

# De Nieuw Nederlandse Mercurius



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"De Nieuw Nederlandse Mercurius"

June 2010

## Events of interest

**June 12, 2010.** The Schenectady County Historical Society presents "Why New Netherland Matters" with Joyce Goodfriend. Beyond quaint architectural styles and stories of St. Nicholas, Dr. Goodfriend explores the importance of New Netherland and how New York's beginnings helped shape its future. She has written extensively on the subject of New Netherland, including articles on religion and women's roles. The program begins at 2:00pm. Tickets can be purchased for a \$5 donation. Only 75 will be available. For reservations call 518-374-0263; for information go to: [www.schist.org](http://www.schist.org).

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**June 17, 2010.** Theodore P. Wright, Jr., PhD., Vice President of the Dutch Settlers Society of Albany and a trustee of the New Netherland Institute, will discuss resources to aid in tracing your ancestors to the Dutch Settlers, specifically in an area under the jurisdiction of the Court of Rensselaerswijck prior to the year 1665 or in Esopus (Kingston, NY) prior to the year 1661. The program will be held in the

Librarians Room of the New York State Library from 12:15-1:15pm. Online registration is available at: [bit.ly/dOSQ2o](http://bit.ly/dOSQ2o).

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**Through June 26, 2010.** "Mapping New York's Shoreline, 1609-2009" is an exhibition at the New York Public Library, inspired by the library's collection of Dutch, English, and early American mapping of the Atlantic coastal regions. Featured are maps, atlases, books, journals, broadsides, manuscripts, prints, and photographs. The exhibition is in the NYPL's Schwarzmann Building at 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, NYC.

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**September 25, 2010.** The NNI announces its 33<sup>rd</sup> New Netherland Seminar (formerly the Rensselaerswijck Seminar), which will focus on "The Restoration of New Netherland, 1673-1674." It is well known that Stuyvesant surrendered the Dutch colony to the English in 1664. What isn't as well known is that nine years later the Dutch regained control of their former possession almost as easily as it had been lost. The following speakers will offer perspective to this mostly neglected period in New Netherland's history:

**Joyce Goodfriend**, "Looking Backward, Looking Forward: The Dutch Restoration of 1673/74 and the Narratives of 17<sup>th</sup>-Century New York History"; **Dennis Maika**, "'We shall bloom and grow like the Cedar on Lebanon': Dutch Merchants in English New York City, 1664-1673"; **Donald G. Shomette**, "Raid on America, the Dutch Naval Campaign of 1672-1674"; **David Voorhees**, "A Provisional Government: The Dutch Administration of Governor Anthony Colve"; and **Daniel Richter**, "New Netherland's Restoration in the English Imperial Context of the Stuarts' Restoration." Check our website for additional information.

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**Until November 1, 2010.** The Schenectady County Historical Society presents, "Faces of Schenectady, 1715-1750: Portraiture from Schenectady's Past," featuring the portraits of early limners Nehemiah Partridge, John Heaton, and Pieter Vanderlyn. The SCHS is at 32 Washington Ave., Schenectady, NY. For more information go to: [www.schist.org](http://www.schist.org); or call 518-374-0263.

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**Through January 2, 2011.** By popular demand the exhibit *Hudson River Panorama: 400 Years of History, Art, and Culture* at the Albany Institute of History and Art has been extended for another year. For additional information go to: [albanyinstitute.org](http://albanyinstitute.org); closed Mondays, registered groups only on Tuesdays, Wed.–Sat. 10–5, Sundays, noon–5.

### Publications

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The book *Famous Frisians in America*, edited by Peter de Haan and Kerst Huisman, is available in Dutch and English. It was published in connection with the New York 400 celebration and contains information about more than 70 persons (or their descendants) who emigrated to the USA from Friesland and became very successful. Why did founding father John Adams say that Friesland “has to be remembered in America”? Which Frisian, besides Peter Stuyvesant, was governor [*sic*] of New Netherland and which one succeeded in recapturing New York from the English? Which Frisian won an Oscar, became an astronaut, served as president of the Ford Company, or was awarded the Nobel Prize? Where did the forebears of Jane Fonda come from? What was unusual about the letter which President Clinton wrote to Friesland in 1998? The answers to these and hundreds of other questions can be found in *Famous Frisians in America*. Thanks to this unique overview of four centuries of Frisian–American heritage, also the Netherlands has been enriched

with dozens of new ‘heroes’. The book (hard cover, 320 pages, full color) can be bought via Amazon.com (\$20). Don't forget to use [www.nnp.org/booksandmore.html](http://www.nnp.org/booksandmore.html) to access Amazon.

