

## 2017 SUMMER NEWSLETTER



Hope all our members and families are well as the summer begins, we hope for fair weather as we relax and enjoy our family vacations. We congratulate our members who recently were promoted and retired. We welcome our new Probationary Firefighters and welcome those of Irish & Scottish heritage to get involved and join our Society. This is our second newsletter online and you can receive it by registering on our website, [FDNYEmeraldSociety.org](http://FDNYEmeraldSociety.org), you can pay your dues and keep up to date on our upcoming events. In addition you can follow us on twitter @FDNYEmerald, there we also post events and information of interest to the Irish American community. Retired members can contact Walter Dreyer at <mailto:cjoyhome@aol.com> to Pay your dues or obtain Wheel of Fortune tickets for \$10 that supports our Scholarship. We also have an automatic dues deduction for active and retired members through Employee Self Service clicking on the Fraternal Organization Dues deduction link.

Irish History: There were 8 Irish- Americans who signed the Declaration of Independence.

\*Irish Central *Brendan Patrick Keane*

@IrishCentral

July 03, 2017



Thomas McKean

Thomas McKean (March 19, 1734 – June 24, 1817) was the son of William McKean from County Antrim (Aontroim) who came to Pennsylvania via the city of Derry (Doire) as a child and later married Letitia Finney whose family had also emigrated from Ireland.

Thomas would become an American lawyer and politician, serving as President of Delaware, Chief Justice and then Governor of Pennsylvania. During the American Revolution, he was a delegate to the Continental Congress where he signed the United States Declaration of Independence and served as a President of Congress. Thomas McKean led the movement in Delaware for American independence and served as commander of a patriot militia group known as the Pennsylvania “Associators.”

### **Charles Carroll**

Charles Carroll of Carrollton in Maryland (September 19, 1737 – November 14, 1832) was the only Catholic and the longest-lived signatory of the Declaration of Independence, dying at age 95.

He was held up by Catholic Americans as tangible proof of their patriotism and loyalty in America which was run by a largely WASP establishment until JFK's election. He is descended from the noble Gaelic family of Tipperary, Clan Ó Cearbhail who trace their origin to The Cianachta, a tribe recorded to the third century CE. He was born in 1737 in Maryland—the only colony tolerant of Catholic immigration, thanks to Lord Baltimore.

### **James Smith**



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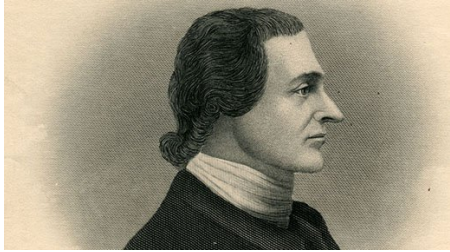
James Smith was born in Ireland in c.1719 and was forced with his family to emigrate to the American colonies as a boy due to abuse by landlords. The name "Smith" in Ireland is oftentimes a translation of MacGabhann, which is an older Irish name meaning "son of Goibhniu," who was the Celtic deity of metallurgy.

Smith emerged as a leading lawyer of his day and wrote legal opinions denying the constitutional power of Great Britain over the colonies in America. He also urged as Jonathan Swift would do in Ireland, an end to the import of British goods.

He raised a militia group in York, PA and joined the American Continental Congress in July 1775, a year before the Declaration was ratified. Smith would become a member of the Continental Congress 1776-1778,

and served in the War of Independence as a Colonel of Pennsylvania Militia 1775-1776. He was killed on July 11, 1806.

### **George Taylor**



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George Taylor was born in Antrim, Ireland in 1716 and emigrated to America in 1736 at the age of 20.

Taylor operated a furnace and was an iron manufacturer in Pennsylvania. He was a member of the Committee of Correspondence, 1774-1776, and of the Continental Congress, 1776-1777.

Taylor is an old name common in Ireland since the fourteenth century.

