

Holiday programs at Lewes, Del.'s Zwaanendael Museum on Dec. 4 and 6, 2014

(DOVER, Del.–Nov. 26, 2014)–Lewes, Del.'s Zwaanendael Museum will celebrate the winter-holiday season with the programs "Hospitality Night," which will be held on Thursday, Dec. 4, 2014 from 5 to 8 p.m., and "Tour Zwaanendael Museum" which will be held on Saturday, Dec. 6, 2014 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Zwaanendael Museum

Presented in partnership with the [Lewes Chamber of Commerce](#), "Hospitality Night" will include a 1920s holiday-themed program featuring festive décor, music, demonstrations and seasonal refreshments. The second program, "Tour Zwaanendael Museum," held in conjunction with the Lewes Historical Society's [Christmas Tour of Lewes](#), will provide visitors with an opportunity to explore this historic museum which showcases the Lewes-area's maritime, military and social history.

The [Zwaanendael Museum](#) was built in 1931 to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the state's first European colony, Swanendael, established by the Dutch along Hoorn Kill (present-day Lewes-Rehoboth Canal) in 1631. Designed by E. William Martin (architect of Legislative Hall and the Hall of Records in Dover), the museum is modeled after the town hall in Hoorn, the Netherlands, and features a stepped facade gable with carved stonework and decorated shutters. The museum's exhibits and presentations provide a showcase for Lewes-area maritime, military and social history.

Following is a long-term schedule of Zwaanendael-Museum-sponsored activities. Unless otherwise noted, all programs

take place at the Zwaanendael Museum located at 102 Kings Highway in Lewes, Del. Museum hours from Nov. 1 to March 31 are Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. From April 1 to Oct. 31, museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and Sunday, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Admission is free for all events listed. For additional information, call 302-645-1148.

Zwaanendael Museum upcoming special events

Note: Recent program changes are highlighted in brown.

Thursday, Dec. 4, 2014

"Hospitality Night." 1920s holiday-themed program featuring festive décor, music, demonstrations and seasonal refreshments. Presented in partnership with the [Lewes Chamber of Commerce](#). ~~6–9~~ 5–8 p.m. **Note additional program info and time change.**

Saturday, Dec. 6, 2014

"Tour Zwaanendael Museum." Enjoy the museum's festive holiday-décor. Event held in conjunction with the Lewes Historical Society's [Christmas Tour of Lewes](#). 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 17, 2015

"Delaware's Decades—the 1980s: 'Salvage of His Majesty's Sloop DeBraak.'" "Lecture by Claudia Leister, executive director of the Milford Museum. Part six of an eight-part series exploring decades in Delaware's history. 2 p.m. Free admission but, due to space restrictions, reservations are required by calling 302-645-1148 no later than Jan. 5, 2015.

Saturday, Feb. 14, 2015

"Delaware's Decades—the 1990s." ~~Program description TBA.~~ Don Voltz, executive director of the [Delaware Sports Museum and Hall of Fame](#), will discuss the planning and creation of the museum and its inductees. Part seven of an eight-part series exploring decades in Delaware's history. 2 p.m. Free admission but, due to space restrictions, reservations are

required by calling 302-645-1148 no later than Feb.2, 2015.

Note updated program information.

Saturday, March 14, 2015

Delaware's Decades—the 2000s. Lecture by Bill Ayrey, lab manager and company historian from [ILC Dover](#), who will discuss the future of space travel and space suits from the early 2000s to the present. Eighth and final installment of a series exploring decades in Delaware's history. 2 p.m. Free admission but, due to space restrictions, reservations are required by calling 302-645-1148 no later than March 2, 2015.

Thursday–Saturday, April 9–11, 2015

[Lewes Tulip Festival](#). City-wide series of activities celebrating Lewes' Dutch heritage including Dutch games, crafts and a display of Delftware ceramics at the Zwaanendael Museum. Sponsored by the Lewes Chamber of Commerce. Downtown Lewes. 10 a.m.–4 p.m. 302-645-8073.

Saturday, April 18, 2015

Dutch-American Friendship Day. Discover Delaware's Dutch roots and learn how that connection is alive today. 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 25, 2015

King's Day. Celebration of the birthday of King Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands in a program that will also explore royal titles and Delaware's Dutch connection. 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 23, 2015

Fourth Annual Zwaanendael Maritime Festival: "A Sailor's Life for Me." Maritime-themed activities, games, displays by local organizations and more. 10 a.m.–3 p.m. **Recently added program.**

Zwaanendael Museum exhibits and displays

Ongoing

"Delaware and the War of 1812." Exhibit examines the service and sacrifice of Delawareans of 1812 to 1815, and the important role that the state played in a conflict that helped shaped the development of the United States.

Ongoing

"A Seaborne Citizenry: The DeBraak and Its Atlantic World." Exhibit utilizes artifacts recovered from His Majesty's Sloop of War DeBraak, a British warship that sank off the Delaware coast on May 25, 1798 to tell the story of the vessel, its crew and the historical context within which it operated in the Atlantic World of the late 18th century.

Ongoing

"Simple Pleasures: Play and Dance." Display of original Edwardian and roaring-20s fall and winter fashions that reflect the spirit of the liberated "modern" woman as depicted in the "Downton Abbey" television series. From the collections of the state of Delaware. **Recently added display.**

-End-

Contact:

Jim Yurasek

Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs

Phone: 302-736-7413

E-mail: Jim.Yurasek@delaware.gov

Web: <http://history.delaware.gov>