



The Netherland-America Foundation
SPRING 2007 NEWS



Why Chapters?



“We are building a Foundation that will support a range of different local activities. We are convinced that there is enormous potential for cross-fertilization between the local groups. Sharing ideas, know-how, and back-office support will allow each local group operating under the NAF umbrella to accomplish much more (and more easily) than it would have been able to alone.”

—Jan J. H. Joosten, NAF Secretary



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THE NAF

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OUR MISSION

Building on the enduring heritage and values shared between the peoples of the Netherlands and the United States, the Netherland-America Foundation seeks to further strengthen the bonds between our two countries through exchange in the arts, sciences, education, business and public affairs.

The NAF is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by federal and state tax laws as well as Dutch tax law. The NAF welcomes membership by individuals and corporations.

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from the chairman



NAF Chairman
Ennius E. Bergsma

Writing introductions to these newsletters has become relatively easy. Thus far at least, every time I have been able to report substantial progress, and this time is no exception. My role here is to summarize what the NAF's committed volunteers and members, supported by a small staff, are accomplishing. And that is quite a lot!

Subject to our official audit, the NAF will have passed the \$1 million mark in revenues for 2006, due to significant progress across the board. Geographic expansion, with its growth of potential members, continues. We finalized our agreements with the Dutch-American Heritage Foundation in Los Angeles, we are well along in our discussions with Boston, and we have initiated discussions with Atlanta. The 25th Peter Stuyvesant Ball, chaired by Mr. Dick Verbeek of AON, not only broke all financial records; many attendees judged it their most enjoyable Ball yet. Similarly, the Dutch American Heritage Awards Gala in Los Angeles, where Mr. J.C. Huizenga was inducted into the Dutch-American Heritage Hall of Fame, was a very successful event.

The NAF's revenue performance has allowed for rapid growth in the funding of fellowship and grant programs, from \$475,000 in 2005, to \$550,000 in 2006 to \$775,000 in 2007. For this year, the NAF established two new Fulbright Fellowships to enable U.S. students to pursue postgraduate studies at the world class Water Research Center at the Delft University of Technology. We are also planning a U.S. lecture tour by Professor Ernst van de Wetering, the pre-eminent Rembrandt scholar. The NAF is becoming the kind of organization one would expect, given its mission and the strong relations between our two nations. Indeed, at the NAF Awards Dinner in Washington, D.C. on April 20, we will celebrate the 225th anniversary of the recognition of the fledgling United States and its Ambassador, John Adams, by the Dutch Republic: the start of 225 years of uninterrupted and cordial diplomatic relations, unique between two nations.

But none of these initiatives and activities would have taken place without Maarten van Hengel, who passed away on December 29, 2006. Maarten served on our Board since 1988, as its Chairman from 1994 to 1998, and continued as an active member of the Education Committee until his death. Maarten restructured and led the NAF during a critical period in its existence, and thereby laid the foundation for its current vigor. We remember him with gratitude and affection.

Ennius E. Bergsma
Chairman

Why Chapters?

Reaching out to communities throughout the United States and the Netherlands is an important priority of the Netherland-America Foundation. For many years, the NAF has operated as a national organization by funding cultural events throughout the U.S. and by granting scholarships and loans to students headed for U.S. and Dutch universities. But that is not enough.



Jan J. H. Joosten,
NAF Secretary

We need to reach out to local individuals and groups who are interested in organizing activities that further our mission. Some groups are interested in setting up a business exchange, where local U.S. and Dutch business people can meet. Others prefer to focus on Dutch heritage, cultural, or other events.

We are building a Foundation that will support a range of different local activities. We are convinced that there is enormous potential for cross-fertilization between the local groups. Sharing ideas, know-how, and back-office support will allow each local group operating under the NAF umbrella to accomplish much more (and more easily) than it would have been able to alone. A case in point is Geert Mak's recent lecture tour. By joining forces, we were able to set up a six-city, seven-lecture tour for about twice the amount of money one lecture would have cost. And local groups had the opportunity to host a speaker who might have otherwise bypassed their city.

With the help of many at the local and national level, we have made substantial progress in transforming the NAF into a truly national organization. But much work remains to be done. We are very grateful that Gus Vlak, a principal at Katzenbach Partners, LLC, a leading consulting firm in organization design, and Merijn Boender, Executive Vice President-Americas at AEGON Pension Network, have volunteered to assist us in structuring this challenging transformational process.

The following articles will give you an idea of what NAF chapters are accomplishing across the U.S. If you are interested in starting a chapter in your area, please contact the NAF Office.

“Under the banner of the NAF, we will show a strong interest in education.”

