

The Dutch Connection of Arizona



MAR 2004

Newsletter of the Netherlands Business Association of Arizona

Vol. 14, Issue 2

QUEENS DAY APRIL 30, 2004

On April 30 we celebrate Queens Day, *Koninginnedag* in Dutch. On this day the Dutch celebrated their queen's birthday. This tradition was started by Queen Juliana, whose birthday falls on April 30. This tradition is still observed, although the reigning queen's birthday is January 31.

Beatrix Wilhelmina Armgard of Orange-Nassau was born January 31, 1938. She acceded to the throne in 1980 as Queen of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Beatrix (nicknamed Trix) is the daughter of Queen Juliana and her husband, Bernhard von Lippe-Biesterfeld. When Beatrix was a young girl, the Dutch royal family fled the German invasion of the Netherlands in World War II, moving to Great Britain in May 1940 and then to Ottawa, Canada. They returned home in 1945.

In Canada, Princess Beatrix had attended nursery and primary school. On her return to the Netherlands, she continued her primary education at The Workshop (*De Werkplaats*), Kees Boeke's progressive school in Bilthoven. In April 1950, Princess Beatrix entered the Incrementum, part of Baarns Lyceum, where she passed her school-leaving examinations in arts subjects and classics in 1956.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members & Friends,

As of January 19th 2004, the NBAA has a new team of board members that would like to make some changes to the overall organization of the association to benefit all members and new potential members.

The four main events, "Koninginnedag", Wine Tasting, Dutch Heritage Day, and Sinterklaas will continue to be organized through the board members and those members that would like to volunteer their assistance with any of these events. We support any member or family that would like to organize another event, such as family picnic, Dutch Culinary, or other great ideas for the Dutch Connection of Arizona.

This brings us to the next topic. What about the costs? We are in the process of designing a new web page, which will bring the NBAA under a new name; The Dutch Connection of Arizona. The web page www.dutchconnectionaz.org will give you access to all board members, members, friends, businesses, newsletters, and it will also allow you to register and pay for events that you and/or your family would like to participate in throughout the year.

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The Dutch Connection

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Editor-in Chief
Hans Verhaagen

Advertising
David Page

Members are encouraged to submit articles of general interest with a Dutch-American flavor and newsworthy items concerning other members. Be sure to include your name, address and daytime telephone number. Submit material to the editor by e-mail: hverhaagen@cox.net
Selected articles may be edited for clarity or space limitations at the sole discretion of the Editor. Submitted materials cannot be returned.
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Elected Officials for 2003

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Secretary	Aliete van Beek avanbeek@cox.net
Treasurer	Johan Bolle eurodreamkitchen@qwest.net
Directors	David Page roeska@cox.net Hans Verhaagen hverhaagen@cox.net
Honorary Consul of The Netherlands:	Siebe van der Zee 480-563-0092

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT *Continued from page 1*

First, you will have to register, and pay a registration fee of \$15.00 per family. Online sign up with a credit card will be possible too. This registration fee will be due each year, during the month that you registered the year before.

Members who own a business or members who work for a company that would like to advertise online to all the wonderful Dutch people that access the association's web site, you will be able to do so. We have three different advertising fees, depending on what size, style, and placement on the web that you choose from. Once the web is activated we will be able to begin with advertisement. Drew De Weerd, President and David Page, Public Relation Director will be able to assist you with your web advertisement. Members with businesses that currently have invested in advertisement through the newsletter "Dutch Connection" will be able to advertise online, or request a refund if they do not wish to advertise on the World Wide Web.

"Koninginnedag" will be the first official event for the association and it will be held this year in Fountain Hills at Fire Rock Golf Club House on Friday, April 30th. The invitation will be distributed to everyone by e-mail, and it will also be posted on the web page. Be sure we have your correct contact information.

If you have any friends or relatives that would like to attend any event throughout the year, make sure you refer them to our new web site. You can also e-mail one of us, and our addresses are listed above. We prefer to communicate and distribute information by e-mail because this is fast and cost effective. Be sure to list your e-mail address when you register with the organization online.

