



## THE SHAMROCK LEAF

NEWSLETTER OF THE IRISH CANADIAN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW BRUNSWICK  
109 ROY AVE.,  
NEWCASTLE, N.B. E1V 3N8

Farrell McCarthy - President & Editor

June, 1987

#11

As I prepare this Newsletter some eight weeks before Irish Fest '87, I am becoming overwhelmed how this festival has grown in four years. While some other festivals are struggling, and lack volunteers, we continue to grow in all areas.

The Miramichi Area will be completely booked out for the "Irish Weekend". Hotels, Campgrounds and especially family homes will be filled. It will be a happy weekend in a world in which we need one.

We are discovering that family members who have not been home in years are returning to their roots, not only in this area, but other places in New Brunswick and beyond. Together, they come to be entertained by the atmosphere and events of the festival.

We are getting request for information about the festival from all parts of Canada, United States and Ireland. The area can only benefit from the many people who will attend. Many of them have never been to New Brunswick before. There is no better way to advertise an area than by bringing people to a "people event". They go back to their home areas, and the next year each person influences other people to attend.

Our pubs are such in the evening that people attend from 19 years of age to 80 plus. Someone mentioned last year that the festival brought their family together for the first time in many years. It was a place where family members, including uncles, aunts, cousins, and other relatives, go to communicate in a very positive way with one another.

We are working extremely hard to get a list of Bread and Breakfast Places. It is difficult because many homes are overbooked with relatives and friends coming to stay with them. However, we expect to have quite a number.

We intend to use the local radio station, newspapers, and other types of media to help us to find places. During the three days of The Irish Festival we will make use of the radio station to book Accommodations for last minute arrivals.

We have lots of Campgrounds in the area. I have listed some of them, along with some of the Hotels in another section of the Newsletter. Our festival number, and address, along with the toll free number for the Department of Tourism in Fredericton is listed on back of the festival brochure that is enclosed.

This festival is good for New Brunswick. However, we hope that it will convince all levels of government to do something positive to build upon, that is worth millions of dollars to the economy of the Miramichi Area, in particular, and New Brunswick, in general. We believe that 1987 and 1988 is the year that this may happen.

In closing I would urge visitors to take advantage of the Sunday events. There is an Irish Historical service planned for Howards. The pubs on Sunday night have proven to be good fun and farewell events. The Frank Patterson Concert will also be held three evenings during the festival with the final show scheduled for Sunday evening. For those who are staying in Hotels you will find that they are booked on Friday and Saturday, but space is available on Sunday night.

can-irish  
harmony  
Canada's Irish Festival on the Miramichi



## CANADA'S IRISH FESTIVAL ON THE MIRAMICHI

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY - JULY 17 - 1987

TIME	EVENT	PLACE
8:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.	Irish Breakfast	St. Michael's Church
10:00 A.M.	Doors Open	L.B. Arena
11:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.	Grand Opening	L.B. Arena
12:00 P.M.	Booths Open	L.B. Arena
1:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.	Irish Games	James M. Hill Field
1:00 P.M. - 1:50 P.M.	Silver Spears	L.B. Arena
2:00 P.M. - 2:50 P.M.	Irish Express	L.B. Arena
2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.	Irish Films	Dr. Losier Jr. High
2:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.	Irish Restaurant & Art Gallery	Dr. Losier Jr. High
2:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.	"History and Fine Arts of Ireland"	Dr. Losier Jr. High
2:00 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.	Slide Presentation - Dr. Stewart Donovan	Dr. Losier Jr. High
3:00 P.M. - 3:50 P.M.	Children's Programs - Evans & Doherty	L.B. Arena
3:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.	Irish Mist	Dr. Losier Jr. High
4:00 P.M. - 4:45 P.M.	Genealogy - "19th Century Irish Immigration to New Brunswick" - Dr. Peter Toner	Dr. Losier Jr. High
4:00 P.M. - 4:50 P.M.	The Irish Language - Tom Coughlan	L.B. Arena
5:00 P.M. - 5:50 P.M.	Dermit O'Brien	L.B. Arena
6:00 P.M. - 6:50 P.M.	Pat Roper	L.B. Arena
7:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.	Jimmy Carton	L.B. Arena
8:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.	TIP Splinter & Friends	L.B. Arena
8:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.	Arena Closed	
	Frank Patterson in Concert	James M. Hill Theatre Auditorium

## IRISH PUBS

9:00 P.M. - 10:55 P.M.	Silver Spears	L.B. Arena
11:05 P.M. - 1:00 A.M.	Irish Mist	L.B. Arena
9:00 P.M. - 10:55 P.M.	Irish Express	Curling Club
11:05 P.M. - 1:00 A.M.	Pat Roper	Curling Club
9:00 P.M. - 10:55 P.M.	Jimmy Carton	M.A.E.A.
11:05 P.M. - 1:00 A.M.	Dermit O'Brien	M.A.E.A.

