

# An Seanacháí



Vol. 79, Issue 5, January 2018

**IN THE NEW YEAR, MAY  
YOUR RIGHT HAND  
ALWAYS BE STRETCHED  
OUT IN FRIENDSHIP AND  
NEVER IN WANT.**

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## **“High” Tea Will Be the Highlight of the January General Meeting**

AICS's will start the year with “high” tea at the January General Meeting. Instead of a program, the meeting will start with socializing and refreshments. The program after the refreshments will feature Don Anderson. He will speak not only about his use of DNA to find his “biological” parents but update us on his experiences as an author of *Paper and Spit*. Another difference from other programs is that the tea will start at 6PM not 7PM.



**Julie O’Connell and Caroline Fogarty, the organizers of the tea, ask** that you bring your own cup and saucer. We are trying to have a collection of green and gold fancy plates for future events. If you have extra green and/or gold plates please donate them to AICS. We will gladly accept them at the tea.

The tea will have both savory and sweet treats. Enjoy!

## Flu Season Has Begun: A Reminder from the Board

This article from last year seems timely because of the severity of the flu this winter. This is not a plea to get flu vaccines but a reminder on how to protect ourselves and others from catching it and colds. Our gatherings, especially those with food, have potential for spreading flu and colds.

We know that we should not sneeze on each other. But are you aware that the flu and colds are mostly spread by hands? We may not be aware that we have germs on our hands especially when sharing food and drink.

So we implore you to be careful with the refreshments at breaks. Use hand sanitizer or wash hands before touching food. Better yet, avoid using your hands when serving yourself. The Board has provided utensils for serving or individual containers to protect each other.

**Let's make this a flu-free year!**

## 2018 Membership Dues

Membership dues are due in January. Dues for 2018 are still \$25 for an individual membership or \$40 for a family membership.

Christine Seed, our treasurer, and Helen Grealish, our corresponding secretary, will gladly accept your checks/cash for membership dues at the January General Meeting. If you are not attending the January General Meeting you can pay by mail. Make out checks to AICS, and mail to AICS, PO Box 3411, Portland, OR 97208-3411. Thank YOU!



Inclement Weather

***Bad weather is coming! Occasionally an AICS event has to be cancelled because of unsafe driving conditions. The board will notify members via email about cancellations on the afternoon of the event. If you do not have email, call the club telephone, 503 286 4812, if you have concerns about the weather. Remember that the board will put members' safety first.***

## Save the Date for AICS Events

### General Meeting

Saturday, January 20, 6PM Please note the start time of 6PM.

Oregon Stamp Society Building

4828 NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave.

Portland

For more information call 503-286-4812.

Program: **"High" tea.** Please bring a cup and saucer.

### Genealogy-DNA Group

Saturday, January 20, 5PM

Oregon Stamp Society Building

4828 NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave.

Portland

For more information call 503-286-4812.

Please note that the genealogy-DNA group will meet in January.

### Pub Social

Sunday, January 28, 4PM until ?

Whelan's Pub

11709 SE Division

Portland

1-503-327-8020

[whelanspdx.com](http://whelanspdx.com)

Pub socials are informal gathering of members and guests, and they are free except food, drinks, and tips. Usually on the last Sunday of the month.

General Meeting

Saturday, February 17, 7PM

Oregon Stamp Society Building

4828 NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave.

Portland

For more information call 503-286-4812.

Program: St. Patrick by Tim Birr

St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Saturday, March 17, 3 to 8PM

Aquinas Hall

1333 NE Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd

Portland

This is our biggest event of the year!

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#### New Way to Volunteer for St. Patrick's Day Celebration

**The AICS St. Patrick's Day celebration will enter the electronic age with a new way to recruit** volunteers. No longer will we have sign-up sheets at the January and February General Meetings. Instead Brendan Kerg will send invitations for volunteering to AICS members. **He will use the program, "Sign-Up," for recruiting and organizing St. Patrick's Day volunteers.** If you would like more information, please contact Brendan at [brendankerg@yahoo.com](mailto:brendankerg@yahoo.com).

