

# The Shamrock



O hEidirsceoil Clan E-Bulletin

February 2009

Edition 1

## Mora na maidine dhuit - From The Chieftain

Top of the morning to you! (in case you can't read the Irish headline)

I hope you enjoy this first of what we are planning to be a regular newsletter to the O'Driscoll/Driscoll clan and family relations around the world. Thanks go to Matt O'Driscoll from England for proposing the idea at the 2008 Clan Gathering, and a big "Thank You!" and "Well Done!" to Natalie O'Driscoll, Australia, for bringing the idea from concept to reality. Natalie is Editor and Publisher at this time.

As I'm sure you all understand, this is a volunteer endeavour, and we must rely on goodwill and time and energy from our family members to make this happen. It is important that we get support from everyone, in the form of articles, letters, pictures...in fact anything you believe would be of interest to the larger group. If we are lucky enough to receive so much information that the size of the publication gets unwieldy, well we'll deal with that when it happens. I think most of us recognize that electronic articles can get too big to transmit properly, especially with a great number of pictures or graphics included.

The other important thing, now that we have gotten off the ground is to decide what belongs in the newsletter as ongoing items, and I'm thinking of website addresses for families, perhaps related to genealogy or family gatherings; maybe a profile of an O'Driscoll/Driscoll written and submitted by a family member; and I'm sure there are other subjects. Perhaps we could even talk Eamon Lankford into submitting a regular short historical article on the family and the Baltimore area. I don't know.

What I do know is that the ideas need to come from all of us. I also know that if the newsletter is to succeed, Natalie will need assistance, as she has work and college and her own life to live. As I explained earlier, we do need to make this a true family responsibility.

If you receive this newsletter it is because you originally got my Christmas greeting, based on distribution lists I had set up with the approval of clan members who had been in contact over the years with people like Dave Driscoll, Marion Bushe, Neil O'Driscoll, John

O'Driscoll, or had attended Clan Gatherings. Again, I suggest you forward our newsletter to others you think will be interested. They can e-mail Natalie, or Marilyn and me, and be added to the distribution. We don't want to upset anyone by sending unsolicited e-mails.

Enough from me. Enjoy the newsletter, cousins, and we hope to see you in Baltimore June 25-28, for the Gathering.

**Bruce Driscoll**

**Clan Chieftain**



*Do you know any Irish News? Have you seen any great (or bad) Irish Films, read any Irish books, or listened to any Irish music that you would like to tell us about? Being attuned to the culture of Ireland is a great way to keep in touch with our familial roots. Please feel free to tell us what you think about all things Irish!*

"Live register figures show that unemployment in Mallow stood at 957 in Jan 08 while this Jan it was 1,908"



## 400 Job Losses in North Cork Due to Dell Closure

THE impending closure of computer giant Dell will mean that 400 jobs will be lost in North Cork.

Figures released by Enterprise Ireland this week revealed that the closure of the multinational computer business at Limerick will hugely increase unemployment for North Cork. It is expected that by this November the majority of the 1,900 Dell employees at the Limerick plant will be redundant. The roll-out of redundancies will start to take effect this May.

Regional Manager at Enterprise Ireland Martin Doyle attended a special meeting at Annabella in Mallow last Monday. At the meeting he revealed the massive impact that Dell's closure will have on the North Cork region.

County councillors from throughout North Cork attended the presentation by Mr Doyle, who outlined the importance of promoting the establishment of new businesses in the area.

Enterprise Ireland plans to hold a seminar in Charleville this March. The seminar will offer advice for people interested in setting up new businesses. Mr Doyle indicated that Charleville was chosen as the

first area for this seminar due to the high levels of job losses resulting from Dell's closure.

Speaking to The Corkman, county Cllr Michael Donegan estimated that the closure of Dell will see the greatest level of job losses for Charleville in a decade. According to Mr Donegan, the closure of Dell for Charleville could be compared to an estimated 100 redundancies at Golden Vale in the town ten years ago.

"I know a lot of people who have families living in Milford and Newtownshandrum that were reliant on Dell. Out of the 400 people who will lose their jobs around North Cork, it is hoped that some will start new businesses, and the seminar in March might help them," said Cllr Donegan

At the Enterprise Ireland presentation last Monday, Cllr Tom Sheahan expressed serious concern about the level of unemployment in Mallow. He pointed out that while Charleville is suffering job losses, Mallow should be viewed as a priority.

