



Dane County Shamrock Club, Inc. Newsletter

Volume 18, Issue 2
August 2020

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~ **Message from the President** by Ryan Dunn

Greetings All!

And...looks around...YEP, we're still here! Have you found anything fun to do? I'm relieved the golf courses are open, that's made the usual summer distractions which aren't present a little more bearable. Though we do have sports happening again, soon. I'm normally one to keep up with all my favorite teams but I guess I'm just used to no sports, so the talk of the NHL (go Lightning), NBA (Bucks are still good) and MLB finally starting their season has just kind of been met with a "meh" on my end.

I did see some positive news yesterday though: Wisconsin technically has the 2nd least restrictions in the country (meaning we're not very restrictive at all compared with other states), yet we also have the 9th least amount of fatalities. It's something...

We have decided not to hold our summer picnic, a decision not made easily but certainly the reasonable and prudent thing to do. Hopefully, we'll be able to have a nice little celebration for Half-way to St. Patrick's Day though (September 17), if it's safe that is. Our very tentative plan would be for us to meet at Erin's Snug Irish Pub in Sun Prairie, dinner would be on your own.

Likewise, we're also checking out other online entertainment for us to be involved in. There has been some talk of enlisting an Irish storyteller, so please, stay tuned for more information on that, hopefully we can make that happen and hopefully everyone can join!

Special thanks go out to Cindy Schlough who took me up on a newsletter submission. You can read about the history of Irish whiskey in this month's issue. I'd also like to thank Patrick Fleming for his article. Please get in touch with me if you have anything you'd like to add or perhaps see covered. I will be personally sending out a set of "interview" questions to a few members each month. If you receive them, would you be so kind as to answer and send back? It would be a way to get to know our members and we'd include it in the newsletter. I'll be looking at our member roster and selecting names randomly.

All is well on our end. Natalie is doing fine though a bit nauseous. Patrick is excited to be a big brother and have a new playmate. We've tried to explain the baby isn't going to walk out and be ready to play...they're kind of just puddles of goo for a few months. I don't quite think he grasps that, but he'll have to learn.

As always, continue to checkout our Facebook page for any live Irish music listings. Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfetones have been hosting performances fairly regularly on Fridays at 1.00 pm.

In closing, please continue to stay safe and sane during these times. Remember to do your part in helping EVERYONE get through this in as safe a manner as possible.

Sláinte!
Ryan



~ **What's in a Name?** **Gorman**



The Gorman name is prominent in what is now County Clare. They competed in the 5th century for the kingship of Leinster ultimately losing out. The family played a role in early Christianity in Ireland. The mother of Columba of Iona was from this dynasty. They fought against the Vikings of Dublin and Waterford but eventually lost out to the Normans in the 12th century and were forced to move to County Monaghan. The O'Briens invited them to relocate in Thomond from which they spread to Tipperary. The name means "dark blue."



~ **This is Sacred to My People** by *Patrick Fleming*



Patrick Fleming
Club Member

In 1988, when Dublin was celebrating its Millennium, the 1,000 year anniversary as a Viking village, my friends, Donal and Monica Treacy, who lived in Phibsborough, a section of Dublin, invited me to come for the festivities. We attended a huge millennial parade and it started to rain right at the end of it. While everyone was stampeding to get into a pub, a frustrated dad, trying to get his babies pram through the revolving door, announced, "this is the last aluminum (aluminum) I'm going to!"

We also went to the Gaiety Theatre for a gathering of the Celtic clans. Monica's brother, Terry Tully, Pipe Major for the St. Lawrence O'Toole Pipe Band of Dublin, represented the Scottish Celts playing the bagpipe. The St. Lawrence O'Toole Pipe Band won the RSPBA World Pipe Championships in 2010 beating out all other Scottish Pipe Bands.

A large Irish bank recreated a Viking village in its cavernous basement with actors portraying the people of the time complete with wooden huts decorated in animal skins. One actor said I must be rich because I was wearing my wealth on my eyes (glasses). I got into the role, grabbed a badger pelt and announced for all to hear, "this is sacred to my people!" On the way out after the program, a woman came up to me and asked me what part of Wisconsin I was from. I asked how she knew I was from Wisconsin and she said, "I heard you say the badger was sacred to your people. I'm from, Waukesha!" I can't wait to attend my next aluminum!



~ **A Wee Bit of Irish Whiskey History** by *Cindy Schlough*

You might already know the word "whiskey" comes from the Gaelic words "uisce beatha" with uisce meaning "water" and beatha meaning "life." Irish whiskey was one of the earliest distilled drinks in Europe, appearing in the 12th century and initially distilled by monks. Historians believe the technique of distilling perfume was brought to Ireland from travels to Mediterranean countries around 1000 AD. The Irish monks cleverly and adeptly modified the technique to create a drinkable spirit.

