



The Irish Center of Southern California Inc., is a 503 c (3) Not for Profit Corporation. Our tax ID is 95-4442397. We are a fundraising group with no “paid” staff. Our primary aim is to acquire a multi-purpose facility including theater, library, social hall, meeting rooms etc. The mailing address is 1931 W. Glenoaks Blvd., Glendale. CA 91201.

If you have “any news” re graduations, births, weddings, deaths, relocating etc please send to: tomirishhour@msn.com.

If you know anyone who would like to receive this newsletter and doesn’t have a computer we will send by U S Mail. Let us know. This goes to over 2800 email addresses.

We would like to thank those people who donated to the Irish Center to help pay expenses (including ink and postage for this newsletter) : Kathleen Riordan Kiel, Redondo Beach; John & Mary Dempsey, Covina; Eamonn & Gemma Nohilly, Riverside; Edward & Louise Delaney, La Crescenta; Mary & Eileen Donovan, Hacienda Heights; Denise Nolan Delurgio, Redondo Beach; Nora Eileen Masterson, Whittier; Mrs Kathleen Kiernan, Woodland Hills; Mary Glenane, Laguna Woods ; Brendan McCoy, Seal Beach; Sue Welsh, Los Angeles; Mary Stout, Huntington Beach; Richard & Collette Brady, La Canada; Brick & Laura Price, Calabasas;



Tuesday. 2nd February at 9.30 am, Friends of Ireland monthly breakfast at Katella Restaurant, 4470 Katella Ave, Los Alamitos, CA 90720.

RSVP Pete Walsh, 714 200 7365 or pbeireanua@att.net

Sunday 7th February at 1 pm at --- NEW LOCATION --- Hill Street Café, 3301 N. Glenoaks Blvd., Burbank. Irish Center’s monthly “get- to- gether- at- Hill- Street.”

Easy to find, between Hollywood Way and Buena Vista on Glenoaks. (Right next to St Leon’s Cathedral). Hill Street telephone is 818 845 0046.

A separate dining room for 40-50 people. Parking right beside the building. Order what you want—a cup of coffee to full lunch—and pay yourself.

Please do make reservations by calling Bridget Hana at 818 249 7911.

Sunday. 14th February. Irish Social from 2 pm to 6 pm at St Cornelius Church hall, 5500 E. Wardlow, Long Beach. 90808. Good food, good music, good conversation, singing and dancing. FREE. Our thanks to the pastor, Fr Michael Gleeson.

The organizer, Sister Alicia from Castleblaney, says “Please come and bring a friend”.



WORKING TOGETHER TO ESTABLISH AN IRISH CULTURAL CENTER IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Saturday. 20th February Los Lizzy performs their signature song - THE BOYS ARE BACK IN TOWN – at Paladino's, 6101 Reseda Blvd, Tarzana, CA 91335

<http://www.paladinosclub.com/> Following is a link to the LOS LIZZY artiste card: <http://artisticcard.com/loslizzy>

Saturday. 27th February. 26th Annual St Patrick's Day Fundraising Dinner for Police Survivors at Los Alamitos Joint Forces Training Base, 4745 Yorktown, Los Alamitos honoring former L.A. District Attorney Steve Cooley. Guest speaker LASD Sheriff Jim McDonnell.

Admission \$65; Information: 562 810 6907 or 424 218- 6216

The Irish Center of Southern California Inc., will hold its annual St Patrick's Celebration on Saturday the 12th March 2016 at the Hilton Hotel, 100 West Glenoaks Blvd, Glendale. The cover charge of \$75 includes dinner, dance, tax, gratuity plus the spectacular Floor Show by the Cleary School of Irish Dance and music by "the maestro" Ken O'Malley and the Twi-light Lords.

For dinner reservations please call Mrs Mary Dempsey at 626 337 0075.

The evening begins with cocktails at 5 pm; dinner served at 6 15pm; presentations at 7 pm; followed by dancing for the evening with Ken O'Malley and the Twilight Lords.

