



The Museum of Newport Irish History MNIH

5th talk of our 22nd Annual Lecture Series

☞ *Made possible by a generous gift from Frank Furtado,* ☞
given in memory of Barbara Carr Furtado

The Great Cutter Race of 1905: An Irish Tale of Newport's Gilded Age

Guest Speaker: Steve Marino

Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

**Wyndham Newport Hotel
240 Aquidneck Avenue, Middletown, R.I. 02842
and Live-Streamed via Zoom**

In August of 1905, twelve strong sailors from the USS *Kearsarge*, the champion cutter racing crew of the U.S. Navy's Atlantic Squadron, challenged the team from the recently established Hibernia Racing Club of Newport to a four-mile rowing race in Newport Harbor. Beginning in 1895, cutter races on the harbor attracted thousands of Newport's citizens, Navy sailors, tourists, workers, and gamblers to watch these 12-man boats compete for money and prizes. The August 1905 challenge race promised to be the biggest of them all.

Come and hear the oft-told tale of the Great Cutter Race of 1905...

Note: "Cutters" of the late 19th and early 20th century were not regular row boats nor Irish *currachs*. Cutters were common accessory vessels to Navy ships of the era and were used to move personnel from place to place. These wooden boats could accommodate twelve rowers and a coxswain. Racing cutters became a popular activity in Newport Harbor during the Gilded Age.

STEVE MARINO taught history in Connecticut for 35 years and retired to Newport. He has given tours at Fort Adams since 2008. A local historian and researcher, and member of the Board of the Museum of Newport Irish History, Steve oversees operations at the Museum's Interpretive Center on Lower Thames Street. He gives tours at the Center and Newport's historic Irish cemeteries. Steve holds degrees from Williams College, Brown University, and Hartford International University (formerly Hartford Seminary). This is Steve's fifth presentation to our membership.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Light hors d'oeuvres & Cash Bar available.

Reminder

Winners of our "Luck of the Irish" raffle fundraiser will be drawn at the conclusion of the talk and Q&A.

Raffle tickets will be sold between 5:30 p.m. and the start of the lecture at 6:00 p.m.

Reservations Required for In-Person and Zoom Participation

To reserve, visit www.NewportIrishHistory.org, click "Lectures," then the appropriate link to reserve under the Mar. 20 listing (In-person or Zoom). You will receive an e-confirmation. If you do *not* see this email, check your SPAM. The talk will be videotaped, and a link will be available on our website's "Lectures" page. \$5 fee/donation payable at the door via cash or check to "MNIH." No fee to Zoom.

Questions or Assistance with Registration: Contact Ann Arnold at (401) 841-5493 or tpm1@earthlink.net

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