—Hans Gieskes, Chair of NAF Boston Chapter

Boston

Boston has been working closely with the NAF for the last six months to become a chapter, led by Hans Gieskes. Boston has had a Dutch-American business club since the 1960s and a social/cultural club since the 1950s. However, according to Mr. Gieskes, “both of these clubs are small with a somewhat aging membership and we all would love to grow in the future.” Quite a few members of these two clubs are also NAF members. Leadership of the new Boston Chapter will be a mixture of existing leaders and committees from these two clubs that will stay in place and be merged into the new chapter. Boston wants to be a chapter of NAF because “there is a significant community of Dutch people in the Boston area, academics especially. Most have never felt an urge to join one of these clubs. Under the banner of the NAF, we will show a strong interest in education. This should please existing members and attract new members and sponsors.”

Recent events in Boston have included Geert Mak’s lecture at Harvard in November 2006, which was very successful. Mr. Gieskes noted that it would not have been possible without the NAF’s assistance with logistics, costs, and coordination. The Boston Chapter is planning several social, cultural, and business events in the coming months, including the Queen’s Birthday celebration on April 30, 2007, the St. Nicholas celebration on December 5, 2007, and trips to museums and concerts.

In the future, Mr. Gieskes observes, “We need to be more formal in our marketing approach. Following the NAF’s lead, we will make good use of the Internet. We also want to expand on our relationship with the Dutch Honorary Consul here. We know that

there are at least 500 Dutch people in the Boston area, and a couple of 1,000 or so who keep dual citizenship. We need to reach this crowd. There is a constant coming and going of people who come to teach, study, and work. Joining forces locally and using the NAF’s best practices, our goal is to have 300 active members in the future!”

Chicago



Cor Hersbach, Deputy Consul General, Netherlands Consulate in Chicago and Sandra Crew, Relationship Manager, Global Business Unit, AON Chicago on September 27, 2006 at AON’s Conference Center.

Andrew Enschede leads the NAF Chicago Chapter, a vibrant chapter founded in 2005 with the support and input of the Consulate General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Chicago, the Netherlands Club of Chicago, and the Netherlands Foreign Investment Agency (NFIA). This past October 2006, the Chicago Chapter celebrated their first anniversary by hosting a Dutch business delegation for dinner at the Standard Club prior to the Chicago Marathon. The evening featured live jazz and plenty of pastas and salads so that several people running the Chicago Marathon could “carbo load.” However, the REAL marathon on this night involved an exchange of business cards and

WHY CHAPTERS *cont'd*



Mr. Hill Hannock, COO of LaSalle Bank Corporation speaking on "Dealing with the Dutch," February 15, 2006.

meeting new partners: Dutch companies from a wide variety of industries were in attendance.

In November, a well-attended panel discussion addressed "U.S.-European Trade: A Long-Standing Relationship Challenged by New Opportunities and Markets in the East." Panelists included Joost Kuiper of ABN AMRO, Paul Zeven of Philips North American, Lex van Hessen, of Van Hessen BV, Bill Testa from the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, and Carl Tannenbaum of LaSalle Bank Corporation.

At a breakfast briefing on March 16, Pieter Struijs, Executive Vice President & C.O.O. of the Port of Rotterdam spoke about the long-standing relationship between Europe's largest port and the USA. He discussed recent developments, the creation of Maasvlakte II and Euromax, and the increased importance of Homeland Security.

When it comes to planning these successful events, Mr. Enschede explained, "We are always looking for opportunities as they come along. It is a free-flowing thing: who is new in town and who can we get to show up." The Chicago Chapter's real goal, notes Mr. Enschede, is to "keep building a forum for people to talk to each other, while also promoting the more traditional goals of the

NAF. The only way to do this is by doing things locally." You can visit the Chicago Chapter online at www.thenafchicago.org.

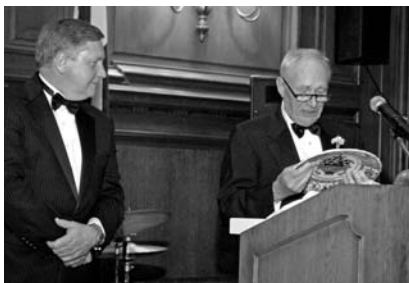
Southern California

The Southern California Chapter is not new to the NAF and has partnered with the NAF for years. The chapter's new Chair, Mr. Dick van Hoepen, notes that the Southern California Chapter has been in existence for many years, "but in order to take our organization a bit further, we wanted to be a part of the NAF." The California chapter looks forward to working with the NAF to attract more members to their vibrant group.

