

NETHERLANDS PHILATELISTS of CALIFORNIA (now in its 47th year)

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August 20th Meeting and potluck. Attending at the home of Hans and Willy Kremer were Dennis and Carolyn Buss, Franklin and Meriel Ennik, HansPaul and Maury Hager, Hans and Willy Kremer, Fred Van der Heyden, Paul Swierstra, Els Winters, Claire Vandenberg and JoAnn Miller.

YEARBOOK anyone???? NPofC's eighth (and latest) Yearbook was published in 2009. Several of our members expressed interest in producing our next one and titles of proposed articles have been aired to start things off. NPofC members have gathered a wealth of knowledge about their special focus regarding Netherlands and former territories philately. Are there any philatelic topics that you've been thinking about or working on that need airing, summarized or clarified?? What say you, members.....Let's hear from you and get your knowledge in print so it doesn't get lost. Please submit your text in Word .doc format and illustration scans in not more than 400 dpi.

We have established a target press date of Fall 2016 for the **NPofC Commemorative 47**¹/₂ **YearBook** edition. As Editor, I urge members to submit their articles as soon as possible so that we can get this done. Titles submitted so far are:

The **September 17th meeting** will be held at the Western Philatelic Library in Redwood City starting at 12:00 noon. Their' telephone number is 650-306-9150.

Please Note: The deadline for accepting articles for the NPofC 47¹/₂ Commemorative Year Book has been set at September 15, 2016. If you plan to submit an article for this Edition, as your Editor, I invite and urge you to do so before then.

Our NPofC summer potluck hosted by Hans and Willy Kremer and held Saturday August 20, 2016 was a grand success......The pot-luck menu supplied by everyone was varied and delicious and the sunny California weather co-operated by not being unpleasant. We are always pleased to welcome our spouses to this gathering.

Since no stamp business was conductedthis Newsletter will be a short one.

Dutch Letter-Box Stickers -- NEE/JA or NEE/NEE

By Franklin Ennik

The Netherlands postal authority and private delivery firms deliver every year, newspapers, advertising flyers, junk mail, presorted business mail, leaflets and unaddressed (occupant) solicitations, into Dutch mail slots and road side mail boxes. Estimates of 34 Kg (approximately 75 lbs.) or more of junk mail, etc., is received by Dutch households every year.

In an effort to reduce the amount of unwanted advertisements and local newspapers, and therefore the gross consumption of paper, a solution was needed. A solution was invented and introduced in 1992 by members of the Dutch Dialogue Marketing Association (previously known as the *Nederlandse Direct Marketing Instituut*). One of these marketing companies was *Stichting Loesje* with this slogan: **GEEN RECLAME S.V.P. / WIJ HEBBEN ALLES AL** which was taped onto mail slots and mail boxes.



This notice, meaning, **NO ADVERTISING PLEASE**, **WE HAVE EVERYTHING ALREADY**, quickly caught on and morphed into the NEE/JA sticker system that is now in place over the Netherlands and Dutch speaking areas of Belgium. In 2010 it was estimated that 18 per cent of Dutch households were using the Nee/Nee sticker on their mail slots and road side mail boxes, and it is likely higher now.

Many kinds of newspapers are published in the Netherlands every week: some local district newspapers are provided free, weekly to every household in the country but others must be subscribed to, for example the large national or city newspapers.

The official, orange and green stickers shown here are now supplied free just by asking (usually) at the city hall, *Gemeente*, offices of the *Stadsdeel kantoor* (district council office) or *wijkzaken* (district business office). The stickers are available in two variations:



NEE/NEE means NO junk mail (including advertisements and flyers) and NO free, weekly newspapers;

NEE/IA means NO junk mail or advertisements but Yes with the delivery of the local, free newspapers.

The mail customer will receive addressed, first class mail and subscribed newspapers anyway, no matter the presence of a sticker. Does anyone have a **JA/JA** sticker on their mail box?? It's not very common but having no sticker at all is equivalent to having a **JA/JA** sticker. A **JA/NEE** sticker is not available (at least officially): no company makes them. Addressed advertising is not banned by the stickers. Complaints about receiving unwanted mail can be referred to the government Stichting Reclame Code office.



Mail boxes with no stickers could conceivably receive a half dozen or more such deliveries per day of different kinds of mail, such as, first class, advertisements, packages, newspapers, business mail, etc,. Many private



firms make and sell unofficial, custommade stickers that accommodate public whims or silliness, or special needs situations and applications, for example such that might apply to large apartment blocks or business parks.



Commercie

Godsdiensten

Goede doelen

Géén geleur aan

mijn deur

Also available are *no colportage* (no canvassing) stickers to stop solicitation by charities or religious vendors knocking at your doorstep. The small stickers shown here would be placed near the doorbell. For those interested in the variety

and lengths to which these private firms will go to provide notices to ward off unwanted paper check out the Loesje stickers link given in the References.

Wachteven! Wait, Hold On ... Maybe this system could work in the US and Canada!!!

The mail box illustrations, with thanks, courtesy of my nephew, Jan E. Ennik, who lives in Appelscha (Fr.).

References:

q=loesje+stickers&hl=en&gbv=2&prmd=ivns&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjw zNGU4vjMAhUK1mMKHaHgD0cQsAQIGg control plus click to follow this link.

http://neejasticker.nl

http://nl.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/neesticker

Dutch Naval Heroes 1943.

By Hans Kremer

Most of us have seen the set of stamps issued in 1943 to honor Dutch Naval heroes. One would



think that honoring these typical Dutch heroes would not sit well with the occupying German authorities. But that was not the case. One only has to read what is said in this *Arnhemsche Courant* newspaper clipping of *July 25, 1944*. Translated, it reads:

History repeats itself: 1st English War 1652-1654, 2nd English War 1665-1667, 3rd English War 1672-1674, 4th English War 1780-1784,..... and now again, the same enemy, the Netherlands' arch enemy at sea. Evertsen, Tromp, De Ruyter...... they all went before us. They died as heroes.....we fight on.

This was followed by an appeal encouraging Dutchmen to sign up for the Kriegsmarine, the Navy of Nazi Germany from 1935 to 1945.

> On board a Mine Sweeper....A "sweeper" apparatus is being made ready. Registration as a volunteer in the German Navy is open to every Dutchman of 17-45 years and can be done at the Netherlands Kriegsmarine



recruiting branch in Utrecht. Information can also be obtained from the District Commander of Harbor and Marine Service facilities and the Waffen SS.

"Your Enemy is My Enemy" doesn't always work!!