Any member that does not have e-mail access, can still receive information by regular mail, but for now we have to use Johan Bolle's business as "p.o. box" because we are on a waiting list with the post office to receive a p.o. box.. Aliette Van Beek will contact you to let you know that registration fees are received either by e-mail or regular mail. If you have any question, concerns, or ideas, please contact a board member.

Continued on page 3

The following events are planned on the dates and at the times indicated. While every effort is made to stay with this schedule, all dates may be subject to change. Please note the (*) notation which is used to denote a change from a previous publication. In any case, make sure to mark your calendars. See newsletter or the web site for details.

April 30 Queens Day Celebration
(Koninginnedag)

The following dates are tentative:

Wine Tasting

November 16 Dutch-American Heritage
Day

December 5 Sinterklaas



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Information & Announcements

Membership Data and Changes

Please contact our secretary, Alette van Beek, if you changed address, phone, fax, e-mail or whatever. This also applies to other organizations who receive this newsletter

Please refer to the Calendar of Events and mark your own calendar accordingly. The listed events are subject to change.

The Board wants to let all members know and hope they will agree and understand, that at events other than the picnic, bowling and Sinterklaas children are not allowed.

Anytime members hear about other members being ill, having a major family event such as a birth, anniversary or death, please contact any board member.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Continued from page 2

Please use this address below if you prefer to mail your registrations fee with a of \$15.00 (per year per family) made out to Dutch Connection of Arizona.

To the attention of: Johan Bolle –Dutch Connection of Arizona
8670 E. Shea Blvd. #101, Scottsdale, AZ 85260

We hope that you are enjoying springtime and we look forward to hearing and seeing all of you soon.

Sincerely,
Drew De Weerd,
President

EDITOR'S CORNER

Dear Members and Friends,

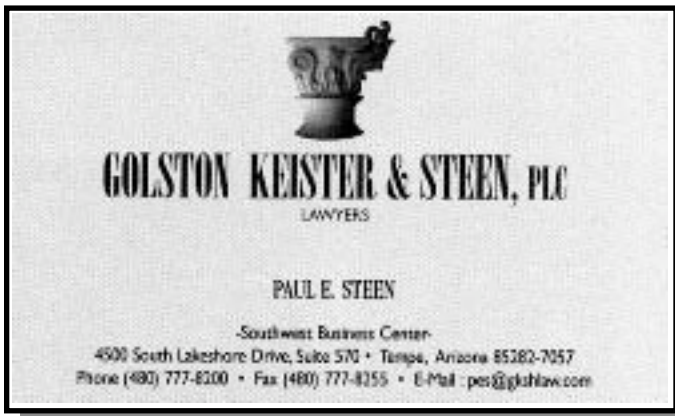
As you have read in the President's Message, the NBAA is taking a new direction and in my opinion for the better. We are moving into the 21st century. First, our annual membership is now \$15.00 per year, down from \$48.00, a considerable savings to our members. Second, this newsletter can now be downloaded from the internet or e-mailed to members. Some of you may miss the familiar orange printed in black and white of the past. The on-line version is in full color. During the past year I have introduced pictures to some of the articles. These pictures were in color but printed in black and white.

Our new board is a dynamic group of young people and I am sure they will come up with some new, fresh ideas. My role in the board will be publishing this newsletter with a lot of help from the membership, please!

Maybe some of you may have problems with this new concept. Remember, the board members are there to help you out. Don't hesitate to get in touch with them.

Having said all that, I for one, am looking forward to another year with the Dutch Connection of Arizona.

Hans Verhaagen



QUEENS DAY APRIL 30, 2004 *Continued from page 1*

On January 31, 1956, Princess Beatrix celebrated her 18th birthday. From that date, under the Constitution of the Netherlands, she was entitled to assume the royal prerogative. At that time, her mother installed her in the Council of State.

