



December 2021

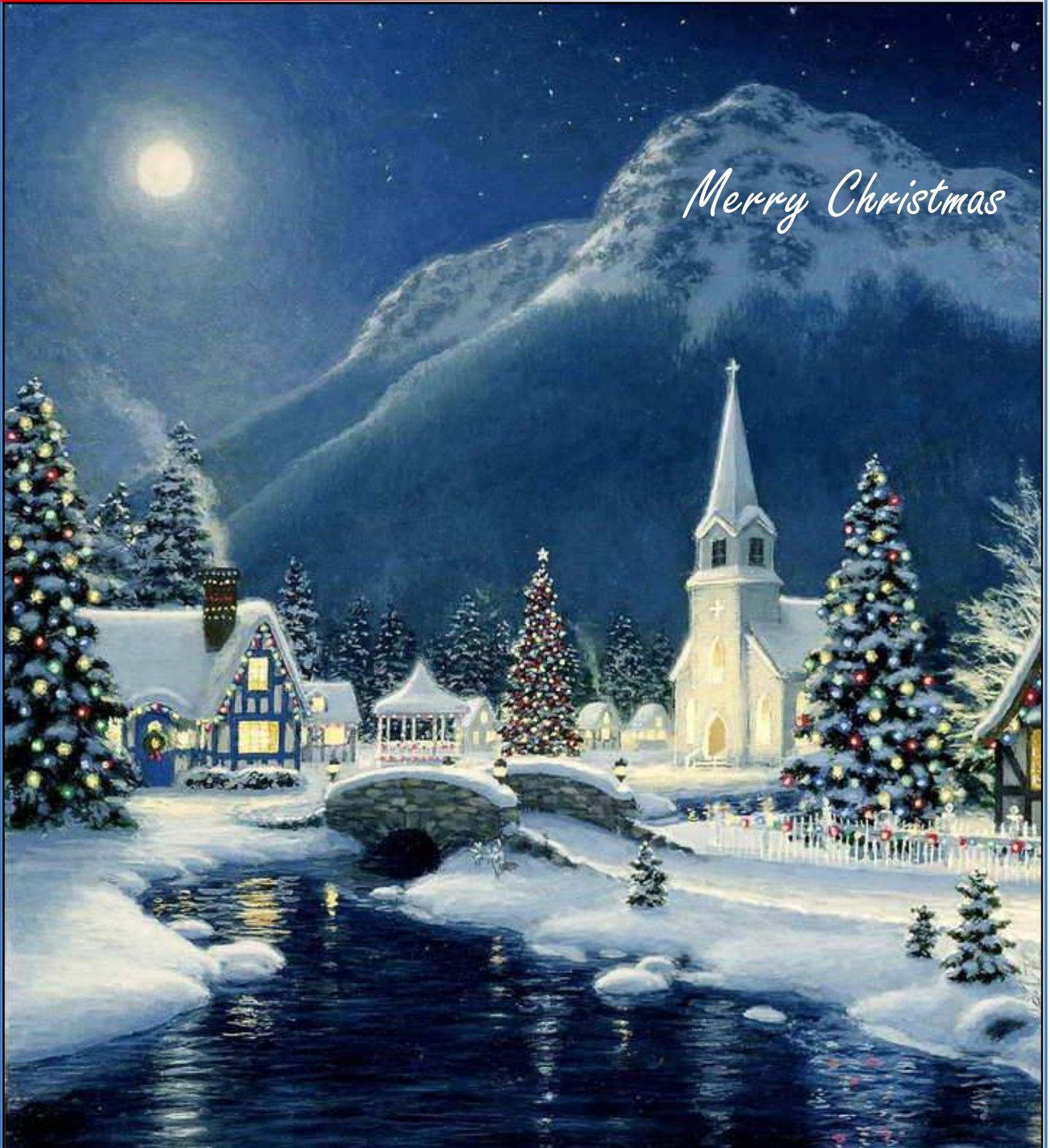
# *Dutch Touch*

**Dutch Canadian Club (Edmonton)**

13312 142 Street NW, Edmonton, AB T5L4T3

Phone: 780-452-2861 —email: [dutchtouchedmonton@gmail.com](mailto:dutchtouchedmonton@gmail.com)

*Merry Christmas*



## EDITORIAL

by Jenny Smits  
780-975-7426 - [dutchtouchedmonton@gmail.com](mailto:dutchtouchedmonton@gmail.com)



Winter has arrived in Canada so we are in for the cold months. But it is still warm at the Dutch Canadian Centre, the coffee is always hot (and free) and we can still get together, unlike last year. So come out and spend some time socializing with your fellow members. Thursdays are senior socials, Friday nights the club is open for all members and guests as well and we are starting the Saturday afternoon socials again in January for all members and guests.

