



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 a theater, library, social hall, meeting rooms etc.

If you have "any news" re graduations, births, weddings, deaths, relocating etc please send to: tomirishhour@msn.com. Our address is 1931 W. Glenoaks Blvd., Glendale. CA 91201.

If you know anyone who would like to receive this newsletter and doesn't have a computer we will send by post. 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) : Marc B. Flynn, La Crescent; Brendan B. McCoy, Seal Beach; Mrs Margaret E. Hayhurst, Glendale; Terry N. McConville, Mission Hills;

Thanks also to those people who donated "Irish" books including: Charles O'Riley, Banning;



Sunday. 3rd July 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.

Tuesday. 5th July 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

The Irish Social from 2 pm to 6 pm at St Cornelius Church hall, 5500 E. Wardlow, Long Beach. 90808 is closed for July and August. Will re-open in September.

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

Mailing address is 1931 W. Glenoaks Blvd., Glendale. CA 91201 Vol. 73 July 2016

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From Joan Mathews:

The library in Burbank is coordinating an effort to collect photos of events and places in Burbank history. At first, I didn't think that I had any pictures, but then realized that I had taken some photos during the last days at Desi's.

Can you ask your followers if anyone has photos from the two Irish Fairs that we had at The Equestrian Center? They were very large events and should be documented.

Of course, they would like to have any other Burbank photos as well. They can contact the Central Library at 818 238-5600 or visit it at 110 N. Glenoaks (at Olive.)

Saturday, 2nd July at 8.00 pm in Monrovia.

Original Celtic Woman star Chloë Agnew and Irish tenor Dermot Kiernan in Concert at St. Luke's Monrovia Saturday, July 2

Monrovia, CA, June 15, 2016 — "Ireland's Celtic Songbird" Chloë Agnew, a founding member of Celtic Women, and noted tenor Dermot Kiernan will perform in concert on Saturday, July 2, at 8 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Monrovia. Tickets to the event are \$15 at ticketleap.com.

The artists, friends of the St. Luke's Monrovia community and regular visiting singers with the church's choir, will perform an evening of their favorite Irish tunes, along with light classical pieces and well-loved standards.

A performer since childhood, Chloë Agnew appeared in the PBS special Celtic Woman at fourteen. The US response to the special led to a debut album that remained on the Billboard World Music Chart for 81 weeks. This and their second and third albums went on to hold the top three positions on the chart. Agnew was named 2012 Female Vocalist of the Year at the Irish Music Awards, In 2013, she moved to Los Angeles to launch a solo career. Her appearances have included touring internationally with some of America's most distinguished orchestras.

Dermot Kiernan has toured extensively with Dublin's Pro Cathedral and Christ-church Cathedral Choirs, appearing as a featured soloist for their recordings and concerts worldwide. In 2009, he joined The Celtic Woman Aontas Choir and toured with the production in the US, Australia, Japan and Europe. He was later named its choir leader/director. Kiernan holds Masters degrees from the National University of Ireland and The Sorbonne in Paris. Now based in Los Angeles, he performs, directs and teaches across the country.

About St. Luke's

Celebrating its 125th anniversary in Monrovia this year, St. Luke's Episcopal is an inclusive church that welcomes all to its community. The superb acoustics of the landmark 1924 Romanesque church make it a popular site for music performances. Eucharist services are held on Sundays at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 12:10 p.m. The Reverend Neil Tadken is Rector. The church's website is saintlukesmonrovia.org.

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This is from Kevin Drummond:

Arnold McKee, the son of James & Agnes (Arnold) McKee of Ballyhay, Co. Cork possible remains may be found at the World War II crash site of his B-17 bomber. He was a waist gunner on the "Devil's Aces" crashed on May 8th, 1944. Relatives must be found for DNA identification. Arnold's parents and two brothers, Samuel and William are dead. After immigrating from Ireland in 1922 via Liverpool the McKee family lived at 229 Golden Ave, Long Beach.

