

Irish History Round Table



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SEPTEMBER 2012

Autumn delights

October 16

Robert Smart, English professor
Quinnipiac University
Bram Stoker's novel
The Snake's Pass

November 13 *

Musicians Rick Spencer & the Kellys
Forging a national identity:
Music of Irish America
* Note: 2nd Tuesday *

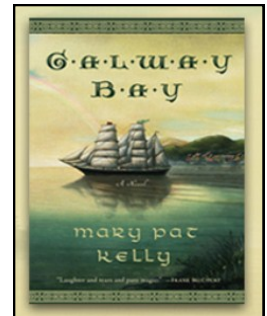
December 18

Annual Christmas dinner party
Good cheer, food and drink
plus our famous Irish trivia quiz

Epic of a voyage from Galway Bay

"The ship moved farther out into the Atlantic. Behind me the blue waters of Galway Bay disappeared into the gray sea. I've seen you every day of my life, Galway Bay ... But I will never see you again. Not in this life. Perhaps in the life hereafter. Please God."

Why in the world would two Irishwomen with eight children in tow flee such an idyllic birthplace for an unknown future in the bold, swaggering and smelly boom town of Chicago? Mary Pat Kelly who makes that narrative unfold with great tenderness and painstaking attention to detail in her novel *Galway Bay* will explain the why and the how at our September meeting. Another Irish-American novelist, Mary Gordon, is right when she says that Kelly's work, "combines two great traditional Irish gifts — the gift of hypnotic storytelling, and the gift of rich, poetic language," and that "it enables us to see the Irish-American experience in a way we would never have imagined."



Tuesday, Sept. 18
7:30 p.m.

Sept. 14 seisun at O'Toole's for hunger aid

On Sept. 14, an evening of Irish music and cordiality at O'Toole's Pub on Orange Street in New Haven will recall the tragedy of Ireland's Great Hunger and provide an opportunity to address modern-day hunger close to home. Beginning at 5 p.m., the program will feature music by all-Ireland accordionist Damien Connolly and friends, raffles, buffet and drink specials with a \$15 donation. A brief presentation by New Haven Soup Kitchen director David O'Sullivan and Irish History Round Table president Neil Hogan will recall the Irish famine and the continuing need to reach out to the hungry. The event is part of a month's campaign at 25 local venues to raise funds for the Soup Kitchen. For further information, call Michael McCann, 203 751-2898.

Nov. 4 Christ Church cemetery program

State archaeologist Dr. Nick Bellantoni will lead a program at the New Haven Museum on Nov. 4 about the discovery of human remains at the site of New Haven's earliest Catholic church. The remains were found in July 2011 during construction at Yale New Haven Hospital. In the 1830s-40s, the church and its cemetery occupied that site, the parishioners mostly Irish immigrants. Bellantoni said, "Archaeology and forensic science are revealing aspects about the hard and stressful lives of these individuals and leading to important insights into the 19th century immigrant experience in New Haven." He and his team will describe the science behind efforts to identify the four individuals whose remains were found. The program is free and open to the public from 2 to 4 p.m.

Irish History Round Table
P.O. Box 185604
Hamden, CT 06518

Meeting #498 — Tuesday, September 18, 2012

Journey as a writer: Galway Bay

Presenter: Author Mary Pat Kelly

Knights of St. Patrick — 1533 State St.— New Haven

7:30 p.m. — Free and open to the public

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www.irishhistoryroundtable.org — (203) 269-9154

RADIO

- ◆ Thursday — 6-8 pm, WNHU, 88.7 FM — “Music of Ireland” — Tom Faherty with Kenny live from Ireland — Rebroadcast following Thursday, noon-2 pm.
- ◆ Sunday — 9-11 am — WQUN, 1220 AM — “Sounds of Ireland” — Sean & Brendan Canning.
- ◆ Sunday— 12-2 pm & Monday — 6-8 p.m. — WNHU, 88.7 FM — Echoes of Erin— Joan & Pat Kennedy, Siobhan Dacey & Pat Hosey.

WEBSITES

- ◆ CT Irish-American Historical Society — www.ctiahs.com
- ◆ New Haven Irish-American Community Center — www.iacc-ct.com
- ◆ Milford Irish in Connecticut — www.milfordirish.org
- ◆ AOH Fr. McKeon Division 7, New Haven — www.nhoah.com
- ◆ 9th Connecticut Volunteers — www.jimlarkin.com/9thregimenthome/http