Cd-rom Update genealogy

Updates of the CD ROM of our genealogy can still be ordered. The family genealogy has been updated up to August 2008. Thanks to the industrious work of Dick Somsen you have easy access to all the information of our family. The CD ROM enables you to search all the data and it is in two languages: Dutch and English. For USA citizens it is easiest to transfer $15 for each CD ROM (mailing costs included) to Mrs Marieke Edwards, 920 East Bay Dr. NE#3D301 Olympia, WA 98506-1222. Please do not forget your name and address and the article you want.

Camping weekend from 21-23 August 2009

For the twelfth time we organize the "Somsen camping weekend" in IJzerlo this year. A visit to the Somsen lime-free at the "Jaopikshuus" is on the programme for Saturday and the barbecue is on Saturday evening, starting at 7.15 p.m. On Sunday afternoon we could pay a visit to a traditional harvest day at the Smedekinck Museum in Zelhem, which is also organised by the editor of Somsen Horizon. But maybe you prefer to spend your time in a different way without having any obligations. You are very welcome all the same! We are expecting a lot of relatives from far and near.

Somsen Horizon 22 will appear soon

We are already very busy collecting copy for the next issue and we still need some stories. You are kindly invited to send in your contribution, but if you do not feel like writing an article yourself you are also very welcome to pass on the information about a special event or a nice history. Then we will write an article about it. Please do not forget to send one or more pictures with it.

The deadline for copy is April 1, 2009.

Articles you can expect in Somsen Horizon 22 are among others

- New Horizons for Chris Somsen. A travel account about the Trans Orient Rally from St. Petersburg in Russia via Kazakhstan to Beijing (China). The trip ends at the foot of the Great Chinese Wall.
- Pakkebier in Dale near Aalten sold.
- Bernard Somsen, together with his wife Hermien delivered "Aalten Forward" for more than 24 years.
- The Somsen Weekend in IJzerlo.
- American wooden shoes made by a Somsen emigrant, over a 100 years ago.
- Orange decorations for our supplier Rudolf Brunsveld.
- Family announcements.
**Message of our chairman**

In the past year we informed you through Somsen Horizon 21 on some changes in our activities. Because of a change in our editorial staff we cannot publish two editions a year of our family magazine for the time being. Actually we are very glad that we have found a new editor, Harry Somsen, so that the continuance of our family magazine is guaranteed.

But we promised to publish a Somsen Newsletter from time to time and right now you are holding the first issue.

Because the year is still very young I would like to wish you all a healthy and happy New year and I also express the wish that our family foundation may have a modest place in your hearts.

Family foundations, like ours, are rare and it is very unique that we also have a splendid family-book, Somsen Omnes Generationes, in two languages and a family website. Our new webmaster, Oscar Somsen, is working hard on a thorough reconstruction of the site.

Furthermore we have published our family magazine for over 12 years now, which we may surely be a little proud of. In this edition of our Newsletter you will find information about having your magazines bound.

Family foundations do not have the nature of sport clubs, bridge clubs or music societies where activities are usually organized on a weekly basis. Therefore there is no permanent attention for our affairs and that is all right. But still we want to preserve our family foundation for future generations very badly and therefore it is an absolute must that there is a regular supply of new supporters. In this life we are passers-by: at the one end people will leave us but at the other end there are always newcomers. As board of the family foundation we cannot possibly reach every potential supporter, not even find them. But you can surely make a very valuable contribution by being active in your own environment. Elsewhere in this Newsletter you can read more about this subject.

It only remains for me to wish you lots of pleasure reading this Newsletter. In May we will publish the next issue of Somsen Horizon with a lot more news and interesting facts about our widespread family.

Johan Somsen, [1089] chairman.

**Message of our treasurer**

Dear supporter,

The time has come for the contributions for 2009. Therefore we kindly ask you to transfer your donation for 2009 to Mrs Marieke Edwards - Jager Gerlings. The minimum amount is $ 20. We appreciate a higher donation very much.

Would you please mention your name and P number (individual family number) and the year for which the donation is meant?

Bank affairs USA:
Mrs Marieke Edwards - Jager Gerlings [725]
920 East Bay Dr. NE # 3D301, Olympia
WA. 98506 - 1222, USA
E-mail: Hollamer@aol.com

Jan van Daatselaar, [679] treasurer.

**New Supporters**

To secure the continued existence of our family foundation we very badly need your support. Just have a look in your own environment. Do you know Somsens or people related to us or any other people interested who have not yet joined us or have you got children who have settled somewhere else who are not supporters of our foundation? Encourage them a little or give them, as a present, the status of supporter for one or more years.

Who brings in a new supporter this year will receive the CD ROM of our family genealogy as a gift.

**Somsen Horizon bound in a nice volume**

Now that the pile of Somsen Horizons is getting bigger and bigger, the need arises to file them in an easy way and still have them available fast.

Theo Somsen took the initiative and started looking for a bookbinder whom he found in Bredevoort. There he had the first 20 copies of Somsen Horizon bound. We saw the result of this during the Somsen camping weekend in 2008 where Theo showed us a splendid volume.

We all admired it but we felt a bit uneasy when we heard the price.

The new editor also has a few contacts among whom there is a bookbinder. She is prepared to do the job for the Somsens in her spare time at a very special price. We only have to bring the magazines ourselves and later collect the bound volume. Or maybe something can be arranged through family-members in the neighbourhood. For € 12.00 per volume Gerda Boswinkel from the Slingelaan 35 in Aalten, the place of our roots, will bind the magazines for us. You can contact her by phone (+31543451423) or by her husband's email: reintboswinkel@hotmail.com. He is the one who puts the beautiful golden letters on the book. You are kindly requested to pay in cash.

For our overseas relatives it is of course better to find a bookbinder at home.

In the picture on the cover you can see the result.

**Special Stamp Somsen Foundation**

We regularly receive orders for our special Somsen stamps. If there are any readers who are interested in receiving these official Dutch stamps they can order them with us. One sheet of ten 44 eurocent stamps costs $ 9, mailing costs included. For USA citizens it is easiest to transfer $ 9 for each sheet to Mrs Marieke Edwards, 920 East Bay Dr. NE#3D301 Olympia, WA 98506-1222. Please do not forget your name and address and the article you want.

*Of course this is a must for the stamp collectors among you.*