Cllr Sheahan pointed out that in the past few years thousands of jobs have been lost in Mallow. Redundancies

at Dairygold, the closure of Nestle and the sugar factory were given as the main causes of Mallow's jobs losses. Cllr Sheahan added that falling car sales will soon result in a significant amount of redundancies at Kostal, Mallow's only major employer.

Noting that the presentation did not mention Duhallow, Cllr Noel Buckley pointed out that Duhallow is seen as a 'unemployment' blackspot.

Mr Doyle called for the community to become involved in setting up new businesses around North Cork.

He explained that an Enterprise Ireland building can be set up in an area if the council donate land. The community then provide 5% of the cost while Enterprise Ireland will supply the balance required.

Live register figures show that unemployment in Mallow stood at 957 in January 2008 while this January it was 1,908.

Figures for Newmarket stood at 624 in January 2008, while this January they stood at 1,209.

- LOUISE MCCARTHY  
Corkman

## O'Driscoll Office Interiors

New firm dedicated to green office interiors and creating inviting work spaces that help define company identities.

Denise O'Driscoll, founder of O'Driscoll and Sons, Inc., announces the opening of her new firm, O'Driscoll Office Interiors, in the business of the design, sale and placement of furnishings for the workplace. With more than 20 years of experience in the designing and furnishing of offices for companies and government agencies throughout Southern California, Denise's taste, style, knowledge of workplace ergonomics and commitment to the environment make her a leading expert in the field.

"I love helping people by solving their workplace challenges and finding solutions that work for their budget, time frames and taste," says Denise O'Driscoll.

Denise's belief in saving the environment has led her to work with a number of companies, including Modular Office Solutions, a furniture company founded on the principle that it is wiser to refurbish and reuse, rather than always make new purchases. The company utilizes state of the art powder paint, free of VOC emissions, as well as bio-based fabrics and laminate that are Green-guard certified.

"I also believe in providing recycled furnishings that are re-

covered or manufactured within 500 miles of the jobsite wherever possible," says O'Driscoll.

Denise's business acumen and code of ethics also make her a leader. She is the past president of the International Facility Managers Association. Former as well as current clients include Toyota Research (Goleta), Business First Bank (Santa Barbara), Vandenberg Air Force Base, Wyatt technology, Bermant Development, Infogenesis, the City of Santa Barbara, Environmental group office, Citysearch and even Match.com.

Chamber of Commerce newspaper in Oxnard



"I love helping people by solving their workplace challenges and finding solutions that work..."



## American Driscoll Reunion

The descendants of Charles and Ellen Driscoll celebrated the 30th Anniversary of their Family Reunion on July 11 to July 13, 2008. Over 75 family members attended the festivities.

The events were kicked off with the first "Driscoll Golf Outing" held at Butler's Golf Course. That evening over 45 members of the family gathered at the Boston Waterfront Restaurant for the traditional "Friday Nite Out". On Saturday the Reunion

Picnic was held at the Forward Township VFC Picnic Grove. The Greeting was given by Paul Driscoll of Goodyear, Ariz. A moment of remembrance was given by Ray Driscoll of Forward Township. The blessing before lunch was lead by Helen Driscoll Stewart of Orlando, Flo.

The picnic activities included entertainment by: Bill Horner the magician, a Chi-

nese Auction and a variety of games including sackraces, balloon toss, horseshoes, and tug-of-war. Pictures, family history and a "Driscoll Family Recipe Book" added to the festivities.

The oldest attending was Paul Driscoll, 87. The youngest was Natalie Driscoll who is 13 months of age. Paul Driscoll also travelled the farthest from Goodyear, Ariz. The three days of activities

concluded on Sunday with brunch at R Place Restaurant and a visit to the family sites at St. Patrick's Cemetery in Alpsville and the former Driscoll home in Coulter. Family traveled from Arizona, Florida, Virginia, Tennessee, Texas. Illinois and the four corners of Pennsylvania to attend. The next Driscoll Family Reunion will be held in July 2010.

The McKeesport Daily News

## The Driscoll DNA Project



The Driscoll DNA project of the Clan O'Driscoll in Baltimore, county Cork, is registered with The Clans of Ireland Ltd. The project was founded in 2004 and there are now 45 different Driscoll men who have had the DNA. The Y chromosome is analyzed since this passed from father to son along with the surname. Their DNA will now be referred to as yDNA. The main purpose of the project is to serve as a genealogical tool. Men whose yDNA matches closely have a common genealogy even if they lack the records to show how.

