

NEWSLETTER

JULY 2009



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FOR YOUR AGENDA:

- **8-22 September**
Operation Torch 2009
- **12-20 September**
Exhibition in hotel
restaurant La Sonnerie
in Son
"Remember September"
- **17-20 September**
Dropzone A, Eerde
- **3 en 4 oktober**
WWII event in Heteren

FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

The past three months seemed a whirlwind! Many activities for the Foundation, but for me personally busy, emotional and exciting.

What an honor to be inducted as Honorary Member of the 506th Infantry Regiment.

To be the first and only foreigner to join the ranks of Colonel Sink, Major Dick Winters and my sweet friend "Wild" Bill Guarnere. It makes you speechless and when you are on your way to the States in order to accept the invitation you realise during the peace and quiet of the trip that somewhere, someone noticed our activities and the honor is not only yours personally, but it is bestowed on all who make a selfless effort to support the same goal: LEST WE FORGET!

Yet more happened: an unbroken effort of promotional activities for Operation Torch 2009. We are in the finalising stage for it.

A representation of the Foundation was present once again during the Memorial Day ceremony on the American cemetery in The Netherlands, Margraten. Our honorary member and co-founder, Nell Pulles, was curious as to the realisation of the 400 years Holland-America flower exhibition. Besides all this, the Airborne Memorial Walk and the continuous financial support of our activities had our attention.

With that, I would like to thank our sponsor once again who made it possible for me to travel to the States after I had just returned from the Static Line reunion, in order for me to be present at the CURRAHEE Rendez Vous and accept the Honorary Membership personally. "Thank you, and "big hug"!

Enjoy the summer and your vacation.

Petra Wenstedt-Pulles

STATIC LINE 2009

From 1-4 April the 32st annual Airborne Awards were held by the Static Line Magazine in Atlanta, Georgia.

Joseph M. Bossi (our US Director of Operations) and chairperson Petra Wenstedt-Pulles attended in order to promote OPERATION TORCH 2009 among the participants.

Hundreds of keyrings with a wooden shoe were distributed to attract attention and many questions about the trip were answered.

Even though this was the first year that initiator and organiser of the Static Line Airborne

Awards Festival, Mr Don Lassen, was not present, the event was attended by over 400 "troopers" who all agreed that this event, which draws participants from different Airborne units, should not bleed to death in the future.

OPERATION TORCH 2009

After all promotional efforts of the past 5 months, we conclude that the economic recession is the cause of 11 people having completed payments for the trip in September. 5 late registrations are on their way to us at the time of this newsletter going to the press, totalling 16 participants of which two are WWII veterans.

However, we are keeping into account a representation of the 101st Airborne Division to join the trip which will lift the total to approximately 23. This means that we will have approximately five empty seats which we will make available, against cost price to interested parties. You are now invited to join us on our one week trip to Normandy and Bastogne (6 nights).

The price per person is € 750,= incl. hotel, transport, meals and museum entries. You will find the programme on page 4.

Interested?
Call Petra (chairperson) or Leoni (secretary) by using +31-40-2122856 or send an email message p.wenstedt@chello.nl

KEUKENHOF 2009

Our Honorary Member and co-founder, Nell Pulles, visited the "Keukenhof" flower exhibition close to Amsterdam in April in order to witness the realisation of the theme "America" in flowers.

It is common knowledge that the ties between The Netherlands and the United States are very old. This year there was special attention for the fact that Henry Hudson, by order of the Dutch East India Company, claimed contemporary Manhattan in 1609.

Hudson named it New Amsterdam. Many names in New York nowadays remind us of Dutch heritage: Harlem (Haarlem - city), Flushing (Vlissingen - city), and Yankee (Jan Kees - common Dutch names).

Less well known is the fact, that The Netherlands is one of the few countries which, unbroken by wars or political boycotts, has been a United States ally from it's foundation in 1776. A fact which is held in high esteem by the American government.

This alliance is found, among other examples, in the joined fight in Afghanistan where a war is fought for a world in which freedom and human rights are defended.



