



## July 2011

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## The Sack of Baltimore

*by Brian Witt*

On June 20, 1631, the people of the West Cork village of Baltimore awoke to find Algerian pirates coming ashore. The buccaneers were led by Murat Reis, a Dutch born pirate who was also an admiral in the Algerian navy. He brought two galleys with him, and in the matter of hours, had captured 108 English settlers, and, temporarily, a number of the local Irish residents.

The residents were sold into slavery in North Africa. Some were put into the Sultan of Algiers harems, as laborers, or working on slave galleys. A number of the men were killed, but over two dozen were taken as prisoners. Upwards of fifty children were also taken, some infants. A French missionary priest saw many from the Irish town being sold at the slave markets in North Africa.

It was the largest attack by Barbary pirates on Ireland and England, and created international turmoil. The English king, Charles I, was already under pressure to stop raids upon English citizens, and this almost pushed the country to civil war.

This was the simple part of the raid. Piracy, land deals, and many of America's best known citizens are also part of this intriguing and convoluted story.

Over the years, the incident has inspired many recollections. Thomas Osborne Davis, of the Young Ireland fame, wrote a poem, "The Sack of Baltimore." Tim Severin, of the "Brendan Voyage", wrote a fictional book about it, "Corsair: The Adventures of Hector Lynch." Irish Journalist and writer, Des Ekin, wrote about it in "The Stolen Village: Baltimore and the Barbary Pirates." And in 1999, the raid on Baltimore was portrayed in a screenplay titled "Roaring Water, The Sack of Baltimore", by Irish screenwriter Sean Boyle.

Baltimore is also known by its Gaelic name, *Dun na Sead*, or Fort of Gems. The English residents were peaceful Protestant dissenters

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from Cornwall, Somerset, and Devon, working in the pilchard, or sardine packing, industry. They were working on the plantations of Fineen O'Driscoll, the hereditary holder of the lands of south Cork. O'Driscoll had taken the leases over after the death of Englishman Thomas Crooke in 1824.

The area was well known for its pirate activity. It also had an active trading policy with northern Africa, one that dated back over 2 millennia. In records in London, of the many references to this area of South Cork, twenty-one were about its piracy. It had been the transfer point for booty for hundreds of years, so the arrival of pirates wasn't a noteworthy thing. The fact that they had to be guided up a series of narrow canals was.

Fineen O'Driscoll was well known in the pirate trade, having been a wholesaler of many of the goods offered by the travellers. He was occasionally a participant, as when he and his son, Donogh, captured a floundering Portuguese wine ship stuck in Berehaven harbor.

O'Driscoll himself was a collaborator with the English. He sided with them in the Desmond Rebellion, also known as the Geraldine rising. He turned a number of the rebels over to the authorities. Because of the law of Surrender and Regrant, wherein Irish lords turned over their lands to the English Crown, and then were retitled to them, he was deeply in debt. Thus, he began to sell leases on parts of his demesne to English colonists. One person who purchased many from him was Walter Coppinger.

Coppinger was a magistrate in Cork City. He was known as being a ruthless businessman and landlord. He had been purchasing many of the properties in south Cork, mainly to amass a fortune, but he also wanted to keep them out of the hands of Protestant landlords. He was of English descent, but as a Roman Catholic, he had no interest in seeing the land ceded to Protestants. He drove out the East India Company and their shipbuilding concern by destroying their factory, and then taking over the land.

When Thomas Crooke purchased his lease from O'Driscoll in 1605, the English presence was small. The establishment of a sardine business would also give cover to Crooke's other activities. Those were piracy. He was brought up on charges in London in 1608, but acquitted. However, the same year, Italians complained of the nest of English pirates based in Ireland.

