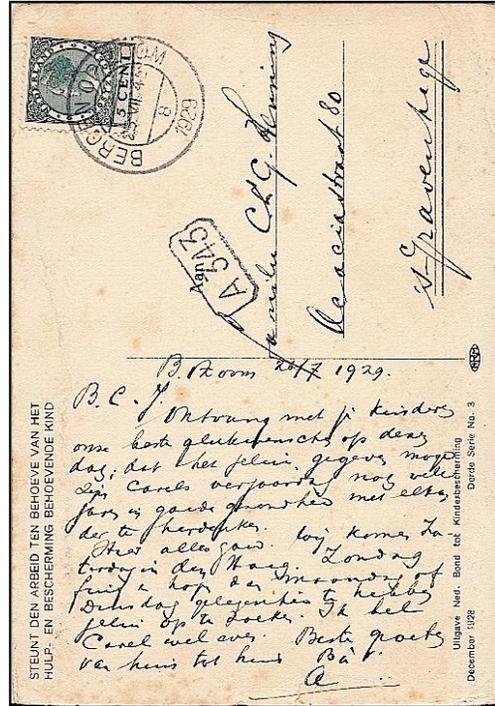
Hans Kremer showed us examples of envelopes with various Juliana postal issues and stamps from his Netherlands collection and, in addition to the *en face* and *profile* denominated series, there were 17 stamps illustrating Queen Juliana during her reign. A more comprehensive article that discusses and illustrates the various stamps issued with Juliana, including the colonial territories, can be found in *Netherlands Philately* 7(3):42-48, March 1982. The full name of Queen Juliana was Juliana Louise Emma Marie Wilhelmina. Juliana reigned between September 1948 and April 1980 and was succeeded by her daughter Beatrix. See additional information in *Wikipedia: Juliana of the Netherlands*.



*Juliana in 1933
at age 24.*

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.
The **June 18th meeting** will be held at the home of Arno Kolster in San Francisco, CA starting at 1:00pm. Anyone needing driving directions please contact Arno at (415) 348-1271.

Hans also discussed a series of post cards illustrating the art work of stamp designer Jan Veth. Post card sets of six of his paintings along with six of Frans Hals' paintings were sold in post offices and larger department stores during the late 1920s to support the efforts of Child Welfare in the *Steunt den Arbeid ten Behoeve van het Kind Hulp- en Bescherming Behoevende Kind* (Support the work being done to benefit children needing help and protection). Shown here is the *Larensch meisje* by Jan Veth.



Note: The original color painting by Jan Veth is shown here, the postcard image is in B/W

Fred Van der Heyden showed us a medley of philatelic curiosities including a combo camping spatula and bottle opener that was sent through the mails; a series of small, vintage photographs, some with revenue stamps; vintage publicity photos of stage dancing girls; a letter sent on the Graf Zeppelin flight to Los Angeles/Long Beach; a series of picture post cards depicting the Allied military occupation of Japan after WW II and a returned Zeppelin letter that was sent a second time from Friedrichshafen through New York to San Francisco.

George Vandenberg passed around a large 1810 map of the Netherlands showing postal routes of that period; and several Suriname covers franked with the **Vlucht Do.X 1931** overprinted airmails. From the NVPH Suriname catalog we see the following:

This series (of seven stamps) was issued on the occasion of the visit of the German Do.X flying boat to Paramaribo in August 1931. The overprinting was done by the Government Printing Works in Paramaribo. The overprinted stamps were only used for postage on mail sent on the Do.X. After the departure of this flight the unsold inventory was destroyed. Note: the red overprint dissolves in hot water.



