

**A.C. Van Raalte Institute**  
**Annual Report**  
January-December 2022

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*Hope College*  
*Holland, Michigan*

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A. C. Van Raalte Institute, Hope College

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# **Annual Report**

## 2022

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## ***In Memoriam: Peter Ester***

*5 June 1953 - 11 December 2022*

**I**t is with deep sadness that we acknowledge the death of Peter Ester, the second annual Netherland-America Foundation Visiting Research Fellow (2007) and Honorary Adjunct Research Professor at the Van Raalte Institute (2008-11). At the time of his death, Ester was serving as a senator in the Upper House of the Parliament of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, having been elected to that post in June 2011.

When Peter Ester first came to the Van Raalte Institute, he was professor of sociology and director of the Institute for Labour Studies at Tilburg University in the Netherlands; he subsequently was a professor of social science at Rotterdam University. He had received his MA from Utrecht University in 1976 and his PhD from Erasmus University Rotterdam in 1984. Already in 2007, his thirty-seven-page curriculum vitae included 52 books, 73 book chapters, 84 journal articles, 28 scientific reports, and 103 conference papers.

Peter Ester previously directed two other research institutes at Tilburg University: GLOBUS—Institute for Globalization and Sustainable Development—and IVA—Institute for Social Research. He had been a visiting professor at several institutions in both Germany and the United States, including two visiting appointments at the University

of Michigan. He also had been the recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship to both Claremont Graduate School in California, and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg, Virginia.

Professor Ester's research interests included the question of how religious communities create and maintain sustainable social capital. His research topic in 2007 was "Ethnic Identity and the Formative Years of the Older Generation of Dutch-Americans—Lasting Memories of a Shared History," which resulted in the publication of *Growing Up Dutch-American: Recollections of Cultural Identity by Older Dutch-Americans*. He collaborated with Nella Kennedy and Earl Wm. Kennedy on *The American Diary of Jacob Van Hinte* (Van Raalte Press; Eerdmans, 2010); his monograph, *Faith, Family, and Fortune: Reformed Upbringing and Calvinist Values of Highly Successful Dutch-American Entrepreneurs*, was published by the Van Raalte Press in 2012.

He is survived by his wife Amelia Ann Román and daughter Megan Ester of Baarn, the Netherlands.

**Jacob E. Nyenhuis**

Editor-in-Chief, Van Raalte Press  
Director Emeritus, Van Raalte Institute

## *Director's "Ritual" Welcome to the VRI Annual Report*

**D**uring a recent convalescence, I binged on the Netflix soap opera “The Crown.” Setting aside the sometimes-tawdry tales therein, I was struck by how central rituals—public and private—were to the narrative. Whether grand, national pageants, such as state weddings, funerals, or Queen’s Day celebrations, or family-scale gatherings for birthdays, christenings, or Christmastide, these rituals were seminal to drawing people closer together. They helped to define who was part of the team (and at times who, destructively, was not part of the team). Rituals matter in a community.

This led me to reflect on the rituals we enjoy within the Van Raalte Institute community. As most of you know, having joined us on occasion, a sacrosanct ritual for the VRI folks is 11:00 a.m. coffee. This is a ritualized hour for those in the office to gather around grapes and pastries to converse together. Henk Aay has a preternatural ability to find fresh grapes year round. Others either bake or bring cookies or banana bread or other delicacies. And there are rituals within this broader ritual. Paul Heusinkveld and I generally squeeze into seats at the foot of the table; Nella and Bill Kennedy join Lee and Jack Nyenhuis along the east side of the table; Don Bruggink, Henk Aay, and Dennis Voskuil face them on the west side; Bob Swierenga, our most-senior, senior research fellow (in time of service to the VRI) takes his place at the head of the table. Guests array themselves amid these “assigned” seats.

The year 2022 was especially rich for the “others” who joined us as guests and, as is our ritual, signed our guest book (23 outside guests this year). For September and October, Jan and Antonio Boersema were with us from the University of Leyden, continuing their work on the Dutch pioneers’ cultural understanding of flora and fauna in nineteenth-century West Michigan. Visiting research fellow and Hope professor Chad Carlson spent regular coffee breaks here during the spring of 2022 as he researched

the meaning of the athletic rivalry between Hope College and Calvin [then] College basketball teams in the early twentieth-century. During the fall of 2022, Rev. Kent Fry was our VRF and delved into the theological and cultural influences that helped to shape the thinking of Eugene P. Heideman. Throughout the year, we were pleased to have honorary research fellow Judy Parr join us for coffee. She continues work on her 2021 VRF project on the life of former Hope president, Edward D. Dimment. Another regular in our midst is Donald Sinnema, part of an international team producing a multivolume history and analysis of the seventeenth century Synod of Dordt.

The VRI senior research fellows and their significant others gather on several celebratory occasions each year. We have formal receptions to celebrate the release of every book published by the Van Raalte Press, and we recognize the author at an evening soiree. In 2022 we celebrated with Thomas L. Renner the publication of his two-volume history of Hope College athletics, *In Pursuit of Excellence: Be Strong—Be True: A History of Intercollegiate Athletics at Hope College*. We also acknowledged the third in the Missionary Memoirs Series, David Dickason's *Faith, Hope, Love: The Hakeem's Journey*, an account of Dr. Wells Thoms' service as a missionary in the Middle East in the mid-twentieth century. Don Bruggink, Dennis Voskuil, and Will Katerberg edited the proceedings of the 2021 AADAS virtual conference. The product is *Dutch Immigrant Stories*, a warmly personal record of individual and group immigrant experiences, many rife with challenges and unfettered hope. The fourth volume in the Missionary Memoirs Series was welcomed in December. *A Place to Call Home: A Missionary Kid's Journey*, by George C. Kraft II, is an account of growing up as the son of missionaries to Tibet and western China in the years before World War II. Each volume has been celebrated publicly and privately.

The close of 2022 brings its own rituals to the VRI family. On the “happy” side is our annual Christmas gathering, one in which we celebrate the new life we all share—despite our advanced ages—with the Babe of Bethlehem. On the “less happy” side, is the ritual of writing up our individual submissions for the annual report. Although we often begin our reflections a bit grudgingly, we soon find that the review of the prior year is



a good way to celebrate what has been accomplished. At the very least, it provides us with a wonderful occasion to celebrate what our colleagues have achieved.

The ritual of the annual report also provides us with the opportunity to spread our arms around the larger VRI family that extends beyond the walls of the Theil Research Center. In that spirit, we embrace each one of you via this report. The periodic notes and words of appreciation we have received over the years for this gesture, this ritual gift, have been heartwarming and affirming of our collective enterprise. Enjoy this ritual gift from us.

**Donald A. Luidens**

Director and Senior Research Fellow, Van Raalte Institute  
Professor of Sociology Emeritus, Hope College

# *Reports*

## Senior Research Fellows



## *Nella Kennedy*

Apart from the usual interruptions to help with translation (words, idioms, illegible Dutch writing), I have been working on researching and preparing a manuscript on Hope College's Dimnent Chapel, completed in 1929. Questions have arisen, such as, why were so many college and university chapels built in the first three decades of the twentieth century in a neo-Gothic style? Why build another chapel when the splendid Winants Chapel, built a mere twenty-five years earlier, could have sufficed? Did President Dimnent choose the subject matter of the stained-glass windows?

Although the documentation in the Joint Archives of Holland about other Hope presidents is quite extensive, the Dimnent collection is much less so. Consequently, it is hard to have a clear understanding of the entire decision-making process behind the development of the chapel. Judy Parr, in writing a corresponding biography of President Dimnent, is also working with these archival materials. Both of us have had to rely on other sources as well. We hope to publish our research in two volumes, one on President Dimnent, the other on the chapel.

While in the Netherlands this past summer, husband Bill and I looked at a Dutch Bible of 1645 that was not only rare but also had a handwritten Van Raalte family genealogy in the back. Because of

the genealogy, the librarian at Hope College had been contacted by the sellers, and we were asked to assess its value and significance. The genealogy has a possible connection to the Michigan Van Raalte family, albeit several generations back in the Netherlands. We ended up shipping the old Bible to the Van Wylen Library at Hope College, where it now resides in the rare books collection.



