

# Allemaal Familie

## Newsletter 25



Volume 4 Nr. 25

October 2007

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### Involved families

- Alberts
- Bouweriks
- Haagen
- Poulisse
- De Vink
- Van Wereld
- Weilers

In this special double 25th edition of our Family Newsletter, you will find three elaborate stories about ancestors with or without a "golden circle".

To start, we look at the life of three generations Alberts, who lived in the small town of Doorwerth, near Arnhem, resulting from a few days' thoroughly digging in the "Gelders Archief (Archives of the Province of Gelderland) and reading several booklets. Thereafter, an explanation about the lost profession of "olijslager" (oil-miller), of which I had never heard of myself.....

Thanks to the exchange of data with fellow-researcher Kees Hoogakker, a very distant relative, I do not want to keep from you the exciting story of a dissolute and riotous vicar. His life starts all the way up in the north of Holland and finally ends in the Cape Colony during the time of the Verenigde Oostindische Compagnie (East India Company).

Next to well-known or special persons, most family-forks are normal people, like you and me, doing their best to lead a life as good and appropriate as possible, in the past and in the present, always aimed at a better future for their children and children's children and their story is worth being told ALSO.

A clear example of this can be read in the column "In the spotlight: Anna and Jan van der Woert-Bouweriks", based on the loving memories of their granddaughter Carla Südfeldt-van der Woert and the aunt, who married into her family.



In short, a Newsletter with, as usual, all sorts of things. In the hope that many other beautiful or interesting memories will be remembered and passed on, which will then also lead to new stories in the next 25 Newsletters.

TOGETHER WE WILL GO FOR THE 50TH.... DV

## Daily Life of: 3 generations Alberts in Doorwerth

The enquiry for the Alberts family-fork has for years ended in a deadlock with the parents of Jan Alberts, "the blind Husar", with myself as well as with the fellow-researchers Dick Alberts and Mathijs Deen. Via Family-search.org [the Mormon site] I finally found the marriage of his parents: Jan Alberts with Anna de Vreede. As the dates on the afore mentioned site are not always as reliable as should be, I asked the genealogy mailgroup whether someone in Arnhem could confirm this.

Shortly after, our youngest daughter Joleen, had to follow a week's training with regard to their new concept in the restaurant "La Place" of Vroom & Dreesmann (a well-known Dutch department store) in Arnhem. A little while ago she was engaged as manager of a "La Place" restaurant in Holland and is now their youngest manager. Because of the long travelling hours due to the many files in Holland, she decided to take a hotel in Arnhem. However, there were only double bedrooms vacant (above her budget), so she asked me to come with her under the pretext.... You still want to go to the archives?

Consequently, I spent a few days in Arnhem and found three new generations, all three leading to the former hamlet Doorwerth, on the river Neder-Rijn. A most helpful keeper of the records handed me all sorts of extra information and indicated where to look. Without her help I should never have found this story.





Jan senior and Anna did indeed get married in Arnhem on September 7, 1796, and had six children between 1797 and 1808; three sons of which two stayed alive, among the two our "Jan the Husar". Hereafter the text of their marriage-certificate: Following an unimpede proclamation (announced: August 21, August 28 and September 4) at the town hall of this city, Jan Aalberts j.m. of Dorenweerd, living here, and Anna Theodora den Vreede, j.d. of Maastricht and living here, were married in the church on September 7, 1796."

It seemed that at that time Jan senior worked as an oil miller [olijslager], just like his father and younger brother. Only, at the birth of his son Jan junior he was a carpenter, which profession he executed during the remaining part of his life.

As said before, at the time of the marriage of son Jan senior, his father Reinder also was a "olijslager". He started his life much more pleasant though as the 5th son of the hunter Aelbert Hendricks and Jenneke Schut in Doorwerth in 1744.



The present village of Doorwerth lies on and along the Dunnage wall of Arnhem. This Dunnage wall was stowed during the first stage of the penultimate glacial period. During the last glacial period part of it has been eroded again. Therefore a hilly area originated here with varying heights of 23 to 63 metres above NAP (Amsterdam Ordnance Datum). After the last glacial period, about 10.000 years ago, the course of the Rhine diverted via the IJssel valley to the west. Steep walls originated where the Rhine eroded the Dunnage wall. Little brooks took rise in the sides, which were sometimes dug out and which finally flowed in the Neder-Rhine.

