



# Shamrock Club Sacramento

February 2015  
Volume 3, Issue 1

## Happy New Year—2015

### February Meeting

The **Next Meeting** will be held:

**February 11th**

at 7 PM

**2500 Marconi Ave**

### FIRST TUESDAY LUNCH

**Feb. 3**

**First Tuesday Lunch**

**11:30 - 1:00 PM**

**The Old Spaghetti**

**Factory**

**1910 J Street,**

**Sacramento**

**President—** Bill O'Connor

**VP—** C.J. Kennedy

**2nd VP** Dwayne Slavin

**Treasurer—** Dawn Wise

**Membership—** Sandy Welsh

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### New Years Event

The Shamrock Club had a fabulous turnout at our annual Irish New Years party at **Brownie's Lounge** on New Years Eve. There was plenty of food, drink, music and dancing. Who could ask for more.

Corned Beef with all the fixings and Sparkling Wine were supplied by **Brownie's**.

Music was supplied by many musicians including Bob Waller, Linda Easton and James Wilson (Formerly Stout Rebellion). Piping in the New Year was courtesy of Chuck Jamison. Followed by "Auld Lang Syne" sung by all those present.

Dancing (at least the formal dancing) was supplied by Nicole McKeever and members of the McKeever School of Irish Dance as well as one of our host, Jessica Bach and her dance team.

All in all it looked like everyone had a great time! Thank all of you who attended.



### SAINT PATRICK'S PARADE

Everything is in motion for the upcoming St. Patrick's parade on Saturday, March 15th in Old Sacramento

Please put it on your calendar and plan to attend. We will once again have our "Float", the Grand Marshal and our marching groups. This is a great event so please invite all your Irish friends to come down to Old Sacramento and cheer us on.

As usual we plan to retire following the parade to the Delta King for an after parade meal. Please plan to join us and make it a day!!

# Ireland Tour



of the most famous religious centers in Ireland. One of its most famous abbots was St Laurence O'Toole who became Archbishop of Dublin in 1163 and was the first canonized Irish saint. Glendalough contains the remains of at least seven churches, a Round Tower, a High Cross and many other structures. The Monastery was partly destroyed by English Troops in 1398.

A short distance to the west of the Visitor's Center the main body of the site may be entered through the remains of the Gateway. This is the only surviving example in Ireland. It is a square building with round arches in the north and south walls and was originally two story.

Linda O'Connor has planned a trip to Ireland for the Shamrock Club, from **September 30th to October 7th**. This is Fantastic opportunity to everyone to see many of the most visited sights in Ireland. (please see page 3 and 4 for further information).

If this interest you please get your deposit in early—it saves you money as well as guaranteeing your spot. We will open this up to other Celtic clubs and others in the area space permitting.

## SAINT KEVIN??

One of the locations mentioned on the trip is a visit to St. Kevin's 6th century monastery in the Glendalough. The monastery at Glendalough, County Wicklow, was founded by St Kevin in the 6th century. St. Kevin died in 618. It was one



The Round Tower at Glendalough

# 2015 GROUP TOUR TO IRELAND: SEPT 30-OCT 7



Join us on an Irish adventure Coach trip from Dublin to Belfast via Waterford, Killarney and Galway.

This 8 day 7 night trip hosted by CIE tours will begin in Dublin, travel to Waterford and Cobh

Killarney and Galway on the way to Derry and Belfast.

A **\$250** deposit, per person by **3/1/2015**, holds your spot, guarantees the price and reduces the tour cost by **5%** per booking. balance is due 70 days prior to departure. Cost of this tour is **\$1518** per person based on double occupancy

There is a \$438 supplement for singles.

Currently air fare is running at less than \$900 per/person Round Trip from San Francisco to Dublin during that time period.

Tour includes:

## Day 1: Dublin Tour & Book of Kells

Your Irish trip starts at 2:00 pm when you meet your guide at your Dublin hotel and set out on an introductory tour of central Dublin. See elegant Georgian squares with brightly-painted doors, O'Connell Street and evocative statues at the Famine Memorial. Take a guided walking tour through the campus of Trinity College to view the illuminated manuscript of the Book of Kells. In the evening meet your tour director over a welcome drink to discuss your trip and dine independently.