Mr. Van Hoepen states that the Southern California Chapter was formed shortly after the first President Bush declared November 16 as Dutch American Heritage Day in 1991. At the invitation of the Consul General of the Netherlands in Los Angeles, a group of people formed the Dutch American Heritage Day Association, which was later re-named the Dutch-American Heritage Association, and eventually became the Dutch American Heritage Foundation (DAHEF). One of the missions was to discover, promote, create, and celebrate Dutch culture and share this with Americans of Dutch descent and other Americans. Mr. Van Hoepen notes, "For 15 years, we have celebrated Dutch American Heritage Day with a big gala event where Dutch-Americans and Dutch citizens who have made major contributions are honored." The gala, held this past year on November 18, 2006, is always a black tie event and is held at the California Club in downtown Los Angeles. Twenty individuals have been honored with inclusion into the Dutch American Heritage Hall of Fame, including journalist

“...in order to take our organization a bit further, we wanted to be a part of the NAF”

—Dick van Hoepen, Chair of NAF Southern California Chapter



Bob Visser, DAHEF President, inducts J. C. Huizenga into the DAHEF Hall of Fame, November 18, 2006.

Walter Cronkite, actress Joan van Ark, and film director Paul Verhoeven (a full list of honorees can be viewed at www.dahef.org). Funds raised from the gala have gone to the California-based Netherlands Social Service Organization, which gives aid and assistance to needy persons of Dutch background, and the Dutch Studies program at the University of California at Los Angeles.

Upcoming activities of the chapter include the third consecutive concert tour with gifted young Dutch musicians from the “Princess Christina Concours” in The Hague. Concerts are planned on April 26 in Los Angeles, April 29 in San Francisco, and May 1 in Vancouver, BC. Advertisements announcing the concerts are published in newsletters of various organizations in the Los Angeles area.

The Geert Mak lecture at UCLA in the fall of 2006 was roundly praised as a hugely successful event. Other recent events include the Van Tilburg Lecture at UCLA, held on February 22. This year’s speaker was Gary Schwartz, a leading expert on Rembrandt and Dutch art in the 17th century. “We don’t organize this event but we support it,” says Mr. Van Hoepen, “and we ask attendees to join the NAF.”



Elga Sharpe of the Office of Protocol presents a Proclamation from the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles congratulating Mr. Huizenga for being honored by the DAHEF.

On March 4, a screening was held at UCLA of “The Black Book,” (Zwartboek) a film directed by Paul Verhoeven.

Washington, D.C.

The Washington, D.C. Chapter of the NAF feels fortunate that they have not had to invent the wheel. Mr. Naboth van den Broek explains, “We’ve been in a fortunate position in D.C. because we didn’t have to start from scratch like some other chapters. We have had the Annual Awards dinner here for years. Also, for several years, Bill Tucker has held luncheons from time to time with U.S. and Dutch companies from particular sectors and interests to meet with visiting Dutch politicians and people from the Hill. We’ve been lucky in that we can continue to build on what already exists.” Mr. Van den Broek notes that as an active, political town with many Dutch people and companies, D.C. is a “good breeding ground for the NAF!”

The past few months have seen several key events. Washington, D.C. was Geert Mak’s first stop on his fall lecture tour. Mak’s lecture was attended by over 200 people, including several individuals who had

WHY CHAPTERS *cont'd*

read his books in Dutch, which is "quite amazing in Washington, D.C.," quips Mr. Van den Broek.

A Capitol Hill luncheon held on September 14, 2006, planned by the NAF, was attended by over 50 people including newly arrived Ambassador Christiaan Kröner, NAF corporate members, others representing Dutch-related organizations and congressional Caucus members. The event was the first meeting of the U.S. Congressional Caucus on the Netherlands under the leadership of Congressmen Hoekstra (MI) and Van Hollen (MD). The Caucus membership, from the House of Representatives and the Senate, all have a particular interest in the Netherlands, whether from their personal heritage or the demographics of their constituencies.

What's coming up is the Annual Awards Dinner on April 20, which will honor three prominent Dutch individuals (see the notice under "Member News" for more information).

States Mr. Van den Broek, "One of the major things we are doing is by focusing on Dutch businesses here in D.C. and on U.S. businesses with interests in the Netherlands. By tailoring our events to these groups, we hope to attract more and involve more of them, both here in D.C. and in the NAF generally."

Bill Tucker and Mr. van den Broek lead the NAF Washington, D.C. Chapter, working on a rather informal basis at this point. Much of their recruiting takes a personal bent: "D.C. has a large Dutch and Dutch-American community but it is relatively concentrated. The Royal Netherlands Embassy staff is always very helpful. The Embassy events and activities help us find those who may have interest in the NAF as well. Additionally, it is very much person-to-person contacts and joint events that will help us grow as a chapter. We pass infor-



Geert Mak and Dr. Henk Aay meet after Mr. Mak's lecture in Michigan.

mation to each other on who's just arrived in the U.S. or in a conversation another Dutch person in town will say, did you know we have a new business in Virginia producing tulips?"