### **A Chance to Preview St. Patrick's Day Band**

This year Portland's own "Biddy on the Bench" will play at our **St. Patrick's Day celebration**. If you cannot wait until March 17 for rousing Irish music, this band will play at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Community Concert in Tualatin on January 13. See details under "**Celtic Events**."

This location has plenty of parking, open seating, and refreshments at intermission. **If refreshments and plenty of parking haven't enticed you** to attend this concert, maybe the following description will inspire you.

**"Biddy on the Bench" is a versatile combination of banjo, guitar, mandolin, tin whistle, and four-part vocal harmony.** This combination lends itself equally to high-energy Irish rebel songs and shanties, lively session tunes, and mournful Gaelic ballads. This band is grounded primarily in the folk/traditional style of Irish music pioneered by such **bands as "The Dubliners," "Planxty," and "The Bothy Band."** Portland's own, **" Biddy on the Bench,"** breathes life and authenticity into old standbys and lesser-known tunes alike.

## Shamrock Cruise Will Sail on March 11, 2018

Sam Keator has organized the Shamrock Cruise for Sunday, March 11, 2018, from 3PM to 5 PM on the *Portland Spirit* on the Willamette River. The cruise will feature some of the best of local Irish entertainment. Music and step dancing will be on all levels. One floor will be a quieter space. No host food and beverages will be available for purchase.

Boarding will begin at Salmon Springs Boarding at 2:30 p.m. Admission is \$32 for adults; \$22 for youth 16 and under. Youngsters must be accompanied by an adult. Members will receive a 10% discount with buying on line ([brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com)) and using the code "IrishClub"

As Mary Rose, AICS president, summed up why we are supporting this event, **"All of us will be working our fingers to the bone for St. Patrick's on the 17th. This event sounds lovely - where we can enjoy great entertainment and will not have to work. How great is that?"**

Let all of us support this maiden voyage of the "Shamrock Cruise" by getting the word out to family and friends.



## Chance to Take the Shamrock Cruise and Support a Good Cause.

Sam wants to pay back the AICS for the support he received from members over the years in his and Anne's efforts to promote Irish culture. He has donated two tickets for the Shamrock Cruise, a \$64 value, to AICS.

The Board decided that probably the fairest way to distribute these tickets is to raffle them off **and donate the receipts such as we did last year with the "Molly Malone" figurine. This year's recipient will be St. Birgitta's Church. For years St. Birgitta's has provided the space, without charge, where we store club property.** It is a parish that could use support

### Raffle

First Prize: 2 tickets to the Shamrock Cruise Maiden Voyage  
Donated by Sam Keator and Anne Doherty [www.IrishPDX.com](http://www.IrishPDX.com)

Featuring entertainment by Peter Yeates, Eddie Parente, Tom Creegan, Dale Russ, Johnny Connolly, Cary Novotny and Tim Birr. Irish step dancers on each floor.

Food and beverages available for purchase.

Other Prizes: **Owen Roe O'Reilly's Chardonnay Wine**

Membership to the All-Ireland Cultural Society

Gift Basket Pot of Gold – Cash

All proceeds go to **St. Birgitta's church**, which has stored AICS equipment and supplies for years. **It's our way of giving back.**

Drawing will be held at the AICS February 17, 2018 meeting and social.

Winners need not be present. They will be notified at that time.

Tickets are \$3 per ticket or 2 tickets for \$5.

Make checks payable to All-Ireland Cultural Society, a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.

Contact information: All-Ireland Cultural Society. PH: 503-286-4812

If you will not be at the January meeting, you can obtain tickets from Mary Rose Kerg or before the beginning of the February General Meeting. There is no limit on the number of chances one can purchase. The drawing will be at the break of the February meeting.

## Long-time AICS Member, Lois Hanson, Passed Away

Lois Connor Hanson died on Thursday, December 28, 2017. **Some of AICS' long-time members** have described Lois as a mainstay, gem, smart, kind, and fun to work with.

