



d.i.s.
magazine

a quarterly publication
of the Dutch
International Society
Volume 52, NO. 2
Autumn 2020

d.i.s. magazine

VOLUME 52 NO. 2
Autumn 2020

*Our cover:
Dave Hardwick's Friteswagon,
Barrie, Ontario, Canada*

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Published quarterly by
Dutch International Society
P.O. Box 7062
Grand Rapids, MI 49510

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Grand Rapids, MI 49510
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Periodical postage paid at Grand
Rapids, Michigan (USPS #103690)

POSTMASTER: Send address
changes to:

D.I.S. Magazine
P.O. Box 7062
Grand Rapids, MI 49510

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Opinions expressed in the articles
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Printed in the United States of America.

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From the Board

As we're unable to do much travel these days, I invite you to take a little trip through time with me. A few years ago we faced a presidential election described as 'the most important in our lifetime'. After months of campaigning the election hinged on a few hundred ballots in Florida and took weeks to sort out. Remember the year? It was 2000. 20 years ago!

While I'm not qualified (or dumb enough) to dive into political parallels or advice, I wanted to bring us back to the time that I joined DIS. In my late teens, I began to take interest in my roots and was excited to find an organization dedicated to preserving Dutch heritage based in my hometown. The best part? Dues were only \$10 which even a poor high school kid could afford.

As you likely know, DIS dues haven't changed since then. Despite the low-level of inflation since the turn of the millennium, a buck still ain't what it used to be. In fact, it would take over \$1.50 to get the same amount of goods or services you could get for \$1 in 2000 (For those of you thinking in Dutch, that \$1 would've been worth ~2.5 guilders as Euros weren't around yet.) In other words, your \$10 dues in the year 2000 are worth about \$6.50 in today's dollars. And surveying the board, no one could recall when dues were raised to their current levels.

So, you know what's coming next. The board recently voted to increase membership dues to \$25 beginning in 2021. You'll see in our upcoming financial statement that DIS is on track to lose money in the current budget cycle. While

we've cut some expenses this year, the vast majority of our budget is spent on putting together, printing and sending our quarterly newsletter. The board is very thankful to have Arend continue his work putting together the magazine. As you've undoubtedly noticed, we recently committed to a quality upgrade - including color - with hopes to bring in new subscribers with a quality product.

This increase will allow us to cover the expenses of the magazine and keep the organization afloat until we can return to planning events and get-togethers after the coronavirus pandemic. We hope you'll agree that \$25 is not too large an investment in promoting our Dutch heritage - along with a great quarterly magazine. We'd also ask that you continue to encourage interested friends and family to sign on. We love to hear stories of the magazine being passed around to families, churches and friends, but this doesn't help the budget!

While we know current circumstances are difficult for many organizations as well as individuals and families, we think it is more important than ever to stay connected. Please know that the board will strive to keep DIS solvent so we can continue to celebrate our heritage into the future. We're open to new ideas and new faces willing to join us in our work.

We appreciate your support!
Matt Helmus, for the DIS board

From the Editor

*Image: Canal and Bikes
Delft 2017 by Kenneth
VanDyke*



When I told my friend Ken VanDyke that I was going to be using some of his photographs from our 2017 trip to the Netherlands in some upcoming magazines a few years ago, he asked me wistfully if we could make them color issues.

You may not know that in addition to editing the *dis magazine*, I also do the layout. And since taking over production in 1996, all the issues have been in black and white.

While designing for black and white has been an interesting challenge over the years, I think wistfully of all the images - especially our cover images - that came to me in bright colors that I had to convert to black and white. I did my best to choose ones that converted well, but often they would lose their visual impact by half.

The new DIS board gave its permission to begin producing color issues of the magazine at the end of 2019 and it has been so much fun to be able to now be able to present images in their full glory. I've heard a lot of positive comments from members about the change, including graphic designer John Knight of Grand Rapids, Michigan, who called the new format "a breath of fresh air."

The photo above first graced the cover of our fall 2019 issue in black and white, but here it is again in color. You will find a few more of Ken's images that appeared in previous issues reprinted in color scattered through the rest of the pages of this issue.

You will also find a number of colorful stories in this issue that I hope will brighten your days in these dark times.