## SATURDAY - JULY 18

8:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.	Irish Breakfast	St. Michael's Church
	Irish Breakfast	K. of C. Hall - Newcastle
9:00 A.M. - 9:00 P.M.	Irish Games	James M. Hill Field
10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.	Irish Parade	Chatham
10:30 A.M.	Doors Open	L.B. Arena
11:00 A.M. - 11:45 A.M.	Miramichi Celtic Pipes & Drums - Irish Dancers	L.B. Arena
12:00 P.M.	Official Opening - Irish Games - County Tyrone Pipe Band	James M. Hill Field
12:00 P.M. - 12:50 P.M.	Irish Mist	L.B. Arena
1:00 P.M. - 1:50 P.M.	Dermit O'Brien	L.B. Arena
1:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.	"19th Century Irish Immigration to New Brunswick" - Dr. Peter Toner	Dr. Losier Jr. High
1:30 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.	TIP Splinter & Friends	James M. Hill
2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.	Music & Dance Workshop	Dr. Losier Jr. High
2:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.	Irish Films	Dr. Losier Jr. High
2:00 P.M. - 2:50 P.M.	Irish Restaurant & Art Gallery	L.B. Arena
2:00 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.	Silver Spears	Dr. Losier Jr. High
2:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.	Children's Program - Evans & Doherty	Dr. Losier Jr. High
3:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.	"The Parish and the City; Writing's of Patrick Kavanaugh and Flann O'Brien" - Dr. Stewart Donovan	Dr. Losier Jr. High
4:00 P.M. - 4:45 P.M.	"Gaelic and Celtic Mythology" - Dr. Allan Bentley	Dr. Losier Jr. High
	The Irish Language - Tom Coughlan	Dr. Losier Jr. High



TIME	EVENT	PLACE
3:00 P.M. - 3:50 P.M.	Jimmy Carton	L.B. Arena
4:00 P.M. - 4:50 P.M.	Miramichi Talent	L.B. Arena
5:00 P.M. - 5:50 P.M.	TIP Splinter & Friends	L.B. Arena
6:00 P.M. - 6:50 P.M.	Pat Roper	L.B. Arena
7:00 P.M. - 8:50 P.M.	Irish Express	L.B. Arena
8:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.	Arena Closed	
8:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.	Frank Patterson in Concert	James M. Hill - Theatre Auditorium

#### IRISH PUBS

9:00 P.M. - 10:55 P.M.	Jimmy Carton	L.B. Arena
11:05 P.M. - 1:00 A.M.	Irish Express	L.B. Arena
9:00 P.M. - 10:25 P.M.	Evans & Doherty	Curling Club
10:35 P.M. - 1:00 A.M.	Dermit O'Brien	Curling Club
9:00 P.M. - 10:25 P.M.	TIP Splinter & Friends	M.A.E.A.
10:35 P.M. - 1:00 A.M.	Silver Spears	M.A.E.A.
9:00 P.M. - 10:55 P.M.	Irish Mist	Miramichi Civic Center
11:05 P.M. - 1:00 A.M.	Pat Roper	Miramichi Civic Center

#### SUNDAY - JULY 19

8:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.	Irish Breakfast	K. of C. Hall Newcastle
9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.	Irish Games	James M. Hill Field
1:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.	Eucharistic Celebrations	St. Michael's Church
2:00 P.M.	Doors Open	L.B. Arena
2:00 P.M. - 2:50 P.M.	Silver Spears	L.B. Arena
3:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.	St. Peter's & Paul's Parish Picnic - County Tyrone Pipe Band & Irish Dancers	Bartibogue Bridge
3:00 P.M. - 3:50 P.M.	Dermit O'Brien	L.B. Arena
4:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.	150th Anniversary Service & Picnic - Miramichi Celtic Pipes & Drums Irish Dancers	Howards & Blackville
4:00 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.	Tom O'Donoghue	L.B. Arena
4:30 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.	Silliker & Dickson	L.B. Arena
5:10 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.	Jimmy Carton	L.B. Arena
6:10 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.	Pat Roper	L.B. Arena
7:15 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.	County Tyrone Pipe Band Farewell Concert - Irish Dancers	L.B. Arena
8:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.	Arena Closed	
8:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.	Frank Patterson in Concert	James M. Hill - Theatre Auditorium