Coppinger bought the lease rights in 1613 from O'Driscoll. After Crooke's death in 1624, and the end of the lease in 1626, the lands were supposed to revert to Coppinger, the title holder. But in a bit of double dealing in 1629, he was bilked of his property by O'Driscoll. He was also imprisoned in Dublin Castle for a period of time, and was slandered by Donogh O'Driscoll, the son of Fineen, actions which likelier than not further poisoned his feelings about the O'Driscolls.

The pirate leader was an interesting person in his own right. Jan Janszoon van Haarlem was born in Haarlem, Netherlands in 1575. He married young and had a child. Born into a family of position and wealth, he went off to become a privateer, raiding Spanish ships. At one point, he was captured, taken as a slave, and converted to Islam, and changed his name to Murat Reis. He then became a leader of the Algerian navy. However, he would declare the area he was located, Sale, to be an independent republic, and for the most part was left alone by the Algerians and Ottomans.

In 1627, Reis captured Lundy, in England's Bristol Channel, and used it as a base of operations. Later that year he sailed north to Iceland, where a series of raids yielded little until he captured a number of the island's inhabitants to be sold as slaves.

In late June, 1631, he captured John Hackett, a Catholic resident of Dungarvan, Co. Cork, and asked him for directions to Baltimore. Hackett directed them up the channel to the town. For his assistance, Hackett was convicted and hanged two years later.

Coppinger may have devised the plan to rid himself of English plantations, and as the Algerian and Dutch pirates were familiar customers, their raid helped to kill the Baltimore plantation. The sardine business moved to his lands in Skbbereen, and flourished. The O'Driscolls fortunes flagged.

As for Murat Reis, he married a number of times. One son, from his second, Spanish and Moorish wife, Anthony Janszoon van Salee, moved to New Netherlands, modern New York, and his family prospered. These were the Vanderbilts. The Algerian pirate's kin included Humphrey Bogart, Jackie Onassis, Anderson Cooper, and Cornelius Vanderbilt. Reis died in his bed.

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## **Shamrock Club of Wisconsin May, 2011 State Advisory Board Meeting**

The Wisconsin Shamrock Club State Advisory Board met at the Dublin Square Pub and Eatery, 3rd and Main Streets, La Crosse, WI on May 7, 2011. Members present were Denis and Karen Donohoe (Milwaukee), Mooch and Judi Barrington (New Dublin), Harry and Pat McCarthy (Dane County), Linda Pfaff, Anne Muirhead, Jim and Donna Finn, Mary and Barrie Monks, and Julie and Patrick Mehren (LaCrosse).

President John Delmore was called away for an emergency and was unable to attend. In his absence we called our meeting to

order. The minutes from the November 6, 2011 meeting were reviewed and approved. The treasurer has \$60 held in the Dane County Shamrock Club account.

The clubs are busy planning summer activities including picnics, raffles, board elections, fundraisers, and Irish fests. Some are redesigning websites and working on new marketing ideas to increase awareness of the Shamrock Club and increase membership. Facebook is one of these new initiatives. Linda Pfaff has raffle tickets available for a trip to Ireland. Tickets are \$10 each or 3/\$25. She would be happy to sell you some and give you an opportunity to get to Ireland! Some future dates to note:

- Oshkosh Irish Fest: June 3–5  
[<http://www.oshkoshirishfest.com/>]
- La Crosse Irish Fest: August 12–14  
[<http://www.irishfestlax.org/>]
- Milwaukee Irish Fest: August 18–21  
[<http://www.irishfest.com/festival/>]
- Dubuque Irish Hooley: August 27  
[<http://www.365regionalnetwork.com/IrishHooley.aspx>]

St. Patrick's Day festivities were all very successful for 2011 and planning is underway for next year's events.

New Dublin's tentative schedule of events for 2012 runs from March 12 – 17, with the parade being on March 17. Milwaukee will hold its 2012 parade on either March 10 or 17. That has yet to be decided. Madison is leaning toward March 17 for their parade but that has not yet been confirmed.

