

St. Patrick's Day

Parade Magazine

March 14, 1999

Vol. 1 No. 28



Denis Mulcaby
Grand Marshal



John Cosgrove
Gael of the Year

**Let There Be
Peace For Irish
Children**



Happy St. Patrick's Day

The American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO wishes a happy St. Patrick's Day to everyone enjoying this year's celebration of Irish heritage and culture. Congratulations to Grand Marshal Denis Mulcahy and Gael of the Year John Cosgrove.

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St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee

of Washington, D.C.

P.O. Box 11584 ** Washington, D.C. 20008-0784

March 14, 1999

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 28th annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade of Washington, D.C.!

This year, we celebrate the historic peace agreement in Northern Ireland, especially its potential impact on Northern Ireland's children, with our Parade theme, *Let There Be Peace For Irish Children*. Our fondest hopes is that these children can forget the constant presence of violence and forever reclaim their innocence, their hope and their sense of safety and security.

Our Grand Marshall, Dennis Mulcahy, has made it his life's work to bring peace to the children of Northern Ireland. For the past 25 years, through his leadership of Project Children, Dennis has been instrumental in bringing thousands of Catholic and Protestant children from Northern Ireland to the United States for six-week summer vacations. Project Children's efforts have sown many seeds for peace as Protestant and Catholic children live and play together, learn about each other, build lasting friendships and enjoy a reprieve from the tensions at home.

Our Gael of the Year, John Patrick Cosgrove, has had a major impact on the local Irish American community. We honor him for his significant help to Irish and other organizations throughout his career. John has held a number of important leadership positions both locally and nationally, including President of the National Press Club during the Kennedy administration and head of the American Ireland Fund.

On behalf of the 1999 Saint Patrick's Day Parade Committee, we wish to thank the Government of the District of Columbia, the National Capital Park Service, and all the businesses, organizations, and individuals who have made our 1999 Parade possible.

May the blessings of Saint Patrick be yours,

Cecelia M. Farley

Cecelia M. Farley

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March 14, 1999

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1999 Grand Marshal

by Marie Matthews

"Every kid has a right to a good summer."
He spent his summers working on a farm in County Cork. And because of his efforts, more than 14,000 Irish kids have spent part of their summers in the United States.

The Washington, D.C. Parade Committee is pleased to honor

Denis Mulcahy

as Grand Marshal of the
1999 Saint Patrick's Day Parade.

Denis Mulcahy was born in Rockchapel, County Cork, the middle son of five boys and one girl. In 1962, he followed two of his brothers who had emigrated to the United States and spent his 18th birthday in New York City. After working as a cab driver, a mechanic, and various other jobs, he received training in explosives in the National Guard. In 1969, he joined his brother Pat on the New York Police force, and worked first on the homicide squad, and then under-cover in the anti-crime unit. In 1973, he was promoted to detective, and is currently a First Grade Detective on the elite Bomb Squad. Mulcahy is recognized as one of the foremost bomb experts in the world.

He was listening to the radio on his way to work one day in February 1993 when the first news about what turned out to be the World Trade Center bombing was reported. The blast killed six people, injured a thousand, and brought the reality of international terrorism into the consciousness of Americans. Mulcahy was to risk his life again and again over the next month, attempting to locate unexploded devices in order to defuse them. But some of his most terrifying moments came early on: one of his sons, also called Denis, worked on the 97th floor of the Center. Fortunately, Denis, Jr. was not at work that day.

In 1975, Denis, his brothers Pat and John,



their families and some of their friends were concerned about violence in a different place, 3000 miles from their home in Greenwood Lake, New York. A few years earlier, in Northern Ireland, riots had erupted after a civil rights march was banned, and the sad and violent period known as the Troubles had begun. Just to walk to school, children passed barbed wire and armed guards, burned-out buildings and torched cars. Some of them lived in homes with windows broken by the force of near-by explosions. Their brothers, teachers, shopkeepers and neighbors were being killed. And so were some of them.

The Mulcahys had been instrumental in founding a Gaelic Society in their community that sponsored soccer matches and cultural events. That summer they decided to start a new project: they would bring several children from some of the most dangerous areas in Northern Ireland over to the United States for several weeks in the summer, to have a respite from the violence. "We wanted to do something," Mulcahy remembers. "Something simple. We felt that the children were the real victims of the Troubles, and that by taking them out of the danger for the

summer, we would be making a contribution." Expenses would be minimal: they would need money for airfare and insurance, but the children would stay with the Mulcahy brothers and their friends. Benefit dances raised \$1400 of the \$1600 required for airfare and insurance; at the last minute, someone donated the remaining \$200.

They contacted two schools in Belfast Saint Patrick's for the Catholics and The Grove for the Protestants—and asked teachers to identify kids who would benefit the most from a trip to America and who would not have another opportunity to get away.

Six kids came to Greenwood Lake that first year and stayed with Denis' or Pat's or John's family and the family of their friends. Other families who came in contact with the children offered to take youngsters as well, and the next year, twenty-one came. The following year, the number was fifty-four. By the summer of 1983, 450 children filled a plane from Belfast to New York; the next year, two chartered jets were needed. To date, Project Children has brought more than 14,000 children to the United States for the first time; many of the host families have paid the expenses for "their" children to come back a second or third time.

Project Children is designed for youngsters aged 10 to 14. Coordinators in Northern Ireland reach out to children who are very deprived or who have suffered a tragedy, such as the death of someone in their family. They come to any of twenty-two States from neighborhoods in which the sectarian conflicts have taken an especially heavy toll: Belfast, Armagh, Strabane, Enniskillen, Newry, Derry. Over 4000 American families, from a variety of ethnic and religious backgrounds, have provided room, board, adult supervision and lots of love to their summertime guests. Their young visitors are simply folded into the family routine and vacation schedules. Some of these families agree to take more than one child and often request the pairing of a Protestant and a Catholic. Until these visits, the only contacts some of these children have had with children of the other religion were filled with suspicion and hatred. One child said, "The only time I'd ever seen a Protestant was when we were trying to hit them in the head with

a bottle or a brick."

The basic format of pairing a Northern Irish child and an American host family for six weeks in the summer hasn't changed in twenty-five years, but as the Project matured, more components were added. Project Children Together provides opportunities for youngsters to get together back home. Activities have included trips to the Grand Opera House in Belfast for a pantomime; "wildlife detective hikes" in Parkanaur Forest; and "Romeo and Juliet" at the Royal Shakespeare Theater in London. In 1994, the Soccer-Friendship Camp was created to bring American and Northern Irish kids together in Derry for soccer, sightseeing, swimming, bike riding and fun.

Several years ago, the need for programs for older children was recognized. The Project Children Young Leaders Program brings Catholic and Protestant university students to the United States to work as interns in professional offices, from the White House and Capitol Hill to internationally known news agencies and not-for-profit organizations. The program is run in partnership with the Students' Union at Queen's University, Belfast. Students are recruited from both Queen's and from other institutions of higher learning. The thirty-five students who come to Washington, DC have multiple orientation sessions and seminars which give them an overview of American politics, Washington lifestyles and important policy issues. Each Washington intern is matched with an individual mentor who provides advice and insight into working life and encourages the students to think creatively about their professional futures. In addition to their work, the interns participate in an on-going series of activities aimed at reconciliation and community building among the students. Professional facilitators help them to focus on and to communicate about the life-changing experience provided by their participation in the Young Leaders Program. They also teach the students techniques for respectful listening and "honoring" of stories told by others—and they learn that conciliation, not confrontation, can be a way of

life.

Another program, sponsored by Project Children in partnership with Habitat for Humanity and supported by numerous individuals, organizations, private companies and government officials, aims to "tear down walls by building homes and lives." Young Catholics and Protestants from families with a history of unemployment, either North or South, are given 18 months of vocational training in Ireland. They then come to the United to live together, train together and work together in order to further develop skills that will help them find employment once they return home. In addition to the hands-on training in various construction trades provided by the AFL/CIO (particularly their Bricklayer, Carpenter and Painter affiliates), on-site practical skills training is provided by Habitat. In addition, the participants receive training in conflict resolution, confidence building and tolerance. Participants have built homes for low-income families in the District of Columbia, Florida, Montana, New York, Texas and Virginia.

Mulcahy is married to the former Miriam O'Rourke, a native of County Leitrim. They have four children: Denis, Jr., Maureen, Sean and Tara, and two granddaughters, Tara-Lynne and Denise.


Mulcahy's courage and dedication have been recognized by numerous organizations. In 1987, the New York City Police Department awarded him their highest honor, the Medal of Valor, for the extremely dangerous task of diffusing a time bomb. In that same year, Pope John Paul II awarded him the Bene Merenti Award. He also received the Private Sector Initiative Commendation from President Ronald Reagan, and the Cuchulainn Award from the Sacred Heart Club of County Armagh. He and his brother Pat were named People of the Year and given an award in Dublin by then-Prime Minister Charles Haughey. He has been named Irish Man of the Year by the Emerald Golf Society, Community Person of the Year by the Irish Voice, Person of the Year by the Irish Echo, and Person of the Week by ABC News. President Clinton presented him with a Top Cop award. The World of Hibernia considers Mulcahy one of fifty "Super Irish" and he has been called one of the top 100 Irish Americans. Moreover, he has

twice been nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize.

"Let There be Peace for Irish Children" is the theme of this year's Saint Patrick's Day Parade. People all over the world are hopeful that peace in Northern Ireland may now be near. But we're not there yet. Over the years, ten Project Children participants have been killed after returning home. Last year, a plane full of youngsters returned to Ireland on the day the Omagh bombing killed 28 men, women and children. Denis Mulcahy and the volunteers of Project Children are helping to bring peace to Ireland, one child at a time.

For more information about Project Children, call 202/298-7784.

Happy St. Patrick's Day

 to my
Daughters, Sons and Friends

Father Frank 

Happy Saint Patrick's Day

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Congratulations and Best Wishes

1999 St. Patrick's Day Parade
Washington, D.C.

to

Gael of the Year

John Cosgrove

&

Grand Marshal

Denis Mulcahy



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Gael of the Year

by Joe Barry

The St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee is proud to honor John Patrick Cosgrove as its 1999 Gael of the Year.

Anyone in Washington's Irish-American community, or for that matter, the community at large, who is considering organizing a special activity, usually hears someone say, "Look, why don't you just call John Cosgrove?" Many organizers of major events in Washington have been given a helping hand by John somewhere along the line.

John came to Washington from Pittston, Pennsylvania in the fall of 1937. After two years of reporting with the *Wilkes-Barre Record*, he had accepted a position working on the dictation desk at the Associated Press. The sun was rising over the rooftops of the tall buildings that first morning when he walked east on the Capitol's celebrated Pennsylvania Avenue toward his new job, but he felt a bit apprehensive. Would the newspaper skills he had acquired in Wilkes-Barre be sufficient for a post at the hub of fast-breaking news developments affecting the national and international scene? But the man from Pennsylvania quickly decided to make Pennsylvania Avenue his own. Years later, he was instrumental in the transformation of "The Avenue" from an eyesore to its current elegance.

Late one summer evening in August 1939, shortly after arriving home, John received a phone call from AP's early edition editor summoning him back to work. Hitler had marched into Poland. Cosgrove spent that night taking copy of the breaking news of war from AP staffers at the White House and State Department. By morning, Washington journalism was in his blood. John gained a sense of this town and its politics and moved from the Associated Press to write for the



House Republican Congressional Committee, assigned to their famous speech and handouts division housed in the garret of the Old House Office Building. After the GOP lost its bid for the White House in 1940 with the defeat of Wendell Wilke, John accepted a Senate staff position writing speeches and handouts for Republican Senator Hiram Johnson of California.

Shortly after the United States entered World War II, Cosgrove enlisted in the Navy and was assigned to the Office of Censorship, serving as the uniformed assistant to the deputy director. He remained there for two years before his long awaited request for sea duty was granted. The great conflict then raging was the first global war and many of Cosgrove's old friends were in distant places such as the South Pacific, or training in domestic posts for action in Europe. The U.S.S. *Gendreau* (DE639), a destroyer-escort that was to earn a distinguished combat record in the Pacific Theater, became his home for the duration of the war. This ship was frequently engaged by kamikaze aircraft during escort duty in the Pacific. Cosgrove later wrote *The Gendreau Story*, chronicling the history of the destroyer-escort on which he served.

Upon return to civilian life, John joined the staff of Broadcasting Publications, a businessweekly. After receiving his first paycheck, John realized a longtime ambition by joining the National Press Club. In 1953, as chairman of NPC's Publications Committee, he produced the special inaugural issue of *Broadcasting* honoring Ted Koop, CBS Washington's director of news and public events and first NPC president from electronic journalism. He served three years as publications committee chairman, putting the *Press Clubs Record* on a regular schedule. In 1955, John won a bid for financial secretary. By that time, he had framed his political strategy: "It's really quite simple--always run in a club election without opposition. This involves a bit of doing: first, take club membership and official services seriously; second, build up friendships by daily contacts; third, enlist the support of key members and groups well in advance of elections to discourage competition." In 1959, John had one of NPC's most important publication tasks -- production of the Golden Anniversary Club history, *Shrillu*, "an affectionate chronicle" of 50 dramatic years.

"My membership in the National Press Club opened new horizons," Cosgrove reminisced. "On January 28, 1961, I was sworn in as Press Club president by Chief Justice Earl Warren. The U.S. Navy Band played at festivities that evening under the direction of Commander Charles Brendler. What made this occasion so delightful and unforgettable for me was the presence of another president who had taken office just a few days before, John F. Kennedy."

President Kennedy had been approved for non-active membership by the Board of Governors on January 23, 1961, continuing the unbroken line of U.S. presidents as Club members, dating from William Howard Taft. The bulletin board informed the membership with this announcement: "John F. Kennedy, a former newspaperman, now in politics, approved for non-active membership." When John Cosgrove presented him card number 2973, the President praised the Club for sticking to its principles and rules, "for having the decency to charge me initiation fee and dues." The event marked the first participation of a U.S. president in a Club inaugural.

The Honorable Daniel J. Flood of Pennsylvania depicted another chapter in Cosgrove's life in the 1972 Congressional Record, as he described the accomplishments of the Irish American Foundation. "Mr. Speaker, when my late friend, our great President John F. Kennedy made his celebrated journey to Ireland, the land of his ancestors, shortly before his death, he met several times with that dear and beloved man, Ireland's President Eamon de Valera. In the course of their conversation at the President's home in Phoenix Park, Dublin, the leaders of both nations decided that an effective coordinating force should be forged to carry on the great tradition of the relationship between both nations, and the great feeling of mutual respect and admiration that peoples of both countries held for each other.

"Out of these discussions grew the Irish American Foundation, which is headed today by its president, Mr. John Cosgrove of Washington. Mr. Cosgrove--many members of this House know him well--is a past president of the National Press Club, distinguished newsman and publishing executive."

