

Somsen

Newsletter 18 May 2021

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Silent Force in the Board Jan van Daatselaar 1929-2021



- Noah's accident and recovery
- Dallin in the US Navy
- Marco and his animal suits
- In memoriam Kathleen Berkseth
- Former ambassador returns to Beirut
- Vrogger Thuus
- ... and more

2022 Reunion!

Message from the Chairperson



Oscar Somsen [2040]

As I am writing this, it is snowing outside. First week of April. It is a special year; a week ago we had t-shirt weather in the Netherlands, and today the first"White Easter' since 2013.

The past year has been special but certainly not easy. Corona / COVID-19 has brought with it many measures to prevent infections. For most of us it is currently not possible to travel abroad. Sometimes visiting family is also a problem, not to mention sports and other activities. Fortunately, vaccination has begun in many countries. Let's hope that in a year's time the situation will have improved considerably.

Within the foundation it is quiet. The board is still very small but has occasional contact. Last autumn a number of cousins did meet again in IJzerlo to have our Family day. Because of Corona we had to keep our distance, but it was good to see and speak each other again. In the fall it was unfortunately not possible to produce a Horizon. Our board has become too small for that. We still hope that members will

come forward, especially to help us with this. Fortunately, we did receive some great articles. We would like to share these with you, together with the latest family announcements.

Next year it will be 25 years ago that we met for the first time. Then to celebrate the publication of the Somsen book 'Omnes Generationes' and to meet each other in the first worldwide reunion. At the moment we are thinking about the next reunion in the United States. Where exactly, that is not yet entirely clear, but in the following pages, you can read the first message from the organizing group. Thanks in advance for these first efforts. Hopefully, the plans will develop further in the coming months. Would you like to be kept informed about this? You can. Please send an e-mail to info@somsen.org. You will be notified as more becomes clear.

End of March, we received news that Jan Daatselaar [679] has passed away. Together with his wife Gree [53] he was a silent force in our board for many years. We remember him in this newsletter

The 2022 Worldwide Reunion in the USA is Approaching!

As before a group of loyal US attendants to our 2017 Reunion in Aalten used the occasion to talk about organizing another reunion at their side of the Atlantic. And again, this had not died down. Jacqueline Winquist [3893], Pamela [3847] and Patricia [3848] Rice and Shannon Kerr Proietti [3901] are preparing plans for a reunion in 2022. Jacqueline tells us about the ideas and reveals a tentative date and location.

As we look forward to a future with Covid-19 under control and more of the world vaccinated to prevent its spread, we also look forward to the next Worldwide Reunion, on August 5, 6, and 7, 2022! The reunion will be near Grand Rapids, Michigan, so you can fly into the Ford International Airport in Grand Rapids (GRR).

We have some interesting possible activities in mind and are reviewing sites that may offer various lodging choices (hotels, dormitories, cabins, tents, campers) as well as conference space, but to get the best quotations, we really need to understand how many people will be attending. If you could please send an email (also if you want to stay informed about our plans) to: info@somsen.org, with subject: 2022 Worldwide Reunion

Regarding how many of your family are planning to attend the reunion, and how many beds, or other sleeping arrangements you would require, we would certainly appreciate that! Then we can start to narrow in on the perfect place to host this marvelous event! Future details to come, and we will certainly keep you informed on any future requirements for wearing masks or other restrictions, should there be any changes that remain in force in Fall of 2022!

Sincerely, Jacqueline Winquist [3893]

In memoriam Kathleen Berkseth (Yeng Nacion [2042] and Gregory Berkseth [3856])



Visiting Kathy & Greg. 2012 Reunion

We met Kathleen Berkseth [3911] and her husband Gregory Berkseth [3856] the first time during the 2012 US reunion in New Ulm, Minnesota. There we had the chance to talk and learn more about our family ties. When we told them that we are travelling through Wisconsin on our way to Chicago, they kindly invited us to their home and stay for a night. And we did! Oscar [2040], Bente [2847], Hedda [2848] and myself [Yeng-2042] drove from Minnesota to McFarland, Wisconsin to visit Kathy and Greg. We were warmly received in their home, they showed us the town and had a nice meal together at Lake Waubesa. In 2017, both came to IJzerlo for the 5th Somsen reunion. It was great to see them again the whole weekend. And just before they travel back to the U.S., Oscar and I have had the opportunity to show them more of North

Holland. We picked them up from their hotel in Amsterdam, drove them to Marken (and had a taste of herring) and finally had dinner with us in our home. I remember Kathy being fascinated with the landscape, with dykes and the man-made lake ljsselmeer.