If you haven't done so already, *all clubs* should send Denis Donohoe club business cards and any club brochures or information available to be used at Milwaukee Irish Fest for publicity and use with the display.

Please send them to: Denis Donohoe, 1800 Pilgrim Pkwy, Elm Grove, WI 53122. (262) 309-0723 [[djvdonohoe@sbcglobal.net](mailto:djvdonohoe@sbcglobal.net)].

The next meeting will be held in Milwaukee, on Saturday, August 20, 2011, during Irish Fest. We are hoping to have the meeting on Irish Fest grounds. Denis Donohoe is our meeting coordinator and will announce the time and location at a later date. Elections for Board Officers for 2012-2014 will be held at this meeting.

Many thanks to Linda Pfaff for coordinating the meeting at the new and lovely Dublin Square Pub and Eatery; it's a great new addition to La Crosse. Bantry Bay, Ireland has donated a special bell to the pub.

Hope to see everyone at the next meeting in Milwaukee during Irish Fest!

Respectfully submitted,

– Pat McCarthy, Secretary,  
May 30, 2011

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## Milwaukee President's Message

Greetings and Happy Birthday America.

Our annual picnic held June 18 was another huge success. Under sunny skies and seasonal temperatures, a great time was had by the large crowd in attendance. The picnic had it all – music, refreshments, dancing, games for all ages and the highly sought after raffle baskets. Thanks to Pete “The Big Bad Wolf” and Dawn “Little Red” Fleming and their crew for hosting another grand time for all. Nothing was “Grimm” about it.

Join us July 7 at the Venice Club at 6 p.m. for cocktails (cash bar) and 7 p.m. for dinner for the annual Installation of Officers Dinner. The Honorable Daniel Konkol will again preside over the swearing-in ceremony as the club welcomes our newest board members: Brian Sneed as Parliamentarian, Pam Canon as 1st year Trustee and Glen Nowak as Sergeant-at-Arms. Thanks to departing Board Members Veronica Ceszynski, Tom McAleese, and Malkin Wallace for their years of service to the club. Although they no longer serve on the board I am sure they will still graciously volunteer their services when called upon.

Please see dinner details elsewhere in *Reflections*.

As mentioned previously the ICHC has approached the Shamrock Club for a substantial contribution toward their capital campaign. A committee has been formed to study and discuss what the club's donation can reasonably be. If you wish to join the committee, call me at (414) 443-0446 and leave a message. The committee will present a report to the board and then a vote by the membership during the general meeting

Nothing to do this weekend? Cheer on our soccer or hurling team. Or catch the Color, Guard Pipes and Drums in a local parade. Having heard them at the downtown Memorial parade I can honestly say they have never sounded better.

Does anybody own a Roku box? Did you know you can watch RTE news live 24/7? As well as a listen to a number of Irish radio stations? All delivered wirelessly to your TV set.

Don't forget Irish Fest is just around the corner. Please volunteer to work in the club's retail booth.

See you at the next meeting and bring along a prospective member.

– Josh Walton, President  
joshwalton1@yahoo.com

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## Glenn's Corner Cupboard

Help me make my first dinner a great one. At the August membership meeting make something special with the bounty from your garden. Sandwiches will be served. Ideas? Comments? (414) 466-8060 or [gnowak4@wi.rr.com]

– Glenn Nowak

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## Officers Installation Dinner

**July 7, 2011**

Venue Club: 1905 N Calhoun Rd., Brookfield (262) 786-8323

Cocktails 6 p.m. • Dinner at 7 p.m.

Installation by Judge Daniel Konkol

Menu Choices: tenderloin steak or chicken primavera.

Cost: \$25 per person

For reservations, please contact Julie Smith  
by calling (414) 384-4119 or E-mail [jesmith26@sbcglobal.net]

People may pay at the door, but dinner choices are needed by  
June 30.