In October Aris and I visited family in the Netherlands. We had good weather and were able to connect with everyone. But COVID numbers started rising and at the moment the situation over there is pretty bad again. Not just COVID cases but also demonstrations against vaccinations and restrictions. Coming back to Canada we needed a negative COVID test and the lines at the airport were very long and took a lot of time. We are fortunate that it is going so much better in Alberta for the moment.

We are looking forward to celebrating Christmas with our family again this year. Our tradition is having a Christmas dinner on Christmas Eve, followed by gift opening. We draw names and we have to write a poem for the person we picked as well as a poem for our significant other to go with the gift. A little like Sinterklaas and Christmas combined.



Aris and I wish all of you a wonderful Christmas and we hope your  
New Year will be happy and healthy.

*Jenny*

Welcome to our new members!

Our membership dues are per calendar year (January-December) at the following rates:  
Family: \$70.00, Senior Family \$60.00, Single \$35.00, Senior Single \$30.00, Student \$25.00

Please mail your membership application or renewal with your **name, address, phone number and email address** to:

**Dutch Canadian Club  
13312—142 Street NW  
Edmonton, AB T5L4T3**

Or remit via e-transfer or interac transfer to [dccedm@gmail.com](mailto:dccedm@gmail.com)

### BOARD MEMBERS

Frank Stolk	President—780-464-4879— <a href="mailto:stolkfm@telus.net">stolkfm@telus.net</a>
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Jenny Smits	Treasurer 780-473-0905— <a href="mailto:jsmits45@gmail.com">jsmits45@gmail.com</a>
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1 full page \$ 80.00  
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1/4 page \$20.00  
1/8 page \$10.00  
(GST to be added)

## ***From the desk of Frank Stolk***

Dear membership



Yes, our tumultuous year of 2021 is coming to an end. We all had such high hopes that after 2020 we could freely move and travel like we used to, but as promising as it looked, it was not to be. The Covid with all its mutations kept us from what we would love to do: travel and going wherever our hearts desired were not going to happen. Most of us did what we could, to protect ourselves and others from the virus with double vaccinations and booster shots. Keeping the doors open for the members was the only thing we were able to do to break the monotonous cycle of isolation.

We are living in trying times. With uprisings all over the world against lockdowns and anti vaccinations it seems like the world has gone mad. My hope for 2022 is for those, who for whatever reason do not want to be vaccinated, to see the light and join us who are protected so we can all look at a brighter and better future.

My wish for 2022 for all of you is to be healthy and happy and enjoy all the good things we have going for us. Let's give it our best shot to stay positive and live by the words of the wise beyond her years Anne Frank "Whoever is happy will make others happy".

From my family to yours a Very Merry Christmas and a safe and healthy new year

*Frank*

## **The DCC Board and membership welcomes Nels Anderson as their newest board member.**

Nels was born in Edmonton and grew up on a farm near Calmar. After graduating from the University of Alberta, he worked for several science-based organizations, most recently on process engineering research in oil sands and heavy oil.

After retiring in 2003, Nels volunteered for a number of non-profit clubs and was on the Executive of the Edmonton Antique Car Club and the Northern Alberta Pioneers and Descendants Club.

Current interests also include astronomy, bridge (the card game), and of course travel with wife Hilde. We enjoy a blended family of six children and six grandchildren.

One objective for 2022 is to learn the game of "klaverjas".



# WINDMILLS CHRISTMAS DINNER

December 16, 2021



Our annual Christmas dinner is back this year. We invite you to join us on the afternoon of December 16 for dinner and entertainment by Sugar Time. We had to cancel it last year due to COVID restrictions so we are looking forward to get together at this festive occasion.

