

### Foras Cultuir Gaeil Aontuighthe

### United Irish Cultural Center, Inc.





Volume XLV No. 2 February 2020



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### **BOARD MESSAGE**

Dear Members,

Sláinte- We all could all use a health toast during this cold and flu season and not just when we are toasting with a drink.

On January 13th, I flew to New York City to spend an entire day with the 501c3 Irish Cultural Centers across North America and Toronto. The New York Consul General began this outreach program three years ago. Initially when the day began I was in a room full of strangers with one thing in common - Irish Culture and programming. The Irish Consul General's office is on the 17th floor of a building on Lexington Avenue in New York City. We were fortunate to be joined by a director of the Abbey Theatre and the Irish Arts Center in NYC that raised 60 million dollars.

I mention my visit because it was a brilliant networking opportunity for the United Irish Cultural Center in San Francisco to be a part of the Irish Centers of North America. 2019 was a year of major transformation. As I have mentioned before we went from a 501c7 members only social club that had seen a decline in membership, declining revenue in banquet, bar and restaurant facilities and accelerating operational costs that could not be offset by the original business structure that was started in 1975. Last year, we operated strictly as a 501c3 non profit. This new business structure allows donors and members a tax deduction when making a donation to the UICC. These two major changes are what got us through 2019. The 501c3 business structure has opened up greater access and support from foundations and the Irish Government to promote cultural programs for all. In 2019, we received \$17,000 from the Irish Government Emigrant Support Programme and \$10,000 from the Gellert Foundation. We will continue to apply for more grants. Once again, operationally, if we were to rely on our cultural events and event venue space rental we would not have made it.

As we enter into 2020 and celebrate our 45 Years on 45th Avenue, we must take time to honor our accomplishments while pondering our future. When speaking to representatives of other Irish Centers across the country, they too have had to take time for reflection and really think about long term plans and goals. Some of the thoughts that swirled in my head as I headed home on the plane were:

Do we have the member support?

Could we raise \$60 million to do a major overhaul to our building?

Where is the Irish Center's place in the Irish Community of San Francisco?

Who is our audience for cultural events?

Can we generate enough revenue through event venue rentals? Cultural programming?

How much money can we get in grants? Who will write the grant application?

What will the Center look like in 3 years? 5 years?

How many original members are still coming to the Center?

How many will come to the 45 Years on 45th Avenue?

(continued on page 2)

My return flight from New York was 6 hours and 45 minutes. I had a lot of time to reflect and ask a lot of questions.

How many members paid their dues? Made a donation?

What else can we do to get people to the Center?

Are there artists out there that would like to come to the Center?

How do we get the artists that are coming to LA to come to SF?

IF we rebuild it, will they come?

I wish I had a crystal ball and could see what was coming for the Irish Center but I don't.

Our priorities of the board this year are:

Cultural programming - bring in new cultural programming.

Membership - increase membership numbers and increase the number of members that pay dues. Continue to work on membership incentives.

Fundraise - This will always be crucial to our bottom line and trying to get ahead.

Event venue- promote our space. Make it an all functional space.

#### And TO BE THE BEST ON THE WEST!

How can you help?

We need volunteers for Saint Patricks Week.

We need volunteers for "45 Years on 45th Avenue" Jubilee on April 25th.

We need volunteers for clean up days.

We need volunteers to do odd jobs around the Center.

Pay your \$150 dues. IF we got 1000 members paying \$150 we would have \$150,000. IF we got 2000 members to pay we would have \$300,000. Dues help offset operational costs, pay for cultural programming, maintenance and salaries.

If we don't have a foundation of funds then we have to tighten our belts. That means less cultural events, cutting hours so that someone does not answer the phones or get back to you in a timely manner and deferring maintenance on our aging building.