#### IRISH PUBS

9:00 P.M. - 10:55 P.M.	Dermit O'Brien	L.B. Arena
11:05 P.M. - 1:00 A.M.	Pat Roper	L.B. Arena
9:00 P.M. - 10:55 P.M.	Jimmy Carton	M.A.E.A.
10:05 P.M. - 1:00 A.M.	Silver Spears	M.A.F.A.

Although, this is a tentative schedule, it is such only for the reason that a few more events may be added. The pubschedule in the evenings are final.

#### IRISH FESTIVAL '87

The Official Opening of Irish Festival '87 will be held on Friday, July 17th at 11:00 A.M. at the Lord Beaverbrook Arena, Chatham. The one and half hour ceremony includes such things as a special guest speaker, special guests, Irish music, the County Tyrone Pipe Band from New York and Irish Dancers. The cutting of the green ribbon at the end officially launches Canada's Irish Festival on the Miramichi.

On Friday the Festival will begin with an Irish Breakfast at St. Michael's Parish Center, Chatham. On Saturday, the breakfast will take place at both the Parish Center in Chatham and the K. of C. Hall, Newcastle only.



The booths will open at 12:00 noon on Friday. The booths will be selling a wide variety of Irish Wares and crafts. Items will include such things as Irish Jewellery, books, T-shirts, sweaters, leatherwork, cut glass and many other products. These attractive decorated booths help to give the festival a Cultural Atmosphere.

Speaking of atmosphere, one of the most obvious distinctions between our festival and other ones is the quality of our decorations. Danny Donohue, the Chairman of this committee, will insure us that this will continue this year. The hundreds of streamers and handmade decorations does much to give everyone who attends a good feeling.

A new event that is being added this year consists of the Irish Games. Jocelyn Calhoun, the recreation director for Chatham, has put together some eight different sports tournaments ranging from Track & Field to Senior Lawn Bowling. These will be held during the three days of the Festival. The Official Opening of the Irish Games will be held on Saturday at 12 noon.

Sometimes the large crowds and heat of the Arena will drive us to a place that is air-conditioned, quiet and relaxing. Such a place exists in the format of the Irish Restaurant. Catherine Ward and Agnes O'Neill are co-chairing this committee of five workers who not only serve a delicious meal of Corn beef and Cabbage or Irish Stew, soda bread and dessert, but also take time for a "chat" with everyone.

The entrance way of the Cafeteria will also once again be the location for the Irish Art Gallery. Joyce Murphy, Moncton, had a very popular exhibition at last years festival of oil and water colour paintings of scenes in the Western part of Ireland. The paintings are for sale. Needless to say, she sold most of the ones that she had on display last year.

A part of the festival, that will be bigger and better than last year, is the St. Patrick's Day Parade in July. Jerry Donahue is the Chairman of this committee and he invites everyone to participate. Last year we had a large group from Saint John. Make an attractive family Crest, put on a touch of green and march with your family and friends in a "fun parade". The parade takes place on Saturday at 10:00 A.M.

We are extremely pleased to report that the Cultural part of our festival has really expanded this year. Dr. Stewart Donovan, of the Irish Studies Program, at St. Thomas University will be giving two sessions this year. On Friday, he will give a slide presentation of "History and Fine Arts of Ireland". On Saturday his lecture will be entitled "The Parish and the City: The Writings of Patrick Kavanaugh and Flann O'Brien".

The Provincial Association is making "The Irish Studies Program" of St. Thomas University as one of our prime projects for this year. We hope that the University will come forward with an announcement about this in the near future.

Dr. Allen Bentley, of the English Department of St. Thomas University will give a lecture entitled "Gaelic and Celtic Mythology". This will also take place on Saturday afternoon.

