

*The Indomitable
Gerry Quinn
Celebrates 38
Years On Air
with Quinn
Irish Radio.
Page 16*

**OHIO
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Irish American News
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February 2018



OHIO

Irish
American

NEWS

Learning into the Laptop: Editor's Corner



John O'Brien, Jr.

January 12 – T-shirt, washing the OhIANews Express in the driveway; January 13th – Shoveling coupla feet of snow in the same driveway. I know being

to higher offices. This month we celebrate our own Mighty Quinn; Gerry Quinn has hosted Quinn Irish Radio on WHK 1420 for 38 years this month. That's not a typo.

The show is LIVE, each and every Sunday – that also does not happen in today's efficient, cost or error reductive world. If you have ever been on his show, you know the fun and family that slip in and out, on the phone, or in an email, while the show goes on. Laughter rides the waves of good will, great music, education and poetry, as remarkable as the songs and stories, events and elation that are hallmarks of Quinn Irish Radio. 38 years – I don't

or longer serving, ambassador. Thank you Gerry.

So many stories touch deep roots and heartstrings; our wonderful columnists are so adept at crafting stories, and so are so many of our readers. Make sure you check out this month's We Get Letters column on page 11 for Colin Flynn's fascinating, and triumphant reach back into his grandfather's beginnings.

We've taken on a few more sponsorships this year, including one of my deepest loves, Cleveland St. Pat's / St. Jarlath's Gaelic Football Club, and by expansion of sport, the Akron Hurling Celtic Guards Club. Check out the winter clinics and events within. The Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) is alive, well, and blossoming again, right here in OhioIANews land.

Speaking of the GAA, legend Fr. Ulick Burke was in Cleveland over the Christmas Holidays to visit his sister, Margaret Gaughan. Lately of Boston, Massachusetts, Ulick was an integral member of the successful Cleveland St Pat's Gaelic Football teams of the 1960s. A small reception with some past and present footballers was held for him at PJ McIntyre's. Father Burke will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of his Priesthood this year.

"Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection we can catch excellence." - Vince Lombardi

Error-free endeavors ~ We try each month to bring you the best, the most accurate news and stories. We fail occasionally, and the errors are mine alone. Our deepest apologies to Mary Ann Corrigan Davis, who's first name was listed incorrectly in Ken Callahan's Firm Foundation column title, and to Katie Grennan, who was featured in last month's Inner View column; Katie wasn't born in Ireland, but in PA. We will strive to be perfect, and strive to catch excellence.

...Go dtí an mhí seo chugainn,

slán a fhágáil (Until next month, goodbye) John

"Follow me where I go, what I do and who I know; O'Bent

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Pictured: Fr. Burke and teammate John O'Brien, Sr., and with sister Margaret Gaughan, at the reception. Pictures courtesy of Bobby Krulik

Irish Radio

Tuesday
6pm - 8pm: *All Things Irish* WOBC 91.5 FM w/Anita Lock

Saturday
10am - 11am: *Johnson Brothers Irish Hour* WKTL FM 90.7

Sunday
7am - 9am: *Sweeney Astray* WCBS FM 89.3 & on wscsb.org
10am - 12pm: *Gerry Quinn's Irish Hours* WHK AM 1420 w/ Colleen Corrigan Day & Eddie Fitzpatrick
11:30am - 1:30pm: *Echoes of Erin* WCWA AM 1230 w/ John Connolly
6pm - 7pm: *Songs of Britain & Ireland* WCPN FM 90.3 w/ Joe Nichols & Kevin McGinty
4pm - 6pm: *Beyond the Pale* WRUW FM 91.1 w/ Roger Weist
9pm - 10pm: *Hooley Hour* WHK AM 1420 w/ Tara Quinn & Josh Vaughan



flexible is a hallmark of the hardy on the Northcoast, but isn't that a fierce desperate way of working 9 to 5, what a way to make a living?

We are a celebratory news-magazine. I leave the fake news

know if it is the longest continuously running Irish show on the radio, but it has to be treasured by all of us. Say thank you while the person is here to hear it. Cleveland Irish have not had a better,

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About Our Cover:

The right Honorable Gerry Quinn celebrates his 38th year as host of the Quinn Irish Radio Show on WHK 1420 this month. An ambassador, fundraiser, founder, activist, silent partner, anonymous donor and/or driving force behind so many of the organizations, efforts and people that are now part of the fabric of the Irish community in Cleveland, the States, and in Ireland too. Great blessings to his Aunt Bridie, who sponsored him to the U.S, and who made sure he came to Cleveland, when the lights and glitter of New York tried to keep him for themselves.



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On This Day in Irish History FEBRUARY

by Terrence Kenneally

1 February 1815 – Famous duel between Jack D'Estene and Daniel O'Connell (the "Liberator"); D'Estene is fatally wounded and O'Connell, stricken with remorse, vows never to fight again, settling a pension onto D'Estene's daughter.

2 February 1881 - Birth of James Joyce, poet, novelist and playwright.

3 February 1896 - Death of Lady Jane Wilde, mother of Oscar Wilde, and author of numerous works of Irish folklore under the pen-name of "Speranza."

6 February 1685 - James II becomes the King of England, Scotland and Ireland, the last Catholic monarch to be crowned.

7 February 1873 - Death of Joseph Sheridan LeFonn, "The Invisible Prince," an Irish journalist, writer and father of the Victorian ghost story. His vampire novella Carmilla (1872) contributed to defining the horror genre and influenced Dubliner Bram Stoker in his creation of Dracula.

15 February 1966 - John McGahern's

The Dark is banned by the Irish Board of Censorship. Because he had married a Finnish theatre director, his trade union refuses to help fight his case, saying, "If it was just the auld book, we might have been able to do something for you, but with marrying this foreign woman you have turned yourself into a hopeless case."

26 February 1962 - Due to "lack of support," the Irish Republican Army ends what it calls The Campaign of Resistance to British Occupation, which is also known as the Border Campaign.

27 February 1792 - Fire breaks out in the House of Commons during a discussion by MP's as to how they encourage people to drink beer instead of whiskey.

28 February 1884 - Sean MacDiarmada, revolutionary, is born in Kiltycolgher, Co. Leitrim. He was one of the seven signatories of the Proclamation of the Republic, was court martialed and executed May 12, 1916.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24



We Get Letters....

St. Patrick's Church, Bridge Avenue Thank You from The Pierce Family

St. Patrick Church on Bridge Avenue has a special place in each of our hearts, especially Fr. Mark DiNardo and the members of the Restoration Committee. For me and my sister Colleen Mohny, the past several years, from the beginning of January, through the eighteenth of March, had become known as "Ticket Season, and Colleen and I became known as the "Ticket Ladies." It wasn't a job, no one asked us to do it, we just did it, and when asked why, we responded simply, we do it for Fr. Mark, 'cause he's awesome! If you know him, you know why!

During those ten weeks, we, and all of the Pierce's, tried to raise as much money as we possibly could for the Restoration Fund. Many of our favorite Irish venues granted us permission to sell our tickets in their establishments, from downtown,

to the far west side.

We had an ace in our pocket, whose name is Jack, who quietly assisted throughout the years, but did not want recognition. In 2017, our final year, we had the pleasure of meeting Dan Andrews, President of Olympic Forest Products, whose generosity was far beyond our expectations as he became our sponsor for our Grand Prize Round Trip Airfare for Two to Ireland. There are so many

Continued on next page



42

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others, including corporate donors, who have been silently recognized for their continued support and generosity as well.

Each year, once the Raffle was over, it was a true pleasure, and it felt great inside, to present our check to Fr. Mark and the members of the Restoration Committee. And then it happened ... the challenge to exceed the current year's gift in the following year. 2017 was our biggest year ever, as we exceed all prior years, and presented over \$24,000.00 to St. Patrick's!

In 1996, when it all started, the Pierce boys held the first Pierce Brothers St. Patrick's Day Family Hooley, a grand party entertaining upwards of 600 adults and 300 children annually, and ended in 2017 with the Pierce Family Ireland Raffle. It was a good run, although all good things

must come to an end. Fr. Mark DiNardo has retired, so have we.

In closing, please accept our heartfelt thank you, sincere appreciation, and utmost gratitude to all those who supported our efforts over the years. We could never have done what we did, without YOU!!!!

With love, prayers, and every good wish for the continued support of our St. Patrick Church on Bridge Avenue, Bryan and Kathy Pierce, Colleen Mohney, and the entire Pierce Family

Editor's Note: Fr. Mark DiNardo passed away on Saturday, January 20th. Our community has never had such a faithful servant. He carried his burdens, and others, with devotion, dedication, and a smile. May God hold him in the palm of His hand - John

Michael P. O'Malley

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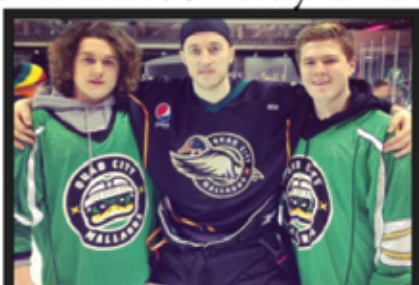
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Blowin' In- Susan Mangan

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Cleveland Comhra- Bob Carney

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Heart of the Issue- Bob Carney

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Inner View- John O'Brien, Jr.

IRL. Past & Present- Niamh O'Sullivan

Madigan Muses- Marilyn Madigan

Off Shelf/On This Day- Terry Kenneally

Out of the Mailbag- John O'Brien, Jr.

Speak Irish- Bob Carney

Terry From Derry- Terry Boyle

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SPEAK IRISH

Labhair Gaeilge

By Bob Carney



Dath

"Why, what's the matter, that you have such a February face, so full of frost, of storm and cloudiness?"

- William Shakespeare "Much Ado About Nothing"

Rebecca Jones Macko, a park ranger in Cuyahoga Valley National Park, once told me, "There's no such thing as bad weather, just inappropriate clothing." I admire Rebecca, but by February, I'm cynical; I've had enough. I want to go outside without dressing like someone from a Jack London story.

I need warmth, I need light, I need color! So with a touch of optimism, I thought by learning our colors in Gaeilge, we might overcome this month of greyness.

Dath (dah) color
 liath (lee-uh) grey
 Buí (bwee) yellow
 Gorm (gor-um) blue
 Glas (glass) green
 Donn (dun) brown
 Dearg (jer-ug) red
 Bán (bahn) white
 Dubh (duhv) black
 Oráiste (or-awsh-tuh) orange
 Bándearg (bawn-jer-ug) pink
 Corcra (kor-kuh ruh) purple
 Tá dath dubh air. (taw dah duhv air) It is black.
 (on a masculine noun)
 Tá dath buí uirthi. (taw dah bwee ur-hee) It is yellow.
 (on a feminine noun)
 Tá dath dearg ar an úll. (taw dah jer-ug ar ahn ool)
 The apple is red.
 Tá dath bán ar an doras. (taw dah bahn ar ahn door us)
 The door is white.
 Tá dath glas ar an tír. (taw dah glass ar ahn tcheer)
 The land is green.
 Na dathanna gorm agus buí a dhéanamh glas. (nah dah-anna gor-um ah-gus bwee ah jeh-nuv glass)
 the colors blue and yellow make green.
 Na dathanna dearg agus buí a dhéanamh oráiste. (nah dah-anna jer-ug ah-gus bwee ah jeh-nuv or-awsh-tuh).
 The colors red and yellow make orange.
 Na dathanna dearg agus gorm a dhéanamh corcra. (nah dah-anna jer-ug ah-gus gor-um ah jeh-nuv kor-kuh-ruh).
 The colors red and blue make purple.
 An bhfuil gruaig dhubh ort? (ahn will gru-ig yuhv ort). Have you got black hair?
 An bhfuil gruaig... ort? (ahn will gru-ig... ort). Have you got ... hair?
 Fhionn (foo-in) blonde
 Rua (roo-uh) red
 Liath (lee-uh) grey
 Dhonn (yonn) brown
 Tá gruaig ... orm. (taw gru-ig ... or-um) I have ... hair.

Níl gruaig ... orm. (neel gru-ig ... or-um)
 I don't have ... hair.
 An bhfuil sé gorm no dubh? (ahn will shay gor-um no duhv)
 Is it blue or black?
 Tá sé glas! (taw shay glass) It is green!
 An bhfuil súile gorma agat? (ahn will soo-le gor-ma ah-gut)
 Have you got blue eyes?
 An bhfuil súile ... agat? (ahn will soo-le ... ah-gut)
 Have you got ... eyes?
 Glasa (glass-ah) green
 Donna (dunn-ah) brown
 Liatha (lee-uh ah) grey
 Tá súile gorma agam (taw soo-le gor-ma ah-gum)

I have blue eyes.
 Níl súile glasa agam. (neel soo-le glass-ah ah-gum)
 I don't have green eyes.

I hope this helps to brighten your day. I want to thank Pat Campbell and all the folks at P.J. McIntyre's for their continued support of Speak Irish Cleveland and the Irish Language. Pat supports all of our endeavors and those of others in keeping our culture vibrant. Go raibh míle maith agat! If you would like to check out one of our Tuesday evening classes, contact John O'Brien Jr. at Jobrien@ianohio.com or myself at carneyspeakirish@gmail.com

Slán go Foill!



Madigan Muses

by Marilyn Madigan

United States and the world."

