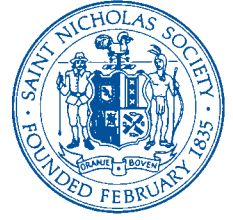


The Weathercock



NEW BEGINNINGS AND HIGH SPIRITS AT

SPRING STATED MEETING

The May Stated Meetings are always upbeat because the weather is invariably nice. After a long and dreary winter, spring was finally in the air. This particular meeting on 15 May took place at the Down Town Association at 60 Pine Street. The club, organized in 1859, is housed in one of New York City's finest examples of Romanesque Revival design as well as the second oldest purpose-built club building in the United States. (The clubhouse was dedicated in 1887.) Charles Wetmore designed an addition that opened in 1911. The Society's members assembled in the club's splendid Reading Room adorned with a massive fireplace.

St. Nickers who like their libations were not disappointed. They and their guests enjoyed a most refreshing cocktail reception during which the liquor flowed generously, creating a euphoric ambiance. Then it was time for a surprisingly substantial dinner featuring hearty steaks as the main course and hefty tarts for dessert. Even better, wine was served abundantly throughout the dinner. The style of cater-

ing ran counter to the prevailing fashion of providing only healthfully dainty portions or so-called nouvelle cuisine.

There was much to enjoy during the program. First, the Rev. Dr. (and Past President) Thomas F. Pike delivered one of his inimitable invocations. Next, the Society's most precious relic—the quasi-mythical Weathercock—made one of its periodic appearances, borne aloft by Scott McWhinnie and escorted by an honor guard of stalwart Stewards.

Then a new member was inducted. This fortunate individual was Maximilian Gunther Michael de Cuyper Cadmus, who bears a remarkable resemblance to his brother, Eduard H. de C. Cadmus, also a member and a Steward. President Manger then presented Mr. Cadmus with his St. Nick rosette and a copy of the 150th anniversary book to general applause.

This being one of those years in which terms of office come to an end, the members present were called upon to receive

Continued on page 6

Profile of RICHARD VIETOR



96th President of The Saint Nicholas Society

Richard Robinson Vietor was elected to succeed William Muir Manger, Jr., as the 96th President of the Saint Nicholas Society at the May Stated Meeting held on 15 May 2014. The new President was presented with the traditional emblems of his office, the tricorne hat and the antique badge on an orange scarf, at the Down Town Association at 60 Pine Street in Manhattan.

Richard was born in New Haven, Connecticut in 1943. After graduating from St.

Paul's School, he entered Yale University, where he majored in history and graduated in 1964. He earned an MBA in Finance at the Columbia University Graduate School of Business in 1966.

Following service in the US Navy, Richard started a successful career as a securities analyst, focused on healthcare companies. Ten years after joining Citibank, he moved to Merrill Lynch in

Continued on page 13

Philippe de Montebello Awarded Medal of Merit at Feast of St. Nicholas

Christmas! "It is, indeed, the season of regenerated feeling—the season for kindling not merely the fire of hospitality in the hall, but the genial flame of charity in the heart." —from "Christmas" in *The Sketch Book of Geoffrey Crayon, Gent.* (1819–1820) by Washington Irving. So reads the quotation on the program for our annual Feast of St. Nicholas. And what better way to start the great season of festivity than with this glorious celebration by the Saint Nicholas Society of the City of New York, of the Feast Day of our patron saint, Bishop Nicholas of Myra.

And a most splendid feast it was on Friday, December 6th, 2013, at the Union Club, 69th Street and Park Avenue. President William M. Manger, Jr. opened the evening with words of gracious welcome, followed by an eloquent benediction by the Reverend Thomas F. Pike, D.D., and in due course by the ever-popular procession of our famed Weathercock, turning in the wind generated by our members' and guests' enthusiastic waving of napkins.

Honored guests greeted were: Ms. Yvette Daoud, Deputy Head of Mission, The Netherlands Consulate General; Ms. Anne Hall Elser, President, New England Society in the City of New York; Mrs. Jaan E. Vaino, President General, Colonial Dames of America; Mr. Henry C. B. Lindh, President, Huguenot Society of America; and Mrs. Vincent S. Villard, Jr., President, National Society of Colonial Dames in the State of New York.

Also introduced were several distinguished past presidents of the Saint Nicholas Society in attendance: John Milnes Baker; Stephen B. Billick; Thomas F. Pike; and John McC. Shannon.

After a selection of wines had been duly poured out to all, the traditional toasts were offered, and with a notable new feature this year. The toast to HM Willem-Alexander,

Continued on next page

Continued from front page

King of the Netherlands was offered by Richard R. Vietor, First Vice President at the time but since May 15th, president of the Society. This is the first time in well over a century that we have been able to toast the *King* of the Netherlands, for ever since 1890, when Queen Wilhelmina came to the throne, a Queen has ruled the Netherlands. The toast was followed by a spirited rendering of the Dutch national anthem, *The Wilhelmus*.

Ms. Yvette Daoud, Deputy Head of Mission, The Netherlands Consulate General, then offered the toast to the President of the United States, after which the band played *The Star Spangled Banner*.

The final toast, to our patron saint, Nicholas of Myra, *Goed heilig man!* was offered by Charles Neuhauser, Second Vice President, with *Jingle Bells* as the cheerful conclusion.

By this time our feast was being served, consisting of crab and corn chowder as an appetizer, with an excellent roast chicken breast served with wild rice and string beans. Our dessert was a rich chocolate cake served with vanilla ice cream. Tea and coffee were then abundantly available.

