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Going Dutch May/June 2018



It's official! There's a new Board for 2018-2019



Kudos to our Members who were honored at the FAWCO Interim Meeting



Five-course dinner in a Dutch castle with a touch of *Harry Potter*!

The Magazine of the American Women's Club of The Hague

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AWC Clubhouse

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Going Dutch Magazine goingdutchmag@gmail.com

Clubhouse Hours

Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday Closed

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 \in 90 business, professional

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€ 35 Outside the Netherlands (*Going* Dutch magazine not included)

Add € 15 new member registration fee

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Suzanne MacNeil

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Teresa Mahoney

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Caring Committee: Naomi Keip
Chat, Craft & Cake: Suzanne Dundas
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Haggerty

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Martecchini

Webmaster: Julie Otten

Women with Dutch Partners: Loren

Mealey

AWC Mission Statement

The AWC is an association formed to provide social and educational activities for American women living in the Netherlands and to promote amicable relations among people of all nations, as well as acquiring funds for general public interest. Membership in the club is open to women of all nations who are friendly and welcoming to American culture. The association does not endeavor to make a profit. The AWC is a 100% volunteer organization.

Message from the President

by Dena Haggerty

t wasn't long ago that I wrote my first Message from the President column and now I'm excited to hand the mantle over to our newly elected President, Suzanne MacNeil. She, along with six other Board Members who were elected at April's General Meeting, will be installed as the new AWC board at the home of our former Honorary President, Sabine Crowley. It is a lovely ceremony and I hope to see you there.

Laurie Brooks and I took on the role of Co-Presidents on an interim basis after our elected President for the Club year, Mary Ann Nation-Greenwall, repatriated to the U.S. I don't use the term 'challenge' casually. Between fulfilling our other Board positions, and learning how to share the position of President, it has been more than a challenge for the two of us and we conquered it. In fact, we can look back on the 2017-2018 Club year with pride.

My Dutch friends often ask why so much of my time is taken up with the AWC. The answer to me, as someone who has been a member of various American and international women's clubs over the past 20 years, is obvious. What don't we do is often my not entirely facetious answer.

The first, and often most important, thing we do is open our arms and welcome new arrivals, many of whom are experiencing their first overseas assignment, and we all know that comes with more than a few challenges.

To soften the culture shock,

we introduce new
Members to Dutch
culture, including
classes about
Dutch products, and we
go out into the
community for
first-hand experiences by touring
museums, towns,

and historic sites. Another important aspect of the Club is facilitating Members in maintaining ties to their home country and culture. For example, we celebrate Thanksgiving each year at our November meeting and at the Pieterskerk



in Leiden. The comfort of getting together with a group of women who are from your home country is not to be underestimated. The AWC is truly *a home away from home*.

We also offer Members the opportunity to give back to the community. During Sinterklaas, we hold drives to collect toiletries and toys to donate to those who need a helping hand. Our annual Easter basket drive this year netted 17 baskets all overflowing with candy, toys, and other gifts that were given to young mothers (see collage page 35). We also hold an annual TLC Dinner to support women who may or may not be Members and are experiencing personal struggles. The TLC Dinner gives women the opportunity to put their troubles behind them for a few hours. Our Club volunteers often claim this is the most fulfilling event of their Club year!

The AWC, as a member of FAWCO, is also involved with fundraising and advocacy on an international level. Every three years, the members of FAWCO vote for a Target Project. The current Target Project, Hope Beyond Deplacement—Building better futures through education, vocational and leadership training for refugee women and girls in Jordan—was chosen in April 2017 at the Biennial Conference in Mumbai, India. In October 2017 our Handbag Auction raised € 2,500 for the Target Project. ➤>47

Installation of Officers

The May General Meeting and Installation of Officers will take place at the home of our former Honorary President, **Sabine Crowley**, whose husband Shawn is the Chargé d'Affaires of the American Embassy. Sabine has graciously opened her home for several events in the past, including the Installation of Officers. The installation of the 2018-2019 Board follows a morning reception and will

be followed by lunch. Space is limited and only Members who register will be allowed entrance to the residence. Once you register, the address and security requirements will be sent to you.

Thursday, May 17

Thursday, May 17 10:30 a.m. – Noon RSVP deadline is Monday, May 14 Please RSVP on *GroupSpaces*







Volunteer Appreciation and Honorary Member Luncheon

The AWC Board invites all Members to the annual Volunteer Appreciation and Honorary Member Luncheon. The luncheon celebrates those who volunteer their time and energy to make the Club a success. Honorary Members are those who have been in the Club 25+ years, and many of these women join us each year. Be sure to join us for this spe-

cial afternoon in June. You must register on *GroupSpaces* to attend.

Thursday, June 14 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. AWC Clubhouse Free

Please RSVP on *GroupSpaces* no later than Friday, June 8

Letter from the Editor

by Suzanne MacNeil

ur AWC's legacy dates back almost 90 years. We're a founding member of FAWCO (Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas), and continue to be an integral part of FAWCO thanks I had no aspirato a large number of our Club's Members who are quite active and serve on FAWCO boards, including Laurie Brooks who is Vice President for Communications. FAWCO held its Interim Meeting (IM) in friends within The Hague in March. Many of our Members attended the IM. volunteered throughout the weekend, and for some, it was transformative. Our FAWCO representative, Julie **Mowat**, fills us in on the meeting and the recognition several of our Members received from the organization. Turn to page 38 to read about the IM.

What's the most exotic food you've ever eaten? Let's just say I learned the hard way that Rocky Mountain oysters aren't harvested in the ocean. The joke was definitely on me as I took a bite as supposed friends had a good laugh at my expense! Mary Adams had more than a taste of exotic food when she visited a Dutch castle recently. She shares her tale of celebrating her birthday dining on foods that were common in the 17th and 18th centuries on page 48.

This marks my last column as editor of Going Dutch. It has been a fun Club year for me as I've gotten to know more Members and attended lots of events and activities, not only to document them for the magazine, but to participate. The more I attended, the more women I've met and have become friends with, the more I've grown to appreciate all that our AWC provides as a support system for those of us who are not living close to our hometowns.

The next time I write a column for Going *Dutch*, it will be as President of the Club. When I first learned my name was being floated for the position, my first thought was, "Huh?" and my first words were, "My

husband will kill me!" (not in a literal sense. of course) and tions for taking the lead. Then, after many discussions with the Club, and my husband, I gave the position serious thought. I



fleshed out the job, had more discussions, and I finally accepted the nomination. Thank you for approving the ballot at the April General Meeting. I'm excited to work with the talented women who have agreed to serve with me on the Board for the 2018-2019 Club year. There may have been Girl Scout cookie bribes along the way, but you didn't hear that from me!

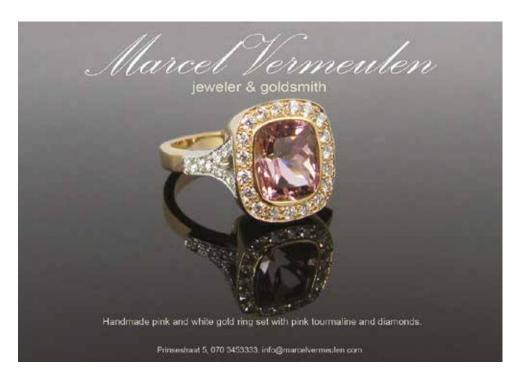
As for Going Dutch, Audrey Goodman has volunteered to helm the magazine. She and I have already met to discuss the job of editor, and will do so again this summer. You'll read her first Going Dutch when it arrives in your mailbox in September. We have a deep pool of talent within our AWC, and I'm incredibly grateful that Audrey has stepped up to be the editor.

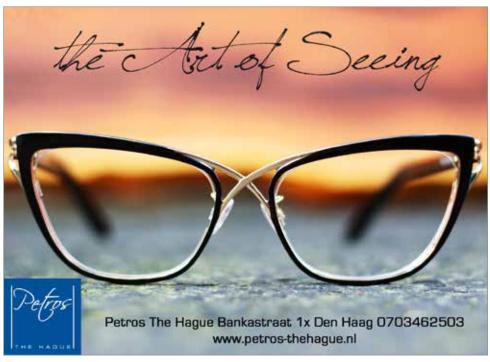
I'd be remiss to not thank Teresa **Mahonev** for all the work she does for *Going* Dutch as she's responsible for its design and layout. Her work ethic is phenomenal, her ideas make the magazine eye candy, and her patience has helped me ten-fold.

Enjoy your summer holidays and see you in September!

Tot ziens...

Suzanne





Membership Renewals

by Melissa Rider

WC Membership Dues for the 2018-2019 Club Year are payable September 1 and will be effective until August 31, 2019. You are welcome to renew by electronic bank transfer over the summer to our bank account with IBAN: NL42ABNA0431421757 (be sure to include your name and Membership Dues in the notes) or pay by PIN at the Clubhouse. Dues remain the same as last year: € 110 for Regular and Associate Members, € 90 for business professionals, € 55 for military (with valid military ID) or € 35 for student memberships (with valid student ID). Please note all renewals must be received by September 30, 2018. Also, if you are moving over the summer or your contact information changes, please contact me at awethehague.membership@gmail.com.