We remember Kathy as a warm, jolly lady and enjoys life. But of course, Greg knows her best. And he wrote a memoriam for Kathy.

Kathleen Berkseth passed away on December 30, 2020. Kathleen Jean (Lange) Berkseth was born May 12, 1952 in Burlington, Wisconsin. She grew up on a farm near Wind Lake, Wisconsin with her parents, Marvin and Clara, and brothers, Jim and Tim.

Kathy and I met at the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire in the mid 1970's and were married on October 16, 1982. We lived in Madison and later McFarland, Wisconsin where Kathy worked for the state of Wisconsin as a nurse's aide at Mendota Mental Health Institute and a program assistant at UW-Madison. We have two daughters, Kali (Scott) Lenz and Kelsey (Nino) Dzanic, and two granddaughters, Maja and Sofia Dzanic. Kathy enjoyed watching sporting events, from the girls' soccer games to the Green Bay Packers and the Wisconsin Badgers. She supported the UW



Hedda talking to Kathy & Greg. 2017 Reunion

Marching Band and enjoyed attending their spring concert each year. She loved babysitting our two grandchildren. She enjoyed going to restaurants and attending concerts. She loved travel and interacting with people. Our trip to the Somsen reunion in 2017 was a favorite. The trip, the scenery, the hospitality, but Kathy most enjoyed getting reacquainted and meeting many of the cousins. A truly memorable experience.

Kathy's greatest joy and accomplishment was nurturing and watching our daughters grow and mature into loving, accomplished adults. Kathy taught us to never give-up, to work hard, to fight through obstacles, to love generously, and to be grateful for life. She lives on in our hearts. Peace and comfort, Kathy.

Are you thinking about your donation?

Although there are fewer publications than you are used to, we still hope for your financial contribution. Any amount is welcome. To give you an indication: We spend around \$ 2000 per annum to stay in touch with our 180 supporters. Much more important: Donations are the main way to stay in touch with you. Through your donation, we know that our publications are received and that our address information is still correct. Donations can be transferred to bank account NL97 INGB 0007 9098 85 in the name of Somsen Foundation in Koog aan de Zaan, by check to our US financial officer Stephen D. Somsen, or through Paypal using the donation page of our website.

Noah Somsen Jacobson's Ski Accident and Recovery



With Surgeon Dr. Huang

Noah Jacobson [2384] is the younger son of our loyal supporter Jeanie Somsen [773]. Early 2020 his world was shaken when he suffered a terrible ski accident in Utah. Fortunately he has made a good recovery. His mother tells us about this experience.

Noah Somsen Jacobson loves to ski! He was born in Bishop California, a small town not too far from one of California's largest ski resorts, Mammoth Mountain, and has been skiing since he was four years old. Like most skiers, Noah finds magic in gliding across powdery snow with the wind in his face, while breathing the fresh mountain air. In his 41 years skiing, he has had hundreds of falls and had never a broken bone.

On Feb 9th, 2020, as he was coming down a "double black diamond"

(expert) run at Snowbird Resort in Utah on a beautiful blue sky day with his brother Micah [2383], and a couple of



Noah during revalidation

friends from college, his ski tip clipped a tree, spun him around and sent him sliding downhill head first until the crown of his helmet hit a tree. His "Go-pro" caught the whole accident on film with horrific sound.

While the helmet was nearly completely destroyed, Noah was somehow still able to ski down to the locker room. Even though the left side of his body was going numb, he told his friends "I'll be okay after I get in the

hot tub." His friend Kevin, a fire fighter (emergency responder), looked at Noah's now useless left side and said: "You do not need a hot tub. You need an ambulance."



