

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2009



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AGENDA:

- 1-4 april, 32nd Annual Airborne Awards, Atlanta, GA(USA)
- 18 april WW II Display Bedum
- 5 may freedom parade Wageningen (NL) with the Screaming Ducks
- 17 may militaria fair war- and resistance museum Overloon (NL))
- 24 may Memorial Day celebration on US cemetery Margraten (NL)
- 7 juny Brothers in arms-march, Carentan Normandië

FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

Where as our newsletter 1/2009 was a little late due to the Holiday Season, this issue will be out before the second quarter is finished, again due to holidays.

This doesn't mean, however, that our board members are continually on holiday! In fact, some of our activities are necessarily put aside for a while due to lack of time.

With a new Board of Governors we expect to give the expression "many hands will make light work" a new meaning and we look to the future in a positive light.

Over the next months, Operation Torch 2009 will be promoted during the Static Line reunion in Atlanta, GA, USA.



Also, plans will be worked out in cooperation with the Airborne Committee in Eerde and the Foundation for the restoration of the Eerde windmill. You will find a preview in this issue. But, more on that in our next newsletter.

With this issue, I would like to remind our sponsors of their contribution for 2009. As of the publication date, we have not received funds from all of you. We ask you kindly to donate again in order to enable us to continue this work, which is highly appreciated.

Thank you

NEW BOARD OF GOVERNORS

During our board meeting of February 28th, a number of changes were voted on.

The board is now complete again. It also is starting to become quite an international venture in this new setting:

Chairperson:
Petra Wenstedt-Pulles

Treasurer:
Hubert Hover

Secretary:
Leoni Wenstedt

Director of US Operations:
Joseph M. Bossi CSM (Ret)

Members of the board:

Nelly and François Van Loo
(Belgium),



Nell Pulles-Van Merwijk

Tony Pulles,

Han Pulles,

Jolanda Pulles

Barry Pulles.

A warm welcome to
Nelly en François.



INFORMATION EVENING WINDMILL EERDE, THE NETHERLANDS

On Tuesday 27th January the Eerde Windmill Foundation held an "informative evening on the restoration and reconstruction of the windmill.

The windmill in Eerde (a community of 1521 citizens) has the unique position of having been a central location in the heavy fighting in September 1944 in which members of the American 101st Airborne Division (the 501st Parachute Infantry

Regiment) were involved. Ever since, the citizens of Eerde have been passionate in honoring these men (the Geronimo monument is located next to the windmill) but also in the preservation of the windmill which played such an important role during the battle.

At the end of World War II the windmill was damaged to a degree which made it necessary to decide to "top it off" in 1946.

The official starting date for the restoration and reconstruction project was 1st March 2009.

The project consist of 4 phases, of which the first and second coincide: demolition work and the construction of the surrounding buildings and base construction.

Phase 3 will center around the windmill top with rotating blades (sails).



Phase 4 are plans for the interior which includes an exhibition space, conference room and machinery room.

The plan for the exploitation of the windmill (opening in 2011) include milling, naturally, but also the possibility of instruction to millers, education and exploitation of the conference facilities.

Quite a large percentage of the funding for this restoration project has

been achieved by support from a variety of companies, local, national and European subsidies but also World War II veterans.

However, your financial support is still very welcome (Bank: Rabo Veghel-Erp account number 1633.72.667). Besides donations, physical support is needed too.

Through the Eerde Windmill Foundation you may become a volunteer in the restoration project.

www.eerdsemolen.nl



AIRBORNE MEMORIAL WALK, SUNDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER 2009

In Eerde, the 65th anniversary of our liberation will be celebrated this year with a large event, strung out over several days from the 17-20 September.

Besides the annual commemoration at the Geronimo monument, and among other things, a WWII static show will be held on the terrain next to the windmill and a commemorative jump will be executed by the Airborne Demonstration Team.

In a unique cooperation between the Eerde Windmill Foundation, the Airborne Committee Eerde and the Screaming Eagles of WWII Foundation, the decision was made to organize a memorial walk on Sunday morning 20th September 2009.

This walk will be in the spirit of the words on the Geronimo monument in Eerde:

ONTMOETING –
HERINNERING –
WAARDERING

MEETING REMEMBRANCE APPRECIATION

By highlighting events which started in this area on 17th September 1944 and putting them in modern times, we intend to emphasize the importance of KEEPING THE MEMORY ALIVE.



AIRBORNE
COMITÉ EERDE



UPDATE OPERATION TORCH 2009

The promotion for Operation Torch 2009, the trip organized by the Foundation in September, is in full swing. More than 600 contacts with the 82nd and 101st Airborne Division Association Chapters, active duty soldiers and veterans have been made since January 1st.

Three World War II veterans have given their reactions to our invitation to join us in September in the guest book on our site.

We are in touch with several "Snowbirds who are contemplating joining us in September in Kissimmee, Florida. "

On the publication of this newsletter, two participants have paid the \$ 500 down-payment for the trip: both are Vietnam veterans. Promotion will continue.

Chairperson Petra Wenstedt will, together with our American liaison, Joe Bossi, visit the Static Line reunion again at the beginning of April.