Originally Doorwerth was part of the extended possessions between Wageningen and Arnhem of the dukes of Gelre (Gelderland). After abjuring Philips II as last duke of Gelre in 1581, the area was under control of the Audit Office in Arnhem as far as in the 19th century.

The castle "Doorwerth House" was built in the 13th century on an island in the Rhine (now beautifully situated in the water-meadows), so that it was difficult to conquer. The gentlemen of the castle were lord and master in the area and the castle was the administration centre. From the castle the Rhine with its overcrowded sailing traffic could be properly watched and toll could be levied.

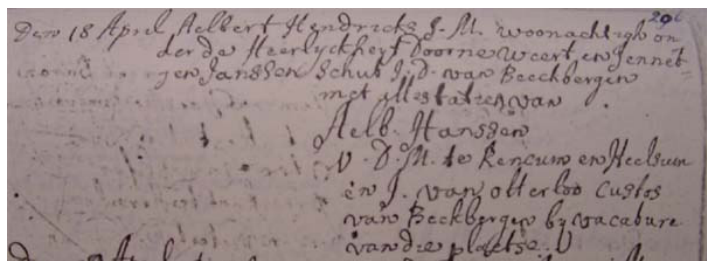
William III, King of England and Governor of Holland, liked to visit Dorenweerd (not until the beginning of the 19th century was the name Doorwerth used) to hunt in the vicinity.



During the battle of Arnhem in 1944 the castle was practically destroyed. Whatever was left were only sad ruins. Eventually it was obtained by the Stichting Vrienden der Geldersche Kasteelen (Foundation of the Friends of Castles in Gelderland). The restoration took just over 37 years and the castle was officially opened again by princess Juliana in 1983. Now the Museum voor Natuur- en Wildbeheer (Museum for Nature and Gamecontrol) and the Museum Veluwezoom are the most important "inhabitants" of the castle. Then, the former ball-rooms Anno 2007 are used by the Bilderberg Hotelgroup and it is also an official wedding site of the municipality of Doorwerth. Again elegant weddings and exclusive dinners are being held here.

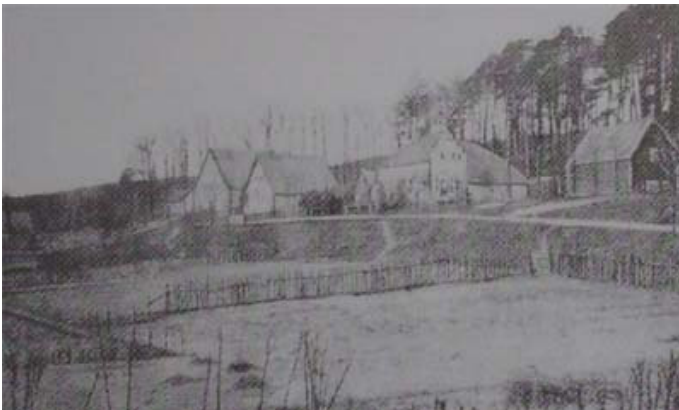
The former sandy path "De Galerij" between the castle and the dwellings of the workers, has been metalled a long time ago and renamed "Fountain Lane".

Back to ancestor Aelbert and his housewife, Jenneke Schut, daughter of a well to do paper-maker, who were married in Oosterbeek on April 18, 1731.

