



## July 2008

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## The Accursed John George Adair of Gleaveagh

by Brian Witt

Glenveagh National Park is located in northwest Donegal, between Gaoth Dobhair (Gweedore) and Mount Errigal. It is in the Derryveagh Mountains. The park boasts the largest herd of red deer in Europe, as well as eagles, badgers, brown trout, and more. It is bordered on one side by the famed Poisoned Glen. It hosts a castle that was built to resemble Balmoral, Queen Victoria's Scottish highland residence, with a four-story keep and turrets made of thick granite, and it is placed in an estate of over 40,000 acres. It is filled with exotic gardens. The name of its creator, John George Adair, still incites anger and hatred from the people of the area. Songs of his perfidious nature have been sung for over a century. The "damned Scotsman" is still cursed in this beautiful place.

John Adair was born in County Laois. His family had emigrated to Ireland from Scotland prior to his father's birth. He attended Trinity College, Dublin, where he was trained for the British diplomatic service. At an early age, he had entered the military, and discovered it was not to be to his liking. He left with the commission of captain. Later, he would go into land investing, something that he would prove to be very good at.

Adair's first trip to the area in 1857 caused him to fall in love with Glenveagh. After his visit, he immediately began planning to buy property. He purchased the chief rent of Derryveagh and Glendowan in 1857 and bought out the interests of the major tenants. He also bought from the ecclesiastical commissioners the lands from Gartan to Devlin. By 1859, the estate totaled 11,300 hectares. He did not acquire the rights for gaming and fowling, so the tenants did not have to allow him to hunt on the property, and they didn't. On one occasion they harassed his hunt by beating the bushes and surrounding him so he couldn't shoot. He threatened revenge on the dozen who had played havoc upon him. In 1859 Adair acquired title to all of Derryveagh and was in a position, if he so desired, to carry out his threat.

Adair convinced the Royal Irish Constabulary to build a police barracks on the land. He also had an impound for "trespassing" livestock constructed. He

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then issued fines for straying animals and had a number of tenants prosecuted for sheep stealing. Adair caused further ill feeling by bringing Scotsmen to work on his estate. James Murray, from Perthshire, Scotland, was an estate manager for Adair. In November 1860, he went out with two dogs to go to the main house, but was beaten to death on the way there. No one was ever arrested for the crime, and the tenants all maintained they knew nothing of the crime.

At Christmas 1860, Adair told the tenant families that he was contemplating "rearranging the farm boundaries". With that, farmers were on notice that evictions would occur early in the following year.

On St. Patrick's Day in 1861, Adair obtained a Writ of "Habere" giving him the right to take possession of the land and houses in Derryveagh. Adair got a 203 man Constabulary force to carry out the evictions. The families were thrown out of their houses over the course of two days in April. Forty-six houses and 47 families, with a total of 244 people, ended up homeless. Most ended up in the county poorhouse, or workhouse. Later, the majority moved to Australia.

Adair would add to the castle and the gardens, but then in 1869 he married American Cornelia Wadsworth Ritchie, the widow of Union general Montgomery Harrison Ritchie. They split their time between Ireland, England, and New York. Cornelia became a naturalized British citizen. One of her nephews was Republican U.S. Senator James Wolcott Wadsworth, Jr., of New York..

Adair would chafe at life in New York, and he and Cornelia would move his brokerage office to Pueblo, Colorado, in 1874. There they met Charles Goodnight, a Texan originally from Illinois. Goodnight convinced them to purchase a large holding of land on the Texas panhandle that was good for grazing cattle. (He also took Adair for a buffalo hunt, but the only thing the Irishman shot was himself in the leg, and his horse.) The Adairs and Goodnight then became partners in the JA Ranch, which Goodnight would manage and stock. Goodnight had a free hand in managing the ranch and speedily increased the acreage until it reached 1,335,000 acres in its peak year in 1883, in portions of six Texas counties and boasted 100,000 head of cattle. Adair visited the ranch only three times in his life. .

