

BOSTON IRISH REPORTER

Boston's hometown journal of Irish culture. Worldwide at bostonirish.com

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Wearing of the Green, and Blowing of the Pipes: Last year's St. Patrick's Day Parade makes its way through South Boston. *Chris Lovett photo*

St. Patrick's Day Comes 'Round Again — Strike Up the Bands!

For the Very Last Word on This Month's Holiday Events, and a Touch of History, See Pages 19 to 29.



THOMAS O'CONNOR
Author, historian



KATHLEEN O'TOOLE
Boston Police Commissioner



GERALD F. BURKE
Proprietor, Doyle's Café



ANNE FINUCANE
President (NE), Bank of America

A Gathering of the Clan – Faces of the 'Boston Irish'

Some are authentic Boston Irish – they were born in the city in the middle-to-late years of the 20th century and they grew up on the streets of Dorchester and Mission Hill and South Boston and Brighton. Most of them went to “sister school” and then on to the Catholic high schools that dotted the landscape not so long ago – Cathedral High, Mission High, BC High, Catholic Memorial, Gate of Heaven High, to name a few. For the older set, those who grew up in the Depression, and their children, if college was an option, then Holy Cross and Boston College beckoned welcomingly.

But “Boston Irish” embraces more than those who wear the “native”

label. The families that moved to the suburbs as the world moved beyond the great mid-century war and, later, as school buses rolled across an inflamed city, are linked intimately with the stay-behinds, the tenements and three-deckers of their shared roots rarely out of the fetch of memory. And these two tribes are kin to those who came to America and settled in nearby towns and faraway places.

This great city of the Puritans became Irish in bits and pieces —

immigrants fleeing the Great Hunger came to port as a despised species to the powers-who-were and did the work no one here wanted to do; and the sons and daughters and grandchildren and great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren of those immigrants moved up the social and political ladders as the Yankees and Brahmins moved over and out.

All across the region, descendants of the men and women who survived the Famine and, by dint of unceasing labor in a strange and unwelcoming

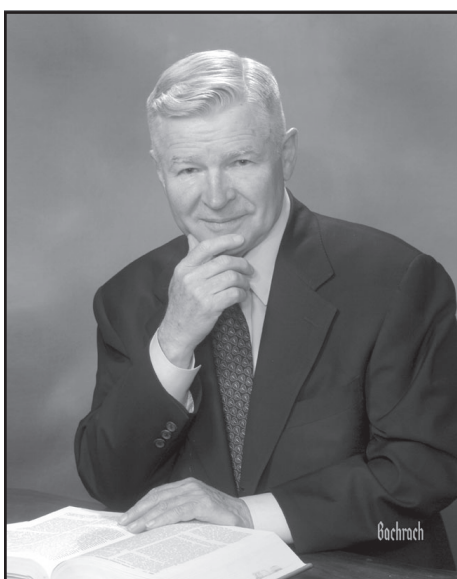
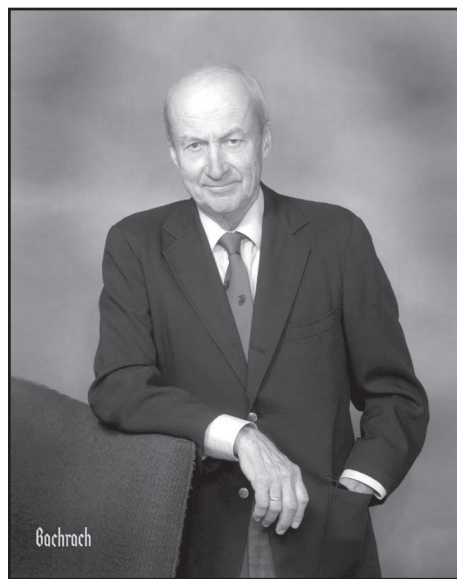
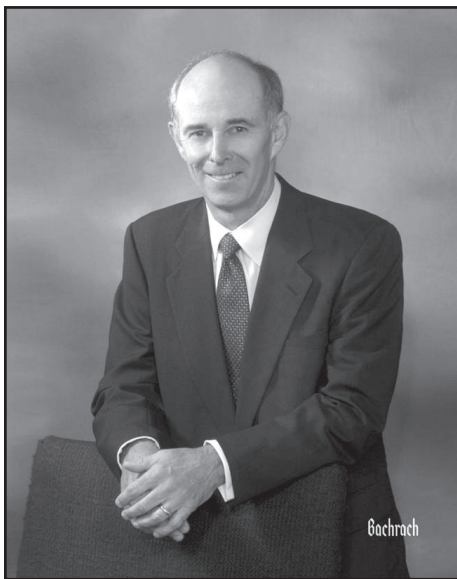
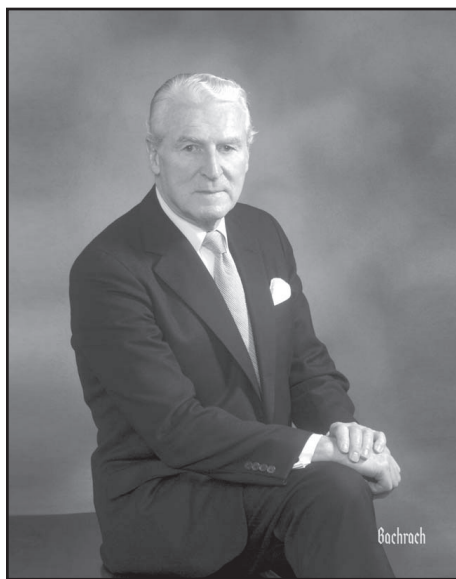
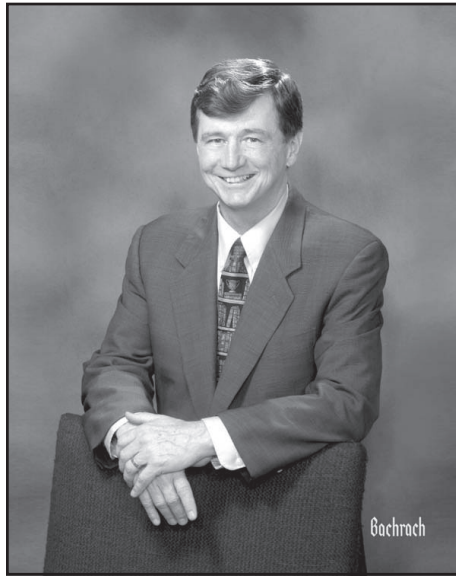
land, made a new world for themselves and their families are today the sturdy citizens of metropolitan Boston, movers and shakers in medicine, in the law, in education, in high tech, in the media.