**Mary Rose Kerg best described Lois' involvement with AICS.** “She was active in the All-Ireland Social Club when I joined in 1959. Lois served on the board, mostly as recording secretary, for many years. She was a tireless worker at annual **picnics, the Neighborfair, St. Patrick's, the Christmas parties and more.** She hosted entertainers from Cork in her home in the late 80s. Her most significant work was her committee involvement in 1976-77 when we changed the name to the All-Ireland Cultural Society of Oregon, rewrote the bylaws, established the Articles of Incorporation, and became legally recognized as a non-profit corporation with the State of Oregon and the Internal Revenue. It was a formidable task. **I credit its success with Lois's negotiation skills, her perseverance and her dedication. Quite a legacy.**”

On a more personal note Mary Rose said Lois was like a mother to her when she came the United States. **She continued to be a big part of Mary Rose's life.** May Lois rest in peace.

## News Briefs

### Change of Instructors for Tir Eoghain

Sam Keator, ceili instructor, sent the following news.

**“We are so proud of the changes with the Tir Eoghain class that was started in 1978. We are at St. Therese at 1260 NE 132 Ave on Tuesday nights 7:30-9:30 (\$5). Christina and Victoria White are now the primary teachers! What great young folks they are! Their love and spirit of the dance shines as they teach. I am not dropping out, but am welcoming them and the changes they have already brought to us and are planning. Give it a try and thanks for all of your support through my 15 years of teaching for the Irish Club, Sam”**

### Program Committee Being Formed

AICS invites its members to serve on the Program Committee. The date for first meeting in February will be announced in the next *An Seanachai*. The first meeting **will be at Helen Grealish’s home**. Please email Helen ([jj.helen@frontier.com](mailto:jj.helen@frontier.com)) if you need more information or want to volunteer.

## Celtic Events

### Biddy on the Bench

Saturday January 13

2nd Saturday Community Concert

Winona Grange #271

8340 SW Seneca St., Tualatin

Doors open 6:45PM - Concert @ 7:30PM

Early tickets available, \$17 through Brown Paper Tickets or \$20 at the door, evening of the concert.

This is the band that will play at our St. Patrick's Day celebration.

Lifeboat

January 12 – February 4, 2018

A Corrib Theatre Production

Thursday-Saturday 7:30PM, Sunday 2PM

**Northwest Children's Theater**

1819 NW Everett Street

Portland

The extraordinary true story of Bess Walder and Beth Cummings, teenagers whose ship was torpedoed while they were escaping the relentless bombing of Britain during World War II. It is a story of courage, survival and enduring friendship.

Even though this play is at the Children's Theater, it is suitable for all ages.

For more information [www.corribtheatre.org](http://www.corribtheatre.org).

Open the Door for Three

Friday, February 9

Sherwood Center for the Arts

22689 SW Pine St.

Sherwood

Doors open 6:45PM, show 7:30PM

Early Tickets available \$20-\$30 through Brown Paper Tickets

Open the Door for Three consists of fiddle player Liz Knowles, uilleann piper Kieran O'Hare, and Dublin-born singer and bouzouki player Pat Broaders. Their music is a rare combination of unearthed tunes from centuries-old collections, newly composed melodies, fresh arrangements of songs old and new, and homages to the musicians they grew up listening to.

## Dàimh

Saturday, February 24

Aladdin Theater

3017 SE Milwaukie

Portland

Doors open 8:00PM - Concert @ 9:00PM

Early tickets available, \$25 - \$36

through TicketFly

Daimh was named the Folk Bank of the Year - 2015 Scottish Traditional Music Awards. This Gaelic supergroup and unchallenged champions of straight in the eye Highland music is based around West Lochaber and the Isle of Skye.

Shamrock Cruise Maiden Voyage

Sunday, March 11, 2018

Cruise 3-5PM, boarding at 2:30PM.

Tickets \$22- \$32 through Brown Paper Tickets

Come ceili (Irish for gathering with friends) with your family and friends on the maiden voyage of the 'Shamrock Cruise! Live Music! Step Dancers!

Bistro food and full bar for your purchase.

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## **Weekly Ceili Events**

**Tuesdays:** Tir Eoghain ceili class, 7:30-9:30PM

St. Therese Multi-Purpose Center

1260 NE 132nd Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97230.

\$5 sliding. 14 years old and up.

**Tuesdays:** Ceili of the Valley, 6:30-8:30PM

Ceili and set dancing

VFW Hall

630 Hood St. NE

Salem

Thursdays: Winds of Donegal, 7-9PM

Winona Grange

8340 SW Seneca St.

Tualatin

5\$ fee. Beginners always welcomed! This class is structured for adults – young and old. We also encourage mature teens who want to learn.

