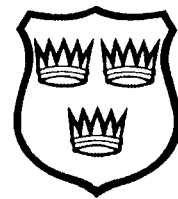




Foras Cultúir Gael Aontuighthe

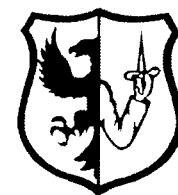
# United Irish Cultural Center, Inc.



2700 - 45th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94116

Tel: 415-661-2700 Event Hotline: 415-741-8803

E-mail: info@irishcentersf.org www.irishcentersf.org



Volume XLVIII No. 7  
July 2023

2023  
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## BOARD MESSAGE

### FOSTERING IRISH HERITAGE: ENRICHING EXPERIENCES AND MUSICAL MILESTONES



Liam Reidy

During the past month, I have been fortunate to witness and participate in a diverse range of programs hosted at the Center. These programs have received an overwhelmingly positive response and active involvement from various members of the Irish American community. While our current facility may have limitations, the signs are clear that a larger building would enable us to offer a wider variety of programs, enhance participation, and cater to the needs of all sections within our community.

**Irish Summer Camp Success** — Our highly anticipated 2023 Irish Camp commenced on Monday, June 12th, and concluded on June 30th, marking three weeks filled with enriching experiences and exciting discoveries. First established in 2021 with 30 campers, the camp has now grown to 75 kids in 2023. Led by the talented Máire Clerkin and supported by a dedicated team of instructors, and assistants, our campers delved into a diverse range of Irish arts, physical activities, and even computer coding. The kids even got to try Gaelic football and hurling this year. Throughout their journey, they not only developed new skills and passions but also formed lasting friendships. The grand finale of the Camp took place on Friday, June 30th, where the campers' collaborative efforts were showcased in a mesmerizing performance titled "Tír na nÓg."

**Emerging Irish Musicians** — The ongoing music classes in fiddle, tin whistle, banjo, and bagpipes are demonstrating clear indications that our commitment to music education is poised to yield remarkable results in the future. Each week, students in these classes immerse themselves in the rich traditions of Irish music, honing their skills and nurturing their passion.

Among the talented participants, our young pipers have an exciting milestone to look forward to in July. After devoting a year and a half to mastering the intricacies of chanters, they will finally have the opportunity to graduate to playing real bagpipes. This significant progression marks a significant accomplishment in their musical journey, showcasing their dedication and perseverance.

By investing in music education and providing a platform for young musicians to flourish, we are sowing the seeds for a vibrant future filled with the enchanting melodies of Irish music. With each passing week, these emerging talents are cultivating their artistic abilities and embracing the rich cultural heritage of Ireland.

As we witness their growth and development, we are confident that these passionate individuals will go on to become accomplished Irish musicians, contributing to the legacy of Irish music and delighting audiences both near and far.

**Belfast Photographic Exhibition** — We had the privilege of supporting and promoting Sean McKernan's powerful exhibition, "Belfast: Conflict to Peace," which offered a captivating visual journey through the tumultuous history of the city from 1969 to 2023. Over the course of five days, the exhibition drew an appreciative audience, leaving a lasting impact on all who attended.

The opening night of the exhibition was a resounding success, attracting over 80 attendees. McKernan, a talented photographer hailing from Belfast himself, provided a firsthand account of life in his native city over the past four decades. His collection of photographs, taken from a bipartisan approach to documentary photography, served as a testament to the resilience and strength of the Belfast community.

One of the highlights of the exhibition was the formal talk held on Sunday, June 25th. McKernan captivated the audience with his enthralling narratives and stunning visuals. Through his photographs, he vividly

*(President's Message continued on page 2)*

(President's Message continued)

depicted the various stages of Belfast's transformation, shedding light on the struggles, the pain, and ultimately, the path towards reconciliation and peace.

From the early years of the Troubles, marked by violence and division, to the gradual efforts towards peace and reconciliation, Sean's photographs painted a powerful picture of Belfast's journey. Each image told a story, capturing the emotions, the resilience, and the hopes of a community torn by conflict but determined to heal its wounds.

Through McKernan's lens, we were able to witness the impact of the Good Friday Agreement in 1998, which laid the foundation for peace and political stability in Northern Ireland. The photographs showcased the gradual healing of the city, the rebuilding of shattered neighborhoods, and the fostering of cross-community relationships. They reminded us that despite the scars of the past, Belfast has emerged as a symbol of resilience, unity, and the power of reconciliation.

