

# De Nieuw Nederlansche Mercurius

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“De Nieuw Nederlansche Mercurius”

June 2006

## Upcoming Events

**July 30, 2006.** “Okra, Beans, and Leafy Greens: The African-American Foodways Festival” Philipsburg Manor and Stone Barns Center for Food & Agriculture invite you to its first African-American foodways festival, where you can explore the influence of enslaved and free Africans on colonial and contemporary American foodways. The event includes demonstrations of West African, West Indian, and colonial American foodways; performances by the Universal African Dance and Drum Ensemble, with over forty performers including stilt-walkers and acrobats; children’s planting, harvesting, and cooking activities; tours of the slaves’ garden at Philipsburg Manor and the greenhouses at Stone Barns Center; cookbook signings by culinary historian Dr. Jessica Harris; and tasty West African, West Indian, and colonial American food for sale. There will be a free 10-minute shuttle bus connecting Philipsburg Manor (Sleepy Hollow) with Stone Barns Center (Pocantico Hills). Look for a complete description of this event online in early July. Admission: Adults \$12; seniors \$10; students 5–18 \$6. Children

under 5, members of Historic Hudson Valley, and members of Stone Barns Center are free. Hours: 10am to 5pm  
*Free for Members:* A dinner in the private dining room at “Blue Hill at Stone Barns” will follow that evening. The menu will reflect the collaboration of Dan Barber and noted cookbook author Dr. Jessica Harris. Reservations for the dinner are required: 914-631-8200 For further information go to: [www.hudsonvalley.org](http://www.hudsonvalley.org).

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**September 21, 2006.** Luminist Horizons: The Art and Collection of James A. Suydam at the National Academy Museum, 1083 Fifth Avenue at 89th in New York City. 6-8pm. A private viewing and cocktail reception for Wyckoff House and Association members and friends. This will be the first exhibition to celebrate the masterful art and and superlative collection of this prominent 19th-century Dutch-American New Yorker. Suydam’s collection includes works by Kensett, Durand, and Church. His own landscapes depict scenic spots such as the Hudson River Valley and Rhode Island coast. Join us for a cocktail reception and private viewing with curator Mark Mitchell. 212-369-4880

[www.nationalacademy.org](http://www.nationalacademy.org).

*Editor’s note:* While in the neighborhood drop by the Neue Galerie on 86th St to view the newly acquired Gustav Klimt painting. For a Viennese-style lunch try the Neue Galerie’s Café Sabarsky. [www.neuegalerie.org](http://www.neuegalerie.org).

## Publications

Dutch-Indian relations is the subject of two 2006 publications: *The Dutch-Munsee Encounter in America. The Struggle for Sovereignty in the Hudson Valley* by Paul Otto is volume 3 in the series *European Expansion & Global Interaction*. Publisher’s note: “Employing a frontier framework, this book traces intercultural relations in the lower Hudson River valley of early seventeenth-century New Netherland. It explores the interaction between the Dutch and the Munsee Indians and considers how they, and individuals within each group, interacted, focusing in particular on how the changing colonial landscape affected their cultural encounter and Munsee cultural development. At each stage of European colonization—first contact, trade, and settlement—the Munsees faced evolving and changing challenges.” Order directly from the

New Netherland Project, CEC 803, Albany, NY 12230  
[cgehring@mail.nysed.gov](mailto:cgehring@mail.nysed.gov) NNI office: 518-486-4815

Voice: 518-474-6067

Fax: 518-473-0472

GIRO: J. Venema 6566735 [www.nnp.org](http://www.nnp.org)

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publisher for a 15% discount.

[www.berghahnbooks.com](http://www.berghahnbooks.com)

NB: Otto's work was the winner of the 1998 Hendricks Award.

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*The Shame and the Sorrow: Dutch-amerindian Encounters in New Netherland* in the *Early American Studies* series of the University of Pennsylvania Press. Publisher's note: "The Dutch... had come to the New World as traders, not expecting to assume responsibility as the sovereign possessor of a conquered New Netherland. They did not intend to make war on the native peoples around Manhattan Island but they did; they did not intend to help destroy native cultures but they did; they intended to be overseas the tolerant, pluralistic, and antimilitaristic people they thought themselves to be—and in so many respects were—at home, but they were not." For further information go to: [www.upenn.edu/pennpress/book/14241.html](http://www.upenn.edu/pennpress/book/14241.html). Also, Amazon is carrying extensive excerpts from selected chapters as well as the TOC and index.