If you plan to attend please add your name to the sign-up list or call/text Rinske at 587-879-3632, or send an email to [rterheide@shaw.ca](mailto:rterheide@shaw.ca) by our December 8 deadline. See you there.

## Stitch 'N Rip Knitting Club

By Edith Van Leeuwen

Our knitting group wishes all of you a Merry Christmas with family and friends. Take care of each other.

We also wish you a Happy New Year, let's hope this will be a better year.



Our ladies are still going strong with our knitting projects. Any donations of unused yarn would be greatly appreciated.



## Sewing & Craft Circle

By Jenny Smits

Going into December we only have a few sewing Tuesdays left before our Christmas break. We want to thank the Klaverjas Club for always including us when they serve their desserts. It is very much appreciated. We will start sewing and crafting again on January 11, 2022.



From all of us and our families we wish all of you and your families a wonderful Christmas season and our very best wishes for a happy and healthy 2022.

## ZUMBA

By Renie Perreault

I don't always exercise but when I do, I'll do it tomorrow.



And just because it's the Christmas season:  
"I know when you've been running.  
I know when you lift weights.  
I know if your form is bad or good  
And how many scoops in your protein shake"



## Card Makers

By Ria Bok - 780-472-2725

We received some sad news. Linda's husband Eric passed away and we are sending her our love and condolences.



Our Christmas party will be on the 11th of December which will be our last get together for this year. We hope all of you have a better year than we've had this year. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a healthy new year and my wish is that we get this Covid under control.

We send you love and good wishes from Ria and the card makers.

## Klaverjas Club

By Pieter Van Leeuwen - 780-459-5367 - phvanl@hotmail.com

On Tuesday the 14th of December the Klaverjas Club will have their annual Christmas luncheon, starting at 11:45 AM. After the lunch we will play 2 games of Klaverjas before we go on our Christmas break. We hope to see everyone back again on January 11, 2022. New players are encouraged to join us. We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



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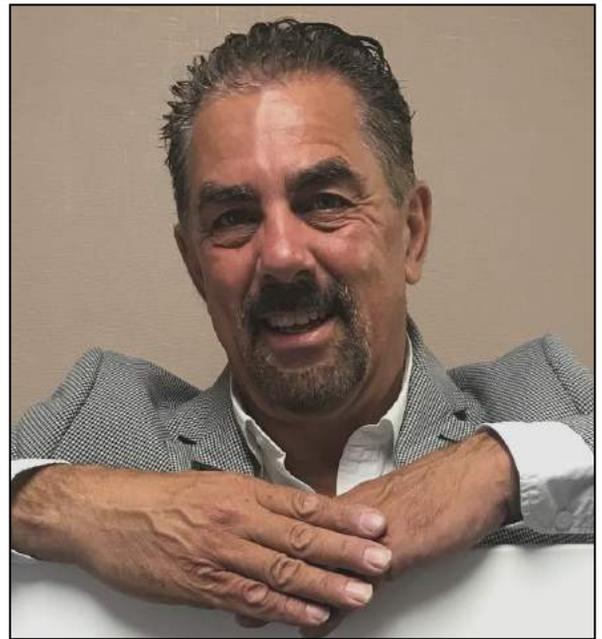
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## **WITTE ANNE**

*By John Stobbe*

The Anne Frank Public School in Vaughan, ON (the only school in Canada named after Anne Frank) was hosting the plaster cast of Anne Frank called "Witte Anne" for educational purposes for a limited time. Their principal, Aneta Fishman, sent the following note:



Dear John,  
Witte Anne Frank has given our school such an inspiration for Project Hope and we are so grateful for you connecting with us last summer.

It's been an honour hosting Witte Anne at our school. She's been integral to our school's vision during the COVID pandemic and truly symbolized hope for our students and staff. It's been such a gift to be able to have her here with us and we are so grateful to you for the opportunity. We are able to send her back to you in early December before us going into winter break.

*"Think of all the beauty still left around you and be happy." - Anne Frank*

# Annual General Meeting November 11, 2021

Followed by a delicious Hutspot Dinner

*Photos by Rinske TerHeide*



## This and that to the Windmills

After a nice long autumn, winter arrived with a vengeance mid November. We got quite a rude awakening with the first snow storm of the season, but if we look at the terrible flood disasters in BC we can't complain too much. Some of our members have families there and we hope they are all okay.