From 1984-2010, Sr. Catherine worked for NETWORK, a National Catholic Social justice lobby, in Washington. Katy Thornton RSM remembers, "Catherine has ventured into the halls of Congress to speak truth to power. She approached Senators and Representatives, not with money to line campaign coffers, but with faith, a deep knowledge of the issues, and a belief in the social Gospel of Jesus. As a consequence, she has touched the hearts and changed the votes of countless members of Congress."

In this month of February, let us follow the examples of St. Brigid, Sr. Catherine Pinkerton, the Sisters in the Congregation of St. Joseph, the Poor Clares and the many other orders of Religious that live in our area.

Special Women

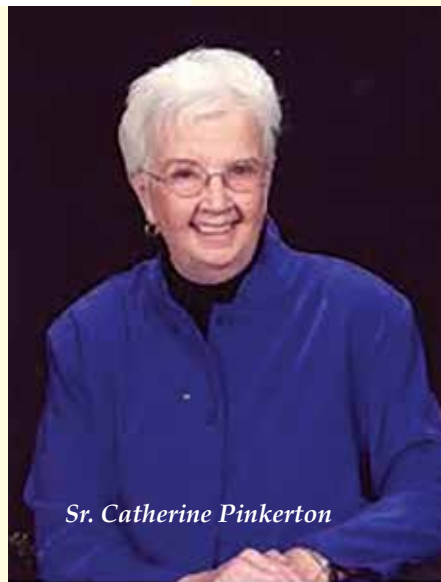
The month of February begins with La Fheile Bhríde, St. Brigid's Feast Day. St. Brigid is one of the Patron Saints of Ireland. She was the founder of several monasteries of nuns. St. Brigid was an influential member of the Irish Church.

In the West Park area, we are honored to have living in our neighborhood two groups of special Religious women: the Poor Clares, and the Congregation of St. Joseph's. The Poor Clares are a Contemplative order, who live a life of prayer, and have been a spiritual presence in our area for over 100 years. The Congregation of St. Joseph have been a presence in our area since 1890. They are the founders of St. Joseph Academy, and have been educating young women to make a difference in our world.

I am blessed to be an Alumni of this great school. During my years at SJA, Sr. Catherine Pinkerton served as our Principal. Sr. Catherine was called home to God on December 28. I had the honor to attend her Funeral Mass; Sr. Christine Schenk gave a wonderful eulogy.

As a teacher and Principal, Sr. Catherine touched many lives. Students from SJA are making an impact in many areas today because of her. Sister was a great leader and served in leadership roles in her community, our Diocese and in the National Association of Women Religious (LCWR).

In 2006, She received the LCWR Outstanding Leadership Award. At that time Sr. Miriam Therese Larkin CSJ stated, "We really cannot measure the value of her service to women religious in the



Sr. Catherine Pinkerton



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The Gaelic Athletic Association Winter Update

As activities on the field slow down with the cooling weather, GAA members remain active in the off-season (if there is such a thing anymore!). Annual General Meetings (AGMs) abound at all levels of the organization. The Midwest was well represented at the United States Gaelic Athletic Association (USGAA) meeting in November, proving itself once again as a top division in the country.

On December 2nd, clubs from Akron, Buffalo, Cincinnati, Columbus, Detroit, and Pittsburg joined their Cleveland counterparts at the West Side Irish American Club in Olmsted Township for the Midwest AGM. Congratulations to returning MW Chairperson, Martin Wall, and good luck to all of the board in planning another successful

upcoming season.

Midwest Divisional Board 2018:

Chairman: Martin Wall (Cleveland SP-SJ); Vice Chair: Tom Dowd (Pittsburgh Celtics); Secretary: Sean Stayduhar (Pittsburgh Pucas); Treasurer: Danielle McCullough (Pittsburgh Banshees); Registrar: Matt Lomot (Buffalo Fenians); PRO: Paul Mulcaire (Buffalo Fenians); Youth Officer: Garrett O Donohue (Detroit Harps)

Winter Youth Clinics - Both Cleveland and Detroit took advantage of grant offers from the Irish Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Gaelic Athletic Association (Croke Park), and the US Gaelic Athletic Association. The clubs used the funding to promote local Gaelic Games to area youths. Cleveland continues their 2017 Free Friday Youth Clinics into 2018! Clinics are open to players new and old, boys and girls, ages 5 to 14. The clinics include both

Good Luck to all the 2018 Ohio Rose of Tralee Applicants.

The Selection Ceremony will be held February 17th.

- Mary Kate Campbell** - Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival, Cleveland, OH
- Ciara Delahunty** - Stone Mad, Cleveland, OH
- Shannon Enoch** - Sean's Pub & Eatery, Garrettsville, OH
- Maureen Rose Ginley** - Ohio Irish American News, All of Ohio
- Kayle Gray** - The Flat Iron Cafe, Cleveland, OH
- Grainne Hutchinson** - Fado Irish Pub - Columbus, OH
- Kelli Kachmar** - Terrence J. Kenneally & Assoc. Co., Rocky River, OH
- Victoria Korce** - Casey's Irish Imports, Rocky River, OH
- Erin Stefancin** - Gormley's Pub, Rocky River, OH

Gaelic Football and Hurling with plenty of scrimmage time.

Youth Free Fridays at Soccer Sportsplex 31515 Lorain Road, North Olmsted: February 9th and March 9th, from 7PM to 830PM. Contact stpatsyouthgfc@gmail.com with questions.

Athletic, Young Males Wanted - No this isn't one of those weird Craigslist ads - the ancient Irish sport of Gaelic Football, a sport that has elements of soccer, rugby, and even basketball, is alive and well right here in Cleveland. We recently won the National Championship in 2015, and have made an appearance in the Midwest Championship for four consecutive seasons. We're looking to add new faces to the squad as we look forward to the upcoming 2018 season. Gaelic experience isn't necessary, but a background with athletics at the high school level is a plus. This is a great way to also meet similar-minded, competitive guys in the area and have that same team-like camaraderie your life might be currently missing. If interested, please fill out the questionnaire at ClevelandGAA.com, and please contact our Player Representative at info@clevelandgaa.com, with questions.

Cleveland GAA 2018 Indoor Practice Schedule at Soccer Sportsplex 31515 Lorain Road, North Olmsted: Tuesday March 20, 7PM-8PM. New Player Night Social to follow at Fuzzy's; Tuesday March 27, 8PM-9PM; Tuesday April 3, 8PM-9PM; Tuesday April 10, 8PM-9PM; Tuesday April 17, 8PM-9PM; Tuesday April 24, 8PM-9PM.

Akron Area - Winter Hurling is Here: The Indoor Season has begun. This is a great opportunity to knock the rust off with some warm ups, learn a new sport, and have fun playing lots of games too! Where: Force Sports 215 Spring-side Drive Akron 44333; When: Sundays 1pm-2:30pm; Payment: \$10 per session We will be going to Winking Lizard/Lizardville in Fairlawn for refreshments immediately after practice (right down the street). Contact Chairperson Miklos Schauer at akronhurling@gmail.com with any questions.

McManamon Family Traditions Help Sustain Irish Culture in Cleveland

By Joe Mossbrook

Tom McManamon Jr. is the third-generation incarnation of a family legacy that has promoted Irish culture throughout Greater Cleveland for the better part of a century. The McManamon tradition began in the 1930s, when Tom's grandfather, Thomas J. McManamon, served as the city's engineer, overseeing the developed the Irish Cultural Garden along what is now Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. in Cleveland.

The family patriarch passed away in 1939 before the garden was completed. But the drive to perpetuate Irish culture was passed down to his son, Thomas F. McManamon Sr., who in 1958 became one of the original founders of the United Irish Societies of Greater Cleveland. Tom Sr. served as the executive director of the Irish Societies for five years, until 1963, and he remained active until 1970.

Tom Jr., the oldest of six boys in his family, followed his father's passion for the Irish holiday and has been active in the parade for the past 47 years. He went on to serve as executive director from 2001 to 2004 and remains active today as executive director emeritus.

During his four-year service as executive director, Tom Jr.

brought the parade into the 21st century by updating operations and expanding the event. He automated the financials, developed the first web site, secured television coverage and moved the planning



meetings and banquets from local hotels to Irish-American clubs.

Since Tom Jr. took over the reins, parade attendance and participation has increased. Today, the parade draws between 250,000 to 500,000 people downtown. High school bands from various suburbs now participate, individual donations have increased, and the organization continues

to expand with new elements and greater diversity.

Preserving Irish culture has been just one of the McManamon family traditions. Another is the 71-year-old insurance business started by Tom Sr. in 1946, when he returned from World War II, piloting B-26 bombers.

Tom Sr. founded the agency working in life and health insurance. McManamon Insurance has since expanded into a wide range of professional liability, commercial insurance products, residential and foreign liability.

Tom Jr. joined the agency in 1970, after he left the Air Force working as an air-traffic controller and an airborne combat controller. He became president of the agency in 1983. By 1990, Tom had tripled the size of the agency and expanded the lines into professional, commercial and foreign liability.

Today, after 48 years in the industry, and in cooperation with several other McManamon family members, Tom serves as the Westlake agency's principal, overseeing the property and casualty practice, in which the agency is licensed in 32 states, as well as foreign liability. Tom also focuses on foreign liability for commercial and business-to-business products, contracts and directors' & officers' liability.

For Tom and other members of the family business, McManamon Insurance has thrived on personalized products, attention to detail and customer service. The agency maintains the expertise and resources of a major firm. As a result, the agency has sustained a 98 percent client retention rate for nearly 50 years, ranking among the top 1 percent for the industry nationwide.

Tom and his wife Jackie have been married for more than 48 years and live in Avon Lake. They have three children, Kim, TJ and Patrick, and eight grandchildren.



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Quality Time

There are proverbs that state that we should make time for people, take opportunities when they appear, be spontaneous and appreciate things that are genuinely valuable. Yet we do not always do it. We get overwhelmed and preoccupied with what is really the minutia of daily life.

Usually, someone is only asking for our time. The funny thing, is that giving the gift of your time often creates a kind of alchemical reaction, in which you end up with more than you put in.

A few friends and I were asked

to have lunch with a 10- year old nun, Sr. Jerome Corcoran, who is the great aunt of my friend Tom. Immediately my "to do" lists flew before my eyes; it was after all, two weeks before Christmas.

But Tom is so very fond of her; besides how many chances do you get to meet someone who is over 100? Not only was it worth the lost shopping/ wrapping/ coffee drinking time, I can't wait to go again!

If you were to list the clichés that you believe lead to a long life, Sr. Jerome would be the walking embodiment of all of them. She is positive, cheerful, generous and

with a good sense of humor. While this may sound like sugary embellishment, I promise that it is not.

She emanates positive life force from every pore. In person, Sr. Jerome is winsome, spry and sparky, in the distinctive way that only the Irish can be. She talked on her cell phone at the table, normally bad manners, but in her it was charming. She was helping a former student navigate the student loan process.

She loves dessert. She not only saved room for dessert- chocolate lava cake no less, but insisted on it. There definitely are some good genes at work there.

Considering the expanse of time of her life, I had to start by asking her about her youth. She was born in Chicago in 1916. While she said that the family never had any money, she doesn't remember noticing; it was just part of life. When she was around 7 years old, the family moved back to Ireland: Newport in Co. Mayo specifically.

Again, the family were not really prosperous, but they were always kind. She related an anecdote about her time in Ireland; she was always looking for ways to help. One night the family sat down to their usual evening meal of stir about. She was given the distinction of going out and getting the milk from the cow for the meal.

She was given a pail for one hand, and a gas lamp for the other. Trying to both milk the cow and steady the lamp, she ended up spilling oil into the milk. She was afraid that she would be in trouble because she spoiled the milk, and put a damper on the family meal, but she said no one said a word about it to her. They just continued with the meal.

She remembered that lesson as her life went on and she became a teacher. Sr. Jerome does not believe in punishment for children, ever. She told another story about sorting planting potatoes and being asked to then carry a large basket of "planters" or seed potatoes. She was small and therefore sure that she could not manage the task. She remembers her grandmother saying something to her to the effect of nothing gets done by thinking about it. She managed.



I asked her about the Irish language, and she said that her time in Ireland coincided with the time of the Black and Tans, and people were banned from learning Irish. Her parents could not speak it at all and she can't either. She remembers hearing a phrase that her grandmother used in Irish Gaelic for "on my oath." The family ended up moving back to the United States and settling in Cleveland, which was booming at the time and generating many employment opportunities.

Sr. Jerome Corcoran has passion too. Overall, you could say that her passion is the mind and learning. Initially, she pursued her own education through the convent school. She then went on to achieve both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in English from Catholic University of Ohio.

Not satisfied with that, she also earned a doctorate from Case Western University and taught some university courses. Sr. Jerome founded Millcreek Children's Center, which began as pre-school for lower income working families and has grown into a charter school for the area. She was acting director of the school, servicing children grades pre-k-6, for 35 years.

She and some other Ursuline nuns ran a successful GED program for many years. She founded Sister Jerome's Mission, whose aim was to assist families in need. She tutored at the Community Corrections Association.

Her current passion is brain research. Sr. Jerome has been fortunate with a long life and a razor-sharp mind. But she has seen the devastation of disease in her

community, particularly Alzheimer's. In her role as an advocate against brain disease, she has already willed her brain to science, and encourages others to do so too. You can't be surprised to hear that she is called "The little nun who gets things done" by those who know her, particularly in the Youngstown area. Sr. Jerome's contributions to her community have been unfailingly valuable.