Welcome New Member!

Holly Ward

Support Fellow AWC Members
Find links to a large variety of businesses
owned by AWC Members at
www.awcthehague.org/site/newcomers/
business-links

Birthdays

This space is usually saved for each month's birthdays, and this edition of *Going Dutch* is usually filled with birthdays spanning May through August. Due to changes in European privacy laws, and because *Going Dutch* will soon be posted on our external Facebook page, we won't be sharing birthdays in print any longer. Instead, you'll see Members' birthdays in the weekly eNews, which is sent to your private email account and is more secure. We value our Members' privacy. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Rider, our Membership Coordinator, at awcthehague.membership@gmail.com.

Board Election

by Suzanne MacNeil

The slate for the 2018-2019 Board was approved at the April General Meeting. The number of attendees surpassed the number needed for a quorum so there was no need for **Georgia Regnault**, our Parliamentarian, to use the numerous proxies that had been submitted. Before the vote took place, Georgia notified Members that

Anna Lena Thuren-Vogel, the candidate for chair of Club and Community Development, declined the position for personal reasons. The position remains open and anyone interested in the job should contact Georgia as soon as possible since Members attending the Board Installation in May must vote on the candidate.



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Go to www.awcthehaque.org to share the current month's issue with friends and family.

You will also find links to our annual advertisers, whose support makes this magazine

possible. If you visit or contact one of our advertisers, let them know

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Ongoing Activities

Book Clubs

The AWC Book Clubs are open to all readers, and new **Members** are especially welcome! There's no requirement that you must attend every meeting or lead a discussion. Snacks are provided by a different member each month. There are two Book Clubs hosted by AWC Members: one in the daytime and one in the evening. Questions? **Teresa Mahoney** organizes the daytime group, and **Rebecca Fry** handles the evening meetings. For more information, please contact them a wethehague.bookclub@gmail.com. Happy reading!

Daytime Book Club

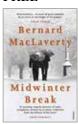


May Selection: Notes on a Foreign Country: An American Abroad in a Post-American World by Suzy Hansen

In 2007, Suzy Hansen, then in her 20s and working as a journalist in New York, moved to Istanbul after receiving a writing fellow-

ship. While there, she sought to understand the Muslim world that had been reduced to scaremongering headlines. Blending memoir, journalism, and history, this interesting reflection on America's place in the world promises to give us plenty to discuss.

Thursday, May 24 10 a.m. AWC Clubhouse FREE

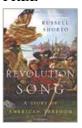


June Selection: Midwinter Break by Bernard MacLaverty

This novel of love and the loss of love is told by both points of view of a retired couple who escaped Northern Ireland decades ago to Scotland and are now on a midwinter break

in Amsterdam. Just as the ice cracks on the canals, so has their relationship fractured beneath the surface.

Thursday, June 28 10 a.m. AWC Clubhouse FREE

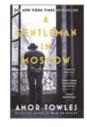


July Selection: Revolution Song by Russell Shorto

The author of *The Island* in the Center of the World takes us back again to the founding of the American nation. He draws on diaries, letters and autobiographies to tell the story of the War of Independence from half

a dozen points of view, including George Washington and an ex-slave, to make this history book a real page-turner.

Thursday, July 26 10 a.m. AWC Clubhouse FREE



August Selection: *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles

Join us to be transported to The Metropol, the famed Moscow hotel where movie stars and Russian royalty hobnob, Bolsheviks plot revolutions, and intellectuals discuss the merits

of contemporary Russian writers. It's also where wealthy Count Alexander Rostov lives under house arrest for a poem deemed incendiary by the Bolsheviks in 1922. Despite being confined to the hallway of the hotel, he lives an adventure-filled existence, filled with capers, conspiracies and culture.

Thursday, August 23 10 a.m. AWC Clubhouse FREE

Daytime Book Club Reading List:

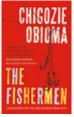
Thursday, September 27: Days Without

End by Sebastian Barry

Daytime Book Club Recap

The Wasted Vigil was a catalyst for a lively discussion, with some moved by a beautifully written exploration of life in Afghanistan as seen through the eyes of characters with very different perspectives about the region over the course of nearly three decades, and others horrified by the graphic yet too casual depiction of gruesome torture described throughout. The book focuses on four characters who are brought together in a house steeped in art and cultural history. The stories intertwine as we learn more about their individual experiences, losses and perspectives as influenced by the Soviet invasion, the rise of the Taliban, and the ongoing conflicts of local warlords. The characters seek to cobble together the truth of what has happened to those they loved; all are devastated by what they can piece together and what they will never know. What is clear is that the concept of who "the good guys" are at any given moment is both relative and illusory. Our group found much value in discussing the issues raised by the events of the book. While some were very moved by the elegance of the writing, others felt it offered little more than gratuitous violence.

Evening Book Club



May Selection: *The Fisherman* by Chigozie Obioma

This debut novel is told from the viewpoint of a nine-yearold, the youngest of four brothers, in 1990s Nigeria. When the boys skip school to go fishing, they encoun-

ter a madman whose prophecy of violence threatens the core of their family. Part supernatural fable and part schoolboy adventure, this is a haunting tale of grief, healing and sibling loyalty.

Wednesday, May 16 7:30 p.m. AWC Clubhouse FREE

>> 16





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Ongoing Activities (cont.)

Continued from page 15



June Selection: Miss Burma by Charmaine Craig Based on the story of the author's mother and grandparents, this is a captivating portrait of how modern Burma came to be and of the ordinary people swept up in the struggle for self-

determination and freedom. This powerful novel of love, war, colonialism, ethnicity and the ties of blood tells the story of one family during the most violent and turbulent vears of world history.

Wednesday, June 13 7:30 p.m. AWC Clubhouse FREE

Evening Book Club Recap

Our selection for March defies easy description. Nicole Krauss's Forest Dark is part novel within novel, part modern re-tooling of Kafka. A retired lawyer rather suddenly ends his 30+ years long marriage, begins divesting himself of material things, and goes to Israel. Meanwhile, a novelist (the author herself by another name) leaves her husband and children behind and goes to Israel. The lives of these two protagonists converge, with strange results. Fans of Krauss won't be disappointed, though our group preferred her previous novels Great House and History of Love, and found Forest Dark a bit narcissistic. Readers with a working knowledge of Kafka's The Trial and Metamorphosis may enjoy the book more. On balance, we recommend it.

Evening Book Club Reading List:

September: The Italian Teacher by Tom

Rachman

October: A Long Way From Home by Peter

November: A Gentleman in Moscow by

Amor Towles

December: The Only Story by Julian Barnes

Chat, Crafts & Cake

Are you a crafter? The AWC has space large enough to spread out a king-sized quilt, a spot to organize a scrapbook or photo album, or just to sit and chat while you work on a project. Chat, Crafts & Cake members welcome you to join the group, maybe pick up a few tips, and get ideas and suggestions about your project from a fresh set of eyes. Each week a different Member will bring a cake made from a never-before-tried recipe for tasting and critiques. Babysitting is not available, so we can't accommodate chil-



AWC Guest Policy

Guests are welcome to participate in AWC activities and tours on a limited basis. As a nonmember, a guest is limited to attend two functions per calendar year and will be charged an additional nonmember fee. Only Members are entitled to use babysitting services.

dren. Ouestions? Please contact Suzanne **Dundas** at awethehague.crafts@gmail.com. **Every Tuesday** 10 a.m. – Noon **AWC Clubhouse** FREE

Heart Pillow Project

For the tenth year, Members work together at the Clubhouse to make heart-shaped pil-



lows designed to help support the arms of recent mastectomy patients. Each pillow is made with TLC, wrapped, and comes with a note signed by an AWC volunteer. No sewing skills are needed and you can cut, stuff, or wrap the heart pillows. We are proud to provide women and men with something both practical and comforting, and we know our work helps because we often receive thank-you notes and emails from patients who have received a heart pillow. For more information, please contact Jan de Vries at awcthehague.heartpillow@gmail.com.

Tuesday, May 8 Tuesday, June 12 Noon - 2 p.m. **AWC Clubhouse** FREE **Visitors Welcome**

Ladies' Night at the Movies

Who doesn't like going to the movies with friends and a bucket of popcorn! The first Monday of the month marks Ladies' Night at the Movies and the film is chosen based on what's playing at area theatres. >> 18



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Ongoing Activities (cont.)

Continued from page 17

Rebecca Fry coordinates each month's outing; her email is available on *GroupSpaces*.

Monday, May 7

Location TBD

Tickets at own cost

Out to Lunch Bunch: May

Join us for lunch at Restaurant Oogst (www. restaurantoogst.nl), where only ten dishes are created each season, and vegetables,



herbs and edible flowers come from the restaurant's own garden. The restaurant is cozy and its menu has earned it a BIB Gourmand (*Michelin Guide*) rating. While the portions aren't large, each dish is delicious and costs € 9. The wines are chosen specifically to match the season's menu and each glass is € 5. This is a not-to-miss lunch before everyone heads off for the summer holidays. Please sign up on *GroupSpaces*.