(continued on page 19)





Food Truck + Fries = FritesWagon

by Arend Vander Pols
and Dave Hardwick

One of the things Dave Hardwick enjoyed most during a trip to the Netherlands in 2018 was what he calls “the snack culture”.

Snack bars with hot food vending machines, frites shops on every other corner of Amsterdam with all of the delicious sauces on top, even sitting outside the front of a restaurant, having some bitterballen and a beer in the evening and just enjoying the atmosphere...rain or shine, hot or cold, it just seemed like eating on the go and having snacks throughout the day was the most common way of life, which is far different from the three meals a day that I grew up with.

When Dave returned home to Barrie, Ontario, he wanted to recreate his Dutch snack experience for his children. He went to his local Dutch store, Continental Specialties, and bought some frozen bitterballen and kroketten, made some fries, and



held a snack party. It was fun, Dave said, but it just wasn't the same. He decided to make it his mission to come up with a few recipes that were as close to authentic possible.

Dave, who has a passion for cooking and an extensive background in restaurants and restaurant management, had always wanted to own and operate his own business. As he was experimenting with creating Dutch snacks, it occurred to him that since Barrie was something of a Dutch enclave, there might be a demand for something like this in his community. And, Dave had been noticing another new trend in the food service industry - food trucks.

With the support of his wife and family, Dave decided to go for it and start a Dutch themed food truck business. He had his truck built out of an old bread delivery van by a local company in Southern Ontario. They put in a

kitchen, bright orange graphics were installed, and the FritesWagon was born!

Dave described his process of coming up with the menu for the FritesWagon:

Coming up with the menu was quite easy actually. I knew I wanted to model it after several of my favorite frites shops in Amsterdam, so frites and sauce were going to be the star attraction. I started by creating a list of every sauce from the top three or four shops we passed by or tried, which gave me a list of about 30 sauces to explore. We immediately trimmed off about 7-8 and after recreating and sampling the rest, we got it down to 16. I wanted to include a few sauces that I thought locals would be familiar with as well, so that there was a sense of comfort around choosing and deciding on what to

| CHOOSE YOUR SIZE | | | |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|--------|
| XS | S | M | L |
| \$3.00 | \$4.50 | \$6.00 | \$7.50 |
| ALL SIZES INCLUDE YOUR CHOICE OF 1 SAUCE | | | |
| CAN'T DECIDE ON ONE SAUCE? Add extra sauces to your order | | | |
| +1 SAUCE \$.50 | +3 SAUCES \$1.00 | +5 SAUCES \$1.50 | |
| WANT YOUR FRIES UNSALTED? JUST ASK | | | |

| CHOOSE YOUR SAUCE | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| DUTCH MAYONNAISE (HOUSE MADE) | FRIES SAUCE (SWEET THIN MAYO) |
| LEMON MAYONNAISE | GARLIC MAYONNAISE |
| ANDALOUSE SAUCE (TOMATO MAYO) | KETCHUP |
| SATAY SAUCE (PEANUT SAUCE) | PICCALILLI (MUSTARD VEGGIE RELISH) |
| JOPPIE SAUCE (CURRY MAYO) | |
| SAMURAI SAUCE (SPICY MAYO) | |
| CHIPOTLE GARLIC MAYONNAISE | |
| PESTO MAYONNAISE | |
| CURRY KETCHUP | |
| SPICY KETCHUP | |
| DUTCH SPICED APPLE SAUCE | |
| DUTCH MUSTARD | |

| HOUSE SPECIALS ADD \$1.00 | |
|---|---|
| Oorlog Frites WITH MAYONNAISE, SATAY SAUCE AND ONIONS | Frites Special WITH KETCHUP, MAYONNAISE AND ONIONS |
| Curry Frites Special WITH CURRY KETCHUP, MAYONNAISE AND ONIONS | Patat Halfom WITH MAYONNAISE AND PICCALILLI |

| HOT SNACKS | |
|--|--|
| BITTERBALLEN \$5.00 | |
| DEEP-FRIED RAGU BALL (DUTCH MUSTARD OR MAYONNAISE) | |
| BROODJE KROKET \$5.00 | |
| DEEP-FRIED RAGU ROLL SERVED ON A BUN (DUTCH MUSTARD OR MAYONNAISE) | |
| FRIKANDEL SPECIAAL \$5.00 | |
| TRADITIONAL DUTCH SAUSAGE (MAYO, CURRY KETCHUP OR KETCHUP, ONIONS) SERVED ON A BUN | |

