
An Seanacháí



Vol. 81, Issue 5, May 2020



Staying "Home" - Social Distancing at Its Best

President's Message

Hello Dear Members and Friends:

I hope you, your family and friends are all well and surviving the shelter in place orders.

We also want to remember and honor all those who have been impacted by this horrible virus. Doing our small part to keep everyone safe seems a small price compared to all some people risk to stock the grocery stores and pump gas, to say nothing of our first responders and all medical personnel and staff at our hospitals. Be patient, stay strong. We will get through this together.

Despite the current stay at home orders the board is hard at work. We held our first board meeting virtually. We are starting to think and plan for the year ahead. From Zoom meetings to self-catered picnics all creative ideas are on the table, along with hand sanitizers of course.

Our VP, Jim O'Connell, volunteered to chair our Program Committee for the coming year. If you have ANY suggestions feel free to reach out to him. Remember you can use the irishclubpdx@gmail.com and simply put in the subject line - Program Committee.

The following May events have been cancelled - the Andy Cooney Concert, the Appreciation Dinner and the Beltane Festival.

Memorial Day wreath laying is still being explored. We are hopeful given that the

space is large we could still hold the event and maintain our distance. Stay tuned.

We also may live stream it and then post on our web page. Our first ever attempt at that!!

Did you know we have a YouTube page? Check us out at AICS of Oregon, <https://www.Youtube.com/watch?v=ec8Z6KjfG6g>. We only have one video on line at this time (thank you Brendan Kerg) but we hope to have more this year. Do you have a creative video about Irish or Irish American life you'd like to share?! Let us know.

As always please stay in touch. Our webpage is the source for the most up to date information about events. Check us out at oregonirishsociety.org, our Facebook address is All Ireland Cultural Society and our e-mail is irishclubpdx@gmail.com. If you prefer the old fashioned telephone try us at 503-286-4812.

Although this is not the year we hoped for it will be a year we will never forget. John Keane from the Seattle club shared these words in one of his newsletters and I hope they bring you all hope and comfort.

The light at the end of the tunnel could be stronger, and we may still have some tough days and nights ahead, but know that eventually we will reach what the late Sen. Edward Kennedy called "the bright light of hope and possibility." Try to celebrate the season, and also reach out to someone else to share your courage and hope for the days ahead.

Slainte,

Mary Sacksteder"

Our Raffle is Flying High



Aer Lingus graciously donated two round-trip economy class tickets from Seattle to Dublin, Ireland to the All-Ireland Cultural Society's St. Patrick's Day Celebration on March 17, 2020. The All-Ireland Cultural Society's Board of Directors and the membership were extremely excited about this GRAND PRIZE for our raffle and immediately started to sell tickets to be drawn at the event on March 17 at Aquinas Hall, 340 NE Clackamas Street in Portland, Oregon. As a bonus, AICS added \$200 to cover travel to Seattle and back. There are only 1,000 tickets for the draw and a sizeable number have already been sold. Unfortunately, because of the coronavirus the Saint Patrick's Day event had to be cancelled when Governor Brown restricted group events.

Fast forward to May 2, 2020 at which time the Board of Directors decided to conduct the drawing for the two round-trip tickets to Ireland on August 16, 2020. That is the date of the annual picnic at the Grove, 11820 NW St. Helen's Road in Portland. Whether the picnic as scheduled is held will be subject to restrictions in place at that time. **HOWEVER, the winning tickets will be drawn on that date**, if not at the picnic then virtually and the winners will be notified.

Details of the winning tickets from Aer Lingus:

- Your tickets are valid through December 2021. Originally the expiration date was March 31, 2021 but Aer Lingus extended the date through December 2021 in light of the coronavirus.
- Blackout dates include June 15th through August 22nd and December 15 to December 31, 2021.
- Peak times of travel and holidays may not always be available, all seats are subject to availability and capacity controls.
- The tickets are non-transferable and have no cash redemption value.
- Both tickets must be used together on the same dates.
- Tickets are valid for economy class round-trip on Aer Lingus from Seattle to Ireland and based on availability. Not valid for bookings on partner airlines or code share flights.
- United States government taxes/security/airport fees not included and must be paid for by the prize winner.
- Once ticketed, any changes made will be charged the current applicable fees.

Completed travel forms must be submitted to AIC Lingus at least 60 days prior to departure.