*Looking at the Bible, Anjo Doorenbos and Nella Kennedy, Maarn, the Netherlands, July 2022*



## *Robert P. Swierenga*

This year I completed a four-year effort to write an extensive biography of Albertus C. Van Raalte, scheduled to be published by the Van Raalte Press in 2023. Given the strong support of my colleagues, notably Nella and Bill Kennedy, it has truly been a joint project. The book is dedicated to Rev. Dr. Elton J. Bruins (1927-2020), my colleague of more than twenty years and founding director of the institute. Bruins was the foremost Van Raalte scholar and bibliophile. Hopefully, the book will be the definitive work on Van Raalte, the most notable and accomplished Dutch American immigrant pastor and promoter of emigration to America. Founded in 1847, Van Raalte's Holland Colony laid the foundation for West Michigan to become the very industrious and thriving Dutch center of North America.

I continue to serve on the boards of directors of the Zeeland Historical Society, the Van Raalte Farm Civil War Muster, and the Dutch American Historical Commission. My current project is writing a comprehensive history of Zeeland, Holland's "little brother," a community that deserves to have its story told. Adrian Van Koevering related in great detail the history of the pioneer generation in his *Legends of the Dutch* (Zeeland Record Co., 1960), and I plan to build on his foundational work.



*Speaking at the Zeeland Historical Society annual dinner, First Reformed Church, Zeeland, October 20, 2022 (photo by Gary Yonkers)*



## Henk Aay

Before I left to colead the AADAS emigration tour in the Netherlands in April, I turned in my manuscript for *American Eyes on the Netherlands: Film, Public Diplomacy, and Dutch Identity, 1943-74, including a Survey of Dutch Visual Media in America from the 17th to the 21st Century* to our project editor JoHannah Smith. Because this has been a long-term project, that hand-off came with much relief of every kind. When I returned in mid-May, I regularly took time to carefully read through the chapters and make edits to our shared manuscript; when I was locked out of that document in September, I continued with handwritten changes to the hard copy of the PDF. I mention this because I was surprised by my compulsion to continue to work with the manuscript and by how many errors I continued to discover, as well as changes to formatting, wording, and sentence structure. I just could not leave it alone and focus on my other projects. That said, I am convinced these ongoing edits are further correcting and improving the manuscript.

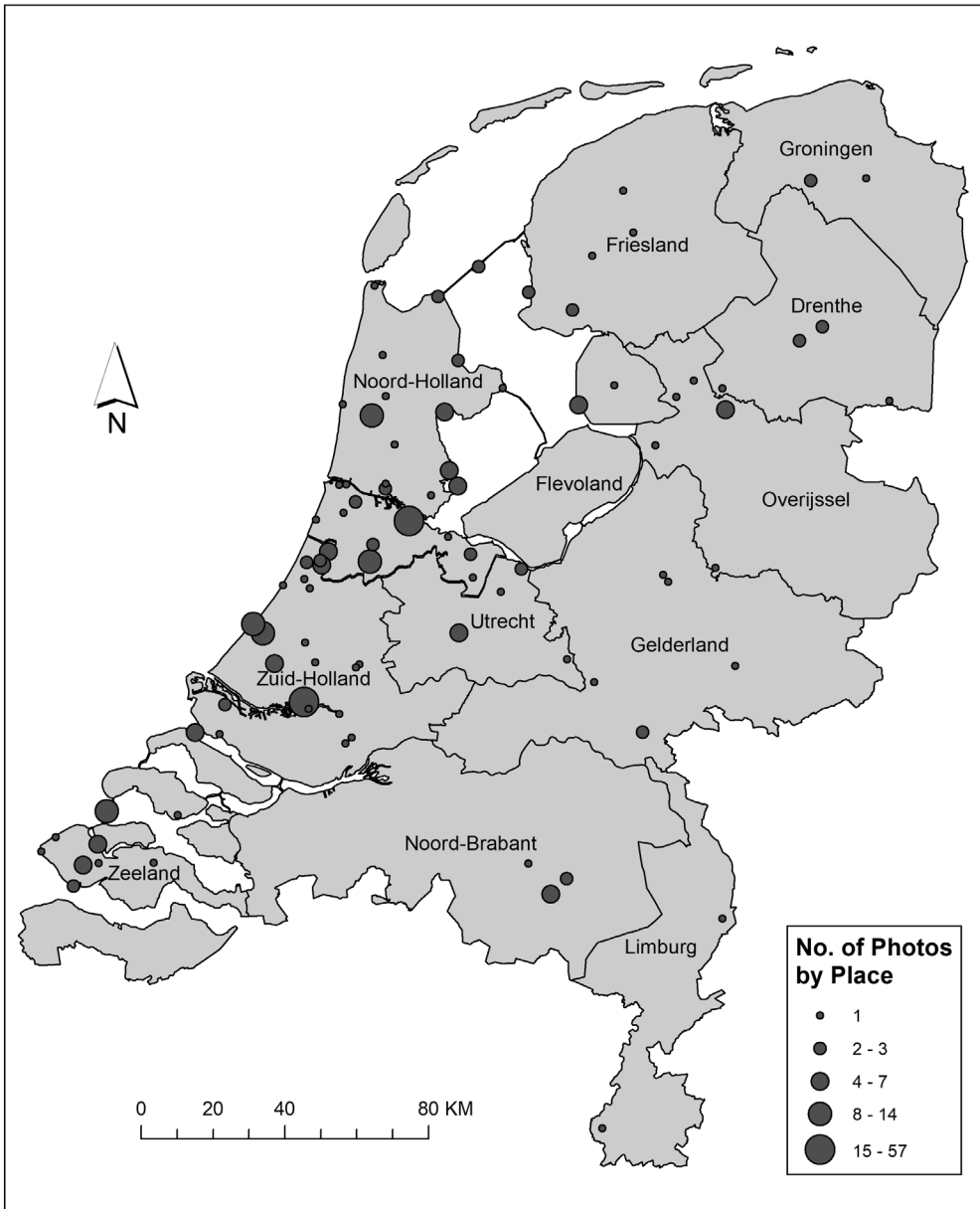
Such editing and other work related in one way or another to this book project still took up most of my time at the VRI this year. The foreword, index, appendices, and permissions were and are end projects for preparing this and any manuscript for publication. The two hundred-plus figures (stills, maps, graphs, paintings, and photos) in this manuscript

would suggest much work in securing permissions and licenses. But I had earlier secured permissions for the many stills from the Holland Museum, then holder of the Netherlands Information Service archive, and all the maps and graphs were already made as part of my original research project. One of these maps has been added to this report.

The artwork used in *American Eyes* is mostly copyright free. The photos—many between fifty and ninety years old—did, however, require permission. Those from the Dutch American and Dutch press were readily secured and without fees, but much work and considerable fees were required to secure the copyright permissions of the seven photos from the *New York Times*, *Life*, and *National Geographic* used in chapter 8. I had to track down the photographers (primary license holders) and either the publications (secondary license holders) or their representatives. In several cases, even after a full-on internet search, I was unable to either identify or contact the primary license holders. I will add a sentence or two to the foreword or elsewhere in the manuscript about my due diligence in identifying copyright holders and invite them to contact me in those cases where I was not able to find them.

I plan to write an article (in Dutch) for the journal *Geografie* that draws attention to the geographical aspects of the research results that have gone into *American Eyes*, in particular, the changing spatial distribution of screenings in the twenty-state, midsection of the United States and of Dutch places viewed by American audiences.





Location and number of times places (villages, towns, cities, infrastructure projects) in the Netherlands are shown in photographs in National Geographic, 1900-2019 (National Geographic archive, © Henk Aay and Van Raalte Press)

**AADAS emigration tour**

Together with fellow AADAS member Mary Risseeuw, I led an educational emigration tour by bus in the Netherlands from April 27 to May 9, 2022. The idea for the trip came from a desire to broaden interest in the Association for the Advancement of Dutch American Studies (AADAS), now nearly fifty years old. The tour was postponed three times due to COVID restrictions, but those interested from the start largely remained committed and on board when the trip did finally take place. The destinations were of two kinds: (1) areas of high outmigration (coastal Friesland and Groningen, the Achterhoek, Zeeuws Vlaanderen, and the Catholic area round Uden in Noord Brabant), and (2) museums, archives, and ports with emigration exhibits and sites (The Hague, Rotterdam, Arnhem, and Antwerp).

