



## May 2008

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## It All Comes Back To The Irish – In England

*by Brian Witt*

A recent trip across town had me listening to a business show. The topic was the opening of the new International terminal at Heathrow Airport in London. Sir Willie Walsh, Chief Executive Officer of British Air, was quoted. A person by the name of Reilly with a London accent was also interviewed as to why the airport should not be expanded. The first thing that came to mind was the old joke, "If the English give back the North of Ireland, the Irish will give back the South of London."

Sir Willie, as it turns out, is a Dubliner. He was the head of Aer Lingus until 2005 when he was named CEO of British Air. Still, with all the Irish names bandied about, it made me stop for a bit.

A few years back, writer Frank McCourt was talking about a visit he and others had to Thomas Jefferson's home of Monticello. It was a part of the "Re-Imagining Ireland" conference we attended at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville in 2003. When told of Jefferson's Ulster builders, McCourt said, "I then realized it always goes back to the Irish. No matter what, or where, you will always find an Irish connection."

There has been an Irish presence in England for as long as there was a country. From medieval times forward, the Irish have held forth in various parts of England and English society, from lords to laborers and everything in between. Land records show that a family of Walshes held title to manor houses Woolstrop and farms in Netheredge in Quedgeley from the 1200s.

Another interesting Irish connection is the Irish Queen of England, Elizabeth I. Her mother, Anne Boleyn, was related to the Butlers of Ormonde in Kilkenny. Anne's grandfather, Thomas Butler, was the 7th Earl of Ormonde. His daughter, Margaret Butler, married William Boleyn, and they had Anne, Mary and a son who survived to adulthood. Then came the Reformation, the beheading of Anne, and four more wives, before Elizabeth came to power.

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Edmund Burke, philosopher and leader of the Whig Party, was a Dubliner by birth as was his friend, Oliver Goldsmith, and Richard Brinsley Sheridan, author of the plays *School for Scandal* and *The Rivals*. The Duke of Wellington was also born in Dublin, a fact he felt he had to live down for the rest of his life. And those lovely Bronte sisters? Well, their father was born Patrick Brunty in Ireland in 1777. The reason for the name change is not known, but it has been suggested the father altered the family appellation to Brontë as a young man because one of his political heroes, Lord Nelson, had been made the Duke of Bronti in Italy.

The first and largest Irish colony in London could be found in St. Giles in the Fields in the 1600s. But by the early nineteenth century Irish migrants could be found living in all parts of the capital with the exception of the City within the walls. Irish communities included Whitechapel and Saffron Hill, Poplar and Southwark, and perhaps most notoriously in the Calmel Buildings off Orchard Street in Marylebone.

The greatest flow of emigration from Ireland to England occurred in the early to mid-nineteenth century in response to the agricultural depressions following the Napoleonic Wars. There was also the increased demand for Irish labor to fuel the Industrial Revolution. But by this time Irish communities had been a common part of the London scene for at least two hundred years. Irish soldiers discharged from the army ended up stranded in London and other English cities.

The northern English cities became focal points for Irish immigration. Manchester has a large Irish population, as does Liverpool. Manchester's Irish communities started in the late 1700s, due to the rise of the number of factories in that area. Manchester's Irish were also the focus of Friedrich Engels' report of the depraved living conditions in that city, many of whom were working for him in his factories. Although the first Irish are noted on the city roles in 1378, Liverpool became an Irish majority city during the Famine of the 1840s when people found that their passage to the States or Canada had only got them across the Irish Sea.

In 2001, there were 674,786 people in England (1.4% of the population) who had been born in Ireland. This is the greatest concentration of Irish-born — as distinct from persons of Irish ancestry — abroad anywhere in the world, and equivalent to 12.1% of the population of the island of Ireland. Those numbers don't really reflect the numbers of assimilated Irish in the country. The estimates are that, similar to the United States, about 20% of the population claims to have Irish ancestry, some more stridently than others. That means there are about 10 million people that are sons and daughters of Erin, or about double the current census in Ireland.

The list of Irish in England might surprise some. Among them are: Tony Blair; Lord Kitchener; Elizabeth Bowen; James Callaghan; Lewis Carroll; General Thomas Kelly-Kenny; Arthur Conan Doyle; Alfred Hitchcock; T. E. Lawrence of Arabia; Viscount Montgomery of Alamein; General Richard O'Connor; Dusty Springfield, aka Mary O'Brien; Arthur Sullivan of Gilbert and Sullivan; David Bowie; Kate

Bush; Dido; Patrick Mayhew; Shane MacGowan; John “Johnny Rotten” Lydon; Alan Rickman; Noel and Liam Gallagher; Jeremy Irons; Elizabeth Hurley; Daniel Day-Lewis; Ray and Dave Davies; Steven Morrissey; Boy George O’Dowd; Gordon Matthew Sumner, aka “Sting”; Catherine Zeta-Jones; Elvis Costello, born Declan MacManus.

Does it always go back to the Irish in England? Not really. But if one looks closely enough, it might.

