

Teach Tábhairne fógra

Pub Notice

Eanáir 2011 JANUARY



ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS

Michael Collins, Division 1, Denver CO



You're Invited!

Come join others at the First Annual Irish New Years Eve Party from **3-7 PM on the 31st of December.**

The festivities are being held at the **Celtic Tavern/Delaney's Bar** located at **1801 Blake Street** in downtown Denver.

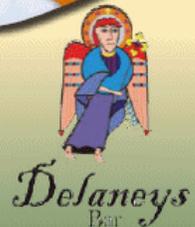
The cost is \$10/person if you are not eating the Irish buffet (which includes a drink ticket), or \$25/person if you are eating the Irish buffet (again including a drink ticket). A portion of the proceeds are going to a good cause, the Samaritan House, which feeds and clothes the homeless.

Denver is exactly 7 hours behind Dublin so when the clock strikes midnight in Ireland's capital city, it will be **5 PM in Denver.** Jameson Whiskey is a co-sponsor and will be providing a whiskey toast at exactly 5 PM for those present.

The Celtic Tavern will have its TVs tuned into Dublin so you will also get to see the festivities taking place there. This event is being sponsored by the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Michael Collins Div. 1 in Denver, the Celtic Tavern / Delaney's and Jameson Whiskey.

Happy New Year!

Be the First to Salute the IRISH New Year! 2011



The Celtic Tavern :: 1801 Blake Street - Denver
303-795-0709 :: <http://www.celtictavern.com>

Celebrate the Irish New Year's Eve

- Irish Session Players LIVE with a medley of Irish music to set the mood
- A Special Irish Menu prepared specially for the event
- Countdown to New Year's leading to Jameson Toast at 5 p.m.
- Bagpipe New Year's salute and Auld Lang Syne
- Collections to benefit the Catholic Charities of Denver Samaritan House
- For more information, visit <http://www.milehibernians.com>

3:00 to 7:00
with Irish New Years at 5:00

JAMESON
IRISH WHISKEY

IT COULD JUST BE THE TASTE.™

PLEASE ENJOY RESPONSIBLY.
©2010 Jameson Whiskey, LLC. All rights reserved. Product of Ireland. 40% Alc/Vol (80 Proof). Imported by John Jameson Import Company, Purchase, NY 10577.



Δηβηλιαν φαοι Μηαισε Ουιτ

"You Have A Prosperous New Year"

Hogmanay - New Year's Eve in Scotland

The customs at Hogmanay vary considerably around Scotland. The origins of celebrating some say date back to the Scottish Gaels and the Danish Vikings of Denmark. The Scottish Gaels celebrated Samhain and the Danes celebrated Yuletide. Somehow these combined into the modern celebration of Hogmanay which is itself unclear as to its meaning. It may be a custom passed on from the Viking Danes.

First-Footing at Hogmanay

This is the most widespread custom which involves "tall dark haired men" crossing the threshold of your home bringing gifts to neighbors and friends. The gifts can be coal, shortbread, whiskey, or black bun fruit cake - all intended to bring good luck to the owner of the house. This can go on to the wee hours of the morning and in some cases for weeks. The preference was for tall dark haired men as opposed to tall blond fair headed men who could portend danger (*see Danes & Norse Vikings pgs. 3,5*).

Parents exchange gifts with their children on this day. And of course there is the singing of the Robert Burns version of *Auld Lang Syne*...

*"Should auld acquaintance be forgot and never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot and auld lang syne
For auld lang syne, my dear, for auld lang syne,
We'll take a cup ó kindness yet, for auld lang syne"*

Keep SAINT PÁDRAIG in ST. PATRICK'S DAY



The international campaign to *Keep Saint Pádraig in St. Patrick's Day* has been well accepted over the past year. In many cities worldwide, St. Patrick has returned to prominence on his day.

The story of his life and his **gift to Ireland and western civilization** have been told to younger generations for the first time, and remembered by older generations from the stories once told to them.

As we stand now just two months before March 17th (the anniversary of his passing), it is time to tell Saint Pádraig's story once again.