Beatrix began her university studies the same year, at Leiden University. In her first years at university, she attended lectures in sociology, jurisprudence, economics, parliamentary history and constitutional law. In the course of her studies she also attended lectures on the cultures of Suriname and the Netherlands Antilles, the Charter of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, international affairs, international law, history and European law.

While at the university, the Princess visited various European and international organizations in Geneva, Strasbourg, Paris, and Brussels. She was also an active member of the Leiden Women Students' Association. In the summer of 1959, she passed her preliminary examination in law, and she obtained her law degree in July 1961.

On March 10, 1966, she married the diplomat Claus von Amsberg. Initially, there was quite some opposition to the marriage. With fresh memories of the Second World War, a part of the Dutch people didn't appreciate a German prince. As time went on, however Claus became one of the most popular members of the Dutch monarchy and his 2002 death was widely mourned. On April 30, 1980, Beatrix became Queen of the Kingdom of the Netherlands when her mother abdicated. She exercises her function with more formality than Queen Juliana. She has a lot of supporters because of her professionalism, but during the 1990s criticism increased.

She has been a longtime member of the Club of Rome.

Beatrix has three sons: Prince Willem-Alexander born in 1967, Prince Johan-Friso born in 1968 and Prince Constantijn born in 1969.

On October 6, 2002, her husband Prince Claus died after a long illness.

THE DUTCH CONNECTION OF ARIZONA

ANNUAL QUEENS DAY CELEBRATION

**FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 2004
FIRE ROCK GOLF CLUB HOUSE
FOUNTAIN HILLS**

Details of this event will be e-mailed to the members




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DUTCH OWNER NUMICO SELLS GNC STORE CHAIN

Dutch food giant Numico has sold its troubled North American food supplement and nutrition chain GNC to a U.S. investment firm,. Appollo Management paid \$750 million for GNC, which Numico acquired four years ago for \$2.5 billion.

The sale of GNC ends an ill-fated expansion into the American food supplement and vitamins market. Last summer, the Dutch company, formerly known as Nutricia, already had sold the Rexall Sundown chain, also acquired in 1999. The Rexall purchase was worth \$2 billion but sold it for only \$250 million.

WESSANEN SUBSIDIARY TREE OF LIFE CUTS OUT U.S. DISTRIBUTOR

Tree of Life, a U.S. subsidiary of a Dutch food conglomerate and described as ‘a leading marketer of natural and specialty foods’ has severed distribution ties with U.S. retailer Wild Oats Markets. The agreement had been signed only two years ago. Tree of Life was acquired by Wessanen in 1999.

Severing the ties with Wild Oats will cost wholesaler Tree of Life \$150 million in sales annually on total gross sales of \$2 billion. Tree of Life services over 15,000 stores in the U.S. and Canada, with an assortment of over 80,000 products distributed from 16 centers.

Founded as a seed supplier in 1765, Wessanen has grown into a diversified international food business with global operations.

GRILL MAKER WEBER OPENS OFFICE IN THE NETHERLANDS

Weber-Stephen Products Co., a leading U.S. manufacturer of gas and charcoal grills, has opened a sales and marketing office in the Netherlands. The St. Nicolaasga (Friesland) outlet also provides consumer support.


The U.S. company was formed in 1952 when the first Weber kettle barbecue was developed. It since has added other state-of-the-art grills to its range.

ABN AMRO BANK GROUP SELLS OFF U.S. BROKERAGE FIRM


Dutch banking giant ABN Amro has sold its U.S. subsidiary Prime Brokerage to a Swiss bank. The deal is worth \$250 million.

Prime Brokerage has offices in New York , Dallas, San Francisco, Boston and a number of other major cities in the U.S. The company provides operational support to hedge fund and other professional money managers. The sale will free up approximately 1.75 billion euros of risk weighted assets.

After the divestment of Prime Brokerage and its staff of 190, ABN Amro’s wholesale clients strategic business unit in the U.S. still will employ well over 2,000 people. The Dutch firm’s banking portfolio in the U.S. - where it is the largest foreign bank measured by assets - includes such established banks as LaSalle and Standard Federal. ABN Amro, one of the top-three banks in the Netherlands, ranks 23rd in the world.