#### Sláinte

Anne Cassidy Carew, President of the UICC



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# Support YOUR UICC and the Businesses that Support the UICC

### DEADLINE for MARCH 2020 BULLETIN is FEBRUARY 15

Questions? Contact: Adrienne Verreos 415/468-4130 or email: falconassoc@earthlink.net

### FEBRUARY CALENDAR

#### ■ FEBRUARY 8, SATURDAY

• Irish Marvels, Past & Present ~ 2:30pm - 4:30pm Irish Marvels will hold its annual BRIDGET CROSS making workshop n the Board Room. We will provide material and instructions. Everyone, including children, welcome. We would appreciate a \$5 donation to cover

Questions? Contact Lisa at Hilmoe.gleason@gmail.com)

- Traditional Irish Seisiun ~ 7:00pm II:00pm
- FEBRUARY 13, THURSDAY
- IIPC Mass & Luncheon ~ See Ad Contact the IIPC for reservations and information 415/752-6006
- FEBRUARY 20, THURSDAY
- $\bullet$  Comhaltas Set Dancing Class  $\sim 7{:}30 \mathrm{pm}$  -9:I5pm Main Bar area

For info call Josephine Brogan 415-264-8856

- FEBRUARY 23, SUNDAY
- Discovering Antarctica ~ 5pm ~ See Ad
- Irish Literary & Historical Society St. Francis Room ~ 5pm

The ILHS is very pleased to present Irish American historian James T. Fisher, who will discuss his research on Irish Americans in the construction of the Panama Canal. Fisher, is a prolific historian of Irish America, notably author of On the Irish Waterfront: The Crusader, the Movie, and the Soul of the Port of New



York ILHS members are free with guest; others \$5 donation. Tea, coffee and soda bread reception to follow. Visit ILHSsf.org

- FEBRUARY 25, TUESDAY
- IIPC Cairde Cafe ~ 10:00am ~ See Ad

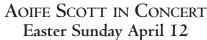
#### ■ FEBRUARY 27 THURSDAY

• Comhaltas Set Dancing Class  $\sim 7:30 \mathrm{pm}$  -  $9:15 \mathrm{pm}$  Main Bar area

For info call Josephine Brogan 415-264-8856

- FEBRUARY 27, THURSDAY
- GENERAL MEMBERS MEETING 7:00pm
- FEBRUARY 28, FRIDAY
- 169th Grand Marshal Dinner Make your reservations!
- FEBRUARY 29, SATURDAY
- The Black Brothers~ 8pm ~ See Ad







Look for the exciting plans we have for our

### 45 YEARS ON 45TH AVENUE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION Saturday April 25

IN YOUR MARCH UICC BULLETIN.

Ticketing information and details will be available to you at that time, but not before.

It's going to be fabulous!

### KERRY BLUE TERRIER PUPPIES FOR SALE

Taking reservations now for an early 2020 litter.

- Top Champion AKC bloodlines Hypoallergenic Health tested
- \* Family Friendly Excellent Alarm Dog

The Kerry Blue Terrier was designated part of the Irish National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in July 2019.

Contact: Sliabh Luachra Terriers, slterriers@gmail.com, 415-516-8045

"Speak softly and own a Kerry Blue" — anonymous



### **ACTIVE RETIREMENT CLUB OUTREACH PROGRAM**



### Thursday, February 13, 2020

Basque Cultural Center, 599 Railroad Ave, South San Francisco

12.15 p.m. Mass celebrated by Fr. Brendan McBride

followed by lunch and special guest

### Hong Mei Pang, SFCounts Census Committee

We are delighted to welcome Hong Mei to tell us about the City's plans to make sure all San Francisco residents are counted in the upcoming US Census, particularly our immigrant and senior communities.

### St. Valentine's Day Luncheon

Join us to celebrate the beginning of longer days and the feast of St. Valentine! At the Mass and Luncheon this month, we will hold those we cherish in our hearts - family, friends, community and all our ARC members!

