



# Somsen horizon

Volume 15 – number 25 – May 2012

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For DONATIONS we would like to encourage you to use the PAYPAL button on our website. If this is really a problem then forward a cheque to Stephen Somsen.

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## Objective of the Foundation

*The aim of the foundation is:*

To preserve and promote the solidarity between people bearing the family name of Somsen, those who are/were related to them or those who are interested in them

*The foundation will try to achieve this object for example by:*

- ◆ doing historical research into the family history and the history of the region
- ◆ collecting documentation and genealogical data
- ◆ keeping and taking charge of a family archive and data bases
- ◆ publishing a periodical
- ◆ providing information to persons, institutions and official authorities
- ◆ organising activities so as to realise the object of the foundation



Cover photo

*Photo montage of New Ulm*



## Preface



Johan Somsen

In this issue of Somsen Horizon – the 25th number already – you will find information about the Worldwide Somsen Reunion in New Ulm, MN in the United States from 3 to 5 August this year. Our American cousins are busy with the preparations and the Dutch Somsen-delegation of 14 is really looking forward to this event. Undoubtedly there will a lot to be seen in New

Ulm, a town, founded by Germans in 1854, where a branch of the American Somsens has left its traces behind in many ways. There is still a Somsen Law Firm, a Somsen Nature Reserve, a Somsen street and much more. But what is at least equally important is seeing again so many American relatives and of course there will be new encounters with others as well.

Both in this magazine and on our website you will find much information on this special event and it is still not too late to register. It is bound to be very worthwhile. Moreover, you could combine it with a nice trip in this part of the United States or Canada.

Keep yourself also informed on the latest news via our website ([www.somsen.org](http://www.somsen.org)) for there will be no more Somsen publications before the reunion in America. For the people who are connected with **Facebook** it might be fun to take a look at **Somsen Family** on Facebook and of course you can become friends then. And you may also know that we have our traditional Somsen Camping Weekend in the weekend of 24 and 25 August on the site of our roots: IJzerlo. That goes hand in hand with the equally traditional barbecue on Saturday 24 August. Do not hesitate and come and join us.

Furthermore you will find a large variety of articles in this magazine. There are special events in the Somsen family on the most diverging subjects. You can read about sports, about diving in the Achterhoek, about music, but there is also a beautiful report on a kidney transplant in a Somsen family. You should read it all by yourselves right now and I wish you much pleasure in doing so.

On behalf of the board

Johan Somsen

## 4th Somsen World Wide Reunion

by Becky Errigo [3899] and Pamela Rice [3847]



Photo reunion committee USA without Jeanie Somsen –Jacobson and Stacey Lynn Vargecko- Aicken. This picture was taken at the fireplace in Turner Hall in New Ulm.

Front: Pamela Rice [P-3847], Marilyn Olson-Lear [P-3850]  
Back: Paula Crist [P-816], Becky Kerr Errigo [P-3899], Stephen Somsen [P-2459]



Jeanie Somsen –Jacobson  
[P-773]



Stacey Lynn Vargecko-  
Aikens [P-2541]

**Please join us for this wonderful opportunity of conversation and laughs with relatives from near and abroad**

**When:** August 3rd-5th, 2012. Respond with your plan to attend to Becky Errigo at [b.errigo@yahoo.com](mailto:b.errigo@yahoo.com) or visit [www.somsen.org](http://www.somsen.org) for registration information. Please respond before June 15th.

**Where:** New Ulm, Minnesota, USA

Enjoy the scenic views of New Ulm from the hilltop of Hermann Heights Park during our informal gathering on Friday, August 3rd.

New Ulm is located 90 miles southwest of Minneapolis/St. Paul and was settled in 1854 by German immigrants.



*Welcome in New Ulm*



*Hermann Heights Park*

This friendly river town is rich in Somsen family history and offers something for everyone, from one-of-a-kind shops and restaurants to important historical sites, a 45-foot-tall Glockenspiel, inviting bed and breakfasts, and fine brews which have been crafted in New Ulm, at the August Schell Brewery, for more than a century. You will have the opportunity to tour this historic brewery on Sunday afternoon.



*Flandrau Park*



*Govener Lind Home. Henry Somsen lived here after Lind.*

When did the Dutch first come to America? What is the history of "New Amsterdam" (New York City)? When did the Somsen family immigrate to America and what significance is New Ulm to the Somsen family heritage? Discover the answers to these questions and more through presentations, displays, tours of New Ulm and our traditional family trivia game.

Dance your wooden shoes off (or watch your family and friends) at our own Somsen Hoedown (American Square Dance), on Saturday evening. No experience or skills needed, we will all enjoy the fun and laughs of learning the dances together. Square Dancing evolved from the national dances of early immigrants.

<http://www.dosado.com/articles/hist-maca.html>

Gather for fellowship Sunday morning at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, the Somsen family church. The reunion will conclude with good food, music, and conversation at the New Ulm Country Club.



*St. Peter's Episcopal Church, New Ulm*

On our website [www.somsen.org](http://www.somsen.org) you will find a great variety of possibilities for trips and sights in New Ulm and St Paul - Minneapolis and its surroundings.





*Somsen Law Office*

## The miracle of a kidney transplant and how my family has experienced this

*by Ben Somsen [438]*

**In this wonderful story of Ben Somsen you read about his kidney transplant in January this year. It was actually a miracle that the donor kidney of his wife Corry [2038] matched so well. Also the ages of both spouses at the time of the operation are very special: 73 and 76. Now, about five months after surgery, these two brave Somsens feel fine and we are looking forward to welcoming them at the Somsen-barbecue in August.**

After having been treated as a kidney patient at the Medical Centre of the Free University in Amsterdam for many years, mid 2010 my kidney capacity deteriorated so drastically that the possibility of a kidney transplant was raised and preferably with a kidney of a relative. After extensive information in which my wife, my sons and my next-of-kin were involved, my sister and my sons spontaneously offered their kidneys. The blood type of my sister didn't fit with mine and I found it difficult to accept a kidney of one of our sons. After much deliberation I accepted the offer of my wife Corry that she would donate a kidney.

For both of us there was a series of studies to determine whether this would be possible. Early March 2011 we got a positive result and the kidney transplant could continue. However, at that time there was no urgent reason anymore to go through the operations because my kidneys had started to function better according to the doctors. The situation remained stable until mid-July and after consulting the doctors we could go on a holiday. We made a 7-week tour in Croatia with our caravan. All this time things went well with my kidneys so that we could enjoy a carefree and happy holiday. Mid July my kidney capacity gradually deteriorated again up to approx. 12% in mid-September. A decision

had to be taken within 2 months: either a kidney transplant or dialysis. I preferred dialysis because I had noticed that I was getting more and more dependent on Corry. The risk that she was running seemed too big to me, especially so because the doctors could not exclude that either. So all necessary preparations were made for peritoneal dialysis or abdomen rinsing.

