



THE DCGS NEWSLETTER

Dutchess County Genealogical Society
P. O. Box 708, Poughkeepsie, New York 12602-0708

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PRESIDENT'S NOTES

By Valerie LaRobardier

Be sure to save the date for our Fall Seminar. On October 24th Dan Lynch will teach us how to "Google your Family Tree" in the morning. Watch the web site for more details on the location and the afternoon seminar.

Our alliance with Dutchess County Historical Society continues. I am happy to report that Steve Mann, the current President of that Society, is now serving as trustee on our DCGS Board as well! Please watch the DCHS web site at

<http://www.dutchesscountyhistoricalsociety.org/index.html> for more information on the Quaker Symposium taking place this November. The DCGS has helped prepare the genealogies of the Quaker Sampler Makers for that event.

This is certainly a very exciting time to be in Dutchess County with all the historic themed events taking place. On Memorial Day weekend I served as docent for Dutchess County Tourism aboard the Half Moon, docked for the first time in Poughkeepsie, and learned a great deal about the Dutch traders of the 17th century. Then on the 28th I was fortunate enough to sail from Poughkeepsie to Athens as a "crew" member in training. Make sure to keep your eye on the Quad web site at <http://www.exploreny400.com/Home.aspx> for other events taking place this summer and fall. Don't forget about nearby events, such as our own FDR Library's joint exhibit at New York City's South Street Seaport Museum.

The project for the new Historic Towns of Dutchess County Association and magazine has officially launched. The web site is up and we are taking membership subscriptions and selling advertising space. You can also preview the cover and partial table of contents for the first issue to be released in August. Discounts are given for subscribing early. Visit www.historicdutchesstowns.org for all the details. June 4th we file the not for profit corporation papers and become members of the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce!

Forgotten Legacies

By Valerie LaRobardier

At some time during our lives, most of us will dream of achieving fame; almost all will fall short. But, for better or worse, we all leave a legacy for those who follow. Time erodes the knowledge of this legacy, but still it lives on in the descendants of those we touch—our stories disappear but the fractals remain as part of an infinite mosaic. Just as the archeologist recreates past cultures from skeletal fragments and pottery shards, so the genealogist recreates ancestors' stories from a chance sighting here, a glimpse of shadow there, chasing echoes down the corridors of time, tracking footprints across continents and oceans, until enough flesh is added to the bones. Yes, we can see them if we try!

They cry out to us from the mists: "Find me. Tell my story. I was once important to someone."

The genealogist hears these cries and *must answer*. We really have no choice in the matter—you see, we are obsessed.

FDR Exhibition in progress

**Treasures of a President: FDR and the Sea
Exhibition Now through January 2010**

**South Street Seaport Museum 12 Fulton St. New
York, NY 10038 212.748.8786**

Franklin Delano Roosevelt was a born collector. America's 32nd president spent a lifetime collecting everything from stamps and coins to Hudson River art and Dutch tiles. One of FDR's greatest passions was his enormous naval and maritime collection. Begun during his youth and patiently developed over decades, this rich collection reflects the President's deep, lifelong love of the sea. An expert sailor, Roosevelt was America's greatest seafaring president. The popular image of FDR as a sailor, guiding the ship of state through rough waters, endures to this day.

This exhibition—a joint effort of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum in Hyde Park, NY and the South Street Seaport Museum in New York City—presents treasures from FDR's naval and maritime collection and explores what they tell us about Roosevelt's connections to ships and the sea.

Above is abridged from the South Street Seaport Museum web site www.southstreetseaportmuseum.org/

Also in keeping with the Quadricentennial theme, coming in September to the South Street Seaport Museum—**New Amsterdam: The Island at the Center of the World**. Take a look back at a time when New Amsterdam was, well, new. Presented in conjunction with the Dutch National Archives, the exhibition includes the 1626 letter that notes one of the best real estate deals of all time—the purchase of Manhattan for goods worth 60 guilders. Also, examine rare maps, plans and watercolors of what would become New York City, many of which have never before been seen in the United States.

Museum Hours:

January-March:

Fri-Sun 10am-5pm: All Galleries are open.

Mon 10am-5pm: Schermerhorn Row Galleries Only
Ships open 12 - 4 pm (weather permitting).

