

Familienverband der Familien Groeneveld



Chairman:

Dr. Albert Groeneveld, Zeisigweg 25, 48683 AHAUS
Tel.: 02561-43478 Email: albert.groeneveld@web.de

Office:

Günther Groeneveld · Reformierter Kirchgang 17 · 26789 LEER
Tel.: 0491-9796995 · Fax: 0491-9768953
Email: g.groeneveld@t-online.de

Internet: www.diegroenevelts.de



Newsletter no. 49

Ahaus, February 2012

**Dear relatives,
dear friends of the Groeneveld family!**

Another Groeneveld family reunion is coming up soon and we are all hoping for many participants. The date set is May 26 and 27, 2012 which is the Pentecost weekend, and the venue is the town of Emden in Ostfriesland. We will begin on Saturday with a bus tour and will show you the points of interest around Emden. The area is known as the "Krummhörn" and stretches out between the towns of Norden and Emden and the Western part of the North Sea coast. We will see the famous steeple of Suurhusen, which is, according to the Guinness book of records, the world's most leaning tower. It is even more leaning over than the Leaning Tower of Pisa. The windmill in Rysum will offer a great view over the East Frisian landscape. Our next stop will be the picturesque little village of Greetsiel with its small harbour and many fishing boats. At the end of the day we will return to our hotel Faldernpoort in Emden. The second and last day of our family reunion party offers a sightseeing tour around Emden and a trip round the harbour. Everyone who signs up for this reunion on time will have to pay only 10 € for the complete programme including dinner (drinks not included). You will find further details on page 5 of this letter.

On page 3 of this newsletter my daughter Anne tells us about her trip to the United States in September 2011. Together with her friend Michael she visited our American relatives Andrew and Jennifer Greenfield who live close to Boston (Massachusetts). Furthermore we have included a report about Thomas Groeneveld. However we are not talking about a specific Thomas G. – according to the internet page www.verwandt.de Thomas is the most common first name in connection with our family name Groeneveld. And on the last page we have a report which has been published in the newspaper „Rheiderland-Zeitung“ about the past soccer career of Manfred Groeneveld from Plön.

As you already know from our previous newsletter we also want to send our letters via e-mail. We have included all e-mail addresses we know in our family register and will send this newsletter via e-mail in addition to the regular mail version. If you have not received the e-mail and would appreciate this way of communication, please don't hesitate to contact me: albert.groeneveld@web.de. We will add your name to our e-mail list.

On behalf of the board of the Groeneveld family association I wish you all the best for 2012, good health and good luck!

Please don't forget to register for our family reunion on time!