Statue of Liberty before blossoming.

The 506th Infantry Regiment of the 101st Airborne Division has returned home from Afghanistan a few months ago where, in splendid co-operation, they worked side by side with our own Dutch young men and women.

This great co-operation is caused, almost naturally, by sharing the same values through the ages: freedom and tolerance.

Nell, by the way, enjoyed the flower exhibitions of the Statue of Liberty and the yellow cab which dominates the streets of New York.



Statue of Liberty in blossoming



MARGRATEN 2009

Since our chairman was unexpectedly unable to attend this year, our Honorary Member Nell Pulles travelled to Margraten on May 25th with Leoni Wenstedt en Barry Pulles to attend the Memorial Day ceremony.

Many dignitaries, veterans, American family members and Dutch people who have adopted graves at the US cemetery were present. The beautiful weather added to the scene.

An American and a Dutch flag is placed in front of all grave

As is the case every year, many flowers and arrangements are placed on individual graves and at the Tablets of the Missing. The flowers are placed by Dutch people who have adopted graves but also by the cemetery on request by American family members. Nowadays it's also possible to adopt a name on the Tablets of the Missing.



As usual, the ceremony was very well attended.



Memorial Day 2009 at US cemetery Margraten, The Netherlands was officially closed by an Honorary salute by five F-16 jets who flew by in the 'Missing Man-formation'.



HONORARY MEMBERSHIP 506 INF RGT

Chairperson Petra Wenstedt-Pulles received a surprise phone call in the last week of May from Fort Campbell, Kentucky – home of the Screaming Eagles. An invitation was made to attend a three day event in which the 506th Infantry Regiment (the Currahees) would officially welcome their soldiers home after their mission in Afghanistan. On the second day of the event, the regiment would induct their new Distinguished and Honorary Members, among whom Petra.

With full support from her employer, Petra could accept the invitation.

After a day of meeting veterans, active duty soldiers and Colonel John “Pete” Johnson of the 506th, the induction ceremony took place on Friday May 29th where our member of the board of governors, Joseph Bossi, accompanied her.

Petra was given the opportunity to hold a speech in which she emphasized the special friendship bond between the American and Dutch people.

Moreover, she accepted the extraordinary honor bestowed on her in the name of her father, Piet Pulles, her fellow members of the board and all people on the European side off the ocean who spend their time, money and energy in reaching our goals:

Keeping the memory alive – and – Remembering the sacrifice



Colonel Johnson was presented with a few Eindhoven souvenirs and two framed photographs which express our goals: one taken on the American cemetery in Colleville, Normandy and one taken on September 19th 1944 of a celebrating group of Eindhoven citizens with a 506 soldier.



The event was concluded with a grand ball in Nashville where approximately 3000 soldiers were present with their partners. Awesome!



The 506 soldiers, during their mission in Afghanistan, designed a new regimental flag.

They used red, white and blue which are the original regimental colors from World War II. They are also the present code colors for the different battalions. Naturally, the colors also symbolise the American flag and, by coincidence, the colors are used like they are in the Dutch flag.

In the middle we see the Paradise logo (Five-O-Sink) and to the side the Currahee sign with mountain Currahee in it. Used as the background for the Paradise logo, we see one of the four colors of a deck of cards, spades. A spade was the code symbol for the 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment in World War II.

AIRBORNE MEMORIAL WALK 20 SEPTEMBER 2009

As announced in our last newsletter, the Airborne Committee Eerde, together with the Eerde Windmill Foundation, Living History Group Holland and our Foundation are organising a large event around the 65th anniversary of our liberation from 17 – 20 September.

The Airborne Memorial Walk will take place on Sunday 20th September.

Participants will have a choice of two routes: 7,5 and 15 km. The routes will take you along different historically significant locations in and around Eerde in order to show the battle in which the 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment fought.

In the afternoon, parachute jumps will take place by the Airborne Demonstration Team.