West Michigan

The West Michigan Chapter of the NAF is off and running in a field full of Dutch organizations. Leading efforts here is Henk Aay, Ph.D., Meijer Chair of Dutch Language and Culture at Calvin College in Grand Rapids. Dr. Aay explained that "there are one-quarter million individuals of Dutch ancestry in West Michigan. Our NAF chapter here takes its place among many other Dutch organizations and we plan to cooperate with them."

Geert Mak came to speak at Calvin College in November 2006, and Dr. Aay says, "This was big!" Over 200 people heard

“Our NAF Chapter takes its place among many other Dutch organizations and we plan to cooperate with them.” –Henk Aay, Ph.D., of the NAF West Michigan Chapter



Geert Mak, Dr Gaylen Byker, President Calvin College, and Mrs. Susan Byker at Geert Mak lecture at Calvin College Chapel.

Mak speak. West Michigan also held a celebration for Dutch-American Heritage Day on November 16, 2006. Another event was the inauguration of the Frederick Meijer Chair in Dutch Language and Culture at Calvin College this past September, which brought out 300-400 people.

A major event is planned for April 16, 2007, which is close to Dutch American Friendship Day on April 19th. 2007 is the 200th anniversary of the cessation of the Dutch slave trade, and the Meijer Chair is commemorating this historic event with a special lecture. Dutch historian Dr. Willem Klooster, who teaches at Clark University in Worcester, MA, will be speaking about the role of the Dutch in the transatlantic slave trade. His lecture titled, “Stealing Ham’s Descendents: The Dutch Trade in African Slaves, 1500 to 1800,” will include reminiscences from individuals of Dutch ancestry who have visited slave forts in Africa, and their emotional turmoil upon the realization

that so many of the wonderful accomplishments and artifacts of the Dutch Golden Age were financed by slavery. This lecture has been advertised broadly. A crucial goal is bringing African-Americans to this event, and bringing the community together. Dr. Aay noted that this lecture is being planned along with the African Studies Department at Calvin, and he says, “Our hope is that we will get more understanding and recognition that this has happened. We can’t only look at wonderful things but must face and confront the things we are not proud of.” The Calvin College campus offers the continuing opportunity for relationships and cultural events: “The opportunities are there to try something new.”

Dr. Aay says that the West Michigan Chapter will be a very flexible and cooperative one. “Community organizations are in decline in the 21st century,” says Dr. Aay, and he feels this is a good time to join the NAF and benefit from its broad initiatives, constituency and solid financial base. There is no lack of suitable leaders for the West Michigan Chapter, but notes Dr. Aay, “You almost have to pry them away from other interests.” To this end, the Chapter is targeting a mix of different individuals, including academics and business and financial leaders in the community. The goal in the coming months is to recruit chapter permanent leadership and begin work by this summer.

in memoriam

IN MEMORIAM

Maarten van Hengel

1927-2006

The Netherland-America Foundation (NAF) was sad to learn that Mr. Maarten van Hengel had passed away on December 29, 2006, surrounded by his loving family. As a Director since 1988 and Chairman from 1994 to 1998, Maarten provided crucial support and leadership to the NAF, enabling it to grow into a vital element in the relationship between the United States and the Netherlands. Maarten's enthusiasm for, and commit-



ment to, educational and cultural exchange between our two countries were exemplary, and have inspired many current and former NAF members, directors and contributors. Because of Maarten's vision, hundreds of American and Dutch students, scholars and artists have had the life-changing opportunity to study and perform in the other country, through grants and student loans from the NAF. Without Maarten's leadership, the NAF-Fulbright fellowship program would not have existed and grown to its current size and importance. The NAF community will

also miss his friendship and wisdom. We express our heartfelt condolences to his wife of 55 years, Mrs. Drusilla van Hengel, and the other members of his family.

In his will, Maarten left the NAF a legacy of more than \$325,000. The Executive Committee of the Board has decided to dedicate these funds to a Maarten van Hengel Educational Fund, established to provide fellowships or interest free loans to exchange stu-

dents between our two countries. We know this was a program that Maarten felt very strongly about.

Anyone who wants to make a contribution to the NAF in memory of Maarten, please make your payment out to the Netherland-America Foundation, noting "In memory of Maarten van Hengel", and we will credit it to the Maarten van Hengel Educational Fund. All contributions already received in memory of Maarten, have been credited to this fund as well.

