

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Oscar Somsen [2040]

You could be surprised that you receive another Newsletter. In the Newsletter nr 15 last July, we promised you to publish a Horizon before the end of the year. However, we were not able to do so. Not because of a lack of good articles that we received. We'll elaborate more on that later. Unfortunately, however, we were not able to compile them into a magazine.

Fortunately, we were able to do some other things. We had a very pleasant Somsen day in September, which was a great opportunity to look back at last year's reunion. This even ended with a spontaneous dinner in Aalten. We received a generous donation and we are still thinking about a good way to spend it. Here and there, some people are already discussing plans for a next World Wide reunion in the United States.

That we were unable to publish a Horizon is mostly due to the limitations of the board. As known, only three of us are left. Moreover, Berto and Adrie

are busy with their work and families and I myself try to maintain the tasks of treasurer, the list of all donors and the website. Unfortunately, this limits time to also prepare a Horizon. This is why you are receiving a second Newsletter as replacement.

Once again, I would again like to request you to offer some help. We do receive interesting materials to work with, but we need assistance to look at these stories and bring them into a proper format for the Horizon. For example by combining, proofreading or translating the articles to make them ready for publication. Also people that only speak only English are Dutch, are welcome to help. Together, we should be able to do this job. However, the board by do it by itself. You can email me at info@somsen.org or contact any board member in other ways if you are willing to offer assistance.

Let's end on a positive note. The year ends. Of course, we wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2019. And we hope to see you soon at one of our activities or in the (hopefully) following Horizon.

A Pleasant Somsen Day. New invitation for Saturday September 7, 2019

On September 1st, 2018, we held our first Somsen Day 'new style'. Without a BBQ. But with a visit to our tree and most of all the opportunity to speak to each other and have a nice time, at the location of our roots, a year after the reunion. For some, it was more that a year ago. It was a bright Saturday afternoon, and with a drink we were able to watch the video of the last World Wide Reunion. The attendees were happy to discuss the topic 'Somsen' once again. This became clear with the spontaneous idea of dinner that came up. We moved to a restaurant in Aalten to continue our conversation into the evening.



Attentive audience. Watching the video of the great Reunion. Left to right: Marco Somsen [545], Helmut Somsen [1562], Herman Heinen [456], Corry Houpst [439] and Nellie van Dijk [66]. Photo: Adrie van Dijk [185]

All in all, it was a successful day. We certainly wish to repeat it in 2019. Hopefully again in 't Dorpshuis' in IJzerlo. Again, the first Saturday of September. We will again try to organize an activity that is worth your while. A specific plan will follow later, we will elaborate on that in Spring. We hope to see you all there. Of course for our overseas family it may be a little out of the way. If you anticipate to join us, please send an email to info@somsen.org so that we know what to expect and can keep you informed. As for now: safe the date.

The next Horizon? Help us!

Unfortunately, we were not able to produce a Horizon this year. Nevertheless, we did receive some nice articles that we would have liked to publish. Of course, the article of Hedda Somsen [2848], which we promised you in the previous Newsletter. But there is more from other family members. Hopefully, we will be able to produce a full Horizon in Spring, if we have some help. For now, here is a summary of what is to come.

Adrie van Dijk [185] writes about here great aunt Jo Hunse-Somsen [63], 'one of the strongest and dearest women in her life of many'. Born in 1930, Jo was sent to the province of Drenthe somewhere in 1948/49 by her family to help with Spring cleaning. There, she met a nice boy, Teunis Hunse [68] from Beilen, Drenthe. They fell in love but knew it could not last long. Teun was to move to Canada with his father and siblings in the hope for a better future. A touching story. How this will end? We hope to tell you soon.

Our former editor Harry Somsen [146] reported about Joost Somsen [4043], who did not only finish first in the 'fun fair race' of 2015

in Eibergen but also in the Hengelo triathlon of 2017. Harry himself has also been active again. By helping association Historic Hengelo on the digital highway and by 'fighting the test of time with hoes', i.e. organizing the maintenance of historic graves in Zelhem. We also obtained a mention of Somsens in the Neighborhood book of Holterhoek, that was published last year. Lastly a joint concert of the music clubs of Aalten in the Potato barn of the Prinzen-Somsen company in IJzerlo.