"The Foundation endorses and supports a broad program of cultural, scientific and educational activity. The Irish American Foundation has made great strides in recent years, and this is due in no small measure to its distinguished president, who seems to lend the "Midas Touch" to his undertakings, all of which have earned a good measure of success. Mr. Cosgrove, I might add, is executive director of the Honor America Day Committee, which has brought greater meaning and significance to our Nation's birthday, July 4th." John had joined the Foundation's Board of Directors in 1967 and later served as director on its successor board, the American Ireland Fund.

Among John's other contributions to his city and nation is his role in the planning and dedication of the United States Navy Memorial. The Memorial was authorized by Congress in 1980 as a national tribute to every man and woman who served in the Navy from its founding in 1775. It is located on Pennsylvania Avenue midway between the Capitol and White House, across from National Archives, and consists of an outdoor amphitheater with a 100 foot circular chart of the world imbedded in its granite

floor. A sculpture of a lone sailor serves as the focal point. Cosgrove served on the board of directors of the Memorial Foundation which raised private donations to create the Memorial. He was elected chairman of the committee which planned the October 13, 1987 dedication.

John has been a popular and ever present figure at Washington St. Patrick's Day parades. He served on the advisory committee of the very first parade in Washington in 1974 which marched from Dupont Circle to the Statue of Robert Emmet at Massachusetts Avenue and 23rd Street.

The most significant day in John's life occurred in 1951 when he married Patricia O'Hara, a native Washingtonian. They share a lifetime of love and an intense pride in their Irish heritage, with years of unselfish service to their community. He has served on boards of directors for numerous organizations, including the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, the Ellis Island Restoration Committee and the American Federation for Irish Heritage.

John Cosgrove is a truly gracious and accomplished gentleman and we are proud to honor him this St. Patrick's Day.

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St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee of Washington, D.C.
Statement of Purpose

The St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee is a non-profit organization registered in the District of Columbia founded for the sole and express purpose of organizing and producing the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Washington, D.C.

The corporation will neither make nor allow to be made any expression or sign that, in the judgement of the Board of Directors, is deemed to be political or sectarian or that in any way violates the purpose of the Corporation.

Any and all new business that is outside the ordinary or necessary conduct of the staging of the annual parade must be submitted only to the Board of Directors for consideration and vote.

Adopted unanimously: February 4, 1989



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TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EMERALD SOCIETY, FIREFIGHTERS OF WASHINGTON, DC



by Bill Kelly

The Emerald Society of the District of Columbia Fire Department was founded 20 years ago on December 9, 1979, by seventeen members of the Department. In the mid-1970s, there was an influx of New Yorkers into the DC Fire Department. As New York then had the largest Fire Emerald Society in the nation, the new members of the DC Fire Department started asking "Where's your Emerald Society?" Dennis Murphy and Bob McClafferty started spreading the word to coworkers like Jimmy Reilly, Skater McCoy, Pranny Flaherty, Bill Kelly, Joe Healy, Frank Dinkel, Eddie Kelly, Mike McGurkl and John Kelly. "Let's start an Emerald Society in DC."

The Fire Department had participated as Irish Americans in the Washington, DC St. Patrick's Day Parade from the beginning. Uniform members of the Fire Department, including Reilly, Kelly, Flaherty and McCoy, marched in the first Parade down Massachusetts Avenue around

Dupont Circle to the Robert Emmett Statue in 1971. Tom Herlihy was on the Parade Committee and always saw that the Fire Department was involved in the Parade; they always got the ladder arches and flag set up at 15th and Constitution Avenue and then raced back to march in the Parade.

After the Parade, everyone would get together with their families and friends for a party and a good time at different parties and pubs. They missed being together so forming an Emerald Society was a perfect solution to bringing all the families and friends together after the Parade. Their parties at Gonzaga High School became well known.

At the first meeting of the Emerald Society in 1979, the group discussed how to set up for the next St. Patrick's Day Parade in 1980. They decided to rent a hall after the parade and bring family, friends and coworkers together to meet and enjoy each others company.

Because firefighters work unusual shifts and sometimes miss out on family oriented activities, it was doubly important to have activities where they could safely bond with family and friends.

The membership rolls came together very quickly. They needed 100 members to join the Grand Council of Emerald Societies in New York. After the 1980 St. Patrick's Day Parade and party at the Mid-Town Hotel on K Street, NW, they had over 300 members. The party had over 400 in attendance, including Fire Chief Norman Richardson and every important member of the Department. The group left the party on Sunday night and headed for New York City to march down Fifth Avenue in the Big Apple. The Emerald Society had arrived and was established as a major player in the DC Fire Department.

The Emerald Society has marched in every St. Patrick's Day Parade in

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and

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"Three's a Charm"

Irish dinner specials, live music with Galway's own Irish Accents, games and prizes. Don't miss our surprise celebrity musicians. (No cover)

Tuesday March 16th

"Calm Before the Storm"

Make waves with true Irish cuisine and relax to the sounds of live music with Irish Accents.

Wednesday March 17th:

St. Patrick's Day!!!

Start your day off right with a Traditional Irish Lunch and music with Brian Coughlan 10 am to 2 pm.

Enjoy an afternoon sing-a-long and experience the warm welcome into the night with music by Alden Croke.

Ceol Agus Craic

Washington, DC, and many times in the parades in New York, Boston, Alexandria, Virginia, and Savannah, Georgia. They have also had the great pleasure of marching in the St. Patrick's Day Parades down O'Connell Street in Dublin in 1983, 1985, 1987, and 1993.

The first meeting of the DC Firefighters Emerald Society was at the Knights of Columbus Hall in College Park, Maryland. Seventeen members attended. The first question asked was "What is an Emerald Society?" The answer was that the Emerald Society is mostly a service organization. The Emerald Society was formed as a fraternal organization composed of Firefighters. Although many of the members have had Irish background, being Irish or being a DC Firefighter has never been a requirement. The ranks have been open to all members of all fire departments in the DC metro area and their families. They have always been proud of their openness to all members of fire departments, including Firefighters, EMS Personnel, Communications, Apparatus Support Units and anyone else who wants to be a member with Irish or fire-related interests. Their motto has always been that the Emerald Society is the one organization that all can join.

The organization is incorporated as the Emerald Society of Washington, DC. From the first meeting of 17 members, the ranks of the Emerald Society have grown to over 800 members in 1999. They have members from virtually every fire department in the metro area and from all ethnic backgrounds, with a core of Irish Ancestry as the driving force of their activities.

The Emerald Society does much to honor its members, to promote family and friendship and to help the community. Each year they give a special "Guy Moorman Man of the Year Award" to the member of the Emerald Society who does outstanding work during the year. Guy Moorman was a special member of the Society who passed away in 1986. They also honor their founding father, Jim Reilly, who passed away in 1991, by giving an annual "Irish Innkeeper Award" to the local pub that does good community service.

The Emerald Society, a social group that takes no positions in Fire Department or government affairs, promotes family and friendship through a number of activities. In addition to the festivities surrounding the St. Patrick's Day Parade, the Society sponsors family picnics, crab feasts, fishing tournaments, softball leagues, bowling leagues, golf tournaments, ski trips and an annual end-of-year Christmas party.

Their community involvement has been outstanding over the years. They volunteer with and financially support charities such as HEROES, Washington Hospital Center Burn Center, Children's Hospital, Special Olympics, Ronald McDonald House and Muscular Dystrophy. Over the past 20 years, the Emerald Society has donated over \$50,000, as

well as many thousands of hours of volunteer time, to these worthwhile charities.

As he looks back over the past 20 years, Emerald Society Historian Bill Kelly reminisces that it has been a busy, fun time. The Society has been active in all levels of Fire Department and city activities. Their Irish heritage has remained very important to them. They realize that being Irish is a special gift that gives them a pride and prestige that not all nationalities seem to realize or enjoy. Being both Irish and working for the Fire Service gives them a double feeling of pride and appreciation. They know that they have a special calling in life and that they do very important things through their daily work.

The members of the Emerald Society realize too that they have a very special organization. The Irish Community is a significant force in the Washington area and the Emerald Society's partnership with other organizations has proved valuable to the Society's success over the years. They particularly credit their work with the Irish American Club, a driving force in keeping Washington, DC's Irish spirit alive over the years, and the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, of which Emerald Society members Jim Snyder, Ben Self and Doug Wheeler have been members for many years.

Past Presidents of the Emerald Society have been Dennis Murphy, Bill Kelly, Joe Healy, Ben Self, Rich Moore, Tom Keelan, and Bill Whetzel. The current President is Timmy Jones, who has had long years of service to the Emerald Society.

To the more than 40 million people of Irish ancestry in the United States, and their families, the Emerald Society wishes to extend a thank you for a job well done and a Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Bill Kelly resides in College Park, Maryland. He is a founding member and resident Historian for the Emerald Society.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!



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FORMER GRAND MARSHALL WINS NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

by Mary Anne Gibbons

The St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee is honored to congratulate John Hume, Grand Marshall of the 1996 St. Patrick's Day Parade, for winning the 1998 Nobel Peace Prize. Mr. Hume, along with David Trimble, head of the Ulster Unionist Party, received this coveted award for his years of work on the peace process in Northern Ireland and his skillful efforts in helping to achieve the historic 1998 Good Friday Agreement.

After the Good Friday Agreement was signed, John Hume was described by The Irish Times as follows: "For the past thirty years, John Hume has been the chief conceptualiser and steady presence behind nationalist demands for equality of treatment and a recognition of their political aspirations in Northern Ireland."

Irish America Magazine noted that, during this 30-year period, Mr. Hume, leader of the Social Democratic and Labor Party (SDLP), Northern Ireland's second largest political party, "doggedly pursued peace. . . . John Hume is a towering example for nationalists of the committed democrat who has taken risks for peace. He has used the political system - and placed his own party at risks to Sinn Féin - as an alternative to sterile, destructive violence. More than any other single party leader in this process, he has designed the architecture around which a settlement has been reached."

John Hume's involvement in Irish politics grew not from a desire for fame or glory, but from a genuine desire to help others. In 1947, he received one of Northern Ireland's first scholarships enabling students to attend the university free; previously a high school or university education was within reach only of those who could pay for it themselves. Upon completion of his university degree and his return to his native home of Derry, Mr. Hume had a desire to help those not as fortunate as himself. Thus, he got involved in the credit union movement and helped start what is now one of Europe's largest credit unions.

His involvement in politics was also largely influenced by President John F. Kennedy, Dr. Martin Luther King and the civil rights movement in the United States. He often quotes Dr. King in his speeches, most especially a quote Dr. King took from Mahatma Gandhi, "The old doctrine of an eye for an eye leaves everybody blind." John Hume was recently recognized for following the teachings of Dr. King with his receipt of a Dr. Martin Luther King award. An ultimate believer in the right to life, Mr. Hume believes that "you cannot argue that you are working for the rights of other people and other human beings if your methods undermine the most fundamental right of all, the right to life."

From his early days in politics, John Hume had a strategic vision of how to achieve peace in Northern Ireland. His view, largely reflected in the Good Friday Agreement, envisioned a power-sharing Northern Irish Assembly, a simultaneous referendum of the people of Northern Ireland and the Southern Republic of Ireland, and cross-border political structures linking all of Ireland. Unlike some others involved in the peace process over the years, Mr. Hume always maintained

that the ultimate political status of Northern Ireland should not be changed absent the consent of the majority of its citizens.

Although John Hume has consistently stated that peace must be achieved through nonviolent means, he was among the first of the players to acknowledge and secretly contact Gerry Adams, president of Sinn Féin, the political wing of the Irish Republican Army. When his secret peace talks with Mr. Adams became known, Mr. Hume was the recipient of verbal attacks in the Irish press and from the Unionist community. He and his family were threatened with their lives. His own party even turned against him. In response, he asked whether they "wanted to keep the party alive or people alive."

Another long-standing aspect of John Hume's vision of peace has been his belief that three basic reforms, the right to vote for Catholics as well as Protestants, fair housing and fair employment policies, were a necessary component of peace in Northern Ireland. Through his work during the past 30 years and the work of others, the first two parts of his vision have been achieved. One person, one vote is now a reality and Northern Ireland currently has one of the best public housing programs in all of Europe. Progress on fair employment has been hindered because the violence over the years has prevented foreign investment. Mr. Hume expects significant progress on this front, however, now that the peace agreement has been signed. Indeed, one of his dreams is to make the Foyle Valley in his beloved Derry the "Silicon valley of Europe."

When asked about his receipt of the Nobel Peace Prize, Mr. Hume states, "I see the award as an award not to myself but to the people of Ireland." He recognizes the very central role played by his co-recipient, David Trimble, by President Clinton and the American people, and by Gerry Adams, Tony Blair and the other political leaders involved in the Good Friday Agreement peace process.

As to the age-old question of whether this peace will last, John Hume believes that the people of Northern Ireland now have the foundations for a lasting peace. Nevertheless, he recognizes that there is much work ahead. "Where we are is that there are two identities [in Northern Ireland] and we must accommodate and respect both. Out of that will evolve a new identity through the healing process." Although Mr. Hume did not seek a leadership position in the new Northern Irish Assembly due to the time-consuming work required by his membership in both the British Parliament and the European Parliament, it is likely that his work of the past 30 years will continue to have a significant influence on the success of this newly-formed body.

For the outstanding contributions of our former Grand Marshall, the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee says "Thank you, John Hume, and God speed in all of your future endeavors."

Note: Information for this article came from the February/March 1999 edition of Irish American Magazine and from the February 4, 1999 edition of The Irish Times.

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1998 IRISH FOLK FESTIVAL

GAITHERSBURG, MARYLAND

The 1998 Irish Folk Festival was held at the Montgomery County Fair Grounds, Gaithersburg, Maryland on September 5th and 6th 1998. The Parade Committee played a significant role in making this event a huge success.

The Parade Committee recruited exhibitors and coordinated the Community Organizations Pavilion, which housed the exhibits of participating Irish organizations. We also sponsored a table in the Pavilion which was staffed throughout the festival by committee members. In addition, the committee coordinated and supervised the sale of adult beverages at two locations. These busy locations were staffed through the festival by Parade

Committee members, family and friends. A special thanks is extended to all who assisted in providing assistance at the festival, the names of which are far too numerous to mention in this article.

A special thank you is extended to Cecelia Farley, Ginny Kelly, and Dan Sullivan who not only worked tirelessly to make the festival a success, but faithfully attended festival planning meetings through the spring and summer. They were directly responsible for the Parade Committee receiving substantial recognition.

This year the 23rd Annual Irish Folk Festival will be held September 4th and 5th.

Congratulations

Denis Mulcahy
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John Cosgrove
Gael of the Year

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HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY



JOSEPH A. DONNELLY

1935 - 1998

The Parade Committee was saddened by the death of member Joe Donnelly on June 25, 1998. Joe was born in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, and attended St. Vincent College. After college, he moved to Arlington, Virginia, and worked for the Internal Revenue Service for 35 years.