If you have a favorite restaurant in your neighborhood you'd like to share with the group, or if you have questions, please contact Greetje Engelsman via GroupSpaces.

Tuesday, May 24
12:15 p.m.

Restaurant Oogst
Denneweg 10B, Den Haag

Lunch at own expense

Out to Lunch Bunch: June

Café Restaurant Schlemmer is located near the center of The Hague and plays host to politicians, actors, artists, and authors. Nestled behind the building is a sheltered city garden with additional seating. Schlemmer's success rests on its menu, which is quite diverse and includes gambas, North Sea croquettes, and flammkuchen which is a bit like pizza, but not really! Please sign up on *GroupSpaces*.



Thursday, June 7 12:15 p.m. Brasserie Schlemmer Lange Houtstraat 17, Den Haag Lunch at own expense

Thirsty Thursday May

The next Thirsty Thursday is in an atmospheric wine bar with wine shop: Pierre, Embassy of Wine (www.pierre.nl). Located on the iconic Denneweg in The Hague, we will sip two glasses of wine and nibble on small bites at this no-stress and casual gettogether. Any additional food or wine ordered will be per the regular menu price. We meet on the third or fourth Thursday of each month and there's no need to RSVP or sign up on *GroupSpaces*. Just come and relax!

Thursday, May 17 6 – 9 p.m. Pierre, Embassy of Wine Denneweg 11, Den Haag € 15 for two glasses of wine and nibbles





Ongoing Activities (cont.)

Continued from page 19

Thirsty Thursday June

June's Thirsty Thursday is at Ravi Winebar in the Statenkwartier and is a cozy spot to sip, chat, and relax for those who enjoy a good glass of wine and small bites, all made with local and fresh ingredients. Thirsty Thursdays are usually on the third Thursday of each month and will continue through the summer. Each guest pays € 15 for two glasses of wine and nibbles. Any additional food or wine ordered will be per the regular menu price. No need to RSVP.

Thursday, June 21 6 – 9 p.m. Ravi Winebar Jacob Gillesstraat 21, The Hague € 15 per person

Thirsty Thursdays will continue through the summer. Look for information on Facebook about locations.

Wassenaar Coffee & Conversation

If you live in or around Wassenaar, join your neighbors for a once-a-month morning gathering without going to the Clubhouse. One Member living north of The Hague will host a casual coffee at her home on the first Thursday of the month for Members and prospective Members.

Suzanne Dundas coordinates the meeting place with each hostess and will send directions once you sign up on GroupSpaces.

Thursday, May 3 Thursday, June 7 9:30 a.m. FREE





Walkie Talkies

Whether you count your steps or just want to walk with friends, the Monday morning **Walkie Talkies** is a fun and healthy way to start the week. The group meets in front of the Clubhouse before heading out to walk to various destinations in the area, usually racking up 10,000 steps along the way. Sign

up on GroupSpaces to receive email updates or contact Emily van Eerten or Greetje Engelsman via GroupSpaces.

Mondays
9:30 a.m.
FREE
AWC Clubhouse





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Groots in genieten

by Dena Haggerty

RSVP directly on *AWC GroupSpaces.com*. Direct any questions to awcthehaque.firstvp@qmail.com.

Payment must be made within 5 calendar days of reserving or your name will be moved to a waitlist. Payment can be made in the Front Office by PIN or by bank transfer to the AWC account NI 42ABNA0431421757.

Dinner Club

What better way to enjoy Dinner Club than having a multicultural menu with food from Morocco, Italy, Spain, Mexico, India, Poland, or possibly Croatia? Now it's time to share with your fellow AWC Members and their partners that cuisine from the many wonderful places you have travelled. Please join us at Cynthia Veeger's home in Wassenaar for a wonderful evening of fun and multicultural food. Details will follow closer to the time as to menu distribution.

Saturday, May 19 6 – 11 p.m. Cynthia & Noud's Home www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/ item/1168679

Krav Maga: Self Defense Demonstration

Would you be able to defend yourself if you were physically attacked? Violence is, un-

fortunately, a fact of life. Regardless of your strength or size, you can learn effective self-defense. Gracia Ho-Asjoe of Krav Maga for Women (www.Kravmaga-women.com) will provide AWC Members with a workshop on having a safety plan. Please wear training pants, a short sleeve t-shirt and sneakers. Bring a towel and bottle of water.

Time and Date to be Determined



Cancellation Policy

Members may reserve a spot for an AWC tour, activity or event in advance. Payment is required within five business days of the reservation or before the deadline date (whichever is sooner) otherwise your name will be moved to a waitlist. It is the responsibility of the Member to notify the Club at awcthehague.finance@gmail.com to cancel a reservation prior to the cancellation deadline. Please note that there will be NO REFUNDS (no exceptions) after the cancellation deadline. Members may find a substitute in lieu of cancellation provided that arrangements are made with the tour, activity or event organizer. Members shall be held responsible for their quest reservations in accordance with this policy.

AWC Members, please connect with us on LinkedIn https:// nl.linkedin.com/in/ awcthehague



Tour of U.S. Embassy

Despite delays, rumors about those delays, and discord from the local community, the new American Embassy in the Netherlands is finally open! The embassy is actually a campus situated on ten acres in the municipality of Wassenaar. It houses a chancery office building, a U.S. Marine Corps residence, a utility building, and multiple access pavilions. The design, while American in character, reflects Dutch sensibilities. The building's façade is composed of brick, which is undeniably Dutch. The Chancery facade also includes the use of white granite at the entrance, a design concept that pays homage to important Dutch buildings. The interior features the use of wood veneer and blue glass. Curious? Check eNews and Facebook for the announcement of the date and time of the tour.

Time and Date to be Determined



.S. Embassy



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Memorial Day at Margraten

by Roberta Enschede

Memorial Day Ceremony Sunday, May 27 at 3 p.m. American War Cemetery, Margraten



The Netherlands-American World War II Cemetery lies in the rolling green land of Limburg in the southernmost point of the Netherlands. Etched in white marble at this sacrosanct place are the ancient words of Pericles. How fitting they are:

Each for his own memorial earned praise that will never die and with it the grandest of all sepulchres not that in which his mortal bones are laid but a home in the minds of men.

When you look over Margraten and walk among the white marble of remembrance with the Crosses and Stars of David under which 8,301 boys and men and 4 women rest, and when you stand before the Wall of the Missing with 1,772 names, tears and questions inevitably come.

Why did they die so young? Why did they die so hard?

Why did they die before they had a chance to live?

Why do I live?

Why do we live?

Why didn't we have to do what they had to do?

In years past, the "Vets" would return. Now, there are very few. From a respectful distance, you'd watch them—the men who went back home and grew old and became fathers, grandpas, doctors, engineers, grocers, auto mechanics, writers, professors, plumbers and builders. You'd watch them deep in their world of "uncommon valor" standing in little groups after the ceremony laughing, poking fun and telling soldier stories they could never forget—stories of a world of dimmed faces, pain and even laughter, and stories of a slogging, sleepless world of men and boys.

"We weren't heroes. We were just doing a job that had to be done." There was Glenn, a tall, lanky Timberwolf (104th Infantry) vet from Kansas who broke off from joshing with his buddies and said, "I gotta say hello," and ambled away through the Crosses and Stars. A few minutes later, he ambled back. Tears he couldn't hold welled in his crusty old eyes, "I said hello."

More than 100 Timberwolves rest in Margraten. We knew some of their buddies. Like Glenn, they would came to say hello. There was Hy Davidson from California who called Margraten "My Church." Cliff from Ohio who swore that until the day he died, he would go to schools and tell kids his stories of the war. Jack from New York, "the poet in the dugout," who brought back the notebook he wrote in while in a foxhole.

On the first Memorial Day at Margraten—May 30, 1945—just over three weeks after the war ended in the Netherlands, a Dutch citizen who helped dig the graves wrote some simple lines. They are not eloquent like those of Pericles of Athens, but they say it all:

You who enter this cemetery, look Remember the price your freedom took.

More than 200 men and women worked all night to place wreaths and cut flowers, even pansies from a neighbor, on 20,000 newly dug graves. Thousands walked, cycled, rode horses and came in carriages and automobiles. They still do.

In 1945, the people of Limburg began adopting the new, young graves. The Adopt a Grave Program continues to this day. EVERY single grave at Margraten is adopted and there is a waiting list. Thousands "remember the price their freedom took" and they teach their children and grandchildren. For them, every day is Memorial Day. Under the crosses and stars, there are always freshly cut flowers for a birthday or a holiday, whether in the yellow of early jonquil spring or the frozen December snow.

You are not dead, you did not die. Death shall have no dominion.

This Memorial Day, Pete Hoekstra, the U.S. Ambassador to the Netherlands, will speak and lay a wreath. The Service lasts approximately one hour and is conducted by a rabbi, priest and ministers. Following the service is a wreath-laying ceremony.

The wreath-layer for OAR, Overseas Americans Remember, is David McCawley, the U.S. Consul General in the Netherlands. His 94-year-old father was a B-24 navigator in the Army Air Forces during WWII. He very movingly spoke of his dad at Margraten last September.