We prepared and distributed a Dutch emigration digital reader well before the tour began. It consisted of general articles about Dutch emigration to the United States and pieces specific to the areas we were visiting. Local experts led us through these areas of high outmigration and reconstructed for us the economic, social, and religious conditions that led many to leave. See the photo of the day laborer's sod cottage we visited. The tour was generally well received, without major logistical problems, and, at the end of the trip, no one tested positive for COVID, which would have delayed their return to the United States.



*Day laborer's sod cottage at the Open-Air Museum in Arnhem, the Netherlands*

## **Mapping Dutch North America: Atlas of Dutch American History and Culture**

Work on the atlas took a back seat this year to getting to the finish line for *American Eyes on the Netherlands*. Megumu Jansen, a Calvin University alum who had worked closely with me for several years as a computer mapping and GIS expert, graduated from the University of Minnesota with a master's degree in architecture in May 2022 and took a position with a firm in the Twin Cities. He and I had finished the maps and other figures for all the Dutch Reformed denominations in North America, working both separately and together. I will be looking for another student well-versed in mapping and GIS, but I also decided to learn to work with the latest version of ArcGIS Pro myself and become more of an independent mapmaker. With that in mind, I am devoting around ten hours a week to ArcGIS Pro tutorials and exercises. I have complete access to the resources and faculty expertise of the Calvin University bachelor's and master's GIS programs, for which I am very grateful.

Next up for the atlas are the Reformed colleges and universities, as well as the seminaries that were founded, led, and, for much of their history, attended by Dutch immigrants and their descendants. Waiting in the wings: Dutch Canadian immigration, post-WWI Dutch emigration to the United States, and New Netherland and its legacies.



## *Dennis N. Voskuil*

During the past year, I have focused upon the production of the first comprehensive history of Western Theological Seminary.

Although the seminary was established more than 150 years ago, its history has been recorded in surprisingly few publications as stand-alone articles and isolated chapters in a few books that feature a broad array of topics. In fact, I authored three of the existing published pieces on the history of the seminary, all of which were related to two interactions of the seminary with Hope College, the RCA, and the original denominational seminary, New Brunswick Theological Seminary in New Jersey.

When this project is completed, it will tell the story of the seminary from the middle of the nineteenth century to the beginning of the twenty-first century.

Finally, it continues to be a great privilege to be a senior research fellow of the VRI, an inspiring community of scholars who have become genuine friends.



## Donald J. *Bruggink*

This year saw the publication of *Dutch Immigrant Stories*, papers from the twenty-third biennial conference of the Association for the Advancement of Dutch American Studies (AADAS), whose theme was “Telling, Sharing, and Preserving Dutch American Stories,” held via Zoom in June of 2021. The cover is graced by a classic windmill that says “Dutch” but which is sufficiently bucolic, with a hint of poverty, to suggest reasons for immigration with its attendant stories. It is to Marena M. De Leau that we are largely indebted for this cover design. Supported by my coeditors, Dennis Voskuil and William Katerberg, this is a volume of which we can be proud. For editorial quality equal to that of major publishers, we are indebted to project editor JoHannah Smith and the Van Raalte Press editor-in-chief Jacob E. Nyenhuis.



The authors, in their variety of vocations, coupled with the variety of their stories, offer a tantalizing view of the immigration experience. The book begins with a professional Dutch theologian, George Harinck, writing about another Dutch theologian, Abraham Kuyper, who writes about Dutch immigrants in America from a heliotropic perspective.

Lest that deter one, the next essay concerns an unemployed Dutch carpenter whose life in the Netherlands prior to immigration is told by a daughter—now a grandmother—to her PhD grandson, whom she regularly beats at scrabble.

Calvin history professor Robert Schoone-Jongen writes an engaging tale of “Abraham Vermeulen, a man who, by turns, acted as a tailor, barber, grocer, liquor salesman, feather cleaner, defense contractor, realtor, quarryman, steamship ticket agent, church elder, church deacon, notary public, justice of the peace, cemetery owner, coroner, Republican Party ward healer, and (most famously) an undertaker” (p. 29). He presents Vermeulen as the preeminent leader of the Dutch in Patterson, New Jersey.

Hopefully, this taste of the AADAS presenters and authors will whet your appetite for more—like Nella Kennedy, author and translator, who writes of A. F. H. de Lespinasse, a possible bigamist, certainly an “Orange City Settler Like No Other” (ch. 6).

All of the above are stories of people at the center of settlements by Dutch immigrants. The book continues with stories of Dutch Mormons in Ogden, Utah, and a major who seeks peace with rather than the slaughter of Indians. There is also the tale of the Dutch immigrant in Florida who, as a civic-minded developer, creates a “historical” pageant of his own concoction about Indians.

The book ends with a plea to remember the bad with the good and to include women in the stories of the past. To enjoy these immigrant stories in their entirety (\$25), please visit [hope.edu/vri](http://hope.edu/vri) or [amazon.com](http://amazon.com).

My major project has been to edit and synthesize the multiple and various documents comprising Eugene P. Heideman’s *Canons of Dort: God’s Freedom, Justice, and Persistence*. What I had hoped would be a modest

job of editing has turned out to be far more difficult than anticipated. Nonetheless, the manuscript is now being copy edited by JoHannah, who will then present the perfected copy to Jack Nyenhuis, who will bring the rigors of classical Greek and Latin and his discerning eye to the contemporary English in this book. The final manuscript will then go to Russell Gasero for page layout, while we, at the Van Raalte Press will struggle for a cover design to do justice to its contents.

Perhaps a word should be said about the difficulties of getting to this point and why Gene, and now we, have bothered. Like other creeds of centuries past, born out of theological struggles to counter subtle, but potentially heretical theology, the Canons of Dort requires signatures of belief by all Reformed Church in America and Christian Reformed Church of North America pastors prior to ordination. The tragedy is that all too many ministers are in fact unfamiliar with its contents. Gene once said to me that Dort represented the “high point” of the Reformation. His authorship of *“God’s Freedom, Justice, and Persistence”* will bear out his enthusiasm for the relevance of the canons,

Gene Heideman was a gifted systematic theologian, one who understood that, to shift the nuance on one point of doctrine required the examination of every other point that nuance touched. In authorship, that meant that he was constantly rewriting. Unfortunately, a fall by his wife Mary resulted in him devoting all of his energies to her care. This was followed by suffering his own series of strokes, which put a permanent end to his writing. As Gene’s friend and admirer since college days, I felt the need to share his theological acuity with the church in the publication of this volume. The task was far greater than anticipated, for Gene left a thumb drive replete with the many iterations of his manuscript. One example will suffice: the thumb drive contained three separate versions of chapter 3, all marked “Final” but without dates.

I have labored to give you the best of Heideman, and thus the best of the *Canons Of Dort: God’s Freedom, Justice, and Persistence*.



## Excerpt

*The Canons Of Dort: God's Freedom, Justice, and Persistence*

(ch. 5, "The Purposes of Election")

The Canons of Dort made a wrong turn when it ignored the fact that the words in Romans 8:30, "Those whom he predestined, he also called; and those whom he called, he also justified; and those whom he justified, he also glorified," stand at the conclusion of a paragraph that begins by saying that "The sufferings of the present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us" (Rom. 8.18).

The whole passage, Romans 8:18-30, is about the fact that "The creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God." Not only for their own sake, but also that the whole creation now "subject to futility," "will be set free from the bondage of decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God." It is in this "hope that we are saved" (8:19-25). In 8:28-29, we learn that the good pleasure, purpose and plan of God for God's creation and for those who believe is that they "be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family."

The elect do not live in the church as an aggregate of individuals. They constitute one body in Christ as an organic community with Christ as their head.



## *Paul Heusinkveld*

Subsequent to being appointed a senior research fellow at the Van Raalte Institute in May 2021, I have focused my work on researching and documenting stories—particularly of missionaries within the RCA’s Arabian Mission—that will, hopefully, inspire others to dedicate their lives to similar service as a means of reconciliation to foster peace and goodwill between the East and West.

I continue to work on a biography of my father, Dr. Maurice Heusinkveld, who was a member of the Arabian Mission. The book details the history of the early Heusinkvelds and the events and circumstances that inspired Maurice to decide to become a missionary in Arabia. The timeline of the book will be from the 1600s to 1961, at which time, at age



*Elinor, Maurice, and son Paul Heusinkveld, in Amarah, Iraq, 1954. Maurice grew up on a farm in the Midwest, suffered polio, went to medical school, and dedicated his life to the well-being of the poor in the Middle East.*

ten, I left the mission field and went to boarding school in India.