Having been both Past President of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in Arlington and Past Grand Knight of the largest Knights of Columbus in the Mid-Atlantic region, he still found time to immerse himself in many Irish causes. In addition, Joe had a great passion for work with the mentally challenged and was on the forefront of the KOVAR fundraising activity each year.

Carrying the Donnelly crest flag, he marched each year in the Washington, DC St. Patrick's Day Parade with his two daughters. Joe's daughter Megan is an active Parade Committee member.

CORNELIUS J. COAKLEY

1982 GAEL
1930 - 1998

Past Gael of the Year, Connie Coakley, died July 11, 1998, after a long illness. Connie was a true Irish American success story.

After immigrating to the United States, he became a union plasterer. Shortly after that, Connie started his own business, which evolved into one of the larger general contracting businesses in the tri-state area. During the late forties and early fifties, he was a GAA football player when the games were played on the fields of Catholic University.

Connie will be especially remembered by the local community as one who helped many newly arrived Irish get jobs in the area and for his quiet but legendary philanthropic efforts.

MATTHEW O'NEILL FLYNN

1965 - 1999

The Parade Committee acknowledges with sadness the recent passing of one of the staunch supporters of Irish activities in the Washington, DC area, 34-year old Matt Flynn. Matt was the son of Parade Committee members John and Joyce Flynn. Matt, a native of St. Louis, was proud of his Irish ancestry and loved Irish music and history. He was proud also to be from a labor family and a bricklayer's son. He was a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Col. John Fitzgerald Division #1 and the Knights of Columbus, Edward Douglas White Counsel #2473. He learned to play checkers from his Grandpa O'Neill and went on to become Missouri State Checkers Champion two times.

In addition to his parents, Matt is survived by his brother John Jr., his sister Margaret Wolf and a number of other relatives. Those who knew Matt remember him as having a good thick head of hair, a big voice with an even bigger laugh, and a generous heart. They also remember a verse that inspired Matt and could serve as a reminder to us all, "letting go is to not regret the past but to grow and live for the future. Letting go is to fear less and live more."

PATRICK HAYES,

1976 GRAND MARSHALL

1909 - 1998

by John P. Cosgrove

Washington lost a leader and the Pageant lost a friend when Patrick Hayes died early in 1998.

Mr. Hayes was founding director of the Washington Performing Arts Society and a valued director of the Christmas Pageant of Peace. We will miss his wisdom and wit.

The above note appeared in the 1998 Christmas Pageant of Peace program for the lighting of the National Christmas Tree by the President and Mrs. Clinton. It speaks volumes and directly to the point in describing the loss of our friend Pat Hayes. He was the friend and benefactor of so many in the Washington area. We served together on the board of the WPAS since the 1950s, and he served as a valued member of the National Press Club of which I had the honor of being President in 1961.

I was honored when Parade Committee Chairman Cecelia Farley asked me to prepare an appreciation for this man of so many talents. He had a very special talent himself for recognizing talent in the very competitive world of the performing arts.

One of the highlights, shining brightly in a star-filled memory, was Pat Hayes' leading the Washington, DC St. Patrick's Day Parade in 1976 as Grand Marshal. What a sight, that gleaming smile! It was of heroic proportion on that sunny Sunday as he proudly rode down Constitution Avenue. It took years for Pat to stop talking about THE day, if he ever did!

It is altogether appropriate here to reprint the editorial from *The Washington Post*, May 5, 1998, saluting the significant contributions that Impresario Hayes made to this nation's capital:

Patrick Hayes

As Washington, emerging from World War II, became a capital, it set about expanding and improving the quality of its artistic and cultural life. Patrick Hayes, who died the other day at the age of 89, took on the huge musical part of the job.

For four decades, he brought to Washington the leading American and international artists and ensembles, and gathered the audiences to hear and to support them. In time the cultural momentum that he, more than any single other person, had established, overwhelmed the private halls of the earlier years and produced the Kennedy Center. He simply extended the reach of his booking and management services, kept the stars and good lesser lights coming and filled the seats. An impresario such as Pat Hayes had to know plenty about music, plenty about the talents and egos of musicians, plenty about satisfying tastes and building audiences in what had long been regarded as a cultural backwater, and plenty about business.

Mr. Hayes did all that and more. He took as a mission the cultivation and presentation of black artists and audiences in what was then a distinctly southern town. When Marian



Anderson finally did sing in Constitution Hall, it was Mr. Hayes who put her there. He was on the air for 26 years broadcasting the Washington cultural gospel, on the move quietly at every concert in order to see that the evening was going smoothly.

But the secret of his success as a musical entrepreneur lay beyond his skills as a manager and talent handler. The truth is, he loved music, loved to listen to music, loved to talk about music, loved to bring music to others, conveyed the constant sense that he was about to break into song. His sweet obsession leaves the city permanently in his debt.

For another dimensional look at our hero, listen to these words by his protégé and successor at WPAS, Director Douglas E. Wheeler: "He was a partner and a friend until the very end. He delighted in the risks and challenges of introducing new artists and art forms and continued to be a strong advocate for our commitment to programs and performing opportunities for children. He was unwavering in his optimism, enthusiasm and care for others."

Doug also emphasized Pat's wise advice, which still resonates today. "Make your priorities your city, your college and your church. Function in disaster, finish in style... and remember, money follows ideas."

The single best thing that we can do to honor the memory of Patrick Hayes is to celebrate the arts and to "enjoy the music, enjoy the dance," as he used to say. It is timely to close this tribute to Patrick Hayes with this Irish blessing, with which he ended many meetings:

May the road rise to meet you
May the wind be always at your back
The sun shine warm upon your face
The rain fall softly upon your fields
And until we meet again
May God hold you in the hollow of His hand.



National Association of Letter Carriers

The millions of Americans who trace their ancestry to Ireland are rightfully proud of the many contributions that their culture has made to the fabric of the United States.



Vincent R. Sombrotto
President

On behalf of the 312,000 members of the National Association of Letter Carriers, we salute our Irish countrymen and offer our tribute to the ideals embodied in the celebration of St. Patrick's Day.

Vincent R. Sombrotto
President



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PATRICK "THE IRISH EYE" CADY

1923-1998

"A friend loves all times"

Proverbs 17:17

Cecilia Farley,

Chair of the Washington, DC St. Patrick's Parade:

Pat Cady was a true friend, never known to take sides. He was our voice of reason and conciliation.

John Cosgrove,

Communications consultant, long time silent partner in Irish affairs, and the 1999 Gael of the Washington, DC St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee: Pat Cady was a pioneer film maker and still picture perfectionist who learned his trade as a preteen hobbyist with a box camera. When he enlisted in the Navy his intention was to become a metal smith. But wiser heads prevailed. Pat's photographic techniques were recognized and he was enrolled in the Time Life Advanced School of Photography. This was the beginning of the "Irish Eye". Now locked in his file of film negatives are the valued treasures of Irish culture that took place in our Nation's Capital since Pat's retirement from his Navy career dating back to about 1976 through the last great quarter century."



Carol Wheeler,

coordinator of the

Washington, DC area Project Children:

Pat Cady was a lovely and generous man who, with his camera and his photos, touched thousands of lives. He documented our moments of celebration, of family closeness and of shared community. And when the children of Northern Ireland came to visit America, he documented the moments where differences were put aside and bonds of friendship were formed. When our visitors went home with their bags bulging with

Pat's photos-which were destined for mantles and bedroom dressers throughout the six counties-they took with them pictures not only of what was in America but what can be in Northern Ireland if enough of them dare to bridge the old divides. Pat's beautiful pictures show us all what peace looks like-and they help us all to hold to the dream. It's a wonderful gift we've been left by a wonderful man who will always have a special place in our hearts.

Paddy Wilcox,

Pat's youngest daughter: You all know Pat as a generous and tireless worker who gave all to the organizations he believed in (from his church to Boy Scouts to various Irish groups) but I feel it is important to humanize him. It is to this end that I am writing, to let you in on his greatest shortcoming, a secret that has long been held by the family. In short, despite his artistry with a camera, my father had the most horrible sense of color. It would have taken only a quick tour of his home to get a feel for his problem. For example, let's examine the color scheme of his bedroom. Now the Irish tricolor is perfectly nice for a flag but it's a bit much for a bedroom! Granted, he added a yellow undertone to warm things up a bit, but basically that was his model. He also tended to ignore the conventional decorating advice about color flowing from room to room. His green and orange bedroom adjoined a turquoise and slate blue bathroom. His bright yellow and avocado green kitchen flowed into the pink hallway (yes, pink)! The more the merrier was definitely his motto when it came to color. The piece d'resistance of his color frenzy probably occurred during my early teens. My father took apart an old, rusting, heavy-framed bicycle. He then proceeded to paint every single part a different color using paints ranging from shiny

royal blue to flat neon orange. Apparently, when he reassembled the bike, it still wasn't eye-popping enough because he then added a leopard print seat and handlebar grips with glittery streamers. Needless to say no one in the family would be caught dead anywhere near this contraption and I think even Goodwill was reluctant to take it into their donation center. I hope nobody feels I have been disloyal in writing this because things like his zany sense of color have helped us cope with our loss. We remember our Dad as we joke about the three coats of paint it took to subdue the green trim in his room or wonder what possessed him to paint the interior of his



medicine cabinet a vivid turquoise.

Peg O'Beirne,

Chairman of the American Foundation for Irish Heritage and member of the Washington, DC St. Patrick's Parade:

I simply say his name, PAT CADY, and it makes me smile. I just hear his name, PAT CADY, and it makes me smile. I see one of his photos, and I smile for the wonderful memories that come to mind. And what special treasured memories and stories we all have of him. So don't wait for St. Patrick's Day should you need a smile. Just think, PAT CADY, for the smiles and happy memories that are sure to follow.

Safe home, DEAR FRIEND! And may God hold you in the hollow of His hand 'til we meet again.

Adrian O'Neill,

Press Officer for the Irish Embassy:

Pat was well known for his kindness and courtesy. Whenever he would come to the embassy for a party or event he was keen on gathering the Ambassador, embassy representatives and special guests for a "family photograph". He would patiently bring us together and line us all up. I have several of these photographs myself including one taken at the Four Provinces marking the Northern Irish referendum.

Pat Garvey,

Irish folk singer:

Pat Cady was a gentleman but more importantly he was a gentle man, sorely missed.

Matthew F. Lee,

former vice chairman of the Washington, DC St. Patrick's Day Parade:

Pat Cady, if it was an Irish function he would always be there. You name it—festivals, fund-raisers, meetings concerning parade planning, installation of officers of Irish organizations or socials, the Irish Eye would be sure to have it recorded on film. To some of us he was also known as Mr. Click. Pat was never intrusive; he worked swiftly and silently, recording the event for his Irish history file. He never asked for any financial return for the film he used or the numerous copies he made for many of us. Those who knew him miss him and for those who never had the pleasure of meeting him I can only say it was your loss. Pat Cady was a legend in his time.

Mickey Brennan,

director of the Belfast Children's Program:

I'm sure the first thing Pat did when he got to heaven was to organize the saints for a group picture.

Barbara Macken,

treasurer and photographer for the Washington, DC St. Patrick's Day Parade:

Pat Cady was an incredibly patient photographer with both his subjects and "junior staff" such as myself. He was generous to everyone he knew. When the Washingtonian Magazine used one of my photographs in an article on the Parade, Pat surprised me with a framed copy of the photo and the magazine article. He understood how excited an amateur can be to see her work in print. Our group photograph at the end of the year will have a large empty space that no one can fill. Luv ya, Pat! Miss you, Pat!

Steve Lynch,

a proprietor of Murphy's Irish Pubs and member of the Washington, DC St. Patrick's Day Parade;

With the exception of my Father, I never met a finer, more reliable, honest, humorous and cordial gentleman in my life.

Deirdre Woodbyrne, a friend of Pat's:

Pat was truly an inspiration to everyone. His kindness and generosity emanated from every photo he took over the years. He always had a way of making you smile. I consider myself very fortunate to have known someone who did so many charitable deeds with so much humility. Pat Cady's friendship was one of life's treasures.

Laureen O'Neill-James, Irish dancing school owner:

Pat Cady-a Friend Indeed! What a man-we have so many memories of our family and our school due to him. Albums upon albums. The photographs are priceless to us. Many of my mother and father, Frank and Peggy O'Neill, of my husband, Fred, and my two sons, Freddie and Robbie, and oodles and oodles of our students, and our Nation's Capital Feis. Pat would take no money for the developing or

mailing of anything. He and his wife, Flo, had a tremendous influence in the Irish community and are sadly missed."

Aileen Ruane, an O'Neill-James student,

remembers the time he took a picture of her sister and her with the Rose of Tralee when they were younger. It was surely exciting. It seems that memories of Pat Cady go way back to the days the dancers were still learning their hop-one-two-threes. Dance Moms also have fond memories of The Irish Eye.

Mary Gillmartin,

mother of ten yearold Sara, smiled when she told me the story of a recent Saint Patrick's Day Mass downtown at the Cathedral. Her daughter was among those O'Neill-James dancers who participated in the special Mass. Pat was so intent on getting just the right picture of the girls that he climbed up on an empty chair, which was on the altar.

