

# A. C. Van Raalte Institute

Annual Report 2010-2011



**Hope College  
Holland, Michigan  
2011**

A. C. Van Raalte Institute, Hope College

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Annual Report 2010-2011  
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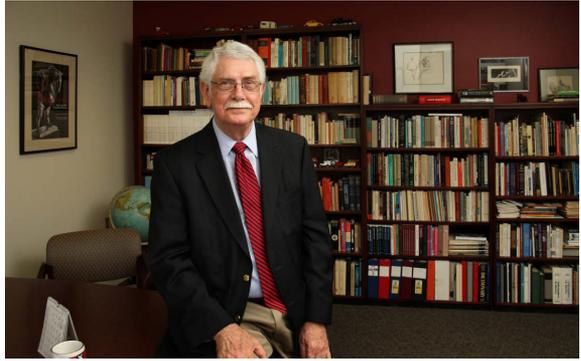
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*All photos are VRI file photos except where noted*

# A Message from the Director



*Figure 1 Jacob E. Nyenhuis  
(Courtesy Lou Schakel)*

It gives me great pleasure to present this annual report of the A. C. Van Raalte Institute in this very special year, the two hundredth birthday of our namesake and City of Holland's founder, Albertus C. Van Raalte. Most of my attention this past year has been focused on preparing for the celebration of his birthday.

## **Planning for the ACVR200 conference**

Ever since October 2009, the Van Raalte Institute has been preparing for an international conference to celebrate the bicentennial of the birth of our namesake, Albertus C. Van Raalte. I have worked not only with my colleagues here at the institute, but also with an esteemed group of Dutch colleagues—led by Dr. George Harinck of VU University Amsterdam—for the planning of a second phase of the conference, which is to be held at Landgoed Het Laer in Ommen, Overijssel, the Netherlands. Rev. Van Raalte served as pastor of a Separatist (*Afscheiding*) Church in Ommen from 1839 to 1844; soon afterward he left for America with a group of emigrants in search of religious and economic freedom. The home in which he lived and where he began theological instruction is still standing in Ommen, although it is sadly in need of major repair (the goal of a foundation established to restore it).

The conference at Hope College will occur on 24-25 October and in Ommen on 3-4 November 2011. A copy of the program for the conference is to be found later in this annual report. We hope that many of you, our faithful supporters reading this report, will be able to join us at the conference to help us celebrate the two hundredth birthday of Van Raalte, a visionary leader who had a major impact upon and left an

enduring legacy for the area. For more details and to register for the conference, visit our website, [www.hope.edu/vri](http://www.hope.edu/vri).

We acknowledge with deep gratitude the generous support of the following sponsors of the international conference: the Peter H. and Heidi Huizenga Foundation, J. C. Huizenga, Jim and Ginger Jurries, Suzanne and Herman Kanis, and the Dave and Carol Van Anandel Foundation; we acknowledge as well a grant from the Netherland-America Foundation (see below).

### **Grant from the Netherland-America Foundation**

In March the Education Committee of the Netherland-America Foundation awarded a grant of \$2,000 to the Van Raalte Institute to support the Albertus C. Van Raalte Bicentennial International Conference at Hope College. We are grateful for their endorsement of this venture, just as we appreciated their generous funding of the NAF Visiting Research Fellows Program described below. A grant from the NAF greatly extends the reach of our publicity, with announcement of our events in their newsletter and on their website.

### **DHCC planning for the ACVR200 Founder's Festival**

Although the Van Raalte Institute has been focused on planning for the bicentennial international conference, several of us members have also been actively involved in planning the community celebration of the Van Raalte bicentennial. Nella Kennedy, Elton Bruins and I are all members of the Dutch Heritage Coordinating Council (DHCC), to whom Mayor Kurt D. Dykstra of the City of Holland and President James E. Bultman of Hope College delegated the task of organizing the celebration.

The majority of the community's activities will occur during a long weekend following Van Raalte's actual birthday, i.e., from Friday, 21 October, through Tuesday, 25 October. There are family-oriented activities at the Holland Area Arts Council, the Holland Museum, and Herrick District Library on 21-22 October. A concert by the Holland Symphony Orchestra will presented the *Piet Hein Overture* by Peter Gijsbert van Anrooy on 1 October, the Holland Chorale on 22 October will feature Dutch composers and Dutch songs, and Huw Lewis and Linda Strouf will conclude the Founder's Festival with an organ concert on 25 October at Dimnent Memorial Chapel.

A short list of events is included in the inside back cover of this

report, but a full list, with times, can be found at the DHCC website, [www.DutchHeritageWestMichigan.com](http://www.DutchHeritageWestMichigan.com).

We invite you to come join us for any or all of the activities.

### **Visiting Research Fellows Program**

Since launching the Visiting Research Fellows Program in 2003, we have normally brought in two fellows each year. This past year we welcomed Michael Douma and Rein Nauta.

**Michael Douma**, then a doctoral candidate in history at Florida State University, former student research assistant at the Joint Archives of Holland and former research assistant at the Van Raalte Institute, was awarded a visiting research fellowship for summer 2010. This fellowship was intended to enable him to complete his research for his dissertation, "The Making and Evolution of Dutch American Identities." A 2004 graduate of Hope College, Douma served as a curatorial intern at the New Bedford (Massachusetts) Whaling Museum in fall 2004, and then returned to Hope as a research assistant to Dr. Robert P. Swierenga until his enrolment at Florida State University in fall 2005. He earned an MA in history in 2006 from FSU, where he has served as both a grading assistant and a graduate instructor. He is the author of *Veneklasen Brick: A Family, an Industry, and a Unique Nineteenth Century Dutch Architectural Movement in Michigan* (Eerdmans, 2005) and numerous articles in journals and newspapers. He spent 2009-10 in the Netherlands as a Fulbright Scholar. His basic research question for his dissertation and for his residency at the institute was, "How did Dutch American identities originate, persist, and evolve?" He delivered his required public lecture on 3 December 2010. His lecture, "Dutch Americans and the Rise of Heritage Studies," has already been published in our Lecture Series.

**Dr. Rein Nauta** spent April and May 2011 in residence at the institute as the Netherland-America Foundation (NAF) Visiting Research Fellow. In 2006 a three-year grant from the NAF enabled us to establish the NAF Visiting Research Fellowship Program. The program was scheduled to end in 2009, but thanks to funding from the Dutch American Council, we were able to extend this very valuable program. Dr. Nauta, the second beneficiary of the extended grant, is Professor



*Figure 2 Rein Nauta*

Emeritus of Pastoral Psychology and Psychology of Religion in the Department of Religious Studies and Theology, Faculty of Humanities, University of Tilburg, the Netherlands. A native of Enkhuizen, he earned both a BA in Psychology and an MA in Organizational and Industrial Psychology at VU University Amsterdam and a PhD in Social Sciences at the University of Groningen. After eighteen years as a senior lecturer at the University of Groningen, he spent twenty-one years at the University of Tilburg. He is the author of half a dozen books and numerous articles in books and journals in his field. The theme of his research project was “Religious Leadership and Cultural Change.” He focused especially on current religious leaders in the city of Holland, many of whom he interviewed in order to assess the enduring impact of Van Raalte’s vision and leadership upon the community that he founded in 1847. Nauta delivered his public lecture, “The Legacy of Van Raalte,” on 26 May 2011. Publication of his lecture is pending.

During the academic year 2011-12, we will not have any new visiting research fellows, but we will welcome back many former fellows for the Van Raalte Bicentennial. Some of them spent time in research at the Theil Research Center over the summer to prepare their papers for the conference or to work on other projects. Our honorary research fellows all spent some time at the institute within the past year, enriching our coffee-time conversations with reports on their latest discoveries. This program has proven to be of great value not only to the visiting fellows but also to those of us who are active throughout the year.

### **Former Visiting Research Fellow earns doctoral degree**

Initially the Visiting Research Fellowship Program was intended solely for established scholars. A few years later, however, we decided to expand it to include budding scholars: beginning in 2007-8, we awarded grants to graduate students in three successive years. Our support is bearing fruit, with the successful defense by **Michael Douma** of his dissertation in March 2011. We are happy to report that he has been awarded a PhD in history by Florida State University. He is now serving as a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Illinois-Springfield. We extend our heartiest congratulations and best wishes to Dr. Douma!



*Figure 3 Michael Douma*

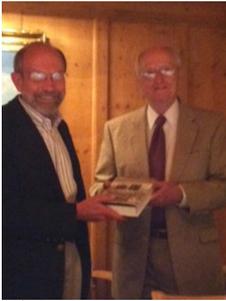


Figure 4  
Peter Schakel and Elton Bruins

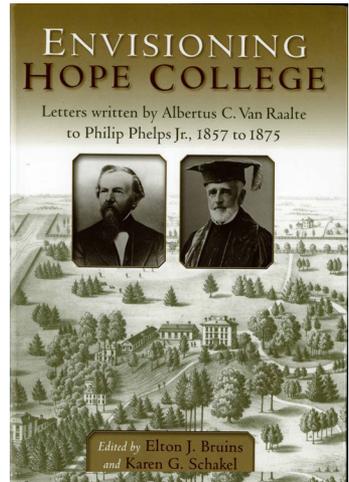


Figure 5 *Envisioning Hope College*

## Publications

The listing of publications and presentations by members of the institute printed elsewhere in this report demonstrates the ongoing vitality of the retirees who comprise the institute staff. We take special note of the publication of *Envisioning Hope College: Letters written by Albertus C. Van Raalte to Philip Phelps Jr., 1857 to 1875* (Van Raalte Press and Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2011). The monumental task of editing these letters was done by Elton J. Bruins and Karen G. Schakel, who passed away before the final copy editing could be completed. We celebrated the completion of this collaborative effort with a staff dinner party attended by Peter J. Schakel and his two children and their spouses, Jenny and Tim Hoffman and Jonathan Schakel and Megan Sharp. Elton paid special tribute to the memory of Karen, and recognized the significant contribution of JoHannah Smith as the copy editor for this 520-page book.

## Student Research Assistants

Brigid Maniates completed her tenure with us in December, since she was able to complete her degree early. At last report, she was applying for graduate studies in art history.

During the spring semester, we selected **Anthony Bednarz** as our student research assistant. A sophomore from Kokomo, Illinois, he has resumed his work after spending the summer at home. He is assisting on several different research projects, but also is getting called upon to assist with various projects for the Van Raalte bicentennial.