Meanwhile two new members were inducted into the Society: Austin Whaley Bramwell, elected September 17, 2013, by right of descent from Colonel John Youngs; and Charles Marshall Hug, elected September 17, 2013, by right of descent from Gerrit van Hoesen.

The centerpiece of the evening was the presentation of two awards. First was the Washington Irving Medal for Literary



Richard and Rosemary Vietor



Curtis M. Estes, Dr. Gilbert Foley and P. Layton Sanders



John McC. Shannon, President William M. Manger and John M. Baker



Charles W. Neuhauser, M.P. Naud and Liane Neuhauser



Ian H. Fraser with Pam Bartlett



Barnet Schechter, Duane L.M. Galles and Thomas E. Bird



Philippe de Montebello with President William M. Manger, Jr.



Liddy and John M. Baker



Robert A. Naud, William E.E. Campbell and Col. Thomas F. Pike, Jr.

DECEMBER 6, 2013

Feast of St. Nicholas

Feast of St. Nicholas

DECEMBER 6, 2013



Adam and Megan Brandow



Ellen and John A. O'Malley



*President William M. Manger, Jr.,
with Barnet Schechter*



Douglas C. Wright



*President William M. Manger, Charles R. Mackenzie
and new inductee Charles M. Hug*



Charles W. Neuhauser and John M. Baker



William E.E. Campbell with Edie Constable



Tim Lykins



Peter and Jamie Schermerhorn with Pam Bartlett.

Excellence to Barnet Schechter, for his book *The Devil's Own Work: The Civil War Draft Riots and the Fight to Reconstruct America* (New York: Walker & Company, 2006). It is the definitive book on the civil unrest that came to New York with the first federal draft 150 years ago, and resulted in over 100 deaths and 2,000 injuries. After cogent remarks by Mr. Schechter, Philippe de Montebello was presented with the Saint Nicholas Society Medal for Merit for his service to the City of New York as Director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art for 31 years. Under his leadership the museum almost doubled in size and became certainly one of the finest museums of art in the world.

Philippe de Montebello is a speaker of surpassing elegance and grace and he kept the audience in rapt attention as he made witty comments accompanied by serious observations. He especially spoke about how vitally important cultural institutions, such as museums and orchestras are to the life of any city. He made a charming observation about how members' lapels were decorated with the impressive rosette of the Saint Nicholas Society, while his lapel showed the somewhat similar decoration of the French Legion of Honor.

The evening was brought to a close with the reading the traditional toast to our Knickerbocker ancestors by Ms. Yvette Daoud, with authentic pronunciation of Dutch names. And a closing benediction was offered by Society Chaplain Thomas F. Pike.

It was a great evening and a fabulous beginning for the Christmas season.

Photos continued on next page

Continued from previous page



Michael Sivy with Ann Gwynn



Megan Brandow, President William M. Manger, Jr., and Victor Dupont



Christian Burke and George J. Hill



Ian H. Fraser and Curtis M. Estes



Austin W. and Sarah Bramwell with Douglas C. Wright



Francis J. Sypher, Jr., and Pamela Fulweiler



Robert A. Naud, Rev. Dr. Thomas F. Pike, and Col. Thomas F. Pike, Jr.



Stephen B. Billick with Philippe and Edith de Montebello



Patricia Lambert and Alan G. Moore



Douglas C. Wright and Leighton H. Coleman III



Charles M. Hug, Daisy Platt and David N. Platt

DECEMBER 6, 2013

Feast of St. Nicholas

Welcome Back Cocktail Party— Joint Event with Colonial Wars

SEPT. 11, 2013 • 6 TO 8 PM
AT BOTH OFFICES

To kickoff the fall 2013 season, St. Nick and its neighbor, the Society of Colonial Wars in the State of New York, held a well-attended open house-style party in both organizations' office at 20 West 44th Street on September 11. Ample refreshments – of the comestible and potable varieties – were provided for the guests and it is no exaggeration to report that a good time was had by all.



*Donald L. Twiss and
President William M. Manger, Jr.*



*Brent H. Feigenbaum
and Walter Burr*



*Richard R. Vietor with
President William M. Manger, Jr.*



William R. Follett and W. Seton Ijams



Maria Dering and Floyd S. ("Sandy") Sanford III



Lawrence H. Di Capua and Anne Yoakam



Sigourney B. Romaine, Jr., with Douglas C. Wright



Terry Blake and John M. Baker



Ryan B. Weddle, Robert A. and M.P. Naud



*W. Seton Ijams, Gordon B. Stewart IV
and President William M. Manger, Jr.*



*New York Colonial Wars Governor William R.
Brunger with Mrs. Anna Maria Palmer*



*Thomas E. Bird, Mary Lynne Bird
and Richard Warren Sage*

SPRING STATED MEETING



Craig H. Weaver and Ira Jersey



Curtis M. Estes and Rev. Thomas F. Pike



Gary Shapiro and Francis J. Sypher, Jr.



Sigourney B. Romaine, Jr.



Notable decorative features of the Down Town Association were the ceiling tracery and the deer head



Alex Hoyt and Walter Borneman



Catherine Corman and Cody Constable



Henry W. Ijams and Arthur Scinta



Richard Warren Sage, M.P. and Robert A. Naud



Christian Burke



Charles R. Mackenzie, Maximilian Cadmus and President William M. Manger, Jr.

