

# De Nieuw Nederlansche Mercurius



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“De Nieuw Nederlansche Mercurius”

Sept. 2008

## Upcoming Events

**September 13, 2008.** An international team of scholars has been assembled for the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Rensselaerswijck Seminar, sponsored and organized by the New Netherland Institute. “Neighbors in the New World: New Netherland and New France” will be the theme of the one-day conference, featuring speakers from the Netherlands and Canada, as well as from Colorado, Massachusetts, and Michigan. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. at the New York State Museum’s Kenneth B. Clark Auditorium, in the Cultural Education Center. The pre-registration fee is \$50, or \$30 for students. Registration at the door will be \$60. You may register online for the seminar at <http://www.nnp.org>. Sessions throughout the day will explore the relationship between the Netherlands and France in 17<sup>th</sup> century North America. Major attention will focus on interactions of these European powers and their respective Indian allies.

### Morning session:

- José Brandão, Western Michigan University, “An Unreasonable Offer: Iroquois

Policy towards their Huron and Mahican Neighbors”;

- James Bradley, ArchLink; “In Between Worlds: New Netherland and New France at Mid Century”;
- Conrad Heidenreich, York University, Ontario, Canada “The Skirmish with the Mohawk on Lake Champlain: was Champlain a ‘trigger-happy thug’ or ‘just following orders?’”

### Afternoon session:

- Joyce Goodfriend, University of Denver, Introduction and presentation of the Hendricks Manuscript Award;
- Willem Frijhoff, Free University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands, “Jesuits, Calvinists, and Natives: Attitudes, Agency, and Encounters in the Early Christian Missions in the North.”

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Following the Seminar, the annual New Netherland Institute Reception and Dinner will be held in the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Terrace Gallery of the New York State Museum in the Cultural Education Center beginning at 5:00 pm. Cost of the dinner is \$85. Information is available at the NNI website, <http://www.nnp.org> or by phoning the New Netherland Institute office at 518-486-4815.

**September 18–20, 2008.** The McNeil Center for Early American Studies and the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, in cooperation with the School of Arts and Sciences of The Catholic University of America, will hold a conference in Philadelphia September 18–20, 2008, on the uses of anti-popery in the early modern world. This conference will explore the diverse uses of anti-popery in the Protestant Atlantic—whether religious, social, legal, economic, or political—from the time of the Reformation to the era of massive Catholic migration to America in the mid-nineteenth century. For more information go to: [www.mceas.org/anti-popery](http://www.mceas.org/anti-popery).

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**September 19–20, 2008.** The Association of Blauvelt Descendants announces its 82<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting and reunion entitled “Oh Henry!” Hudson. The program will take place at the First Church in Albany. For further information go to: [www.blauvelt.org](http://www.blauvelt.org).

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**15 November 2008.** The New Amsterdam History Center will host a talk, “Imagining New Amsterdam,” featuring Firth Fabend and

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Len Tantillo. The presentation will be held at 1 p.m. in the Marble Collegiate Church at 3 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street in NYC. There is no charge; however, please email Ken Chase at [kchase@westendchurch.org](mailto:kchase@westendchurch.org) for reservations.

### News

#### Hendricks Manuscript Award

This year's Hendricks Manuscript Award winner is Willem Frijhoff of the Free University of Amsterdam for his work *Fulfilling God's Mission, The Two Worlds of Dominie Everardus Bogardus 1607-1647*. See the December 2007 issue of the Marcurius for an announcement of his book. He will be introduced at the Rensselaerswijck Seminar by Joyce Goodfriend of the University of Denver. The award is given to the best published or unpublished book-length manuscript relating to any aspect of the Dutch colonial experience in North America. Endowed by Dr. Andrew A. Hendricks, the award carries a prize of \$2,000 and the distinction of being named a Fellow of the New Netherland Institute.

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#### Quinn Foundation Awards

The generous support of the Doris G. Quinn Foundation enables the New Netherland Institute to join with academic institutions, the New York State Library, and the New York State Archives in offering fellowships and research residencies. Information and details on applying for a 2009 Fellowship and/or a Research Residency is

**THE NEW NETHERLAND INSTITUTE** gratefully acknowledges all gifts received from July 1, 2007, to July 1, 2008. Corporate donors, foundations, organizations, and institutions appear in italics. For donations received in 2006 and 2007, see [www.nnp.org/nni/Membership/cc.html](http://www.nnp.org/nni/Membership/cc.html).

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available at [www.nnp.org/nni/Research%20&%20Education/](http://www.nnp.org/nni/Research%20&%20Education/)

[quinn.html](http://www.nnp.org/nni/Research%20&%20Education/quinn.html). Applications are due March, 2009.