*Figure 6 Anthony Bednarz*



*Figure 7 Rachel Syens*

**Rachel Syens**, a 2011 graduate from Hope College with a major in history and international studies, with a minor in communications, was selected as a student intern for the summer to work on a project designed to support the mission of the DHCC. She visited museums, libraries, and churches in the larger Holland/Zeeland area to obtain current information on all the organizations which are engaged in preserving and promoting the Dutch heritage in the region. She has produced a directory for the DHCC of these organizations, with a concise description of their mission and programs. Once her report has been approved by the DHCC, it will be added to their website ([www.DutchHeritageWestMichigan.com](http://www.DutchHeritageWestMichigan.com)), with links to each. Rachel will continue to assist us on a part-time basis through the end of the Van Raalte Bicentennial International Conference, while also working on a half-time internship at the Gerald R. Ford Museum in Grand Rapids.

It is interesting to note that Rachel's internship was the brain child of Dr. Gordon J. Van Wylene, the ninth president of Hope College (1972-87), who at the age of ninety-one is still a very active member of the DHCC, which he helped to found.

## **Conclusion**

We look forward with eager anticipation to the celebration of the Van Raalte Bicentennial, and we hope to see many of you at the conference or other events. We are grateful to Albertus C. Van Raalte for planting a city in this beautiful region of western Michigan, for envisioning Hope College, and for helping Philip Phelps Jr. to transform Holland Academy into a college that lives out the vision that Van Raalte articulated when he set forth from urban New York to found a new community in the wilderness.

We single out for our special gratitude our esteemed patrons, Peter H. and Heidi Huizenga. Their ongoing support and encouragement have been a major factor in the success that we enjoy as a distinctive research institute, dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the rich heritage of our community. We are particularly grateful to Peter for soliciting funds on our behalf to add to their personal underwriting of the Bicentennial International Conference. Without that extra support, our program would have of necessity been far less ambitious.

I invite you to read the individual reports of my colleagues, to take advantage of the unique opportunities offered by the Bicentennial Conference, and to come join us on occasion for our daily coffee time at the belated hour of eleven o'clock in the morning.

*Jacob E. Nyenhuis*  
Director



*Van Raalte Institute Library, Theil Research Center*





*Eleonore A. Theil on her 85<sup>th</sup> birthday*

## **In Memoriam**

### **Eleonore A. Goldschmidt Theil 26 January 1922 – 13 August 2011**

The Van Raalte Institute lost a dear friend on 13 August 2011, when Eleonore A. Theil, widow of Dr. Henri Theil (1924-2000), passed away at her home in St. Augustine, Florida, at the age of eighty-nine. Mrs. Theil—Lore to all of us who knew and loved her—generously donated their condominium in St. Augustine Beach, Florida, in 2003 to Hope College to help fund the acquisition and renovation of a building to create a new home for the Van Raalte Institute and the Joint Archives of Holland. The Henri and Eleonore Theil Research Center was dedicated on 25 October 2004 with much joy and gratitude. We were honored to have Lore and some of her long-time friends present for the dedication. As long as she was able, she took an interest in the work of the institute and the Joint Archives, not only during my regular visits to St. Augustine, but also through correspondence and our frequent telephone conversations.

Eleonore Annemarie Goldschmidt was born in Würzburg, Germany, to Stefan Goldschmidt (1889-1971) and Maria Eisenmenger Goldschmidt (1891-1981) on 26 January 1922. From 1924 to 1938, she lived with her family in Karlsruhe, Germany. They moved to the Netherlands at that time to escape the Nazi regime's persecution of the Jews. After the Germans invaded the Netherlands, the entire Goldschmidt family was picked up in 1942 and briefly interned at *Kamp Vught*, but the women were soon released. Her father was transferred to *Amersfoort* for a time, but his German boss at a pharmaceutical firm got

him released because his expertise as an organic chemist was desperately needed. Her parents returned to Germany after World War II, and her father taught at the University of Munich.

Lore was trained as a lawyer and spent a decade in the practice of law, helping Jews who had lost their stocks and bonds during World War II to recover their lost assets. She gave up her own professional career to assist her husband in advancing his international career. She met Henri Theil in 1946 at a sailing camp near Hilversum, and they were married on 15 June 1951. A year after he accepted a professorship at the University of Chicago in 1965, they settled in Hyde Park, where they lived until 1981, when he became the first Eminent Professor at the University of Florida in Gainesville. After his retirement in 1994 from that post, they took up permanent residence in their condominium on the Atlantic Ocean in St. Augustine Beach.

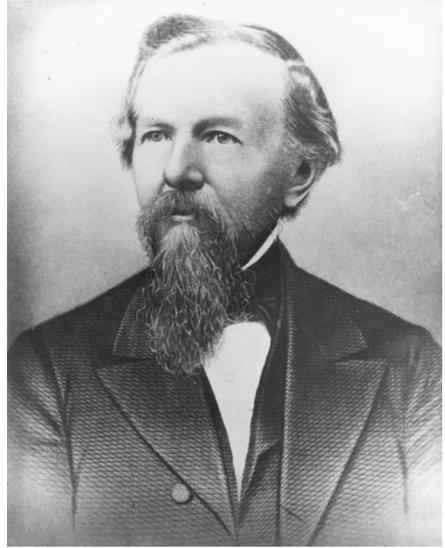
Lore is survived by two younger sisters, Helga Hose of Zurich, Switzerland, and Ursula Renate Doris Paul of Ottobrunn, Germany, as well as her sisters' children and grandchildren. Cremation took place soon after Lore's death. The family will hold a private memorial service in the spring at their family cabin in the Black Forest at Geistal, Germany, where Lore and her sisters spent many happy summers during their childhood.

*Requiescat in pace.*

*Lore Theil in Germany with  
her grandniece, spring 2011*



**Dedication:**  
**Albertus C. Van Raalte**  
**on his**  
**two hundredth birthday**



*Figure 8 Albertus C. Van Raalte*

For the past decade, the annual report has been dedicated to an individual or individuals who have played an important role in the history of the Van Raalte Institute. Since this year is the bicentennial of the birth of our institute's namesake, it is entirely fitting that we would dedicate our report to him.

Albertus Christiaan Van Raalte was born in the parsonage in Wanneperveen, Overijssel, the Netherlands, on 17 October 1811. The eleventh of seventeen children, he was the son of Albertus Christiaan Van Raalte, a pastor in the *Hervormde Kerk* (Dutch Reformed Church), and Catharina Christina Harking Van Raalte. He died on 7 November 1876 in Holland, Michigan, the city that he founded on 9 February 1847. Details of his quite remarkable life can be only briefly sketched, but his impact upon our community has been enormous.

When Albertus Van Raalte enrolled in the University of Leiden in 1829, he planned to study medicine, but a cholera pandemic across Europe and much of the rest of the world from 1826 to 1837 caused him to change his plans. After viewing the intense suffering around him, he wrote, "I desired nothing so much as to spend my life preaching. That is when I understood the meaning of life." By the time that Van Raalte completed his theological studies in 1835, a secessionist movement (*de Afscheiding*) had taken hold in the churches of the Netherlands.

Although Van Raalte sought ordination in the state church, the *Hervormde Kerk*, he was known to have associated with the Seceders, so he was questioned more closely by the examiners. After he had been declared by his examiners to be unfit for the ministry because he questioned some of the regulations of the church, Van Raalte was ordained in the Separatist Church in 1836. During that same year, on March 15, he was married to Christina Johanna De Moen.

For the next decade, Van Raalte served and provided leadership in the Separatist Church. His first call was to congregations in Mastenbroek and Genemuiden (1836-39), the next to Ommen (1839-44), and finally to Arnhem (1844-46), where he joined his brother-in-law Anthony Brummelkamp as pastor and as teacher in the new theological school. While Van Raalte lived in Genemuiden, he founded nine new congregations. During the early years of his ministry, he was often subjected to official and unofficial harassment for his leadership among the Separatists.

In 1846, after the potato blight had devastated the Netherlands for two years, the church council in Arnhem concluded that it could not sustain two ministers, so Van Raalte was released to seek a pastorate elsewhere. Upon his recovery from a serious bout of typhus, Van Raalte undertook to lead a group of separatists to America. On 24 September 1846, he set sail with his family and forty-five followers from Rotterdam on the *Southerner*; they arrived in New York on 17 November 1846. The group wintered in Detroit, but on 9 February 1847, Van Raalte and a few followers arrived in western Michigan and chose to settle near Black Lake (now Lake Macatawa). For the next several decades he preached, guided economic development for the colonists, buying and selling land, attempted to establish a new colony in Virginia, provided leadership within the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church (renamed the Reformed Church in America in 1867), and established a school which later evolved into Hope College.

The *Portrait and Biographical Record of Muskegon and Ottawa Counties Michigan, 1893*, was prescient with this statement:

***Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte, D.D.***

***No name is more widely known and respected in Ottawa County than that of the father of the Dutch settlements. He has imprinted himself on its history, and a hundred years hence his name will stand out in still bolder relief than it does today; for as the fruition of his life becomes apparent his fame will increase.***

At the City of Holland's sesquicentennial in 1997, a monumental statue of Van Raalte was erected in Centennial Park on property that he had donated to the city in 1876 at the time of our nation's centennial. As we celebrate the two hundredth anniversary of his birth, we honor him with this dedication, giving thanks to God for the vision, dedication and legacy of the Reverend Albertus C. Van Raalte, DD.