You can make a nice day out of it. All we ask of you is to take a little sunshine along!

Registration for the walk will open on the 15th of July via the website www.airbornememorialwalk.nl or, for those who do not enjoy internet, by telephone using +31-40-2122856.

Want to know more about the four day event? Visit www.airborne-eerde.nl

DRIPZONE-A EERDE

17-20 september 2009 te Eerde/Veghel

entree € 1,- / t/m 12 jaar gratis - info: www.airborne-eerde.nl

1944-2009
ONTMOETING-HERINNERING-WAARDERING

BEZOEK EEN LEVENDE MUSEUM

- origineel kampement
- parachute springen
- kranstegging
- W02 feestavond
- militaire voertuigen
- schijngevechten
- school dagen
- ontvangst veteranen
- battle field tour
- W02 displays etc. etc.
- geschiedkundig foto archief

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!

OPERATION TORCH 2009

8 /9	Tuesday	Arrival Brussels – BRU (between 7.00-10.00 AM) Travel to Normandy Hotel St Mère Eglise area (arrive 8 PM)
9/9	Wednesday	Normandy 9 AM - 5 PM Colleville US cemetery Museum St M Mère Eglise
10/9	Thursday	Normandy 9 AM – 5 PM
11/9	Friday	Departure Normandy 8.30 AM Travel to Bastogne where Henri Mignon and Reg Jans will guide us around for two days. Arrive 6 PM
12/9	Saturday	Bastogne visit 101 area 9 AM -5 PM
13/9	Sunday	Bastogne visit 82 area 9 AM -5 PM
14/9	Monday	9 AM Departure to museum Malmedy 1 PM departure to Margraten, The Netherlands Arrival hotel Eindhoven area 5 PM
15/9	Tuesday	9 AM departure Arnhem Henk Duinoven will be our guide for the day. 6 PM departure to hotel Eindhoven area
16/9	Wednesday	The Island Between 10 AM and 7 PM we are the guests of the Screaming Ducks
17/9	Thursday	9 AM departure Eerde/Veghel/Heeswijk-Dinther Early dinner, commemoration Eerde The Airborne Committee Eerde and the Eerde Windmill Foundation have plans for us today, the 19th and the 20th. 9 PM departure to hotel Eindhoven area
18/9	Friday	The day is reserved for activities in Eindhoven Early dinner because of Torch Parade starting at 6 PM. 11 PM departure to hotel Eindhoven area
19/9	Saturday	10 AM departure Nijmegen area 6 PM Barbecue and WWII party Eerde 11 PM departure to hotel Eindhoven area
20/9	Sunday	8.00 AM Eerde – Memorial Walk Encampment / Memorial Jump 8 PM departure to hotel Eindhoven area
21/9	Monday	10 AM Best/Son/St Oedenrode Harrie and Christian Dijkhuizen will be our tour guides. At the end of the day dinner and departure to hotel Brussels airport area
22/9	Tuesday	Departure Shuttle bus to airport

Screaming Eagles of WWII Foundation:

Chairman: Petra Wenstedt –Pulles
Secretary: Leoni Wenstedt

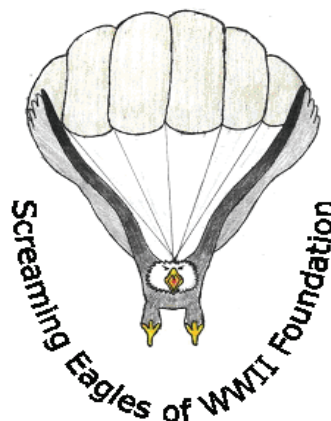
Treasurer Huub Hover
Director of US Operations Joe Bossi

Visit us on the web:

www.screamingeagles.nl

SCREAMING EAGLES OF WWII FOUNDATION

Jan van Eyckgracht 197
5645 TH Eindhoven
The Netherlands
Telefoon: +31 40 2122856
E-mail: p.wenstedt@chello.nl
Bank ING : 9102838
KvK: 17135177



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 : September 2009