June 2017 Volume 1 number 6

Low Dutch Cousins

The 2017 Gathering!

Our 7th Dutch Cousins Gathering



Figure 1: The 3 W's: Charlie, Claude, and John Westerfield (distant cousins) inside Old Mud Meetinghouse at Harrodsburg, KY in 2015. Claude (of lowa) served as 1st DC president, John (of Pennsylvania)was 2nd president, and Charlie (of Kentucky) will be 4th for the 2019 gathering. Carolyn Leonard (of Oklahoma) is 3rd and current president.

Sept 7 — Sept 11, 2017

Thursday, Sept 7 Kentucky Historical Society

Frankfort, Kentucky

Friday, Sept 8 Kentucky Historical Society

Frankfort, Kentucky

Fri. bus excursion to Shelbyville event

Sunday, Sept 10 Old Mud Meeting House

Harrodsburg, Kentucky

Monday, Sept 11 Harrodsburg Historical

Harrodsburg, Kentucky

To register, see inside.

See You There!

Capital Plaza Hotel

Reservations: 502-875-8687

Group Code: The Dutch Cousins #2389

100 W. Broadway, Frankfort, KY 40601





FROM NEW AMSTERDAM IN THE 1600S TO

NEW JERSEY TO PENNSYLVANIA TO KENTUCKY

AND ON AND ON....



*Thursday, Sept 7, 2017

3:00:Set up Family History Tables, Silent Auction items, book displays, Tee Shirts, Display Tables, at Kentucky History Center

4:00: Early Registration opens: Brown-Foreman Room, KHS

Dinner on your own (pre-ordered box lunches for workers)

6:30: SPECIAL PROGRAM - TO BE ANNOUNCED

*Friday, Sept 8, 2017

8:30: Coffee & registration in KHS Brown-Foreman Room

9:00: Family History Tables, Silent Auction items, book displays & T- Shirts

10:30: Meeting begins, flag ceremony, welcome by Governor

11:00: Amalie Preston, "Exciting events at the Old Mud Meetinghouse"

11:30: Lunch, business meeting (Officers & Registered cousins)

2:00: Business Meeting disbands, break

2:15: JoAnn Adams, from the Six-Mile Old Dutch Meetinghouse of Pleasureville, KY. JoAnn will show how ancestors made amazing fabric creations for their homes from wool.

3:00: Break

3:15: Cheri Daniels, KY Ancestors online; Dutch History in Kentucky

4:00: Break

4:15: Important announcement about the Conewago Colony by Larry Voreis, Chairman

4:15: Important info about The Westerfield Massacre Marker by Charlie Westerfield, Chairman

5:00: Break

6:00: Dinner Buffet – Keynote: Vince Akers, "Low Dutch Massacres and Defeats!"

*Saturday, Sept 9, 2017

9:00: Coffee – Brown-Foreman Room open- Meet your Cousins, Everything open

10:00: Meeting begins, flag ceremony, welcome by KY Governor & introductions

10:30: Amalie Preston: Don't Lose your Genealogy – Donate it to the Low Dutch Archives.

11:00: Group Photos, shirts & hats, – Charlie Westerfield

11:30: Silent Auction ends. Take down all displays.

12:15: Lunch

1:00: Bus departs for Shelbyville (30-minute drive - Lynn Rogers, Coordinator)

2:00: Long Run Massacre and Floyd's Defeat Re-enactment

5:00: Bus returns to Frankfort

6:00: Prayer and dinner is served

6:30: Keynote speaker Eddie Price, Entertainment at its best.

*Sunday, Sept 10, 2017

9:30: Check out & leave Frankfort

9:30: Caravan (45 minute drive) to Harrodsburg, KY

11:30: Lunch at 19th Hole, Harrodsburg, KY

1:00: Old Mud gates open, Group Photos at Old Mud Meetinghouse

2:00: Worship service & Communion at Old Mud Meeting House-PUBLIC INVITED

*Monday, Sept 11, 2017 10 till 3: Harrodsburg Historical Society, Research Library & Dutch Archives

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The Cousins Are Coming!

AND YOU ARE ALL INVITED TO JOIN US.