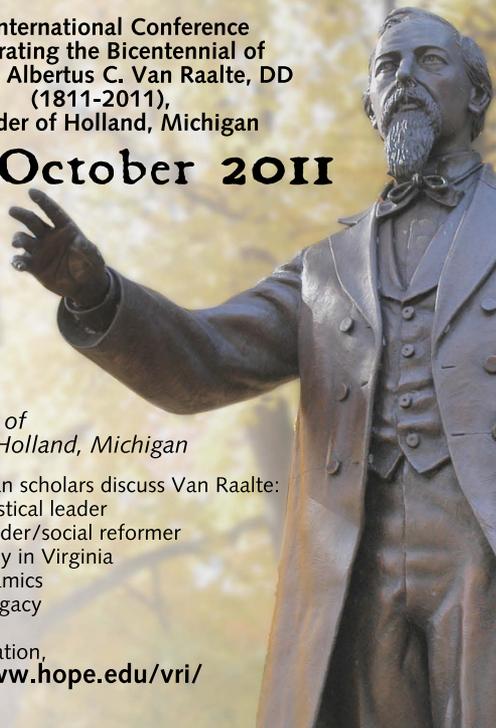


# Albertus C. Van Raalte

Leader & Liaison

An International Conference  
Celebrating the Bicentennial of  
The Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte, DD  
(1811-2011),  
Founder of Holland, Michigan

**24-25 October 2011**



*On the campus of  
Hope College, Holland, Michigan*

Dutch & American scholars discuss Van Raalte:

- Pastor/ecclesiastical leader
- Community leader/social reformer
- His failed colony in Virginia
- His family dynamics
- His enduring legacy

For more information,  
visit <http://www.hope.edu/vri/>



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A. C. VAN RAALTE INSTITUTE  
**HOPE COLLEGE**



**An International Bilateral Conference**  
**“Albertus C. Van Raalte, Leader and Liaison”**  
**Celebrating the Bicentennial**  
**of the Birth of**  
**The Reverend Albertus C. Van Raalte, DD**  
**(b. 17 October 1811)**

*Hope College*  
**24-25 October 2011**

*Figure 9 Graves Hall, Hope College*

**Monday, 24 October 2011**

***Opening Session, 9:00 am, Jacob E. Nyenhuis, Presiding***  
**Winants Auditorium, Graves Hall**

**Welcome and Opening Remarks**

**Jacob E. Nyenhuis**, Director, Van Raalte Institute, and Conference  
Chair

**James E. Bultman**, President, Hope College

**Dr. Hans Heinsbroek**, Consul General of the Kingdom of the  
Netherlands

**J. P. Scheele**, Alderman, Ommen, Overijssel, the Netherlands

**Keynote Address**

**Robert P. Swierenga** (A. C. Van Raalte Institute): *Off the Pulpit:  
Van Raalte as Community Leader*

***Coffee Break, 10:15 am – 10:45 am***

***Session II, 10:45 am – 12:15 pm***, Jon J. Huisken  
(Hope College, retired), *Moderator*

a. **Hans Krabbendam** (Roosevelt Study Center, Middelburg,  
Zeeland, NL): *Albertus Van Raalte as Social Reformer*

b. **George Harinck** (VU University Amsterdam; Conference Co-  
chair): *Albertus C. Van Raalte and Visits of Emigrants to the  
Old Country and Dutch Synods*

**Lunch, 12:15 pm – 1:15 pm**  
**The Servery, Cook Hall**

**Session III, 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm**, Dennis N. Voskuil  
(Western Theological Seminary), *Moderator*

- a. **Nella Kennedy** (A. C. Van Raalte Institute): *Twice Torn Asunder: Christina De Moen Van Raalte.*
- b. **Leon van den Broeke** (Protestant Church of the Netherlands, Sint Pancras, and VU University Amsterdam): *“Christ as Master Builder, me as a tool”: Albertus C. Van Raalte and the Ecclesiastical Organization*

**Coffee Break, 3:00 pm– 3:30 pm**

**Session IV, 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm**, James A. De Jong  
(Calvin Theological Seminary, emeritus), *Moderator*

- a. **Earl Wm. Kennedy** (A. C. Van Raalte Institute): *Albertus C. Van Raalte’s Vision for Christian Education for Children in the Holland Colony*
- b. **Peter Ester** (Utrecht University, and Senator of the Kingdom of the Netherlands) and **Henk Aay** (Calvin College-presenter): *A Case of Perception Bias: Jacob van Hinte’s Views on Albertus C. Van Raalte and Hendrik P. Scholte as Dutch Immigrant Leaders*

**Reception and Tour, Holland Museum, 5:15 pm – 6:45 pm**  
*Sponsored by Associate Provost and Dean for International and Multicultural Education Alfredo M. Gonzales*

**Dinner, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm**  
**Donnelly Dining Room, Haworth Inn**

Invocation, Elton J. Bruins (A. C. Van Raalte Institute)

Remarks, R. Richard Ray, Provost, Hope College

Gerrit te Rietstap, Secretary, Stichting Van Raaltehuis, *Report on the Van Raalte House Project in Ommen, Overijssel, the Netherlands*

**Tuesday, 25 October 2011**

**Opening Remarks, 9:00 am**, Jacob E. Nyenhuis, *Presiding*

Peter H. Huizenga, Trustee Emeritus, Hope College

**Session V, 9:15 am – 10:45 am**, Larry J. Wagenaar  
(Historical Society of Michigan), *Moderator*

- a. **Richard H. Harms** (Calvin College): *Fissures in the Fellowship: Dynamics in the Religious Fragmentation in the West Michigan “Dutch Colony” during the 1850s*
- b. **Janet Sjaarda Sheeres** (Independent Scholar): *Zo God het behaagt . . . God Willing: The Failed Amelia Colony in Virginia vs. the Success of the Holland Colony*

**Coffee Break, 10:45 am – 11:15 am**

**Session VI, 11:15 am – 12:45 pm**, Donald J. Bruggink  
(A. C. Van Raalte Institute), *Moderator*

- a. **Eugene Heideman** (Western Theological Seminary and Reformed Church in America, retired): *The Reverend Dr. A. C. Van Raalte, Preacher and Leader, as Reflected in his Sermons*
- b. **Michael Douma** (University of Illinois, Springfield): *Writings about Van Raalte: Historiography and Changing Views about the Dutch-American Leader*

**Lunch, 12:45 pm – 1:30 pm**  
**The Servery, Cook Hall**

**Session VII, 1:45 pm – 3:15 pm**, Lynn W. Japinga  
(Hope College), *Moderator*

- a. **Jacob E. Nyenhuis** (A. C. Van Raalte Institute): *A. C. Van Raalte and his Eponymous Institute: An International Vision for Dutch-American Relations*
- b. **Reflections on the Conference Theme: Open Discussion**

**Reception and Tour of the Theil Research Center, home of the Van Raalte Institute, 9 East 10<sup>th</sup> Street, 3:30 - 4:30 pm**

The conference will resume on 3-4 November at Landgoed Het Laer, Ommen, Overijssel, the Netherlands, with additional Dutch scholars replacing five of the participants at Hope College. The Van Raalte Press and Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co. will publish the papers from the conference in 2012, with Jacob E. Nyenhuis and George Harinck as co-editors.



*Figure 10*  
*Landgoed Het Laer*

The Van Raalte Institute at Hope College gratefully acknowledges the support of the following donors for the Van Raalte Bicentennial International Conference in Holland, Michigan, USA, and Ommen, Overijssel, the Netherlands:

Peter H. and Heidi Huizenga Foundation  
J. C. Huizenga  
Jim and Ginger Jurries  
Suzanne and Herman Kanis  
Dave and Carol Van Andel Foundation  
The Netherland-America Foundation  
American Embassy in The Hague



## Robert P. Swierenga

During this past year I have continued the decade-long project of writing my magnum opus: a comprehensive history of Holland, Michigan—the most extensive book about



*Figure 11 Bob Swierenga*

Holland’s history ever written. The manuscript, nearing 1300 pages, is now being copy-edited by JoHannah Smith, and is scheduled for publication in 2012 in the Historical Series of the Reformed Church in America with the Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company. I am currently selecting photographs and illustrations to enhance the text. This project would be almost unthinkable without the support of my colleagues at the Van Raalte Institute, the Joint Archives of Holland, the Holland Museum Archives, Herrick District Library, and the Archives of Calvin College.

Meanwhile, I am preparing the keynote address, “A. C. Van Raalte Off the Pulpit,” for the A. C. Van Raalte Bicentennial Conference at Hope College on 24-25 October 2011 and continuing in Ommen, the Netherlands, on 3-4 November 2011.

### **“Bless the Lord, O My Soul”**

An excerpt

One year before his death in 1876, Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte addressed a reunion of the 25th Michigan Infantry, in which the sons of the Colony, including two of his own, had served during the Civil War. “Welcome, welcome then, beloved and honored 25th!” Van Raalte began. “Your presence thrills our hearts with the deepest emotions. . . . You are all monuments of God’s sparing mercy and love. . . . Surely your presence is a solem[n] voice within us: Bless the Lord, O my Soul. . . . Yea, we say, Bless the Lord, O my Soul.” The aged dominie closed his brief oration with a prayer that the veterans “may earn that never fading crown in the higher battles under our Captain of Salvation, Jesus Christ.”

Biblical idioms came naturally to Van Raalte's lips. His public addresses, speeches, and writings are full of scriptural references. This was the coin of the realm in Dutch Reformed circles. In a Presidents' Day sermon on July 4, 1864, Van Raalte selected a passage from the prophet Jeremiah (18: 5-10), which portrays people as clay and God as a potter at the wheel. "Can I not deal with you, O Israel, like this potter? Behold, as clay in the hand of the potter so are you in My hand." God has the "incontestable authority, [the] irresistible power," said Van Raalte, "to form nations unto His end."

In a service of commemoration two years after the Holland fire (October 19, 1873), Van Raalte chose the parable of the talents in Luke 19:13 to stress the obligations of Divine stewardship. "Seeing that your homes and goods have been restored, Congregation at Holland, I remind you of what Jesus says concerning all our possessions. They are a trust . . . [and] must be placed in the Master's service. He is watching us."

A year earlier, at the twenty-fifth anniversary of Holland's founding, Van Raalte declared that the purpose for establishing the colony was "to secure a center of unifying religious life and labor for the advancement of God's kingdom. . . . In truth, God has wrought great things for us!" (paraphrasing Num. 23:23).

Robert P. Swierenga, "Bless the Lord, O My Soul: The Bible's Influence on the Dutch Immigrants," *Origins* 29, no. 1 (2011): 30-34



## Earl Wm. Kennedy

The present “work year” (1 August 2010 to 31 July 2011) began and ended with my wife and me living—and doing Van Raalte Institute projects—in Maarn, the Netherlands, our home away from home. Actually, on the first of August, Nella and I were on a train travelling to Berlin, where we spent five hot days seeing the sights and visiting many museums (this was part of the celebration of our golden wedding anniversary). After our return, however, we returned to

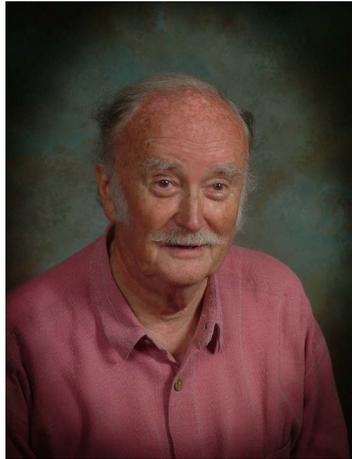


Figure 12 Bill Kennedy

our unexpected project, the co-editing with Peter Ester of *The American Diary of Jacob Van Hinte*, which was published by the end of the year in the Historical Series of the Reformed Church in America, under the general editorship of our colleague, Donald Bruggink. Van Hinte was the Dutch author of *Netherlanders in America* (1928; English-language version published in 1985 under the general editorship of colleague Robert Swierenga), which is probably the most wide-ranging history to date of the Dutch immigrants in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Amazingly, Van Hinte was able to gather most of the materials for this magisterial work on his month and a half visit to the United States in 1921. While here, Van Hinte recorded his daily activities and observations in a diary that was recently rediscovered by Peter Ester in the Netherlands and is now published with annotations by him, Nella, and me. In preparing this volume, Nella and I (and Peter) struggled, together with our capable and patient editorial assistant, JoHannah Smith, with the newfangled Dropbox, and the transatlantic parameters of our work did not make matters any easier.

