



Mar. 2011

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The Kicking Kangaroo – Wisconsin's Pat O'Dea

by Brian Witt

A few weeks back I was listening to Dale Hoffmann talking to a Milwaukee radio interviewer about Wisconsin's iconic sports heroes, featured in a new book by him and Cliff Christl. It was the fourth reference I had heard about Kangaroo Pat O'Dea in the past month.

Pat O'Dea had intrigued me for a number of years. He was one of the first major players to have been a part of the University of Wisconsin's football program. He went on to coach Notre Dame. He faked his death at one point in his life. And he was Australian.

Patrick John O'Dea was born in Kilmore, Victoria, third of seven surviving children of Patrick Flannery O'Dea, an Irish immigrant to Australia, and Victoria native Johanna Crossley, daughter of Irish immigrants, on March 16, 1872. The family moved to the larger city of Melbourne, where the boys were enrolled at the Christian Brothers' College, St Kilda, and Xavier College, Kew. In 1888, at the age of 15, he recovered the body of a drowned woman, for which he was awarded a bronze medallion by the Royal Humane Society of Australasia.

He was a natural athlete, and soon became an outstanding Australian Rules footballer, playing for Melbourne in the Victorian Football Association from 1893 to 1895 when he transferred to Essendon. He was described by the Australasian as a 'fleet' wingman; his high marking and 'prodigious dropkicks', often accurate from any angle, made him one of the 'cracks' of the competition.

At the age of 24, he decided to take a break from his legal studies and visit Europe. However, he detoured through the United States to see his brother, Andrew, whom he joined at the University of

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Wisconsin. His brother was the crew coach for Wisconsin. The American style of football caught his eye, and during a practice, he decided to show off his skills. According to the Australian Dictionary on Biography, "Americans had never seen such explosive kicking: he slammed the ball with a shoulder-high follow-through while his other foot was 6 INS (15 cm) off the ground. The 'Kicking Kangaroo's' punts and drops 'electrified the Mid-West fans' and changed the emphasis of gridiron from 'bone-crushing power plays to cleaner ball-handling and frequent kicking'."

In 1898-99, mostly as full-back, he captained the Badgers and made Walter Camp's second All-American team. His feats became legendary. With the lighter American ball, O'Dea established a punt-kicking record, with wind assistance, of 110 yards?the next best was 91 yards (83 m). In 1899 he performed 'the most-impossible [place] kick in football history' to defeat Illinois?55 yards, half the length of a gridiron field, into a 20-mph crosswind. His side-stepping and victorious running goal over the head of his blocker, the great Gil Dobie, was considered amazing decades later. In only two seasons O'Dea drop-kicked 32 goals.

After graduating, he coached football at the University of Notre Dame, Indiana, in 1900-01, where he compiled a 14-4-2 record, including a 54-0 loss to his alma mater in 1900. He would go on to coach football at Missouri in 1902, the school's tenth coach, where he racked up a coaching record at Missouri of 5 wins, 3 losses, and 0 ties. This ranks him 22nd at Missouri in total wins and tenth at Missouri in winning percentage.

He would later go on to coach football, rowing and athletics at Stanford University.

His life outside of football wasn't as blessed. By 1906 he had married and been divorced. In 1917 he disappeared from sight. A futile worldwide search, reaching to Australia, was made. His brother thought that he may have joined the Australian Imperial Force, becoming an 'unknown soldier'.

Pat O'Dea later claimed that he had wanted to get away from his fame as a student football player. It had been, he asserted, difficult to establish his law firm at San Francisco. However, a client named Elsie Waters complained in 1919 that he had embezzled \$3000 and stock valued at \$500 from her right before he disappeared.

O'Dea had not totally fallen off the earth, it turns out. By 1920 O'Dea had been naturalized, and was living in Lassen County, California, with his second wife, Emma. In 1934 he was discovered living as "Charles J. Mitchell", a lumber company statistician at Westwood, where he was a popular secretary of the Auto Club, treasurer of the Chamber of Commerce and a director of Lassen Volcanic National Park.

O'Dea returned to Madison, and received a triumphal homecoming at the University of Wisconsin. He would later open



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an export business in San Francisco. His last occupation was as office-manager with F. S. Gearhardt & Co., a clothing firm.

He came back to Madison in 1952. Hailed as “America’s greatest football hero”, he was given a testimonial banquet by Wisconsin alumni. He deplored the loss of kicking skills in contemporary gridiron. One complaint was that “the boys don’t follow through enough”. In his view, the Australian Rules football of his youth was the better game, in that it allowed the players more spectator appeal with its faster action. On April 3, 1962, he became the only known Australian elected to the College Football Hall of Fame at Rutgers University. O’Dea died next day, April 4, at the University of California Hospital, San Francisco, at the age of 90.

The Green Bay Packers just won the Super Bowl, led by a Donegal man, Aaron Rodgers. What would Kangaroo O’Dea think of fellow Irish-American Mason Crosby’s kicking? Crosby’s leg strength most likely would have made him feel that the boy did follow through.

And the former Milwaukee Journal Sentinel sportswriters Christl and Hoffmann’s book is *365: The Best Wisconsin Sports Stories Day by Day*. It is well worth the time to read, if just to find out a bit more about the Kangaroo Kicker.