April -December:

Tue-Sun 10am-6pm: All Galleries and Ships are open.
Closed Mondays.

Admission is \$10- General; \$8 - Seniors/Students with valid ID; \$5- Children ages 5-12.

Children under 5 and Museum Members are free.

New York Public Library Web Site Has Digitized Old NY Maps

by Christine Crawford-Oppheimer

The NYPL has digitized versions of New York state, county and city atlases online at <http://www.nypl.org/blogs/2008/01/17/state-county-city-atlases> The site includes W. Gray and Son's 1876 *New illustrated Atlas of Dutchess County, New York*.

Cousins Gathering Heermance Heermans Heermanse Hermance Hermans etc.

The 2009 Heermans Cousins Gathering will take place in Albany, NY, September 24th – 27th, 2009.

Information regarding three lines of this family, which goes back to Drenthe, Netherlands, arriving in New Amsterdam in 1660, is available on a private web site.

Any relatives connected by the various spellings of the surname may contact:

Joyce Hermance Van Dusen,

311 S. James Ave., Reedsburg, WI 53959,

or e-mail jvd@rucls.net for information regarding the website and this year's Cousin Gathering.

DCGS May 2009 Meeting

by Christine Crawford-Oppheimer (& ed.)

“Crossing the Ocean with the Internet”

Leslie Albrecht Huber discussed some important web sites for making your cross-ocean connection. She said that the Internet is great because it can help in saving time, allow you to see many original documents, and is constantly expanding. However, the researcher should keep in mind that the Internet is not an original source, and may have incorrect statements. While some immigration records are available on the Internet, many aren't. She recommended looking at the Research Outlines at <http://www.familysearch.org> Click on “Guides,” select “Research Outlines,” and choose your country of interest. Genealogy.com also has a tutorial with information on finding immigrant ancestors at <http://www.genealogy.com/uni-immi.html>

Many passenger lists are available online, both for people coming into ports in the US and those leaving ports in Europe.

Leslie's specialty is Western European, particularly German research. Visit her web site at www.understandingyourancestors.com for lots of information about how our Western European ancestors

lived, a list of web sites and tips for researching these ancestors.

Ms. Huber is a genealogical lecturer and freelance writer. She formerly worked as a professional genealogist, helping many families trace their U.S. and Western European roots. Dozens of Leslie's articles have appeared in over 20 magazines and journals, including *Family Chronicle*, *Everton's Genealogical Helper*, *Ancestry*, *Internet Genealogy*, *Family Tree Magazine*, *The History Channel Magazine*, and others. She has also written articles for scholarly publications and genealogical journals.

Membership

*By Roland E. Ormsby, Membership VP
reormsby@optonline.net*

New members and those submitting address corrections or a new set of surnames are listed by membership number. NOTE: E-mail addresses are updated only if a new US Postal address or surname list is change is included. Names being researched are in **bold** type.

(The membership listings are not included in the web version of the newsletter, just the printed version.)

NEWS FROM THE NYG&B

THE NYG&B HAS MOVED (May 30)!

We will be locking the door at East 58th Street and moving across town over the Memorial Day weekend. There may be some interruption in our e-mail service, but we will do our best to keep it to a minimum. Starting on May 22nd we will have a temporary phone number of 212-626-6850 probably until the fall or early winter. If you call us at our old number (212-755-8532) you will be given this temporary number.

NYG&B/NYPL CO-SPONSORED LECTURES

10 & 11 September: **Finding Your New Netherland Roots: A Two-Day Workshop on New Netherland Family History.** In celebration of the 400th anniversary of the arrival of Henry Hudson in New York, the NYG&B, in collaboration with the Holland Society, and the New York Public Library, offer a Dutch research program featuring several of the leading experts in Dutch studies: Harry Macy, Firth Haring Fabend, Janny Venema, and Christopher Brooks.

Thursday 10 September will be a full day of lectures regarding Dutch research, culture, and history in the South Court Auditorium of the New York Public Library. Friday 11 September offers a day of assisted research at the NYPL's Milstein Division, and/or at the Holland Society Library.

