

Scenes of Irish Christmas in Poem

Ireland has been a Christian nation for sixteen hundred years. Even before the arrival of Patrick, missionaries from Gaul and Britain had brought the religion to the Emerald Island, often joining with the native Irish who had traveled to other lands, returning with this new God. The Celts were seafarers and traders on an immense scale, so when their Celtic cousins suddenly had a new religion, via the dictate of Constantine, it would not have gone unnoticed that the common gods were no longer being honored.

With Christianity came the Christian customs and holy days. Christmas was one of these. Some of the practices of the Druidic past mixed into the newly baptized rites. People in Ireland light candles and perch them up on windows, during the Eve of Christmas, to signify the Joseph and Mary's search for shelter. Candles are usually red in color and adorned with twigs of holly. Holly was also of significance to the Druidic gods of Ireland.

The practice of fosterage, wherein a child from one family was raised by others, in order to ensure peace, and to expand the boundaries of the young, was in place from the pre-historic times of the Tuatha De Dannan until the end of the Gaelic Order in the 1600's. The poem, Jesukin, addresses the fostering of Jesus in Ireland, meaning He was adopted into the family of the Irish. It was written in 6th Century Ireland, probably by Íte, who was an important church-woman, and is to be found in the commentary on Féilire Óengusso.

*"It is little Jesus who is nursed by me in my little hermitage.
Though a cleric have great wealth,
it is all deceitful save Jesukin.
The nursing done by me in my house is no nursing of a base churl:
Jesus with Heaven's inhabitants is against my heart every night.*

*He never fails to give.
Little youthful Jesus is my lasting good.
"Jesus son of the Hebrew woman.
Though princes' sons and kings' sons
come into my countryside
not from them do I expect profit:
I love little Jesus better."*

There is a poem from the ninth century, ***I Have News For You***, that gives an idea of the Irish mindset from the 800's.

*I have news for you:
The stag bells, winter snows,
summer has gone
Wind high and cold, the sun low,
short its course
The sea running high.
Deep red the bracken; its shape is lost;
The wild goose has raised
its accustomed cry,
cold has seized the birds' wings;
season of ice, this is my news*

Early in the 1000's, this poem made its way from Wales to Ireland.

Mí na Nollag

*An mhí go bhfacamar Íosa—ina mhainséar,
Le luisne na ngrás uime,
Mí bheannaithe, mí i gcóir
Canadh na gcarúl is ceiliúradh na
gclóg go léir.*

December

*The month we saw Jesus—in his manger,
With a glow of grace around him,
A blessed month, a month to sing
Carols and to ring many bells.*

As the old Irish found a common ground

with their pagan past, so have today's Irish. Modern Ireland has blended ancient traditions with the modern. Hugh Campbell, or Aodh Mac Cathmhaoil wrote as Aodh 'Mac Aingil' (Son of the Angel), wrote this poem at the beginning of the 17th century. The poet was born in County Down. He entered the Franciscan Order and helped to set up the Irish colleges in Louvain and in Rome. He was appointed Archbishop of Armagh in 1526 but died in Rome shortly afterwards.

A Naoidhe Naoimh

*Dán don Nollaig
Dia do bheatha, a naoidhe naoimh,
Isan mainséar cé taoi bocht,
Meadhrach saidhbhir atá tú
'S glórmhar id dhún féin anocht.
Míle fáilte a—nocht i gclí
Le mo chroidhe dom rígh fial;
In dá nádúir ó do-chuaidh,
Póg is fáilte uaim do Dhia.
You are glorious in your stronghold this night.
My welcomes tonight to the incarnate
With all my heart to my generous king;
Since he now has two natures,
A kiss of welcome to my God.
O little child you are so great,
O young infant you are so old,
You couldn't get a lot into that manger
Yet all of heaven cannot contain you."*

One vestige of the pagan past were carols. Originally, the term carol described a song meant for dancing, especially to honor the changing of the seasons, not just

continued on page 13

DECEMBER 5, 2013 • Dinner at 6:30 P.M.
MILWAUKEE MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Irish Cultural and Heritage Center (2133 W. Wisconsin Avenue)



Christmas Potluck and Party, Please Bring:
A-I Desserts; J-R Side Dish; S-Z Salad

☘ Milwaukee Calendar of Events ☘

For More Information visit <http://shamrockclubwis.com>

DECEMBER

- 4 Irish Emigration Library; ICHC, 12-6 pm
- 5 Shamrock Club Monthly Meeting/Christmas Party; ICHC; 6:30 pm
- 6 First Friday Ceili Dance Series; Gail McElroy, instructor/caller; Music of Cream City Ceili; Irish Heritage Cultural Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave; 7 pm
- 6 Conference of Celtic Women; Eamonn O'Neill and Ian Day - A Christmas Celebration of Art and Song; First Friday Lecture; ICHC; 5.30 pm
- 7 Celtic Christmas Boutique and Bake Sale, ICHC; 6 pm
- 7 Nollaig Sona - A Celtic Christmas Show; With Nuala Kennedy; Andrea Beaton; and Troy MacGillivray; ICHC; 7:30 pm
- 11 Irish Emigration Library; ICHC, 12-6 pm
- 12 Tallymoore; Christmas Concert; Irish Fest Center; 7 pm; 414.476.3378
- 18 Irish Emigration Library; ICHC, 12-6 pm
- 21 Holiday Concert and Sing-Along, ICHC; 7:30 pm
- 28 Almost End of the Year Monthly Set Dance; ICHC; Music tba; 7:30 pm

JANUARY

- 2 Shamrock Club Monthly Meeting; ICHC; 7 pm
- 3 Conference of Celtic Women; Priscilla "Pete" Kucik- Meet Robert Burns; First Friday Lecture; ICHC; 5.30 pm
- 8 Irish Emigration Library; ICHC, 12-6 pm
- 15 Irish Emigration Library; ICHC, 12-6 pm
- 18 Wisconsin Winterfeis; Olympia Resort, Oconomowoc
- 19 Dairyland Feis; Olympia Resort, Oconomowoc
- 22 Irish Emigration Library; ICHC, 12-6 pm

FEBRUARY

- 6 Shamrock Club Monthly Meeting; ICHC; 7 pm
- 28 Goitse; Irish Cultural and Heritage Center; 7:30 pm

ON GOING ... Set dancing at the following: Set dancing Wednesdays, 7 PM at O'Donoghue's ☘ Craobh Curtin Conradh na Gaeilge meeting at O'Donoghue's Pub, 7 PM, last Tuesday each month ☘ Irish Emigration Library in ICHC open every Wednesday 12-6 PM ☘ Irish Sing-a-long, Irish Fest Center, First Sundays, (through May) 7 PM ☘ Irish Fest Sing-a-long: O'Donoghue's Pub, First Sundays, second and fourth Tuesdays, 7 PM ☘ Irish Music Sessions at the following: ☘ Session - O'Donoghue's, Sundays 7 PM; Thursdays @ Paddy's 7 PM; and The Pub in Oconomowoc, 7:30 PM ☘ Thursdays: Barry Dodd; County Clare Inn; 10 PM ☘ Fridays: áthas and Myserk; County Clare Inn; 6 PM ☘ Sundays: áthas; Brocach Milwaukee ☘



Christmas Party - Nollaig Shona Daoibh!
Join us for the Shamrock Club's Christmas Party
Thursday, December 5, 2013
Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 6:30 PM
Potluck Dinner
Entertainment includes Patti and Dan Stotmeister with Rand Harteau, Caroling, Santa and a special guest from the North Pole. See you there!!

Milwaukee Membership News

Just a reminder to please keep the club updated if you move, change phone numbers or emails. This is the only way we can inform you of club news and events.

As of November 18, we have 39 complimentary memberships, 128 single, and 133 family memberships.

