



Tlachtga – The Hill of Ward and Samhain

November 1st was traditionally known as Samhain, literally translated, the "end of summer." October 31st was the end of the Celtic year, the start of winter and a time for reflection.

On this day, it was said that a person's ancestors would walk through the furze of time and shadows and come back to visit. People would disguise themselves in costume so their long gone relatives would not recognize them and possibly impose upon them, or try to take them onto the other side.

The early blackness of the night was frightening to people, and the lack of light only offered up the familiarity of lurking spectres.

Samhain was also when meetings were held, wars were stopped, and peace was made. It was a time to take stock and decide upon future activities. All debts had to be settled and horse-racing as well as chariot racing gave parties the chance for entertaining diversions.

Traditionally, all the fires were extinguished when Oiche Shamhna, (Samhain day) set in, making this the darkest night of the year. The fires were then re-lit, marking the start of the new year.

In ancient Ireland, the Hills of Tara and Tlachtga were important. Tara was long the seat of the High Kings of Ireland.

Tradition has it that druids lit a huge bonfire on the Hill of Tlachtga (near Athboy, County Meath) and burning torches were then carried from there to every household during the night. The truth is that fires were extinguished and relit all across Ireland. Tlachtga is about thirteen miles away from Tara.

The ancient ritual site of Tlachtga was the center of Celtic religious worship over two thousand years ago. It has been over-

shadowed by its famous neighbor and has not received the attention it merits as a place of importance in its own right.

This was the center of the Great Fire Festival that signaled the onset of winter. The rituals and ceremonies carried out here by the pre-Christian Irish offered assurances to the people that the powers of darkness would be overcome and the powers of light and life would, once again, be in the ascendancy. This was the place where the Celtic sun god was celebrated at the year's end.



Hill of Ward (Photo courtesy of BBC)

The festival probably lasted for least several days and centered on the god Lugh. The site takes its name from Tlachtga (pronounced Clackda), the daughter of the Druid Mug Ruith who died there giving birth to triplets. Tlachtga is clearly visible from Tara and the fire lit on the eve of Samhain was a prelude to the Samhain Festival at Tara.

With the coming of Christianity, the festival was incorporated into the Christian calendar as a time of remembrance for the holy souls, so the Samhain festival of the ancestors retained its relevance. The

customs of Samhain that didn't fit into Christianity survived as Halloween. Irish immigrants carried the Halloween tradition to North America in the 19th century.

Tlachtga was an interesting character in her own right. Tlachtga accompanied her father, the Druid Mug Ruith, on his world travels, learning his magical secrets and discovering sacred stones in Italy. They flew in a machine called the roth rámach, the "oared wheel."

She was raped by the three sons of Simon Magus, her father's mentor, and returned to Ireland where she gave birth to triplets called Cumma, Doirb and Muach, issued from 3 different fathers. They were born on the hill that would bear the name of their mother. The triple birth is a common theme in Celtic mythology, and her death of grief and the construction of a fortress at her grave echoes the story of Macha, from Navan, in Armagh.

It is believed that the tribe that introduced the cult of Tlachtga as a fertility Goddess to this area were the Luigni, an Érainn tribe. They were partially displaced by a new wave of invaders known as the Lagen. They took over the Kingship of Tara and the focus of power shifted from Tlachtga and became centered on Tara.

The Hill of Tlachtga is also known as the Hill of Ward. The ringfort built on the hill was associated not only with the kings of Mide, but also with Munster as well, travelling a bit afield, as it were. The ard

continued on page 5

OCTOBER 1, 2015 • 7:00 PM

MILWAUKEE MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Irish Cultural and Heritage Center (2133 W. Wisconsin Avenue)



Pot Luck at 6:30 • If you wish to eat, please bring a dish to pass.