Continued from front page

the report of the Nominating Committee, chaired by Jonathan C. Jones.

The Committee presented a slate of nominations for the year 2014–2015. The following members, having declared their willingness to hold office if elected, were nominated: Richard R. Vietor, to serve as President; Charles W. Neuhauser, Jr., to serve as First Vice President; Robert A. Naud, to serve as Second Vice President; George H. McNeely IV, to serve as Third Vice President; Charles R. MacKenzie, to serve as Fourth Vice President (and Assistant Genealogist); Michael S. Ferrara, to serve as Secretary; W. Seton Ijams, to serve as Treasurer; Francis J. Sypher, Jr., to serve as Historian; Michael S. de L. Neill, to serve as Genealogist; the Reverends Thomas F. Pike, Martin L. Chase, and Barry C. Howard to serve as Chaplains; and the Doctors Stephen B. Billick, Paul Cushman, Jr., and Francis P. Powers to serve as Physicians. John A. O'Malley, Brian R. Owens and Peter S. Schermerhorn were elected to three-year terms on the Board of Managers.

In addition, William E. E. Campbell, Pierrepont E. Johnson III, Nathaniel Klutz and Gordon B. Stewart IV were nominated to serve as Stewards, joining Sean G. O'Sullivan, Thomas F. Pike, Jr., and Chief Steward Scott M. MacWhinnie.

It was moved and seconded to elect the slate and the motion was carried unanimously. Thereupon, William M. Manger, Jr., who has presided so assiduously over the Society's affairs for the past two years, relinquished the historic symbols of the office—the Tricorne Hat and the Medal—to his elected successor,

SPRING STATED MEETING

Richard R. Viotor. Next, incoming Chief Steward Scott MacWhinnie received his staff of office from Past President Manger.

Richard Viotor took the podium to thank the members for electing him and to say how proud he was to have been chosen to head our venerable Society.

Following these developments, author Walter Borneman spoke about the events he described in his book *American Spring: Lexington, Concord, and the Road to Revolution*.

Then John P. T. Blake was called upon to recite once again his deathless composition, "A Toast to Our Ancestors," a poem consisting almost solely of names of old Dutch families who settled in New Amsterdam. The corps of guests held its collective breath when John occasionally hesitated, appearing to struggle to recall the sequence in which he had ordered the names, before quickly regaining his composure and confidently finishing his recitation with brio. Wild applause followed the performance.

Fr. Pike was again called upon to give closure to the meeting with another prayer, which he did.

By the end of the evening the atmosphere in the Reading Room had reached a pitch of ecstasy. Everyone was in a good mood and enjoying the company and conversation of friends. Congratulations were being offered to President Viotor. Thanks were expressed to Past President Manger. Author Borneman sold and autographed copies of his book. It could hardly have been a better or more enjoyable party; with the advantage that a smooth change of administration had been effected as well.



Newly inducted President Richard R. Viotor



Robert Duryea and Catherine Corman



Author Walter Borneman



Christian Burke



Henry W. Ijams and W. Seton Ijams



Ian H. Fraser and Curtis M. Estes



William M. Manger, Jr., and Matthew D. Dupee



Maximilian Cadmus and Gary L. Dycus



Walter Borneman, President William M. Manger, Jr., and Blair Hoyt



President Richard R. Viotor



Gary Shapiro, Francis J. Sypher, Jr., and Michael Sivy

“Do it twice and it becomes a tradition” the saying is, and so our Paas Heritage Ball, first given last year jointly by the Saint Nicholas Society and the Society of Daughters of Holland Dames, has now become a firmly established tradition of our Societies. It was held on Friday, April 4th, 2014, and

Paas Heritage Ball is a Glittering Success

the venue, was—as last year—a beautiful space at the Racquet and Tennis Club, 370 Park Avenue, which was filled to capacity and even to overflowing into the club library adjacent to the ballroom. Governors of the Ball were Mrs. Peter Kimmelman, Directress General of the Society of Daughters of Holland Dames, and Mr. William M. Manger, Jr., President of our Society.

At this festive event three debutantes were presented: Miss Charlotte Anthony Hinrichs, Miss Anabella C. Pierpont Rockwell, and Miss Stirling Palmer deVeres Smith.

The evening began with words of welcome and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America before the presentation of the debutantes, officiated by Mrs. Kimmelman and Mr. Manger.

Miss Charlotte Anthony Hinrichs, by right of Francis Baldwin, was presented by her father, Mr. Peter Anthony Hinrichs, and escorted by Mr. Colin Henderson Hinrichs.

Miss Annabella C. Pierpont Rockwell, by right of Gerrit Hendrick De Wees, was presented by her father, Mr. Thorson Rockwell, and escorted by Mr. Gray P. R. Hamilton.

Miss Stirling Palmer deVeres Smith, by right of Johannes De Peyster, was presented by her father, Mr. Blair Webster Smith, and escorted by Mr. Benjamin Hunt Shuford.

Before dinner was served, Mrs. Thomas E. Slattery said a beautiful grace, eloquently delivered.

Our excellent menu included Maryland crab-cakes with mixed field greens and Tartar sauce as an appetizer. The main course was roast breast of chicken au jus with wild mushrooms, accompanied by a selection of red and white wine.