We would like to welcome new members, Michael Sampson, Michael Vance and Cynthia Chitko, all who joined the club in November.

- Glenn Nowak
Membership Chair, Milwaukee Chapter



Kim's Corner Cupboard

As December will be our holiday celebration, the club will provide sliced roast beef and gravy. Members who's last name begins with the letters A through I should bring a dessert to pass. Members who's last name begins with the letters J through R should bring a side dish to pass and those members who's last name begins with the letters S through Z should bring a salad. Please have your dishes at the ICHC by 6:15 so dinner can be served at 6:30. Come and enjoy friendship, cheer and great entertainment.

- Kim Nowak

Nominations For Irish Honorees

Nominations for the 2014 Irish Rose, Irishman of the Year, and Parade Marshal, must be received by 6 pm January 31, before the start of the Shamrock Club Board Meeting. Nominations must be in writing, or e-mailed, and be made by members in good standing. Nominations can be mailed to Shamrock Club, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53233, or e-mailed to any board member.

Word of the Month

Bricfeasta- Breakfast

Cén t-am ar mhaith leat a ithe bricfeasta?
(Ken tom ur may lat a i-hey bric-feshta.)
What time would you like to eat breakfast?

Milwaukee President's Message

Hi Everyone,

Brrrr! Winter is definitively upon us. We have experienced our 1st measurable snowfall for the season. Our annual Christmas party is Thursday, Dec. 5th, St. Nick Eve at the ICHC. The club will supply the main course and you are asked to bring a dish to pass. Complete details are in this month's newsletter. We will have holiday entertainment and a visit from the North Pole.

Thanks to all who volunteered at the Holiday Folk Fair, It is a time for us to showcase our Irish culture to all who attend. Thanks to our coordinator Mary Culver who did Food Booth and Cultural and Glenn and Kim Nowak our Retail coordinators. We could not be successful without the hard work and time contributed by our members. Thanks again to all.

The Honoree Dinner was held on Thursday November 14th at Aliotos. Thanks to Kim Nowak for a job well done. This year's honorees were Irishman Rand Harteau, Irish Rose Gail McAleese and Parade Marshals Judge Dan Konkol and his beautiful wife Maureen. Just a reminder nominations are now being accepted for the 2014 honorees. Nominations for any member in good standing, must be in writing or email to any board member and must be received by the January 30th board meeting.

The club will be receiving a copy of our proposed bylaws in the upcoming days. The general membership will review the proposal and the vote will be taken at the January 2nd General Meeting. As an aside note, let me say that any changes occur I know that the process might seem scary. We have spent countless hours over a year's time working on these changes, I hope that the results will be self-evident in the improvement of the Shamrock Club stewardship of its assets and procedures. Please attend this very important meeting, your input is very valuable to the future of our club.

At this time I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas. May God Bless all of you. See you at our Christmas Party.

Nollaig Shona Duit,
- Kathy Donovan, President



Color Guard Pipes and Drums

The season has officially closed for the Shamrock Club Color Guard, Pipes, and Drums, with our last event on November 9th, the ever exciting Greater Milwaukee Fire and Police Pipes and Drums Chili Cook Off. Bob Lanin, who was out for health reasons, got a chance to rejoin the band for this performance, and we were all happy to see him. Thanks too to the many Shamrock Club members, including several of the Color Guard, who came out to support us on that day. We had a great response from the crowd, and all tasted some great chili!

This is now officially the off season for us, which means it is the perfect time to don a kilt and become a member. We have at least 3 new pipers starting to learn the chanter (2 of whom have been with the band as drummers,) with Rand Harteau acting as an ever patient teacher. And we're always looking for more members. We need an additional bass drummer and several tenor drummers, as well as more pipers. And we can always find a flag for someone who wants to serve in the capacity of Color Guard. We hope to see you at practice on Tuesdays, or contact Noel Tylla, our Pipe Major.

One final note, we are unable to express to our former Director, Rand Harteau, our appreciation for everything that he has done for the group. He has been the organizing force for us, getting parades and performances coordinated, helping new members, and keeping the Shamrock Club up to date with our activities. His work was greatly appreciated, and he will be sorely missed.

- Christine Krzyzewski

Celtic Women Lecture December 6, 2013

If you would like to get in the Christmas spirit, the place to be on December 6th will be at the ICHC with Ian and Eamonn and the Celtic Women. It promises to be a great kickoff for the holidays. Both men are born entertainers who delight in the opportunity to share their Celtic heritage at this time of year.

Bring a treat and prepare to enjoy yourself.

Dec. 6, 2013



**Topic: "A Christmas Celebration
of Story and Song"**

Speaker: Eamonn O'Neill & Ian Day

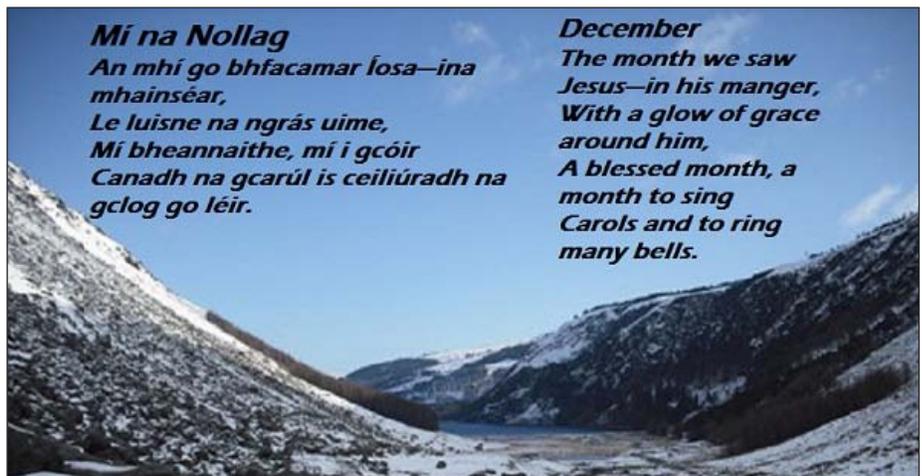
Eamonn O'Neill is Milwaukee's Irish seanachai; a storyteller, and long-time actor in Milwaukee Irish Arts. Eamonn will spin a few tales and memories of Christmases - past. Ian Day with his guitar and Scottish brogue entertains with the best of them. These two men, native Irish and Scottish, will start the holiday season off to a grand Celtic beginning.

In our Celtic Women tradition, in lieu of admission fees tonight, bring a favorite holiday treat to share.

All lectures are held from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. at the Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee. Parking lot available from the 23rd Street alley.

2013-2014 is our 17th year of lectures without interruption. The public is invited as always. We promise a delightful couple of hours; in lieu of admission please share a Christmas treat with us.

- Jean Bills



Mí na Nollag

An mhí go bhfacamar Íosa—ina mhainséar,

Le luisne na ngrás uime,

Mí bheannaithe, mí i gcóir

Canadh na gcarúl is ceiliúradh na gclog go léir.

December

The month we saw

Jesus—in his manger,

With a glow of grace

around him,

A blessed month, a

month to sing

Carols and to ring

many bells.

Emerald Reflections Copy Deadline

Content for Emerald Reflections is due on the 15th of the month (next deadline: Dec. 15th to appear in the January issue.) Copy received after that date will not appear due to deadlines. While we try to include every submission possible, due to space limitations, we cannot guarantee that every submission will be included immediately. E-mail submissions preferred, send to:

Brian Witt, Editor
emeraldreflections@shamrockclubwis.com

Pam Canon, Publisher

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To become a member of the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin contact the membership chair of the chapter you would like to join. MILWAUKEE ONLY: Family membership (includes both parents and all children under eighteen) - \$25.00. Single membership - \$20.00. Membership is renewable annually on the anniversary month of the original membership. Please send all new and renewal Milwaukee club membership dues to Membership Chair, 2133 West Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53233. Be sure to send change of address notification to Membership Chair, also. The post office will NOT forward copies of Reflections.



