



Feb. 2007

CONTENTS:

[The Man Who
Made St.
Patrick's Day](#)

[Milwaukee
President's
Message](#)

[Shamrock Club
of Rock County](#)

[Celtic Women
First Fridays](#)

[Color Guard
News and Notes](#)

[Shamrock Club
Clothing](#)

[Sunshine Club](#)

[22nd Annual
Special Mass to
Honor St.
Patrick](#)

[Eucharistic
Ministers
Needed](#)

[Flower
Donations
Memorials of
Honor](#)

[41st Annual St.
Patrick's Day
Parade](#)

INDEX

The Man Who Made St Patrick's Day

by Brian Witt

In 1607, Rory O'Donnell, Earl of Tyrconnell, and Hugh O'Neill, Earl of Tyrone, left from Rathmullan, Co. Donegal, for mainland Europe, in an event known as the Flight of the Earls. The result of this was great, and had a ripple effect on the island far into the future, with the repercussions still being felt to the present day. The ship also transported the dreams of many of the Gaelic order in Ireland along side them.

The Irish Church was to find itself situated in foreign lands, in Spain, Portugal, the Vatican, and Belgium, often at battle with each other over how to carry forth the Irish battle and the Irish cause.

Just as often the Anglo-Norman portion of the Irish clergy was feuding with the Gaelic side. Franciscans battled Jesuits over divergent views on how Catholicism should proceed on the Irish question. The verbal and written battles between the Franciscans in Louvain, Belgium, and the Jesuits in Salamanca, Spain, were divisive, and added to the addled nature of Irish politics of the time.

Into the midst of those battles came the man who made St. Patrick's Day important, Luke Wadding. Wadding was to show himself to be a master of languages and rhetoric, as well as a prolific writer on a number of subjects, including a defense of St Francis and the Franciscans. He also received votes from fellow clergy during the papal election of 1645. Championing the causes of St. Patrick and the Irish Confederation, he showed himself to be an Irish patriot when the Irish needed support in many ways.

Luke Wadding was born in Waterford in 1588, the eleventh of fourteen children. A number of his relatives were to enter the clergy, some as Jesuits, others as Augustinians. After he was orphaned at the age of 14, he was enrolled by his brother Ambrose in the Jesuit seminary in Lisbon. In 1605, he was entered into minor orders in a Franciscan seminary, and was ordained in

[SHAMROCK CLUB HOME](#)

[EMERALD REFLECTIONS
ONLINE NEWSLETTER](#)

[PHOTO OF THE MONTH](#)

[MILWAUKEE CALENDAR](#)

[WISCONSIN CALENDAR](#)

[MIDWEST CALENDAR](#)

[JOIN CLUB](#)

[MILWAUKEE MARCH
ST. PATRICK'S
DAY EVENTS](#)

[MILWAUKEE CHAPTER](#)

[STATE CHAPTERS](#)

[COLOR GUARD](#)

[LINKS OF
IRISH INTEREST](#)

[VENUES](#)

[Sign My Guestbook](#)



[View My Guestbook](#)



Email:
[Shamrock Club](#)

[Shamrock Club
Post Parade
Party](#)

[Milwaukee
Hurling Club
Youth League to
Sponsor "Late
Night Catechism"](#)

[Trip to Green
Bay](#)

[Honoree Dinner](#)

[Easter Rising
Mass](#)

[Members'
Doings](#)

[St. Patrick's
Help Fund](#)

[Milwaukee
Calendar of
Events](#)

[Wisconsin
Calendar of
Events](#)

1613. That same year, he completed a commonplace-book of quotations from the Scripture, the Fathers, and the lives of the saints.

After a brilliant academic flourish in Lisbon, he was sent to the Irish College in Salamanca, where he mastered Hebrew, as well as composed his work on the origin of that language, and was also assigned the chair of theology in the College of St. Francis. In 1618, at the age of 30, he was assigned to the Papal Legate in Rome to work on the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception. He was chosen by the Spanish King, Philip III, for the office of theologian. Antony a Trejo, Bishop of Cartagena, who, as vicar-general of the order, had been Wadding's patron, was the legate-extraordinary appointed for the purpose. Trejo returned to Spain in 1620, but Wadding was ordered to remain to continue his work. His work on the redemption, baptism, and death of the Blessed Virgin were published in 1655 and 1656. Wadding's trip to Rome would last until his death in 1657.