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Shamrock Club of Wisconsin Irishman of the Year, Irish Rose and Parade Marshal 2011



Milwaukee’s 2011 March Honorees (left to right) Irish Rose Patricia Grimes Tierney, Irishman of the Year Bob Towne and Parade Marshal Malkin Wallace

Parade Marshal Malkin Wallace.

The Shamrock Club is excited to announce the 2011 Shamrock Club's honorees for Irishman, Irish Rose and Parade Marshal.

Bob Towne is a man on a mission to volunteer for something. He is a long time member of the Shamrock Club, and has volunteered for just about everything we have done for the past three decades. He is also a part of the Milwaukee AOH, and volunteers at Milwaukee Irish Fest, helping in the set up.

Irish Rose Patricia Grimes Tierney has been a vital part of the Club for decades. She has marched across the state, country, and world as a part of the Shamrock Club Color Guard, Pipes and Drums.

Parade Marshal for 2011 is Malkin Wallace. Our current secretary has thrown herself into the workings of the club, having been the Post Parade Party director, is our Folk Fair director, and was Sergeant at Arms.

Congratulations to these three deserving members. They all carry on the traditions of volunteerism we have asked of our honorees.

BOB TOWNE – 2011 IRISHMAN OF THE YEAR

Bob Towne was born and raised in the Merrill Park area. He attended Wisconsin Avenue Grade School and Boys Tech High School. After graduation, Bob worked for the Milwaukee Road for 10 years where he earned his wings as an electrician. He spent the following 32 years as an Electrician for the City of Milwaukee, retiring in 1995 as the Supervisor of Traffic Control.

Bob met his wife of 50 years, Judy, on a blind date set up between Bob's grandmother and Judy's mother and continued to live in the Merrill Park community. They moved their growing family to the city's near-north side and joined the parish of St. Thomas Aquinas. They volunteered for the parish's weekly fish fry, bingo, summer festivals in addition to several additional fund raising efforts. Bob was a member of the parish's maintenance committee (a committee of one) and rewired the entire school. They were elected Presidents of Home and School Counsel where they served while raising their five children: Donna, Barbara, Sharon and twins Mark and Jeff. They moved to the south side of Milwaukee in 1982 and eventually joined the Shamrock Club at the urging of Bob's Uncle John and Aunt June Shanahan.

Bob has been an active member of the Irish community for many years. He is an annual volunteer at Irish Fest helping set up and tear down the Cultural Area and working for IGSW on the weekends. He also volunteers at the Bradley Center for the Shamrock Club and the Folk Fair. Additionally, he handles the mailing for the IGSW and has been an usher since the beginning of the concerts at the ICHC. Bob is a member of the Ancient Order of the Hibernians and the Irish Genealogical Society of Wisconsin.

of the Irishmen and the Irish Genealogical Society of Wisconsin.

Bob and Judy were honored to be the Grand Marshals of the 2004 St. Patrick's Day Parade. They have been to Ireland three times. On their second trip, they were fortunate to visit the church in Inch, County Tipperary where Bob's great grandfather Jeremiah Shanahan was born in 1835.

Bob is an avid golfer and enjoys genealogy and spending time spoiling his eight grandchildren (Anthony, Nikki, and Tommy Hodkiewicz, Ryan and Rachael Glover, Bob, Jake and Gregory Von Rueden).

PATRICIA TIERNEY – 2011 IRISH ROSE

Being named Irish Rose for the Shamrock Club, 2011, is an honor for my family and my husband Dick Tierney, Irishman 1997. I was born in the land of the Bears, but my father, Patrick Grimes, had played football for UW Badgers and was born in Tomah, Wisconsin. Before he moved the family back to Wisconsin, I had started Irish Step dancing. I love to name my siblings: Terrence, Corky, Michael, Dennis, Brian, Timothy and sister Charlene. My four children and four grandchildren have been so indoctrinated with their heritage, along with Dick's three and three grandchildren, they swear they can understand Gaelic and know more Irish music than we can keep up with. We have participated on trips to Ireland and Scotland. A dream was realized as my latest trip was the pilgrimage to Kildare on St. Brigid's Feast, and North holy places.

Since I joined the Shamrock Club 23 years ago, I had been a member of the color guard and marched all over the country, stood for wakes, weddings and funerals for twenty years. I worked at Folk Fair, post parade parties and fund raisers and a favorite, the masses. I have been a volunteer for Irish Fest 30 years. I am a charter member of Celtic Women International and ICHC volunteer. Dick and I were the 2009 Wisconsin Highland Games Celtic persons of the year and honored by Clan Donald in 2007. We have volunteered for the Milwaukee Highland games more than 20 years. What a blessing to go through life Irish and living through the seasons with the Shamrock Club.

MALKIN WALLACE – 2011 PARADE MARSHAL

After 28 years away from Milwaukee, I returned home, and ended up joining the Shamrock Club on my return. I became a proud flag carrying member of the Color Guard, Pipes and Drums. I ran the Post Parade Party in 2007 and 2008. I have also served as sergeant at arms for two years. I believe in giving back to the community, and I feel that as secretary, I have done that for the members of this club. Outside of the Shamrock Club, I'm a full time realtor with Shorewest Realtors. My daughter is Amberly Chernoff.

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Milwaukee President's Message

Greetings, March is here. Finally. Our month to shine.

Be with us at our March 3rd meeting which promises to be our biggest and grandest yet as we officially introduce this year's Honorees: Parade Marshal Malkin Wallace, Irish Rose Patsy Grimes Tierney and our Irishman of the Year Bob Towne. What an outstanding group of representatives for the Club and the Irish community at large.

