



April 2010

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Niall and All Those O'Neills

by Brian Witt

There are many family names in Ireland that seem to teem across the island of Ireland. Kellys are found in every of the thirty-two counties. Most commonly it loosely means "descendant of war," from the ancient Irish name Ceallaigh. Murphys are often found in counties that border the sea, and is the most common surname in Ireland. The name means "sea warrior," and is a modern form of the ancient Irish name "Murchadha." It refers back to Ireland's seafaring days, and to its reputation as the pirate capital of Europe.

Then there is O'Neill. It is reported that three million people in the world have that surname. It was the family of the majority of the Ard Ri's, or high kings, of Ireland. The lineage has many famed people in it.

Branches of the family include the surnames O'Neill, Gallagher, Boyle, Doherty, O'Donnell, Connor, Cannon, O'Reilly, Flynn, Campbell, Devlin, Donnelly, Egan, Gormley, Hynes, McCaul, McGovern, McLoughlin, McManus, McMenamin, Molloy, and in Scotland, MacNeill and MacLachlan. In addition, among those who trace their ancestry to the O'Neills are both Henry Louis Gates, the Harvard professor who was arrested in his home, and the officer who arrested him, James Crowley.

The founder of the line was a colorful figure in Irish history. Niall of the Nine Hostages, or Niall Noigallach, was the son of a king of Connacht, Eochaid Mugmedon, and his second wife, Cairean, who was the daughter of a British king. Eochaid already had four sons by his first wife, Mongfhind, who was none too happy about the appearance of the new wife. Her sons were Brian, Ailill, Fiachra, and Fergus. Mongfhind tried to get Cairean to miscarry, and assigned to her the servants duties at Tara. When Niall was born, he was given into fosterage to the Druid and poet Torna, who raised him until he reached an age of maturity.

At this point Niall's story jumps back and forth between the

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historical and the fabulous. The five sons were tasked by the Druid Sithcheann to retrieve items from a burning forge. Niall brought out an anvil; the other brothers rescued lesser items. Next, they went to the woods to hunt, and went to a well to find water, which was guarded by an ugly hag. She wanted a kiss; and all the brothers refuse her, save Fiachra, who kissed her cheek and Niall, who went on to sleep with her. She then became a beautiful woman, and revealed she was actually Flaithius, the goddess of the Sovereignty of Ireland, and foretold the strength of Niall's ultimate rule over Ireland.

After the death of Eochaid, Mongfhind tried to install her sons as kings of four of Ireland's five provinces, and her brother as high king at Tara. According to legend, she then tried to poison her sibling, to advance her son's cause, but ended up killing herself as well.

Niall's rise as king saw an increase in the Irish invasions of modern day France, Britain, and other areas of Europe. The Irish were continuing the ancient Celtic tradition of hostage taking, wherein they captured large segments of populations, held them for ransom, and then sold those not ransomed into slavery, often in North Africa. He also solidified the Irish claim over Scotland, defeating the Picts, and then treating with them to unite the land north of Hadrian's Wall under the Dalriada claim that had been established years before. In fact, the name of Scotland comes from "Scotti," or Irish pirates.

The Nine Hostages referred to the taking of relatives of various royals from the five Irish provinces of Ulster, Munster, Connacht, Meath and West Meath, as well as from Wales, Scotland, Saxon and France.

According to one legend, in one of these hostage-taking sessions, a young man who would grow to be St. Patrick was taken from the western edge of Britain. He was sent as a slave to herd sheep in County Down. After a number of years, Patrick escaped by walking the length of the island to Wexford, and there taken by seafarers back to Britain. The group stopped in western France, where they found an area that depopulated deep into the countryside. Patrick was amazed by the complete lack of people in the area. Apparently, the Irish had been there right before them. Despite all that, Patrick returned after being ordained.