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Looking for a compact reader containing European context for the New Netherland period? *Early Modern Europe, An Oxford History* edited by Euan Cameron "...offers a new kind of introduction to Europe between 1500 and 1800. 'Early modern' is the term used by historians for the period between the end of the Middle Ages and the start of the nineteenth century. It is a description born of hindsight. Europe was traveling towards something we recognize, called 'modernity': the journey was begun, but not finished." For reviews and excerpts go to

Amazon.com. If you decide to purchase from Amazon remember to enter Amazon via our website, for which the NNI receives a gratuity.

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Of interest to teachers and students: *New York Was Always a Global City: The Impact of World Trade on Seventeenth-Century New Amsterdam* by Dennis Maika, in the OAH Magazine of History; Apr. 2004, Vol. 18 Issue 3, p. 43–45. New York has always been a "global" city if people enjoy that adjective the way it is presently being used. "Global" suggests a connection to a wider world; "globalization" is offered to characterize one's current "interconnected system." But the world's interconnectedness is not a new phenomenon. The "world that trade created" has existed for centuries. An awareness of a unique type or degree of globalization before the post Cold War era opens up new opportunities for teaching American history, and offers to teachers and students new ways to consider current issues using the historical past. This new view is especially relevant to the colonial period in American history and to the history of New York in particular. From its earliest beginnings as Dutch New Amsterdam, New York's involvement in global commerce had an impact on the people who lived and worked in the city. Dennis is a 1996 recipient of the Hendricks Manuscript Award for *Commerce and Community: Manhattan Merchants in the Seventeenth Century* (Ph.D. dissertation, New York University, 1995)

Full text of this article is available online through school, public and

academic libraries in New York State which subscribe to the NOVEL Database program. It is also available to New York State resident borrowers from the New York State Library. Others may find it through their own libraries' online electronic resources program.

### News from the NNI

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#### A Smashing Success!

Comments and emails from attendees at *From De Halve Maen to KLM: Four Hundred Years of Dutch-American Exchange*, the joint conference of the American Association for Netherlandic Studies and the New Netherland Institute held in Albany June 8–10 are very positive. The program was sponsored in part by *De Nederlandse Taalunie*, the Peck Stacpoole Foundation and The Consulate General of the Netherlands in New York. We are finalizing the administrative follow-up, paying bills and getting the financial accounts in order. In summary, there were over 200 participants, 67 speakers, 19 sessions, 2 workshops, 8 local events, 2 dinners, and a reception. Highlights from participants' comments include the breadth and depth of session offerings, the knowledge and scholarship of the speakers, the camaraderie that developed over the three days and, the exposure to information from other disciplines. Standing room only sessions covered *Art in the 17th Century: Current Issues* and *Knickerbocker New York*. David Pinto and Russell Shorto, our two keynote speakers gave us their very different impressions of life in The Netherlands today. We were pleased that Mrs.

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Cora Minderhoud, Consul General of the Netherlands in New York, Mrs. Gabriella Sancisi, Consul for Press and Cultural affairs, Mrs. Barbara Fratianni, Executive Director of the Hudson–Fulton–Champlain Quadracentennial [HFCQ] Commission, Mrs. Alison Lynch, Assistant Director, HFCQ Commission, Mrs. Carole Huxley, Deputy Commissioner for Cultural Education, Education Department, and Mrs. Loretta Ebert, Director of the New York State Library, Research Library were able to join us during the conference. A university press has expressed interest in publishing the papers from the conference. Speakers are asked to submit their papers to Charles Gehring by July 15th. We have a few copies of the final program left. If you would like a copy or would like to get in touch with one of the speakers or moderators, please contact Marilyn Douglas NNI Associate at 518–408–1212 or email: [mdouglas@mail.nysed.gov](mailto:mdouglas@mail.nysed.gov)

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The 2006 Alice P. Kenney Award was presented to Russell Shorto, author and contributing writer at the New York Times Magazine, on June 9 in conjunction with the joint conference of the American Association for Netherlandic Studies and the New Netherland Institute held in Albany June 8–10.

This Award was established in honor of Alice P. Kenney, a distinguished scholar of the early period of American history and of the Dutch contribution to American society. This Award enables the New Netherland Institute to award an annual prize of \$500 to an individual or group which has made a significant contribution to colonial

Dutch studies and/or has encouraged understanding of the significance of the Dutch colonial experience in North America by research, teaching, writing, speaking, or in other ways. Russell's book "*The Island at the Center of the World: the Epic Story of Dutch Manhattan & the Forgotten Colony that Shaped America*" has been instrumental in bringing the story of New Netherland to the general public and encouraging interest in this period.