In the process of working on the biography of my father, I became curious about the motives that drove my ancestors to immigrate to America. I have spent considerable time researching this subject and will publish an English translation of the seminal pamphlet, *Landverhuizing, of waarom bevorderen wij de volksverhuizing en wel naar Noord Amerika en niet naar Java?* (Emigration, or why do we advocate emigration to North America and not to Java), published in 1846 by Anthony Brummelkamp and A. C. Van Raalte, that encouraged emigration to North America. The document played a large role in my ancestors' decision to emigrate—as well as for thousands of other Netherlanders—to America and can shed light on the broader topic of what drove the Dutch to emigrate. It will be a valuable source document for future academic research.

I will supplement the document with related context and background information, footnotes, pictures, maps, a bibliography, and an index.

## Excerpt

From my book on Van Raalte and Brummelkamp's *Landverhuizing*:

You, like most of us in North America, are probably a descendent of someone who immigrated to North America in the last two hundred years. At some point, you probably asked, “Why did they come?” and “Why did they leave their homelands?”

Hopefully, this book will help you answer such questions. This book is mainly focused on Dutch immigration but will also give insights into a broader view of all immigrant groups.

A good deal of my work at the Van Raalte Institute has been focused on republishing rare documents associated with the RCA (particularly on the Arabian Mission) and CRC. These documents are either rare, hard-to-find, or available in only a few library collections, or they may be unique. They are virtually inaccessible to most people, especially to anyone living outside the United States. My goal is to make

these important documents more readily available to anyone interested in them, either for research purposes or for general interest.

The initial phase of this undertaking involved scanning and digitizing seven books that fit the topics of academic interest specified by the mission statement of the VRI. I used OCR (optical character recognition) technology and software to transform the scans into editable text, which enabled me to reformat the layout of the books and add footnotes, photographs, and maps to enhance the reading and comprehension of these materials. I will also add an index to each book to facilitate the work of future researchers.

One specific project within this endeavor is a compendium of rare documents regarding the history of the Arabian Mission, currently titled “Lost Histories of the Arabian Mission.” It includes the field reports of the Arabian Mission, which began in 1890, as well as other documents. Many of these rare documents are fragile, thus the intent is to make them available for study by academics, as well as the general public. The reports provide unique documentation of the history and culture of the Arabian Gulf region.

I am also working on a missionary memoir of Trena Selles; she and her husband Albert were CRC missionaries in China (the CRC’s first mission field) from 1926 to 1949. They lived through a tumultuous time in Chinese history. Noteworthy, is that the book is a first-hand account, written by a woman, with fascinating, possibly unique, personal historical details of the times, and it will be a valuable source for future research. Kurt Selles, grandson of Trena and Albert, is working to locate pictures for the manuscript. I am working from Trena’s mimeographed memoir and will be adding footnotes, pictures, maps, and an index.

I continue to rework my biography of Eleanor Calverley, a missionary with the RCA’s Arabian Mission from 1909 to 1929. She was the first woman doctor to Kuwait, and the government of Kuwait has published a biography of her in Arabic, attesting to how highly she is viewed by the Kuwaiti Arabs. During my two tours at the US Embassy in Kuwait, I heard many stories of this courageous woman. My goal is to retell her adventurous story as a means of reconciliation between East and West, Kuwait and the United States, and Moslems and Christians, as well as to serve as inspiration for young women looking for role models.



*The Calverley house, one of the oldest in Kuwait, still stands and is used by the mission.*



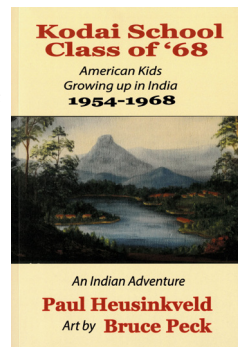
*Eleanor and her daughter riding Eleanor's "ambulance." The mission did not have a car for the first few years, and the narrow streets of Kuwait in the 1910s were far too narrow for a car to traverse.*

In preparing Harvey Staal's translation of the Arabic Bible for publication, I have composed a fairly complete, near-final draft of the book, with pictures and maps included.

This rare Bible (just one single copy exists at St. Catherine's Monastery in the Sinai) was written in 867 AD and provides unique insights into Christianity. Staal's translation printed in a small publishing run in 1984, is virtually unavailable and in a format that is difficult to read. My goal is to reformat the text and add pictures, maps, and appendices to make it much more readable and for the additional content to add historical and cultural context to this rare document. I have been working on this project for more than a decade.

In August, I independently published *Kodai School Class of '68*, about the 1968 class that graduated from the missionary boarding school in Kodaikanal, India. The book is closely related to topics of interest within the VRI's mission statement and can serve as unique source material for future research into the lives of missionaries and, more specifically, their children.

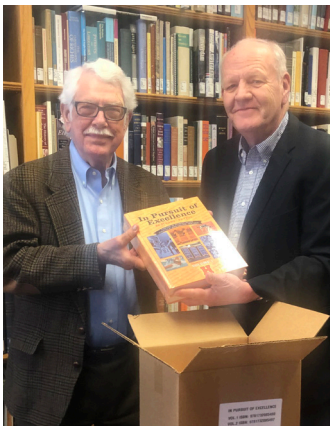
I continue to provide advice and assistance to my VRI colleagues in a number of technical areas, such as scanning, OCR, document layout, and reformatting (of note, I have received far more advice from them than I have given). In particular, I helped Bob Swierenga in the scanning of pictures and text documents to prepare them for publication.





## Jacob E. Nyenhuis

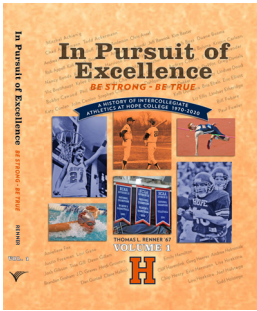
In my role as editor-in-chief of the Van Raalte Press (VRP), I have reviewed several manuscripts and participated in decisions on cover design. In this role, I work closely with JoHannah Smith, our outstanding project editor. In the past year, the VRP has published four books (5 volumes): *Dutch Immigrant Stories*, edited by Donald J. Bruggink, Dennis N. Voskuil, and William Katerberg (see Bruggink's report); Thomas L. Renner's history of Hope athletics; and the third and fourth books in the Missionary Memoirs Series (MMS), with Donald A. Luidens as series editor.



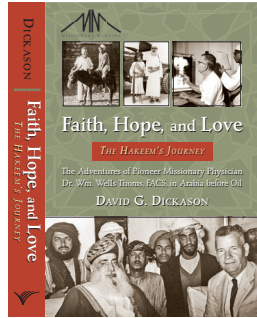
Jack and author Tom Renner



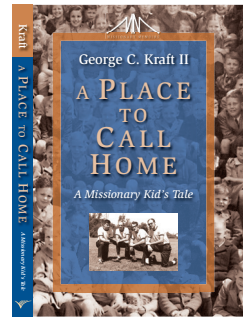
The release of Renner's fifty-year history of Hope athletics was celebrated with multiple events, both public and private.



Thomas L. Renner, *In Pursuit of Excellence Be Strong* (2 vols.)



David G. Dickason, *Faith, Hope, and Love* (no. 3, MMS)



George C. Kraft II, *A Place to Call Home* (no. 4, MMS)

Robert P. Swierenga’s biography, *A. C. Van Raalte: Pastor by Vocation, Entrepreneur by Necessity*, is scheduled for publication in 2023. I have also edited a manuscript from Janet Sheeres, *Present but Not Counted: Dutch-Born Immigrant Women Working as Midwives in Dutch Colonies in the United States*, which will be added to the list of volumes to be copy edited by JoHannah. Several additional volumes are in various stages of the editorial process.

My personal projects include collaboration with Nella Kennedy and Judy Parr on a book about Dimnent Memorial Chapel (including a biography of President Edward D. Dimnent), completion of a family history, and writing a memoir.

My public service includes continuing membership on the Dutch American Historical Commission (including service as secretary until after the May meeting minutes were completed and distributed) and on the Dutch-American Heritage Day Committee. I have likewise continued as an emeritus member of the Managing Committee of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. I will attend its January 2023 meeting via Zoom. In addition, I have been publishing the annual “Hope College Retirees” directory since 2004 but will pass on that responsibility to Michael Seymour, professor emeritus of chemistry, after we jointly publish the 2023 edition. I also maintain connections between and among retirees through regular updates on fellow retirees.