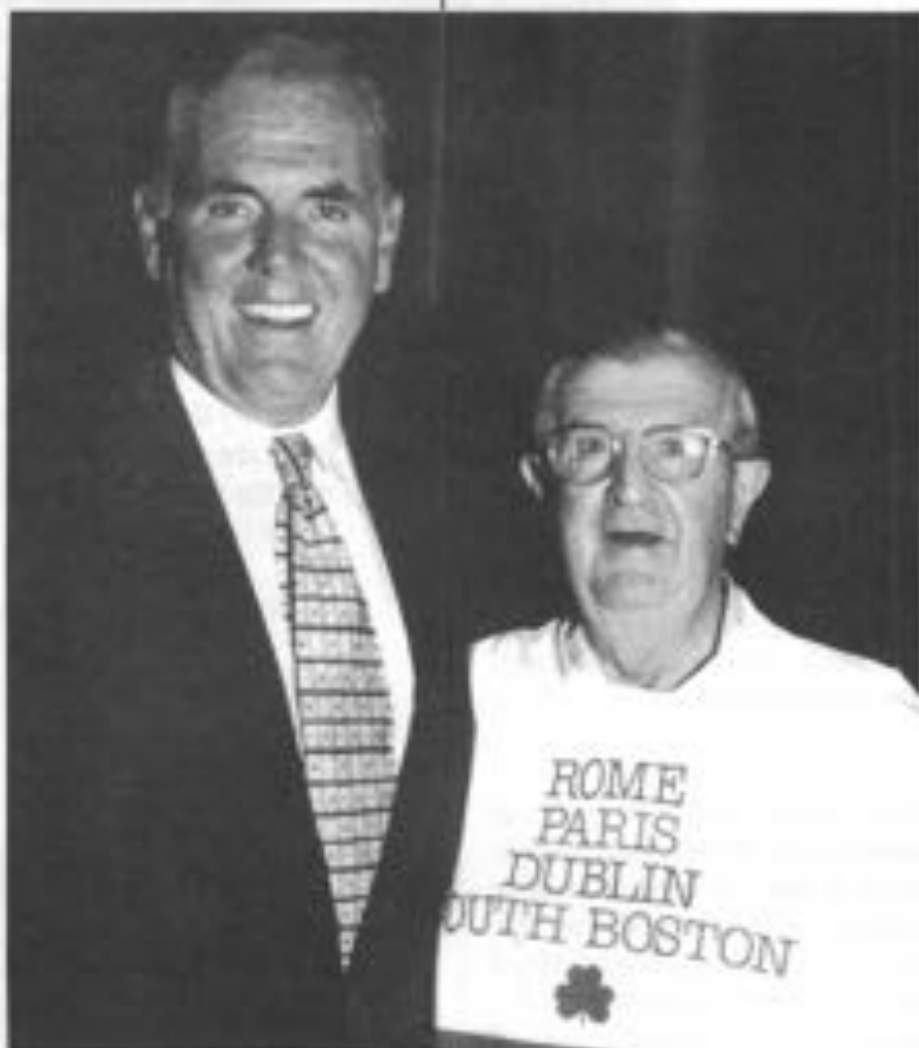
He was right in front of the Cardinal. No one but Pat Cady could have gotten away with that. Several O'Neill-James dancers were asked to participate in Mr. Cady's funeral service last summer, something they were honored to do. The dancers agreed that they had been aware of Pat's absence at recent performances and that they have missed him. As they said, he was always there.

Pat Troy, owner of Ireland's Own Restaurant and Pub:

He was so reliable, so dependable, he was a necessity to me. Anything

Pat did he did with perfection. He designed and built a stage which we still use. He was meticulous in everything he did and his pictures were an asset to our community. For twenty-five years Pat Cady, free of charge, took pictures of every Irish event in the area, and made beautiful albums of the events. He contributed hundred of thousands of dollars in photographs to the Irish community. He cannot be replaced-we will never have another like him. He was my buddy-he was closer than a brother to me.

Robert Pyne, Pat Cady's nephew:



Pat's family in Boston always called him Bill. When I visited him last Saint Patrick's Day we stopped in at Ireland's Own where many people were calling out to a Pat. I didn't know who they were talking about at first. We always called him Uncle Bill.

Ginny Kelly,
member of the Washington, DC St. Patrick's Parade Committee:

Pat was always thinking of everyone else. He had a busy schedule of his own covering every possible Irish event in the Washington area. Yet he took the time to help others with their jobs. When Donna Moore and I found ourselves working on advertising for the parade magazine Pat handed me a folder entitled "Another Route to Program Ads". In it was an outline of helpful hints, key words and ten pages he had pasted together of ads cut out from newspapers, magazines, and even telephone books-the white pages. I realize the time that it took him to put these ideas together out of the goodness of his heart. We never asked for his help but he knew that we needed it....Also this year when we were putting together all of the articles for the magazine and the collage of fundraiser pictures we were reminded of how we counted on him. He always covered certain events and provided pictures and article information. We were running around at the last minute trying to piece together everything that he had taken care of for years. God bless you, Pat Cady, we miss you.

Pat McBride,
member of the Washington, DC St. Patrick's Parade Committee and parade photographer:

Pat's friendship was a cherished gift. He taught me the art of living a fully human, alive life and dying with dignity.

Bruce Wagner:

I was married to Pop's daughter Rosemary for 18 years until her death in 1995. I remarried in July 1998 two weeks before he died. We were very fortunate to have him attend our wedding ceremony. My story concerns the first meeting between my wife Laurie and Pop in January 1998. While Pop and I were attending a Fleet Reserve Assn. meeting in Virginia Beach, Laurie and I took him out to dinner. On the way to the restaurant Pop said he needed to replace the batteries in his hearing aids. I pulled up to a drug store and told Pop that we would be waiting for him to get back. Now anyone who has ever met him knows how much of a perfectionist and a stickler to detail he was. While waiting for Pop to leave the store, a white car (mine is dark blue) pulled up to the front door. Pop left the store deep in thought examining the batteries. Without missing a beat he got into the white car, much to the driver's amazement. There he sat putting the batteries in. The driver was speechless (he was probably thinking he was a victim of a car jacking). We sat there honking the horn and finally got his attention. When he looked up and saw who he was with the expression on his face was priceless. He

shrugged his shoulders in a way only he could and left the car post haste. When he finally returned to my car the batteries still didn't work but Pop had made a new friend! Knowing him he probably offered to take his picture. Pop and I had always had a friendly rivalry between the Marines and the Navy. When I was first dating Rosemary, she brought me home for Christmas dinner. As was their tradition, they gathered all the family members around the dinner table for Pop to take a family shot. You knew you were accepted as a member of the family if he allowed you to be in this picture. That first year he was very skeptical of me being a Marine of all things, and as I was standing next to Rosemary, he said "Hey YOU! Get over here and take the shot!" He trusted me with his camera, but not with his daughter. Needless to say, our relationship blossomed. I married his little girl, gave him 2 more grandchildren but we always played practical jokes on each other with the Navy vs. Marines theme. I will never forget giving him from Spencer's the "Sink the Battleship Toilet Bowl Game". My mother-in-law who loved a good joke said it was his favorite game! He retaliated by giving me a doormat with the Marine Corps emblem with my name on it so I could wipe my feet on the Corps! What a character. He is truly missed. He was the best father-in-law anyone could ever ask for. I am very blessed to be a member of his family.

May the road rise to meet you
May the wind be always at your back
May the sunshine warm upon your face
The rains fall soft upon your fields
And until we meet again
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.



March 1997 Designated "Irish-American Heritage Month"

Public Law 103-379

Joint Resolution

Whereas 150 years ago the blight that struck Ireland's potato crop ("the single root that changed the history of the world"), known as the Great Famine, caused 2,000,000 of Ireland's population to emigrate, mostly to America's shores;

Whereas in 1847 alone, 25,000 Irish immigrants arrived in Boston;

Whereas by 1851, the end of the famine exodus, 1712 emigrant ships had sailed up the Narrows into New York harbor;

Whereas during the "Great Hunger" (1845-1851) more people left Ireland than had emigrated in the previous 250 years;

Whereas Irish-born James Hoban designed and supervised the building of the White House and its restoration after it was burned in 1814;

Whereas 19 Presidents of the United States proudly claim Irish heritage, included among them the first President, George Washington;

Whereas John W. O'Beirne, Founder of the American Foundation for Irish Heritage, first requested in 1990 that Congress designate March as "Irish-American Heritage Month";

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United State of America in Congress assembled, That the month of March 1997 is designated as "Irish-American Heritage Month." The President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate ceremonies and activities;

Approved October 19, 1994

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SAVE YOU SEVERAL DOWN THE LINE.**

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AND
JOHN COSGROVE
Gael of the Year
AND BEST WISHES TO THE
ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE



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General President

N. Budd Coutts
General Secretary-Treasurer

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS, AFL-CIO

We Salute

*The Proud Heritage of Irish America
and
Two of our Finest*

**DENIS MULCAHY
JOHN COSGROVE**



*International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
1125 15th Street, N.W.
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Join the Marchers and Spectators of

The 28th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade

in celebrating Irish heritage and Culture
Erin Go Bragh!



Gerald W. McEntee,
International
President

William Lucy,
International
Secretary-Treasurer

Congratulations!

***Denis Mulcahy
Grand Marshal***

and

***John Cosgrove
Gael of the Year***

1999 St. Patrick's Day Parade

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Abigail's Irish Soda Bread

Preheat oven to 400 degrees and 30-40 minutes


2 cups flour
½ teaspoon baking soda
½ teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon sugar (optional)
1/3 cup raisins (optional)
1 cup buttermilk



Sift flour, baking soda, sugar and salt together. Scoop these ingredients up and drop them back into the bowl to aerate the mixture. Add the raisins. Add the buttermilk to make a soft dough. The buttermilk and soda are reacting, so knead lightly and quickly to form a ball. Shape into a round loaf about 6" in diameter, and place it on a lightly floured baking sheet. Cut a deep cross into the loaf with a floured knife. For golden brown crust brush top lightly with egg yolk. For soft crust, do not brush and wrap baked loaf in a tea towel. When baked properly, the loaf will sound hollow when tapped on bottom. Recipe can be doubled.

IRISH NATIONAL ANTHEM

by Peadar Kearney



We'll sing a son, a soldier's song
With cheering, rousing chorus
As round our blazing fires we throng.
The starry heavens o'er us;
Impatient for the coming fight,
And as we wait the morning's light
Here in the silence of the night
We'll chant a soldier's song.

REFRAIN:

Soldier's are we, whose lives are
pledged to Ireland,
Some have come from a land beyond
the wave.
Sworn to be free, no more our ancient
sireland
Shall shelter the despot, or the slave;
Tonight we man the bearna baoghal
In Erin's cause, come woe or weal;
'Mid cannon's roar and rifle's peal
We'll chant a soldier's song.

Ireland's Rural Post Offices

By Daniel A. Sullivan

A government decision to decrease the service now provided by rural post offices has met with a considerable amount of opposition from the rural areas of Ireland.

If the parish church is the heart of the small villages and towns, the local post office is the hub around which the community revolves. When one of them is closed down as an economy move, it can devastate the community. The public telephone might disappear and the people of the community will lose a social gathering place.

In the small towns and villages of Ireland, the local post office has always been the center of the social and financial life of the community, in addition to accepting and delivering mail. The post

office sells television licenses, accepts payment for telephone service and provides saving accounts. They act as the representative for the unemployment office and distribute payments for the unemployed and also old age pensioners. They also distribute the children's allowance payments once a month to the mothers of children under sixteen.

During the summer months, when the tourists invade the rural areas of Ireland, the post offices act as unofficial tourist offices. They provide directions, sell stamps and post cards and advise as to location of local guest houses. The local post office is an excellent source of information for tourists trying to locate people or places of interest. They will also cash travelers checks. They usually have a public telephone. If one wants to find a

The First Gael

A Celt named Nial led his people to the country of Egypt. His son Gaedal Glas was bitten by a poisonous serpent when but a child. With his son near death, the desperate Nial sought help from the Israelites that were camping nearby in the desert. He begged their leader Moses to save his son. Moses was profoundly touched by the anguish of Nial. He laid the boy down and prayed over him. He touched the wound with his rod and the boy arose, healed. Then the man of God prophesied for the posterity of the young prince: "They would inhabit a country in which no venomous reptile could live, an island that they should seek and would find in the track of the setting sun. The island would be their island of destiny."

John Patrick Cosgrove

"Gael of the Year"

"Anyone in the Washington Irish-American community, or for that matter in the community at large, who is considering an organizational endeavor of any kind, at some point usually has someone tell them, 'Look, why don't you call John Cosgrove.' If there is a major event going on in Washington, somewhere along the line they have been lent a *helping hand** by John Cosgrove."

The above is an excerpt from the St. Patrick's Day Parade program, March 13, 1988.

Friends, associates and shipmates of John Cosgrove fully endorse and support that paragraph for we have not only enjoyed, but benefited, from our association with him. We take this opportunity to collectively express our thanks and appreciation . . . and to salute him as the 1999 Gael of the Year.

Al Marah Homeowners Association
American Foundation for Irish Heritage
American Ireland Fund
American Irish Foundation
American Legion Post No. 20
Cabin John Volunteer Fire Department
Christmas Pageant of Peace
Circus Saints and Sinners, P.T. Barnum Tent
Destroyer-Escort Historical Foundation
Destroyer-Escort Sailors Association
Ellis Island Restoration Committee
Friendly Sons of St. Patrick
"Honor America" program of American Historic and Cultural Society
International Service Agencies
National Press Club
Pittston (PA) High School Alumni
Society of Professional Journalists
U.S. Navy Memorial Foundation
U.S.S. GENDREAU DE-639 Shipmates
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 3335
Vietnam Veterans Memorial
White House Correspondents Association

*John Cosgrove describes a *helping hand* as something one cannot always get, but one can always give.

DIVISION A

1. METROPOLITAN POLICE MOTORCYCLES IN "V" FORMATION WITH COLOR GUARD
2. CHARLES H. RAMSEY, Chief, Metropolitan Police Dept.
3. HAPPY ST PATRICK'S DAY BANNER IRISH AMERICAN CLUB McAuliffe Brothers
4. GRAND MARSHAL DENIS MULCAHY Founder of Project Children, New York City Police Dept Bomb Squad, Native of Rockchapel, County Cork, Ireland. Each year 640 children are brought over to spend time together with host families which now totals about 13,000 children who have come to America. "To give kids a good time and an opportunity to learn about the wider world."
5. PROJECT CHILDREN FLOAT & MARCHING UNIT
6. COMMANDER OF TROOPS. 3rd US Infantry, MDW
7. JOINT MILITARY STAFF
8. US AIR FORCE BAND
9. US ARMY MARCHING PLATOON
10. US MARINE CORPS MARCHING PLATOON
11. US ARMED FORCES COLOR GUARD
12. US NAVY MARCHING PLATOON
13. US AIR FORCE MARCHING PLATOON
14. US COAST GUARD MARCHING PLATOON
15. 3rd US INFANTRY FIFE & DRUM CORPS, "The Old Guard"
16. DONALD EDWARDS. Chief, DC Fire Department. Firefighting equipment from our Nation's Capital - celebrating 128 years of fire and rescue service: Engine Company; Hazardous Materials Unit; Field Command Unit; 6th Battalion Fire Chief; Medic; Rapid Response Unit.
17. ROBERT LANGSTON. Chief, US Park Police. Motorcycle "V," Color Guard and Mounted Unit.
18. ARNOLD GOLDSTEIN. Supt., National Capitol Park Central, National Park Service.
19. HONORABLE CONSTANCE MORELLA. House of Representatives, Montgomery County MD.
20. HONORABLE JAMES P. MORAN. House of Representatives, District 8, Northern Virginia.
21. HONORABLE TOM DAVIS. House of Representatives, District 11 Northern Virginia.
22. ANTHONY A. WILLIAMS. Mayor, Washington DC
24. DOUGLAS M. DUNCAN. Montgomery County Executive, MD
25. ALL SAINTS REGIONAL SCHOOL MARCHING BAND. Director, Mrs. Peggy Sweeney, Phillipsburg, NJ.
26. GAEL OF THE YEAR, JOHN PATRICK COSGROVE, Editor, Reporter, US Navy Veteran WWII, served aboard the Destroyer Escort USS Gendreau, DE-639. Author of "The Gendreau Story." Active with the American Irish Foundation and the American Ireland Fund and serves on the Board of Directors of the US Navy Memorial and the Ellis Island Restoration Committee. Native of Pittston PA.
27. CEAD MILE FAILTE. Irish American Club Banner. Family of John Moore.
28. IRISH AMERICAN CLUB OF WASHINGTON. President Walter Durkin
29. THE MC LEAN SCHOOL OF PIPING, INC, Virginia. Music Director Jim Forquet.
30. EMERALD SOCIETY - FIREFIGHTERS OF WASHINGTON. "Our 29th Year Marching!" President Tim Jones. Banner, Colors, Marching Unit, Fire Apparatus.
31. PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS OF WISCONSIN. Chair Dave Bosanko.
32. WASHINGTON DC GAELS. Chair Andrew Healy.
33. ROSCOMMON SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON DC, President Peter J. Koenig.
34. WILLIAM C. MC GINNIS MIDDLE SCHOOL MARCHING BAND, NJ. Director Carl Brodbeck
35. THE BLACKTHORN CEIL DANCERS FLOAT. Director Claire (Stohlman)
36. "WOW" WASHINGTON POST ON WHEELS. washingtonpost.com

