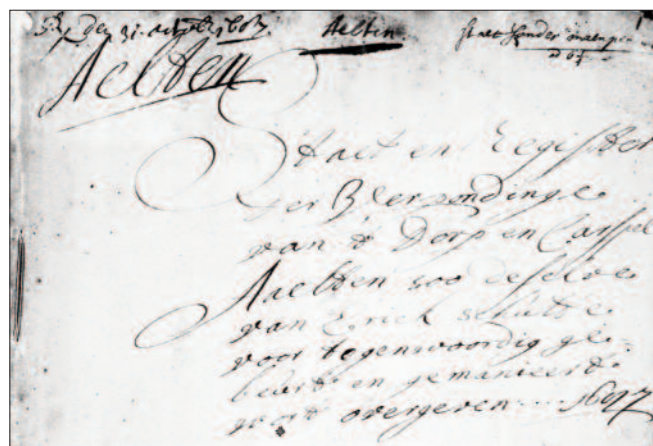


GELDERLAND ARCHIVE SHOWS THAT "SUMPSEN" FROM THE HAMLET OF IJZERLO HAD TO PAY LAND TAX



31 October 1687, Aalten.

Land tax record of the village and parish of Aalten 1687

De Bruerschap IJzerloo	
Linderd.	17-15-0
Pap	11-17-0
Wickink	19-19-0
E. Sinck	21-11-0
Koermer	1-10-0
Nyckluis	17-0-0
Brekinck	16-9-0
Brekinck	10-11-0
Brekinck	13-4-0
Helbert	14-1-0
Wesbeek	16-11-0
Wengerdenck	13-15-0
Weghendapp	5-13-0
Sampsen	19-2-0

Under the Hamlet of IJzerlo it says: "Sumpsen 5 – 13 – 0"

JOHAN (JOHN) TERHORST PASSED AWAY

Johan Terhorst (ter Horst) [1007] passed away on Monday 29, December 2014 in the Chatham Hospital in Wallaceburg, Canada, at the age of 96. John was the son of Gerrit and Johanna Ter Horst and he was married to Everdina Somsen [973] who died in 2004. The memorial service took place in the Wallace Christian Reformed Church on December 31, 2014 and consequently John was buried at the Riverview cemetery.

After the death of his wife John was taken up by his sister Hanna Hoftijzer. Commenting on his death, Wayne Brown told that it is 60 years ago this month that John Terhorst saved him as a 7-year-old boy when he fell through the ice in the Sydenham River. Fortunately it was close to their farmhouse in the Sombra Town ship. He is still grateful that John and his wife Everdina, as if they were sent by God, took care of him. He also wishes John's sister Hanna much strength at this loss.



John ter Horst
[1007]

SHANNA NORWOOD PASSED AWAY

Shanna Norwood [3450], born on May 31, 1965, daughter of Bud and Jean Norwood in Pocatello ID., passed away in her home in Bellevue, Idaho, on 9 January 2015. She married John Somsen Jr. [3438] in 1984 and got in this marriage a daughter Amanda Somsen on December 5, 1985. They were later divorced and in 1988 she married Mike Walsh and Michael, son from this marriage, was born on 8 July 1989. This marriage was ended. The memorial service for Shanna Norwood was Saturday 17 January 2015 in the Comelison Funeral Chapel in Pocatello in the presence of her boyfriend Carlos Weissmuller, her children, Amanda (Jeremy) Miller and Michael (Brittany) Walsh, grandchildren and other family and friends. She is buried at the Riverside after the service-Thomas cemetery.



Shanna Leigh
Norwood
[3450]

FAMILIEBERICHTEN:

Born:

03-04-2014: Emmy van Dijk [7853], d.o. Mark van Dijk [186] and Matty Cornelissen [7447]

Married: no entries

Deceased:

27-09-2014: Geertruida (Truus) Somsen [974], 93, Ruurlo

17-10-2014: Christiaan (Chris) de Groot [4728], 90, Winschoten

29-12-2014: Johan Hendrik (Johan) Terhorst [1007], 96, Chatham, ON. Canada

09-01-2015: Shanna Leigh Norwood [3450], 49, Bellevue, ID. USA

07-03-2015: Grada Willemina (Mien) Somsen [1242], 84, Eibergen

The new Somsen Horizon 29 appears in July 2015. Please hand in copy before May 1, 2015.



Somsen

Newsletter 11

March 2015

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Stephen Somsen and LaNay M. Locher - visit to Amsterdam

MESSAGE OF OUR CHAIRMAN



In recent years a lot of progress has been made with digitization of archives and many of them are fairly easily accessible over the internet. This not only offers perspectives for genealogists but also for those who want to find out specific details about their ancestors because of mere curiosity.

I do not want to withhold some website addresses and I fully understand that this is not a complete survey: www.genealogiedomein.nl (much information about The Achterhoek); www.geldersarchief.nl; www.wiewaswie.nl; www.delpher.nl (books, newspapers and magazines); www.online-begraafplaatsen.nl. However, some investigation will allow you to find many more treasuries with information.

Quite recently I discovered a small 17th-century detail of our family history. Of course we should not have the illusion that there is a lot of early information about a simple family from The Achterhoek that inhabited the Sumpsstedeken, a very small farmhouse, in the 17th century in an area that was very isolated at the time. But then it is all the more exciting to discover a small find. In our beautiful family book Somsen Omnes Generationes by Dick and Theo Somsen we find some interesting details on pages 25 – 31 about the earliest history of our family. Here we can see some copies from old archives.