Please take a moment and visit the **OFFICIAL** campaign website, and the Saint Patrick's Centre in Co. Down website for more info:

<http://clanhannon.com/stpatrick/campaign.htm> | <http://www.saintpatrickcentre.com/>

NUAcht na hÉireann



Linn Duachaill - Viking Longphort, Co. Louth, alongside the River Glyde

When the Norse Vikings of Norway first arrived in Ireland in 795 A.D., they set up two outposts that would act as their ship repair “longphorts” and defense fortresses. The first was **Linn Dúbb (Dublin)** and the other was **Linn Duachaill**. Seventy kilometers (43 miles) north of modern day Dublin the citizens of nearby *Annagassan* on the south shore of Dundalk Bay which faces the Irish Sea, had long believed a Viking longphort had once been nearby. But for the past **200 years** others had tried locating it ... but with no success. Later other Norse longphorts would be set up and they would all become major Irish cities (Wexford, Waterford, Cork and Limerick). So why then was Linn Duachaill forgotten?

Linn Duachaill was first mentioned in the **Annals of the Four Masters** and the **Annals of Ulster**. It clearly did exist at one time so what then was its history? The Irish tribes had names for the **Norse (finn-gaill** meaning “fair-haired foreigners”), and the **Danish Vikings (dubh-gaill** meaning “dark-haired foreigners”) that would follow them 54 years later. In 849 A.D., the Danes arrived to battle the Norse.

Annals of Ulster - 849 A.D.

(Irish) Muirfhecht long di muinntir rígh Gall du thiachtain du tabairt greamma forsna Gaillu ro badur ara ciunn co commascat h-Erinn n-uile iarum.

(English) A naval expedition of seven score ships of adherents of the king of the foreigners (Danes) came to exact obedience from the foreigners who were in Ireland before them (Norse), and afterwards they caused confusion in the whole country.

Annals of the Four Masters - 849 A.D.

(Irish) Dubhghoill do techt do Átha Cliath (Dublin), co ro lasat ár mór for Fionnghallaibh, co ro indirset an longphort etir daoine & maoin.

(English) The Dubhgaill (Danes) arrived in Átha Cliath (Dublin), and made a great slaughter of the Finnegaill (Norse), and plundered the fortress, both people and property.

Annals of the Four Masters - 849 A.D.

(Irish) Slatt oile do Dubhgallaibh for Fionnghallaibh occ **Linn Duachaill**, & ro chuirset ár mór forra.

(English) Another depredation by the Dubhgaill (Danes) upon the Finnegaill (Norse), at **Linn Duachaill**, and they made a great slaughter of them.

Annals of Ulster - 851 A.D.

(Irish) Tetact Dubgennti du Átha Cliath co ralsat ár mór du Fhinngallaibh & coro shlatsat in longphort eitir doine & moine. Slat do Dubhgenntib oc **Linn Duachail** & ar mor diib.

(English) The dark heathens (Danes) came to Átha Cliath (Dublin), made a great slaughter of the fair-haired foreigners (Norse), and plundered the naval encampment, both people and property. The dark heathens made a raid at **Linn Duachaill**, and a great number of them (Norse) were slaughtered.

(continued Page 4)

NUAcht na hÉireann

(continued from Pg. 3)

It would appear that by **851 A.D., the Norse Vikings were defeated** by the Danish Vikings and forced back to safer locations both south and southwest in Limerick. This meant that the Danes now controlled Dublin and Linn Duachail in Co. Louth. Until the Battle of Clontarf in 1014 A.D., the Danes would have their way in Ireland.

When archaeologists discovered the location of Linn Duachail in September 2010, they found a longphort ship repair location along with a defense wall which gave Linn Duachail protection. The first anomaly was the rectangular shape of the defenses found by archaeologists using modern underground radar. These rectangular structures were the opposite of the circular ring forts built and inhabited by the local Irish Celts. This then gave hope that Linn Duachail might finally have been located.



Within the first three weeks, some 200 items had been found. Earlier a farmer had discovered “slave handcuffs” on the land (perhaps from an Irish monk ‘slave’ which the Danes were fond of selling). On the left, **Eamonn Kelly** of the *National Museum of Ireland & Keeper of Antiquities* holds in his hand a whorl for spinning thread and stated *“the significance of it (Linn Duachail) is immense. It will be up there with all the major Viking sites in Europe”*.