| DRINKS | |
|------------------------------|--|
| COCA COLA..... \$1.50 | |
| DIET COKE..... \$1.50 | |
| COKE ZERO..... \$1.50 | |
| GINGER ALE..... \$1.50 | |
| Sprite..... \$1.50 | |
| BOTTLED WATER..... \$1.50 | |
| ARIZONA ICED TEA..... \$2.00 | |

| IMPORTED DRINKS | |
|--------------------------|--|
| HERO ORIGINAL | |
| CASSIS \$2.50 | |
| DUTCH FANTA \$2.50 | |

| DESSERTS | |
|---|--|
| DUTCH CHOCOLATE | |
| ICE CREAM \$3.00 | |
| OLIEBOLLEN \$4.00 | |
| RAISIN OR APPLE (THE ORIGINAL DONUT HOLED) | |
| STROOPWAFEL SUNDAE ... \$4.00 | |
| HOUSE MADE CARAMEL SAUCE & SPECULAS COOKIE CRUMBLE | |



get, so we were back up to 18, which is what we originally opened with. After being open for a bit, we trimmed a few of the less popular ones off to put us where we are today, offering 16 different (and some quite unique) House-Made Sauces.

I knew we needed other menu options beyond frites and sauce, as people have come to expect plenty of choices, so Dutch snacks were a must! This would bring in the Dutch community to support us and give them a taste of home while exposing the locals with a sense of adventure to a new flavour and a different spice palette



than the one they have come to understand, and thus completing the Dutch Theme. So along with our featured frites, we currently also sell bitterballen, krokets, frikandel, oliebollen, and we have a few other dutch inspired items like our stroopwafel sundae and our Dutch Hot Chocolate (which is offered as a special on the colder days). Along with these snacks, we import Cassis soft drinks and Dutch Orange Fanta (which I discovered tastes far different than our local variety), and hopefully coming this spring...Chocomel! We also plan to run daily specials once the new year rolls around, and hope to have options like kibbling and bami/nasi schijf and even poffertjes...sorry I don't think herring will make the menu.

The FritesWagon has proven popular and Dave has been able to stay open with the support of the community even in these pandemic times. Half of his customers have some Dutch connection and understand the concept but the other half often have a lot of questions. Canadians are used to poutine (fries with gravy and cheese curds) or with vinegar, but all these different sauces can be confusing!

Says Dave:

We do spend a lot of time answering questions to those who have come for a new experience, and I would say the two most popular questions are: "What are frites?" and "What is the best topping?" Well as you can imagine, we have mastered answering these questions since we hear them several times a day. Our frites are very different to how most restaurants will offer you french fries in three main ways...the preparation, the condiments of your choice, and the presentation. They are peeled and cooked twice, which gives you the light crispy outside we all love, but keeps the inside soft and fresh. You then get to top your frites with your choice from our list of 16 different House Made sauces...something very new to our local non-Dutch community. And finally, they get served in a paper frites cone, not a box or tray...the paper cone is what brings it all back home.

One of the best selling specials at the FritesWagon is Oorlog Frites (French Fry War), fries topped with housemade mayonnaise sauce combined with satay sauce, and topped with raw onions.

Dave is a first generation Dutch-Canadian. His father is of English descent with Dutch ancestry and his mother was born in Oss, North Brabant.

Most of his mother's family moved to Ontario during the third wave of Dutch immigration shortly after the end of WWII. He still keeps in touch with family overseas and had plans to make another trip last April. That trip of course had to be postponed, but Dave is eager to go back.

But first, let's hope he decides to take that orange wagon of deliciousness on a road trip to visit all us Nederlanders longing for a taste of home!

Images: Below, the face of happy customer Montgomery Armstrong says it all! Page 6 & 7, the FritesWagon and menu board. Page 8, Dave in Delft, the Netherlands and Dave with his FritesWagon



The Persistence of Dutch Words

by Herman De Vries

Twenty some years ago, I read a wonderful book by the Dutch sociologist Rob Kruse, titled *The Persistence of Ethnicity*. It's a study of how the Dutch immigrants to Montana held on to their identity—how their Dutchness “persisted” even in this new land. I remember that the book was an excellent piece of work, but what sticks with me most after all these years is that phrase in the title: the persistence of It's one small noun phrase that speaks volumes.