2017 THUR SEPT 7 THRU SUN SEPT 11 IN FRANKFORT & HARRODSBURG, KENTUCKY

FOR THE 7TH BIENNIAL

LOW DUTCH COUSINS GATHERING

Brown-Foreman Room - Kentucky History Center



Thursday Kick off! 6:30 pm: Program to be announced — Watch the Dutch Letters - You will not want to miss a single event!



Friday 2:30 pm- Speaker JoAnn Adams, co-owner of Sweet Homespun in the Six-Mile Old Dutch Meetinghouse of Pleasureville, KY. The rebuilt Meetinghouse is located on the farm of Sam and JoAnn Adams in the Low Dutch Tract. Come learn from JoAnn how our ancestors made amazing fabric creations from wool for their homes. Six-Mile Meeting house was the second one

built by our Dutch people, after Old Mud in Mercer County. Unable to secure a Dutch Reform pastor, the group turned to the Presbyterians who held the same Calvinistic beliefs.





Friday 6:30: Keynote Speaker Vincent Akers.

Our beloved Vince Akers, author of "The Low Dutch Company on the Kentucky Frontier" and one of the heroes of Old Mud church, as well as foremost historian of our Low Dutch history. Vince will hold you spellbound with his tales of the Low Dutch in Kentucky. Vince says he was destined to become a historian from the age of seven, when his Demaree grandfather willed him his collection of Dutch history.

Saturday 1:00: Bus trip to Shelbyville for the Painted Stone Re-enactment

Saturday 6:30: Keynote Speaker Eddie Price, retired history teacher, and author of the award-winning Kentucky historical novel, *Widder's Landing*. He kept us laughing two years ago when he told us about "What he saw at Cane Ridge" at an 1801 camp meeting. We can't wait to hear what he will bring us this time. His topics cover a variety of subjects, most concerning the 1812 time period covered in his book.



Old Mud Meetinghouse worship services on Sunday at Harrodsburg KY will begin at 2 pm. Gates open at 1:00 for the group photo.

For more information: www.DutchCousins.org & www.carolynbleonard.com

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A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE LOW DUTCH IN KENTUCKY

by Carolyn Leonard, Apr 2017

Our group of Dutch came from the lowlands now known as the Netherlands to settle New Amsterdam in the 1600s. Most came with the Dutch West Indies company because of the free land. After the English took over they moved across the river to New



Figure 1: Artist's concept of the early Old Mud Meeting House.

Jersey and migrated to near present-day Gettysburg in 1770s where they established Conewago Colony. The main bond of this close-knit 17th century group was the Dutch Reformed Church; Rev. Cornelius Cozine was the pastor.

Almost every one of our Dutchmen fought in the Revolutionary War. As the war wound down in the 1780s, they began heading to Kentucky, either down the Ohio, or overland on the Wilderness Trail.

WHAT ABOUT THE WESTERFIELD MASSACRE?

One boatload of Dutch was led by James Jacobus
Westerfield, his wife, Maria Demaree, and their numerous children
and grandchildren. They were attacked by Indians while on the
river. They brought their boats to land "above the falls" in (now)
Jefferson County and converted them to wagons for the overland

journey to Harrod's town. About twelve miles out they stopped to camp, and while sleeping they were attacked and many were killed including the 330-pound giant Jacobus Westerfield. But that didn't stop the Dutch!

Rev. Cornelius Cozine (Sr.), Dominee of the church, planned to come to KY as soon as he sold his Conewago property. By 1784, eight of the Dominee's ten living children were already in the new state including Cornelius Cozine (Jr) who was in Kentucky with his wife Mary Brewer and their four children: Anne age 8, Daniel age 5, Sara age 3, Cornelius III age 1. Sadly, the patriarch became ill and never got to make the trip. He died in 1786 at Conewago and is buried there in the Northern Low Dutch Cemetery.

Dutch families continued to migrate to Harrod's Fort (now Harrodsburg, Mercer County), where they bought land and built the Old Mud Meeting House. Their dream was to remain separate, so their treasurer made a deal with Squire Boone (Daniel's younger brother) on several thousand acres of land in what is now Henry and Shelby Counties, to be known as the Low Dutch Tract. However, land titles were clouded and it was many years before they cleared. The Dutch group built their second church in Kentucky at Pleasureville (originally Bantatown). They called this church Six-Mile Meetinghouse. It is now a yarn shop.