Another project completed this past year was my article on the first Dutch Reformed pastor in colonial New Jersey, the Rev. Guiliam Bertholf (1656-1726), whose tale I first told orally at a conference here in Holland, Michigan, in the autumn of 2009. The more complete written version was placed in the “laps of the gods,” that is, the learned hands (to mix metaphors) of the editors, Leon van den Broeke, Hans Krabbendam, and Dirk Mouw, early in the present calendar year. The longer versions of this and the other conference papers are in the

pipeline to appear in the Historical Series of the Reformed Church in America in the coming months.

With regard to my decade-long project of annotating the minutes of the Classis of Holland in the Van Raalte era, 1848-76, I made progress this spring and summer in proofreading, correcting, and strengthening the footnotes, so that I was able to move from 1851 to 1859 by the time we arrived back in Michigan in late August. The most time-consuming aspect of this project now is attempting to bring my earlier notes up to the (presumably higher) standard that I developed as the work progressed. Related to this is the effort to standardize all of my entries and to utilize new (largely online) resources, as well as to keep from contradicting myself! I hope to be done with this semi-final editing by the middle of 2012. The project will then be (partially) “delegated” to others for the final editing (including indexing) of what may have become a two-volume work (well over one thousand pages, with more footnotes than text on many of them).

Other scholarly activities late in the period covered by this report involved gathering materials in preparation for a paper on Van Raalte’s vision for Christian elementary education in the Holland Colony, to be presented at the conference here at the end of October celebrating his two hundredth birthday. Additionally, I did my annual abstracting of the articles in the *Archiv für Reformationsgeschichte*, made editorial revisions of a document Nella translated for the Van Raalte conference, and assisted her in a small way in her preparation for her paper on Mrs. Van Raalte, e.g., in visiting the provincial archives of the province of North Holland in Leiden to study the De Moen family, from which Christina Van Raalte came.

Finally, “extra-curricular” activities included participation on the board of the Dutch Reformed Translation Society, responding to the occasional request for information from people outside (and inside) the Van Raalte Institute, and the preparation and delivery of a talk (“Who Was Mama Murdock?”) for a church group about my ancestors, centering on a ne’er-do-well Revolutionary War soldier and his long-lived daughter—a study in downward and upward mobility—and the westward movement in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century America.

Classis of Holland Minutes  
 15 October 1863, Article XIII  
 (An excerpt from a work in  
 progress)

In connection with the marriage case presented by the Holland congregation, the following was decided: The assembly, having heard that the consistory of Holland requests counsel in connection with a marriage to be contracted between a woman who has been deserted by her husband, and a man who is divorced from his wife, the brothers, at their request, have discussed the pros and cons of such a marriage and furthermore have judged that such cases, difficult in their nature, must be left to judgment of the consistory.<sup>1</sup>



*Figure 13 Klaas Tjeerds Vellinga,  
 alias William John Thompson  
 (Courtesy Donald Henry)*

<sup>1</sup> The man in question here was Hermanus (Herman or Harm) Jacobus Grebel (1830-post 1910), a native of Deventer, Overijssel, who emigrated in 1847. He was the first public school teacher at North Holland about 1856. Grebel may not have belonged to a Michigan church since his immigration, but now, finally, in 1863, he wished to join the First Church of Holland by profession of faith, presumably in view of his impending marriage. The consistory, however, sought the advice of the classis because of Grebel's divorce, based on the desertion of his wife (whose identity is as yet unknown); he claimed that she had refused to heed his appeals to live with him, since she did not love him. After the decision of classis, the consistory allowed Grebel to become a communicant member but with the recommendation that he do some catechetical study. He then immediately married Hendrika Grevenstuk, who, according to the minutes of classis, was divorced because her husband had deserted her, although this is not stated in the consistory minutes; the clerk of classis is probably confused about this (since, as shall be seen, there may have never been a divorce). Hendrika's letter of transfer from the Grand Haven to the Holland congregation, dated 18 November 1863, was accompanied by a note stating that were she to marry this man, the

Grand Haven consistory would not hesitate to discipline her (were it in their power), because he was not divorced on the ground of adultery (i.e., Grand Haven considered adultery to be the only valid ground for divorce). Hendrika (or Henderika) Grevenstuk (1828-1871), a native of Kollummerland, Friesland, was a younger sister of Johanna (born Johanna Henderica) Grevenstuk, the widow (since 1859) of Albert Kroes and a member of First Church, Holland; the sisters had married in Harlingen, Friesland, Johanna in 1847 and Hendrika in 1848. The latter's young husband was Klaas Tjeerds Vellinga (1828-1909) (see fig. 13), a sailor ("seaman") who had been born into a Harlingen lumber merchant's family but had been orphaned by the time he was nine years old; Hendrika and Klaas had one child, Anna, born in Harlingen in 1853 but who probably died in 1860 in Zwolle, Overijssel, where she had been living (evidently apart from both parents) with her grandmother and two unmarried aunts. Hendrika immigrated to the United States in the fall of 1860 as a "single" person, followed by her aged mother in 1866. In any case, the response to the Grand Haven note by the Holland church's consistory at its 11 January 1864 meeting reveals a divergence of opinion among the immigrant churches as to whether desertion was a legitimate reason for divorce: "Taking into consideration that this case had already been handled at the most recent classical meeting, and that classis made no decision, the majority opinion was that it is (particularly in this case) correct to acquiesce in the decision of the civil authorities, and that there is nothing in this marriage which merits disciplinary action. Reflecting on the fact that the consistory of Grand Haven has condemned the marriage, which has already taken place here, without stirring up any problem in our congregation, it was decided to pay no attention to the comments attached to the membership transfer." On 10 March 1867, the son of Hendrika and Herman, born 7 October 1866, was baptized by Van Raalte, along with Herman's daughter by his previous marriage, reportedly born 28 November 1860 in Holland, Michigan. In June 1868 Herman Grebel and a few others were mentioned in an article by Van Raalte as intending to buy land in the latter's ill-fated Amelia County, Virginia, colony. Grebel may never have gone there. In any case, Herman and Hendrika (or Hendrikje) were living in the city of Holland in 1870, he a tinsmith, with their son and his daughter, but Hendrika died and was buried there in February 1871. Herman Grebel married again about 1873 and was living in 1880 as a tinsmith in Grand Rapids with his third wife (an 1871 immigrant) and Hendrika's son (who followed his father's occupation as "tinner"). Hendrika Grevenstuk's first husband, Klaas Tjeerds Vellinga, led an "unusual" life. Beginning as a sailor, he was later successively a laborer, carpenter, and funeral director. The less usual part of his story is that, after deserting his wife and child about the mid-1850s, he appeared in Australia as William John Thompson in January 1857 when he married a German-born woman (his mother's father had been German), siring eight children by her between that year

and 1872. William John Thompson next turned up in New Zealand, where he ostensibly married (the record has not yet been found) a Scottish-born woman, by whom he had six more children between 1876 and 1886. Unlike Hendrika Grevenstuk, both of these wives survived him, as did thirteen of his fourteen children by them. Vellinga/Thompson told his “Down Under” family that he had been shipwrecked in the English Channel after a trip to the East Indies and then learned in London that his wife and child had both died, so he went to Australia; but since his daughter died in 1860, when her mother was still living, and since he married already in 1857 in Australia, his account lacks verisimilitude. There are numerous descendants of Klaas Tjeerds Vellinga alias William John Thompson living today, but only very recently did they discover that these two were actually the same person. Also, the Australian and New Zealand Thompsons had been unaware of the existence of their half-siblings. No divorces for their progenitor have as yet been discovered. The whole story has come to light by means of the Internet, based on the elements of truth embedded in the tales Vellinga/Thompson told about his origin and early life; Donald Henry, “William John Thompson,” in “Henry Family History,” at [http://www.henry.gen.nz/Henry\\_Family/G\\_THOMPSON.html](http://www.henry.gen.nz/Henry_Family/G_THOMPSON.html).



## Nella Kennedy

Although the research and writing of *The American Diary of Jacob Van Hinte* seemed virtually completed when I wrote my entry in the 2010 report, the final refining process continued well into the fall. Much needed to be done yet in finding enough good and appropriate photographs to illustrate the sights Van Hinte saw and the people he met in the summer of 1921 in the United States. Furthermore, correcting and improving the extensive



Figure 14 Nella Kennedy

### *The American Diary of Jacob Van Hinte* Excerpt

Jacob Van Hinte, aboard the SS Rotterdam IV, 14 July 1920: “Played dominoes again with the likeable Mrs. and Mr. Eerdmans in the evening. She is German, from Dusseldorf and has a pale, delicate

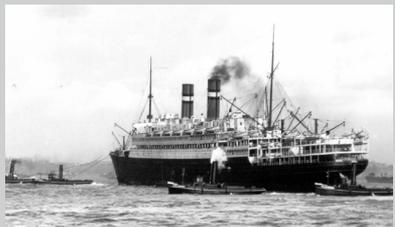


Figure 15 SS Rotterdam IV, 1908

face, beautiful blue eyes, sometimes a little sad. She speaks little, but that does not matter. On the contrary, it exudes tranquility. He is Frisian, more noticeable by his psyche than his physique. He too projects calmness, but at the same time great warmth, which inspires confidence. And both these quiet people live for their dear young children, and for each other, but at the same time interested in everything outside their family circle.”