Tickets - \$30
ALL WELCOME

RSVP to Joan at 415.752.6006

Payment must be made in advance
For checks, make payable to IIPC

A Community Outreach Service of the Irish Immigration Pastoral Center, San Francisco, supported, in part, by the Department of Foriegn Affairs and Trade. Tel: 415.752.6006 Fax: 415.752.6910 Email: info@sfiipc.org





### ACTIVE RETIREMENT CLUB OUTREACH PROGRAM



### CAIRDE CAFÉ

**COFFEE MORNING** 

Tuesday, February 25, 2020

10.00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. United Irish Cultural Center

St. Francis Room - 2700 45th Avenue, San Francisco



**10.00 a.m. - 10.30 a.m.** Tea/Coffee & Chat Grab a cup of tea/coffee, relax and get acquainted.

10.30 a.m. - 12.00 p.m. Activities!

CARDS: Enjoy a game of 25s with Jerry Cassidy

BINGO: hosted by Janette Masterson

**12.00 p.m. - 12.30 p.m.** Wrap up and goodbyes We will wrap up the afternoon's conversation and adjourn.

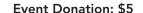
Did you know that Cairde is Irish for friend??

The IIPC is delighted to offer a monthly coffee morning get-together. The coffee morning is designed to be an informal gathering of friends, old and new. Come along to play cards or BINGO, read the Irish newspapers or just have a chat.

This is a relaxed and enjoyable social opportunity to get out of the house for a few hours and spend it in the company of friends. All are welcome!

#### For more info contact Joan at 415.752.6006

A Community Outreach Service of the Irish Immigration Pastoral Center of San Francisco supported, in part, by









# SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23 (a) 5:00 PM

Doors open (a) 4:00 pm

The United Irish Cultural Center is proud to host a PLAY about Tom Crean: The Irish man who went to the Antarctica 3 times with Shackleton and Scott.

"Discovering Antarctica: Heroric Tales of Shackleton, Crean and Scott" Set during The Golden Age of Antarctic Exploration (1901–16), discover the riveting true stories of Shackleton and Scott through the eyes of Tom Crean, who was at the center of 3 of the most daring & challenging expeditions to the great white continent – including Shackleton's ill-fated Endurance expedition. An intimate piece of theatre that re-enacts the heroic endeavours with a blend of drama, humor and a rich Irish storytelling style that takes you to the edge of your seat... and beyond!

Members: \$32.50 Non-members \$35.00 —Tickets @ irishcentersf.org



# SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29 THE BLACK BROTHERS (a) 8:00 PM

Doors open (a) 7:00 pm

Native Dubliners, Shay and Michael Black tour the U.S. regularly. The brothers have recently been joined by piano player, Eamonn Flynn and the quartet is rounded out by accordion player Félim Egan. These fine musicians are sure to bring energy and liveliness to the music of the Black Brothers. Members: \$15.00 Non-members \$17.50

—Tickets @ irishcentersf.org

# SATURDAY, MARCH 14 SHARON SHANNON

(a) 8:30 PM

Doors open (a) 8:00 pm

- The lady that made Galway Girl famous -After the Parade / after the Corned Beef dinner...

SHARON SHANNON has music at her fingertips....literally! The accordionist from Ireland has achieved legendary status throughout the world and has made the much maligned accordion 'cool' in her home country. A musical icon for over 20 years, she is renowned for her collaborations, not just in Irish traditional music, but through all musical genres. Traditional Irish music is her background but she has been fearless in her musical exploration having defied genres and woven her unique style through country, French-Canadian reggae, hip-hop, dance and classical.

Members: \$35.00 Non-members \$40.00 Age 17 years and under \$10.00 —Tickets @ irishcentersf.org



### The Dowling Library Asks

From the corner of 2700 - 45th Avenue
Glows Bay-wide welcome; her mild eyes command
The golden-bridged harbor that our City frames.

"Recall children of Eire, your toil and joys in the City by the Bay!" cries she
With silent lips. "Give me your stories, your scrapbooks,
Your letters and souvenirs, longing to be shared,
The ephemera of your days gone by.
Send these, that we might celebrate our shared journey, to me
I lift my lamp in welcome at the Dowling Library's green door!"