DIVISION B

1. METRO TRANSIT POLICE. Colors, Bicycles, Marchers.
2. BARRY J. MC DEVITT. Chief, Metro Transit Police.
3. MARTIN GIBBONS. Marshal, Division B.
4. PATRIOTS OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA DRUM CORPS. Directors Mr. & Mrs. Sam Evans.
5. ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS. (All Divisions AOH/LAOH in order of Precedence)
6. ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS TROLLEY. Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Div #2.
7. LADIES ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS TROLLEY. Daughters of Erin, Div #9.
8. VALLEY FORGE MILITARY ACADEMY & COLLEGE REGIMENTAL BAND.
Director Col. Danny Jaynes.
9. VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE ASSN, WWII. The Greatest Land Battle Ever Fought by the United States Army, A Triumph of Courage. President George Linthicum.
10. MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART. Veterans of various wars that have been wounded in Battle. Commander Ransom Jordan.
11. SENECA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL JR NAVAL ROTC, Montgomery County, MD.
LCDR Henry Lane.
12. CHILDREN'S FRIENDSHIP PROJECT FOR NORTHERN IRELAND.
Leaders Sharon Harroun & Laura Genaurio.
13. IRISH-AMERICAN FAMILIES OF LAUREL MD. Marching in memory of Tommy Dagan flagholder who passed away 6 Jan 99 on his birthday, Chair Meg Garret.
14. FIREFIGHTERS EMERALD SOCIETY PIPE BAND OF VA. Leader Gary Winemiller.
15. FIREFIGHTERS EMERALD SOCIETY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY VA.
Banner & Marchers, Leader Tim Sparrow.
16. Z104 WWZZ WASHINGTON DC & FREDERICK MD. Director Sammy Simpson.
17. POTOMAC VALLEY IRISH WOLFHOUND CLUB, METRO AREA.
Parade Chairman Diane Hartney
18. O'NEILL-JAMES SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCING, VA. Dancers and Band, Director Lauren O'Neill-James.
19. BELFAST CHILDREN'S SUMMER PROGRAM. Chair Bruce Webster.
20. ANACOSTIA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND, Washington DC.
Director Joseph Chisholm. Sponsored by Capital Rowing Club.
21. CAPITAL ROWING CLUB FLOAT
22. ROSE OF TRALEE. MISS MIME SAUNDERS. Greater Washington Area.
23. IRISH TERRIER PET BRIGADE, METRO AREA. Chair Charles C. Ward.
24. WILMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND, Wilmington DE.
Director James Sharp.
25. JAMES HOBAN IRISH AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY.
Washington Metro Area. Directors Cathy Hoban & Morgan Mc Donald
26. DC - 101 FLOAT. Sponsored by Heineken USA
27. WEE WILLIE'S CLOWNS
28. RANDOLPH-MACON ACADEMY VIRGINIA 91st AFJROTC.
Band and Parade Unit. Director G. Edwin Richards.
29. MAPLE SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCE FLOAT. Teacher Bill Maple.
30. 1957 CHEVROLET BELAIR. Owned by Jim Batchelder.
31. SPOTSYLVANIA HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND, Virginia.
Director Bob Pomerlean.
32. S u G. T. V. "WASHINGTONIA." German Dance Unit. President Charlie Volkman.
33. MARKLAND MEDIEVAL MERCENARY MILITIA. Knight Barchan.

DIVISION C

1. US SECRET SERVICE UNIFORMED DIVISION CEREMONIAL HONOR GUARD.
Leader Sgt. Wendy Williams.
2. JOHN BARRY. Marshal, Division C.
3. PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY POLICE PIPE BAND. President Dottie Whitehead.
4. POLICE EMERALD SOCIETY OF THE WASHINGTON DC AREA.
Vice President Brian Manion
5. NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT EMERALD SOCIETIES.
Washington DC Chapter President Joe Dowling.
6. IRISH NORTHERN WASHINGTON DC UNIT. Chairperson Mary Baggarly.
7. WARFIELD & SANFORD, INC. ELEVATOR CO. 1929 Ford Model A Stake Body Truck,
Driver John Warring. 1941 Ford Convertible, Driver Harry Neal.
8. THE DONNELLY SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCE, Virginia. Teacher Michelle Donnelly Kennedy.
9. US CAPITOL POLICE CEREMONIAL UNIT
10. GARY L. ALBRECHT. Chief, US Capitol Police.
11. ST JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL CADET REGIMENT & REGIMENTAL BAND.
ROTC Director LTC Mitchell Sivas, Rtd.
12. JAMES HOBAN MARCHING GROUP, Washington DC. Director Joseph N Grano, Jr.
13. WASH-FM FLOAT. Soft Rock Shamrock 97.1 FM.
14. THE STEPHENSON FAMILY OF CLOWNS, High Point NC. Director Bob Stephenson.
15. STRATH JAMES PIPE BAND, LTD, Williamsburg VA. Pipemajor, Brendan Konouck.
16. MISS DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
17. BROOKLAND CLUB FLOAT, Washington DC
18. BROOKLAND CLUB MARCHING UNIT, Washington DC. Leader Terry O'Brien.
19. ARUNDEL HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND, Maryland. Director Phillip L. Butts.
20. CUB SCOUT PACK 461, St Jane de Chantal, Maryland. Leader John Burke.
21. GIRL SCOUTS ASSOCIATION 22-1, Maryland. Leader Kathlyne Sullivan.
22. GIRL SCOUTS CADETTE TROOP 1019, Maryland. Leader Karen Shanahan.
23. GIRL SCOUT JR TROOP 3062/3817, Maryland. Leader Bernadette Lund.
24. GIRL SCOUT BROWNIE TROOP 1796, Virginia. Leader Kerry Maxwell.
25. GIRL SCOUT BROWNIE TROOP 2929, Maryland. Leader Regina Brothers.
26. THE DUBLINER RESTAURANT FLOAT. Sponsored by Forman Brothers.
27. "LEPRECHAUN" Donald Patrick Ryan
28. KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, BISHOP FLAHERTY ASSEMBLY, Virginia.
Leader Richard Quintana
29. KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, CHEVY CHASE WASHINGTON DC COUNCIL 224.
Leader Ben Filipczyk.
30. WASHINGTON REGIONAL ALCOHOL PROGRAM, WRAP. Executive Director Tim Kime.
Keep the Luck of the Irish Alive, Don't Drink & Drive, Call WRAP's SOBER RIDE.
31. BALLOU HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND, Washington DC.
Leader Darrell Watson. Sponsored by WMAL Radio.
32. WMAL-RADIO 630AM MARCHING UNIT. Leader Lori Scank.
33. LOYAL & PATRIOTIC ORDER OF IRISH AMERICAN REAGANITES, Virginia.
Chieftain Brian Lopina.
34. OAK VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EXHIBITIONAL ACTIVITIES CLUB, Virginia.
Teacher Jim Mayer. Unicycles, tumblers, German gym wheels, stilt walkers and jugglers.

DIVISION D

1. MD NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK POLICE - Montgomery County Div. Horses Mounted and Motorcycle Ceremonial Color Guard. Leader Lt. Sheldon.
2. BRIAN GAFFNEY. Marshal, Division D.
3. LEONARD HALL JUNIOR NAVAL ACADEMY.
Leaders Sandra L. Boyle and Anthony H. Jones.
4. EIRE HEADS. Leader Phil Murphy.
5. CULKIN SCHOOL OF TRADITIONAL IRISH DANCE. Leader Wm Sean Culkin, TCRG.
6. GAELIC LEAGUE OF WASHINGTON DC.
Leader Coleen Dollard. Learning the Irish Language.
7. MC DONOUGH HIGH SCHOOL JR ROTC DRILL TEAM, Maryland. Drill Team & Color Guard. ROTC Director LTC Marshall Martin, Rtd.
8. WILMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL WILDCAT MARCHING BAND, Massachusetts.
Director Barbara J. Mette.
9. 1964 CHEVROLET IMPALA. Owned by Harry Gibson.
10. KAPITOL KLOWNS, Washington DC. Vice-President Susan Saunders.
11. DUN LOGGIN PIPES AND DRUMS, Maryland.
PipeMajor Jason Barth & DrumMajor David Ricklin.
12. FAIRMONT HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL ARMY JR ROTC. Color Guard, Marching Unit and Drill Team. ROTC Director LTC Paul S. Sweet Rtd. & SGM John M. McGee Rtd.
13. PRENDERGAST SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCING, Maryland. Teacher Margaret Moebus.
14. SHAMROCK SOFTBALL TEAM OF VIENNA VA. Asst. Coach Richard Brown.
15. PARKERSBURG SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL PATRIOT MARCHING BAND,
West Virginia. Director Mr. Dan Thomas.
16. WGAY RADIO 99.5 FM, Washington E Z Listening Station.
17. HIGH POINT HIGH SCHOOL AIR FORCE JR ROTC, Maryland.
ROTC Director Colonel Charles Vasiladis, USAF Rtd.
18. CALVIN COOLIDGE "COLTS" HIGH SCHOOL BAND, Washington DC.
Director Benjamin Sands.
19. METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON YOUNG MARINES BATTALION.
Leader SSGT L. A. Mc Ferson.

The St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee
Of Washington, D.C.

Would like to take this opportunity
to thank all of the Men and Women
that worked hard to put on the
St. Patrick's Day Parade
for 1999

Good Work



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Arthur Guinness



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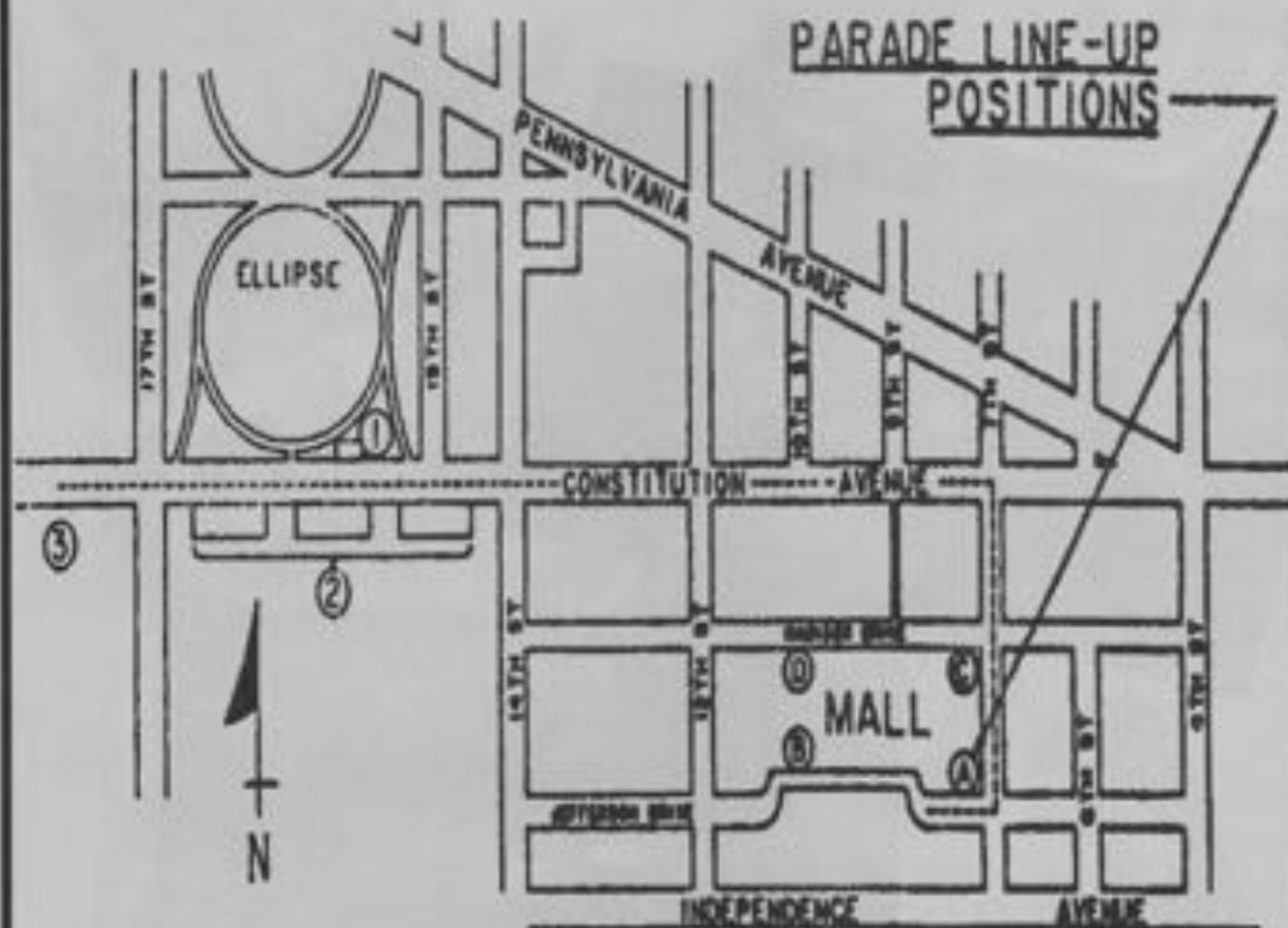
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and the wind always be at your back
and always use union plumbers, pipefitters,
and sprinklerfitters to get it done right the first time."*



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Martin J. Maddaloni
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St. Patrick's Day

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but I'm most proud of the friends we've made over
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IRISH MUSIC FESTIVAL

by Dan Sullivan

On October 10th and 11th the Parade Committee sponsored our first Irish Music Festival. The festival was cosponsored by the Police Emerald Society and was held in the 1700 block of G St. NW. The street was closed for the occasion. A myriad of talented Irish musicians provided continuous entertainment throughout the two day event. In addition to our own local talent, the festival was highlighted by appearances from the Sean Fleming Band and Lenahan. In spite of stiff competition from the "Taste of DC" festival, which was held the same weekend, our festival was a great success and will prove to be a substantial money maker in the future.