They are joined in these endeavors by many others, including newer ethnic immigrants looking for their own world of promise.

This month, the *Boston Irish Reporter* celebrates the “Boston Irish” – the “authentic” ones and those among us with ancestral links to the Ould Sod from cities and towns both near and far beyond the Hub — with the publication, above, and on Pages 20 and 21, of these portraits by Bachrach Photographers.

**‘The Boston Irish’ – A Month-Long Exhibit
Opens at BC on March 14. See Pages 20, 21**

'Irish Faces: the Heart and Soul of Boston' — an exhibit by Bachrach at Boston College



Top row, from left: Elizabeth Shannon, Boston University; Robert K. O'Neill, Director, John J. Burns Library; Charles T. O'Neill, O'Neill and Neylon; Edris Kelley, Edris B. Kelley, President Eire Society.

Second row: John Meehan, National Vice President, AOH; John Driscoll, Nutter, McLennan and Fish; Isolde Moylan, former Consulate General of Ireland; David R. Burke, President, Irish Foundation of Lawrence.

Third row: Thomas May, President, Chairman, and CEO, NStar; Barbara Lynch, Executive Chef, No. 9 Park; Charles U. Daly, Director Emeritus, Kennedy Library; Sister Lena Deevy, Executive Director, Irish Immigration Center.

Bottom row: William M. Bulger, President Emeritus, UMass; Thomas P. Kennedy, Massachusetts House of Representatives; The Honorable Stephen Lynch, Congressman; James Brett, New England Council.