We will also pay tribute to the Past Irishmen of the Year as we close out our 50th Anniversary year.

And we will have birthday cake.

On Saturday March 12, we honor St. Patrick at St. Patrick's Church 723 S. 7th St. at 8:30 a.m. The mass will be celebrated by Fr. Terry Brennan S.J. A special thanks to Chuck McLaughlin for organizing this year's Mass. Buses will run to and from the church. To reserve a spot see Jack Noonan. Donations for floral arrangements will be taken at the general meeting or contact Gail Neville.

A full Irish breakfast will be served at the ICHC after the Mass. Find more details elsewhere in *Reflections*.

And the stepping off at noon from 3rd and Wisconsin will be the 45th annual St. Patrick's Day Parade co-sponsored by the Westowne Association. Parade Production Manager Kris Pluskota, Parade Manager Mike Boyle and Westowne Executive Director Stacie Callies with the assistance of Erin and Megan Boyle and Bill Sherry promise us one of the largest, loudest and brightest parades in many a year. New groups and returning favorites will be marching under the bright warm sunshine that is Parade Day.

After the parade join us at the ICHC at 1 p.m. for the Post Parade Party for three floors of the best Irish entertainment under one roof. Thanks to Barry Stapleton for coordinating the entertainment for the day. Al Moss and the soccer club will chair the event and are always looking for more volunteers. Get up close and personal with our honorees as you enjoy a day of music, food and shopping.

Don't forget to support the Ulster Project Fun Night at Mount Mary College on Friday evening March 4.

And the Brendan Ward Heart Fund fundraiser at Derry's Pub on Sunday March 6 from noon until 6 p.m. sponsored by the Emerald Society of Wisconsin.

Just a reminder that at the March (and April) meeting the club will be taking nominations from the floor for the May elections. Please give some thought to running or nominating someone who you feel will be an asset to the Club.

The scholarship raffle, as organized by the Quinlans, is just around the corner. Please be generous for this worthwhile cause.

See you at the next meeting.

– **Josh Walton, President**
joshwalton1@yahoo.com

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Milwaukee Bylaws Committee Review

The bylaws committee has completed its review. Suggested changes will be published in an upcoming edition of *Emerald Reflections*. After review by the general membership, if no other changes are suggested, they will be voted on for approval.

– **Tom McAleese, Parliamentarian**

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ICHC Ceilis

The Irish Cultural and Heritage Center has released its list of Ceilis for winter/spring. Entrance fee is \$8 Adults; \$5 Students / Seniors / Children. All proceeds benefit the ICHC. For more information please call Julie Clark at (414) 489-1110.

- February 4 – *Cream City Ceili Band*
- February 19 – *Myserk*
- March 4 – *Frogwater*
- March 19 – *Ceol Cairde*
- April 1 – *Wise Maids*
- April 16 – *RíRá*
- May 6 – *áthas*
- May 21 – *Myserk*
- June 3 – *Nancy Maio & Jim McVeigh*

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Shamrock Club Scholarship Applications

The Shamrock Club's annual Irish Studies Scholarship Application is ready. Applications must be received by May 1, 2011 for consideration. Applicants must be of college age, and are encouraged to volunteer for Shamrock Club events. Applications are available at the ICHC and online for download. Please contact Tim O'Brien, scholarship chair, for more information, at (414) 444-1989.

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The MacDowell Club of Milwaukee Presents Classical Celtic At the ICHC March 20

As part of its 101st season of presenting Milwaukee artists, the MacDowell Club of Milwaukee explores classical Celtic compositions from Scotland, Ireland and Wales at the Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave., on Sunday, March 20, at 3 p.m. The Hallamor concert is the third in the spring series.

The MacDowell Club's members have studied at prestigious schools including the New England Conservatory of Music, Rutgers University, the Peabody Conservatory, UW-Madison, and Westminster Choir College. They have performed nationally and internationally with such groups as the *Washington Opera*, *Lyric Opera of Chicago*, *Skylight Opera Theatre*, *the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra*, *Sarasota Opera* and in concerts in Spain, Germany, and the former Yugoslavia.

The concert has been organized by mezzo-soprano Christine O'Meally, who will be singing Scottish composer Judith Weir's song cycle "Voice of Desire." Emmy-award winning composer/guitarist Peter Baime will play a guitar transcription of Turlough Carolan's well-loved harp composition "Carolan's Receipt."

Composer Michael McGlynn of the Irish choral group *Anúna* will

be represented by two pieces, “Maid in the Moor” and “Media Vita,” sung by Ms. O’Meally, alto Cornelia Beilke and sopranos Wendelin Lockett and Amelia Spierer.

Other pieces will include operetta arias by Dublin-born Victor Herbert sung by Chicago soprano Bryna Berezowska; a flute piece, “In Ireland,” by Belfast composer Hamilton Harty, played by Linda Hartig and accompanied by Shanti Daya, both of Carroll University; a clarinet sonata by Charles Villiers Stanford (Dublin) played by Gail Hodkiewicz; piano nocturnes from Dublin composer John Field, played by Ms. Daya; Irish-American tenor Ryan Patrick McEldowney singing two songs with texts by Irish poets; and Minneapolis soprano Mary Rempalski Ohm singing Irish-American composer Craig Carnahan’s “Irish Airs.” Ms. Daya, Ms. Coonan and Ryan Cappleman will be the collaborative pianists.

