



Irish
CULTURAL SOCIETY
OF SAN ANTONIO, INC.✠

NEWSLETTER

March 2017

Next Meeting:

In keeping with tradition, now that IHD and the annual dance are behind us, we will not have a meeting in March. Over this next month go out and enjoy the myriad Irish activities that are available in San Antonio. Many of these events are listed in this newsletter, so keep reading!

As Plans and Programs chair, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers who came out to help on February 26th as we presented our annual Irish Heritage Day and dance. We couldn't do it without you, and we appreciate all of you who took the time to be with us this past Sunday. Thanks so much! Susan

From our Membership Chair:

We had 7 people join our society at the February meeting. These were members of the SAGAC and we welcome them and their families. Several were present at IHD too and we hope to see more of them throughout the year. They have made their schedule available to us so we may attend their games when possible.

Lou has updated our membership roster several times and sent it out recently to all the members who have email. Since the last edition, we have one more new member, Jacobo Paz and we welcome him also. There will be copies available at the next meeting for those who did not receive it by email.

At IHD 6 people signed up to receive the newsletter and we invited them to our meetings so they could get to know us better and maybe some day they may want to become members. Guests are always welcome to attend meetings.

Birthday Wishes:

Please wish a happy birthday to our March birthdays! Margaret Burke 1st, Beth Corrigan 6th, John Gaines 13th, Nora Olivares 15th, Maria Leavy Hoelscher 24th and Doris Gaines 26th.

St. Patrick's Day Mass:

Please come join the Irish community of San Antonio as they meet for 10am Mass at St. Patrick's Church at 1114 Willow, off of I-35 over by Ft. Sam Houston. Afterwards enjoy some tasty dishes in the church hall. The ladies of the parish outdo themselves providing a wonderful selection of food for the Mass attendees.

If going downtown to celebrate St. Patrick's Day is not your cup of tea, then head on over to Craftiques at 2375 NW Military Highway. Roger Wiseman will be presenting a "very Irish" program of music there from noon until 2pm on St. Patrick's Day only. If his name doesn't sound familiar to you, Roger is the very talented fiddler from Boru, and currently the fiddler in the trio, Rupert's Revenge, which played for this year's ICS annual dance. He will be situated in the Tea Lounge area towards the back of the store, so you can get an excellent cup of tea (and lunch) while listening to his music.

San Antonio Gaelic Athletic Club Schedule: **(Thanks to Keith Breen for this information)**

Gaelic Football Games:

04/01/2017 SAGAC v Houston @ San Antonio

04/29/2017 SAGAC @ Austin

05/20/2017 SAGAC @ Dallas

06/17/2017 – 06/18/2017 Texas League Finals: San Antonio

Hurling Competition:

03/04/2017 @ Austin

Annual Gold Scramble:

03/10/2017 @ Silverhorn Golf Club. (\$80 per person)

If you're interested in watching their practices:

Football training is on Wednesday evenings at Olmos Basin rugby fields, under lights. 651 Devine Rd, 78212 at 6:30pm. This will change to Phil Hardberger Park as daylight gets longer.

Football training on Sunday mornings is at 11:30am at Phil Hardberger Park on the pitch behind the kids playground. 4401 NW Military Hwy, 78231.

Hurling practice generally happens before football on Sundays at Phil Hardberger Park, and start times vary from 10am to 10:30am.



The first prize at Irish Heritage Day, two tickets to the upcoming Celtic Woman concert at the Majestic on May 21st, was won by Sister Vera! Congratulations!

This Month in Irish History

March 7 -1848: first unveiling of the Irish tricolour flag (in Waterford).

March 9 -1932: Eamon de Valera elected President of the Executive Council of the Irish Free State

March 10 -1894: Ireland wins Rugby Triple Crown for first time

March 17 - Saint Patrick's Day (public holiday), and for Irish Roman Catholics, a Holy Day of Obligation

March 18 -1899: Ireland wins Rugby Triple Crown for 2nd time

Harp & Shamrock Activities in March:

(Thanks to Dave Patrick for the information)

St. Patrick's Day 2017 festivities—all sponsored or co-sponsored by the Harp & Shamrock Society and all open to the public—will include:

Saturday, March 11, 2017, 8:30 a.m. – 34th Annual Harp & Shamrock Society 5K Run & Fitness Walk – “Guinness at the Finish” - Lady Bird Johnson Park, 10700 Nacogdoches Rd. This is the longest running 5K run celebrating Irish heritage in San Antonio. Run will offer chip timing by IAAP with awards for fastest run times; top masters; greenest runners; and ugliest kilts. Race includes Beethoven Dance Band, food and Irish “cheer,” including Guinness. For more information or register online. Underwritten by GLI (Guinness), Main Street Pizza and Run Wild Sports.

Friday, March 17, 2017, noon -1 p.m. – Harp & Shamrock Wreath Laying Ceremony – Entrance to The Alamo. 50th presentation honoring Irish heroes present at the Battle of the Alamo, with special thanks to The Alamo/TX General Land Office. Of the 188 defenders at the Alamo, 12 were Irish-born; 30 were of Irish heritage. Four Irishmen signed the Texas Declaration of Independence, and 100 fought at the Battle of San Jacinto – comprising one-seventh of the total Texan force in that battle.

Friday, March 17, 2017, 1 p.m. – Dyeing of the San Antonio River in the downtown River Walk area – River dyed green and renamed “The River Shannon.”

Friday, March 17, 2017, 2 – 9 p.m. – Murphy’s St. Patrick’s Day Festival – La Villita. Co-sponsored by Harp & Shamrock Society and Paseo del Rio Association, the festival offers Irish and Texas beer and food, arts and crafts and games with no admittance fee. The Harp & Shamrock Society will sponsor its “Passport to Ireland” interactive exhibit which offers genealogy research, history of early Irish Texans, introduction to Gaelic language and bag pipe, Kiss the Blarney Stone and much more. Harp & Shamrock Music Festival – Arneson River Theatre in La Villita, 2-9 p.m. Co-sponsored by Harp & Shamrock Society and Paseo del Rio Association, it offers free non-stop schedule of Irish bands, singers and dancers.

Saturday, March 18, 2017, noon – 9 p.m. – Murphy’s St. Patrick’s Day Festival – La Villita. Co-sponsored by Harp & Shamrock Society and Paseo del Rio Association, the festival offers Irish and Texan beer and food, arts and crafts and games with no admittance fee. The Harp & Shamrock Society’s will sponsor its “Passport to Ireland” interactive exhibit which offers genealogy research, history of early Irish Texans, introduction to Gaelic language and bag pipe, Kiss the Blarney Stone and much more. □ Harp & Shamrock Music Festival – Arneson River Theatre in La Villita, noon – 9 p.m. Co-sponsored by Harp & Shamrock Society and Paseo del Rio Association, it offers free non-stop schedule of Irish bands, singers and dancers.

Saturday, March 18, 2017, 2 p.m. – Dyeing of the San Antonio River in the downtown River Walk area – River dyed green and renamed “The River Shannon.”

Saturday, March 18, 2017, 4 p.m. – Murphy’s St. Patrick’s Day River Parade – San Antonio River Walk - the only one of its kind in the world. Co-sponsored by Harp & Shamrock Society and Paseo del Rio Association, 13 decorated river barges will be filled with Irish bagpipes and drummers, Irish step dancers, music, singers, a Color Guard, Harp & Shamrock Society of Texas members and sponsors to entertain tens of thousands of San Antonians and their visitors. The first St. Patrick’s River Parade was started in 1969 by the Harp & Shamrock Society and Paseo del Rio Association, and continues to this day with no interruptions.