Traditional toasts were offered: To Their Majesties King Willem Alexander and Queen Maxima of The Netherlands, by Mr. Richard R. Vietor, Vice President of the Saint Nicholas Society, followed by *The Wilhelmus*. To the President of the United States of America, by H.E. Ambassador Karel van Oosterom, followed by *The Star Spangled Banner*. And to the current and former Heads



Miss Charlotte Anthony Hinrichs with her father, Peter Anthony Hinrichs



Miss Annabella C. Pierpont Rockwell with her father, Thorson Rockwell



Miss Stirling Palmer deVeres Smith with her father, Blair Webster Smith

of the Heritage Societies by Mr. William M. Manger, Jr.

As dancing went on and the dinner drew to its conclusion the moment arrived for the excitement of the traditional egg-cracking contest, in which guests knock dyed, hard-boiled eggs together until one or the other becomes cracked. Then the person with the uncracked egg repeats the process with another guest at the same table until only one intact egg remains. Then the winners from each table enter the dance floor and engage with other table winners until only two finalists are left to battle it out to decide the winner—shown below in a triumphant photo is Julie Hojlo. The runner-up was Tom Johnson. The contest was presided over by former debutantes: Mrs. Kweilen Hatleskog, Miss Isabella Meyer, and Mrs. Pamela Owens.

A fine dessert of chocolate mousse cake was served with coffee and tea, and dancing to the music of the Stan Kurtis Orchestra went on until 11:30 p.m.

Societies represented at this heritage event were: The Colonial Dames of America; The Daughters of the Cincinnati; George Washington’s Mount Vernon Estate, Museum & Gardens; The Holland Society of New York; The Huguenot Society of America; The National Society of Colonial Dames; The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society; The Order of Colonial Lords of Manors in America; St. George’s Society of New York; The Saint Nicholas Society of the City of New York; The Society of the Cincinnati; The Society of Colonial Wars in the State of New York; and The Society of Daughters of Holland Dames.

What is an EGG-CRACKING CONTEST?

Easy question. A basket of dyed hard-boiled eggs is handed around each table and each guest takes one. Then you turn to a person sitting next to you and the two of you hold up your eggs and tap them together until one or the other gets cracked. The person with the unbroken egg is the winner of this round. Then at the same table you turn to another neighbor who has an uncracked egg and you repeat the process. This continues at the table until only one uncracked egg remains. Then the table winners go out on the dance floor and compete with one another until there are only two left with uncracked eggs. They compete in a final match and the winner gets the grand prize.



Contestants in action.



De Wittmann, Elbrun Kimmelman, President Manger and Tom Johnson

John M. Baker, Elbrun Kimmelman, Scott Shiland and Jaan Vaino



Julie Hojlo was the winner of the Egg-Cracking Contest



Elizabeth and Stanley DeForest Scott



Mary Park with Victor and Lynn Dupont



Debutante Charlotte Hinrichs and friend



Beverly Sherred and Michael D. Lynch



Carl and Firth Fabend with Genie Devine



Scott DeF. Shiland and Elbrun Kimmelman



Tom and Kitty Slattery



Lee and Mary Park



President William M. Manger, Jr., Elbrun Kimmelman, Richard R. and Rosemary Vietor



William E.E. Campbell, Donald McLeod, Eduard H. deC. Cadmus and Maximilian Cadmus



George Boyd V, Elizabeth Lindh, Sandra Boyd and Harry Lindh



Rev. Richard Seagraves and Rev. Thomas F. Pike



Richard and Rosemary Vietor with Brian and Pamela Owens



Thomas S. Johnson and Elbrun Kimmelman



Kweilen Hatleskog bearing the first prize



Elbrun Kimmelman with her daughter, Kweilen Hatleskog

FALL STATED MEETING AT ALGER HOUSE—IN A NUTSHELL



William F. Yonkers, Gordon M.F. Stick IV and Curtis M. Estes



Scott M. MacWhinnie, Peter Schermerhorn, Rev. Thomas F. Pike and President William M. Manger, Jr.



Brian Ross Owens and President William M. Manger, Jr.



Author Firth Fabend with President William M. Manger, Jr.



Charles R. Mackenzie between A. Christian Burke (l.) and T. Michael Martin, Jr. (r.)



John M. Baker



Charles R. Mackenzie, T. Michael Martin, Jr., President William M. Manger, Jr.



Francis J. Sypher, Jr., and George J. Hil



Lindsay B. Smith



Scott M. MacWhinnie bearing the revered Weathercock

On October 17, 2013 the Saint Nicholas Society of the City of New York held its Fall Stated Meeting in Greenwich Village, at Alger House, 45 Downing Street—a charming venue in an old building and on an old street dating back to the early years of our Society: the perfect place for our autumnal celebration. Members recalled that last year we had commemorated the fateful voyage of the *Titanic* at Alger House, which we found as comfortable as ever, with its rustic brick walls and attractive decorative appointments.

After traditional opening ceremonies, an excellent dinner was served along the lines of an Old Dutch Menu, starting with hors d'oeuvres of: rollmops with herring and pimento olive; slavink—a Dutch item consisting of minced meat in bacon; chicken satay—an Indonesian/Malaysian specialty with peanut sauce; and rookworst (Dutch smoked sausage) in pastry with chow chow.

Once seated at our tables, and served with a choice of excellent wines, we enjoyed an appetizer plate of: asparagus wrapped in ham with cheese sauce; cole slaw, boiled egg, and gherkin; a cup of snert—thick pea soup with rookworst; all accompanied with rye bread and butter.

