



# Somsen

Newsletter 17

July 2020

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Zaan

## ON TO THE NEXT HORIZON



At Manege de Achterhoek. Somsen day Saturday, September 7, 2019. L-R.: Oscar Somsen [2040], Yeng Nacion [2042], Ellie [237] and Harry [146] Somsen. Photo; Marco Somsen [545],

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### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Oscar Somsen [2040]

It's been a while since you heard from us. Somsen Horizon number 33 was released a year ago. The limited size of the board continues to affect us. Last September there was a nice meeting in IJzerlo. Our tree was in good shape.

This spring, COVID-19 had a major impact on all of us. Family visits became difficult and travel had to be cancelled. Some of us had no work, others too much. Families have a hard time because of children who could not go to school. At this moment, some of the restrictions have been reduced, but it remains to be seen what will happen after the summer.

In some way, the pandemic has also brought us closer together. Because of what we have experienced, but also because communicating with each other online appears to be easier than we thought. The board also met online for the first time. Maybe a way in which we can talk to each other more often and also keep our Foundation in shape some more?

We are happy to at least be able to offer you a Newsletter. Hopefully, this brings you closer to our common roots again. A nice summer to everyone. We hope we can write a bit more later this year. Maybe an opportunity to share your COVID experiences? Then please contact [info@somsen.org](mailto:info@somsen.org). Photographs are also very welcome.

### Farms in the Achterhoek,

**Andre Vrieselaar informed us about a new initiative to document farms around Aalten. Some, such as Somsen house and Pakkebier are connected to us. Below, he tells about the initiative.**

Recently, a new initiative was started by Remco Neerhof in collaboration with ADW, [www.boerderijen-Aalten.nl](http://www.boerderijen-Aalten.nl) for the county of Aalten. After a similar initiative was started in neighboring county Winterswijk, and with their approval. They will try to create an overview of all farms in Aalten and their residents. This information will then be shown on their website, hopefully including pictures or drawings. The exact contents provided will be dependent on information provided by you.

We would like to ask you to visit the website and to check if you know any of the farms. If you do, it would be great to receive any information that you might have on the farms or its (former) residents. For some of the farms, some information has already been provided on the website. So please let us know if you have any additional information on any of the farms and email us at [info@boerdeijen-aalten.nl](mailto:info@boerdeijen-aalten.nl)

### Invitation Somsen day Saturday September 5th, 2020

Last year, on September 7th, we had our second Somsen day 'new style' at the stables of 'The Achterhoek' in IJzerloo. We visited our tree and had opportunities to speak to each other again and exchange experiences.

This year we would like to do this again at the first Saturday of September. We will start around 4 pm and provide simple dinner. We hope we can enjoy your company that day. If you happen to be in the country and plan to join us, please send an email to [info@somsen.org](mailto:info@somsen.org). That way we know what to expect and we can keep you updated.



Greetings to our tree. Somsen day. September 7, 2019. Oscar Somsen [2040], Marco Somsen [545], Harry [146] en Ellie [237] Somsen, Helmut Somsen, Wim [518] en Joke Somsen [523]

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### A new Horizon? Could you help us out?

**At the moment we are not able to publish the Horizon as we did not receive enough content yet. Nevertheless, we did receive some very interesting stories. Below, a short preview. We hope that you can send more stories that you would like to share with us, so that we could make a new Horizon later this year.**

Stacey Vargecko Aiken [2541] tells us about her oldest son Dallin [7533] who, at the beginning of 2019, started with his long-lasting dream. After a sporty youth and activities at the scouting, his choice of joining the US Navy was the perfect fit. The training brought him to many different places and far from home. Also, his theoretical lessons at school went well, which provided him with good opportunities.

We also received news from the Achterhoek. Resistance movement member Freek Somsen [47] from Doesburg has been honored with the opening of the 'Freek Somsenpad' (Freek Somsen walking path). The good opportunity to tell this story. The defense of the Netherlands in the May 1940, the time he was prisoner of war in Germany, resistance activities and finally this tragic death in September 1944 at the age of 26.