There is no way that this portrait has captured the spirit of Sr. Jerome. I am afraid that she sounds hard-working, but no fun to be around; that just couldn't be further from the truth. Our little group was so delighted that we had the opportunity to spend time with someone so inspiring and full of life.

Sitting with her, we were easily the most popular people in the restaurant, loads of people knew her and wanted to say hello. We live in an ageist society, which so often devalues the old; what a loss and mistake that is on our part. The time you give will help you live better. Sr. Jerome could not be a better example of that.

A New Year's wish: "May you never forget what is worth remembering, or remember what is best forgotten."

*Lisa O'Rourke is an educator from Akron. She has a BA in English and a Master's in Reading/Elementary Education. Lisa is a student of everything Irish, primarily Gaelic. She runs a Gaelic study group at the AOH/Mark Heffernan Division, and is married to Dónal and has two sons, Danny and Liam. Lisa enjoys art, reading, music, and travel and enjoys spending time with her dog, cats and fish. Contacted her at olisa07@icloud.com.

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Colin Flynn

It's funny what chords trigger a memory about loved ones we've lost in death. With my Grandpa, Charles John Flynn (Charlie), they're vivid for me. A close game where I just can't let my son win ... Grandpa's unyielding competitive wrath. A moment of affection with my children ... the memory that he gave me a wet, whiskery kiss accompanied by an "I love ya" every time I saw him. The healing power of humor, his baseball mitt sized



Colin Flynn's grandfather

hands from working in the coal mines et al. It's been 15 years and these memories are treasures to me.

The interesting puzzle in Grandpa's legacy has always been, where did he really come from? We knew the stories that had been pieced together, but no origin to the story.

On August 23, 1915, he was left on the steps of St. Ann's Church in Brooklyn, New York with a simple note that read, "This is little Charles Schartz, he's 8 days

old. Please take care of him."

But how did he get there? Was he really German or Jewish, based on the note? It amazes me at times that my children or I exist on his inequitable beginning. For the next two years, he lived with the Nuns of St. Ann's.

In 1917, he was adopted by Jack and Mary Flynn and moved to Scranton, Pennsylvania. Jack was born near Tuam, County Galway in 1874, and Mary, née McNulty, in Ballina, County Mayo in 1877. They actually never met in Ireland, meeting for the first time in the States and marrying.

Jack came to work in the anthracite coal mines (more on that later), and Mary to live with her cousins the Boyles. Interestingly, the 1910 U.S. census lists the Flynn's having a newborn son named Michael, but by the 1920 census it only listed Charles (5 years old) and Margaret (7 years old). Grandpa never mentioned ever having or knowing about a brother. Margaret, also adopted, left when Grandpa was 14 to find her birth father in New York City.

Although Jack came to work in the coal mines, he was more adept at subversion. With Mary's cousins the Boyles, he first got involved in the anthracite coal strike in 1902, and became a long-time union organizer, supporting the efforts of John Mitchell, founding member of the United Mine Workers of America.

Mitchell's statue stands outside of Lackawanna County Courthouse in Scanton, with the inscription, "Champion of Labor, Defender of Human Rights." Jack's claim to fame per Grandpa's recounting was that he was a pallbearer at Mitchell's funeral.

Jack was a polarized Behanesque character, gregarious but with an excessive love of all beverages fermented. This coupled with his union loyalties put him permanently out of work at age 52.

Although Grandpa was a lifetime lover of reading and learning, this ended his academic career, and began his role as the sole breadwinner of the Flynn household. He started as a delivery boy for clothier Hart Schaffner Marx, and worked various odd jobs until he turned 16 and was old enough to work in the mines, which he did for the next nine years; in the mines when they were open, and the Civil Conservation Corp. when they weren't.

In 1940, he married my Grandma, Blodwyn Hughes, the daughter of a Welsh coal miner. By the next year, work was sparse, Grandma was pregnant with my Uncle, and they were on their way to Cleveland looking for opportunity.

Being from Scranton, and the son of a Democratic quasi-politician, union guy proved helpful in finding work. Grandpa found out that the "Works Manager" at White Motor Company was from Scranton and they hit it off. For the next 37 years he worked for White Trucks. I wish that's what the expression "only in Cleveland" stood for, opportunity.

As far as identity went, Grandpa was Irish. He was raised in an Irish-Catholic neighborhood, by immigrants John and Mary. He visited family back in Tuam; he kissed the Blarney Stone. He had no desire to ever meet his birth parents who abandoned him. But the curiosity was still there for us.

A few years ago, my Dad, a biochemist by trade, started reading about the genetic testing that could be done to determine ancestral background. He got a kit from the genographic project that the National Geographic was promoting, provided the swabs and sent the kit back in with anticipation.

After quite a few weeks, we got the results back; we were dumbfounded.

Continued on page 29



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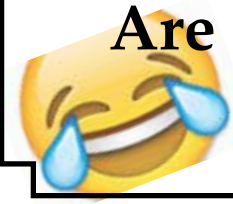
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by Maury Collins*

John O'Grady passed away and the Father Flanagan was speaking to his widow, Mary, gathering information about John for his homily at the funeral Mass. Mary said "Father, he was a good man. He belonged to the AOH, the K of C and the Holy Name Society."

I heard that John was also a member of the KKK, Father replied. What is the KKK, Father? Mary asked. "You know, those devils beneath the sheets,"

"Ah, sure, and he was a charter member of that gang," said Mary.

An elderly couple is sitting together watching television. During one of 'those' commercials, the husband asked his wife, "Whatever happened to our sexual relations?" After a long thoughtful silence (and during the next commercial), the wife replied, "You know, I don't know. I don't even think we got a Christmas card from them this year."

Miss O'Leary was a lovely little old spinster. After Mass one Sunday, she went up to the priest and said, "I have to tell you Father, your sermons are a wonder to behold. Sure, we didn't know what sin was till you came to the parish!"

'I'll have fish and chips twice,' announced O'Driscoll.
'Very well,' said the shopkeeper.
'The fish won't be long.
'Then they'd better be fat,' suggested O'Driscoll



Paddy was driving his truck when he saw a bridge with a sign saying 10-foot maximum headroom. He slowed down, wondering if he could drive under it or not, 'Ah sure I'll give it a go, he thought, only to

find that his truck got stuck underneath it.

Paddy sat back in his seat, poured out a cup of tea and lit a cigarette. A policeman arrived a short time later and knocked on the cab door, which Paddy then opened.

"What do you think you are doing?" asked the policeman in a sharp tone.

"Sure I'm having me tea break," replied Paddy.

"And what do you work at," asked the policeman?

"I deliver bridges," replied Paddy!

A man got on a bus with both of his front trouser pockets full of golf balls and sat down next to young lady. The puzzled lady kept looking at him and his bulging pockets. Finally, after many glances from her, he said, "It's golf balls."

The lady continued to look at him for a very long time, thinking deeply about what he had said. After several minutes, not being able to contain her curiosity any longer, she asked, "Does it hurt as much as tennis elbow?"

An old drunk is on his way into a bar when a nun standing outside the bar suddenly spoke to him. "Your drinking is the easy road to evil and damnation. Drink will pollute your body and soul. Give up the foul spirits and live a better life!"

The drunk looked at her and asked, "How do you know that drinking is so bad for you?" The nun looks puzzled and shrugs.

The drunk asks, "Have you ever even tried a drink?" The nun admits she hasn't, so the drunk tells her, "Listen, I'll go into the bar and order myself a drink and I'll get one for you too. I'll bring it out here and you can taste it yourself and see that alcohol is nothing bad."

The nun reluctantly agrees, but says, "I don't want anybody out here getting the wrong idea about me, so would you mind bringing me the drink in a paper cup?" The drunk agrees to this and goes inside.

At the bar he tells the bartender, "Give me a double shot of whiskey, and a second half shot in a paper cup."

The bartender groans and says, "Is that bloody nun out there again?"



Off the Shelf

by Terry Kenneally

A TOP Shelf Selection



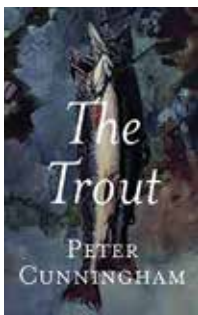
The Trout

by Peter Cunningham
Arcade Publishing ISBN
9781628727449 2017, 284 PP

This is the second book reviewed in this column (the first being *The Sea and the Silence*), by Peter Cunningham, an Irish author who resides in County Kildare.

Writer/ protagonist Alex Smyth, the narrator of this exquisitely told tale, grew up in the southeastern part of Ireland, but when the story opens, he lives in Canada with his wife Kay.

One day he receives a letter in the mail containing only a fishing lure (A trout lure?). It's receipt immediately stirs up some long-forgotten childhood memory, and the unsettling thought that he may have mur-



dered someone in his past.

Around this same time Smyth, who is a writer, had just completed his first novel, in which he falsely eulogizes his elderly and estranged father, Dr. Patrick Smyth. Also at this time, his wife begins to have doubts about their marriage and fears a stalker in her life. The author artfully spins all three stories at once into a suspenseful tale which leaves one guessing about the denouement.

There is more to the story, however, then even the above summary encompasses.

We all experience moments in our life when a memory from our deep unconsciousness floats to the surface, that we have difficulty coming to grips with; something that is

part of us but we don't know what it is. There is a tendency to deny what we see actually happening.

An example is Germany in the 1930s. Even though people would actually see what was happening to the Jews, they were able to convince themselves that it was too

horrific to be happening. The same thing happened in Ireland in the 1990s, when it came to light that hundreds of priests had abused thousands of children. These cases could not have been a secret, yet the reaction of the Church was indicative of a mindset established

over centuries. In *The Trout*, Alex comes to comprehend that his father was aware of a monstrous clerical abuse crime and acquiesced in its commission.

Throughout the book, there are

Continued on next page

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The Trout

Continued from last page

brief, cogent paragraphs about trout that provide a connecting thread to the story. The hidden truth, which remained suppressed for decades, bursts upward out of the depths and into the daylight like a beautiful shimmering trout.

This reader found *The Trout* a TOP SHELF read.

*Terrence J. Kenneally is an attorney and owner of Terrence J. Kenneally & Associates Co. in Rocky River, Ohio. Mr. Kenneally represents insureds and insurance companies throughout the state of Ohio in insurance defense cases. He received his Masters in Irish Studies from John Carroll University and teaches Irish history and literature at Holy Name High School. Mr. Kenneally is also the President of Holy Name for 2017-18.



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ACROSS

- 2 ___ beats [Dublin] (resident group on RTE The Showband Show turned showband)
3 Western ___ Flyers Showband [Charlestown]
8 ___ Blues Showband [Tralee]
9 Aces Pioneer Showband [Ballinrobe]
11 Mattie McDonagh ___ Band [Claremorris]
13 ___ Showband [Wicklow] (Maisie McDaniel, Kelly, Roly Daniels in the 60's)
15 Brose ___'s Showband [Castlebar] (one of Mayo's longest running and best known bands)
17 ___ Seas Showband [Tramore]
18 Mick O'Loughlin Dance ___ [Claremorris]
19 ___ Ruane Showband [Ballina]
22 Johnny ___ & The Country Band [Dublin] (Johnny's first, and only, band)
25 ___ Wilkinson Band [Dublin] (played resident in the Theatre Royal Dublin before going on the road)
26 Rhythm ___ Showband [Ballintubber]
27 Liam Ivory's ___ Showband [Tuam]

More Irish Showbands

by Linda Fulton Burke



Solution on page 26

www.CrosswordWeaver.com

29 ___ Caste Dance Band [Ballintubber]

(lead by the late Peter Shanaghe)

31 ___ Lowney Orchestral Showband

[Wexford]

33 Jimmy ___ Showband [Killaloe]

34 Johnny and the ___ Showband

[Derry]

35 ___ beats Showband (featuring Betty

Anne) [Dublin]

36 ___ Foy Showband [Greedore] (formed by Leo

Brennan, father of Enya and members of Clannad)

DOWN

1 Vanguard ___ [Tralee] (featured vocalist Little Eddie in the late 60's)

2 ___ B. Jordan Showband [Ballina]

4 P.J. Tierney ___ [Carlow]

5 Smokey ___ Ramblers (band featured fiddler

George Kaye and lead singer Pat Ely)

6 ___ Blues Showband (featuring Doc Carroll)

[Claremorris]

7 Ciaran ___ Ceili Band [Athlone]

10 ___ McCafferty Showband

[Ballybofey / Stranorlar]

12 Swing ___ Showband** [Nenagh]

14 ___ Showband [Westport, Co. Mayo]

16 ___ Seven Showband with Phil

Munnely [Crossmolina]

20 Premier ___ Showband [Ballintubber]

(Roscommon's best known showband, previously the Pioneer Aces)

21 ___ Showband [Tralee] (Mossie Burke's

resident band in Horan's, Ballybunion & Hydro Hotel, Kilkee)

22 ___ Showband (featuring Dickie Rock) [Dublin]

23 ___ Showband (featuring Gerry Cronin) [Tuam]

(One of the West's best known showbands)

24 Wood ___ Showband [Dundalk]

(on the road in 1959)

26 ___ Commandos [Kilkenny]

(became the Nomads in 1964)

28 ___ Stuart Orchestra [Dublin] -resident band at

Dublin's Palm Court Ballroom)

30 ___ Shadows [Dublin]

32 ___ choppers Showband [Derry]

(on the road in 1963-1966)

Irish Network Across the USA Monthly Denver

By Steve Lenox, President, Irish Network USA (INUSA)

I had the pleasure of visiting Denver, Colorado and meeting with many members of the Global Irish community in the Mile High City. The trip came at the invitation of INUSA Treasurer Maura Claire and new IN Colorado President Lisa Switzer, and was to be an opportunity to bring that chapter the latest news about

continued advocacy for our efforts to engage Irish, Irish Americans and 'friends' of Ireland in Denver and beyond.

