Upcoming Events

18 September 1999. The New Netherland Project’s 22d annual Rensselaerswyck Seminar presents “New Netherland through the decades.” This year’s theme will be the anniversary of significant events in the colony’s history. Beginning with 1609, Dr. Paul Otto will speak on “Henry Hudson, Native Americans, and the Birth of New Netherland”; followed by Dr. Oliver Rink’s “1629: A Year of Decision for New Netherland”; Dr. Wim Klooster’s “Failing to Square the Circle: The West India Company’s Volte-Face of 1638-39”; Mr. Peter Christoph’s “Albany’s Colonial Lutherans: Ecumenism and Conflict among the Churches”; ending with Dr. Charles Gehring’s “Buying Time on the South River: Augustin Herrman’s 1659 Diplomatic Mission to Maryland.”

18 September 1999. The New Netherland Project Dinner will be held in the Terrace Gallery of the Cultural Education Center. The festive evening will once again be held under the auspices of the Consulate General of the Netherlands. For information concerning the program and dinner menu (created by food historian Peter. G. Rose) contact the FNN office at 518.486.4815 or refer to our website at <www.nnp.org>.

***

19 September 1999. In keeping with the anniversary theme of the Rensselaerswyck Seminar, the replica of De Halve Maen will arrive in Albany on the same date Hudson anchored at this point in the river in 1609. The ship will arrive at about 1pm. It will open for school tours starting 22 Sept., and will conduct school tours through 8 October. School tours must be scheduled through the Albany Visitor Center. A training session for teachers will be held just prior to the tours. Priority for tours will go to those teachers who have been through the training. The ship will be open for public tours on the weekends of Sept. 25, 26; Oct. 2, 3; and Oct. 9,10, 11. Cost to the general public is $5.00 per adult.

***

19 September 1999. The historic Dutch Mabee Farm will be open to the public for the first since being acquired by the Schenectady County Historical Society. It is the earliest farm in the Mohawk Valley—and, most important, it is virtually intact as it was in the late 1600s and early 1700s when the three main buildings were built. A pre-Revolutionary Dutch barn, which was moved last fall from Johnstown, is being re-erected at the site. Members of the Mabee Farm committee will be on hand for tours and to answer questions. Of special interest is the on-site archaeological dig. The opening is from 1pm to 5pm and the admission is $3.00 per person and $5.00 per couple. The farm is located on route 5S. From Albany take exit 26 off the thruway and follow 5S to Rotterdam Junction. Once past the railroad tracks you will see the farm on your right. For patrons of
the New Netherland Project Dinner there will be a special tour Sunday morning. [Announcement at dinner]

***

**Until 15 September, 1999.** “Dutch Colonial Homes, America’s Enduring Style,” presenting recent photographic views of Geoffrey Gross, highlighting early American-Dutch architecture, 1664-1837. Interiors as well as exteriors are featured in this comprehensive collection. At: Mt. Gulian Historic Site, Verplanck Homestead, 145 Sterling Street, Beacon NY 12508; tel: 914.831.8172.

***


***

15 October 1999. The Netherland-America Foundation will host its Eighteenth Peter Stuyvesant Ball at The Waldorf-Astoria in New York City. The Ball’s sponsor is ABN AMRO Bank, with P. J. Kalff, Chairman of ABN’s Managing Board serving as Ball Chairman, and Gert-Jan van der Putten, Executive Vice President, U.S. serving as Ball Vice Chairman. Hans van den Houten is Chairman of the Organizing Committee and also NAF’s President. The Foundation’s patron, The Honorable Pieter van Vollenhoven, and Their Highnesses Prince Maurits and Princess Marilene van Oranje Nassau will be in atten-dance. This black-tie event starts with cocktails at 6:30 pm, with dinner & dancing to the Hank Lane Revue at 7:30 pm. The Marvelettes will perform, and at midnight the Nightclub Folly opens to Dee Jay dancing and an early-morning breakfast. For further information on the Ball, cost of tickets, advertising opportunities, or purchase of raffle tickets, please contact Age Diedrick at 212.355.6363, fax 212. 759.0913, or e-mail her at <age.diedrick@rcn.com>.

Reunions

The Van Voorhees Association annual reunion will be held on October 9th at the Fishkill Reformed Church in Fishkill, NY. For further information contact: Scott F. Voorhees, 147 Grand Blvd., Emerson, NJ 07630.  
<www.vanvoorhees.org>

The Association of Blauvelt Descendants will hold its 73d annual meeting and reunion on Saturday, 18 September at the RADISSON INN, 601 From Road, Paramus, NJ 07652; tel: 201.262.6900 or 800.333.3333.  
<www.blauvelt.org>

David Ackerman Descendants–1662 will hold its annual on October 16, 1999 at the Zion Lutheran Church, Allendale Avenue, Saddle River, NJ.  
<ackerman-1662.rootsweb.com>

News

Congratulations to Dr. J. A. Jacobs, winner of the 1999 Hendricks Manuscript Award for his dissertation “Nieuw-Nederland: het tere begin van een pas ontluikend land.” The dissertation was submitted to the Faculty of Letters of Leiden University as partial fulfillment of the requirements for a doctoral degree. Dr. Jacobs went on to defend his dissertation successfully in June of this year.