Niall's death was in as equally obscure fashion as his early youth. The traditional date for Niall's death is 405, right before the arrival of Patrick back in Ireland. Other historians peg it at a later date, possibly about 450 or 455. Where he died is equally problematic. The French historian Jean Markale, in his book, "The Celts", has Niall dying at the River Loire in France, killed by an arrow in his back from one of his subjects. Or he may have died at sea, at the hands of the Leinster king Eochaid mac Enna, as he was attempting a raid on Armorica (modern Brittany). Maybe he died fighting the Picts in Scotland, or even in the Alps. All traditions agree that he

died outside of Ireland. According to legend, his followers carried his body back to Ireland, fighting seven battles along the way, and whenever they carried Niall's body before them they were unbeatable.

Niall was a fertile king. He had at least eight sons, and possibly more. These included Fiachu, Lóegaire, Éndae, Maine, Eógan, Conall Gulban, Conall Cremthainne and Coirpre. Connall Gulban founded the kingdom of Tir-Connaill, or the land of Connall, making up most of modern Donegal. Eoghan was the king of Tir-Eoghan, or modern County Tyrone. Loegaire, also known as Laoghaire, or Leary, was reputed to have been baptized by Patrick. Coirpre was supposedly cursed by the saint for an indiscretion. Maine was the founder of the kingdom of Ui Maine, parts of which are in Galway and Roscommon.

The O'Neill descendants headed up the northern and southern Ui Neills, controlling most of Ulster, Leinster, and all of Connacht, Meath and West Meath, and portions of modern Munster. Through the centuries the name O'Neill would be associated with royalty. With the exception of Brian Boru, the High Kingship belonged to the O'Neills until the year 1022, when with the death Mael Sechnaill, the title became mostly figurative.

Fast forward to the 21st Century and Niall's children are still amongst us. Researchers indicate that there could be as many as three million descendents of Niall alive today. Most of his descendents are concentrated in northwest Ireland, an area where DNA testing has shown that one in every five males have inherited his Y-chromosome. Studies also show that outside of Ireland, approximately one in 10 men in western and central Scotland also carry the gene, and 2% of European American New Yorkers carried it as well, likely due to the historically high rates of Irish emigration to North America. There are high percentages of O'Neills in Australia and New Zealand, as well. And in the world, only Genghis Khan has more descendants.

Without Niall, Scotland may not have been unified, Ireland might have remained pagan a bit longer, and Tara wouldn't have had 500 years of high kings of that family. And there would certainly have been many fewer people in the world. And Ireland would have not had one of its more colorful characters.

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Milwaukee President's Message

The first thing to remember this month is to avoid over gullibility on the 1st of the month. Secondly, please remember our general meeting in April will be on the 8th, not the first. With Holy

Thursday falling on the 1st Thursday of the month, most of the members would not want to attend a meeting. That means our raffle, and the parade awards will be that night too. We would so enjoy your presence there that evening. A good showing of the members is appreciated to applaud the winners of the parade. We need you there to accept or nominate future Board of Directors in every position except Junior and Senior Trustee as their terms are longer. Consider accepting a role in the club's future and begin the next 50 years.

If you enjoyed the March meeting celebrating our 50 years, please let us know. It was wonderful to have the parade marshals there to enjoy the celebration with us to spin their tales of the day. The beautiful cake and the nice decorations added to the festivities. Veronica Ceszynski knocked herself out to provide the baked potatoes and all the fixings. Thanks to her team of helpers, it was a night to remember. Josh Walton and the 50th anniversary committee are working on the DVD, and the ad book will be issued in September.

The St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 13th was a wonderful spectacle, our biggest ever. You must know it was only possible with the assistance of many volunteers and our Parade Director Mike O'Leary. Kris Pluskota was Mike's able assistant, and a few others to mention would be Mike Boyle, Tim O'Brien, Donna Johnson, Mark Smith, John and Mary Fisher, Erin and Meghan Boyle, and if you weren't mentioned, it's my fault, not yours, let me know. Bless Westown's Stacie Callas, for her devoted work on fund raising for this event. Without them we would be hard pressed to make it happen. A huge personal thanks to Glencastle Irish Dance Adults and parents for their donation that made the club's float a reality. The good members that worked on it were Bob Hamill, Joe Hughes, Ken Tehan, Pat Fitzgibbons, and many others. Mary Culver was able to have the truck donated from the good people in Mukwonago's Mud Jacking Service.