With Michael leading the way, we made our arrival at the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce's annual State of Small Business Breakfast. While it is easy to get caught up in the ineffective strategy of simply moving from person to person, collecting and

Michael is utilizing in making connections that produce real results, I have no doubt that Denver will continue to increase its profile as a place where Ireland based initiatives such as those of the IDA and Enterprise Ireland will find a receptive audience.

Following the breakfast came an amazing opportunity to meet with James Lyons. Now serving as Honorary

they are putting in, and the wonderful accomplishments they are achieving, they asked, like so many chapter leaders have before them, "what else can we be doing!"

This conversation was a great precursor of the IN Colorado Board meeting I was proud to attend that evening. As attendees arrived, it became apparent that our reputation, as stated by former Ambassador Anne Anderson, of being "diverse and inclusive," was being met and exceeded in Denver.

Those who feel more attached to Ireland and the Irish community through business, shared strategies with those who thought it was through the arts that they could have the most impact. Those born in Ireland and living in Denver for decades sat next to newer arrivals, with only slightly more attendees in the room that, while not born in Ireland, feel every bit as connected to "home" as those that grew up in Cork, Dublin, Clare and many places in between. This again was a reminder that the Irish community, no matter where it is located, comes together to support its own, while also making huge efforts to bring others in to the mix regardless of heritage or ethnicity. That's day 1 covered!

For fear of getting to a length that makes the reader's eyes glaze over, I'll summarize the second day by saying it was even more impressive and productive than the first.

The trip proved to be a wonderful opportunity to meet and hear from leaders of the "Global Irish" community in a city that is not normally recognized for its "Irishness," a fact in and of itself that truly reflects how expansive the efforts of Irish Network USA are, and the impact, when working together, we can have on strengthening the ties, whether they be cultural, business, educational or any other, between America and Ireland.



our growing community all across the US.

The emails and invitations to participate in various events and meetings during my time there came well before my trip even started, offering encouragement that my limited time would be well spent. The cordial welcome I received was certainly reflective of the "Cead Mile Failte" the Irish are so well known for.

My very full itinerary started with a 6:30 a.m. pickup at my gracious host's home by Michael Keavney, whose own "Global Irish" story spans several decades, and includes impressive work in international trade on behalf of the US government. Irish Network USA would not be where it is today without the early and committed support of Michael, and his

distributing as many business cards as possible, we used the lessons we've learned from Ireland's own networking guru, Kingsley Aikins, and set out to use the limited amount of time we had to make truly meaningful connections with our fellow attendees. As is almost always the case, the mere mention of Ireland got people's attention, and opened up opportunities for conversations about INUSA's mission of encouraging "investment" in Ireland.

After hearing speaker after speaker discuss in real numbers the amazing economic growth that Denver is currently experiencing; seeing first-hand the response we got to our promotion of Irish Network; and knowing the skill, experience and passion Mi-

Consul General of Ireland in Denver, Mr. Lyons has a record of service to Ireland that is second to none. To sit with a man who President Bill Clinton himself has said "was very important to the peace process in Northern Ireland," and to hear firsthand of his support of INUSA's continued efforts towards growth. It was all the reassurance one could ask for that we are on the right track!

Lunch with IN Colorado President Lisa Switzer and Vice President Mary Ryan provided a not entirely surprising list of efforts they and their Board are taking on to grow visibility and become an even more integral part of the equation when it comes to keeping Denver's Irish community connected and engaged. Despite all the time



Ambassador Dan Mulhall Addressing the INUSA 2017 National Conference in Chicago

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Gerry Quinn Mans the Airwaves, for 38 years (so far)

Gerry Quinn has been on the air in Cleveland for 38 year's this month. Think of that, 38 years, times 52 weeks every year ~ that's 1,976 shows! The sheer number of causes, events, fundraisers and guests brought on to allow them to speak about a significant moment, concert, achievement or awards given a voice by Quinn Irish Radio is probably uncountable, at this point. We should always count our blessings. You are ours, Gerry.

Coming to America: I came out of high school in 1960, there was very little work available, few jobs. There was a job in the Coca-Cola plant in Ballina, for a

clerk, it paid £2 pounds a week, and had applicants from all over Ireland. My father said I should go to and take the Galway University admission test, I took the test and was admitted. My dad had been a schoolteacher. I wanted to go to England, to see the world. Dad said I don't want to go to England; he was hurt by England and its role in Ireland. He said he would write to his brother and sister in Cleveland, and like the song, "The Streets of New York," they said, "send the lad over."

I left on the 30th of April, out of



Cobh, Cork. I arrived in New York on 6 May 1961. I had \$20 in my pocket when I got to New York. John Gar-

vey, my friend, met me. Imagine arriving, I was 19; if John wouldn't have there to meet me; oh my God.

I stayed a week. We went to The Mill House in the Bronx, a place where from right after mass until midnight on Sundays, live music was played.

My Aunt called, "Look, I signed your papers; get your xx over here. I got on the train; dinner was eight dollars; a lot of money then. When I got off the train to Cleveland, I had two dollars and 89 cents.

I saw the sign at the train station and it said East Cleveland. I got off, I thought I had arrived. There was no one there to meet me. There were three people on the platform. I went to one guy, showed him my ticket and he said no, you're supposed to be in downtown Cleveland.

I had a phone number in my pocket. I didn't know how to use the phone. He said there's the phone and I told him I don't know how to use it. He says you have to give me a dime; I didn't even know what a dime was.

My aunt came to the station and then took me up to the house. I had one sports coat; one overcoat; one pair of pants; that's all. The gang came to the house to meet the greenhorn for a big celebration. I didn't know them. I didn't know if I was coming or going.

As time went by, I got used to the food. My aunt gave me advice: "We signed your papers; that means we are responsible for you. I'm not sending you home in a coffin."

My first job was at a paint company, at one dollar an hour; my first check was \$32. My aunt got the life insurance guy to come to the house - do you know who it was? It was John Campbell, of The Pride of Erin. That was the summer of 1961.

I joined the building trades just as my 3 uncles; Pat, Mike and John did, on arriving to Cleveland in 1914. My uncle John opened his own business, John Quinn Plumbing and Heating in 1925. In June or July, 1961, I went to the Westside IA (Irish American) Club on Madison Ave. for the first time. Pat Lynch questioned me, who are your relatives? I said Bridie Quinn. "Ahh, you're all right," he said.

I met Kevin McGinty, Pat Sweeney, Pete Campbell, Steve Mulloy, Bridgie Conway, Ann Campbell, Theresa Moran and many more whose friendship I value to this very day. Married my wife Nellie in 1967 and had 6 children. Together we have 5 sons, Patrick, Sean, Kevin, Jerry

Continued on next page

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Quinn with Enda Kenny

& Michael and daughter Mary Ellen.

I went to work for a Philadelphia engineering company in 1979; they sent me to Dublin as a project manager on construction of a pharmaceutical facility.

On St. Patrick's Day that year, I stopped at my office in Dublin; it was a holiday in Ireland. It's not the same there as it is here.

I called my friend, Leo D'Arcy of WELW Radio. We talked for over an hour. I didn't know that when I called he pushed the "record" button. When we were done, he said, "Gerry, I recorded it; I may play parts of it all day long for St. Patrick's Day."

I said, "that's fine; you know we have no Irish radio show in Cleveland."

One year later, I was just back in the States a few days, when Leo called. "Welcome back. Remember the conversation we had about you doing a radio show? You did promise me when you came back you would start an Irish radio show."

I answered well, I don't remember it that way, but OK, I'll do it. I did the first one in February 1980.

I was privileged to work with Bill Randall. He became a good friend. He brought rock-n-roll to Cleveland. He was one who brought Elvis to Brooklyn High School in 1956. It was the first time Elvis had been north of the Mason-Dixon line. That's the thing I really enjoyed about radio, the people I worked with, I met; I got to know many radio personalities at WRMR. Then WCLV, a classical station, for about three years, now WHK 1420 AM.

My favorite moments are when people come to me and ask me about songs, artists, and events that occur in Ireland and in our Cleveland Irish community; I think we fulfill a service to our community. Our audience is targeted; people listen. They know the people we are talking about. I think we make a difference. Starting the Irish American Club

East Side (IACES): Well, we used to hang around a bar called Tim O'Brien's by the Tracks (Sarah O'Brien Dirk's father). We were sitting around and heard Makem & Clancy were coming to Lakewood Auditorium. They were taking a bus to go see them.

I said to Bill Carney, we should be doing those here on the East side ourselves, Bill said. "Let's do it."

Word spread like wild fire. I don't know why. The timing was right it seems. We had our first meeting on Super Bowl Sunday in 1978. With a \$100 charter membership, we got 50 people right away. Then we set up another level, at \$20 per person. And the next thing you know, we had 500 members.

It was Bill Carney, Jack Carroll, Tim O'Brien, Pat Talty, Jack Kilroy Sr., Mary O'Donnell-Patek, Pat Handley, Peggy O'Neill, Ken Haggerty, John Campbell, Tom McMahon, Bill Summer, Sandy McDonnell, Cliff Faudree ... there were 38 original names.

Our first event was at Villa Angela - we had free beer. Frank O'Hara from Chicago was the band. We had 500 people. In 1981, Bill Homan knew of a furniture store in Euclid that was for sale. The club purchased it as their future home.

The best thing that ever happened to me would be being selected as the Grand Marshal for the St. Patrick's Day Parade in 2011. Another great honor was to work with the Mayo Society of Greater Cleveland to bring the Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny to Cleveland. As far as I know, he is the only Irish prime minister to visit the city of Cleveland.

I am proud of being the first president of East Side Irish American Club and the first president of The Mayo Society of Greater Cleveland. I think it is important to extend beyond the person, to give back to benefit the community. The Mayo Society has given over \$30,000 to the Irish Cultural Gardens, over \$200,000.00 to various charities, including 4 annual scholarships with John Carrol University and National University Ireland Galway.

I really don't think of legacy; that's up to other people. I hope that the things that we start will continue.

38 years is a pretty good start on a great legacy; constant vigilance in helping others, offers no hindrance, so that legacy writes itself. Thank God Aunt Bridie insisted Gerry come to Cleveland; our community has been remarkably and permanently impacted, for the better.



Saint Nicholas Visits Cincinnati Irish American Theatre Company

The Irish-American

Theatre Company will host a special-event performance on February 9, at 8:00 p.m., at the Irish Heritage Center of Cincinnati. Saint Nicholas, by Irish playwright Conor McPherson, is a funny and lively tale of love, loss, and vampires. It will be performed by Jim Stark, who recently made his first

Cincinnati appearance, in The Arsonists at Know Theatre.

Mr. Stark is a professional actor who has appeared on stages across the U.S., and abroad. The production originated with the Riverrun Theatre Company of Madison, Indiana. All proceeds from this benefit performance will support the mission of the Irish Heritage Center. Tickets on sale now \$18 for students, \$20 for public. For booking and more information, call 513-533-0100

There are over 1.4 million people of Irish descent in Ohio; 475,000 in Greater Cleveland; 175,000 in Cuyahoga County: Want to reach them? Advertise in the Ohio Irish American News: jobrien@ianohio.com.



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Cleveland Comhra by Bob Carney

Art by John P. O'Brien

"When my sister Margaret was emigrating, I'll never forget it, she was getting in the taxi and looked up at the house; I was looking out

the window, and she got out and came back into the house and said, "Sean, when you're old enough, I'm going to take you to America."

Those words were imprinted on my mind and from that day, I knew I was going to America, because my sister Margaret said so. I lived with that for years.

"I remember as a child being on Black Mountain, and the airport was behind the mountain and the planes would be flyin' over. We'd be layin' in the grass on the mountain watching the planes and I'd be sayin', "One day I'm gonna be on one of those planes. My buddies would just say, "yeah, right Sean."

"That was a beautiful spot; I hear there's a move on to save the mountain, so much of it's been blasted away for the quarrying. When I was a boy you could hear them blasting all day long. Today half that mountain's gone; it will be nice to save it before there's



nothing left.

"I wanted to be a chef, that was my first thing, I wanted to be a chef. There were very few hotels in Belfast at that time. I would keep going to all the hotels there, trying to get in as an apprentice chef.

Finally one day, I was walking out of the kitchen of one of these hotels after bein' told no again. A guy came up to me and says, 'You're not going to get a job as a chef's apprentice.' "I said 'why not?' He said because, 'you're Catholic.'

That was the first; I wasn't even thinking

Catholic, Protesant, would make a difference getting a job! I said what? He said 'Son, you're not going to get a job as an apprentice in a kitchen in Belfast.'

"I walked out of there; I mean, I understood, because of all the chatter I'd heard all of my life. I think I was in shock when I came face to face with it. I'm not sure how I reacted to it back then, but, I remember it so well now.