The program will open by utilizing the Center’s majestic 4,000 pipe organ under the gifted hands (and feet) of Sheri Masiakowski playing Welshman John Bull’s “Rondo.” *Muzika Trio* will close the program with the U.S. premiere of Martin O’Leary’s 2007 composition, “Bluescape.” Of this piece, Mr. O’Leary says:

“The title of this work refers to the nature of the music – essentially an exploration of a particular soundscape?coloured by harmonies which can be described as a reflection of the language of the blues, filtered through my own harmonic imagination.”

Admission is \$10. Visit [www.ichc.net] to order online. Tickets may also be ordered by calling (414) 345-8800.

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Celtic Women First Friday Lectures



Jean-Andrew

What a wonderful series of lectures we are enjoying this year, starting last September with a tribute to Margaret Glasgwyn, our Welsh member who was with us from the beginning, followed by the Friends of Saint Patrick. (I visited the Saint Patrick Centre in Downpatrick in late January and it is a gorgeous beautiful facility. Do visit there if at all possible).

Two of our local Celtic Women have become published authors; we heard from Kathy Golden in November and will soon see Brenna Briggs with her Irish Step Dancer stories. Another local prolific writer is Margaret Rogers who had a cast reading from a fascinating Irish play she has written.

We have yet to hear from Joseph Spence, Sr. a poet, and a pair of Celtic Women military veterans. To say nothing of the *Celtic Nations* bagpipers who so enthralled everyone before Christmas, and our own Jean-Andrew with her Storylore stories from Cornwall this month.

Please join us for the continuing sessions. There are fresh home-made treats and tea offered along with the spoken words or music.

DATE: March 4, 2011, 5:30-7 p.m.

TOPIC: "Folktales from Cornwall"

SPEAKER: Jean-Andrew, SSND, MA [storylore@yahoo.com]

Jean-Andrew, free-lance professional Storyteller and founder of the Milwaukee Area Story Tellers (M.A.S.T.) guild, will bring to life some good Cornish "whiddles" (tales). At the risk of raising a few piskies, she'll demonstrate the ancient art that long kept Cornish culture alive at home and beyond its borders. Come with any Cornish stories, folklore, or books you'd like to share.

All lectures are held from 5:30 – 7 p.m. at Greene Hall, 3347 N. Downer Ave. on the UWM campus. Plenty of meter street parking at the door with a wheel chair access ramp. The public is invited as always. \$7 admission.

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Color Guard News & Notes

Hello Everyone! Welcome to the Green Season as I begin what I believe is my 8th (or is it 9th??) season marching down the street! To be honest, I can't remember what year this is for me.

The band has been hard at work getting ready for our 2011 debut. Watch our schedule on the website [www.sccnd.com] for

Watch our schedule on the website [www.sccgpa.com] for additional dates and times.

- March 7 – Brendan Heart Fundraiser, Derry's
- March 13 – St. Patrick's Day Mass, Parade, Post Party, Milwaukee
- March 20 - St. Patrick's Day Parade, New London WI

We'll have some extra space on the bus for our ride up to New London, contact Rand Harteau for more information. The New London people know how to have a great time, you shouldn't miss it!

We're working on some new things for 2011. Our Partnership with Celtic Nations and Greater Milwaukee Fire and Police is going well. We're learning a slew of interesting new tunes and ideas we'll debut with them later this year. We may even be doing a combined troupe for a large parade late fall as our big trip for season's end. More info on that TBA.

We're also working on a new look. New logo jackets will appear by mid-March, as well as a new design for our bass drum. You'll see this newly designed logo on the jackets, drum, and hopefully some cool t-shirts soon. Perhaps even a new hose color to be rolled out by parade season in Mid-May.

Speaking of jackets, as a passing of the old guard to the new, I have turned over my old band logo jacket of six years past to young Mr. Jacob Nowak, who is a great addition to the band this past year. I know he'll wear it with pride 'til it wears out! In other news, we're proud to have current and former members chosen to represent the Milwaukee St. Patrick's Day Parade. Former member, Patsy Tierney, was chosen as this year's Irish Rose. She has been a friend, mentor and huge supporter of this group since day one, and represents all that's great in an Irish Rose. Also, our very own Malkin Wallace was chosen as Parade Marshal. I know she'll do a great job promoting our parade in every way. Way to go!!

We also have all sorts of new members in color guard and pipeline. I promise next month to mention each of them by name. They've all been working really hard in the off season to be ready for this year.

On a side, and sad, note... I've been away for two months and was unable to attend former longtime member Tom Blaha's funeral. As many of you know, he always had a smile, a joke or a kind word for all around him. He was my absolute favorite of the old guard and treated me with such respect and reverence all of the time. He and his lovely wife Maggie took me aside one evening some time ago when I was running for a position on the Board of the Shamrock Club and mentioned how happy he was that I (a relatively "young" person, hee hee) was running for a position. Tom always told me he read every one of my articles in *Emerald Reflections*, and always commented how good the articles were to

reflections, and always commented how good the articles were to him. I knew, when I marched in a parade and watched him, I would *never* be out of step. *Never*. At the S.C. membership meeting last night, a big personality was missing from that room. It didn't hit me until last night that he's really gone. Hugs to you Maggie for sharing him with us. He'll never be forgotten. In honor of Tom, the Color Guard will carry a Red Remembrance Ribbon (attached to the Shamrock Club Flag) in every parade going forward. I'm sewing them now. *Neart, Gra' Agus Ono'ir* Tom Blaha. We'll miss you.