As our main course we were treated with:

slowly simmered beef with thick gravy and caramelized onions; hutspot—roasted vegetables with vinegar and rookworst; and zuurkoolstampot—mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, and pineapple. What a delightful combination this was!

And finally our dessert crowned the feast with: verrine of vanilla custard; (broodpap) bread porridge; and rijstebij (rice pudding)—served with stroop (syrup), hazelnuts, and chocolate chips, and of course coffee and tea.

Our speaker of the evening was Firth Haring Fabend, an author well known to many Saint Nicholas members because of her prominent activities among hereditary societies, especially as past president of the Huguenot Society of America, and a Fellow of the Holland Society of New York. She spoke about her book *New Netherland in a Nutshell: A Concise History of the Dutch in North America* (Albany, NY: New Netherland Institute, 2012), which was reviewed, as readers will recall, in *The Weathercock*, No. 76 (Spring 2013). She spoke particularly about the Dutch legacy in New York—how Dutch culture continued after the British takeover in 1664. In 1700, she reminded us, the Dutch still comprised a substantial percentage of people New York, and persons of



*Douglas Campbell, Elaine Mitchell
and Francis J. Sypher, Jr.*



*Tom Vris-Johns, William P. Johns
and Konrad Keesee*



*Nathaniel M. Kluttz, Eduard H. deC. Cadmus
and Maximilian G. M. de C. Cadmus*

New Netherland background held a majority of public offices. And the Dutch continued to be strongly influential throughout the eighteenth century.

But after the American Revolution, 1775–1783, the Dutch role underwent a dramatic change, as the city and state were flooded with new residents, especially from Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. By 1809, when our founding spirit, Washington Irving, published his *History of New York*, by Dietrich Knickerbocker, the Dutch presence had become largely forgotten or overlooked. Irving was writing for prevailing attitudes when he portrayed everything associated with Dutch New York in broad caricature, as inherently funny, mainly because of the awkwardness and boorishness of the old inhabitants of the Hudson Valley.

His book was immensely successful, and it certainly assured that the Dutch presence in New York would not be forgotten. But at the same time, he set an unfortunate precedent for future writing on the subject. After Irving, no one could mention Director General Stuyvesant without trying to show him as a somewhat ridiculous figure who seemed always to be blowing his top, and stamping his

peg leg in anger. And whenever Dutch citizens were mentioned, it became obligatory as “good burghers” whose main occupation seemed to be sitting around swilling beer, smoking long clay pipes, and perhaps playing an occasional game of nine-pins.

This satirical portrait is still widespread and it is seriously in need of correction, which Firth Fabend’s book aims to provide. She pointed out in her address to the Society that we owe many important obligations to our Dutch heritage. The organization of government in northern New Jersey, for example, has been profoundly influence by Dutch practices. Also respect for women’s rights was another important contribution—in New Netherland, a woman retained her own family name and was able to inherit property in her own right. Perhaps most important of all, colonial Dutch society was multi-ethnic, and encouraged religious and social tolerance—a lesson needed all the more in our increasingly multi-ethnic society today. Dutch architecture, Dutch place names, Dutch customs can be seen throughout the former Dutch colonies, and form a living cultural heritage today, which we are proud to celebrate in our Saint Nicholas Society of the City of New York.



*Curtis M. Estes
and Brent H. Feigenbaum*



*Lindsay B. Smith
and Gordon M.F. Stick IV*



*Christian Burke
and Gary L. Dycus*



President William M. Manger, Jr.



Brent H. Feigenbaum and Konrad Keesee



George H. McNeely IV, Susan Williams and Curtis M. Estes



Peter Milligan, Peter A.J. Kimber and John Shannon

**WINTER
STATED MEETING**
FEBRUARY 6, 2014
COFFEE HOUSE
 20 WEST 44TH STREET
 6TH FLOOR



Andrew B. Jones, Michael S. Ferrara and Mary Pinckney



Andrew B. Jones with Mary Pinckney

The Winter Stated Meeting of the Society was held at the Coffee House Club on February 6, 2014. After a long stay on West 45th Street, the Club, founded in 1915, is now conveniently situated one flight up from the St. Nick office. It has a charm all its own and is noted for its rules, notably Rule Six stating that there shall be no rules. The meeting was in the nature of a cocktail reception with heavy hors d'oeuvres. Notable business transacted was the induction of two new members: Charles Francis Clement III and Robert Harald Tarasovich.



Robert H. Tarasovich and Ian H. Fraser



Sean O'Sullivan and Pierrepont Johnson



President William M. Manger, Jr., welcomes new inductee Robert H. Tarasovich



Andrew B. Jones and Curtis M. Estes



Tim Lykins and Gary L. Dycus



Charles F. Clement III is inducted by President William M. Manger, Jr., and Charles R. Mackenzie



T. Michael Martin, Jr., and Scott M. MacWhinnie



Guests watching members being inducted



Mary Pinckney and Brian Ross Owens



Francis J. Sypher, Jr., T. Michael Martin, Jr., and Michael Sivy

Profile: Richard Vietor

Continued from front page

1979, where he became a top-ranked investment research analyst before migrating into investment banking until retirement. Presently, he is president of R. R. Vietor, LLC and serves on a number of private corporate boards.

Richard is a lifelong sailor and is still an active competitor. He has been member of the New York Yacht Club and the Edgartown Yacht Club for nearly 50 years. (He has summered in Edgartown for most of his life.) He is also an enthusiastic, but (in his own words) less successful, golfer, and plays most often in Sharon, Connecticut, where he maintains a weekend home and is a member of the Sharon Country Club. Other clubs are the Union Club in New York and the Bath & Tennis Club in Palm Beach.