The committee would like to extend a sincere thank you to members, families and friends, The Police Emerald Society and Irish American Club volunteers who worked selflessly to make this event a success.

A special thank you is extended to Jim and Ginny Kelly, who planned and coordinated the entire event; to Cecelia Farley and Isabelle Gallagher who handled all the financial matters; to Brian Gaffney and Ronan Cavanaugh who coordinated the musicians and sound, to Patty Simpson, for her assistance with the bands and mailing lists and P.J. Fitzgerald who coordinated the food preparation and sales.

A special thank you to our local pub owners who donated the time to function as Masters of Ceremonies, Christy Hughes (Four Provinces), John Barry (Mrs. O'Leary's) and Brian Gaffney (Nanny O'Brien's) please give them your support in the form of patronage.

Our 1999 festival will be held on the weekend of September 25th and 26th, mark your calendars today and plan on participating. The more the merrier!!!!



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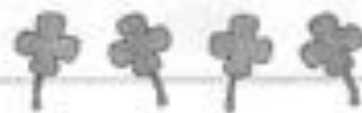
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ST. PATRICK'S DAY

*From The
Muleroes
and
Finns
of Detroit*



"Give me your thirsty,
your famished,
your befuddled masses"

Parody on THE NEW COLOSSUS by Emma Lazarus



THE IRISH TIMES

IRISH TIMES BUILDING
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(202) 543-5433

*O, for a draught of vintage! that hath been
Cool'd for a long age in the deep-delv'd earth,
Tasting of Flora and the country green,
Dance, and Provencal song, and sunburnt mirth!
O for a beaker of full of the warm South,
Full of the true, the blushful Hippocrene,
With beaded bubbles winking at the brim,
And purple-stained mouth;
That I might drink, and leave the world unseen,
And with thee fade away into the forest dim:*

JOHN KEATS

Join The John Barry Division
**ANCIENT ORDER
OF
HIBERNIANS**
IN AMERICA

THE DISTRICT'S OLDEST IRISH CATHOLIC FRATERNITY INVITES YOU TO BE PART OF THE ORGANIZATION THAT TODAY, MORE THAN EVER IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF WHAT IT MEANS TO BE AN IRISH-AMERICAN — SUPPORTERS OF THE MACBRIDE PRINCIPLES, IRISH IMMIGRATION REFORM, PRESERVATION OF OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE—INCLUDING THE ARTS AND SPORTS.



MEETINGS THE FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

CONTACT:
FRANK FANNON
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR
(703) 519-8550



Of Washington, D.C.
Irish American Club
Sounders of the
St. Patrick's Day Parade

For Information, Contact:

Walter Durkan, President

Betty Moriarty, Recording Secretary

301-559-3623

1998 ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE MARSHALS

We want to thank the Men and Women of the Parade Marshals
Without their help this Parade could not be

Ray Adams
Kenny Allen
JoAnne Andovini
Bill Armstrong
Mary Arnett
William Beiber
Angela Berry
Mike Boor
Luke Boyko
Donna Bramlett
Carolyn Beecht
Nancy Bremer
Ray Bunner
Gene Cahill
Moose Carew
Don Carswell
Jack Chaillet
Hugh Clark
Melissa Clink
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Adam Craig
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Chuck Elliott
Mike Farran
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The Parade Committee gives a hearty congratulations to *Martin Gibbons*, a Division Marshall of the 1999 Washington, DC St. Patrick's Day Parade, on having celebrated his 90th birthday since last year's parade. *Martin*

is a long-time supporter of the Washington, DC Parade. He is a native of County Mayo who emigrated to the United States 73 years ago.



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The Irish Remember....Serving Uncle Sam"

by Vicki Curtin



The year 1999 will bring two historical events of acknowledgment for Ireland's sons and daughters who became America's Military servicemen and women. This April "The Wall That Heals" (a replica of the Vietnam Memorial Wall located in Washington, D. C.) will travel to its first foreign country, Ireland. Then on November 11, 1999, the Coalition of Irish Immigrant Centers-USA will host "The Irish Remember....Serving Uncle Sam" Reunion. At this Reunion past and present Irish-born members of the United States Military are invited to Washington, D.C. for special recognition of their contribution to the Irish immigrant saga.

Jan Scrags, President of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund and a decorated Vietnam Veteran himself, will accompany "The Wall" throughout its historic tour of the four provinces of Ireland. It was Scrags who felt a memorial would serve as a healing device for a different kind of wound—that inflicted on our national psyche by the long and controversial Asian war. After a difficult struggle, Congress responded and the site chosen was on the Mall near the Lincoln Memorial.

Sean O'Heiginn, Ambassador of Ireland to the United States summarizes the spirit of this momentous tour. "The role of the Memorial as a focus for healing will have a particular resonance in Ireland, where the Peace Process reflects the determination of all traditions on the island to come to terms with the tragic legacies of the past and to dedicate themselves, in a spirit of concord, to the achievement of reconciliation, tolerance and mutual trust." In accordance with that profound hope, a series of seminars and other educational forums are scheduled for stops in Cork, Dublin Castle, Queens University Belfast, Galway University and Adare Manor (Co. Limerick).

Through the dedicated research efforts carried out over the past year by Declan Hughes of Dublin, it has been confirmed that names of at least thirteen Irish-born members of the United States Military appear on "The Wall". For the last thirty years, most of these families have borne their grief alone, as each believed themselves to have been the sole family suffering such a loss.

Few family members have been able to come to Washington, D. C. and touch the name of their loved ones.

However, on November 11, 1998, the Coalition of Irish Immigrant Centers-USA participated in the wreath-laying ceremony at "The Wall" to recognize and honor those Irish identified at that time. Many relatives back home in Ireland saw this ceremony briefly on the national news, and were deeply touched by this first-ever recognition of their sons and brothers.

The individual stories of "The Not Forgotten Green Squad" are part of the United States Military history of the Vietnam conflict. However, for the more than 40 million Irish-Americans, they are much more:

They were Irish—born, and in many cases, buried in Ireland. Their homeplaces were in Claremorris, Ballaghaderreen, Ballyhaunis, Galway, Conermara, Dublin, Tipperary, Limerick, Roscommon, Mayo and Cavan.

They were Immigrants. They came out to America to aunts, uncles, sisters, brothers or with their own families. Anthony O'Reilly came out to his sister in Ohio. He only told his brother-in-law that he was being shipped to Vietnam—no need to worry his widowed mother.

They were young. Sean F. Doran was just 20 years old, and had only served 15 days in Vietnam.

They were there for the Tet Offensive. Having already served six months in Korea, and attended Officer Candidate School, Captain Edmond John Landers from Tipperary, began his tour of duty in February, 1968 and was killed in action within three months on May 15.

They were Marines. PFC Maurice Joseph O'Callaghan, a Dubliner, killed by small arms fire in Quang Nam province on April 21, 1967. LCpl Paul Ivan Maher, another Dub, died of his wounds, 5 March 1966. LCpl Bernard Freyne, from County Roscommon, a champion Irish dancer and athlete, and a young man who, like so many, received Mass and Communion the Sunday before he died, on 10 March 1967.

They were Army. Patrick Christopher Nevin from

Mayo was a Sergeant in the 1st Cavalry Division when he was killed in action 23rd February 1966, and became the first confirmed Irish-born serviceman killed in Vietnam. Another Irish soldier who accompanied Sgt. Nevin's body home to Mayo, Barry Buttimer, has remained a friend of the family, and lives in Cork.

They were in Vietnam on St. Patrick's Day. Michael Francis Smith of Caven was a hostile ground casualty on March 18, 1967.

They were married. Timothy Daly, from Limerick, was married a short time before he went to Vietnam, where he was killed in action February 3, 1967.

They were fathers. John Cecil Driver, a tunnel rat on his first tour in Vietnam, returned to the States, married and became an Officer then shipped back to Vietnam for his second tour. He died of multiple fragmentation wounds in Thua Thien province before his son was born. Edward Michael Howell, served in Germany before being stationed in Vietnam. His children were mere toddlers when he lost his life on April 17, 1967.

They were good sons. Patrick Gallagher didn't want to worry his family in Ireland about being drafted and being sent to Vietnam. He swore his sister and aunt to secrecy. During his tour of duty he received the Navy Cross for extraordinary heroism and inspiring valor in the face of almost certain death. On March 30, 1967 while on patrol in Da Nang, he was shot. On April 22, the very day he was due to arrive home on leave, he was buried in Ireland. Senator Robert Kennedy sent a letter to the Gallagher family expressing his sorrow for their loss. A short time later, Senator Kennedy would be shot dead himself while campaigning for President

on a platform to end "this terrible war."

They were brothers—Peter Mary Nee's sister Margaret, was just 12 years old when the shattering news arrived that her kind and loving brother had become a Vietnam casualty on March 31, 1969.

They are loved. Even though 30 years and more have passed, their mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, children and all their relatives hearts are still heavy with love.

They are missed. Those who never were able to know them in this life know the pain of what could have been.

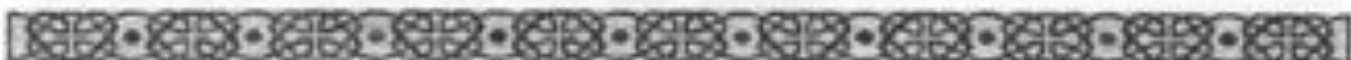
They are mourned—their families have carried their grief alone for too long.

They are together with their Military brothers and sisters on "The Wall" in their adoptive homeland.

They bleed American.

"The Irish Remember...Serving Uncle Sam" Reunion will be held on November 9 through November 11, 1999. Veterans' Day, 1999 will be the first opportunity to compile an oral history of the individual experiences of these Irish immigrants.

The Coalition of Irish Immigrant Centers-USA through its member organizations serves the needs of the Irish immigrants in Boston, Chicago, Florida, Philadelphia, New York, California and the Washington, D. C. area. The Coalition looks forward to extending a Cead Mile Faoite to all this Veterans' Day, 1999. For more information call 703-207-3548.



Washington DC Gaels Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) 1998 North American Champions

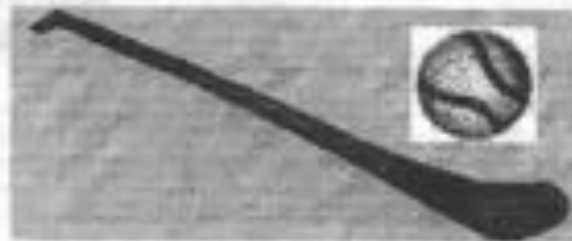
The Washington DC Gaels Gaelic Athletic Association was founded in 1988 to promote Irish sports and culture in the Washington metropolitan area. We have both men and ladies Gaelic football teams. The organization has grown over the years and in 1998 — our tenth anniversary — the Gaels hosted the largest tournament of Gaelic Games ever held around the world.

The Gaels men's team won their first ever National title at the 1998 Championships and we now are working hard to add to this success and plan for the future by establishing a youth league in Washington, D.C. Parents interested in having their children (boys & girls) join the Gaels youth league should contact Andrew Healy, Chairman, at 703/820-3961.

UPCOMING EVENTS

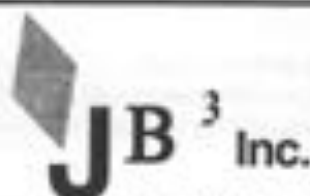
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PEACE FOR THE CHILDREN

by Mary Anne Gibbons

The theme of the 1999 St. Patrick's Day Parade focuses on the potential effect of the historic Good Friday Agreement on the children of Northern Ireland. We can get a glimpse of these children by a brief look at some of the children who have participated in activities sponsored by Project Children, an organization which brings young people from Northern Ireland for summer holidays in the U.S. and sponsors professional internships and vocational training for older youth.

The children are both Protestant and Catholic. They live in segregated neighborhoods in the city and in rural parts of the North. At home, normally there is no contact between Catholic and Protestant children. Most have not traveled outside their community and, until the peace agreement, would not risk the potential injury that might result from doing so.

Most, like Natasha Mensor, know people who have been killed during the Troubles. Natasha, who is now 15, first spent a summer in the U.S. when she was 10. She and her host family became so attached to each other that she has returned each summer since then.

At home, notes Sheila Owens, "You wouldn't ask a Protestant to dinner or discuss politics in pubs . . . You grow up thinking that Northern Ireland is the center of the universe. It's very good to get away and get a different perspective." Sheila, a law student at Queen's University in Belfast, spent last summer at the home of Bernadette and Pat Troy and interned at the office of California Congresswoman Anna Eshoo.

Soccer is a big hit with most of the younger children in Northern Ireland. James Mulhern, from Strabane, notes that one of the highlights of his time in the U.S. was a trip to RFK Stadium to see two professional U.S. soccer teams play and an impromptu soccer game in the parking lot of the stadium before the game.

The Good Friday Agreement will not immediately change the places where Protestant and Catholic children live in Northern Ireland, nor will it immediately change their minds and their hearts. What we can hope for, however, is that it will begin to create the environment for safer and greater interaction between all of the people of Northern Ireland and the framework for greater understanding.

The experience of the children of Project Children gives a glimpse of the possibilities. After spending six weeks in the U.S. with a host family and a Catholic roommate and regular interaction with all of the Northern Ireland interns in the U.S. this past summer, Nigel Hamilton, who is currently studying for a Masters in Business Administration at the University of Ulster, stated that his views were not changed by his discussions with the Catholic interns, but he was changed. "I think I started to see things in a better light. I got a better understanding of where other people were coming from and the issue of 'competing rights.' While my overall view hasn't changed, the way I would deal with people has."

The information for this article came from a publication by Project Children entitled "The Faces of Project Children 1998."

Happy St. Patrick's Day

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Congratulations Martin Gibbons

on being named Division Marshall of the 1999 St. Patrick's Day Parade
and on your 90th Birthday. You are a credit to your Mayo roots!

Love, Mary Anne, Michael and Kathleen Celeste
You're Welcome Home!

by Mary Anne Gibbons

It was late one night in June of 1996. My husband, Mike Healy, my father, Martin Gibbons, my sister, Kathleen, and I were nestled cozily in a corner of Frank O'Reilly's Pub, "in the heart of downtown Ballyvary," as O'Reilly's annual calendar announces. Ballyvary is a small village ten miles or so outside Castlebar, County Mayo, on the road between Castlebar and Bohola in the wild and beautiful west of Ireland. To give you an idea of the size of downtown Ballyvary, let's just say that I could run from one end of the village to the other in less than three minutes and I'm no Eamon Coughlin.