### Websites

The newly-constructed website of New York State's *Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadracentennial Commission* opens with the following invitation: "2009 will be a watershed year, marking the 400th anniversary of Hudson and Champlain's voyages along the river and lake that bear their names -- and the 200th anniversary of Fulton's successful steamboat voyage and establishment of steam commerce on the Hudson River. From the Canadian border to New York harbor, a wealth of exciting events and activities is being planned for you. We invite you to join this spectacular extravaganza that will draw people from all over the world." Follow the activities as we approach 2009 by going to: [www.exploreny400.com](http://www.exploreny400.com).

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If you are unable to celebrate Rembrandt's 400th birthday in Amsterdam this year, consider going to [www.rembrandt400.com](http://www.rembrandt400.com). It's a state-of-the-art website, featuring events, activities, performances, tours, and exhibits all in your choice of five European languages.

### Reunions

The 80th annual meeting and reunion of the **Association of Blauvelt Descendants** will be held September 15 & 16, 2006 at the Tappan Reformed Church in Tappan, NY at 32 Old Tappan Road. Tel: 845–359–1694. The ABD has reserved a block of rooms at the Holiday Inn Hotel on 3 Executive Blvd. in Suffern, NY 10901. Tel: 845–357–4800. For special room rate register by August 20th. [www.holidayinnsuffern.com](http://www.holidayinnsuffern.com). For further information go to: [www.blauvelt.org](http://www.blauvelt.org).

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The **Wyckoff Association** has announced that the 2006 reunion in Springfield, Illinois has been canceled. The action is the result of a survey in which Wyckoff cousins expressed a majority interest in holding a reunion every other year rather than every year, with spring and summer more popular than fall. The next Wyckoff House and Association Reunion will be held in New York in late spring or early summer 2007 to celebrate the ground-breaking for the Wyckoff Durling Barn. For further information go to: [www.wyckoffassociation.org](http://www.wyckoffassociation.org).

### Save the date

Although most historical-minded people will be celebrating the founding of Jamestown in 2007, be aware that 24 March will be the 400th anniversary of the birth of Michiel Adriaensz de Ruyter in Vlissingen, Zeeland. After his death in combat off the coast of Sicily in 1676, Louis XIV ordered guns along the coast to salute the passing of the ship bearing his remains back to the Netherlands.

**Totidem Verbis**

At the Fort Orange Club reception preceding our NNI/AANS conference Hans Krabbendam of the Roosevelt Study Center announced an exciting project to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the East India Company's ship *De Halve Maen* in the New World. A summary of the project follows:

**Four Centuries of Dutch–American Relations  
1609–2009, A Handbook**



**A Project of the Roosevelt Study Center  
Middelburg, the Netherlands**

In order to celebrate the significance of the 400th anniversary of Henry Hudson's arrival in the New World, the Roosevelt Study Center is embarking on a project to highlight the special value of the bilateral relations between the Netherlands and the United States for both countries. By gathering together contributions from a broad range of scholars, the RSC aims to produce a two-volume Handbook that will provide both a chronicle of the passage of these relations and a consideration of their unique worth in the early part of the 21st century. In preparation for this undertaking, the RSC held a "brainstorming" session in Middelburg with a small group of eminent historians from around the Netherlands. The resounding conclusion of this two-day meeting was that such a project is both timely and valuable to re-state the value of Dutch–American relations.

The Handbook will be published as two volumes:

- Part I:
  - a) 1609–1782 (Colonial Period)
  - b) 1782–1917 (Beginning of Diplomatic Relations / 19th Century)
- Part II:
  - a) 1917–1949 (The Interbellum)
  - b) 1949–2009 (Cold War / Americanization)

The last period, 1949–2009, is of course the most rich in terms of the intensity and variety of relations between the two countries. In order to do justice to the increasing importance of the bilateral relationship during those years, this section is further divided into three themes:

- i) Politics and Security
- ii) Economics and Society
- iii) Culture

While an editorial board will assign topics to scholars, we would like to invite you to show your interest in the project. You can inform us about your interest by emailing your research expertise to [rsc@zeeland.nl](mailto:rsc@zeeland.nl). An outline of this project and a preliminary list of topics can be found on the RSC's website [www.roosevelt.nl](http://www.roosevelt.nl).