

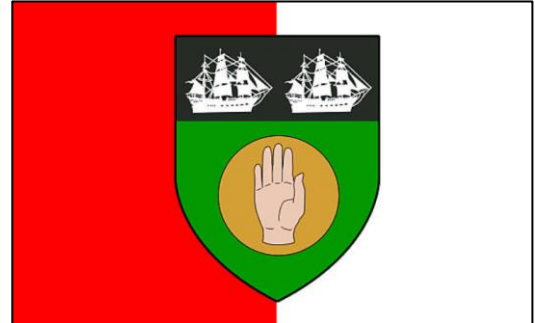


Dane County Shamrock Club, Inc. Newsletter

Volume 21, Issue 9
March (Márta) 2024

Issue Highlights

- 1 *Club Happenings, Irish Sayings*
- 2 *What's In a Name, Next Line Please*
- 3 *Ads from Club Supporters, Member Birthdays*
- 4 *Irish Person of the Year, A New Advertiser, Spóirt*
- 5 *Essay Contest & Winning Essay, Irish County of the Month*
- 6 *County of Month (cont.), Regional Events*
- 7 *Club Events, Name that Irish Person, Ads (cont.)*
- 8 *Board of Directors, Newsletter Info*



County Louth flag

~ Club Happenings

Hello and welcome to a fun, full month! March is here and with it comes a large number and variety of Irish and St. Patrick's Day-related events. See pages 6 and 7 for some of those we could fit into this newsletter and seek out others if you are able. We hope to be together at a number of them, and particularly at the St. Patrick's Dinner at Rex's Innkeeper on the 10th and at the Flag Raising Ceremony at the Capitol (with parade to follow) on the 17th. May the unusually warm weather we've been having be in effect on those two days!

We have had an increase in participation in recent events, a high level of renewals in membership, and a few new members join lately. It's encouraging and appreciated! *Go raibh maith agat* for being a Shamrock Club member, being part of the Irish community in Dane County, and we look forward to gathering in the weeks ahead!

A few noteworthy items to mention:

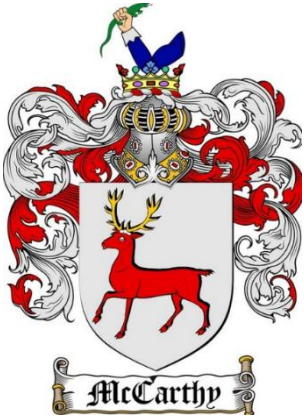
- ☘ If you haven't heard, **Dee Martin** is our Irish Person of the Year! If you don't know her, see her pg. 4 profile!
- ☘ We had a successful first essay contest and are excited to announce our winners! See page 5.
- ☘ We have a new board member – **Stephanie Lowden** has volunteered to be our Sunshine Chair, which means she'll be welcoming new members and finding ways to help all members feel welcome. Thanks very much, Stephanie, it is much appreciated! We would be happy to have other new board members, too! Please reach out if you have some interest!

~ Irish Sayings

- ☘ However long the day, the evening will come.
- ☘ Do not resent growing old, many are denied the privilege.
- ☘ Put silk on a goat and it's still a goat.
- ☘ Do not take the thatch from your own roof to buy slates for another man's house.



~ What's In a Name? McCARTHY



The McCarthy surname originally appeared in Irish as *Mac Carthaigh*, which is derived from the word *carthach*. Since *Mac* means “son of” and *carthach* means “loving,” we can say that McCarthy means “son of the loving one.” There was a St. Carthach the Elder and a St. Carthach the Younger, both of whom founded monasteries and spread Christianity in the 500s and early 600s AD. The McCarthy family claims to descend from Oilioll Olum, a 3rd century King of Munster.

The McCarthy family originates primarily in Counties Cork and Kerry. The family crest is silver, which represents peacefulness and sincerity, and red, which represents martyrdom and the family’s historic military strength. At the top of the crest, the lizard represents wisdom and the deer in its center represents a peaceful nature and people who will not fight unless provoked by another. The family motto is “Nothing is Difficult to the Brave and Faithful.” Variations of the name include: MacCarthy, MacCarty, Carty, McCarty, MacArty, and MacArthy.