Lori Vermaire will lay the wreath for the Timberwolves, the 104th Infantry. Her father flew 119 combat missions as part of the 353rd Fighter Group. He flew during Operation Market Garden and later in the Korean War. (The WWII Mustang fighter jet displayed in the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum bears the personalized markings and decals from his plane.) When David McCawley and Lori Vermaire lay the wreaths, they will, of course, remember the heroism of their fathers and they will also know the stories of Glenn, Hy, Jack, Cliff and their comrades. They will think about Margraten and the words, "a home is in the minds of men."

After the wreath-laying, there is a flyover for the "Lost Airman" formation. Four F-16s streak across the horizon over the marble white of the Crosses, Stars and white chapel. One breaks away, high—so high—and disappears into what seems like forever.

Come to Margraten this Memorial Day. You will never forget it. Bring a flower, walk around, and say, "Hello."

This year, the FACES OF MARGRATEN will take place from May 2-6. Photos of the soldiers will be placed next to the thousands of graves and also by the names on the Wall of the Missing.

Directions: From Maastricht, take the N278 road in the direction of Cadier en Keer and Margraten. After you pass Cadier en Keer, you will see the American War Cemetery on your right.

Summer Beach Barbeque Benefit

by Dena Haggerty

elebrate summer, enjoy the sunset and spend an evening with friends at our Summer Beach Barbeque Benefit for Perspektief, an area nonprofit that offers myriad services to those who need short- or long-term help. Perspektief is a network of communities where clients are able to live, work, learn, and meet. As its website states, "Improving the lives of our clients is the starting point of our work. If things are going well with our clients, it goes well with the neighborhood where they live."

The benefit is slated for Saturday, June 2 at Strandpaviljoen Sport, a casual setting on the Wassenaar strand. The evening will include an all-you-can-eat BBQ dinner and drinks, music, a silent auction, and a raffle.





Perspektief offers vocational training to its clients, including woodworking. The organization has donated a bench made by clients, which will be raffled off, and a table, which will be included in the silent auction. Raffle tickets are available now and are €5 for one ticket and €12 for three tickets. All money raised by the silent auction and raffle, and 25% of your fee for the evening will benefit Perspektief. Buy raffle tickets now by contacting me at awethehague. firstvp@gmail.com. Space is limited at the venue so sign up now on *GroupSpaces* to reserve your spot.

Saturday, June 2 5 p.m. – Midnight Strandpaviljoen Sport Wassenaarselag 29, Wassenaar € 60 per person Dress code: Dressy Beachwear



Perspektief (www.perspektief.nu) is an organization that offers recovery programs for the most vulnerable people, those for whom life has been difficult. We help them to find balance and to shape a better life. In other words, we offer a perspective.

Clients are directed to paid or voluntary work. They are helped and supported in building and maintaining a secure network of family, friends, and acquaintances in their neighborhood. We build communities around vulnerable people with our care teams, partners, and volunteers.







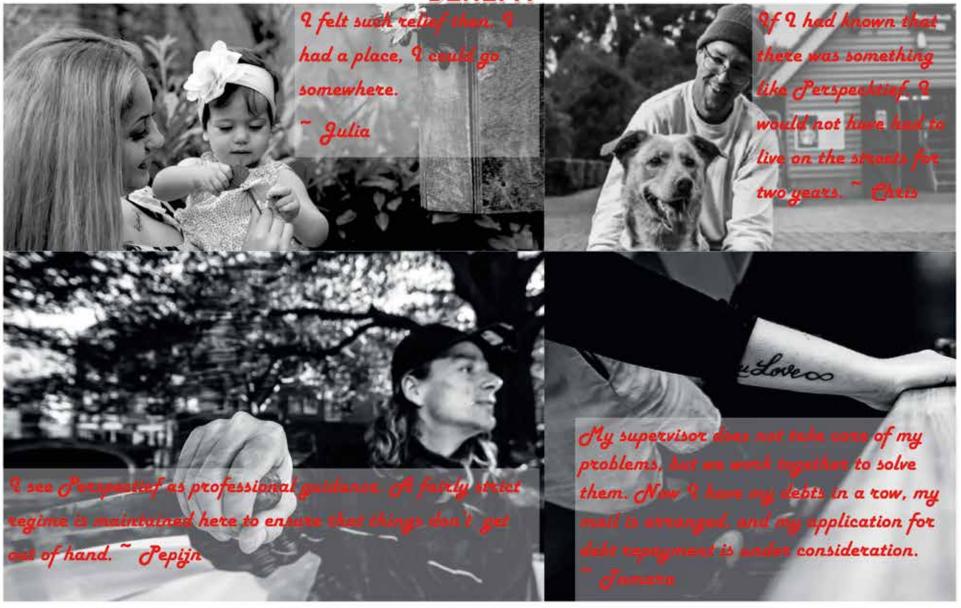


Join us in supporting Perspektief at our:

Summer Beach Barbeque

BENEFIT

25% of ticket sales & proceeds from the silent auction & raffle will benefit Perspektief.





Perspektief supports women, men, and children who have been victims of domestic abuse, the homeless, and people with psychiatric problems.

May 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		Chat, Crafts & Cake 10 a.m.	2	Wassenaar Coffee and Conversation 9 a.m. AWC Joint Board Meeting 10:30 a.m.	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Walkie Talkies 9:30 a.m	Chat, Crafts & Cake 10 a.m. Heart Pillow Workshop Noon				BUDDY
	Ladies' Night at the Movies TBD			Ascension Day - Public Holiday		CHECK
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Walkie Talkies 9:30 a.m	Chat, Crafts & Cake 10 a.m.		Installation of Officers 10:30 a.m.		
Mother's Day			Evening Book Club 7:30 p.m.	Thirsty Thursday 6 p.m.		Dinner Club 6 p.m.
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		Chat, Crafts & Cake 10 a.m.		Daytime Book Club 10 a.m.		
				Out to Lunch Bunch 12:15 p.m.		
	Whit Monday- Public Holiday					
27	28	29	30	31		La Alle
Memorial Day at Margraten 3 p.m.	Walkie Talkies 9:30 a.m	Chat, Crafts & Cake 10 a.m.				

June 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Importar June 2: Summer B June 14: Volunteer & Hon July 4: Independenc September 18: Prin	each BBQ Benefit orary Member Luncheon e Day Picnic at ASH sjesdag Luncheon			1	Summer Beach Barbeque Benefit 5 p.m.
3	4 Walkie Talkies 9:30 a.m	5	6	Wassenaar Coffee and Conversation 9 a.m. Out to Lunch Bunch 12:15 p.m.	8	9
10	11 Walkie Talkies 9:30 a.m	12 Chat, Crafts & Cake 10 a.m. Heart Pillow Workshop Noon Buddy Check 12	Evening Book Club 7:30 p.m.	Volunteer and Honorary Member Luncheon 11 a.m.	15	16
17 Father's Day	18 Walkie Talkies 9:30 a.m	19	20	21 Thirsty Thursday 6 p.m.	22	23
24	25 Walkie Talkies 9:30 a.m	26	27	28 Daytime Book Club 10 a.m.	29	30







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The Dutch Daily

by Eileen Harloff

Sea Windmills

A new type of farm is being planned, namely one that will rise out of the North Sea. Led by a coalition of research institutes, energy companies, including one from the United Arab Emirates, and the University of Utrecht, solar farms are to be set up 15 kilometers off the coast of Scheveningen. The project will start small with a 30-square meter solar farm and could grow to 2,500 square meters if the test project is successful. The initial phase will be located amongst windmills already in place in the sea. There are several advantages to this new water location, including that it will not take up already scarce land space; it will also have a 15% higher output than land panels due to there being more sun on the sea and thereby more reflection of sunlight between clouds and water. The sea water temperature is cooler than land temperatures and thus results in a higher energy yield. While there is a positive side, there is often also a negative side, including storms and high waves. However, as water engineering is a Netherlands specialization, engineers' knowledge and experience, as well as that of off-shore industries, can be counted upon to help find solutions. The cost of the new farms is estimated to be around € 2 million, subsidized by a grant of € 1.4 million from the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate. For Dingena Schott from Delft Technical University, one of the major players in the project and the winner of an award for most innovative technology of 2017, this



knowledge that has been gained will be of use globally and will serve as a challenge to stimulate new techniques and insights.

Dutch Crane Conquers the World

This enticing newspaper headline refers not to birds, but to large machines that are currently dotting the local landscape as they work on building sites, load and unload ships at docks, dig up soil, sand and minerals, and perform other jobs for which their large jaws are sorely needed. In the Netherlands, cranes have been produced for the past 50 years by Nemag, a firm with a worldwide reputation, located in Zierikzee. As new uses for cranes have developed, so has the need for bigger, better, and faster outputs of their work. The company, in collaboration with TU Delft, therefore has constantly experimented with different materials to decrease the weight of the cranes' jaws. Research leader Dingena Schott (see story above) has developed new software to test the reaction of the jaws to a variety of materials, for instance, iron ore, coal, grain, and biomass. A result of this research is that jaws made of high tensile steel improve performance by making it possible to pick up and move heavier loads in a faster period of time. Now the race is on to get the improved cranes on the market, as well as to continue research on further innovations.



