

# De Nieuw Nederlandse Mercurius



Vol. 30, No. 3

“De Nieuw Nederlandse Mercurius”

Sept. 2014

## Events of interest

**September 13, 2014.** “Negotiating the Surrender of New Amsterdam: A Role-Playing Workshop for Teachers on the 350th Anniversary of the English Invasion of New Netherland, August-September 1664.”

Using primary sources and character profiles, teachers will assume the roles of major players in the 1664 surrender of New Amsterdam and participate in specifically designed activities to develop an understanding of this critical event in New York history. The materials and activities can be adopted or adapted for classroom use and would benefit teachers of 7th-grade Social Studies, 11th-grade American History, AP American History and AP World History.

The event will be held at SUNY New Paltz 9 am-12 pm. Refreshments will be provided in the morning, lunch at the end of activities. Led by Jaap Jacobs (St. Andrews University, Scotland), Dennis J. Maika (New Netherland Institute), and Lou Roper (SUNY New Paltz), the workshop is sponsored by the New Netherland Institute, SUNY New Paltz, and Ulster County BOCES. Certifica-

tion for Professional Development hours will be provided by Ulster County BOCES.

\*\*\*

**September 19, 2014.** Peter G. Rose will speak to the Dutch and Flemish Studies and Netherlands America University League at the University of Michigan on “The Influence of the Dutch on the American Kitchen.” For more information email: [pgröse2006@yahoo.com](mailto:pgröse2006@yahoo.com).

\*\*\*

**September 19, 2014.** A 5:30 pm lecture and book signing at the Albany Institute of History and Art on *New Netherland Connections: Intimate Networks and Atlantic Ties in Seventeenth Century America* by Susanah Shaw Romney, Assistant Professor of History, University of Arkansas, Little Rock.

Don't miss this fascinating talk about the real women and men, soldiers, sailors, settlers, Native Americans, and enslaved Africans who drew on kin and social relationships to build new lives in the Dutch colony of New Netherland. Sharing vivid stories from her recently published, award-winning book, Professor Romney will introduce us to some of the little known people who built

these intimate networks as they struggled to survive, resist, or profit from the new connections linking the New World to the Old. Free admission

\*\*\*

**September 20, 2014.** The NNI holds its 37th New Netherland Seminar. Go to **NNI News** for details.

\*\*\*

**September 21, 2014.** Peter G. Rose will speak to the Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor, MI on Sunday at the Ann Arbor Library, where her subject will be “Art in Food and Food in Art.” For more information email: [pgröse2006@yahoo.com](mailto:pgröse2006@yahoo.com).

\*\*\*

**September 21, 2014.** A 2 pm lecture and book signing at the Albany Institute of History and Art. Join award winning author Russell Shorto for an engaging exploration of the history of Holland's capital city, including the little known artists, crusaders, explorers, eccentrics, and visionaries who helped Amsterdam grow into a world class city with far reaching global impact including, of course, the founding of the colony of New Netherland and the spread of

## De Nieuw Nederlanse Mercurius 2

cherished ideals of freedom, equality and commerce in the new world. Free with museum admission.

\*\*\*

**November 8, 2014.** New Sweden History Conference, “Beef, Beer and Bread: Colonial Foodways,” 9am to 3pm. This year’s conference, to be held at the American Swedish Historical Museum of Philadelphia, will explore 17th-century foodways in Sweden and colonial America. Five speakers will discuss various aspects of culinary history—from the kitchens of Stockholm to the brew houses of Philadelphia.

The keynote speaker is author, chef, and Swedish food historian Dr. Ulrica Söderlind. Dr. Söderlind holds a PhD from the University of Stockholm. She has written five books on topics such as, the role of food in Swedish social history, and the culinary history of the Nobel Banquet. Her conference session will focus on the cooking practices of a 17th-century Swedish noble household. Additional speakers include David Furlow, who will be discussing the significance of cattle as an important part of New Sweden’s economy; Rich Wagner will lead an engaging discussion on the intricacies of colonial beer brewing. In the spirit of this year’s theme, a special lunch will be served featuring homemade colonial recipes and, of course, beer. Do not miss what is sure to be an informative and delicious conference event! Registration, continental breakfast, and lunch \$45 per person (\$35 for students and teachers). Registration deadline is

Friday October 31. Early bird registration by October 17 is \$40 per person (\$30 for students and teachers) Register online at: [www.americanswedish.org](http://www.americanswedish.org) or by phone at: 215-389-1776.