The beautiful start to March 13th was our Mass at St. Patrick's Parish. Archbishop Jerome Listeki was the celebrant for our 25th annual mass. Paula Harrold did herself proud once more as the chairperson. Thanks to those of you that donated money for flowers, and especially the collection that is given to St. Patrick's. All of you who start the day this way never regret it in any way, it is a tradition begun by Joe Pembroke, and Chuck and Bonnie McLaughlin, and they have left a wonderful legacy for all of us. The breakfast at the ICHC was done by Victory Christian Church members and we all loved it.

The Post Parade Party may be called brilliant, and that it was. Lorraine Neuberger made all the food service work so well, and with her great helpers, it worked. Al Moss, you take a bow for all you did, we can't do it without you. Barry Stapleton needs a pat on the back for the entertainment selection, and our thanks to all that came to help.

March was a memorable month in so many ways. April will be too, no fooling.

– Julie Smith, President

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2010 Milwaukee March Celebrations

To view a photo spread of March celebrations, [CLICK HERE](#).

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Nomination of Milwaukee Officers

Nominations for officers of the Milwaukee chapter will take place at the April meeting. Persons nominated must be members in good standing of the Shamrock Club, with dues paid in full, and must be present for their nominations. Elections will take place at the May meeting.

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Shamrock Club Scholarship Applications

The Shamrock Club's annual Irish Studies Scholarship Application is ready. Applications must be received by May 2, 2010 for consideration. Applicants must be of college age, and are encouraged to volunteer for Shamrock Club events. Applications are available at the ICHC and online for download. Please contact Tim O'Brien, scholarship chair, for more information, at (414) 444-1989.

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New Dublin News

Thanks to all who came out for the New Dublin “Paint the Town Green” celebration in March. It was wonderful to see all you there. We want to thank *Switchback* and *Rising Gael* for making the Irish Fest a rousing success. We also want to thank all of the groups who marched in Wisconsin’s grandest St. Patrick’s Day Parade, and made the day, and the week, a wild hooley of fun. Parade winners will be announced in May’s issue of *Reflections*.

On another note: The New Dublin float won for “Best Float” in the Milwaukee St. Patrick’s Day Parade.

See you at the April 5 meeting at the VFW Clubhouse, across from St. Joseph Center, at 7:30 p.m.

– Carrie Katerzynske

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Lowney Family Enjoys Irish Royalty this Year



by Lori Schneider
from *The County Post East*

NEW DUBLIN - The Shamrock Club has chosen Warren and Irene Lowney as the Irish Man and Irish Rose of the year 2010. The 100 percent Irish couple was pleasantly surprised at the honor, and joined Melissa Mulroy at her home one March Wednesday for Irish tea and an interview. Irish Rose of 2009, Jean Trauger, joined them.

Irene Anne (Gorman) Lowney told us she was born in the town of Lebanon in 1933, the daughter of Matthew and Katherine (Crain) Gorman. She was one of four children, having two brothers, Clair and Mark, and one sister, Ethel.

“We lived on the north side of Lebanon – we weren’t the Swampers,” said Irene as she tilted her head back with a laugh. She explained that if you lived on the north side of Lebanon, you called the south side people Swampers, and if you lived on the south side, you reversed the sentiment.

Irene’s father was a dairy farmer and ran a milk route. She remembers vividly chasing cows a mile to the pasture and back every day as a child. “I don’t recall ever not doing that, I think we just went along from the time we could toddle,” she said.