While most people here dread the cold and snow, there are a few people who actually look forward to winter. The ski hills are open and some people have already enjoyed skating on natural ice on the lakes here around Edmonton. Early in November when the ice is just a few centimetres thick, one of our members, Willem Langenberg, can be seen skating on Big Lake west of St Albert. He is the instigator who gets some other speed skating enthusiasts to join him, while in the open water in the middle of the lake, hundreds of Tundra and Trumpeter swans have gathered getting ready to take off for their journey south. The skaters venture out staying close to shore, equipped with a rope with ice picks around their neck, just in case they fall through the ice and need to pull themselves out. This year only one person fell through the ice and was able to rescue himself using this technique. On November 13 the lake was all frozen over and the ice thick enough to have an event they like to label as the alternative Elfsteden tocht. In spite of a strong breeze, twenty people, including two people from Friesland, The Netherlands, came out to enjoy skating on the clear smooth ice surface. As it happened, just a day before it started snowing. While there are plenty of other skating opportunities in the city, skating on clear lake ice will have to wait another year.



On November 16 Canada's National soccer team played their second world cup qualifying game in Edmonton right after 20cm of snow got dumped on the city with 70 km wind gusts. They held their pre game practice at the Scottish soccer dome where they even had a surprise visit from Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. That evening, under brutal conditions, Canada managed to pull off a 2-1 win against Mexico in front of 44,000 enthusiastic, bundled up fans. Their first game on November 12, was played under pretty decent weather conditions with a 1-0 win by Canada over Costa Rica with 48000 fans in attendance.

Meanwhile the Netherlands national soccer team tied their game against Montenegro 2-2 and won 2-0 against Norway, securing a spot at the world cup in Qatar in 2022. The game against Norway was played in Rotterdam without spectators since the Dutch government imposed new restrictions with the rise in Covid-19 cases. Louis Van Gaal, the team's head coach, had to watch the game from a wheel chair. The 70 year old coach was injured in a freak accident when he fell off his bike.

At the club we commemorated Remembrance Day on November 11 where a few people gathered at the cenotaph by the windmill for a short informal ceremony at 11 AM. Aris Smits gave a nice speech, talking about the sacrifices of war and shared some of his own personal experiences when he served in the Netherlands Marine Corps. With his wife Jenny they laid a wreath together and the other people in attendance placed their poppies at the cenotaph. At the same time a few of our members joined the military at Light Horse Park in Strathcona to attend the Remembrance ceremonies there.

Afterwards at 1:00 PM we gathered in the big hall at the club where 54 members joined us for our Annual General Meeting. The meeting, which is usually just a formality, went well and it looked like the people in attendance enjoyed the fellowship and the (Hollandse Hutspot) meal we served afterwards.

Quite a few people have already responded and reserved a spot for our Windmills Christmas dinner to be held on December 16. All club members are invited, but if you want to join us please let us know before

December 8. You can add your name on the sign up sheet at the club or let any board member know you want to attend or call/ text Rinske at 587-879-3632, or send an Email to rterheide@shaw.ca

On Thursday December 2<sup>nd</sup> the Windmills will be on their best behaviour when we expect a visit from Sinterklaas and his helpers between 2 and 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Although December 6 is St. Nicholas Day, most people in the Netherlands celebrate this event the evening before on December 5, exchanging gifts (pakjes avond) since December 6th is not an official holiday and just a regular work day. After this day the Christmas season gets started over there, while here in Canada we are already well into Christmas with the stores having merchandise and displays up since early November.

This season we all have a new appreciation for what we have, especially since last year, due to Covid-19, we couldn't have any gatherings or get together with family over Christmas and new Years. The effects of the corona virus are still with us however. We received word from Concordia University that they have decided to cancel their January Intercultural Days, to which we were invited, due to the uncertainty around the virus. We also see reports from Europe where the governments of several countries have implemented more restrictions and shut downs with the rise in cases over there.

