



August 1914 and the Irish

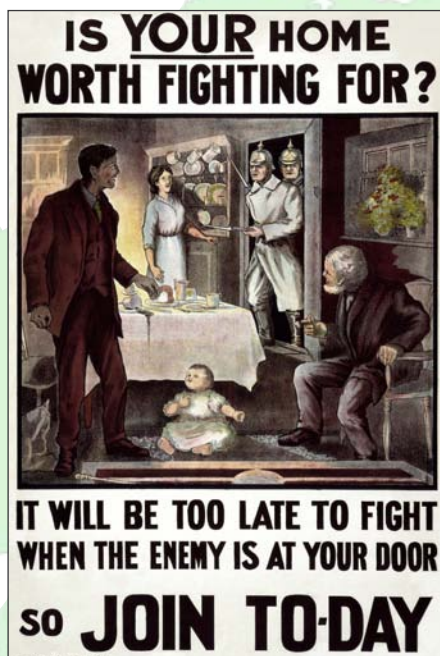
August, 1914 saw the world thrown upside down. The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand in Serbia caused the coalitions of European powers to go into war mode. The United Kingdom came to the aid of their allies, including France, Belgium, and Russia against Germany and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The call to arms was strong in all areas of the British Isles. This included the island of Ireland.

Prior to the Great War, the Irish were working on a Home Rule bill, one that would have given them limited autonomy within the British Empire. The First World War was immediately preceded in Ireland by a major political crisis over Home Rule or Irish self-government.

The Third Home Rule Act was placed on the statute books with Royal Assent on 18 September 1914. However, the operation of this Bill was, suspended for the duration of the war. Moreover it was resisted fiercely by Unionists, concentrated in Ulster. In 1913, they had formed an armed militia, the Ulster Volunteers to resist the implementation of Home Rule or to exclude Ulster itself from the settlement. Nationalists in response formed a rival militia the Irish Volunteers, to "defend the constitutional rights of the Irish people", and to put pressure on Britain to keep its promise of Home Rule. Conflict between the two armed groups looked possible in the early months of 1914.

The outbreak of war temporarily defused this crisis. On 3 August the leader of the Irish Parliamentary Party, John Redmond MP, stated in the House of Commons that the government may withdraw every one of their troops from Ireland and rely that the coast of Ireland will be defended from foreign invasion by her armed sons. Redmond's 'Home

Defence' initiative was widely acclaimed, though not by all of the Irish Volunteers, and certainly not by those in Ulster.



Irish World War I Poster

After Unionist leader Edward Carson urged Ulster Volunteers on 3 September to enlist in their new Ulster division and with the Home Rule Bill passing into law on September 17, Redmond found himself under pressure to demonstrate commitment. He called upon the Irish Volunteers to enlist in existing Irish regiments of the British army, in support of the Allied war

effort. Redmond believed that Imperial Germany's hegemony and military expansion threatened the freedom of Europe and that it was Ireland's duty, having achieved future self-government to defend other small countries.

Redmond's call came at a time of heightened emotions as the swift German advance through neutral Belgium was threatening Paris. Many other parliamentary leaders, such as William O'Brien M.P., Thomas O'Donnell M.P., and Joseph Devlin M.P., supported Redmond's decision.

The 180,000 Irish Volunteers were divided by Redmond's support for the British war effort. A large majority followed him, forming the National Volunteers. About 25,000 of these went on to serve in Irish regiments of the New British Army during the war. The remaining 10,000 Volunteers under Eoin MacNeill declared they would keep their organization together and in Ireland until Home Rule was passed. A further 100,000 or more men enlisted from around Ireland in the New Army divisions for the duration of the war, who were not members of the National Volunteers.