The Floor Show of Irish Dance by the Cleary School of Irish Dance under the direction of Maggie Cleary at 9 pm.

Tickets for a special opportunity drawing for two round trip tickets to Ireland. Suggested donation is \$5 per ticket or \$25 for six tickets. This drawing is our major fund raiser. A special "early bird" drawing (of returned raffle tickets) will take place at our meeting on 13th February. The lucky winner will receive two admission tickets (worth \$150) to our St Patrick's Celebration.

We hope that everyone of the 2800 plus who receives our monthly newsletter by email (and we don't have their home address) will send their check and we will complete the "stubs". By sending your \$25 we will know you are supporting our efforts to keep us all informed of local Irish and Irish American news. (Irish Center, 1931 W. Glenoaks Blvd., Glendale. 91201)

The Silent Auction will have a wide array of items to bid on--gift tickets to concerts, baseball games, Import Shops, restaurants, paintings etc --(see below)

If you intend to stay at the Hilton call 818 956 5466 and ask for "Reservations", and ask for Irish Center's rate of \$139.00 using code 64x.

In a earlier mailing we enclosed tickets for a special opportunity drawing for two round trip tickets to Ireland. Suggested donation is \$5 per ticket or \$25 for six tickets.



This drawing is our major fundraiser. Hannah O’Callaghan—THE travel agent (818-790-1111) received the following for our Silent Auction---

The 5 Star Park Hotel, Kenmare, Co. Kerry has very graciously donated two nights luxurious accommodations for two people with full Irish Breakfast each day. Kenmare is a haven of tranquility, with breathtaking scenery, in one of the most natural, unspoiled environments in Europe. The list of their awards are too numerous to list, but to name a few: Conde Nast Traveler 2013, Conde Nast Traveller Gold List 2012, Travel and Leisure top 500, 2012. Top 10 Most Romantic Spas in The World .

The Killarney Plaza Hotel and Spa ---- an O’Donoghue Ring Hotel, is a 4 ½ Star luxury hotel. It overlooks Killarney National Park, and is within five minutes walk of Killarney town center. It is also in proximity to an Impressive selection of remarkable sites, St. Mary’s Cathedral, The Gap of Dunloe, and Killarney Racecourse. The town of Killarney offers nearby recreation activities, including golf, surfing ,rafting, kayaking and sailing. Micheal O’Donoghue, one of the owners, has very graciously afforded us two nights at his luxurious hotel. This Voucher must be used by October 20, 2016. Complimentary use of their Prize Winning Spa.

More details at our St Patrick’s Celebration on 12th March at the Glendale Hilton Hotel.



Saturday. 12th March. CALADH NuA, Beckman Auditorium, California Institute of Technology; free parking located at 332 South Michigan Avenue, Pasadena (south of Del Mar Boulevard). 8 p.m. With banjo, fiddle, guital bodhran, tin whistle, a button accordion and vocals, this ensemble captures tradiiionaf Irish music with contemporary flourishes. Admission: \$35.00, \$30.00 and \$25.00; \$10.00 youth high school age and under. Call (626) 395-4652 for information.

Sunday. 13th March. Friends of Ireland Eleventh Annual St Patrick’s Dinner and Dance at Buena Park Elk’s Lodge has been cancelled.





Thursday, 17th March. The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation, 40 Presidential Drive,
Simi Valley, CA 93065 Phone 805 5677 4057



Join us for our first ever Saint Patrick's Day Celebration! Spend the night celebrating this festive holiday under the wings of Air Force One. This exceptional night will be held on Thursday, March 17, 2016. Bring your appetite with you to indulge in our delicious Irish pub inspired menu. Including beef short rib sliders in a Guinness gravy, grilled Reubens, and traditional fish and chips. Finish your evening with delectable Bailey's Irish Cream brownies. Enjoy our Irish folk band, *The Lads*, or tour the Ronald Reagan Presidential Museum, including our highly anticipated exhibit [Vatican Splendors: A Journey Through Faith and Art](#) - one of the rarest collections of Vatican art and objects to ever visit North America, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and the spectacular Air Force One from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.!