“From that first encounter I knew that I had met a very strong character.” —*Loet Velmans*

Remembrance of Maarten van Hengel

—by *Loet Velmans*

I first met Maarten in the late eighties, the early days of the newly reconstituted Netherland-America Foundation of which I had become Chairman. Maarten was a fellow board member and, although the board was composed of a large number of people, he had real presence: a physically imposing and mentally astute personality. From that first encounter I knew that I had met a very strong character.

As long time financial advisor and executor of the will of Mr. and Mrs. Reuvers, a childless couple, Maarten was evaluating whether to entrust the NAF with the bulk of their estate, which represented a considerable amount of money, dwarfing the modest assets of the reborn and struggling NAF. Maarten was to select the organization best suited to meet the broad goals that Mr. and Mrs. Reuvers (and Maarten) had set for these funds: to provide graduate students of Dutch universities with grants to pursue postgraduate studies in the U.S. We had many meetings, downtown in Maarten's office and in midtown restaurants. Maarten played a cool hand. I never learned who the other suitors for these funds were, though he once dropped the name of one of the universities in New York City.

Understandably, Maarten wanted to be assured of the NAF's long-term viability and its capability to develop and sustain an effective fellowship program. In the end, a satisfactory formula was worked out. The monies from the Reuvers estate would not be co-mingled with the NAF's finances but

remain separate, while an annual percentage of the assets would be used to award a number of Fellowships each year. Just as importantly, the Dutch office of the Fulbright organization, which had many years of experience selecting Dutch students for study in the U.S., would perform the screening of candidates. The Fulbright recommendations were then submitted to the Education Committee of the NAF and that committee, in which Maarten played a major role, would review the merits of each submitted candidate and make final decisions.

Once, when Maarten and I both happened to be in Holland, we had arranged to meet with Jan Veldhuis, President of Utrecht University and Chairman of the Dutch Fulbright Commission. Neither of us knew our way in Utrecht, but I was driving and still remember Maarten's silent but calm disapproval of my ability to get us totally lost during a wet and stormy day.

After four years as Chairman, I wanted to step down and approached Maarten to suggest that he should accept the Chairmanship. He was reluctant to assume the responsibility, but to the deep and lasting benefit of the NAF, he did take over and completed four successful years as Chairman. I especially applauded the Education Committee's decision, with Maarten's support, to broaden the scope of the fellowship program by opening it up to American graduate students for studies at a Dutch university.

Over the course of the years, we talked about our youth experiences and early lives in America and found that we shared a past that was rooted in strong Dutch values. And the better I got to know Maarten, the more I got to know him as a man of sound judgment, great courage, integrity, and compassion.

The NAF Connection

On Friday evening, March 16, 2007, over 60 hearty NAF Fulbright alumni, members and representatives of NAF education exchange programs funded by NAF grants braved a major winter storm on the East Coast to meet the current Dutch NAF Fulbright Fellows at New York City's Center for Architecture in New York City. They gathered to celebrate, exchange stories and personal experiences, and reconnect with alumni who had traveled from places as far away as Bloomington, Indiana and Washington, D.C.



Brunch on March 17. From left front row: Joris Stolvwijk, Eva Beuling, Eleanor Prince (NAF Fellowship Manager), and Willem Frankenhuis. Back row from left: Faarnaz Chavoushi, Deniz Coskun, Robert Hardy, Judith Krens, Jos Joosten, Sjaña Holloway, Huub Joosten, Joost de Munick Keizer, Joan Kuyper (NAF Executive Director), Renée Joosten, and Mr. Jan Joosten (Host).

Opening the evening, Mr. Ennius E. Bergsma, NAF Chairman, welcomed everyone and pointed out special guests from Humanity in Action, Hofstra University, Metro International and NAF Fellowship sponsors. He then paid a special tribute to Mr. Maarten van Hengel, who had served as NAF Chairman and on the Board of Directors and Education Committee (See obituary on page 8). Maarten donated fellowships continually since 2000 and was instrumental in establishing the Reuvers Fund, which each year funds Dutch Fulbright Fellows for graduate studies in U.S. universities. Mr. Bergsma then introduced Mrs. Dru van Hengel and seven members of the Van Hengel family, invoking enthusiastic applause from everyone in thanks for the family's long-term support of NAF Education grants.

