

De Nieuw Nederlanse Mercurius



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“De Nieuw Nederlanse Mercurius”

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Events of interest

November 30, 2012. The Comprehensive Atlas of the West India Company (WIC) part II will be presented at the Scheepvaart Museum in Amsterdam from 3:45-6:00 in the Ruyterzaal. This remarkable edition contains 472 pages of about 800 mostly never published maps and other images. It is the first all comprising overview of maps from Dutch West India in the late 17th and 18th century. The Comprehensive Atlas of the West India Company (WIC), part II can be ordered via Atlas Maior Publishers: www.asiamaior.nl.

December 12, 2012. The Holland Society Library of New York Presents: “Exploring a Dutch Colony under English Rule: The Papers of Jacob Leisler Project.” Dr. David William Voorhees will give a presentation at 6:00 PM on how the Jacob Leisler Papers Project at New York University is transforming our understanding of the transition from Dutch New Netherland to English New York in the period from 1660 to 1700. The Holland Society Library is located at 20 West 44th St., Suite 509. A wine and cheese reception will

follow. Reservations for the talk can be made at:
www.hollandsociety.org.

Through January 21, 2013. The Museum of the City of New York hosts a new exhibition “From Farm to City: Staten Island 1661-2012.” It highlights the history of changing land use on the island that has sometimes been called New York’s “forgotten borough.” The exhibition illuminates Staten Island’s varied history as home to farms and fishing ports, small towns and suburbs, resorts and estates, industry and business, parks and wetlands, and dynamic and diverse downtowns that continue to reinvent themselves. New panoramic color photographs by Jeff Chien-Hsing Liao capture the varied and often striking vistas of Staten Island today. For further information go to: www.mcny.org.

Through February 3, 2013. “Citizens of the Republic: Portraits from the Dutch Golden Age,” at the National Gallery in DC. Stalwart Dutch citizens, distinguished for their contributions to the arts and the state, are sensitively rendered in a selection of 17th- and 18th-

century engravings. The exhibition features portrait prints after celebrated old masters such as Rembrandt van Rijn, Bartholomeus van der Helst, Michiel van Miereveld, and Caspar Netscher; rare books from the National Gallery of Art Library; and Cornelis Jonson van Ceulen’s grisaille portrait of the eminent scholar Anna Maria van Schurman, from the Gallery’s permanent collection. This important painting will be hung, for the first time, alongside Cornelis van Dalen the Younger’s engraved portrait of Van Schurman, illuminating the relationship between painter and engraver. The exhibition is on view in the West Building of the National Gallery of Art, Gallery G-21. For more information go to: www.nga.gov. See especially the very informative downloadable digital brochure.

Study Abroad

The University of Amsterdam’s Graduate School of Humanities has announced its programs for the academic year 2013-2014. Courses range from Archaeology, the Classics, History, Literary and Religious Studies, the Dutch

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Golden Age, to Linguistics, which course has been ranked the best in Europe for two years in a row. Courses are given in English. For more information go to: www.gsh.uva.nl.

FYI

Eline Jongsma and Kel O'Neill, two young Dutch/American filmmakers, have documented the unintended consequences of Dutch colonialism in Asia, Africa and South America. This project - Empire - resulted in a series of documentaries among which is *Migrants*. *Migrants* is made under the auspices of the Mutual Cultural Heritage Team of the Dutch Nationaal Archief and financed by the Dutch Ministry of Culture. The Empire project will be presented at the International Documentary Festival Amsterdam (IDFA). The documentary is remarkable in its subjects, and shows sometimes intimate portraits of individuals whose life in one way or the other is connected to the Netherlands. In the jungle of Brazil for instance, the filmmakers went to the former Dutch colony Holanda in de state Espirito Santo. Many inhabitants are fair-haired and speak a strange mix of Portuguese and Dutch. Their ancestors once took the risk of leaving their homeland and settling in Brazil in search for a better life. They didn't succeed; their descendants now live in poor conditions. Before this project Jongsma and O'Neill made similar documentaries on intangible remnants of the Dutch presence in modern-day India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and South Africa. These

documentaries will also be on view at the festival. [ed. note: the festival cited above ran from Nov. 16-25, too late for the newsletter]

For the latest updates, follow Empire on facebook.