***

The Winne-Creble house is looking for an owner interested in preserving the architectural tradition and material culture of New Netherland’s descendants. Built c. 1720-30 the brick and frame house comes complete with back-to-back jambless fireplaces, knee braces, ship stairs, beam anchors, Dutch doors. It is Located on Creble Road near intersection with Route 9W, 8 miles south of Albany. Contact Paul Ehmann, Coldwell Banker at (518) 456-6265 or 577-1771.

Publications

Een zegenrijk gewest: Nieuw-Nederland in de zeventiende eeuw by Jaap Jacobs. (557 pages) This publication of Dr. Jacob’s manuscript, winner of the Hendricks Award, can be ordered through the Dutch cyber bookstore  <www.boeknet.nl> for f75.00, ca. $36.00. For non-Dutch readers an English translation is in the works and will be announced in the Marcarius as soon as details are received.
**De Nieu Nederlandse Marcarius • 3**

***

“Dear Cousin”: A Charted Genealogy of the Descendants of Anneke Jans Bogardus (1605-1663) to the 5th Generation. This publication can be ordered by sending $29.50 ($33.00 for Canada and overseas) to William B. Bogardus, 1121 Linhof Rd., Wilmington, OH 45177-2917

***


***

Journey to a New Land--The Bradt Family in History by Joan Bradt Wood (325 pages) can be ordered by sending $20.00 (US) to Mrs. Joan Wood, 701-2185 Marine Drive, Oakville, Ontario, Canada L6L 5L6

Websites

For those of you who missed the several public network announcements about the genealogical website which taps the considerable holdings of the LDS archives in Salt Lake City, it is: <www.familysearch.org>

***

“The Virtual New Amsterdam Project” has developed a digitized version of the Castello Plan based on a reproduction in Peter Spier’s book The Legend of New Amsterdam. <www.teachout.org/vna>

News from the FNN

The FNN has a new fax number. Please use 518.473.0472 for all future fax transmissions to the office.

Private donors and foundations in the various categories of membership in the FNN

Sustaining Friend (up to $100)
Raymond Beecher
George Belzer
Cynthia Broth Biasca
Pieter Blank
Pat Bonomi
Adriana Millenaar Brown
George Burger
Robert Comeygs
John Decker
Hubert De Leeuw
Kevin Denton
Frances Dowling
Diane Smith Druggle
Cornelia Ernst
Firth Fabend
Arthur Fontijn
Bradley Griffin
Evan Haefeli
Alfred Hagedorn
Janet Harman
Hubert Jockin
Roy Jonkers
Roy Jorgensen
Stanley Keasel
Karen Kelley
Alan LaRue
Mr. & Mrs. C. H. Linder, Jr.
Dennis Maika
Elisabeth Night
Paul Palen
Johannes Postma & Joelle Million
Katherine Potter
William Roece
Melvin & Connie Rosen
Mr. & Mrs. R. Ryskamp
Dr. Robert Schenk
Isabella Scholte
James Schuyler
Mr. & Mrs. James Sefcik
Lee Stanton
Julie Steitz
Nancy Stoving
Mr. & Mrs. Taitelbaum
Virginy Thole
William Nelson Turpin
Martha Updike
Mark Van Auken
Mary Van Buren
Peter Vandegrift
Mariet Vandendunckhof-Vedder
Russell Van Norman
M. J. van Zwieten
Evert Volkerz
Manning Voorhees
Howard & Marilyn Vreeland
Charlotte Wilcoxen
Landon Wright
Theodore Wright, Jr.
Jerome Yavarkovsky
Mark & Linda Young
Rob Zaagman
Burgher ($100+)
Dr. Robert Alexander
Gerald Auten
Judy & Ennis Bergsma
Rod Blackburn
William Bogardus
Judith Box
Andrew Brink
John Brownell
Thomas Burke
Marie Carlson
William & Mary Jane Crotty
George Damiano
Donald Derr
Shirley Dunn
Jim Elting
Dorothy Gress
Sarah Gronim
Susan Haswell
Mary Herberich
Henry Hoff
Dr. & Mrs. Paul Huey
Carole Huxley
Dr. H. J. C. Jacobs
Herbert Johnson
Dorothy Koenig

Dues. The reminder mailed out in the beginning of April had some good results. However, there are still a number of members who have not renewed for 1999. Please realize that our very small FNN office has its own expenses like any other office. Your dues are earmarked for that purpose, and your check enables us to remain solvent.

