



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MUSEUM OF NEWPORT IRISH HISTORY

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MUSEUM PLANS FOR AN OCTOBER 2003 TRIP TO IRELAND

Our Planned trip will have as its *theme* the Newport County ties, immigration aspects and historical background between Newport County and Ireland.

Like good wine, it takes time to prepare and plan a 'themed', historically relevant trip, especially to Ireland, where so many Museum members and interested folks have relations, family ties, and are historically 'up' on Ireland.

Initially we'll start in Dublin to see some of the wonderful and beautiful objects from Irish antiquity at the National Museum, to get us into the 'mood' of Irish history. There will be time for 'free time' there too. Then down the east coast with a stop at fabulous, storied Glendalough. We'll then go to Co. Wexford, and the site of the Vinegar Hill battle of the 1798 uprising at Enniscorthy. In Wexford there are several interesting sites including Johnstown Castle.

We'll go on the Waterford and see the famous crystal factory and its' artists, then we'll stop at Cobh and the very nice museum of emigration. On to Kinsale, Newport's twin city, where we'll have a very personal tour by Dermot Ryan who spoke to us last October. Then on to Skibbereen which suffered so much during the famine. We'll travel to Bantry with its' museum of the aborted 1796 French landing, then to the Allihies area to view the area from which many of the Irish miners emigrated to work in the Portsmouth coal mines.

We'll then go on to Killarney and then Limerick, with its' history of betrayal of the Treaty of Limerick. From here we're off to Galway, the ancient, medieval trading town, then to Roscommon and Strokestown Park and the Famine Memorial, which is twinned with Grosse Ile, Quebec. ON the way back to Dublin we'll stop at Trim, site of the finest medieval fortress in Ireland.

Our trip will be led by Kathy Creaney Travel, Middletown. Creaney Travel is THE expert in Irish travel, and Kathy's many personel contacts will ensure that we have a very special, rewarding time.

WE HAVE ENCLOSED A SURVEY FORM IN THIS NEWSLETTER TO ASK ABOUT YOUR INTERESTS IN THIS PROPOSED TOUR. PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO FILL IT OUT AND RETURN IT SOON.

MEN OF NEWPORT — TO ARMS !!!!

Rhode Island Secretary of State , Edward S. Inman III recently presented 150 copies of a broadside with the above title to the citizens of Newport.

The broadside lists the 71 Newport city residents who died in the Civil War. It lists the individual's rank, organization, place of birth, place and date of death, and the cause of death.

The Newsletter editor has reviewed the listing and finds the following individuals of Irish decent, or of Irish birth:

Michael Burns, Private , of the 3rd R.I. Heavy Artillery,
died in July, 1863 in South Carolina of typhoid fever.

William Denham, Corporal, 4th R. I. Infantry, died in North Carolina
of typhoid fever.

Henry Donngan, Private, 4th R.I. Infantry, died Nov, 1863 in Virginia
of a fall from a building.

Patrick Gilroy, Private, 12th R.I. Infantry, born in Ireland, died in
October, 1863, in Rhode Island of wounds.

Thomas Harrington Jr., Private, 1st R.I. Detached Militia, born in
County Kerry, died July 1861 , in Virginia, killed in action.

John Kilroy, Private, 7th R.I. Infantry, born in Roscomon, Ireland,
died June, 1864 in Virginia, killed in action.

William McCann, Private, 2nd R.I. Infantry, died July 1861
in Virginia of wounds.

John O'Brien, Seaman, U.S. Navy, died March, 1862 aboard
the "Cumberland".

All of the servicemen listed above were born in Newport, except the three men born in Ireland. We intend to research this list further to see if we can tie in other information regarding the families of these individuals.

***THE MUSEUM WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION
THAT ANY MEMBER MAY HAVE REGARDING THE SERVICEMEN
LISTED ABOVE. ALSO, DOES ANY MEMBER HAVE A PHOTO OF
ANY CIVIL WAR RELATIVE??? WE'D APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION***

MEMBERSHIP REACHES A NEW PLATEAU!!

As of June, 2002 the Museum's membership reached over 200--204, to be exact, and this level will allow us to begin using bulk mail services, saving postage dollars for most mailings. (we'll be filing for this status shortly, so this Newsletter was sent by 'regular' 1st class stamps.

We would like to welcome several new members who have joined the Museum in the last 3 to 4 months:

John and Grace Curran ---- Newport --- Life Members
Joseph L. Cahill -----Florida ----- Life Member
Robert M. Rochefort -----Wakefield
Mr/Mrs Jack Enwright -----Newport
Hugh O'Connell Jr. -----Newport
Robert T. Lehane Jr./Family--Portsmouth ---Life Members
Dr. Colette Cunningham -----Middletown

SUCCESSFUL RECEPTION/FUND-RAISER

The annual AOH sponsored fund-raiser for the Museum was held on Saturday, August 24th with a great 'spread' of tasty delights by Chief Dave Dawnes, and nice Irish music by Tim May. About 50 members were in attendance with Tim providing just the right background music .

Winners of the raffle where: Anjan Duha-Gupta (from Georgia)-\$750; Joe Buckley-\$500; Ned McGrath-\$250; Mike Ahearn and Kathleen Gallagher-\$50 each. Copies of the Museum's Newport Irish History video tape were won by Lou Burns and Jim Hyman.

All in all, a good evening was had by everyone, and the Museum benefited by about \$2000, which will be used to upgrade our display at Ft. Adams. Thanks to all of the Board members who worked on this event, and ad special thanks to Joe Buckley and Bob Watkins who did a great job!!!

IN MEMORIUM

The Museum Board of Directors notes with sadness the death of Thomas H. Byrnes of Bristol. Tom was a "plank" owner - one of the 1st 100 members of the Museum, and a constant supporter and enthusiast of all Irish cultural activities. Tom was indeed a great citizen of Bristol, a State Representative, Bristol Town Administor, and a Chief Marshal of the July 4th parade in 1993. Tom will be missed.

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Check type of membership:

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Amount Enclosed \$ _____ (Donations are tax deductible – a 501(3)(c) organization)

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