“I remember being in Irish skits and plays for St. Patrick’s Day,” said Irene, who went to the Lebanon Consolidated School at Fitzgerald’s corners (the corner of County Highways T and N). It was a two room school house with 50–60 students when Irene attended. “Dorothy Thompson and Gladys Roland were teachers of mine – that I remember well.” In later years the school building was used as a home and burned down.

Irene’s brother Clair took over the Gorman farm eventually, but lost his life in 1956, due to kidney complications at the age of 24. The same year Irene’s mother passed away at the age of 58. “It was a tough year. Clair had a wife and a small child,” said Irene. “Very sad. Mom had a stroke.”

The next year, on October 26, Irene was married to Warren John Lowney, who grew up in Bear Creek, the son of John and Nora (Sullivan) Lowney. He had two brothers, Robert and Roger, and one sister, Patricia.

Irene and Warren met at one of the dances at Pleasantview. “They had dances there two and three times a week, mostly with polka bands,” recalls Irene. “Once we married, we lived with my father until he passed away,” said Irene. They raised their four children, Patrick, Cathy, John and Mary, down the road a mile or so from the Gorman farm.

Warren worked in Neenah for 38 years at Galloway Milk Company – where they made milk-based ice cream and candy mixes. “It was a good place to work. I started out as a relief operator. That meant I learned how to run all the machines and filled in when people were on break, out sick, or on vacation. At the end I was in the lab, doing testing for quality control.”

The Lowneys took their family on summer vacations over the years. “We traveled to the Black Hills, Yellowstone, Disney World, New York, Canada?” said Irene. “We had a lot of fun raising our kids,” added Warren, with a notable twinkle in his eye. “Now we have five grandchildren and one great-grandchild to enjoy.”

After attending a genealogy seminar in Shawano about 18 years ago, the Lowneys said they went to the cemetery in Lebanon to find the grave of Michael Gorman, Irene's great-grandfather. On the tombstone they located the name of the town where he grew up – Broadford, County Kildare, Ireland. They also knew the Lowneys had come from Bere Island in Ireland.

The retired couple then traveled to Ireland in June, 16 years ago. "It was a dream come true for us," they both agreed. Warren said they did their own driving, and stayed at bed and breakfasts all over the country. "We happened to stay with both Gormans and Lowneys over there, but they weren't relatives to our knowledge," said Irene.

A highlight of the trip was going to the Irish Derby, a very regal affair in Kildare. Irene gave Warren money to place a bet on horse 19 and crossed her fingers. Warren placed the bet and the race was on. Irene was elated that her horse hung on to a lead and won the race, and, as she turned to her husband he had to admit he forgot the number and placed it on horse 17. Irene gets mileage out of that one to this day.

"I'm looking forward to seeing the St. Patrick's Day parade from the viewing stand this year," says Warren. Their kids have been working on the first-ever Gorman-Lowney float to celebrate their parents royal status this year. "Float meetings are held in our basement and a grand idea is coming to life," reports Warren. The plan is to have 30-40 relatives walking with the float.

"Our kids love the fact that they are 100 percent Irish, too."

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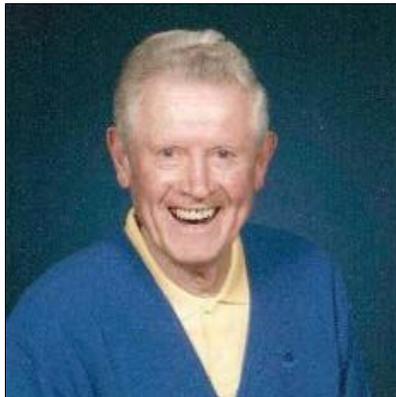
Greater LaCrosse Area Shamrock Club



The Greater LaCrosse Area Shamrock Club has named Barrie Monks Irishman of the Year 2010 and Pam Smith their Irish Rose.

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Dane County Shamrock Club Names 2010 Irish Person Of the Year



The Dane County Shamrock Club is excited to name John (Jack Rogan) the Irish Person of the Year. Jack is a resident of Middleton. Jack has been a loyal member of the Dane County chapter for many years.

