



Nov. 2010

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67th Holiday Folk Fair – Peace – Siochain November 19-21, 2010

by *Brian Witt*

Ireland in the late 19th and early 20th centuries was a land facing continual violence. The fight for Ireland's freedom from the British Empire wasn't shared by all, and factional fighting broke out in many areas of the island. The advent of the First World War brought employment for many Irish in the British Army, but at a cost of lives.

When the Easter Monday Rising of 1916 took place, initially public opinion was against the Irish rebels, who were seen as betraying the Irishmen who were serving in the army. The ham-handed response by the British to the leaders of the rebellion, however, turned the majority of the people to the side of the rebels. The resultant Irish War of Independence started in January 1919, following the Irish Republic's declaration of independence. Both sides agreed to a truce in July 1921, though violence continued in the northeast. The post-ceasefire talks led to the Anglo-Irish Treaty, which ended British rule in most of Ireland and established the Irish Free State. However, six northern counties would remain within the United Kingdom as Northern Ireland.

Even after achieving a partial freedom from Britain, peace was elusive in the new Free State, with the Irish Civil war taking place for eleven months, and causing deep chasms in Irish society. The conflict was waged between two opposing groups of Irish nationalists: the forces of the "Provisional Government" that established the Free State in December 1922, who supported the Anglo-Irish Treaty, and the Republican opposition, for whom the Treaty represented a betrayal of the Irish Republic. The war was won by the Free State forces.

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The Civil War claimed more lives than the War of Independence that preceded it, and left Irish society divided and embittered for decades afterwards. The two main political parties in the Republic of Ireland, Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael, are the direct descendants of the opposing sides in the War. It was also a divisive force that destroyed families.

The dividing of the island into the Free State, later the Republic of Ireland, and the six counties of the North left Ulster with a Catholic minority and Protestant majority. The Catholics faced discrimination, denied jobs and representation. The American civil rights push in the 1960s emboldened people to look for equal rights in the North. However, an occurrence in 1969 in Derry would resonate for decades, the killing of unarmed civilians by the British Army in what became known as “Bloody Sunday.”

It was the time known as “The Troubles.” It refers to approximately three decades of violence between elements of Northern Ireland’s nationalist community (who mainly self-identified as Irish and/or Roman Catholic) and its unionist community (who mainly self-identified as British and/or Protestant). Use of the term “the Troubles” has been raised at Northern Ireland Assembly level, as some people considered this period of conflict to have been a “war”. Over the decades, thousands would die in the sectarian fighting, both in Northern Ireland and England.

In the Republic, over decades, peace was found with the Catholic majority and the Protestant minorities living side by side with no major problems. There were other problems, mainly a society that was mired in long term poverty, and a country whose largest export was again its youth. It wasn’t until the 1990s “Celtic Tiger” phenomenon that Ireland was able to find its way out of the economic morass.

The Celtic Tiger of the south was viewed in the North with a bit of envy. International corporations were investing in the Republic and avoiding the six counties. In the 1960s and 1970s, many of the large manufacturers in Ulster had shut down operations, and unemployment for Protestants had equaled the levels of Catholic communities. As the North was seen as too dangerous to do business, investment avoided the area.

The people of the North had grown tired of the fighting and killing. A number of attempts had been made over the years, but fears built into people over centuries had to be overcome. In 1993, the Downing Street Accord was put forth, with both parties engaging in peace talks. After fits and starts, by 2005 the IRA agreed to put down its arms and stop the campaign.

The definitive end of The Troubles and thus of the Peace Process came in 2007. Following the St. Andrews Agreement of October 2006, and March 2007 elections, the Democratic Unionist Party and Sinn Féin formed a government in May 2007. In July 2007, the British Army formally ended Operation Banner, their mission in



Email:
[Shamrock Club](#)

Northern Ireland which began 38 years earlier. A tentative peace had begun in the North.

This year, the 67th Annual Holiday Folk Fair will have a theme of Peace. Peace is never easy to achieve, and the island of Ireland is a perfect example of how tenuous peace can be. The word for peace in Irish is *Siochain*, and is pronounced “shee owk awn.”

We are again the face of the Irish community in this area. Each year we are called upon to represent the Irish, to show the world what we are, what we have done, and what we can do. To do that, the Shamrock Club will need volunteers for our retail, cultural, and food areas. We also need to sell tickets to the Folk Fair.

Admission is as follows: Adults \$10 at the door, \$8 in advance. Tickets will be available for sale at the November membership meeting. You can also use the accompanying order form to purchase tickets via mail.

As a sponsoring group of the Fair we need to sell a number of tickets or make up the cost elsewhere.

We will need help in a number of areas. We need volunteers for our sales, cultural and food areas. Please check our volunteers needed in *Reflections*. You will receive the annual Folk Fair participant pin, plus admission for Folk Fair for all three days.