### Monthly Ceili Events

Ceili Mor: 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month. 8-11PM (Doors open 7:30PM), October through May

Winona Grange

8340 SW Seneca St.

Tualatin

\$12 adults, \$10 students (Age 12 and up), veterans, and seniors 65 and older.

For more information please go to [SandAlrishEntertainment.com](http://SandAlrishEntertainment.com)

**Irish Jam Session: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday** of the month 3-6PM

Winona Grange

8340 SW Seneca St.

Tualatin

For more information, contact Sam Keator at [sam.keator@frontier.com](mailto:sam.keator@frontier.com).

**Portland Ceili Society: 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday**

Featuring the tunes of Johnny Connolly and Cary Novotny

Instruction about 7:30PM, Dance 8-11PM

St. Barnabas Church Hall

2201 SW Vermont St

Portland

\$12 general admission/ \$8 for members

Visit the website for Portland Ceili Society, [www.portlandceilisociety.org](http://www.portlandceilisociety.org) for more information.

**Ceili of the Valley: 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday**

7-8PM Lesson, 8-11PM Live music and ceili

VFW Hall 630 Hood St. NE

Salem

[www.ceiliofthevalley.org](http://www.ceiliofthevalley.org) for more information.

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**Advertisements**

If you have a business or a service to offer to our members, let us advertise for you. We can print your business card for \$25 per year. *An Seanachai* sends out ten or more issues per year, and these go to more than one hundred local households. For more information about this incredible bargain send an e-mail to Louise Martell, at [martell@u.washington.edu](mailto:martell@u.washington.edu)

**ceili of the valley**



**Tuesday Night Classes**  
6:30-8:30 Ceili & Set Dancing

**2nd Friday Ceili**  
7-8 p.m. Lesson  
8-11 p.m. Live Music & Ceili

all at the VFW Hall,  
630 Hood St. NE in Salem

[www.ceiliofthevalley.org](http://www.ceiliofthevalley.org)

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[oregonirishdance@gmail.com](mailto:oregonirishdance@gmail.com)  
[www.oregonirishdance.com](http://www.oregonirishdance.com)







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**Essential Information for the All-Ireland Cultural Society**

**Address:** AICS of Oregon

PO Box 3411

Portland, OR 97208-3411

**Telephone:** 503 286 4812

**Board of Directors 2017-2018**

President: Mary Rose Kerg

Vice President: Brendan Kerg

Recording Secretary: Julie O'Connell

Corresponding Secretary: Helen Grealish

Treasurer: Christine Seed

Directors: Louise Martell, Caroline Fogarty, Patrick Seed

Trustees: Tom Crowley, Colleen Spiering, Shirley Hahn

**Editor of *An Seanachai*:** Louise Martell

**Committees**

Book Club: Julie O'Connell

Genealogy: Don Anderson

Scholarship: Tim Birr, Bruce Kenny, Debbie Timmins

Sunshine: Patsy Lee

St. Patrick's Celebration 2018: Brendan Kerg

**Consulate General of Ireland:**

Robert O'Driscoll, Consul General of Ireland

100 Pine Street, San Francisco, CA 94111

Tel: 415 392 4214

Email: [SanFranConGen@dfa.ie](mailto:SanFranConGen@dfa.ie) Website: [www.consulateofirelandsanfrancisco.org](http://www.consulateofirelandsanfrancisco.org)

**Honorary Consulate of Ireland**

John F. Keane

7511 10<sup>th</sup> St SW, Unit #1 Edmonds, WA 98026

Tel: 425 582 2688

Email: [JKeane@IrishConsulSeattle.com](mailto:JKeane@IrishConsulSeattle.com)

Website: [www.IrishConsulSeattle.com](http://www.IrishConsulSeattle.com)

**AICS Website**

[www.oregonirishclub.org](http://www.oregonirishclub.org)

The AICS is a federally recognized 501(3)(c) non-profit public benefit cultural organization. The AICS is listed with the State of Oregon as a non-profit corporation. Donations and contributions made to the AICS may be tax deductible.