That phrase comes to mind whenever I encounter certain Dutch words. Before I say more, I need to say a little about my background. I grew up in what people call a “Dutch” enclave (which actually means a Dutch-American enclave) in the south Chicagoland area. Most of my world was wrapped up in schools and churches where most people had Dutch last names. I was born in the mid 1960s. By that time, however, the Dutch language had pretty much disappeared from everyday interactions between all those people



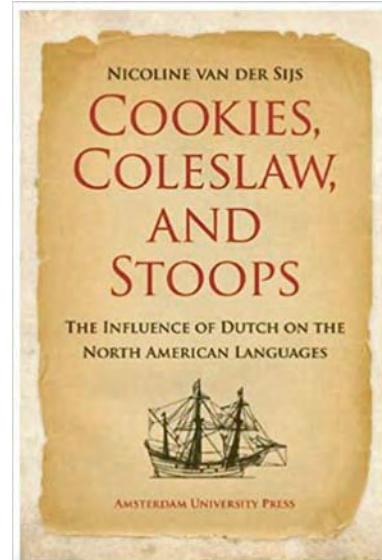
with Dutch last names. That was no different in my family where even one set of grandparents was an immigrant family and the grandparents could speak fluent Dutch amongst each other. However, with their own children and of course grandchildren it was English. Everyone wanted, it seemed, to speak only English, and that's what they did around the people in my generation.

What I did hear, as a kid, was plenty of Dutch brogue (that thick Dutch accent in people's English) but not so much the actual Dutch language. What I also heard—and now I'm getting to the point—was isolated Dutch words that were sprinkled in people's English. I'll mention here just three that stand out most in my memory: broekie, benauwd, and vies.

Now, since I happened to eventually study Germanic languages, including Dutch, and since I speak Dutch more or less fluently today, I'm tempted to go into a detailed explanation of these words and their translations. But I'll resist because what I want to focus on here is the question of why these words "persisted" even when the rest of the language died out in the community.

One reason is that these words might not easily translate into English. So the Dutch-American culture found itself hanging on to certain words that conveyed something that wasn't easily rendered in English. This seems to certainly be the case with the word benauwd. I can still hear my mother (who, again, speaks no Dutch) say, upon entering an unpleasant room: "Oh my, it's so benauwd in here!" The space she was describing was either humid, stuffy, close, uncomfortable or any combination of the above. Whatever it was, it wasn't positive.

With broekie and vies, I think something else was going on as well. I think the Dutch words are somehow easier to say than their English



counterparts. Broekie is a really a child's pronunciation of broekje, which is the diminutive form of the word broek. Broekie (or broekje) doesn't mean small pants, but rather underpants. And underpants is a perfectly good translation for broekie. So why would English-speaking parents still be saying the Dutch word broekie? One answer is probably because it's shorter—two syllables rather than the three of underpants. Another reason is, I think, because it's fun, when speaking with little kids, to use words that end in

benauwd
vies
broekie



that “ie” sound. There’s something friendly and endearing about that (think of how we do that with names all the time: Johnny, Bobbie, Robbie, Hermie, Danny), and the Dutch word made that easy. This is probably why English speakers also will say undies as a short form for underwear.

That same thing, but even more is going on with the word vies. Vies is short, to the point, and one less syllable than “dirty.” But there has to be a bigger reason why the Dutch word persisted. Like benauwd, vies has a larger semantic range—or range of meaning—than “dirty.” In Dutch, your hands can be vies, but yucky food is also vies. Vies is also something that is disgusting or revolting. In our family, we even turned vies into a verb. You could say, “Yuck! That vieses me out!” (as in: that grosses me out). I think the Dutch Americans kept that word alive in their English because it could accomplish the same work that would call for several different English words. Vies is a very efficient word.

Not only that—and this is my final point about vies—but vies sounds like what it means (it’s an onomatopoeia) Especially if you give the v a nice fat “f” sound (as the Dutch tend to do with v’s) and then sit on the final “s” a while (fff-EEE-ss) you know you’re talking about something that’s not good.

Now, to be clear, I’m not talking about loanwords here. Linguists call a loanword a vocabulary item that one language borrows from another and eventually integrates into its own. There are many examples of Dutch loanwords in English, and if that interests you, check out the masterful book by Nicoline van der Sijs, *Cookies, Coleslaw and Stoops*. There you’ll find hundreds of words besides the three in the title that English has borrowed from Dutch.