Dutch Architect in Paris

The name Eduard-Johan Niermans is little recognized in the Netherlands. It is, however, one that is well-known in France as that of an architect of many famous buildings. Born in Enschede in 1859, he was a son of that town's architect. Following secondary school, Niermans enrolled in Delft University where he followed a study that included painting and interior design, along with architecture. Upon graduation in 1883 he went to Paris, fell in love with the city, began his architecture career by working with local architects, and after two years became a French citizen. So assimilated did he become that in later years he even changed his name to Eduard-Jean. In time. Niermans came to know many of the leading French artists and social figures of the day. His work was based on a knowledge of former styles and an understanding of what people wanted in the present. He was involved in the construction and furnishing of many Paris brasseries and theaters, one of the most famous of which is the Moulin Rouge. In addition, he designed casinos and some wellknown hotels in the seaside resorts of Nice and Monte Carlo. He received several awards, in-



cluding the Prix de Rome in Architecture, and in 1889 he was selected by the Dutch community in Paris to build the Dutch Pavilion at the World Exposition. Niermans married and had three children, a girl and two boys, both of whom also became architects.

Food Waste

Currently a great deal of attention is being given to the way food in stores and supermarkets is packaged for sale, especially the use of plastic, and the waste of food, too much of which ends up in the garbage pail. As for plastic packaging, food sellers are becoming

more aware of the need to find other materials, and it is expected that the use of plastic will be gradually reduced. As for other ways to avoid waste, the following steps have been suggested.

- Don't give into temptation. Go shopping with a list and stick to it. In the shop, take a small basket rather than a large cart for your purchases.
- Buy vegetables and fruits that have "beauty faults" but are otherwise completely edible, and foods that are nearing their perishable date. Oftentimes these are reduced in price, but don't wait too long to eat them.
- Buy a smaller refrigerator and keep your supply of perishable food as limited as possible. Invest in a large freezing compartment, which is also handy for soup made using fruit and vegetable remainders
- Use smaller plates. According to an American study, since the 1960s plates have become 36% larger. The same holds true for trays in canteens. Research has shown that without trays, food waste is decreased by 50%.
- Depend on your own senses of smell and taste with regard to whether a food is beyond its use date. It is not necessarily so that products over the usable dates cannot be safely eaten.
- Don't automatically throw away food that is older than the recommended date to consume, such as pasta and coffee.
- In a restaurant ask for a smaller portion, or if that is not possible, ask to take home the food that is not eaten.
- Check with various apps that offer meals that restaurants would otherwise throw away, or food that supermarkets or restaurants have on offer.



FAWCO Corner

by Julie Mowat, AWC The Hague FAWCO Representative



Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas, a United Nations NGO with consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council www.fawco.org.

Hope Beyond Displacement Presentation



Therese Hartwell, FAUSA President and a board member of the FAWCO Target Project, *Hope Beyond Displacement*, came to our Clubhouse in March to present information about the project. The session was very well attended, with people asking lots of great questions about the program. They wanted to know more about what constitutes displacement and the psychological and social needs of the program beneficiaries. Volunteers and employees are mainly refugees themselves. Hope Beyond Displacement provides leadership and computer training (including a SuperGirls program for the youth) as well as vocational



training leading to hair and nail technician qualifications. They also maintain an emergency relief fund for unexpected situations. When **Celeste Brown** and I return from our visit to the center in Jordan, we will present again.

Interim Meeting

FAWCO held its Interim Meeting in The Hague the weekend of March 23 – 25. It was a huge success with more than 170 members attending from American and international women's clubs around the world. Our Club provided help before and during the meeting, including organizing a dinner at Ravi's Winebar the evening before the conference, donations for each attendee's bag, (thanks





to Georgia Regnault for the bookmarks), organizing tours to the Mauritshuis and International Criminal Court, and countless volunteer hours. Thank you to all those who helped with organization, timekeeping, registration, the hospitality desk, tech issues, tours, and so much more. We received many compliments in the survey done after the conference.

As our Club is a founding member of FAWCO, it was with great pride that we showed our Club and city in such a great light. Huge thank you!

Our Club donated money to create a new Education Grant: Creating Better Futures.

The recipient was Butiama Safe House Vocational Training Center and this development grant will help 22 girls who have fled female genital mutilation (FGM) receive vocational and entrepreneurial training to empower them to their fullest economic potential.





Congratulations to **Emily van Eerten**, a past FAWCO President, on being awarded the *Carolyn Curtis Brown Spirit Award* at the FAWCO Conference. Emily's guidance, advice and current work on the FAWCO archives were among the reasons she received this award. This award was established in 2005 in appreciation of service exemplifying the spirit, inspiration, and dedication of FAWCO's Founder, Caroline Curtis Brown.



FAWCO Corner (cont.)

Continued from page 37

Development Grants

As a Member of our Club, you can apply for development grants for your favorite NGO and educational awards for yourself, children, and grandchildren, AWC Member Michelle Oliel submitted her organization. Stahili, for a development grant and it was selected! The development grant of \$4,500 will allow the Pillow Project to Stop Child Trafficking to provide beds, sheets, and pillows for 31 children who have been trafficked. The grant will give child victims the safety of shelter and a bed and consistent and high-quality sleep, which is vital for children to flourish, learn, grow, and develop a secure sense of their home environment. Congratulations to Michelle and her team!

Interim Meeting Highlights

The conference provided many opportunities to learn about FAWCO's work throughout



the world and the list below highlights some of what was presented. Please don't hesitate to contact me for more info on any of the topics listed.

- 38 clubs were represented from all 11 FAWCO regions
- Laurie Brooks, a Member of our Board, is also the FAWCO Vice President for Communications, gave a report that included the new privacy laws in Europe

- A resolution was passed in support of March for Our Lives
- Breakfast meetings and workshops covered issues about the United Nations, the U.S., taxes, workshop ideas for clubs, support for club representatives and presidents, and fundraising ideas
- Members voted on a 10% increase in FAWCO dues, the first increase in 18 years
- The FAWCO Foundation has awarded to date 127 Development Grants valued at \$472,500 and 308 Education Awards valued at \$947,500, totaling \$1,416,500
- Representatives of the Youth Program shared information about their programs, including cultural volunteers
- Clubs have raised \$118,000 to date for the Target Project: Hope Beyond Displacement
- Our Members made more than 20 squares for the butterfly quilt that was displayed and raffled off during the conference
- The next FAWCO Conference location was revealed to be Edinburgh, Scotland the weekend of March 21 – 24, 2019
- Members of every AWC are invited and more information will be coming in the fall
- The FAWCO Foundation raised \$40,000 during the IM thanks to fundraising events throughout the weekend, including the auction of the butterfly quilt, live and silent auctions, the sale of charms, a raffle for earrings, and the Mad Hatter's Tea Party. The money will help fund the Foundation's work, including development grants and educational awards.

VOTE!

Register to vote for the 2018 mid-term elections. The deadline in some states is quickly approaching. Please check your state's information at this website: https://fawco.overseasvotefoundation.org/vote/home.htm

FAWCO Interim Meeting Wrap-up

by Mary Adams

AWCO conferences are packed with opportunities to meet FAWCO members from around the world and attend workshops for both club and personal development. At the 2018 Interim Meeting in The Hague, 30 women from Amsterdam, Antwerp, Brussels, Luxembourg, and The Hague (Region 4) had an opportunity to mix, mingle, and learn from the more than 150 representatives from all 11 FAWCO regions.



Many people describe the conference as catching "FAWCO fever." Here are some feverish examples. On Friday afternoon, I sat with **Dena Haggerty** and **Teresa Mahoney** to review the day. Both of them observed that the conference so far was "a bit dry." After several of the workshop sessions on Saturday, I caught up with Teresa. "Any better" I asked? Her eyes sparkled, "Today made the entire conference worthwhile!"

During a workshop on FAWCO's *Inspiring Women* online magazine, Teresa, who designs and lays out *Going Dutch*, learned-practical tips and software to develop emagazines.



Later in the day, I caught up with Dena. "Any better?" I asked. Dena smiled and said, "I just joined the FAWCO Global Issues Education Team!" The FAWCO Education Team focuses on Sustainable Development Goal #4 to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education, promotes lifelong learning for everyone, and places priority on the state of education worldwide.

During the Saturday plenary session delegates passed a resolution in support of the #MarchForOurLives demonstration that took place that day in Washington, D.C. and cities around the world to demand that Congress pass comprehensive and effective legislation to protect the lives and safety of students from the threat of gun violence



I joined **Roberta Enschede** for the U.S. issues workshop, hosted by the new FAWCO U.S. Issues Team Leader, Johanna **Dishongh**, a former President of our AWC. Her team prepared a letter template for members to use to write to their representatives in congress to take action to end gun violence. At the end of the conference, Roberta was collecting signatures on letters to mail to Carolyn Maloney "because she advocates for Americans abroad in Congress." Based on the workshop, Roberta and I now see ourselves as forming a "huddle" for positive and proactive change in policies for the country, and especially Americans living abroad. For me, this is the real definition of FAWCO: a global organization that enables its members to plug in, participate, and progress.





