Richard is past Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Mystic Seaport, Inc. and continues to serve as a trustee. He has also served on the Board of Trustees at Historic Deerfield, and on the Board of Overseers at the Peabody-Essex Museum. Besides St. Nick, Richard is a past Governor and current member of the Society of Colonial Wars in the State of New York and The Pilgrims of the United States.

Richard and his wife Rosemary have been married since 1974. They have four children between them and one grandchild. Rosemary herself has a family background rich in New York history dating back to the Dutch period. She is president of the Bowne House Historical Society and serves on the Board of Trustees of the New York State Archives Partnership Trust. Rosemary is a member of the Colony Club, Colonial Dames of America, the Colonial Lords of Manors in America and the National Society of Colonial Dames of America. The Vietors have lived in New York City for many years.

Richard was elected to membership in the Society on 14 February 1995 in right of descent from Jan Janse Bleecker. Asked what he particularly enjoys about the Society, Richard says: "The Society offers a lot of appeal for me since I love history—I studied history at Yale; I grew up in a family that had deep roots in New York City; and my wife's ancestry is even more tightly intertwined with the history of New York City. Things that are particularly special about the St Nick," he continues, are "first, its mission; second, its longevity as a society, and third, its focus on New York City and its remarkable role

in making the United States the great nation that it is."

Are you excited to have been elected the president? What are your goals or priorities for your administration? Richard states he is "humbled and honored to have my name on a list of presidents that began in 1835, which makes me aware that my role is to help make sure that many more names appear on that list after me. My major goal for the next two years is to have as many members as possible engaged in our activities and feeling that membership is both satisfying and rewarding! I want to adhere more closely to our mission statement, which has a strong charitable component—perhaps by reaching out, working with and/or donating to worthwhile and relevant causes. The purpose is to create a stronger identity for the St Nick."

He continues: "Of course, we must be much better at recruiting new members. I am thinking a lot about how we can increase our appeal. Plus do some experimenting—find ways to make it easier and 'rewarding' for younger members to join and be active members. I want our stated meetings to be elegant, memorable and fun!"

Is there a role for hereditary societies in the city? "It is true that most hereditary societies are struggling to stay relevant. Having served as Governor of the Society of Colonial Wars and currently on the board of trustees of a number of museums, I am deeply concerned how few people—amazingly, including some of our peers!—understand the importance of knowing about the trials, tribulations and accomplishments of those that came before us. I believe in the importance of celebrating New York City's heritage. New York City was the historic gateway to this nation and still is one of the greatest cities in the world. St. Nick can step up and help—first, by having our members become more knowledgeable about our mission, our history, and our traditions and, second, by motivating them to spread our message. I believe a strong message is a way to maintain or increase our relevance in today's world."

He adds: "I am convinced that there is a pool of potential members who believe as we do and who meet our criteria of having an ancestor in New York City before 1785. What seems most difficult is to motivate and convince those potential members that it is worthwhile to join St. Nick. Hopefully, we can make progress on these issues over the next two years."

■ SALMAGUNDI ■

■ **Richard R. Vietor** helmed the *Charles W. Morgan*, the world's last surviving wooden whaling ship, built in 1841 and last sailed in 1921, from Newport to Vineyard Haven, Mass.



■ During the week of May 14, 2013, Admissions Committee Chairman **Charles Mackenzie** took an initiative by launching a plan for annual regional events of the Society. He identified pockets of members living different areas along the East Coast, including Boston, Washington DC, Charlotte, and Palm Beach. The first two events took place at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, and a steak house in Charlotte. A third regional gathering is planned for Palm Beach next February at the time of the Florida Society of Colonial Wars and Colonial Dames of America Annual Court and Dinner Dance on February 6, 2015. Anyone interested in hosting an annual party in any of these regions is invited to contact the Saint Nicholas Society Office.



St. Nickers gathered at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, DC, on 23 March.

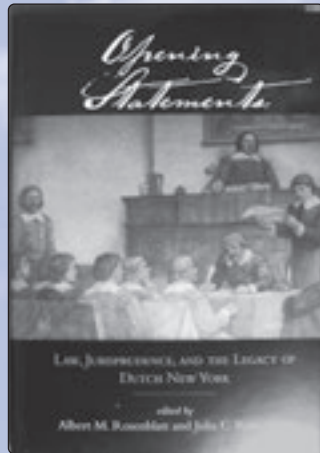
Left-right: Chuck Mackenzie, James Rose, Anne Rose, Bob Arnold, Lee Park, Will Rabbe, Craig Metz, Mary Park and David Von Nirschl.

■ **Stephen B. Billick** and Bruce Yolton were married on Tuesday, June 24, 2014, at L'Église Française du St-Esprit French Church in New York. The ceremony was performed by the Rt. Rev. Mark S. Sisk, former Episcopal bishop of New York, assisted by the Rev. Nigel J. Massey, Rector of St-Esprit.

■ **Curtis M. Estes, Stanley D. Heisler** and **John Shannon** attended the annual service of the Order of the Garter at St. George's Chapel, Windsor, England on 16 June 2014.