John Adair died in St. Louis on his way back to Ireland in 1885, and was buried in Glenveagh. Cornelia Adair took over her husband's share of the cattle operation and maintained a hands-on interest for the rest of her life. She did not remarry after Adair's death. She lived part of the time at Glenveagh Castle, and, unlike Adair, was popular, improved the beauty of the castle grounds, and was considerate of the townspeople. She, too, is interred in Glenveagh.

Glenveagh was to pass through a number of owners, until Henry McIlhenney bought Glenveagh in 1937. He was an Irish-American whose grandfather, John McIlhenney invented the first gas meter. On buying the castle, he at once started to search for contents to fill the building, but his plans were interrupted by the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939. He was to return after the war and continue his redecoration. In 1975 he agreed to the sale of the Glenveagh estate to the Office of Public Works, allowing for the creation of a

national park. In 1983, he bestowed the castle on the Nation, along with the gardens. He died unexpectedly in Philadelphia in 1986, at the age of 75. Glenveagh National Park opened to the public in 1984, while the castle was opened in 1986, a few months after its last private owner had passed away.

Ironically, the young John Adair had stood for Parliament as a Tenants' Rights candidate, and had been described in the Young Ireland newspaper The Nation in 1847 as "a cultured young squire". However, events after his death brought a bit of cold served revenge to the residents of the area. Cornelia had the face of a large rock inscribed with his name and the inscription "Brave, Just and Generous". However, a bolt of lightning shattered the rock, and it fell into the lake. Two years after his death, Adair's Bellegrave House, also in Ireland, was reduced to ruins in a fire.

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### **Milwaukee President's Message**

I have been privileged to return for another term as the Shamrock Club's president. For those of you saying, "She's back?" Yes, another year together relishing our heritage. Thanks again to all of you that have given me your condolences, in the passing of my husband. His long term as our membership chair, was a task he worked with great diligence and care. As this new board convenes, the tradition will continue.

We start with celebrating the nation's birthday this month, and with any luck, there will be great weather, and plenty of fireworks at the parks. Go to the parks, enjoy the day, and be ever so glad to be an American. A holiday without gifts to buy, good food, and fun, can't be bad. Remember to take time to thank any service member you may see. Without their sacrifice, we wouldn't enjoy our privileges. For those of our members that served with pride, your service to our country is greatly appreciated by all of us.

With new board members coming in this year, we welcome our new vice president, Sandy Quinlan, new treasurer John Fisher, new secretary Linda Tuescher new membership chair Noell Tyla, and new trustee Mary Culver. Returning members are Josh Walton, parliamentarian, Malkin Wallace, sergeant-at-arms, Noreen Barclay, Senior Trustee, and Kathy Donovan, Junior Trustee. I want to thank the members leaving the board for all their work in the past. Thanks to Peter and Dawn Fleming, Marianne Fisher, and Pat Fitzgibbons for their great work and loyalty to the club. The amount of volunteer time these four people gave to the club all year long, should be applauded by all of us. Thanks are not enough, and I will miss all of you greatly, especially your wisdom and humor. The Board will be installed by Judge Denis Moroney on Thursday July 10. The dinner for this event will be at Aliota's Restaurant on Mayfair Road and Burleigh St. at 6 p.m. We are planning to see you there to start the new year surrounded by friends and family. We will open the cash bar at 6 p.m., followed by the buffet dinner at 7 p.m. After dinner we would like to have a few surprise opportunities to entertain us all.

The Milwaukee Hurling Club continues to grow and prosper, and we remind you to check out their schedule at [www.hurling.net] for times and locations. The Shamrock Club team, the Griffins, would be so pleased to see some of you in attendance. They are usually playing at Brown Deer Park, and have graciously agreed to host our annual picnic there this year. The date will coincide with the playoffs on August 10.

The business meeting in August will be back at the Irish Cultural and Heritage Center. The address is 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave, Milwaukee beginning at 7 p.m. At this meeting, we will have Jane Anderson give us the details on Irish Fest. Jane will be happy to answer any and all questions you may have, or get the answer if she doesn't know. We'll have the raffle including some of the Irish Fest tickets we receive as Irish Fest sponsors.