Ms. Renée Joosten, Co-Chair of the Alumni Committee, which planned the event, introduced the program for the evening. Two of the Fellows who were to speak about their current life and how the NAF Fulbright grant contributed to their experience in the U.S. could not fly in because of the bad weather. Graciously, Deniz Coskun and Willem Frankenhuis stepped in. Deniz Coskun spoke about his experience as a Corporate LL.M. student at NYU School of Law, where he is conducting research on several topics ranging from mergers and acquisitions to international humanitarian law and does editorial work for two law journals. Deniz also organized a forum about the law, finance, and business of private equity in China. Deniz has arranged for his compensation to be funneled into a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization providing aid to Darfur. "As a result, I came to realize that life, study, and even work are not completely about money and that we can make a difference in this world. When I will look back on this experi-

“...I came to realize that life, study, and even work are not completely about money and that we can make a difference in this world.” –*Deniz Coskun*



Members of the van Hengel family meet. From left to right, Katherine van Hengel, Hugh van Hengel, Emily Loughlin, Mrs. Dru van Hengel, Nathan Giem (NAF Fulbright Fellow 2005-2006 and recipient of a Maarten van Hengel Fellowship) and his wife Zsuzsanna Beatrix Sörös, Ginny Loughlin, and Maarten R. van Hengel.

ence five or ten years from now, I will have to conclude that the NAF Fulbright helped make this difference possible.”

The next fellow to speak, Willem Frankenhuys, reminisced about spending much of his time growing up at the Artis Amsterdam Zoo, where his father was general director. “We spent many hours together looking at the animals and discussing their characteristics. I developed a passionate interest in the morphology and behavior of animals and humans from an evolutionary perspective.” He began his studies at the University of Amsterdam, eager to learn about evolutionary psychology, the application of knowledge and principles from evolutionary biology to the study of the brain, cognition, and behavior. Thanks to the NAF Fulbright, Willem is now a graduate student in Biological Anthropology at UCLA. “My ultimate goal is to take my expertise back to the Netherlands and use it to establish a major research group whose primary concern is the study of evolutionary psychology and its implications for psychology in general.”

Each year, an alumnus of the NAF Fulbright program talks about his or her life after the

fellowship. Earle Havens discussed his experiences as a fellow in 1999-2000, and how his work with 17th-century Dutch archives led to his current position as Keeper of Rare Books and Manuscripts at the Boston Public Library. Mr. Havens reflected upon the most important thing that he had taken away from his fellowship year: the importance of friendship. “Being in the Netherlands for a glorious year, and then away again for many more, taught me the importance and power of friendship, and the understanding it can give when friends come from such different, but such close countries.” Mr. Havens has elected to continue the “embassy” he and his friends in the Netherlands began a half-decade earlier. “I encourage you to think of your year as NAF Fellows in the Netherlands, or alternatively in America, as the beginning of something much broader and long-lived, rather than the culmination of something.”

The feelings of gratitude and fellowship continued the next day, as fellows, alumni, staff, and guests gathered at the new home of Mr. Jan Joosten, NAF Secretary, for a New York-style brunch.

cultural grants

Close Up: The Netherlands Bach Society



Jos van Veldhoven, artistic director and chief conductor of The Netherlands Bach Society



The Netherlands Bach Society

The Netherlands Bach Society (NBS) is a group of professional singers and instrumentalists who specialize in the performance and practice of 17th and 18th century music. Their artistic director and chief conductor is Jos van Veldhoven.

The Netherlands Bach Society recently released their latest recording of Johann Sebastian Bach's *B minor Mass*. A perfect fusion of Bach's vocal and instrumental genius, the *B minor Mass* occupies a unique place in his oeuvre. Mr. Van Veldhoven explains that "Bach wrote it at the very end of his life, he never performed it himself, and it is completely unknown for what reason he actually did make the piece. The very last notes that he wrote in his life are in the *B minor Mass*. After his death, it was not performed until the 19th century." Performing Bach demands interpretation; as Mr. Van Veldhoven notes, "Bach worked in the middle of his musicians. His music was not finished. Even Bach himself in the performance could have made changes. Performers were expected to add even more details: to really live with the music, play with it, and be creative with it." The NBS will be performing the *B minor Mass* during a U.S. tour in April.

The following is a list of grants awarded by the NAF Cultural Committee. The listed events and programs will take place this spring and summer. For further information, visit www.thenaf.org.

Music

Amstel Quartet

To support the Quartet's performances in New York, April 9-18. Performances are scheduled as follows: April 12 at Trinity Church, April 15 at East Meadow Library and Barbes Bar, and April 17 at Carnegie Hall.

The Netherlands Bach Society (NBS)

To support the U.S. tour, April 17-25. The tour combines five performances with the NBS CD release of J.S. Bach's *B minor Mass*, a unique approach to this masterpiece. NBS will perform in New York on April 18 at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Michigan, California, and Virginia.

Kevin Beavers

To celebrate its 80th anniversary in 2001, the NAF commissioned a concerto for violin and orchestra from U.S. composer Kevin Beavers. Colin Jacobson, the violinist for whom the concerto was written, is scheduled to play its premiere performance with the Albany Symphony Orchestra on April 20, 2007 at the Palace Theatre in Albany, NY. Pulitzer Prize-winning author William Kennedy's novel, *Roscoe*,



Jan van Huysum (Dutch, 1682-1749). Still Life of Flowers and Fruit, c. 1716-17, oil on wood, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; museum purchase with funds provided by the Alice Pratt Brown Museum Fund and the Brown Foundation Accessions Endowment Fund

was an inspiration for the work. Kennedy will read selections from his novel during the performance.