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POPULATION GROWTH LOWEST IN TWENTY YEARS

The population of the Netherlands grew by a mere 65,000 people in 2003, the lowest increase in 20 years. Even lower numbers are expected for 2004 (55,000) and 2005 (49,000). At the end of 2003, the number of residents stood at 16.3 million. By 2008, the number could reach 16.5 million.

DUTCH TEAM AGAIN WINS WORLD SOLAR CHALLENGE

The Dutch Nuon Solar Team successfully has defended its title in the World Solar Challenge. The solar-powered Nuna II was the fastest in the 3,010 kilometers race, breaking its own record set in the previous Challenge in 2001, by 90 minutes. Nuon II, an improved version of the 2001 entry, reached an average speed of just under 97 kilometers per hour.

The World Solar Challenge is considered the world championship for solar-powered vehicles. The track leads straight across Australia from Darwin in the north to Adelaide. There were 22 teams participating and the 'race' only took place - for obvious reasons - between 8:00am and 5:00pm. The Dutch team is made up from students of the Technical University of Delft and sponsored by energy provider Nuon.

Nuna II, driven by Mark Olsthoorn, immediately took the lead on the first day. The team entered by U.S. university MIT, and the Australian entry lagged at least one hour behind the Dutch vehicle. Nuna II was accompanied by a caravan of support and technical vehicles. It was not all smooth sailing for the Dutch team, which had to fix a number of flat tires of Nuna II and crashed one of the support trucks.

OSCAR NOMINATION FOR DUTCH MOTION PICTURE

The Dutch movie *Twin Sisters*, directed by Ben Sombogaart has been nominated for an Oscar. The film plays in Germany during the 1920s, where twin sisters are separated following the death of their parents. One sister is raised by a well-to-do aunt in Holland while the other grows up under difficult circumstances on a German farm owned by an uncle.

This is the seventh Academy Award nomination for The Netherlands. Previous winners and nominations in the Foreign Film category were:

- Zus & Zo*, nominated in 2002.
- Character*, the 1997 Oscar winner.
- Antonia's Line*, winner in 1995.
- The Assault*, the 1986 winner.
- Turkish Delight*, nominated in 1973.
- The Village on the River*, nominated in 1959.

NEW EU PRESIDENCY LOGO

The logo has been designed to hold the key elements, EU (European Union), NL (The Netherlands) and 2004 (the year), that need to feature in the various communication media during the Dutch presidency of the European Union in 2004.



PLAN UNVEILED TO MAKE NETHERLANDS 'MORE FUN' FOR VISITORS

Junior Minister Karien van Gennip of Economic Affairs has unveiled a new 'Touristic Agenda' aimed to increase the number of foreign visitors to the country. Tourists from abroad on average spend three times as much money in the Netherlands as Dutchmen on holiday in their own country.

The agenda in particular wants to expand on the cultural values of the cities, on the appeal of the Dutch beaches, on large-scale events and on corporate travel. Christian Democrat Mrs. van Gennip wants to turn the Netherlands again into an attractive destination and regain the sixth spot it occupied in 1995 on the list of world convention destinations. Last year, when foreign visitors contributed \$9.4 billion to the Dutch economy, the Netherlands had dropped to number ten. To achieve these goals, a number of projects are ready to be launched, among them one to upgrade the quality of various beach resorts along the North Sea coast. One of the main objects of the agenda is to stimulate the potential that could add most to the continued growth of inbound tourism. Dutch vacationers spent \$3.3 billion in their country last year.

The first large-scale event will be the Rembrandt Year 2006. Programming is a long-term project, with the events in 2006 themselves capable of drawing hundreds of thousands of foreign tourists. In 2002, around 10 million foreign tourists visited the Netherlands. Seventy percent of the money spent by them was generated in culturally interesting cities and in beach resorts.

