In 1958 Hoopman marketed a picking machine for turnips followed in 1964 by the production of machines for cutting bulbs, garlic and onion plants. The name of the machine for cutting onion plants, Holeras, became the brand name for the machines of Hoopman. Jan Willem Hoopman studied ways to improve seeds.

Two years ago we published an article about this in Somsen Horizon. In addition to agricultural machinery, machines for contractors and for the livestock sector Hoopman also produces sweepers that are used by the local governments for sweeping and clearing snow. Almost all Dutch airports use Hoopman sweepers for the runways. Hoopman also provides machinery for ecological roadside management and beet processing machines for biogas plants. Soon they will start building a new production hall of 0.6 square acres.

On Thursday, September 8, the company Hoopman received from the hands of Mayor Berghoef the predicate Tradesman by Special Appointment to H.M. At the reception Theo Somsen offered congratulations and flowers on behalf of the Somsen Foundation.

Somsenhouse empty

by Johan Somsen [1089]

The Somsenhouse is situated on the site where in the beginning of the 17th century the Somspstedeken was. That is the place where the oldest known Somsen ancestor of all of us lived: Roelof. During our reunion in 2007 we dedicated a commemorative plaque at the driveway to remember this fact.

The Lammers-Prinzen family lived at the Somsenhouse for a very long time but due to their far advanced age Hendrik and Truidie decided to move into an apartment in the nursing home in Dinxperlo. We wish the Lammers-Prinzen family all the best in their new environment.

I was approached by a son of the family if there were potential buyers in the Somsen family for this very special site for a Somsen.

The original farm was burned down and in 1950 a new house was built. The outbuildings are still original. There are about 4 acres of land and the purchase price lies below € 500,000. Interested parties can contact us.

Family announcements

Born:
16-05-2011: Linde Elise [7337], d.o. Frederik Jan Somsen [551] and Hanneke Miedema [7321]

Married:
21-06-2011: Gerrit Jan (Gertjan) Somsen [145] and Ingrid Marjan (Ingrid) Meijer [3924]

Deceased:
15-02-2011: Vladimir Tkach [3530], 85 jr., Vancouver, WA, USA

Newsletter number 7 will be published in February 2012

Send in copy to the editor:
Somsen Newsletter 7 before December 15, 2011
Somsen Horizon 25 before April 1, 2012

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We are pleased to offer you the Somsen Newsletter 6 of October 2011. A major event lies in store for us: the fourth Worldwide Somsen Reunion of 2012 in New Ulm, MN, in the USA. After intensive contacts with Stephen Somsen [2459] from the US we are very happy to publish his invitation in this newsletter and of course this news can also be found on our site: www.somsen.org.

It will not be easy for many Dutch Somsens to be present but it is already known that two groups in The Netherlands are planning to travel to the United States combining their trip with a visit to the Somsen reunion there. Maybe an idea for people who have a trip to America on their wish list. Often you can find bargain flights if you book long in advance.

Other special news is that the Somsenhouse, the place of our origin, is for sale. It is possible that there are Somsens who are interested or maybe there is a wealthy Somsen who wants to buy this historic site and even offer it to the Family.

On behalf of the 2012 Somsen Reunion Committee - August 2011

Johan Somsen [1089] chairman

Invitation

On behalf of the 2012 Somsen Reunion Committee - August 2011

Stephen D. Somsen [2459]
212 2nd Street
Seal Beach, California 90740
562-430-0079 ssomsen@aol.com

The Reunion Committee would like to announce the 4th World Wide Somsen Family Reunion to be held in New Ulm, Minnesota, USA. New Ulm, Minnesota is 90 miles southwest of Minneapolis and has a population of about 14,000 people. It is a charming community where the Cottonwood River meets the Minnesota River. There is a solid connection of the Somsen family to New Ulm to include Gerrit Somsen (who left Aalten at age 9 to journey to the USA with the “1851 branch”), his son, Henry Somsen Sr; grandson, Henry Somsen Jr; and great-grandson Stephen D. Somsen. (The last 3 were all born in or near New Ulm)

The official reunion program will be on Saturday and Sunday, August 4th and 5th, 2012. In addition, there will be opportunities to meet and greet Somsen family members on Friday, August 3rd.

There will also be optional activities planned for Monday, August 6th:

Our official meeting places will include:
Saturday August 4th, 2012: Turner Hall in New Ulm
Sunday August 5th, 2012: New Ulm Country Club

Lodging will be available:
Holiday Inn New Ulm and Microtel New Ulm
Camping will be available: Flandrau State Park in New Ulm

Getting there:
There are three daily non-stop flights from Amsterdam (AMS) to Minneapolis, Minnesota (MSP). There are many direct or non-stop flights from other major airports worldwide and in the USA to Minneapolis.

Another travel option from Europe is on the Queen Mary 2 from Southampton to New York combined with Amtrak train travel from New York to Minneapolis.

Car rental is readily available in Minneapolis for the easy 90 mile (144 km) drive to New Ulm.

Websites to give you more information about New Ulm, Minnesota:
Turner Hall - http://www.newulturnerhall.org
New Ulm Country Club - http://golfnewulm.com

Family barbecue on Saturday 27 August in IJzerlo

by Johan Somsen [1089]

Although initially weather conditions were not very promising (it rained while “baptizing” the tree) and in spite of a few cancellations at the last moment it turned out to be a very successful happening. There were even 43 persons who took part in the barbecue and in total there were even 50 guests. Not everyone could join the barbecue, though. There was enough food and drink. Wim Somsen and Rudolf Brunsveld had taken care of that.

It was very encouraging that, in addition to a number of “older” newcomers, so many young Somsen-families were there. There was a large group of people around 40 with their children at the campsite and they all enjoyed it very much in spite of a few showers. The Ede branch was responsible for a proportional share of this attendance and it was Oscar who had started this. Chapeau!

When in the board last year we stated that we wanted to continue with these meetings because we all felt that so many people enjoyed the barbecue we could not have guessed that there would be such a great deal of participants this year. We had never experienced this before. Last year we had decided to go on with these camping-weekends because of the pleasure it brought to all the people present. For that reason we should not stop.

Another consideration to also continue our Family Foundation was that it would be very difficult for future generations to make a new start again once when we would completely stop now.

Next to the reunion in New Ulm in 2012, August 4 and 5, the annual barbecue and camping weekend in IJzerlo also will be held at the end of August 2012.

Hoopman Machines Inc. in IJzerlo 1911-2011

by Harry Somsen [146]

On September 3, 2011 Hoopman Machines at the Dinxperlosestraatweg 145 in IJzerlo celebrated its centennial with a reception. It was Jan Hoopman [351] who started as a blacksmith and who also had a hardware store and a bicycle repair store. He married Anna Somsen [350]. Their son, Bram Hoopman [381], who had a talent for innovations in the field of agriculture, married Thea Kaemingh [382]. Thea, 90 now, was present at the Somsen barbecue in IJzerlo. Jan Willem Hoopman [606], the third generation, is the current owner and he invited the Somsens because of the Somsen connection. Hoopman Machines is still a family business and a large part of the 45 workers come from the neighborhood. Turnover of staff hardly exists because of the modest and flat organization in which the employees all know each other by their first names. “You will not see three-piece suits”, says Hoopman manager Henk Korten. We have grown by just staying informal, so we will continue doing so.