The exhibition served as a testament to the importance of acknowledging and understanding the history of conflict and reconciliation in Belfast. It highlighted the need for continued efforts to foster understanding, promote dialogue, and support initiatives that contribute to a lasting peace. Sean McKernan's photographic journey provided a platform for reflection, dialogue, and appreciation of the progress made in Belfast, while also reminding us of the challenges that still lie ahead.

By supporting and promoting the "Belfast: Conflict to Peace" exhibition, we aimed to honor the resilience of the Belfast community, to educate our audience about the complex history of the city, and to inspire conversations about the importance of reconciliation in our own lives and communities.

Through the lens of art and photography, we were able to engage with the powerful story of Belfast, gaining a deeper understanding of the human spirit and the possibilities that emerge when we strive for peace and understanding.

**Boxing Partnership** — On June 12th, Fire in the Ring boxing club joined up with the local Youth GAA and brought us another successful night of amateur boxing. The bouts included boxers from Ireland, Bay Area based boxers and the local GAA community. Even one of our own board members, Mark Gorman participated in what was an enjoyable evening, which was to raise awareness about the Continental Youth Championships taking place in the east bay city of Dublin at the end of July.

**Paul Byrom Returns** — Irish tenor Paul Byrom (Celtic Thunder) returns to the Center on Saturday July 15th at 7pm for an intimate concert in the St. Francis room. Paul's "Songs and Stories" US tour has sold out in some locations already. Get your tickets early.

**All-Ireland Final Broadcast** — The Center will broadcast the All-Ireland hurling and football finals on July 23rd (hurling) and 30th (football) at 7.00am. I6 Foot screen. Tickets at IrishCenterSF.org

**Safe Travels** — If you are traveling, please do take care, and we look forward to hearing about your trip when you return!

**Get Well Wishes** — Sending warm wishes for a speedy recovery to Marie Gavney, who recently experienced a fall and injured her leg. May you heal swiftly and be back on your feet in no time!

Liam Reidy, President  
lreidy@irishcentersf.org

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# JULY CALENDAR

## ■ JULY 8, SATURDAY

• Irish Genealogy Club Zoom ~ 11:00am-1:00pm  
The Impact of Mixed Marriages on Family Research  
Strategy discussion including personal breakthroughs and roadblocks. 2023 club leads: Pati Traktman & Nancy Sanchez  
Email: IrishGenealogyCLub@gmail.com

• Irish Marvels, Past and Present ~ 2:30-4:30pm  
Pati Trakman presents "Celtic Horse Goddess"  
Join in the discussion following, all welcome  
Zoom link will be shared with RSVP list  
Questions? Contact Lisa hilmoe.gleason@gmail.com

## ■ JULY 15, SATURDAY

• Songs & Stories with Paul Byrom ~ 7:00pm  
St. Francis Room - Tickets at <https://paulbyrom.ticketleap.com>

## ■ JULY 23, SUNDAY

• 2023 All-Ireland Hurling Final ~ 7:00am  
16 foot screen in the St. Patrick's Room  
Buy tickets in advance on IrishCenterSF.org

## ■ JULY 30, SUNDAY

• 2023 All-Ireland Hurling Final ~ 7:00am  
16 foot screen in the St. Patrick's Room  
Buy tickets in advance on IrishCenterSF.org

## SAVE THE DATE 2023

•  
SATURDAY AUGUST 12  
Amateur Boxing in partnership with  
Fire in the Ring Boxing

•  
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 16  
SF Firefighters Local Blood Drive  
St. Patirck's Room ~ 8:30-12:30pm

•  
TUESDAY AUGUST 17  
Bisuits & Books, Live ~ returns

•  
SATURDAY AUGUST 26  
2nd Annual Rock the Gates Music Festival

•  
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 10  
Mad Hatter's Tea Party

•  
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 30  
Octoberfest by the Beach with music by Alpine Sound

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FIRE IN THE RING BOXING *present*

**Save the Date!**



**Amateur  
FIGHT NIGHT**

**August 12, 2023  
1st Bout at 6 pm**

United Irish Cultural Center  
St. Patrick's Room  
[www.IrishCenterSF.org](http://www.IrishCenterSF.org)



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## IRISH CENTER 2025 PROJECT

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Is Now



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**DEADLINE for August 2023 BULLETIN  
is July 15**

Questions? Contact: Adrienne Verreos  
415/468-4130 or email: [falconassoc@earthlink.net](mailto:falconassoc@earthlink.net)