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Andrew Hendricks, founder both of the replica ship *Halve Maen* and the annual NNI manuscript award in his name is featured in an article, honoring his receipt of the Dutch distinction The Order of Orange-Nassau. Go to: [bit.ly/9kHFKs](http://bit.ly/9kHFKs)

### News

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With funding from the *Nederlandse Taalunie*, Wijn de Groot, lecturer of Dutch at Columbia University is holding a workshop on reading 17<sup>th</sup>- century Dutch texts from Monday June 14–Thursday June 17. This 4-day workshop will focus on strategies in reading 17<sup>th</sup> century Dutch. The workshop is open to all graduate students and researchers who have reading knowledge of Dutch or German. In past years there has been an eclectic mix of students interested in Dutch, early American and Art history. Email Wijn de Groot at: [wed23@columbia.edu](mailto:wed23@columbia.edu) for details of the schedule and to register for the course. There is no fee.

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Congratulations to David Voorhees for receiving the Dutch distinction The Order of Orange–Nassau. As editor of the Leisler Papers at NYU

as well as editor of the Holland Society's journal of New Netherland related articles, *De Halve Maen*, David is well deserving of this honor which recognizes his devoted service to the memory of the Dutch in America.

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### NNI publication receives national award

*Dutch Renaissance: the Story of the New Netherland Project* by Peter A. Douglas, contributing editor of the *Marcurius* and retired State Library employee just received the American Library Association Notable Document Award. It had previously received the 2009 New York Library Association Notable Document Award. This publication, a companion to the DVD *Uncovering America's Forgotten Colony: the New Netherland Project*, is available for purchase along with the DVD in our online shop at [bit.ly/9YYIYf](http://bit.ly/9YYIYf).

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### 2010 Quinn Library Research Residency Award

Chelsea Teale, a graduate student at Pennsylvania State University is the recipient of the 2010 Quinn Library Research Residency Award. Her dissertation topic is the colonial Dutch perception and management of wetlands on western Long Island and the Hudson valley. The award is for \$2,500, the cost of which the Library and NNI share equally. Information on previous Quinn recipients and their research topics can be found at our website under Research and Education.

### Learn Dutch!

July 30–August 27, 2010. The summer course “Joos Florquin” at Leuven University in Leuven, Belgium is intended for those who wish to begin learning Dutch or improve their knowledge of the language. There are 5 levels: Elementary, Intermediate A, Intermediate B, Advanced A, and Advanced B. The teaching language is Dutch. Passive knowledge of English and/or French is an advantage. Prior knowledge will be tested on the first day. The results of the placement test will be communicated to the students on the following day. For more information go to: [ilt.kuleuven.be/summercourse](http://ilt.kuleuven.be/summercourse).

### NNI News

At the annual meeting on May 15 our development officer, James Sefcik, gave the following report on the New Netherland Research Center (NNRC), summarized here as follows: “NNRC is the result of the work of NNP over the last 36 years by Dr. Gehring and his associates, negotiations with the Dutch government in anticipation of the end of NEH funding for NNP, and the success of the 2009 Project. A partnership between NNI and NYSED/OCE ensued with a challenge grant from the Dutch government of €200,000 that must be matched. In addition to the cash, NYSED/OCE is providing an additional \$840,000 of in-kind services (office space, computer and scanning equipment, etc.) for a total project of \$1.4 million over

three years.

“A Steering Committee, of which Dr. Gehring and Dr. Venema are members, chaired by OCE Deputy Commissioner Jeff Cannell, is in place to oversee the partnership and to maintain communications with all parties. NNI has also retained J. F. Sefcik as their representative. Bill Greer chairs a comparable committee for the NNI board.

“A contract between NNI and NYSED/OCE is in preparation and an Activity Plan, outlining the scope of work, timetable, and budget, is in place and is closely followed.

“Contracts for three parts of the Activity Plan are also in place and work is underway on revising the *Guide to Dutch Manuscripts relating to New Netherland in US Repositories*, originally developed by Dr. Gehring in 1978; the preparation of volume 3 of the Rensselaerswijck Seminar Papers for publication; and the translation and editing of the New Netherland Papers in the Bontemantel Collection at the NYPL. In addition, some one thousand documents from the Van Rensselaer Manor Papers will be scanned and made available online through the NNRC website as will the results of the projects mentioned above. Documents will also be conserved where necessary.

“Other aspects of NNRC include the preparation of curriculum guides in conjunction with NYSED, additional publications in the “Annals” series, and finally to offer support for scholars in residence at both the senior and junior levels. In addition to all this activity, the

transcription, translation, and publication of the remaining records of New Netherland in the NYS Archives will continue.

“Of course, NNI must raise some \$290,000 to match the grant from the Dutch government. A Case Statement has been developed and proposals are being submitted weekly to foundations and corporations.