Kentucky, officially the Commonwealth of Kentucky, became the 15th state to join the Union in 1792, more than ten years after the first Low Dutchman came. The term 'commonwealth' emphasized distinction from the status of a royal colony to a political community founded for the common good. However the Low Dutch settlers didn't find it so good. They were often attacked by Indian parties and by early 1800s many had become discouraged and moved to Indiana, so we are especially interested in the very early Kentucky years: 1780 to around 1830.







Why Frankfort, Kentucky?

Frankfort, the capital of Kentucky, was founded on a ford crossing the Kentucky River. You will find this beautiful city an exciting place to visit while you enjoy the company of your Dutch Cousins. Our meetings will be in Thomas D. Clark center for Kentucky history (Ky History Center), 100 West Broadway, Frankfort, KY. 40601. We will be meeting in the first floor Brown-Foreman Room. For more info: http://history.ky.gov/portfolio/thomas-d-clark-center-for-kentucky-history/

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Upstairs in the same building, you'll find the Martin F. Schmidt Research Library. The History center and the Library will be open Wed-Sat 10 am to 5 pm. Copies are available at fifteen cents each, except Microfilm copies are .30 each. Bring your digitals (ipad, laptop, camera) if you prefer make your own copies at no charge. Park in front of the building off Broadway Street in the old railroad depot lot. Parking is limited, so carpooling is highly recommended. If you are staying at the Capital Plaza, you are in walking distance. The Capitol City Museum next door to Kentucky Historical Society (KHS) is free. We could also research at the Paul Sawyer Public Library, down the street a couple of blocks.



Figure 2: Kentucky History Center, where we will meet.

The Kentucky Military History Museum is located in downtown Frankfort. Our cousins **Steve and Heather French Henry** are working on a new exhibit for KHS about the Veterans of World War I, the war to end all wars (we wish it had).
Heather, our forever Miss America, is Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs. The Miss America
Pageant is the same weekend as our Gathering, so the Henrys will not be with us this year. We will miss them.

There are several other locations to do your research or visit while you are here. For more info, go to http://www.visitfrankfort.com/







Taking a Saturday Excursion to Shelbyville's Painted Stone Event

By Carolyn Leonard

LET'S ALL GO on the excursion to the Living History Re-enactment of the 1781 **Long Run Massacre and Floyd's Defeat**. This event is hosted annually by the Painted Stone Settlers, named for Squire Boone's Painted Stone fort on Clear Fork of Brashear



Creek near Shelbyville. Our Low Dutch Cousins have tried several times to include this event in our schedule...and this year we succeeded, thanks to efforts of our 2017 coordinator Mr. Lynn Rogers of Ohio.

The show really combines two separate events, closely related. Indian hostility was strong against the Kentucky settlements. Raiding parties swept across the area equipped with British guns and staffed with British officers.

The settlers at Squire Boone's Painted Stone camp, near present day Shelbyville, got a warning to evacuate so they started, but were moving very slowly. The women and children rode packhorses loaded down with household goods. The men led horses and drove cattle along the newly opened path through the trees known as Boone's Wagon Road. They had finally reached the main ford of Long Run Creek, about where present-day U.S.60 crosses the creek, when the dreaded Indian attack started. At least seven of the settlers were killed. This is known as the Long Run Massacre.

The next day, Col. John Floyd brought a small party of 27 men to bury the dead and aid the settlers, but the British and Indians ambushed them, too. This is known as "Floyd's Defeat".

The families of patriarch Samuel Demaree and his wife Leah and their many children were involved in these events. Demarees, Rykers and VanCleves were among the victims.

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Note: This attack is not the same as the Westervelt/Westerfield Massacre, mentioned on page 2, but both happened the same year. It appears that Westerfield's party was massacred in April, in the Spring, and the Long Run Massacre happened a few months later, Fall in September.