In addition to the lectures and research, a number of festive social events will also be held. A gala banquet featuring Ms Peter G. Rose, the foremost authority on the food customs and diet of the colonial Dutch, will be held Thursday evening for an additional charge. A walking tour retracing the haunts of the early Dutch in what became New York will be held Saturday morning.

In celebration of the 400th anniversary of Henry Hudson's arrival, this program will include presentations on the history of the Netherlands and its colony, as well as the persistence of Dutch culture in America, all designed to help you better understand the world in which your ancestors lived. The central focus of the program will be on resources and research methods to help you trace your roots through New York and New Jersey back to New Netherland and across the Atlantic, breaking through those brick walls that remain on your charts and expanding your knowledge of all your New Netherland ancestors.

Thursday's Lectures:

- Social, Economic, and Religious Issues: Why the Dutch came to the New World.
- The Dutch After 1664: How Did They Fare After the English Takeover?
- Researching the People of New Netherland and Their Descendants: How to Identify and Make Best Use of the Available Sources
- Beyond New Netherland: Some Tips on Researching Your Ancestors in the Netherlands
- Case Studies: How Some Common New Netherland Genealogical Problems Have Been Solved

Our Speakers:

Christopher Brooks began researching his paternal grandmother's Traphagen family in 1973. Utilizing a range of source material from American libraries, archives and his personal library, he has found that, with the maturing of the internet, much beneficial information relevant to New Netherland settlers is becoming available online to researchers through European archives. He lives in Kansas City, Missouri, where he works for a computer software company and is an avid researcher in New Netherland families and their European origins.

Firth Haring Fabend, a historian specializing in the Dutch in New York and New Jersey, is the author of the prize-winning books *A Dutch Family in the Middle Colonies, 1660-1800*, and *Zion on the Hudson: Dutch New York and New Jersey in the Age of Revivals*, both published by Rutgers University Press, and many shorter works. Her most recent book is *Land So Fair*, a historical novel and family saga set in New York and New Jersey in the eighteenth century with flashbacks to New Netherland.

Harry Macy Jr. edited The NYG&B Record from 1987 to 2006 and was also founding co-editor of The NYG&B Newsletter. He is a Fellow of The American Society of Genealogists, The Holland Society of New York, and The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society.

Peter G. Rose, Dutch food historian, is the author of several books on the subject of the influence of the Dutch on the American kitchen and lectures nationally and internationally on the subject.

Janny Venema is Associate Director of the New Netherland Project, Albany. Her many publications include Deacons' Account Books of Albany's First Church, 1652-1674 (1998) and Beverwijck. A Dutch Village on the American Frontier, 1652-1664 (2003, her Ph.D. dissertation from the Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam). She is currently working on a biography of Kiliaen Van Rensselaer.

The two-day program is available to members of the NYG&B and members of the Holland Society for \$150. Non-members \$200. Registration for the Thursday lecture program only is \$90 members/ \$125 non-members. For additional information or to register please visit www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org or contact Lauren Maehrlein at education@nygbs.org or by calling 212-626-6853.

Hotel Reservations: We are very pleased to provide the famous Algonquin Hotel <http://www.algonquinhotel.com> as our host hotel. Deluxe Queen Bed or Twin \$189.00 per night, plus 14.25% tax. Phone: (212) 840-6800, Toll-Free: (888) 304-2047 Fax: (212) 944-1618; or: Email: 4reservations@algonquinhotel.com The \$189 rate is limited and will fill up fast. Please provide our discount code when booking: HSNY2009

4-6 November: Research in Albany, 2009. The next Research in Albany program will be held Wednesday, 4 November, through Friday, 6 November, 2009. Once again we will provide our members with three days of assisted research at the Library and Archives, plus social events.

The Albany program fee, including the banquet, reception, and all other arrangements, is \$110 for members, \$150 for non-members. Guests for banquet, \$30. We have arranged a special room rate at the Crowne Plaza of \$99 per night, single or double.

Registration for both the Dutch and Albany programs is now available online and by calling 212-755-8532, ext. 36. Full details are available on the NYG&B Web site and in the New York Researcher.

UPDATE FROM THE NYG&B WEBSITE

Indexes for the 2007 and 2008 issues of the NYG&B Record have been loaded into the E-Library. This provides a complete set of Record indexes (1870-2008).
