



Echo of Erin

33rd Anniversary, Established 1978

December 2011 - February 2012

www.daughtersoferin.org

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President's Corner

There are a number of events and celebrations we share with family and friends - anniversaries, holidays and birthdays, to name a few. These times bring memories and special moments of friendship and joy. What is your favorite memory from the annual Children's Christmas Party? Do you remember what you've brought for the families each year for Thanksgiving and Christmas? A few of mine are the Clown Unit at the Children's Party and getting to meet members of the Dart League while shopping for the adopted families.

The Christmas meeting and party are a special time for family and friends to take pleasure in an enjoyable day as we gather together for a meal and the annual, festive Rowdy Raffle for our Adopt-A-Families. Get your raffle item together (single item, theme basket, decoration or gift) and bring money for raffle tickets. Each year it's a fun occasion as the raffle prizes are dispersed by our Junior Members (another annual tradition). You can also shop at the fundraising table for holiday items! Don't forget, the Irish Woman of the Year is named. The December meeting is a day to enjoy and share with your sisters!

Once we've celebrated the holidays we move on to the most important time of the year for the Irish community! We encourage and welcome your participation at events and activities. If you are interested in sharing a talent or have an idea for an activity to share with the Daughters of Erin, please contact me or one of the Board Members. We encourage you to reach out to perspective new members and to reconnect with those you haven't seen in a while.

New members, we welcome you to a meeting, find a list of meetings and events at www.daughtersoferin.org or visit us on Facebook.

For each petal on the shamrock this brings a wish your way - good health, good luck, and happiness for today and every day!

May God's Blessings be with you and your families,

Karen

Hospitality



December *Merry Christmas! Buffet and Christmas Meeting. Cost is \$8 per person; please invite a prospective member!*

Bring Rowdy Raffle items (single holiday decoration, theme basket, jewelry and more) to raise funds for Adopt-A-Family.



January *Brrrr its cold! Bring soups & breads to inspire comfort and warmth.*



February *Happy Valentine's day! Bring a red dish made with love.*



Nora Dorrian, 2011 Columbus Feis Honoree



Irishwoman of the Year, Tammy Beard

Irishwoman of the Year Nominations

Nominations for 2012 Irish Woman of the Year are due, in writing, no later than Wednesday, Dec. 7 to Karen Fahy, 5280 Big Run South Road, Grove City, OH 43123 or via e-mail to kbfahy@columbus.rr.com. You can also give the nomination to a Board Member to bring to the December Board Meeting.

Prayer List *Please pray for the following*



Individuals: Monsignor Grimes, Father Reichert, Father Kavanaugh, Father Severan, Jim & Dot Fallon, Sharon Selby, Karen Fahy, Jerry Power, Patty Murphy, Michelle Finneran, Mike O'Keefe, Steve Joyce, Jim Schultheis, Paul Duffy

Families: Andrea Sawalya, Bill Stoker, Gary Quillen, Brenda Johnson, Jerry Morton, Annie Hall and Marita Surry

For all our Military Men and Women. God Bless you all!

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

Charities

December's charity is Adopt-A-Family. We have 4 families and many residents of a senior citizen convalescence home this year. Only 2 families will be listed in this newsletter. The others wish lists will be on the new Present Board at the Shamrock Club. We request any gifts for children not be wrapped. That is so the parents may be involved in the wrapping of the presents. Any gift for an adult please wrap. Some families are requesting gift cards. These may be in amounts of \$10.00 and up. We will be delivering Christmas groceries and presents on Sunday, December the 18th. We will meet at the Shamrock Club at 9:30 A.M. Thank-you for your generosity and all that each of you do.



Family #1

The father, David is a veteran who was injured in Iraq. His wife Anita works, but they are struggling. They have 2 children. Mom and Dad would like gift cards to Wal-Mart and Speedway.

Courtney age 14 -She would like clothes from the junior department of Kohl's. Jeans size 5, Top size Medium, Sweater size Medium-----She loves costume jewelry, hair accessories, and a bath set from Wal-Mart.

