

Dear Friends,

ProHolland week

Last Sunday April 12th 2009 ProHolland organized a 'ProHolland-day'. Next July ProHolland will have its first 'ProHolland-week'. Again it will be a test drive, but this time we will do the whole tour through the Netherlands. During holiday-season lots of activities are organized everywhere and I hope to implement some of them into the tour. If someone likes it he/she can visit it, if not: go and have a good time on your own!

Right now I'm busy doing all the preparations, the bookings and making a lot of arrangements to make it a success again.

Guestbook

I promised a guestbook. Perhaps you noticed it isn't on the website (www.proholland.com) right now. My web designer simply can't do all the work at this moment. Does this mean the financial crisis is over? These little things are the first hopeful signs the economy is getting better step by step. Of course I realize it needs a lot of time and even more efforts to get everything back on track. But still, let's be positive because next summer ProHolland will organize its first real trips and wouldn't it be great you folks could join us too?

Workshop

A fraise out of last newsletter: *Next June I will move to my new house. It has a garage also, which will be converted into a workshop.* Now my friends in all honesty I can tell you it turned into a storage room (to be one big mess). I won't send a picture of it, but I do want to show you the house and garage from the outside (note: it was taken *before* I moved in).



It is a typical Dutch house. It is built in a row, which is done very often in my country. In the neighborhood all the houses are the same. Built by renting cooperation's because in the Netherlands it is very common to rent a house. Those companies sell every year some houses to have extra money to invest in big building projects. This way I also got my new house.

The left window will be the office off ProHolland. So in time I have everything at home not only a workshop but also an office.

400 year US-Holland

This year we celebrate 400 years of enduring friendship between the Netherlands and the United States. Four hundred years ago, a Dutch ship called the Half Moon guided to the shores of what is now New York City with Captain Henry Hudson. This led to the establishment of New Amsterdam and the New Netherland colony. Some 167 years later, in 1776, the Dutch were the first to salute the flag of the United States of America.

NY400 celebrates the free spirit, openness, entrepreneurship and tolerance of those Dutch-American pioneers, and their continued relevance today and beyond. Want to see some more: use the link NY400

<http://www.ny400.org/>



Next newsletter: August 2009

Regards,

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Ps. If you aren't interested please let me know and I'll stop the e-mails.