"So, I never did get that apprenticeship. I shrugged it off, I think, and ended up getting hired as a carpenter's apprentice. Even in construction, there was an antenna atop the mountain, and the company I was working with was doing a job up there. So, I got sent up on that job on Black Mountain, we were up there awhile.

"One day, I was sitting with a buddy of mine havin' lunch, and he says to me, the company was McLaughlin and Harvey, 'How long have you been working with the company?' I said I'd been on a few jobs, and he says to me, 'You know you'll never be a foreman or a supervisor with this company?' I said, 'Whys that?' I knew what was coming, 'because you're Catholic.'

"It was blatant, they'd tell you, you weren't going to progress because you're Catholic. I don't think that ever made me hateful or anything, it was just accepted in those days. You're Catholic, you're staying here, cause you're not going anywhere.

"I never drew unemployment, but some friends of mine were going to the unemployment office one day, and I thought I'd tag along. My buddies were standin' in line and we were all talking away and the next thing we knew we were at the front of the line, and because I'd never been there before I was curious how it worked. I thought I'd do it for a kick, I thought I'd go to the desk and tell them I was looking for a job.

"What do you do?" "I'm a carpenter," I said. 'Oh, you go down six windows, down on your left.'

"So, I'm standing at the window and the fellow says hello and I say 'Hello, I'm looking for a job, I'm a carpenter.'

"Would you like to go to Australia? We've got plenty of jobs in Australia.'

"I said, 'I'm not going to Australia!'

"He knew by my name and from where I lived; I told him I lived up on Falls Road, so he knew I was probably Catholic. I walked away and I thought to myself, that's how they're getting rid of all the Catholics, they're shippin' them to Australia! That set a tone with me.

"Not too long after tha, we had skirmishes in Belfast with Sinn Fein. We had the riots

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Continued on next page

around '65 or '66. My uncle had a shop, used to be a butcher shop, it was closed up and Sinn Fein put the Tri-color in the window and the police came and took the flag out. So of course, Sinn Fein put another one in, and a crowd gathered in case the police came back. "Sure as hell they came again with their batons and pushed the people away and broke the window and took the flag. That kicked off three days of riots. Those three days helped me make a decision later on in life.

"We were battling the police back and forth on the streets, and that was a sign of things to come. When the Troubles came, I was still working around in construction. It got bad in '69 when the police attacked a peaceful demonstration.

"There was nobody to protect the protestors, and they were at the mercy of the police. They talk of th IRA as if they were some big force; not that I could see. So the Catholics started barricading off their own neighborhoods for their own protection.

"There was a neighborhood that had a few Protesant families in it; they never bothered anybody. Anyway, some people decided they wanted these families gone; others at the meeting said no, they've been there for years, they're our neighbors, leave 'em be. But that was the kind of chatter that was going on.

"Then Derry started an uprising, the flame of freedom was spreading through the north. Derry was pretty bad, so to take the pressure off, Belfast started up. It progressed from there.

"In the meantime, I'd gotten married. We lived in a place called Greenisland, which was predominately Protesant, lot of Orangemen. A lot of the guys I worked with were Protesant and I got along with them.

"What happened next was my sister Margaret said it was time for me to come to America. I went to the consulate and got the paperwork, but didn't go through with it. I sent it, but didn't follow through. The Troubles were getting worse, so I went again. When the riots happened, it was three days, I never thought the Troubles would go on for years and years. I thought it would blow over.

I made the decision to come to America in 1971. It broke my heart leaving; Troubles or no Troubles, it broke my heart. But I was coming to my sister and I had two children by then.

"I came here with my family in 1971, and worked construction. The Troubles were still going on back in Belfast. I became involved with Irish Northern Aid. My mother and father had gone to Chicago and got a charter, and started up here in Cleveland.

"A committee was formed and we had rallies at the WSIA on Madison Ave. We were raising money, not for guns, but to help the people back home who were being thrown out of their homes and had to move up to Falls Road.

"Sinn Fein was growing, their philosophy was changing, young people were coming in. I was a supporter of Sinn Fein, but never a member. Soon Irish Northern Aid was spreading all over America, there was a network that came about and money was being shipped back and forth.

"I don't know all the ins and outs, what the money was used for. People were coming to America and speaking of the horrifying things that were going on back in the north of Ireland.

"The H blocks were built, internment, hunger strikes. They were telling people here, this is what's going on in our country. People being murdered by the SAS, the IRA growing, the city being blown apart, burning down; it was horrifying. I've lost friends and relatives, it was bad, it was really, really bad.

"Everythings evolved; the old-timers of the IRA, the old-timers of Sinn Fein, a lot of them have passed away. Then there were differences in how things should go and you had a split in the IRA, the provisional wing and the political wing.

"The people involved talked all day and into the following morning, with no consensus on either side. So the word went out and that's why you had friends fightin' friends, brothers fightin' brothers. It was awful the stories that came out. It took years but they started to set up the framework for a peace agreement, then Clinton went and helped set that up.

"I got the chance to talk to Gerry Adams a few times; he's a deep thinker. When you talk to him, you can feel the patriotism in his words. He's said some things in public, but when you talk one on one, you can feel what's in his heart. He's got a very strong personality; I'll never forget those conversations.

"When the peace agreement came, people said Gerry

Adams was a traitor, that Martin McGuinness was a traitor, but they had a foresight that this war couldn't be won by force. I remember, I was standing at the Irish American Club waiting to hear Gerry Adams speak, the place was packed. Gerry turned to me and asked, 'What do you want me to tell them?' I said tell them the truth. Off he went, and started talking, and was very well recieved by the crowd that night.

"So I was involved. I couldn't sit in America and say the people of Belfast should stay at war. I was here, not in Belfast. I wasn't going to be a back seat driver and tell people there what they should do.

"Whatever direction, I believed in Sinn Fein; I grew up with that. So who am I to tell people how they should live in Belfast?

"Over all these years, you do what you can do; I think that's how democracies are formed. You may be called on one day to do something, to say something to somebody or to knock on a door. You do it; you play your part. Others are called on much more; it builds and it builds to democracy.

"For me, I never thought of the struggles as bringing down a dictatorship, but to establish our own democracy. You may never be called on, but sometimes just talking to someone makes the difference. I did my part, as best I knew how. I am content."



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March 21 – 175 Years of the Cleveland St. Patrick's Day Parade new book talk and signing, w/ Margaret Lynch & Patrick Murphy.

Brooklyn

Hooley House!

9 - Disco Inferno, 23 - Grunge DNA. 10310 Cascade Crossing, Brooklyn 216-362-7700. 1FunPub.com

Cincinnati

Irish Heritage Center

9th - "St. Nicholas" Ireland's fav valentine-glorious Theatre by Conor McPherson 8:00 pm. 11th - Irish American Writers & Artists Mtg 7:00 pm. 25th - Derek Warfield & the Young Wolfe Tones 6:30 pm. Wednesdays: Library nights 6:30-8:00; Thursdays: Free Pub Music 7:00 - 10:00. Tea & Tours by appt; Genealogy by apt: free for current members. Coming SOON – Let's Speak Irish, Thurs - Writing your family history. 3905 Eastern Avenue 513.533.0100. irishcenterofcincinnati.com.

Cleveland

The Harp

2 - Kilroy's Irish Session, 3 - The Porter Sharks, 7 - Lonesome Stars, 9 - Chris Allen, 10 - No Stranger Here, 14 - Chris & Tom,

Stop in for a fish fry! 16- Rachel Brown, 17- The Elderly Brothers, 21- Lonesome Stars, 23- Kristine Jackson, 24- The Auld Pitch, 4408 Detroit Road, 44113 www.the-harp.com

Stone Mad

Traditional Irish Session 1st Sunday of ea/ month, Happy Hour Monday-Friday 4 to 7. 1306 West 65th Street Cleveland 44102 216.281.6500.

Flat Iron Café

2nd - Chad Hoffman, 9th - Donal O'Shaughnessy, 16th - Jim & Eroc Classic Rock, 23rd - Thor Platter. 1114 Center St. Cleveland 44113-2406 216. 696.6968. www.flatironcafe.com

Treehouse

11th - Chris Allen, 18th - Smug Saints, 25th - Austin Walkin' Cane. 820 College Avenue, Cleveland, 44113 www.treehousecleveland.com

PJ McIntyre's

2nd - Crawley & Hopper, 3rd - Abby Road, 7th - Monthly Pub Quiz w/ Mike D. @7pm, 11th - Brady Campbell POKER Tourney - Cash Prizes, help send the World Qualifiers to Scotland!, 13th - Kiwanis Dine for Dollars, 14th - LENT BEGINS ~ Voted Best Fish Fry by FOX 8, & Best Pierogies, 16th - New Barleycorn, 17th - Marys Lane, 22nd - Craic Brothers, 24th - Iced Cherry.

Don't forget to check out Pj's fridays lenten fish fry, and T-Shirt Tues: wear any PJs T-Shirt get 15% off bill! Whiskey Wed: ½ off every whiskey in the house. Thurs - Craft Beer \$2.50. PJ McIntyre's is a Local 10 Union establishment. Home of the Celtic Supporter's Club and the GAA. Book Parties & Events in our Bridgie Ned's Irish Parlor Party Room. 17119 Lorain Road, 44111. www.pjmcintyres.com 216-941-9311.

Music Box Supper Club

27th – Alan Doyle (Great Big Sea), 3/1 – Scythian. 1148 Main Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44113. http://www.musicboxcleveland.com

Flannery's Pub

2nd - Crawley & Hopper, 3rd - Bar Flies, 9th - No Strangers Here, 10th - New Barleycorn, 16th - Kristine Jackson, 17th - Brent Kirby, 23rd - Austin Walkin' Cane. 323 East Prospect, Cleveland 44115 216.781.7782 www.flannerys.com

Avon Lake

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Ahern Banquet Center is booking weddings and special events. Call Tony Ahern / Lucy Balsler @ 440-933-9500. 726 Avon Belden Rd, Avon Lake 44012. www.aherncatering.com

Euclid

Irish American Club East Side

2 - Bog Trotters, 15 - Mary Agnes Kennedy, 25 - New Barleycorn. PUB: 7:30 – 10:30. IACES 22770 Lake Shore Blvd. Euclid, 44123. 216.731.4003 www.eastsideirish.org

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Sully's

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West Side Irish American Club 3rd - The New Barleycorn, and Boxy and Irish Sausage night 4th - Super Bowl Party 17th - Night at the Races 24th - Marching Units Children's Exhibition Dance 3/3 - Honorees and Adult Marching Units Exhibition Dance 3/10 - Annual Claddagh Ball, Great live music and food in

Toledo

Toledo Happenings:

3rd - Blarney Pub Traditional Irish Session w Toraigh An Sonas 5:00-8:00 pm. 10th - Toledo IA Club presents "For the love of Irish Music," starring The Drowsy Lads Plus Toraigh An Sonas, Ardan Academy Irish dancers @Maumee Indoor Theater, Doors open 6:00 pm, Concert @ 7:00 pm, 17th - Prelude to St. Patrick's Day 7-11pm St. Anthony's Church, 4635 St. Anthony Rd. Temperance, MI. w/ Extra Stout, Ardan Academy Irish Dancers. Tickets \$8 (Table of 10 for \$70) includes snacks, 22nd - Daniel O'Donnell Back

Continued on next page



Flanagan's Wake: Kennedy's Theatre at Playhouse Square

Home Again Tour 3:00 pm, Special guest Mary Duff, Tickets: Stranahan Theater web site.

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Hooley House
2 - Morning Glory, 16 - Mossy Moran, 24 - Crowley & Hopper. 24940 Sperry Dr. Westlake 44145. 1FunPub.com (440) 835-2890

Columbus

Shamrock Club Events
2nd - Quiz Night, 4th - General Meeting, 9th - Sirens, 10th - Clann na nGael Dinner, 11th - Blood Drive, 16th - Fish Fry, 17th - Irish Triathlon & Soup Cook-Off, 18th - General Mtg, 23rd - Fish Fry, 24th - Hooligans. Happy Hour every Friday 5-7pm! 60 W. Castle Rd. Columbus 43207 614-491-4449. www.shamrockclubofcolumbus.com

Tara Hall
Traditional Irish music w General Guinness Band & Friends 2nd Friday 8:00 - 11:00pm. No Cover. Tara Hall 274 E. Innis Ave. Columbus, 43207 614.444.5949.

Cleveland Irish Fest

12th - Creative Team Meeting: 6:30, Fairview Park Library, Room A & B

Traditional Irish Social Dancing with Cleveland Ceili Club

The Cleveland Ceili Club promotes the musical traditions of Ireland by providing opportunities for adults to enjoy traditional Irish music and dance.

Set dancing lessons: Tues: 7:30-9:30 pm, St. Clarence Church, North Olmsted;
Wednesdays 7-9 pm, Irish American Club - East Side.

8th & 22nd - Ceili dancing lessons: @ West Side Irish American Club

16th - Winter Ceili, 7:30 pm, Irish American Club- East Side, music by the Kilroys \$10.00 donation at the door.

More info: contact CeiliClubCleveland@gmail.com or find us on Facebook.

Ongoing Traditional Irish Sessiúns

Bring your instruments and play along!

- Unitarian Universalist Church of Fairlawn, 3300 Morewood Dr. 7:30pm. Wednesdays. All skill levels welcome.