Rachel age 3 - She is asking Santa for Tops, Sweaters, and Pants size 2 Toddler, Of course she wants a doll. Anything Dora the Explorer toy. Dress up play set. And Pajamas size 2 Toddler.

Family #2

Mom and Dad have been through some rough times, but are now turning their lives around and on the right paths. They are in need of a little help on their journey.

Michelle would like a winter coat size extra large, set of hat, scarf, gloves, gift card from Wal-Mart and Speedway, Scott would like a winter coat size large, set of hat, scarf, and gloves, gift card from Wal-Mart and Speedway.

Baby Michael 18 months He is asking Santa to bring him pajamas, diapers, and cars and trucks for his age, Mega Blocks, and a ball.

Thank-you once again for your generosity. May each of you have a Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year!!!!!!!!!!

Scripts and Kroger Plus Cards

If you are interested in ordering gift cards for Christmas for relatives, for our "Adopt a Family" charity, or for the St. Patrick's Day gift card tree, remember you can order them from **Scrip**. The Daughters of Erin earn a percentage of the cards that are ordered. All you need to do is register at www.shopwithscrip.com. Our code is 5464175F13498. You can place your order and pay with a credit card at the time of purchase. If you don't have access to a computer, you may contact Tammy Beard at [614-203-9145](tel:614-203-9145) or t.beard18@yahoo.com to place your order.

Kroger Plus Cards can also earn the Daughters of Erin money. If you already have a Kroger Plus Card or need one, just stop in your local Kroger store OR You can go online to: www.kroger.com and register your card using the number below the UPC code on the back of the card and by clicking on the Plus Card link at the top right of the screen, then Click on Create Account, Register. Once you have confirmed your account, log in. Then click on Community Rewards, it will then give you the opportunity to choose the group you want to support. Enter "Daughters of Erin" and we will make a percentage of money....we have earned over \$200 this year already!

Operation Combat Zone

As of September 14th the Clan Na nGael Community has sent over 30 care packages to our troops in combat zones. If you want to donate items you can give them to us or you can drop item into the combat zone tote located in the Shamrock Club Pub. Please send an e-mail to jlstrickland@gmail.com if you drop off goods. Some Items Needed: Jerky, powder drink mix, seeds and nuts, granola bars, cereal bars, cliff bars, dry soup, instant oatmeal packs. Baby wipes, shampoo and conditioner, hand sanitizer, mouthwash (all travel size). Lip balm, Chap Stick, multi-vitamins, eye drops, cotton swabs & balls. All items must be in original packaging. If there is someone you know serving in a combat zone please send us their address and we will start sending packages. A note is enclosed with each package saying it is from Clan Na Gael in Columbus, Ohio, the greatest Irish American community in the USA. Thanks to everybody involved for their wonderful efforts and we invite everyone else to get involved. As long as they are over there protecting our freedom we in Columbus will not forget them. All monies donated go to purchasing items and shipping cost. If you would like to make a monetary donation please make checks payable to Mary Strickland and send to: 2495 Brookwood Rd. Columbus, 43209.



Cultural

Mary Grady Strickland is gathering the names of any DOE members who would be interested in Irish language lessons to be held at 1:15 pm before the regular Sunday membership meetings. The DOE would fund the cost of the lessons, books and materials would need to be funded by members. The instructor would love to teach the DOE members to speak the Opening prayer in Gaelic!

Did you know?

- Because of Irish and Scottish immigration Halloween became popular in America in the 19th century. Turnips were hollowed out and carved with faces to make lanterns on Halloween.
- Ireland had 4 winners of the Nobel Prize for Literature- William Butler Yeats, George Bernard Shaw, Samuel Beckett and Seamus Heaney (born in Londonderry). 3 of the 4 were born in Dublin making it the birthplace of more Nobel literary laureates than any other city in the world.
- The Irish language is the third oldest literature in Europe after Greek and Latin.
- They have a strong oral tradition of legends & poetry. Poetry in Irish represents the oldest vernacular poetry in Europe which is the speech of the "common people".
- Article 8 of the Constitution of Ireland states: Irish is the National and first official language of Ireland (40% in Republic, 10% in Northern Ireland). English is recognized as the states second official language. Polish is now the third most widely spoken (because of immigration) language of Ireland after English & Irish followed by Chinese & Persian.