## *Donald A. Luidens*

This past year has been a busy one, both personally and professionally. In many ways, it has been a “break out” year following the curtailment of activities during the pandemic.

In February and March, I was invited to present two-week sessions at Hope Church and Third Reformed Church of Holland on my recent book, *Seeds of Hope, Hate, and Change: Missionary Witnesses to the Middle East in Transition, 1942-1957* (VRP 2020). Since my book was released in the midst of the pandemic, these were wonderful opportunities to share my research with new audiences.

February also saw me on a post-show discussion panel at the Hope College theater reflecting on a powerful play, directed by Richard Perez, entitled *Native Gardens*. The plot follows the relations between two Washington, DC, neighbors, an elderly white couple, and a younger Latino couple next door. The presenting issue revolves around a fence, igniting hidden animosities, and light-hearted humor.

During the spring, I finalized a coauthored (with Nancy Scudder) biographical chapter for a forthcoming book based on Lewis R. Scudder III’s *MorningLand Meditations*. Lew was a dear friend and fellow “mish kid” who grew up in the Middle East. As an adult, he returned as a missionary and worked in Kuwait, Lebanon, and Cyprus. From his home



in Cyprus, during the early 2000s, he wrote a trove of reflections on the religious, political, and cultural landscape of the Middle East and the United States. These have been gathered together by John Hubers in a forthcoming anthology.

In late June, I participated in a workshop focusing on diversity and inclusion at Hope College. This NetVue-sponsored event brought together current and past faculty and staff who reflected on the legacy of diversity at Hope and its likely future path.

The retirement of Geoffrey Reynolds as Hope College archivist provided me with the opportunity to represent the VRI on the search committee for his successor. Following an extensive, nation-wide search, we were able to hire Sarah Lundy as director of special collections. She has assumed her role and has proven to be an ideal colleague.



*A coffee-time retirement party to honor Geoffrey Reynolds*

The fall saw a return to the Sunday school circuit where I shared reflections on the status of Christianity in a politically divided America. This session, held at Hope Church in Holland, focused on the dire assessment of contemporary evangelicalism as critiqued by Peter Wehner (senior fellow at the Trinity Forum and contributing writer for the *New York Times* and the *Atlantic*) in his October 24, 2021, article in the *Atlantic* entitled “The Evangelical Church is Breaking Apart—Christians must reclaim Jesus from his church.”

On November 3, I presented a lecture to the Holland Professional Club entitled “An Aging Activist Reflects on His Wake.” It was an

effort to consider the impact that I and my generation have had on the contemporary social, religious, and political scene. Albeit sometimes disruptive, we “Baby Boomers,” I maintain, have had, on balance, a felicitous influence on the course of history.

These highlight, professional events were “one-offs,” but much of my working time has been dedicated to communicating with authors as they bring their manuscripts to fruition. As editor of the Missionary Memoirs Series, I have been marshalling a number of books toward completion. Two books in that series were published during 2022. David Dickason’s biography of his father-in-law, Dr. Wells Thoms, *Faith, Hope, Love*, is a vivid and heartening account of the life of this courageous missionary to (primarily) Oman. David’s book is as much a historical chronicle of the twentieth-century history of this country on the fringe of the Indian Ocean.

George Kraft’s account of his life as a “mish kid,” *A Place to Call Home*, is a poignant reminder of the costs and benefits that accrue to missionary families from parental decisions to serve far from “home.” Vividly illustrated, with family pictures of the Krafts in China and Tibet in the years before and after World War II, this book is intensely personal as George considers how he found himself in many places until he could call one “home.” This volume also brings to the fore the remarkable skills of our “in-house” cartographer, Mark Cook, who has produced absolutely unique maps to accompany the narrative. Since sections of the Himalayas where George’s father and mother served were so remote, many of the “towns” referred to in the book are rarely located on conventional maps. In reconstructing those locations, Mark has enhanced the text and provided extraordinarily valuable information.

Two other volumes have taken much of my editorial time. After two years of “virtual” editing with Christine Iverson Bennett, I finally had the great pleasure of meeting her in person when she kindly invited my wife and me to



*Christine Iverson Bennett and her son, one-year-old Mattheus, July 1915, on vacation in Karachi, Pakistan*



*Arthur King Bennett (left), University of Michigan graduate, and (right) Arabian Mission physician, 1910*

spend time at her family retreat on Conway Lake in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Christine's grandparents—Drs. Arthur King and Christine Iverson Bennett—were pioneering missionaries in Turkish Mesopotamia in the years leading up to World War I. Their extraordinary lives are recounted in a forthcoming book (no. 5, MMS), *The Stories of Arthur King and Christine Iverson Bennett: Medical Missionaries in Mesopotamia, 1904-1916*. Whereas the life of Christine is recounted by her eponymous granddaughter, the life of Arthur is drawn from his own, unpublished autobiography and diary notes. Part love story, part heart-wrenching tragedy, this book is a wonderful reminder of the faith and courage that were so much a part of the lives of pioneering missionaries.



*Christine and Arthur's women's and men's clinics at Lansing Memorial Hospital, Basra, Iraq*

A departure from our earlier MMS books, focused primarily on RCA missionaries, the sixth in the series will consider the post-World War II cooperative mission work of the Christian Reformed Church of North America and the Reformed Church of Japan. These denominations share common histories of separation from other “mainline” denominations in their efforts to retain Reformed theological purity. As a result, they are uniquely suited to their joint service. Richard Sytsma, the son of missionaries to Japan and a missionary veteran himself, is readily equipped to write this history. *We Served Side by Side. A History of Cooperation in Mission in Japan, 1951-2017: The Christian Reformed Japan Mission and the Reformed Church in Japan*, is a comprehensive record of this collaborative ministry. Though the narrative moves swiftly through the ups and downs of this cooperative venture, the multiple tables and appendices provide an inestimable record of the people, places, and times of that narrative. This volume will serve as an invaluable resource for future researchers.

Amid these professional pleasures, my wife and I took advantage of the “opening up” of Europe to indulge in an extensive family tour of Britain and France. This trip had been scheduled for the summer of 2020, but we had to postpone our plans. During July and August, we spent two weeks with daughter Sara and her family—husband Dave and children Jack (11) and Anna (9)—in London, Cornwall, Normandy, and Paris. Upon their departure, we greeted daughter Martha and her family—husband Mark and sons Tyler (8) and Max (6). Following a few days in Paris, we moved back to London and then up to Edinburgh. Highlights of this wonderful time together include visits to Versailles, calls at the “sites” in Paris (including a second-floor walk/ride on the Eiffel Tower), observances of cricket matches in Torquay and London, and witnessing the filming of the final episode of *Doc Martin* in “Port Wenn.” The Edinburgh Tattoo was voted one of the family’s favorites, complete with a warm evening, sitting at the foot of the Edinburgh Castle, punctuated by remarkable music and parade formations. In all, a grand tour for our family in a delightful “break-out” year.



## *Earl Wm. “Bill” Kennedy*

I have now been a senior research fellow emeritus at the institute for about a year but have nevertheless been engaged for “gigs” like mini-editing Bob Swierenga’s forthcoming book on A. C. Van Raalte, translating documents from Dutch to English, and researching various individuals for colleagues. I also remain an RCA “presence” in the interdenominational Dutch Reformed Translation Society. My ties to the Netherlands have been kept strong by semiannual visits to family there with my wife, with whom I am pleased to still share an office. My retirement has given me extra time “to put my affairs in order” by downsizing my moldy theological library at home and entrusting the results of my lifelong hobby of genealogy/family history (chiefly my own but also that of Nella) to the website of Ancestry.com, for the benefit of “posterity.”



*Bill, working through his collections at home*

# Honorary **Research Fellows**

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## *Judy Tanis Parr*

In January of 2022, I turned over to Nella Kennedy, lead author for the Dimnent Chapel book project, approximately 150 pages of the completed first draft of a biography of Hope College president Edward D. Dimnent. In July, I proofread and edited *Kodai School Class of '68*, compiled by colleague Paul Heusinkveld, on the Kodai School Class of 1968 and American kids growing up in India.