☘ Milwaukee Calendar of Events ☘

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

OCTOBER

- 1 **Shamrock Club Monthly Meeting**; ICHC; 7 pm
- 2 Celtic Women First Friday Lecture; Julie Smith, Speaker; ICHC; 5:30-7 pm
- 8 **Shamrock Club Honoree Dinner**; Meyer's Restaurant, 4260 S. 76th Street; cocktails 5:30, dinner 6:30
- 13 Celtic Women International Book Club; *Tipperary*, by Frank Delaney; Hostess: Nancy Vose; ICHC; 1 pm
- 14 Milwaukee Ancient Order of Hibernians meeting; Burke's Irish Castle, 5328 W. Bluemound; 7 pm
- 17 Hallamor Concert; ICHC; 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave; Murphy Beds; 7:30 pm;
- 24 Friends of St. Patrick; *Ireland and the Potato* Event; Trinity Episcopal Church, 1717 Church St., Wauwatosa; 5-9 pm.
- 24 Hallowe'en Organ Concert; ICHC; 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave; Dennis Jon Wolfgang; 2:00 pm. Fundraiser for the Organ Restoration

NOVEMBER

- 5 **Shamrock Club Monthly Meeting**; ICHC; 7 pm
- 10 Celtic Women International Book Club; *Loving Frank*, by Nancy Horan; Hostess: Maureen Garry; ICHC; 1 pm
- 11 Milwaukee Ancient Order of Hibernians meeting; Burke's Irish Castle, 5328 W. Bluemound; 7 pm
- 14 Hallamor Concert; ICHC; 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave; Liz Carroll; 7:30 pm;
- 21 Celtic Christmas Boutique, Irish Fest Center; 1532 N. Wauwatosa Ave.; 9 am-3 pm
- 20-22 International Holiday Folk Fair; State Fair Park
- 28 Organ Concert; ICHC; 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave; Dennis Janzer, organist, Rob McWilliam, bagpiper; 2:00 pm;

DECEMBER

- 3 **Shamrock Club Monthly Meeting**; ICHC; 7 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 ☘

ICHC to Honor the Shamrock Club

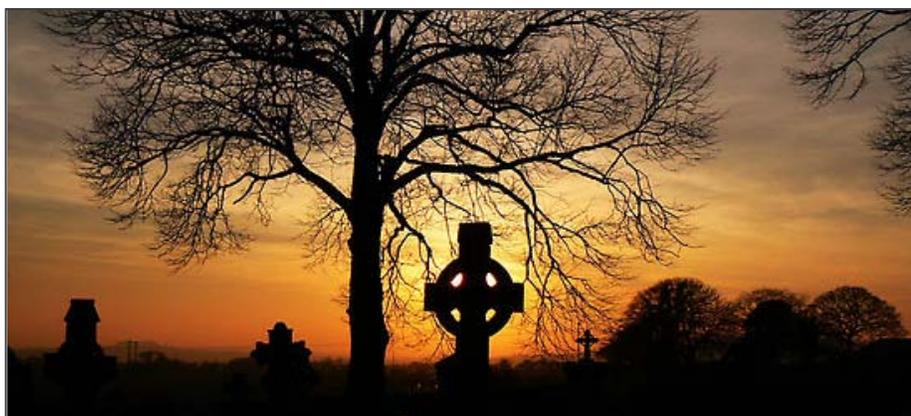
.....
The ICHC is planning to honor the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin at the October 17th Hallamor concert featuring *The Murphy Beds* and we'd like you to come and celebrate with us. At this concert, we want to publically thank the Shamrock Club for the pivotal role they played in keeping the Center open. Many of you may remember the problems that the economic downturn of 2008 caused nonprofits and how long the effects lasted. Because the ICHC relied mostly on donations to operate, we quickly started feeling the financial effects of the economy. By 2011 things were not looking good as bills had piled up and fewer donations had come in during and after the "slow-down."

We were getting ready to close our doors when several things happened. I must credit Doris Cummins for writing to the Journal Sentinel, which started a fortunate series of events. After the article appeared in the newspaper, many supporters came forward, which re-energized the ICHC board and made us determined to keep the doors open.