The Approach of Day Zero

by Anne van Oorschot

As Co-Chair of FAWCO's Environment Team, I help write monthly bulletins focusing on environmental problems. The most recent one focuses on the severe water shortage in Cape Town, South Africa. While this may seem, as the Dutch say, a "far from my bed show" topic, the article includes a list of other major cities with looming water shortages, including two in America. Part of the cause for these shortages can be attributed to climate change—not a distant threat at all.



Cape Town, South Africa and *Day Zero*

By this summer, four million people in the city of Cape Town—one of Africa's most affluent metropolises—may have to stand in line surrounded by armed guards to collect rations of the region's most precious commodity: drinking water. For months, South African citizens have been urged to consume less, but more than half of residents ignored those voluntary restrictions. As

a result, as of February 1, the daily allowance per person was lowered from 87 liters to 50 liters—less than one-sixth of what the average American uses (think two-minute showers and reusing your bathing water to flush the toilet). The authorities say that just over half the people in Cape Town are adhering to the limit. According to David Olivier, a research fellow at the Global Change Institute at South Africa's University of the Witwatersrand, "The fundamental problem is the kind of lifestyle we're living. There's almost a sense of entitlement that we have a right to consume as much as we want. The attitude and reaction of most posts on social media is indignation. It's 'we pay our taxes' and therefore we should be as comfortable as possible."

South African leaders warn that residents are increasingly likely to face *Day Zero* that will require all citizens to live on far less water; about 25 liters a day, less than typically used in 4 minutes of showering. *Day Zero* will also bring with it severe, mandatory decreases in water usage by agricultural users and commercial properties, and complete bans of unnecessary water usage, such as filling pools and washing cars. *Day Zero*, previously projected for mid-April but now mid-July, is the day when the city says it will be forced to shut off taps to homes and busi-



nesses because reservoirs will be perilously low. It's a possibility officials now consider almost inevitable.

Is Cape Town's water shortage unique?

Water shortages are being felt in many places across the globe. Continued severe drought episodes in southern Africa, combined with the 2014 El Niño, have resulted in food shortages and continue to threaten agricultural security in the region. Droughts in recent years have helped spark famine and unrest in rural nations around the Arabian Sea, from Iran to Somalia.

For years, a shutdown of *Day Zero's* magnitude in such a cosmopolitan city as Cape Town had seemed almost inconceivable. But, as overdevelopment, population growth, and climate change upset the balance between water use and supply, urban centers around the world face threats of severe drinking water shortages.

- Many of the 21 million residents of Mexico City have running water only part of the day, while 1 in 5 get just a few hours from their taps a week
- Several major cities in India don't have enough water
- Water managers in Melbourne, Australia, reported last summer that

- they could run out of water in little more than a decade
- Jakarta, Indonesia is running so dry that the city is sinking faster than seas are rising, as residents suck up groundwater from below the surface
- Reservoirs in São Paulo, Brazil, dropped so low in 2015 that pipes drew in mud, emergency water trucks were looted, and the flow of water to taps in many homes was cut to just a few hours twice a week
- In 2015, Los Angeles residents were instructed to limit their water usage by 25%. Shade balls were recently floated on water reservoirs (see photo below) to protect water quality and slow evaporation
- Even though Miami is surrounded by water in all forms, climate change has been fueling rising sea levels and the rising seawater is leaking into, and contaminating, fresh water supplies above and underground in the Miami area
- Hallandale Beach, just a few miles north of Miami, had to close six of its eight wells due to saltwater intrusion.

How did this happen? What now?

A number of factors have caused the extreme water shortages in Cape Town.



uronews.com

Approach of Day Zero (cont.)

Continued from page 45



Rainfall in Western Cape, where Cape Town is located, has dwindled dramatically since 2014. While scientists claim this severe dry spell is rare, they also note that extreme weather events are happening much more often. A key difficulty is that officials often assume future rainfall patterns will resemble the past, or at least not change too quickly. Plans are then made according to these scenarios and do not take wider swings in weather, with more intense storms and more extreme events, into account.

A second factor is the city's over-reliance on traditional surface water sources with limited investment in a sustainable groundwater strategy or other augmentation options like desalination. Third, there is limited enthusiasm from South African institutions and their international partners to embrace the array of new solutions and technologies.

Although factors such as poor planning and population growth are driving droughts in some regions, there is one common culprit that is exacerbating water crises around the globe—climate change. Experts point to high temperatures, drying rivers, and melting snowpack as some of the factors behind the dry spells. They're also a wake-up call that the climate crisis is no distant threat. As Geoff Dabelko, associate dean and director of the environmental studies program at Ohio University states, "Where it gets dangerous is the inability of our political institutions to keep up. The overriding story of the coming decade is going to be about how well our institutions deal with the increased rate of change."



Sources

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Message from the President (cont.)

Continued from page 6

I recently attended my first FAWCO Conference, the Interim Meeting which was held in The Hague, where I learned more about the organization, its fundraising activities and advocacy efforts at the UN. I was also extremely proud to be in attendance when one of our Members, **Emily van Eerten**, won the Carolyn Curtis Brown Spirit Award, which is given in appreciation of service exemplifying the spirit and inspiration of the FAWCO founder. Emily's guidance, advice, and hard work on the archives were among the reasons she received this award. I experienced another proud moment when a charity founded by AWC Member Michelle Oliel received a Development Grant for the Pillow Project to Stop Child Trafficking.

And then there's our annual fundraising activity for our supported local nonprofit organizations. This year, we've decided to forego holding a formal gala and will instead be having an informal barbeque at the beach. As part of the committee who is organizing the **Summer Beach Barbeque Benefit**, I'm excited (and more than slightly nervous) to welcome Members to Wassenaar Beach on Saturday, June 2. It promises to be a fun night. In addition to an all-you-can-eat barbeque, we'll be having a quiz and musical entertainment. As this event is smaller than normal, we will be raising funds for only one

charity: Perspektief. The organization offers numerous outreach programs including helping women and men leave abusive relationships, helping girls who are pregnant, and helping young mothers find housing, work, or training. There are also services for families in need of housing, recovery programs, and a men's shelter. In addition to 25 % of your ticket purchase benefitting Perspektief, we will also have a silent auction and there will be a raffle for those who can't attend the BBQ. Space is limited, so be sure to sign up on *GroupSpaces* today!

As I've mentioned throughout this column, there are various ways to get involved in the Club: whether it's organizing an activity, donating items for one of our philanthropic drives, or joining a committee for a fundraising event. Any assistance, large or small, is appreciated. As a club of volunteers, we will only continue to thrive with your help. Although I'm saying goodbye to my board position, I plan to stay involved in the coming years.

On behalf of Laurie and myself, I thank all of you for your support.



Did you know that any woman who speaks English is eligible to join the American Women's Club?



Invite your English-speaking friends, wherever they're from, to join us today!

Historic Flavors of Amerongen Castle

by Mary Adams

hen I moved to the Netherlands, I never thought much about castles in the lowlands. Sixteen years later, my thinking has expanded. I have visited several Dutch castles and manor houses over the years for events and sightseeing, but none has impressed me more than Amerongen Castle near Utrecht.



This castle was rebuilt in 1674 on the site of a medieval castle that was burned by the French in 1673. My first visit was in December 2017 for the Christmas tour. What I especially liked about the castle was that both the renovation and household had been run by a woman. After the tour, Jerry and I wandered over to the onsite restaurant for lunch. We both enjoyed it so much that we discussed coming back in warmer weather to explore the grounds as well as more rooms in the castle. What I didn't know at the time was that when Jerry paid for lunch at the cash register he saw a flyer for an upcoming event in March 2018. Little did I know that we would be returning to Amerongen in the very near future for a very special birthday dinner.

In modern times, household budgets and letter writing would add up to a lot of wasted paper. But in historical aspect, the paper that is left behind can tell a powerful and personal story. Margaretha Turnor and her husband, Goddard Adriaan van Reede, lived in Amerongen Castle in the mid-17th century.

Goddard was a diplomat of the States General and was often abroard for long periods of time. Margaretha wrote her husband one to two letters a week when he was away. Her letters informed him of everything from the local political situation to the weather. Over 300 letters have been found and preserved that



give historians a unique, inside look at the past. Margaretha also decided that a tight budget was a healthy budget so she had her staff meticulously document the cost of food and its source. That left an incredibly detailed record of daily life. The brainstorm of the current Kasteel Amerongen Stichting was to develop slightly "updated" versions of the meals based on castle records they found from the 17th and 18th centuries. In March 2018, while the castle tours were in spring hibernation, the old horse stables that are now Restaurant Bentinck, opened their stalls for a marvelous dining adventure *uit de kasteelkeuken*.

Our evening began with a candlelit walk, in a brisk wind, from the parking area past the gardens to the castle. We were greeted at the castle door with an aperitif of sparkling cider from a local orchard. Two appetizers were served in the corridor outside the kitchen. The first was salted herring blocks with a sour



foam topping. The second was a cup of celery soup with bits of smoked eel and herbs. After a quick peek at the wine cellar and original medieval kitchen, we went into the 17th-century kitchen and a



guide described the bookkeeping, cooking tips and the appliances. Did you know that a dog could be trained to turn a spit? Then we were herded across the way into the stables to the "feed," which was a five-course dinner with matching wines and even a beer.