I continue to communicate with John Dryfhout, a supporter of the Dimnent project, and add details and make revisions to the current manuscript. I anticipate that most of my work in 2023 will be in editing and preparation for publication the biography of Edward D. Dimnent, under the supervision of Nella Kennedy.



## Jan Peter Verhave

In 2022 I turned eighty and decided to get rid of my extensive, nineteenth-century, church-history library. It is now in good hands.

I prepared a paper for *Origins* about Johan Adam Wormser Jr., publisher of Christian books in Amsterdam and aide-de-camp of Abraham Kuyper. Wormser made a trip to the United States in 1898; he visited Michigan, and then traveled west, where he met his cousin, Rev. Andrew Wormser, in Montana. My grandmother also traveled across the ocean to stay with her relatives in Kalamazoo before World War II; she visited Holland and Grand Rapids. She left a diary, but the events she describes may not provide enough information for another article.

Meanwhile, I attended a study day in Noordeloos, dedicated to Rev. Henry Scholte of Pella, and met several other research fellows of the VRI. One of them, Hans Krabbendam, lives nearby; he is in charge of the inheritance of Dutch Catholic organizations, persons, saints, and the whole “*santekraam*.” We had a nice lunch together and a walk on the Nijmegen campus. Fellows in the diaspora and far from the “motherhouse” need to inspire each other.

Finally, to follow up on my report of last year, in studying the seventeenth-century savant Anna Maria van Schurman, I enjoyed reading the new award-winning book on her correspondence: *Anna Maria van Schurman. Letters and Poems to and from Her Mentor and Other Members of Her Circle*, ed. Anne R. Larsen and Steve Maiullo (Iter Press, 2021).





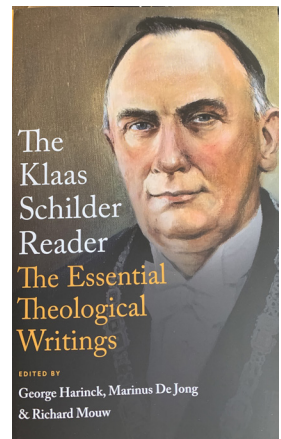
## George Harinck

I was glad to visit the VRI again in April 2022 after two years of travel restrictions and lockdowns.

Part of my current research continues to be focused on Dutch-American relations. My publications this year have to do with translations—an important aspect of this relationship. My article on Abraham Kuyper’s translation of the Stone Lectures of 1898, which he delivered at Princeton Theological Seminary and in Dutch American communities in the Midwest, is a detective-like demythologization of the story about Kuyper’s mismanagement of the process of transferring the Dutch text into English.

A multiyear project on translating texts of theologian Klaas Schilder into English, including the lectures he gave in Michigan in 1939, was completed this year. And my 2021 AADAS keynote address on Kuyper’s heliotropic view of history as identity marker for Dutch Americans has also been published.

The second half of 2022, I had a sabbatical. I used that time to finish editing the proceedings of the H. P. Scholte conference of 2018 and to make progress with my book on Dutch-American academic relations.

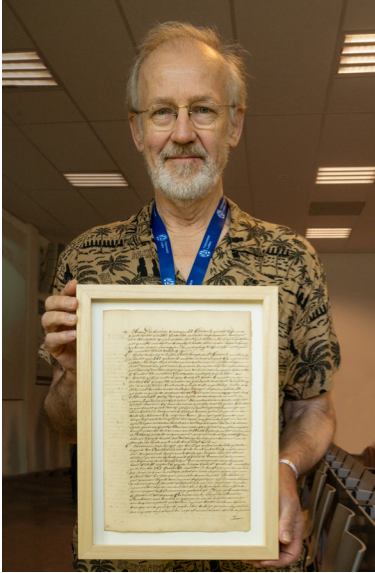




## *Jan J. Boersema*

In the year 2022, normal (scientific) life resumed after the pandemic restrictions. Anthonia and I could now again give full attention to both research projects and implement old plans, long held. In between these projects, my work as a confidential counsellor for the PhD students in our science faculty required attention. It is a useful job, but we should focus more on prevention.

From June 19 to 24, the Tenth International Conference on Rapa Nui (Easter Island) and the Pacific was held in Leiden, three hundred years after Jacob Roggeveen (born in Zeeland) sighted the island, the first European to do so. It was Easter Sunday, April 5, 1722, which is why he named the island Paasch Eijland (Easter Island). The opening session of the conference concentrated on this Dutch visit, partly because it was accompanied by a tragic shooting incident. A facsimile of the “name-giving page” from Roggeveen’s journal was presented to “the people of Rapa Nu” (Easter Island). The organizing committee had quite some work to do, but the conference was greatly appreciated by the seventy-plus participants. I myself gave a talk on Jacob Roggeveen (the man and his journey). The proceedings will be published by Leiden University Press.



*Facsimile of the page from Roggeveen's journal in which he gives the island its name, presented to representatives of the inhabitants of Easter Island at the opening ceremony of the Easter Island Conference in Leiden, the Netherlands.*

The autumn of 2022 was dominated by our VRI-America project. Anthonia and I were able to travel to the United States again and work on our manuscript, “We made the wilderness to blossom” at the VRI. What a privilege to have such a place to work and visit and to always feel welcome there. From September 7 to November 6, we worked in familiar surroundings in the Elton J. Bruins Library. Besides finding meaningful quotes, we also searched for tangible memories of Alexander Hartgerink and Evert Zagers, two emigrants featured in our book. To get another impression of what remains of the prairie and its original inhabitants, we made a trip to the Dakotas. It turned

out to be limited to pickings in reservations. What we saw along the way was corn, sunflowers, soybeans, more corn, and some wind farms.



*Jan and Anthonia at work at the Van Raalte Institute*

# Publications

- Harinck, George. "Lost in Translation: The First Text of the Stone Lectures." In *Calvinism for a Secular Age. A Twenty-First-Century Reading of Abraham Kuyper's Stone Lectures*, 163-88. Ed. Jessica R. Joustra and Robert J. Joustra. Inter Varsity Press, 2022.
- Harinck, George. "A Popular, Albeit Questionable, Version of the Dutch American Story: Kuyper's Heliotropic View of History as Rooted in Common Grace." In *Dutch Immigrant Stories*, 3-20. Ed. Donald J. Bruggink, Dennis M. Voskuil, and Willem Katerberg. Van Raalte Press, 2022.
- Heusinkveld, Paul. *Kodai School Class of '68*. Mindscapes Press, 2022.
- Heusinkveld, Paul. *Mindscapes*. Mindscapes Press, 2022.
- Schilder, Klaas. *Schilder Reader. The Essential Theological Writings*. Ed. George Harinck, Marinus de Jong, and Richard Mouw. Lexham Academic, 2022.
- Swierenga, Robert P. "Evergreen Commons and the 20th Street Controversy." *Evergreen Commons, Fresh Aire* (Feb. 2022), 4.
- Swierenga, Robert P. "Henry S. Lucas: A Career and Faith Journey," part 2. *AADAS Newsletter* 22, no. 1 (Spring 2022), 3-4. (Part 1 was published in *AADAS Newsletter* 21, no. 2 [Fall 2021], 3-4.)
- Swierenga, Robert P. An abridged version of "From Dutch Reformed to Non-Denominational: Transitions at Timothy Christian Schools of Chicagoland since the 1970s." *Christian Renewal*, 10 Sept. 2022 (part 1), and 8 Oct. 2022 (part 2). The article was originally published in *Dutch Reformed Education: Immigrant Legacies in North America*, 127-43. Ed. Donald A. Luidens, Donald J. Bruggink, and Herman J. De Vries Jr. Van Raalte Press, 2020.