At the end of November, a few days before I had to go to hospital where they would place a drain, I had a routine appointment with the nephrologist. To my surprise there was another doctor of the team of nephrologists who wanted to know why I had chosen for dialysis instead of a kidney transplant of which they had also approved. My case had been discussed in this team and they were surprised by my choice for dialysis. This nephrologist stressed that the quality of life would be much better if we would choose for kidney transplant. She advised us to think it over again and to take the time for a few days.

Just a week earlier we had attended a meeting of the National Kidney Patients Association where various forms of dialysis were discussed. There we heard about so many negative effects of dialysis that we already had doubts on the way back home whether we had made the good choice. Eventually we accepted the proposal for a transplant and then everything went very quickly, the date for the operation had already been settled on January 10, 2012. Both of us had to undergo a number of tests that had previously been carried out but they had to be done again because it was too long ago. My condition had worsened so that I had to undergo hemo-dialysis before surgery with the result that we had to be in hospital almost every day in the month of December. Meanwhile our sons and daughters-in-law had already made arrangements to organize day-care when we came back home from hospital.

And then the day has come, 9 January 2012. The two of us are hospitalized; we lie in two different departments/floors. Corry is in section 5 c and I am in 4B. Oscar would sleep in the hospital guesthouse that night. After a restless night the big day of the operation is there. At half past 9 we accompanied Corry to the operating room where the vascular surgeon was busy with her for 4 hours. A little later I was prepared for the operation. Yeng and Oscar were also in hospital all day and stayed in touch with Arnold and Thirza and they also reported via email to family and friends. A brief impression of this follows below.

*- My mother is in the recovery room. The surgeon says that everything is fine so far. My father has just been taken to the operating room. Meanwhile we are here in the family room with all modern comfort. By the end of the day we will know more and we will try to send another message.*

*- My mother is back in her room. The surgeon called and dropped by a little later. My father is in the reco-*

*very room. But (perhaps the most important message): "The kidney urinates well". In other words: both operations went well and seem successful for the moment. Now we are going to wait and see how the patients (including the kidney) are doing. Tomorrow is still a difficult day. After that I hope my parents can move again. All in all a long and exciting day.*

Because of all the good care of the hospital staff, our children and the sympathy of family, friends and acquaintances Corry could leave hospital on January 15 and I was allowed to leave on January 18. Once home we were not yet able to achieve anything but our children helped us through this period in a fantastic way. We are still very frequently checked by the nephrologists and for me it is particularly important to check the functioning of the medicines that fight rejection of my new (old) kidney.

The difference with my condition before surgery is very striking, no itching or cramps in my legs that kept us from sleep at night, no diet anymore, I can walk much better etc. This may be called a miracle. When the next issue of Horizon Somsen appears we will be 5 months after surgery. So far we are doing very fine and we manage quite well though we must take regular breaks but they had told us so before the operation. At the Somsen-weekend In IJzerlo in August we hope to meet you in good health.



Ben Somsen  
[P-438]



Corry Somsen  
[P-439]

### New Somsen Stamp

We have new Somsen stamps again. The former state company PTT, now Post NL, simply cannot manage to offer such a service to customers that you can reorder previously designed stamps. Therefore we must continually create a new design. By now we have the seventh version



of our family postage stamps. It offers a great deal of variation in any case and it may be exciting for philatelists.

The price of one strip of ten stamps is \$ 7 (excl. mailing costs - \$ 2,60).

If USA family members would like to order these stamps please contact our treasurer Jan van Daatselaar: 7131CT22@gmail.com

### A view of the Achterhoek under water

*by Oscar Somsen [2040]*

**On 27 and 28 August 2011 it was time again for the Somsen campingweekend. A good opportunity to visit the Achterhoek and our family roots. This time the two cousins Jasper [2050] and Oscar Somsen thought it nice to have a look under water. Oscar had just got his diving licence the previous month. Jasper already has a lot of diving experience but he had never dived in the Achterhoek.**

The choice fell on 't Hilgelo, an old quarry which is now in use as a recreational lake. This lake is located approximately seven miles North of Winterswijk. It is popular among divers although visibility is not always good. For both of us it was an exciting experience. Oscar first had to find a place where he could hire an outfit. In the Achterhoek itself is not possible. Jasper had problems with his car and came with a small car he could borrow. We had to transport the equipment of two people in it but we managed.



*Recreation lake 't Hilgelo from the air.*

*Source: de Gelderlander*

Fortunately everything went well. After a journey of about two hours we arrived at our destination without getting lost. Jasper had proposed a route parallel to the beach which we would follow at a depth of three to five metres. After half an hour we were on the beach with our equipment, ready to start. After we had discussed the diving plan we disappeared under water.





*Jasper prepares for the dive*

"t Hilgelo did not disappoint us. Sight was limited to about five meters, indeed. But different kinds of algae looked beautiful in their natural environment. A number of sand ridges ran from the beach into the lake offering a beautiful hilly landscape that we could float over. Clay walls created occasional small precipices. We did not see big fish but small holes in the soil and discoloured sand gave a good impression of life just underneath the surface.



*Part of recreation lake 't Hilgelo. The diving route is shown in red.  
Source: Google*

A few times we caused too much sludge to be swirled up making sight very poor. Then it was necessary to hold hands so as not to get lost. But that was short-lived. On the way back we passed a deeper area with long algae plants. Fun to try and look through them and see what could hide beneath.

After forty minutes we came back to the surface. Thanks to Jasper's navigational skills we returned virtually on the spot where we had started. The air bottles empty but the head full of impressions. Within some twenty minutes we were at the campsite where the rest of the family had already gathered. The rest of the day we could of course tell them about our adventures.

It was absolutely worthwhile. Perhaps our lakes cannot

be compared to tropical coral reefs. But it is a beautiful place to see our own Dutch nature. Maybe the first Somsen muddy water expedition in the Achterhoek. Hopefully not the last.

## Several Somsens volunteer of the year

*by Harry Somsen [146]*

Fortunately the editorial staff of Somsen Horizon receives tips and news from various readers. Below impressions of a few volunteers of the year who were elected in various towns.

**Aalten – Saturday, September 5, 2009: at the start of the season Nardie Somsen received the volunteer's trophy of Gymnastics Association SSS from the hands of Edith Irene Bussink.**

This trophy is annually presented to a member of SSS Irene who has done his best in one way or another for the club.

Nardie received the trophy after the members had voted for their favourite volunteer of this year. Nardie has been on the board of SSS Irene since 2004. In this office she cares for everything in the field of communication and PR. In addition Nardie teaches the youth of SSS Irene in the department of dynamic tennis. Dynamic tennis is a racket sport. It is played by young and old with a short and light racquet and a foam-ball in the gym in Lintelo.