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# **Wisconsin Shamrock Club State Advisory Board Meeting**

### **Next Meeting May 3 – New London.**

The Wisconsin Shamrock Club State Advisory Board met at Erin’s Irish Snug in Madison on February 23, 2008. Members present were Jason and Tiffany Donahoe (LaFayette County), John Delmore (South Central), Harry and Pat McCarthy, Magaret Rupert and Cheryl Sullivan (Dane County), Brian Witt (Milwaukee), Tom (Mooch) and Judi Barrington (New Dublin), and Linda Pfaff and guest, Joy McEndree (LaCrosse).

Vice-President John Delmore called the meeting to order. The minutes from the November 23 meeting were reviewed and approved. The treasurer has \$200 held in the Dane County Shamrock Club account.

Our president, Cate Harris resigned from her position. Cate has done an outstanding job in her role as president for a number of years. Our many thanks to Cate for all her work and time that she spent as president of the club.

Our vice-president, John Delmore accepted the position of President and Jason Donahoe was nominated and elected as vice-president. Congratulations to John and Jason as they begin their new positions.

All the clubs were busy planning for their St Patrick’s Day events and everyone shared their schedules. Parades, dinners and all kinds of Irish entertainment will fill the days celebrating St. Patrick’s Day.

Ann O’Farrell, Irish author of *Norah’s Children* will be touring Wisconsin again in August 2008 for book talks and signings for the sequel to *Norah’s Children*, *Michael*, which was recently published. Ann has a schedule posted on her website at [[www.annofarrell.net](http://www.annofarrell.net)] of the locations that she will visit. She will be at La Crosse Irish Fest and Milwaukee Irish Fest plus many other locations throughout Wisconsin.

An article from the January *Emerald Reflections*: The Rock County chapter has officially dissolved. They notified the State of Wisconsin that they were ending their corporation. All funds of their chapter were used

to pay outstanding bills and the rest were donated to three charitable organizations: the Salvation Army, St. Elizabeth's Home and HealthNet, a medical facility for the poor. All three are based in Janesville. The reasons for dissolution were the loss of membership by the group, and the inability to attract new members. Notice was sent to the State chapter on November 21, 2007.

The next meeting will be held Saturday, May 3 at noon at Shamrock Heights Golf Course, New London. Judi and Mooch Barrington will host the meeting. Please let them know if you plan to attend. Phone: (920) 982-5892 or via email at [barring4@athenet.net]. The address is: Old Hwy 45 in New London. If you Google it for a map, it may still be listed as New London Golf Course. The place changed names over a year ago but it takes awhile for the maps to catch up. Since it is a golf course, if there is anyone who would like to golf either before or after the meeting they can call the course for tee times (920) 982 -9993 or e-mail Judi or Mooch.

Respectfully submitted,

**Pat McCarthy, Secretary**

**March 31, 2008**

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

Tiocfaidh an samhradh agus fásfaidh an fhear. Tiocfaidh an duilliúr ghlas ar bharr na gcráobh. Summer will come and the grass will spring. And the trees will bring forth their foliage green.

Welcome to May. Bealtane was the start of summer in Ireland. The final planting of crops was completed, and the rest was left to tending and chance. The more the tending, the less the chance of a bad harvest. We have our yearly elections this month. Please vote. Although most seats are non-contested, it is still my feeling that the more involved in an organization people are, the more it will strengthen and grow. Whomever wins, it will be a strong board.

Please attend our honoree dinner on May 18 at Serb Hall. It is always a nice affair. Dinner is \$25 for one or \$50 for a couple. What a wonderful way to fete our Irishman, Irish Rose, and Parade Marshal. On a slightly different note but in the same vein, I was asked why we had separate categories for the men and women. This was from a former Irish Rose. I said we get to honor even more people that way. In the many years I was on the board, I often wondered who we would get to fill the positions but was always delighted and surprised by those who won. People step up and give to the Club and the community.

I received a copy of the March Reflections that was done up in red ink,

and had a book of proper punctuation sent along with it. I have had some problems with my new Office 2007, which has a hard time playing well with other Microsoft products. It kills most of my documents that I send myself. However, if I send something out with errors in it, I am free game to shoot at, as I should have caught them. I suppose that the person who read it did me a favor, by actually going through the entire article. Thank you for that.

Thanks to Heather Majusiak and Allan Lacosse on the planning on the Dinner Train. New events occasionally take time to come together. At least we do try new events. And speaking of new, we have had this up for a while, but we do have a Myspace listing. Will Conroy covers that for us. [[http://www.myspace.com/shamrock\\_club\\_of\\_wi](http://www.myspace.com/shamrock_club_of_wi)]

Don't forget to buy those memberships for family and friends. You can download applications on our website.

Our entertainment for May will be the Rince Nia School of Dance, under the direction of Sean Beglan. We will meet in the Hallamor. See you in May. Goodness, only one more President's Message left for me.

The words at the start of my column are from one of my favorite songs. It may be one of unrequited love and losing the girl to another, but it is a beautiful air and the words are great.

Turas maith, agus slán abhaile. Good journey and safe home.