Arnold McKee's B-17 never returned from its mission to Magdeburg, Germany. The Questing Heirs Genealogical Society in Long Beach has discovered the brothers' graves; Samuel McKee's at Olive Lawn Memorial Park, La Mirada and William's at Riverside National Cemetery. Anyone with information of the whereabouts of any descendants of James' two brothers should contact chairwoman Kathy Latham at kat22lat@gmail.com

The Questing Heirs Genealogical Society website is: www.qhgs.info/index.html



From Rev T.P.Reynolds, Columban Father, St Hilary's, Pico Rivera

A godson of mine, Patrick Cassidy, who now lives and works in West Hollywood writing music for movies (he has done the soundtracks of at least 15 movies), was commissioned to compose the music for the Centenary video. He also composed the 'Mise Eire' song that was sung on that big occasion. Patrick's father—Colm Cassidy, born in Granard, Co Longford—was a pharmacist in Claremorris when I got to know the family back in the 1950s. I was then working there in the meteorological service of the Irish Civil Service. Patrick's manager is his brother Frank.

Patrick and Frank have first cousins in Ireland who also have made a name for themselves in the music world. The members of that particular Irish-speaking family are all musical and have their own performing group called Na Casaidigh. The well-known Irish violinist Geraldine O'Grady (Dublin), once the leader of the RTE National Symphony Orchestra, and her sister Eily—the concert pianist who married Irish tenor Frank Patterson—are also first cousins. Eily died last July. Geraldine is wife of Irish actor and RTV personality Des Keogh.

The whole event was amazing and very moving. It really could not have been better: the content was interesting, varied, concise and pitch-perfect; the atmosphere was terrific, and it was all choreographed beautifully. It was evident that a huge amount of work went into streamlining and orchestrating everything.”

Forced to abandon his name, his country and the woman he loves, Frank Kelleher vows to one day return. But what awaits him when he does?

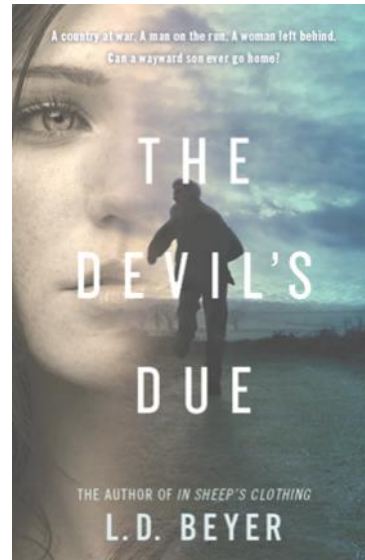
Guilty of a crime he didn't commit, IRA soldier Frank Kelleher flees through the streets of war-torn Ireland with both the British and the Irish Republican Army trying to put a bullet in his head. He makes his way to America under an assumed name and with a forged passport, as the war in Ireland rages on. Settling in a new land, he finds he can't let go of his past. Haunted by the fiancée he was forced to leave behind, by the deaths of three friends at his own hand, and by the country he was forced to abandon, Frank struggles to make his way in 1920s New York.

As much as he can't let go of Ireland, he finds that Ireland can't let go of him—and his past has a way of finding him, thousands of miles and an ocean away. He dreams of going home, but knows that it could get him killed. Then an anonymous letter brings news about his fiancée Kathleen and he realizes that he no longer has a choice. A cease-fire is declared and Frank sails home with dreams of finding Kathleen, putting his past behind him, and starting a new life.

When he arrives, he learns that the Ireland he was hoping to find—a united people finally free—was only a dream. With British soldiers withdrawing, long-standing feuds resurface, and Ireland is pushed to the brink of civil war. As tensions mount, he also learns that his sins will not be easily forgiven, and that he and Kathleen will never be safe until he clears his name.

If the looming war doesn't kill him, trying to right the wrongs of his past just might.