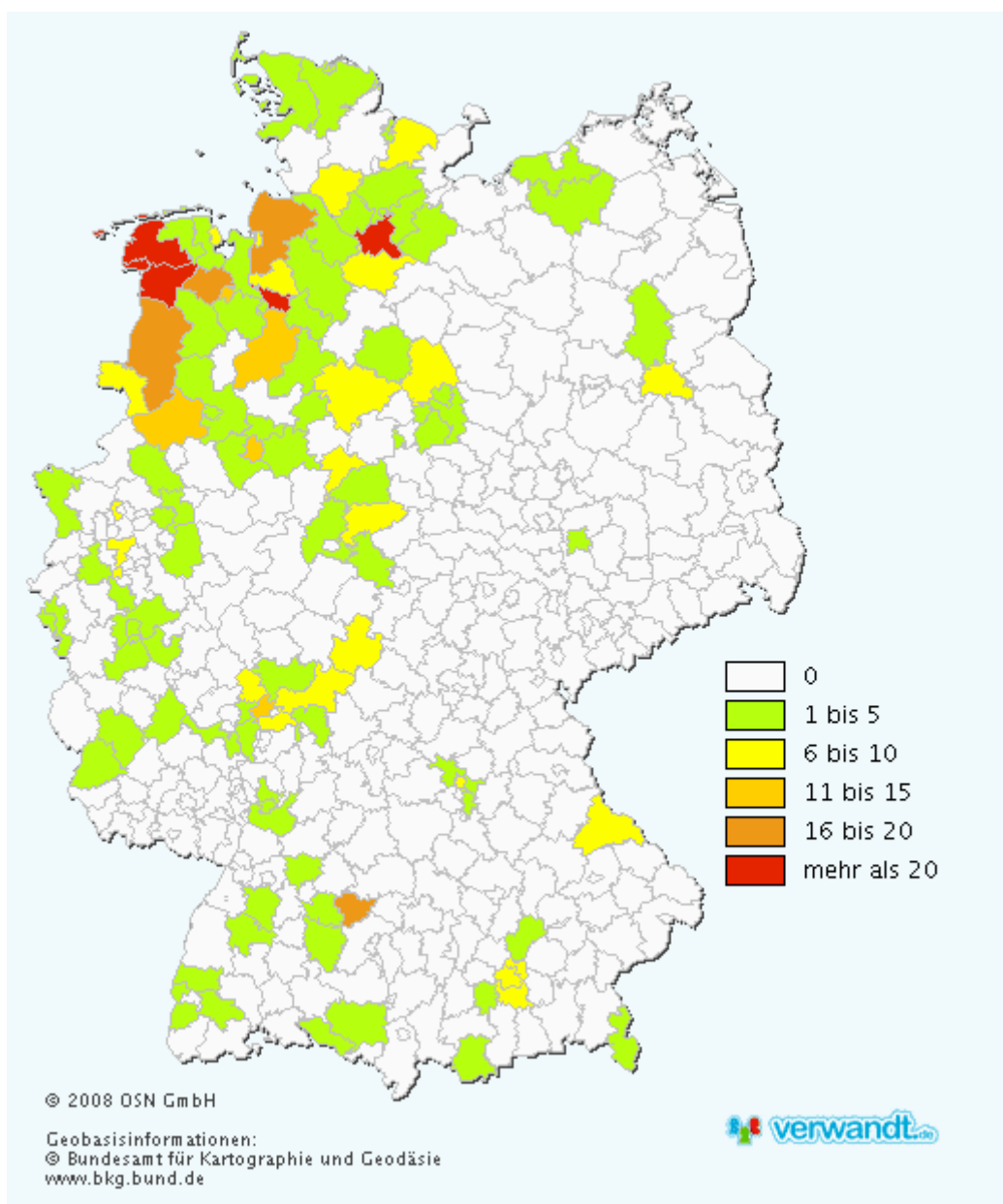
Dr. Albert Groeneveld

Thomas Groeneveld lives in Leer county

Nowadays it is almost impossible to imagine life without the internet. And the world wide web turns out to be a bonanza for genealogists. The internet page www.verwandt.de offers information about the occurrence of given names and family names in Germany. The county of Leer still is the area where one can find the significant highest number of Groenevelts in Germany. According to the Leer county telephone directory you will find the most Groenevelts in Westoverledingen, and this community includes Coldemüntje, Dorenborg, Großwolde, Heerenborg and Steenfelde Driever, the home villages of our ancestors. As you can see – our family roots are still apparent in this area. But nowadays their first names are no longer Engelke or Rixte. The most common first name combined with Groeneveld is Thomas.

The map below, from the internet page www.verwandt.de shows the occurrence of our family name in terms of colour.

Occurrence of the name Groeneveld in Germany



The most common first names combined with 'Groeneveld':