The CWI Book Club was delighted to be joined by Jacqueline Maggiore, the co-author of *Fluent in Faith: The Gift of Mary McCormick*, as well as Patti McCormick, daughter-in-law of Mary McCormick. Pictured here: L. to R. Sharon Walsh, Jacqueline Maggiore, Patti McCormick, and Hostess Cate Harris.



Celtic Women International

The CWI Book Club meetings begin at 1:00 pm at the ICHC and include discussion, tea, and treats. New members and guests are always welcome to join us!

The Lace Makers of Glenmara, by Heather Barbieri will be the topic for the December 10th meeting, hosted by Gail McAleese.

The January 14th meeting will be hosted by Rosemary Walsh. The topic will be *Someone*, by Alice McDermott.

- Rosemary Walsh
rowalsh@wi.rr.com



Sandy Damaske and Maureen Garry enjoy treats at the CWI Book Club meeting.

Hogmanay New Years Celebration

Wisconsin Scottish would like to invite you to Hogmanay New Years Celebration. Tuesday, December 31st at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 732 Badger Ave., South Milwaukee.

Scottish Music by Steel Bonnets, Dancing Music by Midnight Blue, dinner and cocktails. \$30.00 per person or \$55.00 per couple. See our website for further information and to order tickets. www.wisconsinscottish.org

Board of Directors Statement Regarding the Proposed Bylaws Revisions

The Board of Directors believes that these proposed bylaws revisions are not in the best interest of the Club and therefore the Board of Directors DOES NOT RECOMMEND these bylaws revisions for approval.

SHAMROCK CLUB OF WISCONSIN - 2013 PROPOSED BYLAWS REVISION

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this corporation is the SHAMROCK CLUB OF WISCONSIN, INC. hereafter referred to as the Club.

ARTICLE II PURPOSE

The purposes for which the Club is formed are:

- * To conduct educational and benevolent activities;
- * To provide funds for the study of Irish music, dance and humanities;
- * To present Irish culture to the community at large;
- * To pursue cultural advancement of the Irish through cooperation with local communities and institutional organizations; and
- * To provide aid and benefit to all members of the Club.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

A. Membership in this Club is open to all persons of Irish descent in whole or in part, by relationship through marriage, or by a sincere interest in the purposes of the Club, and shall consist of the following classes: Single; Family.

The Board of Directors shall from time to time review the classes of membership with the qualifications and the rights and privileges of each.

B. Membership Classes

1. Single
2. Family

C. Rights and Privileges

1. Single members are entitled to all rights and privileges to include voting, holding office and serving in any formal capacity recognized by the Club.

2. A family membership grants two (2) adults age 18 or older the right to vote, hold office, or serve in any formal capacity recognized by the Club. All other rights and privileges as accorded to single members will apply to all persons in a family membership.

D. Dues

Annual dues for membership in the Club shall be based on the applicable class of membership. The Board of Directors shall determine the amount of dues for each class with the annual budget. No more than a twenty-five (25) percent increase may be initiated in any given year without the approval of the general membership.

E. Expulsion of Members

The membership of any person whose misconduct reflects upon the good name of the Club, or who uses Club property without authorization, may be revoked by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors present and voting, after the the subject member has been given a hearing by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERSHIP

A. There shall be twelve (12) meetings of the Club each year.

B. The quorum for a membership meeting shall be twenty-five (25) members in good standing including at least three (3) members of the Board of Directors.

C. The location of membership meetings shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

D. Special meetings of the membership may be called by the President after consultation with at least three (3) members of the Board of Directors.

E. The annual meeting will be held in May when the election of the Board of Directors will be held.

ARTICLE V BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A. Authority

The affairs of the Club shall be governed by the Board of Directors.

B. Composition

The number of voting directors shall be eight (8): President-elect, President, Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, and three (3) Trustees, elected by the members in a manner described by the Board of Directors of the Club.

C. Election of the Board of Directors

POLICIES

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of the corporation is stated in the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws.

ARTICLE II PURPOSE

The purposes for which the Club is formed are stated in the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

A. Membership

1. Application for membership forms shall be maintained and distributed by the membership chairperson.

2. The membership roster shall be the property of the Club and shall be used for Club related activities only.

B. Membership Classes

1. Single: individual membership.

2. Family: members of an immediate family residing in the same household.

C. Rights and Privileges

1. Each class of membership is entitled to the rights and privileges as defined in the Bylaws.

2. No more than two members of one household or family may hold a seat on the Board of Directors at the same time.

3. Honorees and scholarship winners are awarded one year of free membership dues. Honorees are the Irish Rose, Irish Man and Parade Marshal.

D. Dues

Annual dues for membership in the Club will be based on the class of membership.

1. The amount due for each class will be defined by the Board of Directors and listed on the current application for:

a. Single member.

b. Family membership.

2. Membership with all rights and privileges will be forfeited by any member who is in arrears in the payment of dues for sixty (60) days following the due date of payment. To be reinstated after forfeiture of membership, dues are payable back to the original due date and must have the approval of the membership chair.

E. Expulsion of Members

This process is defined in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE IV MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERSHIP

A. Membership meetings will be held on the first Thursday of each month unless otherwise designated by the Board of Directors.

B. Club business will be conducted at each membership meeting unless otherwise designated by the Board of Directors.

C. The President shall preside at all meetings of the membership or in his/her absence the President-elect or other designee shall preside.

D. Notice of a special membership meeting shall be given via electronic means at least 24 hours in advance, stating the purpose of the meeting. No other business may be conducted at the special meeting.

ARTICLE V BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A. Authority

The Board of Directors is responsible for the management of the affairs of the Club.

B. Composition

The composition of the Board of Directors of the Club and terms of office are defined in the Bylaws.

C. Qualifications/Eligibility

1. Single and family members of this Club are eligible to hold a

SHAMROCK CLUB OF WISCONSIN 2013 - PROPOSED BYLAWS REVISION

ARTICLE V BOARD OF DIRECTORS (CONT.)

The members, at the annual meeting, shall elect by a majority vote a President-elect annually, a Treasurer bi-annually and a Secretary bi-annually. The Treasurer and Secretary shall be elected in alternate years. The Trustees shall serve a term of three (3) years, with one Trustee elected each year.

ENABLING CLAUSE: At the elections in 2014, the following Board positions will be filled: President-elect, President, Secretary, and one Trustee. Hold-over positions from the current Board will include: the current President will become Past President; the current Treasurer will remain for one additional year; the current 1st and 2nd-year Trustees will remain to complete their terms. At the election in 2015, the following Board positions will be filled: President-elect, Treasurer, and one Trustee. At the conclusion of the election in 2015, this enabling clause will be stricken from the Bylaws.

D. Meetings of the Board of Directors

1. The Board of Directors shall hold meetings once each month at a date, time and place set by the Board.
2. The quorum for a Board meeting shall be six (6) including at least the President or President-elect.
3. A special meeting of the Board may be called by the President or by four (4) members of the Board.

E. Officers

The officers of the Club shall consist of the President, President-elect, the Treasurer and the Secretary.

F. Term of Office

The President-elect, President, and Past President shall serve periods of one (1) year in each of these offices. After this one-year period, the President-elect shall succeed to the presidency and the President shall become the Past President.

The total term of office is a three (3) year obligation. The Treasurer and the Secretary shall serve a term of two (2) years and be eligible for reelection, but may not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms. **The term of obligation for each Trustee is three (3) years.** A Trustee must wait a period of one (1) year out of office before becoming eligible to serve as Trustee for another term.