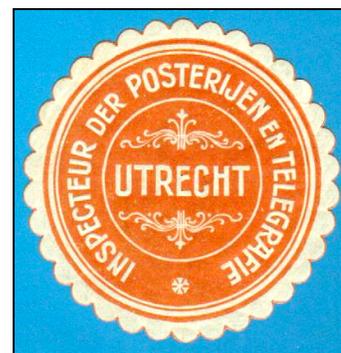
George also showed us examples of leaflets dropped by the Allies over the Netherlands after the German surrender on 10 May 1945; some envelopes franked with Juliana stamps addressed to Hollywood starlet Doris Day; a commemorative envelope franked with Juliana stamps sent by the Vliegende Hollander Club; and an article from Museum Spakenburg (Utr.) describing the tentoonstelling (exhibition) currently running 1 April to 29 October 2011. A paraphrase of the article reads:

*From April 1 to October 29 you can see the “**Sjòon**” exhibition. In this exhibition you will have plenty of opportunity to discover Spakenburg cleaning secrets. Spakenburg women have always been renowned for their cleanliness. They set themselves to this task well beyond the village limits. Women from Spakenburg were chosen for the maintenance department at **Queen Juliana’s Soestdijk Palace**. Why is Spakenburg so clean? How do they keep the clothes clean? What stain remedies do the ladies use? What are the differences, then and now? You can explore all these questions at Museum Spakenburg.*

Franklin Ennik passed around a 1924, 5 cent Antwoord postal card that was overprinted **BRIEFKAART** and revalued **7½ cent**; a September 25, 2001 PTT Post presentation pack of the 12.75 guilder Silver Surprise stamp, the last guilder denominated stamp; a birth notice envelope franked with two (non-priority), non-denominated 44 cent stamps that took 1½ months to deliver; and a small visitekaart envelope sent to the US December 1, 1948 and franked with 24 cent.

Burt Miller summarized his recent holiday visit to Europe and showed us pages from his Netherlands collection which emphasized the 1949-1952 Juliana *en face* issues. There are two plate print types of the 5 gulden stamp in this series which resulted in slightly different color varieties.

Paul Swierstra summarized his recent holiday visit to the Netherlands where he learned that the last (old fashioned) Amsterdam post office will close on October 6, 2011. Paul also passed around a vintage PTT telegram that had been sealed with a sluitzegel, and a one page illustration showing 12 different telegram sluitzegel designs used over the years by the PTT. The sluitzegel design shown here was issued for use by the Utrecht Post and Telegraph office (before incorporating Telephone service = PTT).



HansPaul Hager showed us his collection of sluitzegels that were issued for personal use by the office of Queen Juliana; a tax bill for one of Queen Juliana’s properties; and his large collection of cinderellas depicting Queen Juliana.

CANCEL OF THE MONTH

The April winner is **Hans Kremer** with a Wijhe 1955 typewheel cancel.

Shown is a WIJHE / 2 longbar rader typewheel cancel dated July 26, 1955. Wijhe received its first typewheel cancel **Wijhe / 2** in 1911 and it has been in use as late as 1955.

This stamp with the *profile* image of Queen Juliana was issued December 15, 1954 on the occasion of the **Charter for the Kingdom of the Netherlands** (in Dutch: *Statuut voor het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden*)



which formed the political relationship between the three different countries which make up the Kingdom of the Netherlands: Suriname in South America, the Netherlands Antilles (Aruba, Curaçao, and Sint Maarten) in the Caribbean and the Netherlands in Europe. It was the leading legal document of the Kingdom. The Constitution for the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Basic Laws of the two other countries were legally subordinate to the Charter. Wijhe is located east of Heerde on the banks of the IJssel River in the province of Overijssel. Similar designs of this stamp were issued for Netherlands Antilles and Suriname.

COVER OF THE MONTH

The April winner is **Hans Kremer** with a commemorative cover celebrating the Juliana/Bernhard 25th Wedding Anniversary.



This First Day Cover commemorates the 25th Wedding Anniversary of then Princess Juliana to Bernhard von Lippe-Biesterfeld.