\*\*\*

**November 30, 2014.** A 2 pm lecture and book signing. As part of the Albany Institute of History and Art’s Thanksgiving weekend celebration, “Home for the Holidays,” renowned food historian Peter Rose will share stories and recipes from her newest book, *Delicious December: How the Dutch Brought Us Santa, Presents, and Treats*. Join her for a delightful exploration of the Dutch roots of many of our favorite holiday traditions as she tempts us with more than a hundred treasured recipes adapted for contemporary entertaining. Treats will be available to sample and purchase. Free admission.

### Russell Shorto redux

Russell will also be talking on the topic of “From Amsterdam to New Amsterdam” on the following dates and at the following locations:

October 9, Marist College, Poughkeepsie, NY

October 10, Historic Huguenot Street, New Paltz, NY

November 7, Irvington Historical Society, Irvington, NY

November 9, Collegiate Church, New York City

November 20, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

December 2, Chatham University, Pittsburgh, PA

December 8, Holland Society, Clifton Park Library, Clifton Park, NY.

For further details please contact the institution.

\*\*\*

“To the Best of Our Knowledge,” the syndicated public radio show, has a feature on Amsterdam and New York, which consists of an interview with Russell and an audio tour. It aired over the Labor Day weekend and is available on their site: [bit.ly/1qoiaK1](http://bit.ly/1qoiaK1)

\*\*\*

A tour guide in Amsterdam named Mark Law has put together a special tour of the city based on Russell’s urban biography. Go to: [bit.ly/1CpX5nu](http://bit.ly/1CpX5nu).

### News

We all know that the Netherlands has had a long struggle with water in its corner of Europe. For an interesting article on the subject in *Resilient Cities* entitled “A Half-Millennium-Old Dike in Holland Gets a State-of-the-Art Upgrade,” go to: [bit.ly/1CpGJuX](http://bit.ly/1CpGJuX).

### Books of Interest

*Delicious December* by Peter G. Rose mixes food and history in a celebration of Dutch and American Christmas traditions. In more than one hundred tried-and-true recipes, award-winning food historian Peter G. Rose draws on traditions that date back to the Middle Ages, as

## De Nieuw Nederlanse Marcurius 3

well as her own reminiscences of her native country, and suggests many ways to incorporate these true Dutch treats into American celebrations.

The book not only talks about the history and recipes of St. Nicholas Day celebrations, but also about Dutch specialties for Christmas and New Year's Day. Rose includes recipes for savory cookies and party treats as well as menus and recipes for the parties that might happen between the feast days. Divided into two parts, part one discusses the history of St. Nicholas, how he was brought to America and became Santa, and the other changes that have taken place here as well as in the Netherlands. The second part consists of 111 recipes that are easy to make and too easy to eat.

Available directly from SUNY Press at: [www.sunypress.edu](http://www.sunypress.edu).

### **NNI News**

---

Lost in Paradise: "1614" Seminar investigates the search for Fort Nassau and the original Port of Albany. Celebrate the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the construction of Fort Nassau on Castle Island with leading scholars at "1614," the 37<sup>th</sup> New Netherland Seminar on Saturday, September 20, 2014 at the Carole Huxley Theater, New York State Museum, Cultural Education Center (CEC) in Albany.

Five leading scholars will put the Dutch trading post (the first location of the Port of Albany) in its historical context and offer arguments and data for its probable location on the island. The seminar

is sponsored by the New Netherland Institute.

Seminar speakers are: Jeremy Bangs, Director of the Leiden American Pilgrim Museum Foundation, Leiden NL; Leslie Choquette, Professor of History Assumption College, Worcester, MA; Willem Frijhoff, consultant on research in history, chair Cultural Dynamics (NWO), visiting professor at Erasmus University Rotterdam, NL; William A. Starna, Professor Emeritus of Anthropology at the State University of New York College at Oneonta; Len Tantillo, historical and marine artist, Nassau, NY.

A special presentation by Dutch archaeologists Oscar Hefting, Project Coordinator of the Atlas of Dutch Brazil for the New Holland Foundation, and Hans van Westing, Project Manager for Foundation Archaeology & Monuments for the New Holland Foundation, will feature recent archaeological investigations into 17<sup>th</sup>-century Dutch earthen defense works at the site of New Holland in tropical Brazil and the insights they may provide into similar structures in North America.

The New Holland Foundation is a non-profit organization supporting research into the impact of the Netherlands around the globe and the cultural heritage of its colonial settlements.

The seminar, including the bonus program, is from 9 am to 5:00 pm and includes a boxed lunch. The fee for the seminar is \$95, \$50 for students with ID. A reception following the seminar at the Fort Orange Club at 5:30 p.m. is

included in the cost of the seminar. Seminar attendees may participate in a dinner at the Fort Orange Club at 6:30 p.m. for an additional fee of \$75.