Some well-known McCarthys [aside from our very own Pat McCarthy and Harry McCarthy (RIP) ☺] include:

- ☘ **Henry “Billy the Kid” McCarty** (1859-1881) – A notorious American outlaw of the Old West, Billy the Kid allegedly killed 21 men before he was shot and killed at age 21. Rumors of his survival continued long after his death as many claimed they were “Billy the Kid.” Maybe you’ll want to [check out this documentary](#).
- ☘ **Joseph McCarthy** (1908-1957) – A senator from Wisconsin (Appleton area), he was known for his reckless and unsubstantiated accusations of communist ties among many American military, political, academic, and entertainment figures.
- ☘ **Melissa McCarthy** (born 1970) – American actress and film producer with key roles in TV shows like “Mike & Molly” and “Saturday Night Live” and movies like “Bridesmaids,” “The Boss,” and “The Little Mermaid.” [Some of her funny moments](#).
- ☘ **Mick McCarthy** (born 1959) – soccer player and coach for Ireland’s national team. He was “Captain Fantastic” for the 1990 World Cup squad and coach of the 2002 team in its World Cup appearance. While born in England, he’s been an Irish citizen since birth because his dad is Irish.



~ NEXT LINE PLEASE

If you know the next line of this song, send it along to irishbronco@sbcglobal.net ...

Michael, they have taken you away,
For you stole Trevelyan's corn so the young might see the morn,
Now a prison ship lies waiting in the bay...**what's next?**

Last month it was:

One, two, three, four, five...
Hunt the hare and turn her down the rocky road...
all the way to Dublin, whack fo-lo-de-rah!

- from “Rocky Road to Dublin” (enjoy a spirited version from the [Kings of Connacht](#))– correctly identified by Steve Goldberg and Boo Gallagher





College Hill House & Gardens B&B

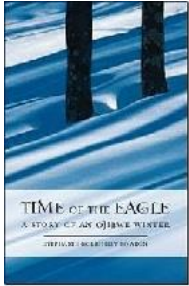
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see page 8



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Our Members with March Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 7 Peter Spanos | 21 Michel McGettigan |
| 8 Caroline Roe | 21 Brian Petravech |
| 12 Patrick McGettigan | 28 Lauren Meyer-Herr |
| 18 Maureen Kind | 30 Toni Ledwidge |



BOOKING:

CHARLENE ADZIMA

614-507-7071

**CHARLENE.ADZIMA
@GMAIL.COM**

~ IRISH PERSON OF THE YEAR 2024

DeeAnn Adele Martin



We are very pleased to announce that DeeAnn Martin is our 2024 Irish Person of the Year! Upon moving to the Madison area in 2015, Dee joined the Dane County Shamrock Club right away. Of Irish and Scottish descent, Dee jumped in with both feet, becoming Board Secretary, and later Trustee and Facebook Administrator. Dee shares her love of all things Irish with just about everyone, inviting others to join the DCSC, and you'll see Dee helping at all our major events.

In her work life, Dee is a nationally certified professional American Sign Language / English interpreter. She works for Purple Communications, Inc., interpreting between people who are Deaf, and those who can hear, both over video and out in the community. Dee believes in communication access for all and loves helping people who don't share a language understand one another.

Dee loves Ireland, especially the people, and has visited three times (so far). Dee enjoys hiking, forest bathing, photography, traveling, and reading with her cat on her lap. Congratulations, Dee! Sláinte!! ☺

~ WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS (AND A NEW ADVERTISER)

The Lilies of the Midwest

The Lilies of the Midwest are a trio of Irish traditional musicians in the Madison, WI area. In 2017, fiddler Charlene Adzima, concertinist Kara Rogers, and mandolinist Jeanna Schultz came together as a trio for the Midwest Fleadh, where they placed first. They decided they liked each other's company enough to meet on a weekly basis and play some tunes, eventually concocting catchy arrangements and music to bring down the house! Combining the unique sounds of concertina, mandolin, and fiddle, they inspire audiences with their infectious energy and joy. Visit them at LotM.band!



Fáilte to Charlene, Kara, and Jeanna! Thank you and glad to have you! We look forward to your music at our March 10th St. Patrick's Day event at Rex's!

~ SPÓIRT (Sports)



As this goes to print, Ireland is in a great position in the annual [Six Nations Rugby tournament](#). It has stormed through its three opponents with incredibly lopsided victories and is currently alone at the top of the standings. Its two remaining games are against the next best competitors in the tournament, England and Scotland. Its final match against Scotland is particularly notable since it will be a home match at Aviva Stadium in Dublin on St. Patrick's Day. Maybe you fancy [some highlights from the victory over Italy?](#)

~ INAUGURAL ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED Congratulations to Nia Jameson and Josephine Conti!