My little reflection here is about this other group of words—those that you won’t find in an English dictionary but which have, for a number of reasons, lived on or have persisted in the English of Dutch Americans.

Does any of this ring familiar to you?

Benauwd, broekie, and vies are three of my favorites. If these sorts of words or phrases are in your English vocabulary, I’d love to hear about it. Send your examples to hermdevr@calvin.edu. I can’t wait to see what you have to say.



Dr. Herman De Vries Jr is professor of Germanic Languages at Calvin University in Grand Rapids, Michigan. At Calvin, he holds the Frederik Meijer Chair in Dutch Language and Culture.



Dutch Indonesian American Guitar Legend Eddie van Halen Never Forgot His Love of Herring - Or the Racism

Dutch American guitar player Eddie van Halen has died of throat cancer in the US at the age of 65. Van Halen, founder of rock group Van Halen along with his brother Alex, was born in Amsterdam, and the family moved to Nijmegen shortly afterwards. Their father Jan was a musician and their mother Eugenia was born in Indonesia.

In 1962 the family moved to the US, settling in Pasadena, California, where the brothers became naturalized US citizens. Eddie, whose full name was Edward Lodewijk Van Halen, and Alex began performing together as teens and over four decades, Van Halen released more than a dozen albums together.

Despite moving to the US at a young age, Van Halen continued to speak Dutch. In the early 1990s, he told an interviewer that the Netherlands was a 'prachtig land' and that the herring sold at a





Left page: “eddie and alex van halen speaking their native language (dutch)” YouTube video of an interview on Dutch television.



Top left this page, Late 1970s promotional photo of the band. Below, album cover of the 1978 self-titled album. Top right, Eddie van Halen in 2015, below Twitter post with photo of Eddie at age 12 with his first guitar and his mother Eugenia.



Mei Fong/方凤英
@meifongwmm

Lotta folks inc me surprised to hear of Eddie Van Halen's Indonesian-Dutch mom who was apparently the Tiger Mom influence as the family moved to US from Netherlands to escape Dutch society's racism—and then proceeded to live the American immigrant dream. youtu.be/bbdljyoOGfk

8:11 AM · Oct 7, 2020

969 · 303 people are Tweeting about this

fish stand in front of the Concertgebouw was ‘delicious’. (Reprinted with permission from DutchNews.nl)

The YouTube video of the van Halen brothers speaking Dutch is lighthearted and full of laughter and joking as they talk about what they remember from their early years in the Netherlands. But in other interviews, Eddie tells of the racism the family suffered in the Netherlands, which was one of the reasons the family escaped to the United States. His mother “... immediately became a



Alex, Jan, Eugenia, and Eddie van Halen

second class citizen” and the boys were called half-breeds and worse.

In an interview on Zócalo Public Square’s “What It Means to be an American” in 2017, Eddie described his family’s immigration story. His father, a classically trained musician, traded musical performances on a boat, in part, for the nine day transatlantic passage for his family of four. Alex and Eddie’s father persuaded the two brothers to play piano during intermission, and “...the next night there we were at the captain’s table eating dinner.” They learned early on the value and perks of being on a stage.

The family landed in New York with a piano, a few suitcases, and 75 guilders - worth about \$50 US at that time. They then traveled by train to Pasadena, California where they settled.

Eddie described his first day at school in Pasadena as “absolutely frightening”. “The school that we went to was still segregated at the time, believe it or not, since we didn’t speak the language we were considered a minority, and my first friends in American were Black. Their names were Steven and Russell, and we became fast friends because I could outrun them. It was actually the white kids who were bullies, they

would tear up my playground papers, make me eat playground sand, all these things, and the Black kids stuck up for me.” The difficulties of assimilating to the United States just made him stronger, said Eddie.

Music was always important in the van Halen family, and the brothers had classical piano lessons for years. Eddie credited his mother for being the disciplinarian making sure the brothers practiced. But once the brothers discovered rock and pop music, they gave up the piano in favor of playing guitars.