But we still needed major help to stabilize and buy time to get more secure. Enter the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin. Our Board made a plea to them for help and they responded by voting to give the ICHC \$10,000 a year for two years. What a tremendous gift! In 2012 and 2013, we were able to pay off many accumulated bills (winters at the Center can be brutal), get our membership program underway (please join!), and start making needed repairs and renovations to help bring in needed rental revenue. Because of the Club's gift, we have since been able to stabilize and have made many renovations in the past 3 years - some money-saving improvements and some which help generate income. We can now plan for our future!

The Shamrock Club's financial support saw the Center through a tough period, and we can truly say they saved the ICHC from closing its doors. Come to the *Murphy Beds* concert on Saturday, October 17th and help us honor the Club. The ICHC will unveil the new name of parlor B as a lasting "Thank You" and tribute to the Shamrock Club for its generous support. We are very grateful to the Club, for there would be no Irish Cultural and Heritage Center without them!

- Karen Prendergast,
ICHC Board President



Milwaukee President's Message

Happy October!

September flew by with final travels before school starts and others are getting ready to fly south for the winter. We are now getting ready for the Color Guard Pipes and Drums to finish their season when they perform up in Door County at the fall festival. Also, we start getting our volunteers set for Holiday Folk Fair. So be ready to sign up at the October meeting with Sue Dushek or Glenn Nowak (Retail), Kim Nowak (Café) or Jackie and Maureen Konkol (Cultural). We need everyone's help. Come for a few hours or all day, we're glad to have you!

October is Halloween time and Dawn wants all of us to join in the spirit and wear something spooky or fun to the October general meeting! Bring a dish to pass and maybe even bring a new person that may want to join the most awesome club around! That's us!

See you at the meeting!

- Mary Culver, President



Dawn's Corner Cupboard

Halloween Fright Night!!!

Please bring a dish to pass. The Club will not be providing food for this meeting. Be creative. Mr. Archie is hungry and so will you be. Bring the dish to pass by 6:15 pm so we can eat by 6:30 pm.

Wear a complete costume and you could win a special prize!!

- Dawn Fleming
Sergeant-at-Arms



Shamrock Club Honoree Dinner

The Honoree Dinner will take place on Thursday, October 8th, at Meyer's Restaurant at 4260 S. 76th Street. Cash bar will open at 5:30 with dinner at 6:30.

There are three main dish choices: Broasted Chicken, Roasted Pork Loin, and Veggie Stir-fry. Everyone will receive a fresh garden salad, bakery fresh bread, mashed potatoes, sage dressing, chef's vegetable of the day, cranberry sauce and dessert. Milk, tea and coffee will also be offered.

The price is \$22.00 per person or \$40.00 per couple. Payment can be made at the general meeting or the night of the event either by check, cash or credit card. There will be a sign up sheet at this month's general meeting or you can call or e-mail Kim Nowak at kknowak@wi.rr.com or (414)466-8060.

Please join us as we honor our very deserving 2015 Irish honorees.



Our 2015 Shamrock Club Honorees:

**Irishman of the Year Del Canon,
Irish Rose Pam Canon, and Parade
Marshals Kevin and Sandy Quinlan.**



The Murphy Beds Saturday, October 17th, 7:30 pm

Eamon O'Leary and Jefferson Hamer present traditional and original folk songs with close harmonies and deft instrumental arrangements. The duo's self-titled first album has a "lovely and unusual repertoire" according to The Huffington Post, which also praised "the delicacy of the arrangements: two tenor voices...making the most of the harmony and counterpoint."



Born in Dublin, Eamon grew up playing music, and after moving to New York in the early 1990s, immersed himself in the traditional music scene along with touring extensively with many of the great Irish players. Eamon is a member of the Celtic music trio, ALT, with Nuala Kennedy and John Doyle, a band featured in the Scotland Music Showcase during the 2014 Milwaukee Irish Fest. He also taught bouzouki at the Irish Fest Summer School.

Based in Brooklyn, Jefferson is an acclaimed musician about whom Acoustic Guitar magazine wrote, "A gifted guitarist and singer, Hamer is able to hit close harmonies...and weave gorgeous instrumental lines." In 2013, he and songwriter Anais Mitchell released *Child Ballads*, a collection of new adaptations of English and Scottish folk songs which won a BBC Radio 2 Folk Award.