4th and 5th graders in Dane County were invited to submit short essays to our Club that responded to “What Ireland Means to Me...” We had a dozen entries in this first running of the contest. Thank you to all students who submitted essays. Our four judges really enjoyed reading the essays and found it challenging to determine winners among the fun, lively, and creative essays submitted! A special thank you to Mrs. Katie Vander Steeg, a teacher at Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary School in Sun Prairie for encouraging and supporting several of her students to submit essays for the contest.

The two top essays were written by Nia Jameson, a 5th grader at Edgewood Campus School in Madison, and Josephine Conti, a 5th grader from Thoreau Elementary in Madison. Both winners have received cash prizes and will hopefully appear at the Flag Raising at the Capitol on St. Patrick’s Day to be recognized. Well done, Nia and Josephine! Here is Nia’s essay on “What Ireland Means to Me”:

Cad a chiallaíonn Éire dom? Well to me, Ireland is a great place full of culture and great people. She is full of kind people, family and friends.

Ireland was often referred to as ‘*Roison*’ long, long ago and if I could describe what she means to me I would have to say she is something more than a place, she is alive.

She is a small yet powerful island where waves crash against her, yet she stands strong. I love to jump into the wonderful salty sea, and watch the beautiful wildlife go by.

She is kind and gentle like the hills and valleys that ripple through her. Ireland is a miles of long, green grass. Ireland is full of wheat and barley for the farmers to crop. Ireland is full of beautiful landscapes that I sit and stare at all day. She is the feet of many hills and mountains.

She has a language that was nearly lost, but she fights to keep it. Ireland has one of the oldest living language that is called Gaelic.

She is musical, with instruments like a harp that can make a room filled to the brim stand still and a tin whistle that can make a full barn dance until midnight.

She is a small cottage full of large families that sit around a smokey fire talking. Cows, cattle and sheeps wandering on the long green fields of grass.

She is a busy pub full of friends telling tales and swapping jokes while musicians keep the party going. She is a kitchen full of amazing cooks making delicious Irish stews for the whole pub on a Sunday night.

So when you ask, “What does Ireland mean to me...” Ireland is not just a country for me, it is also home. Ireland to me is more than a place; it is my country with all my family and friends. Ireland is like the teddy bear that you’ll never forget once you have it.

~ IRISH COUNTY OF THE MONTH: LOUTH

In our alphabetical run through the 32 counties on the island of Ireland, we are featuring County Louth (most often pronounced to rhyme with “mouth”) this month. Check out its cool flag on page 1. The county’s nickname is “The Wee County” because it is the smallest county in Ireland by land area – although it is the 17th most populated.

~ UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

- 🍀 **St. Patrick's Day Dinner** – Sunday, March 10th at [Rex's Innkeeper, Waunakee](#)
 - RSVPs have been collected and here's hoping we'll see you there!

- 🍀 **St. Patrick's Day Flag Raising** – Sunday, March 17th, at the State Capitol Building
 - Flag-raising, Irish dancers, pipers, Irish Person of the Year, and (brief) speeches starting around 12 noon – **enjoy the event and then join club members as we march** in the [parade](#) together!

- 🍀 **Spring Pub Outing** – Wednesday, April 17th starting at 5 pm - come to a casual, no-agenda social outing open to all at [Mulligan's Pub in Oregon!](#)

- 🍀 **Book Club** – the next gathering is Thursday, May 30th at 6:30 pm at Barney & Karen Gallagher's home
 - Our book (fiction this time!) is [The Queen of Dirt Island by Donal Ryan](#) – available [through the library](#)
All are welcome & invited; RSVP that you're coming by emailing irishbronco@sbcglobal.net

- 🍀 **Summer Picnic** – July 16th at McKee Farms Park in Fitchburg; details to come



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Let's play **Name that Irish Person...** who is this?



If you know, send a message to irishbronco@sbcglobal.net

(Last month it was **Becky Lynch**, identified by Pat McCarthy, Michael Heinrichs, and Boo Gallagher)



DANE COUNTY SHAMROCK CLUB, INC. - BOARD OF DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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Newsletter Content

*Articles are written by Barney Gallagher with contributions from club members. We encourage members to submit articles on their Irish travels, interests, and photos for the April newsletter to Barney at irishbronco@sbcglobal.net by **March 20, 2024**.*

Dane County Shamrock Club, Inc.

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