Tickets are \$59.95 per person and reservations must be made by Tuesday, March 15, 2016 at 9:00a.m. Reserved tables can be accommodated for groups of 8 or more. You must be 21 and over to attend this event. For more information, to view a complete menu, and to make reservations, please [CLICK HERE](#) or call 805.577.4057.

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library is the exclusive West Coast destination for *Vatican Splendors: A Journey Through Faith and Art* - one of the rarest collections of Vatican art and objects to ever visit North America. This 12,000 square foot exhibition will be open from March 6, 2016 through August 28, 2016.! www.ReaganFoundation.org/VaticanSplendors



Saturday, 26th March. The Ancient Order of Hibernians of Orange County and Long Beach will host a commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising on March 26th at 1:00pm at the VFW, 805 East Sycamore Street, Anaheim. Admission is free but donations are greatly appreciated.

The program includes the reading the Proclamation of the Provisional Government of the Republic of Ireland, 1916. and the reading the Oration of Padraig Pearse at the Graveside of O'Donovan Rossa.

Our Master of Ceremonies will be Daniel Murphy. Eamonn Knuff will be the musical entertainment, and Terry McCarthy will grace the day and the event with his bagpipes.

****We will also be producing an 1916 Easter Commemoration program journal to raise funds to help offset the cost of this event. Jeff Gallagher, past County President will once again be producing this wonderful journal. If you would like to take out an ad, please send your ads to Jeff at ocpd44@gmail.com**

The costs of the ads are: \$50 - full page ads, and \$30 - half page ads. All ads must be camera ready, and sent by the deadline of March 21st. Please make your check payable to the AOH and send them to Jerry O'Keefe, P. O. Box 18651, Anaheim, CA 92817.

We are looking forward to holding a proper tribute to honor these fallen heroes who fought for Irish freedom. For further information, please call 714-318-8355 or email us at aohoccal@aol.com



Saturday, 23rd April at the Brother's of St. Patrick Novitiate, 7820 Bolsa Ave, Midway City Ca 92655

The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians is hosting an event to Honor Our History by remembering and telling the story of the Easter Rising in Ireland in 1916. Starts with Mass at 12 Noon. We then will have a reading of the Proclamation and some words on the history of the event.

We will follow with an Irish tea. Please RSVP to LaohPeggy@Aol.com.



Our condolences to the families who have lost loved ones.

Sr Maura Byron, a Sister of St Louis for seventy years passed away on 15th January 2016. Born in Ballina, Co Mayo she entered religious life in 1945. Sr Maura was one of the pioneer group of Sisters of St Louis who came to California in 1949. She was a teacher, a principal and a religious leader here for forty years. Sr Maura then trained as a chaplain and served in that ministry for another twenty years. Sr Maura Byron is mourned by the Sisters of St Louis, her cousins, students, colleagues and friends.

Lawrence Patrick "Larry" McNeil passed away Sunday evening at the VA hospital in Westwood, He was 82. Larry was born in Los Angeles on August 18, 1934 to Joseph and Ellen McNeil, attended Cathedral Chapel Grammar School and graduated from Loyola High School in 1951. He attended Loyola University and graduated from UCLA, studied at Wharton School of Business and received his MBA from Long Beach State. A proud veteran of the United States Navy, Larry was a Naval Aviator flying 5-2 F's "Stoofs" aboard the U.S.S. Yorktown. Larry was instrumental in building First Pacific Advisors as President of Marketing and President and CEO of FPA Fund Distributors.

An original investor in 1966, Larry was instrumental in the founding of Schramsberg Vineyards in Calistoga and served on the Corporate Board there for many years. He was well known for his generosity and pride in pouring the bubbly whenever he was with family and friends. He also planted a 20 acre vineyard of pinot noir high upon the hills of West Mann on his ancestral family ranch in Nicasio, California.

