



Michael Higgins Meets The Queen

On April 8, the British Monarchy sent out this tweet: “Searmanas Fáilte Oifigiúil ar siúl leis an mBanríon & Diúc Dhún Éideann. #Fáilte go Windsor a Uachtaráin & a Bhean Uí Uiginn #CuairtStáit.” With that, Queen Elizabeth greeted Irish President Michael Higgins on his arrival to England for a State visit. This was a historic event, the first time an Irish president was going to have an official State visit since independence was achieved almost a century ago.

Higgins and his wife Sabina were welcomed by Queen Elizabeth II on 8 April at Windsor Castle on the first day of a four-day visit, and held a formal meeting with the British Prime Minister, David Cameron. Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs Eamon Gilmore and his wife, Carol Hanney, also travelled with the President.

The playing of “A Soldier’s Song” was broadcast over BBC. The irony of a sitting president being presented by a song that was written in homage to the Irish rising a century back made have some think they awoke in a new universe.

The formal State Visit began the following morning when the President and Minister for Foreign Affairs met Charles, Prince of Wales and Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall at the Irish Embassy. The parties then travelled together to the Royal Dais on Datchet Road, Windsor, where the town was decked with Tricolours and Union Flags and a formal ceremony of welcome was conducted by Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. Afterwards, the royal party and visitors departed in horse-drawn carriages with full cavalry escort to Windsor Castle, where the President, accompanied

by the Duke of Edinburgh, inspected a Guard of Honour provided by the Queen’s Company Grenadier Guards. Higgins presented a ceremonial red coat to its regimental mascot, an Irish wolfhound called Domhnall of Shantamon.

Afterwards, they visited Westminster Abbey for a tour, where the President laid a wreath at the Grave of the Unknown Warrior and paid his respects with a bow to the tomb of Louis, the Earl of Mountbatten, whose boat was blown up off the coast of Ireland by the IRA. After this the President visited the Palace of Westminster, where he addressed both Houses of Parliament.

In the evening, The President and his wife were guests of honor at a State Banquet hosted by the Queen at Windsor Castle along with 160 guests. Another historic event was the invitation to Sinn Fein leader Martin McGuinness to also be a part of the, one he accepted after a long delay. The Queen made a speech before dinner and President Higgins replied, and proposed a toast to Her Majesty. Higgins and his wife were honored as guests of the Queen at Windsor Castle for the remainder of their visit.

April 9 found Higgins escorted by Prince Andrew, the Duke of York to the Grand Stairs in Windsor Castle to view the

Colours of the 1922 disbanded Irish Regiments. The President and his wife visited University College London Hospital and met with patients and Irish staff members, past and present. Later President Higgins met the British Prime Minister David Cameron for lunch at 10 Downing Street.

Afterwards the President and his wife attended a Banquet hosted by the Lord Mayor of the City of London, Fiona Woolf, and the City of London Corporation at the Guildhall. After dinner, the President addressed the 700 invited guests.

The next day, in the early evening, the President attended a Northern Ireland-themed reception hosted by the Queen at Windsor Castle.

A concert celebrating Irish music and culture was held in his honor at the Royal Albert Hall that night which he attended. Taoiseach Enda Kenny, and former British Prime Minister John Major - who was heavily involved in the early days of the Irish peace process - were among the guests. The show was filled with Irish and Irish-English performers, such as Andy Irvine, Glen Hansard, Elvis Costello, Imelda May, and many others, reflective of the Irish nature of England and Britain,

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MAY 1, 2014 • ANNUAL ELECTIONS 6:30-7:30 PM
MILWAUKEE MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7 PM
Irish Cultural and Heritage Center (2133 W. Wisconsin Avenue)



We will having a taco bar to celebrate Cinco de Mayo.
Please bring fixings (cheese, tomatoes, onions, sour cream, etc.)
chips & salsa, or a dessert to pass.