– **Julie Smith, President**

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## Chapter News

**LaFayette County** was involved in Canoe Fest in Darlington on June 15. The Club Picnic will take place August 9 in Shullsburg at the East Shelter House. The Club will provide brats and hotdogs, 1 p.m. On Monday, August 4, Author Ann O'Farrell will be speaking and signing books at the Johnson Public Library in Darlington. There will be books to purchase, time for discussion and book signing. Ann will also discuss many aspects of Ireland, myths, traditions, culture and, of course, her book. 6:30-8 p.m.

**La Crosse** will have its next general meeting on Wednesday, July 9, at the Cedar Creek Country Club. Dinner is at 6 p.m., and the meeting will be 7 p.m. The Date was changed due to a conflict with an Irishfest meeting. The following dates are from our calendar for the rest of 2008:

- July 16 – Irishfest/Lax Volunteer Meeting at UWL
- Aug. 8-10 – Irishfest La Crosse
- Aug. 20 – Board Meeting, Cedar Creek Country Club
- Sept. 20 – TBA 1/2 way to St. Pat's
- Sept. 27 – Oktoberfest Parade La Crosse
- Oct. 1 – Oktoberfest Heritage Night
- Oct. 2 – Torchlight Parade
- Oct. 15 – Board Meeting, Cedar Creek
- Nov. 19 – General Meeting, Cedar Creek
- Nov. 22 – Rotary Lights Tree Trimming; tba
- Nov. 28 – Rotary Lights Parade, tba
- Dec. 3 – Christmas Party; Freight House Restaurant; 6 p.m.

**Green Bay and North East Wisconsin** will hold its next meeting on Monday July 21. It is our summer picnic at Bay Beach. Invitations are forth coming.

Officers for 2008-09 are: President Mike Trulley; Vice President Barb Basche; Treasurer Sue Whitney; Secretary Arlene Malone; Sergeant-At-Arms Arlene Malone; Parliamentarian Adam Warpinski; Trustee 1 - Pat Schneider; Trustee 2 - Kay Danen; Newsletter Publisher/Editor Joan Kreuser; Membership Chair Kate Sabel; Past President/Webmaster Jon Kolb.

Regular meetings will start again in September at the Downtown Holiday Inn.

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### **South Central Shamrock News for July**

Happy Birthday Wishes to our July Birthday Members; Dean Du Bois 7/1, Bob Howley 7/4 our 4th of July guy!!, Colleen Du Bois 7/5, Mark Cummings 7/5, Kathy Horkan 7/6, Pat Malone, Sr. 7/9, Luanne Krohn 7/10, Mick Krohn 7/24, Dennis Murray 7/26, Dan Horkan 7/28, Rose Lee 7/31.

July Anniversary Blessings to to Bill and Pat Wilde on July 16.

Maurice Joseph Madden died on Friday, May 30, 2008 at St. Clare Hospital in Baraboo. Our Deepest Sympathy to Roseann and family, the club meetings and parties will not be the same without our Mauri to always have that dazzling Irish smile to greet us all.

He was born in his family home in Marquette County to Loretta (Duffy) and Frank Madden. Mauri graduated from Portage High School and received his Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1950. He was a World War II veteran, serving in the U.S. Coast Guard. Mauri married Rosann Siegelin on July 28, 1951. They have resided in Baraboo since 1958. He served as manager of the Federal Land Bank Association in Baraboo for 30 years, and retired in 1985.

He had a great love of flying and sailing, which led him to build his own airplane and sailboats. Mauri was a member of the Golden Kiwanis, Fortnightly, American Legion Post 26, Knights of Columbus, EAA, and the Shamrock Club. He was awarded "Irishman of the Year" in 1991.

Mauri and Rosann have four daughters, Mary Patricia (Jim) Sanfilippo, Kathleen Ann Kivlin, Jane Frances (Dave) Bohren, and Margaret Ellen (Dave) Soma. He has five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; a sister, Carol Madden of Portage; and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and seven brothers and sisters.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at 7 p.m. on Sunday, June 1, 2008 at St. Joseph Catholic Church with Father Larry Bakke officiating. Burial was in St. Andrew Cemetery in Buffalo Township, Marquette County.