Columbus Celtic Chorus

The Columbus Celtic Chorus will begin practicing for St. Patrick's and Proclamation Day on January 10, 2012. We are always looking for new members and voices to join us. For more information please contact Marita Surry at msurry@aol.com.

Irish Stories

Irish story teller Julie O'Keefe McGhee, would like our membership to become acquainted with an American author Ruth Sawyer. Ruth was from a well-to-do Boston family with no Irish in their background but Ruth as a young girl who had an Irish nursemaid by the name of Johanna. Ruth must have loved Johanna very much because as a grown woman she wrote a good many stories with an Irish theme. My Ruth Sawyer favorites are, "The Way of the Storyteller", (a biography with stories at the end), "The Long Christmas" or "The Wee Christmas Cabin of Carr-Na Ween," "The enchanted Schoolhouse," "Old Con and Patrick", "The Voyage of the Wee Red Cap and Joy to the World," and "Christmas Legends." Johanna's Irish influence inspired a wonderful group of Irish-themed stories that deserve to be enjoyed again and again.



Children's Christmas Party Saturday, December 10 at 11 am

Come join us at the Shamrock Club, 60 W. Castle Rd., 491-4449. Bring a gift with your child's name on it and a camera to capture the moment with your child talking to Santa.

There will be craft making, clowns turning balloons into animals and all kinds of shapes, hot dogs, punch, chips and goody bags. Bring your wallet to purchase tickets for the raffle that supports this party. If you are looking for a great gift for someone Teresa Conley will be selling her delicious Irish fudge or perhaps you would like to purchase a Shamrock Club sweatshirt or t-shirt, they all make great gifts. If you have any questions give us a call @ 614-343-3673. James & Mary Strickland, Co-Chairs



Juniors Corner

At the November meeting the Juniors made no-sew fleece blankets to donate to "My Very own Blanket" www.MVOB.org. This charity gives blankets to foster care children in need. MVOB is always accepting donations; blankets can range in size from 36x36 inches to 60x72 inches.

The Juniors will also be selling paintings of Ireland on eBay, a great Christmas gift idea! You may recognize these paintings as they have been used on the previous year's DOE St. Patrick's Day float. The Juniors are going to auction off two paintings that were featured in the St. Patrick's Day Parade. The auction will be on eBay, additional information regarding the eBay sale will be emailed to DOE membership.

For December, the Juniors will help with the craft area at the Children's Christmas party on December 10th at the Shamrock Club. They will also help support "Adopt a Family" by shopping after the December meeting. Any shoppers are welcome to join the Juniors!



Clann na nGael Annual Dinner Dance

Saturday, Feb. 18, 2012 ~ Mass at 4 p.m. at St. Mary's German Village Cocktails at 6 p.m. & Dinner at 7 p.m. The Westin Columbus, 310 S High St, Columbus, OH. Cost is \$45 person.

There is a block of rooms available at the Westin \$99 per night, (614) 228-3800, reservations required by February 11, 2012.

Please contact Mary Tisdale at 614-864-6533 to reserve a ticket.

Name Badges

If you would like a Daughters of Erin name badge, please contact Karen Franz at 614-274-9933.

Ann Richens Evening of Remembrance

You're invited to gather with those whose lives were touched by Ann Richens for an evening of remembrance.
Saturday Dec. 3, 5-10 p.m.

Hosted by Lisa Ryan, Jennifer Tribbie & the Shamrock Club of Columbus

Open to Shamrock Club members and non-members (\$2.00 day member fee)

St Brigid Day of Reflection

The Daughters of Erin and Ladies Order of Ancient Hibernians are planning an event to share and celebrate our patron saint, St. Brigid. Please watch for details in e-mail updates. If you don't have e-mail and are interested in coming to the event, please call to reserve a spot, contact Connie Nightwine at 614-274-5976.