Wadding was not above involving himself in the fray about Irish nationalism, either. About the same time as his arrival in Rome, he started a correspondence with Florence Conry, the Archbishop of Tuam, and the founder of the Franciscan school in Louvain, who was also an adamant defender of the Gaelic order.

Wadding began a series of writing and editing projects, including a defense of St Francis, published in 1625, where he refuted the assertions that the founder of the order was an Augustinian. He edited a four volume edition of Hebrew grammar and a dictionary, printed in both Latin and Hebrew, as well as a life of the Popes, of a Patriarch of Constantinople, as well as other works. It was his writings about John Duns Scotus, the 13th Century philosopher, that cemented his reputation as a scholar. His eight volume work on the "Subtle Doctor" was a magnificent undertaking.

Wadding was to be the voice of the Irish in Rome. In 1625, he was to found St Isadore's, which was dedicated to the education of Irish Franciscan priests. He procured for the library 5000 select works, besides a precious collection of manuscripts bound in 800 volumes. During the first thirty years of its existence this college educated 200 students, 70 of which number filled chairs of philosophy and theology in various corners of Europe. In 1628, he was to found a secular seminary for Irish candidates for the priesthood. Many of the men educated there would return to Ireland to practice, and a great many of them were to be executed.

Luke Wadding did much for the Irish cause in Rome. It was largely owing to his influence that St Patrick's Feast Day was put on the Church's universal Calendar, as he celebrated it with great solemnity each year. Wadding was also able to what had been unthinkable in earlier generations – he was to obtain money and support for the Irish cause in battles against England. The Irish were to receive Papal support for Ireland in the way of money, arms, and Irish officers trained in the Continental European armies

between 1642 and 1646. However, the infighting amongst leaders of the Confederation ended with the cause falling apart, and Wadding's reputation took a major blow.

Even with that, Wadding was nominated to be the Cardinal of Ireland, a position he resisted, and managed to sabotage by hiding his papers of nomination from 1644 and 1645. He felt he could better serve Ireland without the notoriety associated it.

Luke Wadding never saw Ireland again after he left in his early teens, but his impact upon the island was immense. The after-shock of the departure of the Earls was to be more than magnified by all he did, and all he put into motion. This humble man of Waterford was to move the world by his actions and his works.

INDEX

Milwaukee President's Message

Failte an Feabhra. February 1 is the start of spring in Ireland. It is also the feast of St. Brigid, the redoubtable woman who was a remarkable force in the development of Church in Ireland. She had her own brewer, and once hung her cloak from her shadow.

I won't be doing that spectacular, but we will have others who will appear to be able to do so. Our Irish honorees will be introduced at our February meeting. Come and greet them.

John Gleeson will be talking about the Flight of the Earls, the departure of the heads of the O'Neill and the O'Donnell clans in 1607 from Northern Ireland. I attended a two day symposium in November about this subject, and it had ramifications that reverberate to the present day. John will be able to present this in a more compact, and entertaining, fashion.

I attended the surprise birth party for Color Guard director Rich Pfeiffer recently. The rooms were filled with members of the SCCGPD. They are a proud unit, They are also very proud to be representing the Shamrock Club wherever they go. They are marching in Savannah, GA, again in 2007, as part of the second largest St Patrick's Day parade in the nation. They will be conducting a number of fund raisers, so if you can support them in their trip to the South, please do so.

And in March, we march. On March 1, we celebrate our birthday with a party, all 47 glorious years. And don't forget to get out your finest for March 10, with our Mass in honor of St Patrick, our downtown parade at noon, and our Post Parade Party at the ICHC.

We recently met with Becky and Larry Sullivan, from RMS

Promotions, and Patrick Milne, from MWD, on new Shamrock Club clothing designs, and the ability to sell them from all three of our websites. New products will also be available for sale at future meetings.