Dr. Peter Toner, of the University of New Brunswick Saint John has been doing extensive research work for the past two years on "19th Century Irish Immigration to New Brunswick". Dr. Toner has done an exhausted study of the census of New Brunswick and has written a book on his efforts. Anyone who has an interest in genealogy and New Brunswick Irish history will want to attend his lecture either on Friday or Saturday.

Dr. Michael Kenneally, English Department of Marianopolis College, Montreal will present a talk on "Contemporary Irish Writers". Dr. Kenneally is the President of the "Canadian Association of Irish Studies" and also the Canadian Editor of the "Irish Literary Supplement".

When most of our Ancestors arrived in Canada they spoke Irish. This year our very own native Irishman of the Miramichi, Tom Coughlan, will give a lecture on the Irish language and teach you how to say a few words or greetings in the language.

Our Culture program will continue with a Irish Music and Dance Workshop that will be put on by the most talented Irish Traditional Music group in Canada - TIP Splinter and Friends.

We also intend to show two or three good cultural films of Ireland.



These will be shown on Friday and Saturday in the Theatre of Dr. Losier Jr. High.

There will be a couple of other projects that the Cultural Committees are working on and if they come about, they will be included in the final schedule.

I want to thank Cathy Byran for the work that she has done in heading the Cultural Committee. We are going to put a special emphasis on these lectures and workshops.

This year we also have for the 1st time a Children's Program. We cannot neglect the "little ones" any longer. They are the "Irish Festivals" of the future. On Friday and Saturday, Kevin Evans and Brian Doherty, of Evans and Doherty, will entertain and be entertained by the children, in an atmosphere of songs, stories and other activities.

No Irish Festival would be complete without a Pipe Band. Our very own Miramichi Celtic Pipes and Drums will this year appear for the 1st time at the festival in their own designed Kilts. In less than three years, this Pipe Band has made great progress. We will have the opportunity to hear them often during the festival.

The County Tyrone Pipe Band, New York will be returning for it's fourth appearance at Canada's Irish Festival on the Miramichi. This Pipe Band has a history of some 55 years and it's members and associates in the New York Area gives the Festival good advertising value in that area. They take great pride in performing at this festival and they are becoming known as the Irish American Canadian Pipe Band.

Now we come to the Irish Bands who will play during the day and at the pubs in the evenings. We could refer to these bands as our entertainment bands.

"The Irish Express" is a Boston based three member Irish group. They are well known and received throughout the United States, Ireland and Europe. They have released two albums entitled "Reflections of Ireland" and "Fáilte". The members of the group are John Connors, Kilmaine, Co. Mayo; Martin Battle, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath and Michael O'Callaghan of Tralee, Co. Kerry.

Another Boston Irish Group that will be appearing for the first time are the Boston Irish "Silver Spears". This is a four member group that can do quiet ballads or produce some lively music for dancing in the pubs.

Another new band is the "Dermot O'Brien" band from New York. Dermot O'Brien is a singer, accordionist, songwriter, arranger, producer and sportsman. One of his proudest recollections is an appearance he made with the late Bing Crosby in a show televised in Ireland, Britain and the United States.

One of the four new bands appearing also is the popular Ottawa duo "The Irish Mist". This band played at The Shamrock Summit, Quebec city and also performed at Expo'86.

Returning to the festival is the one and only Pat Rover known as the "King of Irish Festivals". This New York based Irish Band has a large following, not only in the Miramichi Area, but throughout the province and beyond.

Another group returning also is the Jimmy Carton Band from Toronto. Jimmy sings many ballad type songs and puts people in a relaxing mood.

The only genuine Irish Traditional Group appearing at the festival are TIP Splinter and Friends. This ten member Toronto group play a wide range of instruments, including a number of authentic ones. They will be putting on an Irish Dance and Music Workshop and will also perform a number of times during the day and evenings at the festival.

For the first time this year, we will have time set aside for Miramichi Talent. Susan Butler will organize this event that will take place on Saturday in the Arena. It will also give people a chance to see the talents of some of our local fiddlers and step dancers among other groups.

An Irish Festival without Irish Dancers would be similar to having Highland Games without Pipe Bands. This year we have a group of very talented Irish Dancers, who have won many rewards, returning to the festival from Fort McMurray, Alberta. We are also working out the final details of having a group from the Cape Breton School of Irish Dancing. The New York Pipe Band will have two talented Irish Dancers returning with them and I am sure that we will have other ones attending and performing.