Meyer’s Hotel, Hoboken, New Jersey, Friday, 22 July 1920: “I familiarized myself with Hoboken’s main street—Washington Street—still brightly lit, with rather busy traffic. It is remarkable that a large number of stores are still open, although it was already ten-thirty. The ice cream parlors were even filled. . . . Everyone was seated outside, as in a Dutch village. . . . On my return [to the hotel] . . . conversed until one o’clock at night with Mr. Eerdmans, a man who is becoming increasingly more attractive the longer one gets to know him.”



*Figure 16 William B.Eerdmans, the founder of Eerdmans Publishing Company, and his wife Paula, ca. 1920 (Courtesy William B.Eerdmans Jr.)*

annotations took more time and many long days. The computer and editorial assistance of JoHannah Smith, herself new to the institute, was helpful and enjoyable. The book was jointly published by the Van Raalte Press and William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company in November 2010.

Translation projects awaited me after completion of the manuscript. A Holland resident lent the institute the Dutch-language minute book of a local debating society, in existence from 1872 to 1877. The small group of Holland citizens was assigned subject matter which they would debate the following week. Translating it has been a most enjoyable exercise. This project was soon superseded by planning the celebration of the two hundredth anniversary of A. C. Van Raalte's birth, as Senior Research Fellow, and as member of the Dutch Heritage Coordinating Council and the Founder's Day Festival Sub-Committee. Contacts with the Holland Symphony Orchestra and the Holland Chorale led to their participation with this bicentennial celebration in October. The former will perform an orchestra piece written by an early-twentieth-century Dutch composer. The director and the board of the Holland Chorale decided to devote an entire program to Dutch choral music, which will be performed just prior to the conference. I also laid the contacts for an organ recital immediately following the conference, to be given in Hope College's Dimnent Chapel by its two organists, Huw R. Lewis and Linda Strouf. I previously organized an organ concert for them in Ommen last May, during the time they were in the Netherlands with organ students.

The Founder's Festival Sub-Committee has met with various civic groups to plan the festivities on 21 and 22 October. An additional attraction will be an exhibit of memorabilia and documents of A. C. Van Raalte and family in the Focus Gallery of the Holland Museum, in which Elton Bruins and I have joined museum personnel to curate the show.

My primary responsibility during this Van Raalte Bicentennial year, however, is to prepare a paper for an international conference, held at Hope College, to be repeated in Dutch at a conference in Ommen. The topic of my lecture is "Twice Torn Asunder: Christina de Moen Van Raalte." The title refers firstly to the persecution that befell her as a newly married woman during the troublesome times following the Secession of 1834. Scorn and indignities were daily fare in the town where her husband had been called to minister to fledgling Seceder congregations. Her strained circumstances were a far cry from her former privileged

existence in Leiden. This was doubly difficult to endure by the frequent absences of her new husband—the so-called Apostle of Overijssel—while being separated from her former life.

The second major upheaval in her life was her departure for North America in the fall of 1846, made the more painful since the few years before leaving the Netherlands she had lived a more tranquil life, cherishing the close fellowship with her own remaining sister and her family. Much has been written about the travails of the pioneers in uncultivated western Michigan, but little specifically about the heroism of the wife of the leader of the colony, who not only had to bear with various vicissitudes, but also had to undergo some settlers' frequent and harsh criticism of her husband. His numerous absences, either within



Figure 17  
*Christina Van Raalte*

Translated excerpts from one of Christina's rare letters follows. It was addressed to her son Ben, a soldier in the Civil War, in September 1862:



Figure 18  
*Ben Van Raalte*

*(Photos courtesy Joint Archives of Holland)*

I am sending cookies to you and Dirk . . . go to the doctor with your intestinal problems, don't leave it unattended . . . they say here that there are about one hundred or fifty Indians. People are getting worried; they may intend to do harm. I myself am worried also . . . some say that they are hunting. . . ."

western Michigan or in the eastern United States, left her to manage a growing household, always under financial constraints, performing tasks expected of a minister's wife, all the while plagued with ill health.

Research has taken me to Leiden, but most of the information about her had to be gleaned from secondary sources found in the extensive Van Raalte files in the Theil Research Center. She did not write

much. Only a few letters are extant, and some rare postscripts, added to letters her husband had written. Preserved are letters that Albertus Christiaan wrote her, and about her, and after her death, in his eulogy. Her daughters' and sons' letters to her are revealing as well. Incidental correspondence alludes to her occasionally, and references about her in documents by Holland colony citizens appear occasionally.

The Van Hinte diary continues to attract attention, for we will speak on Van Hinte's journey at the Holland Area Historical Society on 13 September 2011. On 4 October, Jack Nyenhuis, Elton Bruins, Earl William and I will speak to the Hope Academy of Senior Professionals on A. C. Van Raalte and the forthcoming conference.

Lakeshore Living of Mac-Media will be filming various participants and planners of the conference and the Founder's Day Festival on 5 October; this program will be broadcast for an entire week, and a link to this program will be posted on various websites.

An article from my hand will appear in the Dutch history magazine *Holland* in October, in which the settling and growth of the town of Holland is delineated, with references also to A. C. Van Raalte, the Van Raalte Institute, and the conferences to be held at Hope College and in Ommen.



*Reading Room, Theil Research Center*

## Jacob E. Nyenhuis

My time this past year was concentrated primarily on planning and preparation for the Albertus C. Van Raalte Bicentennial (ACVR200) described in my director's report. The remainder of my time was taken up with the usual responsibilities of directing the institute, giving an occasional lecture, writing an occasional article, and providing service to church and community.



*Figure 19 Jack and Lee Nyenhuis,  
on Tulip Time 2011 float*

My wife, Leona (Lee), and I had a rather interesting experience associated with the ACVR200 in May: the Tulip Time Board of Directors decided to honor Van Raalte's upcoming two hundredth birthday on their float in the Tulip Time Volksparade on Wednesday, May 11, and the Musiekparade on Saturday, May 14. We were invited to ride the float in the Volksparade—we wore costumes to reflect the mid-nineteenth century so we could represent Albertus and Christina. A photograph of us and the float is published above. Two of the Van Raaltes' descendants—Charles Vander Broek and his sister, Gretchen Williams—rode the float during the Musiekparade.

I continue to assemble documents for my various long-term research projects, which are otherwise on hold until after the second phase of the Bicentennial Conference concludes in Ommen, Overijssel, in November.

To maintain a degree of currency in my field of Classics, I traveled to Greece in late October and early November 2010 for the 2500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Marathon. I had the pleasure of being present when our grandson ran the true marathon from Marathon to Athens and other family members ran 5K and 10K races. I was thrilled to see for the first time the splendid new Acropolis Museum, with its impressive display of artifacts, its spectacular views of the Acropolis, and its symbolic rebuke to the British Museum for not returning the Elgin Marbles (replicas are superbly displayed to prove that they do

indeed have a facility that can properly preserve sculptures from the Parthenon and other buildings on the Acropolis that were transported by Lord Elgin from Greece to England during the first decade of the nineteenth century). I also led a five-day classical tour for our family to Delphi, Olympia, the Argolid, and Corinth.

My service to church, college, and community consisted of: (1) serving as secretary-treasurer of the local Dutch Heritage Coordinating Council, which is responsible for planning the community celebration of the Van Raalte Bicentennial; (2) serving as a member of both the Dutch-American Historical Commission and the West Michigan Dutch-American Heritage Day Committee; and (3) serving my church in various ways.

Working with my wonderful colleagues at the Van Raalte Institute is intellectually stimulating and gratifying.

Quotation from an excerpt of a paper by Ester and Nyenhuis in the AADAS 2009 book, *Across Borders: Dutch Migration to North America and Australia*

### **The socio-cultural environment of the respondents**

Our understanding of the answers given by the respondents can be enriched by a review of the era and local context in which they grew up. The following is a very brief summary of the historical context in which they lived during their formative and adult years:

- Holland, Michigan, is known as a city of churches. Already in 1890, a little more than forty years after its founding, Holland had nine churches, of which five were congregations of either the Reformed Church in America or the Christian Reformed Church.<sup>1</sup> By 1960, there were over two dozen churches within the Reformed tradition inside the city limits and at least a half dozen in the surrounding area.<sup>2</sup> In 1997, the RCA Classis of Holland alone listed eighteen churches.<sup>3</sup>
- A survey of public high school students in 1925—i.e., around the time that many of the respondents were born—showed that over 90% of these students attended worship services and Sunday school on a regular basis.<sup>4</sup>
- During the formative years of our subjects in this study, most of the teachers in the public schools were Christian

and support for Christian moral values was pervasive and overt.<sup>5</sup>

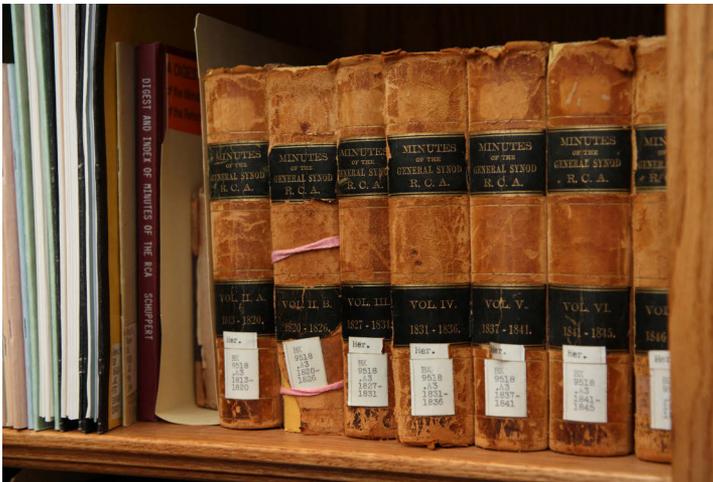
- In 1928, the Christian Reformed Church established strict policies on “worldly amusements,” setting them in the context of four doctrinal and ethical principles: 1) the honor of God; 2) the welfare of man; 3) spiritual separation from the world; and 4) Christian Liberty. Synod urged “all our professors, ministers, elders, and Bible teachers to emphasize these principles in this age of prevailing worldliness.” Three “worldly amusements” were singled out for opprobrium: “While *several* practices are found in our circles which cannot pass the muster of these principles, and while *all* our amusements, not only theatre-attendance, dancing and card-playing [emphasis ours], should be judged in the light of these principles, yet Synod feels constrained, in pursuance of the decisions of the Synod of 1926 in the matter of amusements, to call particular attention to this familiar trio. It greatly deplores the increasing prevalence among us of these forms of amusement, urgently warns our members against them, and further refers our people to the material on the subject given in the report of the Committee on Worldly Amusements (Agendum, Part I, pp. 31-47). *Adopted.*”<sup>6</sup>
- In 1943, the issue of social dancing on public school property was on the ballot—and the proposal to allow it was defeated 59% to 41%. Even in 1950, when the Board of Education officially approved social dancing on public school property, there were numerous letters of protest from the local churches.<sup>7</sup>
- In presidential elections from 1920 to 1948, Republicans garnered from 68% to 88% of the vote in all but one election—1936—when they won only 57% of the vote.<sup>8</sup>

(Endnotes)

- <sup>1</sup> Robert P. Swierenga, “Holland Churches” and “Religious Life,” each a working draft of a chapter for his comprehensive history of the City of Holland. Used by permission and with gratitude. The city directories of the 1890s list the other four as “Methodist Episcopal and Wesleyan Methodist, Grace Episcopal, and Zion Lutheran.”
- <sup>2</sup> Russell L. Gasero, *Historical Directory of the Reformed Church in America, 1628-*

2000 (Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2001); Richard H. Harms, *Historical Directory of the Christian Reformed Church in North America* (Grand Rapids: Historical Committee of the Christian Reformed Church in North America, 2004). Classis Holland of the CRC in 1960 alone listed twenty-three churches (*Yearbook 1960 of the Christian Reformed Church* [Grand Rapids: Christian Reformed Publishing House, 1960]).