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# PATRICK J. DOWLING LIBRARY

## Greetings from the Library

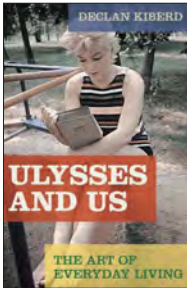
There was certainly no Gloom in the Library's June. With boundless gratitude I thank the late Paul Reynolds for his generous bequest to the library of 8 boxes of printed materials, which we are still processing, and the lovely financial contribution which will stand us in very good stead going forward. We are deeply touched to be remembered by you in this way. You will be long remembered for your thoughtfulness.

To everyone who participated in *Kate Kennedy Remembrance Day* you made it lovely and warm despite the wind, and the fog, and the sprinklers! To Craig Farley, your timing was impeccable and your piping was just what was needed to compliment the atmosphere. The Kate Kennedy Remembrance Committee is led by Lisa Hilmoe of Irish Marvels Past and Present. This year's organizers included Nancy Sanchez, Valerie McGrew, Lisa Hilmoe and Jennifer Drennan. Thank you also to Micheál Smith, Irish Consul General, the Irish Pipers, and Pearce Connolly Fife and Drum for your support.

The very next Saturday saw *Bloomsday in Books and Music* with so many in attendance, and so engaged that we went an extra hour. To Michael Fallon, all our talented readers, musicians Cormac Gannon, Kenny Sommerville and all the session musicians a heartfelt *Thank you!* Anne Carew, Renee Lazear, Valerie McGrew and Sheila Rutz, the room would not have looked so well, nor would the event have run so smoothly without you. Liam Reidy it was a delight to have you attend. Thank you for forgiving me for not calling you up at the outset. And last, but by no means least, a special thank you to the family of late professor Robert Tracy whose wide array of Joyce-related materials filled the displays. We hosted some of his former students at the event.

## Collection Highlights: Notable Joyce additions

Inspired to read about, and of James Joyce? These four titles and many more await your reading pleasure.



L to R: *Ulysses and Us: The Art of Everyday Living*, Declan Kiberd, 2009 ; *Dublin Street Names Dated and Explained*, C.T. M'Creedy, 1892 [1975 reprint] ; *Ulysses: A Reader's Odyssey*, Daniel Mulhall, 2022 ; *Images from Bloom: Centenary Edition*, 16 June 1904 - 16 June 2004, Sean Walsh, 2004.

## Library Open Hours, July

Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays: 1:30 – 4:30 pm

Special hour updates will appear on the library's Facebook and Instagram pages.

Please schedule any and all donations for after July 14. We are currently at capacity and working as fast as we can.

Thank you for understanding. We look forward to working with you to receive your materials at a later date.

## Irish Genealogy Club Zoom ~ *The Impact of Mixed Marriages on Family Research*

Saturday, July 8, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm — Strategy discussion including personal breakthroughs and roadblocks.

2023 club leads: Pati Traktman & Nancy Sanchez Email: [IrishGenealogyClub@gmail.com](mailto:IrishGenealogyClub@gmail.com)

## Irish Marvels Past & Present — *Celtic Horse Goddess*

Saturday, July 8, 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm — Pati Traktman presenting.

Club lead: Lisa Hilmoe; Email [Hilmoe.gleason@gmail.com](mailto:Hilmoe.gleason@gmail.com)

## Biscuits & Books, Live!

Returns Thursday, August 17, 4:00 - 4:45 pm

## Save the Dates

• September 10 - Mad Hatter's Tea Party & Library Fundraiser • September 17 - Robert Emmett Day, and Half-way to Saint Pats

## Best to you, Is fearr leat,

Jennifer Drennan, Librarian

[librarian@irishcentersf.org](mailto:librarian@irishcentersf.org) — 415/661-2700 ext I06 [Th, F, Sat]

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# SFYGAA FIGHT NIGHT: A RESOUNDING SUCCESS!

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all those who turned up at the UICC on Saturday, June 10, to show unwavering support for the San Francisco Youth Gaelic Athletic Association. The event showcased both the talented members of the SFYGAA community and esteemed guest boxers hailing from Ireland. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Fire in the Ring Boxing, our event partners, as well as the extraordinary dancers from the Whelan School of Irish Dance who mesmerized us with their captivating performances. Special thanks go out to Mark Gorman, one of our esteemed Board members, also known as “The Hitman,” for his courageous entry into the ring, all in the name of a noble cause!