Irish Fest dates are August 14-17.

Blessing for the 4th of July:

*While the red flame of sunset warms each of you  
And snow white clouds point to heaven's door  
May you be wrapped in Mary's mantle blue and your land be free for  
evermore  
May God grant you long years of life  
And liberty to serve each other's needs  
May happiness chase all foolish strife  
May you seek His spirit in each word and deed.*

Edited and adapted from a blessing by Fr. Greeley

No meetings in July or August.

Happy Summer,

**– Dana Horkan-Gant,  
South Central Chairperson**

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## **Milwaukee Hurling Club**

The Shamrock Club Griffins have had a slow start for the 2008 season. Through the first two matches, the Griffins played well, but came up short on the score. Captain's Joe Blanchar and Dan McAullife head up the team.

The roster for the 2008 team is as follows: Greg Baker; Ivan Baker; Joe Blanchar (C); Shawn Connolly; Thomas Fisher; Danielle Gibeault; Dieter Hanamann; Jack Harrold; Mark Lasky; Eric Lemmer; Christopher Lovy; Dan McAuliffe (C); John McCarville; Chad Parrott; Jamie Phillips; Tim Russell; Jake Schaefer; Mike Schloemer; Craig Wentworth; Mike Wichmann.

We wish to thank former captain Mike Larson for his years of working with the Griffins. Mike is now playing for the County Clare team.

Matches in July and August will be played at Brown Deer Park. The schedule is as follows:

- July 13 (11 a.m.) Shamrock Club vs. Wolski's
- July 20 (3:30 p.m.) Packy's vs. Shamrock Club
- July 27 (3:30 p.m.) Ale House vs. Shamrock Club
- Aug. 3 County Clare vs. Shamrock Club
- Aug. 10 (12:30 and 2 p.m.) Playoffs
- Aug. 24 (2 p.m.) MHC Championship; Brown Deer Park

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## Color Guard News and Notes

The Shamrock Club Color Guard Pipes and Drums will have a full and exciting summer ahead. Here are a list of our parades for the upcoming season:

- July 4 – Bailey’s Harbor; Bailey’s Harbor, WI
- July 6 – East Troy 4th of July; East Troy, WI
- July 29 – South Milw. Heritage Days; South Milw., WI
- August 2 – Sheboygan Brat Days; Sheboygan, WI
- August 15-17 – Milwaukee Irish Fest; Milwaukee, WI;
- October 17-19 – Sister Bay Fall Festival; Sister Bay, WI

We always need banner carriers, so if you would like to see the State of Wisconsin, travel with us.

Congrats to Kylie Mervin, JJ Garsombke, and Sean Cavanaugh for winning the Ted Nestor Scholarships for the Milwaukee School of Piping at Alverno College this year. They are learning so very fast. They also got to perform at the huge Thursday night concert, one really large blast. Congratulations also to Greg Long, who recently left the group. He was named a Young Ambassador by the St. Patrick Centre in Downpatrick, NI. He spent time in Belfast, and got to meet the Irish president.

Our lakefront rehearsals are doing well. At least when we aren’t dodging rain. We aren’t ducks, but we are beginning to feel that way after the soggy late spring and early summer. We plan to have a number of killer performances at Milwaukee’s Irish Fest. Maybe the early rain will keep us dry for August. Cross your fingers.

Well, it is off to the installation dinner on July 10. I will see you there, dressed to the nines, or tens, if you can.

– Noel Tylla, 5th year piper

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## Shamrock Club Halfway to St Patrick’s Mass and Breakfast

The Shamrock Club board approved the idea of a Halfway to St Patrick’s Day Mass and Breakfast at the ICHC. It is scheduled for Saturday, September 13. The Mass is scheduled tentatively for 10 a.m. A full Irish breakfast will be served after the Mass. More details will be announced in the August *Reflections*.