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### Save the Date

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The Annual Meeting of the NNI will be held on January 31, 2009. David Voorhees, editor of *De Halve Maen*, the journal of the Holland Society of NY, will be the keynote speaker. In conjunction with the Annual Meeting, the annual Alice P. Kenney Memorial Award will be given. Nominations for this Award should be received no later than December 1, 2008. For further information, contact the NNI office or go to: [www.nnp.org/nni/Awards/kenney.html](http://www.nnp.org/nni/Awards/kenney.html)

### Publications

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Nebraska University Press has announced October 1, 2008 as the release date of Adriaen van der Donck's *Description of New Netherland*. This edition of Van der Donck's classic provides the first complete and accurate English-language translation of an essential first-hand account of the lives and world of Dutch colonists and northeastern Native communities in the seventeenth century. Adriaen van der Donck, a graduate of Leiden University in the 1640s, became the law enforcement officer for the Dutch patroonship of Rensselaerswijck, located along the upper Hudson River. His position enabled him to interact extensively with Dutch colonists and the local Algonquians and Iroquoians. An astute observer, detailed recorder, and accessible writer, Van der Donck was ideally situated to write about his experiences and the natural and cultural worlds around him.

Van der Donck's *Beschryvinge van Nieuw-Nederlant* was first published in 1655 and then expanded in 1656. An inaccurate and abbreviated English translation appeared in 1841 and was reprinted in 1968. This new volume features an accurate, polished translation by Diederik Willem Goedhuys and includes all the material from the original 1655 and 1656 editions. The result is an indispensable first-hand account with enduring value to historians, ethnohistorians, and anthropologists.

This new translation was edited by Charles Gehring and William Starna, with a Foreword by Russell Shorto. Hardcover. 208 pp.  
978 0 8032 1088 2. \$40.00.

### NNI News

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The Board of Trustees met in Katonah, NY, on August 9, 2008, at the home of Howard and Elisabeth Funk, respectively Webmaster for NNP/NNI and NNI trustee.

President Wendell noted with regret the resignation of Fred M. Tibbitts, Jr., a trustee of long standing. As a global beverage merchant Fred has been the NNI's most vocal overseas ambassador especially to countries in the Far East such as China and Thailand. As a trustee of the Holland Society Fred helped to assure its continued financial support of the NNP. However, Fred's business is now based in Bangkok, which makes it difficult to attend to NNI business. The board thanks Fred for his tireless support and generous

contributions to our annual dinners. We wish him the best of luck.

The Traveling Exhibit, the Documentary, and the *Liber Amicorum*, three components of NNI's 2009 Project, are on schedule, according to its chair, trustee Jippe Hiemstra. The Traveling Exhibit will open on December 12, 2008.

The president established a Website Committee, consisting of Elisabeth Funk, chair; Charles Gehring; Marilyn Douglas; and Howard Funk of H. L. Funk Consulting, webmaster. The committee's composition and task division conforms to ongoing practice over the past several years. The chair reported that, in the month from July 6 – August 5, 2008, the website received 7,230 visitors, viewing a total of 20,000 pages. Visits originated in 113 countries from across the globe, the majority coming from the U.S., followed by the Netherlands, Canada, and the United Kingdom.

Limited supply! The NNI office reports brisk sales of *From De Halve Maen to KLM: 400 Years of Dutch-American Exchange*, a volume of selected papers of the 2006 joint AANS/NNI conference. Copies are still available at a sharply reduced price from the NNI office or online at: [www.nnp.org/nni/Publications/seminarxxixbook.html](http://www.nnp.org/nni/Publications/seminarxxixbook.html), which also offers information regarding this volume, including a table of contents.

## Totidem Verbis

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With this second installment of “Another Dutch First,” Peter Douglas, the NNM’s contributing editor, concludes his story of the Dutch founding of the Cape Colony in South Africa.



Johan Anthonisz van Riebeeck  
1619 1677 artist unknown

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By 1659 things had improved well enough for *De Kaap* to produce enough fresh foodstuffs to supply any ship during its stay. Van Riebeeck remained the leader until 1662, at which stage the settlement numbered 134 officials, 35 free burghers, 15 women, 22 children, and 180 slaves. The settlement that Van Riebeeck founded grew to become Cape Town (Kaapectad), now South Africa’s third most populous city (about 3 million) and provincial capital of the Western Cape.

So from Van Riebeeck’s modest community there grew a great city, a country, and a language— Afrikaans, which has its roots in the 17<sup>th</sup> century Dutch language spoken by the settlers. The dialect also became known as “Cape Dutch,” the early form of Afrikaans spoken at the Cape, and a term also used to describe the inhabitants of South Africa’s Western

Cape (as opposed to the nomadic pastoral Trekboers, who moved away from the Cape starting in the 1690s). It is also the name of a style of architecture typical of houses, farmsteads, wine estates, and

but his report is the only one to survive.

Van Riebeeck eventually returned to the East Indies and died in Batavia on January 18, 1677. He is immortalized in an imposing statue on Heerengracht Street in



Arrival of Van Riebeeck at Table Bay in 1652  
Painting by Charles Davidson Bell

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public buildings of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century on the Cape.

For those who enjoy “trivia,” Van Riebeeck reported the first comet discovered from South Africa, on December 17, 1652. However, it was more than likely not “discovered” by him,

Cape Town; it stands on the spot where he was thought to have landed in 1652. It was sculpted by John Tweed and donated to the city by that famous British-born South African businessman, mining magnate, and politician, Cecil Rhodes (1853 1902).