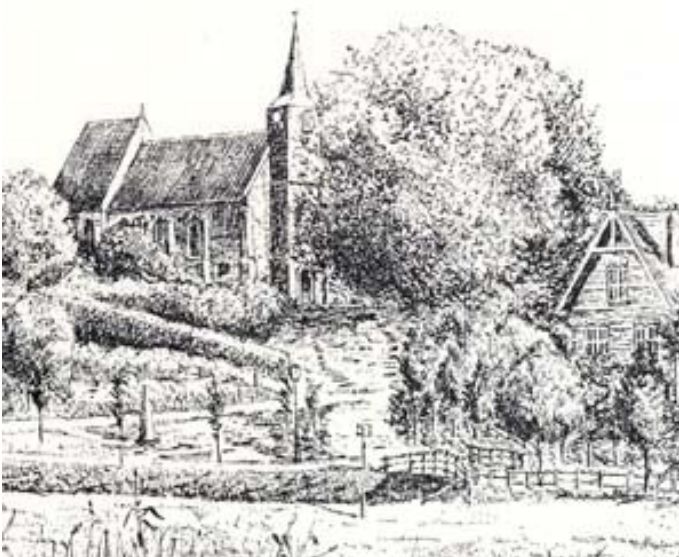




Before his marriage he already worked as a hunter at "Doornweert" and also lived with his young family in one of the wooden houses on "De Galerij". The Doorwerth landlords owned all the houses and let them on lease. As per picture hereafter.



Jenneke and Aelbert had seven children, five sons and two daughters, who were all born in the wooden dwelling at "De Galerij" and baptised in Heelsum, a one hour walk on the sandy path through the Heelsumsche Enk (the heyfields of Heelsum), ending besides the Dutch Reformed Church. The Doorwerth hamlet did not have a church.



[Drawing: the church of Heelsum with the path]

The family lived in reasonable comfort and only one baby son died, aged one month. Few infant mortality is indirectly a sign of well-being!

Not more than 200 people lived scattered through the Seignory in 1749, amongst whom were only 9 farmers. There were more crofters and labourers and also one hunter, "our" Aelbert. The latter worked mainly for "the castle" and consequently, all of them dependent on the whims and caprices of the Lords and Ladies of Dorenweerd.

But, the small community lived as they had been living for as long as could be remembered and provided for the greater part in their own needs. For centuries the number of inhabitants did not grow, there simply was not enough cultivated land.

The 9 farmers kept of course cows and everyone had sheep who spent half of their lives on the extensive moorlands of Wolfheze. The sheep were very useful. They furnished wool and were needed to fertilise the moorlands. The cut sods mixed with pure manure provided humus, highly needed to improve the poor sandy fields. Nearly every family had one or more pigs in the pigsty in order to have meat and fat. Horses were of course indispensable for work and transport.

If a horse needed a shoeing-smith, he had to go to Renkum. If one became ill and the herbs from their own garden did not help anymore, one visited a surgeon, also in Renkum. Even for weaving the with unwearrying industry spun wool, they went to the weaver overthere. The hamlet did have their own tailor though. In Renkum also lived one shoemaker, but not a wooden shoe-maker, from which may be concluded that in those days more people wore leather shoes than wooden shoes. Which was a good idea, with all the dry sand.

After the rye harvesting, their corn was ground in the wind-mill. Obligatory, because one of the rights of the lord was to levy tax on it. Furthermore, they gathered some eggs from scratching chickens.

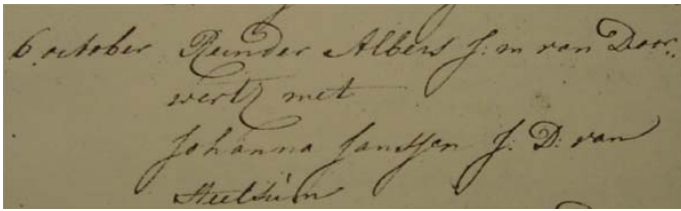
Aelbert's and Jenneke's family of course regularly had game on the menu! Mother baked bread herself and over the fireplace hung hams and sausages of their own slaughtering. Some cabbage and beans, together with bread, home-made cheese, home-churned butter and barley-gruel with syrup. That was about all there was for their menu.

The poor people, also listed on the population list from 1749 [mainly day-labourers], never ate dairy produce or meat. Or, it must have been a poached hare, a festive meal with a perilous tone, as poaching was severely punished.

Aelbert hunted deer and boars in the extended woods, on the meadows and moorlands of the Seignory situated between Renkum, Wolfheze and Oosterbeek. On his hunting rounds he will undoubtedly regularly have taken his young sons. An exciting and thrilling existence for those young boys!

It goes without saying that he regulated the stock of game in the Seignory and organised and accompanied the hunting parties of the Lords of the castle.