Visual Arts

FEMME Art Projects

To support the exhibition project "Encounters" at the Mills Gallery in Boston, MA, April 6–May 20. One of the projects brings together the work of Dutch designer Hans Wolbers and Iranian designer Reza Abedini, who recently won the Prince Claus Prize 2006 in the Netherlands. The main focus of the exhibition is autonomous projects dealing with the tension between dominant and alternative (image) culture in totalitarian regimes.

The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

To support the Opening Weekend Lecture and Tours for the exhibition *The Temptations of Flora*: Jan van Huysum, February 18–May 20.

Oglethorpe University Museum of Art

To support the exhibition *Rare Etchings from the John Villarino Collection: Sordid and Sacred: The Beggars in Rembrandt's Etchings*. The exhibition runs from February 11-May 13 and celebrates the 400th anniversary of the birth of Rembrandt. OUMA is located in Atlanta, Georgia.

Dance

Eliza Miller Dance Company

To support new collaboration between choreographer Eliza Miller, composer Oscar Bettison, and the Dutch contemporary music group Ensemble Klang. The piece, a full-length requiem, premiered at NYC Danspace Project at St. Mark's Church in March.

education grants

The NAF provides funding for education exchanges between U.S. and Dutch universities at the undergraduate or graduate level. The following is a list of the current education grants awarded by the NAF's Education Committee in December 2006 for academic year 2007-2008:

Hofstra University

For the Netherland-America Foundation Scholarships for 2006-2007 study in the Netherlands supporting three Hofstra students: **Raymond E. Karam**, a Political Science Major; **Michelle K. Fox**, Sociology Major; and **Drew Bennett**, Political Science Major.

Leiden Model United Nations Foundation

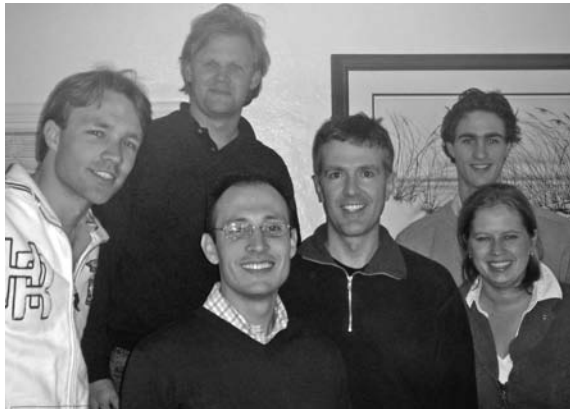
To support the Leiden University Model United Nations Foundation academic program which allows Leiden University's top students to participate as Leiden's official delegation in the Harvard National Model United Nations in Boston, Massachusetts.

A.C. Van Raalte Institute

A three-year grant to establish the Netherland-America Foundation Visiting Research Fellowship at the Van Raalte Institute in Holland, Michigan. The fellowship includes a scholarly exchange program with the Netherlands, public lectures, and publications.

University of Amsterdam–Harvard University Orthopaedic Exchange Program

In support of the student exchange program between the departments of Orthopaedic Surgery at the Academic Center of the University of Amsterdam and Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard University to train talented young physicians and scientists. This program started as the idea of two Dutch students, **Dr. Peter Kloen** and **Dr. Job Doornberg**. Dr. Doornberg was a NAF Dutch Fulbright Fellow 2003-2004.



Exchange Students from the departments of Orthopaedic Surgery at the Academic Medical Center of the University of Amsterdam and the Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard University: (left to right) Marin Rutgers, Sebastiaan Souer, Santiago Lozano-Calderon (front), David Ring, Geert Buijze (back), Anneluuk Lindenhovius.

member news

NAF Awards Dinner, April 20, 2007

The NAF's Twelfth Annual Awards Dinner will be held on Friday, April 20, 2007 at the Washington Golf and Country Club in Arlington, VA. This event celebrates Dutch-American heritage and friendship by commemorating 225 years of uninterrupted diplomatic relations between the United States and the Netherlands. In this spirit, the NAF Awards Dinner honors individuals who have made outstanding contributions to strengthening the bonds of friendship and appreciation, by conferring three Awards named for recent Ambassadors of the United States to the Netherlands.

