



### History Report – March 2016 to April 2017

The Annual meeting of the All-Ireland Cultural Society was held at the Stamp Society Building, 4828 NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue in Portland on April 16, 2016. Outgoing President Rose Ann Ranft inducted the following nine member board of directors into their positions:

President	Mary Rose Kerg
Vice President	Wanda Huff
Recording Secretary	Caroline Fogarty
Corresponding Secretary	Shannon Doherty
Treasurer	Christine Seed
Trustee (2 year)	Tom Crowley
Trustee (1 year)	Colleen Spiering
Director (2 year)	Louise Martell
Director (1 year)	Debbie Timmins
Seanacháí Editor	Louise Martell

There are 71 paid members. There were 82 paid members in December 2016. Membership dues were \$25 for individuals and \$40 for families.

Rent for the Stamp Society Building was \$60 a month for September, October and November 2016, and January, February and April 2017.

#### **Standing Committees.**

Sunshine – Patsy Lee

Communications– Shannon Doherty, Corresponding Secretary

History – Caroline Fogarty, Recording Secretary

Program – Wanda Huff

Scholarship –Bruce Kenny, Tim Birr and Debbie Timmins.

Genealogy – Don Anderson.

## **AICS Cultural and Social Activities of the Past Year**

Following the **April 16, 2016** Annual meeting, Louise Martell led an “Irish Trivia game” Jeopardy style that was a lot of fun. She had some challenging trivia and lovely gifts for the lucky winners.

Appreciation Dinner on **May 15, 2016** at the Old Spaghetti Factory was chaired by Debbie Timmins. It was a great party on a beautiful day overlooking the river.

The Annual picnic was held on Sunday, **August 21, 2016**, at St. Birgitta’s Church Grove in Linton, chaired by Sam Keator and others. No games this year but wonderful music, prizes, and delicious food.

**September 17, 2016.** Tom Murphy’s presentation on the 1916 Rising was enlightening, accurate and succinct. Tom did a phenomenal job of covering the years that led up to the 1916 Rising, the Rising itself, and the aftermath.

**October 15, 2016.** The meeting and social were cancelled because of an impending wind storm.

**November 19, 2016.** Shirley Hahn shared several of her beautiful paintings of Irish scenes with us. They were paintings of Killarney Lakes, Bunratty Castle, Ross Castle, Connemara and Killiney. After the business meeting and social time, Felicity Dyall played Irish airs on the harp, sang, and also wove in the history of the harp to an enthusiastic audience.

**December 10, 2016.** The Annual Christmas luncheon was held in the Wahkeena Room of the Holiday Inn at the Airport from 12:30 p.m. chaired by Rose Ann Ranft and Mary Sacksteder. Entertainment was provided by members Don Anderson, Sylvester DeBray, Lauryn Devenport, Debbie Timmins, and Bruce Kenny. Mary Sacksteder organized a very fun game and everyone received a gift. It was a delightful time.

**January 21, 2017.** The annual high tea, chaired by Caroline Fogarty, Julie O’Connell and Rose Ann Ranft featured the usual delicious teas, sandwiches and sweets. Tim Birr gave a talk on the life and work of Seamus Heaney, Ireland’s greatest contemporary poet. A highlight was the playing of selections from a CD titled “The Poet and the Piper” recorded in 2003.

**February 18, 2017.** Following the business meeting and social time, Deborah-Hobbs-Murphy enlightened all of us with her presentation on the Scottish-Irish experience in America.

A social and successful 76<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration was held on **March 17, 2017** at Aquinas Hall, 1333 NE MLK, JR., Blvd. in Portland. Doors opened at 4:30 p.m. followed by continuous entertainment until 9:30 p.m.

- The evening started out with Master of Ceremonies Sam Keator introducing Margaret Doherty who read the Proclamation signed by Oregon Governor Kate Brown.
- Don Anderson and the Concords sang the National Anthems and also led a sing-a-long.
- The marvelous An Dáire Dancers were first up with Irish step dances.
- Peter Yeates, singer and guitar player, and Eddie Parente on the fiddle charmed us with music and song.
- The Grand Finale was the phenomenal Molly Malone and the Yeates Academy Irish Dancers.
- The children were entertained with a 50-minute puppet show by Penny's Puppets as well as face painting, coloring, story time and games.
- The raffle included 10 sensational "gold" items and 20 fabulous "green" items donated by local businesses and AICS members. Miss Three Rivers brought excitement as she drew raffle winners' names.
- Wine was donated by Owen Roe Winery. O'Hara's beer from Carlow Brewing was donated by Carrie Dixon, O'Hara's representative. Guinness and Harp were also available and all alcoholic beverages were \$5.
- Our first time to serve bangers and mash (\$13) catered by DeAngelo's Catering was well received as was the hot corned beef sandwiches (\$9) and cold sandwiches (\$8). Bob's Red Mill donated Irish soda bread which was served with the bangers and mash.
- The Irish soda bread was sold in whole loaves (\$5) and slices (\$1). Cookies, chips, pop and water were also available; tea and coffee were complimentary.
- General Admission was \$12 and \$4 for minors.

**Our program of the year included the following pub socials:**

September 25, 2016 – Kell's Brew Pub

October 30, 2016 – Kennedy School, a McMenamins venue

January 29, 2017 – Maher's with Tim Birr's presentation on the Molly McGuire's.