Once the brothers discovered rock and pop music, they gave up the piano in favor of playing drums and guitars. Alex and Eddie formed a band in 1972, which they later named Van Halen. Besides his success with the band, Eddie became known for his innovative style of playing guitar and for his inventions of unique guitars. He held three patents and was named one of the 100 Greatest Guitarists of All Time by Guitar World.

- Arend Vander Pols



It's hard to believe it has been 50 years since the band that shook the world, The Beatles, called it quits in 1970. John Lennon would have turned 80 in October, 2020 and the BBC honored him with a two-part documentary "John Lennon at 80". Ringo Starr celebrated his 80th birthday during the summer! The Fab Four created a mania not seen before, with fans around the globe following their every move and scrutinizing lyrics for meaning and inspiration. But there was a quartet from the Netherlands the Beatles themselves sought for inspiration.

Looking Back at The Fool

by Richard Martinovich

It was a kaleidoscope of color draped around the outside of the Beatles Apple Boutique that brought attention to a small artist collective from Amsterdam. A beautiful display of moon, planets, sun, streaking comets -- and a goddess-like figure that spiraled down three stories and covered both sides of the corner of Baker Street and Paddington Street in London. The artwork was conceived by a group of young Dutch artists known as The Fool.

The name for the art collective came from the tarot card The Fool, or The Jester. Original members were Marijke Koger, Seemon (Simon) Posthuma and Joskje Leeger from Amsterdam, and Barry Finch, who was British.

Marijke Koger was a driving force behind the group and had a clothing boutique in Amsterdam called The Trend when she was 18 years-old.

The Fool were discovered by British photographer Karl Ferris on the Spanish island of Ibiza where Marijke Koger, Simon Posthuma and Joskje Leeger were creating their art. Ferris was a photographer who gained acclaim as the first to use psychedelic photography in album art. His





Press photo of The Beatles during Magical Mystery Tour. Clothes design by Marijke Koger and Josje Leeger. Parlophone Music Sweden. Left page, Marijke Koger, Seemon (Simon) Posthuma

best known work was the cover of Jimi Hendrix's debut album, "Are You Experienced?" Ferris took photographs of The Fool's apparel designs and sent them to the Times of London where they created a lot of buzz. The Fool moved to London and their designs caught the eye of the Beatles, who requested a meeting with them.

The Fool's art was a cornucopia of radiant rainbow colors, and had a big influence on the pop scene in the late 1960's. They designed apparel, decorated the outside of buildings and interiors, and painted musical instruments. They created album covers for bands such as The Hollies and The Incredible String Band, (that played Woodstock in 1969) and clad them in psychedelic clothing. They dressed the supergroup Cream, and Procol Harum, and designed clothing for the Beatles worldwide live television broadcast performance of "All You Need is Love" in 1967,

as well as their colorful attire on the "Magical Mystery Tour" album.

The colorful mosaic on guitarist Eric Clapton's Gibson electric, known as The Fool, was painted by the art collective. The Fool painted a piano for John Lennon and an exotic mural over the fireplace of George Harrison's home in the London suburbs. George's wife Pattie Boyd had become friends with Marijke Koger of The Fool.

The Fool went on to paint the largest mural in the world on the outside of the Aquarius Theatre for the opening of the musical Hair on Sunset Boulevard in Los Angeles. The enormous mural in brilliant color captured the "Age of Aquarius" in mythical pictorials that the song (of the same name) by the Fifth Dimension in the musical referenced. The Fool painted other murals on theatres that staged Hair in San Francisco and





Cover art for Boudewijn de Groot's 1968 Psych-folk LP Picknick (credited to Simon & Marijke). Below, a replica of Eric Clapton's Gibson electric, known as The Fool, painted by the art collective



Chicago. They even recorded a music album produced by Graham Nash of The Hollies.

The Fool mural on the Beatles Apple Boutique didn't last long. Local shops complained the flamboyant imagery was out of place amongst the staid surroundings, and six months later it was painted over in white.

The Fool disbanded in 1970. Marijke Koger moved to Los Angeles in 1968 and maintains a website featuring her work. Simon Posthuma went back to Amsterdam to continue his art, and Joskje Leeger and Barry Finch married and settled in the Netherlands.



Richard Martinovich has written articles on a wide variety of topics for dis magazine.