The oldest known written record of Irish whiskey comes from Ireland in 1405 and appeared in the Irish Annals of Clonmacnoise, which is also known as Mageoghagan's Book. A clan leader was recorded as having died after "taking a surfeit [overabundance] of aqua vitae" at Christmas.



In 1608, Sir Thomas Phillips of the town of Bushmills in northern Ireland was granted a license to distill whiskey. The Old Bushmills Distillery Company Limited now holds the title as the oldest licensed whiskey distillery in the world. Bushmills Irish Whiskey is said to be named for the mills that made the barley and the River Bush, which remains its water source today.

In the 1850s, the Crown imposed a tax on distilleries in Ireland through a tax on barley. Malted barley was considered to make the finest whiskey and known as a "pure malt" whiskey. The tax forever changed Irish whiskey, nearly all Irish whiskey distilleries began to substitute corn and other grains for barley.



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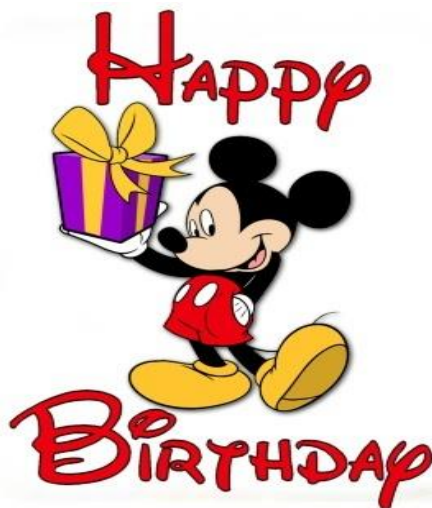
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- 3 Pat McCarthy
- 5 Charles Klink
- 7 Neil Purtell
- 10 Patricia Fleming
- 16 Pat Bleakley
- 19 Kathleen Mahoney
- 27 Benjamin Roe

~ A WEE BIT OF IRISH HISTORY



~ Healy Pass

Healy Pass is as dramatic as it is dangerous. It runs from Adrigole in County Cork and winds its way over the two highest peaks of the Caha Mountains and down the other side to Lauragh in County Kerry. The Healy Pass owes its existence to the heartbreaking period of Irish history. In 1847, it was one of the famine projects on which the British government insisted hungry people had to work before being provided food. The laborer's took shelter in caves during times of bad weather. The climb to the peak from the Cork side begins across an open bog before a dizzy series of twists and turns up a

rise of more than 1,000 feet. At the very top is a statue of Jesus on the cross and staring down at the large valley below. Cresting the summit marks the passage from Cork to Kerry and brings a dramatic change in landscape. The Kerry side is forested, and a series of lakes are in the valleys. Meadows and stone bridges complete the scene. The sea is off in the distance.



The road was upgraded in the early 1930s and renamed Healy Pass after Tim Michael Healy who was the first Governor General of the Irish Free State. He was a supporter of Charles Stewart Parnell and the Irish Parliamentary Party.



~ Lyra McKee – Irish Journalist

Lyra McKee was born in 1990 in Belfast, Northern Ireland. She wrote for several publications about the "Troubles." She wrote about the challenges of growing up gay in Belfast which was subsequently made into a short film. She published her first book titled "Angels with Blue Faces" which deals with the IRA killing of Belfast Member of Parliament Robert Bradford. Her second book "The Lost Boys" was scheduled for release in 2020 which is about the disappearances of Thomas Spence and John Rodgers from Falls Road area of Belfast in 1974. In 2019, McKee was shot during rioting in Derry during the weekend before the Easter Rising. At the time of her death, she was researching unsolved killings of the late 20th century.

Violence broke out in the Fanad Drive area of Derry. Police were fired upon and petroleum bombs were thrown. Two vehicles were burnt. McKee was standing next to a police vehicle when she was shot in the head by a believed masked IRA gunman. She died at a local hospital. Her funeral took place at St. Anne's Cathedral in Belfast. The murder was condemned by political leaders in Ireland, Britain, and the US. Two men were arrested on suspicion of involvement in McKee's murder. The IRA admitted responsibility for the killing stating that McKee was not the objective of the attack.

~ Malachy McAllister Deported

Malachy McAllister lived in Northern Ireland with his wife Bernadette, (who has since passed away) and four children. They fled Northern Ireland in 1998 when their home was struck by 26 rounds of ammunition. McAllister has been battling his deportation for years. They have lived in New Jersey for over 20 years. His long battle to remain in the US is over and he was flown back to Ireland on June 10.