February 26, 2017 – T. C. O'Leary's Irish Pub

March 26, 2017 – County Cork Public House

## **The AICS Logo**

Caroline Fogarty took the lead of the logo project by collaborating with the board of directors, AICS members and a graphic artist over a twelve month period and rolled out the new logo in October 2016. The green Celtic knot symbolizes the interconnection of all of Ireland; the four main loops represent the four provinces, and the outer circle emphasizes that Ireland is surrounded by water. The two color scheme looks contemporary and is easy to reproduce. There are two versions, a circular and a banner; the latter is suitable for banners and letterheads.

The AICS has a new domain name. It is now the “Oregon Irish Society,” [www.oregonirishsociety.org](http://www.oregonirishsociety.org).

## **Outreach**

The All-Ireland Cultural Society participated in the following festivals with information about the society, Ireland, genealogy and more. Festival folks entered a drawing, no cost, for a DNA Test Kit.

- Beaverton International Festival at Tualatin Hills Parks and Recreation on July 30, 2016.
- Celtic Faire PDX in Hillsboro on September 24, 2016, in Shute Park in Hillsboro.
- Ceilí of the Valley’s Samhain Celtic New Year on October 22, 2016 in Salem. Tom Murphy shared his presentation on the 1916 Rising at the Ceilí of the Valley’s Samhain Celtic New Year and Bruce Kenny taught classes in the Irish language.
- Bruce Kenny gave a presentation at a breakfast meeting of the Kiwanis Club on March 17, 2017.
- Mary Rose Kerg participated in the Vancouver School of Science and Arts in-house “field trip” on March 3, 2017 where she gave samples of Irish stew prepared by Maher’s in Lake Oswego and Irish soda bread from Bob’s Red Mill to 150 middle school students and demonstrated how to make Irish trifle.
- Left over corned beef from the St. Patrick’s Day Celebration donated to Shepherd’s Door.

**On Memorial Day, May 30, 2016**, at 9 a.m., a wreath was placed at the Oregon Famine Memorial in Mt. Calvary Cemetery. Tim Birr played the bagpipes. Jim O’Connell and JJ Grealish recited readings.

## Scholarship

**Nora Fogarty**, daughter of Caroline and Bill Fogarty, studied in Galway, Ireland and was the recipient of the All-Ireland Cultural Society's Scholarship in June 2016.

## Irish Nights

- The AICS participated in "Irish Night" on **June 17, 2016** when "Our New Girl" played, directed by Gemma Whalen.
- **February 24, 2017** was "Irish Night" for the "Testament of Mary" production.

## Donations Made:

- \$100 to the Center for the Medically Fragile Children at Providence Hospital as a result of a raffle for a Molly Malone sculpture donated by Noel Bishop, owner of the Celtic Corner.
- \$100 to the Children's Miracle Network on behalf of Miss Three Rivers who attended the St. Patrick's Day Celebration and participated in drawing the winners of the raffle.

## Advertisers

Thanks to our business supporters who advertised in the Seanacháí.

**S & A Irish Events**  
**Ceilí of the Valley**  
**Portland Story Theatre**

## New Acquisitions

A tent to use at festivals

A Projector

## SPECIAL THANKS TO:

**All volunteers, especially those who served on committees, and to:**

**Jack Crowley** for the "Irish Sweeps" at the regular meetings.

**Peggy Doherty** for her ongoing efforts with the Focus Group.

**Don Anderson** for keeping our Irish DNA Genealogy Project up and running.

**Louise Martell** for her excellent production of the Seanacháí newsletter.

**Sylvester DeBray** for helping set up before general meetings.

**Tom Crowley** for organizing the pub socials.

**Carol Cummings** for her spectacular photos of the St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

**Bruce Kenny** for picking up and returning supplies and equipment to the shed.

**Tom Marr** for his work on hanging the banners at the Aquinas Hall.

**Mary Sacksteder** for coordinating the donations from Bob's Red Mill and the Organic Valley Dairy Products.

**Rose Ann and Tony Ranft** for procuring cold foods for the St. Patrick's Day party.

**Bruce Kenny** for teaching us the Irish language.

**Jack and Tom Crowley** for setting up before meetings.

**Sam Keator** for promoting Irish culture and organizing entertainment.

**Victoria and Christina White** and **Sam Keator** for keeping the Tir Eoghain Ceilí group going.

**Brendan Kerg** for making it possible to use debit and credit cards at the St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

**Debbie Timmins** for overseeing the snack table at our monthly meetings.

**New Seasons** on NE 33<sup>rd</sup> for the use of their conference room for our board meetings.

**Death.** Reverend Joseph Peter Browne, C.S.C., died at Holy Cross House, Notre Dame, Indiana, on Sunday, October 30, 2016. Father Browne was Chairman of the Department of Library Science and Director of the Wilson Clark Memorial Library at the University of Portland for many years. Before he moved back to Notre Dame in 2009, he was an active member of the All-Ireland Cultural Society and served as President and on other board positions. May his soul rest in peace.

### **Weekly Ceilí Events**

**Tuesdays:** Tir Eoghain ceilí class, 7:30-9:30 p.m. at St. Therese Multi-Purpose Center, 1260 NE 132<sup>nd</sup>, Portland, OR 97230.

**Thursdays:** Winds of Donegal, 7-9 p.m. at the Winona Grange, 8340 SW Seneca Street, Tualatin.

### **Monthly Ceilí Events**

**Ceilí Mor: 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month.** 8-11 p.m., October through May at the Winona Grange.

**Irish Jam Session: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month,** 3-6 p.m., Winona Grange.

**Ceilí of the Valley: 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month.** Lesson 7 pm., Dance 8-11 p.m. in Salem. Visit the website at [www.ceiliofthevalley.org](http://www.ceiliofthevalley.org).

Caroline Fogarty  
Recording Secretary

Approved by the membership on April 22, 2017