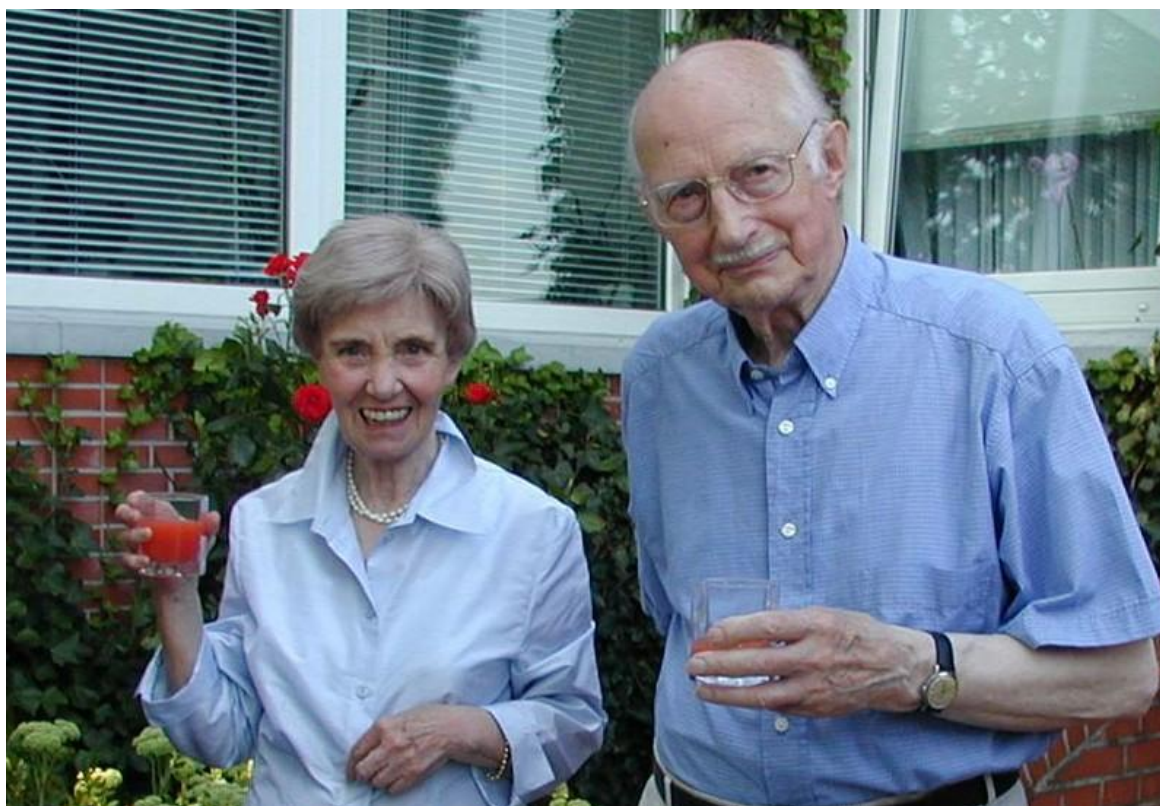
1. Thomas
2. Hermann
3. Johann
4. Heinz
5. Uwe
6. Jan
7. Frank
8. Jens
9. Helmut
10. Ahlrich

The name 'Groeneveld' can be found most often in the following counties:

1. Leer (92)
2. Aurich (29)
3. Bremen (16)
4. Emden (11)
5. Hamburg (11)
6. Emsland (9)
7. Cuxhaven (9)
8. Ammerland (8)
9. Göppingen (8)
10. Bielefeld (7)

Inge Groeneveld deceased

Last year, on August 29, Inge Groeneveld died in a residential care home for the elderly in Bunde at the age of 92 years. She was the widow of our honorary chairman Dr. Heinrich Groeneveld, who had died in 2004. She was born on August 13, 1919 in Bombay (now Mumbai), India. After she had completed her training as a junior high school teacher she married Dr. Heinrich Groeneveld on September 29, 1950. His doctor's practice in the village of Warsingsfehn required the assistance of the whole family. In addition to this job-related help Inge Groeneveld also assisted her husband with great enthusiasm and commitment when it came to organizing family reunions. Our family association is deeply indebted to her and will always honour her in memory.



Inge and Dr. Heinrich Groeneveld, honorary chairman of the
Groeneveld Family Association

Anne Groeneveld's (Nr. 3022) report about her visit with Andrew (Nr. 2979) and Jennifer Greenfield in Massachusetts

Learn how to eat lobster – trip to the USA in September 2011

After completing my bachelor degree in Business Administration at the Essen University I went on a trip to the United States with my friend Michael. With a little luck and a little more patience you can find flight tickets at favourable prices on the internet, and so our tour led us from Düsseldorf via London to Boston and to the American East Coast. We encountered first trouble at the airport in Düsseldorf, because Michael had forgotten to remove his pocket knife from his hand baggage. Airlines take mistakes like this seriously, we almost failed to get into the aircraft at all. Upon arrival at our Boston hotel at 10 p.m. we were dead tired and fell asleep immediately. Due to 7 hours of time difference between Europe and the US our bodies felt like 5 a.m. Next morning we picked up our rental car (medium sized for Americans, big sized for us) and started our round trip. The first day we went on a sightseeing tour around the wonderful historical city of Boston and the dignified Harvard University.