Kalmar Nyckel Foundation
2013 Lecture Series
"375 years on the Delaware:
New Sweden Past and Present"

January 31st "Finding Fort Christina — Archaeology Matters!"
Thursday, 6:00-8:30 pm by Dr. Edward Harris, Director and Archaeologist, Bermuda Maritime Museum and Craig Lukezic, Archaeologist for the State of Delaware;

February 24th "Delaware's First Corporate Takeover — The Dutch and the Swedes in a 17th-Century Battle for Business" Sunday, 4:00-6:30 pm by Dr. Charles Gehring, Director and Translator, New Netherland Research Center;

May 9th "Royal Ship *Kronan* — Swedish Naval Power in the 17th Century" Thursday, 6:00-8:30 pm by Lars Einarsson, *Kronan* Project Director, Kalmar Läns Museum, Sweden.

Chase Center on The Riverfront, Wilmington. Price: \$12.00 in advance, \$8.00 for Members, \$15.00 at the Door.
www.kalmarnyckel.org.

Publications

New Netherland in a Nutshell by Firth Haring Fabend. was produced in response to constant requests for a concise history of the former

Dutch colony. Dr. Fabend's beautifully illustrated book draws on decades of research by historians, archaeologists, and linguists affiliated with the NNRC. Russell Shorto writes: "For anyone seeking to answer the question, 'What was New Netherland?' this little volume is a handy, richly packed resource. It gives you the background, the actors, the action, and the legacy. In clear prose, it covers a lot of history in a few pages." The NNI is pleased to offer this immensely enjoyable and readable book in both hardcover and paperback: \$25.95/\$17.95. For P&H add \$3.99 and \$2.00 for each additional book. Please make check or money payable to the New Netherland Institute. Order by mail at 222 Madison Ave. Room 10D45, Albany, NY 12230; or order online via PayPal at: www.newnetherlandinstitute.org.

The latest issue of *De Halve Maen, Journal of the Holland Society of New York*, Fall 2012 contains a must read article by Frans Blom and Henk Looijesteijn. Both authors presented papers at the 2011 NN Seminar in Delaware, one on selling the South River the other on settling it. "A Land of Milk and Honey: Colonial Propaganda and the City of Amsterdam, 1656-1664" combines both papers in a masterful description of Amsterdam's role in promoting their New World colony of Nieuwer Amstel on the Delaware and the city's enlightened attitude to settlement based on freedom and equality. For information on access

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to the publication, go to: www.hollandsociety.org.

For those readers interested in 17th-c shipbuilding consider the following:

The Ships of Abel Tasman by Ab Hoving en Cor Emke

As described in his preserved extract-journal, Abel Tasman had two ships under his command during his memorable voyage to the mysterious 'Southland' in 1642: the yacht 'Heemskerck' and the fluyt 'Zeehaen'. According to historian Peter Sigmond, head of the department of Dutch History of the Amsterdam Rijksmuseum, these ships can be placed in the same rank as ships like the 'Santa Maria', the 'Golden Hind' and the 'Endeavour'. Ab Hoving, head of the restoration department working for Sigmond, built models of these ships. Cor Emke has recorded the entire (experimental) building process on cad drawings. These drawings are not only printed but also recorded on cd-rom. This cd-rom enables the model builder to examine and print each part of the ship in a scale selected by himself. In the book to which the cd-rom belongs, Peter Sigmond describes the historical background of Tasman's expedition. Original illustrations from Tasman's journal, and paintings and pictures of yachts and fluyts illustrate the narrative. The book also offers an analysis of seventeenth-century shipbuilding; an account of how the models were built; a typology of the ships Tasman sailed with and a lot of

information from which anyone interested can make his own choice in order to construct his model.

This book can be ordered directly from Verloren Publishers at: www.verloren.nl, or you can email an order at: bestel@verloren.nl. Verloren makes it easy to do as it uses PayPal which takes care of the currency conversion.

Call for proposals

The Program Committee for the 2013 Conference on New York State History to be held at the New York State Historical Association in Cooperstown on June 6-8, 2013 is now seeking proposals.

Presentations may consider any aspect of New York State's History. To mark the Civil War sesquicentennial, proposals are also being solicited for one set of sessions that examines aspects of the New York City draft riots of July 1863.

Presentation formats may include:

- Presentation sessions (Chair and 3 presenters; 75 minutes)
- Panel/Roundtable discussion sessions (Chair/Moderator and 3-4 panelists; 75 minutes)
- Workshops and practical sessions (Workshops 3-5 hours; practical sessions 75 minutes)
- Individual presentations (25 minutes)

Preference will be given to full session proposals. Presenters are encouraged to take a dynamic approach, including the use of visual and audio aids, audience participation, and discussions, rather than solely reading a paper.

All proposals must be received by January 7, 2013 at 5:00 PM. The Program Committee will meet to consider proposals in mid-January. Applicants will be notified immediately thereafter.