Vince Akers said a nearly one-mile stretch of old U.S.60 (the Eastwood cutoff) follows the ridge and nearly the identical route of **Boone's old wagon road**. It was along this stretch of old U.S.60 the defeat occurred. Although the historical marker says 60 settlers died in the attack, Wikipedia states that only about 15 settlers were actually killed or taken captive, followed by 17 soldiers under Col. John Floyd the following day who were attacked when they came to bury the bodies.

The program near Shelbyville is presented by experienced living-history re-enactors. Included in the weekend event are various demonstrations of heritage skills such as spinning, weaving, fire starting, customs of the 18th century and blacksmithing. For more info and photos of previous re-enactments, go to http://paintedstonesettlers.org/

The fully-equipped 55-passenger motor coach will depart Kentucky Historical Society at 1:00 pm Saturday, September 9. After a 30-minute ride to Red Orchard Park in Shelbyville, the Reenactment begins at 2:00pm. The bleachers are about a 200-yard (two football fields) walk down a gradual hill; folding lawn chairs will be available a short distance from the bus. The full charge for the afternoon is \$25 per person, which you should include in your registration so we know how many buses we need. Seats are allotted on a first come, first served basis; after the bus is full, a wait list will be maintained in case of cancellations. To save your seat, send in your registration with payment in full before August 1. The bus will return to Frankfort at 5:00 pm to prepare for dinner at 6 in the KHS and our entertaining speaker, Eddie Price.

Van Cleve, Shepherd, Riker, Demaree, Schenck, Westervelt, and more!

Our Dutch ancestors directly involved in the Long Run Massacre & Floyd's defeat included: John VanCleve's wife Mary Shepherd and two children were killed in the Massacre; Gerardus Ryker was killed the next day in Floyd's Defeat. Gerardus' widow, Rachel Demaree, later married the widowed John VanCleve. Leah Demaree, wife of the elder Samuel Demaree and mother-in-law of Gerardus Riker, was killed. John VanCleve's sister Jane, daughter of Aaron and Rachel (Schenck) VanCleve, was at the station with her husband Squire Boone, who was recovering from injuries received in a previous Indian attack. Land grants were given to massacre survivors Maria Westervelt, Mary McGlaughlin, Barbara Plyburn and John Thixton, but some of these may have been survivors of the earlier Westerfield Massacre near present-day Louisville.



Figure 1: Squire Boone Crossing the Mountains with Stores for His Brother Daniel, camped in the Wilds of Kentucky (1852)

Who are the Low Dutch Cousins?

by Carolyn Leonard

Fifty families of Low Dutch settlers had arrived in Mercer County KY by 1781. They bought three acres of land from David Adams and in 1800 these hardy Dutch people began building the Old Mud Meetinghouse.

If you had an ancestor named Banta, Bergen, Bodine, Brewer, Cosart, Cozine, Demaree, Dorland, Duree, Monfort, Riker, Shuck, Smock, Stagg, Terhune, VanArsdale, Van Nuys, Voris, Vorhees, or Westervelt/Westerfield (various spellings on all names) who came from Kentucky, then you are one of us – Low Dutch Cousins; descendants of the Low Dutch Settlers of Kentucky. We would like for you to indicate on your registration form which of these ancestor names are yours.

Many came from the "old country" in the 1600s to New Amsterdam (now NY) with the West Indies company. When the English took over in 1664, the Dutch gradually moved across the river to New Jersey. They decided to move further "West" about 1770 to Pennsylvania, near present-day Gettysburg, to settle a place they called Conewago Colony.

Our ancestors adopted the term "Low Dutch" to distinguish themselves as being from the low countries of Holland and Europe rather than being High Deutch from Germany, who were also called Dutchmen. Industrious Low Dutch people continued fighting off Indian attacks and struggling to turn the frontier into their homeland dream.

By 1781 the Revolutionary War was almost over and the Dutch group heard about free land further west in a place called Kain-tuck-ee. So they loaded up their wagons and families and headed down the Ohio River or overland on the Wilderness trail to

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find a "separate" place for the Dutch. We are descendants of those fifty families of Low Dutch settlers. Buried in the graveyard beside the old church, visitors will find Low Dutch soldiers who starved and froze at Valley Forge serving under George Washington, some who fought in the trenches of New Jersey, and other brave souls who faced Indian attacks and frontier starvation.