— inspired by "The New Colossus" by Emma Lazarus, 1883

The Patrick J. Dowling Library of the United Irish Cultural Center is actively seeking ephemera, memorabilia, and souvenirs which document the activities, accomplishments and history of the Irish and Irish-American community in San Francisco and the greater Bay Area to add to display and preserve in the library's archive.

The library is also reviving the Center's oral history project and is seeking to interview those men and women who were actively involved in the planning and building of the library. Appointments for interviews at the center may be made Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4pm and some Saturdays.

The exhibit of these items and stories will be a part of a curated exhibit as a part of the **45** *years on* **45***th Avenue* celebration.

Please email Jennifer Drennan, librarian@irishcentersf.org, with your interest and to arrange donation drop-offs and interviews. Thank you!

### United Irish Societies of San Francisco 2020 ST. PATRICK'S DAY ACTIVITIES

Our 169th Year

Sponsors of the St. Patrick's Day Parade

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2020

Grand Marshal Dinner 6 PM No Host Cocktails - 7 PM Dinner United Irish Cultural Center - 2700 45th Avenue

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2020

FLAG RAISING AT CITY HALL -TBD

**SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2020** 

**10:00 AM** Veterans Retirement Home 4150 Clement Street at 42nd Avenue

2:00 PM St. Anne's Little Sisters of the Poor 300 Lake Street

**SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2020** 

**9:00 AM** LAGUNA HONDA HOSPITAL Laguna Honda Blvd. and Woodside Drive

**2:00 PM** Alma Via Retirement Home *1 Thomas More Way* 

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2020

9:00 AM St. Patrick's Day Mass & Reception St. Patrick's Church, 756 Mission St. at 3rd Street

11:30 AM St. Patrick's Day Parade & Festival 2nd and Market Streets to Civic Center

**SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2020** 

**12:00 PM BLOCK PARTY @ UICC** 2700 - 45th Avenue

SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2020

FR. PETER C. YORKE DAY
10:00 AM MASS - ALL SAINTS MAUSOLEUM
HOLY CROSS CEMETERY, 1500 MISSION RD., COLMA

DATE TBD

KATE KENNEDY DAY

CYPRESS LAWN CEMETERY, 1370 EL CAMINO REAL, COLMA

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2020** 

ROBERT EMMET DAY 12:15 PM

GOLDEN GATE PARK BAND CONCOURSE

### PATRICK J. DOWLING LIBRARY

### Sunday, March I, 2020

5:00 pm St. Francis Room ~ United Irish Cultural Center

### In honor of Women's History Month, the Dowling Library is proud to sponsor:

### 'Press came in pours of rain': Printing & Irishness at Cuala Press



Elizabeth Corbet Yeats' journal entry for November 24, 1902, Press came in pours of rain, reads now like a harbinger of the lifelong challenges she faced in working to keep her publishing press, known first as Dun Emer and then as Cuala, alive, if not ever thriving. Yet despite family differences, daily grinding money needs and her own health challenges, Elizabeth Yeats kept the press in production for 38 years, printing over 60 books and countless cards, brochures and especially broadsides. Especially during the early years of the press, Elizabeth Yeats also examined her ideas about her own Irishness. The tumultuous years of Irish rebellion and the establishment of the Irish state, the development by her brother and others of the Abbey Theatre to foreground plays by Irish writers, and her brother Jack Yeats' enduring interest in scenes of Irish culture as shown through his

paintings and drawings, all influenced her personal identity as an Irish citizen. Lolly Yeats was also a publisher, a businesswoman, a printer, a painter, an employer, a daughter and a sister. This talk will explore and celebrate Elizabeth Yeats's multiple accomplishments, and will highlight the Dowling Library's very own copy of Cuala Press's most famous print, *The Fiddler of Dooney*.

Kathleen Walkup is Lovelace Family Professor of Book Art at Mills College. She has been writing and lecturing about women and printing since the 1980s. Her seasonal blog, *New Irish Journal*, chronicles her summer journeys to Ireland over the past 10 years.

