



WORKING TOGETHER TO ESTABLISH AN IRISH CULTURAL CENTER IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

The Irish Center of Southern California Inc., is a 501 c (3) Not for Profit Corporation Tax ID No. 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. Please send news re graduations, births, weddings, deaths, relocating, etc., to eirebt@yahoo.com **Our new mailing address is Post Office Box 901, La Canada, CA 91011.**

You will find the newsletter and updated information on our website at www.irishcenter.org It is not always possible to distribute information regarding death notices and events timely. However, if you have access to a computer chances are you can find the website. Check it a few times a week for updates and for the newsletter.

If you know someone who would like to receive this newsletter and who does not have a computer we will send a copy by U.S. mail. Let us know. This distribution is over 2800 e-mail addresses. We would like to thank those people who donated to the Irish Center to help us with expenses (including ink and postage for this newsletter)

MONTHLY EVENTS

IRISH CENTER OF SO. CALIFORNIA “get-together” (first Sunday of the month) at 1 p.m. lunch at Hill Street Café, 3301 N. Glenoaks Blvd., Burbank. Easy to find, between Hollywood Way and Buena

Vista on Glenoaks (right next to St. Leon’s Cathedral). Hill Street Café telephone number is 818-845-0046. Order what you want – a cup of coffee to full breakfast or lunch – and pay separately. **MAY MEETING CANCELED**

FRIENDS OF IRELAND Breakfast meeting (1st Tuesday of the month) Tuesday, at 9:00 a.m. at Katella Restaurant, 4470 Katella Avenue, Los Alamitos, CA 90720. RSVP (Pete Walsh, 714-200-7365) pbeireanua@att.net CA. **MAY MEETING CANCELED**

ST. CORNELIUS CHURCH HALL, IRISH SOCIAL, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at 5500 E. Wardlow, Long Beach, CA 90808. Good food, good music, good conversation, singing and dancing. Music by Dennis Murray. Thanks to the organizer, Sister Alicia from Castleblaney, who says “Please come and bring a friend and a dish.” **CHECK W/ SR ALICIA**

THANK YOU DONORS!

The Irish Center appreciates the generosity of our recent donors:

Rev. John T. Collins (Burbank)

Cathleen Cremins (Glendora)

Brenda Welsh Feeney (Los Angeles)

Clacy & Carol Kiernan Griswold (Carlsbad)

Lt. Col. Roger & Susan McGrath (Thousand Oaks)

Eileen McGurrell (Santa Ana)

Brick & Laura Price (Calabasas)

Mailing address is Post Office Box 901, La Canada, CA 91012 --Vol.118, MAY 2020

THANK YOU HILTON HOTEL!

The Irish Center is grateful to the Glendale Hilton Hotel for their gracious response to the COVID-19 crisis. The Hilton Hotel staff worked closely with us on the cancellation of our St. Patrick's Day Dance, and then generously returned our deposit!

We look forward to having more events at this fine Hilton Hotel.

DRAWING FOR TRIP TO IRELAND FOR TWO OR \$2,000

The Drawing for the Trip to Ireland for two, or \$2,000, will be held at a public event later in the year.

An announcement will be distributed regarding the event.



BINGO every
Tuesday at 6.30
p.m. in St. Robert
Bellarmine Church,

143 N. 5th Street, Burbank. CA 91501.
Info: 818 846 3443. Check the schedule.

CELTIC ARTS CENTER, Mondays Celtic Irish
Dance and workshop at the Mayflower Club,
11110 Victory Boulevard, North Hollywood, CA
91606. **CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER
NOTICE**

ENJOY

**FACEBOOK CONCERTS BY YOUR
FAVORITE IRISH ARTISTS**
On their facebook page

Andy Cooney Live Concert Monday night
from 7-8PM New York time! It will happen on
Andy Cooney and his Band FB page.:

<http://Facebook.com/Andy.cooney.band/>

Patrick D'Arcy

John Whelan, Irish Button Accordion
(facebook Mondays)

Ken O'Malley, facebook Sundays at 2 p.m. .

<http://kenomalley.com>

John McKenna, Accordion

Terry Casey (The Fenians)

Dennis McNeil, facebook and others

You can support your favorite
musicians/artists' online facebook
concerts. Remember that they lost their
March and April income due to the
Coronavirus.