We were surrounded that night by my mother's sister, Aunt Loretta, and a dozen or more cousins. Rounds of drinks were flowing and old-time Irish music was warming us up for a few good sets. This being his first trip to Ireland with me since we got married, Mike Healy was meeting a number of his newly-inherited relations for the first time. At some point, the door opened and in walked Gerard Wilson, a first cousin. Gerard walked up with a warm smile, stretched out his hand and greeted me with a kiss and a hearty "You're welcome home!"

"You're welcome home," I thought. What an interesting greeting! Although Martin Gibbons

is a native of County Mayo, Mike, Kathleen and I were all born in the United States. Ireland was never our "home," as we would understand that term in the U.S. Yet, we were greeted as so many before us who left their native land to seek their fortune and,



if they were lucky like my parents, returned one day to the warm welcome of their family in Ireland.

Since that June night in 1996, I've thought often of the greeting "You're welcome home!" Yes, it does fit, even for those of us who were not "Made in Ireland," as my favorite St. Paddy's Day button reads. Like any home you would want to call your own, Ireland has been a place of nurture, connectedness, learning and oh so many happy memories for me.

My first trip to Ireland was in

1969. I had just finished my second year of college and was ripe for adventure. My mother, my oldest brother and I set off for a ten-day whirlwind, meeting first cousins, aunts and uncles on my mother's side and more distant relatives on my father's side, none of whom I'd known before. We stayed with Aunt Annie and Uncle Pat in Tavanakinaff, in the home where my mother was born. The house had been modernized to the point of having a tub, but had no central heat. The only way to take a bath was to boil kettles of water—that didn't matter one bit. After touring every day, we headed to the pub and then, at 11PM, to a dance. After the dances, we and our cousins talked and laughed for hours around the turf fire

at home, drinking tea and inhaling scones or potato pancakes that we had begged Aunt Annie or Aunt Loretta to make.

One night, we headed over to Corley's Pub, near the Ballintubber Abbey in Ballintubber to meet relatives on my father's side. We had sent word ahead that Martin Tom Dickie's wife and children would be at the pub that night. The place was mobbed when we arrived. Although they had never met us, everyone knew exactly who we belonged to based on the old Irish custom of identifying people who shared a common last

name by their father's, grandfather's and, if necessary, great-grandfather's first name.

Picture this. Nearly everyone in the pub was named Gibbons. Within 10 minutes of our arrival, there were thirteen shots of beandy lined up in front of my mother and 13 pints of Guinness sitting before my brother and me. My mother—who never got past one drink per sitting in her entire life—nearly fell off her seat at the sight of it! My brother and I gave it our best college try. The highlight of the evening was finding out how we were related to all those who had come out to meet us.

On that first trip, we also visited my father's village, Derrew. Derrew is near the very small village of Killaun, not far from the parish of Partry on the Castlebar/Ballinrobe road. The more than a dozen houses that once populated Derrew were long gone when we visited. Although set against the backdrop of the beautiful Tourmakeady Mountains, I could see that growing up in Derrew was a bit more of an adventure than growing up in rural New Jersey.

As is typical in the west of Ireland, the fields of Derrew are small and mostly filled with rocks. The village flooded every winter, sometimes for months at a time and the only way in and out was by boat. The walk to Mass in my father's time, done on foot and often without shoes, was at least three miles. A trip to Ballinrobe with the ass and cart to sell turf or buy a sack of flour was an all day affair. The bog was a good mile and a half away. The patch where my father's home once stood was nothing more than a stone wall and thicket of trees and briars in 1969.

One house remained standing and occupied at the end of the village when we visited. That was the home of Michael Stephen Gibbons, my father's first cousin, and best pal growing up. Michael Stephen's home was the same in 1969 as it had been for the past few hundred years. It had a finely thatched roof, a slate floor, no running water and no indoor plumbing. As we entered through the half door, we were greeted by warm smiling faces, a roaring fire and a hearth similar to those seen in the homes of George Washington's day. The fireplace anchored a small living room/kitchen in the middle of the house with two small bedrooms off to the left and an equally small bedroom to the right. Each bedroom had space for only a bed.

Behind the house were a series of small sheds that were home to the ass cart and other farm equipment. Chickens, plentiful in the front yard, made an occasional visit to the living room. In a larger hay shed in front of the house was a two-story ladder that my grandfather had made before he and my grandmother emigrated to America in the 1930s.

Michael Stephen, his wife and daughter, both named Mary, his sister Bridget and two brothers, Richard and John, all shared this small home. They were the last of my father's family living in the village. A visit to Michael Stephen's home was like stepping back to the days of my father's childhood. If you got there during the day, Bridget was often baking on the open fireplace in an old black wrought iron kettle—it was among the best Irish soda bread I have ever tasted. A big pot of potatoes was often boiling in a huge kettle of water hung at the middle of the fireplace. Hard boiled eggs were frequent fare. No matter the hour, the teakettle went down and tea was on the table in a flash.

On a visit to "Gibbons' country," as the Derrew area is sometimes called, we often ended up at Kate Kelly's Pub. There we could sip out pints in the same chair that my grandfather and his friends had occupied seven decades earlier and hear stories from the neighbors about those good old days. We have also made it a regular practice to go to the Ballinrobe Races if they are running during our trip. They are the same today as they were 73 years ago when my father was 17 and used to sneak across the fence to avoid paying admission.

Another highlight of my first trip to Ireland was a visit to Derrew National School, the one-room schoolhouse that my father attended. Derrew National School has since been acquired by a talented young Irish carpenter and his family; they have turned it into a lovely cottage. In 1969, the school was still in operation much as it had been when my father and his brothers and sisters were pupils there. A quick glance around the schoolroom showed the coat room at the back, a fireplace, old time desks with ink wells still in use, and a small group of children of all ages, all named Gibbons. At the back of the school yard were two small outhouses, one for the girls and one for the boys.

I've returned to Ireland about a dozen times since 1969. In addition to a few more wonderful trips with my mother before her death, I've had the privilege of visiting Ireland with my father at least eight times. I've seen first hand the setting for the stories and memories of my parents' childhood home. We've danced with the neighbors at my mother's school to the sound of accordions and violins playing the same dances that my mother learned from a dance master when she was a child. We've been to the bog and helped to gather the hay in much the same way as my parents and their parents.

I saw in Ireland that neighbors

in the country still know and depend on each other and are quick to lend a hand in times of distress and to celebrate good fortune together. This explained for me why my parents were always so willing to help others in the U.S. and why they thought it was so important to maintain close ties with our extended family here. Visiting relatives in Ireland also taught me why my parents never lamented the fact that the early days of our family life in the U.S. were short on material possessions—from their community life in Ireland, they knew that happiness depends more on the relationships you nourish than on the worldly possessions you acquire.

Visiting Ireland with my father would be a treat for anyone. Martin is a wonderful storyteller. If you drive with him through Castlebar and out the Ballinrobe road towards Derrew or to his parish church in Partry, the stories start flowing. Having just passed his 90th birthday, he still remembers who lived in every house. He recalls all the "devilment" he and his pals and siblings got into at school. The teacher, Mrs. Lally, was also my father's aunt, so she expected more of him and his siblings than of anyone else. From the stories I've heard, Mrs. Lally's pointer had more contact with children's knuckles than it ever had with a black board.

One of my father's favorite stories is about the time when his grandfather and a few of the other men in the village got together to decide who would have the task of shooting the English landlord. The landlord's big, sturdy, two-story house was out on the high road and they knew where the landlord slept. The four men pulled straws and the one "elected," not my great-grandfather, went out in the middle of the night and fired his rifle up at the second story window. The shot missed the landlord, but by the next morning he and his family were gone, never to be seen in the area again.

Another memorable adventure with my father was the discovery on a trip to Ireland in 1990 of my grandfather's rifle. As it happened, it was also the gun that my father had hunted with before he left Ireland at age 17. We were able to purchase the rifle and, after completing enough paperwork over the next two years to import an arsenal, my father now has the gun proudly in his possession in New Jersey.

In 1988, after traveling to Ireland with the Washington, DC St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee to march in Dublin's Millennium Parade, Pop, Kathleen and I drove down to County Cork to see the harbor of Cobh, where my father had left for America in 1926. The hotel where he stayed the night before sailing is

still there.

Pop initially couldn't understand why I wanted to drive from Dublin all the way down to Cork, instead of heading directly across the country to our family in Mayo. I understood why I'd made that trip when we found the pier where my mother, my father and so many thousands of other emigrants boarded a "tender" to be carried out to the ships that would take them away from their homeland, many for the last time. Sixty-two years after he had first stepped off Irish soil with all his dreams ahead of him, I took my father's picture, as he stood perhaps with a nostalgic tear in his eye, on the aptly named "Heartbreak Pier."

When my father left Ireland in 1926, the home he made in the United States was very different than the village he had left behind. And, although jet travel has done much to homogenize the world, home life for me and my brothers and sister in the United States is also very different than life for our cousins in Ireland even today. Yet, for all of us Irish-Americans who have had the good fortune to be welcomed by relatives and friends in Ireland, the experience is much the same. Besides being a lot of fun, it helps to make sense of our own family history and traditions. It connects us to generations of relatives who went before us. And, as Cousin Gerard Wilson recognized so well, no matter how many miles or generations you've roamed, on a trip to Ireland, you're always welcome home.

Ms. Gibbens is co-editor of the Washington, DC St. Patrick's Day Parade Magazine and a member of Parade Committee.

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May He turn their ankles,
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limping!



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1997 Thomas R. Donohue Labor Relations Organizer	1985 Eunice Kennedy Shriver Founder, Special Olympics Program
1996 Captain Scott O'Grady U.S. Air Force pilot shot down in June, 1995	1984 Cyril Count McCormack Son of Irish tenor John McCormack
1995 John Hume Leader, Social Democratic and Labour Party	1983 Frances Shea Rear Admiral USN
1994 Mark Russell Political Satirist	1982 Rev. Gilbert V. Hartke OP* Founder, Speech and Drama Dept. Catholic University of America
1993 Mary Higgins Clark America's premier suspense writer	1981 Samuel W. Bogley Lt. Governor of State of Maryland
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1990 John Riggins "The Diesel," running back of the Washington Redskins	1978 Maurice Cullinane Former Chief, Metropolitan Police Dept.
1989 John J. Sweeney President, Service Employees International	1977 George Meaney* President, AFL-CIO
1988 Carmencita Hederman Lord Mayor of Dublin, Ireland	1976 Patrick J. Hayes* Director, Washington Performing Arts Society
1987 Helen Hayes* First Lady of the American Theater	1975 William T. Hannan, Esq.* Irish community activities
	1974 William T. Hannan, Esq.* Chairman, Bishop's Relief Fund

The Rhyme

Limericks originated in County Limerick. The story is prevalent that one Sean O'Toomey who operated a Pub in a small community, hosted, in addition to the local people, many aspiring poets. Being a jovial lot and not very serious-minded they would compose poetry that would produce a laugh or two and perhaps even ridicule one of their number. Sean was in control of the tap and hence the rules as well. In the mid 1750s he composed the following:

I sell the best brandy and sherry
To make my good customers merry,
But at times their finances,
Run short, as it chances,
And then I feel very sad, very!

As you can see the first, second, and fifth lines are about the same length and rhyme with each

other. The shorter third and fourth lines provide another rhyme. The fifth line is the punch line.

One of Sean's customers, Andy McCray, responded with:

O Toomey! You boast yourself
handy
At selling good ale and birght
brandy,
But the fact is your liquor
Makes everyone sicker,
I tell you that, your friend Andy.

Both your poems and pints by
favour,
Are wanting anything to savor;
Because it's your pleasure
You give us short measure,
And your ale has
ditch water flavour.

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The Irish Diggers of New Orleans

In 1832, laborers in New Orleans, most of whom were recent Irish immigrants recruited in Ireland and England, began to dig the New Basin Canal to connect uptown New Orleans with Lake Ponchartrain, an outlet to the Gulf of Mexico. A tragically large number of them didn't live to see the project completed.

The working conditions were horrendous. Workers, who were paid up to one dollar per day, wallowed in the black muck, battled snakes and alligators and wrestled with cypress stumps. The work was done all by hand. They lived in huts along the banks of the canal, shopped in company stores and used community privies. Slave owners wouldn't allow their slaves to work on the canal because the work was too dangerous, and the slaves were too valuable. But the newly arrived Irish and some indentured Germans had no alternative.

The New Basin Canal was financed by a group of uptown New Orleans business men who needed the canal to compete more efficiently with the more entrenched Creole merchants in the City's downtown section. This group already had the advantage of a canal, known as the Basin, linking downtown New Orleans to Lake Pontchartrain and a lucrative coastal trade.

The new canal was sixty feet wide, six feet deep and six miles long. The project was completed at a staggering cost to human life. Estimates of from nine thousand to thirty thousand diggers and their families died terrible deaths from yellow fever, malaria, or cholera during outbreaks of those diseases common to that period. Given the primitive medicine, lack of sanitation, and the pestilential tropical climate of the time, it is no surprise so many died. Add to this the decimated state of health many Irish immigrants arrived in after a hard ocean crossing, the tough employment practices of the time, and the fact that the canal was constructed through a swamp, the larger figure seems plausible.

Many of the workers who died were buried anonymously in the banks of the canal they were digging. Since they often had no family to claim the body or the family had no

money for a burial, the canal banks provided a cheap disposal solution for the canal owners for the tremendous number of casualties.

Despite the terrible human toll involved in the construction of the canal, the sacrifices of the diggers were forgotten over time. The canal itself, after decades of service, was almost completely filled in by 1950.

In November 1990, the Irish Cultural Society of New Orleans erected a Celtic cross to commemorate these immigrants. It was placed near what remains of the canal. The dedication is inscribed in both English and Irish. The inscription reads: "In memory of the Irish Immigrants who dug the New Basin Canal, 1830-1838. This Celtic Cross carved in Ireland has been erected by the Irish Cultural Society of New Orleans. Dedicated November 4, 1990."

The Times-Picayune editorial of 1987 stated: "That the prosperous results of the New Basin Canal and the financial cost of the venture pale against it's human cost, and the nameless, vanished thousands who died building this now vanished canal should be given an honored place among the others we hold in our collective memory."

The Irish tide of immigration to New Orleans, which peaked in the 1850's, ended with the Civil War. Thousands of Irish immigrants perished during the war while fighting on both sides of the conflict. Of the approximately 250,000 Irish who passed through New Orleans from 1830 to 1860, most dispersed throughout the country and about ten percent remained in the city, forming about one-sixth of the population.