Rince Nia Dance School will have both adult and children performers representing the Irish in dance.

The Holiday Folk Fair will have a number of special events during the course of the weekend. They will include Dance Pavilion: a place to learn dances from around the world. Also: Food from around the world; unique gifts for you and someone special; international entertainment; cultural exhibits to assist you in learning about your heritage. There will be an Interdenominational Religious Service on Sunday at 10 a.m.

Holiday Folk Fair International is produced by the International Institute of Wisconsin. The International Institute is a not for profit organization dedicated to international cooperation. They try to develop a multiethnic, multi-cultural perspective, through education, exchange, communication, social activities, and immigration and naturalization services. Their website is [<http://www.folkfair.org>].

Peace is a concept that can be practiced. *Is féidir linn a chleachtadh síocháin, le do thoil*. And it is a concept that the International Institute will highlight this November.

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Volunteers Needed

For Holiday Folk Fair

We will need help in a number of areas. If you would like to work a four hour shift at the Holiday Folk Fair, please contact the Shamrock Club's Holiday Folk Fair Chairwomen: (General) Malkin Wallace, (414) 234-0653, or [Malkin218@aol.com]; (Food) Mary Culver at [redheadgardener@hotmail.com]; (Sales) Kris Pluskota, at (414) 345-8800 or [director@ichc.net]; or (Cultural) Denis Donohoe, (262) 309-0723 or [djvdonohoe@sbcglobal.net]. Or contact us at our e-mail address, [volunters@shamrockclubwis.com]. You will receive the annual Folk Fair participant pin, plus admission for Folk Fair for all three days. Our Dance School Coordinator is Bridget Jaskulski. She can be reached at [Bridget@GlencastleIrishDancers.com]

Admission is as follows: Adults \$10 at the door, \$8 in advance. Tickets will be available for sale at the November membership meeting. You can also use the accompanying order form to purchase tickets via mail. As a sponsoring group of the Fair we need to sell a number of tickets or make up the cost elsewhere.

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2010 HOLIDAY FOLK FAIR

State Fair Park • November 19, 20, 21, 2010

HELP US MEET OUR GOAL!

The Shamrock Club must sell 125 Holiday Folk Fair Tickets

Any unsold tickets must be purchased by the club at full value.

Tickets are \$8 in advance and must be purchased by Monday, November 15, 2010.

(Ticket price at the door is \$10)

For Information contact Karen Donohoe

At (262) 787-1956 or e-mail: [mnmcats@sbcglobal.net]

Tickets will be sent to you by return mail and are good on any of the three days of Folk Fair.

If you are a teacher, please contact us on advance tickets.

SAVE NOW ON ADVANCE SALE FOLK FAIR TICKETS

Please send me _____ advance sale Holiday Folk Fair Tickets at \$8 each.

Name : _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____

Zip: _____

Make your ticket request to:
Karen Donohoe, c/o ICHC
2133 W. Wisconsin Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53233

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
SHAMROCK CLUB OF WISCONSIN

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Milwaukee President's Message

Greetings! The 50th Anniversary / Honoree dinner was, in the words of Peter Fleming "t'was a Grand Time". For those in attendance the evening was filled with memories that will last for the next 50 years; from the warm smiles of Cate Harris and Mary Culver working the registration table, to the gentle music of the harpist in the pub, the rousing performance of the Rakes by Shamrock Club Pies and Drums in the great hall as the crowd was whipped into a frenzy by Bill Sherry, the trip down 50 years of Shamrock Club memories and memorabilia spread out over two tables that included the early photos from the Bob Higgins collection, the original Shamrock Club adult dance costume of Lena Wiczorek, the hall decorations hung by Kathy Donovan, Dawn Fleming and Denis Donohoe, the 50th Anniversary photo arch, the energetic Michele McCormick, our singing emcee for the evening, the Irish cottage center pieces painstakingly manufactured by Tom Blaha, the kind words of Bob Donovan in his honoree presentations, the Clubs' thank you to Brian Witt for his years of service to the board and finally the rousing dance band, *Our House*, which got the dance floor filled to capacity many times. (Swing it Sandy Quinlan).

Thanks to the 50th Anniversary committee of Tom Blaha, Del Canon, Mary Culver, Cate Harris, Mary Moze, Fran Pauls, Julie Smith and Malkin Wallace (dinner dance chair) who have met over the last two years to make this a year for the ages.

November is time for the Holiday Folk Fair, November 19 through 21. This year's theme is "Peace". Please volunteer for Kris Pluskota's retail booth, Mary Culver's food booth or Denis Donohoe's cultural booth. Tickets can be purchased at the November general meeting from Karen Donohoe.