With friends in ski lift

X-rays taken at the small mountain trauma hospital showed a broken spine: 5 vertebrae (C6/7 & T 5-7) were damaged. Because C6/7 were considered a "perch" fracture and had pinched the nerve going to his left side, the trauma team sent him to a larger Utah hospital for surgery. At the large hospital, Noah's brother, was trying unsuccessfully to keep him from moving on the gurney when a nurse informed him that his x-ray showed that a broken knife-like piece of vertebra had lacerated his spinal cord and if he kept moving, he could lose movement in more than just his arms and legs. Noah immediately stopped moving!

The Utah doctors wanted to operate right away, but on assurance that a spine surgeon could do the operation quickly in California and that Micah could accompany his immobilized brother on the plane, he was allowed to return to California for the operation. On February 15, Noah had spine fusion surgery on C6/C7. Because it was necessary to cut through neck muscles for the surgeon to reach the spine, everything was difficult initially: Getting in- and out of a car, eating, sleeping, laughing, coughing, sneezing, etc.



Noah's helmet. With visible dent

Hard work and several innovative therapeutic interventions have taken Noah from six weeks in a neck and spine brace, not being able move his head up, down or sideways, to his recent near recovery: swimming multiple laps on the Masters Swim Team, driving his truck and jumping on a trampoline. These therapies included: stem cell injections, K Laser & pulsed electromagnetic therapy, ARP wave therapy, acupuncture and "cupping," and hours of physical training, physical therapy. At the end of June, he traveled to Seattle for four sessions of Active Isolated Stretching from his former college football team-mate, Jerome, whose job is to apply this therapy on players for the Seattle Seahawks (football team).

Because Noah's philosophy is that "Life happens for us, not to us," he created a short video is to give the 400,000+ spine fusion patients hope and inspiration that they will recover and heal in time. In important moment was in February when he was skiing again with his friends at Snowbird, stopping only for Noah to nail his battered helmet to that same tree. Check Noah's Facebook page for videos of his accident and recovery.

Writers wanted! Photographers too! Old and especially Young!

As you can see, we were able to produce a slightly thicker Newsletter this year but not a Horizon. There are too few articles written in the past year. A pity of course because we surely have more to tell each other! The writers who have filled the Horizon for a long time are enjoying their well-earned rest.

We therefore hope that you will help us to spread a little more news next year. Would you like to write one or two articles each year? If so, that would be most welcome. We like to hear more from each other. Important events or special stories from the family or from the neighborhood. Stories from the past are also welcome. It might also be fun to interview someone from the family. That way we can get to know each other a little better. We can also discuss possible topics together. Writing in Dutch and English is both fine. Translation is provided.

Can you help us with this? Or do you have ideas for an interesting article? Please send an e-mail to info@somsen.org. Then we can discuss how we can tell more about our beautiful family together next year. Do you find yourself a little too old to be writing (but what is old)? Then ask the children or grandchildren if they would like to write an article sometime. That way, the next generation gets to write.

Hester Somsen Former ambassador back in Beirut (from; AD, 13/8/20, Bob van Huet)



Hester Somsen (right) accompanies Minister Liliane Ploemen (center) during a visit (photo: Hollands Hoogte / ANP)

On August 4, 2020, a large explosion occurred in the port of Beirut. Hester Somsen [395], daughter of former president Theo Somsen [227] was directly involved. She knows the situation well because she served as ambassador in Lebanon for many years. She travelled back to support the situation. A few days later she spoke to journalist Bob van Huet of the Algemeen Dagblad. Below is an abridged report of the article:

Former Ambassador Hester Somsen is back in Beirut. As a chargé d'affaires she replaces the ambassador because his wife died in the explosion. Hester, director of security policy at the Foreign Ministry, therefore returned to the city where she resigned in early 2017. An undamaged house of a colleague is used as a temporary office. It was impossible to work in the embassy building could because it was badly damaged.

Hester was sent to Beirut in a hurry to assist in coping with the crisis at the hard-hit embassy. On the day of the explosion she suddenly received apps from acquaintances. Because the embassy is about 1.5 kilometers away from the blast, a crisis structure was immediately set up. When it turned out that there were also injuries among the staff and that the

ambassador's wife had been seriously injured, it was clear that help would be needed. Because she has worked there before, Hester presented herself to lead the team.