St. Patrick's Day Table

If you are planning to come to Veterans Memorial on St. Patrick's Day, please contact Karen Franz at 614-274-9933 to reserve a table.

Calendar of Events

For information on other Irish organization's events

<http://www.shamrockclubofcolumbus.com>

<http://www.patrickpearse.com/>

<http://www.columbuslaoh.com/>

<http://www.columbusirish.com/>

<http://www.emeraldsocietyofcolumbus.org/>

December

Saturday, Dec. 3	Ann Richens Event, 5 p.m., Shamrock Club AOH/LAOH Installation Banquet, Mass 4pm, Installation 6 pm
Wednesday, Dec. 7	Nominations for Irishwoman of the Year due
Friday, Dec. 9	Markley Christmas Concert, Shamrock Club
Saturday, Dec. 10	Children's Christmas Party, 11 a.m., Shamrock Club Quiz Night Benefiting D.O.E. Adopt a Family (cover charge)
Sunday, Dec. 11	General Meeting and Christmas party at 1 p.m., Trinity School
Friday, December 16	Christmas with Columbus Cultural Foundation, Honoree Ann Richens

January

Saturdays 2012	AOH Irish Film Fest, Tara Hall
Sunday, Jan. 8	Junior Division Meeting, 1 p.m./General Membership Meeting, 2 p.m.

February

Sunday, Feb. 12	Junior Division Meeting, 1 p.m./General Membership Meeting, 2 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 18	Clann na nGael Annual Dinner Dance

March

Friday, March 9	Proclamation Day
Sunday, March 11	Irish Breakfast, St. Mary's Church, German Village General Membership Meeting, 2 p.m.

An Irish Catholic Tradition

by Fr. William Saunders

Question: Can you tell me where the custom of placing lit candles in the windows started?

Placing lit candles in the windows arises from the British persecution against the Catholic Church in Ireland. Since the time King Henry II invaded Ireland in 1171, persecution against the Irish has existed. This persecution increased tremendously in the wake of the Protestant movement, especially under Elizabeth I and then Oliver Cromwell. The logic was simply this: the British conquerors were Protestant and the Irish people were Catholic; therefore, to totally subjugate the Irish people, the British had to crush their religion, and that meant crushing the Catholic Church.

This persecution was formalized and legalized in what were known as the Penal Laws. Edmund Burke, the political philosopher wrote (in a *Letter to Sir Hercules Langrishe*), "All the penal laws of that unparalleled code of oppression were manifestly the effects of national hatred and scorn toward a conquered people whom the victors delighted to trample upon and were not at all afraid to provoke. They were not the effect of their fears, but of their security ... whilst that temper prevailed, and it prevailed in all its force to a time within our memory, every measure was pleasing and popular just in proportion as it tended to harass and ruin a set of people who were looked upon as enemies of God and man; indeed, as a race of savages, who were a disgrace to human nature itself."

With the rise of William and Mary, the penal laws were perfected. The penal laws which were designed to eradicate the Catholicism by making the practice of the faith too burdensome included the following: All Catholic clergy were ordered to leave the country by May 1, 1698; if after that date they were found remaining, they would be imprisoned and then exiled; and if they returned they would be liable to being hanged until unconscious, drawn (disemboweled while alive), and quartered (beheaded and cut into four pieces). Catholics were forbidden to practice the faith, attend Mass, receive an education, send a child to a Catholic teacher, send a child to a Catholic school abroad, hold public office, engage in commerce, live in a corporate town, purchase or lease land, vote or hold arms for protection. Punishments for violations included confiscation of goods, fines, imprisonment, exile and even death. Burke commented in his *Tract on the Popery Code*: "There was not a single right of



nature or benefit of society which had not been either totally taken away or considerably impaired." Even Chief Justice Robinson, during the reign of George I stated, "The law does not suppose any such person to exist as an Irish Roman Catholic."