*Nardie Somsen receives the cup and the flowers from Edith Bussink.. Source: De Weekkrant*

**Zelhem - At the busy New Year's reception of the Municipality of Bronckhorst in the Town Hall on January 5, 2011, the Alderman Seesing announced the volunteer of the year 2010. This honour fell to Harry Somsen from Zelhem.**

From his early childhood he has had a great passion for history and especially for the history of Zelhem. For years on end he has collected old photos and stories

about Zelhem. Later he became a board member of the Antiquarian Association Salehem, the Muldersfluite Foundation and Museum Smedekinck, where he helps organizing events, harvesting and folklore days, old-timer days, spinning and weaving days, harmonica days and various exhibitions including the 10-day art-fair. In addition, Harry is secretary and fellow coordinator of Oud-Zelhem, a foundation that digitizes the history of Zelhem and publishes it on the internet. His wife Ellie is also a researcher and treasurer of this foundation. Harry and Ellie put the puzzle pieces together making use of the Land Registry Office and of regional archives. They stick together in the many hours of sifting through dozens of facts, names and years and every week they write a historical article for the local magazine Contact. Harry: "Before my early retirement I had a day off every the week. Now I do not have time for this anymore!"

In this way he also approaches the cooperation with the tourist information office and local tourist organisations. Also with his management position in the Foundation Open Monument Days he wants to breathe new life into a piece of history every year.

But cooperation with his wife is very important. Harry frankly admits that it is very difficult for him to say "no" and therefore he gets more and more work. "But," he says with a smile, "I like sticking my nose into everything! My election as volunteer of the year was a nice appreciation for my efforts, but I don't really feel like a volunteer. This has become my work, but without the support of Ellie I would not be able to do this."

Harry is a board member of the Somsen Foundation and he is the editor of the newsletters and the magazine Somsen Horizon.



*Harry and Ellie Somsen together unravelling the history of Zelhem*

**Sneek - On October 12, 2011, Bob Somsen, Treasurer of the local brass-band of Sneek, received a charter and theatre cheques made available by the municipality of Sud-West-Fryslân and there were speeches by chairman Bob Reeks and his predecessor Wietse de Haan. This took place at the weekly rehearsal.**

For many years Bob Somsen has taken very good care of the finances of the musical society. In addition he is active in many more areas. In the brass-band they unanimously found that Bob Somsen deserved this title. Within the framework of the European year of the volunteer the municipality of Sud-West-Fryslân enabled nine associations to select one volunteer and the local brass-band was one of these associations.

According to the News Journal of Sneek it was a very enjoyable evening for the brass-band while the members enjoyed snacks and drinks.



*Bob Reeks congratulates Bob Somsen*

**Aalten - On Friday, 27 April 2012 five people who have voluntarily served the Aalten community for a long time were knighted by Mayor Bert Berghoef.**

One of the people who were knighted was Mrs G.W. Boland-Diersen, Raadhuisstraat 12 in Dinxperlo. She was knighted because she has been a member of the Board of the Foundation "Save the Old ' since 1981. Moreover she has been a member of the working group ' The Rietstap Church '.

In addition Mrs Boland is a volunteer in the organisation "Zozijn" and she is a member of the Central Council of clients of Sensire in Aalten. Truus Boland – Diersen is a granddaughter of Gertrude Johanna Somsen [1087] and Johan Ruesink [1088] and has read Somsen Horizon and the Somsen Newsletters for many years.



*Mrs. G.W. Boland -Diersen*



## Family barbecue in IJzerlo on Saturday, August 25

by Harry Somsen [146]

**A Jubilee: for the fifteenth time we will celebrate the family weekend in IJzerlo this year.**

It is very encouraging that there were so many young Somsen-families last year besides a number of "older" newcomers. We hope that we may welcome them again this year and of course new Somsen relatives are also very much welcome. A number of Somsens will have returned from the worldwide Somsen reunion in New Ulm by then and undoubtedly there will be a lot of news. Last year a substantial group of around 40 Somsens was present at the campsite with their children and all of them had a very good time in spite of a few rain showers. De Somsen lime tree was examined again and we drank a toast to its further growth. We briefly stood still at the premature death of one of the donors of this tree, Hennie Somsen, which forced his widow Paulien from Eibergen to sell their horticultural centre. At the beginning of that Saturday evening even more Somsens arrived for the barbecue and, of course, to meet family members. Wim Somsen and Rudolf Brunsveld had provided for ample food and drink at a very friendly price.

It remains very special that you encounter new Somsens again and again whose existence you were hardly aware of and because of this your family is getting more and more extensive. And it is so nice that we have so much in common. I would like to invite every Somsen to experience this, but beware: it is possible that you will come back more often. Reserve week 34 for the family weekend in IJzerlo. The barbecue is on Saturday 25 August 2012.

## Emma shows Dinxperlo the activities of the Somsenfamily

by Harry Somsen [146]

Last January Emma Somsen [1190] read an article in the Band, the advertiser of Dinxperlo, about a Ruesink family who had published a family book. According to the journal this was something special and therefore they published an interview with the writers in the journal.

Emma could not put up with this and she invited the editor of the Band to come and have a look at the Somsenbook, our family website, our family magazine Somsen Horizon and the Somsen Newsletters. That is what you call family history!

Of course the Band published an article with a photograph about this. The editor could not resist Emma. One of the writers of the family book of the Ruesinks

should contact Dick Somsen in Zwolle for further information.



Emma Somsen in De Band on Januari 4th 2012

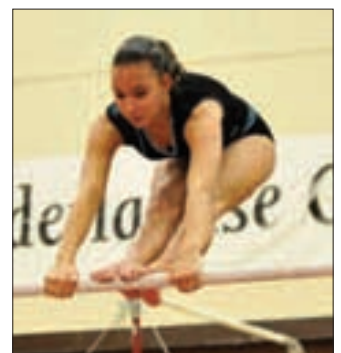
There are also family-ties between the Ruesinks and the Somsens which had to be explored. In the picture we see Emma who has displayed a number of our magazines for the reporter. Emma also actively provides material for Somsen Horizon and she scrutinizes local magazines for genealogical information. Some years ago the editors of Somsen Horizon were already helpful in figuring out the family history of the Ruesinks in Zelhem so we knew about the publication of their family book.

## Bente and Hedda Somsen both do gymnastics

by Bente [ 2847] and Hedda [ 2848] Somsen

In this article the twins Bente and Hedda Somsen tell you about their activities in the area of gymnastics to which they dedicate themselves to their heart's content. During the great Somsen-reunion in 2007 they were worth a photo with two other Somsen twins. Bente and Hedda are the daughters of our webmaster Oscar Somsen. About their Grandpa and Grandma Ben and Corry Somsen you can read a very special story elsewhere in this magazine.

Hi, we are Bente and Hedda Somsen, and we do gymnastics. We started toddler gymnastics when we were 3 and we did gymnastics in Zaandam till we were 9. We accidentally got in touch with it when our babysitter took us to a gymnastics training. Then we did gymnastics at K&V.



Hedda on parallel bars

When we were 9 we moved to Ede where we joined a real gymnastics club: Dynamika..

Here we made rapid progress to the point where we are now: the 1st selection. In 2012 our club was merged with a gymnastics club in Lunteren. Now we are called Exalto Sport Lunteren. We train for 9 hours per week and get training from 3 different trainers and a choreographer from Bulgaria.