Raffle Tickets are available from Mary Rose Kerg at: maryrosemulligan@comcast.net or 503-254-1377. Tickets are also available for purchase on line at oregonirishsociety.org. If purchasing on line you must do so by August 14th to allow us time to assign the tickets, write the purchasers name and phone number on the stubs, copy the stubs, e-mail them to the purchaser and drop the ticket stubs into the draw. Tickets may also be purchased by mail by sending a check made payable to AICS and mailed to AICS, P.O. Box 3411, Portland, OR 97208-3411. The purchaser will receive a copy of the ticket stubs by mail or at an e-mail address if preferred. The original stubs will be dropped into the draw.

Ticket prices are: \$5 for one ticket; \$20 for 7 tickets; \$40 for 14 tickets and \$80 for 28 tickets. There is no limit on the number of tickets one can purchase.

Hail And Farewell

This is the time of year when our Board tends to change. Before listing the new Board, approved by the membership, it's appropriate to take this opportunity to offer sincere thanks to our departing Board members, **Louise Martell, Donal Brady and Shirley Hahn**. Louise departs the Corresponding Secretary position and Donal and Shirley leave their respective director and trustee positions. We couldn't have done it without you!! Please welcome the new Board:

President: Mary Sacksteder
Vice-President: Jim O'Connell
Recording Secretary: Beth Setters
Corresponding Secretary: Mary Rose Kerg
Treasurer: Julie O'Connell
Trustee (3yr): Mollie McGuire
Trustee (2yr): Sam Keator
Trustee (1yr): Dorothy Foley
Director (3yr): Patsy Lee
Director (2yr): Lois Delahanty
Director (1yr): Brendan Kerg

Were we living in normal times a loud welcome and live round of applause would be appropriate. But, of course, we're not living in normal times so let's hope we get back there safely!!!



So many people are suffering in the current climate. Not only has illness devastated us but so has the lack of income, often reflected in families cutting back on food. To help the Oregon Food Bank meet the increased demands on its resources, the Board voted to make a \$100 contribution. As the year progresses the Board may opt to make similar contributions, depending on need and revenue. We had hoped to work at the Food Bank in April but of course the Coronavirus put those plans on hold. The Board made the next best move, which was to contribute. IF the virus abates and the Governor lifts restrictions we may be able to reschedule work at the Food Bank for the fall - but that mixes a lot of hope and luck. Stay Safe!!

Irish Gaelic Level I Course Offered at PCC Cascade Campus - Postponed Until Summer Session

For those of you who have always said you would like to learn Irish Gaelic, **now** is your chance. Brian O hAirt will be teaching a Level 1 course in the summer session at PCC's Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth Street, Portland, OR 97217. Class will be every Wednesday evening from 7:00-8:50 in Terrell Hall - Room 101. Registration Number is 27386 and the cost is \$130. There

Good and Welfare

Best wishes to Donal Brady as he recovers from recent heart surgery.

Save the Date for AICS Activities:

As noted above, we are hoping to resume our schedule in August. If not, we will update you during the summer.

Genealogy Committee

Contact Don Anderson (dndanderson@comcast.net) if interested in joining the Genealogy Committee.

Celtic Events

Celtic Community Night at Artichoke Music, 2007 SE Powell Boulevard, Portland, OR. The second Wednesday of the month is dedicated to Irish music. All scheduled dates are postponed until further notice.

2nd Saturday Community Concert has been postponed.

Irish Theatre News

Corrib Theater has postponed all presentations until further notice

Irish Cruises

Joanie Madden 2020 Cruise - Postponed Until September 2021

For those of you who'd like to venture a little further from home, Joanie Madden and Cherish the Ladies are running a western mediterranean cruise from September 5 to 12, 2021, leaving from and returning to Barcelona, Spain. Although Cherish the Ladies is a traditional band, there will be social dance music, singers, and comedians in abundance as well as Swallows Tail, a traditional band that needs no introduction, for set dancing. Need to brush up on your jive or quick step, there will be lessons available, sessions too for those who would like. Here are the ports of call for this cruise aboard the Norwegian Epic:

Barcelona
Rome

Florence

Pisa

Cannes

Palma, Majorca, Spain

There is a range of pricing: interior cabins start at \$1,399; balconies are \$1,779 - \$1,929; mini suites are 1969-3668. Airfare is not included in this pricing.

For more information go to info@joaniemaddencruise.com.

Irish Dance - Weekly Classes - All Postponed Until Further Notice

Monday: Set Dancing classes at Betty Woerner's, 2912 SW Arnold Street, Portland, OR 97219. Call 503-244-1593 for more information or directions. There is no charge for classes.