Nice reactions by V. Grimmett from Australia (flew Lancaster bombers), Robert Robson from Canada (paratrooper) and the more known Donald Burgett (101/506 A).

We are proud of these reactions.

At the same time we realise that the blessed age of these veterans causes their inhibition to be present.

On the other hand we receive reactions from people who are interested in the trip, but are forced to

choose due to the economic situation. Alas!

At the beginning of February our "promotion team", consisting of our new members of the board Nelly and François van Loo, and former participants to Operation Torch 2006 (Betty Taylor Hill and Ben Infuso), worked hard to focus attention towards the trip among participants of the Snowbird reunion of the 101st Airborne Division Association .

Joe and Petra will hold a large promotional activity there among the participants of the reunion by handing out a brochure on Operation Torch 2009, supported by a souvenir wooden shoe key ring.



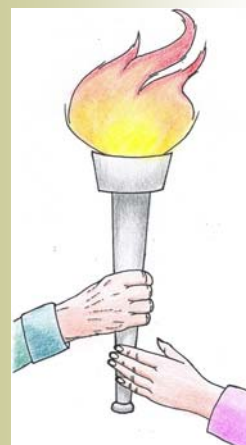
Your support for our promotional activities is much appreciated. Although we are very careful with expenses, and museums and associations are supportive by making the information on Operation Torch 2009 freely available, there are expenses left.

The 500 wooden shoe key rings, for example, cost €75,00.

We found a sponsor for this amount (THANK YOU AGAIN).

Many costs are left however. One stamp to contact a 101 or 82 Airborne Assn chapter for example, costs €0,95. Toner for the printer is expensive too (we print all our promotion brochures ourselves).

Your donation is highly appreciated.



Operation Torch
2009

IN MEMORIAM

The importance of KEEPING THE MEMORY ALIVE is emphasized every time we receive the sad news of the passing away of a member of The Greatest Generation.



Edgar Kemper JONES
(501 and 506 PIR, WWII)

Denis M. PARSONS
(327 GIR and past president of the 101st Airborne Division Association)

James S. NORRIS
(502 PIR)

Ton GIESBERS
(secretary Dutch Airborne Friends)

**EXTENSION
SPONSOR**

In order to give people outside The Netherlands the opportunity to express their support for our Foundation, we have extended our sponsorship programme.

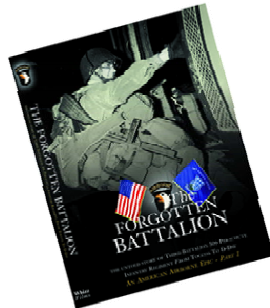
It is now possible to become a sponsor through our website

www.screamingeagles.nl

In exchange for a minimum of \$ 15,00 per year, sponsors outside The Netherlands will receive our newsletter too, English version!

**THE FORGOTTEN BATTALION,
THE UNTOLD STORY**

This new DVD will be released in the spring of 2009.



Told from over seventy hours of interviews from the few remaining 3rd Battalion, 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment, from their formation at Camp Toccoa, Georgia, through to the end of the Normandy campaign.

It took over 3 years of research to check the historical background of the stories and to assemble the input from many veterans. The result is a complete story on "the forgotten battalion".

This story is also available as a book. The title of this book is "Today we die as men" and is written by Ian Cardner and Roger Day.



www.theforgottenbataillon.com
www.ospreypublishing.com

**WO II DISPLAY
BEDUM**

The Western and Northern parts of the Netherlands were liberated in the course of 1945, after a terrible harsh winter which the Dutch call "Hunger Winter".

Saturday April 18th, in commemoration of the liberation of BEDUM (a small town in the most Northern part of The Netherlands) on April 17th, 1945, a large static show with WWII vehicles and re-enactors will take place. The day is organised by re-enactment association 40-45 in cooperation with the local Orange association. Everyone is welcome!!! The event starts at 14.00 hours.

Screaming Eagles of WWII Foundation:

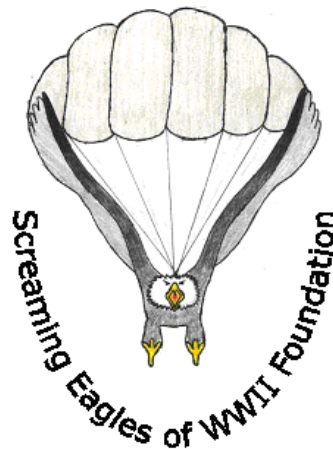
Chairman: Petra Wenstedt -Pulles
Secretary: Leoni Wenstedt

Treasurer Huub Hover
Director of US Operations Joe Bossi

Visit us on the web:
www.screamingeagles.nl

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**DONATIONS**

The Screaming Eagles of WWII Foundation is a non-profit organisation. This means, that we don't charge for information and research. Our series of booklets are sold at cost price. All activities of the Foundation are sponsored by groups of individuals who have the same goal as the Foundation.

For the small amount of \$15,00 a year, you receive our newsletter 4 times a year with information about our activities.

You also receive a discount of 10% on every purchase from the Foundation.

Deadline next newsletter : Month Year