Photo (rear from right): Andrew and Jennifer Greenfield,
Anne Groeneveld, Michael Oettigmann,
front from left: the kids Jordan (10), Ella (8) und Austin (5)

Andrew und Jennifer Greenfield live in Georgetown, about 40 km (25 miles) north of Boston, and we had arranged to meet them in the evening at their home. Andrew and his wife come from Illinois, their ancestors emigrated to this state about 160 years ago. Whereas Andrew's ancestors changed their original family name Groeneveld to Greenfield, Jennifer's family kept their German / East Frisian name „Diddens“. With their three kids they live in a beautiful wooden house close to Georgetown (MA). Andrew Greenfield is a member of the management team of the AbioMed company, they manufacture and sell cardiac pacemakers worldwide, and therefore he has to travel a lot in the US and abroad.

From time to time he also comes to Germany. Therefore we were very happy that he had the time so see us on short notice. By the way, Andrew, his brother and his parents had attended the family reunion in 2008. We had brought „Kinderüberraschungseier“ for Jordan, Ella und Austin (see photo from left), these German candies still are unknown in the land of opportunity. Jordan even took his egg (plastic egg with a chocolate cover and

a little toy inside) along to school. Andrew and Jennifer invited us for dinner the following evening, and as a matter of course the meal included lobster, which is the local specialty in the area close to the American East Coast. Never before we had eaten lobster, and therefore the whole procedure, beginning with a lobster still alive (!) to the consumption itself (how do I eat lobster?), was a real challenge for us. We spent two wonderful evenings with the Greenfields. It wasn't easy to say "Good-bye", and then they even presented us with two nights in a fantastic hotel in the center of New York at the Times Square. We were absolutely overwhelmed by the hospitality of our American relatives. Before we spent five days in New York, we drove to the Niagara Falls, but despite seeing all these highlights for tourists – the visit with Andrew and Jennifer surely crowned our whole trip. In the end I would like to mention that returning the rental car was not so easy: even though we had a GPS device in the car it took us three round trips through Manhattan before we managed to find the rental car station.

Anne Groeneveld

REGISTRATION FOR THE FAMILY REUNION May 27. / 28. 2012 in

The family reunion will take place on May 26 and 27, 2012 which is the Pentecost weekend. On Saturday we will meet at the Faldernpoort Hotel, Courbierestraße 6 in Emden, at 02.45 p.m. The hotel offers a sufficient number of parking lots. Our bus tour around the Krummhörn area will begin at 3 p.m. at the hotel. In case someone arrives late, please call me, my phone number is 0170-227-3905. Our tour guide Mrs. Gerda Reershemius will give us detailed information about the Krummhörn points of interest like the leaning steeple of Suurhusen, the fishermen's village Greetsiel and the Rysum windmill. We will get out of the bus at all the interesting landmarks and walk around a little bit, so we hope for sunshine and mild temperatures. In Rysum we will have a break and a cup of Ostfriesen tea. We want to be back at the hotel at 07:30 p.m.

Reservations for dinner have been made, you will have a choice of 5 different meals. Together with you we want to spend a nice evening with interesting conversations, and some surprises will certainly lighten the mood. Our schedule for Sunday: we will meet at the Ratsdelft (Emden harbour) in the center of Emden at 09:45 a.m. and will start our guided tour including a short stop at the famous Otto – Huus. One hour later, at 10.45 a.m. the trip round the harbour begins, starting point is again the Ratsdelft. The boat tour will end at approx. noon, and this will also be the official end of the family party.

We hope for many participants and are looking forward to seeing many Groenevelts, Greenfields and all other family members in Emden. The costs for the complete

programme including dinner (without drinks) will be **10,- Euro per registered (!) person,**

however only if the registration has been done in time and the money has been transferred to our family association account no. 0128181 with the Deutsche Bank Leer, bank code number 285 700 24, until May 20, 2012. When arranging the remittance please tell us the names of the participating family members.

The remittance counts as a registration.

Even if you didn't register in time you may participate in the bus tour (as long as free seats are available) for a fee of 10 € and/or join us for the guided tour through Emden and the harbour tour for 8 €. The hotel offers à la carte dinner for not registered guests. We will be glad to assist you regarding your accommodation in Emden. Our hotel Faldernpoort (Tel. 04921-97520) also offers rooms for guests with bikes. Two other hotels are located very close to the Faldernpoort Hotel: the „Heerens Hotel“ (phone 04921-23158) and the “Parkhotel Upstalsboom” (phone 04921-8280). The internet offers additional information about any accommodation in Emden: www.emden.de. Phone number of the Emden-Tourist office is 04921-9369070.