The Irish Festival Committee is indeed proud to present "Frank Patterson In Concert" for the three evenings during the Irish Festival. The Concert will be held at 8:00 P.M. each evening at James M. Hill Theatre Auditorium. Ireland's greatest living tenor will be accompanied on the piano or harp by his wife, Eily O'Grady. Des Keogh, Ireland's top comedian, will take part and also do a couple of numbers with Mr. Patterson.

The foyer of James M. Hill High School will also be the setting of a display of paintings by Miramichi Artists. This will add a Classic touch to what will be a concert to be remembered by all who attend.

Our sites for the festival are such that we will have much more space for people, both during the day, and especially in the evening. This year as in the past the central site for the festival is the Lord Beaverbrook Arena, the two schools, James M. Hill High and Dr. Losier Jr. High and James M. Hill Sports Field. The Arena will open at 10:00 A.M. on Friday; 10:30 A.M. on Saturday and 2:00 P.M. on Sunday. It will close each day from 8:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

The Irish Pubs will be held at the Lord Beaverbrook Arena on Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 9:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M. The whole main building of the M.A.E.A. including the Curling Club, the Exhibition Pavilion and the area in between will operate as one big pub on Friday and Saturday Evening. One admission will enable people to hear four bands in this site. On Sunday evening only the Exhibition Pavilion will be the site of a pub in this building.

The Miramichi Civic Center, Newcastle will be the third site for a pub on Saturday Evening only.

As you know, we are badly in need of a number of Bed and Breakfast places. An article appeared in the March 15 edition of the Travel Section of the Boston Sunday Globe. This paper has a circulation of 800,000. I had a short interview with the Travel section editor and managed to include the address of the festival as part of the article. The result is that we have received a flood of requests for information on the festival especially from the Boston Area. A part of the article included information and pictures on the St. Patrick's Week Celebrations in Saint John.

During the past few months we have also received requests for information from such places as Dover, N.H., East Meadows, N.Y., Saskatoon, Sask., Toledo, Ohio; Hermitage, TN; Woodbridge, VA; Don Mills, Ontario and Montreal, just to name a few places.

I want to thank Pam Walsh and Christine Phee for the work that they have done on this committee so far and to once again ask the people of the Miramichi to provide rooms for festival visitors, if possible. We realize that relatives and friends of so many families on the Miramichi are coming home during the festival and this makes space limited for a Bed and Breakfast request.

The Department of Tourism have told us that the editorial content of the Boston Article was worth \$54,000 in free advertising.

We have taken great pride in the Historical Part of our program each year. For us, it is the easiest part of the festival simply because another group does the work and we just sort of "tag along". This year Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Howards, is celebrating its 150th Anniversary. This church is the oldest church (150 years) in the Diocese of Saint John and still is used by the people of Howards as a place of Worship. The Parish was founded by the Irish and it gives us great pleasure to assist this area as much as possible since they have planned a Memorial Service during the Irish Festival. This outdoor service will be held on 4:00 P.M. at Howards on July 19th. The Miramichi Celtic Pipes and Drums will be in attendance and we will also arrange to have one of our musical groups present during the Parish Picnic later at Blackville.

A lady from Cambridge, Ontario has written a two act Play entitled "The Banks of the Miramichi". She also sent along \$200 as a donation to the festival. Since St. Raphael's Parish, Blackville stages the longest continuing running St. Patrick's Day Plays in New Brunswick, if not in Canada, some 70 years; I would like to see them take this play and put it on during the Irish Festival. However, this schedule is so packed now, it would be impossible.

Each year as part of the Festival, an Eucharistic Celebration is held at St. Michael's Church. This is at 1:00 P.M. The Pipe Band, Choir and special singers help to make this service a special one each year during the Festival.



## IRISH FESTIVAL OFFICE AND TICKET INFORMATION

Irish Festival '87 was given a Challenge '87 grant to hire a College student for fourteen weeks. Michele Bushey, who has completed her second year at St. Thomas University, is our office secretary. The office is located in the Stothart Building, Newcastle. The telephone number is (506)-622-0010. The festival address is Irish Festival Inc. P.O. Box 153, Newcastle, New Brunswick, E1V 3M3.

On behalf of the Festival Committee, I want to thank Ernie MacMillan, the President of the Miramichi Regional Development Commission for providing such a large spacious office to us free of charge.