And one other note: We recently talked about setting up the Shamrock Club College of Irish Knowledge in the fall at the ICHC. It will be a series of lectures on a variety of subjects, from history to culture to crafts to sports. More details will be worked out, and we are looking forward to presenting this.

We will again be sponsoring the Milwaukee Hurling Club in 2007. Look for their fundraiser on February 16 at the ICHC. It is going to be "Late Night Catechism" and will help to defray the costs of sending the Youth League members to Ireland. And by the way, this is the first time an American Club is sending a youth team to Ireland. We do good work here, don't we?

I want to thank a few people for their work, past and future. Muriel Crowley helped to sell almost four times the allotted number of Folk Fair tickets. Great job. Malkin Wallace will be taking over as general chair of the Post Parade Party. She will do well.

And it will soon be Spring. Of course, with those 50 degree days at the start of the year, one hopes that it doesn't mean a wintery March. Ní mór duit éadaí níos troime a chaiteamh. Dress warmly.

– Brian Witt

INDEX

Shamrock Club of Rock County

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **MARCH 15** – St. Patrick's Day Party at the Janesville Senior Center. We will keep you posted as the details fall into place.

There is not any new information yet, about the St. Patrick's Day Party mentioned above. All the details will be in the March Emerald Reflections. Be sure to check that March issue as we will not be having a meeting between now and March 13.

Scribe,

– Tom Kennedy

INDEX

Celtic Women First Fridays

Date: Feb. 2, 2007 (Saint Brigid's Day)

Topic: "Brigid: Goddess, Saint ... and Spiritual Bridge"

Speaker: Jean-Andrew

The story of two women named Brigid/Brigid is intertwined in an intricate Celtic knot of myth and miracle. As both Celtic Goddess and Christian Saint they have personified the essential spiritual values of their eras... and today. The stories are blurred and obscured by time, selective fragments and re-interpretation. Jean-Andrew of STORYLORE will sort through fact, fiction, and treasured tales to spread a mantle of stories and images both ancient and new. Bring your own favorite image of Brigid/Brigid to share. The first 30 people to attend will receive a hand-made straw St. Brigid's Cross.

Everyone is welcome at the lectures. This is our tenth year of non-stop Celtic lectures. Come and join us. 5:30-7 p.m. at the ICHC, \$5 Admission. Tea and cookies served as well.

– Jean Bills

[INDEX](#)

Color Guard News and Notes

Hello Everyone! Happy February. I had meant to mention this next item in last month's article. It came to mind when this year's Hogmanay celebrations in many parts of Scotland were cancelled due to 80 mph gales across the country. Sad, as it's a wonderful time of year. Are you familiar with the tradition?

Hogmanay is celebrated on New Year's Eve, usually in a most exuberant fashion in Scotland, as hundreds of thousands of revelers take to the streets of many Scottish cities to ring in the New Year. In Edinburgh and Glasgow, it has become a huge ticketed festival. Celebrations start in the early evening and reach a crescendo by midnight. Minutes before the start of a new year, a lone piper plays, then the bells of Big Ben chime at the turn of midnight, lots of kissing and everyone sings Auld Lang Syne. And then there is more kissing. Particularly in remote parts of Scotland, customary first footing, ceileidhs, fire ceremonies, torchlight processions are also important parts of the celebration. Edinburgh's celebration is particularly spectacular with 150,000 other partiers and fireworks displayed off the seven hills that surround my favorite city in the world.

Nobody knows for sure where the word "hogmanay" came from. Opinions differ as to whether it originated from the Gaelic "oge

maidne” (new morning), Anglo Saxon “Haleg Monath” (Holy Month) or Norman French “hoguineane” which was derived from the old French word “anguillanneuf” (gift at New Year)

What’s first footing, you ask? Traditionally, it has been held that your New Year will be a prosperous one if, at the stroke of midnight, a “tall, dark stranger” appears at your door with a lump of coal for the fire, or a cake, or coin. In exchange you would offer food, wine or a wee dram of whiskey, or a traditional Het Pint, which is a combination of ale, nutmeg and whiskey.