It brings us immense joy to announce that the SFYGAA is proudly hosting the Continental Youth Championships, a momentous event that stands as the largest of its kind outside of Ireland. This remarkable occasion will grace Dublin, CA from July 27 to July 30. The next Fight Night at the Center is Saturday August 12th, 2023



Back row L-R: Cabir Gormley, George Gormley (coach), Donagh Keary, Mollie Sheppard, Sean Keary (coach), Liam Grant, Eamonn Duffy (coach)  
Front row L-R: Matthew McCole, Aodhán Byrne, Peter McDonagh.



Mark Gorman, Liam Reidy and Seamus Collins.



Edel, Mark and Evin Gorman .



Fight night organizers and coaches: Ian Buckley, George Gormley, Sean Keary, Eamon McCusker, Eamonn Duffy, Jimmy Ford, and Seamus Collins. In front boxer of the night Aodhán Byrne.



Dan McGuire, James Page, and Tom Maguire.



Ian Buckley and Jimmy Ford.



Brendan and Pat Mullen.



# IRISH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

## EXPLORE #PROJECT2025 AND FUTURE VISION OF THE UICC

On June 14th, UICC President Liam Reidy, Vice President Anne Cassidy Carew, along with members of the Board and Project 2025 Building Committee, warmly welcomed a group of special guests from Ireland to the Center. The guests included a delegation of Irish government officials and San Francisco Irish Consul General Micheál Smith, who were eager to gain insights into #Project2025 and the exciting new vision for our Irish Center.

During their visit, the guests had the opportunity to explore various areas of the Center, including the Dowling Library, where they delved into the wealth of Irish literature titles on the book shelves, and cultural resources available. They were also able to witness the vibrant atmosphere of our summertime Irish Camp, which was in full swing. The sight of children immersed in Irish dance and song throughout the building added to the uplifting energy that permeated the Center during the officials' visit.

The presence of our esteemed guests provided them with a firsthand glimpse into our commitment to building a Center that caters to the needs and aspirations of the next generation of Irish Americans. The enthusiasm and passion displayed by the children and the overall atmosphere of the Center showcased the vibrant spirit that lies at the core of our mission.

As conversations unfolded during the workshop, the Irish government officials were able to gain a deeper understanding of #Project2025 and the transformative impact it will have on the future of the Irish Center, not only in San Francisco but on the west coast of the US. The visit fostered an exchange of ideas and a strengthened sense of collaboration between our local community and our friends from Ireland. There was an acknowledgment from the visiting party of future Irish government funding for the project.

The occasion served as a testament to the collective efforts and vision of UICC's leadership, Board members, and Project 2025 Building Committee. Together, they are driving the evolution of the Irish Center, ensuring its continued vitality and relevance for generations to come.

The visit from our special guests concluded with a shared sense of excitement and inspiration. It reinforced the belief that the Irish Center is not only a place of cultural significance but also a dynamic hub that nurtures the talents and passions of young Irish Americans. With renewed energy and purpose, the UICC remains committed to its mission of creating a Center that serves as a beacon for Irish culture, fostering connections, and providing a platform for the next generation to thrive.

*Laura Pathe, Anne Cassidy Carew, Liam Reidy, Senator Malcolm Byrne, Niamb Smyth, T.D., Consul General Micheál Smith, Suzie Sheedy, Redmond Lyons, and Leo Cassidy.*



*Consul General Micheál Smith, Laura Pathe, Niamb Smyth, T.D., Senator Malcolm Byrne, Librarian Jennifer Drennan, Liam Reidy, Anne Cassidy Carew, Jeanne Connolly, Redmond Lyons and Leo Cassidy.*



# THRILLING SUCCESS OF THE 2023 IRISH CAMP: UNLEASHING PASSION AND CREATIVITY

Our highly anticipated 2023 Irish Camp commenced on Monday, June 12th, and concluded on June 30th, marking three weeks filled with enriching experiences and exciting discoveries. Led by the talented Máire Clerkin and supported by a dedicated team of instructors, assistants, and helpers, our campers delved into a diverse range of Irish arts, physical activities, and even computer coding. Throughout their journey, they not only developed new skills and passions but also formed lasting friendships. The grand finale of the Camp took place on Friday, June 30th, where the campers' collaborative efforts were showcased in a mesmerizing performance titled "Tír na nóg." Stay tuned for a detailed report on the show next month. In the meantime, let's take a moment to enjoy some delightful snapshots captured during the vibrant morning of our Camp's first day.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the UICC members whose generous contributions through the Annual Appeal Campaign, as well as the support from the Emigrant Support Program by the government of Ireland, for making this camp possible. With a fantastic teaching team and assistants and helpers all under the direction of Máire Clerkin, campers explored various Irish arts, physical activities, computer coding- all while discovering new passions and making new friends!