The next day a team with four colleagues of the Foreign Office, sixty first-aid helpers and eight tracker dogs left from Eindhoven Airport. The crew arrived at night and heard in the city the glass pinching under the car tires. "I was immediately impressed by the massive clean-up with which the Lebanese themselves had already started. They do not expect anything from their government there. At the same time there was great anger at the gross negligence which had caused the explosion."

Work had to be done immediately: How are the other Dutch people in the city? And how do we deal with humanitarian aid requests? By immediately organizing



Hester Somsen in her time as ambassador in Lebanon during a visit to Lebanese general Kahwagi (photo: www.lebarmy.gov.lb).

things the emotions could be pushed away a bit. For the situation was serious. Injured people have to arrive at the hospital amid the chaos in the streets. Everywhere there are all these people who are injured. Pieces of broken glass in faces cause a lot of blood. Those are intense experiences. The social worker in the team proved invaluable.

It was also important to repatriate the ambassador's wife in the short term. Normally it takes six to ten days. Fortunately, it could now be done faster. First photos were placed to reflect on her death. But peace was still lacking to really think about it. Everyone felt it could have happened to them. If the blow had been two hours earlier the office would still have been full of our employees. Sometimes there is an angel on your shoulder.

Apart from the embassy staff four Dutch people were injured, mainly due to broken pieces of glass. Three people were initially missing. Two were found the same day, the last one was found a few days later in a hospital with a degree of memory loss. Furthermore, companies and offices of many Dutch people around the port were also hugely, sometimes fatally damaged.

Lebanon is a special country to work in. The people are special, but there is a lot that is not going well. Systematic corruption, sectarian disputes that are constantly being fueled and then this new disaster. But hope must be there. Because of its diversity and stability, The Lebanon is an important country in the Middle East. This fight against corruption and giving young people a voice is something that we in the Netherlands will continue to support. Diplomacy is a profession in the line of firing line."

'Vrogger Thuus', a wonderful and enriching book (by: Theo Somsen [227])

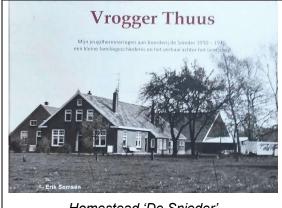
In our previous newsletter we wrote about an initiative to describe farms in the Achterhoek. As a result, we received an e-mail from Erik Somsen [701] who wrote a book about his childhood in 2018 about the period 1950-1970. The book entitled 'Vrogger Thuus' (At home in former days) contains a small family history of the Somsen branch of The Snieder (The Tailor) in the 19th and 20th centuries. Erik was kind enough to send a copy of the book. Theo Somsen [227] talks about this.

Well, if only there were more family members like Erik Somsen [701], because then those others could also be



Family Somsen-Luiten 1960 (right Erik)

happy with fascinating stories about the history of



Homestead 'De Snieder'

their branch of the extended Somsen family! Erik did that and turned it into a beautifully designed book.

As Frederik Jan Somsen he was born in 1950 in the hamlet of Lintelo near Aalten. In part 1 of the book, he recounts his childhood memories at the farm 'De Snieder'*, where he grew up until 1970. From 1786 to 1986 Somsens had lived and worked at that farm, initially as simple farmers, who eventually became independent farmers due to hard work. "Somsen of the Snieder," they were called in the neighborhood. The history of this family branch is described in part 2 of the book.

In the third part of the book the cultivation history of the

landscape in the hamlet of Lintelo is discussed. Both the names Lintelo and Somsen refer to that originally wooded, swampy and soggy land.

Our board is grateful to Erik for donating us a copy of his book. However, the book is not available in the bookstore, so it would be very nice if Erik would make parts of it suitable for a series of publications in 'Somsen Horizon' because there is so much to enjoy and also to learn about many aspects of the landscape.