\$5 donation encouraged

### Friday, March 13, 2020

### Together with her sister, jeweler Kathleen, artist Annie Holland's work returns to the UICC!

Co-Sponsored by the Patrick J. Dowling Library, Annie Holland will bring her inspired works to your center. The exhibit kicks off it's time at your center with a reception on Friday, March 13. Together with her sister, jeweller Kathleen Holland, these talented Irishwomen will bring their unique takes on art and environmental responsibility. Many of the pieces displayed will be available for purchase. Stay tuned!

Annie Holland trained as an artist in Ireland, Scotland and Wales gaining a Master of Arts degree in Ceramics and Product Design; and later whilst living in Japan began studying photography.

www.anniehollandart.com www.anniehollandphotography.com http://www.anniehollandphotography.com/personal-work.html





In 1990 Kathleen Holland began her studies in sculpture and metalwork, studying in Cork, Glasgow, San Francisco and Dublin completing her B.A. in Craft and Design at the National College of Art and Design in Dublin. In San Francisco she created individually crafted pieces for musician Prince (the artist formerly known as), members of the X-Files television series and members of the cast of the film The Godfather. The award-winning Kathleen Holland Designs was established in 2001. Holland's designs incorporate the boldness of sculptural design with the elegance of metal work to present an entirely unique set of collections.

https://www.kathleenhollanddesigns.com/index.html

### Fr. Michael Healy-2019 Corkman of the Year

—by Liam Reidy

Over 300 people attended the annual Rebel Cork Dinner last month at the United Irish Cultural Center, and once again the organizing committee can take a bow for a wonderful evening during which well known local priest Fr. Michael Healy was honored as the 2019 Corkman of the Year.

There were rave reviews from attendees as they existed the Center once the curtain finally came down on the evenings festivities. Hats off to Angela Tickler, Manager at the Irish Center and her staff, for making sure the evening passed off without a hitch. Not even the afternoon cloud burst of rain that caused severe flooding locally and all across the Bay Area for a time could put a damper on preparations going on within the majestic

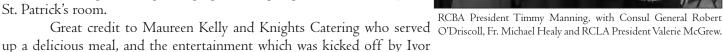


PHOTO: ASWELL

RCBA President Timmy Manning, with Consul General Robert

Collins, and Paddy Homan (from Chicago) and followed by great music and songs from Ben Hunter and the Celtic Scandal band.

A prologue from Fr. Michael Mahoney about Fr. Healy's life, was followed by Rebel Cork Benevolent Association President Timmy Manning, taking center stage to present Fr. Michael with the coveted Corkman of the Year award.

Born in 1945 on the banks of the Lee in Cork City, Fr. Michael is the youngest of seven children. His father, a native of Clare, was a member of the nascent Garda Síochána (Irish police) during the early years of the Irish Republic. His badge number was #54. Sadly and most unfortunately his mother died of a heart attack (aged only 47 years) when Fr. Michael was just three years old. Life was not easy after the loss of his mother as the children had to raise each other while his Dad brought home the regular pay check.

Fr. Michael's formal education was procured at Coláiste Chríost Rí at both elementary and grammar school level. This excellent foundation would stand to him for the rest of his life. Not every body reached the Leaving Certificate level school in those days in Ireland-all of the Healy's did, where there was a strong value placed on education from an early age.

As a youngster growing up on Cork city, Gaelic games was the prominent sporting activity on the Banks of the River Lee in the 1960's, and it was with the famed St. Finbarr's club that Fr. Mike made an early impression, in hurling and especially in Gaelic football. He stood out at U-14 level as a kid that had potential and that was realized as he rose through the underage ranks of the Cork county teams. He played County Minor and U-21 Football for the Rebels (loosing both the 1962 and 1963 Munster Minor final and the 1966 Munster final to arch rivals Kerry). He also captained St. Finbarr's to a Cork county Minor football title. While playing with the 'Bars teammates included Gerald and Charlie McCarthy and Con Roche. On the Cork team he lined out with legends like Billy Morgan, Frank Hogan, and Tony Maher.