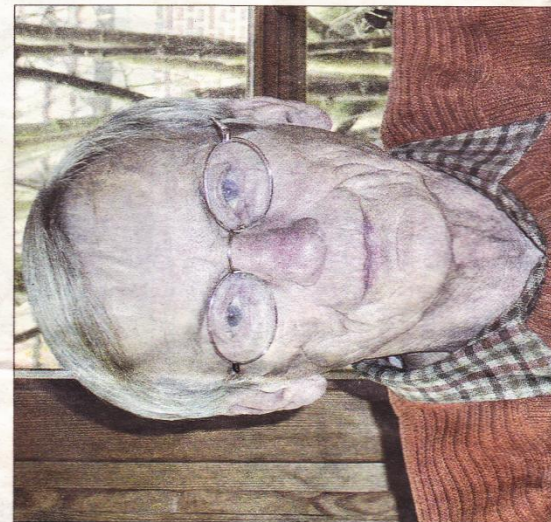
Flügelflitzer schoss in einer Saison 57 Tore

RZ-Serie »Rheiderland-Altstars«: Manfred Groeneveld vom TV Bunde - Flankengott als Vorbild

Rheiderland-Zeitung 23 Februar 2008

BUNDE. Früher sorgten sie auf dem Fußballplatz für Schlagzeilen, heute stehen sie an der Seitenlinie und zählen zu den treuesten Anhängern ihrer Vereine: die Fußballgrößen vergangener Tage. In unserer RZ-Serie präsentiert Heinz J. Giermanns die »Rheiderland-Altstars«. Erzählt ihre Geschichte und zeigt auf, was aus ihnen geworden ist.

Der Viehhändler Hein (Hermann Heinrich) Groeneveld hatte die Idee, dass sich die ostfriesischen »schwarzbunten« Vierbeiner in Schlesien gut verkaufen lassen müssten. Die »Zweibeinerin« hinter dem Tresen des Hotels in Falkenberg, in dem er untergekommen war, gefiel ihm auf Anhieb so gut, dass er mit dem schlesischen Mädchen anbandelte, sie heiratete und der 15 Jahre später für den TV Bunde auf Torjagd gehen sollte. Seine Kinderjahre verlebte Manfred Groeneveld in Falkenberg. Im Jahr 1946 zog die Familie nach Bunde, wo die Eltern 1948 das »Hotelten Have« (heute »Adria«) erwarben. Für den Knaben bedeutete dies, dass er



Fühlt sich nach wie vor mit dem TV Bunde verbunden: Manfred Groeneveld.
Foto: Giermanns

er schon viele früher für den Verein gespielt hat, mag daran liegen, dass er – wegen der ablehnenden Haltung des Vater – vermutlich offiziell nicht im Verein war. Soeben 18 Jahre jung geworden, spielte der Linksaßen anlässlich des Pfing-

sturniers, das der TV Bunde jahrelang ausrichtete, im Jahr 1957 erstmals in der ersten seines Vereins. »Ich war nervös, so dass es zunächst nicht gut lief«, was ihm harsche Kritik seines späteren Schwagers Hinderk »Hini« Schoormann einbrachte: »Wenn du net wullt, dann gau d' doch off«, habe er zu hören bekommen. Dieser Spruch hat sich in ihm festgesetzt. »Meine Frau erinnert mich manchmal daran, und wenn ich in meiner alten Heimat bin, kommt das Thema im Gespräch mit dem Schwager immer wieder darauf.« Immerhin: Im Verlaufe des Jahres 1957 spielte sich Groeneveld in den Stamm der Mannschaft, er, dessen Fußball-Karriere gerade begann, während sich die seiner Schwager dem Ende entgegen neigten.

Dass der TV Bunde in jenen Jahren zu den ostfriesischen Spitzenteams zählte, führt der Linksfuß Groeneveld auf die gute Besetzung der Mannschaft zurück. »Mein persönliches Vorbild war Willi Adam, den man vielleicht als 'Flankengott' bezeichnen würde.« So war es seine vorrangige Auf-

Heinz J. Giermanns