– Brian Witt

[Briangwitt@shamrockclubwis.com](mailto:Briangwitt@shamrockclubwis.com)

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## **Honoree Dinner May 18**

Milwaukee's Honoree Dinner will be May 18 at Serb Hall, 51 and Oklahoma. Food choices will be Stuffed Pork Chops, Lemon Chicken, or Top Sirloin. Please contact Brian Witt at (414) 423-4383 for reservations. This dinner will honor our 2008 Irish honorees, Joseph Hughes, Linda Tuescher, and Del Canon.

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## **Shamrock Club of Wisconsin Honoree Dinner**

Sunday, May 18, 2008

Please join us in honoring the Irishman of the Year Joseph Hughes, Irish Rose Linda Tuescher, and Parade Marshal Del Canon

Serb Hall, 5101 West Oklahoma Avenue, Milwaukee, WI

Cost: \$25 per person / \$50 per couple includes tax and tip

Cocktails 5 pm (Cash Bar) • Dinner 6 pm

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

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

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

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

Number of people attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Sit down dinner choices:

\_\_\_\_\_ Stuffed Pork Chops

\_\_\_\_\_ Lemon Chicken

\_\_\_\_\_ Top Sirloin

Make checks payable to the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin and mail to:

Brian Witt  
2133 W. Wisconsin Ave  
Milwaukee, WI 53233

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## Color Guard News and Notes

Hello. Is it May already? I've been chomping at the bit to write this month's article as I have some great news to share. First and foremost, a huge congratulations to Super Dave Culver, or is it Two Toes Tony? I can't remember. Just as I suspected and hoped, his audition made it thru and he is on his way to perform in the 300 member Bands of American Honor Band in the Rose Bowl Parade. This will be held January 1, 2009 in Pasadena, CA. I've worked with many of the band directors he'll meet from all over the world there and I know it will be a thrilling experience for him. Way to go, Dave. I knew you would make it!

Second bit of good news, albeit a bit late. This group showed its very best to the crowds of New Dublin's St. Patrick's Parade. In the process, it picked up not one, but two awards! Best Musical Entry and the Grand Marshal Award, which is Best in Show. This was up against some pretty great competition. Thank you to everyone in New Dublin for the enthusiastic support. We enjoyed being up there after a two year absence. And speaking of awards, thank you to the judges of Milwaukee's St. Patrick's Day parade for naming us "Best Musical Group". The awards are piling up ladies and gentleman!

The band continues practice for the start of our 2008 parade season and as soon as it's warmer, the color guard will head outside. We'll be at the MIA/POW moving wall in Oshkosh May 4th and I believe the Milwaukee Memorial Day Parade on May 26th. Check the web site for full details, as unfortunately at press time, I'm unsure. [www.sccgpd.com].

Also happening in May, the Shamrock Club Elections. No matter who you're rooting for, get yourself out and vote.

We have two members who are expecting new wee ones this year. I'll give you more info soon!

We also continue to grow and evolve. As we step off the parade line, you'll see some new faces, hear new pieces of music and such. Have you seen the new bass drum heads with the brand new design? Or the T-shirts with our "Big Green Machine"? Many have taken or are starting to take instrument lessons over the winter to improve, others have learned other instruments in the group, or have taken to learning the pipes altogether. Here's to 2008 everyone – Neart, Gra agus Onoir! If you need to translate that, try [www.irishgaelictranslator.com]. It's a great site.

Until June my friends.

– Noel Tylla, 5th year piper

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### **Spring Hallamór Concerts #4 & #5**

**COYOTE RUN**  
**May 10, 2008 8 p.m.**

"Coyote Run's music is undeniably Celtic in influence yet hops boundaries and stylistic borders with the ease and carefree nature of the trickster, the coyote." The music is true to the tradition and honors it through storytelling, and the magic of hearth and home. Most of the music is composed by David Doersch and is described as "New Celtic Alternative". This is due to influence of the heritage of the Scots and the Irish that is woven into the music. The music is truly eclectic, as are their musical instruments and all are played with tremendous talent. The six play highland games, fairs and festivals as well as concert halls adapting to each venue with precision and ease. No matter the venue, Coyote Run has terrific audience interaction. Everyone has a fantastic time, and that is another major reason for their popularity.

**THE MAKEM AND SPAIN BROTHERS**  
**May 23, 2008, 7:30 p.m.**



“The Makem Brothers with Mickey and Liam Spain are the definitive Irish folk singers of their generation,” says NY Chronicle. They are the only band that is driving Irish folk songs into the 21st century internationally. The Makem brothers: Shane, Conor and Rory, are the sons of the late Tommy Makem, the modern day Bard of Armagh. The Spain brothers, Mickey and Liam, also learned Irish songs from their father.

Not in the past 30 years has a group taken the international stage with such vocal power and stage presence, capturing the essence of their genre, while standing out as something truly unique. They are truly at their best onstage where their talent and enthusiasm draw in fans who have never experienced the joy of folk music. Folk songs are engrained in both families and their songwriting contains the timeless qualities of folk classics, songs of the worker, songs of the sea and Irish culture. They tell the tale of Ireland and her people.

Irish Cultural and Heritage Center  
2133 W. Wisconsin Ave. / Milwaukee, 53233  
[www.ichc.net] 414-345-8800  
Tickets: \$19 Advance/reserved, \$21 Day of Concert  
\$2 service fee for credit card orders.