Some of our members have been brave enough already to travel to several different destinations with the easing of travel restrictions. Judy Boekholt went on a trip to the Maritimes this fall. We're glad Jenny and Aris Smits have returned safely from their trip to the Netherlands. Wilma and Gerry Thys are off to Mexico and Pauline Commandeur and Leen Plugge are enjoying the sunshine in Arizona and will spend Christmas and New Years there.

Take care and safe travels to anyone planning a trip this season. Wishing you and yours a wonderful Christmas in whatever way you choose to spend it and all the best for a happy, healthy New Year.

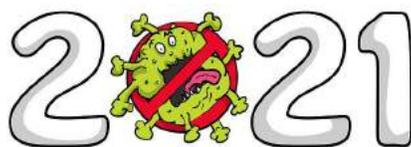
Prettige Kerstdagen en Gelukkig Nieuw Jaar

*Rinske*



## CASINO 2022

The DCC Casino dates are: January 7 & 8, 2022 (Friday and Saturday) at Century Casino (13103 Fort Rd NW, Edmonton AB). Volunteers can sign up on the clubroom list or contact Cor Vriens at 780-478-1450. We need bankers, count room workers and chip runners. There are still a few openings but most positions have been filled. Thank you Volunteers!



2020 - YIKES

2021 - Little better

2022 - Here's hoping for a better New Year



## HISTORY OF ST. NICHOLAS *(from Wikipedia)*



Saint Nicholas of Myra (traditionally 15 March 270 – 6 December 343), also known as Nicholas of Bari, was an early Christian bishop of Greek descent from the maritime city of Myra in Asia Minor (Greek: Μύρα; modern-day Demre, Turkey) during the time of the Roman Empire. Because of many miracles attributed to his intercession, he is also known as Nicholas the Wonderworker. Saint Nicholas is the patron saint of sailors, merchants, archers, repentant thieves, prostitutes, children, brewers, pawnbrokers, unmarried people, and students in various cities and countries around Europe. His reputation evolved among the pious, as was common for early Christian saints, and his legendary habit of secret gift-giving gave rise to the traditional model of Santa Claus ("Saint Nick") through Sinterklaas.

Very little is known about the historical Saint Nicholas. The earliest accounts of his life were written centuries after his death and contain many legendary elaborations. He is said to have been born in the Greek seaport of Patara, Lycia in Asia Minor to wealthy Christian parents. In one of the earliest attested and most famous incidents from his life, he is said to have rescued three girls from being forced into prostitution by dropping a sack of gold coins through the window of their house each night for three nights so their father could pay a dowry for each of them. Other early stories tell of him calming a storm at sea, saving three innocent soldiers from wrongful execution, and chopping down a tree possessed by a demon. In his youth, he is said to have made a pilgrimage to Egypt and Palestine. Shortly after his return, he became Bishop of Myra. He was later thrown into prison during the persecution of Diocletian, but was released after the accession of Constantine. Another famous late legend tells how he resurrected three children, who had been murdered and pickled in brine by a butcher planning to sell them as pork during a famine.

Nicholas had a reputation for secret gift-giving, such as putting coins in the shoes of those who left them out for him, a practice celebrated on his feast day, 6 December. Also known as Sinterklaas, Saint Nicholas is dear to the hearts of Dutch children. He can be recognized by his eye-catching red cape with red miter and his long white beard. The saintly man arrives each year in mid-November on a steam boat filled with gifts and together with his helpers, all referred to as 'Piet' (Peter). For children, this means they can put their shoe next to the chimney or back door. At night, Sinterklaas rides across the rooftops on his white horse and places little treats or gifts in the children's shoes, assisted by his helpers. Traditional sweets are gingerbread men, spiced biscuits, marzipan and chocolate letters. There has been a lot of discussion about the appearance of the traditional 'Piet' in the past few years. These days, there are more and more brightly colored, rainbow, soot and chimney 'pieten'. Some even wear no stage make-up at all.

Santa Claus evolved from Dutch traditions regarding Saint Nicholas (Sinterklaas). When the Dutch established the colony of New Amsterdam, they brought the legend and traditions of Sinterklaas with them.