– Noel Tylla, 8th year piper

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26th Annual Mass In Honor of Saint Patrick

Saturday March 12, 2011 – 8:30 a.m.

At St. Patrick's Church • 723 South 7th at Washington Street,
Milwaukee

The Shamrock Club Choir will sing the liturgy. The Shamrock Club Color Guard, Pipes and Drums will pipe in the colors and stand as honor guard for the Mass. There will be a sign reader for hearing impaired. There are readings and songs in Irish and English.

If your Irish group is interested in being a part of the Mass, please contact us. We will reserve a pew for you.

For more information, please contact Chuck McLaughlin at (414) 771-1458, or at [cmclaughlin3@wi.rr.com].

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Donations For Flowers For The Mass

We will again be collecting donations for flowers to be used at the Mass, and at the Easter Rising Mass. Please call Gail Neville at (414) 351-1355 for information.

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Bus Service To Mass From ICHC

We will again have bus service to/from the ICHC before and after the Mass. If you wish to reserve a spot on the bus, please contact Jack Noonan at (414) 769-9675.

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Post Mass Breakfast At ICHC

A full and a continental breakfast takes place after the Mass in Parlor B of the Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave. The costs are \$6 for continental and \$7 for a full breakfast. To make reservations, call the ICHC at (414) 345-8800, or send an email to [direcotr@ichc.net]. It is again being provided by Victory Christian School.

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Milwaukee St. Patrick's Day Parade

March 12, 2011

Downtown Milwaukee – 3rd and Wisconsin to Highland and State Streets

Step off: Noon

Pipe Bands, Dance Schools, Wisconsin's Irish community

[<http://www.saintpatricksparade.org>]

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Shamrock Club Post-Parade Party

2011 Entertainment Schedule

Hallamor

2:00 – S.C. Pipes & Drums

2:30 – Kinsella Irish Dancers

3:15 – Cashel Dennehy Irish Dancers

4:00 – The Gleasons

5:15 – Trinity Irish Dancers

Quinlan's Pub

1:00 – Tis

2:15 – Myserk

3:30 – Evan & Tom Leahy

4:45 – Dublin O'Shea

Upstairs

2:00 – Blarney

3:15 – Caledonian Scottish Dancers

3:45 – Blarney

Basement: Childrens Area

3:00 Eileen O'Rourke: Leprechaun Stories

4:15 Eileen O'Rourke: Leprechaun Stories

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Volunteers Needed For Post Parade Party

We will need volunteers for the Post Parade Party on March 12. We will need help in food, bars, doors, children's and set up. If you can help, please contact PPP director Al Moss at [mossjr.alton@millercors.com] or (414) 234-9811.

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Irish Entertainment at The Marcus Center

The Marcus Center for the Performing Arts is presenting *Dublin's Traditional Cabaret* in the Marcus Center's Vogel Hall on Mon.,

Traditional Cabaret in the Marcus Center's Vogel Hall on Mon., March 14 at 7:30 p.m.; Tues., March 15 at 7:30 p.m.; and Wed., March 16 at 11 a.m.

Tickets can be purchased by calling the Marcus Center Box Office at (414) 273-7206 or by going online to [www.marcuscenter.org].

Dublin's Traditional Cabaret is a celebration of Irish music, laughter, song and dance. Comedian Noel V. Ginnity has chosen a talented group of Irish entertainers to bring a taste of Ireland to American audiences, including tenor Paul Hennessy, Soprano Emer Harnett, a troupe of professional Irish dancers including All Ireland Champions. The musical ensemble is led by Musical Director and pianist Pat Marnane, with All-Ireland- Champion accordion player Ailbe Grace and Uilleann pipes played by piper Tommy Keane from Dublin. A wealth of entertainment for all the family, bringing a touch of nostalgia to every Irish heart!

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Saint Patrick's Day Family Night at ICHC

The Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, will host a Saint Patrick's Day Family Night on Thursday, March 17, from 4 to 10 p.m. A donation of \$1 per person is suggested.

Activities include ceili dancing from 7 to 9 p.m. as well as Irish movies in the Hallamor. Quinlan's Pub will be open and Irish food will be available for purchase.

For information, call (414) 345-8800 or visit [www.ichc.net].

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41st Annual Easter Rising Mass

The 41st Annual Easter Rising Mass will take place at the ICHC on Sunday, April 24, 2011. A continental breakfast will be served after the Mass. The Mass honors the 1916 Easter Monday Rising in Dublin.

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Milwaukee March Membership News

Please welcome the following new Members joining in January of this year; Patricia / Dan Stotmeister and Michael/Connie Holzinger. Please be sure to extend some warm conversations with them during our St Patrick's season this year.

The Milwaukee Chapter as of January 31 has 389 Members with 179 Family, 192 single, and 18 complimentary (libraries, businesses, etc.) memberships. Statewide our Membership totals 503 Members where the others receive a copy of our *Emerald Reflections* newsletter with a reduced fee of \$14.

As we approach one of our best times of the year celebrating St. Patrick's Day, please contact friends and other family members and tell them of the mission and fun that the Shamrock Club has and get them to join and participate in our events, fundraising and volunteering.