November is also a time for Thanksgiving. In that spirit, at the November general meeting, Kathy Donovan and Dawn Fleming will be accepting non-perishable food donations or monetary contributions to assemble holiday food baskets. We all realize that these are difficult times, so if anyone knows of members in distress please pass their names on to Kathy or Dawn. All requests will be handled discreetly.

How's your singing voice? Well it really doesn't matter to be a member of the Shamrock Club Christmas Choir. Sign up at the November meeting as we organize the Club's newest holiday tradition. Become a charter member of this traveling group as we spread cheer to those members who may not be able to join us at our monthly meetings.

And speaking of our monthly meetings, if you haven't been to one recently you have been missing a lot.

– Josh Walton, President joshwalton1@yahoo.com

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Donate to the Shamrock Club

The Shamrock Club is a 501(C) (3) corporation. If you donate to us, you can write this off on your taxes. Donate to our Scholarship fund, our general fund, or to the parade. Thank you!

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Color Guard News & Notes

Happy Thanksgiving, my pretties. It is the end of the season and the end of the year. We only have one event this month, the Milwaukee Fire & Police Chili Cookoff at Derry's Pub on November 13. We play mid event. Stop by for the food and fun.

Until December, we are away.

– Noel Tylla, 7th year piper

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Nominations For Irish Honorees

Nominations for the 2011 Irish honorees, Irish Rose, Irishman of the Year, Parade Marshal, must be received by 6 p.m. January 27, before the start of the Shamrock Club Board meeting. Nominations must be in writing, or emailed, and be made by members in good standing. Nominations can be mailed to Shamrock Club, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53233, or emailed to Josh Walton at [joshwalton1@yahoo.com].

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50th Anniversary Dinner Dance



Fr. Brennan and Josh Walton



Guests sign in



The O'Boyles



**Brian Witt receives
service award**



**Dave Culver and
Madison Gibbs**



Quinlans



McAleese family

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ICHC November Concerts

Searson at ICHC Nov. 13

Fierce fiddling, ferocious step dancing, heartfelt vocals, and contagious energy are just some of the words used to describe the Canadian band *Searson*, who will perform at the Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 13. Joining *Searson* will be the Milwaukee-based *Glencastle Irish Dancers*.

The quartet *Tis* will provide pre-concert music in Quinlan's Pub from 6:30-7:15.

Grounded in Ontario's Ottawa Valley, sisters Erin on keyboard and mandolin, Heather on bass, and Colleen on fiddle and mandolin preserve the rich traditions of the first Irish settlers to the valley while developing a contemporary style. Mary Gellner adds a percussive punch to the show.

The Searson sisters were steeped in music from a young age and each became a competitive step dancer. The sisters also received classical training in piano. Their parents encouraged them to perform before an audience rather than in just the family setting.

Searson released the first of five critically acclaimed albums in 2005. The most recent album, 2009's *Ignite*, is an instrumental recording of original music that allowed them to bring in many different sounds including banjo and dobro. The band maintains a busy touring schedule throughout North American and Europe.

Tickets for the show are \$19 in advance and \$23 the day of concert with discounts for students and groups.

Mustard's Retreat Nov. 6

Nationally-known folk duo *Mustard's Retreat* will bring their mix of original music to a concert in the intimate Parlour of the Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, on Saturday, Nov. 6, at 7:30 p.m.

This will be a return visit for the Michigan-based duo which performed a concert at the ICHC in 2009.

Michael Hough and David Tamulevich have been engaging audiences at many of this country's most prestigious venues and festivals for over 30 years. Their musical partnership was formed shortly after they discovered a mutual love of music while working as short-order cooks in Ann Arbor in the 1970s.

General admission for the show is \$12 and \$10 for students. For information on the ICHC's Hallamor concert series and all other ICHC events, visit [www.ichc.net] or call (414) 345-8800.

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Milwaukee November Membership News

I would like to welcome the following new Members joining in August/September of this year; John/Marie Mullarkey, Mary Kay Ronke, Darwin P. and Bonnie Constantine, and Mike and

Lorraine Neuburg.

The Milwaukee Chapter as of September 30 has 383 members with 183 Family and 184 Single memberships. Statewide our membership totals 497 members.

Please be sure to get your membership renewals in before November 1 for those who's expire on or before 11/30/2010.

– Denis Donohoe, Membership Chair

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Celtic Soccer Starts Fall Undefeated, 3-0

by Joel Carstedt

The Celtic Soccer Club continued their dominance from last year's season, starting the Fall by winning their first three games at the tougher Reserves Division.

"We decided to move up to the from 1st Division because we knew we are good enough to compete at a higher level," said Al Moss. "We wanted to start strong and make a name for ourselves. It's early, but people are starting to notice that they have to play Celtic next week."

The men in green were welcomed to the Reserves Division with a drawn out affair against USA Palermo. The team was short-handed from the start, only listing 12 players in the day's lineup.