PHILIPS AIMS FOR MORE BRAND RECOGNITION IN NORTH AMERICA

Dutch electronics and consumer giant Philips wants to drastically improve its name recognition in the U.S. and Canada. The goal is to increase its presence in the next four years to 50 percent. Currently, only 30 percent of North American consumers recognize the Philips brand.

As part of this strategy, company chairman Gerard Kleisterlee recently introduced a vanguard portfolio -

with the name 'Connected Planet' - of new consumer products and technologies. The package will enable people to access and enjoy digital content anywhere and anytime in the home and beyond. One of the products is the Internet Streamium television.

Philips also introduced a 'key ring' camera, with video capability; the smallest micro audio jukebox and the lightest recordable audio jukebox, as well as two new Nike-Philips sports audio MP3 players.

The venue for Philips' 'Connected Planet' vision was the annual consumer electronics show CES. Billed as the World's Largest Annual Trade Show for Consumer Technology, it attracted some 129,000 industry professionals to its 4-day event.

To improve its name recognition, Philips last year added \$40 million to its annual advertising budget for North America. That figure could reach as high as \$100 million in 2004.

The Amsterdam-based multinational which maintains its traditional ties with the Dutch city of Eindhoven, its original home, generated 30 percent of its 2002 gross sales (world wide total over \$38 billion) in the U.S. One in two North American households owns and uses a Philips product. The company thinks that the aim to double this presence is very realistic.

A few years ago, Philips lend its name to a new sports arena in Atlanta, Georgia. The Philips Arena is the home of the Atlanta Hawks (NBA) and the Atlanta Thrashers (NHL) and recently was the venue of the 2004 U.S. Figure Skating Championships.

DON'T FORGET TO PAY YOU DUES

Because in the change over of the board of directors and the many hours of planning, invoices for annual dues will not be mailed out.

In order to facilitate payment please mail your annual dues of \$15.00 by check payable to the N.B.A.A. to:

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DUTCH PAGE - NIEUWS EN VERHALEN IN HET NEDERLANDS!

DE SPITS HET DRUKST OP WOENSDAGOGHTEND

Elke woensdag zijn in de ochtendspits rond kwart over acht ruim twee miljoen Nederlanders tegelijkertijd onderweg. Daarmee is de woensdagochtend het drukste moment in het verkeer. Dat blijkt uit onderzoek van het Sociaal en Cultureel Planbureau.

Vrijdag is de drukste dag van de week. Het drukste moment in het weekeinde is op zaterdagmiddag rond vier uur. Dan zijn ruim 1,6 miljoen mensen op pad.

Uit het onderzoek naar de veranderingen in de verkeersdeelname tussen 1975 en 2000 blijkt dat het aantal auto's in veertig jaar is vertienvoudigd. Reden er in de jaren zestig ongeveer 650.000 auto's door Nederland, in 2000 zijn het er ruim 6,5 miljoen.

In 1975 waren Nederlanders gemiddeld 6,5 uur per week onderweg. In 2000 was dit aantal gestegen tot 8,5 uur. Met name het autogebruik groeide, van een krappe drie uur per week in 1975 tot 4,5 uur in 2000.

Driekwart van alle huishoudens in Nederland bezit inmiddels een auto. Eén op de vijf huishoudens heeft

er twee en één op de vijftig beschikt zelfs over drie of meer auto's.

Opvallend is dat in vergelijking met de jaren zeventig de ochtend- en avondspits tegnwoordig steeds meer bestaat uit huishoudelijk en vrijetijdsverkeer, bijvoorbeeld op weg naar supermarkt of familie. In het algemeen zijn Nederlanders vaker voor vrije tijd onderweg dan voor werk.

De toename van de mobiliteit van Nederlanders is het gevolg van een andere manier van leven. Het aantal mensen is toegenomen, het gaat relatief goed met de economie, er zijn meer één- en tweepersoons-huishoudens en de taakverdeling tussen man en vrouw is veranderd. ook blijkt dat mensen steeds verder van huis werken.