It’s the time now to start thinking of where you would like to be to ring in the bells of 2008. I’ve had the luck of attending three Edinburgh Hogmanays, and it’s a celebration NOT to miss. Book your hotel soon, they go fast. And girls, make sure you wear the indelible lipstick for all the kissing!!

Ok, enough of the history lesson...

The band has been hard at work putting finishing touches on music pieces we started at the end of last season. St. Patrick’s Day and the Green Season is unbelievably near.

A month and a half and counting. We are hard at work fundraising for our return trip to Savannah, Georgia and really look forward to starting off 2007 there.

Speaking of that, if you wish to come along, give director Rich Pfeiffer a jingle. We may be able to steer you in the right direction. We’d love to have you along.

Sorry for the short article this month, more for March!

Until then, my sweethearts;

– Noel Tylla, 4th year piper

[INDEX](#)

Shamrock Club Clothing

The Shamrock Club is in the process of purchasing new Shamrock Club shirts and more. We will have some styles ready in time for our February meeting. We will also be offering our clothing via the internet, on our new sales pages on our web sites.

[INDEX](#)

Sunshine Club

Danny O'Donoghue was hospitalized recently.

The family of Pat McMahon sent a thank you note for the Shamrock Club's remembrance of his death.

If you have any information about members, please contact me.

– Joe Donovan, (414) 259-8040

INDEX

22nd Annual Special Mass to Honor St. Patrick

Will be held prior to the St. Patrick's Day Parade

Saturday, MARCH 10, 2007 at 8:30 A.M.

at St. Patrick's Church

723 South 7th at Washington Street, Milwaukee

Sign reader for hearing impaired

Shuttle Bus: from ICHC rear parking lot (2133 W. Wisconsin Ave.) to St. Patrick's Church and after Mass return to Parade Route or parking lot for just \$3 per person. Bus to leave sharply at 7:45 A.M. for the Church

Tickets for bus can be purchased by mail or at the Shamrock Club February and March General Meetings

Continental Breakfast after Mass at ICHC: Cost \$3

For Bus reservations or information contact:

Chuck and Bonnie McLaughlin

12007 W. Walker Street, West Allis, WI 53214; Phone: (414) 771-0458

Send self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Make checks payable to Shamrock Club

Mail reservations for BUS ONLY

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone: _____

Number of Reservations_____ Amount
\$_____

Bus Reservations will not be taken after March 3

[INDEX](#)

Help Needed

Eucharistic Ministers are needed for the March 10 Mass to Honor St. Patrick. If you can serve please contact Betty Mikush at (414) 541-8215, or [bmikush@execpc.com].

[INDEX](#)

Flower Donations Memorials of Honor

Memorials and donations will be taken at the Milwaukee February and March meetings to help defray the costs of the flowers for the St. Patrick's Mass on March 10, 2007. Names will be printed in the Mass booklet. Mail orders can be taken up to March 3, 2007. Make checks payable to the Shamrock Club. Contact Chuck or Bonnie McLaughlin, 12007 West Walker Street, West Allis, WI 53214, (414) 771-0458

[INDEX](#)

Shamrock Club of Wisconsin 41st Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade

Saturday, MARCH 10, 2007

Noon – Downtown Milwaukee
(Parade will last approx. 90 minutes)

Step-off is in front of the Grand Avenue Mall
on 3rd and Wisconsin,

Proceeding east to Plankinton,
North on Plankinton to Kilbourn,
West on Kilbourn to Old World 3rd Street,

East on Juneau to Water Street,
South on Water Street

The Parade will feature 150+ units and will include local politicians and celebrities, floats, bagpipe and marching bands, Irish and Celtic organizations. The Guests of Honor will be announced in February.

The Shamrock Club of Wisconsin, Inc. has produced the Parade continuously since 1967. 2007 is the 164th anniversary of Milwaukee's 1st St. Patrick's Parade.

[INDEX](#)

Shamrock Club Post Parade Party

Saturday, MARCH 10, 2007 • 1–6 p.m.
(Doors Open at 12:20 p.m.)