The Devil's Due, author L.D. Beyer says, is based loosely on family legend for his



grandfather. Intrigued by the tales he heard as a child, some thirty years later, Beyer set out for Ireland to uncover the truth. With the help of Military Archives and some researchers at University of Limerick, Beyer was able to determine that instead of being branded a traitor, his grandfather had served honorably—even joining the Free State Army after the war. “But as best as I can tell,” Beyer notes, “one day in 1930, he abruptly resigned his commission and somewhat hastily made his way to America.” That was likely how the legend started. “I am very proud that my grandfather did his part for Ireland,” Beyer adds. “But the tale I grew up with was so fantastic, I thought it would make a great story in and of itself.” With 2016 marking the centennial of the Easter Rising, Beyer decided the time was right to tell the story. “And that is,” Beyer says, “the story of one man’s fall from grace, his dreams and his quest for redemption.” *The Devil's Due* is available on Amazon. Click [here](#) for more details.

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[Press Ctrl Click to view in browser](#)

Cockpit video of all female crew - nonstop from Dublin to LAX

Cockpit video of all female crew - nonstop from Dublin to LAX

They were Captain Anne Marie Teevan

First Officers Niamh Power and Nicky Hughes

www.aerlingus.com or call **1 (800) 474-7424** to book now.



Prayers and good wishes to our friends who are "a bit under the weather"

Corkonian Donal O'Sullivan, the talented Traditional Irish Singer and Storyteller who sings at our Sunday monthly brunch, has come down with throat cancer and began treatment on June 23rd.

His treatment is planned to go until August 11th, two days after his birthday.

Wishing Donal a successful outcome in treatment and a speedy return to health.

John Gregg (Vanessa) on his recent heart surgery



Hannah O'Callaghan of O'Callaghan Travel, makes an annual visit to her native Ireland. This year, however, she is escorting a very special tour of Ireland, visiting many places of interest, not usually included in an escorted tour.

Perhaps some of you would like to join in this tour from October 4 to October 16.

For information or brochure call O'Callaghan Travel at 818-790-1111 or e mail

Hannah@montrosetravel.com.

Our condolences to the families who have lost loved ones.

Rev Father John Dominic Murray was born in Cork on 17th November, 1937 and passed away in Burbank on 15th June, 2016. The Requiem Mass took place at St Francis Xavier Church, Burbank with Archbishop Jose H. Gomez, Presiding. Cardinal Roger Mahony gave the Homily. Father John was in residence at St Francis for the past fourteen years.

Fr. John Murray, his sister Anne sent the following information.

John was born on 17 November, 1937 to John and Ellen Murray of Gardiners' Hill, Cork City. He was the youngest of the family, having two older brothers and sister. He went to the Angle Guardian School and subsequently to the North Monastery where he obtained the Leaving Certificate in 1956.

From an early age he had a keen interest in films which lasted all his life. The film Moby Dick was shot in Youghal, Co. Cork in the early/mid 1950s and John went to the Hotel in Cork City where the Stars were staying & was delighted to get the autographs of Gregory Peck and others. In a film magazine competition he won the gloves Tyrone Power in the King of the Khyber Rifles.

John started his studies for the Priesthood in 1956 and spent two years in the Apostolic School, Mungret College, Limerick. He continued his studies in St. John's Seminary Camarillo, California for a further four years and was ordained on 30 April. 1962 in St. Viviana's Cathedral, Los Angeles. He worked in different parishes, was Director of Parish Councils at one time and also worked as a prison Chaplain.

John was a much loved member of the Murry family. He was a warm-hearted and generous person who also had a ready wit and keen sense of humour. His interest other than films were in reading, listening to music, history, poetry (he wrote an number of poems himself many years ago), and travel. Though he lived in California he never forgot his Irish roots, always kept in touch, and loved to make the trip to Cork every year while able to do so. From Cork he made many trips to other European Countries.