KEN O'MALLEY



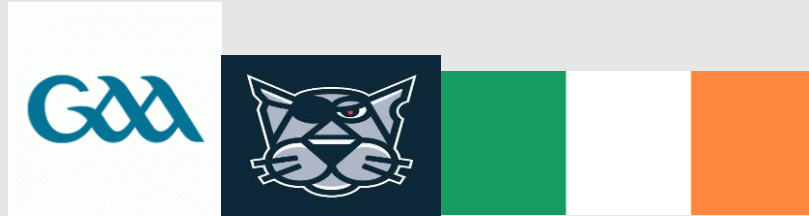
calendar:<https://kenomalley.com/shows>

WEBSITE:

The home page <http://kenomalley.com> shows all
performances in a convenient monthly calendar
format. information. For last minute schedule
updates, "Like" Ken O'Malley's Artist Page
<https://www.facebook.com/kenomalleyirishmusic>

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LA Cougars GAA Irish Community COVID-19 Support



With a relatively young, fit and healthy community, the Cougars are in a privileged position of being at low risk to COVID-19. In line with the GAA's and our own club's culture, we are committed to being a force for good during this extraordinary (and stressful) time!

If you are a vulnerable member of the Irish in LA community, Cougars GAA is here for you! With members spread out all over Los Angeles, we will work to match anyone who needs help with one of our volunteer members who can support you.

We can:

- Do grocery runs for you helping you stay safely isolated at home
- Pick up any prescriptions and run other essential errands
- Make a socially distant visit to your home just to give you some company
- Help you connect with family back in Ireland via video technology
- Connect you with other Irish community members for more social support

And we'll consider helping in other ways just let us know!

How to Contact Us:

(Make sure to tell us your name, contact info, what you need and whereabouts in LA you're located!)

 : Call or Text Eoghan on +14243547967  : Call or Text Eoghan on +1424354 
 : hello@cougars.la  : www.facebook.com/CougarsGFC 7967

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Thanks to: [Christy Caldwell \(from Co. Donegal\) & The Ordinarie in Long Beach](#)

2:59



World Central Kitchen@WCKitchen

In Long Beach, California, WCK partner restaurant [@theordinarie](#) is preparing hundreds of meals a day for The Little Sisters of the Poor and two local senior facilities. The Ordinarie has been able to hire back their entire kitchen staff to serve the community!

[#ChefsForAmerica](#)

The Ordinarie is located at 210 The Promenade downtown. The phone number is (562) 676-4261 and the website is www.theordinarie.com. Plenty of parking is nearby in the city lot at Third and the Promenade

In between coordinating the program, [Tank Gonzales](#) put together a great day one video for [The Ordinarie](#) 's work with [World Central Kitchen](#) . Together with [Luis Navarro](#) at [Lola's Mexican Cuisine](#) we have fed over 10,000 meals to seniors. If you can Please donate at WCK . If you put "Long Beach" in the comments, all funds will stay in LBC. (Taken from facebook and the internet).



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The Celtic Arts Center / An Claidheamh Soluis of Southern California

We're still here and waiting for you.....

Even though we may be indoors and socially distanced, the Celtic Arts Center is waiting for the all-clear to bring you exciting classes and events for our 35th anniversary year. Among other things, we plan to bring you a rising young singer from Scotland, a class on Irish revolutionary literature, our annual September members' meeting/ice cream social, the most unique Samhain/Halloween celebration *anywhere* in SoCal, and of course our language classes, dancing lessons, the longest-running session in Southern California, more Céilís and more fun!

2020 is going to be a great year yet!

Do you have any ideas for us? What would you like to see us offer, both now and after the emergency is over? For example, do you think we should re-do some "missed" holidays? Do write to us, keep in touch, because that's what's keeping us all going right now!

We're still teaching Irish!!

Our brilliant and dedicated teacher, Mícheál, is still remotely teaching the Irish language to a booming and growing class of *daltaí gaeilgeoirí*, same day and time! For instructions on how to make contact and participate, please go to

http://www.celticartscenter.com/COVID-19_Gaeilge.html

Please keep checking in with us, in case we are able to offer more remote classes and activities.

Fanacht sábháilte.....Stay safe.