G. Vacancies

In the event of a vacancy in the office of the President, the President-elect shall become President for the remainder of that term and for the succeeding year. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President-elect, at the next annual meeting of the membership, both a President-elect and a President shall be elected. The President shall fill all other vacancies on the Board with Board approval.

H. Duties of the Board Members

The duties of the officers shall be determined by the Board of Directors, except that:

1. **The President** shall be the chief elected officer of the Club, shall serve as its principal spokesperson and shall preside at the annual meeting of the membership, all meetings of the Board of Directors and at the monthly membership meetings. The President shall be a non-voting ex-officio member of all committees of the Club and all activity groups established under the Shamrock Club authority, except the Nominating committee if any; shall fill vacancies on the Board as specified in the Bylaws; shall appoint committee or activity chairs, and/or remove them with Board approval; shall be authorized to co-sign Club checks.

2. **The President-elect** shall become familiar with the duties of the office of President and shall assist the President as the President may from time to time direct and in the absence of the President preside at meetings of the Board of Directors and the membership.

ARTICLE V BOARD OF DIRECTORS (CONT.)

seat on the Board provided they have been members of the Club for at least two (2) consecutive years immediately prior to election, are at least eighteen (18) years of age on election day, and have served a minimum of one (1) year in a volunteer or activity position in the Club.

2. Nominations shall be taken in person at the March and April membership meetings; the nominee must be present to accept.

3. Election of Officers

The election of officers by the membership of the Club is to be conducted by secret ballot, overseen by the Club Trustees. The Trustees shall count the votes and report the results of the election to the Club President who shall report them to the members.

D. Meetings of the Board of Directors

1. Meetings of the Board are defined in the Bylaws.
2. The presiding officer may poll the Board members by means of telephone or electronic means. This polling shall constitute a "meeting" of the Board; minutes shall be recorded and reported at the next membership meeting.

E. Authority of the Officers

1. The President of the Club serves as the presiding officer of the Board of Directors; the Treasurer serves as the Treasurer of the Board and the Secretary serves as the Secretary of the Board. In the absence of the President, the President-elect assumes the responsibilities of the presiding officer.
2. A Board member may not be nominated for a different position on the Board of Directors unless the term of his/her current position will expire on July 1st. Resignation from a Board position in order to run or accept a different Board position shall not be allowed.

F. Term of Office

The term of office for the positions on the Board of Directors shall begin on July first following election.

G. Vacancies

Vacancies in the positions of President-elect, President, Past President, Treasurer, Secretary and Trustee shall be filled as defined in the Bylaws.

H. General Duties

In addition to the duties of the Board members defined in the Bylaws, the following describe the basic job functions:

1. President

- a. Represents the entire membership, and the best interests of the Club;
- b. Within the limits of the Bylaws, Policies and Standard Operating Procedures, is responsible and has commensurate authority to accomplish the responsibilities set forth in these documents;
- c. May conduct Board votes by electronic means;
- d. Shall submit an annual written report at the May meeting of the Board of Directors.
- e. Shall keep one key to the U.S. postal box in the Club name and collect incoming mail addressed to the Club, sharing this duty with the Club Treasurer.
- f. Further duties may be specified in the manual for Standard Operating Procedures.

2. President-elect

- a. Shall be authorized to co-sign Club checks;
- b. Shall be available to serve as the President's designee upon request;
- c. Shall serve as liaison for committee and activity group chairs as needed;

SHAMROCK CLUB OF WISCONSIN 2013 - PROPOSED BYLAWS REVISION

ARTICLE V BOARD OF DIRECTORS (CONT.)

3. The Past President shall serve as an advisor to the President in terms of the Club history and continuity.

4. Treasurer

a. Shall have the responsibility for the receipt and expenditure of funds by the Club and shall ensure that all accounts of the Club have been audited annually by the finance committee.

b. Shall submit to the membership at the annual meeting in May, a balance sheet and a statement of all receipts and expenditures of the Club for the year just ended.

5. Secretary

a. Shall act as Secretary at all meetings of the Board of Directors and of the membership, and keep in permanent form a record of all minutes taken at such meetings.

b. The minutes of the previous meeting(s) shall be read aloud to the Board and/or the membership. Additions or corrections shall be noted. The minutes may consist of motions put to a vote and results thereof.

6. Trustee

a. Shall be expected to maintain full and current knowledge of Club procedures and policies as written in Club materials. The nature of the Trustee position is one of a high degree of trust and faithfulness to the Purposes of the Shamrock Club.

b. Shall oversee and conduct the annual election in May.

c. Shall be a member of the finance committee and participate in the budget preparation and the audit process.

7. Honorees

The Board of Directors shall elect an Irish Rose, Irish Man, and Parade Marshal each year to be honored during Saint Patrick festivities and other events throughout the year.

ARTICLE V BOARD OF DIRECTORS (CONT.)

d. Further duties may be specified in the manual for Standard Operating Procedures.

3. Past President

a. Shall be available to serve as the President's designee upon request;

b. Shall serve as liaison for committee and activity group chairs as needed;

c. Shall serve on the finance committee.

d. Further duties may be specified in the manual for Standard Operating Procedures.

4. Treasurer

a. Shall chair the finance committee which is responsible for the annual audit and budget preparation.

b. The budget shall be presented to the Board of Directors at the April Board meeting, and to the membership at the May meeting. The budget shall have line item details.

c. Shall collect all monies, income and dues whether received by mail or at events. The funds shall be deposited within five (5) days of receipt, in a financial institution approved by the Board of Directors.

d. Shall pay all authorized obligations of the Club by check co-signed by another authorized Board member.

e. Shall have one (1) of two (2) keys to the Club post office box and collect incoming mail addressed to the Club.

f. Shall report monthly to the Board and to the membership the Club's balances in accounts of checking, money markets, and Certificates of Deposits, as well as any checks written for more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

g. Shall not approve or disperse any funds that have not been budgeted. Any purchases or financial obligations taken by a Board member, Club member, activity or committee chair shall be at their own risk and may be grounds for expulsion from the Club.

h. Further duties may be specified in the manual for Standard Operating Procedures.

5. Secretary

a. Shall conduct official correspondence at the direction of the Board of Directors or of the President, using official Club letter-head stationery.

b. Shall use the Shamrock Club post office box number as the return address for all Club correspondence, stationery, literature, membership forms and invoices.

c. Shall maintain a complete file of all minutes recorded during the term of office, including reports provided during the meeting such as those from the treasurer, committees or activity chairs. These records shall be stored permanently after the Secretary's term is completed.

d. Further duties may be specified in the manual for Standard Operating Procedures.

6. Trustee

a. All Trustees shall participate in the audit and budget process. The most senior Trustee shall chair the audit process. The audit shall not occur in the absence of the senior Trustee.

b. The most senior Trustee shall solicit biographical information from candidates for election to be printed in the Club publication Emerald Reflections.

c. Shall cooperate with the Treasurer in collecting Club funds according to the policy for Transfer of Funds in the Standard Operating Procedure manual.

d. Further duties may be specified in the manual for Standard Operating Procedures.

7. Honorees

1. Nomination and Election of Honorees

A call for nominations from the membership shall be made during the membership meetings in December and January. The Board of Directors shall elect honorees from the nominees prior to the February membership meeting when the winners will be announced.

2. Duties and Privileges of Honorees

a. Each honoree will receive a plaque, one year's membership

SHAMROCK CLUB OF WISCONSIN 2013 - PROPOSED BYLAWS REVISION

ARTICLE V BOARD OF DIRECTORS (CONT.)

ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES

A. Categories

There shall be four (4) categories of committees, approved by the Board of Directors.