Senator Menendez said this was a sad time for the McAllister family and the Irish community and the deporting of McAllister to a place he fled because his life was in danger. This did not make America safer. Trump's deportation force dismissed his extraordinary qualities and deported him anyway. Many have worked for several years to keep McAllister and his family together and hope they can be reunited in the future. The fight is not over! (Pictured – Malachy McAllister (second from left) was met by dozens of supporters before he surrendered himself to authorities in Newark, NJ on June 9)

~ Smuggler's Cove

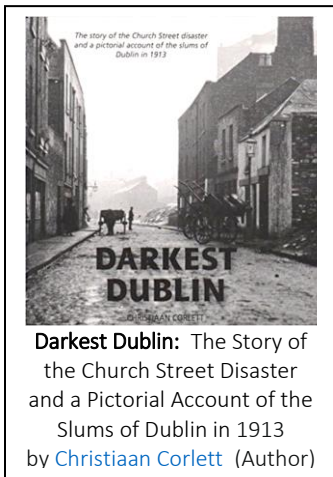
Roaringwater Bay on the southwest coast of County Cork was home to one of the most successful pirate operations of the 17th century. It was masterminded by Sir William Hull, who was appointed Deputy Vice Admiral of Munster. Hull's castle was at Castle Point on Leamon which became a hub for the pirates of the North Atlantic. Aided by his colleagues like James Salmon and the Jobson Brothers, He received stolen goods in exchange for a percentage of the profits. Hull was accused of piracy for years. Despite this, Hull received a knighthood from King Charles I in 1621. He captured eight pirates in 1625 and sent them to Cork where they were executed.

Baltimore was sacked by pirates of the Ottoman Empire which was led by a Dutch captain. A man called Hackett was captured and conspired in the raid in exchange for his freedom. The remaining settlers moved to Skibbereen and Baltimore was deserted for generations. Hackett was hanged from a cliff top outside the village.

Piracy from Roaring Water Bay as far as Dingle was a haven for pirates. A cavern near Crookhaven is where the pirates brought their booty ashore. Coves and inlets of west Cork were ideal for pirates. Twelve pirate shipwrecks were recorded in naval records.



~ Darkest Dublin

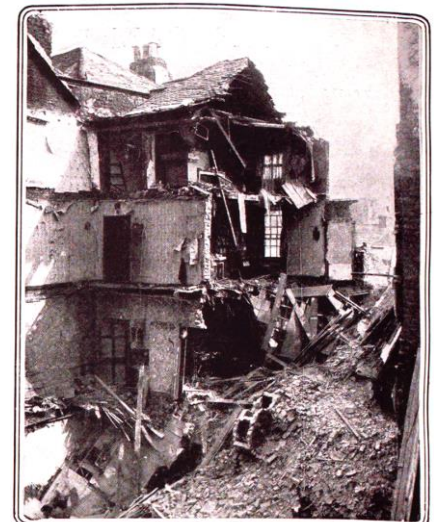


The story begins on Church Street on September 1913 as dusk approached. Two houses, #66 and 67, collapsed. The rubble filled the street. Evidence given states a rumbling noise was heard followed by a collapse of #66 and followed by the fall of #67. Seven people died and all lived in the four story #66 where 26 people resided.

Eugene Salmon carried the youngest family member to safety and then went back for the other children who he got out alright. As he was coming away with one of the children, they were struck by falling masonry from the chimney and killed. A giant cloud of dust covered the scene. Darkness arrived and throughout the night, rescue workers pulled bodies of the injured and dead from the rubble. The day before the disaster there was a labor crisis. Jacob's had closed

down part of their factory because of strike action. A lockout began on the day of the disaster. During a protest meeting on O'Connell Street, two men were killed following a baton charge by the Dublin Police.

Following the Church Street Disaster, all were united in their condemnation of the Dublin slums. There was sympathy for the labor cause led by James Larkin Newspapers shifted the spotlight from labor to housing to deliberately undermine the labor movement and become a primary force driving the employer's lockout. Larkin failed to take the housing crisis to strengthen his cause. A public outcry resulted in a housing inquiry.



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Something New!

Member News

We would like to start sharing news from our members during this time when we are unable to meet. If you have something you would like to share with other club members, please send it to the McCarthy's at pmmccarthy@charter.net. We'll try to include it in the next newsletter - special events, celebrations, anything of interest or special pictures too! Here's our start:

- **John Rogan** celebrated his 94th birthday on July 10th at Bishop's Bay Country Club with his family. Congratulations to you John!
- **Christopher Roe** says he is an avid reader of the newsletters and read about the need for relief funds for the Navajo/Hopi Indians for COVID19. He researched the fund and decided to make a contribution. The fund now exceeds \$5.6 million (\$3 million came from Ireland.)