Source: Dorenweerd van heerlijkheid tot dorp (Dorenweerd from seignory to village) – A.W. van der Bunt (1984)

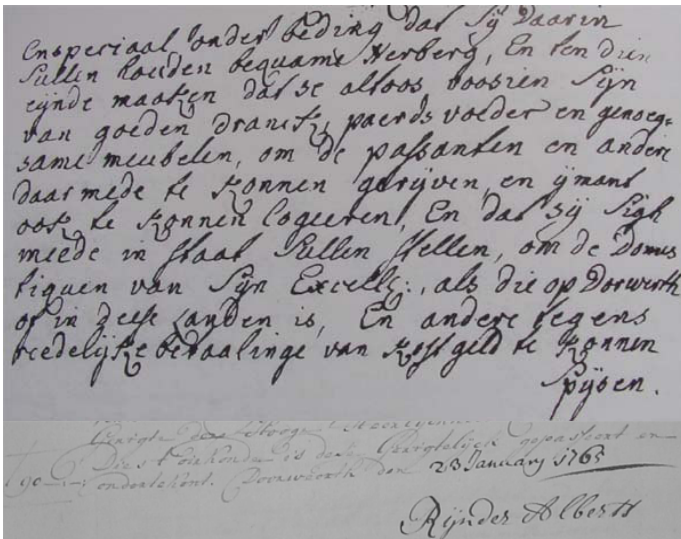


castle Doorwerth, Anton Count of Aldenburg. At the front hung a sign-board picturing "t Oldenburger Peert " (the Horse of Oldenburg), which horse is shown on the coat of arms of the noble Aldenburg family.

Eight months before his marriage to Janna Jansen at the age of 21, son Reinder takes a lease on the "old inn of Doorwerth", for a period of six years, starting on Saint Petri (February 22) 1765 and ending on Saint Petri 1771. The lease amounts to 90 guilders a year. In the lease agreement we read as follows:



[Inn Thoons Huijs viewed in western direction]



Besides being used as a regular inn, it was also used as a judges' inn where justice was administered by aldermen and bailiffs. The oldest maps of Doorwerth already show the inn, practically at the crossing of the Galerij [the main road between Oosterbeek and Wageningen] and the Hollewegh in the direction of Arnhem. At that time the Galerij ran along the inn.

Transcript: It is specially stipulated that he will run an adequate Inn, so that there will always be beverages of good quality, meals for horses, and sufficient furniture for the travellers to be able to sit comfortably and also to be able to spend the night. The inn-keeper is also obliged to feed the domiciles of his Excellence, when he is at Doorwerth or in these surroundings, such against reasonable payment.

This old inn was already described as "Brewing house" in 1689. Since 1719 the inn was named "Thoon's house", after its owner, the lord of



Source: De Fonteinalee herleeft (The Fountain Lane relives ) C. Gerritsen (2007).





[drawing: the Salmons]

Around 1875 the inn was named 'the Two Samlmons' and later on the Salmons. At the Battle of Arnhem the old inn was totally destroyed and never rebuild again.

The Alberts family lived untill Saint Petri 1771, also at the inn, where the first five children were born. Once per three weeks they paid a visit to the Dutch Reformed [Nederlands Hervormde] little church at the hamlet of Heelsum, also belonging to the Vicinity of Doorwerth. The vigar from Renkum preached over there, that Sunday. Those Sundays, the Alberts family walked accompanied by the other families of the hamlet via the sandy path leading through the 'Heelsumsche Enk', the path ended next tot the church, built on a hill.



On June 13, 1784, they officially left Heelsum for Oosterbeek with attestation. However, they must already have settled there in 1773, due to the fact that the next three children were born there in 1773, 1775 and 1778. Whether Reinder already worked here as a miller (olijslager) at an oil mill operated by water is unknown.



[Dutch Reformed church in Oosterbeek]

When, in 1780, the 9<sup>th</sup> child was about to be born, the family moved to Arnhem. Here three more children were born. Mother Janna died in Arnhem on Thursday, April 28, 1803, about 60 years old.

Shortly after Reinder remarried with Susanna Hopmans, whereafter they returned to Oosterbeek with the four unmarried children. By that time Reinder must undoubtedly have suffered of deafness due to the intense noise in the mills; deafness was a well-known occupational disease among oil millers. He died in Oosterbeek on Saturday, May 25, 1822 at the for those days respectable age of 78.