- Bardic Circle @The Shamrock Club of Columbus Beginner - friendly, intermediate level Irish session meeting every other Thursdays 8:00pm - 11:00pm

- Briquette's - 1st Saturday of the month, 2-4pm @Ashtabula on the Harbor

- The Harp - 1st Friday of the month, 9pm. 4408 Detroit, Cleveland

- Logan's Irish Pub - 3rd Wednesday of the month, 414 S. Main St., Findlay, 7:30pm

- Oberlin's Traditional Irish Session - 2nd Monday of the month 7 - 9pm Slow Train Café, 55 East College St., Oberlin. Informal, all experience welcome: www.oberlin.net/~irishsession

- Plank Road - Every Thursday 7 -

10pm. All ages and experience welcome. 16719 Detroit Road, Lakewood, 44107

- Tara Hall - Traditional Irish music w General Guinness Band & Friends 2nd Friday 8:00 - 11:00pm. 274 E. Innis Ave. Columbus, 43207 614.444.5949.



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West Side Irish American Club Upcoming Events:

Live Music & Food in The Pub every Friday

3rd - The New Barleycorn, and Boxty and Irish Sausage night

4th - Super Bowl Party

17th - Night at the Races

24th - Marching Units Children's Exhibition Dance

3/3 - Honorees and Adult Marching Units Exhibition Dance

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Sunday Mass; I have never really been a fan of the Vigil Mass. In my mind, it feels like cheating whilst complying with the rules.

Holy Days it is morning Mass, especially Ash Wednesday. We went to the Christmas Vigil Mass, me and the Fam. My nieces were singing in the choir. They think I am old and a little off just because, when asked to leave a name at a restaurant, I

retort, "Ponce de Leon." For most of the choir, this is as good as it gets. Chances are The Voice is not in any of those kids' futures, although you could not tell with the number of phones recording the moment. Parents and grandparents - ushers had to get out the extra chairs and force the flock to tighten up in the pews.

Those without sin cast the first rolling stone - Sancho Panza.

My thing is, I like Church and churches; Eucharistic locality variance.

When I am not scheduled to be a Eucharistic Minister, I visit other parishes. Christmas Mass in San Fran at historic St. Patrick's Church in Latin with a Vietnamese priest; Spanish Mass; Orthodox Mass; Italian Mass; Polish Mass.

I can genuflect in multiple languages and dialects. You never had to tell the Spanish Mass faithful to tighten up in the pews.

That got me to thinking about the 5th Ward in Cleveland and settlement patterns.

"Be it ordained by the City Council of the city of Cleveland, that an alley shall be laid out and established in the city of Cleveland, to be call and known as Summit Alley, to be a continuation of an Alley commencing on Erie street, one hundred and fourteen feet north of the northerly line of Lake street, running westerly parallel with Lake street, through original lot No.21, to Bond street, on the present lines of said alley." - August 19, 1851, The Charters of the Village of Cleveland and the City of Cleveland.

Clevelanders today call them Courts: Bethel Court; Krause Court; Emerald Court. Clevelanders also call that ordinance a run-on. Why an alley you ask? Population swells and the need for low income housing, maximize income potential on property, I answer.

John D. Rockefeller did not live on an alley. He did live next to an Irishman. P. F. McGuire owned the property adjunct to my Johnny on Euclid Avenue back in 1880. That was in East Cleveland, where the rich folk lived.

There is no Summit Alley today. It was only half a block to Lake View Park; there is no Lake View Park there today. It was two blocks to the lake; we still have a lake, relax. It was across the street from the City Hospital of Cleveland. There is no City Hospital of Cleveland there today. The CCHS was moved to Scranton Road in

1889. Established in 1837, it had "disintegrated into an almshouse for the infirm, poor, and insane." - Encyclopedia of Cleveland History says so.

It was next to an alley, an alley tenanted by Irish. Spanish Mass and the Cleveland Irish. Last month we discussed how the Italians were more likely to live near Italians than others. Aunt Irene would say I-talians. They were comparatively new to Cleveland, and especially juxtaposed to the Irish. Spanish Mass; new immigrants have a higher probability to live in clusters, even enclaves, economically and socially. The old neighborhood was typically a hamlet of hovels. Immigrants inhabited these neighborhoods because rent was cheap and it was probably close to work. Living near your brethren gave a sense of the known in a new country full of unknowns.

The census, yes Padre, the census, also silences erstwhile immigrants. Census forms record your place of birth, and your parents' place of birth. Second generation Irish are ethnically erased.

Census forms in 1850 only request "Free Inhabitants." More stones. More alleys.

According to the 1880 Census, Summit Alley housed 38% of the Irish in the Ward. No alley is an island. Reading the August 19, 1851 ordinance was another epiphany. Not the Epiphany.

The nieces thinks me odd for waiting until January 6th to bequeath gifts. Orthodox Mass, or as Aunt Irene would say, "It was good enough for him." Think neighborhood and not Ward: Summit Alley; Lake Street; Erie Street; Bond Street. 56% of the Irish in the Ward were within those coordinates escribed in the ordinance.

Think households and not neighborhoods. 56% is a fair number of Irish. That whole number does not tell the whole story. Alexander (not Dumas); the Lake Street Alexanders, if you please. Anna J, DOB 1858 in New York, both parents born in Ireland; John, DOB 1855 in Indiana, both parents born in

New York; Edna, DOB 1879 in Ohio, daughter of Anna and John; Franklin, DOB 1807 in New York, father born in Ireland and mother in Massachusetts. The 1880 Census says so.

1855 New York Census has Franklin as born in Ireland. He was a Teamster. His son John a printer, no relation to my Johnny. In New York, they lived next to Irish-born Pat Murphy and Irish-born Thomas Welch. In Cleveland, John lived around the corner from Irish born Patrick Kelley, a saloon keeper, and William Redhead and family. Really, their name is Redhead.

Households - John and his daughter Edna are not Irish in the Census. Anna and Franklin are Irish. They live on streets and next to neighbors that are 56% Irish. They are not living, typically, next to Germans or French. They are more likely living next to Canadians, Scots, English and American born neighbors. There are no other nationalities listed in the Ward. Each of their neighbors could historically and diasporically be of Irish blood. Plenty of Canadians. Canada was not kind to the Catholics, who were predominantly Irish. Catholics were the majority denomination in America since 1860, thanks to the plenteous Irish.

A rose by any other name: Lake Street is Lakeside; Bond Street is East 6th; Erie Street is East 9th; The original City Hospital is now a DoubleTree. Where the Free Stamp is today, there were Irish in 1880; there was Summit Alley; there were no phones to record that moment. Parents and Grandparents shared housing, like the Alexanders at #82 Lake Street.

The Irish in the neighborhood could walk down Erie four blocks to St. John's Cathedral on Superior for Mass, but not on Saturday evening. Vigil Mass had to wait almost 100 years until Canon Law 1248.1.

That explains it. The first decade of my life there was no Vigil Mass. Me thinks my nieces are right: Ponce de Leon, table for 2.

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Van Diemen's Land

British penal transportation, or simply "transportation", refers to the forced relocation of convicted criminals, or other persons regarded as undesirable, to a distant place, often a British colony, for a certain term. Later, specifically established penal colonies became their destination.

England transported its convicts, and political prisoners, as well as prisoners of war from Ireland and Scotland, to its overseas colonies in the Americas from the 1610s until 1776, when transportation to America was suspended. Transportation on a large scale resumed in 1787, and continued until 1868.

In England, from 1649 there was opposition against sending Christians into slavery or selling them in foreign countries, but Oliver Cromwell did not draw any such distinctions with the Irish. Cromwell systematically captured thousands of Irish men, women and children for export to the West Indies as slaves. All the garrison who were not killed in the Drogheda Massacre (1649) were shipped as slaves to Barbados, where they were worked to death as slaves on sugarcane plantations.

In many cases, the prisoners were transported to the colony as an indentured servant. That meant that he or she was required to work to pay back a debt. Upon arrival, the prisoners were often sold at auction to the highest bidder. The debt owed by the indentured servant was the amount paid by the owner of the indenture and was increased by the cost of meals, lodging and other incidentals. Like borrowing money from organized crime, the prisoner was rarely able to pay off his debt as it continued to grow. In most cases, an indentured servant was the same as a slave.

It is estimated that some 50,000 British convicts were sent to colonial America, with the majority landed in the colonies of Maryland, Virginia and Georgia. Bermuda, the British colony off the North American continent, was also used.

Convicts there were housed in floating prison ships, called "hulks." They were used to build the Royal Naval Dockyard. Young Ireland leader John Mitchel served time aboard a prison ship in Bermuda until being transferred to Van Diemen's Land.

By far the most popular destination for transportation of those deemed to be criminals by the British courts, was Australia. Between 1788 and 1868, about 162,000 convicts were transported by the British government to various penal colonies in Australia. The convicts, chained in the hold of British prison ships, faced a 6-month voyage to Australia. Almost a third of the prisoners aboard did not survive the voyage.

Early in 1770, James Cook charted and claimed pos-

session of the east coast of Australia for Britain. Seeking to pre-empt the French colonial empire from expanding into the region, Britain chose Australia as the site of a penal colony, and in 1787, the First Fleet of eleven convict ships set sail for Botany Bay, arriving on January 20, 1788 to found Sydney, New South Wales, the first European settlement on the continent.



In 1642, the Dutch explorer Abel Tasman was the first European to land on the shores of an island located 150 miles south of the mainland of Australia. Landing at Blackman's Bay, Tasman named the island Van Diemen's Land, in honor of Anthony van Diemen, the Governor-General of the Dutch East Indies, who had sent Tasman on his voyage of discovery.

In August 1803, New South Wales Governor Philip King sent Lieutenant John Bowen to establish a small military outpost on the eastern shore of the Derwent River to forestall any claims to the island arising from the activities of the several previous French explorers. Major-General Ralph Darling, Governor of New South Wales, visited Hobart Town on the island and on December 3, 1825, proclaimed the island as an independent British colony.

Of the 162,000 prisoners transported to Australia, approximately 75,000 served their time in Van Diemen's Land. The number of serving convicts there rose from just over 400 in 1816, to a peak of over 30,000 in 1847. By 1862, only just over a thousand serving convicts remained on the island.

In 1830, the Port Arthur penal settlement was established to replace an earlier prison on the island. From 1833 until 1853, it was the destination for the hardest of convicted criminals, those who were secondary offenders having re-offended after their arrival in Australia. Rebellious personalities from other convict stations were also sent there.

If a convict was well behaved, the convict could be given a ticket of leave, granting them freedom of movement on the island, but with the promise he would not try to escape. At the end of the convict's sentence, the convict was issued a Certificate of Freedom. He was then free to become a settler in Australia or leave the country.

Port Arthur had some of the strictest security measures of the British penal system. Port Arthur was also

the destination for juvenile convicts, receiving many boys, some as young as nine. The boys were separated from the main convict population.

Like the adults, the boys were used in hard labor, such as stone cutting and construction. In 1856, the colony was granted responsible self-government with its own parliament, and the name of the island was officially changed to Tasmania on January 1, 1856.

Several noteworthy members of the Young Ireland Movement (1848) were sent to Van Diemen's Land after their death sentences for Treason were commuted to transportation for life. These were Thomas Francis Meagher, John Mitchel, Kevin Izod O'Doherty, William Smith O'Brien and Terence MacManus, just to name a few. All of them eventually managed to escape imprisonment, with most ending up in exile in the United States. O'Doherty was a physician who became a prominent Australian politician and later was elected to the English parliament as an MP from North Meath.

The name Van Diemen's Land pops up in several places in Irish literature and song. The familiar Irish folk song Black Velvet Band includes the following line: "They'll feed you with strong drink, me lads 'till you are unable to stand; And the very first thing that you'll know is, you've landed in Van Diemen's Land." In addition, the Irish band U2 has an original 1988 song titled Van Diemen's Land on the band's Rattle and Hum album.

There are several books about the Irish convict experience in Australia. The most recent is *The Great Shame* (1998) by Thomas Keneally. The book gives a good description of the Australian penal system. Also, the John Boyle O'Reilly novel *Moondyne* (1879) describes an Australian convict's experience. O'Reilly was a former Fenian who was himself transported to Australia and later became a famous journalist and poet in America.

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Clear as Muck

Siri, Apple's voice assistant, has become a blessing and a curse to me. I love my Apple products, but, as convenient as they appear to be, they have their downsides. Having your phone respond to 'Hey Siri' and answer those trivia questions that are part and parcel of our everyday encounters sounds great.

But, what if she doesn't understand you? What if your accent leads her to construe your words to be something so remotely distant from what you have said that you find yourself swearing in the thickest brogue you can muster? Of course, changing Siri from North American to another English-speaking country may help, though for some reason, Irish English is not offered as an option.

Since, you're limited to what is on offer, I choose Australian. Surely, a country populated with a sizeable quantity of the Irish diaspora would know what I'm asking for?

No, I'm not interested in the price of bananas. Who is Bananarama? It seems that the 80s pop group did not make any impression on the Aussies. As a last resort, I changed Siri to adopt an English accent. First, I choose the male voice, but too uppity for my tastes, so he quickly transitioned into a lady with perfect RP (Received Pronunciation).

Listening to her voice, I was transported into the past and watching the BBC news. The novelty soon wore off when she too misunderstood my accent. For some reason, my diction transformed into more malapropisms



Terry From Derry

by Terry Boyle



than I could ever possibly think of, and, with each distortion of the English language, I found her confusion delivered in an increasingly patronizing tone.