We took part in the Madison parade on March 14. And we held our annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration on March 21 at the Coliseum Bar in Madison. Music was provided by The Trio An Blas, and piping by Jim Curley. We celebrated St. Pat's Day, the

Club's 35th anniversary and honored past Irish Persons of the Year.

The Lunch Bunch will meet on April 24 at 1 p.m. at Mulligan's Irish Pub, Oregon. A brief business meeting will take place at noon. Please contact me at (608) 277-0394 to make a reservation for lunch.

– **Harry McCarthy, President**

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Veronica's Cupboard

April will feature "Tax Month Surprise". We will offer hearty old-fashioned fare. Needed: some salad and vegetable supplements as well as simple desserts. Keep in mind that pockets are depleted after taxes. The gathering begins at 6:30 in order to fill your plate before the 7:00 meeting.

At the February meeting we had our first annual chili competition. Well received honors go to all participants, winners all: Ron Danielson, Mary Culver, Mary Fischer, Ed Heck, Mary Jo Kaufman, Tom McAleese. This was really fun and a great way to share a cold winter evening.

The cake made for the March meeting was so delicious and beautiful that many members are looking to find the baker. Contact Nancy at Golden Gourmet, (262) 367-1116, she'd be glad to hear from you. In case you missed it, she will bake another for our Anniversary Gala this fall.

Remember the brunch that follows the Easter Rising Mass on April 18. We need your offerings of coffee cakes, breads, spring goodies, etc. We about doubled our crowd from the year before, so lots of morning foods are necessary. Please help with set up on Saturday and with serving during the brunch. We got new members as a result of our hospitality!

Call Veronica Ceszynski, your very own Irish Rose 2010, at (414) 228-8621.

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50th Anniversary Committee

Calendar of Events for

General Meetings 2010

- April: Sports Teams: Soccer, Hurling Demonstrations in Uniforms
- May: SCCGPD past/present, slide show
- June: Irish Dancers All Schools Invitation Dancers in school uniforms?
- July: Installation Dinner
- August: Pipe and Drum School winners

March meeting featured the Past Parade Marshals.

Ad Booklet letters being sent out by Malkin. Ad orders are starting to come in. The Ad booklet is set to be ready for Milwaukee Irish Fest in August, and for the August meeting.

Josh working on DVD.

Dinner dance: Malkin and Julie toured facility. Schedule: 5:30–6:30 p.m. registration and cocktails; 6:30–7 p.m. SCCGPD performs; 7 p.m. Dinner; DJ and dancing after dinner.; Dorothy Walsh to play Harp during the gathering in lobby; SCCGPD Discussion on using parade money to finance SCCGPD dinners; Piper to pipe guests in for dinner; Cate and Mary to work registration table; Mark Cocannon confirmed as MC. Tom Blaha making cottages for centerpieces.

Flight to Ireland: Josh looking into it and different deals. Irish Fest not going due to the economy.

Letterhead and Envelopes ordered and received. Pins and T-shirts to sell at all General meetings by Malkin.

Archbishop Listecky said St. Patrick's Day Mass.

Next Meeting: April 5 at Josh Walton's home, 2432 N. Lefebber Ave., Wauwatosa, at 7 p.m. If you wish to join, please stop by, or call Josh at (414) 443-0446.

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40th Annual Easter Rising Mass

Sunday, April 4, 2010 • 9:30 a.m.

In Honor of the 1916 members of the Easter Monday Rising

Father Terry Brennan, celebrant

Irish Cultural and Heritage Center,
2133 W Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee

Shamrock Club Color Guard, Pipes and Drums

Continental Breakfast to follow

Free will offering asked

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Scholarship Raffle

The annual scholarship raffle will be drawn on April 8 at the ICHC, at 7:30 p.m. The Grand Prize is \$1000 in cash. Other prizes include a golf package at Brown Deer Park, overnight stays at County Clare in Milwaukee, the Irish Cottage in Galena, Ill., and St. Brendan's Inn in Green Bay! There is also a beautiful silver necklace from Blarney Fine Jewelry and a gorgeous Beleek Vase. Because these prizes are phenomenal, we are once again requesting the following donations for the tickets. \$5 for one, three for \$10, six for \$20, or nine for \$30.