Johan Somsen [1089]

The record that I found during a search in the Gelderland Archive tells us that "Sumpsen" from the hamlet of IJzerlo had to pay 5 (guilders) – 13 (nickels) – 0 (pennies) land tax in 1687. You will find a copy of this elsewhere in this newsletter. Our common ancestor, Geert Somsen (Sumps) [272], who lived from ca. 1666 – ca. 1730, then lived in IJzerlo and was about 21 years old in 1687. It is likely that he was the one who had to pay this tax.

This is only a small find but imagine what we could come across if we would search in military and judicial archives. So far we have never done this thoroughly and I would actually like to challenge everyone to take a few tentative steps into this direction. How exciting it could be if we would find Somsen-crooks from earlier centuries. Then the stories would no longer be limited to data around birth, baptism, marriage and death and sometimes about a job or the name of a farm. No, then we would probably absorb much more exciting reading matter. Aren't skeletons in the cupboard much more interesting sometimes? And of course you will let us know what you have found so that we can publish it? *Johan Somsen [1089]*

RECEIVE NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL AND COLLECTING E-MAIL ADDRESSES

So far Somsen Horizon and the Somsen Newsletter have only appeared on paper. Moreover all our publications can be found on the family website www.somsen.org. However, we are planning to make another step into the digital world. For those who are interested it is now possible to receive the Somsen Newsletter also by e-mail. This does not go for Somsen Horizon. The Newsletter will be sent in pdf-format. It will be identical to the paper Newsletter which will also remain available for those who prefer it. In the long run this may help save trees as well as the financial resources of our foundation.

If you would like to receive the Somsen Newsletters electronically, please send an e-mail to info@somsen.org in which you state that you will receive the Newsletter electronically. As soon as the Newsletter appears we will send you a link where you can download your own copy. So we will not clog you inbox.

Apart from this aspect we are also planning to develop a database with all the e-mail addresses of all our supporters so that we can communicate much faster. This could be very welcome in view of the organisation of our next worldwide reunion in 2017. If you would be so kind to send us your e-mail address to info@somsen.org we would appreciate that very much.

STEPHEN SOMSEN

Our USA financial man Stephen Somsen [2459] and his wife LaNay M Locher [7465] paid a visit to The Netherlands in October 2014. In Amsterdam they would start their River cruise to Budapest but before embarkation they spent a great day with a number of Dutch Somsens in Amsterdam. (Cover photo).

For our next Somsen Horizon Stephen will write an extensive article on this particular trip.

DR. ESTER REIJNEN APPOINTED PROFESSOR GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

DR. ESTER REIJNEN APPOINTED PROFESSOR GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

From Henk Reijnen [2897] and Josta [2896] Reijnen-Somsen, residing in Switzerland, we heard that their daughter Ester R [5454], who also lives in Switzerland, was appointed Professor of General Psychology at the Zürcher University for Applied Sciences last year. This certainly deserves our congratulations. Henk and Josta have been loyal visitors to the Somsen barbecue in IJzerlo for many years.

Left: Ester Reijnen [5454] Right: Erasmus Hochschule

DONATIONS EASILY MADE AT SOMSEN.ORG



Handling Bankaffairs USA for the Somsen Foundation, I have handled donations from 24 different American cousins since 2012.

While I will continue to gladly handle the donations by mail, I wanted to share what I learned myself about making a donation to the Somsen Foundation. It turns out you don't need to have a PayPal account yourself.

From "Somsen.Org" you simply click on "Donations" on the home-page and then the "Donate" button. Then, simply enter your credit card information, the amount you wish to donate and the purpose of the donation such as "Donation 2015." Please include your P-number. You can find it on the address sticker of the newsletter.

Your American Cousin,
Stephen Somsen [P-2459]
ssomsen@aol.com

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE TO A WILLING HEART

by Johan Somsen [1089]



*Christa van Stappen - Ormel
and Wim van Stappen
from Zwolle*

In February 2015 Theo Somsen [227], who has run an internet antiquarian bookshop, Imprimatur (<http://www.boekwinkeljtes.nl/bwzoeken.php?bwID=12720>) since his retirement, received an order for a book. The customer in question was called Christa van Stappen-Ormel and when she read the name of Somsen in the subsequent correspondence around her order she sent Theo an e-mail in which she mentioned that there were also Somsens in her family. Theo sent me the email and within just days a lively e-mail correspondence developed about our family relationships.

From both sides we exchanged information and soon I was sitting at table with Christa and her husband Wim in Zwolle with lots of family documentation on either side. It was a special afternoon indeed where we dwelt on a small piece of our common past. I also made grateful use of the formidable memory of my uncle, Johan Somsen [1085], who hopes to celebrate his 89th birthday very soon. In a few phone calls I got a wealth of anecdotes from him about family members of Christa, especially about her grandfather Gerrit Willem Ormel or "Ormel-Willem", as they used to say in De Heurne. This Ormel-Willem was a first cousin of my grandmother, Everdina Wilhelmina Somsen-Te Kamp [1082]. Her mother was an Ormel: Willemina Hendrika Te Kamp-Ormel [1186].

Some old photos emerged from the beginning of the last century and what struck us particularly was the great resemblance between my great-grandmother Willemina Te Kamp-Ormel and Gerrit Willem Ormel, her nephew who was also Christa's grandfather.



*Gerrit Willem Ormel
(1892-1967) grandfather
of Christa van Stappen-Ormel*



*Willemina Hendrika
te Kamp-Ormel
[1186] (1855-1928)
grandmother of
Johan Somsen*



Right: Erasmus Hochschule

Left: Ester Reijnen [5454]

Right: Erasmus Hochschule