To register online or for further information go to: [www.newnetherlandinstitute.org](http://www.newnetherlandinstitute.org). or email: [nyslfn@nysed.gov](mailto:nyslfn@nysed.gov).

A highlight of the seminar will be the raffle of the "1614 Quilt." The hand-made quilt features a 17<sup>th</sup>-century ship in its center that represents Dutch commercial activity in the Hudson Valley. Raffle tickets are \$10.00 each or 3 for \$25.00 and are available for purchase online in the NNI Shop, by mail at NNI, P.O. Box 2536, Albany, NY 12220-0536, or at the seminar. The drawing will take place at the end of the seminar on September 20. Proceeds of the raffle help support the New Netherland Institute.

The CEC is located at the southern end of the Empire State Plaza at 222 Madison Avenue in Albany. Free parking is available in a parking next to the museum.

\*\*\*

Last year the New Netherland Institute sent copies of the newly published book, *New Netherland in a Nutshell* by Firth Haring Fabend, to each public and branch library, academic library, and School Library System Director in New York State. Through a grant from the Bender Family Foundation each library will now be receiving a copy of a new *Index* to the book which was recently published.

### Totidem Verbis

---

“The Records of New Netherland: A New Era of Access” by Stephen McErleane, NNI Webmaster and NNRC Associate.

Through translation and publication, access to the records of New Netherland has increased steadily over the last century and a half. Aside from some earlier unreliable translations, the work of E.B. O’Callaghan in the middle of the nineteenth-century was the first major effort to bring these records to light. Similar efforts continued throughout the century under the direction of Berthold Fernow. The second major body of work—many would say the first guided by the standards of modern scholarship—was from Dutch émigré A.J.F. van Laer in the early twentieth-century. After devoting his career to the translation and publication of the records of New Netherland, Van Laer retired in 1939. This left the task dormant until 1974, when the New Netherland Project (NNP) was formed under the direction of Charles Gehring.

The translation work of NNP continues to the present as part of the work of the New Netherland Research Center (NNRC), with over 8,000 pages of records transcribed and translated to date. While the translation and transcription work of Charles Gehring and Janny Venema continues as it has for several decades, new technology has created new opportunities. We at NNI/NNRC are seizing these opportunities to initiate a new era of

access to these records. This work has two chief objectives: to provide researchers with supplementary materials that help them access and understand the records, and to provide increased access to the records themselves. This short essay will introduce readers to the work already completed and preview some of the work planned.

Supplementary materials such as finding aids, bibliographies, and indices can be essential to a researcher’s understanding of the available sources. This is particularly true of the records of New Netherland, which in many cases have been translated and re-translated, arranged and re-arranged several times over. To this end, the original *Guide to Dutch Manuscripts* has been updated with new findings and digitally cataloged. This catalog (not the records themselves) is now searchable through the New York State Library’s online catalog. An easier-to-browse text version with hyperlinks to online translations and digitized manuscripts is coming soon. Also available is a compilation of the editors’ introductions to the twelve translated volumes published by NNP. This includes an overview and detailed listing of the arrangement of the records. Future projects include a cumulative index to all NNP/NNRC volumes and an updated bibliography. The bibliography’s section on published primary sources will be annotated, relating each volume to the body of material as a whole. These materials serve as a good starting point for those interested in using the Dutch records.

For continued research, published volumes of primary sources—both in transcription and translation—is an invaluable source; and pairing these publications with the original documents substantially increases their usefulness. We plan to publish an electronic version of each record in three forms—manuscript (original), Dutch transcription, and English translation. Not only will this allow researchers to read the documents in the original Dutch, it will also assist those with limited knowledge of the language: dates, proper names, and the like can be read in the original with little knowledge of the language. Similarly, one need not be an expert in a language to be able to decipher small parts of it, extracting a difficult-to-translate word for example. Furthermore, readers of seventeenth-century Dutch will find the translations an invaluable finding aid. Currently, the *Curaçao Papers* are available in all three forms, with more to come soon. Effectively unchanged from the time of O’Callaghan through the first few decades of the NNP, methods of disseminating information have since changed dramatically. Google Books now gives us access to O’Callaghan’s *Calendar* of Dutch manuscripts with a simple click. As little as a decade ago, those not near a large research library would have had difficulty obtaining a copy. With that in mind, we at NNI/ NNRC are working to add to this growing body of material, and to create key resources to help researchers navigate it.