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**Milwaukee July  
Membership News**

Hi there and welcome to another fine summer season. I hope you had a great time at our club picnic that was held June 18 with some surprising conversations. For May, we had 28 membership renewals and no membership drops in the Milwaukee chapter. As of May 31, the Milwaukee Chapter has 378 members with 172 families, 187 single, and 19 complimentary (libraries, businesses, etc.) memberships. Statewide our membership totals 492 members where the others receive a copy of our *Emerald Reflections* newsletter.

As we approach summer heat and Irish Fest, please contact friends and family members and tell them of the mission and fun that the Shamrock Club has and get them to join. If you are attending Irish Fest this year please stop by our tables either at the Retail or Cultural Tent as we would like all members to fill out a membership survey that will help our Chapter update our demographics and better serve our group going forward. Your participation will be greatly appreciated.

Please be sure to have your memberships renewals in before July 31 for those who's expire on or before 7/31/2011.

We hope you can attend our August meeting and see you soon.

– Denis Donohoe, Membership Chair

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## **Shamrock Club Of New Dublin**

**Sheamus Fitzpatrick**  
**July 21, 2011 at Taft Park New London**

The Shamrock Club will sponsor Sheamus Fitzpatrick from 6:30-8 p.m., at Taft Park on Thursday evening July 21.

The Shamrock Club of New Dublin is busy making plans for this year's summer concert in the park series in New London. Each summer the New London Tourism Commission sponsors a series of concerts in downtown New London during the months of June, July and August. This year the Shamrock Club will sponsor Sheamus Fitzpatrick from 6:30-8 p.m., at Taft Park on Thursday evening July 21. It's guaranteed to be a wonderful evening of great Irish music and song. Free Admission – Bring your own lawn chairs. In case of inclement weather it will be at Midtown Pub & Grill (208 W. North Water St.)

Our 2011 Parade Grand Parade Awards Winners have been announced:

- Grand Marshal Award: St. Joseph Residence

- Best Commercial Entry: Evergreen Campsites
- Best Non-Commercial Entry: Most Precious Blood School
- Best Musical Entry: Freedom High School Marching Irish
- Best Clan: Crain Clan
- Director's Choice Award: O'Neil Clan

### **2011 Royalty**

Patrick Sullivan and Melissa Mulroy were Irish Man and Irish Rose for 2011. They have been involved in our festivities for many years in front and behind the scenes and we are very honored to have them serve us. Tony and Lorraine Van Kampen were the Grand Marshals for the 2011 Grand Parade. They have supported us for years and are very active in the community most recently with the Honor Flight program. We are proud that they accepted this honor. Irish Lad and Lass this year were Hannah Wiegman and Connor Weber.

– Carrie Katerzynske  
[<http://www.newdublin.com>]

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## **Milwaukee Hurling Club**

The 2011 season is well underway. The Shamrock Club Griffins through mid June were 3-1. Our upcoming matches for July are as follows:

- July 10 – SC vs Tracks at 12:30 p.m.
- July 17 – SC vs Trinity at 12:30 p.m.
- July 24 – SC vs Brocach at 3:30 p.m.
- July 31 – SC vs Cty. Clare at 3:30 p.m.

We are selling t-shirts with team names on them. The Shamrock Club's is, "Who Rocks? SHAMROCKS!" It comes in green and white.

Playoffs start August 7. On August 14, we will have our "Party at the Pitch," our annual picnic, with music and a lot of food. We would like to have the members of the Shamrock Club join us. The fun starts at 11 a.m.

We have a new captain this year. Paul Steinbrecher joins Dave Goelz for 2011. The rest of the team is Tom Sabourin; Richard Herbers; Ryan Schubert; Chris Kadrach; T Michael "Pappy" Bathke; Christina Wisler; Gwenn Barker; Aimee Morgan; Mike Morrow; Nick Neuman; Joel Guinane; Brian Christ; Steve Schmid; Mark Lasky; Joe Gaar; Clodagh McGuinness; and Andrew Goelz.