1. Gold Category

The gold category shall be defined as a group of members, or a single person acting alone, for the purpose of carrying out a mission that is intended to bring revenue into the Club treasury.

2. Silver Category

The silver category shall be defined as a group of members, one or more, whose mission shall be to perform a service to the public, the Club and/or its members in accordance with the Purpose of the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin.

3. Copper Category

The copper Category shall be defined as one or more members carrying out a one-time assignment for the good of the Club. Upon the completion of the assignment, this committee shall cease to exist, without further action or direction of the Board.

4. Iron Category

The iron category shall be defined as housekeeping services for the Club.

ARTICLE VII STATE CHAPTERS

A. The Club shall have the authority to charter constituent chapters within the State of Wisconsin, representing areas of the State. There shall be no more than one (1) constituent chapter within twenty-five (25) miles of another chapter.

B. In order to obtain a constituent chapter charter from the Club, three (3) or more persons who are eligible for membership in the Club shall submit an application in such form as the Board of Directors may require.

C. The Board of Directors shall not grant an application for a charter unless the bylaws and membership criteria of an applicant chapter are consistent with those of the Club.

D. Revocation of Charter.

The charter of any chapter whose misconduct reflects upon the good name of the Club, or who fails to abide by the bylaws of the Club, may be revoked by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors present and voting, after the the subject chapter has been given a hearing by the Board of Directors.

E. Grandfather Chapters

1. Chapters which have been organized under the auspices of the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin on or before January 1, 2014 may be granted enrollment as a State chapter under these Bylaws; the Board of Directors may require certain forms to be completed and submitted to the Club President to comply with and provide a complete organizational basic record for all of the chapters.

2. The State chapters may organize in such a way as to provide a mechanism for continuity and purpose to achieve the goals and purposes of the Club and affiliated chapters.

ARTICLE V BOARD OF DIRECTORS (CONT.)

dues, and be entitled to wear a Club sash for the honor.

b. Each honoree will be featured in the annual St. Patrick's parade and activities of the day.

c. The Irish Rose and Irish Man will be expected to participate in various events throughout the year, wearing the Club sash.

d. Each honoree will be guests of the Club at a dinner in their honor.

8. All Board Members and Committee Chairs

It shall be mandatory for all elected and appointed members of the Club who are serving, or will serve, in positions of authority to attend an orientation workshop which will be held within two weeks of election or appointment.

ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES

A. Categories

The President shall consult with the suggestions provided by the President-elect and appoint members to the various committees as needed, to be completed before July 1st.

1. Gold Category committees

Gold committees may include, but not be limited to: membership, retail sales, parade, post-parade party, parade raffle, Folk Fair activities and Color Guard Pipes and Drums.

2. Silver Category committees

Silver committees may include, but not be limited to: Club publication, St. Patrick's Day Mass, parade and related activities; Easter Rising Mass and related activities; Shamrock Club statewide chapters; annual orientation workshop; and election of Honorees (Irish Rose, Irish Man, Parade Marshal).

3. Copper Category Committees

Copper committees may include, but not be limited to: picnic, special dinners, and bylaws.

4. Iron Category Committees

Iron committees shall include, but not be limited to: finance, asset manager, hospitality.

ARTICLE VII STATE CHAPTERS

A. To accomplish the purposes for which the Club is formed and secure effective representation on a local level, the Club may grant charters to constituent chapters of members in good standing of the Club.

B. Any chapter so chartered must agree to abide by any decisions and policies of the Club and to promote and encourage policies that are beneficial to the Club, the constituent chapters and the individual members of the chapters.

C. The name of each constituent chapter is to contain the words "Shamrock Club of Wisconsin" and the geographical area represented.

D. CHARTER APPLICATIONS AND DUTIES

1. Prior to the granting of a charter to such constituent club, an application in such form as the Board of Directors of this Club may require must be filed and should contain:

a. A petition to organize, on a form provided by the Club;

b. An application fee of five (5) dollars;

c. Eight (8) copies of the proposed Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, as applicable;

d. Lists of officers and charter members;

e. Three (3) or more persons who are eligible for membership in this Club may apply for grant of charter.

2. Duties and Responsibilities of Chapters

a. A chapter must submit all proposed amendments of its Bylaws to the President of this Club for review and approval before adoption.

b. An official copy of amended Bylaws is to be transmitted to the President of this Club within 90 days after adoption.

c. An official list of officers and chairpersons of each chapter must be transmitted to the President of this Club, annually within thirty (30) days of election or appointment.

d. Representative(s) of each chapter must attend an annual meeting of all chapters with representative(s) of this Club.

SHAMROCK CLUB OF WISCONSIN 2013 - PROPOSED BYLAWS REVISION

ARTICLE VII STATE CHAPTERS (CONT)

ARTICLE VIII FISCAL AFFAIRS

A. Fiscal Year

The fiscal year shall be July 1 to June 30.

B. Sources of Funds

In addition to dues, the Board of Directors may accept, on behalf of the Club, contributions, gifts or bequests for general purposes or for any special purpose of the Club, and may conduct such fund-raising activities as it determines to be appropriate.

C. Audit

An annual written audit of the fiscal records of the Club shall be prepared by the finance committee which includes the Club Treasurer, three (3) Trustees, and past-President, submitted annually to the Board of Directors and the membership.

D. Financial Records

The Club shall keep correct and complete books and records of account at a site designated by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors of the Club shall establish procedures for handling checks and deposits and a mechanism for bonding of appropriate individuals.

E. Dispersal of Funds

1. The Club may, within the annual budgetary process, commit certain funds to support and assist other community clubs or organizations, especially those with an Irish connection, in accordance with the established Purposes of this Club.
2. The membership may vote to disperse funds beyond the budgeted amounts if discussion deems it prudent. Such funds shall be limited according to established policies.

ARTICLE IX INDEMNIFICATION

Each present and future director and officer of the corporation shall be entitled, without prejudice to any other rights he or she may have, to be indemnified and held harmless by the corporation from any and all liabilities and associated expenses, including cost of defense, arising in any way out of their activities for or on behalf of the corporation, to the full extent allowed by Chapter 181, Wis. Stats. with respect to directors, as may be amended from time to time. For purposes of this Article, officers and directors shall be treated identically.

ARTICLE X POLICIES AND BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

A. Parliamentary Authority

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (Current Edition) will govern the business proceedings of the Club, except when otherwise specified in these Bylaws.

B. Bylaws Amendments

The Bylaws of the Club may be amended as follows:

1. Proposed amendments to the Bylaws may be submitted in writing to the bylaws committee by the Board of Directors of the Club or by a constituent chapter of the Club, or may be written by the bylaws committee itself, no less than 120 days (four (4) months) prior to the next annual meeting of the Club.
2. The bylaws committee shall submit proposed amendments to the members of the Club no less than sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting of the Club.
3. Adoption of proposed amendments to the Bylaws shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at the annual meeting and properly certified.

C. Policies Amendments

Proposed amendments to the Policies may be submitted at a meeting of the Board of Directors or at a meeting of the membership. Thirty (30) days notice must be published of the proposed amendment(s) to the Policies. A simple majority vote is required which must pass both the Board and the membership.

End of Proposed Bylaws Revisions

ARTICLE VII STATE CHAPTERS (CONT)

3. Charter revocation of a constituent chapter: this process is defined in the Bylaws of this Club.

ARTICLE VIII FISCAL AFFAIRS

B. Sources of Funds

1. Certain committees shall be established with the intention of raising funds for the Club. Appropriate policies and procedures, with oversight, shall be created and monitored to enable the goals of profitability to be reached.
2. Raffles held at the monthly meetings shall be the responsibility of the Hospitality position and shall be budgeted for expenses and expected revenue.
3. Tips and gratuities received at events or meetings shall be the property of the Club and shall be collected by the Treasurer or Trustee.
4. Foods that are provided at membership meetings must be budgeted to make a small profit. Members who contribute foods may be excused from payment, provided they make advance arrangements with the Hospitality position on a sign-up promise sheet. All other members who consume the food are expected to share in the cost of the food by a donation at the table.