Just who has the control here? How can you assist me when you can't even understand me? Why do I feel as if you're talking down to me when you speak with such a posh accent?

Switching back to my North American lady friend, I was determined that she and I would have to make do with a bad lot. A former colonist herself, I was sure she would eventually get what I was trying to say. At least now, I was not stirred to feeling culturally inferior and second class.

We still have our moments when my questions get lost in translation and my garbled, thick, accent manifests as the strangest, ridiculous, comments imaginable, but, like Liza Doolittle, Siri has become my Henry Higgins teaching me the proper way to speak. My 'how now, brown cow', is not quite perfect, but enough credibility to get me the right species of animal, and my 'tower' is no longer 'tired' or 'tarred' by the merging of two syllables into one. It's become a running joke among my friends for me to ask Siri a question, and a challenge for me to clearly articulate what I mean.

My ongoing battle to be understood reminds me of a Chinese student from Hong Kong who came to study nursing in Derry. A stranger to the Northern Irish accent, and a novice to the English language, she was hoping to expand her vocabulary and her knowledge of English. Much of what she had learned in high school was very concrete.

The logic of the language made sense simply because it lacked any of the normal ambiguities. In other words, she was not ready for how the Derry wans had bastardized the Queen's polished tongue.

For example, she arrived at

her hosts' home, nervous, and worried that she would say the wrong thing. Typical of most Irish people, her hosts were more than helpful and reassuring that she would be fine. They said all the right things to alleviate her fears.

The first in a new country went better than she had expected, until the next day. In the morning, she went downstairs for breakfast and was greeted with; 'stick yourself on an egg', followed by; 'stick yourself on some toast'.

Bewildered by these strange recommendations, she stood waiting, wondering if this was some strange Irish ritual to celebrate morning and the hope of a good day. 'Stick yourself on a piece of toast', stick yourself on an egg', both sounded as if this was something an Irish druid might do for luck, but how do you stick yourself to either an egg or bread?

Can you imagine how Siri would respond to such notions? No? I may well ask her, if she continues to frustrate me.

Having cleared up the matter, and, showing the poor girl what was meant by those outlandish ideas, breakfast was consumed with much levity. Now, with someone in the house who does not understand linguistic nuances, the Derry wans would have to watch what they say. At least, that was the initial understanding, an understanding that was tested when the woman of the house, later in the day, stated that she was 'going to go upstairs and throw herself down'.

Just how was a Chinese nursing student meant to respond to what was tantamount to an act of self-harm? Timidly, she asked 'what? You are going to go upstairs to throw yourself down the stairs?' Laughing hysterically, the Derry wans complete her thought 'throw myself down on the bed, ye eejit, ye.' Needless to say, more muck was stirred up in the art of clearing up the filthy water.

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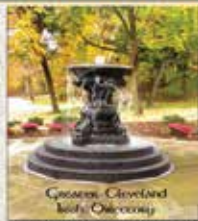
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Reader's Recipes

Katie's Kickin' Jambalaya

- Ingredients**
 1 red bell pepper
 1 green bell pepper
 1 orange bell pepper
 1 yellow bell pepper
 2 med yellow onions
 2 large cans of diced tomatoes
 2 quarts of chicken stock
 2 lbs smoked sausage
 1 lb Andouille sausage
 5 boneless skinless chicken breasts
 1 lb shrimp
 (you can use the frozen ones or fresh)
 6 cups rice (white or brown)
 1 bottle Killians beer
 2 bay leaves
 5 tbs Cajun seasoning
 6 garlic cloves (chopped)
 1 small can tomato paste
 (3 small cherry peppers chopped)
 (3 Serrano peppers chopped)
 4 tbs butter
 Salt and Pepper to taste

Prepare rice according directions in separate pot and set aside.

Once fully ready, season with Cajun seasoning to taste.

Cut smoked and Andouille sausage into small pieces and sauté until brown with 1 tbs butter and two garlic cloves. Remove from pan and set aside.

Cut chicken into similar size pieces. Season with salt and pepper and Cajun seasoning and brown in skillet with 1 tbs butter and two garlic cloves. Remove from pan and set aside.

Chop onions and bell peppers and optional hot peppers into small pieces. Sauté in large stock or soup pot with 1 ½ tbs butter and 2 garlic cloves. Season with salt and pepper and Cajun seasoning.

When soft, add chopped shrimp (which has tail removed and deveined if needed) to pot with ½ tbs butter and cook until shrimp is translucent.

Add beer and bring to a boil for 5 minutes

Add diced tomatoes, bay leaves and 1 quart of chicken stock to pot and bring up to boil. Once boiling turn down to simmer and add chicken and sausage. Simmer for 20 minutes.

Add can of tomato paste and stir

the heat.

This can be made with varying degrees of heat by adding chopped hot peppers and cayenne pepper seasoning.

This also reheats extremely well. You



until melted in.

Simmer on low for 20-30 minutes until all flavors are blended. Remove bay leaves before serving.

Can be kept simmering until ready to eat

You can either add in the rice with the rest of the chicken stock and simmer for a bit longer or serve it over the rice.

Adding the additional chicken stock is only needed if adding the rice in as it absorbs so much liquid.

This makes a fairly mild version with only the Cajun seasoning adding

may need to add some more broth if you mixed the rice into it.

Katie Gagne is a high school English teacher at Trinity High School. In her spare time, she is a student of the Irish language and operates her own business, "Sassy's Sweets and Oh so Much More," specializing in made to order gourmet cakes, cupcakes, pastries and more. She shared this recipe to celebrate "Fat Tuesday" with a bit of an Irish Twist. Katie can be reached at Mkbluebows@aol.com

Readers can send their recipes to: TheOhioIANews, Attn: Bob Carney carneyspeakirish@gmail.com

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Growing UP Irish by Maureen Ginley



Happy February, Growing UP Irish readers! I hope this Winter season - despite its lovely, typical Ohio weather - has been treating you well. As we begin February, one of my favorite months of the year, I'd like to reflect on the major milestones I'm going to celebrate on the 12th and 16th... moving to Columbus and starting my job at Postali. Now, I know six months in a city two hours south of where I grew up isn't the biggest, most monumental thing to celebrate, but for a Cleveland-loving homebody, this is a huge deal, as is six months at an amazing job. It is not lost upon me that I am extremely lucky and blessed to have been living the life I have the past six months.

It is also not lost upon me that these significant events occur right around my Grandpa Ginley's birthday. I'd like to think he and my Grandma will be up in Heaven on those days, toasting me with a Magners or a Highball. As these days quickly approach, I'd like to thank the many, people who have made my transition to life in Columbus as easy - and fun - as possible. None of the amazing things that have happened in my entire life would be possible without the staunch, steadfast support of Tom and Sue, my parents. When I was at JCU and told them I wanted to major in Creative Writing, they cheered me on. When I continued that dream into an MFA program, they attended readings with me, read my stories, and clapped the loudest when I successfully defended my thesis.

And when I decided to apply for jobs outside of Cleveland and felt a bit nervous about it, they explained every reason



Ashley and Growing Up Irish columnist Maureen at the Ohio Rose of Tralee Selection Ceremony

why going for it would benefit me in the long run. Now, six months into living on my own for the first time, they're showing their encouragement every single day through "good morning" texts, phone calls on my way home from work, and plans to come visit.

No one in my family thought I'd be moving out of Cleveland for my first job. Not that they thought I couldn't - I was (still am) such a homebody and have spent my entire life/education in The Land; it seemed like I'd begin my career there, too. After a May 2017 trip to Columbus for my brother's graduation, several cover letters/resume revisions, and trips back and forth for interviews, I got an exciting job offer... in Columbus. Throughout all of this, my sister and brothers helped me

tweak my resume; they helped me understand the world I was hoping to enter; they coached me through possible interview questions, and they helped me move to the 614 when the time came. How lucky am I to have them in my life?

While all of my friends sent me encouraging texts and job postings they thought I'd be interested in, there is a core group of four people I want to thank individually: Ashley Speaker, Gráinne Hutchinson, Darcy Egan, and Molly Petre. Ashley helped me stay sane when I thought I was unemployable post-grad (through her hallmark encouraging nature and calming personality), and she was the first person to show up at my, "See You Later, Cleveland" party at PJ's.

Gráinne answered any and every question I had about living in Columbus, and commiserated with me throughout the job application process - something she, too, was going through. Darcy texted me every day, telling me anecdotes that distracted me from my nerves and gave me revision suggestions on cover letters and other application material. Molly - my amazing designer pal - created, edited, and fine-tuned the look of my resume. Constant text messages, emails, and phone calls were - and still are - exchanged with these women before, during, and after my move. I am truly blessed to have their support during this exciting time in my life.

As soon as I found out I got the job at Postali and would be moving down to Columbus, offers to connect me with friends and acquaintances started pouring in. The publisher and editor of this newsmagazine that I write

for, John O'Brien, Jr., emailed friends of his who have since reached out and given me tips on how to become more involved in the Irish community in Central Ohio. Maureen Casey Brubaker let me know about different apartment complexes she had looked at with her son when he moved down here. The strangers at Byrne's Pub (which is slowly, but surely, filling the void of not having PJ's within ten minutes of my house) show me kindness, even during a Friday night rush.

I have said it before, and I will say it again. I will shout it from the rooftops - the Irish community of Ohio is a special one. They take care of their own, and they've taken care of me since before I was even an official Columbus resident.

When I interviewed for my current job, my Grandma was excited, but sad about the prospect of me moving. She was worried I'd be homesick, but she was supportive and encouraging of each career move I made.

On a note she gave me for my birthday this past year, the

last thing she wrote was "I'm rooting for you, for the job in Columbus!" That was just so my Grandma. Supportive in times of need, encouraging when necessary. She and my Grandpa were, are, the definitions of fearless.

That note remains in my nightstand to this day. I hope to preserve it in a frame and hang it in my apartment, so that a little piece of Mary Jo is with me every day in Columbus. When they faced challenges, they didn't cower. They faced them head on, not letting any fear they felt get in the way of their dreams.

I hope to emulate that courage each day of my life, especially during my first years away from home. Sometimes I have to pinch myself that I'm living in Columbus and working at my dream job. I'm challenged every day, but these challenges are making me into a more well-rounded woman. They're helping me to grow, to learn. I'm excited to see what the next six months hold. I'll tell you about it somewhere down the road.

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by Maury Collins



From Ireland with Love! (A Tribute)

The fun looking couple pictured here are my grandparents: John P. Collins and Margaret (Buckley) Collins, from Mullintoura, County Cork, Ireland. John, born in 1866, was the oldest of seven brothers. His six brothers came to Toledo. Patrick, Cornelius (Con), Lawrence (Lar),

they Rest in Peace.

Cornelius (Uncle Con) was the seventh son (which some people claim made him special). Con's education consisted of elementary school in Ireland. At the age of 14, he went to work in a blacksmith's shop in Ireland, learning the trade.

In the year 1900, at the age of 19, he left Ireland and came to Toledo to set up a blacksmith shop near the corner



Toledo Irish Maurys Grandparents

Edward and twins, William and Michael, who both died tragically a few days after arriving in Toledo.

Gas heaters at that time required quarters to start the gas flow. The gas has to then be lit. This is a simple fact, which was not explained to the twin brothers.

Uncle Lar came by way of Wales. Uncle Lar's connection enabled my mother, Katie, an Irish lady from Wales, to meet my Father, from County Cork, Ireland, to meet in Toledo, Ohio. John died in 1948 and Margaret died in 1947. May

of Monroe and Collingwood. By 1915, Con decided that the future of being a blacksmith was limited.

So on November 1, 1915, he entered the real estate field, opening the C.C. Collins Realty Company at 567 Spitzer Building. Eventually, he also sold Insurance. He became a wealthy man, sponsoring my father, one Aunt and three uncles to America.

He also helped many relatives of his wife, Mary (Callahan) to get started in this country. He was my Godfather, and his handshake let you

know that he was originally a blacksmith. Uncle Con died on Jan. 9, 1953; May he Rest in Peace.

The bulk of his estate was willed to relatives and friends in Ireland. The Little Sisters of the Poor and St. Anthony's Orphanage, the Callahan and Mackin in-laws were also heirs. Uncle Con was very active in the early Toledo AOH and the Historic Church of St Patrick.

John and Margaret Collins had seven children, five sons and two daughters. Two sons, Jack and William, remained in Ireland, as did one daughter, Elizabeth. Three sons, Patrick, Michael and Maurice, and one daughter, Ellie, came to Toledo. Michael's son, D. Michael Collins, and Ellie Ruddy's nephew, John McHugh, were both elected Mayor of Toledo. Both former Mayors died in 2015. May they all Rest in Peace.

Meanwhile the cousins in Ireland also prospered. Many are well educated and have responsible positions. The old homesteads have been replaced by modern homes. The children of Uncle Jack and Uncle Bill and their children have built beautiful homes and are happy in Ireland.

When my father left Ireland in April of 1928 and my mother left Wales in July of 1928, there was no means of communications back to the old country and family back home, except letters. Telegrams were sent only if someone had died, either here or back home. Visits, unheard of back in 1928, and especially during the depression, are now fairly common.

My father, Maurice, eventually sponsored his cousin Maurice Buckley to Toledo. Maurice married Mary Ann McNulty. It has been said that all the Irish in Toledo are related. The Collins, Buckleys, Ruddys, McNultys, Kellys, Mackins, Callahans, McHughs and so on ... make a good case for that.