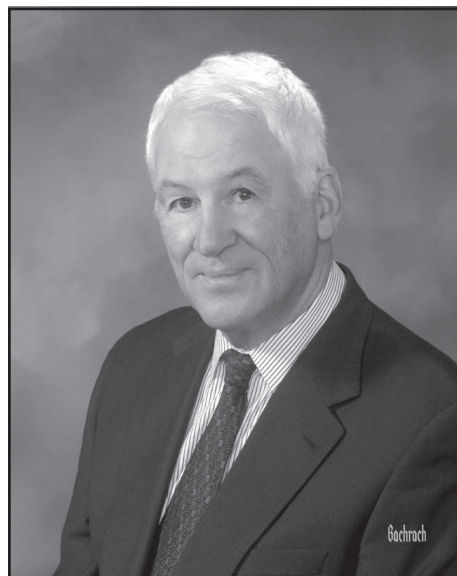
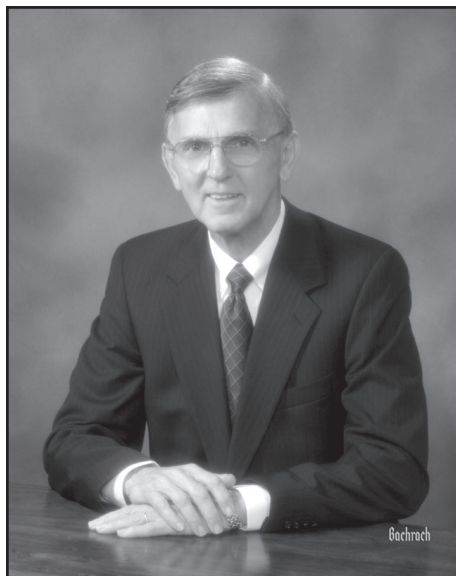
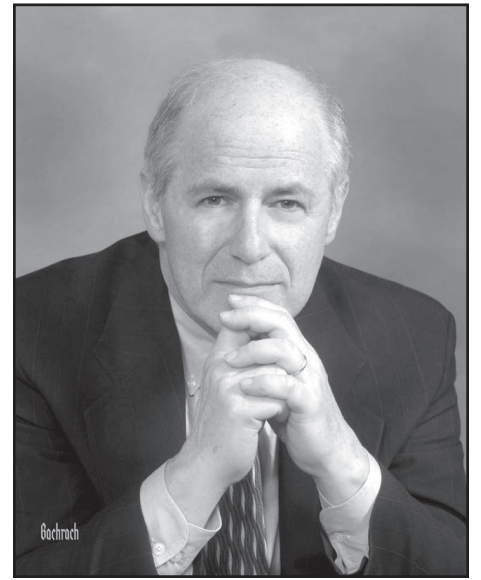
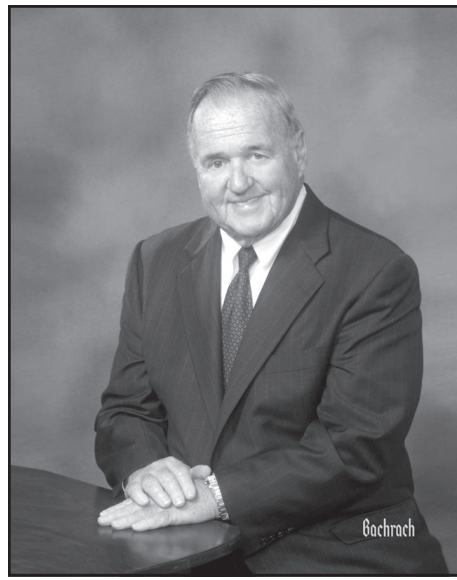
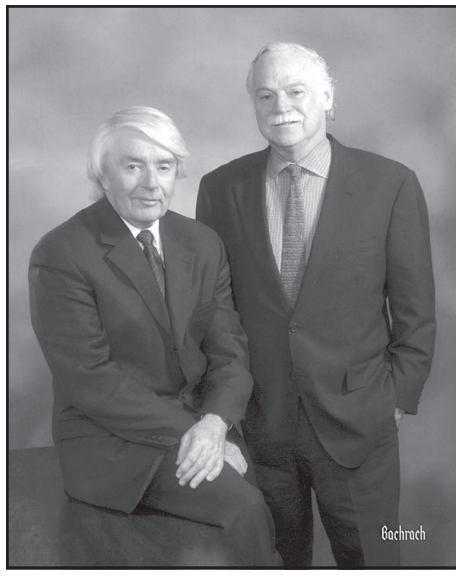
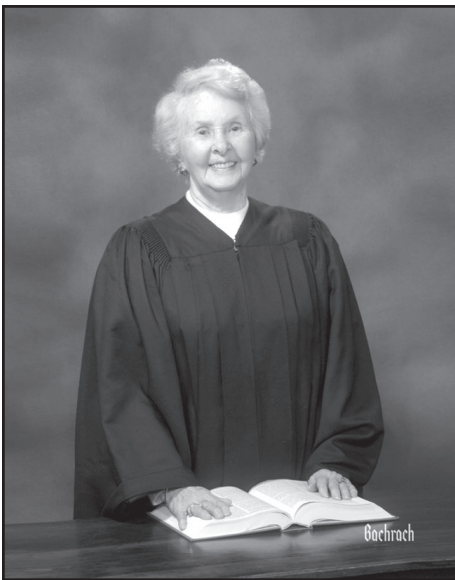
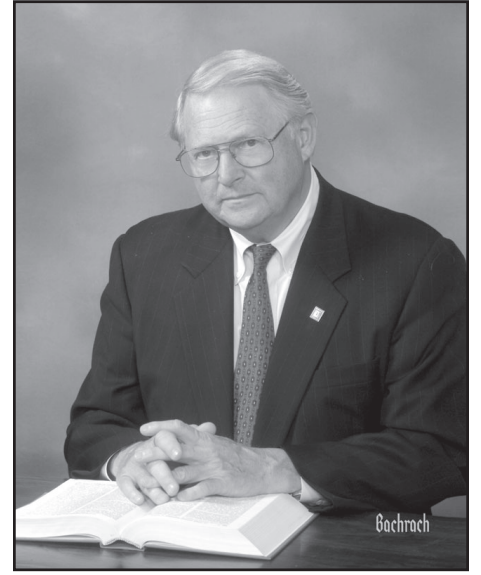
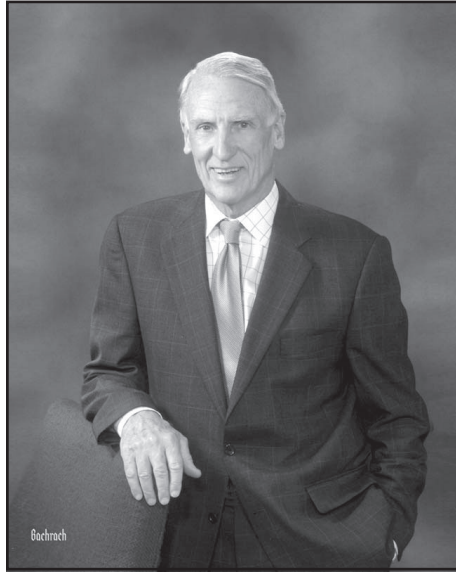
Bachrach Photographers, the legendary Boston portrait studio that was founded in 1868, will unveil its latest portrait exhibit, "Irish Faces: the Heart and Soul of Boston," at Boston College this month.