Please be sure to have your memberships renewals in before March 1 for those who's expire on or before 2/28/2011.

We hope you can attend our March meeting and see you soon.

– Denis Donohoe, Membership Chair

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Nomination of Milwaukee Officers

Nominations for officers of the Milwaukee chapter will take place at the April meeting. Persons nominated must be members in good standing of the Shamrock Club, with dues paid in full, and must be present for their nominations. Elections will take place at the May meeting.

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You're Invited!

The Emerald Society of Wisconsin, Inc., cordially invites you to their meeting on Monday, May 2, 2011 at 7 p.m. at the Irish Fest Center, 1532 Wauwatosa Avenue, Wauwatosa, WI to hear guest speaker Tim Reilly, Vice Counsel General of the Chicago Irish Consulate.

Mr. Reilly will provide applications for Irish citizenship and speak about benefits of Irish citizenship for those of Irish ancestry who are eligible and answer questions about the process. He will also provide us with an update on issues of the day affecting Ireland which will be of interest to us all.

Seating availability and entrance to the hall will be on a first come basis. There is no charge to attend.

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Brendan Ward Heart Fund March 6

The Emerald Society Fundraiser benefiting the Brendan Ward Heart Fund will take place on Sunday, March 6, from Noon until 6 p.m. It will feature *Atlantic Wave; Reilly; Greater Milwaukee Fire Police Pipes Drums; The Glencastle Irish Dancers; Shamrock Club Color Guard, Pipes and Drums* and a Monster Raffle.

It takes place at Derry Hegarty's Irish Pub, 5328 W. Bluemound Rd. The cost is \$6 at the Door. For more information, go to [<http://emeraldsociety.us>]

100% of raffle proceeds and 60% of admission proceeds will go directly to the Brendan Heart Fund at Children's Hospital.

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South Central Shamrock Club Announces 2011 Irish Rose and Irishman



Janice Marie (Murray) Delmore



Robert J. Gavin

South Central Wisconsin Shamrock Club's 41st Annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration and Banquet introducing our 2011 Irishman of the Year Robert J. Gavin and Irish Rose Janice Marie Delmore will take place March 12, 2011 at the Voyageur Inn in Reedsburg. Cocktail hour begins at 6 p.m. followed by a 7 p.m. full Irish dinner. Entertainment will be provided by Diane Michaels. Diane has a unique blend of music and stories and will be playing many instruments including guitar, folk harp, banjo, Irish whistle, and flute. She has a repertoire that spans generations, genres and cultures. Diane offers a rich selection of Irish limericks and Irish songs that are sure to delight and enlighten. Reservations are required.

2011 Irish Rose – Janice Marie (Murray) Delmore

Janice Marie (Murray) Delmore was born to Eugene Raymond and Marguerite Irene (Heerey) Murray December 9, 1954 in Reedsburg, Wisconsin. Jan is the third of five children, all of whom grew up on the family farm in the Town of Dellona (Sauk County). As with everyone in the family, Jan put great effort into keeping the farmhouse running. By 12 years old, she was preparing meals for

the harvesting crew while her dad tended to the farm and her mom attended college and eventually started teaching again. In her free time, Jan enjoyed participating in 4-H, cultivating her cooking, baking, sewing, and childcare skills.

Soon after graduating from Webb High School in 1973, Jan met her husband-to-be, John Nicholas Delmore. They were married February 21, 1975 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Reedsburg. Within the 36 wonderful years of marriage, Jan and John have been blessed with three children and six grandchildren. Daughter, Jennifer Kathryn and Robert Hale reside in Lake Delton with their four children: Jacob Michael, Maya Marie, Greyson John-Sanborn, and Preston Paul-Murray. Son, Jeffrey Nicholas Delmore and wife Lisa (Bronson) reside in Wisconsin Dells with their two boys: Murray Nicholas and John Thomas (Jack). Son, Joseph Murray Delmore and wife Martha (Concilio), reside in Littleton, Colorado. Not only are Jan and John thankful for the addition of the grandchildren to their family, but they cannot say enough about their children's spouses – they are so thankful to have them in their lives.

Fortunately, when the kids were young Jan was able to spend most of her time as a stay-at-home mom. She spent her days taking care of the home, making delicious home-cooked meals, and running the kids to their various activities. Jan was an active member of the Lake Delton Elementary PTO and the Wisconsin Dells High School Sports Boosters Club. She also enjoyed traveling to sporting events to cheer on the Chiefs.

For many years Jan was very active in the Lake Delton Lions and Lionesses, spending many hours helping with Snow-a-Rees, The Great Balloon Rallies and other events. Jan is also a member of the Zeta Omega sorority. They are involved in many charitable causes locally, as well as St. Jude's Hospital and the Easter Seals Society. Jan has been a member of the South Central Wisconsin Shamrock Club for quite some time. Jan and John were fortunate to visit Ireland with a group of friends in 1999.

When the kids were older, Jan started working part-time at Holiday Wholesale in Wisconsin Dells. Over 20 years later, she is still a valued member of the Holiday Wholesale team. Thankfully, their flexibility has allowed Jan to be a part of the things in life that mean the most to her. She and John have been able to travel several times a year to Colorado to visit their children and grandchildren. Jan has been able to put her full energy into selflessly caring for her parents in their time of need.