John Lansing
Lewis Lottridge
Dr. John Matson
David McKown
Mary Jane Van Beek
Richard Mooney
John Moore
Kenneth & Jane Moriarty
John M. Murrin
Arthur Newkirk
Betty & Victor Nuovo
James Quackenbush
Rev. Louis Springsteen
John Stevens
Peter Ten Eyck
Earl Van Alstyne
William J. Vandend Heuvel
Mary Van Gorden
Mrs. Alexander Vieroor
Harold Vroman
Janet Walker
Virginia Ward
Dr. Charles Warner Wendell
Magistrate ($500+)
Phoebe Bender
Marilyn & Peter Douglas
Carol Hageman
Ed Vandenburg
Burgomaster ($1000+)
Elisabeth Funk
Peter Paulson
Council ($3000+): none
Director General ($5000+) Mary Van Orsdol
John & Sally Van Schaick
Benefactor (10,000+): none

New Netherland Project, CEC 8th Fl., Albany, NY 12230 Voice [518] 474-6067
Email: cgehring@unix2.nysed.gov FNN Office: [518] 486-4815; GIRO: J. Venema 6566735
Fax: [518] 473-0472/474-5786
Homepage: http://www.mp.org
In December of 1924, Bartlett Arkell, founder of the Canajoharie Library and Art Gallery undertook a trip to Europe to study various museums of art looking for models for his own museum planned for construction starting in the spring of 1925. His travels took him to England, France and Holland, where he spent a week in Amsterdam both visiting the Rijksmuseum and other artistic sites in the city.

As a result of his stay in Amsterdam and his visit to the Walker Art Gallery in Liverpool, England, Mr. Arkell developed a clear idea of the look he was seeking for his own gallery. At the center of his favorite galleries in both museums was the same painting, The Nightwatch by Rembrandt. Of course, the work in England was a 3/4 scale replica of the Dutch original. The copy had been painted at the request of the Walker’s Directors in the late 1800s.

Utilizing elements from the design of both rooms and one of the European paintings galleries at the Metropolitan Museum of Art (now a part of the arms and armor collections rooms at the museum), Mr. Arkell decided to have a full scale replica of the Dutch painting commissioned for his gallery, and contacted the Director of the Rijksmuseum to recommend an individual to make such a copy.

He was sent to the ideal candidate for the job then active in Holland, Milton Kopershoeck, a graduate of the Royal Dutch School of Art in Amsterdam and the top of his class in making replicas of the Old Master Paintings of Holland. In addition to making copies of Dutch paintings, for museums, the artist painted portraits of contemporaneous Amsterdam citizens into Dutch Master Settings. He was so good at making these copies that if it were not for using his own signature and paintings copy of a work by ... and naming the respective artist, he could have been a forger of Dutch works.

Arkell hired Kopershoeck to make the copy, which was a daunting task. The artist spent almost two years working on the painting, copying each figure in a sketch book at the museum, then transferring the drawings to canvas, before painting them.

No other exact copy of the work had ever been or ever was authorized. The Trustees of the museum had a long standing tradition of not allowing an exact copy of this work to be painted, but Kopershoeck was clever. He suggested that if the work were exactly 3 centimeters larger than the original in either direction, it would not be exactly the same, and he was given approval to paint the work to those dimensions. The scale of the painting is so massive that the one inch difference in height or length can only be detected by measuring.

Completed in the Winter of 1926, the painting was shipped, rolled and with a partially assembled frame from Amsterdam, where it was stored until March of 1927, when the painter and his family came to Canajoharie to supervise its installation.

While here, the artist was somewhat surprised to see a tile floor (not unlike the one at the Metropolitan Museum of Art), which he objected would clash with the colors in the painting. Beech-Nut carpenters were employed to place a carpet over the tiles and the room was set for its opening the next day.

Kopershoeck would paint about 20 copies of Dutch Master works during the next ten years. He returned to Canajoharie once, to oversee the installation of another large copy of a Dutch painting at the High School next door to the library. At the same time, he painted an exterior view of Arkell’s house in Manchester Vermont and his brownstone on 10th Street in New York as if they were classic Dutch works of the 1600s and a portrait of Mr. Arkell, the artist and two friends, Nelson Greene and Frank Barbour playing cards. In this canvas, it appears as if Kopershoeck is cheating.

The Nightwatch can still be seen in Canajoharie and like its original has been restored due to tears in the canvas but unlike the original can not be cleaned to a brighter, lighter canvas as the work in Holland has been restored. It will always be dark, surrounded in discolored varnish as it did in 1924.

In 1935, Milton Kopershoeck died in Amsterdam. With much of the work he had undertaken over the previous decade having been purchased by Mr. Arkell, his career as a copyist and painter of portraits will be seen in Canajoharie.

The Canajoharie Library and Art Gallery is open M-W & F 10-4:45; Th 10-8:30; Sat 10-1:30. From Albany take the Thruway west to exit 29. Turn right onto 5S then right at traffic light. The Library is one block on the left. Tel: 518.673.2314