During these Corona times, a lot happened within our family. Theo Somsen [227], the first president of our board and frequent contributor to our Horizon, wrote about it. Being bound to stay in his own place, he found famous books that give attention to circumstances that now occur again, each in their own way. About the disruptive effects of the big pandemic but also about the human reactions to these enormous changes and the effects of their fears.

Jeanie Jacobson Somsen [773] also sent her contribution. She wrote about her son Noah [2384] who had a terrible skiing accident and about his recovery. A thrilling story with, fortunately, a good ending.

We hope to share these special stories, and more, in our next Horizon. But for this we do need more stories. We really hope that you will be able to help us out! Do you have any special stories about yourself or anyone from your family or community, either from the past or about the present, please let us know. You do not have to be a writer. We can help you put your story on paper. Pictures about special occasions are also welcome. You could send your contribution to [info@somsen.org](mailto:info@somsen.org) or contact any of our board members. Let us do this together so that we can make a nice Somsen Horizon again!



*Dallin Michael Aikens [7533] sworn in with the US Marine at January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019.*

### In Memoriam: Ben Somsen [438]

Berend Hendrik Somsen passed away on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Born in Eibergen, grew up in Ede, but has lived mostly in Zaandam. He was always a loyal and compassionate member of our foundation. Unfortunately, we were only able to bury him with the closest family because of the corona measures.

Ben had been ill for a long time. He was a kidney patient, but thanks to a kidney from his wife Corry, he was still with us for a long time. Many complications occurred and he finally had to give up the fight. Despite all the health problems, he thought he had a good life for which he was very grateful.

Due to lack of space in this issue, you will read more of his life story in the next Horizon.

*If you would like to share the story about family members, you can send your "in memoriam" to [info@somsen.org](mailto:info@somsen.org). Please don't forget to send a picture with it*



*Ben Somsen [438]. In conversation at the Somsen day in 2018. Photo: Adrie van Dijk [185]*

### Please remember your donation for 2019 and 2020

Although there are fewer publications than you are used to, we still hope for your financial contribution. The amount is not that important. But the donations are the main message we receive from you. This way we know you receive our publications and that our address information is still correct. Donations (target amount: € 15 per year) can be transferred to Bank account NL19 INGB 0007 9098 85 in the name of. Somsen Foundation in Koog aan de Zaan.

### 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 [somseogenealogie@kpnplanet.nl](mailto:somseogenealogie@kpnplanet.nl) or Monteverdilaan 175, 8031 DL Zwolle (preferably with a photo!)

#### BORN:

- **14-11-2019: Emma Isabelle Somsen [8009], d.v. Julia Somsen [1571] en Frank Muellenhoff [8008] Keulen, BRD.**

**MARRIED: no announcement received.**

#### DECEASED:

- **17-09-2019: Hermina Hendrika (Mina) Huinink, [1394], 107 years, Coevorden**
- **04-10-2019: Aaffie (Aaf) Somsen-van Dijk, [698], 88 years, Edam**
- **13-10-2019: Arnold Gerritsen [1214], 60 old, De Heurne**
- **13-10-2019: Maarten Paulus Somsen [131], 88 years, Denia, Spanje**
- **14-11-2019: Gudrun Marianne Elisabeth Irma (Inge) Somsen-Meijerink [1815] 81 years, Neede**
- **14-12-2019: Grada Aleida Johanna (Gree) van Daatselaar-Somsen [53], 89 years, Lichtenvoorde**
- **25-01-2020: Ruthe Twila Reese – Somsen [745], 95 years, Sonora, CA. USA**
- **19-03-2020: Lynn Wayne Haug [2604], 78 years, Lake Norden, SD. USA**
- **04-04-2020: Gezinus (Gus) van Drimmelen [90], 85 years, Middelharnis**
- **02-05-2020: Berend Hendrik (Ben) Somsen [438], 81 years, Zaandam**



Grada Aleida Johanna van Daatselaar-Somsen [53]



Gezinus van Drimmelen [90]



Ruthe Twila Reese – Somsen [745]



Berend Hendrik Somsen [438]



Maarten Paulus Somsen [131]



Hermina Hendrika Huinink [1394]