We practise 3 times 3 hours and we train on Monday, Thursday and Saturday. We train together with about 15 other small and big girls from 8 to 22. This is because the selections are not classified by age but by section. The age and level together determine the section. The younger you are or the higher the level, the higher the section. We are now 16 years old and we are in the oldest age category: the seniors. Together with 6 girls we train at level 4, which means that we are in the 3rd section.



*Hedda on the beam*

During the workouts we begin with the warm-up with the choreographer and after that we do some ballet for a better posture or we do basic training to improve our basis. Afterwards we split up in groups and train at various gymnastic apparatuses: bridge, bar, jump and floor. Thus we train to learn new things and to score



*Bente (left) and Hedda (right)*

well at competitions. At competitions you are classified in groups, you start at apparatus 1 and so on until you've had each apparatus. At each apparatus you must carry out an exercise and you try to perform exercises as difficult as possible in the best possible way. This of course brings a lot of stress because a good performance is rewarded with a qualification for further competitions, which eventually leads to the Dutch gymnastics championships at the end of the year.



*Hedda jumps into handstand*

As young girls we did not go to so many competitions, only 2 or 3 a year. But now that we are at a higher level we go to more competitions. Every gymnast must take part in at least 5 or 6 competitions per year and in addition you have to attend competitions for which you are qualified. We have just finished all our qualification competitions and we are both qualified for the regional finals. If we also score high here we may go on. At the com-

petitions we wear the new suits of Exalto Sport. When we train we wear suits that we pick out ourselves. We both train with great pleasure and after all these years it is still great fun for us to train and we are still making progress.

We also train young girls of the 4th selection of our club. We do this for 2 hours a week. This is mostly for fun but also to get some extra experience. Moreover we find it both very nice to see that these girls make good progress and that we may train them and accompany them at competitions through-out the year.

For the moment we have not finished gymnastics at all and hopefully we can continue for a long time.



*Hedda, floor exercise*



## Update genealogical database

Dear relatives,

On the occasion of the Worldwide Somsen Reunion in America on 4 and 5 August 2012, a new update of our genealogical database is put on our website [www.somsen.org](http://www.somsen.org). Take a look at the website and please let me know:

- whether your data and passport photos are listed correctly and
- the data of your children and grandchildren are listed correctly and
- whether the passport photos need replacement.

Please forward the missing data and/or passport photos to me for the "August – update". All additions/corrections and passport photos that I receive before July 15, 2012 will be used in the "August update".

Thank you very much in advance for your cooperation to keep our Somsen-Genealogy up-to-date.

Kindest family regards,

Dick J. Somsen [130]

My address details:

Dick Somsen

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8031 DL Zwolle

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Dick Somsen  
from Zwolle

## How Emma Somsen and her brothers are related to the Somsens on two sides

by Emma Somsen [1190]

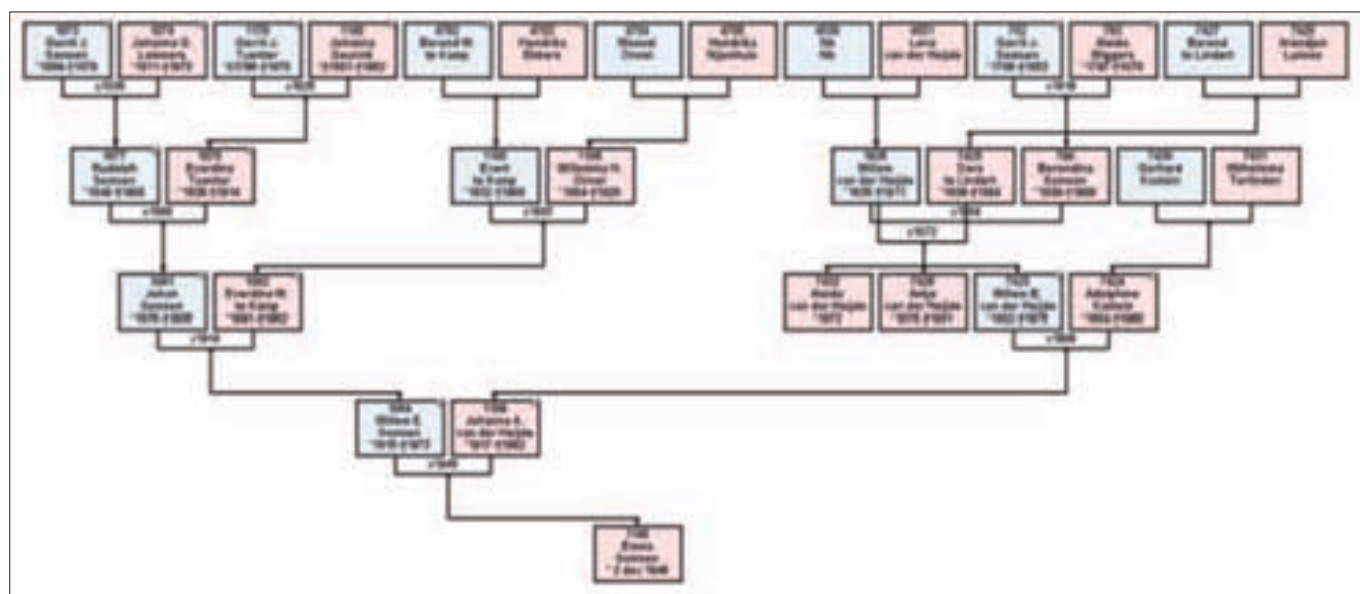
Our mother was Johanna Aleida van der Heijde [1189], born 16 March 1917, d. 21 April 1982. She married on 15 March 1945 with Willem Evert Somsen [1084], born 13 May 1915, d. 8 November 1973.

My mother, Johanna Aleida, was a daughter of Willem Bernard van der Heijde [7423], painter in Dinxperlo, born 12 September 1882, d. 22 December 1975 and Adolphine Kastein [7424], born in Suderwick (Germany) on 22 April 1884, she died in Dinxperlo on 17 June 1960. They were married in Dinxperlo on 4 August 1909.

Willem Bernard van der Heijde, my grandfather, was a son of Willem van der Heijde, born in Dinxperlo 13 November 1835, d. 1911, clog maker and Dora te Lindert, born 13 December 1839, d. 15 March 1884 in Dinxperlo.

When his wife died in 1839 at the age of 44 Willem van der Heijde, my great-grandfather, was left behind with three young children, the youngest of whom, my grandfather, was two years old. He must have been in great need because on May 22, 1884, so two-and-a-half months after the death of his wife, he remarried Berendina Somsen [799] from Aalten, born 10 June 1839, d. 8 September 1909 in Dinxperlo. When she married with him she was 40 years old and Willem van der Heijde was 44.

There were no children in this marriage, but I remember that my grandfather always talked about "my second mother" and never in a negative way, so apparently she was always good for him.



Geneagram Emma Somsen

Berendina stems from an entirely different branch of our family than my father and I. She goes back in a straight line to the eldest son of Wander [275], born 9 July 1699. This eldest son was called Jan Matthijs [1016], born 4 March 1725.