– Gwen Sisk

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### **Celtic Women Lectures**

The Celtic Women First Friday Lecture Series will conclude this year at the Greene Hall on the UWM campus. The address is 3347 N. Downer Ave.

Directions: Greene Hall is located just north of Hartford Street (the second building north from Hartford. There is a small sign “Greene” on the building. (I suggest street parking; there is a convenient parking lot adjacent to Greene, but it is controlled by parking meters with various times on them. There are some for an hour, some for 15 minutes.)

**DATE: May 2, 2008**

**TOPIC: “The Druids: Fact and Fiction”**

**SPEAKER: Christine Hamlin, PhD**

For most people, the word ‘Druids’ conjures images of robed men conducting mysterious rituals at Stonehenge. This image owes more to the romanticized writings of 19th century Victorians than to the archaeological evidence from the Celtic Iron Age. Chris Hamlin will help you sort the fact from the fiction, comparing the archaeological and documentary evidence to later depictions of the Druids and their rituals.



As usual, there will be tea and cookies served. The next lecture for June is also scheduled for Greene Hall. Please come and enjoy the wrap-up for this year's schedule, eleven years of wonderful Celtic entertainment, education and enlightenment. 5:30 – 7 p.m. with \$7 admission..

– Jean Bills

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## **Celtic Fling Feis**

On Sunday, July 20, the inaugural Celtic Fling 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 7:30 a.m. at Pettit National Ice Center. Opening Ceremony begins at 8:15 a.m. Feis Competition begins promptly at 8:30 a.m. Advance check-in will take place the day before from 2 to 5 p.m. at Pettit National Ice Center. Mass will be celebrated at 5 p.m. in the Pettit Center's Bronze room (downstairs).

Watch for additional information once it becomes available.

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## **Milwaukee Irish Arts**

Milwaukee Irish Arts presents “The Blowing of Baile Gall” by Ronan Noone at the ICHC on Mothers Day Weekend. Showtimes are Thursday, May 8 at 8 p.m.; Friday, May 9 at 8 p.m.; Saturday, May 10 at 4 p.m.; Sunday, May 11 at 2 p.m. It concerns the renovation of a new house and age-old bigotries.

The play will also be the entry at the Acting Irish Festival in Rochester, NY.

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## **Milwaukee Hurling Club**

The Milwaukee Hurling Club is gearing up for the start of the new season. Our 2008 opening day is Sunday, May 18. We will again be playing at Brown Deer Park for the majority of the season. We have to move in mid-summer for the Greater Milwaukee Open.

The Shamrock Club Griffins will have a new captain this year. Mike Larsen is stepping down as co-captain. Dan McAuliffe will be joined by John Lindstrom in leading the team this year. The Griffins came oh so close in 2007, coming up short in the championship game.

Practices will be held at either Glen Hills Middle School, located at 2600 W. Mill Road, or Brown Deer Park. The first youth practice is Thursday, April 24 at Brown Deer Park. Practices will be held on Sundays at 1 p.m. and Thursdays at 6 p.m. Sunday practices will be eliminated after the start of the season.

The Hurling Club also has a new sponsor this year. Jameson's is going to be one of our lead sponsors. Slainte!

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### **David Francey**

Canadian singer-songwriter David Francey will bring his beautifully crafted songs, vivid stories, and wry humor back to the Irish Fest Center, 1532 Wauwatosa Ave., Milwaukee, on May 2. Tickets for the 8 p.m. concert are \$15.

David won a third JUNO - Album of the Year in the Roots and Traditional Music category for his seventh album, Right of Passage. This is the fourth nomination for the three-time JUNO (the Canadian equivalent of the Grammy) winner in the past six years. He was named one of the top 100 folk artists of the past 25 years in 2007 by WUMB, Boston's folk music station.

Call (414) 332-8521 or e-mail [kathy@turkeyhollow] for information.

– Kathy Schultz

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### **Shamrock Club of Wisconsin (Milwaukee) Alphabetical Listing of 2008–09 Candidates' Statements**

The 2008 Elections for the Milwaukee chapter will take place on Thursday, May 1, from 6 until 7:30 p.m. Here are the candidates for the following offices:

- President: Julie Smith
- Vice President: Dawn Fleming
- Vice President: Sandy Quinlan
- Secretary: Linda Tucscher
- Treasurer: John Fisher
- Sergeant-At-Arms: Malkin Wallace
- Parliamentarian: Josh Walton
- Membership Chair: Denis Donohoe
- Membership Chair: Noel Tylla
- Trustee: Sandy Culver

#### **SANDY CULVER**

I'm excited to start my 2nd "Green season" with the Shamrock Club. My boys Sean, David and Clay and I joined in September of 2006 after attending Irish Fest for the first time, and seeing the parade with the SCCGPD leading the way! That was a turning point for us as we had always embraced our Irish heritage with pride, the McNamara's on my father's side and the Kelleher's on my mother's. I've had a great time as a member of the club. I enjoyed my first Irish Fest as a member of the Color Guard and also being part of the transporting team. I loved meeting the Celtic Tenors! Holiday Folk Fair was a blast working with all the superb volunteers to make the Irish Food Booth a great success! I'm really excited about running for Trustee of the Shamrock Club board. I feel this club has been a great force in the Southeastern Wisconsin Irish community, and will continue to take positive strides in promoting all that is Irish. I look forward to the next three years in representing our Club.