Thank you for this, our 12th year of support.

– Dave Goelz

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## Milwaukee Celtic Soccer

It has been a rough year to play games for Milwaukee Celtic this year. We had a number of games washed away for both the Reserve and First. Right now, Reserve is at 3-1, and First is 2-2. Both teams are playing well.

We want to congratulate Al and Charlene Moss on the birth of their new son, Xavier, this past June. Al may be gone, but he is not forgotten.

– Kevin Hooley

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## Feiseanna Milwaukee

Milwaukee will be the host for a number of feis. The Badger State Feis will take place on July 16 at the Pettit National Ice Center, 500 South 84th St. The website is [<http://www.badgerstatefeis.com>].

The next day the Cream City Feis takes place at the Pettit. The website is [<http://thecreamcityfeis.com/default.aspx>], and benefits the Kinsella Academy.

The 22nd Annual Milwaukee Feis 2011 takes place at the UW Milwaukee Union on Saturday, August 13. The website is [<http://www.milwaukeefeis.com/>].

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## Color Guard News and Notes

Hello Everyone;

Summer is in full swing for the band. Not that the Wisconsin weather is cooperative, but we're well on our way through our marching season already having three parades under our belt!

There is plenty of time to come out and support the band. July 4th we'll be marching in not one, but two parades, Oak Creek in the morning and New Berlin in the afternoon. Later in the month we have South Milwaukee Heritage Days on the 23rd and Random Lake on the 31st. There will also be musicians in attendance to support Riverwest's 24 Hour Bike Race that is becoming a world class event, as well as some pipers playing with the Racine area *AC/DC* cover band for a few dates *and* a few pipers supporting *AC/DC* cover band *Billy Bon Scott* for their July 6 4:30 p.m. appearance at *Summerfest!!* Busy summer indeed! Watch the website [[www.sccgpd.com](http://www.sccgpd.com)] for the most up to date information.

Speaking of busy, we have lots of graduates in the band this year. *Congratulations* to Dave Culver, Nathan Cobb and Kari Quinlan who have graduated from high school and are on their way to bright futures. A huge congrats goes out to piper Sean Cavanaugh, who graduated from Marquette University. Way to go Sean...not only handsome, but smart to boot!

Also, congratulations go out to two new pipers who played in their first parades, Liam and Nevin. Your hard work paid off, guys. Welcome to the pipeline! Soon we'll have Kathy and Laura going down the street as pipers as well. I personally can't wait to have more ladies on the team!! Also, welcome Laura Gronek to the Color Guard, she has a few parades under her feet as well!

Back in June, Matt Waters had the honor to attend the Milwaukee School of Pipes, rubbing shoulders with the best of the piping and drumming world such as Bruce Gandy, Alex Gandy, Ken Eller, Andrew Elliott, Andrew Hoinacki, Kevin Arnold, Adrian Melvin and the ever exuberant Canadian drummer John Fischer. I had the honor of meeting *Lyric* for the first time after the Thursday night concert, and catch a bite to eat and a bit of conversation with Bruce Gandy, who seriously folks, is the nicest man I have ever met. He's won World Class piping awards too numerous to list, and has started his own foundation in support of continuing the piping tradition in the younger generation. I wish the event was more than once a year. Mark it on your calendars for next year!

Also, a few of our members competed for the first time in the Milwaukee Highland Games under Grade IV and Grade V bands. You'll see more of us in the fall at the Wisconsin Highland Games competing too. Can't wait! As July approaches, the band continues to co-practice with Celtic Nations and Greater Milwaukee Fire and Police bands at their new practice location in Wauwatosa. We'll be readying the combined performances at Irish Fest during the month as well as getting our own show ready for that glorious weekend.

As always, it is never too late to be a part of the fun this summer.

We are always looking for Color Guard Members, banner and water carriers, and can provide lessons to get you started in piping and drumming. So until August my friends, have a margarita for me and be sure to use your sunscreen!