My father and I go back in a straight line to the younger brother of Jan Matthys, Hendrik [282], born ca. 1733.

For more information, please see also p. 121 and 203 of our family book Somsen Omnes Generationes.

### Jasper Somsen – Jazz Musician

In the magazine the Weekkrant Stad Wageningen we found an article by Anneke Meijer on one of the many musical Somsens: Jasper Somsen [2050]. Jasper is an excellent bass player and he has been playing for many years at home and abroad. It is very much worthwhile to take a look at his site:

[www.jaspersomsen.com](http://www.jaspersomsen.com) and for lovers of jazz there is bound to be a concert of him nearby. Elsewhere in this magazine you will find an article where the cousins Oscar Somsen [2040] and Jasper Somsen pay an underwater visit to the Achterhoek.



Jasper Somsen (photo: Johan mulder)

Art performance in 't Venster in Wageningen on 6 February 2012.

For more than a year Cees Mobach (film, piano), Ruud Verwaal (poems) and Jasper Somsen (double bass) have been creating this performance. Everything revolves around the poetic form haiku, which is shaped visually and acoustically in a special way. The haiku expresses, in its classical form, the experience of a moment, sometimes linked to and inspired by Zen. The haiku is a thimble full of emotion, with little space for dissections and approximate descriptions. This poetic form originated in Japan. Usually, the haiku consists of three lines of 5-7-5 syllables. A very beautiful and applicable haiku is:

Triple art  
sound crossed with word and image  
the value is fixed.

Cees Mobach has created a short film going with the haikus. The movies always take longer than the poem. The music is improvised by Jasper Somsen. Jasper has also composed the music on the basis of (new) compositions of his own and on some of other composers. It is their intention that the guests undergo the results of this work. After the performance there is time to discuss what was seen and heard with the creators. This performance is private but after using all comments it will be accessible to a wider audience.

### The Other Side of de Lines published

by Harry Somsen [146]

Memorial Day is on May 30. This day is usually celebrated in America by gathering with family or friends and have a barbecue together. That is a pleasant way to spend this day together but it is more important to remember together why Memorial Day is celebrated. In memory of American casualties in the many wars that have been waged. Several books have been written about it, about the soldiers who have gone through this and about the veterans.

Deanna Lynn Adamson – Somsen [2534] has written a book about this after coincidentally having read stories about a young Confederate soldier in the civil war who risked his life to help wounded soldiers of the Union on the battlefield. She spent months for research in the BYU library (Harold B. Lee Library – Brigham Young University) in Provo, Utah.

*The Other Side of the Lines* is about several lesser-known Confederate heroes of the Civil War. Spend time in this book and read about Richard Kirkland, a young Confederate sergeant, who showed compassion for Union soldiers on the battlefield at the risk of his own life.



Deanna Lynn  
Adamson – Somsen [2534]

Deanna Adamson wanted to let her Somsen relatives know that she has published this book about the American civil war. It deals in particular with the southern heroes. It is written in English and if you're interested, you can go to her website for further information: [www.outskirtspress.com/theothersideofthelines](http://www.outskirtspress.com/theothersideofthelines)

Deanna Lynn is a daughter of Joseph Don Somsen [2398] and Dorothy Louise Roberts [2444]. She lives in Eagle Mountain, Utah, with her husband Robert



Adamson [2546]. They have five children and 21 grandchildren. She has already written many articles and stories for children and young adults in various magazines and this is her first book.

More information about Deanna and her family can be found in Somsen Omnes Generaciones, page 226, and in our genealogical database on our website.



*Book cover of The other side of the lines*

## The Netherlands, a Water Country

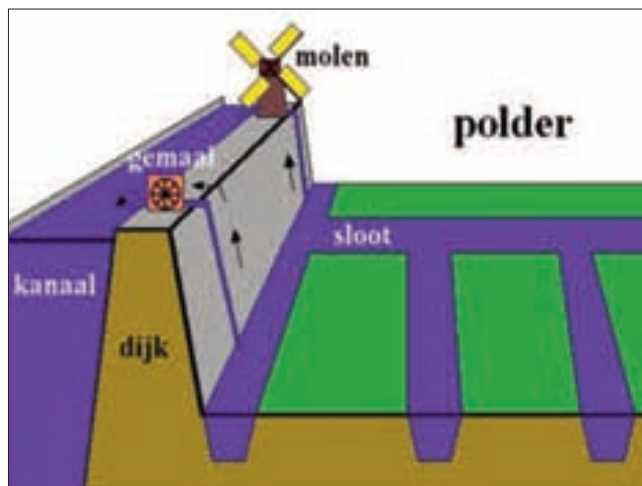
*by Oscar Somsen [2040]*

**The Netherlands is a water country. Part of it is below sea level. The Rhine and other rivers bring water from a large part of Europe. Water is stored in lakes, streams and canals. This water is important for agriculture, economy and recreation. But it also causes trouble. Also recently, a good opportunity to devote some words to this topic that is so typical for our country.**

Every other year or so the water rises dangerously high. Sometimes this is caused by very high tide in combination with storm that pushes the sea against the coast. Sometimes it is caused by melting water from the Alps overflowing our rivers. In the first week of 2012 it was the rain. All the water that falls from the sky or otherwise enters our country ultimately flows to the North Sea. Especially in those areas of the country that are below sea level this does not go by itself. These areas are called polders. They are typically enclosed by a dyke and a ring canal. Water is pumped from the polder into this canal. From there it flows to larger canals and finally to the sea.

Since the first dykes were built in the Middle Ages, our water has been managed by district Water Boards, called "waterschap" in Dutch. Building and maintaining an increasing number of dykes requires a collective effort. And Water Boards have other responsibilities. In general they are responsible for maintaining correct water levels in fields and canals for agriculture, transport, etc. This requires safe dykes as well as open waterways. More recently the Water Boards have also become responsible for cleaning sewage, maintaining water quality and preparing drinking water.

This year started with heavy rainfall all over the country. In a few days we had more rain than normally in a whole month. The Water Boards had difficulty pumping all this water into the main canals. Even more difficult was that heavy winds towards the coast were increasing the sea level. When the sea level is higher than the inland water level, it is no longer possible to discharge the water into the sea and sluices have to be closed to prevent the sea water from flowing inland. This meant that there was nowhere to go with all the rain water.



*Polder, dyke and canal*

Early this year on a Tuesday and a Wednesday the water levels were becoming very high. This meant that fields all over the country were drained and overflowing. Cattle had to be moved to higher areas. Also water in the canals was high and threatening populated areas. Areas will become flooded if the water level rises above the dykes. But also the water enters into the dykes which makes them weaker. The increasing water level increases the pressure and may cause the dykes to collapse.



*Protecting a dyke with sand bags*

At this point our water management becomes really unique. Dykes need to be constantly monitored to find out whether there are any weak spots. At these spots the dykes can be strengthened using sand bags and other measures. For this job the Water Boards receive help from the Army and other agencies. At the same time designated polders are flooded on purpose by making a hole in the dyke. In this way the water can be temporarily stored and removed from the canals to reduce water height and pressure on the dykes.