Larry served on the boards and advisory committees of Catholic Charities, Blind Children's Center Little Sisters of the Poor. He was also a member of the Knights of Malta and the California Club. Devoted to his family, Larry is survived by his wife of 56 years, Jane MacFadden McNeil, their 2 children, Dennis McNeil and Sally McNeil Gallagher, 5 grandchildren, Patrick and Sean Gallagher and Theresa, Julia, and Maura McNeil as well as his sisters, Mary Ellen Hoffman and Martha McNeil. He is preceded in death by his parents, his brother Joe and nephew Timothy McNeil.

He was known by his grandchildren as their ff1 fan and tried to attend all events in which they participated, always faithfully in the stands cheering and encouraging.

Larry and his wife were universal travelers and he always remained true to his Irish roots with his love of singing, socializing, and great story telling. He was also an avid beautiful lifelong skier. His family will remember him as being brave, strong, kind, gentle, patriotic, funny, and inspiring and will always picture him in his famous McNeil tartan plaid trousers.



WORKING TOGETHER TO ESTABLISH AN IRISH CULTURAL CENTER IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Johnny Comerford was born on April 21st, 1937 in Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny and died on the morning of January 11th, 2016 of a suspected heart attack in London. He is survived by his wife Margaret from Ballingarry, Co. Tipperary and his four children Ken, Aiden, Caroline and Marie, also survived by his brother Fr. Pat, Chaplain at St. John's Hospital, Santa Monica, his sister Mary in Dallas, brother Aidan and his wife Lala in Sherman Oaks, and numerous siblings in Ireland and the UK.

As a young man he worked in the local coalmines and like so many of his contemporaries emigrated to London where he lived for over 60 years. As a youngster he played hurling and cricket which was popular in the north Kilkenny area because of the mines. Later on, he became an avid golfer and was a member of Beckenham golf club in London and over the summer played at Castlecomer and most of the courses around the southeast of Ireland. Being married to a girl from Tipperary in the 60s was difficult for a lad from Kilkenny because then, unlike now, Kilkenny could do everything but beat Tipperary. In the late 70s, he made the first of many trips to Los Angeles and made many friends here, the last time being 2010. In latter years, he was in Ireland every August to cheer on his beloved Kilkenny in the All Ireland semi final and frequently the All Ireland final the first Sunday of September.

The funeral Mass was held on Thursday, January 21st at Our Lady and St. Philip Neri Catholic Church in Sydenham, south London the main celebrant being his brother Fr. Pat Comerford.



Mark your Calendar for the 24th of April 2016
1916 – 2016: The Centenary of THE RISING

To the best of our knowledge the information provided in this newsletter is correct but please check to finalize event dates etc.

Be SAT Wise, a low-cost highly effective SAT & ACT Prep Company run by Gemma Nohilly and a group of HS Teachers offer Classes & Weekend Boot Camps in the Inland Empire and Fullerton. For information: www.beSATwise.com or call 951 781 9802..



**WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT WHOLE BLOOD DONATIONS
WHY SHOULD I DONATE BLOOD?**

- Despite the increasing blood shortage and the need for donors, only 5% of eligible donors actually donate regularly. In Southern California that number shrinks to just under 3%.
- While demand of blood components has risen %1 per year, the number of blood donations has fallen about 1% a year.
- City of Hope patients need approximately 2500 units of blood and blood components every month. City of Hope transfuses approximately 30,000 units annually. If donors DO NOT come forward, our blood supply will rapidly be exhausted.
- The demand for blood is greater today then ever as the City of Hope blood supply needs constant replenishing.
- Without blood and blood components, life saving treatments that our patients depend on would be seriously compromised.
- City of Hope does over 500 bone marrow transplants annually. Those lucky enough to have found a match and receive donated bone marrow become completely donated blood and platelet dependent until their donated marrow engrafts. Donating blood is simple, fast and safe. It is also a significant gift that will assist our patients in their fight to regain their good health and quality of life.