- <sup>3</sup> Elton J. Bruins et al., *In Christ's Service: The Classis of Holland and its Congregations, 1847-1997* (Holland, MI: Classis of Holland, Reformed Church in America, 1997).
- <sup>4</sup> *Holland City News*, 24 Dec. 1925, cited by Robert P. Swierenga, "Education," a working draft of a chapter for his comprehensive history of the City of Holland, 49.
- <sup>5</sup> Swierenga, "Education," 37-38, 48-49, and *passim*.
- <sup>6</sup> *Acta der Synode 1928 van de Christelijke Gereformeerde Kerk*, 86-88. Holland had three movie houses from the 1920s through the 1940s, the Strand, Holland, and Knickerbocker/Colonial Theatre (for a brief history of the Knickerbocker, see Geoffrey D. Reynolds, "Now Appearing in Downtown Holland: The History of the Knickerbocker Theatre," *Joint Archives Quarterly*, 16:1 [Spring 2006], 1-3).
- <sup>7</sup> Swierenga, "Education," 51-54.
- <sup>8</sup> Swierenga, "Holland Politics," a working draft of a chapter for his comprehensive history of the City of Holland, 57-58.



## Donald J. Bruggink

China and America were the focus for each of two volumes of the Historical Series of the Reformed Church in America this past year. The Dutch were involved in both: tangentially in the first and more explicitly in the second.



Figure 20 Don Bruggink

The first is: Samuel C. Pearson, ed. *Supporting Asian Christianity's Transition from Mission to Church: A History of the Foundation for Theological Education in South East Asia*. Historical Series of the Reformed Church in America, no. 68. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2011.

The Foundation for Theological Education was established with a very large bequest from the Wendell sisters on behalf of the Nanking Theological Seminary. Fortunately, the endowment was held in the United States, and with the coming of the Communist government, the trustees of the fund expanded their ministry to all of South East Asia. I was privileged to serve on that board, and was succeeded by Dr. Marvin D. Hoff, who later became its executive secretary and has himself published *Chinese Theological Education, 1979-2006*, Historical Series no. 61 (Eerdmans, 2009). Once again, the Dutch have managed a disproportionate role in an exciting ecumenical enterprise.

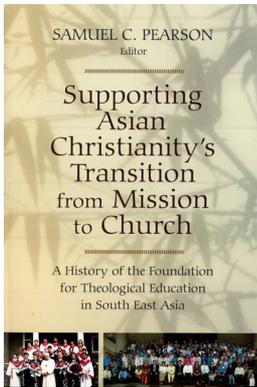


Figure 21  
Asian Christianity's  
Transition

The second volume involving China is in itself an ecumenical enterprise while being more specifically Dutch. Kurt D. Selles has given us *A New Way of Belonging: Covenant Theology, China, and the Christian Reformed Church, 1921-1951*, Historical Series no. 70 (Eerdmans, 2011, published in

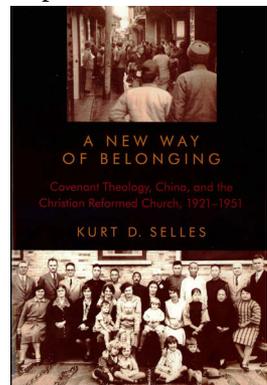


Figure 22  
A New Way of  
Belonging

cooperation with the Origins Studies in Dutch-American History). The grandson of Christian Reformed missionaries, Selles had worked in China for nineteen years, and now teaches missions at Beeson Divinity School. It is a superb history of the Christian Reformed Church's first denominationally sponsored overseas mission.

Accounts of the nineteenth-century Dutch immigrants in America have not been neglected. Jacob Van Hinte authored his classic immigrant study, *Netherlanders in America: A Study of Emigration and Settlement in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries in the United States of America* (Groningen, the

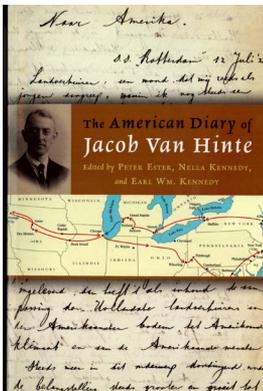


Figure 23  
American Diary

Netherlands: P. Noordhoff, 1928; Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1985). As a part of his research, Van Hinte traveled to America in 1921 and kept a private diary with some very frank opinions about what he experienced in America. Held in the archives of the Van Hinte family, it has only recently become available for publication with all of its fascinating insights. *The American Diary of Jacob Van Hinte*, Historical Series no. 69, was edited by Peter Ester, Nella Kennedy and Earl Wm. Kennedy. The volume gives a hint (no pun intended) of how Holland, Michigan, Orange City, Iowa, or even New York might have looked to a Dutch scholar in 1921. The Van Hinte diary

was jointly published by the Van Raalte Press and William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.

The major publication of the year has been Elton J. Bruins and Karen G. Schakel, eds., *Envisioning Hope College: Letters written by Albertus C. Van Raalte to Philip Phelps Jr., 1857 to 1875*, Historical Series of the Reformed Church in America, no. 71 (Holland/Grand Rapids: Van Raalte Press/Eerdmans, 2011) (see figs. 24 and 25). In addition to Van Raalte's many obligations, there was also the need to solicit funds for various needs of the colony, including those of Hope College. During many long absences from Holland, Van Raalte's closest correspondent was the president of this fledgling college. In these letters we get a very human picture of Van Raalte. He is quite different from the man on the pedestal enshrined in bronze in Centennial Park. Instead he is often worn and weary, beset by ills, and often discouraged, even as he pursues the grand dream of a center of learning for his colony. In these letters, Van Raalte speaks for himself, rather than has been the case for most of the past hundred years when others spoke about him, and often

presumed to speak for him. Published cooperatively in the Historical Series by the Van Raalte Press and the Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, this handsome volume has been made possible by the generous endowment of the Van Raalte Institute by Peter H. Huizenga and his family.

During the past year Robert P. Swierenga's magisterial *Dutch Chicago: A History of the Hollanders in the Windy City*, Historical Series, no. 42 (Eerdmans, 2002) has been reprinted for the third time, the second for the second edition. Also reprinted has been *Aunt Tena: Called to Serve*, edited by Jacob E. Nyenhuis, Robert P. Swierenga, and Lauren M. Berka, Historical Series, no. 63 (Eerdmans, 2009).

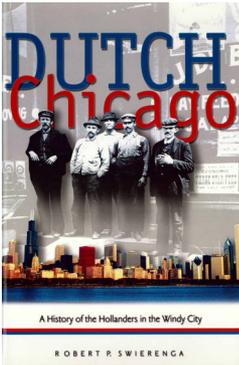


Figure 24  
Dutch Chicago

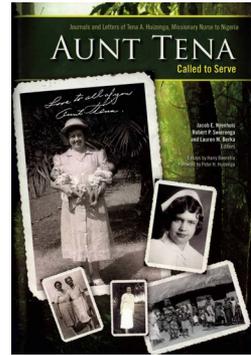


Figure 25 Aunt Tena

Western Theological Seminary's Journey Overseas continues to occupy much of my time in the creation, promotion, and conducting of overseas seminars. This year's program, "Spain: Cultural Diversity Embodied in Architecture" was especially timely because it witnessed to a period when three faiths—Jewish, Christian, and Muslim—lived together in harmony and prosperity. That architectural witness also speaks to less happy times when fundamentalist intolerance gave way to war and inquisition.

Just one example of the cultural fusion of those three faiths that transcended even conflict is found in the horseshoe arch. Originating in Visigothic Spain prior to the arrival of Islam, it is identified primarily with Islam because it was used throughout that period, most flamboyantly in the great mosque in Cordoba. Nonetheless, it survived into the Catholic *reconquista*, and can even be found in Jewish synagogues in Manhattan.

In our situation today, where some Muslim and Christian fundamentalists would incite a holy war of aggression in the name of the defense of their religion, the example of eighth to tenth century Spain when each of three faiths held steadfastly to their own beliefs, while nonetheless living in a cooperative society of peace and prosperity, should be a lesson for our own times.



## J. P. Verhave

This year, the project on Paul de Kruif was slowed down by the editing of my book on the history of malaria and the contributions of a Dutch professor (N. H. Swellengrebel) to its research and control (*The Moses of Malaria*, Erasmus Publishing, Rotterdam, 2011). In between, I wrote an article for the *Malaria World Journal* 2, no. 1, on “Paul de Kruif, American science writer on malaria, a case study.” It is presented as an example of how science journalists can popularize history and at the same time promote the dissemination of information on of topical subjects.



Figure 26 J. P. Verhave

For the AADAS conference I submitted and presented, “The Dutchness in Paul de Kruif, different, but not indifferent.” After the conference I stayed another three weeks in Holland at the Van Raalte Institute, to enrich my sources on De Kruif. (I gratefully acknowledge the lodging support.)

The documents found at the Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and De Kruif’s extensive correspondence with vice-president Henry A. Wallace (Iowa State University, Iowa City) are very valuable. I especially want to mention a collection of photographs of De Kruif, taken by his friend the Rev. Vernon Hohl, which showed up at the Holland Museum Archives. The archivists of the Holland Museum (Catherine Jung) and the Joint Archives (Geoffrey Reynolds) were of great help.