☘ Milwaukee Calendar of Events ☘

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

MAY

- 1 **Shamrock Club Monthly Meeting and Annual Elections;** ICHC; 6:30 pm
- 2 ICHC Ceili; Music by athas; ICHC, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave.; 7:30 pm
- 2 Celtic Women First Friday Lecture; 5:30-7 p.m.; Linda Lueck "What's New With Brain Health"
- 3 Wisconsin Spring Feis; Wisconsin Center, 400 W. Wisconsin Ave.; 8:30 am
- 4 Celtic Spirit Feis; Wisconsin Center, 400 W. Wisconsin Ave.; 8:30 am
- 4 Stu Larsen; Shank Hall, 1434 North Farwell; 8 pm
- 13 Celtic Women International Book Club; *The Outlander*; by Diana Gabaldon; Hostess: Cate Harris; ICHC; 1 pm
- 24 Monthly Set Dance; Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave.; Roscahill Set; 7:30 pm
- 24 The Elders; Shank Hall, 1434 North Farwell; 8 pm

JUNE

- 5 **Shamrock Club Monthly Meeting;** ICHC; 7 pm
- 6 ICHC Ceili; Music by Cream City Ceili; ICHC, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave; 7:30 pm
- 7 Milwaukee Highland Games; Hart Park, 70 and State; 8 am; Heavy games, ceilidh, more
- 10 Celtic Women International Book Club; *The Outlander*; by Diana Gabaldon; Hostess: Sharon Walsh; ICHC; 1 pm
- 20 Paddygrass; Starry Nights; Sharon Lynne Wilson Center; Gerlach Outdoor Theater, 19805 West Capitol Drive, Brookfield
- 28 Monthly Set Dance; Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave.; music TBA; Moy Cullen Set; 7:30 pm

JULY

- 10 **Shamrock Club Installation Dinner;** Details TBD

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 ☘

Celtic Women Lecture May 2, 2014

Welcome everyone, to the May 2nd presentation of the Celtic Women First Friday Lecture Series. This promises to be a topic of interest to most of us as we amble along the cycle of life. Please join us at the ICHC for a couple of hours of educational pleasure. 5:30 - 7 p.m. \$7 admission.

May 2, 2014

Topic: "What's New With Brain Health?"

Speaker: Linda Lueck



Linda Lueck is the Community Relations Coordinator for Luther Manor, a senior living community in Wauwatosa. For the last 16 years, she has worked with individuals who live with dementia and early memory cognitive impairment and has seen improvement with engagement and socialization as well as memory enhancement techniques. She is a licensed social worker and a past recreation therapist. Linda will speak about the importance of keeping your brain active and she will share some helpful tips to exercise your mind.

All lectures are held from 5:30-7:00 pm at the Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Avenue. 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 offer tea and home-made snacks and promise a delightful couple of hours. \$7 admission.

- Jean Bills

Kim's Corner Cupboard

In honor of Cinco de Mayo we will be having a taco bar. Club members should bring the fixings - cheese, tomatoes, lettuce, sour cream, etc., or chips and salsa or a dessert to pass.

An té a bhíonn siúlach, bíonn scéalach.

He who travels has stories to tell.



Irish Proverb

Milwaukee President's Message

Happy Mother's Day to all of our Mothers and Grandmothers. Remember gentlemen to bring a dish to pass to our May general meeting. "Don't forget if mama's not happy, no one is happy"

May is election month, please it is vitally important that all come to our general meeting and vote. We have a few contested positions . Please read each of the candidates bios (found elsewhere in the Reflections) and cast your ballot.

Sadly it is important that I bring you this parade news. Due to a variety of reasons, there are certain requirements within the contract with Westown, that unfortunately we were unable to meet. Therefore it is my obligation to report to the membership that it will be costing the club \$3,400. We have since met with Westown, and I feel confident we are in the process of moving forward.

On a happier note, although the final figures are not all in, the preliminary totals look like we did very well on our raffle/silent auction at our Post-Parade. That and with the money donated in memory of our dear friend Karen Donohoe, our Scholarship Fund is looking good. We will be moving forward in the coming month's in putting a committee back in place.

I hope everyone had a Happy Easter, and for those who were there enjoyed the Easter Rising Mass. Happy Spring! Hoping we can really say that soon!

See you at the General Meeting.
God Bless,

- Kathy Donovan, President



Milwaukee Membership News

Please be sure to have your membership renewals in before May 1st for those who expire on or before then and have not renewed yet. Your membership must be active in order to vote in the elections.