To protect themselves from the local Irish Celts the Vikings built an artificial island constructed out of the landscape and close to the Irish Sea for quick retreat in their ships. Also found was evidence of carpentry, a brooch pin, smelting and ship repair with ship rivets dotted throughout the site, as well as hacked silver Norse Viking coins (a ‘calling card’ of the Danish Vikings).

Peter Pentz, an archaeologist with the *National Museum of Denmark in Copenhagen* stated - *“In addition, it appears that the site is almost untouched by later activity, unlike those of Dublin (where) some longphorts developed into urban settlements and thus it might provide important knowledge of this particular type of settlement”*.

A lasting question posed by the experts was this ... why was it abandoned? The best answer to date is that unlike the other longphorts that became Irish cities, Linn Duachail was subject to 24 hour tidal fluctuations. Therefore it did not allow a quick ship retreat at all times from attacks.

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(Photos courtesy of Science Magazine)



Colorado Tartan Day



Join us for some fun and relaxation,
Colorado Tartan Day
is hosting an afternoon Highland Tea
served by Kilted Gentlemen.

Saturday January 22, 2011 at 2:30 pm
at TG Danzport, 8101 East Belleview Avenue,
Denver, CO. 80237 (Marina Square)

The tea features:

- Highland Dancing
- Piping
- Celtic Fashion Show
- Celtic Music by Wendy White
- Choice of Basic Tea or Premium Tea

*Online Pre-Paid Reservation only:
\$15 for the Basic Tea
\$20 for the Premium Tea.*



For more information and reservations visit:
<http://www.coloradotartanday.com/fundraiser.html>

Tartan Day Fundraiser

Colorado Tartan Day is part of the national campaign that honors ALL tartans be they Scottish, Irish, Austrian, Tocharian, etc.

If you have been keeping up over time with the various articles in this e-newsletter, you know that as the male Y-DNA haplogroup “R1b” migrated both east and west out of the Caspian Sea region, it brought with it tartan fabrics and patterns.

On April 9, 2011 in Olde Town Arvada once again Tartan Day will take place. But before April’s events can take place fundraising must also take place. Since Tartan Day activities are a self-sustaining event it is important that those of us who wear the Kilt, help support this event.

You can help by attending the upcoming Highland Tea fundraising event on **January 22nd at 2:30 PM**, 8101 E. Belleview Ave.

Visit their website: <http://www.coloradotartanday.com/events.html>

Did You Know?

Norse, Danish or Swedish Viking - is there a DNA difference?

After reading this months article about **Linn Duachail**, you might be wondering why all Vikings were not friendly with each other. They actually had different percentages of male Y-DNA groups as the graphic below shows. Over the centuries **Norway, Sweden and Denmark** have all tried to rule over the others and failed. After the last Great Ice Age, Haplogroup “I1” entered Europe first as a hunter-gatherer Mesolithic group. “I2” later was to split off from them. They were followed by smaller Neolithic farming Haplogroups that later arrived, before “R1a” and Celtic-Germanic “R1b” arrived in eastern Europe c.1,500 BC. The Danes would concentrate their Viking efforts in Britain, Ireland & Scotland; the Norse in Iceland, Greenland & North America (Newfoundland and Maine); the Swedes in Eurasia.

Country / Male Y-DNA Haplogroup %	I1	I2a	I2b	R1a	R1b	G2a	J2	J1	E1b1b	T	Q	N1c1
Denmark	30.5	0.5	5	12.5	44.5	1	3	0	2.5	0	0	1.5
Norway	36	0	1	28	28	0.5	1	0	1	0.5	0.5	4
Sweden	42	0	2	23.5	21	0.5	1	0	1	0	0.5	7
Ireland	7	2	4	3	79	1	1.5	0	2	0	0	0
Scotland	9	1	4	8.5	72.5	0.5	2	0	1.5	0.5	0.5	0