PRINS FRISO EN MABEL WISSE SMIT TROUWEN IN APRIL

Prins Friso zal op zaterdag 24 april 2004 in Delft in het huwelijk treden met Mabel Wisse Smit.

Het burgerlijk huwelijk zal worden voltrokken door de burgemeester van Delft, mr. H.M.C.H. van Oorschot.

De kerkelijke inzegening vindt plaats in de Oude Kerk. Voorganger is Ds. Carel A. ter Linden, emeritus predikant van de Kloosterkerk in Den Haag.

Het paar heeft gekozen voor de gemeente Delft vanwege de historische banden tussen het Huis van Oranje Nassau en deze stad. Bovendien hebben zowel de vader van Mabel als prins Friso zelf in Delft aan de Technische Universiteit gestudeerd.

Door de controversie over het niet-onbesproken verleden van Mabel Wisse Smit, had het paar afgezien van het vragen van officiële toestemming voor het huwelijk. Daardoor heeft Friso, de jongere broer van kroonprins Willem-Alexander, zijn rechten op eventuele troonopvolging opgegeven.

NEDERLANDERS VINDEN DAT TAAL VERLOEDERT

Ruim de helft van de Nederlanders meent dat de eigen taal verloedert. Volgens de overgrote meerderheid van de inwoners kunnen Nederlanders geen foutloze brieven meer schrijven en wemelen veel e-mails van de taalfouten.

Iets minder dan de helft van de ondervraagden meent dat het onderwijs in de Nederlandse taal steeds slechter wordt. Van de ondervraagden boven de vijftig jaar meent zelfs 60 procent dat dit het geval is. De meerderheid stelt dat de taal verloedert. Zo zegt 64 procent dat er vele fouten in e-mails zitten en meent 71 procent dat de meeste Nederlanders niet meer in staat zijn een foutloze brief te schrijven.

De ondervraagden zijn verdeeld over het gebruik van Engelse termen in de Nederlandse taal. Vijftig procent heeft hier geen enkel probleem mee, terwijl de andere helft het afkeurt. Jongeren ervaren het gebruik van leenwoorden als minder problematisch dan ouderen. In

Vlaanderen wordt aan Engelse woorden vaak een Nederlands tintje gegeven of worden deze zelfs min of meer letterlijk vertaald. Voor dat idee loopt de helft van de Nederlanders, met name jongeren, niet warm, en de andere heldt, die voornamelijk uit ouderen bestaat, ziet dit wel zitten.

Een overgrote meerderheid van de Nederlanders, ruim 80 procent, is van mening dat men zelf de eigen taal in woord en schrift goed beheerst. Wel denkt ongeveer eenderde van de inwoners dat het Nederlands over vijftig jaar dusdanig is veranderd dat de mensen van nu het nauwelijks meer zouden kunnen verstaan. Met name de 65-plussers zijn deze mening toegedaan.

'N HOLLANDS GRAPJE

Het is een kille doordeweekse dag midden in de winter. Een vrachtwagenchauffeur stopt met z'n wagen voor een rood verkeerslicht. Plotseling stopt een wagen naast hem, een blonde griet roept vanuit haar wagen: "Hallo meneer, ik ben Linda... en u verliest uw lading!!!" Tegelijkertijd springt het licht op groen en de chauffeur geeft gas. Bij het volgende verkeerslicht moet de chauffeur weer vaart verminderen en opnieuw gaat het blondje naast hem staan. "Meneer, ik ben Linda... en u verliest uw lading!!!" Opnieuw trekt de chauffeur op zonder ook maar op het blonde grietje te letten. Het geluk zit hem echter niet mee, want ook voor de derde keer staan de verkeerslichten op rood en hij stopt netjes. Het blondje, intussen behoorlijk op haar teentjes getrapt, gooit haar auto voor de vrachtauto, stapt uit en roept naar de chauffeur: "Dit is nu al de derde keer... Ik ben Linda en u verliest uw lading!!!", waarop de chauffeur zijn raam opendraait en roept: "Ja, stomme snol.... ik ban Theo en ik strooi zout."