- Glenn Nowak
Membership Chair



Sunshine Report

Please keep Rev. Terry Brennan in your prayers due to his illness. He was our presider at the St. Patrick's Mass and has been present for years. Fr. Terry is chaplain for several Irish organizations.

Eileen Donovan Agnew, daughter of Kathy and Bob Donovan will become a sergeant in the Milwaukee Police Department this month. Congratulations to all of you.

Happy Birthday to all the May birthday people.

- Maggie Blaha
Sunshine Chair



A Little Irish Humor

Gallagher opened the morning newspaper and was dumbfounded to read in the obituary column that he had died. He quickly phoned his best friend Finney.

"Did you see the paper?" asked Gallagher. "They say I died!!"

"Yes, I saw it!" replied Finney. "Where are ye callin' from?"

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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: May 15th to appear in the June 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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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.



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!

At our meetings in May and June we will be discussing *The Outlander*, by Diana Gabaldon. On May 13th we will discuss parts I, II, and III. The hostess will be Cate Harris. The hostesses for June 10th will be Sharon Walsh, and we will discuss parts IV to the end.

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

- Rosemary Walsh
rowalsh@wi.rr.com



Feisianna in May

May will see the Wisconsin Center filled with Irish dance. On Saturday, May 3, the Wisconsin Spring Feis 2014 takes place. It is sponsored by Trinity Academy of Irish Dance. And on Sunday, May 4, the Celtic Spirit Feis 2014 will also be held in the same building. The Wisconsin Center is located at 400 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee.



The Elders at Shank Hall

The Elders will return to Shank Hall, 1434 N. Farwell, on May 24 for an 8 pm show. The Kansas City based band are long time Milwaukee favorites. Since forming in 1998, The Elders have set the music scene on its ear, thanks to a skillful blend of American roots rock and amped-up Celtic folk; a cross-pollination of elements that is high-octane and progressive, yet rooted in tradition. Call (414) 276-7288 for information.



Rent the ICHC for your next

Party
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Wedding

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or small events

Email: director@ichc.net
or call (414) 345-8800

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where one in four people have Irish ancestry. The finale was the Dominic Behan song, "The Auld Triangle,"

Michael Higgins won the Irish presidency on 29 October 2011, two days after the presidential election was held, Higgins was declared the winner with a total of 1,007,104 votes, far more than any Irish politician in the history of the republic. He ran as a Labour candidate. Higgins previously had served as TD, or Member of Parliament, for Galway.

Higgins was appointed in 1973 to the Seanad Éireann by Taoiseach Liam Cosgrave. He was first elected to Dáil Éireann at the 1981 general election as a Labour Party TD, and re-elected at the February 1982 election; he lost his seat at the November 1982 election but returned to the Seanad on the NUI panel. He also served as Mayor of Galway on two occasions. He held his seat until he stepped down in 2011, to run for the presidency.

This month we have our own elections. Please vote on May 1, at the ICHC. We have a strong slate of candidates, and it is imperative that we maintain a cohesive election process. We can't all visit the Queen, but we can all vote.

- Brian Witt

Shamrock Club of Wisconsin 2014-15 Candidates' Statements

President Mary Culver

I am very excited to have been nominated for the office of President for the 2014-2015 year. I have served as Vice-President for the past two terms, while continuing as General Chair and Cafe Chair for the Irish at Holiday Folk Fair. I've also served as Trustee and Secretary. I'm the Personal Banker at Waukesha State Bank Muskego Office and am the Co-Chair for the Ambassador team for the Muskego Area Chamber of Commerce. I am also an adult leader for Troop 363 of Mukwonago and a merit badge counselor for the Potawatomi Boy Scout Counsel as well. I have enjoyed the 7 years my family and I have belonged to the Club, making, I believe life-long friends.

My goal for the Shamrock Club is to focus on our most precious resource, our volunteers. I believe with happy volunteers, membership will naturally increase. We must focus on our youth and our young families to get them involved. Studies show that if you volunteer to do community service as a youth you are twice as likely to volunteer as an adult. I know you all agree. But to get the young we have to have fun! The Irish are a breed of hard working, tireless story tellers, who love to have fun. I'd like to get back to that with positive motivation. This will be a great year for us! Thank you for this opportunity to serve. I'll see you at the meetings!