Teach Tábhairne FÓGRA

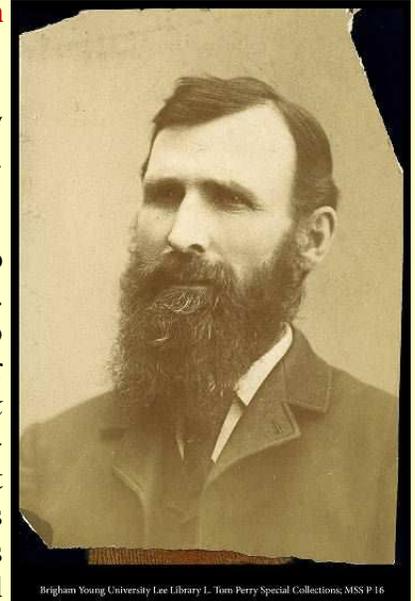
Pub Notice

Battle of Beecher Island
Wray, Colorado
Sept. 17-19, 1868

John 'Jack' Donovan's
Heroic Story

(Editor's Note: For fifteen years I researched and studied North American Indian tribes and their 18 major language family groups. To help the reader to better appreciate this story, I will share some of my knowledge of these Indian tribes in this article. - Ken Hannon Larson)

Ireland must have seemed like a lifetime ago to **John 'Jack' Donovan** and his fellow Irish scouts in **September 1868** (*Boyle, Burke, Haley, Harrington, Lane, Lydon, McCall, McGrath, McLaughlin, Murphy, O'Donnell and Reilly*). These Irish men along with others were hired by the Army in 1868 as civilian "scouts" to track down marauding Indians. They soon would find themselves involved in this intense battle.



Brigham Young University Lee Library L. Tom Perry Special Collections, MSS P 16

John 'Jack' Donovan
Photo taken in 1875

When gold was found in California it had to be transported back east to Washington DC. At first they tried shipping but much was lost at sea. Going overland meant travelling through hostile Indian country so Congress asked another Irishman named **Thomas Fitzpatrick** to gather the 5 tribes and have them sign a peace treaty. In 1851, the *Horse Creek Treaty* was signed at Fort Laramie, Wyoming. This treaty gave the stage-coaches (full of gold) the right to travel through Indian country, and it set the boundaries for each tribe's hunting parties. Fitzpatrick had done his job well, but Congress soon reneged on the annual payments to the tribes and settlers began encroaching on Indian lands. The 1851 treaty had given all the lands from the No. Platte River in Wyoming south to the Arkansas River in Colorado to the Arapaho and Cheyenne Indian tribes.

The Arapaho Indians (Algonkian language tribe) had come out onto the Great Plains in the late 1600s from the Great Lakes region. They pushed the Pawnee Indians (Caddoan language) out of Colorado back into Kansas, and kept the Ute Indians (Uto-Tanoan language) in the Colorado mountains. The Arapaho controlled all of eastern Colorado and wintered in modern day Boulder, Denver and Fort Collins areas. The Cheyenne Indians (Algonkian language) came out onto the Great Plains in the early 1700s and were found in Wyoming and western Nebraska. The Lakota Indians (Siouan language) left the Great Lakes region in the late 1700s and pushed the Crow Indians out of the sacred Black Hills area. All three tribes were on the move due to other tribes (armed by the French Canadians) that pushed them out of their Great Lakes' territories. Independently the Arapaho, Cheyenne and Lakota were numerous in numbers and strong opposition, but when combined as one they were formidable opponents.

In August 1868, Colonel Forsyth hired his **57 civilian scouts** to help deter Indian raids against the railroad, wagon trains and settlers in Kansas and Nebraska. When the railroad near Fort Wallace, Kansas was attacked the Army ordered Col. Forsyth, Lt. Beecher and their civilian scouts into the field. They began tracking the Indian raiding party along the Republican River west on **Sept. 10th**. The Republican turned into the north and south forks of the Arikaree River (in Colorado). The scouts soon started picking up signs that the raiding party they were following were joined by others, with tracks now making it obvious that a large force was somewhere in front of them. They advised Col. Forsyth that perhaps they should back off but he would have none of it. Like many brash officers in the US Army after the American Civil War, their defeat of the South made them think they could go anywhere, anytime, safely and that 'they' were always in control of every situation.