The proceeds from this raffle will be used to replenish the Shamrock Club Scholarship Fund. Your support will help some deserving person or persons achieve their goals. This fund has paid out over \$25,000 in scholarships since 1974 to students across Wisconsin and Illinois. All college age students are eligible, no matter where they live, so please help us in this raffle.

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ICHC Myserk Debut April 9

Myserk, an exciting new Milwaukee musical quartet, will perform in the Parlour of the Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, on Friday, April 9, at 7:30 p.m. Comprised of four innovative instrumentalists steeped in traditional music, *Myserk* includes Asher Gray, Randy Gosa, and Devin McCabe, along with veteran flute player Brett Lipshutz.

The quartet draws from diverse musical cultures to create highly textured arrangements of traditional and modern tunes on flutes, fiddle, concertina, and guitar.

Gray, who has been playing Irish music for over 10 years, was a founding member of two Milwaukee-based groups, *Anam Ri* and *Ce*. He has won numerous competitions at the Midwest Fleadh Cheoil and was the recipient of the annual Edward J. Ward Music Scholarship in 2000.

Gosa has been a string musician since age 12. He has studied with several well-known musicians, and has studied at the University of Limerick, Ireland.

Lipshutz has been playing traditional music for over 20 years and released his first recording when he was 22. He has taught and performed around the world including Paris, France where he taught flute and whistle at the Association Irlandaise.

McCabe has been involved in traditional music for over 10 years. He is self-taught on concertina, whistle and piano.

Admission to the concert is \$10. For more information, call (414) 332-8521

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April Verch Band at ICHC, Saturday, April 17

Canadian fiddler, step dancer and singer April Verch will remember her father's advice, "Never forget where you came from," when she and her band perform in the Hallamòr at the Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, on Saturday, April 17, at 7: 30 p.m.

Verch will also teach two all-ages workshops at the ICHC prior to the concert. A fiddle workshop is scheduled from 2–3:30 p.m. and a dance workshop from 3:30–5 p.m. She teaches at the well-known Mark O'Connor String Camp in New York.

In concert, Verch evokes the spirit and foot-stomping energy of the settlers of the old lumber camp halls in Ontario's Ottawa Valley, where she was born. She melds the influences of those Irish, Scottish, French, German and Polish settlers with bluegrass, folk and jazz for a unique style that has led to her emergence as a top female artist in the roots music genre.

Millions of people around the world were able to experience that spirit when Verch performed during the Opening Ceremony of the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver, British Columbia, on Feb. 12.

Free, pre-concert music will be provided by Milwaukee acoustic duo *Frogwater* in the ICHC's Quinlan Pub from 6:30–7:15 p.m.. *Frogwater* includes Susan Nicholson on fiddle and John Nicholson on guitar.

Verch has been compared with contemporary bluegrass artist Alison Krauss both because of her exhilarating fiddle playing as

well as soulful voice. She recorded her first two albums while still in high school and credits a year at Berklee College of Music in Boston for exposure to jazz and world music. After leaving Berklee, Verch capped her fiddle competition wins with the titles of Canadian Grand Masters Fiddle Champion and Canadian Open Fiddle Champion.

Backing her on tours are two world-class musicians with backgrounds in varied musical styles. Guitarist Clay Ross was recently selected by the U.S. Department of State and the Lincoln Center in New York City as a “Jazz Ambassador” and he has toured a number of countries under this title. Cody Walters focuses on bluegrass while playing upright electric bass and banjo with the band.

Reserved seat tickets are \$13 in advance and \$15 the day of the show. To order tickets and also view the full Hallamòr concerts series, visit [www.ichc.net]. Tickets may also be ordered by calling (414) 345-8800. The cost for each workshop is \$20 while the cost for taking both is \$30. For information and to register for workshops, call (262) 370-3686.