Some of our dykes were weakened so much that they threatened to collapse and flood the polder behind. This meant that people and cattle had to be evacuated. Fortunately in this case only a few hundred families were involved. They were awakened by the police at six in the morning and told to leave the area in thirty minutes. They were first taken to a sports hall in a neighboring village and from there moved to stay with friends, family or in hotels. Some people refused to leave. Especially farmers who wanted to take care of their livestock. It took many hours to move tens of thousands of cattle and other animals.



*Opening a dyke*

In the meantime danger was rising when more rain was falling in the area or transported from other areas. Whenever the low tide was low enough to discharge water into the sea, the danger decreased again. Police closed down the entire polder to prevent looting while technicians, fire brigade and Army were working round the clock to try and keep the dykes safe. Finally the rain stopped on a Friday night and the sea level decreased far enough to discharge billions of gallons into the sea.

Saturday night the danger appeared to have past. With the water level decreasing in the canals it will be possible to make the polders dry. It will take some more

time before the artificially flooded polders will be dry again. Fortunately the damage was only minor this time. Many people have worked to make this happen. And we can wait for the next time that the waters will rise. This year? Next year? We will wait and see.

## *Bound for America in 1934*

*by Theo Somsen [227]*

In 1934 my father, Johannes Theodorus Somsen [226] from Arnhem, who was a 39-year-old bachelor at the time, ventured to be the first Dutch Somsen to visit his aunt and cousins in Baldwin, Wisconsin USA. He kept a travel account which enabled me to create a readable report for you of his experiences during the 9-day crossing with the "Statendam" from Rotterdam to New York.



*The Statendam*

### **Tuesday 10 July 1934**

I leave my hometown Arnhem by the 15.08 o'clock train after which I arrive in Rotterdam at 5 p.m. On the way I see that everywhere in the country the flags are flying at half-mast because of the death of Prince Hendrik, Queen Wilhelmina's husband, on 3 July.



*l-r: Johan Somsen, Jan Somsen, Anna Somsen-Kemink, Johan Somsen and Riek Heinen-Rots*



In Rotterdam my brother Jan [352], his wife Anna [353] and my stepsister Riek Heinen-Rots are waiting for me. We go to the Office of the Holland-America Line by taxi for the last formalities. We eat and drink something and go on board at 7 p.m. We say goodbye to the visitors at 10 p.m. because they must leave the ship. After that we watch and wave to each other and it is not until 1.20 a.m. that Jan, Anna and Riek leave. The engines are started and at 1.55 a.m. we sail accompanied by two tugs. I go to bed at 2.30 a.m. I have to get used to the pounding of the engines but yet I slept fairly well.

Wednesday 11 July 1934

At 7.15 a.m. there is the penetrating sound of a bell, I wake up and I have breakfast at 8.30 a.m.: 2 sandwiches with jam and meat, 1 orange and 2 cups of coffee.

Via the channel at Hellevoetsluis we enter the North Sea where countless seagulls keep following us. By 11 a.m. we approach Boulogne (France) and I enjoy a cup of broth on the deck and later at 12.30 p.m. a hot lunch with soup, baked potatoes, fish, spinach and syrup pudding and tea.

In Boulogne I get another roommate, Mr Meijer, a shopkeeper from Enschede. From his brother in America he had got \$ 100 so that he could make this voyage. We have a nice cabin: 3.5 yards long, 2.5 yards wide and 2.5 yards high. Lots of light: 2 large lamps and 2 reading lamps. Ventilation, heating and a porthole.



Entertainment on deck

From 2.30 to 3.30 p.m. I have a nap. The weather is delicious which allows us to participate in a number of deck games, such as "Camel", deck tennis and shuffling.

At 6 p.m. a pilot comes on board who pilots us safely along the Isle of Wight (England) to Southampton. We see a light ship which serves as a lighthouse and pass a large ship of the Cunard Line, the 'Berengaria' from Liverpool (40,000 tons with 3 chimneys). That is 5-10,000 tons larger than our "Statendam".

It's raining and we cross a time zone and we must set our watches 20 minutes back.

Dinner starts at 6.30 p.m. with salmon, chicken, all kinds of vegetables, such as peas and beans; lettuce, tomatoes, sliced pears, bananas, melon, plums, pota-

toes, Californian oranges, ice-cream and coffee. Delicious!

In our company there is a young woman from Czechoslovakia. She is travelling to America to look for a job for her husband. After one year she will be naturalized and then it might be possible for him to come.



Pilot boat

Holland-America Line is really pampering us. The radio and newspaper reports are free and there are writing desks all over the place with free postcards and paper. After dinner I write my first impressions in the ballroom. In Boulogne I left behind letters for Johan Meinen [373], my sister Drika's son [348], my cousin Bernard Somsen [356] from Arnhem and postcards for my brother Jan and others.



Program of Activities

At 8.45 p.m. I have finished writing and go on deck. We leave the Isle of Wight and I cast one last glance at the white cliffs. The pilot returns to Southampton and we are now in the high seas with lots of seagulls on deck and in the air; the flag goes back in top and in front of us I see the sun setting at 9.15 p.m. Then I go to my cabin to put away my travel account.

Since this afternoon I have no headache anymore (due to the short sleep the first night: only 4 hours!). Now I set the clock one hour backwards; we have to do this every day from now on. My cabin-mate is already fast asleep due to a sleeping powder. I fall asleep after 20 minutes. Tomorrow there will probably be ship drills: practicing how to use the rescue boats.

**Thursday 12 July 1934**

I wake up at 6 a.m. The engines are silent. What is the matter? After half an hour they slowly start working again. The ship stops because of the danger of a passing ship in the fog. Last night it was cloudy and foggy and the ship also stopped from time to time.

While shaving I injured myself. For breakfast I have 2 rolls with sausage and jam, 2 flapjacks (old-fashioned pancakes), plums and 2 cups of tea.

The sun breaks through around 10 a.m. and dolphins (or sharks) are jumping on the waves. Behind the ship there is a long line for measuring the speed of the ship. The average speed is about 20 miles per hour. We do deck games again: tug-of-war (against the stewards and ladies against gentlemen) and table tennis.

Hurray for the Dutch guys who travel further than their mother's kitchen. The wide and distant horizon is so beautiful and liberates us of from so many trivialities anyway. These stewards are Holland's best publicity! Then the ship drills begin and we have to practice how to leave the ship. You may not put on your woollen clothes until you are in the rescue boat.

At noon the morning program is finished and I work on the travel account in my cabin.

After lunch I first sleep for an hour and then I go on deck for a race with 6 wooden horses. We pass a French ship on her homebound voyage and therefore she is the first to greet with the flag. I am on my way to my cabin and meet the captain in the lift. Once in my cabin I reread the letters I received from America.

After dinner I see a film of approx. 1.5 hours about a trip with the Holland America Line in the Mediterranean: Algiers, Sevilla, Madeira, Pompeii, Gibraltar, Egypt, Athens, Constantinople and The Holy Land. A wonderful trip. After the movie I have 2 glasses of lemon-juice in the bar.