WHAT IS IT LIKE TO DONATE BLOOD?

The blood donation process is easy and takes less then one hour. Most donors find it a painless and heartwarming experience. Answering a health questionnaire is the first step. In a brief interview you will be asked about your medical history. Then our staff will conduct a mini physical exam to determine your current health status. The actual donation process takes about 10 minutes. You will relax in a comfortable chair while a trained nurse collects approximately one pint of your blood. After donating you will be treated to light refreshments and asked to sit and rest for a minimum of 15 minutes. After that you will be free to resume your regular routine.

HOW OFTEN CAN I DONATE BLOOD?

Generally each qualified individual may donate blood only once every 56 days. It may be possible to donate more often if your donation is directed to a patient at City of Hope but donations done less then 56 days apart must be collected at our donor center on the campus of City of Hope so that the donor may be evaluated by on Transfusion Medicine Physicians.

IS IT POSSIBLE TO GET A DISEASE WHILE DONATING BLOOD?

No it is not. Because all of our supplies used during the donation are sterile, one time only use products it is virtually impossible to transmit disease during donation.

WHAT HAPPENS TO MY BLOOD AFTER I DONATE?

The blood goes to the City of Hope Blood Bank for typing and testing. Your blood is processed, labeled and stored there until it is transfused. In fact within days your donation could go directly to a patient and depending on patients needs it could be separated in several different components for use with multiple patients.

Please mention that it's a Directed Donation for Douglas Deems.



BLOOD/PLATELET DONOR QUALIFICATIONS

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Be 16 years of age and a minimum of 120 pounds.
- Donors 17 years of age or older must weight a minimum of 110 pounds.
- Donors are required to bring a State/Government issued picture I.D.
- Donors are encouraged to have a meal (NO FATTY FOODS) before donating.
- Donors are encouraged to stay away from coffee or caffeine-containing drinks before donating.
- Directed donors must present the following information at the time of donation: the patient's name (as registered in the hospital), date of birth and/or medical record number.
- Donors' blood type will not be determined before donation. If donor's blood passes all tests, but is not of the appropriate blood type, it will automatically be released for use by other patients.
- Donors will be notified of any abnormal test results.
- Units of blood and platelets collected at City of Hope are used for City of Hope patients only. City of Hope does not transfer nor sell any blood products to other hospitals.
- There is no credit system for directed units donated at local hospitals, or any other collection agency.
- For Plateletpheresis donors only: Do not take any aspirin or aspirin-containing products 48 hours before your donation.**

DO NOT DONATE IF YOU:

- Have had cold or flu symptoms three days prior to donation or do not feel well on day of donation.
- Have taken antibiotics in the last 48 hours.
- Have had any dental work in the past 72 hours.
- Have had hepatitis after the age of 11 years.
- Have a history of cancer (except basal cell skin or in situ cancers).
- Have had an accidental needle stick or come in contact with someone else's blood in the past 12 months.
- Have received a blood transfusion in the last 12 months.
- Have spent more than 72 consecutive hours in jail or prison in the past 12 months.
- Have traveled to a malaria risk area within last 12 months.
- Have had malaria within the last three years.
- Have spent a combined total of 3 months or more in the United Kingdom from 1980 through 1996.
- Are or have been pregnant in the last 6 weeks.
- Have been treated for syphilis or gonorrhea in the past 12 months.
- Have ever used a needle to inject nonprescription drugs (including steroids).
- Are at risk for HIV exposure, the virus that causes AIDS.

For further information or to schedule an appointment, please contact our Blood Donor/Apheresis Center at (626) 218-7171. or email donateblood@coh.org



WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT PLATELET DONATIONS

What are the platelets?

Platelets are small cells that help the blood to clot. When a blood vessel or an organ is injured, platelets rush to the site of the injury and form a barrier that prevents bleeding and helps the healing process.