Ingezonden door Wendy de Keizer.



PREMIER BALKENENDE HALF MAART NAAR BUSH

Premier Balkenende is over ruim een week opnieuw de gast van president Bush. Op dinsdag 16 maart staat een gesprek met de Amerikaanse president in Washington op de agenda. Nog dezelfde dag ontmoet hij in New York VN-secretaris-generaal Kofi Annan, liet de Rijksvoorlichtingsdienst donderdag weten.

Begin september was de premier voor een kennismakingsbezoek in de Verenigde Staten. Toenmalig minister van Buitenlandse Zaken De Hoop Scheffer reisde met hem mee. Achteraf bleek het bezoek cruciaal voor diens latere benoeming tot secretaris-generaal van de NAVO.

Het komend Nederlandse voorzitterschap van de Europese Unie, actuele internationale ontwikkelingen en economische ontwikkelingen zijn de gespreksonderwerpen voor het komende bezoek. Balkenende wordt vergezeld door huidig minister van Buitenlandse Zaken Bot. Bij het gesprek met Kofi Annan, dat onder andere over vredesoperaties gaat, schuift ook minister van Defensie Kamp aan.

De premier is al de maandag voorafgaande in de VS. 's Avonds is hij te gast bij de prestigieuze Universiteit van Princeton, om de door deze universiteit ingestelde Abraham Kuyperprijs in ontvangst te nemen. Premier Balkenende geeft er ook een gastcollege over transatlantische betrekkingen.

HELFT NEDERLANDERS KENT GOUDEN EEUW NIET

Bijna 60 procent van de Nederlanders weet niet dat de Gouden Eeuw de zeventiende eeuw is. Bijna 90 procent herkent wel de Nachtwacht van Rembrandt. Meer dan de helft van de bevolking weet Het Melkmeisje van Vermeer te identificeren.

Een recent onderzoek in opdracht van het Rijksmuseum werd gehouden naar aanleiding van de tentoonstelling "De Meesterwerken". Aan de hand van ruim 400 kunstwerken vertelt het museum in deze expositie het verhaal van het politieke, economische en artistieke wonder van de Gouden Eeuw.

Het kennen van belangrijke personen uit de zeventiende eeuw is sterk afhankelijk van de leeftijd. In het algemeen zijn ouderen beter op de hoogte dan jongeren. Zo kent 60 procent van de 65-plussers Het Melkmeisje, onder Nederlanders van 15 tot 24 jaar is dat 35 procent.

Zeeheld Michiel de Ruyter wordt het meeste genoemd als een belangrijk persoon uit de Gouden Eeuw, gevolgd door de dichter/schrijver Joost van den Vondel en Johan de Witt. De raadspensionaris is bekend bij 90 procent van de 65-plussers. Bij jongeren tot 24 jaar is De Witt bij 47 procent bekend.

Eenderde van de Nederlandse bevolking weet dat de 80-jarige oorlog eindigde in de zeventiende eeuw (1648). Ruim driekwart weet wel dat de Spanjaarden toen de tegenstander waren. Ook hier geldt dat jongeren tot 24 jaar er het meest naast zitten en andere landen noemen.



De Ruyter in een schilderij van Ferdinand Bol

BEATRIX VIERT KONINGINNEDAG IN PROVINCIE GRONINGEN

Koningin Beatrix en de koninklijke familie vieren Koninginnedag in Warffum en in de stad Groningen. Het is de tweede keer dat de koningin haar verjaardag viert in de provincie. In 1990 was ze in Haren en Loppersum.

Burgemeester Jacques Wallage van Groningen wil zijn gemeente tijdens een 'modern feest' profileren als een moderne, sfeervolle stad. Over de precieze invulling van het programma is nog niets bekend.

De koningin wilde zelf graag naar de stad en naar een plattelandsgemeente. Warffum is een historische plaats met schitterende monumenten. Het dorp heeft 2400 inwoners. De vorstin bezocht Warffum een keer eerder tijdens het jaarlijkse internationale volksdansfestival.