



New England Irish Harp Orchestra performing at the Kennedy Library

photo by Richard Fleming

Dear Friends,

Have you ever had a dream? Did someone help you towards your dream? We're writing to share our dream with you and to ask for your help.

We're NEIHO, the New England Irish Harp Orchestra, a fifteen member mostly amateur orchestra of Celtic harp players. Our day jobs are varied - a nurse who's becoming a yoga instructor, a hospice volunteer, a health event organizer, and an 87 year old Marine. That Marine began playing at age 81 after he'd made four harps in his wood shop, and someone suggested he might want to learn to play one!

Now his dream is to go across the ocean with the orchestra to perform in Ireland this August as part of the celebration of the 1000th anniversary of the death of the last High King of Ireland, Brian Boru. Brian Boru was a mighty fighter, and a sweet harp player (he and our Marine would have enjoyed each other!). One of Ireland's best harpers, Janet Harbison, is convening Celtic harpers from around the world to perform together for ten days in August to honor Brian Boru's memory and carry on his (musical) tradition.

For ten of us to go it will cost \$35,000. We're aiming to raise \$15,000. Yes, we're doing bake sales, performances (would you like to book us?), street-busking and merchandise sales. We're asking for your support to help us perform in Ireland this year. We'll return with great stories, even better music, and our love of this Irish musical tradition to share.

All amounts appreciated - on-line at our web-site neiho.org (paypal button on the Ireland page), by check to NEIHO, PO Box 343 Exeter, NH 03833.

And thank-you, from our hearts!

Regina Delaney (Director)
Members of The New England Irish Harp Orchestra