What is Plateletpheresis?

Plateletpheresis (Plate-let-fer-eesis) is a donation process, which involves separating the different blood cells and collecting only the platelets. The rest of the blood is returned to the donor. The entire process including paperwork and interview takes approximately two hours. All supplies used during this process are sterile and disposable. Blood never comes in contact with the machine. Blood types between donor and patient do not need to match when donating/transfusing platelets. During the process, the donor may watch TV or a video or may read.

Why not give blood the regular way? Plateletpheresis collects a 10% of the donor's platelets at one donation. To get the same amount of platelets from whole blood would take blood from at least 6 to 10 donations.

Why do patients need platelets?

Platelets are needed to treat patients who are in danger of bleeding and do not produce enough platelets themselves to protect against fatal internal bleeding. Platelets benefit patients in surgery and sustain bone marrow transplant patients before during and after the transplant. Before a patient receives a donor's marrow, his or her own marrow has been destroyed by a rigorous treatment of chemotherapy and/or radiation. Once the patient receives the donated marrow, it takes about 4 to 8 weeks for the new marrow to produce platelets. During that period of time, the patient needs transfusions of platelets to help his/her blood to clot. Transplant patients sometimes receive platelet transfusion on a daily basis.

How often can I donate platelets?

Because red cells are not removed during plateletpheresis, platelets may be donated more frequently than whole blood (as often as twice a week). The donor's bone marrow easily regenerates the amount of platelets that have been withdrawn within 72 hours.

Please mention that it's a Directed Donation for Douglas Deems.

City of Hope Blood Donor Center, 1500 E Duarte Rd, Duarte, CA 91010

Hours of Operation

Mon & Tues 9:30a.m. - 6:30p.m; Wed 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Thurs---Sat 7:00 m. - 4:00 p.m.

And also open the 2nd Sunday of each Month (January 10th) Sunday 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



WORKING TOGETHER TO ESTABLISH AN IRISH CULTURAL CENTER IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

DennisMcNeil.com

Two Thousand and Sixteen Shows

THURSDAY, February 18th

Hermosa Beach, CA

A Sinatra Valentine

IRISH HERITAGE
PARADE & FESTIVAL 2016

Join the Parade!
ALONG PINE AVENUE
In
DOWNTOWN LONG BEACH
& Bring the Whole Family...
It's
FREE

"The Long Beach Irish Heritage Parade and Festival is a local tradition featuring a continuous motion parade and festival with over 50 parade entries including Firefighter displays, marching bands, dancing groups, youth groups, local businesses, floats, and more, all ending with a free all-ages festival highlighting local music, food and drink.

For more info go to: <http://irishheritageparade.com>

The parade runs down Pine Avenue from 6th Street to Broadway in beautiful downtown Long Beach, Calif. The first entry steps off at 2pm with the final entry making their way to the post-parade festival about 3:00pm. Of course the festivities don't end there! The parade ends at Promenade Park between Broadway and 1st street on the Promenade for the Irish Heritage Festival with live Irish music, food, beer garden and vendors. Firefighters, Police, and Irish heritage groups from all over Southern California will be participating so join us for a fun filled day to celebrate Irish heritage!"

KEEP THE FUN GOING!
FOLLOW THE LAST PARADE ENTRY TO THE FREE
ALL-AGES FESTIVAL AT PROMENADE PARK

Featuring

LIVE IRISH MUSIC BY THE HUMBLE HOOLIGANS & DUBLIN PUBLIC
PIPE & DRUM BANDS | IRISH STEP DANCING | IRISH PUB BEER GARDEN
KIDS ACTIVITIES | LOCAL FOOD | VENDORS & MORE!

CELEBRATE THE IRISH HERITAGE OF OUR CITY, OUR FIREFIGHTERS, & OUR POLICE

MARCH 12TH | 2016



WORKING TOGETHER TO ESTABLISH AN IRISH CULTURAL CENTER IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



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