# *Presentations*

- Boersema, Jan. Presentation on Jacob Roggeveen (the man and his journey), the first European to sight Easter Island. Tenth International Conference on Rapa Nui (Easter Island) and the Pacific, 19-24 June 2022.
- Heusinkveld, Paul. Lecture via Zoom on Kodai School Class of '68. Worldwide alumni of Kodai International School, 5 May 2022.
- Heusinkveld, Paul. Lecture on Margaret's Mission to Arabia Africa & India, 1965-2010. Hope Church, 6 Feb. 2022. Repeated at Third Reformed Church, Holland, 13 Feb. 2022.
- Parr, Judy Tanis. "Edward D. Dimnent: A Man of Letters." Visiting Research Fellows Lecture Series. Hope College Martha Miller Center, 11 Oct. 2022.
- Swierenga, Robert P. "Political Brawl at Zeeland Log Church, 1851." School Bell Series lecture for Zeeland Historical Society, in conjunction with First Reformed Church JOY group. First Reformed Church, Zeeland, 13 Jan. 2022. Repeated at Warm Friend Senior Center in Holland, 22 July 2022.
- Swierenga, Robert P. "Turning Points in Van Raalte's Life." Lecture for Hope Academy of Senior Professionals (HASP). Hope College, 19 Jan. 2022. Repeated at Evergreen Commons, 21 June 2022.
- Swierenga, Robert P. "Early Stories of Zeeland." Keynote speaker at Zeeland Historical Society annual dinner. First Reformed Church, Zeeland, 20 Oct. 2022.
- Swierenga, Robert P. Tour guide of the Holland and Zeeland colonies for Dan Van Uffelen's Covenant Christian High School social studies class. Grand Rapids, 1 Dec. 2022.

Publications  
**by Research Fellows  
& Associates of the  
Van Raalte Institute**

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*1994-2023*

- Aay, Henk. *American Eyes on the Netherlands: Film, Public Diplomacy, and Dutch Identity, 1943-74, including a Survey of Dutch Visual Media in America from the 17th to the 21st Century*. Van Raalte Press, forthcoming, 2023.
- , Janny Venema, Dennis Voskuil, eds. *Sharing Pasts: Dutch Americans through Four Centuries*. Van Raalte Press, 2017.
- Baer, Marc, and Allison Utting. *Making Music: Hope College's Music Department, A History*. Van Raalte Press, 2020.
- Bruins, Elton J. *The Americanization of a Congregation*. 2nd ed. Eerdmans, 1995.
- , and Karen G. Schakel, eds. *Envisioning Hope College: Letters Written by Albertus C. Van Raalte to Philip Phelps Jr., 1857 to 1875*. Van Raalte Press; Eerdmans, 2011.
- , Karen G. Schakel, Sara Fredrickson Simmons, and Marie N. Zingle. *Albertus and Christina: The Van Raalte Family, Home and Roots*. Eerdmans, 2004.
- Bruggink, Donald J., Dennis N. Voskuil, and William Katerberg, eds. *Dutch Immigrant Stories*. Van Raalte Press, 2022.
- Cox, John D. *The City in Its Heart: The First 100 Years of Maple Avenue Ministries, Holland, Michigan, 1913-2013*. Van Raalte Press, 2014.
- Dickason, David G. *Faith, Hope, and Love: The Hakeem's Journey*. Van Raalte Press, 2022.
- Ester, Peter. *Faith, Family, and Fortune: Reformed Upbringing and Calvinist Values of Highly Successful Dutch American Entrepreneurs*. Van Raalte Press, 2012.
- , Nella Kennedy, and Earl Wm. Kennedy, eds. *The American Diary of Jacob Van Hinte, Author of the Classic Immigrant Study *Nederlanders in Amerika**. Van Raalte Press; Eerdmans, 2010.
- Fessler, Paul, Hubert R. Krygsman, and Robert P. Swierenga, eds. *Dutch Immigrants on the Plains*. The Association for the Advancement of Dutch American Studies, 2005.

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- . *'We Live Presently under a Waning Moon,' Nicolaus Martin Steffens as Leader of the Reformed Church in America in the West in Years of Transition (1878-1895)*. Van Raalte Press, 2013.
- Heideman, Eugene P. *The Canons of Dort: God's Freedom, Justice, and Persistence*. Ed. Donald J. Bruggink. Van Raalte Press, forthcoming, 2023.
- . *Hendrik P. Scholte: His Legacy in the Netherlands and in America*. Van Raalte Press; Eerdmans, 2015.
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- Hemenway, Stephen. *Hope Beyond Borders: The Life and Letters of Paul Fried*. Van Raalte Press, 2014.
- Heusinkveld, Paul. *Elephant Baseball: A Missionary Kid's Tale*. Eerdmans, 2017.
- , with Margaret Doorenbos. *Margaret's Mission to Arabia, Africa, and India 1965-2010*. Van Raalte Press, 2021.
- Jacobson, Jeanne M., Elton J. Bruins, and Larry J. Wagenaar. *Albertus C. Van Raalte: Dutch Leader and American Patriot*. Hope College, 1996.
- Japinga, Lynn. *Loyalty and Loss: The Reformed Church in America, 1945-1994*. Eerdmans, 2013.
- Kennedy, Earl Wm. *A Commentary on the Minutes of the Classis of Holland, 1848-76: A Detailed Record of Persons and Issues, Civil and Religious, in the Dutch Colony of Holland, Michigan*. 3 vols. Van Raalte Press, 2018.
- Kennedy, James C., and Caroline J. Simon. *Can Hope Endure: An Historical Case Study in Christian Higher Education*. Eerdmans, 2005.
- Kennedy, Nella, Mary Risseuw, and Robert P. Swierenga, eds. *Diverse Destinies: Dutch Colonies in Wisconsin and the East*. Van Raalte Press, 2012.
- Krabbendam, Hans. *Freedom on the Horizon: Dutch Immigration to America, 1840-1940*. Eerdmans, 2009.



- Kraft, George. *A Place to Call Home: A Missionary Kid's Tale*. Van Raalte Press, 2022.
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- , and JoHannah M. Smith. *Jack: A Compassionate Compendium. A Tribute to Dr. Jacob E. Nyenhuis: Scholar, Servant, Leader*. Van Raalte Press, 2018.
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- . *Myth and the Creative Process: Michael Ayrton and the Myth of Daedalus, the Maze Maker*. Wayne State University Press, 2003.
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- Renner, Thomas L. *In Pursuit of Excellence. Be Strong—Be True: A History of Intercollegiate Athletics at Hope College, 1970–2020*. 2 vols. Van Raalte Press, 2022.
- Sheeres, Janet Sjaarda. *The Not-So-Promised Land: The Dutch in Amelia County, Virginia, 1868-1880*. Eerdmans, 2013.
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- Stellingwerff, Johan. Robert P. Swierenga, ed. Walter Lagerwey, trans. *Iowa Letters: Dutch Immigrants on the American Frontier*. Eerdmans, 2003.

- Swierenga, Robert P. A. C. *Van Raalte: Pastor by Vocation, Entrepreneur by Necessity*. Van Raalte Press, forthcoming 2023.
- , Adriaan de Wit, and Gordon De Young, eds. *Netherlanders in America: A Study of Emigration and Settlement in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries in the United States of America*, by Jacob Van Hinte. The Historical Committee of the Christian Reformed Church, 2003.
- , Donald Sinnema, and Hans Krabbendam, eds., *The Dutch in Urban America*. The Association for the Advancement of Dutch American Studies, 2004.
- . *Dutch Chicago: A History of the Hollanders in the Windy City*. Eerdmans, 2002.
- . *Elim: A Chicago Christian School and Life Training Center for the Disabled*. Eerdmans, 2005.
- . and Elton J. Bruins. *Family Quarrels in the Dutch Reformed Churches in the Nineteenth Century*. Eerdmans, 1999.
- . *Faith and Family: Dutch Immigration and Settlement in the United States, 1820-1920*. Homes & Meier, 2000.
- . *His Faithfulness Continues: A History of Timothy Christian Schools of Chicagoland*. Van Raalte Press, 2020.
- . *Holland, Michigan: From Dutch Colony to Dynamic City*. 3 vols. Van Raalte Press; Eerdmans, 2014.
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- Van den Broeke, Leon. "Pope of the Classis"?: *The Leadership of Albertus C. Van Raalte in Dutch and American Classes*. Van Raalte Press, 2011.
- Verhave, Jan Peter. *A Constant State of Emergency: Paul de Kruij, Microbe Hunter and Health Activist*. Van Raalte Press, 2020.