CONTACT US

celt@celticartscenter.com

(747) 444-0876

MAILING ADDRESS

5062 Lankershim Blvd. #3003

North Hollywood, CA 91601

WEBSITE: <http://www.celticartscenter.com/Main.htm>



TO ALL CREATIVE WRITERS AND TEACHERS

To Whom It May Concern

I am a journalist, author and founder of <https://www.irelandwritingretreat.com/>

I thought your members may be interested in this new Irish-based writing award competition launched in the last few days which is open to everyone worldwide.

3,000 euro worth of prizes for 500 words of prose, including the chance to spend a week on the Wild Atlantic Way in Donegal.

Both flash fiction and nonfiction

If you think it would be of interest to your members, please feel free to pass the information on to them.

Sincerely Yours,

Sean Hillen

<https://www.irelandwritingretreat.com/post/we-re-launching-our-own-writing-competition-with-generous-prizes>

New Irish writing awards offers 3,000 worth of prizes

An international writing retreat based in Ireland this week launched a special awards competition to create enjoyment for the many people forced to stay at home due to the coronavirus outbreak - with almost 3,000 euro worth of prizes for just 500 words of prose.

'Ireland Writing Retreat,' listed among the Top Ten artistic retreats of any kind in Europe by The Guardian newspaper in London, hosts week-long retreats several times every year in Donegal, Paris and along the Black Sea in Romania. It has named its inaugural competition the '[Wild Atlantic Writing Awards](#)' (WAWA).

"We thought such an awards competition would provide an interesting challenge for people who like reading and writing and have no choice but to stay at home for the next few weeks," said Columbia Hillen, who co-founded 'Ireland Writing Retreat' which began five years ago and has attracted participants, tutors and authors from countries as diverse as New Zealand, Sweden, Canada, France, Iceland, the US, Australia and the UK.

"Our competition has two categories: flash fiction - open to all genres from sci-fi, crime, romance, horror, humor, thriller, mystery to whatever tickles you – and creative nonfiction."

Adding spice to the idea, the 'Flash Fiction Award' competition has a single central theme.

"After many hours of debate, we realised the perfect one was staring us right in the face -writing itself," said Columbia. "For example, one of the characters, human or non-human, could be a writer. Or a piece of writing could play a key role in the story. Participants should let their imaginations guide them how best to integrate writing into their stories."

She added, “The winning entry will receive 500 euro in cash, plus 990 euro in the form of free participation to one of our retreats, including all daily excursions, by land and sea, food and drinks tastings, concerts and dance performances, and all writing workshops and author talks.”

To qualify for the ‘Creative Nonfiction Award,’ participants must write a story of not more than 500 words on any subject – whether in the form of memoir, profile, literary journalism, personal essay, travel food, or any other creative nonfiction category.”

“With the writer’s permission, the winning entries will be published on the ‘Ireland Writing Retreat’ website, with a short bio and photograph,” Columbia said. “Writers retain all copyright to their work.” For further information, see <https://www.irelandwritingretreat.com/writing-competition>

Sean Hillen

It’s easy to contact me:

My Email Address is seanhillenwriter@gmail.com

My Travel Blog is worlditineraries.co

My Twitter Address is [@worlditinerary](https://twitter.com/worlditinerary) and [@HillenSean](https://twitter.com/HillenSean)

My LinkedIn Profile is <http://www.linkedin.com/pub/sean-hillen/42/847/37b>

My Facebook Account is <https://www.facebook.com/worlditinerariespage>

and <https://www.facebook.com/prettyuglyanovel/>

My Instagram is [@worlditineraries](https://www.instagram.com/worlditineraries)

And you can check out my new novel: <http://www.seanhillenaauthor.com/>

“Cosmetics create beauty, but when that turns ugly, it’s lethal.”

Pretty Ugly, a high-end contemporary fiction book that combines philosophical insight and humor linking the complex worlds of medicine, media and modeling. A novel about corporate and political corruption, individual redemption, about the sacrifices demanded to unveil truth, and a search for self meaning amidst the ghosts of unforgiving conscience.

Jackie, Michael, Maggie, Mary and Mark
Put their heads together and kept me in the dark.
They plotted with secrets well-kept from me,
And gave up their plans for the Rose of Tralee.

December the Fifth was the day of the siege,
The Moose Lodge was readied by these busy bees.
I was fooled by the charm of Mark Hennessey,
And so unprepared for the “set-up” for me!