Ben Somsen [438] writes about his father, Johan Gerard [363] and especially about the 20th century Architecture that he helped realize as a carpenter. In the 19th century, during the industrial revolution, many people moved from the country side, to the city. The working conditions of the Dutch employees in the cities were poor. The care for acceptable living conditions was not considered a task for the government. In 1853, king William the 3rd. asked the royal society of engineers to report the situation on the housing of employees. It would still take half a century for the government to intervene with the housing. This first law would be the Housing law of 1901 that started at the 1st of August 1902. This led to a growth of architecture such as the School of Amsterdam. We hope to report about this more in the Horizon as well.

We would love to publish all of this, but the material needs to be edited, translated, proofread and put into a proper lay out. We as board, were not able to do this task in the last few months.

So, would you like to read all of these nice stories in the Spring? Or do you value sharing stories within the family? Please do email us and offer some help at info@somsen.org or contact any of the board members in a different way.



Hedda Somsen [2848] with Greg [3856] en Kathy Berkseth [3911] at the wedding of their daughter Kali [3912].

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ANONYMOUS DONATION FOR THE FOUNDATION

A while ago, we were unexpectedly asked to provide our contact information. Unfortunately, one of our donors passed away and left the Somsen foundation a donation. Of course, we were very happy at the prospect of receiving some additional financial means to be able to do our work better. However, we were greatly surprised to hear to hear from Stephen Somsen [2459], who maintains our finances in the US, that we received an anonymous donation of \$10,693.34.

The next of kin asked us to keep this donation anonymous, and of course we will comply with that request. However, we do not want to keep the news itself from you. Such a donation will help to cover our running costs (publishing a Horizon costs around a € 1000), but it also provides us with the opportunity to do something more. For example at World Wide Reunions in the future. The board is still considering ways to use this money. If you have any ideas, please let us know. In the meantime, we will keep you informed.



Harry Somsen [146] inspects the Horizon Archive before turning it over. Photo: Adrie van Dijk [185]

Somsen Horizon Archives Transferred

After Harry Somsen [146] gave up the editorship of the Horizon and the Newsletter in 2017 as well as his place on the board, the task still remained of transferring the Horizon archive this year. Four large boxes with copies dating back to the very beginning in 1997. It just fitted in the boot of his car on the way to the Somsendag on September 1. For the time being, the archive will be stored by Oscar Somsen [2040]. Everything has been sorted out and at least one copy of all Horizons and Newsletters is present. In most cases more than one. We will maintain this for future use.

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 somsgenealogie@kpnplanet.nl or Monteverdilaan 175, 8031 DL Zwolle (preferably with a photo!).

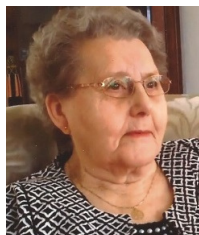
Born:

- 08-07-2018: Jonah Frederik (Jonah) [8002], z.v. Jasper Joseph Hendrikus Maria Krechting [7651] en Evelien Didi Stadler [175]

Married: no announcement received.

Deceased:

- 12-07-2018: Grada Johanna (Annie) Somsen-Mateman [521], 73 jaar, Lintelo, gem. Aalten
- 28-07-2018: Johanna Alberta (Hannie) Somsen-Stroes [397], 83 jaar, Eibergen
- 01-10-2018: Theodora Johanna (Thea) Hoopman-Kaemingh [382], 97 jaar, Aalten
- 13-10-2018: Johanna Margaretha (Joke) Garretsen-Somsen [142], 87 jaar, Zelhém



Johanna Margaretha (Joke) Garretsen-Somsen [142]



Johanna Alberta (Hannie) Somsen-Stroes [397]



Somsen

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Relaxing on the terrace 't DorpsHuus. Somsendag Saturday September 1, 2018. Left to right: Marco Somsen [545], Ben Somsen [438] and Ellie Somsen [237]. Photo: Adrie van Dijk [185]

We will do our best to publish Somsen Horizon 33 next Spring. Your contribution is welcome!
As well as your help with the publication. Please mail to info@somsen.org.
Kindly remember your donation for 2018! Easily made at www.somsen.org!