We sat in an old stall underneath one of the plastic horse heads, confident that we were riding high. Once seated, we noticed that there was a small booklet explaining the preparation and sources of the meal. The first course was a pate made of salted plums and hazelnuts. After the dish was set before us, a waitress brought a rasp to the table. I watched as she grated a large brown object over the plate.

"That is the biggest truffle I have ever seen!" I commented.

The waitress replied, "It is a dried cow's heart."

"Ohhhhh..." I gulped.



I had heard that some cultures use every part of the pig (even the oink), but I hadn't imagined that with a cow. The booklet described the drying method for the heart. Not for the squeamish! The "hearty" zest was light and not overpowering; I even might have liked it, but I won't admit to it! The next course was another pate of duck and duck liver wrapped in a crust served with fresh walnuts and "melon balls" of raw pumpkin. I must admit that this dish was one of my least favorites as it was served so cold that the crust was like a rubber band and the meat seemed frozen. Yes, I took it all apart and scattered it all over the plate in a childish attempt to show the waitstaff that I had indeed partaken. The next course was my favorite: freshwater bass in a traditional apple syrup sauce. It wasn't sticky sweet—but creamier and apple-y. The booklet described the drying method of apples

cribed the drying method of apples



Historic Flavors of Amerongen Castle (cont.)

Continued from page 49

and the making of the syrup. The other surprise was this dish was served with a DUTCH wine. Both Jerry and I were suspicious, but we had to admit, it was surprisingly delicious. From the vineyards in Gelderland came a delightful white wine: Linge Wit, Cuvee Barrique 2016 (www.betuswijndomein.nl). If you think that the Dutch can only produce jenever, gin, and beer—get ready to reset your taste buds.

Next, we were treated to a mixture of jasmine tea with spices from the East India Company to freshen the breath functioning as a sorbet. In the 1600s, there were no Wilhelmina breath mints! Cinnamon sticks and star anise did the trick. This is a photo of the concoction that is set on the table (from the booklet). The

waitress pours in the tea. The star anise is bound in dry ice. When the hot tea meets the dry ice— POOF! Magic! The fiery goblet of *Harry Potter*



cocktail appears. This warms the herbs and although the tea taste isn't the best; the aftertaste is a spicy fresh delight.

The next course was rabbit filet accompanied by its own kidneys. I have never imagined rabbit kidneys, but when baked they look like large brown lima beans. Unfortunately, I had to scoot the kidneys over to Jerry's plate (who ate them with relish). The taste of rabbit is a bit too wild for me and I haven't found the right recipe yet to change my mind. I am not saying that this was the recipe, but it was tasty, especially when served with a double dark local beer. Wilhelm Donker beer was created and brewed by this restaurant in memory of German Kaiser Wilhelm II, who found sanctuary in Castle Amerongen when he abdicated in 1918.

Time for the last main course. The waitress presented a box at the table filled with some interesting items. She explained that the castle had a very large pigeon house on the grounds and that pigeon was often featured on the dinner plate. She described the contents of the box as a pigeon wrapped inside a salt



crust, herbs and tobacco leaves, because tobacco was also farmed in the region. Zip-off to the oven. When plated, it was half a breast and a tiny drumstick. The taste was delicious in the butter sauce and the Ahr Spätburgunder really did make you sigh, "ahhhh."

The final course was a luscious chocolate soufflé paired with a tiny scoop of ice cream. The soufflé was mixed with spelt, which gave it a big chocolate flavor without much sweetness. I really liked it. It was served with a dessert Riesling from Germany that smelled like eau de gasoline. I thought that the smell would evaporate into raisins or something, but for me, it never did. That was the only pairing that I thought was a bit off. Chocolate and ice cream—YES! Chocolate and petrol—NO!

Visit the castle and find out more about the history, tours and the lovely gardens. Don't forget to put on the oat bag at Restaurant Bentinck. www.kastelelamerongen.nl

Announcements

Dutch Remembrance Evening (*Herdenking*)

Two minutes of silence are observed at 8 p.m. on May 4 of each year to remember all those who have died, in war and in peace operations, during and since the outbreak of World War II. For information about commemorations around the country, visit: www.4en5mei. nl. Locally, a commemoration will take place at the dunes of Scheveningen: a silent proces-



sion on the Waalsdorpervlakte, where people were put to death by the occupying forces during World War II. www.erepeloton.nl

Dutch Liberation Day (Bevrijdingsdag)

Whereas May 4 is a day of sadness and commemoration, May 5 is the "Day of Liberation" with celebrations marking the end of the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands. This year marks 73 years of freedom. Celebrations are held throughout the country. To see what's happening at the free festival at the Malieveld in The Hague, go to: www.bevrijdingsfestivaldenhaag.nl

DFAS Art Lecture

Modern Gardens from Monet to Matisse Monet was perhaps the most important painter of gardens in the history of art, but there were many other artists who created their own gardens and also made them the subject of their work including: Manet, Renoir, Cezanne, Pissarro, Van Gogh, Klimt and Matisse. Lecturer Lydia Bauman, a graduate of the Courtauld Institute of Art London, is an artist, art historian and National Gallery guide. Non-DFAS member fee is € 12. www. dfas.nl

Tuesday, May 8 8 p.m. (doors open at 7:30 p.m.) Cultural Centrum Warenar Kerkstraat 75, Wassenaar



Delta Lloyd North Sea Regatta

The largest Dutch sailing event starts on May 8 with the 110-mile Fire Ships (*Vuurschepen*) Race from Scheveningen to Harwich, England. The Regatta is held from May 18 – 20 with over 500 boats of 25 different classes, including yachts and catamarans, competing in races starting from Scheveningen Harbor. www.nsr.nl

National Windmill Days

National Windmill Days will be held on Saturday, May 12 and Sunday, May 13. Over 900 mills will be open to the public. It is an ideal opportunity for young and old to experience these historical works that have played such an important role in the development of the Netherlands. Participating mills are identified by the blue flag, spinning blades or festive flags.

www.molens.nl

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Announcements (cont.)

Continued from page 51

American Theater: *Anne & Emmett*

Anne & Emmett is an imaginary conversation between Anne Frank and Emmett Till, both victims of racial intolerance and hatred. We remember Anne, the 15-year-old Jewish girl whose diary provided a gripping perspective of the Holocaust for millions of readers. We remember Emmett, the 14-year-



old black boy from Chicago whose brutal murder in Mississippi in 1955 after being accused of whistling at a white woman became a rallying cry for the American civil rights movement. This one-act play opens with the two teenagers meeting in Memory, a place that isolates them from the cruelty they experienced during their lifetimes. The beyond-the-grave encounter draws the startling similarities between the two youths' harrowing experiences and the atrocities against their respective races. After the performances, there will be a discussion with the American author, producer and members of the cast. www.delamar.nl

Friday, May 18 & Saturday, May 19 8:30 p.m.

DeLaMar Theater Marnixstraat 402, Amsterdam

Cultural Festival in The Hague

From Friday, May 18 through Monday, May 21, the Lange Voorhout will host the Haagse Wereld Hapjes (Hague World Appetizers) Festival featuring cuisine from 25 restaurants. Admission is free and includes entertainment for both adults and children. www.haagsewereldhapjes.nl

Opera Days in Rotterdam

Operadagen (Opera Days) Rotterdam is an opera and music theater festival at various venues around Rotterdam from May 18 – 27. www.operadagenrotterdam.nl

Day of the Castle

Here is your chance to learn all about



Dutch castles and country estates. On Monday, May 21, these cultural heritage sites, many of which are not generally accessible, open their gates to the public. www.dagvanhetkasteel.nl

Dutch Beer Tasting Festival

The Grote Kerk in The Hague provides a unique setting for 43 Dutch breweries to showcase 250 of their best beers on May 24 – 26. www.weekvanhetnederlandsebier.nl

60th Tong Tong Fair

The world's largest Eurasian Festival is held annually at the Malieveld in The Hague. Many of the exhibitors come from Indonesia, Vietnam and Malaysia just for this event. From May 24 – June 3, there will be cultural events, an East-West fair, food fest and street vendors. www.tongtongfair.

Dutch Masters from the Hermitage: Treasures of the Czars

Through May 27, the Hermitage Amsterdam showcases one of the greatest treasures of the State Hermitage in St Petersburg: the

world's leading collection of Dutch Golden Age paintings outside of the Netherlands. No fewer than 63 works by 50 different



artists were brought to Amsterdam for this unique exhibition celebrating the paintings first homecoming in 250 years. www. hermitage.nl

Day of Architecture

Every year, cities around the country allow the public a chance to look inside some of their special buildings. On Saturday, June 2, you can look inside unique buildings in The Hague that are otherwise closed to the public. There will be free guided tours (some of them in English), and architects will present information about the design and history of the buildings. www.dvda-denhaag.nl

World Championship of Sand Sculpting

The World Championship of Sand Sculpting will be held on the Lange Voorhout in The Hague as part of the celebration of 200 Years of Scheveningen. This is the first time that the Netherlands has hosted this unique event, which is held once every three years. The creation of the 11 large sand sculptures by international artists takes place from Monday, June 4 until Tuesday, June 12, during which the artists can be seen at work

from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The finished sand artworks can then be viewed until August 15.