"Reprinted from Ducas, the newsletter of the Irish American Cultural Institute, St. Paul, Minnesota"

GAELS OF PAST YEARS

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1998 Pat Cady*
The Irish Eye | 1986 Msgr. R. Joseph Dooley
Chaplain, Metropolitan
Police and Fire Departments |
| 1997 Paul Berry
TV News co-anchor, Channel 7
and humanitarian | 1985 Jane Callahan Gude
Chairperson, Ireland's Children |
| 1996 Father Eugene Riordan
Educator and missionary | 1984 Dr. Coilin Owens
Founder, Gaelic League,
Washington Chapter Professor,
George Mason University |
| 1995 Father John Adams
Executive Director, SOME | 1983 Commander James K. Ruland
Irish-American activities
Founder, Brendan Cup Committee |
| 1994 Matthew Hannon
DC Board President, AOH | 1982 Cornelius (Connie) J. Coakley*
Irish-American activities
Founder, Seton Centers |
| 1993 Carol Wheeler
Chair, Washington, DC
Project Children | 1981 Charles Lucy
Editor, author of two
books on Ireland |
| 1992 Bruce Morrison
Former US Congressman
Author of "Morrison VISA" | 1980 Harry and Margaret Schrencengost
Founders, Blackthorn Stick
Irish dance group |
| 1991 William (Howie) McClellan
Former President, International
Association of Fire Fighters | 1979 Margaret Coakley
Founder, Irish-American Club |
| 1990 Susan Kelly Long*
Benefactor of Irish-American alizer | 1978 Peggy Hannon O'Neill*
Founder, Irish-American Club |
| 1989 Manus "Jack" Fish
Retired Regional Director,
National Capital Revitalizer | 1977 Sean Coakley
Past President, Irish-American Club |
| 1988 Mickey Brennan
President, DC Friends of Ireland
Labor leader | 1976 No Gael selected |
| 1987 Brendan Sheridan
Artist and musician | 1975 Charles Carey & John A.K. Donovan |







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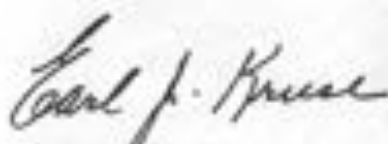
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THE ANDREW KEEGAN THEATRE COMPANY

by Alice Carron

If you enjoyed any of the events of Irish Arts '99 Festival, you can thank the Andrew Keegan Theatre Company for assisting with this first ever festival in Washington, DC. The Andrew Keegan Theatre Company's mission is to bring quality theatre, including at least one Irish production each season, to local residents. The company's founders draw upon their Irish heritage to help ensure that the works of notable Irish playwrights will not be forgotten. Company founder Mark A. Rhea was nominated for a prestigious 1998

Helen Hayes award for Outstanding Director for his work in directing Resident Play Translations, The Keegan Theatre's riveting Irish premier.

This past summer, The Keegan Theatre featured the American premier of *The Field*, by playwright John B. Keane.

Of the Washington, DC area's sixty professional theatre companies, The Keegan Theatre was the only company that participated in the Irish Arts '99 Festival, the Washington area's first ever such festival. Irish Arts '99 provided an opportunity for area residents to experience a wide array of Irish and Irish-American literary events, film, fine art, music, and theatre. For more information on The Keegan Theatre Company, call the box office at 703-757-1180, visit the Theatre's website at: <http://www.crols.com/akegan> or write to the Theatre at P.O. Box 17407, Arlington, VA 22216.

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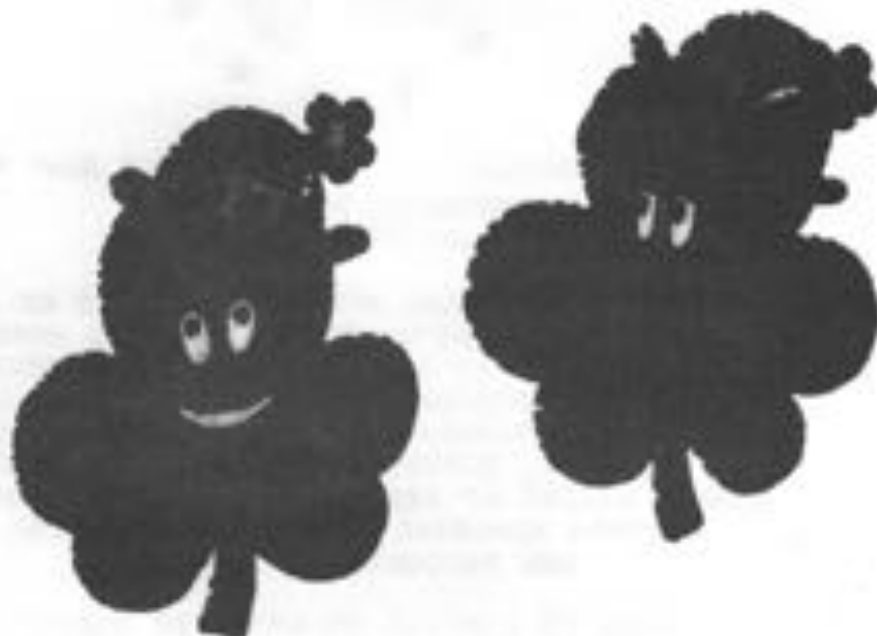
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2. Girls must be of Irish birth or ancestry, and if required, must be able to produce Government recognized documents to endorse this.
3. Girls must not now be or ever married, or be of single parent status.
4. Girls must not have previously represented a Centre at Competition Final in Tralee.

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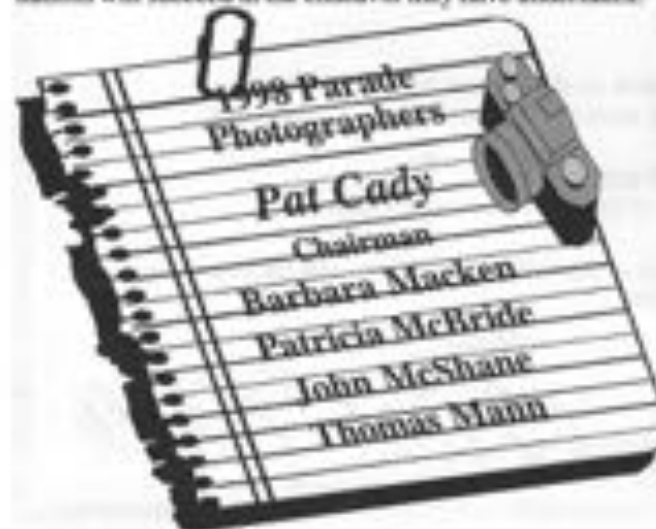
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*The
Irish Walk*

end with British withdrawal and the incorporation of the six counties into the rest of Ireland. So long as the United Kingdom remains determined to continue its authority in the north of Ireland this is a fear that does not seem likely to become reality. It is important, however, that the leaders of the unionist groups be mindful of the fact that obstructionism and backsliding in implementing their part of the accord might seriously undermine a continuing British commitment to them.

On the opposite side of the spectrum are both Sinn Fein and the Irish Republican Army. Although the present agreement was reached with the participation of Sinn Fein's leader, Gerry Adams, there are many in the Irish Nationalist movement whose enthusiasm for the settlement is lukewarm at best and, quite frequently, nonexistent. There is a great deal of continuity within the membership of these two intertwined organizations: often one's affiliation with one or both of the groups is a family association extending back several generations. To many who have come from this sort of background, an agreement which provides for the continuance of British authority in any part of Ireland will not be accepted as the final resolution of the 'Troubles.' The commitment to a thirty-two county Irish Republic is one which some will never abandon. Given this fact, there is a clear possibility, perhaps a likelihood, that the I.R.A. will do as it has done several times since Eamon DeValera brought the Irish Civil War to its end in May of 1923 by directing the 'Legion of the Rearguard' to dump their arms, but stand ready to fight another day.

In the final analysis, a just and lasting solution to the issues that all the Irish have struggled with for so long is only possible if enough of them continue to believe it is possible, and continue to strive for its attainment. If they can do this the opportunities for the 'hard men' on either side to again dominate the scene will be greatly diminished. An important step has been taken along the path to peace by the agreement: but there will be other steps to come. All those who care for Ireland and the Irish — all of them — must hold the fondest hope that the people of one of this Earth's most beautiful nations will succeed in the endeavor they have undertaken.



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THE NORTHERN IRISH PEACE AGREEMENT OF 1998: ITS LONG-TERM PROSPECTS FOR SUCCESS

by Donald C. Coventry

For three decades the people of the north of Ireland have had their safety and security threatened by the continuing presence of political and sectarian violence in their society. Last year's American-brokered peace agreement — approved by the voters of all Ireland — may provide the basis for a real and lasting peace: one which would permit the young people of the six counties to grow up and live their lives without the constant danger and fear that has been the lot of the last two generations. Such a conclusion to the seemingly endless bombings and shootings, which have been a depressingly familiar feature of our nightly news since the late 1960s, is certainly the hope and desire of people of good will in all sections of Ireland and throughout the rest of the world.

There are a number of developments afoot, both within Ireland itself and in the larger European context, which auger well for the long-term prospects of cooperation and growing mutual trust amongst all shades of religious and political opinion in Ireland. There are also, of course, several factors which have militated against a meaningful settlement of 'the Troubles' for generations past, and which will almost assuredly continue to do so in the future.

Those influences working in favor of a permanent cessation of the warfare which ended so tentatively with last year's agreement are advancing simultaneously on socio-economic, sectarian, and political fronts. The present economic situation in Ireland is an encouragement to more and closer contacts between the Republic of Ireland and the north. The Republic is more prosperous today than it has ever been before and its growth has achieved such momentum that, aside from the periodic ups and downs that occur in every economy, the trend is not likely to be reversed. Northern firms are now doing business with companies in the Republic for goods and services they previously would have obtained in the United Kingdom or elsewhere. The establishment of these types of contacts where they did not exist before can be a significant factor in creating the atmosphere of reliance and trust that is indispensable if a solid and secure peace is to take root.

Impressive efforts are being made at many levels to foster the growing spirit of awareness and cooperation among the people of both communities in the north. Perhaps the single most important element in bringing about the start of the negotiations that led to the agreement reached in 1998 was the efforts of the peace movement in the north of Ireland. This group's membership is drawn from all segments of society, and has demonstrated that the people of the six counties are ready and willing to put aside their differences to work together for the common good. This was equally evident in the campaign for approval of the agreement in the all-Ireland referendum which followed its signing.

Another heartening example of the communities of the

north working together for peace and understanding is those groups which were organized to provide a summer vacation in the United States for both Catholic and Protestant children. The children are afforded a beneficial respite from the physical and emotional stresses caused by the violent situation they are forced to cope with at home. They also have the opportunity to build friendships — hopefully lasting ones — with their peers from the opposite community. These are the types of experiences that can help to build sound underpinnings for a more cohesive society, and a lasting peace, in the north of Ireland.

The very apparent cooperation among the clergy of the Roman Catholic Church and of the various Protestant denominations in encouraging the joint peace efforts of their flocks gives immense satisfaction to all hoping to narrow the gulf that divides Ireland's religious groups. The priests and ministers of the six counties have, with few exceptions, tried to guide their congregations away from the 'eye for an eye, and tooth for a tooth' philosophy espoused by para-military groups on both sides of the struggle. This fact is much to their credit and reflects the growing spirit of religious toleration that has been quite evident over the past several years. The lessening of sectarian involvement in areas that are more appropriately within the realm of civil authority has also contributed to the removal of stumbling blocks in the path of improved relations between the two communities.

Having stated a number of factors that are working in favor of the success of the peace agreement signed last year, it is necessary to enumerate those that have the potential to drag the six counties back down into the mire of violence and hatred from which they have so recently pulled free. Extremist opinion on both sides of the issues that the agreement attempts to resolve is not going to disappear; it will continue to wait by the sidelines, ready to exploit any setback in the progress of the pact's implementation. This is to be expected, it is human nature, and the only realistic way to combat it is to ensure that a steady pace is maintained along the path to a lasting peace. It is an important responsibility of the political, religious, and societal leaders of all concerned parties to do everything in their power to ensure that the impetus in the direction of their goal is not lost.

After more than eighty years of varying levels of conflict between the nationalists and unionists in Ireland, it is likely that the para-military forces of both sides will also continue to remain a significant factor in the political equation for the foreseeable future. This situation is made more volatile by the schismatic tendencies the forces of both camps have demonstrated over the past several decades. The opposition of extreme unionist opinion to the agreement rests largely on the argument that it represents the first step along the road that will



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16 December 1944 to 25 January 1945

PO Box 11129

Arlington VA 22210

703-528-4058

1998 Washington, DC St. Patrick's Day Parade Winners

Best Marching Unit - Patrick Lee Memorial Award

Winner: Firefighters Emerald Society of Washington, D.C.

Best Performing Group - John Donnelly Memorial Award

Winner: Maple School of Irish Dance

Best Visiting Band - Police Emerald Society of the Washington DC Area

Winner: Artane Boy's Band, Dublin

Best Pipe Band - Vincent Finn Memorial Award

Winner: Fairfax County Firefighters Emerald Society Pipe Band

Best Antique Car - The Irish Eye Award

Winner: Warfield & Sanford, Inc. Elevator Truck

Best Musical Award - John O'Beirne Memorial Award

Winner: Cimera

Best Local Band - The Dunn Family Award

Winner: Arundel High School, Maryland

Best ROTC Unit - Colonel John J. Murphy Memorial Award

Winner: Randolph-Macon

Best Antique Fire Apparatus - W. Howard "Howie" McClellan Award

Winner: Emerald Society

Best Fife and Drum Corps - The Macken Family Award

Winner: Patriots of Northern Virginia

Best Theme - Jim Monohan Memorial Award

Winner: All-Saints Regional NY

Best Novelty - District of Columbia Fires Emerald Society Award

Winner: Capitol Rowing

Best Overall - O'Neill James School of Dance Award

O'Neill James School of Irish Dancing

Best Band - Irish American Club Award

Winner: Londonderry High School "Lancer" Marching Band, NH

Marshal's Award - Frances J. Tiernan Outstanding Enthusiasm

Winner: Hempfield Area High School Band

Most Humorous - The Rafferty Family Award

Winner: Stone High School

The History of the County of York

The County of York, situated in the north of England, is one of the most fertile and populous in the Kingdom. It is bounded on the north by the County of Northumberland, on the east by the County of Lincoln, on the south by the County of Nottingham, and on the west by the County of West Yorkshire. The River Ouse flows through the county from north to south, and the River Don flows from the north to the south, and the River Aire flows from the north to the south.

The County of York is divided into four parts, namely, the City of York, the County of York, the County of North Yorkshire, and the County of West Yorkshire. The City of York is situated on the River Ouse, and is one of the most ancient cities in England. The County of York is situated to the north of the City of York, and is one of the most fertile counties in England. The County of North Yorkshire is situated to the north of the County of York, and is one of the most populous counties in England. The County of West Yorkshire is situated to the west of the County of York, and is one of the most fertile counties in England.

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**Congratulations
to**

John Cosgrove

1999 Gael of the Year

**The International Union of Bricklayers
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the St. Patrick's Day Parade honoring the
Irish Community and its contribution to
the American Labor Movement**



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