Redmond's own son, William Redmond, enlisted, as did his brother Major Willie Redmond M.P., despite being over fifty. They were among a group of five Irish

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SHAMROCK CLUB ANNUAL INSTALLATION DINNER JULY 10, 2014

The Patio - 1421 E. Howard, Milwaukee



Cocktails 6 P.M. • Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Replaces Milwaukee Monthly Membership Meeting)

☘ Milwaukee Calendar of Events ☘

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

JULY

- 8 Celtic Women International Book Club; *The Woman of the House*, by Alice Taylor; Hostess: Gail McAleese; ICHC; 1 pm
- 10 **Shamrock Club Installation Dinner**; The Patio; 1421 E. Howard Ave.; Cocktails 6 pm, Dinner 7 pm. Ceremony following dinner.
- 19 Badger State Feis; Pettit National Ice Center; 8 am
- 20 Cream City Feis; Pettit National Ice Center; 8 am
- 26 Monthly Set Dance; Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave.; music TBA; 7:30 pm

AUGUST

- 7 **Shamrock Club Monthly Meeting**; ICHC; 7 pm
- 9 Milwaukee Feis; UWM Student Union, 2200 E Kenwood Blvd.
- 10 McMenemy Feis; UWM Student Union, 2200 E Kenwood Blvd.
- 12-16 Milwaukee Irish Fest Summer School; Milwaukee School of Engineering
- 15 Monthly set dance; Irish Heritage Cultural Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave.; Capitol Ceili Band; 11:45 pm
- 15-18 Milwaukee Irish Fest; Maier Festival Grounds; Red Hot Chilli Pipers; Manran; Skerryvore; Armagh Rhymers, Kincora; Griia; Andy Irvine and Donal Lunny; Alasdair Fraser and Tony MacManus; ALT (John Doyle, Nuala Kennedy & Eamon O'Leary); Beoga; Black 47; Carlos Nunez; Creel; Dallahan; Different Drums of Ireland; Dougie MacLean; Gaelic Storm; Grainne Holland; High Kings; John Carty; Moxie Strings; Scythian; Seamus Kennedy; Sean Callaghan; Sharon Shannon; Skerryvore; StepCrew; Tallymoore; We Banjo 3; The Willis Clan; Trinity; Cashel Dennehy; Glencastle; Beglan; Kinsella; McMenemy; Cronin; Ceol Cairde; Scrubbers; more
- 29-31 The Wisconsin Highland Games; Waukesha Expo Center, Waukesha;

SEPTEMBER

- 4 **Shamrock Club Monthly Meeting**; ICHC; 7 pm
- 5 Celtic Women First Friday Lecture; Maggie Blaha, Speaker; ICHC; 5:30-7 pm
- 9 Celtic Women International Book Club; *The Calling of Mother Adelli*, by Zoe Keithley; Hostess: Rosemary Walsh; ICHC; 1 pm
- 27 Monthly set dance; Irish Heritage Cultural Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave; music by Limerick Orange and Green; 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, Second and fourth Sundays, 7-9 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 ☘



Upcoming Feiseanna

There will be two Feiseanna in July. The first is the Badger State Feis, on July 19, sponsored by Sharon Murphy with volunteers provided by Glencastle Irish Dancers. It will be held at the Pettit National Ice Center. There will also be a Mass at the Pettit Center at 5 pm on Saturday. <http://www.badgerstatefeis.com/index.html>

The second is the Cream City Feis, held to benefit Kinsella Academy of Dance. It will also be held at the Pettit National Ice Center, on Sunday, July 20th. The Pettit Center is located at 500 South 84th Street, Milwaukee.

<http://www.thecreamcityfeis.com>

In August, the 25th annual Milwaukee Feis takes place on Saturday, August 9th, at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee – Student Union, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd, Milwaukee, WI.

<http://www.milwaukeefeis.com>

And the Fifth Annual McMenemy Academy Feis will be held on Sunday, August 10, 2014 at the UWM Union. <http://midadance.mcmenemyacademy.com>



Kim's Corner Cupboard

- July: Installation Dinner. See details elsewhere in this issue.
- August: Stay tuned for a message from our newly installed Sergeant-at-Arms.



- Kim Nowak
Sergeant-at-Arms

Milwaukee President's Message

Wow! It's already July and I'm writing my first president's message. I'm very excited for this year, as a club we are going to shine! We'll start this month with our installation of the new club board members on July 10th at the Patio. I hope you'll join us for great food and fellowship. We have the 4th of July parade in Wauwatosa to attend to watch our very own Shamrock Club Color Guard Pipes and Drums, Irish Fest just around the corner, the Hurling team to support on Sundays at Brown Deer Park, and I've even received information for Holiday Folk Fair!


There are many actives that the Club keeps involved in and we need everyone to add their time and talent to make our club representation spectacular! I know you'll all chip in! We are looking for help with the picnic. It will be at Brown Deer Park to cheer on our Hurling team. So if you can help please contact Kathy Donovan or Ken Tehan. Many hands make light work! So I'll see you all at the Patio on the 10th.