*Cecily, Ciaran, and Josie Wallis.*



*Bree Moylan, Annabelle and Hazel Kearney.*



*The Manning Brothers, Tanner and Sawyer.*



*James and Jana Hunt.*



*Sairse Russie.*



*Grace and Neve Devlin with Eoin and Eithne Clancy.*



*Mavi McAfee with Rory Baker.*



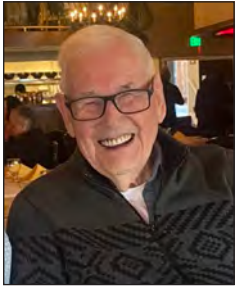
*Dunya Touby and Kennedy Green.*



*Aiblinn and Niamb Cassidy, with Michael McKeon.*



# OUR UICC COMMUNITY



## JJ Whelan Turns 90 Years Young

Congratulations to UICC Founding and Charter Member JJ Whelan who celebrated his 90th Birthday with his family last month.



## Amelia Overbay Turns 96 Years Young

A big shout out to Amelia Overbay (mom to board member Maggie Overbay) who turned 96 on June 13th.



## 2023 Summer Camp Director

Los Angeles based Máire Clerkin, was the Irish Center Summer Camp Director for our third annual camp.

Máire is an actor teacher, writer, storyteller, Irish dancer and choreographer. From London of Irish parents, she moved to California in 2003, and we were very lucky to have secured her services this year. The Emigrant Support Program funded by the Irish government provided partial funding for this years summer camp teachers.

## Opening Day of the 2023 Irish Camp

Renee Lazear was part of the volunteer crew welcome party that came out to support the refreshments on the Opening day of the 2023 Irish Center camp. Thanks Renee!



## Terry Enters Great Grandmother Hood

Terry Leonard recently became a great grand mother three times over with the birth of her grandchildren both here and in Co. Kerry, Ireland. Here Terry is pictured out and about recently with her good friend Nora O'Sullivan. Looking forward to seeing you back for events at the Irish Center this summer.

## Talk on James Joyce's Ulysses's

Dr. Michael Fallon presents a talk on James Joyce's Ulysses's and his abridged book version as part of the Dowling Library Annual Bloomsday celebration Saturday June 17th.



## Dave Kenneally Celebrates his 93rd Birthday

Founding UICC member Dave Kenneally turns 93 next month. Happy Birthday Dave. Dave tells me he spent many hours volunteering during the building of the Center. He recalls the day well when they applied the stucco to the inside walls of the roof parapet. They inscribed the name of a local man in the wet stucco that went home for lunch that day but never returned for the afternoon. His name has been on the wall of stucco ever since! His name will remain anonymous for now.

Dave is pictured here with Broadford. Co. Limerick man Tommy Reidy who dropped in to see him on 15th Ave while on vacation in San Francisco during April. There was much banter between the two men about the game of hurling-as both grew up on the north Cork-west Limerick bord. There is fierce rivalry down in that part of the world when it comes to Gaelic games! Tommy is Liam Reidy's father, our current UICC President.



The United Irish Cultural Center of San Francisco presents



# ROCK THE GATES

20 • Summer Fleadh • 23

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Avalon Rising                                     | SF Irish Pipers      |
| Bluesadelix                                       | Irish Dancers        |
| Dan Dectis  | Face-painting        |
| Darren Kiely                                      | Jumpy House          |
| Dirty Spoon                                       | Keepers of the Steps |
| Karl McHugh                                       | Irish Dance Exhibit  |
| L.A.vation  | Irish Center Shoppe  |
| Menagerie Bay                                     | Irish Vendors        |
| The Gas Men                                       | Concessions          |
| The Kavanaugh Brothers &<br>the Celtic Experience |                      |
| The Hooks   |                      |



**SAT. AUG 26, 2023**

**2–10 pm | 3 stages**

2700 45<sup>th</sup> Ave @ Wawona (in SF's Outer Sunset)

[www.irishcentersf.org](http://www.irishcentersf.org)



IRISH CENTER  
2025 PROJECT  
SAN FRANCISCO



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## IN MEMORIAM

MARGARET "MARGE" HAGAN — SEPTEMBER 25, 1936 - JUNE 12, 2023



Sincere sympathy to the family and friends of Marge Hagan from all of us here at the Irish Center. With Marge's passing we have lost a connection to the original Board of Directors as Marge husband Conn (RIP) was on the first UICC Board when the facility opened in 1975.