Sean nos dancing taught by Maldon Meehan, advanced class at 7:00pm at the dance studio the Audiocinema Building, 226 SE Madison Street, Portland Oregon and beginner class at 8:00 pm at the same location. Fees: \$20 at the door or \$15 for a six week session if paid in advance.

Thursdays: Winds of Donegal, 7-9:00 PM at the Winona Grange, 8340 SW Seneca St., Tualatin, \$5 fee. Beginners always welcomed!

Monthly Dance Events - All Postponed Until Further Notice

Ceili Mor: 1st Friday of the month. 8-11 PM (Doors open 7:30 PM), October through May, Winona Grange, 8340 SW Seneca St., Tualatin. \$12 adults, \$10 students (Age 12 and up), veterans, and seniors 65 and over \$10.00.

For more information please go to [SandAIrish Entertainment.com](http://SandAIrishEntertainment.com) or www.irishpdx.com.

Irish Jam Session: 2nd Sunday of the month. 3-6:00 PM, Winona Grange, 8340 SW Seneca St., Tualatin. For more information, contact Sam Keator at sam.keator@frontier.com.

Ceili of the Valley: 2nd Friday Ceili. 8-11PM (Doors open 7:00 PM, lesson about 7:15), Year Round, VFW Hall, 630 Hood St NE, Salem. \$10 General, \$8 CVS Member, \$5 students (age 11 and up), Kids 10 and under are free, \$30 Family. For more information please go to www.ceiliofthevalley.org

Ceili of the Valley also hold classes every Tuesday from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the same location. \$5 per class

Tir Eoghain ceili class has now gone from a weekly to a monthly meeting. There will be no class until further notice. The new date and time will appear in next month's newsletter.

Comhaltas Ceili: 4th Friday of the month ceili usually held at the Sellwood Community House, 1436 SE Spokane Street, Portland, OR 97202, has been postponed. When it resumes the schedule will be: Foinn Seisun tune learning from 4:00-5:00 pm; Irish Gaelic Conversation from 4:00-6:00 pm; Improver Session from 5:00-6:00 pm; Irish Song Circle from 5:00-6:00 pm; pot luck from 6:00-7:00 pm; open session 7:00-9:45 pm; set dancing lesson 7:00-7:30 pm; set/ceili dancing from 7:30-9:45 pm.

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 goes to more than one hundred local households. For more information about this incredible bargain send an e-mail to Dorothy Foley at abbydorneypdx@gmail.com.



OIDA
 Oregon Irish Dance Academy
*Non-Competitive Irish
 Dancing Classes for All Ages*
 503-819-9555
oregonirishdance@gmail.com
www.oregonirishdance.com



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



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Essential Information for the All-Ireland Cultural Society

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Telephone: 503 286 4812

Board of Directors 2020-2021

President: Mary Sacksteder

Vice President: Jim O'Connell

Recording Secretary: Beth Setters

Corresponding Secretary: Mary Rose Kerg

Treasurer: Julie O'Connell

Directors: Patsy Lee, Lois Delahanty, Brendan Kerg

Trustees: Molly McGuire, Sam Keator, Dorothy Foley



Left to right: Mary Sacksteder, Jim O'Connell, Louise Martell, Caroline Fogartt, Shirley Hahn, Molly McGuire, Dorothy Foley, Julie O'Connell, Brendan Kerg. Missing: Colleen Spiering, Helen Grealish.

Editor of An Seanachai: Dorothy Foley

Committees

Book Club: Julie O'Connell

Communications: Mary Rose Kerg

Genealogy: Don Anderson

Scholarship: Jim O'Connell

Sunshine: Patsy Lee

St. Patrick's Celebration 2020: Brendan Kerg and Mary Rose Kerg, Louise Martell, Rose Ann and Tony Ranft

Consulate General of Ireland:

Robert O'Driscoll, Consul General of Ireland

100 Pine Street

San Francisco, CA 94111

Tel: 415 392 4214

Fax: 415 392 0885

Email: SanFranConGen@dfa.ie

Website: www.consulateofirelandsanfrancisco.org

Honorary Consulate of Ireland

John F. Keane

7511 10th St SW, Unit #1

Edmonds, WA 98026

Tel: 425 582 2688

Email: JKeane@IrishConsulSeattle.com

Website: www.IrishConsulSeattle.com

AICS Website

www.oregonirishsociety.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 for income tax purposes.

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