We are the descendants; many names with one heritage. Back in 2003 the Westerfield family reunion voted to invite all descendants of those fifty allied families to participate under an umbrella called Dutch Cousins. Carolyn Leonard agreed to organize the event.

So in 2005 all Dutch Cousins were invited to Harrodsburg, KY, where we learned a little more about our history. We visited the abandoned Old Mud Church, which by then had no doors or windows and the mud was melting on the outside. The structure is owned by the Harrodsburg Historical Society. We took restoration of the building as our project.

We returned in Sept 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015 and we'll be there again in 2017 for the seventh gezellig Gathering of Low Dutch Cousins. The Riker family, VanArsdale family and Demaree family associations joined us, as well as the Darlands, Bantas, Brewers, Montforts and Vorhees



Look at all these wonderful Volunteers for the 2017 Dutch Cousins Gathering in Frankfort KY

GATHERING COORDINATOR: Lynn Rogers of Dayton, Ohio **REGISTRATION**: Janice Cozine of Mt Washington, Kentucky

BOOKS: Joan Murray of Mundelein, Illinois

MAILING NEWSLETTER: Denise M. Perry, Somerville, Tennessee

FAMILY GROUP DISPLAYS: Lynn Rogers, Centerville, Ohio WEBMASTER: Pam Ellingson of Lakewood, Wisconsin **HOSPITALITY**: Gene & Carol Heathcoat of Denton, Texas SILENT AUCTION: Bill and Gayle Hoag of Jones, Oklahoma

PHOTOGRAPHY: Charlie Westerfield of Louisville

T-SHIRTS: Carole and Dennis Kartwatka of Morehead, Kentucky DAR/SAR REP: Charlotte Ann Legg Olson of Oswego, Illinois

HISTORIAN: Barbara Whiteside of Clarksvillle, Indiana

WESTERFIELD MARKER: Charlie Westerfield of Louisville





Figure 7: Joan Murray and Janice Cozine





Figure 3: Larry & Suzanne Voreis



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Figure 16: The restored Old Mud Meetinghouse, and one-room school in 2015. Work continues.

The Old Mud Meeting House Experience

On Sunday, Sept 10, we will leave Frankfort to go to Harrodsburg and worship at the Old Mud Meeting House. The drive is approximately 45 minutes. The Old Mud Meeting House is home to the cemetery where many of our Revolutionary War ancestors are buried. The Old Mud Meeting House was built on land purchased on 22 Dec 1800 from David and Elizabeth Adams for a Dutch "House of Worship".

That day there will be an opportunity to visit, sit in the church and walk the grounds of the peaceful cemetery. In 2007, 2009, and 2011 we held memorial services and placed gravestones for 35 Dutch Revolutionary Veterans and one War of 1812 veteran. These men are either buried there, or their burial place In Mercer County is either abandoned or unknown.

All excess funds raised at the Dutch Cousins gatherings are donated to the Historical Society to preserve the Old Mud Meetinghouse. Following the 2015 Dutch Cousins gathering, the group donated \$4,000. for the ongoing restoration project. Since 2005 our group has donated more than \$133,000.00 to the renovation, which brings the



200-year-old building from an endangered state to its present use as a functional museum and meeting venue.

The project continues with a focus on the adjacent one-room schoolhouse. Amalie Preston is our representative for Old Mud.

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Let's Worship on Sundayat the Historic Old Mud Meeting House

The worship service will begin 2:00 pm Sunday. You are invited to attend and share communion with us in the Old Mud Meeting House. Every time we gather around the bread and wine, in church or in our homes, we remember the trials our Low Dutch ancestors endured to build this special place.



The 1797 Low Dutch Reform communion cup.

We will again be using a very special metal communion cup. In 1797 Rev. Peter Labagh made a missionary trip to Kentucky organizing the first Dutch Reformed congregation. This resulted in the congregation of our Old Mud Meeting House.

Vince Akers located the communion cup in the HHS showcase and identified it as the one from that period. The HS has allowed us to use the cup in our worship each gathering since 2008.

"Peter Labagh headed back East intending to return to KY, but for some reason he never did," Akers said.