In the meantime eight out of the 11 children were married and lived in Oosterbeek, Arnhem, Ede and afterwards in Leersum.

The off-spring of the sons Albert, Barend and Egbert live alternately with the names Aalbers and Aalberts. The off-spring of the sons Jan and Derk continued to live with the surname Alberts.

In beloved memory  
**Aaltje Alberts**  
 auntie Alie

\* March 4, 1932 in Leersum  
 † September 11, 2007 in Amerongen

She was burried Saturday September 15 in Leersum.

## The lost occupation of “olijslager” (oilmiller)

Oilmills, dating already from before the 16<sup>th</sup> century, are industrial mills specially built to press oil from oil containing seeds like rapeseed, colseed, peanuts and linseed. Unfortunately, much knowledge about oilbeating has been lost during the past century. In Holland oilmills in the area of the river Zaan were mainly used for the production of paint, a structure of linoil with various pigment powders. In rural areas like the Veluwe oil was only produced for local use gathered from locally grown plants and used for baking and roasting of food and as fuel for oil lamps. In the Zaan area windmills were mostly used, on the Veluwe watermills.

The process of beating oil consists of two components: grinding the seed under big rotating side stones (picture 1) and pressing



the heated granulated flower in a beating block with the aid of hammers and wedges (picture 2). The so-called first stroke and the after stroke. The first stroke granulated flower is being heated

up to about 35-40 centegrade on a stone oven on which lie cast iron plates, mostly burning on wood or peat. Meanwhile the granulated flower is being stirred with a stirring knife which is being driven by the mill, so that it does not burn. When the granulated flower is warm enough it is put in bags. These bags are laid in wraps of horsehair, which are put in the “space” of the first strock block.

The first stroke block consists of very thick wood (5 x 75 x 300cm), in which “space” has been carved out. In the space are two fixed and two loose tow irons, i.e. very heavy iron plates and the wraps with the bags are put between them. By starting the stroke chisel with the aid of the mallet, the bags are being fiercely pressed together. The oil is flowing out of the seed and the bag becomes flat.

After filtering, the bags in which is now a rather hard cake, are going to the stripping table where the bag is stripped from the cake. While doing this the bags are put on wooden supporting beams, called in Dutch “kaak”, from which the Dutch saying “aan de kaak stellen” (Put into the pillory) originated, viz. the cake is being brought “to light”. These first stroke cakes are then trown in a

pestle pot, over which hangs a pestle which falls regularly in the pot due to its own weight, the contents are being smashed to pieces and then crushed. Diluted with water a pulp develops which is being properly mixed by way of the crushing.

Then the so-called after stroke granulated flower is again being heated at a higher temperature of about 50 – 60 centegrade. Then the residue is being put in the after stroke bags and pressed again, so that the last bits of oil can be taken from the granulated flower. These cakes, the after stroke cakes, are proper cattle food because they do not contain too much fat anymore and are rich in protein. It is worth mentioning that with this kind of production there is no waste. The oil as well as the cakes are being sold and the used energy is free of charge and not polluting.



[Oil mill near Denekamp – Ronald Weilers 2005]

In the days of Jan and Reinder Alberts an oil mill worked day and night. At least 6 persons were employed who each of them worked 16 hours a day. So it was important that every process was correctly tuned. All the hammers and pestles are being driven by one and the same shaft, the weigh shaft arm. By putting spokes in this shaft, the spokes can be lifted. The weigh shaft arm continues turning and the spoke comes that high and again away from the grip, that at some moment it is not supported anymore and the pestle falls down with an enormous boom.

So, there was unbelievably much noise in an oil mill. Consequently, many old oil millers were deaf, an occupational disease.

[Source: Wikipedia]



## Reverend Mancadan: a debauched customer

Newsletter 24 told the story about the greatest Frisian landscape painter of the Golden Age, Jacobus Sibrandi Mancadan. An ancestor, so someone to be proud of. As said before, this Jacobus had three children, of which two stayed alive. His only son also drew general attention, in quite a different way though. Now we can smile about such a debauched person among one's distant ancestors, at the time he must undoubtedly have been the black sheep in the family.

