



History Report – April 19, 2025 – April 18, 2026

The Annual meeting of the All-Ireland Cultural Society was held on April 19, 2025, at the Stamp Society Building, 4828 NE 33rd Avenue in Portland. After the members voted to approve the slate below as presented by the Nominating Committee, the new board members were installed by Anne Doherty.

President	Samuel Keator
Vice-President	Mary Sacksteder
Recording Secretary	Holly Griffith
Corresponding Secretary	Sean Garvey
Treasurer	Melody Fisher
Trustee	Karol Burke
Trustee	Kevin Seed
Seanachai Editor	Samuel Keator
Librarian	Louise Martell

Membership dues are \$35 single: \$55 for families.

There were 101 members, 3 Honorary and 5 advertisers as of April 17, 2026.

Treasurer Mary Rose Kerg reported the totals of all accounts at Unitus Community Credit Union as of March 31, 2025:

Checking Account

Scholarship

14-month CD

12-month CD

Miscellaneous

And Total Assets:

The Annual History Report was submitted by Recording Secretary Holly Griffith and approved by the membership.

The Audit Committee of Samuel Keator, Kevin Seed and Melody Fisher conducted the audit and found the financials in order.

Standing Committees

Sunshine Mary Rose Kerg and Mary Sacksteder

Program – Samuel Keator

Scholarship – Barbara Callahan, Melody Fisher and Sean Garvey

History – Holly Griffith, Mary Sacksteder and Mary Rose Kerg

Motions passed at the April 19, 2025, Annual Meeting were:

- Board members are to be elected every two years on even years.
- Conduct four business meetings each fiscal year.
- Conduct five Board of Director's meeting every fiscal year.
- Include programs at every business meeting except September and April.

The Program Committee planned a variety of events for members and friends in the past year. An overview of these is as follows:

- The May Appreciation dinner was held on May 17, 2025, at the Olive Garden at Mall 205. Anne Doherty and Carol Cummings organized the event. The Dinner included a lovely tribute to Mary Rose Kerg who is retiring from the board after many years of service. We thank her for her commitment to the club. Other retiring board members were honored, and continuing board members were given a lovely gift.
- May 24, 2025. The Famine Memorial – Wreath laying ceremony was held at Mt. Calvary Cemetery. Tim Birr piped us to the memorial. Several members and board members spoke or read poems. Barbara Callahan recounted her family's story of coming to the US. It was very moving and reminded all of us that

immigration is rarely chosen with circumstances that force folks from their homes.

- The annual picnic was held on August 17, 2025, at the Grove of St. Briggita's in Linnton. Pop, wine, beer, hot dogs 40 plus members and friends attended.
- September 20, 2025. Following the regular meeting, members and guests enjoyed visiting and getting to know each other.
- October 18, 2025 – Bingo – Winners were Rose Ann Ranft and Anne Doherty. Anne was the big winner of the blackout. She received a \$50 visa card. Thanks to Sean Garvey, Sam Keator and Kevin Seed for running it so smoothly.
- October 25, 2025. Samhain Festival at Old Mill in Salem was hosted by Ceili of the Valley to celebrate the Celtic New Year. The AICS had an information table, staffed from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with volunteers Mary Sacksteder, Carol Cummings, Anne Doherty and Barbara Callahan. They greeted festival attendees who came by the table and shared maps, books, flyers, family crest posters and information. One family signed up for membership in the AICS. .
- November 15, 2025. Poetry contest with Carlos Reyees, local Irish poet. Daniel Ellis was the winner.
- Winter Luncheon was held on December 6, 2025, at the Old Spaghetti Factory on the river. 36 people attended. Thanks to Carol Cummings, Anne Doherty, Mary Sacksteder and Melody Fisher for taking charge of this wonderful event. The Left/Right game was great fun and all received gift bags.
- January 17, 2026, was the annual Tea Social with guest speaker Caron McMahan, President of the Irish Heritage Society in Washington. Thanks to Anne Doherty and Carol Cummings for making a beautiful setting with colorful tablecloths and fresh flowers, a delicious assortment of food and a variety of teas.
- February 1, 2026, was the annual pub social at Full Heart Irish Pub in Vancouver with live entertainment by Erik Killops, Richie Rosencrans, and Preston-Howard Wilde.

- February 21, 2026. Corrib Irish Theatre Artistic Director Holly Griffith led the group in a one-act play that was a lot of fun to participating.in as well as watch.
- March 17, 2026, was our annual St. Patrick's Day event held at Aquinas Hall from 3:30 to 7 p.m. with about 350 people attending. Once again, the Tualatin Valley Search and Rescue Pipes and Drums, Oregon Dance Academy and the Mikey Beglan Trio performed.
- The "Drawing" chaired by Anne Doherty was a big hit and an excellent fundraiser. Items in the drawing were an exquisite quilt, a deluxe variety basket valued at \$500 and a Children's type basket valued at \$150.
- The children's area, from 4 to 6:30 p.m. was very popular with facepainting, storytelling, drawing and an especially new feature of the cornhole toss. Melody and Maddy worked hard to cater to the children and make everyone feel safe.
- The income from the snack table was the best. Irish Soda Bread was for sale and was much in demand.

Donations to Non-Profits

- Corrib Theatre
- St. Birgittas Church
- Samhain Festival
- Oregon Stamp Society

Scholarship

The Scholarship Committee of Sean Garvey, Melody Fisher and Barbara Callahan promoted and accepted Scholarship applications with the winner to be announced on March 17, 2026, at the St. Patrick's Day Celebration. Chair Sean Garvey announced Member Christina White as the winner this year.

Advertisers

Thanks to our business partners who advertised in the Seanacháí

S & A Irish Events

Shamrock Cruise

Oregon Irish Dance Academy

Ceili of the Valley

Nimbl Media

Condolences

Sincere sympathies to the families of long-time members who passed away recently. Christine Seed, Joan MacNeil, and Gail Getz.

The Shamrock Cruise on March 15th offered \$10 off general admission.

Holly Griffith - Recording Secretary

Mary Rose Kerg – Member

Mary Sacksteder - VP

Approved by the membership on April 18, 2026