A few more milestone birthdays were celebrated:

Lucie Strangman turned 80



Pieter Van Leeuwen also turned 80



And Nels Anderson: also 80



And Simon Postma celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday

Happy birthday to you all  
And everyone else who celebrated a birthday

We congratulate everyone who has celebrated a birthday or an anniversary. If you would like to share these or other special events with our members please email me at: [dutchtouchedmonton@gmail.com](mailto:dutchtouchedmonton@gmail.com) or phone 780-975-7426 and I will include it on our member's page.

*Jenny*

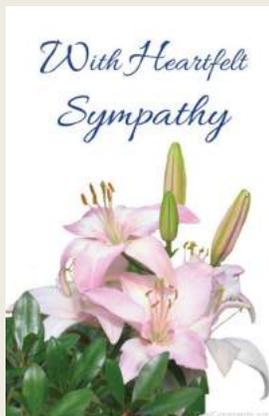
## Members Page

### Condolences

Our condolences to Ron and JoAnn Van Amsterdam on the passing of Ron's dad

**Cor Van Amsterdam**  
at the age of 95 years

Cor was instrumental in bringing the first street organ The Cello to Edmonton for Canada's centennial in 1967.



### Welcome to our new members!

Our membership renewals are due for 2022 on January 1.

Our membership rates are:  
Family: \$70.00,  
Senior Family \$60.00,  
Single \$35.00,  
Senior Single \$30.00,  
Student \$25.00

Please mail your membership application or renewal with your **name, address, phone number and email address** to:

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Or remit via e-transfer or interac transfer to [dccedm@gmail.com](mailto:dccedm@gmail.com)

Thank You !

## REMEMBRANCE DAY AT LIGHTHORSE PARK - November 11, 2021



Photos by John Stobbe

## REMEMBRANCE DAY AT THE DCC



A very small gathering commemorated Remembrance Day at the Dutch Canadian Centre. After 2 minutes of silence Aris Smits spoke about the hardships during a war and how traumatized survivors can be because going through a war is life changing. We shall never forget the liberators who gave their lives as well as those who survived, for their sacrifices.

We laid a wreath at the cenotaph and everyone placed their poppies on the cenotaph as well.



Photos by Rinske TerHeide and Jenny Smits



Sunday morning November 7 at 8:00 AM.

A few members of the Dutch Canadian club joined members of the Southern Light horse regiment at the James Curry Jefferson Armoury in Edmonton for the ringing of the Welberg bell. The bell is rung simultaneously with the bell located in Welberg in the province of North Brabant. This ceremony happens every year on the first Sunday in November to commemorate the liberation of the area on November 4, 1944.

## OLIEBOLLEN

(makes 1 dozen)

### Ingredients:

- 2 tbsp active dry yeast
- 1 cup lukewarm milk
- 2¼ cups all-purpose flour
- 2 tsp salt
- 1 egg
- ¾ cup dried currants
- ¾ cup raisins
- 1 Granny Smith apple - peeled, cored and finely chopped
- 1 quart vegetable oil for deep frying
- 1 cup icing sugar for dusting



### Step 1:

Stir the yeast into the warm milk. Let stand for a few minutes to dissolve. Sift the flour and salt into a large bowl, Stir the yeast mixture and egg into the flour and mix into a smooth batter. Stir in the currants, raisins and apple. Cover the bowl and leave the batter in a warm place to rise until double in size (this will take about one hour).

### Step 2:

Heat the oil in the deep fryer to 375°F. Use two metal spoons to shape scoops of dough into balls and drop them carefully into the hot oil. Fry until golden brown, about 8 minutes. They should be soft and not greasy. Drain finished oliebollen on paper towels. Serve, dusted with icing sugar.

Eat them hot if possible.

## NEDERLANDSE HITSTOP-10

Source: 100% NL

As at November 13, 2021

- |                                 |                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Amsterdam                    | Flemming         |
| 2. Hold On                      | Armin van Buuren |
| 3. Hard To Say Goodbye          | Rondé            |
| 4. Voor Je Van Me Houdt         | Jaap Reesema     |
| 5. Dromen in Kleur              | Suzan & Freek    |
| 6. Overbodig                    | Tabitha          |
| 7. Onderweg Naar Later          | Suzan & Freek    |
| 8. Geef Je Hart Niet Zomaar Weg | Racoon           |
| 9. Ze Meent Het                 | Metejoor         |
| 10. Niks Is Heilig              | Maan             |





## HALL RENTALS

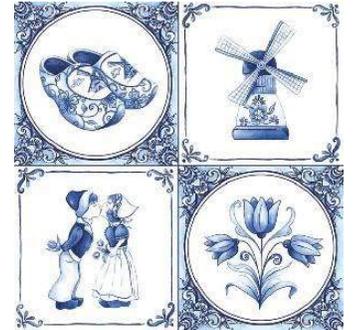
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Dances, Business Meetings etc.