E. Dispersal of Funds

1. The amount of money that the membership may choose to donate shall be limited; the limits shall be set by the finance committee annually and such limits approved by the Board of Directors.
2. The current limit on membership donations is found in the Standard Operating Procedures.

ARTICLE IX INDEMNIFICATION

ARTICLE X POLICIES AND BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

A. Parliamentary Authority

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (Current Edition) will govern the business proceedings of the Club, and its chartered constituent chapters, except where otherwise specified in these Bylaws.

End of Proposed Bylaws Revisions

Shamrock Club of Wisconsin Bylaws – Revised April 2011

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of the Corporation is the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin, Inc., and may be referred to in the Bylaws as the Club. It is a Wisconsin Corporation under Chapter 181 of the Wisconsin statutes without stock and not for profit. The period of existence shall be perpetual. Any other Irish Club may organize within the State of Wisconsin under these bylaws provided they notify the registered agent of the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin, Inc. of doing so within thirty (30) days.

ARTICLE II PURPOSE

The purpose of the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin, Inc. is to bring about the association of individuals of Irish descent or relationship, in whole or in part, for the purpose of conducting educational and benevolent activities of all kinds, including the conducting of meetings, conducting forums and research into Irish culture, providing funds for the study of Irish music, dance, and humanities, presentation of Irish culture to the community at large and the pursuit of cultural advancement of the Irish through cooperative means with local communities and institutional organizations. The purposes for which the Shamrock Club is organized are exclusively religious, charitable, scientific, literary, and educational within the meaning of section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the organization shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

A. Membership shall be open to all persons who are of Irish descent either in whole or in part, by relationship through marriage, or by a sincere interest in the purposes of this Club. The board of directors shall have final authority regarding the acceptance of memberships.

B. Categories of membership:

1. Single – individual membership
2. Family – members of an immediate family residing in the same household.

C. The membership of any person whose misconduct reflects upon the good name of the Club, or who uses Club property without authorization, may be revoked by a two-thirds vote of the board of directors.

ARTICLE IV DUES

Dues shall be set annually during the budget process. Dues are renewable annually and become the property of the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin, Inc. and will not be refunded if a member should leave the Club. There shall be no initiation fee for the Club.

ARTICLE V MEETINGS OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

A. There shall be a minimum of twelve meetings per year.

B. Business meetings for the general membership shall be held on the first Thursday of each month.

C. The board of directors shall establish the location of the meetings and is authorized to change the dates if needed.

D. Special meetings may be called by the president after consultation with at least seven (7) members of the board.

E. A quorum for the general membership business meetings shall be twenty-five (25) dues paid members in good standing, and not less than three elected officers or directors.

ARTICLE VI OFFICERS

A. The officers of the Club shall be president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer.

B. Term of office: The term of office for all officers will be one year, beginning on July first.

C. Succession: All officers, except treasurer, may be re-elected for only one succeeding term. The treasurer may be re-elected for an unlimited number of terms.

D. Duties of the officers:

1. The president shall be the chief executive and chairman of the board of directors of the Club. The president shall preside at all meetings of the Club and its board of directors; shall be an ex-officio member of every committee; shall fill vacancies on the board of directors with the approval of the board; shall appoint such Activities chairpersons or ad hoc committee chairpersons as are needed or appropriate, and shall have the authority to remove them, with board approval; shall be empowered to co-sign Club checks; shall cooperate with all adopted recommendations of the audit committee; shall write a monthly article for the Club publication, and such other articles as appropriate for the good of the Club; may conduct board votes on resolutions by electronic poll, with a full report at the next board of directors meeting; shall call for nominations at the March and April membership meetings; shall submit a written year end report to the board of directors at the May meeting of the board.

2. The vice-president shall, during the term of office, become familiar with the duties of the office of president. In the event of a vacancy in the office of president, the vice-president shall become the president. The vice-president shall serve as program chair; shall be empowered to co-sign Club checks in the absence of the president; shall preside over meetings in the absence of the president.

3. The secretary shall act as secretary at all meetings of the general membership and the board of directors; shall keep in permanent form a record of all meetings of the general membership and the board of directors; shall read all voted resolutions at general membership meetings; shall duplicate a copy of the minutes for distribution at the next board meeting; shall have available at each general meeting, a copy of all minutes of all meetings from the previous twelve months; shall provide a listing of the current board members with dates of terms, to be available for members at any general meeting; shall conduct such correspondence as shall be authorized by the board of directors or requested by the president; shall notify the Secretary of State of the State of Wisconsin, any changes in the Corporation's registered agent or address.

4. The treasurer shall collect, receive, accurately record, and have charge of all dues and funds of the Club; shall deposit such funds in a bank or investment firm approved by the board of directors; have accounts audited at the end of the fiscal year; submit the auditor's report at the September board meeting; report the financial condition of the Club at meetings of the board of directors and of the membership; shall submit a monthly register of expenditures and income to the board, available also to the general membership; shall report any disbursement of \$1,000 (one thousand dollars) or more to the general membership at the next meeting; shall pay all authorized obligations of the Club by check; shall submit a written summary of financial condition and operations in a semi-annual report to the board of directors at the February and August board meetings; shall chair the finance committee and present its proposed budget at the May board meeting.

ARTICLE VII BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A. The Board of directors shall consist of the president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, the immediate past president; three trustees; parliamentary; sergeant-at-arms; and membership chair.

Shamrock Club of Wisconsin Bylaws – Revised April 2011 con't.

B. Duties of the board of directors. The board shall: be vested with the charge of all properties and funds; perform all acts and functions consistent with the bylaws of the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin, Inc.; represent the Club between regular or special meetings of the membership. All business transacted by the board in the interests of the Club shall be reported to the membership in the board minutes and/or reports given at the general membership meetings.

C. Non-officer board members, duties

1. Trustees

Audit the fiscal year-end report of the treasurer, as part of the audit committee; the most senior trustee shall be a member of the finance committee; shall solicit biographical information from candidates and prepare for publication in the Emerald Reflections; shall conduct the election of officers and directors at the May meeting of the general membership, by ballot; shall perform duties as associated with the office of a board member.

2. Parliamentarian

Shall interpret the bylaws; supervise the parliamentary procedure at business meetings; shall furnish a copy of the Club bylaws to all incoming board members; shall have a copy of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, at all meetings; shall serve as chair of the bylaws committee; shall perform duties as associated with the office of a board member.

3. Sergeant-at-Arms

Shall prepare the meeting room and maintain order at meetings; be responsible for refreshments at general membership meetings; arrange for a raffle to be held at general membership meeting; shall act as custodian of the Club's physical assets; be aware of the use, sale, dispersal, location and physical inventory of such assets, maintaining a property list, and reporting any discrepancies in the list to the board; shall perform duties associated with the office of a board member.

4. Membership Chairperson

Shall maintain a supply of membership forms approved by the board; shall issue membership cards to new members; shall receive new member applications, and shall maintain a current list of member names, addresses, e-mail addresses, all pertinent telephone numbers, date of joining Club and areas of service potential; shall provide the president with the current membership list during the months of June and December; shall provide Activities chairpersons with a member name and telephone list, e-mail addresses, and date of joining the Club; shall perform duties associated with the office of a board member.

5. Immediate Past President

Shall serve on the finance committee; shall serve as advisor to the president on items of continuity and history of Club governance; shall remain on the board until the succeeding president leaves that office; shall perform duties associated with the office of a board member.