BOOK REVIEWS

F. J. Sypher



Albert M. Rosenblatt and Julia C. Rosenblatt, *Opening Statements: Law, Jurisprudence, and the Legacy of Dutch New York*, Albany: Excelsior Editions, an Imprint of State University of New York Press, and The Historical Society of the Courts of the State of New York, 2013. Pp. xxiv + 223. Hardcover, illustrated. ISBN 978-1-4384-4657-8. Price \$35.00.

The editors, Albert M. Rosenblatt—a retired judge of the New York Court of Appeals, and author of *The Judges of the New York Court of Appeals: A Biographical History*—and Julia C. Rosenblatt—a coauthor of *Historic Courthouses of the State of New York*—have brought together in this excellent study of legal and social history a collection of 14 chapters by prominent scholars of colonial history: Martha Dickinson Shattuck; Joyce D. Goodfriend; Troy A. McKenzie and Wilson C. Freeman; Wijnand W. Mijnhardt; Paul Otto; Jaap Jacobs; Diana diZerega Wall and Anne-Marie Cantwell; Charles Gehring; Peter R. Christoph; Leo Hershkowitz; Joep de Koning; Michael E. Clarke; and David William Voorhees.

St. Nicholas members will doubtless recognize many of these names, especially Charles Gehring, who was a co-awardee with Russell Shorto of the Washington Irving literary medal in 2004; and David William Voorhees, editor of the journal of the Holland Society of America, *de Halve Maen*. The work of the historian Jaap Jacobs has been reviewed earlier in *The Weathercock*.

The underlying theme that unites these authors and their articles is the important Dutch legacy in the New York legal system. From 1664, when the British took control of New Netherland and renamed it New York, it was provided that the Dutch could retain important aspects of their establishment, including many of their legal customs and the practice of the Reformed religion.

The subjects range widely not only through legal matters, but also through general social questions such as the role of African American children in colonial New York; relations with the Native Americans and the famous purchase of Manhattan; the roles of Lutherans and Jews in colonial society; marital litigations; and the Leislerian “understanding of the English legal system in New York.”

The text is filled with handsome illustrations of portraits, land- and sea- and cityscapes, maps and beautifully-written manuscripts, and much else. As the editors state in their fine introduction: “. . . eminent scholars treat the legal heritage New Netherland bequeathed to New York. This volume covers a number of issues that speak to that heritage, including concepts of governance, liberty, women’s rights, and religious freedom. In many ways, these fundamental concepts resonate in today’s legal culture.”

Russell Shorto, *Amsterdam: A History of the World's Most Liberal City*, New York: Doubleday, 2013. Pp. x + 358. Hardcover, illustrated. ISBN 978-0-385-53457-4. Price \$28.95.

St. Nicholas members will recall that in 2004 Russell Shorto, with Charles Gehring, was awarded the Washington Irving Medal for Literary Excellence. At that time Shorto had just published *The Island at the Center of the World*, an account of New Amsterdam based largely on original Dutch colonial documents recently translated by Gehring, who is director of the New Netherland Institute in Albany. Shorto's book did much to heighten consciousness generally about the importance of New Amsterdam and New Netherland and the Dutch contribution to American culture in general—especially Dutch practices in world trade and in religious and ethnic toleration.

Now Shorto has published what might be regarded as a companion volume, a study of “old” Amsterdam, after which our city was named. It is not exactly a “history” in the traditional sense of starting at the beginning and marching through chronology to the present. Rather, Shorto has given us a mixture of personal reflection almost in diary form, combined with historical discussions of various high points in Amsterdam's past. His aim is more to attempt to define the cultural contribution that Amsterdam has made and continues to make to the world, as a center of liberalism and tolerance.

Along the way, Shorto introduces readers to many memorable persons and personalities. He starts out by taking the reader on a bike ride through the scenic streets of Amsterdam on a visit to his friend Frieda, who at the age of 86 has memories going back through drastic change and crisis, including the horror of Auschwitz. Shorto makes regular visits to “interview her about her experiences in the city before and after World War II.” Then at the conclusion of the book, he again visits Frieda and with her faces the paradoxes and complexity of human experience with all its contradictions—its betrayals and nevertheless its beauty and wonder, and on that reflective, bittersweet note the book ends.

In between there are stops to visit major issues in the history of Amsterdam, such as “the water problem.” Amsterdam—indeed much of the Netherlands, is founded on land reclaimed from the ocean by centuries of engineering and hard work designing and constructing barriers and drainage systems that keep the waves from flooding the low-lying

territory. The need to join together in this battle of nature has been one of the foundations of the Dutch character, encouraging both a spirit of independence and a corresponding spirit of mutual cooperation.

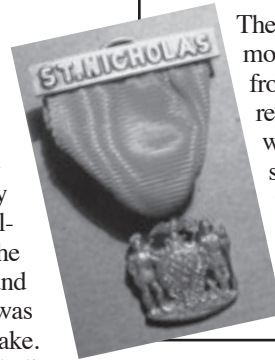
Proximity to the ocean also has meant that international trade would become the centerpiece of the Dutch economy. For the Netherlands to be engaged in international trade in the 16th century was inevitably to be engaged in rivalry with Spain, which was reaping the enormous benefits of its new-found empire in the Americas. But there was more than economic rivalry at stake. Spain passionately supported Catholicism, while much of the Netherlands had embraced the Protestant Reformation, especially in the form of Calvinism. Since the Spanish Crown, as a result of several marriages and inheritances, claimed sovereignty over the Netherlands, these differences led to a bloody, bitter war for Dutch independence, lasting for many decades. William of Orange—known as William the Silent—led the movement for independence from Spain through the founding of the Dutch Republic in 1581, until his assassination in 1584. After this the war continued, with occasional truces, until 1648, when it ended as part of the settlement of the Thirty Years' War.