#### **DENIS DONOHOE**

I am honored to be nominated for the Membership Chair and hope to follow in the footsteps of a great friend, Tom Smith. My wife, Karen (married 32 years, to each other) and I have been members of the Shamrock Club many years, helped to recruit members like Pete and Dawn Fleming plus others, and volunteered behind the scenes on many activities and events. I have lived in Milwaukee practically my whole life, and have volunteered in leadership positions for many organizations in the last 25 years such as the Boy Scouts of America, church organizations, professional societies, Irish Fest, and the Bubs to name a few.

I work for DexM Corporation in Pewaukee as the Business Systems Manager in charge of all computer systems and software for 150+ employees and staff. Prior experience has been in managing business operations as well as consulting clients for improving their business

productivity.

I have been associated with the ICHC since its beginning and maintain the ICHC Mailing information (over 2800+ names) for its newsletters and directories. I also recently retired after seven spellbinding years as a Glencastle Adult Dancer (The Men In Kilts – Alumni) and look forward to helping others in their pursuit of Irish culture. I am also a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in Milwaukee for many years.

I look forward to providing my services, talents and experience to enhancing and increasing the Shamrock Club membership, community activities, and Irish goodwill in Wisconsin.

### **JOHN FISHER**

John is a member of the Ulster Project Milwaukee. He is also a judge, with his wife Maryann, of the South Shore Water Frolics. In the past few years, they have also judged the annual Shamrock Club St. Patrick's Day Parade.

### **DAWN FLEMING**

God has given me many blessings. I want to leave something as a result of my journey through life. God has given me certain talents which I try to use to their full potential. I thank you for the privilege of being your Secretary this past year. This will be the fourth year my husband, Pete, and I have run the summer picnic for the Shamrock Club. Each year we try to add new ideas and will continue to do so. This year I worked at the Holiday Folk Fair at the sales booth. Last year and this year, I helped at the Post Parade celebration in the kitchen and had a great time. Christmas is special to me because I can use my talents in helping with the table decorations, setting up the Christmas celebration, and being a Christmas tree and Santa's helper to add a special touch to a great Christmas Party. I feel it a privilege to be nominated for Vice President of the Shamrock Club. I take the position very seriously and will always continue to support the Shamrock Club and help it grow by using my talents. I promise you my "well will never run dry of new ideas." Again, thank you for a great year as your Shamrock Club Secretary and I hope you will put your faith in me to continue to keep the Shamrock Club strong and moving forward in a positive direction.

### **SANDY QUINLAN**

My name is Sandy Quinlan. For the last 18 years I have been the Director of the Grobschmidt Senior Center in South Milwaukee. The Shamrock Club is only as good as its volunteers and I know what it means to depend on volunteers, I am lucky to have 55 seniors who help me at the center.

I have been married to Kevin for almost 24 years, and have two daughters Kelly and Kari. Kelly is a drummer and Kari is a piper in the Shamrock Club Color Guard, Pipes and Drums. I have been volunteering for the Irish community ever since I entered into the Quinlan family.

I have worked at the Folk Fair, the Bradley Center, the post parade

party, many pipe and drum fundraisers, and of course the annual raffle. I also volunteer for events at the ICHC and this will be my 25th year as a volunteer for Irish Fest where I serve as a beer captain at the McSorely stage.

It would be a great honor to serve you as the Vice President of the Shamrock Club.

### **JULIE SMITH**

This club has been part of our family life almost since its inception. As we head to the fiftieth anniversary of the Shamrock Club in 2010, I would like to ensure the continued growth, dedication of spirit, scholarships, sports, St. Patrick's Day mass, education, culture, parade and all things Irish. Our dedication to the International Folk Fair each November, and other charitable events have consistently been well received and admired. Our volunteers are some of Milwaukee's real treasures, unheralded, perhaps unknown, but involved in things Irish, in a most respectful manner.

Our SCCGPD has grown to be the "big green machine" and we will continue to view their work with pride of heritage. This group has proven to be a hit wherever they appear, all over the world.

Our retail sales have kept our cash flow moving from their involvement all over the state, and present the finest items of Irish goods. The camaraderie of our dinners, picnics, holiday events, golf outing, and general meetings is anticipated by all. Members always have been welcomed to question, challenge, and inquire, decisions made by the board, a factor making the Shamrock Club a vital and lively group for decades.

Let's dedicate the next year to enhancing our heritage and enjoying the adventure.

### **LINDA TUESCHER**

Linda Tuescher has been a member of the Shamrock Club for many years. She volunteers for the Holiday Folk Fair, Irish Fest, Post Parade Party, as well as any event where Noreen Barclay sets up the Shamrock Club sales booth. She is the past owner of the Irish Trader in Cedarburg.

### **NOEL TYLLA**

I have been a club member for five years. I'm actively involved with the Color Guard, Pipes and Drums and have been co-corporal in the pipeline for the last year. I have also written the monthly band column in Emerald Reflections for the past two years and am the band seamstress for kilt maintenance. I have also volunteered at the Holiday Folk Fair.