D. Meetings of the board of directors: the board shall meet on the last Thursday of the month, unless changed by the board; seven members of the board shall constitute a quorum at meetings of the board; the board meetings held during May and June are to include the current board, plus newly elected board members who will have no vote at those meetings.

E. Term of office for positions other than officers. All terms begin on July first.

1. Trustees: Three trustees shall be elected, one per year over three years, to serve a term of three years each. They may be re-elected to that office after a break of at least one year.

2. Other directors: The positions of parliamentarian, sergeant-at-arms and membership chair shall be for a term of one year. With the exception of the membership chair, they may be re-elected to the same office only once. The membership chair may be reelected for an unlimited number of terms.

ARTICLE VIII ACTIVITY CHAIRS

A. Activity chairpersons are appointed by the president and approved by the Board; they serve until removed by the president, or by resignation. The Director of The Color Guard Pipes and Drums will be recommended by the Color Guard Pipes and Drums members and approved by the Board.

B. Duties of Activity Chairs: Shall submit a written budget request to the finance committee, along with a short plan for the expenditures; all financial obligations that are incurred by a specific Activity chair or committee, must be paid by the treasurer upon submission of the proper invoice for the activity by the Activity chair; any expenditures more than \$300 (three hundred dollars) over the budgeted amount for that activity, must have approval of the board of directors prior to obligating the expense; make an initial report and periodic progress reports to the president; submit a written report within sixty (60) days following the activity, detailing expenditures and receipts, operational procedures, problems encountered, recommendations for the future. A copy of the report should be prepared for each board member.

C. The Activity Chairs will attend Board meetings when requested by the president to give a personal Report on specific activity.

ARTICLE IX COMMITTEES

A. Audit Committee

1. Duties: Shall audit the treasurer's fiscal year end report; a written audit report shall be presented to the board of directors no later than the September board meeting. It shall include recommendations on the proper control, and division of responsibility, in the handling of the Club's receipts and disbursements, as deemed necessary and proper.

2. Composition: Shall be composed of the three trustees, and at least two Club members selected by the general membership at the June meeting. The chair shall be the senior trustee. The term of the committee will end with acceptance of the audit report by the board.

B. Publication Editor

1. Responsible for the monthly publication of "The Emerald Reflections," the only official publication of the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin, Inc. All Clubs are encouraged to use this publication as their main communications. No limits are implied on the amount of material submitted, except at the discretion of the editor or the final approval of the president, if necessary.

2. All members shall receive a subscription to the "Emerald Reflections" as part of their dues payment.

3. Shall accept paid advertising on an annual or per issue basis.

C. Bylaws Committee

1. Duties: Conduct a biennial review of the by-laws and consider any changes. A bylaws committee shall be activated on the even years of the fiscal calendar or as needed upon request of the board of directors.

2. Composition: The committee shall consist of at least five (5) members including the parliamentarian, who shall serve as chair.

D. Finance Committee

1. Duties: Prepare a budget of estimated receipts and expenditures for the coming fiscal year; obtain budget requests from various activity and committee chairs and officers. If no request is received, estimate a figure based on past experience as reflected in the treasurer's twelve-

Shamrock Club of Wisconsin Bylaws – Revised April 2011 con't.

month annual report; present the proposed annual budget to the board of directors at its May meeting.

2. Composition: Shall consist of six members, including the senior trustee, Club president, two Club members at large, the treasurer who shall be chair, and the immediate past president; the term of office will end upon approval of the budget by the board.

ARTICLE X NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

A. Nominations of officers and directors. All nominees must be members of the Shamrock Club.

1. Must be made in person by a member at the March or April general membership meeting.
2. The nominee must be present at the March or April meeting to accept the nomination in person.
3. The candidates shall be announced at the April meeting and shall be listed in the May issue of the Club publication with a short biography.
4. A trustee or a junior trustee must resign before accepting another nomination to the board.

B. Nominations for Irishman of the Year, Irish Rose, and Parade Marshal.

1. Must be made in writing by a member of the Shamrock Club.
2. Must be submitted prior to the January board meeting when voting will occur; a deadline date for nominations will be announced by the president.

3. All nominees must be members of the Shamrock Club.

C. Election of Officers and Directors

1. Shall be conducted by the trustees at the May meeting of the membership, by ballot.
2. A single member shall have one vote. A family membership will be allowed two votes as follows: one must be an adult 18 years or older;
3. Absentee, proxy, and write-in voting is not permitted.
4. In case of a tie, there will be an immediate election for the contested office.

D. Election of Irishman of the Year, Irish Rose, and Parade Marshal shall be conducted prior to the February membership meeting, by the board of directors. Announcement of the winners will be made at the

February general membership meeting.

ARTICLE XI FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year shall be July 1 to June 30.

ARTICLE XII PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised" shall govern the Club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the Club may adopt. A copy of said book shall be furnished by the Club and must be present at all meetings.

ARTICLE XIII AMENDMENTS

Proposed changes to the bylaws shall be submitted to the bylaws committee.

A. After consideration by the committee, the proposed changes shall be presented to the board of directors for consideration and recommendation. These bylaws may then be approved at the next general meeting of the members, provided that the proposed changes have been printed in the Shamrock Club publication, approximately thirty (30) days before the meeting at which they will be considered.

B. The proposed changes require two-thirds (2/3) vote of the dues paying members present at the general meeting for approval. Upon approval, the new articles are in effect immediately.

ARTICLE XIV STATE ADVISORY BOARD

A. Purposes:

1. To foster and encourage the exchange of ideas and information among the various Clubs.
2. To promote, coordinate and participate in programs and projects of mutual concern.
3. To assist in the formation of new Clubs.

B. Composition

1. To be composed of members of the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin, Inc.

ARTICLE XV DRESS CODE

A. Color Guard Pipes and Drums:

1. The Color Guard Pipes and Drums official uniform shall be solid green kilts, when kilts are worn.

Shamrock Club of Wisconsin Honoree Dinner



Parade Marshals Dan and Maureen Konkol with Jacob Nowak



Irish Roses through the years



Irish Rose Gail McAleese and Irishman of the Year Rand Harteau



Parade Marshals attended the dinner



continued from page 1

the winter season, but every season. Over time, carols came to be used only at Christmas and only in celebration of the birth of Christ. Carols were generally in the vernacular and were not sung at church. Church 'carols' would have been in Latin. Ironically, carols were viewed as overly pagan since their origins reflected the agricultural cycle of the year by celebrating the changing of seasons.

One carol that survived, originally written in Irish, was **Don Oíche úd I mBeithil - To That Night In Bethlehem**

*"Don oíche úd I mBeithil,
beidh tagairt ar ghrian go brach
Don oíche úd I mBeithil,
go dtainig an Briathar slán
"I sing of a night in Bethlehem
A night as bright as dawn
I sing of that night in Bethlehem
The night the Word was born"*

The Kilmore Carols are a haunting and beautiful collection of Christmas carols from the village of Kilmore in County Wexford. There are thirteen carols in all, one for Christmas night ("The Darkest Midnight"), and one for each of the twelve days of Christmas. The original thirteen carols are from a variety of sources. One, "Jerusalem, My Happy Home" (16th century) is from England. Some were composed by Bishop Luke Wadding, (the only Irishman nominated for the papacy, and the person who put St. Patrick in the liturgical calendar,) during the 17th Century. Here is a bit from **The Darkest Midnight**:

*"Have you not heard the sacred story,
how man was made those seats to fill
Which the fallen angels lost in glory
through their presumption, pride and will
They thought us mean for to obtain such
glorious seats and crowns in heaven
So through a cheat they got Eve to eat
the fruit to be avenged on man."*

By the 20th century, the view of Christmas is one of being a mix of blessing and poverty. Patrick Kavanagh, best known for the poem and song "Raglan Road," starts this observation off, in, appropriately, **Advent**.