Son Sybrandus Jacobs was born in Oostwierum, Friesland, on Thursday, October 30, 1636. He was still studying to become a clergyman, when he married as "Minister of Gods' Word" in Franeker at the age of 18 on Sunday October 17, 1655 with the 20-year old clergyman's daughter Sophia Hayonis Walckens. Their only son, Johannes, was baptised by his grandfather Haijo Johannes Walckens barely six months later in Franeker in the Oldehoofster Church on Thursday, April 13, 1656, his grandfather being the clergyman there at the time.

Sybrandus was called to the pulpil of Oostwierum, his place of birth, and was a clergyman there from April 11, 1659 untill June 15, 1676. His wife Sophia died before 1671, 37 years old at the utmost. Sybrandus married again 35 years old, with the widow Tryntje Gerryts in Leeuwarden on Thursday, December 17, 1671. She died young and within three years after his 2<sup>nd</sup> marriage, Sybrandus marries for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time, aged 38, with Catharina Mederhuys in IJlst, Friesland, on Wednesday, May 22, 1676.



[Drawing of the Dutch Reformed church in Oostwierum]

In spite of the fact that he preached the word of God, Sybrandus seems to have been a riotous and debauched person who did not always live up to the rules of the church. On June 15, 1656, he was unfrocked as a clergyman in Oostwierum because of:

1. *Unchastity, committed before his marriage with his third wife Catharina Abrahami Mederhuijs, Nota Bene a clergyman's daughter*
2. *a long list of various occasions of drunkenness*
3. *a nearly general opposition against his person in the community of Oosterwierum*

However, in case he did behave, he would be called to the pulpit again after six months. He was installed in Tjerkgaast on April 30, 1679 "with sermons to the point". But, soon after he was again accused of various sins.

[Dutch reformed church in Tjerkgaast]

*After at first having been suspended for some time, he was finally deported with unanimous vote from the Holy Ministry on October 4, 1682. as being a debauched customer, because of many and severe continuing sins, and improving as the young Wolves, who become worse daily.*





Apparently Sybrandus did not see any chances in Friesland or in any other province and left for Cape Town, South Africa, for the East India Company. It is possible that he arrived in the Cape in 1679, together with the new commander (later Governor) Simon van der Stel. In 1679 Van der Stel set up new stations near Stellenbosch (named after himself and the oaktrees which were planted by himself and his sons) and Drakenstein in 1687, about 50km from Cape Town.



In 1682 a college of four Polder Boards " was established in Stellenbosch and shortly after a school and a teacher's house were built. Sybrand Mankadan was employed to teach, read and console the sick". Sybrandus marries for the 4<sup>th</sup> time with the widow Maria Catharina Swaanswijck in the Castle on the Cape in Capetown, South Africa, in 1687.



Our Sybrand keeps continuing leading a debaucherous life, but in the young colony this was much more tolerated due to lack of "white citizenship". He procreates, what a shame!, a daughter, named Maria, with a woman slave, and is present as her sponsor at her baptism on January 1690.

As he was the only person in Stellenbosch who had completed his studies at the university, he was even elected "Secretary of the Court of

the Colony Stellenbosch". Even now there still are premises at Stellenbosch University which bear his name.

On May 30, 1692, he bought another slave, named Titus, 25 years old who originated from Java, for the amount of 70 "Rijksdaalders"(rix dollars). Quite a sum in those days!

He died in Stellenbosch, South Africa, before Sunday, August 9, 1693, 56 years old at the utmost. His widow Maria marries again at that date with Jan Geel, about 6 weeks after his death which was normal then because of the lack of white women.

From the sermon of reverend Charles Fensham to commemorate 300 years Reformed church in Stellenbosch on November 1, 1986:



[Dutch Reformed Church at Stellenbosch]

When Stellenbosch was founded here on November 8, 1686, there was no village here. Here and there a few houses. The world was full with trees and bushes. They had to be removed by the citizens before they could lay out their estates. This was hard work and many citizens tried but had to give up. Now we commemorate its 300-year existence. The men who saw a chance for work here, were often "rough customers", according to old documents. They had no interest in the church and had never been taught religion. There was a small group of stable families who wanted education for their children. From these people, 52 in total, the first community was formed. For 14 years there had not been a clergyman. The community and these children were in the hands of a person who consoled the sick, Sybrand Mankadan, a suspended clergyman who liked the bottle. With a start like that a person could not have expected much from the church. The unsteady and weak church community was only established when a group of French Huguenots joined. In October 1688 Simon van der Stel came to Stellenbosch to celebrate his birthday and with him came twelve Huguenots, amongst whom Pierre Simond, their clergyman. On October 17, Simond preached for the first time in the Stellenbosch church. The Dutch citizens, who attended the service together with the commander and his high officials, did not understand a word of it because it was in French.