# VRI Visiting Research Fellows Lecture Series

***Dutch American Identity Politics: The Use of History by Dutch Immigrants*** (2003)  
Hans Krabbendam, Roosevelt Study Center, the Netherlands

***The Rain of God: Reformed Church in America Growth and Decline in Historical Perspective*** (2004)  
Lynn M. Japinga, Hope College

***Dutch Entrepreneurship: Spirit or Ideology?*** (2004)  
Hans Niemantsverdriet, Amsterdam

***Reassessing 1857: Overlooked Considerations Concerning the Birth of the Christian Reformed Church*** (2006)  
James A. De Jong, Calvin Theological Seminary

***Disease and Death among the Early Settlers in Holland, Michigan*** (2006)  
J. P. Verhave, Radboud University Medical Center, Nijmegen, the Netherlands

***Growing Up Dutch American: Cultural Identity and the Formative Years of Older Dutch Americans*** (2007)  
Peter Ester, Tilburg University, the Netherlands

***The Dutch Equation in the RCA Freemasonry Controversy, 1865-1885*** (2008)  
Harry Boonstra, Calvin College and Seminary

***“We live presently under a waning moon”***: Nicholas Martin Steffens as Leader of the Reformed Church in America in the West in Years of Transition (1878-1895) (2008)  
George Harinck, VU University Amsterdam

***Preachers, Pews, and Pupils: Commemorating the Past in Twentieth-Century Dutch America*** (2008)  
David Zwart, Dordt College

***“Pope of the Classis”?*** The Leadership of Albertus C. Van Raalte in Dutch and American Classes (2009)  
Leon van den Broeke, VU University Amsterdam

***Dutch Americans and the Rise of Heritage Studies*** (2010)  
Michael Douma, Florida State University

***Hope: The Legacy of Van Raalte*** (2011)  
Rein Nauta, Tilburg University, the Netherlands

***Documentary Films of the Netherlands Shown in the United States, 1942-1973: Viewership, Representativeness, and Visual Rhetoric*** (2013)  
Henk Aay, Calvin College

***Hendrik P. Scholte: His Legacy in the Netherlands and in America*** (2015)  
Eugene Heideman, RCA staff member, retired

***“We made the Wilderness to Blossom”***: Nineteenth Century Dutch Immigrants and the Natural World (2015)  
Henk Aay, Calvin College, and Jan Boersema, Leiden University, NL

***Seeds of Hope, Seeds of Hate: A Love Story (Begins)* (2016)**

Don Luidens, Hope College

***A Japanese and a Dutchman in Science: Stories of a Dramatic Disaster* (2017)**

Jan Peter Verhave, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL

***Plugging in the Electric Church: Robert Schuller, the Crystal Cathedral and Entrepreneurial Evangelicalism* (2018)**

Mark Mulder, Calvin College

***Eleanor Calverley, First Doctor to Kuwait: Celebrating 100 Years of Kuwait-American Friendship* (2018)**

Paul Heusinkveld, Honorary Research Fellow

***Paterson, New Jersey: Dutch Immigration's Largest Afterthought (1846-1950)* (2019)**

Robert Schoone-Jongen, Calvin University

***The Pull at Hope College: Then and Now, 1898-2018* (2019)**

Bruce Geelhoed, Ball State University

***Patriots and Internationalists: Dutch American Religion and Global Consciousness in the Late 19th Century* (2019)**

Andrew Klumpp, Southern Methodist University

***The History of Divorce in the Reformed Church in America* (2022)**

Lynn M. Japinga, Hope College

***Robert H. Schuller and Church Growth Christianity* (2022)**

Mark T. Mulder, Calvin University

***Edward D. Dimment and His Memorial Chapel* (2022)**

Judy Tanis Parr, Honorary Research Fellow

Beginning in 2022,  
lectures can be viewed on the  
“Lecture Series” page at  
[hope.edu/vri](https://hope.edu/vri).

# Van Raalte Institute Staff

(2019-22)

## **Henk Aay**

*Senior Research Fellow (2013)*  
BA (Hons.) Wilfrid Laurier University  
MA Clark University  
PhD Clark University

## **Jan J. Boersema**

*Visiting Research Fellow (2014, 2015)*  
*Honorary Research Fellow (2019)*  
BS Groningen University  
MA Groningen University  
PhD Groningen University

## **Donald J. Bruggink**

*Senior Research Fellow (2003)*  
BA Central College  
BD Western Theological Seminary  
PhD University of Edinburgh  
DD (honorary) Central College

## **George Harinck**

*Honorary Research Fellow (2009)*  
BA Leiden University  
MA Leiden University  
PhD VU University Amsterdam

## **Paul Heusinkveld**

*Honorary Research Fellow (2018)*  
*Senior Research Fellow (2021)*  
BA Hope College  
MA studies University of Arizona

## **Earl Wm. Kennedy**

*Senior Research Fellow (2003)*  
*Senior Research Fellow Emeritus (2022)*  
AB Occidental College  
BD Fuller Theological Seminary  
ThM Princeton Theological Seminary  
ThD Princeton Theological Seminary

## **James C. Kennedy**

*Research Fellow (1997-2005)*  
*Honorary Research Fellow (2010)*  
BSFS Georgetown University  
MACS Calvin College  
PhD University of Iowa

## **Nella Kennedy**

*Senior Research Fellow, Official Translator (2010)*  
AB Northwestern College  
MA University of Iowa  
PhD studies University of Iowa

## **Hans Krabbendam**

*Honorary Research Fellow (2009)*  
MA Leiden University  
MA Kent State University  
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## **Donald A. Luidens**

*Senior Research Fellow (2016)*  
*Director (2019)*  
*Editor, Missionary Memoirs Series (2021)*  
BA Hope College  
MDiv Princeton Theological Seminary  
MA, Rutgers University  
PhD Rutgers University

## **Jacob E. Nyenhuis**

*Editor-in-Chief, Van Raalte Press (2007)*  
*Director Emeritus (Director, 2002-15;*  
*Interim Director, 2017-19)*  
*Senior Research Fellow (2001-2)*  
*Provost Emeritus and Professor Emeritus of*  
*Classics (1975-2001)*  
AB Calvin College  
AM Stanford University  
PhD Stanford University  
LittD (honorary) Hope College

## **JoHannah Smith**

*Project Editor and Office Manager (2010)*  
AB Hope College  
MA studies University of Houston; Grand  
Valley State University

## **Robert P. Swierenga**

*A. C. Van Raalte Research Professor and Adjunct*  
*Professor of History (1996)*  
BA Calvin College  
MA University of Iowa  
PhD University of Iowa

## **Jan Peter Verhave**

*Honorary Research Fellow (2009)*  
BS VU University Amsterdam  
MA VU University Amsterdam  
PhD University of Nijmegen

## **Dennis N. Voskuil**

*Senior Research Fellow (2014)*  
*Director (2015-17)*  
*Interim President (2017-19)*  
BS (Hons.) University of Wisconsin  
BD Western Theological Seminary  
PhD Harvard University

# Applications Invited **Visiting Research Fellows Programs**

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*for Academic Year 2023-2024*

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 will be awarded, each for not more than ten weeks in duration and with a stipend of up to \$3,000.

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.

**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 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:** Information about expectations, arrangements, and the application process may be obtained from our website at [www.hope.edu/vri](http://www.hope.edu/vri).

## **Mission Statement**

of the A. C. Van Raalte Institute at Hope College

The Van Raalte Institute is a department of Hope College. Hence, its mission relates directly to and supports the mission of Hope College, an undergraduate liberal arts institution offering academic programs in the context of the historic Christian faith. The institute is closely related to another department of Hope College, the Joint Archives of Holland.

*The mission of the institute is to honor the memory and the vision of the Reverend Dr. Albertus C. Van Raalte, the founder of Holland, by studying his life and work. From this mission also is derived the scholarly investigation and publication of materials concerned with the immigration and the contributions of the Dutch and their descendants in the United States of America. Furthermore, the institute is dedicated to the study of the history of all segments of the community throughout its history.*

The institute derives its vision from a letter dated November 27, 1846, by A. C. Van Raalte, written shortly after his party landed in New York. As he was headed westward, he declared “I hope that a large colony can be established here in America which will focus its work on the Kingdom of God.” His vision also extended far beyond the boundaries of Holland, Michigan, to other colonies and to immigrants throughout the United States. The bold Christian vision that he had for the church, for education, and for the community continues to have an impact on the “colony” that he founded on February 9, 1847, and on the college which he helped to establish fifteen years later.



The institute carries out its educational mission not only through research and publication but also through the sponsorship of lectures and presentations by its members and invited guests. Through liaison with scholars and educational and cultural institutions in the Netherlands and other countries, the institute seeks to promote the understanding of the history of this community. From time to time, the institute will host visiting scholars from these countries to enable them to engage in research in our local archives and to provide a broader perspective to our own endeavors.