Via Mrs. Cory Pepoy, I came to know some more people who had known De Kruif (Bill and Audrey Bloemendaal) or De Kruif’s widow, Eleanor (Carol Soriano and her husband Robert). They furnished precious details, and showed me artifacts and a color portrait of De Kruif painted by Verne Hohl, after one of his photographs. Fourteen of twenty-two planned chapters of the book are now finished in draft form, and the search for a publisher has started.

My article, “*Arrowsmith: The people behind the characters*” has meanwhile appeared in the spring issue of the *Sinclair Lewis Society*

*Newsletter* 19, no. 2 (2011): 1, 9-17. A manuscript on Paul's grandfather Hendrik de Kruif and the accounts of his immigration, "Now I will tell you children..." will appear in *Origins* (fall 2011).

As a sideline, I am trying to trace the journey of the prominent citizen of Amsterdam, Johan Adam Wormser, through America (1899), and his visits to Grand Rapids and Holland. Wormser was a publisher and seller of Christian books (including all publications of Abraham Kuyper), and he was the first biographer of Dominie Albertus C. Van Raalte.

The book, *Arrowsmith and the persons behind its characters*, was written by Sinclair Lewis and published in 1925. In the making of it, Lewis was assisted by Paul de Kruif. It is a doctor's novel, describing the medical career of Martin Arrowsmith from student, through several positions as physician, and finally as researcher. To the embarrassment of many doctors who read it, research procedures and products were described that were too new to have reached them through their professional channels.

Martin discovers an agent that can neutralize viruses and with it, he tries to control an outbreak of bubonic plague on a Caribbean island. Most of the characters and their peculiarities in the novel were modeled after students, professors, and colleagues of de Kruif. Only in 1957 did he allow a key to be published that revealed the names of the people after whom the characters had been modeled, mainly from the University of Michigan and the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York.

I have expanded considerably the brief information in the key with details about the real people, and added several other people who were not mentioned. The paper ranges with several others over the last two decades that pronounce the topicality of *Arrowsmith* for medical history and education (notably on how to prepare and perform a clinical trial), and emphasize the substantial contribution of Paul de Kruif.

## George Harinck

In February I taught for two weeks on the history of neo-Calvinism for PhD students at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California. In April I gave a paper on Kierkegaard and Dutch Protestant Culture at the Kuyper Conference at Princeton Theological Seminary. In June I gave a paper on the Wisconsin years of D. J. Doornink at the Association for the Advancement of Dutch American Studies (AADAS) conference at Lakeland College in Sheboygan, Wisconsin. At that conference, I was elected president of the AADAS for 2011-13. H. Bavinck's travel account of his 1892 trip to the United States was chosen as the best Dutch travel story in an election organized in the fall of 2010 by the Dutch Royal Library (that is why I edited a new edition).

The photo above was taken by one of the Fuller students.



*Figure 27 George Harinck*



## Hans Krabbendam

In the past year I invested much time in bringing the D-Dapper Project (**D**igital **D**utch-**A**merican **P**ress and **P**ERiodicals) to completion. In addition to the *Sheboygan Nieuwsbode*, we secured the *Grondwet* (Holland, Michigan), *De Volksvriend* (Orange City, Iowa), *Het Oosten* (Paterson, New Jersey), *De Volksstem* (De Pere, Wisconsin) and *Onze Toekomst* (Chicago) for inclusion in this data base. Other



Figure 28 Hans Krabbendam

titles were considered but not included due to poor quality or limited range. The experts at the Royal Library in The Hague are converting the microfilms into digital images offering eighty-five thousand pages of text, which will be linked to the millions of Dutch newspaper pages and released in the summer of 2012. This database will boost all kinds of research in language, and the history of Dutch-American connections will continue to flourish. At the AADAS conference in Sheboygan, I presented examples of what this digital source could reveal based on research of the *Sheboygan Nieuwsbode*. I also had the unique and exhilarating experience of presenting a joint paper at this conference on the Dutch in Wisconsin with my mentor and friend Bob Swierenga.

With George Harinck I edited and published *A Spiritual Invasion?*—a collection of essays on American influences on Dutch Protestantism, which is my new research field. I received a grant to do research in the Billy Graham Center Archives at Wheaton College, Illinois, and I am preparing a monograph on American missions in Western Europe. I am involved in two research groups: one consists of a number of European and American historians who are revisiting the emergence of American Evangelicals as a social and political force after World War II. I am investigating the efforts in Europe to create a global evangelical community. The other

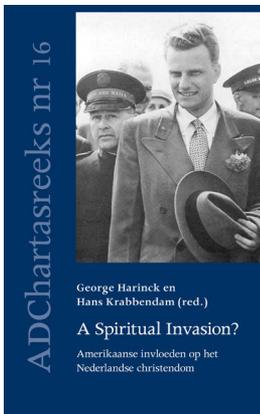
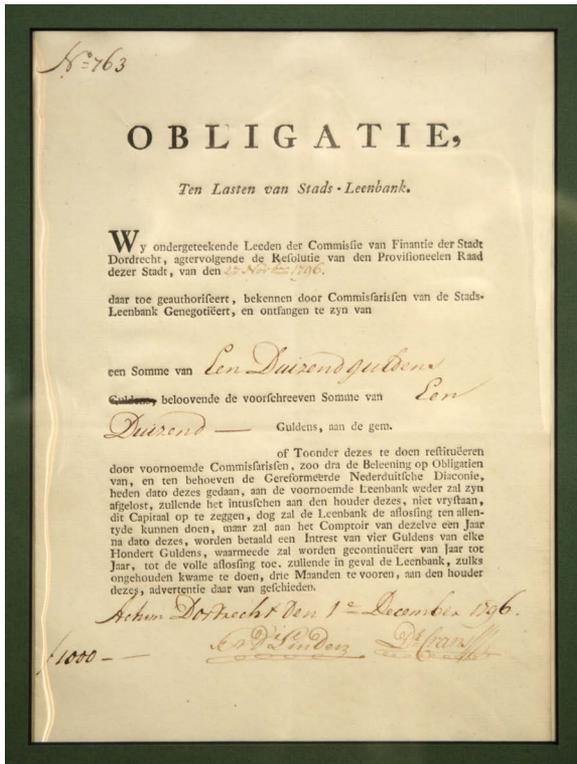


Figure 29  
*Spiritual Invasion*

group consists of European historians of the United States seeking to understand how political events, social conditions, academic settings, tradition of training, use of theory, and disciplinary developments shape “our” understanding of American history. Both are stimulating and exciting.



# Publications, Presentations, and Translations

## Publications

Abstracts of all articles in *Archiv für Reformationsgeschichte* 101 (2010), for *Religious and Theological Abstracts* (online). (Earl Wm. Kennedy)

Bavinck, H. *Mijne reis naar Amerika, bezorgd en toegelicht door*. George Harinck, *gewijzigde tweede druk*. Barneveld, NL: De Vuurbaak, 2010. (George Harinck)

Bruins, Elton J., and Karen G. Schakel<sup>†</sup>, eds. *Envisioning Hope College: Letters written by Albertus C. Van Raalte to Philip Phelps Jr., 1857 to 1875*. Historical Series of the Reformed Church in America, no. 71. Holland/Grand Rapids: Van Raalte Press/Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2011. (Elton Bruins)

Ester, Peter, Nella Kennedy, and Earl Wm. Kennedy, eds. *The American Diary of Jacob Van Hinte: Author of the Classic Immigrant Study* *Nederlanders in Amerika*. The Historical Series of the Reformed Church in America, no. 69. Holland/Grand Rapids: Van Raalte Press/Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2010. (Earl Wm. Kennedy and Nella Kennedy)

Harinck, George and Hans Krabbendam. *A Spiritual Invasion? Amerikaanse invloeden op het Nederlandse Christendom*. Barneveld, NL: De Vuurbaak, 2010. (George Harinck and Hans Krabbendam)

Harinck, George and Hans Krabbendam. "Contrast, beïnvloeding of parallellie? Religieuze raakvlakken en wrijfpunten tussen Amerika en Nederland." In *A Spiritual Invasion?*, 9-21. (George Harinck and Hans Krabbendam)

Harinck, George. "D. J. Doornink and the Early Years of the Dutch-American Book Selling Trade (1860 to 1880)." In *Across Borders: Dutch Migration to North America and Australia*, 113-34. (George Harinck)

<sup>†</sup> deceased



Figure 30  
Authors' shelf, Van Raalte Institute  
(Courtesy Lou Schakel)

Harinck, George. "Inleiding." In *Mijne reis naar Amerika, bezorgd en toegelicht door*, 9-33. Barneveld, NL: De Vuurbaak, 2010. (George Harinck)

Harinck, George. "'Nederland is Amerika niet.' Zes brieven van Hoedemaker aan geestverwanten in de Verenigde Staten (1883-1889)." In *Documentatieblad voor de Nederlandse Kerkgeschiedenis* 33, no. 73 (December 2010): 42-78. (George Harinck)

Harinck, George. "Op het speelveld tussen kerk en staat. De positie van de theologische opleiding op Stellenbosch in vergelijking met die in Duitsland, Nederland, Schotland en de Verenigde Staten." *Nederduits Gereformeerd Theologische Tydskrif* 51 supplementum (2010): 104-115. (George Harinck)

Harinck, George. "Opnieuw bezocht met het evangelie. De vermenging van het Amerikaanse evangelicalisme met het Nederlandse protestantisme." In *A Spiritual Invasion?*, 23-54. (George Harinck)

Harinck, George. "Woord vooraf." In *Mijne reis naar Amerika, bezorgd en toegelicht door*, 7-8. Barneveld, NL: De Vuurbaak, 2010. (George Harinck)

Harinck, George. "Zenden en ontvangen. De vestiging van Amerikaanse christelijke jeugdbewegingen in Nederland." In *A Spiritual Invasion?*, 55-78. (George Harinck)

Krabbendam, Hans. "Emigration to North America in Dutch Juvenile Literature." In *Across Borders: Dutch Migration to North America and Australia*, 97-112. (Hans Krabbendam)

Krabbendam, Hans. Introduction to *Altijd aan het reizen. Brieven van een mormoonse emigrant naar Noord-Amerika, 1877-1913*. J. Spitse, ed. Zutphen:Walburg Press, 2011. A collection of letters from a Mormon emigrant. (Hans Krabbendam)