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Teach Tábhairne FÓGRA

Pub Notice

Battle of Beecher Island
Wray, Colorado
Sept. 17-19, 1868

John 'Jack' Donovan's
Heroic Story

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Each civilian scout had been issued a Spencer repeating rifle and Colt revolver, along with 140 rounds of rifle ammo and 30 rounds of pistol ammunition. In addition, 4,000 rounds of ammo were being hauled by mules. What they could not know was that the Indians were armed with both Spencer repeating and Henry rifles.

At dawn on the morning of Sept. 17th while camped on the Arikaree across from an island, a small war party attacked trying to run off their horses and mules. As the men stopped that attack they saw riding towards them hundreds of Indians galloping at a fast pace. Col. Forsyth ordered his men to take refuge on the island digging rifle pits in the sand for protection. Charge after charge by the Arapahos, Cheyennes and Lakota were repulsed by the scouts. The Indians then decided to lay siege surrounding the island with sniper positions.



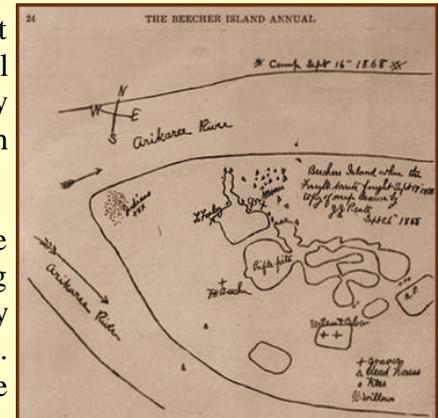
Roman Nose

By day's end half the command were wounded or dead. Forsyth was shot in his right thigh and his left leg was broken by a bullet. Lt. Beecher was shot dead and in tribute, Forsyth would later name the island after him, "Beecher Island". The civilian doctor named Moore was also killed. Plus all their horses and mules were now dead. That first night Forsyth asked for volunteers to return **100 miles back to Fort Wallace** and get help. Two scouts volunteered.

The Cheyenne Dog Soldiers were led by **Roman Nose** and were the "Special Forces" of the Cheyenne tribe. For years in many battles he had worn a magical war bonnet that protected him from harm with bullets failing to penetrate an invisible shield. But on this day the war bonnet failed him and he was shot dead as was another named *Medicine Man*. Their loss tempered the Indians who now wondered what kind of powerful medicine did their battlefield opponents possess?

On the night of the second day, Forsyth sent out two more scouts for help but they soon returned unable to break through the Indian lines. During the third day of fighting several hundred Indians presumably the Arapaho and Lakota, left the battle leaving the Cheyenne Dog Soldiers to finish up.

On the night of the third day, **Jack Donovan** & A. J. Piley volunteered to leave for Fort Wallace. They took off their boots and covered their feet with cloth so the Indians could not find or track them. **Donovan** was to carry a hand written note from Col. Forsyth to the fort commanding officer. **For the first two miles they crawled on their hands and knees** hoping to avoid detection. Eastern Colorado has small prickly cactus in abundance, and both Donovan and Piley were stuck often by the cactus. During the day they hid and noted later they could see Indian parties out scouting the area. At night they travelled the 100 mile distance hoping to get to the fort before their comrades were all killed.



MAP OF BEECHER ISLAND.

The above map is reproduced from a copy drawn by J. J. Peate, of the Relief Expedition, at the time Forsyth and his scouts were rescued by Col. Carpenter's command.

The Island appears today as it did then excepting that the south channel of the river is closed and the trees and improvements, including the monument, appear as the Association has placed them.