Jan and John have been active members of St. Joseph's Parish in Baraboo for about 25 years. Over those years, Jan has helped as a money counter and also lovingly donates her time and energy to CCW to make her homemade sweets that are always a hit at the Parish Festival and St. Joe's Gingerbread Christmas.

Along with baking, Jan has numerous hobbies including flower and vegetable gardening and refinishing antique furniture. She enjoys

vegetable gardening and refinishing antique furniture. She enjoys decorating her home, indoors and out, for the various seasons and holidays. In addition, she has the pleasure of watching her grandchildren grow into beautiful people, and it's always a treat to have them all over for one of Nana's home-cooked meals.

The Delmore family lived on County P in the Town of Delton for over 33 years. In 2010, Jan and John moved to the farm, in the town of Dellona, where Jan was raised. This farm was homesteaded by Patrick Mulligan and has been in the family for the past 165 years.

Patrick Mulligan, Jan's great great grandfather, was born in County Mayo, Ireland on March 17, 1810. He and his wife Eliza immigrated to Ontario, Canada in 1837 and then to Dellona in 1846. Their son John and his wife Ellen Hurley had seven children including their daughter Kathryn "Katie" who married Eugene Murray Sr.

Jan's great great grandfather Christopher Murray was born in County Meath, Ireland in 1808. He married Mary Havey. In 1885 at the age of 16, their son Edward Murray immigrated to the Town of Kildare in Juneau County. Edward married Bridget Cauley and had six children, including their son Eugene (Jan's grandfather).

Jan's great great grandfather Michael Heerey was born in County Caven, Ireland in 1823. Michael immigrated to New York in 1843 where he married Anna Lynch. They moved to Mauston sometime in the late 1850s. Michael and Anna's son, John Joseph Heerey married Margaret Madden whose parents were John Madden from County Limerick and Julia Ann Crowley from County Kerry. John and Margaret moved to Ellendale, South Dakota where Jan's grandfather, Michael D. was born. The Heereys then moved to St. Charles, Minnesota where, Michael D. married Mary Christie.

Though most of Jan's ancestors were born in Ireland, Jan's great great grandparents James C. Christie and Elizabeth Gilchrist were born in Dundee, Scotland. James and Elizabeth's son, William Gilchrist Christie moved to Winona County where he married Mary Belle Aimer, who also was born in Scotland, and had their daughter, Mary Margaret Christie. Michael Heerey and Mary Christie were married in St. Charles, Minnesota and had five children, including Marguerite Irene Heerey, Jan's mother.

Jan is very proud of being named this year's South Central Wisconsin Shamrock Club's Irish Rose. It's an honor for her to follow in her parent's footsteps. Her dad Eugene was Irishman of the Year in 2000 and her mom Marguerite was the Irish Rose in 2002.

2011 Irishman – Robert J. Gavin

Robert James Gavin was born in Reedsburg, Wisconsin to James F. Gavin and Mary Catherie (Doyle) Gavin. He is the second of four children. His paternal grandparents were Sauk County residents James W. Gavin and Elizabeth (McCormick) Gavin. Rob's maternal grandparents were Robert J. Doyle and Deal

Bob's maternal grandparents were Robert J. Doyle and Delia (Delia) Keegan of Mauston, Wisconsin.

Bob is "as Irish as it gets," coming from a family of Irish men and Irish women on both sides of the family. Bob's great great great grandmother, Mary Slattery Powers, born in 1777, emigrated from County Waterford, Ireland to Mauston, Wisconsin with her son in 1848. Mary lived to be 100 years old.

Bob's great great grandparents, the Gavins and the McCormicks, immigrated from County Cork, Ireland in 1830 to Whitehall, New York. They later moved to Quebec where a son Michael was born. Eventually the family settled in the Sauk County area and then in the town of Seven Mile Creek.

Bob married Lori (Burmester) Gavin of Reedsburg in August, 1983. Bob and Lori have two sons, Jim and Matt Gavin. Jim is a graduate of UW Eau Claire and Matt a graduate of UW Platteville.

Bob and Lori own and work in their family business, Gavin Bros. Auctioneers and Gavin Bros. Real Estate. They are joined in ownership and operation of the business by sons Jim and Matt. Jim and Matt are the fourth generation of Gavins to be auctioneers and realtors in this business started by Bob's grandfather James W. Gavin.

Bob graduated with a Bachelors of Business Administration from UW Whitewater in 1972. Bob has held his Real Estate License since 1972 and Auctioneer License since 1975. Bob is a former president and board member of the Wisconsin Auctioneers Association.

Other organizations and memberships which Bob belongs to are the National Auctioneers Association, Wisconsin Realtors Association and National Realtors Association. He is also a past president of Reedsburg Lions, member of Baraboo Elks, past board member of the State Bank of Cazenovia and past board member of the Reedsburg Bank.

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'New Dublin' (New London), Wisconsin March 14 - 19, 2011 27th Annual Events

Monday, March 14. Leprechauns change the name of the town to New Dublin for the week, entertain kids, visit the elderly, and appear at various businesses.

Tuesday, March 15 Hooligan Day. Corned beef and cabbage is

Tuesday, March 15. *Roongan Day.* Corned beef and cabbage is served throughout the week at Pup's Irish Pub on Hwy 54 in North Dublin, Midtown Pub & Grill, The Waters and Half Nelson's in New Dublin as well as by many other fine local establishments.