Despite this persecution, the Catholic faith kept the Irish strong. Bishops and priests continued to minister to the people, traveling circuits and offering Mass on "Mass rocks" in open fields. Hiding behind hedges, which provided easy look-out and escape, schoolmasters continued to teach the children, not just regular studies, but the faith and Irish heritage; they were thereby given the name "Hedge Schoolmasters." And so the Irish people held true to their faith and culture.

With this in mind, we find the use of candles in the windows. During Christmas, every faithful Irish Catholic family hoped to have a priest visit their home so that they could receive the sacraments and in return offer him hospitality. So they would leave their doors unlocked and place candles in the windows to signal a priest that he was welcome and would be safe. Sometimes, a single candle would appear in several windows, or three candles in one window, one each representing Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

Of course the British persecutors became suspicious and asked the purpose of this action. So the faithful Irish Catholics responded, "Our doors are unlocked and candles burn in our windows at Christmas, so that our Blessed Mother Mary, St. Joseph and Baby Jesus, looking for a place to lodge, will find their way to our homes and be welcomed with open hearts." Of course, the British considered such a display another sign of superstition and "silly popery."

Here is the origin of this custom, still cherished by the Irish. Of course, this custom of placing candles in the windows was brought to America by the Irish immigrants and has since become very popular. However, we must never lose sight of its meaning and historical background. As we celebrate Christmas, may we also open our hearts and homes to Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Christ is our light, who entered this world to scatter sin and darkness. Having been enlightened by Christ through Holy Baptism, we must have a strong loyalty to our Church. We too must realize that the greatest gift of all is our faith, a faith which enabled the Irish to triumph over the most heinous persecutions.

Fr. Saunders is a professor of catechetics and theology at Notre Dame Graduate School in Alexandria, Virginia. His book Straight Answers is available in many Catholic bookstores, or on-line. This article is reprinted courtesy of the Arlington Catholic Herald.

Membership In the next few weeks membership payments may also be made online at daughtersoferin.org via the [Membership link](#). More details to come via DOE e-mail.

2012

Daughters of Erin Membership Form

Please make note of any changes in address, phone number or email since your last registration or if making a new registration.

Thank you for your interest in the Daughters of Erin. We are an Irish American Women's group established in 1978. Membership is open to all women with a genuine interest in Irish culture. We work alongside the other Central Ohio Irish groups in cultural, educational and charitable activities.

The Daughters of Erin provides its members the opportunity to strengthen their Irish cultural ties and to make lasting friendships. Members receive our monthly newsletter "Echo of Erin" which covers all Irish community events and organization news. Please visit our web site: daughtersoferin.org.

New memberships are accepted at any time. Annual membership renewals are due in January of each year. After July 1, new members may join for half-price. Please complete this form and mail it to our post office box (shown above); or bring it with you to one of our general meetings. Meetings are held 2:00 p.m. the second Sunday of the month (September through June). We meet at Trinity School behind St. Christopher's Catholic Church, 1420 Grandview Avenue in Columbus, Ohio.

It is important that you fill out the form and return it with your payment. We will be printing a new roster and this will insure we have your correct information. We are requesting all Honorary Members complete and submit this form as well. Mail Completed Application & Payment to: Chris McKenzie 6971 Shorehill Lane, Columbus, OH 43235

Name _____ Spouse First Name _____

Address _____ Birthday _____
MM / DD

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone #s (include area code) Home # _____ Cell _____

Work _____ Are you a former member who did not renew last yr or previous yrs? _____

Email Address _____

Would you like to receive your newsletter by E-mail? (Circle one) Yes No

Please check one:

<u>Membership Type</u>	<u>Renewal Current Member Annual Dues</u>	<u>New Member Joining After July 1</u>
[] Junior (0 to 17 years of age) Birthdate _____ MM / DD	\$ 7.50	\$ 3.75
[] Regular (18 to 79 years of age)	\$ 15.00	\$ 7.50
[] Honorary (80 years of age and older)	No Dues	No Dues

Donations to special funds:

Bereavement Fund \$ _____
Scholarship Fund \$ _____

How did you hear about us?

Payment Type _____
Date Received _____
Membership Card Mailed _____