We are very sad at John's passing and will miss him a lot, but we celebrate his life and we thank the Good Lord for giving him to us for so long.

"Rest in peace John"

Nora "Murphy" Drohan

It is with great sorrow that I am letting you know that my Mom, Nora "Murphy" Drohan has died. She passed away at Huntington Hospital in Pasadena after fighting pneumonia for 10 days in the hospital. It was January 28th, 2016. It was a very small service by Father Cassidy at Immaculate Conception in Monrovia. Mom was a parishioner there since she first came here from Ireland, via Canada, in the early 50's. Mom

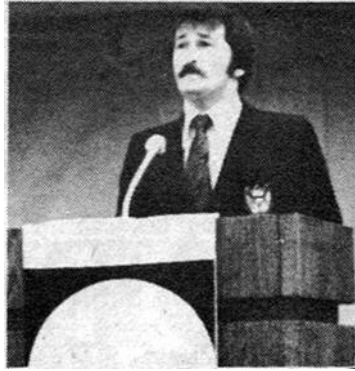


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met my Dad through her brother Richie in Toronto. My Uncle Richie met my Dad at his boarding house in Toronto and realized they had even been on the same boat over from Ireland. Later, when my Uncle Richie sent for Mom, and she got a place in a Boarding house on the same street, Dad fell head over heels for her beautiful Irish Eyes. After a very serious lung surgery, Mom was told to move somewhere like Southern California for the clean air quality. At that time a lot of people came here for the clean air! Mom and Dad lived in Toronto but married in Montreal at St. Patrick's Cathedral. They came to California by Train and made stops in Boston & New York to visit with Mom's relatives, possibly the Curtins and the Kellehers. Dad wanted 12 kids and Mom's lung Doctor said no kids, so they compromised with five. Mom came from a lively family of music and dance. Her parents & brothers played the fiddle, accordion, concertina, and sang. People would come to their house for music and dance on Saturday nights. Mom also loved to go with the local church youth to do drama skits for the local towns to earn money for the church. So, when Mom and Dad settled in Monrovia she didn't waste any time finding Immaculate Conception Church and becoming a Parishioner. The pastor at the time was Msgr. Dee. Irish, of course! Followed by Fr. Jack Foley, another great Irish Priest, not quite as strict as the Msgr! Then came our lovely Father Cassidy. Mom always helped out with the hall dances, especially the St Patrick's Day Dances. She also became a CCD Teacher and made many friends. Her friends at the Church, her Hill Street Neighbors, and the Irish Community were her life! Mom has 8 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren with one more great-grandchild on the way. I had moved up to Oregon for many years but on a visit to see Mom in 2009, she asked me to go with her to Ireland to see her brother Richie who was sick and possibly dying. It was during that trip that I realized Mom needed to have someone actually taking care of her, not just stopping by the door once in a while. That's when I moved back to California and by 2011 was taking care of Mom full time. She was diagnosed with moderate dementia but she still really enjoyed her life the last few years. We went swimming at the local YMCA, we played cards, we did jigsaw puzzles, and she loved going out to eat. We even got the words to The Celtic Thunders Heritage DVD and we would sing along while watching the DVD. We would go to the Movies on Myrtle, and the Friday Night Street Fair. She loved the movies with strong women in them. Mom was a 27 year Breast Cancer Survivor and the Strongest Woman I know! We would visit with the neighbors often and walk the neighborhood. She never lost her sense of humor or her ability to smile. Some people with Dementia do forget how to smile but not my mom, NORA! My husband, Dennis, retired over a year ago and spent every day of his retirement helping me help SPOIL my Mom. My dad was a good dad but he was a 50's husband. Mom was not used to being spoiled by a Man and she had a lot of fun being waited on by one! She also loved her gardens out front and back. Sean kept them up for Mom when she could not do it anymore. She still thought she did it all herself, but that was okay. She really loved all the sunflowers he planted in every color, yellow, red, brown, and orange. We took her to The 2015 St Patrick's Day Gala. It was especially sweet because seeing Tom McConville himself reminded Mom of all the lovely Sunday afternoons she and