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## **Ted Nestor Awards.**

The Ted Nestor Drumming and Piping Scholarships for 2008 were awarded to Kylie Mervin, JJ Garsombke, and Sean Cavanaugh. The scholarships must be used at the Milwaukee Piping School 2008, which was held at Alverno College. All three are members of the Shamrock Club Color Guard Pipes and Drums.

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## **Budget Hearing**

The Shamrock Club budget review took place on May 14. Present were Marianne Fisher; John Fisher; Josh Walton; Julie Smith; Bob Voss; Tom Blaha; Brian Witt; and Pat Fitzgibbons. The budget was reviewed, changes were suggested, and the entire package will be voted on at the June 2008 board meeting.

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## **Volunteers Needed At Irish Fest**

We will need volunteers at the Milwaukee Irish Fest in our sales and cultural tent areas. Our sales area will be open Thursday night, from 5 p.m. as well as Friday, Saturday and Sunday. In the Cultural tent information area we will be open Friday at 4 p.m. until 11 p.m., Saturday, noon to 11 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. We need people for four hour shifts. We will give people participant passes, as well as food tickets. Contact Noreen Barclay at (262) 695-8563 or [nabarclay@earthlink.net] for the Sales area. Contact Brian Witt at (414) 423-4383 or [briangwitt@shamrockclubwis.com] for the Cultural information area.

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## **Shamrock Club of Wisconsin Annual Family Best Ball Golf and Dinner Outing**

## **Sunday August 24, 2008**

Edgewater Golf Club, Grafton

1762 W. Cedar Creek Road

(I-43 north to Hwy 60, west 1.7 miles to 12th Avenue, right 1.4 miles to Cedar Creek Road, left to course)

There will be Door Prizes, a Putting Contest, and other events too numerous to mention. AWARDS to be presented during dinner

Golf will begin at 1 p.m. (Carts Included)

Cocktail Hour: 4:30–5:30 / Buffet Dinner: 5:30–7:00

For information contact Ken Tehan:

Home# (414) 762-2723 or

Cell# (414) 530-4692

[Click here for sign-up sheet in Acrobat format.](#)

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## **Celtic Spirit Feis**

On Sunday, July 20, the inaugural Celtic Spirit Feis will take place at the Pettit National Ice Center, 500 South 84th Street. The Shamrock Club is excited to be one of the sponsors of the event. We will need volunteers for the day. If you wish to help out, please sign up at the ICHC, or email us at [info@shamrockclubwis.com].

The Feis will run from 8:30 a.m. at Pettit National Ice Center with registration beginning at 7:30 a.m. An Opening Ceremony will start the event. Feis Competition begins promptly at 8:30 a.m. Advance check-in will take place the day before from 2 to 4 p.m. at Pettit National Ice Center. Mass will be celebrated when the competitions are completed, approx. 5 p.m. in the Pettit Center's Bronze room (downstairs).

Watch for additional information once it becomes available.

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## **Young Ambassadors**

On May 18, 2008, the Milwaukee Chapter of the Friends of St. Patrick had a presentation featuring Tim Campbell, the director of the Saint Patrick Centre in Downpatrick, County down. Dr. Campbell named the Friends

2008 Young Ambassadors. They are: Megan Hupp, Gregory Long, Elizabeth Long, and Caitlin Ward. Both Greg Long and Caitlin Ward are members of the Shamrock Club. They will be spending part of July at Queens University, Belfast. In addition, they will be having tea with the President of Ireland, Mary McAleese, at her home, Áras an Uachtaráin. Greg was until recently a member of the Shamrock Club Color Guard Pipes and Drums. Caitlin is the daughter of Ed and Cathy Ward.

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## Scholarships

The Shamrock Club awarded three \$500 Irish Studies scholarships at the June meeting. The winners were Kenton Farmer, Julie Pikulik, and Sarah Kortsch. All three are using their awards to study at the Oideas Gael Irish Immersion School in Glencolmille, County Donegal.