[Source: Kees Hoogakker]



## In the spotlight: Anna and Jan van der Woert-Bouweriks

Johanna Maria (Anna) Bouweriks was born in Amsterdam, Egelantierstraat 109, on Tuesday, November 16, 1886, as 5th out of 9 children, of which 7 daughters in the family of Gerrit Hendrik and Johanna Christian Maria Oostendorp. One little sister died in 1890, 4 days' old. Her father was successively workman, shopservant and firewatch. Just like her grandparents, the family lived in the middle of the "Jordaan" (a famous district in Amsterdam). Compared to contemporaries they were well off. At home they had to speak proper Dutch and not the Amsterdam dialect! Father Gerrit has to go to hospital for a hip and upper leg fracture in the beginning of 1898, but dies at home of an infection, at the age of 46. Mother Johanna is left with 8 children, the youngest only 3 years old. Their address at the time is Anjeliersstraat 108. Mother has a small income from being a laundress and the eldest children have to go out for work.



Anna married at the age of 24 in Amsterdam on Thursday, October 19, 1911, with the 25-year old Jan van der Woert, a dockworker (in Dutch at that time: veemarbeider, veem=warehouse; arbeider=worker). Their first tiny home is situated in the Anjelierstraat 166, room 9, close to mother (in law). Jan's employer is Blauwhoedenvveem-Vriesseveem where he worked for 50 years and during those years he was promoted to being a crane-driver.



From 1922 Anna and Jan lived for years in Tuindorp-Oostzaan (Gardenvillage Oostzaan north of Amsterdam), and at times they moved to many other addresses at the other side of the Y (river in Amsterdam). The reasons for these many removals to and fro were the severe winters. From the north of Amsterdam it was very difficult for Jan to go to his work. All the snow made it impossible to go by bike, so that meant moving again. The new family houses in Tuindorp-Oostzaan, however, were preferable. Thus they lived in the Grote Beerstraat, Maanstraat and finally in the Vegastraat 19. Between 1912 and 1920 they had five children, Jan, Annie, Frans, Jo and Frits.



The time during the war was difficult. Their three sons and the two sons in law were summoned for the 'Arbeitseinsatz' (foreign working forces in Germany). The eldest son Jan was summoned and in rows, walking on their way to Germany, they passed the village Zelhem in the Achterhoek (eastern part of Holland). Some unknown person pushed a rake in his hands and he was pulled into a garden. Here he stayed until the end of the war and worked for a section of the Red Cross resistance.

Son Frans was set to work during WW II with an airplane factory in Brandenburg and returned home as one of the last Dutchmen. Within the family they did not speak about it, but all of them were very scared that he would not return. His wife Gonda worked for the Dutch Telephone Company and always went to the train station to see if he had arrived. When at last he came back, he was very thin.

Son Frits was set to work in the Saar area. Because national mail was not opened in Germany, whereas international mail was, Frans was able to send his brother unimpeded stolen tickets for bread.

[Picture at the left: warehouses of Blauwhoedenvveem-Vriesseveem in 1923]



Son in law Arie was set to work in Frankfurt, son in law Cor was in Kiel. Cor was permitted to leave when his mother died and did not return to Germany. He was able to go underground in the Hogeland (High lands), the highest part of Tuindorp Oostzaan, where they could see the Germans coming. Whenever that happened it was quickly passed on. Fortunately, all of them returned home without a scratch.

Sometimes during those years of war, Jan sr. took home frozen meat from his work in the harbour. The meat was hidden on his body.



[launching by Princess Beatrix at the shipbuilding company N.D.S.M.]

Jan sr. was standard-bearer with the brassband of Tuindorp-Oostzaan. The sons Jan and Frits, the latter until the age of 86, and son in law Arie played the clarinet with the same brassband, and later Arie's sons Joop and Adrie also. The brassband also performed when a ship was launched with the NDSM, often in the presence of V.I.P. visitors. See pictures.