### **Matthew Thornton**



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Matthew Thornton was born in Ireland in 1714 and went out to America as a four-year-old child in the passage of five ships carrying 120 Irish families from the Bann Valley (Coleraine-Ballymoney-Aghadowey-Macosquin).

He would practice medicine and become active in pre-revolutionary agitation before being elected to become a member of the Continental Congress in 1776. He was a Colonel of New Hampshire Militia, 1775-1783.

Thornton was sometimes used in Ireland as a synonym for Drennan, Meenagh, Tarrant, or Skehan, while other Thorntons were planted in Limerick in the 16th century.

### **Edward Rutledge**

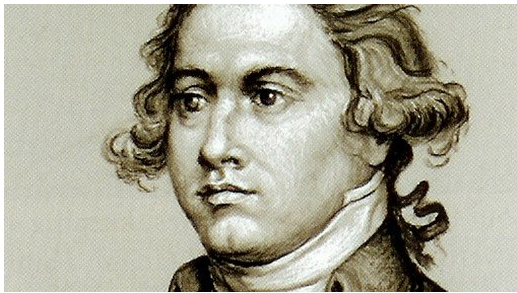


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Edward Rutledge (November 23, 1749 – January 23, 1800) was the youngest signer of the Declaration of Independence. His father Dr. John Rutledge left Co. Tyrone, Ireland in 1735, and would raise a son to be 39th Governor of South Carolina.

In the 2008 miniseries John Adams, Rutledge was portrayed by Clancy O'Connor. With his brother John, Edward Rutledge was elected to the Continental Congress in July 1774.

### **Thomas Lynch Jr.**

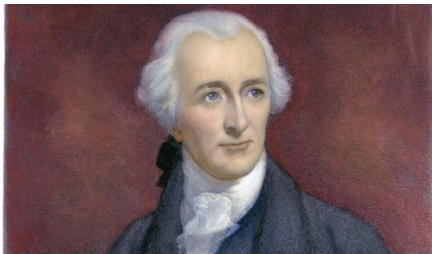


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Thomas Lynch Jr. (August 5, 1749 – 1779) stood in for his father Thomas Lynch Sr. who was unable to represent South Carolina due to illness. His grandfather was Jonas Lynch of the Galway Lynch tribe who was exiled following the defeats at Aughrim and the Boyne.

At the close of 1776, he and his wife sailed for the West Indies. The ship disappeared and there is no record of his life after.

### **George Read**



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George Read was born in Maryland in 1733. He was the son of John Read and Mary Howell Read. John Read was a wealthy resident of Dublin who emigrated to Maryland. When George Read was an infant the family moved to Delaware.

As he grew up, Read joined Thomas McKean at an Academy in Pennsylvania and then studied law. In 1763 John Penn, the Proprietary Governor, appointed Read Crown Attorney General for the three Delaware counties and he served in that position until leaving for the Continental Congress in 1774.

### **John Dunlap**

The FDNY Emerald Society announces the winners of its Annual High School Scholarship Awards for 2017. Congratulations!

**Award Winner Parent**

Michael Donohoe Award Reilly Duggan BC Joseph Duggan, B-48

FF Harold Hoey Award Catherine Kieran Capt. Edward Kieran, E-158

Father Mychal Judge Award Daniel Corcoran BC James Corcoran, B-2

Capt. Hugh McCabe Award Grace Hyland FF Daniel Hyland, R-1

Emerald Society Bagpipe Band Award:

In Memory of Durrell V. Pearsall – “Bronco” Liam Jensen Capt. Timothy Jensen, D-6

Please pray for all those members who are ill, Mike Duffy L. 174, Vice President John Spiech injured.



We mourn the loss of members recently passed away, with regret that we announce the passing of retired BC John Fox.

WORLD TRADE CENTER 5-5-8087

Death of Retired Firefighter William J. Gormley,  
L-174

Death of Retired Lieutenant William J. Kelly,  
L-116

Death of Retired Firefighter Raymond J. Pfeifer,  
E-40.