While you are there, take a look around the room and consider the brothers and sisters with whom you are communing. Among members of God's family, we find comfort and support, just as the disciples and the early church did.



Our Dutch Cousin VP and official Photographer, Charlie Westerfield and his faithful assistant wife Marilyn, will be taking Group Photographs

at noon on Saturday at the KHS at 1 pm on Sunday at Old Mud

--and candid shots all during the five-day event ... most of the pics in this newsletter were taken by Charlie at previous gatherings

-- so please be PROUDLY wearing your Dutch Cousin T-shirt and hats! Charlie always takes lots of photos so try to wear one of the special shirts to all events. Please



Marilyn and Charles Westerfield

INCLUDE your Tee-Shirt order with your registration.



Everyone who orders a shirt, and is registered and paid by August 1, will get a free bag with logo to match your T-Shirt

Our Dutch Cousins MISSION STATEMENT

We are descendants of the Low Dutch who settled New Amsterdam, moved to New Jersey, migrated to near Gettysburg, and made history when they later populated the Kentucky frontier. Our Dutch Cousins goal is to research, share and preserve the genealogy and history of our common Low Dutch heritage, including but not limited to, the restoration and preservation of the old Mud Meetinghouse near Harrodsburg, KY. We meet every two years to renew our love for each other. Our mission is to honor the memory of these ancestors and enjoy the friendship of cousins – both newly-discovered and long- loved.

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Figure 17: Entry to the Harrodsburg Historical Society & Research Library.

COME RESEARCH IN THE SPECIAL LOW DUTCH ARCHIVES

On Monday, the Harrodsburg Historical Research Library will be open special hours for the Cousins to research from 10 am until 3 pm.

Morgan Row; oldest row house in Kentucky - headquarters of Harrodsburg Historical Society, contains genealogical and history library and pioneer displays. This specialized historical library possesses many original documents, family files, maps, research papers, cemetery records, Bible records, marriage records and old newspapers.

But most importantly **this** is where you find our special Low Dutch Archives. **HARRODSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY (HHS)** is accepting materials for the LOW DUTCH ARCHIVES. They want old photos, newspaper clippings, maps, vital records, and other reference material. Think of it like a time capsule. Your collection should be cataloged or indexed, and sources for the documents should be included before donation, so the records are usable by library patrons. Contact HHS via phone: (859) 734-5985 or their website; www.harrodsburghistorical.org/ for hours of operation. For more information on donations to the archives refer to

http://www.dutchcousins.org/harrodsburg-low- dutch-repository

Want to know more about the Low Dutch?

To be added to the Dutch Cousins round robin email list, send an email to CarolynLeonard@me.com
For more info, check with our official webpage, Pam Ellingson webmaster:www.DutchCousins.org, or go to www.CarolynBLeonard.com and on the welcome page, choose Dutch History or Dutch Cousins.







2017 Officers

President: Carolyn Leonard, Oklahoma
Vice President: Charlie Westerfield, KY
Secretary: Denise M. Perry, Tennessee
Treasurer: Janice Cozine, Kentucky
Webmaster: Pam Ellingson, Wisconsin
Finance Chairman: Vince Akers, Indiana

Board Members

Jim Cozine, Las Vegas Malcolm Banta, Florida Barbie Abbott Hamman, Louisville

2019 Officers

President: Charlie Westerfield, Kentucky
Vice President: To Be Announced
Secretary: Denise M. Perry, Tennessee
Treasurer: Janice Cozine, Kentucky
Webmaster: Pam Ellingson, Wisconsin
Finance Chairman: Vince Akers, Indiana
News Editor: to be announced

Board Members

Jim Cozine, Las Vegas Malcolm Banta, Florida To Be Announced

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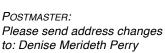


YOU AND YOUR FAMILY ARE INVITED TO OUR SEVENTH LOW DUTCH COUSINS GATHERING!

Email: CarolynLeonard@me.com



to: Denise Merideth Perry 640 Rich Road Somerville, TN 38068



www.DutchCousins.org www.carolynBLeonard.com

Figure 18: Barbie Hamman "Come to Frankfort. We will make you kindly welcome."



[Recipient]

Address Line 1 Address Line 2 Address Line 3

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