

Pioneers from Buurmalsen-Tricht looking for a better life in Haarlemmermeer and North Dakota

A period of prosperity arose in the 20th century. Many of our generations enjoy the luxury around us, our hobbies and our holidays on a daily basis.

That many of our ancestors had to survive under poor conditions fighting for minimal survival, we no longer think about it.

This is a story that begins in a quiet community in the province of Gelderland.
And indeed, in the towns of **Buurmalsen** and **Tricht**.

Buurmalsen and Tricht, two villages belonging to the "**County of Buren**", province of Gelderland.

Schepenbank in Buurmalsen-Tricht

- According to tradition, the church of Buurmalsen was founded on 24 September 696.
- In 1502, these villages were "legally" united and given their own "schepen bank".
- In 1811, these villages were united into one independent municipality of Buurmalsen-Tricht.
- Since 1978 part of the municipality of Geldermalsen, Gelderland.
 - ❖ The term ship bank has a twofold meaning.
 - Firstly, it is used to indicate a certain geographical entity.
 - Secondly, a bank of ships was the name of the institute that performed a number of tasks in the name of the lord or, in the case of a lordship, the borrower.



Famous people in this story

- **Martin van Buren** (1782-1862), married to Hannah Hoes (1783-1819), was the 8th President of the United States of America in the period 1837-1841.
- **Gijsbert van Meeteren** (1690-1750) was "Schepen of Tricht" in 1734, 1736, 1738.
- **Gijsbert Koorn**.
He was born on 27 April 1828 in Tricht, the son of Huibert Koorn and Maria van Meeteren.
 - He marries 1st **Willempje Bogaard** (1835-1870), she was born Leerdam as the daughter of Cornelis A Bogaard and Neeltje Kool.
 - They have a son **Cornelis Andréas Koorn**.
He moves with **Petertje Bogaard** (1830-1905), a sister of his first wife and his son Gijsbert Andréas, to Haarlemmermeer, North Holland.
 - On 21 June 1871, Gijsbert and Petertje were married in Haarlemmermeer.
 - Gijsbert Kroon died on 9 July 1899 in Heemstede, North Holland.
 - Petertje Bogaard died on 28 April 1905 in Haarlemmermeer, North Holland.
- **Cornelis Andréas Koorn en Maria Schoonrok**
Cornelis Andréas Koorn (1868-1948) and Maria Schoonrok (1871-1949) are both with their parents moved to the Haarlemmermeer, North Holland
Maria Schoonrok
She was born on 19 August 1871 in Hoogvliet as the daughter of Simon Schoonrok and Maria Molenaar.
 - Cornelis and Maria were married on 31-8-1887 in Haarlemmeer, North Holland. Both died in Seattle, King County, Washington



The Koorn family & the Colijn family

- Cornelis Andréas Koorn was a tenant farmer in the Haarlemmeer as well as Arie Colijn.
- Arie and his brother Hendrikus Colijn were also traders, entrepreneurs and were engaged in administrative positions in companies and municipalities.
- Arie and Hendrikus were also the initiators and later the main shareholders of the Holland Dakota Agricultural Company, which was registered in 1910 as Public Limited Company in Amsterdam.

Gijsbert Koorn (1828-1899) & **Petertje Bogaard** (1830-1905), married on 21-6-1871 in Haarlemmermeer.
Cornelis A. Koorn (1868-1948) & **Maria Schoonrok** (1871-1949), married on 31-8-1887 Haarlemmermeer

Pioneers in the Haarlemmermeer, province of North Holland

Problems that the tenant farmers and farm workers have had to deal with over the years.

1882 After years of problems with pumping out, Haarlemmermeer is dry.

- After the Prohibition, the State lingers with the sale of the land, the area remains swampy, impassable and poorly accessible.
- The soil in the polder is still saturated with the water, which has stood above it for centuries and refuses to absorb even a drop of water.
- Due to the bad situation, cholera breaks out for the first time. The cholera continued to reign for the next two years.

1855-1856 During the construction of the Ringdijk, deviations from the prescribed height, preventing flooding.

- In winter, the low parts are flooded for the 3rd time.
- As a result, the canals and ditches flood in autumn and winter, the fields still deserve the name "swamp".

The Ringvaart, the quays, the roads, the bridges, the trips, ditches, machines and the drainage are in a worrying condition.

- Every farmer carries out his fight against the water on his own by damming his ditches and draining his soil on his own initiative.
- Again dissatisfaction with the drainage of the Haarlemmermeer and the problem concerns a "battle" between Highlanders and the Lowlanders. The name is related to whether one is the owner and/or processor of high- or low-lying plots. The Lowlanders are economically weaker because their lands are the least fertile.