Vice President Josh Walton

I first joined the Shamrock Club in 1973 and since have proudly served this Club as President, Past President, Trustee and Parliamentarian. I have also been a volunteer for almost all Club activities including the Folk Fair, Bradley Center, picnic, parade and post-parade.

In addition, I have been an Irish Fest volunteer since its inception. I am also a Past Grand Knight of the Bishop Brust (Wauwatosa) Council of the Knights of Columbus, as well as a past president of the St. Joseph's Benevolent Society.

I would be honored to continue my service in the Club as an officer of this fine organization.

Vice President Brian Witt

I am running for vice president for a number of reasons. One is that I feel all Club races should be contested. The other is that I have ideas on helping to re-center the Club's Irish purpose. I have served on the board for a number of years, including four years as vice-president and four as president. and I look forward to serving the Shamrock Club again.



Secretary Lisa Cohen

I'm running for the office of Secretary for the 2014 – 2015 year. I'm honored that you've nominated me to serve for another term as Secretary and should you elect me, I look forward to serving you again in this capacity. I've also volunteered for the club at Irish Fest, the Holiday Folk Fair and the St. Patrick's Day post parade parties. As a newer member, I'm especially grateful for the wonderful friendships that I'm forming with many of you and thank you all for making me feel so welcome.

When I'm not attending our Club meetings or functions, I'm a sales representative for Heritage Printing/Cultivate Communications and am active in several professional organizations, volunteering for them in different capacities including various board and committee positions. The other thing I enjoy is volunteering for the Wauwatosa Farmer's Market.

Treasurer Ken Tehan

Hi fellow Shamrock Club members, Ken Tehan here! I am running for the position of treasurer for the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin. Here is my bio! Working at the family business, Tehan Greenhouses. Member of the Shamrock Club over 20 years. Served as Trustee, present Treasurer, Irish Fest Coordinator, Landscaper for Irish Fest and ICHC, played important part of the Festival Experience Program at Irish Fest, ran the Shamrock Club Golf outing and help out all the Irish Organizations, with time and product when I can.

Sergeant at Arms Kim Nowak

I have been a member of the Shamrock Club for the last 8 years along with my husband and son. I have been Sergeant at Arms for the past year as well as assisting my husband for the two years prior with the various duties of Sergeant at Arms. I have been co-chair of the club retail for 2 ½ years and the Post Parade Party for 3 years. I have helped for several years at Irish Fest and Holiday Folk Fair in various capacities and continue to be a supporter of the Shamrock Club Color Guard and Pipes and Drums.

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**Sergeant at Arms
Ron Danielson**

I was born in Baltimore, Maryland but grew up in Muskego, WI. I am a graduate of Muskego HS and UW-Whitewater, earning a degree in American Studies. I spent 27 months in the US Army, serving stateside, and served on the Waukesha County Sheriff's Department as a Deputy Sheriff for over 25 years, retiring in 2000. I handled the picnics and retirement parties for the Deputies' Association for many years, and served as President of the Association for two years. I currently work part time doing insurance inspections.

I have two daughters, Amanda and Dayna, and a wonderful lady friend, Mary Koehler.

I am a member of the Waukesha Masonic Lodge and Tripoli Shrine. I am currently the Director of the Shrine Clown unit. I am a member of the Waukesha County Shrine Club, serving three times as president. I am a member and a past director of the Emerald Society, and a member of the Sons of Norway. I sing with the Community Chorus in Hales Corners, and with the Irish Fest Song Circle. I have been a member of the Shamrock Club for about 15 years (maybe more). I have worked in the food booth and in the retail area during the Holiday Folk Fair, and in the retail area during Irish Fest. I have also volunteered working for Irish Fest, selling beer and wine tickets. I was a manager for the Shamrock Club fundraising work at the Bradley Center. I do have a lot of irons in the fire, and have declined nominations to office in the Shamrock Club in the past. I do however think it is time for me to be more involved if asked. I rarely miss meetings.

**Membership
Glenn Nowak**

As a member of the Shamrock Club, I have served for two years as Sergeant at Arms, and for the past year as Membership Chairman. I have also co-chaired the pre-parade breakfast planning as well as the Post Parade Party for the past 3 years. I have co-chaired the retail sales of the club for the past 2½ years. I have volunteered at Holiday Folk Fair, Irish Fest, and as an usher for the ICHC Hallamor concerts. I was honored to be Irishman of the Year for 2012. I am a member of the Shamrock Club Color Guard.