In addition, the Milwaukee chapter of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Shamrock Club are awarding the 2008 Shamrock Club/AOH Milwaukee Irish Studies Scholarship to Joseph Nelson, of Milwaukee, in the amount of \$500. Joe will also use his award to study at the Oideas Gael.

Congratulations to all four.

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## Milwaukee Celtic

The Milwaukee Celtic Soccer Team was supposed to have finished its spring season on June 29, but due to inclement weather, games are now set for July 6 at Reservoir Park, 97 and Lapham, against CD Aguila at noon. Our fall season starts in September. Chhck our site at [www.milwaukeecelticsc.com].

– Eric Schotz

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## Hank Aaron Trail Run-Walk August 9

If you are interested in participating in the 2008 Hank Aaron Trail Run Walk

on August 9, please contact Brian Witt at [briangwitt@shamrockclubwis.com] or (414) 423-4383. Last year, a team was fielded that set a record time. We were dead last, but we did it with panache.

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## **AOH September 17 Event**

The AOH Milwaukee Division Membership Night will be Wednesday, September 17 at 7:15 p.m. at the ICHC. Entertainment is by Barry Dodd. Meet the members and find out about the AOH qualification: Irish by descent and Catholic. Visit [<http://www.aohmilwaukee.com>] for more information.

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## **Milwaukee Shamrock Club Picnic**

A Day of Food, Fun and Frolic

Brown Deer Park, Area #2

**AUGUST 10, 2008 • noon. til 6 p.m.**

- Beverages • Hamburgers • Hot Dogs • Veggie Burgers and Sausages  
Please bring a dessert or vegetable tray to pass
- Piping by the Shamrock Club Color Guard Pipes and Drums
- Kids Games

More Information to be announced

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## **Installation Dinner 2008**

**Thursday, July 10, 2008**

Alioto's (Mayfair Rd. and Burleigh St.)

Cocktails (Cash Bar): 6:00 pm

Dinner Buffet: 6:30 pm

Ceremony / Swearing in of Officers: 8:00 pm

Cost: \$25 Per person / Reservation Deadline: June 30, 2008

Installation Dinner Reservation Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_ / Price: \$25 @ / TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: Julie Smith,  
2133 West Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53233  
(414) 384-4119

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## **RTE News Items**

### **IAWS to merge with Swiss baker**

Food group IAWS, which owns Cuisine de France, has announced a merger with Swiss bakery firm Hiestand. The Irish company already had a 32% shareholding in Hiestand. The two companies will have combined sales of €2.3 billion.

Both companies specialise in the bakery and convenience food markets but they have different geographic spreads. IAWS has businesses in North America, while Hiestand is in Australia and Japan.

IAWS has agreed to buy another 32% of Hiestand owned by private equity company Lion Capital for €30m in cash and 12.7 million new shares. It will now make an offer for the remaining shares.

The new company will be called Aryzta, and is due to be listed on the Irish and Swiss stock exchanges. The merger is planned to be completed later this year.

Aryzta will be chaired by Denis Lucey and Owen Killian will be chief executive. Mr Killian said the deal would create a global food business with a geographical reach extending from North America through eastern and western Europe to South East Asia and Australia.

Mr. Killian later told reporters that the new company would be tax resident in Switzerland, where corporation tax is 35%. 'We pay tax in every location in which we are operating today so this is neither a driver of our decision to base there, nor is it much of a drawback,' he said. Mr. Killian said the future challenges facing the group were the same as if the firms were still separate.

### **First votes cast in Lisbon referendum**

The first votes in the Lisbon Treaty referendum were cast on the islands off the coast of Donegal. Polling in the 28th Amendment of the Constitution Bill 2008 took place on five Donegal islands: Arranmore, Gola, Inishbofin, Inishfree and Tory. In total 745 people are entitled to vote on the islands, which are part of the Donegal South West constituency.

A majority of 516 are registered on Arranmore Island, where two polling stations were open. Traditionally these islands have voted ahead of the rest of Donegal because of the possibility that bad weather might cut the islands off and ballot boxes would not reach the count centre in time to be counted with the rest of the constituency's votes.