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

Emerald Reflections Copy Deadline

Content for Emerald Reflections is due on the 15th of the month (next deadline: October 15th to appear in the Nov. 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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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



Gail Neville asked for prayers for her daughter, Erin, her grandchild, Isla Rossmiller and her sister-in-law, Nancy Neville Sennett.

Tim O'Brien had double hernia surgery on September 3rd which will keep him out of action for a few weeks. He is now home from the hospital. Get well, Tim.

Bob Hamill had triple by-pass surgery on August 26th after all the Irish Fest work was over. We are praying for your quick recovery.

Brian Witt has been battling cellulitis for quite some time.

Rand Harteau has two more grandchildren for a total of 9 under the age of eight.

Robert Donovan, Sr. celebrated his 97th birthday on August 19th.

Former president Julie Smith's brother, Mike Stephens, died September 11th. Mike is also survived by his four children and his siblings, Mary Henkel, Patrick Stephens, and Terry Stephens. Our hearts go out to you!

If you have Sunshine news, please email it to: slainte4142-shamrock@yahoo.com.

- Maggie Blaha, Sunshine Chair



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!

Tipperary, by Frank Delaney, will be the topic for our October 13th meeting, which will be hosted by Nancy Vose.

On November 10th, our topic will be *Loving Frank*, by Nancy Horan, and our hostess will be Maureen Garry.

Rosemary Walsh will host our December 8th meeting, when we will discuss *An Irish Country Christmas*, by Alice Taylor.

To start the new year, Gail McAleese will host our January 12th meeting. Our topic will be *1916*, by Morgan Llywelyn.

- Rosemary Walsh
rowalsh@wi.rr.com

Word of the Month

Bricfeasta - (brick-faysta) Breakfast
Beidh bricfeasta ar an bpaitió ar maidin.
(Baid brick-faysta ar on patio armaidhin)
Breakfast will be served on the patio.

Ireland & the potato

October 24th

**Friends of Saint Patrick Centre
Milwaukee Chapter**

Saturday, October 24th 2015
5-9pm at Trinity Episcopal Church
1717 Church St. Wauwatosa, WI

Supersized potato buffet
soup, salad & dessert

SpudMobile
from the Potato Growers of Wisconsin

Glencastle Irish Dancers

Dr. Timothy McMahon
History of the potato in Ireland

Evan & Tom Leahy
Irish Folk Duo

For Tickets call:
Judie at 262-641-9192 or Barb at 414-476-4381
VISA and Mastercard are accepted
Checks should be made out to:
Friends of Saint Patrick Centre Milwaukee Chapter
or email FOSPMKE@gmail.com

A benefit for our Young Ambassador Program
\$15 per person

Like us on Facebook at Friends of Saint Patrick Centre-Milwaukee Chapter

continued from page 1

rí Ruaidrí Ua Conchobair (Rory O'Connor) held a massive assemblage in 1168 at the site, as well.

Mug Ruith (or Mogh Roith, "slave of the wheel") was a larger than life blind druid of Munster who lived on Valentia Island, County Kerry. He could grow to enormous size, and his breath caused storms and turned men to stone. He wore a hornless bull-hide and a bird mask. He had an ox-driven chariot in which night was as bright as day, a star-speckled black shield with a silver rim, and a stone which could turn into a poisonous eel when thrown in water.

He was also said to be the executioner of John the Baptist, even though he supposedly died in 2500 BC. The territory Mug Ruith received for his descendants was Fir Maige Féne, later known as Fermoy. The medieval tribe of Fir Maige Féne claimed descent from him.

The earthworks seen on the Hill of Ward today represent the last phase of development about 2000 years ago. The remains of an older barrow burial have been incorporated in the earthworks. It is likely that the hill was the centre of ritual activity long before the Celtic period.