Fr. Michael entered All Hallows Seminary in Dublin in 1964. After six years of study he was ordained a Catholic priest in 1970 and shortly afterwards an invitation from Archbishop McGuckin from the archdiocese of San Francisco heralded the beginning of his pastoral ministry. Fr. Michael has been stationed for periods of time at St Gabriel's, St. Phillip's, Epiphany, and St. Brendan's in San Francisco, St. Raymond's in Menlo Park, All Souls in South San Francisco, and more recently St. Bartholomew's in San Mateo. Following his arrival to St. Barts (once the former original Serra High school), Fr. Michael spearheaded a \$3.5 million capital improvement project in the parish, which came in on time and under budget.

During the 1970's Fr. Michael played gaelic football with the Shannon Rangers locally and played alongside people like Con Brosnan, Jim Fogarty, Michael Moriarty, Coley Gavin and Patrick Burke.

Within the broader community Fr. Michael was instrumental in establishing the Joseph and Mary group in the city to look after the hundreds of Irish immigrants arriving here in the 1980's. This group laid the groundwork for what came later, and what we all know today as the Irish Immigration and Pastoral Center.

Fr. Michael has served as the San Francisco Police Department chaplain for the past 17 years, and is the go to priest for numerous members of the force for pastoral services. Nationally, Fr. Mike has serves as the deputy National Chaplain for the Ancient Order Of Hibernians.

We congratulate Fr. Michael on receiving the highest local honor from his fellow Corkmen and women, and best wishes on celebrating 50 years as a priest in 2020. We wish him all the best in his retirement this year!

## United Irish Societies Grand Marshal's Dinner

### **Grand Marshal** ~ **Con Lyons**

### Honorary Grand Marshals\*

John Casserly, Bill Luqué Agnes Monaghan, Josephine Rivero

### Friday, February 28, 2020

United Irish Cultural Center 2700 - 45th Avenue, San Francisco



Cocktails 6:00 pm ~ Dinner 7:00 pm \$110 per person

Please submit the following information along with your payment by February 10

After February 18 the cost per person is \$125

Name		
Address		
Telephone and/or email		
I /We will attend @ \$110 per person = \$ Tables of 10 available		
Indicate number of entrees Chicken AmandaVegetarian		
We regret that tables cannot be confirmed until payment is received.		
Please list the names of those joining you on the reverse side of this form.		
Please make check payable to: UIS and mailed to: United Irish Societies P. O. Box 16026, San Francisco, CA 94116		

*No reservations or payment will be accepted at the door.*For information: Chris DelCarlo 415/648-4522

Tax deductible as allowed by law.

Tickets will be held at the door.

\* Deceased

# Westborough Royale

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24-hour snacks available
Full housekeeping, linen and personal
laundry service
Fitness, wellness and social programs
as well as stimulating community entertainment
Transportation for medical appointments,
shopping and planned outings.





Our monthly fees are substantially less than what you would pay elsewhere and we are just 15 minutes away from the UICC (taking Skyline Blvd or the 280 South).

Please call <u>Bridget Kelly - Administrator</u> to arrange a tour of the facility and enjoy a complimentary lunch.



# Time TO: SUBSCRIBE TO THE UICC BULLETIN FOR 2020

TO RECEIVE THE UICC BULLETIN FOR 2020

Please fill out and return this form along with a check in the  $\underline{\text{amount of }\$30.00}$ 

Your subscription period is January 2020 through December 2020

# Thank You For Your Support For the Past 16 Years!

Mitzi Samson & Maureen Hickey

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San Francisco, CA 94116

### United Irish Cultural Center, Inc.



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## **ARC** Ramblers

### Walking Group

Monday, February 3rd @ 10am

meet at Stonestown Mall - outside Boudin Bakery

The ARC Ramblers group provides an opportunity for seniors to engage in regular exercise in a safe and easily accessible environment in the company of their friends and neighbors. It is inspired by Sli na Slainte (Path of Health) in Ireland which promotes wellness and health by encouraging people to walk more.

This is a great opportunity to put on your sneakers, get out of the house and enjoy a walk and chat with friends.

For more info contact Joan at 415.752.6006