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- 1st – Scythian @MusicBoxCLE
- 2nd – Téada @Cuyahoga Valley National Park
Happy Days Lodge
- 3rd – WSIA Pre-St. Patrick's Dance:
w/ Ladies Drill Team
and Sr. Fife & Drum Corp. Exhibition.
- 4th – Great Lakes Pipe Band Concert,
2pm, Rocky River H.S.
- 9th – The Pogues Tribute
w/ Boys from the Co Hell @MusicBoxCLE.
- 10th – Annual Claddagh Ball
@ West Side Irish American Club
Kathleen Chambers 440.427.0858
- 12th - AOH Mark Heffernan Division
Akron St. Patrick's Day Parade. 12 Noon
on South Main Street, downtown Akron.
Parade starts Spaghetti Wrhs, Main St.
"After the Parade" sponsored by
The Ancient Order of Hibernians at the
AOH Clubroom, 2000 Brown St. Akron,
featuring live music; typical Irish fare
will be available-All are welcome to join
in this celebration.
- 11th – Columbus Shamrock Club
General Meeting
- 11th – Irish Brunch w live music &
fabulous buffet @MusicBoxCLE
- 14th – Storyteller Series: The Irish Invade
Cleveland w/ Margaret Lynch
@MusicBoxCLE
- 15th – The High Kings @MusicBoxCLE
- 15th– James Kilbane in concert Maumee
Indoor Theater. Tickets \$15 through
Maury's Irish News Toledo. Sponsor
Toledo Hibernians
- 17th –Sober Seventeenth
w/ James Kilbane Band
@Ahern's Banquet Center.



Coming in MARCH!



*Bringing you the movers, shakers
and music makers in our
community each month.*

**Every Sunday: Irish Music Session
@Pj McIntyre's**

17th – St. Patrick's Day Mass with the WSIA
@ St. Colman's, then parade, and then
food back at the club.

17th – Columbus St. Patrick's Day Parade.
Irish Family Reunion featuring
Ladies of Longford & the Hooligans @
Columbus Shamrock Club.

17th - 16th Annual Hibernian Family Friendly
St. Patrick's Day party
@ St. Clement Hall 3030
Tremainsville Road, To-
ledo Noon - 10 PM

Jigg's Dinner, Irish baked goods, music,
beverages & Ardan Academy
Irish Dancers.

21st – OhioIANews March Speaker Series:
175 Years of the Cleveland
St. Patrick's Day Parade new book talk
& signing w/ Margaret Lynch &
Patrick Murphy.

Colin Flynn

Continued from page 11

His markers, greater than 80%,
were M269, P310 and L21, all for
Ireland. As a more visual person
myself, what struck me, is that
with the map provided with their
results, he was all on Ireland,
with a smattering of Scotland.

I would kill for the chance to
see how he would have reacted.
I just picture a silent, wide grin.
Little Charles Schwartz indeed.

From Ireland to Brooklyn, to
Scranton to Cleveland, and back
to Ireland again. The journey my
Grandpa went on is amazing to
me. I'm glad it was a warm sum-
mer day he was left on the steps
of St. Ann's.

I can't imagine being 16, work-
ing in the coal mines in the early
1930s, where working conditions
had no weekly hour restriction.
A quick search of anthracite coal
mine accidents from that period
shows fatalities such as, "blast,
failed to get to safety place," were
common.

I picture the real opportunities
and great education available
to my children, and I am proud
to have these, in part because
of his perseverance, and I am
proud of his origin story. I love
ya Grandpa.

*Editor's Note: Colin, Our roots
tell us so much about our makeup;
such a fascinating journey for your
grandfather, and for you. Thank
you so much for sharing your story
with us.*



*Clockwise from top left Corrine Ginley & Marilyn
Madigan, Grand Marshal Sheila Murphy Crawford,
Donna Leary, Margaret Lynch*



Mother of the Year Joan Reali and Family

OhioIANews Speaker Series:

March 8 – Margaret Lynch & Patrick Murphy:
*The Day We Celebrate: St Patrick's Day
Parade* book history presentation
and Book Signing.

March 24 - Erin to Erie to 5 Points
Cleveland-based Irish Musicians
Share Song and Story, 10am, 5 Points
Coffee & Tea

April – Akron Celtic Guards Hurling
What's Hurling? Videos and Stories from
The Clash of the Ash;
the Fastest Game on Grass

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By Susan Mangan



Cold Hands, Warm Heart

I will never forget that day, years ago, in early summer when my heart stopped for an Irishman standing alone in his field. The roads in Ireland are laid out like a primitive maze of arteries. At times they are open and the traveler can pass freely to the heart of a village pulsing with the every day din of people and life. Other times, the paths are blocked with tractors bearing mounds of hay as large and golden as a full new moon.

In recent years, extra wide lorries stymie the easy flow of the furze-lined roads. As visitors to Ireland, we wanted release from the frenetic pace of the workaday world, and yet our channel to open fields and endless skies was hindered by progress.

From my position at the top of the road, I could see a truck approaching the hind side of a bicyclist desperate to pedal up the steep rising grade of a rolling hill; the roads are barely eight feet across and bike paths were non-existent at the time.

A stream of steady traffic, our van included, followed in the wake of the lorry. It was then that I looked into the neighboring meadow and saw the old man, a vision of old Ireland, when donkeys and side carts provided transport and cyclists didn't have to worry over fast approaching vehicles.

Dressed in a tweed jacket and woolen waistcoat, he leaned on his walking stick and rested his hand on his sheep dog's head. Bewildered, the man watched the bicycle and the lorry, the streams of traffic and his neighbor in the state of the art tractor. Steadied by his furry companion, the man seemed to lament the madness of his new world, but resolute to control that which he could: the formality of his dress, the comfort of his stick, the condition of his fields. At that time, I could not help but sense that the man had fallen out of love with the world and preferred the solitary company of his dog and sheep.

Cloaked in the heady dew of summer, it is easy to not feel alone. Neighbors are sitting on their porches nursing cold drinks or watering potted flowers.

Bees buzz and crickets sing an incessant, harmonious tune, until the days shorten and the nights grow cold.

After the flurry of the holidays and during the darkest hours of late winter, it is important to acknowledge the difference between loneliness and the need for solitary introspection. On one such night, the snow began to fall and I needed to be alone. I walked for miles untouched by the cold, unafraid of the darkness.

As a college student, I would run for miles through the snow, through the dead night of winter. I remember the sensation of being one with the darkness. All I could feel was the exhalation of my breath, the sharpness of the cold as it cut through my lungs. I remember the distinct feeling of being alive.

When I was a young girl my father would take me ice skating on the frozen ponds in our city parks. After a dinner of hot soup or fragrant chowder, we would gather up our skates and enjoy a peaceful hour spent on the ice.

During those times, the stars shone brighter than the city lights and the rush of our skates muffled the hum of traffic. In later years, we would cross country ski on trails that passed through suburban forest preserves.

During that time, it was just my dad and me. We never spoke much. It was enough to listen to our skis as they cut through icy drifts of snow and birch

lined trails.

During the daylight hours, gangs of children would walk to the sledding hill at Riis Park in Chicago's Northwest Side. Some of us dragged red Radio Flyer sleds, others pulled metal discs. For hours we would slide down the hill with wild abandon until our scarves were frosted with spittle and ice.

In many ways, we were like Charlie Brown and his friends. Our parents were never present, but we lived by and respected the values they instilled in us. As long as we children stuck together, no harm would come and we could breathe freely of the pure winter air.

After a day spent with friends, I was happy to curl up in my room surrounded by books. For hours I would immerse myself in the story of Jo March and her sisters, or Laura Ingalls Wilder and her adventures on the prairie. I never felt lonely. Physically spent from a day in the cold, I needed the quietude of a book and time spent alone with my thoughts.

While my children were home over the Christmas holiday, they hibernated like the chipmunks and skunks. The noonday sun would rise and still my teenagers were asleep in their beds. As schools were out, my obligations as part-time tutor and full-time mother were lessened. I had a bit of time to think, to reflect, to breathe.

One frigid morning, the sun rose in an arctic sky. The temperatures and wind chills fell below zero and the very trees seemed to move with skeletal stiffness. My spaniel Lucy, naturally padded in her warm woolly coat, sniffed the air for brave birds. My eyes fell on the beauty of our plum tree. Stripped of its purple leaves and ripened fruits, the branches held tangles of icy latticework.

As I stood awed by the quiet beauty of the stark winter scene, a cardinal alighted upon its frozen perch. Cloaked in a backdrop of white, the red of the bird beat like a living heart, reminding me that even when I am alone, I am never lonely. Winter sustains me. I feed off the crisp air and the ever changing yet never changing cycle of our natural world. For now, I am sated, and for this, I am glad.

**Susan holds a Master's Degree in English from John Carroll University and a Master's Degree in Education from Baldwin-Wallace University. She may be contacted at suemangan@yahoo.com.*

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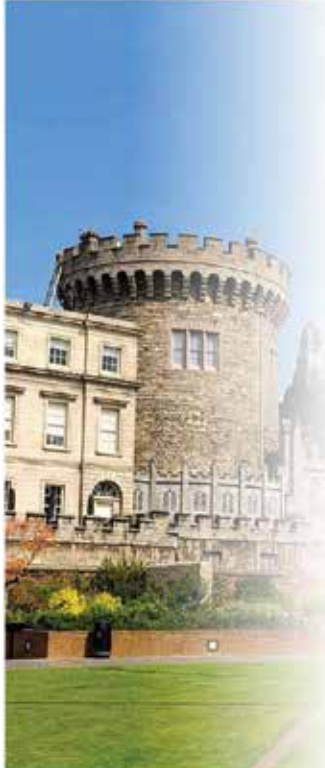
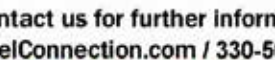
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Living With Lardie

by Richard Lardie



Feeling Magnanimous with Next Month

I think it was St. Patrick's Day 1999, and the weather was co-operating. My wife Kay and sister Josie Setele were marching with the Irish American Club East Side Ladies Drill Team, under the expert direction of drill leader Norine Hastings.

The parade ended at East 6th and Rockwell Avenue, and the excitement of the day was bubbling up. What to do? Where to go? Who to see?

First up were drinks with friends at the Bond Court, a tradition at the time for some of the marchers with the IACES. Jack Carroll and his wife Sherry, Jim Corcoran, Kathy Durkin, Bill and Pat Homan, to mention a few. Much fun was had by the time my sister suggested we meet up with our cousins at the Theatrical Grill on Short Vincent.

When we arrived, the place was wall to wall people. We shouldered, squeezed, pushed and shoved our way to the back, where we found the family imbibing and carrying on. Our cousins, Bud and Cathy Doyle, had seats at the

bar (of course) with Jim and Patti Doyle standing along-side with Jim Flynn.

Jim was there alone as his wife Marci was a registered nurse and could not get the day off. Salutations and insults were traded as we settled in for some good fun. I bought a round of drinks just as the police pipe band somehow squeezed in twenty or more people, with bag pipes and drums.

In they marched (?) playing Scotland The Brave. They followed that up with Amazing Grace and Going Home. We didn't know whether to fight or cry.

I took this opportunity to go to the restroom as I thought it wouldn't be crowded. Boy was I wrong. It probably took twenty minutes to fight through the line. By the time I got back I noticed everyone had a fresh drink but me. Did I miss the round I inquired of Bud. "Oh," he said. "Dick Jacobs (Owner of the Cleveland Indians) just bought the house a drink."

Great I said as I tried to get the bartenders eye. When I finally got his attention, he informed me they had just closed the tab. Well, give me a beer I grumbled as I peeled off some bills. Bud apologized for not getting me a beer, but my

cousins Jim Doyle and Jim Flynn were having fine fun with the fact that Dick Jacobs bought everyone, in the place, a drink but me.

Jim Doyle suggested he must know me pretty well to have singled me out for NO DRINK. Nothing like family to make you feel loved.

The fun and the talk continued as friends moved in and out of our circle. It is days like this that make me feel like there is nowhere better than Cleveland on St Patrick's Day. Hello, how are ya? How's the family? How's the kids? How's your mom? What's going on with your daughter? What's up with your boy? Your business going good? I heard you moved, how's the new place?

And on and on, the sounds of people caring about other people. Renewing old friendships and starting new ones.

It was about this time that another pipe band came piping in and the crowd cheered and became more raucous. I decided to take this chance to head to the restroom again. The line was longer. It took quite a while and when I got back, you guessed it. Dick Jacobs had bought drinks for the house again.

Now my three cousins Bud and Jim Doyle and Jim Flynn swore they accidentally forgot to get me a drink when the bartender came around. You will never get me to

believe that this was not intentional. The joy I saw in their faces was undeniable, as they informed me that everyone in the place was drinking on Dick Jacobs, for the SECOND time, while I was peeling off more bills to buy myself a beer. They ranted for the next 10 minutes on how sad it was that I didn't get any free beer as they patted my shoulder to show how bad they felt.

Well, we are approaching another St Patrick's Day and I am sure good fun will be had by all. Great talk, good friends, lively music, marching and dancing, but it will be hard to match that day when Dick Jacobs and I split the check for all the drinks for three hundred or so people at the Theatrical Grill. That is the way I remember it, so I have that going for me, which is nice.

Téada

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