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Battle of Beecher Island
Wray, Colorado
Sept. 17-19, 1868

John 'Jack' Donovan's
Heroic Story

(continued from Pg. 7)

Finally, three days after leaving his companions **John 'Jack' Donovan** and A. J. Piley arrived at Fort Wallace in Kansas on **Sept. 22nd**. Jack Donovan delivered Forsyth's letter that he had carried over the 100-mile journey to the fort adjutant. The contents of the letter are below:

Republican River, Arikaree fork
September 19, 1868

To: Colonel Bankhead or Commanding Officer, Fort Wallace

I sent you two messengers on the night of 17th instant, informing you of my critical condition. I tried to send two more last night, but they did not succeed in passing the Indian pickets, and returned. If the others have not arrived, then hasten at once to my assistance. I have eight badly wounded men to take in, and every animal I had was killed, save seven, which the Indians stampeded. Lieutenant Beecher is dead, Acting Surgeon Moore probably cannot live the night out. He was hit in the head Thursday and has spoken but one rational word since. I am wounded in two places-in the right thigh, and my left leg is broken below the knee. The Cheyennes alone number 450, or more. Mr. Grover (Chief scout) says they have never fought so before. They were splendidly armed with Spencer and Henry rifles. We have killed at least thirty-five of them, and wounded many more, besides killing and wounding a quantity of their stock. They carried off most of their killed and wounded during the night, but three of their men fell into our hands. I am on a little island and still have plenty of ammunition. We are living on mule and horse meat, and are entirely out of rations. If it were not for so many wounded, I would come in and take the chance of whipping them if attacked. They are evidently sick of their bargain.

I had two members of my company killed on the 17th, namely, William Wilson and George W. Chalmers (Culver). You had better start with not less than seventy-five men, and bring all the wagons and ambulances you can spare. Bring a six-pound howitzer with you. I can hold out for six days longer if absolutely necessary, but please lose no time.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
George A. Forsyth
US Army, Commanding Co. Scouts

P.S. - My surgeon having been mortally wounded, none of my wounded men have had their wounds dressed yet, so please bring a surgeon with you.

Within one hour after Jack Donovan's arrival, the two scouts that left two days before him, finally arrived at Fort Wallace. All four scouts mounted horses to return and show Captain Carpenter and his 10th US Cavalry "Buffalo Soldiers" the quickest way back to Beecher Island.

Within a few days the siege at Beecher Island was over. Later congressional medals were handed out to Col. Forsyth and Capt. Carpenter, while the scouts that had saved the lives of many - were overlooked.

Today, the great grandson of **John 'Jack' Donovan (Frank Donovan)** lives with his wife Louise in the Denver metropolitan area. Frank is fully aware of the bravery his Irish ancestor, **Jack Donovan**, put forth from September 17th - 25th, 1868. And now we too know of this battle, and of Jack Donovan's story.

Teach Tábhairne Fógra

Pub Notice



Scruffy Murphy's

2030 Larimer St.
Denver, CO. 80205
303.291.6992

New Year's Eve at Scruffy Murphy's



*NO COVER CHARGE
NO SURCHARGE
NO UPCHARGED
DRINKS*

The lads over at Scruffy Murphy's want you to join them for a **FREE Champagne Toast at Midnight (Denver time)**... courtesy of the management.

FREE party favors, costume wear and poppers/streamers to help welcome in the

New Year - 2011!

LIVE music with **Sixtysixdays** Irish rock.

Scruffy Murphy's Irish Pub
New Year's Party 2010

Friday 12/31/10

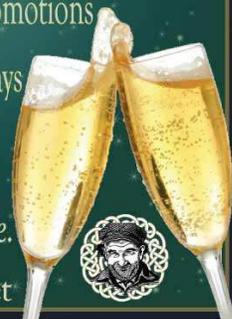
Midnight Champagne Toast
All Night Drink Specials
Prizes, Giveaways & Promotions

Live Music w/ Sixtysixdays

NO COVER

New Year's Eve...
Irish Style.

2030 Larimer Street



Happy New Year from Teach Tábhairne Fógra

Over the past year and one-half, our readership has expanded locally, nationally and internationally.

We are forever grateful to all of our readers worldwide, and make you this promise that we will continue to bring you Celtic stories you simply cannot find anywhere else.

In times of uncertainty, Celts have always survived. In this New Year put your faith in God, family, and friends. Let no one despair, but let us celebrate who we are together.

Go Raibh Maith Agat

Editor: Ken Hannon Larson

Email: cainnech@clanhannon.com

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(If you enjoy reading this e-newsletter and wish to have a copy emailed directly to family and friends, please contact me)