“Bottom Line: NNRC is up and running. Before the three-year grant is over, a physical location within NYSED/OCE will be established and NNRC will take its place as THE leading resource in New Netherland Studies.”

### Website(s)

[www.dutchinamerica.com](http://www.dutchinamerica.com): “We provide English language news for the Dutch-American community. Topics that we cover include Dutch-American cultural events and current affairs. We provide an unique Dutch-American perspective to the news articles we carry. We always welcome your contributions. Please let us know if you have any tips or scoops.” For additional information go to: [www.facebook.com/dutchinamerica](http://www.facebook.com/dutchinamerica)

### Totidem Verbis

#### **The Voyage of Pieter de Lint, 1598–1603, part two.**

De Lint made his way north up the coast of Chile and Peru, pursuing hostile ships. By July 1 he had proceeded as far as Camana, Peru. Standing out to sea to avoid

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detection he sailed unnoticed by the Spanish, who, with no clear idea of the size of the force they faced, scraped together two squadrons to search, in vain, for the Dutchmen. De Lint pursued his northerly course and reached the island of Coiba, just off the thumb of Panama, in early August, where he landed to take aboard plantains, water, and wood. Back at sea, on August 11 near Caño he captured a small ship carrying a cargo of maize. From this vessel the Franciscan friar Augustin de Cavallos was taken aboard and would remain De Lint's captive for more than two weeks.

This was a lucky event for future historians, for while aboard the *Hendrick Frederick* the friar made many acute observations about De Lint's ship and its crew. He subsequently sent these in the form of a letter to officials in Guatemala. The document survives, and is reproduced in full in English translation in Mr. Swart's article.

The route that De Lint took across the Pacific must remain conjectural, though some historians make the case that he prepared for the crossing at Isla del Coco off the coast of Costa Rica. This would have been a good place to careen the ship, take on supplies and water, and rest the crew for the punishing voyage ahead. This was Van Noort's intention, though he failed to locate the island in three weeks of searching. The island has good anchorages and excellent water, wood, fish, and birds, and, moreover, an abundance of coconuts (hence the name) that, if taken aboard for the crew, would help

stave off scurvy. The equatorial route across the ocean affords few landfalls, but the north equatorial current coupled with favorable trade winds from autumn into spring suggests that a three-month crossing can be made on that route.

While De Lint's route across the Pacific is speculative, we do know that he ultimately reached Ternate in the Spice Islands of eastern Indonesia, with his remaining crew, numbering possibly forty out of fifty-nine after entering the South Sea, in good shape. Apparently De Lint and Callebuys found their way to Ternate with little difficulty, but upon their arrival the ship stuck fast aground. They had navigated the vast ocean with no mishaps that we are aware of, so weather or equipment failure was probably to blame for the calamity. De Lint and his crew immediately set about to salvage and protect the ordnance and trade goods aboard the ship. With the cooperation of the sultan (the town and island of Ternate are ancient Islamic sultanates with a long history of bitter rivalry) nearly everything was saved and secured ashore. De Lint's friendly reception from the sultan of Ternate was in part due to Francis Drake's visit to the island many years before when the English explorer had cemented alliances and treaties with the sultan's father for trade and for protection from the Portuguese.

Safely ashore, De Lint was greeted by a Dutchman, Franck van der Does, representing the Old Company of Amsterdam. Van der Does had been a factor, or agent-representative, in Ternate since 1598 having been in a fleet of

eight ships sent that year under the command of Jacob van Neck. When the ships left, he had been left at Ternate to purchase and warehouse cloves and obtain contracts for future purchases from the sultan in anticipation of the return of the Dutch trading fleet. (Ternate was the world's major producer of cloves.) Two Dutch ships returned on June 2, 1601 to load the cloves purchased by the factor, and Van Neck warmly welcomed De Lint aboard the *Amsterdam*. When Van Neck ultimately left Ternate, heading for Patani, via China, he took with him some of the crew of the *Hendrick Frederick* to replace unexpected vacancies.

The sultan of Ternate, seeking protection from the Spanish and the Portuguese, elected to buy the guns, powder, and ammunition from the wreck of De Lint's ship. Others eagerly bought the salvaged trade goods, including silks, velvets, and other cloths. A price for all these goods was agreed upon in cloves, some to be delivered in the future as the cloves were harvested. In the meantime, De Lint could sell the cloves locally, essentially making him the sultan's exclusive agent. After De Lint's departure, Wolphert Hermansz, arriving at Ternate on February 17, 1602, with the *Amsterdam* and the yachts *De Wachter* and *Duyfken* (destined in 1606 under Willem Janszoon to be the first ship to encounter and explore Australia), noted that he had stripped the island of cloves.

[To be continued]