What to submit:

- Completed proposal form, including description of no longer than 300 words
- Include a brief discussion of sources, methodology, and argument.

Proposal forms are downloadable at: www.nysha.org/nysha_0

The Conference on New York State History is an annual meeting of academic and public historians, librarians and archivists, educators, publishers, and other interested individuals who come together to discuss topics and issues related to the people of New York State in historical perspective and to share information and ideas regarding historical research, programming, and the networking of resources and services.

Totidem Verbis

Several years ago a film crew passed through Albany with the objective to visit 15 small places in the US. They all were connected by the name Amsterdam. The film will air sometime in 2013. Peter Douglas has taken up a similar theme for this issue's contribution called:

New Amsterdam is Old Hat

For readers of the Marcurius there's probably only one association evoked by the name "New Amsterdam," and that's "Nieuw Amsterdam," the Dutch colonial

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settlement of 1626 that became New York City. Although the name has not been in official use for more than three centuries, since the English took over the Dutch city, for some reason it seems to have created a strong emotional response, for there were and are quite a lot of other New Amsterdams in various guises all over the world. Here are a few.

New Amsterdam, settled in 1815, is a town in Harrison County, Indiana, on the Ohio River, and is part of the Louisville KY metropolitan area.

New Amsterdam (or Nieuw Amsterdam) is one of the largest towns in Guyana, population 30,000. It is situated 62 miles from the capital, Georgetown.

Nieuw Amsterdam is the capital of the Commonwijn District in Suriname (formerly Dutch Guiana), a coastal town near the mouth of the Suriname River just across from the country's capital, Paramaribo.

Nieuw-Amsterdam is a village in the province of Drenthe in the northeast of the Netherlands. In 1850 a group of Amsterdam investors bought a tract of peat land and named it after their own city, Amsterdamschveld, or "field of Amsterdam." The settlement that was built near these lands in later years was called Nieuw Amsterdam.

New Amsterdam was the original name of the city of Buffalo, New York, in the early 1800s. It owes its origin to Joseph Ellicott (1760-1826), a Quaker surveyor, city planner, and land office agent.

Ellicott was a meticulous and industrious man, plain in habit, frugal in expenditures, and orderly in his business practices, credentials that suited the needs of the Holland Land Company, a consortium of six Dutch banking houses that purchased, between 1794 and 1794 over five million acres of land west of the Genesee River, including the present site of Buffalo. The settlement that Ellicott laid out there was at first called New Amsterdam, which Ellicott persisted in calling the place, but the inhabitants preferred the name Buffalo Creek, which was later shortened to Buffalo.

New Amsterdam, or Île Amsterdam (Amsterdameiland) is a French island in the Indian Ocean. It was discovered in 1522 by Sebastian del Cano on one of Magellan's ships, but its name derives from the visit by Anthony Van Diemen, who was to become Governor-General of the Dutch East Indies. En route to Java in 1633, he named the northernmost of the two islands after his ship, the Nieuw Amsterdam.

In addition to being one of Van Diemen's ships, Nieuw Amsterdam is perhaps best known in nautical circles as the name of the 20th century 758-foot Dutch passenger liner, built in Rotterdam for the Holland America Line. It was christened by Queen Wilhelmina in 1937 and completed in 1938. This Nieuw Amsterdam, the second of three Holland America ships with that name, is considered by many to be the Line's finest ship. It was her interiors and the magnificent

service and cuisine that made this ship what it was: the greatest in the Dutch merchant fleet. The ship's décor was completely done in the modern Art Deco-style, with very clean and bright surfaces. One of the ship's centerpieces was the main restaurant, which was adorned by numerous Murano glass light fixtures and columns covered in gold leaf. Tinted mirrors, ivory walls, and satinwood furniture all contributed to create the luxurious atmosphere. She was broken up in Taiwan in 1974.

The New Amsterdam Theatre, built in 1903, is located at 214 West 42nd Street in New York City. In 1913 Florenz Ziegfeld brought his "Follies" to the New Amsterdam.

New Amsterdam is the name of a branch of the New York Public Library, on Murray Street, appropriately located downtown, near City Hall Park.

Then there's New Amsterdam Records, the New Amsterdam Symphony Orchestra, the New Amsterdam Brewing Company, the New Amsterdam Singers, and the New Amsterdam Bar and Grill (which is actually in Knoxville TN, not NYC) and the Café Nieuw Amsterdam in Bordeaux. The name also appears in that of a hotel, a band, a tour company, a magazine, a dance troupe, a fencing academy, and on and on. And it's the title of a song by Elvis Costello. Little did those 17th century Dutch know what they'd started! Ω