Sushi Festival

From June 8-10, Westbroekpark in The Hague will be transformed into a vibrant Asian food market full of sushi and popular street foods such as dim sum, sukiyaki, noodle bowls and tempura. There will also be karaoke, games for young and old, and sushi workshops. Entrance is free. www. festival-joy.nl



Hague Bunker Day

More than 50 giant concrete bunkers built during WWII as part of the Atlantic Wall still dot the Dutch coastline. Normally closed to the public, they are opened annually for Bunker Day. On Saturday, June 9, in various locations within the dunes at Scheveningen and Kijkduin, there are bunker tours, walks and re-enactments with historical vehicles and actors. Proceeds from tickets help maintain the bunkers and can be purchased at www.bunkerdag.nl.

Japanese Gardens

Don't miss a chance to take a stroll through the serene Japanese Gardens in Clingendael Park in The Hague. There is no charge to visit these gardens, which are open daily from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. through June 10.

Open Garden Days

Each year, several Amsterdam Canal Museums organize Open Garden Days. On June 15 – 17 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., you will be allowed a rare glimpse into 30 canal gardens. Tickets can be purchased at the sponsoring museums: www. opentuinendagen.nl

Announcements (cont.)

Continued from page 53

Flag Day (*Vlaggetjesdag*)

On Saturday, June 16 is a festival celebrating the arrival of the first herring (Hollandse Nieuwe) in Scheveningen. Hundreds of thousands of people gather for the festivities and the fishing boats are decorated especially for the occasion. The first barrel of herring is traditionally sold at an auction on the preceding Thursday with the proceeds going to charity. Visitors are invited to watch demonstrations by rescue teams, participate in old Dutch children's games, tour boats and old fire engines, and enjoy the many colorful traditional costumes. www.vlaggetjesdag.com

Leiden Culinary Festival and Boat Parade

On Thursday, June 21, Leiden launches its Culinary Festival, which runs through Sunday, June 24; entrance is free for this great opportunity to try small portions from several of Leiden's best restaurants while being entertained by live music. That Friday evening, Leiden hosts its annual boat parade when 150,000 spectators will gather to watch decorated boats make their way through the city's lovely canals. www. leidenculinair.nl and www.lakenfeesten.nl



Volvo Ocean Race Finish

After 9 months and 46,000 sea miles, The Hague is the ultimate destination for the finish of the Volvo Ocean Race. For eight days from June 24 to July 1, Scheveningen Harbor will be devoted to sailing and wa-

tersports promising to be a festival for all ages, sailing fans, sports enthusiasts and families. Access for all days is free. www. volvooceanracedenhaag.nl



Dutch Veterans Day

On Saturday, June 30, thousands of veterans from all over the country will descend upon The Hague to take part in Veterans Day. This event focuses on acknowledging and showing appreciation for the 115,000 veterans who have been deployed in the service of peace, now and in the past. There will be festivities at Malieveld including a parade and flyovers of many kinds of jets, airplanes and helicopters over the Hofvijver. www. veteranendag.nl

4th of July Picnic

Come celebrate America's birthday with an old-fashioned picnic. Bring a blanket, chairs and a picnic or enjoy some hot dogs and hamburgers off the grill; drinks and ice cream will also be for sale. There will be a bouncy castle and games for the kids and, of course, baseball. For information, contact **Georgia Regnault** or **Roberta Enschede** (contact details on GroupSpaces).

Sunday, July 1 2 – 6 p.m. ABF Clubhouse adjacent to ASH Ammonslaantje 1, Wassenaar

North Sea Jazz Festival

The world's largest indoor jazz festival will be held at Ahov in Rotterdam on July 13 –

15. Groove and move to the beat of swing, bop, electronic jazz, blues, gospel, funk, soul, hip hop and Latin. www.northseajazz.

Rotterdam Summer Carnival

Rotterdam celebrates cultural diversity during the Rotterdam Unlimited Festival which will immerse the city in music, dance and carnival from July 24 – 28. The Summer Carnival Street Parade features amazing costumes on over 2,500 energetic dancers and 30 floats on Saturday, July 28 at 1 p.m. www. rotterdamunlimited.nl

Amsterdam Gay Pride

For 23 years Amsterdam has celebrated diversity at the end of July and beginning of August each year with live music and street

parties. The world's only gay Canal Parade on Saturday, August 4 at 12:30 p.m. is definitely the highlight! www.amsterdamgaypride.nl



In honor of the 25th anniversary of the Dutch luxury fashion house, the Kunsthal in Rotterdam will organize a large exhibition showing Viktor & Rolf's radical conception of "wearable art" and exploring the elements that make their designs unique in the contemporary fashion world. From May 27 through September 30, this exhibition will feature some of the most show-stopping and innovative works by the design duo, including over 45 haute couture pieces and stage costumes created for ballets and operas. www.kunsthal.nl







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Find links to a large variety of businesses owned by AWC Members at www.awcthehague.org/

Event information, suggestions or comments for eNews?

New email account

Please send all eNews information to awcthehague.enews@gmail.com no later than end of day each Friday for the following week's eNews.

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Please be reminded that the AWC Membership List is for AWC Member reference only and use of this information in any communication other than AWC official business is strictly prohibited. Members may not share the list with anyone other than another AWC Member in good standing and never to any third party.

The AWC takes care to protect Member information and adherence to this policy is critical to maintain Member privacy. Members are asked to report suspected misuse of the list to any AWC Board Member.

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A weekly electronic newsletter is sent to all AWC Members via *GroupSpaces*. *com*. If you have not been receiving your eNews, please contact Melissa at awcthehague.membership@gmail.com.

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Proost! Questionnaire

by Jane Choy, Committee Chair, The Arts Mauritshuis Docent



Why are you living in the Netherlands? My husband is Dutch, and I do like living in this country.

How did you meet your husband? Skiing in Austria in 1979.

Give us a quick wrap-up of the rest of your family. I have two sons, both of whom are married, and three grandchildren—all girls!

What or who is the greatest love of your life? My husband of course!

What do you enjoy most about the AWC? I enjoy the social aspect of the Club, meeting new people, and helping them settle in the Netherlands.

What do you consider the most overrated virtue of being an expat? Not sure as I am probably not really an expat. I moved to the Netherlands 35 years ago!

What is the quality you most like in a friend? My friends are supportive and understanding.

What is your greatest travel extravagance? When we splurge and stay in a really nice hotel.

Which Dutch museum do you recommend for first-time visitors? Mauritshuis!

Which museum hasn't been ticked off your bucket list? The Guggenheim in Bilbao in Basque country. (The building is considered by architects to be one of the most important architectural works completed since 1980).

Who are your favorite artists? Petrus Christus (an early Netherlandish painter) and Christoffel van der Berghe (Flemishborn Dutch Golden Age painter)

Where would you most like to live? England because I love its history, literature, and landscape.

What is your idea of perfect happiness? Not worrying! Knowing all my loved ones are happy and well.

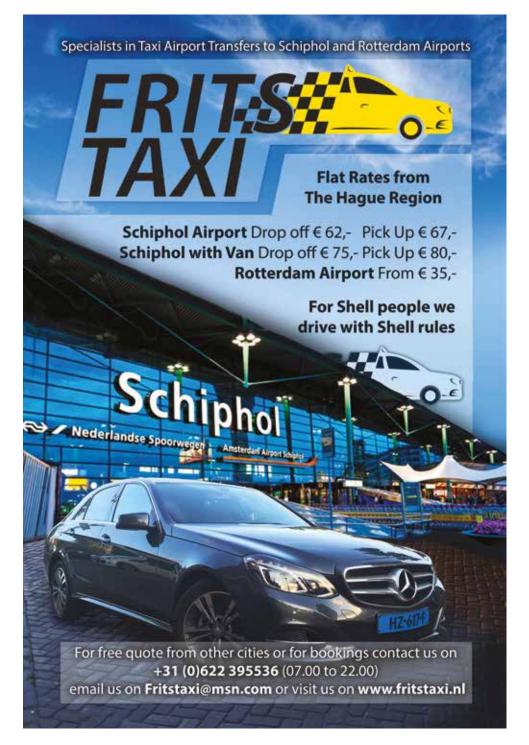
Which talent would you most like to have? Singing

What's your hobby? Horseback riding

Who are your heroes in real life? Sergio Vieira de Mello. (He was Brazilian and worked for the UN for more than 34 years. He, and 20 members of his staff, were killed in 2003 when the Canal Hotel in Baghdad was bombed.)

If you have a pet, tell us its breed, name, and why it's the best pet ever! We have a Lhasa Apso named Bear. He adds warmth and love to our home.

What is your motto? Always do the best you can and be thoughtful and sensitive to others.





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