– Noel Tylla, 8th year piper

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## **President Obama Visits Ireland**

On May 23, President Barak Obama visited his family's home village in Moneygall, Co. Offaly during a whirlwind trip to Ireland. He stopped in Hayes Public House for a pint of Guinness.

He was greeted at the Dublin Airport by Tainaiste Eamon Gilmore and US Ambassador to Ireland Dan Rooney. He then met with President Mary McAleese at Áras an Uachtaráin. He addressed a crowd at College Green of about 25,000, planted a tree, and was given an introduction by Taoiseach Enda Kelly worthy of a pep rally. His presidential limousine also got stuck on a parking ramp.

His trip to Ireland was cut short, due to an Icelandic volcano.

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## **Queen Elizabeth Visits Ireland**

On May 17, 2011, Queen Elizabeth 2 arrived in Ireland for a State visit. She started at the Áras an Uachtaráin, the presidential house in Dublin, for a ceremonial Welcome, meeting with the President and Dr. McAleese and participated in a tree planting ceremony. She then visited the Garden of Remembrance, for the Irish patriots, with a wreath laying ceremony. Other visits included The Book of Kells at Trinity, the Guinness Brewery, and Croke Park, to meet with the Gaelic Athletic Association, the Rock of Cashel, and the National Stud in Co. Kildare. The Queen also addressed the Dail in the Irish language. She flew home on May 20 from Cork.

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## Donate to the Shamrock Club

The Shamrock Club is a 501(C) (3) corporation. If you donate to us, you can write this off on your taxes. Donate to our Scholarship fund, our general fund, or to the parade. Thank you!

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## Members' Doings

Bobby Glowinski, son of Kris Pluskota, recently married Tracy O'Brien at St. Peter and Paul's parish. Bobby is rising up the ranks of the Las Vegas Police Department.

Cynthia Nazario recently traveled to Boston and New York. James and Emily Hosty recently spent a week in Kansas City, enjoying their grandchildren. Michael Tinker Tierney recently toured Europe with his band *Beatallica*.

Graduations abound: Liam O'Neill graduated from Woodland School and will attend Rufus King in the fall. Nathan Cobb, Dave Culver and Kari Quinlan all graduated from high school. Sean Cavanaugh walked across the stage in May for his Marquette University diploma.

Bob and Peg Hamill have two new grandchildren, Anna Marie Zeidler, daughter of Colleen and John Zeidler, and Colton Hamill, son of Sean and Cassie. Son Bobby graduated from UW Eau Claire, and now works in Washington for Congressman Sean Duffy.

Colleen Jaskulski has been elected President of her Student Senate at Whitnall High School. She was also elected as Vice President of the National Honor Society. Her parents are Bill and Bridget Jaskulski, and they are proud to announce the graduation from 8th grade for Nathan. Nathan graduates from St. Mary's in Hales Corners, and will attend Whitnall High.

Stephen Smith graduates from 8th grade at Herbert Hoover Middle School, and will attend Archbishop Riordan High School. Stephen is the son of Tom and Kathleen Smith of San Francisco.

Al and Charlene Moss introduced son Xavier to the world in June.

If you have done anything you want us to know about, send it to [Membersdoings @shamrockclubwis.com].

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## **Sunshine Club**

Ray and Muriel Crowley are both in rehabilitation care in Oconomowoc. Please keep them in your thoughts.

The mother and mother in-law of Tom and Barb Tibbals, Marjorie Tibbals, died recently. Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers.

Bob Harrold is at Season Hospice, Inpatient Unit at Merrill Hills, 3217 Fiddlers Creek, Waukesha, WI 53188. Notes are being accepted.

If you have any news for the Sunshine Club, please call me at (414) 344-0688. I have a new email address. Please note: [slainte4142-shamrock@yahoo.com].

– **Maggie Blaha**

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