Until then,

May you have warm words on a cool evening, a full moon on a dark night, and a smooth road all the way to your door.

- Mary Culver, President



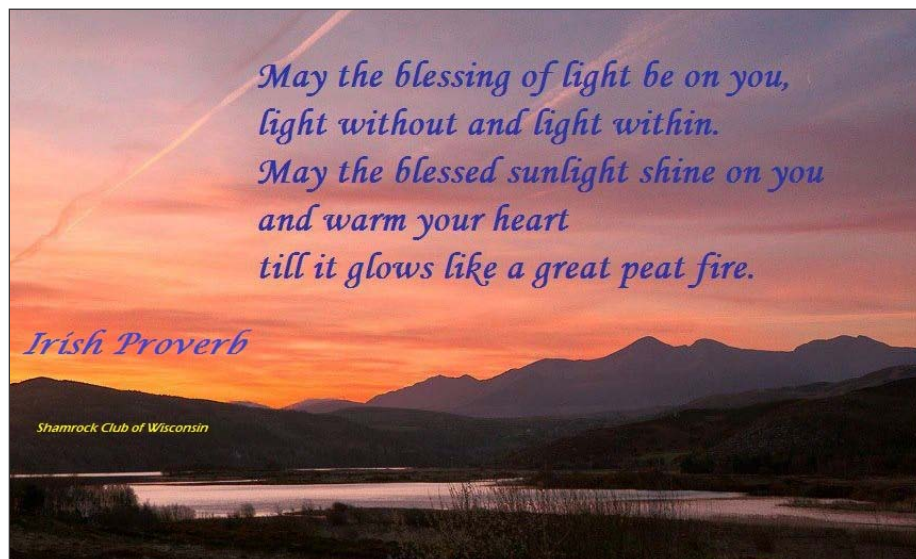


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Retail Report

Please sign up at the installation dinner or at the August meeting to help out at Irish Fest 2013. Or contact us at retail.shamrockclubwis@wi.rr.com or call 414-466-8060.

We need help on all days, and shifts are only 2 hours. We need 2-3 people each shift.

retail.shamrockclubwis@wi.rr.com

Word of the Month

Oifig - (Off-ihg.) Office

Beidh mé ag dul go dtí an oifig.

(Bay may uh duhl guh djee in OFF-ihg)

I will be going to the office.

Pete Fleming



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Shamrock Club Member

Emerald Reflections Copy Deadline

Content for Emerald Reflections is due on the 15th of the month (next deadline: July 15th to appear in the August 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:

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emeraldreflections@shamrockclubwis.com

Pam Canon, Publisher

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Web site: http://shamrockclubwis.com

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.

Sunshine Report

Julie Smith shared the good news of some of her grandchildren. Brian Smith graduated from Bishop Riordan High School in San Francisco. Nate Jaskulski's rugby team won Division 2 as Wisconsin state champions. Alanna Smith won a \$1000 scholarship for track athletes. She was selected by an Olympic runner.

Dave Culver celebrated his 21st birthday on June 5th.

Erin Canon was accepted to Presidential Leadership Program at Ripon College.

Eric Dushek graduated from Rufus King High School with a full International Baccalaureate.

Hannah Lawler was married on June 14th.

Robert and Gloria Donovan celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary.

- Maggie Blaha, Sunshine Chair

Facebook & Social Media

If you haven't seen us on Facebook, like us! 1200 people have already. <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Shamrock-Club-of-Wisconsin/102023943184>



You can also find us on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/shamrockclubwis> or on LinkedIn at www.linkedin.com/company/shamrock-club-of-wisconsin.



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 July 8th meeting will be hosted by Gail McAleese. The topic will be *The Woman of the House*, by Alice Taylor.

There will be no meeting in August due to Irish Fest.

At our September 9th meeting we will be discussing *The Calling of Mother Adelli*, by Zoe Keithley. The hostess will be Rosemary Walsh.

On October 14th our hostess will be Sheila Isakson and the topic will be *Scandal in Skibbereen*, by Sheila Connolly.