In the 1930s, Queen Wilhelmina began a search for a suitable husband for her daughter. At the time, the House of Orange was one of the most strictly religious royal families in the world, and it was very difficult to find a Protestant Prince who suited their standards. Princes from the United Kingdom and Sweden were “vetted” but either declined or were rejected by the Princess.

At the 1936 Winter Olympics in Bavaria, she met Prince Bernhard of Lippe-Biesterfeld, a young German aristocrat. Prince Bernhard was a suave young businessman, and though not a playboy, was certainly a “man about town” with a dashing lifestyle. But his rank and religion were suitable, and so Princess Juliana’s royal engagement was arranged by her mother.

The wedding announcement divided a country that mistrusted Germany under Adolf Hitler. Prior to the wedding, on 24 November 1936, Prince Bernhard was granted Dutch citizenship and changed the spelling of his names from German to Dutch. They married in the Hague on 7 January 1937, the date on which Princess Juliana’s grandparents, King William III and Queen Emma, had married fifty-eight years earlier. The civil ceremony was held in The Hague Town Hall and marriage was blessed in St. Jacobskerk (*Grote Kerk of Sint Jacobskerk*), likewise in The Hague. The young couple then moved into Soestdijk Palace near Baarn.

OTHER CATEGORY OF THE MONTH

The April winner is **Franklin Ennik** with an unusual straight-line cancel of Appelscha (Fr.) on a 1962 Kinderzegel on a post card fragment.

This 4 cent + 4 cent was part of a five-stamp Kinderzegel set issued



November 12, 1962 under the title, *Vrije Tijd* (= Care-Free Time) and illustrates how young people in the Netherlands occupy their free time. These issues were valid for postal use until December 31, 1963. The PTT employed many young people to help cancel the huge volumes of year-end holiday mail at *larger* Post Offices. During this period the usual straight line canceller issued by the PTT for this purpose was boxed with the town name in block letters, for example:

DEVENTER Appelscha is a small village and likely didn't get issued an official PTT canceller. It is my guess that this cancel with the un-boxed, small lower-case letters was locally made. Inquiries at the Appelscha post office (some 45 years later) were unsuccessful as to whether this assumption was true. If anyone has other examples of this style of cancel from this period in their collection.....please contact the editor.

Priority Printed Matter 1928-1946

with thanks to Hans Kremer

For about 20 years it was possible to send printed matter on a priority or **Spoed** basis. This priority option should not be confused with Express mail.

Express mail went through the regular mail stream (without any priority) until it reached the post office of its destination. That's when the express delivery became relevant. The item would be delivered right away.

Priority printed matter mail as discussed here is of a different nature.

If a single piece of printed matter got mixed in with a large volume of pieces of identical printed matter it could take some time before it was delivered, since parts of high quantities of identical printed matter was occasionally set aside for a day or two.

As per February 1, 1928 the PTT offered a new service: Priority handling of printed matter.

The rate for printed matter was per February 1, 1928 lowered from 2 to 1½ cent (for the first 50 grams), but if you wanted your printed matter to be handled with the same urgency as regular letters the rate was set at 2 cent. The sender was advised to put the word **Spoed**, or something similar to that, above the address.

Express printed matter had to be sent as priority mail, which meant that for an express printed matter item, the postage would be 10 cent surcharge for express mail plus a mandatory 2 cent for the priority 'option'.



Express Printed Matter: 2 cent for Priority (Spoed) Printed matter plus 10 cent for Express surcharge.

As per November 1, 1946 this priority option was no longer available.



1937 Priority printed matter. 2 cent was the correct rate. Note the SPOED notation above the address.

References:

W.S. Da Costa. Binnenlandse en Internationale Posttarieven van Nederland 1850-1990. (Table 3(end)). *PO&PO*. 1990.

Les Jobbins. Netherlands National and Local Express Mail. *The Netherlands Philatelist* 25(6): March 2006.

Handboek Postwaarden Nederland. TAR-B-12. Joh. Enschedé.