The project, sponsored jointly with the Burns Library at Boston College, is a collection of some 120 recent portraits of Boston Irish personalities. The portraits, which were made in the past year at Bachrach's Boylston Street studios in the Back Bay, depict a wide variety of "turn of the 21st century" Irish faces in Boston.

The photos are the work of studio president Robert D. Bachrach, a member of the fourth generation of his family to work in the business.

The exhibit will be unveiled at a private reception for the participants and their guests on Tuesday, March 14, at the Burns Library, and will be on public display for a month thereafter, through Frid., April 14. At the end of the exhibition, the portraits will be placed in the permanent archive of the library, according to Robert O'Neill, Burns Library archivist. O'Neill added that he was delighted with the results of the Bachrach project, and said it would be a strong addition to the library's growing collection on Boston's Irish communities.

"We all enjoyed meeting you and hope you are as excited about this as we are," Bachrach said in an invitation sent to the portrait subjects.



Top row, left to right: Kerry Healey, Lieutenant Governor, Massachusetts; John P. Hamill, Chairman and CEO, Sovereign Bank New England; Mary O'Herlihy, Director of Irish Institute, Boston College; Neal Finnegan, Retired Chairman, Citizen's Bank.

Second row: John and Maureen Connolly, Owners, The Aisling Gallery; Edward W. Forry, Publisher, Boston Irish Reporter; Marceline Thompson, Eire Society; Katherine Murphy Woerner, Golden Apple Award, Eire Society.

Third row: Mary Beattie Muse, Silver Key Award Winner, Charitable Irish Society; Terry Guiney, Frank Keefe, Commonwealth Hotel; Thomas F. Shields, Chairman, CEO, Shields Health Care Group; Thomas W. Carty, Irish Cultural Centre.

Bottom row: Theresa Mawn, Computer Security Specialist; Charles M. Daley, former President, CEO, Lojack; James S. O'Brien, President, New England Chapter, Ireland Chamber of Commerce; Peggy Dray, Director, Charitable Irish Society.