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Chris Norman Ensemble in ICHC Parlour April 23

The Chris Norman Ensemble will bring to life the energetic dance music of Maritime Canada, Scotland and Ireland when they perform in the Parlour of the Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, on Friday, April 23, at 7:30 p.m.

Norman, recognized as one of the finest flute players in the world, plays the wooden flute rather than the orchestral silver flute.

Born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Norman’s playing melds his classical training with the wild Celtic music of Cape Breton to draw in both roots and classical music enthusiasts. He regularly performs at Baroque and Renaissance events as well as at folk festivals around the world and his flute playing is heard on the soundtrack for the movie *Titanic*. Norman previously was a member of the international folk trio *Helicon*, and the all-star Celtic fusion group *Skydance*. The founder and director of the Boxwood Festivals and Workshops, which are week-long events held in locations around the world, Norman has inspired thousands of flute students of all ages to find their own musical voice.

The ensemble includes world-renown instrumentalists in their own right. A graduate of the Juilliard School, bassist Kris Saebo

performs with a number of classical and contemporary groups including the Alaskan Native Band *Pamuya*.

Nick Halley fronts the *Nick Halley Group* and performs with other groups ranging from traditional Celtic to gospel, jazz and pop music. Andy Thurston infuses jazz and swing guitar into the traditional music of Celtic countries, Quebec and Maritime Canada.

Tickets for the April 23 concert are \$12 at the door. For more information, call (414) 332-8521. For information on Parlour concerts as well as the Hallamor music series and other events at the ICHC, visit [www.ichc.net] or call (414) 345-8800.

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Celtic Women First Friday Lectures



Mary June Hanrahan

DATE: April 9, 2010 (Second Friday)

TOPIC: "Boston's Irish O'Neil Family"

SPEAKER: Mary June Hanrahan

Mary June Hanrahan grew up in Boston in a family which contained ten sisters and two brothers. The O'Neil's became quite famous as every Easter Sunday they would join the Easter Parade in identical outfits sewn by their mother. Please join Mary June as she tells of her experiences in this Irish family and recounts anecdotes of their years together.

The lecture will be held at Greene Hall on the UWM campus, 3347 N. Downer Ave. Street parking is plentiful outside the door. 5:30-7 p.m. The public is welcome. Tea and snacks are served and everyone is welcome. \$7 admission for all.

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Milw. Hurling Club

The Milwaukee Hurling Club is looking forward to its 2010 season. We are the largest hurling club in North America.

Schedule

- Mon., May 16 – Opening Day
- Sun., August 8 – MHC Playoffs begin
- Sun., August 15 – Semi Finals and Club Picnic
- Sun., August 29 – Club Championship
- September 3-5 – NACB Championships, Chicago

MHC General Membership

As a paid member of the MHC, you will receive a hurley and, team jersey. In return, you will be encouraged to attend the regular club practices (Sundays and Thursday evenings from early April through mid-May, then Thursday evenings through late August) and play in the 10-game season (every Sunday except Memorial Day and Fourth of July weekends) with your assigned team.

The team captains compile teams one week prior to the first game. A draft system is in place to help ensure competitiveness between all teams. There are some scenarios in which placement on a team is not ensured, such as a player not attending practices or not paying dues.

Camogie Membership

Camogie is the version of Irish hurling played by women.

Paid *camogie* members will receive a hurley and receive training through the regular *camogie* practices on Tuesday evenings and Saturday afternoons. Members are also encouraged to attend regular MHC practices. *Camogie* players regularly play in scheduled scrimmages as well as games with other *camogie* teams throughout the country.

Youth League

For kids ages 8 to 15, MHC Youth League participants will attend regular club practices with regular games to be held throughout the season. Paid members will receive a hurley, team jersey and socks.