Sometime in June we will also open an office in Chatham for the purpose of selling tickets.

Please check the back of the brochure that is enclosed concerning the ticket prices. Make cheques payable to Irish Festival Inc.

We have large crowds coming to the festival from all part of Canada, the United States and Ireland.

Some of the Motels in the Miramichi Area are: Wandlyn Inn (75 rooms), Fundy Line Motel (55 rooms), Riverview Motel (31 rooms), Wharf Inn (53 rooms) and the Moranda Motel (27 rooms). There are a few smaller motels and our Festival Office will have the names of quite a number of Bed & Breakfast Places

We have a large number of Campgrounds near by such as Bartibog Campground (50 sites), Family Land Campground (200 sites), The Enclosure (94 sites). One of Canada's newest National Parks, Kouchibouguac, was established a few years ago and it is only about 42 Km from Chatham.

So folks, come along and we will see that you are able to stay somewhere. If need be you will be able to park your camper in the back of someone's yard.

## IRISH FESTIVAL '87 COMMITTEE

### EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT	-	Farrell McCarthy
VICE-PRESIDENT	-	Teresa McEachern
TREASURER	-	Margaret Bowes
SECRETARY	-	Lynn Trevors

### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

ADMISSIONS	-	Margaret Bowes	MIRAMICHI TALENT	-	Susan Butler
BED & BREAKFAST	-	Pam Walsh	OFFICIAL OPENING	-	Donnie Donahue
BOOTHs	-	Lillian Barry	PARADE	-	Gerry Donahue
CULTURAL	-	Cathy Bryan	PUBLICITY	-	Farrell McCarthy
DECORATING	-	Danny Donahue	PUBS	-	Eleanor Richard
ENTERTAINMENT	-	Kevin Driscoll	RESTAURANT	-	Catherine Ward & Agnes O'Neill
FESTIVAL BOOTH	-	Katherine McEachern	SCHEDULING	-	Danny Leonard
FUND RAISING	-	Audrey Cormier	SIGNS	-	Scotty Bernard
HOSPITALITY	-	Leah Smallwood	SPIRITUAL	-	Rev. William Brennan
IRISH GAMES	-	Jocelyn Cahoon	OFFICE SECRETARY	-	Michele Bushey
MAINTENANCE	-	Jeff Savoy			

## IRISH CANADIAN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW BRUNSWICK

ANNUAL MEETING - MONCTON, N.B.

April, 25 - 1987

The Fourth Annual Meeting of the Irish Canadian Cultural Association of New Brunswick was held at the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge, Moncton. Farrell McCarthy, Newcastle, President, presided over the day long business session.

Doreen O'Shea, secretary-treasurer, reported that the Association has a membership of 1300. Reports also were heard from the Presidents of the five Chapters. Dr. Danny Britt gave a report of the very successful St. Patrick's Week Celebrations in Saint John. Patricia O'Leary Coughlan, the new President of the Fredericton Chapter reported on the Celtic Fall Fest.



Lourdes O'Reilly, President of the Moncton Chapter told of the events held on St. Patrick's Day and the need to inform our students of their Irish background. Joan Jones, President of the Charlotte Co. Chapter reported that their Chapter sponsored a music program in the area schools during St. Patrick's week. Dave Furlotte, Dalhousie, the President of the newest Chapter, reported that for the first time in many years a St. Patrick's Irish Program was held in Dalhousie.

The Association discussed the reasons for making the group once more a provincial Organization instead of a National body. This will be approved legally in the near future.

Dr. Stewart Donovan, St. Thomas University, reported about the growing interest in Irish Studies. Earlier in the year the Association donated \$500.00 to the University to aid in the purchase of Irish books.

One of the prime goals of the Association during the year will to be launch a fund raising program for a possible Irish Studies' Program at St. Thomas University.

The Association approved a resolution supporting the formation of the new Welsh Association that was recently formed in the Provinces.

Dr. Cyril Byrne, Chair of Irish Studies, St. Mary's University, Halifax was the guest speaker. He briefly discussed the purpose of the Chair and stated that it will greatly aid the revival of Irish research and teaching of the contribution that the Irish Immigrants have brought to the Atlantic Provinces.

The Association approved a resolution making a donation of \$500.00 toward the Chair of Irish Studies.