The hill got its English name from a landowner, Ward, who had been evicted from his land during the invasion of Oliver Cromwell in 1649. The land was given to a Roundhead soldier. The Ward family, whose forebears were landowners of the hill and of whom the hill was named after, are living in County Meath today.

Recently, Irish archaeologists digging at Tlachtga - the Hill of Ward- have found evidence of intense burning at the site dating back to 500 AD. In 2014, excavation found the skeleton of a child buried in one of the chambers. Dr. Steve Davis, from UC Dublin, was one of the people working the site.

"There has been a suggestion that one of the reasons the site is not better known is that it was written out of the Patrick story - that it was so infamous that the church did a very good job of trying to erase it from the mythology," Dr. Davis said.

The site has found renewed interest in the past few years, with torchlight parades up to the top of the hill on Samhain.

We have traveled across time and hills,

goddesses and magical druids, from Munster to Meath, and into the dark and back to the light, from the old year to the new year, and from the dead to the living.

I hope it has been an enjoyable journey, crossing these byroads in the Samhain celebration, and some of the stories of its background.

Just remember, if you don't want to be recognized by your long ago, across the spirit world family, dress in costume. They may be looking for money.

(You can find out more about the light festival in John Gilroy's wonderful book, "Tlachtga: Celtic Fire Festival." It was published by Pikefield Publications, 9 Hazelwood Court, Glanmire, Co. Cork in October 2000. It is also available through Amazon.)

- Brian Witt



Donate to the Shamrock Club

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

Celtic Women Lecture October 2, 2015

Topic: "Irish Fest Memories/Tales"
Speaker: Julie Smith

On Friday, October 2nd, Julie Smith will be the featured speaker for the Celtic Women First Friday Lecture Series. Julie will draw upon 35 years as a volunteer at Irish Fest, serving that great institution in a number of useful capacities, such as transportation coordinator, lost children, package checking, picking up performers, etc. etc. All needed services to make people's lives easier. Along the way she has accumulated hundreds of stories which she will share with the lecture attendees.



Julie Smith is also a recent Irish Rose honoree for the Shamrock Club and is a member of the Milwaukee Feis Society and Emerald Society.

Please join the First Friday Celtic Women for a delightful and enlightening hour. We will gather in Parlor B to begin with tea and treats. Parking lot available from the 23rd street alley. \$3 admission. All lectures are held from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. at the Irish Cultural and Heritage Center. This is our 19th year without interruption. The public is invited as always.

- Jean Bills

new e-mail address: JeanKBills@aol.com



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SCCGPD Report

Autumn is upon us and we're slowing down for this year while gearing up for next year. We had only one performance in September, which was the AOH Taste of Ireland Fundraiser at Turner Hall. We helped to kick-off the event with pipers and color guard and then performed complete with drummers later in the evening. It was a wonderful time for us to share our talents with fellow lovers of all things Irish.

As of press time, we had no events scheduled for October, but you never know. In past years, the band marched in the Sister Bay Fall Fest Parade, but it's been awhile. I will be attending the festivities in Door County the weekend of October 17th and 18th in the hopes of reviving our participation in their parade next year.

Also, we will be holding a band meeting in the near future to elect a new pipe major. Noel Tylla currently holds that position but she has chosen to resign from the position and the band in order to pursue other interests. She has marched with the band for over 10 years, has been Pipe Major for the past few years and was the acting Director prior to my taking the position. I think I speak for everyone in the band in thanking Noel for all that she has done for us over the years. We wish her well in all her future endeavors.

Winter is the time that the band stays indoors but meets weekly to practice for the upcoming season. We have new pipers who are building their repertoire and also some new faces who would like to start up on pipes or drums. And as always, if you or anyone you know would like to march along with us next year, please let me know. Color Guard members are always needed to help carry the flags, a very important part of the band and that which sets us apart from all other pipe bands in Milwaukee. Or if you're more musically inclined and would like to play pipes or drums, we will gladly give you lessons at no charge. All you have to do is ask! So please contact me at 414-234-0653 or malkin218@gmail.com and I will help you get started.