In the meantime the Dutch had been building up their own empire, establishing outposts in what is now Indonesia, and on the Guinea Coast of Africa and in Southern Africa, and of course in South America, the West Indies, and in North America, where New Netherland was founded, with its capital New Amsterdam.

Shorto leads the reader through these great events with discussion also of their cultural context—the “Golden Age” of the arts in the Netherlands, and the flourishing of literature and thought, as in the work of Spinoza, whose philosophy was as revolutionary as the Dutch revolt itself. He brings the reader through the less familiar historical territory of the 18th century and after, and down to the era of modern-day toleration of the more far-out manifestations of youth culture since the 1960s, and the Dutch practice of *gedogen*—“tolerating” or “putting up with” diverse social phenomena.

Amsterdam is a history not only about the Netherlands—it reflects especially upon us as New Yorkers, and as members of the Saint Nicholas Society—inheritors of the traditions of New Amsterdam.

1885 Membership Badges



The new membership badges, modeled on an original badge from 1885 are on hand and ready for pick up by those who put in orders. We have seen one of the medals, and we are happy to say that it looks great and we are sure that members will be delighted with them.

IN MEMORIAM

Joseph vanBeuren Wittmann, Jr.



With deep regret we record the death of member Joseph vanBeuren Wittmann, Jr., elected January 15, 1968, in right of descent from Jeremias vanRensselaer. Joe grew up in New York City and went to the Allen-Stevenson School, and then to

Deerfield Academy. He was a graduate of New York University and served as a first lieutenant in the US Army Signal Corps. He was an engineer by profession and spent most of his career with the Long Distance Branch of AT&T.

In addition to the Saint Nicholas Society, in which he was a long-time board member, Joe was a member of the New York State Society of the Cincinnati, the Society of Colonial Wars in the State of New York, and the Colonial Lords of Manors. He participated generously and enthusiastically in all the societies in which he was a member, and his presence and advice will be greatly missed. One of his distinguishing customs was to arrive at formal events wearing a top hat, and opera cape, and carrying a walking stick—looking quite like a figure out of another, more glamorous era.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Barbara S. Wittmann, and two children: Joseph vanBeuren Whittmann III, and Rachel DeWitt Wittmann-Maher, and by grandson Connor Kiliaen Maher.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Welcome Back Party
September 18, 2014
Office

Board of Managers
September 29, 2014
Office

Fall Stated Meeting
October 16, 2014
Racquet & Tennis Club

Feast of St. Nicholas
December 5, 2014
Union Club



The Saint Nicholas Society
of the City of New York
 20 West 44th Street, #508
 New York, NY 10036-6603

New Members Elected

<i><u>Name</u></i>	<i><u>Date of Election</u></i>	<i><u>Ancestor</u></i>
Charles Francis Clement III	January 13, 2014	Jacob Clement
Gordon Malvern Fair Stick IV	January 13, 2014	Sarah Wells Bull
Robert Harald Tarasovich	January 13, 2014	Jan Fransse van Hoesen
Maximilian G. M. de C. Cadmus	April 28, 2014	Thomas Fredericksen
Thomas S. Hansen	April 28, 2014	Dirck Jansen Hoogland
John Brinckerhoff Slattery	April 28, 2014	Joris Dircksen Brinckerhoff
Donald L. Van Riper	April 28, 2014	Harmen Coerten
Schuyler Van Rensselaer Winter	April 28, 2014	Jeremias Van Rensselaer
Michael Brett Decker	Sept. 29, 2014	Jan Gerretsen Decker
Daniel Lewis Hooker	Sept. 29, 2014	Harmanus Madie

NECROLOGY

The Society has received notice of the death of the following members:

<i><u>Name</u></i>	<i><u>Date of Election</u></i>	<i><u>Date of Death</u></i>
Peter Megargee Brown	Oct. 29, 1945	Sept. 25, 2014
Edwin Richards Bigelow	May 1, 1950	Jan. 15, 2014
Douglas Williams	Jan. 16, 1956	Oct. 1, 2014
Henry Lyttleton Constable, Jr.	Oct. 6, 1965	Feb. 8, 2014
Edward Augustus Gillespie	May 1, 1967	August 9, 2014
Joseph vanBeuren Wittmann, Jr.	Jan. 15, 1968	Apr. 13, 2014
Robert L. Sterling, Jr.	April 29, 1974	Sept. 22, 2014
Theodore Savage Wickersham	Oct. 7, 1991	Sept. 8, 2014
Clyde Elliott McDannald, Jr.	Jan. 24, 2002	Apr. 8, 2013
Cornwell Crystal Martin	Apr. 20, 2006	Apr. 14, 2014
W. Ramsey Richardson	Jan. 7, 2013	Dec. 3, 2013

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CHARLES W. NEUHAUSER
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CHARLES R. MACKENZIE
FOURTH VICE PRESIDENT

W. SETON IJAMS
TREASURER

MICHAEL S. FERRARA
SECRETARY

TIMOTHY D. LYKINS
OFFICE MANAGER

THE WEATHERCOCK

AN OCCASIONAL PUBLICATION
 OF THE SOCIETY, WRITTEN, EDITED,
 AND PRODUCED BY

FRANCIS J. SYPHER, JR.
 JOHN McC. SHANNON