- Rosemary Walsh
rowalsh@wi.rr.com

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Emerald Reflections*



Contact
dpccanon@wi.rr.com for rates

Installation Dinner

Thursday, July 10, 2014

The Patio, 1421 E. Howard Avenue, Milwaukee

Cocktails (Cash Bar) 6:00 pm

Dinner 7:00 pm

Cost: \$25 per person, \$45 per couple

Buffet dinner of roast beef, broasted chicken and Polish sausage with salad, assorted sides and dessert.

Tickets can be ordered by emailing
Kathy Donovan at kay_dee@live.com by June 30th.

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MPs who enlisted, the others being J.L. Esmonde, Stephen Gwynn and D.D. Sheehan, as well as former MP Tom Kettle. Initially the Catholic Church in Ireland was also supportive of the War, under the slogan of "save Catholic Belgium".

The remaining Irish Volunteers, and the Irish Republican Brotherhood, rejected Irish participation in the war on Britain's side. They actively opposed enlistment by the Irish. Then there were the factions that prepared an armed insurrection against British rule in Ireland still active in their planning.

The recruitment was successful for the British armed services. A total of 206,000 Irishmen served in the British forces during the war. Of these, many, 58,000, were already enlisted in the British Regular Army or Navy before the war broke out. 21,000 served as regular soldiers, 18,000 reservists, 12,000 in the Special Reserve, 5,000 Naval ratings and 2,000 officers.

To continue with the numbers, 130,000 men were volunteers recruited from Ireland for the duration of the war. Of these 24,000 originated from the Redmondite National Volunteers, 26,000 joined from the Ulster Volunteers. And there was the training, 80,000 of the new recruits had no experience in either of the paramilitary formations. Of the wartime recruits, 137,000 went to the British Army, 6,000 to the Royal Navy and 4,000 to the Royal Air Force

The Irish regiments fought valiantly, but also sustained massively large losses. The 10th Irish Division suffered very heavy losses at Gallipoli in 1915, while the 16th and 36th Divisions were shattered at the Battle of the Somme in 1916.

The Irish were never really treated as equals in the British Army. They constituted just two per cent of the membership of the force, yet they were the recipients of eight per cent (271) of all death sentences imposed by its courts-martial.

And after the Easter Rising of 1916, many Irish were turned off by the Rising's leaders, and a new sense of nationalism grew up.

The Irish lost between 30,000 and 55,000, depending on which estimates one used. It was still more than one percent of the population of the island, an entire generation lost.

The War also brought home a number

of men who had no weapons training, and that would play into both the Irish revolution and the subsequent Civil War.

August of 1914 had a long term effect on Ireland, and the Irish themselves. One hundred years on, the Irish still are dealing with the results of the call to arms, and the way it was answered.

- Brian Witt

Membership News

As I begin another term as Membership Chairman, I would like to thank those of you who voted to re-elect me to this position.

I would also like to welcome the following new members to the Shamrock Club: Jameson Fraters, Bill Hanauska, Bruno & Maureen Wolff, Carolyn J. Ruck, Kaitlin Govern & family, Donna Kowalkowski, Patrick F McCabe, Vinny & Kathleen Moloney, Dave Olson & Cory Johnson and Adam & Michelle Varelas.

With August fast approaching, that means Irish Fest is also just around the corner. Membership needs volunteers to help staff our table in the cultural area. The only requirement is a willingness to talk to people about the club and club activities. I am looking for people willing to give 2 hours per shift, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

We currently have 111 single and 103 family members, and 32 complimentary memberships.

- Glenn Nowak
Membership Chair

Shamrock Club Griffins Hurling Team

The Shamrock Club Griffins continue their advance to the finals of the Milwaukee Hurling Club. As of June 18, they were 3-0, after three very hard fought matches. Join them each Sunday at Brown Deer Park during the summer.

Join the Shamrock Club table at the Hurling Matches each week. We wish to sign up members for the Shamrock Club, pass out information, and just be a part of the day. We are the Milwaukee Hurling Club's longest term sponsor, going into our 16th year in 2014.

If you would like to volunteer for a game, contact Brian Witt at 414-423-4383 or info@shamrockclubwis.com

- Brian Witt



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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



Parade Directors Terry Lawler and Josh Walton present Shamrock Club Hurling Team members Adam AJ Varelas, Vinny Moloney and Mike Hamby with the Thomas J. Smith Best Irish Unit Award.

Photo by Pam Canon