Irish Cultural and Heritage Center:
2133 West Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee

Four stages of continuous entertainment including:
Athas, Blarney, The Gleasons, The Sandcarvers, Stone Ring,
Trinity Irish Dancers, Glencastle Irish Dancers, Shamrock Club
Pipes & Drums, and more

Bands, Irish Dance Schools, Scottish Dancers, Bagpipe Bands,
Children's Area

Food and Beverages available for purchase!!!

Adults \$6 / Children (6-12) \$3 / Under 6 Free

[INDEX](#)

Milwaukee Hurling Club Youth League To Sponsor “Late Night Catechism”

Late Night Catechism, an uproariously funny participatory staging of a “Sister” teaching catechism to a roomful of “students” (the audience), is being staged as a fundraiser for the Milwaukee Hurling Club (MHC) Youth League in anticipation of their historic trip to Ireland. The performance will be held Friday, February 16 at the Milwaukee ICHC, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave. Tickets are \$27.50 each, available at [www.hurling.net] website or the ICHC Box Office, (414) 345-8800.

Throughout this one-woman play, the benevolent instructor rewards her students for correct answers with humorous prizes. Naughty students may well find themselves on stage, sitting in a corner reflecting on their actions. But even the most reluctant students will be clamoring to get into this class. The play, by Chicago writers Vicki Quade and Maripat Donovan, is for Catholics, lapsed Catholics and non-Catholics. Proceeds from the play will help defray costs for the members of the Milwaukee Hurling Club Youth League and their families who are traveling to Ireland in April 2007 to participate in a cultural experience and test their skills against various youth hurlers throughout Ireland. It is the first time an organized group of young hurlers from the United States is visiting the place where the sport was invented.

Hurling is an outdoor team sport played with sticks and a ball on a field longer and wider than a standard soccer field. MHC, established in 1995, is the largest hurling club in North America. MHC currently over 250 members including the youth league, eight coed teams, a Camogie (women’s) team, and three teams that have competed in the GAA’s North American County Board Championships. The Shamrock Club is a sponsor of the Milwaukee Hurling Club, and has a team in league play, the “Griffins”.

In other Hurling Club news, the annual signup will be March 25 at the ICHC, and opening day is at Brown Deer Park on May 20.

For more information about the trip, visit [www.hurling.net], or contact Karen Fink at (414) 384-8012 or email [kafink@hotmail.com].

[INDEX](#)

Trip to Green Bay

The Milwaukee chapter is planning a trip to Green Bay on April 21. Plans are to visit the Packer Hall of Fame, or Oneida Casino. Members can decide which venue they want to attend when they arrive. There will also be a dinner at St Brendan’s in Green Bay to cap the day. Contact Julie Smith for details and cost, at (414) 384-

4119, or [jesmith26@sbcglobal.net]. We need at least 25 people to make the trip. The more people traveling, the lower the cost of the coach we are renting.

[INDEX](#)

Honoree Dinner

We are working on our honoree dinner for 2007. It will be held Sunday, May 20, 2007 at Serb Hall. Cost is \$25 per person, \$50 per couple. If you have any questions, please contact Tom Smith at (414) 384-4119, or [jesmith26@sbcglobal.net].

[INDEX](#)

Easter Rising Mass

The Shamrock Club's Easter Rising Mass will take place on April 8 at the ICHC. The Mass will take place at 9:30 a.m. We will have a continental breakfast to follow. Betty Mikush will need eucharistic ministers for the Mass. Please contact her at (414) 541-8215.

[INDEX](#)

Member Doings

Noreen Barclay and Barb Kreiter attended the graduation of Barb's daughter, and Noreen's granddaughter, Jackie Kreiter, from the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh in December. Jackie received a Bachelor of Science

[INDEX](#)

St. Patrick's Help Fund

St. Patrick's Help Fund is in desperate need of non-perishable foods. Please place in container at each meeting. However, donations can be brought to the ICHC any time during the week. Questions? Call Katy Voss (414) 352-6479.

[INDEX](#)