- **Irish Fest** is offering the delicious Shamrock cookies that are always available at the Fest. They cost \$6 for a six-pack of cookies. The cookies are large and delicious with or without milk! They are ONLY AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP which will be August 11 & 12 from 3-7 pm at the Celtic MKE Center at 1532 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Milwaukee, at the tent in the parking lot. You will receive further pickup info when you order. To order, go to the website at: https://irishfeststore.com/products/milwaukee-irish-fest-shamrock-cookies-6-pack?_pos=1&_sid=623199bba&_ss=r

If you would like to order cookies but don't want to travel to Milwaukee for pick up, the McCarthy's are offering to pick up cookies ordered by DCSC members in the Madison area. Pick up will be on August 12. If you would like them to pick up your cookies, place your order online which includes payment, select pick up on August 12 and the earliest time available. Then contact the McCarthy's at pmmccarthy@charter.net or 608/277-0394 to let them know to pick up your order. Pick-up/delivery in Madison will be determined.



. . . . News of Interest

- ♣ Larry Mullen of U-2 donated \$100,000 to the Navajo/Hopi COVID19 Relief Fund.
- ♣ Michael Martin became Ireland's new prime minister on June 27, 2020 replacing Leo Varadkar. Martin won the election by fusing two parties, Fianna Fail and Fine Gael into a coalition.
- ♣ Cardinal Kevin Farrell who was born in Dublin gave the Catholic Church response to the George Floyd matter urging all Christians to stand up to racism. He spoke at Santa Maria Trastevere Church in Rome.
- ♣ The Irish Book of the Month for June 2020 is "The Weight of Love" by Irish author Hilary Fannin.
- ♣ There is widespread disgust over the vandalism of St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. Two young women were seen on video and a reward of \$2500 has been offered for their identification.
- ♣ Aer Lingus is planning 15 new destinations in North America.
- ♣ The first transatlantic flight ended with a crash in a Connemara bog in 1919. 101 years ago.
- ♣ Gerry Adams is urging Irish-Americans to get involved in the pursuit of a united Ireland.
- ♣ European travel to the US will be banned for months.
- ♣ Paul Whelan is an Irish-American who was arrested in Moscow in 2018 on charges of espionage. He is now convicted and sentenced to 16 years in prison.
- ♣ A 12-year-old boy from Castlerea, County Roscommon went swimming in a lake and stumbled over a 17-foot longboat buried in the mud. It is estimated to date back to 2000 BC.
- ♣ Milwaukee Irish Fest Summer School scheduled for August 10-14, 2020 has been canceled. It will return August 16-20, 2021.
- ♣ Dr. Kathy Sullivan, an Irish-American former NASA astronaut has broken the world record by diving 35,000 feet underwater to the lowest point on Earth.
- ♣ Jeanne Rynhart died June 9, 2020 at the age of 74. She was the Irish sculptor who created Dublin's famous Molly Malone statue. She also sculpted the Annie Moore statues at Ellis Island and Cobh Harbor.
- ♣ "Wolf of Clontarf" is a new novel by Thomas Howley. It offers a look at Irish history when the Vikings were fought back. It involves espionage and intrigue during the 15 years before the Battle of Clontarf.
- ♣ The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of New York voted in January to accept female members for the first time in its 236-year history.
- ♣ The Penal Laws of the 18th century in Ireland included the Veto Act which gave the British government the power to veto Church appointments and regulate correspondence from Rome. Worst of all, the Vatican agreed to this.
- ♣ Jean Kennedy Smith died on June 18, 2020 at the age of 92. She was the last living sibling of President John Kennedy. She served as US Ambassador to Northern Ireland and played a key role in the Northern Ireland peace process.
- ♣ Ireland won a seat on the UN Security Council alongside 14 other members for the 2021–2022 term.
- ♣ Colm Horkan, a member of the Irish police was fatally shot while on active duty in Castlerea, County Roscommon while responding to an altercation on Main Street. He was shot with his own gun.



DANE COUNTY SHAMROCK CLUB, INC. – BOARD OF DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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FACEBOOK	Ryan Dunn & DeeAnn Martin	See above	See above

September Newsletter Deadline ~ Newsletter articles are written by Harry McCarthy unless otherwise indicated and set-up by Pat McCarthy. We encourage members to submit articles on their Irish travels, interests and photos. Please submit articles for the September newsletter to Harry McCarthy at himac98@charter.net or mail to 2656 Mica Rd., Fitchburg, WI 53711 by August 20, 2020.
Thank you.

Calendar of Events

August 19 – Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom



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