- * 'Vrogger Thuus' (At home in former days) was published in 2018. Hardcover, size 30 x 22 cm., photos and maps in color and black and white, 123 pages.
- * 'De Snieder' (The Tailor). See also our family book 'Somsen Omnes Generationes', page 36-39 and 210-211 under Xcf (as entry for the ancestors and descendants of Erik Somsen)



All descendants of Jan & Willemien 2018

Marco and his Animal Costumes (by: Marco [545] and Oscar [2040] Somsen))



Suits

Marco Somsen [545] is a familiar face in our foundation. He is a loyal visitor of our meetings and reunions and has a chat with everyone. Sometimes he also has his horn with him. What we did not know, though, is that Marco is also a lover of costumes. In this issue he tells us about his hobby.

Hello I am Marco Somsen. I am 48 years old and I live on the Hamelandroute in Aalten. I have a nice collection of costumes. As a child I found the figures you sometimes see along port fields or in amusement parks fascinating. I always wondered "who is in there and what are they doing? In the 1990s you could take the bus to

Movie World in Germany. There you could see people dressed as Looney Tunes characters walking around. By now I have been photographed with many of these characters. I also like to watch movies of people dressed as characters to see how they move. I also used to make cartoon drawings.

Later, an acquaintance, the boss of Intertoys Aalten. allowed me to wear the Toy Toy suit at the annual Kids Run. The children liked the elephant and I also enjoyed Toy Toy. I stood at the start and finish to give the participants a high five. They also often wanted their picture taken with me. The suit was warm, though. Toy Toy has a fat belly and a heavy



head. After half an hour the sweat was rolling off my back and my head. I was allowed to do this for about five years, every year in May. Unfortunately, Intertoys Aalten stopped at the beginning of 2020. I do have a nice cup as a souvenir.

I myself occasionally buy animal costumes through, among others, Marktplaats (an online site for 2nd hand items, ed). The first one was a bear suit. In the



Toy Toy

Beelie

storage room I have a rack with many suits: A chicken, beaver, cow, tiger (from Kungfu Panda) and many more. I like to just put them on now and then. Bone Beaver I think is the cutest one. I've had that one for a long time.

It's also a little less heavy and more flexible. I usually wear an absorbent shirt under my suits and light clothing.

I wore my suits at the parade in Aalten or the Carnival at the KK-soos in Lichtenvoorde. A few times I walked in costume together with my cousin Karin at the parades in Varseveld and de Heurne. I was also a few times a character at the field day of Estinea, a foundation for the disabled in the Achterhoek and Twente. I like to make people happy. Children, but also adults. Around Easter I walked through the village as the Easter Bunny. Last year Karin Stronks wrote a nice article about my hobby in our newspaper, Aalten Vooruit.



During St. Nicolas fest

Since last fall, I have a new task at our soccer club AZSV. I heard that they were looking for a mascot and responded. I was allowed to try on the suit and I liked it. Now I get to walk around the field at home games wearing Beelie, the AZSV club mascot. It's a nice suit: a lion with a tail in the club's uniform. Beelie is named after one of the major sponsors of the club. Under the suit is a vest with cooling elements and in the head is a fan. But I still get warm. I also wore the suit at St. Nicholas and at a campaign to sell smoked sausages in the shopping center.



Top (L-R): Heart, Squirrel, Bearsuit. Bottom (L-R): Dog, 'Botie Bever', Easter Bunny



Jan van Daatselaar

Jan van Daatselaar, our Silent Force (1929-2021)

On March 30, Jan van Daatselaar [679] died at the age of 91, less than a year and a half after his Muse: Gree van Daatselaar-Somsen [53], to whom he had been married for more than 64 years.

Before the first Worldwide Somsen Reunion was held in 1997, a lot of work had to be done. Like forming a Reunion Committee. And yes, who spontaneously signed up for that? Gree van Daatselaar-Somsen from Lichtenvoorde. For many years Gree was part of the board of the Somsen Foundation. Unforgettable is that immediately after the publication of our family book 'Somsen Omnes Generationes' she read that book in one breath on a Saturday evening and night and even let the subsequent Sunday church service pass by!

Also, her husband Jan never stood along the sidelines. He was very much willing to be the

treasurer of our family foundation. Accurately and with verve, that is how he did it. Moreover, we learned how to appreciate his wisdom, humor and ability to see things in a relative light. Venom was alien to him.

After both Gree and Jan were no longer part of our board, they remained very much involved in our activities. And after Gree's death in December 2019, Jan was even present at our annual meeting in IJzerlo in August 2020! We will miss Jan, our affable silent power; just as we still miss his Gree.



