

# The Wild Geese™

235 Thunder Hill Drive, Stamford, CT 06902  
203- 322-2225 ~ wildgeese@wildgeesemail.com

## Board of Directors

Carl Shanahan  
*President*

Francis J. Browne  
James B. Dougherty  
*Vice Presidents*

Patricia Thomas  
*Secretary*

Lee M. Cushman  
*Executive Director*

Dennis Curran  
Joseph N. Delaney  
Roger Fox  
Barbara C. Griffin  
Claire Grimes  
Sean E. Neenan  
Brian T. O'Connor  
Seamus O'Rourke

## Past Grant Recipients

American Ireland Fund  
Ancient Order of  
Hibernians  
Armagh Together  
Book of Kells  
Reproductions  
Comhaltas Ceoltoir  
Crawford Municipal  
Museum  
Famine Symphony  
Gaelic American Club  
Ireland House  
Irish Classical Theatre  
Irish Repertory Theatre  
Irish Way Program  
Movement Theatre  
International  
Northern Ireland  
Childrens Enterprise  
Project Children  
Shamrock Traditional  
Irish Music Society  
Stamford Public Library  
Strokestown Famine  
Museum  
The Tara Circle

March 2007

## To All Members

Let me be the first to wish you a happy Saint Patrick's Day. Ordinarily you would have received your membership renewal at the beginning of the New Year but this year we are trying something different and we have some very important news to share with you. We are also trying to capture your interest while you're in the Saint Patrick's Day Spirit.

At our December meeting, the Wild Geese Board of Directors approved an initiative to have The Wild Geese act as the lead organization in a nationwide project to build a National Museum of Irish America in Washington, D.C.

Although this is an undertaking of tremendous magnitude, I think you will agree it is a most worthy one. The board believes the history of the Irish in America is one of the great-untold stories of America and this museum will give a home to those stories. This is an American story and the Museum will highlight the role our ancestors played in it. It will tell the story of Ellis Island, The Chicago fire (and dispel the myth), The Montana Copper mines, The Colorado Silver mines, The Alamo of San Antonio, The King Ranch of Texas, The Irish of New Orleans and Savannah, The Revolutionary War, The Civil War, The Catholic School system, The Protestant Irish of Appalachia and the South. The Labor movement, The Molly Maguire's, Country Music, The War Heroes, and the great Statesmen and businessmen who made America great. We have a lot to be proud of.

This will be a long-term project spanning more than a decade that will take significant sums of money to raise, build and endow the Museum. We recognize that The Wild Geese cannot or should not attempt to raise this money on our own. In order to fully include the expertise, insights of a vast coalition of Irish American groups and organizations we will spearhead a collaborative to raise such a sum of money. We will be working with the United States Government, The Irish government, Irish American organizations from across the U.S. and individual Irish – Americans to raise this money. "The Irish American Museum of Washington, D.C., Inc." has already been incorporated and we have applied to the IRS for a 501 (c)(3) status to allow the Corporation to receive tax-exempt donations.

.....continued on reverse

The Board also sees this as a catalyst to invigorate our membership by giving them a specific goal and purpose over the next several years. We do our best when we have a defined goal to reach.

We need your support. We need you help to raise public awareness and financial support for this project. We will designate proceeds from The Wild Geese events including the Celtic Ball towards this effort. Please join us on this wonderful journey to honor our ancestors. I can assure you, we will all be proud to be part of this.

*Carl*

United We Stand  
Carl Shanahan  
President