Consider Edward J Driscoll's whose ancestor John Driscoll immigrated from Bandon, Cork in the spring of 1850 and landed in New York with a cousin. John and his cousin were separated and never found each other thereafter.

Trying to find a John Driscoll in Irish records of the right age who could have immigrated from Bandon results in too many possibilities and more information is needed to narrow down the search.

When Sharon Martin joined the project it turned out the yDNA of her donor William P Driscoll matched Edward J Driscoll at 65 of 67 markers. It is quite possible that Sharon's ancestor Patrick Driscoll born about 1831 in Skeaf of the Clogough Parish in county Cork is the cousin mentioned above. Edward and Sharon are now collaborating with one another and Edward has a clue that his ancestor may have originated in Clogough Parish.

Another purpose of the project is to critically examine the recorded history of the O'Driscoll. The forbear of the O'Driscoll is said to be hEidirsceoil, born about 910 A.D., a descendant of the Corca Laoighdhe clan. Heretofore it has been assumed that everyone named Driscoll shared a common ancestor in hEidirsceoil and implicitly the same yDNA. We now know that not all Driscoll have the

same yDNA since there are several different genetic branches to the O'Driscoll family tree and only one of them can be that of hEidirsceoil.

Nevertheless some of the O'Driscoll who do not carry the yDNA of hEidirsceoil may still be among his descendants. To illustrate how consider the problem posed by Éamon Lankford in his book *O Driscolls Past and Present*. Therein he writes "a central and tantalizing mystery for present day O Driscolls is who should be considered 'The O Driscoll', the hereditary chieftain of the clan." Even if the genetic signature of hEidirsceoil is identified it does not solve the mystery since the chief's hereditary yDNA line can vary in time. One way this happens is when there is no son to take the chief's place and instead the heir is an unrelated son-in-law who changes his name to O'Driscoll. The grandson of such a chief would then be his descendant by way of his daughter but would not carry the chief's yDNA.

We are close to identifying the genetic signature of hEidirsceoil by comparing Driscoll

yDNA with that of other clans also descended from the Corca Laoighdhe such as the O Cobhthaigh (O'Coffey), O Laoghaire (O'Leary) and the Muintir Oh Illigh (Hill). In the early 1600's many of the O'Driscoll fled to Spain and we would like to test the yDNA of their male line descendants to provide more data.

The DNA project website is located at <http://tinyurl.com/Driscoll-Cork/DNA.htm> and there you will find more information and instructions on how to join.

Colin Ferguson



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Welcome to the first edition of The Shamrock, an E-Bulletin for members of the Driscoll / O'Driscoll Clan We welcome ALL your feedback. Help us make your newsletter the best it can be!

Thank you to everyone who submitted information for this edition: Denise O'Driscoll, Denise and Gary Pavel, Colin Ferguson, Neil O'Driscoll, Bruce Driscoll and Tom Bushe. If you have any photos or articles of interest, please email them to me anytime.



## WEBSITES OF INTEREST TO THE CLAN:

[www.odriscolls.me.uk](http://www.odriscolls.me.uk)

[web.netcall.com.au/~wjod/DOA/default.php](http://web.netcall.com.au/~wjod/DOA/default.php)

[www.baltimore-ireland.com/](http://www.baltimore-ireland.com/)

[www.odriscoll.ie](http://www.odriscoll.ie)

*Do you know of any others?*

[www.odriscoll-canada.com/](http://www.odriscoll-canada.com/)

### Family News



#### A BIG CONGRATULATIONS...

...to Tom and Deidre Bush. Visitors to the Baltimore Clan Gathering know Tom as the eldest son of Richard and Eileen (nee O'Driscoll) Bushe, from Bushe's Pub, the scene of many festive evenings at the reunion. Tom has dealt with enough "happy" Driscolls and O'Driscolls to last a lifetime, I'm sure! Their newest baby, Mary Elizabeth, was born on 2nd October weighing 9 lbs 11oz. Their eldest son pulling a funny face is Harry, the older daughter is Alice.

*Do you have a new bundle of joy in your family? Pictures from a wedding? Remember, we're all family, and a joy shared is a joy doubled! Please send any pics / news to natalieo78@hotmail.com.*

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