Before my involvement with the Shamrock Club, I was one of the first students at the Irish Fest School of Music studying under Asher Gray for flute and volunteered for a few years as a bartender at the Rock Stage at Irish Fest. Although my roots are not of the Irish vein, I have a long lineage of Scottish and Danish blood and truly understand the pride being involved in a group such as this.

In my spare time, as many of you know, I love to travel and take vacation as often as I possibly can. This year will mark my 14th time I will make it to Scotland. In my professional life, I am the Air Project Manager for Adelman Travel's group air department.

I decided this year was time to "step up" my involvement within the club and try to fill the shoes left by Tom Smith's passing. I have some great ideas in getting new members—young and old alike—as well as maintaining current membership levels. I think it's a very important job and I plan on recruiting many people to help me get new members for our club.

All that I ask is if you don't know, take a chance as I promise to take the position to heart and not to let you down. And for those of you that do know me, know that I will uphold your trust and confidence and will feel truly honored to be a larger part of the Shamrock Club.

#### **MALKIN WALLACE**

After living in Ft. Lauderdale for 28 years, I returned to Milwaukee to get in touch with my roots. Being of Irish and Scot decent, what better way to do that than to join the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin and get involved? I became a proud flag carrying member of the Color Guard Pipes and Drums. I have run the Post Parade Party in 2007 and 2008. My previous experience in owning an event planning company, Party It Up! in South Florida, was very helpful. I believe in giving back to the community, and I feel that as Sergeant at Arms, I can do that for the members of this club. I spent 30 years providing excellent customer service for the Bell System, and am happy to help out in general, wherever I'm needed. Outside of the Shamrock Club, I'm a full time realtor with Shorewest Realtors and a contributing member of the Rotary Club of West Allis.

#### **JOSH WALTON**

It is indeed an honor to have been nominated for the office of Parliamentarian. I first joined the Shamrock Club in 1973 (with a little break in between). Since that time I have been a volunteer for the St. Patrick's Day Parade, Folk Fair, Bradley Center and the picnic. In addition I have also been an Irish Fest volunteer since its inception. I am also a Past Grand Knight of the Bishop Brust Council of the Knights of Columbus as well as a past president of the St. Joseph's Benevolent Society. I enjoy being a member of the Shamrock Club and look forward to your support.

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## **South Central Shamrock News for May**

Welcome New Members Fred and Kathy (Cummings) Emshoff of Sauk City, Wisconsin.

To our May Birthday Members: Tom Powers 5/4, Don Carrig 5/15, Scott Dischler /22, Joanne Murray 5/25, Arris Sullivan 5/25. "Birthday Happiness Peace, Joy on your Birthday Whatever hour God has blessed you with, take it with a grateful hand nor postpone your joys from year to year, so that in whatever place you have been you may say that you have lived happily!"

Anniversaries in May: Bob and Kathy Howley 5/2; Trudy and LeRoy Judd 5/4; Don and Barbara Carrig 5/4; Roger and Mary Stieve 5/22; Don and Wilma Ennis 5/23. "May your thoughts be as glad as the shamrocks. May your heart be as light as a song. May each day bring you bright happy hours, That stay with you all year long. For each petal on the shamrock This brings a wish your way – Good health, good luck, and happiness For today and every day."

The St. Patrick's Day Party and Banquet was well attended by 147 Irishmen and Lasses toasting Kay Scanlon and Bill Crowley. Many thanks to those who helped make the evening another success! A perfect St. Paddy's Party especially with our special guests Fr. Monaghan, Fr. Klink, Fr. Vosen. The Mayor of Greenfield John Geoghegan did a Brilliant job as our Master of Ceremony! Thanks, John (you have already been voted as 2009 MC).

Happy Mother's Day (May 11th).

History of Mother's Day in Ireland: The history of celebrating Mothering Sunday or Mothers Day in Ireland can be traced to the medieval practice where children from poor families were sent to work as domestic servants and apprentices to work with the rich. Once in the year in the middle of the Lent these children were given a day off to visit their 'Mother Church' and worship Virgin Mary. After visiting the Mother Church or Cathedral of their home town these children visited their mothers and presented them with flowers they picked along the way. Girls bake special Mothering Cake on the day. Pattern of living changed after the Industrial Revolution and Mothering Sunday celebration almost lapsed. The custom was revived after World War II. Americans too helped to bring back the charm of the festival in European countries as their tradition and way of celebrating Mothers Day spread far and wide.

Sunday, May 18 at 4 p.m. will be our next meeting at Longley's Restaurant, Reedsburg. Reminder: Election of New Officers is June 22 so those wishing to hold an office please contact Tom Scanlon, President.

Happy Spring!

– Dana Horkan-Gant, South Central Chairperson

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## South Central Shamrock Club Honors 2008 Irishman Bill Crowley and Irish Rose Kay Scanlon



*Oleta Kay Scanlon and John William "Bill" Crowley*

The South Central Shamrock Club Celebrated on March 8th their 38th annual St. Patrick's Day Party/Banquet. Congratulations to 2008 Irish Rose Kay Scanlon and 2008 Irishman Bill Crowley.