I was planning to doll-up for dinner that night
Mark said, “A stop at the Moose” and I said “alright.”
We entered the hall and he opened the door,
I heard “Surprise, Happy Birthday,” it’s a secret no more!

All eyes were upon me, I heard Des Regan sing
I spied balloons green and purple among other things.
“Oh my God,” I gasped as my blood pressure rose,
I was stunned and amazed and it wasn’t a pose.

The first dance Des played was “Nora” of course,
When Mark asked me to dance, the tears came full force.
I felt like my life was all playing back,
That my dreams and my hope no reality lacked.

Irish friends, Irish dancing, Irish songs short and long,
Were the gifts for my birthday and nothing went wrong.
The sisters named Snee were right on the ball
With their video camera, they recorded us all.

Kim brought the cake, Dick & Maura –balloons,
There was food and champagne, it all made me swoon.
Patricia, her dancers, Katie Dean and dear Shay,
Martin O’Sullivan, the Cox’s, Eric O’Connor and Kay.

Michael Breen, the Mayo dancer, in his spare time,
Designed and wrote programs nothing short of sublime.
Jackie, Mary and Maggie all played a huge part,
As did a fellow from Tipp who is close to my heart.

Now before this “brief thank you” comes to a close
I want all to know that I’ll stay on my toes.
I’ll try not to “mellow,” Maggie, don’t fear,
I’ll look forward to fifty, with all of you near!

---Nora Masterson, Burbank

Reader Rhymes ‘Thanks’

Editor:

I want to personally thank each and every person who attended “Take Forty” at the Moose Lodge on Dec. 5 to help celebrate my new role. I am still overwhelmed by the scores of people who attended, not to mention all of you who entertained, brought food and so much more.

There was core group from my circle of friends in the St. Ambrose Ceili Dancers who hosted this surprise event, and I would like to dedicate the following poem to them

This information was taken from Tom Kelly’s [The Irish Tribune](#) of January 1994.

FINANCIAL FOCUS

What Can Investors Learn from Cyclists?

Article 6 – May 11, 2020

May is National Bike Month. Of course, millions of Americans enjoy biking, so there's reason to celebrate. But even if you're not much of a rider, you can apply some of the guidelines and lessons of bicycling to other areas of your life – such as investing.

Consider taking some of these ideas for a spin:

- *Tune up your portfolio.* When bicyclists tune up their bikes, they adjust their brakes, clean and lubricate the chain, tighten nuts and bolts, and check the tire pressure, among other tasks. Such a tune-up keeps their bikes running smoothly and reduces the chances for breakdowns. And by “tuning up” your investment portfolio, you can help it stay in line with your goals and risk tolerance, while also preparing it for a “breakdown” in the financial markets, in the form of sharp downturns. To tune up your portfolio, look for ways to increase diversification, which can help reduce the effects of volatility, and watch for investments that may have chronically under-performed or are no longer suitable for your risk tolerance. You might be better off selling these and using the proceeds to invest in new opportunities.

- *Know when to shift gears.* Bicyclists move into higher or lower gears in response to changing road conditions and elevations. As an investor, you, too, may need to “shift gears” or adjust your investment strategy when your personal financial environment changes. So, for example, in the years immediately preceding your retirement, you may want to move some – but certainly not all – of your investment dollars from growth-oriented vehicles to income-producing ones. That way, you can lock in some of the gains you may have achieved while lowering your portfolio's overall risk level. This is important, because once you reach retirement and you need to start withdrawing from your retirement accounts – which essentially means liquidating some of your investments – you don't want to worry too much about having to sell when prices are down. However, keep in mind that, even during retirement, you'll need some growth potential in your holdings to help yourself stay ahead of inflation.

- *Protect yourself.* Smart bicyclists always wear their helmets – they know that an unexpected bump in the road could cause a dangerous spill. And on the journey toward financial security for yourself and your family, you can also expect that some hard knocks could come your way – which is why you need the proper protection. To safeguard your family in case anything should happen to you, you must have the appropriate amount of life insurance. And to help ensure your financial independence – and avoid becoming a potential burden to your grown children – you may want to consider some type of long-term care coverage, which can help cover many of the costs of a lengthy nursing home stay. You could choose a long-term care insurance policy or a “hybrid” policy, which combines long-term care protection with the death benefit of traditional life insurance. A financial advisor can recommend the option that's most suitable for your needs.