Doreen O'Shea, Newcastle, the secretary-treasurer was honoured for her unselfish service in this position during the past three years.

Farrell McCarthy, Newcastle, was elected to his fifth term as President defeating Gerry O'Brien of Fredericton.

There were five nominees for the three positions of Vice-President. The five nominees were Gerry McCarthy, Moncton; Dr. Danny Britt, Saint John; Gerry O'Brien, Fredericton; Dave Furlotte, Dalhousie; and Peter Rafferty, Riverview.

Dr. Danny Britt, Dave Furlotte and Peter Rafferty were elected as Vice-Presidents of Provincial Association. The new Secretary-treasurer is Paula Stewart, Newcastle.

Other Board members of the Association for 1987-88 are: William Whelan, Grand Falls; Edward McCullough, Johnville; Leo Campbell, Woodstock; Patricia O'Leary Coughlan and Shawn O'Toole, Fredericton; Joan Jones, St. Stephen; Earl Caughey, St. Andrews; Paul O'Connor and Bill Brennan, Saint John; Lourdes O'Reilly and Linda Evans, Moncton; Marg Bowes, Chatham; Cathy Bryan, Newcastle and Earl English, Nelson-Miramichi. Eva Steele, Saint John, Director-at-Large.

We must thank the Moncton Chapter for the excellent job that they did in organizing all the events for our Annual Meeting. The Social in the evening was very enjoyable. Details of plans during the day were also well planned. Thanks to everyone involved.

By the time you receive this newsletter, we should have a new Chapter in the Grand Falls Area. Bill Whelan, our director from that area, is spearheading the drive for Chapter #7. More complete Chapter Reports from all areas in the fall.

### BITS and PIECES

The 1980 United States census revealed that the largest Irish population in the United States is in California. About 4 million people in California claim Irish heritage and a substantial number of them live in Southern California. The "Irish Cultural Directory for Southern California" is a 150 page book that sells for \$9.95 + \$2.00 mailing cost in U.S. funds. Send order payable to: Arthur Griffen, 919 California Avenue, #5, Santa Monica, CA 90403.

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"Families of Co. Wexford" by Hilary Murphy is a major new book that is essential reading for Wexford people interested in their families and their past. Hilary Murphy, a genealogist and local historian, has written a well-researched, authoritative and readable account of the origin, history and



distribution of 105 Wexford surnames, primarily those of Gaelic or Norman extraction. Available from Hilary Murphy, 24 Parklands, Wexford, Ireland.

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The "Book of Kells", created in 8th century to glorify the life of Christ, is one of the most valuable manuscripts from the Middle Ages. The Fine Art Facsimile Edition of the "Book of Kells" will be sold to the general public after 1990 in a limited edition of 1480 copies at a price of \$15,000. However, Charter members can buy it before that time with a saving of up to \$5200 if it is ordered before November 30, 1987.

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The play "Laughing Irish Eyes", directed by Mary Hayes, was performed for three evenings, during St. Patrick's Week, before packed crowds, to help celebrate the Centenary of St. Patrick's Parish, Fredericton.

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John S. Kelleher, 1769 Arthur Road, Windsor, Ontario N8Y 3Z4 needs support in his campaign to get direct air service on a regular basis between Canada and Ireland. Contact him and support this worthy endeavour.

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Donal Begley, Chief Herald of Ireland, spoke on Irish Heraldry and presented a Grant of Arms to the D'Arcy McGee Chair of Irish Studies, St. Mary's University, Halifax, N.S. This was a part of the "Celtic Crossover: Irish Immigration and Genealogy Symposium" that was held in mid-March.

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When Earl and Julie English, Nelson-Miramichi, N.B. visited Ireland last year, they made contact with Michael Byrne, the secretary of the Irish Family History Society, William Street, Tullamore, Co. Offaly. They are in a volunteer group that publishes a journal from time to time. More information from Earl or by writing to Mr. Byrne.

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"The Irish in Ontario" by Donald Akenson is now available in paperback for \$15.95. Published by University of Toronto Press, University of Toronto, Toronto Canada, M5S 1A6.

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I must put another plug in for "Ireland of the Welcomes". An attractive Irish Cultural magazine published in Ireland by the Irish Tourist Board - Bord Failte. For only \$14.00 in U.S. funds you can receive 6 issues. Address - "Ireland of the Welcomes" Subscription Forwarding, 1255 Portland Place, P.O. Box 2744, Boulder, Colorado 80321.