His Excellency Christiaan Kröner, Ambassador of the Netherlands to the United States, serves as Honorary Chairman of the Dinner, and **William Tucker, Esq.** serves as Chairman of the Dinner committee. **Kenneth T. Walsh**,

Chief White House Correspondent for *U.S. News and World Report*, will be the featured Keynote Speaker. Members of the Congressional Caucus on the Netherlands, co-chaired by U.S. Representative Peter Hoekstra and U.S. Representative Chris Van Hollen, will be invited to attend.

This year, **P. Jan Kalff**, Former Chairman, ABN AMRO Holding, will receive the **Amb. J. William Middendorf II Award**; **Jeroen van der Veer**, Chief Executive of Royal Dutch Shell, will receive the **Amb. C. Howard Wilkins Jr. Award**; and **Jan A. Zachariasse**, President and Chief Executive Officer of Waterford Development, will receive the **Amb. K. Terry Dornbush Award**.

For complete information on tables, tickets, advertising, sponsorship, and hotel accommodations, please visit www.thenaf.org or contact Ms. Age Diedrick at 212.355.6363 or age.diedrick@rcn.com.



William Tucker, Chair of the Organizing Committee; U. S. Senator Pat Roberts, Keynote Speaker; Ennius E. Bergsma, NAF Chairman; and Ambassador C. Howard Wilkins at the NAF Awards Dinner held on Friday, May 12, 2006 at the Organization of American States in Washington, D.C..

From The Netherlands to New Orleans: Two New NAF Fulbright Fellowships in Water Management

As part of our mission to initiate and support educational exchange programs between the United States and the Netherlands, the NAF—through funds raised by the Peter Stuyvesant Ball—has established Water Management Fulbright Fellowships in response to the devastation of New Orleans by Hurricane Katrina. Given its unique geographic position, with roughly 50% of its territory below sea level, the Netherlands can provide significant insight into relevant water management issues, while also gaining the benefit of American viewpoints and expertise. The two graduate and postgraduate U.S. Fulbright Fellows will work on research under Prof. Dr. Ir. M. J. F. Stive at the Water Research Center at Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands. Fellows will study crucial areas of water management including assessment of flooding risks, spatial planning in flood prone areas, and mitigation of flood impact.

2007 Peter Stuyvesant Ball, November 16, 2007

The Peter Stuyvesant Ball, a primary source of funds for the NAF's U.S. Fulbright Fellows Program, will be held Friday, Nov. 16 at the Grand Hyatt NY. This year's ball is currently in the planning stages. By popular demand, a band will entertain revelers beginning at 11:30 pm after the ball at the Folly Nightclub.

For complete information on tables, tickets, advertising, sponsorship, and hotel accommodations, please visit www.thenaf.org or contact Ms. Age Diedrick at 212.355.6363 or age.diedrick@rcn.com.

NAF Annual Members Meeting

This year's Annual Meeting of members, followed by a Board of Directors Meeting, which we encourage all NAF members to attend, will take place at the offices of Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP in NYC on June 14, 2007 at 4 p.m. An agenda for the meeting with a slate of officers for election and other meeting information will be sent to all NAF members in mid-May.

The NAF Searches for an Executive Director

Because of the retirement of its current Executive Director in June 2007, the NAF is searching for candidates who have the requisite skills to fill the position. A job description for the NAF Executive Director, along with information on where and how to apply for the position, is posted on the NAF website at www.thenaf.org.

Join Us!

Donors, members and volunteers have helped make the NAF a treasure since its founding in 1921. Your national membership in the NAF plays a key role in helping us fulfill our ongoing mission of supporting educational and cultural exchange between

the United States and the Netherlands. Through membership, you join a network of individuals and organizations that share your interest in U.S.-Dutch interaction and heritage. Thank you for your support, and welcome to the NAF!

2007 Membership Form

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| Membership Category | Your Contribution |
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| Benefactor (\$10,000 or up) | \$ _____ |
| Patron (\$5,000 - \$9,999) | \$ _____ |
| Sponsor (\$2,500 - \$4,999) | \$ _____ |
| Supporter (\$1,000 - \$2,499) | \$ _____ |
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Voluntary Contributions

I would like to donate a special gift to the NAF Annual Appeal:

\$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 Other \$ _____

Company Affiliation

Matching Gift Form enclosed? _____

I have enclosed a check (payable to the Netherland-America Foundation) in the amount of \$ _____

Please contact me about donating appreciated securities.

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Please detach and mail or fax completed application to:

The Netherland-America Foundation
 82 Wall Street, Suite 1101, New York NY 10005
 212.825.9105 fax

The Netherland-America Foundation is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by state and federal law. Contributions to the NAF made by Dutch-resident individuals may be eligible for a full deduction against the individual's Dutch personal income tax, at a maximum Box I rate of 52%. For more information, please see www.thenaf.org (How You Can Help) or contact development@thenaf.org.

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