*"We have tested and tasted too much, lover-
Through a chink too wide there comes in
no wonder.
But here in the Advent-darkened room
Where the dry black bread and the
sugarless tea
Of penance will charm back the luxury
Of a child's soul, we'll return to Doom
The knowledge we stole but could not use."*

The Celtic Tiger rearranged the world of Ireland. A new prosperity, purchased in many ways in ebullience and newly found wealth, took many away from the Church. The sex scandals that filled American news ran along parallel lines in Ireland. As wrenching as the news was in America, it helped push the Irish Church into a corner that it is still fighting to recover from. The decline of the Celtic Tiger, with a disappearing of the newly found base of security, didn't return to the Church. Rather, they again left in droves, reviving the outward migration from the Emerald Isle.

A recent poem from Tomas O'Carthaigh, **Wren Sleeps Soundly This Christmas**, speaks to the modern state of religion in Eire.

*"Wren no longer hunted, nor Church attended
Clergy speak to deaf ears, eyes have seen
What all thought could never be, sinners
Men of cloth greatest of all have been.
We think we are holy less today
Than we were as a people pious before
But now we pray from faith and belief
Not from fear and posture anymore."*

Still, Christmas is a holiday still loved in Ireland. Perhaps the late Scottish fiddler, Johnny Cunningham, whose father was from Donegal, has put it best. **In Reflections On a Scottish Christmas**, he recalls:

*"The dark of winter wraps around us tight.
The lamps are fired, and flickering light
beats time to the fiddle as notes float softly
down, like the years' first snow.
While outside the window a blast of late
December wind whistles harmony
to the drone of the pipes.
We push the old year back against the wall
so we can dance a jig for Christmas
and welcome in the new."*

Ireland has evolved since the introduction of Christianity. The way it is viewed has changed, yet stayed very much the same. And in Ireland, it is still the most beloved of all holidays.

You may wish to celebrate with the family by making an Irish Christmas Pudding.

- 3oz/90g/ white breadcrumbs
- 1½oz/45g plain flour
- 2 eggs
- 4oz/115g demerara sugar
- 4oz/115g prepared suet
- 4oz/115g sultanas
- 4oz/115g raisins
- 4oz/115g currants
- 2oz/55g sliced almonds
- 1oz/30g chopped cherries
- 2oz/55g peel
- ½ lemon, rind and juice

- ¼ tsp nutmeg
- ½ to 1 tsp mixed spice
- pinch of bicarbonate of soda
- salt



Mix all the dry ingredients together in a bowl, then add lemon rind, juice and eggs. Mix really well. Place the mixture in a well-greased 1½ pint/850ml bowl and cover the bowl with two well-greased pieces of greaseproof paper. Steam the mixture for six hours and then remove the paper.

Ignore any fat lying on the top of the pudding as it will be absorbed. Once the pudding is cold, recover it, still in its bowl, with fresh paper and store it for up to three months. You can douse it in rum or brandy occasionally if you like a pudding with a kick. On Christmas morning, steam it for three hours.

A traditional Irish plum pudding is brought to the table aflame. Obviously you need to take extra care doing this. Before serving, pour brandy or any other alcohol over the pudding and set it alight.

And you can enjoy an Irish coffee to serve after dinner.

- One Large measure Irish whiskey
- 2 tsp brown or demerara sugar
- Strong hot coffee, freshly percolated
- Lightly whipped cream or cold double cream

Gently warm the Irish coffee mugs. Place a teaspoon in a mug to ensure the glass doesn't crack. Half fill with very hot strong coffee. Add the sugar and stir until it has dissolved. Pour in the whiskey. Remove the teaspoon. Top up to within half an inch (1.5cm) of the top of the mug.

Hold a fresh teaspoon, curved side up, over the glass but very close to the coffee. Gently, and slowly, slide whipped cream off the teaspoon onto the top of the coffee so that it floats. If using liquid cream, pour the cream very slowly over the back of the spoon onto the top of the coffee.

We all wish you Nollaig Shona Duit, Happy Christmas to you. May your Christmas be one of joy and family.

- Brian Witt





Sunshine Report

Joe Hughes and Bridget O'Brien announce the birth of a granddaughter, Samantha Bridget, born to Dave and Stephanie Metz. Stephanie is Bridget's daughter.

Rand and Char Harteau also greeted a new granddaughter, Eleanor Helen Harteau, born to Repeé and Steve Harteau, their son.

Jacob Nowak and Ryan Dushek participated in Region 8 District volleyball tournament on October 19th. They played 7 games winning 5. They took second place in their division however they were not selected to attend the State Tournament.

Although both Jacob Nowak and Ryan Dushek did very well at the Selection Camp for the National Special Olympics team neither one was chosen to be on the team. Both athletes hope to try out for the next National Team in three years.

- Maggie Blaha, Sunshine Chair



Celtic Christmas Show Saturday, December 7

A holiday feast of music, song, dance and stories await as three of the top names in Irish and Cape Breton traditional music present Nollaig Shona, a Celtic Christmas concert, at the ICHC on Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m.

Well-known to area audiences from previous shows at the ICHC as well as Milwaukee Irish Fest, Nuala Kennedy (originally from Ireland) and Andrea Beaton and Troy MacGillivray from Nova Scotia will share the joy, laughter and relaxed atmosphere of neighbors gathered around the fire at a holiday "house" session in Ireland or "kitchen" party on Nova Scotia's Cape Breton Island.



Kennedy's hauntingly beautiful vocals and adventurous instrumentation on fiddle and flute spring from traditional Irish and Scottish music as well as from the fathomless realms of her own imagination. Singing in English, Irish and Scots Gaelic, she has a "voice as luminous as her flute," according to Rhythms Magazine.

Coming from a long line of Cape Breton musicians (internationally acclaimed fiddler Natalie MacMaster is a cousin,) Beaton has established herself through the power of her bow, the drive and swing of her timing, and the crispness of her attack. She also plays piano, and her percussive Cape Breton-style dancing is exhilarating.

Multi-instrumentalist MacGillivray from Lanark, Nova Scotia, has been playing music and step-dancing since he was a young child and was teaching at Cape Breton's Gaelic College in St. Ann by the time he was 13. A winner of numerous music awards, he is the recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for outstanding contributions to

culture in Canada.

The annual Celtic Christmas Boutique and bake sale will take place in the ICHC Parlour starting at 6 p.m. and remaining open during the concert and intermission.

Tickets for the show are \$21 in advance, \$25 on concert day, and \$10 for students with ID. To order online, visit www.ichc.net. Tickets may also be ordered by calling (414) 345-8800.

- Kathy Schultz



First Friday Ceili Dances

Join us at the Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave., for family Irish dancing at its best! Beginners and all ages welcome. Instruction begins at 7:30 P.M. and continues all evening. Music and dancing begin at 8 P.M.

The dances are called, and direction is given, by one of the Midwest's best ceili instructors, Gail McElroy.

December 2013

• Fri., Dec. 6 – Cream City Ceili

Entrance is \$8.00 Adults, and \$5.00 for Students, Seniors, and Children. All proceeds benefit the work of the ICHC.

Pete Fleming

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Shamrock Club Volunteers at the International Holiday Folk Fair



Photos by
Pam Canon
& Mary Culver





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or: www.saintpatricksparade.org

An Old Gaelic Prayer

May the Road Rise to meet you
May the wind be always at your back
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
till the rains fall soft upon your fields.
And, until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hands.



EMERALD REFLECTIONS PHOTO OF THE MONTH



Irishmen of the Years - Rand Harteau, Bob Towne, Josh Walton, Glenn Nowak, Joe Hughes, Ed Mikush and Brian Witt attended the recent Honoree Dinner.