- Malkin Wallace



Volunteers Needed For Holiday Folk Fair

HOLIDAY FOLK FAIR INTERNATIONAL

We will need help in a number of areas. If you would like to work a shift at the Holiday Folk Fair, please contact the Shamrock Club's Holiday Folk Fair chairmen and women: General Chair: Mary Culver, (262) 470-8232, or redheadgardener@hotmail.com; Food Chair: Kim Nowak, (414) 940-8654 or kmnowak@wi.rr.com; Cultural Chairs Jackie and Maureen Konkol, (414) 405-4870 or konkolja@yahoo.com; and Retail Chairs: Glenn Nowak, (414) 940-9032 or ganowak@wi.rr.com and Sue Dushek, (414) 793-7318 or unicorn3862@yahoo.com. Our dance coordinator is Bridget Jaskulski. You can also contact us at the club's general e-mail: volunteers@shamrockclubwis.com. You will receive the annual Folk Fair participant pin, plus admission for Folk Fair for all three days.

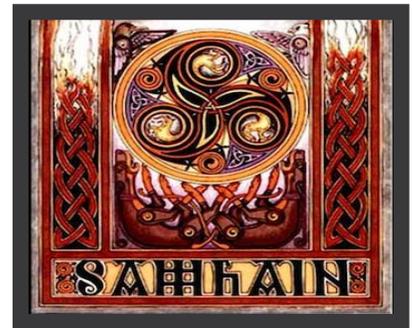
Admission is as follows: Adults \$12 at the door, \$10 in advance. You can also use the order form on page seven to purchase tickets via mail. As a sponsoring group of the Fair we need to sell 125 tickets or make up the cost elsewhere.

Retail Report Milwaukee Irish Fest

Thank you to everyone who came out to the Wisconsin Highland Games and stopped by the retail booth. It was another warm weekend which caused the attendance to be down but turned a decent profit. I'd like to thank Glenn Nowak, Jake Nowak, and Ryan Dushek for setting up/tearing down of the booth as well as Ciana Barkow for being there when it came time to tear it all down. Taffy Anderson, Ciana and Ryan were also there to work the booth.

Our next big event will be Holiday Folk fair in November. We will be needing volunteers for this event as it is one of our bigger fundraisers. Please plan on working with us for a two to four hour shift. We will need help setting up before the event as well. Further information will be coming out next month.

- Sue Dushek & Glenn Nowak, Retail Co-Chairs



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Friends of St. Patrick Ireland and the Potato Event



Friends of Saint Patrick Centre Milwaukee Chapter

Join the Friends of Saint Patrick Centre-Milwaukee Chapter to prepare young adults to live and work in the global community.

The Friends are hosting an "Ireland and the Potato" event on October 24, 2015 with proceeds from the event benefitting the Young Ambassador Program. Each year, this program sends young people between the ages of 20 and 25 to Downpatrick, Northern Ireland to experience the cultures and traditions of the region while learning about the reconciliation work of the Saint Patrick Centre.

Friends chapters have been established across America and Canada to support the work of the Saint Patrick Centre in Downpatrick, Northern Ireland and to build positive and on-going relationships with the northern part of Ireland. Chapters in Minnesota, Milwaukee, Phoenix, Tampa, Pittsburgh and Toronto work with charitable organizations in their communities to bring the "Spirit of Saint Patrick" into the lives of the homeless and hungry. In addition to educational events on the legacy of Saint Patrick, the Milwaukee chapter works with the Hunger Task Force collecting food during the St. Patrick's Day Parades and to package food for distribution throughout the year. Reaching out to the communities, the Chapters also represent the Centre and the important concept of reconciliation at Irish festivals and events.

We invite you to join us in educating the next generation of leaders in the spirit of reconciliation by attending the "Ireland and the Potato" event. The fun night will include a Supersized potato buffet, Glencastle Irish Dancers, Evan and Tom Leahy and Dr Timothy McMahon. For tickets call Judie at 262-641-9192 or Barb at 414-476-4381.