Gree & Jan. 2007 Reunion



From L-R Dallin, Stacey, Owen, Olivia & Michael Aikens

Dallin Michael Aikens. First steps in the US Navy

Dallin [7533] is the eldest son of our Stacey Vargecko Aikens [2541] and Michael Aikens [7530]. Together with his parents and siblings Olivia [7534] and Owen [7535] he has been a visitor to several of our 'worldwide reunions'. Two years ago he made the step to enter the US Navy. His proud mother tells about

her son.

Dallin was born April 30, 2000 to Stacey Vargecko Aikens and Michael Aikens in Arlington, Virginia. He lived in Virginia until he was 6 years old when his family moved to

Austin, Texas where they currently reside. Dallin has one younger sister and one younger brother, Olivia (14) and Owen (10) respectively.

Dallin has always been a very quick learner. At 8 ½ months he learned to crawl, but that only lasted for a week because he wanted to move faster. So, he stood up and started walking and was fully walking by 9 months old. By a year old he had figured out that he could jump off stairs and scare his mother to death. This was a foreshadowing of where he is today.



Dallin. 2 months old



L-R Olivia, Owen & Dallin

In Kindergarten he came home excited that he had met people from all over the world. He loved what he learned from them and enjoyed sharing that every day with his parents. This inclination of meeting people from different places and backgrounds is still evident today. He also loved getting involved with sports. He played soccer for many

years, with his dad being the coach for many of them. At the end of his 6th grade year he came home excited to announce that he had made the football team for 7th Grade. This came as quite a surprise to his parents since they didn't even know that the school was holding try-outs for football.

While physical things came easily to Dallin, education did not move as quickly. He read proficiently at a very

early age and still reads as proficiently to this day. However, formal schooling was not his favourite and, unless it demanded any physical activity, was arduous to get through. He played football each school year through his 10 grade year of school. He also raised a lamb for FFA (Future Farmers of America) but was still not satisfied with all of the sitting and listening to lectures so he found an alternative way of learning at Gateway Technical School which allowed him to set his own pace, completes the work online and allowed time for a job. He enjoyed working because he was making money and working with his hands. Because he set his own pace and is goal oriented, Dallin finished high school early and even completed several college courses in welding which quickly became of passion of his.



Dallin Received his Eagle Rank April 2018

Dallin enjoyed working in a nursery as one of their tree planters until he was able to land a job as a welder's assistant - a job he had to wait to obtain until he turned 18 years of age. But, Dallin desired more . . . especially to move out of his parents' home (like most teenagers want, right?!) and be accountable for himself. College was not his first choice, but his parents had asked him to serve in some way to give thanks for his life.

Farewell Party - with his dog, Perry

He wisely chose the U.S. Navy. He enlisted in July 2018, and after an onerous process of admittance, was sworn into duty on January 27, 2019 at the rank of E3. Most new enlistees go in with the rank of E1, but because Dallin had previously completed his Eagle Rank in the Boy Scouts of America, he was awarded for his hard work with 2 rank increases and a bump in pay.

He completed basic training in Great Lakes, Illinois (just outside of Chicago). While his mother was very worried for his safety, Dallin was able to call and reassure her that he was doing well even in very, very cold weather. In fact, he excelled, just like everyone knew he would. After basic

training, Dallin headed to A School in Pensacola, Florida (which was an added

blessing because Dallin loves fishing, so the Florida coast was a great place to be).

The Navy calls its job training A school. All Navy enlisted ratings (jobs) have an A school, which teaches you the fundamentals of your new Navy job. There Dallin learned the fundamentals of being an airman, training to work specifically on the C2-A Greyhound Carrier and the E-2 Hawkeye. Remember that it was mentioned earlier that Dallin excelled in things that required hard work and working with your hands? Well, he excelled in A School as well. This discipline allowed him to continue his training at C School in Norfolk, Virginia. Being chosen for C school means that you have



Dallin's Division insignia

proven that you are qualified to be trained in an advanced area of the job. Dallin has recently completed C School and is now at his base command in Norfolk, Virginia.