Ballot boxes and returning officers were brought to and from the islands by the Aer Corps helicopter and by ferry and were securely stored on the mainland until Friday, when they were counted with the rest of the Donegal votes.

The Taoiseach has accused the No campaign in the referendum of misinformation and hypocrisy. Taoiseach Brian Cowen said he had been told by his party members that canvassers from the No campaign who visited houses in his constituency in Tullamore had told residents their sons would be asked to enroll for a European army if Ireland votes Yes to the Lisbon Treaty. Mr Cowen said this level of misinformation was typical of the No campaign. He rejected suggestions that officials were working on a set of proposals to deal with the eventuality of a No vote in Ireland. This is Plan B, Mr. Cowen said. He said there is no Plan C, regardless of speculation.

### **Protest over Bord na Móna pensions**

More than 200 Bord na Móna pensioners protested at a function attended by Taoiseach Brian Cowen in Co Offaly. They were demonstrating over a €15m deficit in the semi-state peat company's superannuation scheme.

Mr. Cowen was in Tullamore attending the 13th International Peat Congress, a week-long event attended by 500 delegates from over 20 countries.

The pensioners from Offaly, Westmeath, Kildare, Laois and Longford protested outside the Tullamore Court Hotel. They are claiming that their pensions have lost 25% in value due to inflation over the last six years, and Bord na Móna has failed to invest in the scheme.

The Taoiseach said the pensioners dispute is a matter for Bord na Móna to resolve, but on leaving the Conference he stopped and spoke to pensioners protesting at the entrance to the hotel.

A spokesperson for the pensioners group told RTÉ News that the Taoiseach had promised them that he would ask officials in his department to raise the issue with the company and try to expedite the matter.

The Managing Director of Bord na Móna, Gabriel D'Arcy, has said the company is in the middle of reforming the two pension schemes it operates.

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## Join the Shamrock Club

You can enjoy your Irish roots, or love of Ireland's culture, all year long with a membership in the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin. We really would like you to help us in our celebration of Irish life. You will be a part of one of the most historic and distinguished Irish organizations in this country. But we don't want to rest on our laurels. After a half century, we are just getting started. And we really want you to help us make the next half even better. Join. You know you have been putting it off, so now is the time to take the step. For the first time, or again.

Family \$25     Single \$20

New     Rejoin

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: This membership form for the Shamrock Club is for Milwaukee and New Dublin chapters at the \$20/\$25 rate. Other chapters have higher dues structures and must be contacted separately.**

Mail to: Milwaukee Membership Chair  
Shamrock Club of Wisconsin  
2133 W. Wisconsin Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53233

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## Sunshine Club

Danny O'Donoghue was recently hospitalized. If you have any information about members, please contact me, Joe Donovan, (414) 259-8040.

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## Members Doings

Gail and Tom McAleese celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary recently. Joe and Catherine Donovan celebrated their 64th anniversary.

Ciaran Blaha, grandson of Maggie and Tom Blaha, made his theatrical debut at St. Margaret Mary's Church. Caitlin Ward is traveling to Florida to finish college. She will be living in the Orlando area.

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## New Members

Tim and Nancy Sheehan – White Fish Bay; Jennie Ceszynski McGrath – Milwaukee; Kelly Fadeski, Greenfield; Joseph and Elizabeth Konetz, Franklin; Westown Association, C/o Stacie Callies, Milwaukee. Following referred by Milwaukee Hurling Club: David McHenry, White Fish Bay; Thomas Sanbourin, Milwaukee; Paul and Mary McBride, White Fish Bay; Thomas Hereley, Milwaukee; Russ and Karen Fink, Milwaukee; Matt and Rachel Larsen, Brown Deer.

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## Bylaws Committee Review 2008

We will be having a bylaws review in 2008. If you have any suggestions on changes, please send them to Josh Walton, 2133 West Wisconsin Avenue. Bylaws are reviewed every other year.

The current Bylaws of the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin are available in Acrobat format by clicking [here](#).

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