PS: Would you like to learn more about the Friends of Saint Patrick and how to become involved? Contact Jane Anderson, National Coordinator, at 414-405-1118 or FOSPMKE@gmail.com

iBAM! Chicago October 9th - 11th

The seventh annual Irish Books Arts and Music celebration; iBAM! returns to the Center this October.

iBAM! presents the 100th Anniversary Commemoration of the 1916 Easter Rising, and is a comprehensive weekend of Celtic culture in all its flavors and variations. A fundraiser for the IAHC, iBAM! is Friday, October 9 through Sunday, October 11.

The Easter Rising was an armed insurrection in Ireland during Easter Week, 1916. The Rising was mounted by Irish republicans to end British rule in Ireland and establish an independent Irish Republic while the United Kingdom was heavily engaged in World War I. iBAM! will feature programs on the Rising all weekend.

Highlights include a gala awards dinner on Friday night, and concerts with Sharon Shannon and the High Kings.

On Saturday and Sunday, from noon to 6pm, iBAM! features more than 30 Irish authors signing books and making presentations, a special exhibit from Ireland on James Connolly, art exhibits, panel discussions and films about 1916, poetry readings and competitions, a literary salon with author readings and music, theatre, dance performances, and plenty of children's activities; all under one roof!

Confirmed iBAM! headliners include: Author/Chef Darina Allen; Author/Chef Author Emmett McCourt; Poet Desmond Egan; Author Sinead McCoole; Author

Dr. Ruan O'Donnell; Poet/Author Daniel Thomas Moran; Musicians: the High Kings and Sharon Shannon; Artists: Michael Carroll of Chicago, and Barry "Jazz" Finnegan; Storyteller and musician Pat Waters; -Storyteller, musician and illustrator Randall Stephen Hall. Other participants include: authors Mary Pat Kelly, Cynthia Neale, Jean Roppolo, Ginger Glomstead, John O'Brien, Pat Butler, Arthur Cola, Noirin Leahy Makowski and Rex Owens.

On Friday, October 9, attend the Gala Awards Dinner and Cocktail Party in the Erin Room to celebrate the the outstanding contributions of the Irish in the categories listed below.

Cocktails are at 7pm in the Erin Room, followed by dinner at 8pm. Dress is black-tie optional. Dinner tickets are \$125 for IAHC Members and \$150 for general admission. The 2015 iBAM! awardees are: Literature: Desmond Egan; Music: Sharon Shannon; Performing Arts: Liam Neeson; Person of the Year: Jim Sloan; Culinary Arts: Darina Allen; Visual Arts: Michael Carroll; Media Award: Mary Ann Ahern. All honorees have confirmed their attendance at the gala, except Neeson.

On Saturday, October 10, enjoy Sharon Shannon in concert at 8pm. Tickets are \$30-\$40. On Sunday, October 11th, at 5pm, the High Kings return after a sold out concert in 2014. Tickets are \$30-\$40. Admission to iBAM! is free each day and voluntary donations will be accepted.

For tickets and information, call 847-872-0700 or visit www.ibamchicago.com.

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State Fair Park • November 20, 21, 22, 2015

PLEASE HELP US MEET OUR GOAL!

The Shamrock Club must sell 125 Holiday Folk Fair Tickets. Any unsold tickets must be purchased by the club at full value. Tickets are \$10 in advance and must be purchased by Monday, November 9, 2015. (Ticket price at the door is \$12) For information contact Mary Culver at (262) 470-8232, or e-mail: redheadgardener@hotmail.com. Tickets will be sent to you by return mail and are good on any of the three days of Folk Fair. If you are a teacher, please contact us on advance tickets.

SAVE NOW ON ADVANCE SALE FOLK FAIR TICKETS

Please send me _____ advance sale Holiday Folk Fair Tickets at \$10 each.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____

Zip: _____

Make your ticket request to: Shamrock Club, c/o ICHC, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53233. Make checks payable to: SHAMROCK CLUB of WISCONSIN



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



Jacob Nowak and Pete Fleming enjoy the tailgate party at the September general meeting.

Photo by Dawn Fleming