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The First Annual Peterborough Irish Festival will take place June 20 and 21, 1987 in the Douro Community Centre, just outside the City of Peterborough. Shirley O'Grady is the President and in her material she mentions Canada's First Irish Festival on the Miramichi. We have corresponded with Fred and Shirley and we wish them "the best of luck and many more Irish Festivals". Peterborough Canadian Irish Club, P.O. Box 1325, Peterborough, Ontario K9J 7H5.

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The Irish Festival Inc. sponsored Mahem and Clancy In Concert at James M. Hill High School, Chatham on Thursday, April 30th. Over 500 people attended the concert. The Irish Festival Committee served a light lunch of sandwiches, small cakes and coffee to everyone after in the foyer of the school.

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Joe King, 1161 Nogales street, Lafayette, CA9459 sent me a copy of a letter he received from Ruth-Ann M. Harris, Director - Irish Studies Program and Asst. Professor of History, 118 Cushing Hall, Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts 02115 - (617)-437-2907. She states that their "database contains the names of 5,500 Irish Immigrants sought through the Boston Pilot (Catholic Newspaper) missing persons Column". If persons are interested, we charge \$10.00 per search. I am sure that this information would be of interest to many people searching for lost family members since so many went to the Boston States from the Maritime Provinces.



The Association receives alot of correspondence as we become known. I must admit that it is impossible to answer it as quickly as I would like. We do not throw them away and probably have some 5000 letters, papers and documents since the Association began in March, 1983.

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The Connell Family are celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Connells' arrival in the Miramichi Area. Michael and Margaret (Moran) Connell left County Kerry, in 1837 and settled near the Bartibogue River. They had twelve children. Connells and their descendants are arriving from all parts of Canada and the United States for the celebration during the Irish Festival.

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"Discover Young Ireland" is a 32 page magazine put out by the Irish Tourist Board. It lists information on 28 subjects dealing from Accommodation, photography, to work in Ireland. Available from Irish Tourist Board, 10 King Street East, Toronto M5C 1C5

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I must correct an error that I made in the last Newsletter. Montreal is not the only city to have a St. Patrick's Day Parade. Robin Averist of The Irish Mist informs me that Ottawa held it's third St. Patrick's Day Parade. There were over 100 floats in the parade in Canada's capital City. Good show.

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The best - selling album in both the United States and Canada is U2's "The Joshua Tree". U2, is an Irish rock band, presently on a sell-out tour of the U.S. and they were featured recently in a cover story article in Time magazine.

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Two individuals, who have played important roles in the preservation of our heritage on the Miramichi, were honoured at an "Irish Night" on May 11th in Newcastle. Rev. Bernard Broderick has played an important role in the historical part of the festival and has always had an interest in the Irish roots of our ancestors. The late Mrs. Edith McAllister was honoured for her devotion and sharing of her wealth of knowledge in genealogy to so many people.

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I will once again have a large selection of Irish books for sale at the Association booth. There are great things being published in all aspects of our Irish Culture. See for yourself when you visit the booth and other Irish booths as well.

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The latest best - selling singe record in Ireland is "Flight of the Earls" by the Wolfe Tones. It laments the departure of the thousands of young people to foreign lands.

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Tommy Makem in his column "Lest We Forget" in the April issue of Irish American Magazine proposes that the Irish should also celebrate St. Brendan's Day on September 17th commemorating his discovery of America. The address: P.O. Box 5141, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10164-0420 - \$45.00 per year in U.S. funds.

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"We are told St. Patrick died on this day in 462. Only the Irish would still be waking him over 1500 years later." From Ronald Reagan's speech at the Irish Embassy on St. Patrick's Day.

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"Religion and Identity: The Experience of Irish and Scottish Catholics in Atlantic Canada", edited by Terrence Murphy and Cyril J. Byrne - \$9.95 + \$1.00 postage - Jespersur Press, 24A Flavin Street, St. John's, Newfoundland A1C 3R9.

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Miramichi Folk Song Festival (30th Anniversary) presents "Men of the Deeps" from Cape Breton and Rita McNeil on June 27 - 8:00 P.M. at the Miramichi Civic Center - Tickets are \$11.00 by calling 622-1302 (day) and 622-1780 (evening).