Before I go to bed I hear test distress signals in my cabin: more than six short blasts and then one long one.

**Friday 13 July 1934**

I slept well even though some passenger woke me up at 2 a.m. when he rang three times.

I get up at 7.20 a.m. and I have breakfast at 8: juice, pancake with syrup, 2 sandwiches with jam, ham-and-eggs, plums and 2 cups of tea. After breakfast I smoke a cigarette.

I return to my cabin because I feel slightly unwell. I throw up in the washbowl. In my coat and with my newspaper I take a walk on the deck and one more time I am sick in the sea. I take a rest on a sofa but it is safer to go to my bunk anyway and there I sleep until 12.15 p.m. after which I call the steward. At his advice I eat a little: vegetable soup, pork, potatoes and spinach with cherries for dessert. Then I rest again until 2.40 p.m. I put on the light and feel good. Looking through the porthole I see hills of waves coming and going.

There is creaking in the ship all over. The ship is fighting against the current and I believe that my sickness this morning is due to the 2 cold lemon juices

after the heat of the film room. You can hear everybody toiling and in the meantime the sun is shining.

Once in 1920 the ship 'Nieuw Amsterdam' got 400 miles off course. How comfortable to know that the Lord is our secure mate.

At 4.15 p.m. there is tea in the ballroom and conversation with other passengers. Yet I feel still a bit unwell and go back to my cabin at 5.30. An hour later the steward brings some brandy as a medicine. Yet I have dinner: salmon, tomatoes, 3 bread rolls with butter, mocha cake, orange ice-cream and coffee. After talking and smoking I go to bed at 9.15 p.m.

**Saturday 14 July 1934**

Got up at 6.30 a.m. I've slept well, take a bath at 7 and do my toilet.

For breakfast I have: 1 orange, 2 sandwiches, 1 bread roll, jam, 2 cups of tea.

The sea is blue, it is warm, the sun is gorgeous and 3 birds follow us on the waves.

A band of 5 men plays waltzes by Strauss: 'Du bist mein Augensterne' and 'Leichte Kavalerie'.

After a good lunch I sleep from 1.15 to 3.30 p.m. Then the weather changes: rain, grey skies and a strong breeze. Before dinner I have a Dutch gin and glass of Heineken Beer.

At the table a priest asks attention for the mass of the next morning. After lunch I work in my cabin on my travel account. Through the porthole I see the waves raging.

I see the talkie 'The Party's Over' in the ballroom at 8.30 p.m. Very amusing.

Then to bed at 10.15 p.m. The sea is a little wild.

**Sunday 15 July 1934**

It was a turbulent night with irregular sleep. Waves and winds were battering on the ship. At 1 a.m. I woke up and at 06.30 again. Before 8 a.m. I am on deck and see that a bird is following the ship at some distance. The sun breaks through the clouds a little.

This morning my breakfast consists of: oatmeal, cold meat, corned beef, pork, 2 white sandwiches, 1 currant bun, plums, an apple and 2 cups of tea.

Mass was as early as 8 a.m. and lasted only 10 to 15 minutes; without a sermon.

In my cabin I read John 17. I put on another black suit and refresh the flowers in my cabin; these flowers always remind me of Holland.

Then off to the deck where around noon the weather is beautiful and sunny. Later there is the regular blast of the ship's horn warning for a heavy fog.

Together with others I go to the swimming pool (6.5 by 4 yards) and the gym, where I ride a bike.

I lose a bet with cabin-mate Meijer. The stakes are 1 dollar. Meijer claimed that he could jump higher than a chair. I did not believe him... stupid.

From 2.30 to 4.15 p.m. I rest a little and then I write another letter to my school in Arnhem. In the evening there is dancing in the ballroom and at 10.30 p.m. I turn in.



**Monday 16 July 1934**

I wake up at 4 a.m. There is a huge surge because near Cape Race there is always a weather change. What a frightening sight through the porthole but also wonderful: waves of up to 12-18 yards high and it does not look like getting calmer. What will this bring us? It reminds me of the song 'Rough Storms May Rage'. The curtain hangs about half a yard out of the perpendicular and the speed of the ship is only 15 miles; the

*On deck*

pool is also closed now. The waves wash over the afterdeck.

At lunch about half of the passengers are absent. I enjoy a good lunch: bean-soup, sauerkraut with bacon and sausage, stewed potatoes with cold meat, an apple and tea with mocha cakes. I sleep till 3.30 p.m. and then I go to the dining room to read the newspaper and for a cup of tea. I go on deck at 4.30 p.m. where sun and fog alternate. There is hardly anybody on deck. Then I have to hurry to the 'Gents'

because of the sauerkraut. Afterwards I feel fit again. How foggy it is outside. The bad weather was already predicted to me on Sunday, my leg told me so.

*Ship's newspaper*

Tonight dinner consists of soup, baked potatoes, tomatoes, cucumbers, broad beans and pears. And for dessert cakes and 2 ice-creams.

At dinner I hear the following joke that I definitely have to tell my brother in Amsterdam: "A Jew will always ask questions. If you ask for example: Is that Central Station? He will answer: Do you have to be there?"

From 7.30 to 8.30 p.m. I rest a while and then I see a film about the West Indies where only few people go for a visit.

From now on I no longer need to set the clock back and at 10 p.m. I go to bed.

**Tuesday 17 July 1934**

At 5 a.m. I wake up after having slept well but I slept

*Menu Card Farewell Dinner*

again from 6 to 7.30. There is no radio music on board, but there is live-music: this morning at 10.30 a piano potpourri.

The weather is sunny; I see eight whales and fishing boats to the North.

This day I write letters to my school, my brother Jan and to M.M. (Theo: my mother, Marie Meijnhardt [354], who he had fancied for years and who would be 26 on 24 July 1934!).

In the evening I enjoy a fine film about California and one about a bullfight in the ballroom.

Then to bed at 11 p.m.

**Wednesday 18 July 1934**

I wake up in very good condition and take a bath at 6.30 a.m. After breakfast the music quartet plays and I take a picture of them. I pack my suitcase at 10 a.m. and put away the pictures that I took.

Everything is ready now because tonight at 7 p.m. the "Statendam" will moor in New York!

We now also see land in the North and at 3 p.m. a pilot comes on board. To the right we can already see the skyscrapers and to the left a Zeppelin is flying. How much is there to be seen!

The peninsula of Manhattan and the green Statue of Liberty, its back turned towards New York (because of Prohibition some people say).

On approaching I see green ramparts with the American flag to our left, Staten Island and many hills, forests and long storehouses. I take leave of a few fellow passengers and disembark as the first of the 3rd class passengers.

*Statue of Liberty*

**Marieke G. Edwards – Jager Gerlings [725]  
More than 16 years active for us and ...50  
years married on 10 August 2012**

*by Johan Somsen [1089]*

In 1996, when we started organising our first Worldwide Somsen Reunion of 1997, Marieke already joined us. From those early days, even before there was a Somsen Foundation, Marieke has assisted us very much by arranging our financial affairs in the United States. When we founded our family foundation, early 1998, she was immediately prepared to go on helping us and she has done so to the present day with great accuracy and pleasure.