[From left to right: Arie, Jan, Frits and Queen Juliana]

In the Vegastraat 19 many family members also lived at this address. It started with their youngest son Frits and his quite new wife Rie and later many grandchildren. But, grandfather Jan demanded that they got married first, living together unmarried was not accepted!



[Vegastraat in 1952]

Around 1952 Anna had grown into a big robust woman, who was reading most of the time, spread out over her seat and Jan had become a kind and good-natured person, who went out to run the errands from time to time. At that time already, Anna had problems with walking because of her figure. Jan did the heavy cleaning and the garden and Anna did the cooking. The paraffin oil-stove of green enamel stood on the granite sink on which often meat, soup or red cabbage would simmer for hours.

Their life was mainly spent in the small living room where their two armchairs had a prominent place. The television set stood behind Anna's chair, in the middle the dining table with 4 chairs around it and the sideboard against the wall.



The coal stove was against the opposite wall. The door to their sleeping room, en suite, was in the other wall. They had slept there for years because young families always occupied the upstairs floor, as a result of the continuing shortage of houses. Here were 2 medium sized rooms and two small rooms and a bathroom.

And then... it was really funny in those days, when they watched television, they did not watch from their armchairs, they especially went to sit at the the dining table, with a cup of coffee. For the rest Anna was mistress of the house and the finances were closely watched by her. Her granddaughter in law who lived upstairs was sometimes reprimanded when Anna had the idea that she bought too many luxury articles. Jan was a very emotional person, which was reflected in his eyes. If Anna uttered her criticism, it was immediately excused by him.

# Allemaal Familie Newsletter

Page 11

## FAMILY NEWSLETTER

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Boxhoorn MBA

They had already reached the age of 75 when, after a whole array of other family members, grandson Joop and his wife came to live upstairs and they still admire them for being able to have such a young family over their heads, as the house was of course very noisy.

After a year their first greatgranddaughter was born, Anja Kwakkestein and 18 months later her sister, Ella, was born. Jan and Anna were as proud as a peacock of their first greatgrandchildren.

When Anja was crying in the garden in her pram, great-grandmother Anna would wobble into the garden and only kept moving the pram until she fell silent again. Ella often had her crying hour around six o'clock in the evening and greatgrandfather Jan used to come upstairs then and took the baby down with him where she lay against his breast and he started humming and yes..... Ella fell silent again.

Birthdays were busy days for Anna and Jan, although Anna did not do much work for it as her children and grandchildren attended to the duties. The grown-ups were all of them cramped in the living-room and the children were sitting on the stairs, in the kitchen or in the corridor. The eldest grandchildren told stories, read from a book or they played games.



Jan and Anna used to go on holiday with their children to Epe on the Veluwe, camping Remboe, where the whole family rented family houses (camping huts), but in those days, without a toilet.

Grandfather Jan was night-blind and had to go to the toilet during the evening, but did not come back, so that they started a search to try and find him.....



During the night of January 13 to 14, 1960, a dam had burst over a length of 70 metres in the Northern Y Polder, which caused floods in Tuindorp-Oostzaan and within three hours the water had risen to nearly 2 metres in the district. Many houses stood up to the first floor in the water. Also Jan and Anna's house. After some time they were rescued by rescue-workers with a boat and left the house via a window on the first floor. In total seven families (also in-laws) lived in Tuindorp at the time. Their son Frits lived with his family in the dry Landsmeer, so that most family members came their way. Two families stayed with them until they could return to their houses again. The newspaper "Parool" published a picture of uncle Cor and his children. The affected inhabitants were reimbursed for many of their possessions. Where upon the villagers later said: "Give us our daily bread and every year a water flood".

Anna and Jan lived a sober and simple life, they were very satisfied persons who were well off with each other. Daughters, sons and grandchildren loved to visit them. In short, everyone felt welcome and there was always a cup of coffee!

They reached the very high age of 95 and 97. Not until January 10, 1980, did they leave their house in Tuindorp reluctantly and spent their last years in a home for older people on the Franklinstraat 1 in Badhoevedorp.

They left 5 children, 13 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.