You may want to observe National Bike Month by taking a few rides yourself. But in any case, making these cycling-inspired moves can help you keep rolling along toward your financial goals.



Neal Eckerlin
Financial Advisor
Edward Jones
1112 W Burbank Blvd Suite 202
Burbank, CA 91506-1414
(818) 840-2704

www.edwardjones.com

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

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When an old man died in the geriatric ward of a nursing home in an Australian country town, it was believed that he had nothing left of any value.

Later, when the nurses were going through his meagre possessions, they found this poem. Its quality and content so impressed the staff that copies were made and distributed to every nurse in the hospital.

One nurse took her copy to Melbourne . The old man's sole bequest to posterity has since appeared in the Christmas editions of magazines around the country and appearing in mags for Mental Health. A slide presentation has also been made based on his simple, but eloquent, poem. And this old man, with nothing left to give to the world, is now the author of this 'anonymous' poem winging across the Internet.

A CRANKY OLD MAN

**What do you see nurses? .What do you see?
What are you thinking when you're looking at
me?**

**A cranky old man, not very wise,
Uncertain of habit with faraway eyes?**

**Who dribbles his food and makes no reply.
When you say in a loud voice 'I do wish you'd
try!'**

**Who seems not to notice the things that you do.
And forever is losing A sock or shoe?**

**Who, resisting or not lets you do as you will,
With bathing and feeding The long day to fill?
Is that what you're thinking? Is that what you
see?**

**Then open your eyes, nurse .you're not looking
at me.**

**I'll tell you who I am as I sit here so still,
As I do at your bidding, as I eat at your will.**

**I'm a small child of Ten with a father and
mother,**

**Brothers and sisters who love one another
A young boy of Sixteen with wings on his feet
Dreaming that soon now a lover he'll meet.**

**A groom soon at Twenty my heart gives a leap.
Remembering, the vows that I promised to keep.**

**At Twenty-Five, now I have young of my own.
Who need me to guide And a secure happy
home.**

A man of Thirty My young now grown fast,

**Bound to each other With ties that should last.
At Forty, my young sons have grown and are
gone,**

**But my woman is beside me to see I don't
mourn.**

**At Fifty, once more, Babies play 'round my knee,
Again, we know children My loved one and me.**

**Dark days are upon me My wife is now dead.
I look at the future I shudder with dread.**

**For my young are all rearing young of their own.
And I think of the years And the love that I've
known.**

I'm now an old man and nature is cruel.

**It's jest to make old age look like a fool.
The body, it crumbles grace and vigour, depart.
There is now a stone where I once had a heart.**

**But inside this old carcass . A young man still dwells,
And now and again my battered heart swells**

**I remember the joys I remember the pain.
And I'm loving and living life over again.**

**I think of the years, all too few gone too fast.
And accept the stark fact that nothing can last.**

**So open your eyes, people open and see.
Not a cranky old man .**

Look closer see ME!!

**Remember this poem when you next meet an
older person who you might brush aside without
looking at the young soul within
we will all, one day, be there, too!**

REMINDER

If you have an article of interest, a story, a poem, an event of interest to the Irish community please forward it to me for inclusion in the newsletter.
(eirebt@yahoo.com)



MAUREEN O'CONNOR

For weeks now, due to the Coronavirus, Maureen cannot have visitors and is confined to her room for most of the day. She asked me (Bridget Hana) to extend her appreciation to all of you who sent cards and called her on the phone.

When you call, ask for Mary O'Connor, Room 105.

Avant Garde
5645 Lindley Avenue (Room 105)
Tarzana, CA 91356
818-881-0055

For updated news from Ireland
via e-mail:

IrishCentral
newsletter@enl.irishcentral.com

**If you need to contact the Irish
Consulate in Los Angeles
please:**

Phone: 310-424-5538 or e-mail
losangelescg@dfa.ie (preferred)

IRISH OUTREACH – SAN DIEGO

2725 Congress Street, Suite 2G
San Diego, CA 92110
Cathy Ward - 619-291-1630
e-mail: help@irishoutreachcenter.org
Hours: M –F 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

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e-mail, please visit the website at:**
www.irishcenter.org

**STAY HOME UNTIL THE
NEXT GET-TOGETHER**