From the Editor

(continued from page 5)

What a happy find it was for me to find a photo of Dave Hardwick's FritesWagon posted on the "Dutch culture and traditions" Facebook page. I received an enthusiastic response from Dave when I contacted him, which is why he shares the byline with me on the FritesWagon story. Someday I hope we will be allowed into Canada again so I can get some Oorlog Frite!

There are some Dutch words it seems everyone knows, at least in West Michigan, even if their ties to the Netherlands are from way back when. Dr. Herman De Vries explores why this might be in an article which we hope will be the first of many for *this magazine*.

Neal (Kees) Bierling of Ada, Michigan shared an interesting idea that ties in with our story about Dutch/Indonesian/American rocker Eddie van halen and the discrimination he encountered both in the Netherlands and the United States:

Ask immigrants to write about their experiences to where they moved. For example, due to pressure from my schoolmates, I denied I was Dutch until I was almost 18 years of age. Even in Holland, Michigan it was "If you want to speak Dutch—go back to the Netherlands."



I was returning to Michigan from Den Haag and the customs guy said, "I see that you are Dutch." I denied this, took my passport and left as soon as possible. I did turn around and noted that he was giving me a strange look.

That was the last time I denied the fact, became proud of my Dutch heritage, and relearned the language.

Then to REALLY brighten your day is another story from the prolific Richard Martinovich about the art collective The Fool. Can you imagine a story like it without color photographs?

And finally I'm happy to share more items from our membership in "From Our Members." Please keep on sending in your short memories, poems, photos, and other items you think might be of interest to our membership. I'm hoping we hear from some of you in response to Neal's idea!

A few housekeeping items:

Our membership renewals and new memberships continue to come in. As of October our society has 845 members. 172 members have not yet renewed for 2020. A number of members have included donations with their membership



payments and we thank them for the extra support. Please check the back of your magazine and note the date above your name and address to check your membership status.

Larry Wagenaar has resigned from the DIS board with our thanks for his service. Larry is continuing with his work as Executive Director and CEO at the Historical Society of Michigan, which I encourage you to check out at hsmichigan.org.

In hopes for bright and colorful days ahead,

Arend Vander Pols
Editor

Connect With Other DIS Members

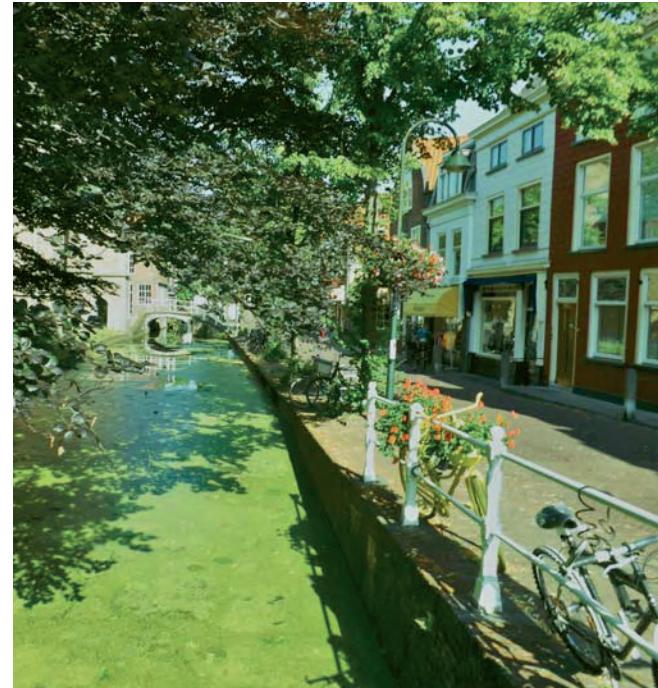
These days we are all feeling the effects of not being able to attend or host our normal social events. If you are on Facebook we have created a private DIS Facebook Group and invite you to gather with other DIS members for friendly discussions. The group is administered by board member Esther Wurfel and can be found at facebook.com/groups/dutchinternationalsociety

Email

Board member Maria DeLugt Kocsis invites you to email her if you would like to be included on an email discussion list. The purpose of the list would be to connect DIS members with each other for some online gezelligheid. Maria's email address is mariakocsis3@gmail.com and her phone number is (616) 437-4663.

Other ideas to keep in touch?

The board welcomes any other ideas you have that can help us stay in touch with each other! Let us know by mail, email, Facebook, or phone!