1857 The polder work is shut down due to the large number of malaria cases.

1860 The drainage of the polder does not work optimally again and damage is caused to the crops.

1865 Malaria is constantly present due to the abundance of water. In addition, smallpox and especially in summer also typhoid and cholera.

- The Company for "Promotion of Horse Breeding" is established.
 - Without good horses, intensive farming is not possible because the land and the roads are not suitable for the "new and modern" large agricultural machinery.
 - Incidentally, it is financially almost impossible for the tenant to buy machines.

1866 The cattle plague or rinderpest brings the first victims to the Haarlemmermeer.

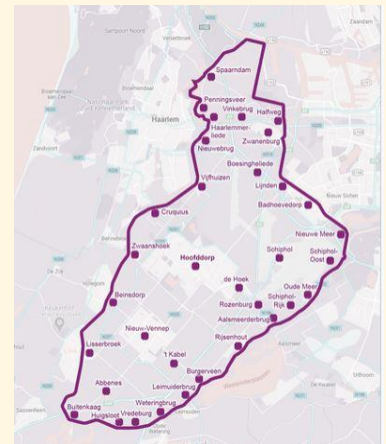
Entire livestock are being slaughtered by order of the mayor. Farmers are resisting.

- A serious cholera epidemic in the Haarlemmermeer.
- Autumn is extremely wet. The harvest is rotting. Lung disease occurs among livestock

1868 Livestock plague is still widespread

1868-1869 The lowlanders are allowed to carry out separate reclamation and drainage.

- The years 1852-1870 are therefore described as the era of colonization.
- Haarlemmermeer is experienced this year as a place of misery and misery.
- The first residents suffer bitter poverty and their health is often poor.
- Child mortality is high and thousands are leaving.
- The mortality rate is 10.5% compared to the Netherlands 6% and North Holland 4.9%.
- Emigration is on average 8.2%
- It was not until around 1920 that the water management became well under control



Haarlemmermeer

Cornelis Andréas Koorn (1868-1948) en **Maria Schoonrok** (1871-1949) emigrate with the children in 1910 to America, North Dakota as participants of the group "Holland Dakota Agricultural Compagnie-emigrants".

Only the eldest daughter Willempje remains in North Holland.



Emigrating to North Dakota

North Dakota, the original occupants

Chippewa, are the original inhabitants and belong to the indigenous Anishinaabé peoples.

- Anishinaabé is a group of culturally related indigenous peoples of origin present in the Great Lakes region of Canada and the midwestern United States.
- The first people of non-Native American descent to settle here came from France. Most true fur hunters and traders from Canada.
- Many of them married the Chippewa in the 18th century.
- Their descendants were the Métis. The original residential area of the Métis included, in addition to Canada, also the U.S. states of Montana, North Dakota and Northwest Minnesota

Pioneering in the Haarlemmeer and North Dakota

Hendrikus Colijn (1869-1944) and his brother **Arie Colijn** (born Anthonie) (1870-192) were born in Haarlemmeer. However, they grew up in the Land of Altena in North Brabant.

- Arie Colijn and his brother Hendrikus Colijn have also farmed and had possessions in the Haarlemmeer. Arie wanted to use the experiences of "farmers under difficult conditions" to research the future possibilities for Dutch farmers in America
- Arie had already been to North America on 17-4-1902 for that reason. His visit to Belfield, North Dakota in 1909 led to the establishment of the Holland Dakota Agricultural Company.
- On February 24, 1910, Arie Colijn arrives again on Ellis Island with the SS Kroonland. The purpose of this trip is probably to secure the purchases of land and assets for the upcoming establishment of the Holland Dakota Agricultural Company.
- On 19 May 1910, Amsterdam is definitively established by law; The Public Limited Company "**Holland Dakota Agricultural Company (HDL Company)**".
- Hendrikus and Arie Colijn were the main shareholders.

Holland Dakota Agricultural Company (HDA Company)

The purpose of the company was the purchase, operation and sale of land in North Dakota. The Compagnie owned approximately 5,800 hectares of agricultural land.

- On 28-6-1910, the SS Rijkdam (Steam Ship) docked on Ellis Island near New York with the group of "**44 HDL-Compagnie emigrants**", incl. Arie and Hendrikus Colijn.
- The Company leased the land to the farmers and provided them with the necessary agricultural materials. For this, the tenant farmers had to pay ¼ of the yield.
- The activities of Holland Dakota Agricultural Company did not have the expected result.
- In 1919, the company and the farmers had to deal with drought and a locust plague. The local representatives reported a total failure of harvests.
- The farmers who had already been discouraged by previous setbacks started to leave.