5-5-5-5 Death of Firefighter William N. Tolley, L-135



Check out our Twitter page @FDNYEmerald for updates.

Upcoming Events; Sept. Meeting in Staten island, October - Brooklyn,.

Dinner Dance; 11/3/17 @ Antuns

Please Support The FDNY Emerald Society Pipe Band performing at their 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 9/8/17 @ 7pm  
& at Gavin's East Durham Irish Music Festival 8/19 - 20.

The band will also compete 9/17/17 in the Nassau County Feis in Point Lookout

**AUGUST 18th-20th**

**SHILELAGH LAW**  
**CELTIC CROSS**  
**THE NARROWBACKS**  
**CANNY BROTHERS**  
**IRELAND - THE BAND**  
**McLEAN AVE BAND**  
**TOMMY FLYNN BAND**  
**JAMESON'S REVENGE**  
**THE CROOKED JACKS**  
**FDNY PIPES & DRUMS**

**SEAN RUANE**

**2nd Annual**  
**IRISH MUSIC FESTIVAL**  
**RESORT**

(east Oarbor) 12602 KICK

**Schedule of Bands**

**Friday - Aug 18th**  
 9pm - Jameson's Revenge  
 11pm - The Narrowbacks

**Saturday - Aug 19th**  
 Noon - The Crooked Jacks  
 2pm - The Canny Brothers  
 3:30pm - Farrell School of Dance  
 4pm - The Narrowbacks  
 6pm - Celtic Cross  
 7:30pm - FDNY Pipes & Drums  
 8pm - Shilelagh Law

**Sunday - Aug 20th**  
 Noon - The Tommy Flynn Band  
 1:30pm - Farrell School of Dance  
 2pm - McLean Ave Band  
 3:30pm - FDNY Pipes & Drums  
 4pm - Shilelagh Law  
 6pm - Ireland the Band  
 8pm - Kevin McCormick Band

Advance tickets and on-site camping reservations are available online at [www.gsvts.com](http://www.gsvts.com).  
 FREE ADMISSION for all guests staying at Gavin's Resort and campsites  
 3 day camping reservation - \$39 includes free admission to festival  
 Advance ticket prices:  
 3 Day pass - \$50  
 2 Day Pass - \$25  
 Single Day - \$20  
 Children under 14 are FREE  
 Free shuttle service to and from ALL East Durham Resorts 24/7 courtesy of Gavin's  
 No pets or coolers allowed into festival tent  
 Valid I.D. must be provided for admission into P.O.  
 For more information call (518-634-2582)

*Get Your Tickets NOW!*

the **FDNY PIPES & DRUMS**  
**55<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY** | **CELEBRATION + FUNDRAISER**

*proceeds to benefit*  **FIRE FAMILY TRANSPORT FOUNDATIONS**

when | *Friday, September 8th, 2017*  
 time | **7pm - 12am**

where | **Terrace on the Park** (52-11 111th St, Flushing, NY 11368)  
 cost | **\$200/person or \$2,000/per table of 10**  
 performances | **SHILELAGH LAW & SPORTING PADDYS**

*Contact Info* | upon receipt of payment the tickets will be mailed to:  
 NAME | \_\_\_\_\_  
 COMPANY NAME | \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS | \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY | \_\_\_\_\_ STATE | \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP | \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE | \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL | \_\_\_\_\_

**PAY VIA CREDIT CARD** **PAY VIA CHECK**  
 www.fdnypipesanddrums.net/55thAds.html Make checks payable to | **FDNY Pipes and Drums**  
 Mail checks to | **FDNY Pipes and Drums**  
 c/o Dan Goodfreak  
 145 Park Place Apt. 28, Brooklyn, NY 11217

Email For More Info: [FDNYPipeBand55th@gmail.com](mailto:FDNYPipeBand55th@gmail.com)

\* *Brendan Patrick Keane*

@IrishCentral  
 July 03, 2017