## Day 2: 6th Century Glendalough & Dunbrody Famine Ship

This morning travel through the delightful scenery of the Wicklow Mountains on the way to Glendalough. Learn about St. Kevin's 6th century monastery in the Glendalough Visitor Centre and walk through the deep valley to view the picturesque ruins of a round tower, churches and Celtic crosses. Continue south to New Ross to walk around the Dunbrody Famine Ship, a reconstructed 19th century vessel showing the harsh sailing conditions for emigrants on the way to the New World. Drive to your hotel in Waterford and, after dinner, take a gentle stroll around the narrow streets of the historic city with a local guide.

**(B, D)**

## Day 3: Waterford Crystal & Blarney Castle

Visit the House of Waterford Crystal to view glass blowing and watch the creation of one-of-a-kind trophies. Travel via Dungarvan to Cobh, the last port of call of the Titanic. A walking tour will reveal many of the places that still remain over a century since travelers embarked on that fateful voyage. Head to nearby Blarney to kiss the "Stone of Eloquence" located in the ramparts of Blarney Castle. You will also have time to shop for Irish products at the Blarney Woollen Mills. Journey west through rugged countryside and settle in to your centrally-located hotel in Killarney.

**(B, D)**

#### **Day 4: Ring of Kerry Drive & Sheepdog Trials**

Enjoy the highlights of Ireland's natural scenery on the Ring of Kerry route. The road winds between the Macgillicuddy's Reeks Mountains on one side and the Atlantic coastline on the other. Watch a shepherd and his skilled dogs round up sheep. Drive through Killorglin and Cahirciveen to cross the bridge to Valentia Island. Visit the Skellig Experience, which shows how hermits lived on the nearby rocky islands and about the prolific bird life there today. Enjoy a casual lunch and stop in the pretty village of Sneem. Pause at Moll's Gap for panoramic mountain views before returning to Killarney.

**(B, L)**

#### **Day 5: Cliffs of Moher & Galway Drive-around**

Travel north from Killarney and take a ferry ride across the River Shannon Estuary and continue along the coast of County Clare. View the Cliffs of Moher rising to heights of almost 700 feet above the wild Atlantic swells and walk to O'Brien's Tower for the best views of Galway Bay and the Aran Islands. Drive through the rounded sandstone hills of the Burren and around Galway Bay. Take a brief drive around central Galway before checking in to your hotel.

**(B, D)**

#### **Day 6: Yeats' Grave & Derry Walk**

Head north to the pilgrimage town of Knock, one of the world's leading shrines. See the church where villagers saw a vision of the Virgin Mary in 1879. Travel through County Sligo and view the grave of one of Ireland's Nobel Prize-winning writers, W. B. Yeats. Follow the shoreline of Donegal Bay to Donegal town and past the lovely Blue Stack Mountains to Derry. On arrival in Derry meet a local guide to learn about the development of the city, which retains its medieval fortification walls dating from 1613. Drive around the main areas and walk along the historic walls.

**(B, D)**

#### **Day 7: Giant's Causeway & Glyde Inn Dinner/Show**

Today explore the northern coastline, stopping for photos at the sprawling ruins of Dunluce Castle. Visit the Giant's Causeway, enormous hexagonal columns formed by volcanic activity over 60 million years ago. The huge rocks have given rise to many stories about Finn McCool, a legendary giant. Drive to Belfast to visit Titanic Belfast and learn about RMS Titanic through state-of-the-art displays. See the docks where this famous liner was built just over a century ago. Stop just south of Dundalk at the Glyde Inn for a farewell dinner with Irish specialties and entertaining traditional Irish songs and music. This cozy tavern dates back to 1770. Continue south to check in to your hotel in Dublin.

**(B, D)**

Day 8: Tour Ends

Your program ends after breakfast.

**(B)**

B: Breakfast; L: Lunch; D: Dinner

Also.... \$179 per person buys insurance on this trip which allows cancellation for any reason up to 3 days prior to travel.

If you are interested please

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