Deep Sea fishing June 2018

While working with division VAW-120 in Norfolk, Virginia, Dallin has many opportunities to continue his certification in different areas of the mechanics of airplanes. He has completed more certifications in a handful of months where many who have been there longer have not. He has discovered his passion and found that he wants to fly planes. It is his hope that he is accepted to the Naval Academy where he will complete his Bachelor's degree and his officer training continues and then training to eventually fly the very planes that he currently working on.



He is only 19 years old, so the story continues "Fair winds and following seas" Dallin!

(Note: Dallin has just turned 21 years old. We hope to hear more of his adventure Navy)

Somsen Family Day. Saturday, September 4, 2021

Despite Corona and the measures that go with it, we were able to hold a family day again last fall. On our



Parking at Jaopikshuis

familiar spot at Equestrian Center de Achterhoek in IJzerlo where we could meet each other at a safe distance. As always it was a meeting of old and new friends where we exchanged news of the things that have happened the past year. For those present from outside the Achterhoek, it is the opportunity to visit their place of origin again. We also paid our annual visit to our tree, which fortunately is still in good shape. Planted at our first reunion in 1997 this tree has stood there for 23 years at the Jaopikshuis as a witness to our family history.

In 2021 we hope to

have another family day. On Saturday, September 4, you are welcome again in IJzerlo for the 25th annual meeting. As last year, we will provide you with food and drink and hope that you will come together for fellowship. Are you planning to come? Then please send an e-mail to info@somsen.org. We will keep you informed about the organization.



Catering During the Family Day

Family Announcements

In this section our genealogical advisor Dick Somsen [130] from Zwolle draws your attention to the family announcements. We thank everyone who has informed us again about happy or sad events in the family. This makes it possible to keep the genealogical file 'up to date' and to report about it in the Horizon and Newsletter. We would appreciate if you could send your family announcements to somsengenealogie@kpnplanet.nl or Monteverdilaan 175, 8031 DL Zwolle (preferably with a photo!)

BORN/MARRIED: no announcement received DECEASED:

- 27-03-2019: EGBERT (BERT) VAN WINGERDEN [3043], 81 YEARS OLD, BLOEMENDAAL
- 04-09-2019: EDNA MAE SOMSEN-WOOTEN [2829], 79 YEARS OLD, SIOUX CITY, IA. USA
- 12-10-2019: Hugh Steven Somsen [2830], 72 YEARS OLD, SPARKS, NV. USA
- 11-06-2020: SHIRLEY MARIE BEHM-DICKSON [3572], 92 YEARS OLD, MADISON, WI. USA
- 15-09-2020: Dolores Teresa Somsen-Conellan [2607], 93 years old, Sarasota, FL. USA
- 03-11-2020: WILHELMINA PETRONELLA SOMSEN WILLEMS (LIESBETH) [720], 92 YEARS OLD, NIJMEGEN
- 26-12-2020: JOHAN (HAN) STADLER [526], 91 YEARS OLD, LEEK
- 14-01-2021: HENDRIK JOHAN (HENK) SOMSEN [1979], 80 YEARS OLD, DINXPERLO
- 04-03-2021: JOHN DAVID SOMSEN [943], 81 YEARS OLD, CHUBBUCK, ID. USA
- 04-03-2021: DERK JAN (DICK) SOMSEN [160], 76 YEARS OLD, LODZ, POLEN
- 30-03-2021: JAN VAN DAATSELAAR [679], 91 JAAR LICHTENVOORDE
- 15-04-2021: DIRK (DIK) SOMSEN [451], 77 JAAR, OLDENZAAL



L-R; Hugh Somsen [2830], Edna Mae Somsen [2829], Henk Stadler [1979], Bert van Wingerden [3043], John Somsen [943]



L-R: Liesbeth Somsen [720], Dick Somsen [160], Dolores Somsen [2607], Dik Somsen [451], Hans Meinen [4360]

- 30-12-2020: KATHLEEN JEAN (KATHY) BERKSETH [3911], 68 YEARS OLD, MADISON, WI
- 30-03-2021: JOHAN HENDRIK WILLEM (HANS) MEINEN [4360], 79 JAAR, ALEMELO