"Going into the game, we looked at each other and knew that if we were going to get a win, we had to have everyone's best effort," said Team Manager Dan Della. "I looked at the guys and said, ?This is it. This is our time to prove that we're not just another team. That we can not only play with these guys, but compete and win so they remember when they played Celtic."

Compete they did. Celtic suddenly found themselves down a man when last year's MVP, Mike Kroeger, went down late in the 1st half. Now, playing with no substitutions, they came together to grind it out. The game, scoreless after the first 45 minutes, turned into a physical match of toughness. Celtic battled throughout. But in the last few minutes, Nick Hamlin sprinted to the far post and was able to put a toe on a neatly placed cross from Aaron Abert, nudging the ball into the net and winning their first match, 1-0.

On September 26th, Celtic squared off against the always resilient, Club Latino. Right away, Mohammed Elsayed found himself with a free kick 30-yards out. He lined up his shot and struck a brilliant

shot into the net, giving Celtic a 1-0 lead. Then, Aaron Abert made a stellar run from half field, received a pass and gently placed it past Club Latino's diving keeper, giving Celtic a 2-0 lead going into the second half. Celtic sustained that lead, finishing strong for yet another well-deserved victory.

On October 3rd, Celtic Reserve traveled to Brown Deer to face against the Milwaukee Brewers. Not the baseball team? but a solid group, nonetheless. Celtic dominated from the opening whistle as Nick Hamlin received a ball from the left side and drilled a shot into the net to open, what was soon to be, a welcoming party for Celtic goals.

Minutes later, Hamlin again found himself in the box looking to score, but was viciously taken down, giving Celtic a penalty kick. Elsayed stepped up to the ball and guided it past the keeper for a 2-0 lead. Soon again, Nick Hamlin, the Man of the Match, took on yet another defender and scored his second goal. Celtic carried the lead into the second half where the flood gates were opened.

"They were tired," said defensive stalwart, Dan Koth. "Our defense wore their offense down and our offense put it away. It was awesome to see."

Mike Kroeger awoke from his offensive slumber, scoring two goals in the second half. Ryan Schuettpelz, after missing numerous chances, finally etched his name to the scoring sheet, as well. But the goal of the match was Derek Cooper's phenomenal strike in the 70th minute. Cooper received a deflected corner kick near the edge of the 18-yard box and placed a bending strike off the post, providing an exclamation point for Celtic's 7-0 domination of the Brewers.

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Celtic Women First Friday Lectures



Kathy Golden

Have you ever felt down and sad when you lose a special pet? Part of the family? If so, you will commiserate with Kathy Golden as she describes her torment upon losing Si, her Siamese cat. She relates what she did about it to recover her well-being.

Date: Nov. 5, 2010, 5:30-7 p.m.

Topic: “Good Grief! My Rescue Cat Rescued Me!” or, How a 75 Year Old Woman Came to Write Her First Book.

Speaker: Kathy Golden [kgolden@wi.rr.com]

Following the unexpected loss of several cats in a short amount of time, Kathy Golden experienced grief; she learned how to handle it after reading a book (Writing as a Way of Healing), which led her to write her own story about Si, the Siamese Cat. Kathy is a retired social worker who also quilts and is a Master Gardener.

Join us at UWM Holton Hall, 2442 E. Hartford Ave., room 190 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Enjoy the lecture, tea and goodies while you learn about this special healing that Kathy found. \$7 admission keeps the lectures afloat. Everyone is welcome including men.

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November Repast

Last year’s Thanksgiving dinner was so well received and attended that it’s basically the same menu: roasted chicken with your additions. Please add your favorite family casserole, breads or desserts. I do need your foods to supplement the chickens. Last year we served about 70 people and our numbers are growing as more and more people want to “meet and greet” before the meetings. Look for the new members and invite them to join you to share this special meal.

The January Chili Competition was a hit. Even though snow postponed the event to February, it was fun and tasty. There are already some entrants for 2011. So, I declare the game open? get your recipes out and ready for January meeting. Prizes will again be awarded.

Remember, I do want to hear from you? questions? Ideas?
Comments?

– Veronica Ceszynski, (414) 228-8621

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Members' Doings

Mary Beth Holloway and Loretta O'Boyle just spent ten days in Provance, France and Paris. Joan Keenan is traveling on a Riverboat cruise to Prague and other European spots.

Sharon Murphy's son, Jared Amann, is engaged and is planning a May 2011 wedding.

If you have done anything you want us to know about, send it to [Membersdoings @shamrockclubwis.com].

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Sunshine Club

If you have any news for the Sunshine Club, please call us at (414) 344-0688. We have a new email address. Please note: [slainte4142-shamrock@yahoo.com].

– **Maggie and Tom Blaha**