RSVP to [mhc.youth.hurling@gmail.com] and for more information on the Fastest Game on Grass. Go to our website at [http:www.hurling.net] for more information

– **Karen Fink, Administrative Director**

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Milwaukee Celtic Soccer Season Approaches

Milwaukee Celtic Soccer team recently won the WASA indoor season. Our outdoor spring season will be starting soon. We play in the Shamrock Club colors, and are proud to be members of the Shamrock Club. Our schedule will be posted in the May Emerald *Reflections*.

We play in the Wisconsin Adult Soccer Association, and are the only Irish team in Milwaukee. The WASA is a part of the Wisconsin Soccer Association.

– Al Moss and Kevin Hooly

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Milwaukee Irish Roses

1973 - Jeanne McCue
1974 - Mae Feeney
1975 - Gretta Comiskey
1976 - Grace Keating
1977 - Mary Hippler
1978 - Kathy Valent
1979 - Mary Beth Holloway
1980 - Gen Farley
1981 - Lorraine Murphy
1982 - Elaine Shannon
1983 - Mary Stephens
1984 - Berneice Reilly
1985 - Muriel Crowley
1986 - Betty Mikush
1987 - Catherine "Cate" Harris
1988 - Pat Forceia Sadowski
1989 - Celest Kelly Jalosky
1990 - Kathleen Radaj
1991 - Catherine Donovan
1992 - Rosemary Quinlan
1993 - Jane Maher
1994 - Kathleen Mallon
1995 - Maggie Blaha
1996 - Patricia Garrity

1997 - Josephine "Josie" Nash
1998 - Jean Bills
1999 - Sue Dundon
2000 - Mary McAndrews
2001 - Jean Cardwell
2002 - Katy Voss
2003 - Sharon Murphy
2004 - Gail Neville
2005 - Noreen Barclay
2006 - Kris Pluskota
2007 - Patricia Hogan
2008 - Linda Tuescher
2009 - Kathleen Donovan
2010 - Veronica Ceszynski

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All Aboard!

Last chance. Boatbuilding class for currach construction will be on April 24, 2010 in Big Bend from 9-5. Demonstrations and hands-on repairing and canvassing the boats with an opportunity to make your own set of oars. We will have both two- and four-seat models. Due to the difficulties involved with coordinating space and time, this is the only class that Dee Talley will be able to offer, so make up your mind now! Contact Magie Brady (262) 376-0356, [TheRowingGoddess@yahoo.com]. Fee of \$50 includes all day session, tools and materials. Lunch will be provided. Personalized set of oars extra.

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Irish Charms Bracelets

Charms go back as far as the Neolithic era where man would pick up an unusual stone or piece of wood and carry it with him to ward off his enemies. Elaborate jewelry made of precious stones and metals emerged during the age of the Egyptian Pharaohs. It was during this time that the first recognizable charm bracelets and necklaces first appeared. In the Middle Ages, charms and amulets were put to use by knights and kings. After WWII, returning soldiers brought back handmade trinkets as gifts to bring home to their sweethearts.

The Shamrock Club's sales area has Irish charms. If you would

like to buy some of them, please contact Linda Tuescher at [ltuescher@yahoo.com], or call her at (262) 893-5176. Enhance your wrists with Irish themes.

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Sunshine Club

Robert Gallaway died recently. He was the husband of Gail, and father of Sean. He was also the son-in-law of Pat Sadowski.

John and June Shanahan recently lost their grandson.

If you have any news for the Sunshine Club, please call us at (414) 344-0688 or email us at [slainte41-shamrock@yahoo.com].

– **Maggie and Tom Blaha**

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Members' Doings

Shannon Donohoe, daughter of members Denis and Karen Donohoe has accepted a position at RTTV America Inc. in Washington DC as a Broadcast Journalist starting March 22. RTTV is an international Internet based TV network broadcasting in English 24/7 in over 100 countries spread over five continents. Shannon is leaving her current position as Associate Producer at WBBM 780 radio in Chicago IL. You might even catch her sometimes on air at [www.rt.com].

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