Arie Colijn travelled to North Dakota to persuade the tenants to stay.

However, a dozen farms were abandoned and the recruitment of new tenants was only partially successful.

If the unfavourable weather conditions were not a problem, it was the unfavourable economic conditions that destroyed the organisation.

The Company was forced to purchase the agricultural machinery for the tenants at high prices.

Road plan, accessibility and accessibility

In addition, as in the Haarlemmeer, the road network, accessibility and accessibility of the Belfield region played an important and decisive role.

The other cities became easier to reach and therefore more interesting to search for land.

- The tenants / farmers had a difficult life under these circumstances and the Company was dissolved and began to sell land to their tenants.

Arrival in Belfield, North Dakota

Cornelis Andréas Koorn and **Maria Schoonrok** and their children finally arrived at the Belfield Train Station in North Dakota on 8-7-1910, after 9 days.

Belfield was founded in 1883 and has much to offer in this oil-rich part of North Dakota flowering and decline.

The Koorn family are among the first members of the Christian Reformation Church in South Heart, North Dakota.



- In 1919 they moved to a farm in the Milnor, North Dakota area.
- In 1924 they move to a farm southwest of South Heart, North Dakota.
- From 1930-1932, Cornelis and Maria have farmed in Oak Harbor, Whidbey Island, Washington. In 1932 they returned to South Heart until 1946.
- They moved to Seattle in 1947 and lived with their youngest daughter until their death.

Simon Koorn & Pieter Rip and their children

Their original last name Koorn however upon application for citizenship was changed in 1918 to Kooren.

- Only Simon Koorn and his descendants kept the name Koorn.
- This family eventually settled in Oak Harbor, Whidbey Island, Washington.
- Son Ralph Koorn married Rosa M. Ripp on 1-3-1946 in Oak Harbor, Whidbey Island.
- A daughter of Pieter Rip, who was with Simon Koorn a part of "the Group of 44".

The Dutch "44 HDA-Compagnie emigrants" on the SS Rijndam (Steam Ship)

Emigrants from Haarlemmermeer.

- Cornelis A. Koorn with family (9), Paulus vdr Pol with family (4),
- Cornelis Ravestijn with wife (2), and Hendedrik Oly (1), and
- **Dirk van der Voet** (1), mother **Jacomina de Graaff** also came along or later followed her son to Oak Harbor.
- Gerrit Noorloos with family (6), including daughter Emerenske, later married to Marinus den Besten (descendant of Charlemagne).

Emigrants from Ransdorp-Amsterdam

- Pieter Staphorst with his son en stepdaughter (3).

Emigrants from Zevenhuizen, Zuid-Holland.

- Pieter Rip-1883 (1)

Emigrants home address unknown.

- Johannes Hendrix-1864, , Dick de Mit-1890, Hatthys Smit-1887, Arie in 't Veld-1885
- Jacobus Lambertus Botticher-1890, Geerit Kooy-1889, Johannes Schrier-1875,
- Dirk K. Baarse-1882, Johannes Bogers-1885, Johannes van Leeuwen-1882,
- Zacharias Nesman-1890, Jan J. Nieuwkoop-1889, Kartinus Langelier-1889,
- Adrianus den Ouden-1874.

❖ *The stated years of birth have been estimated on the basis of the list of the "Group of 44" or corrected if the person has been found as with Pieter Rip and Dirk van der Voet.*

Voorouders en familienamen van de nakomelingen

Gijsbert Koorn (1828-1899) and his partners **Willempje** en **Petertje Bogaard**.

Ancestors: Found **43** generaties, of which **24** are posted on the site.

Surnames:

mother Willempje: Bohlman, Borgman, Brandon, Dvorak, Fadness, Grewe, Harris, Hecker, Hlebechuk, Honingh, Huffman, Hutzenbeler, Hutzenbiler, Knoblauch, Kooren, Koorn, Lamont, Nelson, Olheiser, Oly, Poynter, Reed, Rodakowski, Schjei, Silliman, Slegers, Smith, Stephens, Stoppleworth, van Teeffelen, Tessier, Visser, Wagner, Wegh, Wilkinson.

mother Petertje: Boer, Bogerd, Bogert, Totté, Versteeg.

The ancestor line of the Bogaard sisters can be downloaded from my site at the end of September

bogerdgenealogie.jouwweb.nl

Nico Bogerd

with thanks to Robert Kooren.