Nyenhuis, Jacob E. Introduction to *Across Borders: Dutch Migration to North America and Australia*, xiii-xxi. (Jacob E. Nyenhuis)

Nyenhuis, Jacob E. "Member Spotlight: The A. C. Van Raalte Institute at Hope College." *Chronicle of the Historical Society of Michigan* 34 no. 2 (Summer 2011), 6-7. (Jacob E. Nyenhuis)

Nyenhuis, Jacob E. Preface to *The American Diary of Jacob Van Hinte*, xiii-xiv. (Jacob E. Nyenhuis)

Nyenhuis, Jacob E., Suzanne M. Sinke, and Robert P. Swierenga, eds. *Across Borders: Dutch Migration to North America and Australia*. Holland, MI: Van Raalte Press, 2010. (Jacob E. Nyenhuis and Robert P. Swierenga)

Nyenhuis, Jacob E. "Three Photographs of 'the Arkville Maze' by Michael Ayrton." In *Per Laberints*, 135. Ramon Espelt and Oscar Tusquets, eds. Barcelona, Spain: Centre de Cultura Contemporania de Barcelona, 2010. (Jacob E. Nyenhuis)

Nyenhuis, Jacob E., and Peter Ester. "Religion, Ethnicity, and Generation: A Study of Older Dutch-Americans in Holland, Michigan." In *Across Borders: Dutch Migration to North America and Australia*, 147-62. (Jacob E. Nyenhuis)

Swierenga, Robert P. "'Bless the Lord, O My Soul': The Bible's Influence on the Dutch Immigrants," *Origins* 29, no. 1 (2011): 30-34. (Robert P. Swierenga)

Swierenga, Robert P. "Dutch Immigrant Murders Go to the Gallows." In *Across Borders: Dutch Migration to North America and Australia*, 163-78. (Robert P. Swierenga)

Verhave, J. P. "Paul de Kruif, American science writer on malaria: a case study." *Malaria World Journal* 2, no. 1, www.malariaworld.org. (J. P. Verhave)

### **Forthcoming Publications**

Ester, Peter. *Faith, Family, and Fortune*.

Kennedy, Earl Wm. *The Annotated Minutes of the Classis of Holland, 1848-1876*. (Earl Wm Kennedy)

Krabbendam, Hans, Leon van den Broeke, and Dirk Mouw, eds. *Transatlantic Pieties: Old World Clergy in Colonial America*. The Historical Series of the Reformed Church in America, no. tbd. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing. (Hans Krabbendam and Leon van den Broeke)

Nauta, Rein. "*The Legacy of Van Raalte*." VRI Visiting Research Fellows Lecture Series, no. 12. Holland: Van Raalte Press. (Rein Nauta)

Swierenga, Robert P. *A Comprehensive History of Holland*. Historical Series of the Reformed Church in America, no. tbd. Holland/Grand Rapids: Van Raalte Press/Wm. B. Eerdmans. (Robert P. Swierenga)

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**Presentations**

“Celebrating the Stained Glass Artistry of John Vander Burgh.” Presentations to the Adult Education Class, 14<sup>th</sup> Street Christian Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan, 5 and 12 December 2010. (Jacob E. Nyenhuis)

“Dutch Catholics and Protestants in Wisconsin: A Study in Contrasts and Similarities.” Paper for the Eighteenth Biennial Conference of the Association for the Advancement of Dutch-American Studies, Lakeland College, Sheboygan, Wisconsin on 9 June 2011. (Robert P. Swierenga and Hans Krabbendam)

“Our Town: Ten Surprises in Holland’s History.” Paper presented to the Century Club of Holland, 1 Nov. 2010. (Robert P. Swierenga)

“The Dutchness in Paul de Kruif, different, but not indifferent.” Paper for the Eighteenth Biennial Conference of the Association for the Advancement of Dutch-American Studies, Lakeland College, Sheboygan, Wisconsin on 9 June 2011. (J. P. Verhave)

“The Dutch Reformed Church on Chicago’s West Side.” Presentation for adult class at Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church, Elmhurst, IL, 17 Oct. 2010. (Robert P. Swierenga)

Tour leader for two “Dutch Chicago” bus tours. The first for a group from Evergreen Commons on 15 Nov. 2010, and the second for members of the First Reformed Church of Wyoming, Michigan on 9 May 2011. (Robert P. Swierenga)

“Tribute to Dean Jon J. Huiskens.” Retirement reception at Hope College, 1 April 2011. (Jacob E. Nyenhuis)

“Who Was Mama Murdock?” for Young Hearts. Third Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan, 28 April 2011. (Earl Wm. Kennedy)

**Translations**

A Holland resident loaned the institute the Dutch-language minute book of a local debating society, in existence from 1872 to 1877. The small group of Holland citizens was assigned subject matter which they would debate the following week. Translating it has been a most enjoyable exercise. (Nella Kennedy)

## VRI Visiting Research Fellows Program Lecture Series

Inaugural Lecture – 18 September 2003

*Dutch-American Identity Politics: The Use of History by Dutch Immigrants*

Hans Krabbendam, Roosevelt Study Center, the Netherlands

Lecture No. 2 – 2 April 2004

*The Rain of God: Reformed Church in America Growth and Decline in Historical Perspective*

Lynn M. Japinga, Hope College

Unpublished Lecture – 10 November 2004

*Dutch Entrepreneurship: Spirit or Ideology?*

Hans Niemantsverdriet, freelance researcher, writer, and broadcaster, Amsterdam. Four weeks later, he suffered a stroke from which he never recovered; he died 12 April 2007.

Lecture No. 3 – 16 February 2006

*Reassessing 1857: Overlooked Considerations Concerning the Birth of the Christian Reformed Church*

James A. De Jong, Calvin Theological Seminary

Lecture No. 4 – 9 November 2006

*Disease and Death among the Early Settlers in Holland, Michigan*

J. P. Verhave, Radboud University Medical Center, Nijmegen, the Netherlands

Lecture No. 5 – 28 August 2007

*Growing Up Dutch-American: Cultural Identity and the Formative Years of Older Dutch-Americans*

Peter Ester, Tilburg University, the Netherlands

Lecture No. 6 – 18 February 2008

*The Dutch Equation in the RCA Freemasonry Controversy, 1865-1885*

Harry Boonstra, Calvin College and Seminary

Lecture No. 7 – 4 September 2008

*Nicholas Steffens and Trans-Atlantic Relationships within the Reformed Church*

George Harinck, VU University Amsterdam

Lecture No. 8 – 2 October 2008

*Preachers, Pews, and Pupils: Commemorating the Past in Twentieth Century Dutch America*

David Zwart, Dordt College

Lecture No. 9 – 19 February 2009

*The RCA Mission to Chiapas, 1925-2000*

Elizabeth Harvey, University of California, Berkeley\*

Lecture No. 10 – 12 October 2009

*A. C. Van Raalte as a Churchman*

Leon van den Broeke, VU University, Amsterdam\*

Lecture No. 11 – 3 December 2010

*Dutch Americans and the Rise of Heritage Studies*

Michael Douma, Florida State University

Lecture No. 12 – 26 May 2011

*The Legacy of Van Raalte*

Rein Nauta, University of Tilburg, the Netherlands\*

\*PUBLICATION PENDING;

ALL OTHERS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

## Applications Invited Visiting Research Fellows Programs for Academic Year 2012-13

The Van Raalte Institute at Hope College invites applications from qualified scholars for a fellowship offered through the Visiting Research Fellows Program. Up to two fellowships per academic year, each for not more than ten weeks in duration will be awarded. Stipend: up to \$3,000, at \$300 per week.

The Netherland-America Foundation Visiting Research Fellowship was established by a grant in 2006 from the Netherland-America Foundation. The goal of this fellowship is to promote international linkage between the Netherlands and the United States in order to enhance mutual understanding and respect. This fellowship, continuance is dependent on new funding.

**Criteria for Selection:** Proposals for support must demonstrate that the proposed research fits the mission statement of the institute, that the scholar is qualified to conduct such research, and that the resources of the institute and that of the Joint Archives of Holland are essential to the conduct of that research. A current curriculum vitae should be submitted with the application. The NAF Fellowship is intended solely for respected scholars from the Netherlands.

**Application Process and Deadline:** The candidate is to submit a written application no later than 16 January 2012 via e-mail, fax, or post. Further information about expectations, arrangements, and the application process may be obtained from our website at [www.hope.edu/vri](http://www.hope.edu/vri).

## Van Raalte Institute Staff (2009-2010)

Anthony Bednarz *Student Research Assistant* (2011)

Donald J. Bruggink *Senior Research Fellow* (2003)

BA Central College

BD Western Theological Seminary

PhD University of Edinburgh

DD (honorary) Central College

Elton J. Bruins *Philip Phelps Jr. Research Professor* (2002-2009),  
*Emeritus* (2009); *Director, VRI* (1994-2002); *Blekkink Professor of Religion, Emeritus* (1980-1992); *Professor of Religion* (1966-1980);  
*Dean for Arts and Humanities* (1984-1989)

AB Hope College

BD Western Theological Seminary

STM Union Theological Seminary, New York

PhD New York University

George Harinck *Honorary Research Fellow* (2009)

BA Leiden University

MA Leiden University

PhD VU University Amsterdam

Nella Kennedy *Senior Research Fellow, Official Translator, VRI* (2010)

AB Northwestern College

MA University of Iowa

Earl Wm. Kennedy *Senior Research Fellow* (2003)

AB Occidental College

BD Fuller Theological Seminary

ThM Princeton Theological Seminary

ThD Princeton Theological Seminary

James C. Kennedy *Honorary Research Fellow* (2010)

BSFS Georgetown University

MACS Calvin College

PhD University of Iowa

Hans Krabbendam *Honorary Research Fellow* (2009)

MA Leiden University

MA Kent State University

PhD Leiden University

Jacob E. Nyenhuis *Director, VRI* (2002); *Senior Research Fellow*  
(2001-2002); *Provost Emeritus and Professor*  
*Emeritus of Classics* (1975-2001)

AB Calvin College

AM Stanford University

PhD Stanford University

DLitt (honorary) Hope College

JoHannah Smith *Office Manager/Editorial Assistant* (2010)

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Robert P. Swierenga *A. C. Van Raalte Research Professor and Adjunct*  
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MA University of Iowa

PhD University of Iowa

Rachel Syens *Research Internship* (2011)

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