Wednesday, March 16. Irish Caroling at St. Joseph Residence and Franklin Park apartments. It's a great way to learn all the traditional Irish sing-a-longs. Song sheets are provided. Meet in the lobby of St. Joseph's at 5 p.m.

Thursday, March 17. St. Patrick's Day Irish entertainment 7 p.m. at the New London High School auditorium. Talented artists of New Dublin present an evening of Irish entertainment featuring songs, dances, and humor of Ireland. Introduction of Irish Man Pat Sullivan, Irish Rose Melissa Mulroy and Grand Marshals Tony and Lorraine VanKampan, and the Irish Lad and Lassie will be made. Its great family entertainment. Public invited. Free admission, donations appreciated.

Friday, March 18. Irish Ceili 7 p.m. at the Crystal Falls Banquet Facility. A traditional gathering of friends and family in celebration of music and dance. Public welcome. Free admission. Our caller will be Bob Pillsbury and ceili band will be The McGuinness Session Band.

Finnegan's Wake 8 p.m. begins at Pup's Irish Pub two miles west of New Dublin on Hwy 54 in North Dublin (Northport) and proceeds to other local establishments. *Finnegan's Wake* is a parody of an Irish funeral.

Saturday, March 19. St. Patrick's Day Parade 1 p.m. Downtown New Dublin. Wisconsin's largest St. Patrick's Day parade includes bagpipe and marching bands, festive clowns, specialty, clan, and business floats. Over 100 parade units. Prizes are awarded for best entries. Parade route.

New Dublin Irish Fest 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. under the big top by Festival Foods parking lot, downtown. *Huge* heated tent featuring Irish food, beverages, entertainment, and market booths. This year's entertainment will be Sheamus Fitzpatrick from 11-1 and *Reilly* from 3-6. Entrance to Irish Fest is \$5 for the day.

Also, don't forget about the "New Dublin Dash". This is not a Shamrock Club sponsored event, but will certainly be a fun addition to the days festivities. For more information go to [www.midwestsportsevents.com].

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La Crosse Shamrock Club

Dinner Dance

Saturday, March 12, 2011

Please join us for all the festivities. We welcome old friends and encourage new members and friends to attend!!

- Place: Cedar Creek Banquet Hall
- Time: 6 p.m. social, 7:30 p.m. dinner, 9 p.m. music and dancing
- Cost: \$25 (tax, tip included – door prizes too!!)

Reservations with choice of entrée(s) and payment must be received by: March 4, 2011. Menu entrée choices: corned beef or chicken. Dinner includes mixed greens salad, assorted rolls and Irish soda bread, potato, vegetables and dessert. Please make check payable to the Shamrock Club and mail to: Stephanie Hicks, N8354 Bringe Ct., Holmen, WI 54601.

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La Crosse 2011 Irish Rose and Irishman

Congratulations to Linda Boyle, Irish Rose and J.D. Oelke, Irishman of 2011 for the La Crosse Shamrock Club. We know you will both be great representatives of the Shamrock Club and we wish you good times as you lead us through the St. Patrick's Day events and throughout the year
[<http://www.shamrockclublax.org>].

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State Advisory Board Meeting

The next Shamrock Club State Advisory Board Meeting will take place on Saturday, May 7 at noon at the new Dublin Square Irish Pub & Eatery, on the corner of 3rd and Main St., downtown La Crosse.

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Veronica's Cupboard

March, our wonderful month of St. Patrick, will find us again sharing a meal. Featured this month are baked potatoes and all the trimmin's. Bring a dish to share to complement the potatoes. Shamrock Club members look forward to this meal and the beginning of March festivities. Come meet the 2011 Irishman of the Year, Irish Rose 2011, and Parade Marshal. They represent us all.

Questions? Suggestions? I'd love to hear from you! All ideas welcomed! Call me, Veronica, (414) 228-8621, or email [irishv@ameritech.net].

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Donate to the Shamrock Club

The Shamrock Club is a 501(C) (3) corporation. If you donate to us, you can write this off on your taxes. Donate to our Scholarship fund, our general fund, or to the parade. Thank you!

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Members' Doings

Bonnie and Chuck McLaughlin celebrated 50 years of marriage on Feb. 4. Jack Noonan reached the magical age of wonder on Feb. 5. Ed Mikush was 86 on Feb. 12.

Greg Konkol recently had an opening of his work at the Dane Gallery in Springfield, MA.

Colleen Kennedy, Jane Walrath, Lori Dahm and Cathy Ward all spent a week in Las Vegas. Sharon Murphy also spent three days in Sin City. Patsy Tierney recently went to Ireland. Her husband went to Florida. Cynthia Nazario traveled to New Orleans. Russ and Karen Fink traveled to the Everglades. Sue Dundon and Kenton Farmer both joined the Polar Bears at Bradford Beach January 1.

If you have done anything you want us to know about, send it to [[Membersdoings @shamrockclubwis.com](mailto:Membersdoings@shamrockclubwis.com)].

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Sunshine Club

Ken Tehan, senior, died in early February. He is the father of Shamrock Club board member Kenneth Tehan. Erin Stephens, the daughter of Terry and Kathy Stephens, was hospitalized recently in Minnesota.

If you have any news for the Sunshine Club, please call me at (414) 344-0688. I have a new email address. Please note: [slainte4142-shamrock@yahoo.com].

– **Maggie Blaha**