Now the time has come, however, that Marieke is going to take things a little easier. Her attention is claimed by her family, her husband Mike Edwards [3159] and her children and grandchildren. It was her biggest concern that we would find a successor for her in America. When we were successful in doing so (you can read about this elsewhere in this magazine) we still needed her assistance for a while and fortunately that was no problem at all.

Both The Netherlands and The United States play a prominent role in Marieke's life. She was born in Bennekom (Netherlands) as the eldest daughter of James Simon Adrianus Jager (Jake) Gerlings [718] and Jeanette Marianne (Netty) Somsen [717]. When the parental home in Bennekom was destroyed in the war her parents decided to emigrate to the United States in 1947. As a six-year-old girl she acquainted herself with her second homeland.

In part Marieke has become completely American, she speaks American English absolutely without an accent, she married an American, Mike Edwards, and together they have three American sons. She has almost completely lost Dutch as a spoken language, but she understands it quite well. Although her parents spoke Dutch at home with each other and with the children the children used to respond in English. For some part her heart still lies in her native country with which she has always kept strong ties. She has kept her Dutch citizenship and she pays regular visits to The Netherlands.

The first time we met her in the Somsen family was at the Worldwide Somsen Reunion in 1997. After that Marieke and Mike joined all the other gatherings. In 2002 they were enthusiastic participants in the Worldwide Somsen Reunion in Baldwin, WI. USA. In June 2006 Marieke came to The Netherlands with Mike, her children and her sister Anneke [726] for a sad duty. Her father had died at the age of 90 and it had been his emphatic wish that his ashes would be interred in the cemetery in Hoenderlo where the urn with the ashes of Marieke's mother had got a last resting-place in 1994. A visit to the beautiful church-yard

in Hoenderlo clearly shows that we can speak of a Hoenderlo Somsen-branch. (See "Somsen Omnes Generationes" page 80). Our family name occurs quite regularly there.

That visit to The Netherlands has also beautiful memories. A small delegation of the S o m s e n Foundation had a lovely lunch with the entire Edwards – Jager Gerlings family and Marieke's sister Anneke [726] on a splendid day in June against the background of the old Cannenburgh Castle in Vaassen.



*Cannenburgh Castle I. to r: Marieke, sister Anneke and husband Mike*

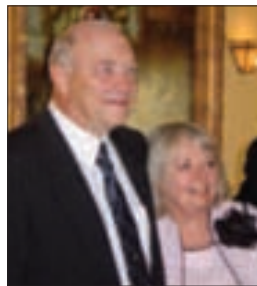
When in 2007 our Worldwide Somsen Reunion was held in The Netherlands (IJzerlo) again Marieke and Mike were present again and as always: cheerful, excited and happy.

Unfortunately they cannot be present at the next reunion. It would have been so nice to see each other again but Marieke and Mike have a good reason: the reunion is on 3, 4 and 5 August and on August 10 they will

be married for 50 years. Moreover, the distance of their hometown Olympia, WA. to New Ulm, MN is approx. 1400 miles.

This is the only good reason why we can forgive them but we will definitely miss her and Mike.

We will wait till 10 August with our congratulations for their 50th wedding anniversary.



*Marieke en Mike*

However, what I would like to express now on behalf of the Board of the Somsen Foundation are words of gratitude to Marieke for all the work she has done for us. I regret it that I cannot personally express our thanks which we would like to be accompanied by a souvenir, but I will see to it that she will get this surprise. I wish Marieke together with Mike and her children and grandchildren all the best for the future and of course I hope to meet them again.



## Our new American financial contact: Stephen D. Somsen

by Johan Somsen [1089]

We are extremely pleased that Stephen. D. Somsen [2459] is prepared to take over the task of Marieke G. Edwards – Jager Gerlings. We want to stimulate foreign payments to be done via PAYPAL, but it is important to have a contact in America.



Stephen D. Somsen  
[2459]

Stephen is no stranger to us. We have regularly met him at the Worldwide Somsen Reunions and this time he is one of the people in the organisation of the reunion in New Ulm, USA.

In our next publications we will get further acquainted with Stephen.



## PAYPAL for donations USA

by Johan Somsen [1089]

From now on it is only possible to donate for the Somsen Foundation (Stichting) via PAYPAL.

This method is safe and simple and saves a lot of work

- Go to the homepage of our website  
www.somsen.org
- Go to DONATIONS in the menu on the left
- Click the DONATE button (wait a little)
- Fill in the simple FORM: donation amount \$ 20 (a gift above this amount will be greatly appreciated)

We thank you very much for your cooperation

If there are any questions or problems, please contact us.

When it is a big problem to pay via PAYPAL you can forward your cheque to the successor of Marieke Edwards:

Stephen D. Somsen [2459]  
47231 East Fir Street  
P.O. Box 526  
Darrington, WA. 98241  
USA



## Family Announcements

In this column we would like to draw your attention to the family announcements that have reached us. We are very much pleased to present them to you and are grateful to everybody who took the trouble to inform us about the merry and sad events in their and our family.

This also enables our advisor Dick Somsen from Zwolle to keep our genealogical files up-to-date, so that we, in turn, can inform you in Somsen Horizon.

We really appreciate it very much that you send in your family announcements (together with pictures please!) to our secretariat: Somsen Foundation, Jan Tooropstraat 2, 3817 PZ Amersfoort, The Netherlands.

### Born:

**16-01-2010:** Ella Frost [7459], d.o. Joseph (Joe) McKenny [7458] and Melissa Lynn Crist [2765], Seattle, WA. USA

**07-11-2011:** Milan [7447], s.o. Mark van Dijk [186] and Matty Cornelissen [7444]

**16-12-2011:** Luke Dylan [7460] s.o. Joseph (Joe) McKenny [7458] and Melissa Lynn Crist [2765], Seattle, WA. USA

**18-05-2012:** Cecilia Rae [7457] d.o. Paul Rosen [7457] and Jennifer Anne Crist [2764], Edina, MN. USA

### Deceased:

**04-02-2012:** Lammert Hendrik (Henk) Eenink [2564], 87, Hengelo (O)

**17-02-2012:** Clarence James Somsen [2475], 95, Baldwin, WI. USA

**11-03-2012:** Margaretha Adriana Boer-Sprik [3729], 90, Arnhem

**29-03-2012:** James Michael Anderson [3626], 31, Eagle Mountain, UT. USA



Milan



Cecilia Rae

### 50 years married:

**10-08-2012:** Marieke Geertruide Jager Gerlings [725] and Michael Dwain Edwards [3159], Olympia, WA. USA

Photo back: Photos New Ulm



# New Ulm - Somsen Reunion 2012



\* Picnic Pavilion in Hermann Heights Park (upper left) and the view from Hermann Heights Park.

\* Map (partial) of the USA. In the upper left corner New Ulm can be found, near Minneapolis.