**Membership
Jean Bills**

I am a long-time member of the Shamrock Club; my philosophy of membership in a group is this: I believe that every member should do their share of what is needed to make the group run successfully. It may be serving on a committee or the board, or doing various volunteer tasks. If all members do this, the club will run smoothly.

My past experiences in the club include serving as parliamentarian and treasurer on the board, and ten years of running the sales booth at Irish Fest and Holiday Folk Fair. Thanks to very many willing club volunteers staffing these events, the booth made significant profits for the club. I also worked on the bylaws revision of 2013 which did not become accepted. I am a proud Irish Rose of 1998.

I believe that the club could enhance its membership experience for our dues payers, and enjoy doing it. Coming to meetings can be a surprising fun time and attract new members along the way, as well as retaining the faithful ones. It interests me to investigate our membership for longevity, participation and long term trends. I would enjoy analyzing the club base to see what secrets lie therein, share them with the club members and plan new ways to attract people to our meetings.

If given the opportunity to serve once again, I think we will all have a joyful and interesting way forward.

**Parliamentarian
Pam Canon**

I have been a member of the Shamrock Club ever since moving to Milwaukee 26 years ago. During this time I have been a very active volunteer at the Holiday Folk Fair (25 years,) working in all areas, including serving as the Cultural Chairperson. I am the current Publications Chairperson for the Club, producing the Emerald Reflections for you each month. I have also volunteered for the Post Parade Party, Irish Fest, been a member of the Shamrock Club Color Guard Pipes and Drums, and am completing my 3-year term as Trustee. I was very active in the Irish Dance community for over 13 years, serving as a board member for several Irish dance schools, volunteering for many events and fundraisers, and also working on the organizing committees for both the Cream City Feis and the

Milwaukee Spring Feis.

I have been married to Del for 26 years, and have a beautiful daughter, Erin. I have worked for Metro Business Publications for over 14 years as the Business Manager. I am proud to be a member of the Shamrock Club and am honored to be nominated for the office of Parliamentarian.

**Trustee
Mary Moze**

I have been a Shamrock Club member for 40 years and started volunteering immediately at the Folk Fair. Over the years, I've done both the retail booth and the food booth. I have enjoyed volunteering at Irish Fest every year since its inception and have worked in the information booth and the Shamrock Club retail booth. I have also volunteered at the Post Parade party in various positions. My husband and I are the current Parade Marshals. I look forward to increasing my involvement with the Shamrock Club by serving on its Board.

My other community involvements include The Girls Scouts of Wisconsin Southeast where in addition to being a troop leader for 17 years, I was a trainer of new leaders and chaired many events. For the Literacy Coalition of Southeast Wisconsin, I have served in all the officer positions, was on the board for ten years and chaired several events. I am retired from MATC where I taught basic skills and computers. My teaching degree is in mathematics.

Word of the Month

Carbhat - (Cara-what) Tie (Neckwear)
Bhain sé de a carbhat.
(Vin shay day a cara what.)
He took his tie off.



Our 48th Annual St. Patrick's Day Festivities



The winners of the Parade Awards were:

- ✿ Best Marching Unit - Ocean of Soul Dance Team
- ✿ Best Musical Unit - Shamrock Club of Wisconsin Color Guard Pipes & Drums
- ✿ Thomas J. Smith Best Irish Unit Award - Milwaukee Hurling Club
- ✿ Best Float - Trinity Academy of Irish Dance
- ✿ Best Parade Unit - Glencastle Irish Dancers
- ✿ Director's Choice Award - Milwaukee Police Cadets



Photos by
Ken Tehan
and Brian Witt



SHAMROCK CLUB OF WISCONSIN

2133 W. Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53223

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



This is a picture of Ceol Cairde at the Post Parade Party. Shamrock Club member Kristina Paris is wearing the late Bob Burke's Hawaiian shirt. The band played in the shirts to honor longtime Shamrock Club member Bob Burke, who died earlier this year. Photo by Pat Roe.