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my Dad had listening to the Irish Hour. My brother Sean even called us on the way home, after midnight, to see if we were okay! It was the highlight of her last year on this earth! I was so glad I put her in her tennis shoes that night. She danced until we left. She never stopped talking about that dance! Now she's dancing and singing with her family again. There are NO family members left at Hill Street. You can contact Mairead (Drohan) Greenwell at P.O. Box 1162, Monrovia, CA 91017



Michael Brennan at A O H Mass 1978



Brothers,

The AOH of Orange County and Long Beach held their annual Easter Commemoration at the VFW of Anaheim. We had a wonderful turnout of Brothers and Sisters to celebrate and honor the men of the Irish Rebellion of 1916. David McKenna did a masterful job as Chairman and Daniel Murphy kept the program rolling and was honored with a plaque for his decades of service. Sister Eymard Flood gave an inspirational spiritual message, Eamonn Knuff provided the musical entertainment and Terry McCarthy piped in the processional. Many thanks to the Tristen Wolffe and the 3rd Cork Brigade for their reenactment participation and all of you who made this a proper tribute as well as a success. We appreciate your continued support of the Order!

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Congratulations to:

The Wild Geese Gaelic Football Club on their May Newsletter.—wildgeesegfc.org —and their dedication to and for Gaelic Games. Chairman is Tom Nolan

Rev Fr Richard Albarano on his retirement after sixteen years as Pastor of St Francis Xavier Church, Burbank. He will be missed.

Rev Fr Benny George, present Associate Pastor who takes over for Fr Albarano.

A little more information re St Francis Xavier:

The Principal of the school is Dr Paul Sullivan who is the son of Bridget & Neil Sullivan—both born in Ireland—and living in Burbank where their son was born.

Supporters of the Irish Radio Hour had some fundraisers in the parish hall in the 1990's

Many years ago when I broadcast the Irish Radio Hour on KIEV the one engineer that I well remember was a man named Jim Roope. Later, Jim was a reporter for CNN radio. Now he is known as Deacon Jim Roope at St Francis Xavier Church.

Sister Vicky Haran of Holy Faith Sisters is a Consultant at St Francis Church. I've known her for years while involved with the Irish Community.

Dan McConville was president of the Saint Francis Xavier parish council —more than twenty years ago.

Marissa Abrajano and Dan McConville were leaders of the Confirmation class of 1994 at St Francis Xavier. Marissa is now a Professor at U C S D. She is the daughter of Jess and Mary Abrajano who are "active" at St Francis. They are also "active" with the Columban Fathers.



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Two of my abstract paintings (one of which is pictured below) were selected to be in a group exhibit in the beautiful Lobby Gallery at the Encino Terrace Center in Encino, California. The exhibit, sponsored by Women Painters West, includes the work of 28 artists. The exhibit opened on April 23 and runs through July 22, 2016.

A Reception for the Artists will be held this Saturday, June 25, from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm. Information about gallery hours, location and other important details are included in the announcement below. There is underground parking and metered street parking on Ventura Boulevard.

If you happen to be in the area, I hope you can join me at the reception or that you will otherwise have an opportunity to see the exhibit.

Brenda Welsh



**GROUP EXHIBIT
AT
ENCINO TERRACE CENTER
LOBBY GALLERY**



Escalation

30" X 40"

acrylic on canvas

**15821 VENTURA BOULEVARD
ENCINO, CA 91436**

Artists Reception: Saturday, June 25, 2016 - 11am - 1:30pm
Exhibit runs through July 23, 2016

Gallery Hours:
Monday - Friday 8am - 7pm
Saturday 9am - 1pm
Sundays & Holidays closed