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## Dutch Touch articles

We would love to  
hear from our  
members if you  
have stories to  
share or items of  
interest to the  
Dutch community.



It could be travel, memories from  
the Netherlands, recipes, pictures  
etc.

Please send your submissions to:  
dutchtouchedmonton@gmail.com



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**Celebrating 67 years!**

## Bluenose, the sailboat on the dime, celebrates its centennial

Bluenose was a fishing and racing gaff rig schooner built in 1921 in Nova Scotia, Canada. A celebrated racing ship and fishing vessel, Bluenose under the command of Angus Walters, became a provincial icon for Nova Scotia and an important Canadian symbol in the 1930s, serving as a working vessel until she was wrecked in 1946.

Nicknamed the "Queen of the North Atlantic", she was later commemorated by a replica, Bluenose II, built in

1963. The name Bluenose originated as a nickname for Nova Scotians from as early as the late 18th century.



Blue Nose was designed by William James Roué, a Nova Scotia native. For almost 20 years, Bluenose was the fastest racing ship in the world.

In the 1930s, Bluenose became an icon for Nova Scotia, reaching peak fame when it was added to the Canadian dime in 1937. It's also currently pictured on the Nova Scotia license plate.

Bluenose set out on its first fishing trip on April 15, 1921. It set sail for up to four weeks at a time until the crew filled up the boat's holding capacity.



*Captain Angus Walters with the International Fishermen's Trophy on the deck of the Bluenose, 1921.*

Angus Walters was Bluenose's part-owner and captain for most of her career. After the fishing season, Walters took her out to their International Fisherman's Cup. The Cup was awarded to the fastest fishing schooner that worked in the deep sea fishing industry in the North Atlantic.

First, Bluenose had to win in the Canadian elimination race to determine who would represent the country. Bluenose won no problem. She represented Canada and defeated the American challenger, Elsie, taking home the International Fishermen's Trophy.

The next year Bluenose took home the Trophy again, this time beating the American challenger Henry S. Ford, which was designed to beat the iconic Canadian schooner.

In 1923, Americans built the Columbia to face Bluenose. That year, there were new rules instated. The Bluenose broke the rules, but Walters contested the call. Drama ensued, and the race ended up in a tie. The drama caused an eight-year hiatus of the race.



During World War II, Bluenose stayed in Nova Scotia and was sold to the West Indies Trading Company in 1942. In January 1946, the vessel hit a coral reef off Île à Vache, Haiti, which wrecked her beyond repair.

In honour of Bluenose's centennial, the Royal Canadian Mint issued a 2021 commemorative silver dollar.



*1929 stamp*

Source: MSN.com and Wikipedia

# December 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Windmills Sinterklaas	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Xmas Lunch Card Makers
12	13 Knitters Xmas lunch	14 Xmas Lunch Klaverjas Club	15	16 Christmas Dinner Windmills	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 
26 	27	28	29	30	31 	

# January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 <i>Stitch 'N Rip</i>	11 <i>Klaverjas Sewing</i>	12	13 <i>Windmills social</i>	14 <i>evening social</i>	15 <i>card making</i>
16	17 <i>Stitch 'N Rip</i>	18 <i>Klaverjas Sewing</i>	19	20 <i>Windmills social</i>	21 <i>evening social</i>	22
23	24 <i>Stitch 'N Rip</i>	25 <i>Klaverjas Sewing</i>	26	27 <i>Windmills social</i>	28 <i>evening social</i>	29 <i>card making</i>
30	31 <i>Stitch 'N Rip</i>	<b>Saturday Afternoon Socials are on the same dates as the card makers meetings</b>				