### **BILL CROWLEY**

2008 South Central Shamrock Club's Irishman John William "Bill" Crowley, son of Daniel J. and Catherine (Kelly) Crowley was born May 14, 1949, and was raised on the family farm in the Town of Lyndon. The fifth of eight children, his sisters are Margaret (Les) Haefer, Kathy (Rob) Horkan and Ellen (Phil) Conlin. His brothers are Daniel P. (Anne) Crowley, Leo F. (Jeanette) Crowley and Andy (Mary) Crowley. Another brother, Dennis T. (Mary Beth) Crowley died at age 46. Bill and his wife Jolene (Traxler) live near Baraboo. His children are Brian and Heather, and stepchildren Michael (Lisa), Thomas (Liz), Teri (Keith), Joe (Libby) and Jimmy, deceased. Bill has "more nieces and nephews that he can keep track of, "including two godsons and two goddaughters.

Bill attended St. Mary's Grade School in Lyndon Station and Madonna High School in Mauston. Shortly after high school graduation he enlisted as a private in the U.S. Marine Corps, served 13 months in Vietnam and later transferred to the Marine Corps Reserve. In 1979 he joined the Wisconsin Army National Guard and retired in 2003 at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel with a total of 30 years of combined active and reserve military service.

In addition to his military service, most of his adult life has been dedicated to serving other veterans. He was the Columbia County Veterans Service Officer for nearly 15 years, and was appointed to a six-year term on the Wisconsin Board of Veterans Affairs. During this term he also served for a year as Chairman of the Board. In June 2003, he was appointed the 18th Commandant of the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King. The 320 acre veterans home at King was established in 1887 and is home to some 749 veterans and a staff of over 800 dedicated

employees.

Bill earned an undergraduate degree from Concordia University of Wisconsin and his MBA from the University of Saint Thomas. He is also a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. Bill has been active in community affairs and service organizations for many years, currently serving on state and national committees in the American Legion. He is also active in the 40 et 8, the VFW, DAV, AMVETS and other organizations, and is a Third Degree member of the Knights of Columbus. He was involved with the Baraboo Area United Way for many years, volunteering in different assignments including General Chairman.

In addition to his current role as Commandant of the King Veterans Home, he also belongs to the National Association of State Veterans Homes and was selected as the 2008 National President of that organization. He is a long time member and past president of the South Central Shamrock Club.

### **KAY SCANLON**

2008 South Central Shamrock Club's Irish Rose Oleta Kay Scanlon was born in Dalhart, TX to Elmer Harvey McKeegan and Violet Jane (Martin) McKeegan.

Her Irish roots date back to 1799 in Enniskillen, Ireland with the birth of her great-great-great grandfather, Matthew McKeegan. Matthew married Kate Keane in 1831 and raised seven children, all boys. The youngest Matthew married Maurice Borh June 23, 1843, was the 7th son of a 7th son. At the age of 21 he departed from Londonerry, Ireland and landed in Philadelphia, Pa. on May 11, 1865. He was a boot and shoe maker by trade. He married Sarah Ellen Dunlap on May 30, 1870, in Jefferson City, Mo. Sarah Ellen's parents had come to America from Ireland during the potato famine. They had six children; their fourth child was John Harvey McKeegan born June 2, 1878. He married Minnie Mae Lamebull Johnson who was the granddaughter of a Cheyenne Shaman. Minnie Mae and John had 11 children. Their third child and oldest son Elmer Harvey who married Violet Jane Martin, was born April 26, 1903. They had 14 children. Kay was their 12th child born Dec. 24, 1940, at home in Dalhart, TX.

Having older siblings she began to read and comprehend math at a very early age as she listened and watched her sister and brothers as they did their homework. She remembers the day her brother Gleyn took her to and from kindergarten on horseback. It was the first day and the one and only day she would attend kindergarten as it was quite expensive to send a child to this newly added program. Her Mom decided it would be better to teach her at home. It must have worked because the next year when school started the principal of the elementary school put her right into the second grade.

Kay graduated from high school in 1958 in Dalhart, never being absent nor tardy throughout her entire schooling. Kay's father passed away two months after her graduation, so she made the choice to give up a scholarship to help her mom with her two younger sisters.

In 1963, while staying with her brother and sister-in-law in Roswell, N.M., she met Tom Scanlon who was stationed at Walker Air Force Base. They were married at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Roswell.

At the end of Tom's hitch in the Air Force in February of 1966, they moved to Queens, N.Y. with their three small sons where Tom's folks had moved to from Cavan Co., Ireland when Tom was nine. After three and a half years in Queens they decided it was not a good place to raise children. Now with four sons, they moved to Cazenovia, Wis. and later to Reedsburg in 1974.

Kay worked as a nursing assistant at the Sauk County Health Care Center from 1973 to 1987. After a long recuperation from a back injury and no longer able to work in the nursing field she went back to school and earned a degree in the business side of the health care field.

She has worked at St. Clare Hospital in Baraboo since starting her internship in April of 1991.

