

CULINARY HISTORIANS OF NEW YORK

presents

A Cultural History of Artisan Cheesemaking in America

with Paul S. Kindstedt, Ph.D.

Vermont Institute for Artisan Cheese University of Vermont

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

Artisan cheesemaking was brought to America during the first half of the seventeenth century by English Puritan dairy farmers who emigrated from East Anglia and settled in the New England colonies. As in East Anglia, the cheesemakers of Puritan New England were women artisans. By the late 18th century, cheesemaking in America remained almost entirely confined to New England and specialized in hard English-style cheese, which later came to be known as American Cheddar. During the first half of the 19th century, New England dairy farmers commenced a mass migration westward along the southern shores of the Great Lakes. As cheesemaking moved westward into new geographical regions, variations in cheese character were observed and attributed to differences in the local environment (terroir). By the start of the 20th century, however, farmstead cheesemaking and the woman artisan cheesemaker were quickly displaced by the cheese factory and driven to virtual extinction. Only during the last three decades has America seen a rebirth of farmstead cheesemaking and the restoration of the woman artisan cheesemaker.

Location: Artisanal Premium Cheese Center, 2nd fl. 500 West 37th St. (at 10th Ave.)

6:30 p.m. Cheese reception and tour of cheese caves
7:00 p.m. Lecture

Save the Date: Monday, June 4, 2007
"Appalachian Food" with Mark F. Sohn, Ph.D.
Moore Brothers Wines, 33 East 20th Street between Broadway and Park Avenue South.

For more information on this and future programs, visit www.CulinaryHistoriansNY.org.

SPACE IS LIMITED. YOU MUST RSVP AND PAY BEFORE MONDAY, MAY 7.

For reservations please make checks payable to Culinary Historians of New York and mail to

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