From Our Members

Both my husband and my grandparents were born in Holland, but my husband's mother (Hilagonda Magdalena Den Ouden, called Lena) was born there and came with her parents and two younger siblings around 1914 when she was just six years old.

The family came through Ellis Island and her father and baby brother Ted, age four were detained there as young Ted had come down with the measles while on board the ship. Little Lena, age six and her baby sister Jannette, traveled on to Iowa as they were to stay with a relative and would be joined later by the "men". However, after the three "ladies" arrived in Iowa, the baby became very ill and died. By the time Lena's

father and brother arrived, the baby girl, six months old, had already been buried in the town of Maurice Iowa.

My mother-in-law told me how she remembers her mother crying over her baby's death and how she had felt such empathy for her mother but not knowing what to do to help. Such are the memories of a six year old.

Of course, all of them came speaking not a word of English. Lena's father, named Nys, learned to speak, as well as read and write English on his own using the town's newspapers. All their (future) older children spoke Dutch and English of course as well but most never forgetting how to converse in the Dutch language. My husband learned his parents' tongue as he listened to their many stories and humorous discussions.

My father's father came from Terschelling with his brother as late teens, due to issues of not enough farming land for the family. As far as I know, they never returned to Holland and never saw their parents again.

We really enjoy reading your magazine and especially enjoy reading the stories written of the Netherlands from years past, as during War times or families growing up in Holland and their experiences.

Char Prins
Bloomington, Minnesota

I was a member in the 1970s!

Carol Smith
Princeton, Minnesota

Dear Dutch International Society,

I would like to formally offer my gratitude for being selected for your scholarship. It is a tremendous honor to be selected and I couldn't be

happier. Obviously, this year has been weird for all of us, and I wasn't left out of the mix. Something I have been looking forward to my entire college career is the Dutch interim offered here at Calvin University. Going on a trip like that is the opportunity of a lifetime. Spending almost a month in the Netherlands and Belgium would've been an absolute dream. Add in the fact that it would've been led by one of my favorite professors in the whole sounds perfect already.

Unfortunately due to the pandemic, we had to cancel. It was just too difficult to plan a trip like that when we weren't legally allowed in the country. In the meantime however I can continue my work in class to achieve a Dutch minor. Even this spring when classes looked very strange, Dutch was still the class I was most excited about. With your added support, I can further my understanding of the Dutch language, history, people, and culture. Once again, I would just like to say 'dank je wel!'

Peter J. Morren
Caledonia, Michigan

I live in Oregon, quite too far to be of any help with the DIS. My brother sent me my first membership. He has passed away now.

Quite a shock to hear of the death of Dr. Bakker. He kept us who participated busy thinking in Dutch. I asked him once who the poet was who made a poem starting "De zee, de zee klotst voort in eindeloze deining," and he sent me a letter [*Willem Kloos (1859 - 1938)- Ed.*] Very kind. My condolences to his family.

Afke L. Doran
Silverton, Oregon

*Images pages 19 & 20,
Ken VanDyke 2017*



The Dutch Connection Calendar

Find the latest event news on our website dutchinternationalsociety.org/dutch-connection-calendar/ or search Facebook for "dutch international society". Help us spread the word about Dutch and Dutch American events, exhibits, clubs, fairs or anything related by sending us your events or other items of interest.

AADAS 2021 Conference June 18 & 19, 2021
Theme: Telling, Sharing, and Preserving Dutch-American Stories. Held online via Zoom. Dutch-americans.org

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Enclose a check made out to Dutch International Society for \$10 US (\$20 US outside USA/Canada) for a year membership & subscription (4 issues) and mail to: DIS, P.O. Box 7062 Grand Rapids, MI 49510. For gift memberships enclose \$10 US per membership and include name and address of recipient. Or renew or join online with your credit or debit card at dutchinternationalsociety.org

Time to Renew Your Support for the Dutch International Society

In order to save on mailing and printing costs the society will not be sending out separate membership renewal form as we have in the past. Your support by renewing, giving gift memberships, and extra donations will help the DIS Board determine the future of our society!

Would you please take a minute now and check out the year above the address label on the back of this magazine? The year is your membership expiration year.

Mail in the form below with your check or go online to pay with debit or credit card.

Notice of rate increase: As of January 2021 membership and subscription fees will increase to \$25 US and \$50 US outside USA/Canada.

Bedankt!



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