Tom and Kay raised seven children, five boys and two girls. Del and Amy with four children live in Lyndon Station; Eddy Sean Scanlon lives in Cazenovia, has two grown children; Bob and Ottilia with two children live in Hickory, N.C.; Patrick and Beth Scanlon and two children live in Hanover, Pa.; Maggi and Dave Laukant and two children live in Reedsburg; and Shannon and Rich Johnson and two children live in Rockford, Ill.

Oleta Kay was a St. Vincent de Paul member from 1990 to 1998 but had been an associate member since 1980 helping out behind the scene along with her husband Tom, at which time the whole family was pretty much involved. As a member of St. Vincent de Paul, Kay was secretary on the diocesan level, president of the Baraboo District Council and vice-president of the local Reedsburg conference.

In the 80s, along with Sister Emily Harrison, Kay helped to get the pilot program in religious education for the mentally challenged off the ground. She also taught CCD for the high school students for three years. Kay is a Eucharistic minister a Sacred Heart. She is a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Daughters.

Both she and Tom were Cub Scout leaders the four years they lived in Cazenovia. The two of them have been bringing Santa and Mrs. Claus around the community for about 12 years (what fun to see the children's faces light up at the sight of Santa).

She has been a mentor in the RISEN group at St. Clare Hospital for the past five years. She has helped on committees in the South Central Shamrock Club where needed.

After the death of their 17 year old son in 1983, Kay spent much of her time mentoring to parents who had lost a child or to parents with troubled children.

During her spare time she crochets chemo-caps for both St. Clare and Reedsburg hospitals. She also makes them for others who have friends and loved ones who have a need for them.

Kay loves to crochet and has crocheted christening gowns for all of her grandchildren. She has made them occasionally for friends. She has put many of them on display and won numerous ribbons for her crocheted items at the Sauk County Fair.

She enjoys reading, working on the computer and work and jigsaw puzzles. She will be leaving her job at St. Clare the last day of February and leap into retirement to do the thing she loves most, spending quality time with her grandchildren.

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### **Shamrock Club Of New Dublin**

The Shamrock Club of New Dublin held its annual week of Irish events, ending with our annual Parade and Irish Fest 2008 on March 15. The 2008 parade award winners are: Best Commercial Entry – The Tanning Supply Shop; Best Non-Commercial Entry – Finnegan’s Wake; Best Musical Entry – Shamrock Club Color Guard Pipes & Drums; Best Clan Entry – Crain Clan Grand Marshal Award; Best of Show – Shamrock Club Color Guard Pipes & Drums.

The 2008 Grand Parade included the Minnesota Police Pipe Band, Celtic Nations Pipes & Drums, and Tripoli Scottish Highlanders/Lake Lodge Pipes and Drums. The New London High School band performed, the South Shore Drill Team was here as well as the Klement’s Racing Sausages. We again enjoyed various Shriners units.

2008 Royalty Announced: We are proud to announce Ed (Judd) and Marie Jagoditsch have been chosen as Irish Man and Irish Rose for 2008. They are very deserving. Mike and Ted Coppersmith will serve us proudly as Grand Marshals.

The New Dublin Shamrock Club meets the first Monday each month at 7:30 p.m. upstairs at the Midtown Restaurant, downtown. Our next meeting is May 5. We are also excited to be hosting the State Advisory Board meeting on May 3 at the Shamrock Golf Course.

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### **Shamrock Club Color Guard, Pipes and Drums**



*Marching in New Dublin.*



*Performing at the Post Parade Party, Milwaukee.*

(all photos by Allan Lacosse Photography)

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## Members Doings

Dave Culver, will be a part of the 300 member Bands of American Honor Band in the 2009 Rose Bowl Parade in Pasadena. Eric Scholz recently spent time in India. Dan Devine was elected Mayor of West Allis.

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## Sunshine Club

Mary Joan Powondra the sister of Joe and Bob Donovan, Sr., has passed away. The funeral was in Florida.

If you have any information about members, please contact me, Joe Donovan, (414) 259-8040.

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## New Members

Roberta Kirst – Franklin; Mark Patrick Layde – Wauwatosa; (referred by Mary Layde); Dale, Sherry, Meghan and Ryan Magner – Milwaukee; Doug and Linda Smith, Milwaukee; Kurt Carwarding – Greendale; Bernice Carwarding – Janesville; (referred by Kurt Carwarding); Andrew Barrette; Karl Beir; Michael Beir; Dan Della; Tim Devlin; Abdallah Elsayed; Matthew Gonia; Kevin Hooley; Andrew Krueger; Timothy Martin; Adam Mattson; Ryan Mattson; Matthew McDonough; Travis Powell-Wolf; Eric Scholz; Adrian Van Etten - Milwaukee Celtic Soccer Club. Dennis and Erin Fadeski, Brookfield; Barbara Tyler, Wauwatosa; Kenneth Nohelty, West Allis; Paul Kashishian, Cudahy; Carol Ann Glassmaker; Nancy McElhone, Brown Deer; Liz and Arnie Tylenda/Gutkowski, Brown Deer; Casey and Richie Gutkowski/De La O, Brown Deer; Kerry and Dan Tylenda-Emmons, West Allis.