



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MUSEUM OF NEWPORT IRISH HISTORY

Published by the Museum of Newport Irish History
P.O. Box 1378 Newport RI 02840 (401) 847-2890

VOLUME 9

WINTER 2002/2003

MUSEUM SETS ANNUAL MEETING DATE

The Museum of Newport Irish History Board of Officers at its meeting in February set Thursday, April 24th as the date for the next Annual meeting. The meeting will take place at the LaForge Casino Restaurant in the function room.

The guest speaker for the event will be Tony Palermo, Executive Director of Fort Adams Trust. Tony, who is responsible for the ongoing restoration and preservation of the Fort, as well as for the day to day operations of sightseeing, events and maintenance activities, is extremely well versed in the history of this great structure.

Tony is a retired Marine Colonel, and with his military background and avid interest in history he brings excellent insight into the Fort's former functions and today's uses as a wonderful historic site as well as a superb venue for education, recreation and entertainment.

Mr. Palermo will present an illustrated talk about the current restoration program, and he will give us his insights into the near term and long term outlook for the Fort, which is becoming another jewel in Rhode Island's treasures. Tony will also discuss how the Museum will be able to have a presence in the newly restored areas.

The Museum will have several new displays to 'show off' at the meeting, including a model of the Trevett schoolhouse/St. Joseph Church building (1828 vintage), and a new display which will present the Museum's goals for events, fairs and presentations.

The Annual Meeting will begin at 6PM with a brief business meeting, followed by Tony's presentation and generous hors d'oeuvres by the LaForge Restaurant. All members are invited to attend, and are encouraged to bring new members.

WE WOULD APPRECIATE A PHONE CALL TO LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE ATTENDING THE ANNUAL MEETING SO THAT WE CAN PROVIDE SEATING AND REFRESHMENTS.... PLEASE CALL Bill Nagle at 846-8499

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!!- please note the Board of Officers and Directors proposed by the Nominating Committee on Page 2.

**The Museum Board of Officers and Directors
submitted by the Nominating Committee for the years 2003/2004**

BOARD OF OFFICERS

President	Vincent Arnold
1st Vice. Pres.	Robert McKenna
2nd Vice Pres.	Elliott "Skip" Carter
Secretary	Margaret Ahearn
Treasurer	Bill Nagle
Counsel	Chris Behan

DIRECTORS

John Booth
Joyce Botelho*
Joseph Brady*
Maria Carroll
Rita Clarke
Paul Crowley
Thomas N. Kelly III
Joseph McEnness
Edward McGrath
Martin Murphy III
Patrick Murphy
Alex O'Donnell Director- Plans and Development
Karen Weathers Membership

HONORARY DIRECTORS

Hon. Kathleen Connell
Hon. J. Joseph Garrahy
Hon. David Roderick
Judge Florence Murray

*** New Directors for 2003/4**

SPEAKERS PROGRAM A GREAT SUCCESS!!!

The Museum's program is cosponsored by the LaForge Casino Restaurant, and is now named the Michael F. Crowley Lecture Series.

The Museum completed its' second annual Lecture Program with a talk by Dr. Timothy Meagher of Catholic University, Washington D.C. Dr. Meagher spoke on the Irish in Worcester, Massachusetts. Tim was born in Worcester and has recently published a book entitled : "Inventing Irish America: Generations, Class and Ethnic Identity in a New England City". A very lively discussion followed with about 60 in attendance.

Other Lecture Series speakers were Dr. John Quinn of Salve University who spoke on Father Mathew's Crusade ; Dr. Karen Holland, Professor of History at Providence College who gave an illustrated talk about Irish quilting from the early 1800's; and a beautifully illustrated talk by Kathryn Whitney Lucy who presented many photos from her new book "Born Newporters", with many pictures of the Irish Newporters.

All in all, it was a very successful lecture series, and we look forward to a new series beginning in October.

Irish Heritage Month-- Museum Events

In addition to cosponsoring the lecture on March 3rd, the Museum again sponsored its' "Irish Newport" narrated bus tour on Saturday, March 8th. The bus was full with 34 aboard, and began, as usual at the Hibernian Hall with a demonstration of Irish step dancing by the students of the Nevin Academy of Irish Step Dancing, and a stop at Ft. Adams and many other Irish points of interest. The bus, a "trolley" was provided by the generosity of *Viking Tours*.

The Museum also cosponsored a production of Irish plays at the *Firehouse Theater* entitled "Irish Stew". The three plays were; "Kierns' Mazurka" by Rhode Island writer Tom Maguire; "A Galway Girl" by Geraldine Aron; and "My First Confession" by Frank O'Connor.

The Museum is also working with the Firehouse Theater to produce several DVDs that will present the Irish in Newport and Rhode Island.

The Museum of Newport Irish History
P.O. Box 1378
Newport RI 02840

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Newport RI 02840
Permit No. 110

DID YOU FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP??

THE MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP TERM IS NOW MAR 31-APRIL 1

So , if you've forgotten to renew your membership, just fill out the form below:

Name(s) _____
Address _____
Town/City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Date _____

Individual ____ (\$10) Family ____ (\$20) Business ____ (\$35) Life ____ (\$100)
Mail to: The Museum of Newport Irish Hsitory P.O. Box 1378 Newport RI 02840