Marge grew up in the Mission District of San Francisco she attended St. John's grammar school and St. John's High School where she met many life long friends. Marge went onto work for Met Life for several years before meeting the love of her life. Marge met Conn Hagan and they were married in St. Paul's Church on June 2, 1962. Their son Frank was born in 1963 and Marge and Conn moved to Holy Name Parish where they met their life long friends and next-door neighbors of 60 years Barbara and Tom O'Brien. Thanks to Barbara, Marge was introduced to See's Candies, which created a life long bond between the two of them.

Marge dedicated her life to Conn, Frank and all of her family. Family was Marge's entire world, and she loved spending time with Conn, Frank, Kerry, Connor & Daniel. She loved attending the boys games & many family parties.

She was a volunteer librarian at Holy Name School for many years, a den mother for the local Cub Scout group, volunteering countless hours on fundraisers assisting people in need. If you asked her for a loaf of Irish Soda Bread for a party, you got 8 loaves.

As a founding member of the United Cultural Center she spent countless enjoyable hours managing the 32/50 Club, which she would proudly say, paid off the mortgage on the Irish Center.

Very dear to Marge's heart was her time spent volunteering at San Francisco General Hospital with her partner in crime Dolly Simmons. Due to a severe illness that forced her to spend a year in the hospital as a young woman, Marge always had a soft spot in her heart for people who were lonely and lost in the hospital. As a result of her 40 years as a volunteer, Marge was awarded the Hero's and Hearts award in 2007 for her dedication & volunteerism to SFGH.

Marge will be missed by her loving family and friends. She is survived by her son Frank (Kerry) her grandson's Connor (Haley Barker) and Daniel Hagan, her brother Frank (Wendy) Jordan, her in-laws Jim Hagan, Bill (Lily) Hagan, Anne Hagan, Elizabeth O'Hagan, Peggy Hagan, Maureen & Michael Murphy and many loving nieces and nephews. Marge was preceded in death by her loving husband Conn and her cherished brother and sister in-law Jack & Patsy Jordan.

When meeting Marge you knew you had met the kindest, most caring person, and your life was better for it. Love of family, friends and her unwavering faith in Jesus Christ are the values that Marge held most dear and passed onto her family. RIP.



THOMAS KENNEDY — MARCH 26, 1943 - JUNE 6, 2023

Tommy passed away holding the hand of his beloved wife of 55 years, Margaret, on June 6, 2023 at the age of 80. Tommy was the loving father of Brian and Deirdre (Christian) and devoted grandfather of Aidan and Auggie. He was preceded in death by his parents Roger and Margaret Kennedy, his sister Mary Holden, and his brothers Roger and Patrick. He is survived by his sister Alice O'Sullivan.

Tommy was born on March 26, 1943 in Clonmel, County Tipperary, Ireland. Losing his mother when he was just 3 years old and his father at 7, he was raised by his great aunt and great uncle Alice and George Weeks. At the young age of 15, Tommy served in the Irish Army for three years under the auspices of the United Nations as a Peacekeeper in the Congo. Afterwards, he spent three years in London learning to be a baker. In 1964 at the age of 21, Tommy left for a new life in the United States with his best friend Nicky Ryan. Five years later, he proudly became an American citizen.

Tommy was a fantastic dancer, something that brought him to his soulmate, Margaret. In 1965, at the Carousel Ballroom on Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco, Tommy met Margaret Teahan. They married on October 14, 1967 and settled on 17th Avenue, next door to Margaret's sister Mary, her husband John Joe, and their sons. Their union was one for the ages — one of true love and respect, where they never left each other's side even until the very end. Tommy was part of the Irish American community of San Francisco and a charter member of the United Irish Cultural Center. For 34 years, he was a proud member of the Bakers Union Local 24 where he served as Sergeant of Arms. Throughout the years he made many neighbors happy, bringing home warm sourdough bread. His greatest job was as father to Brian and Deirdre. He was a fun and playful dad who enjoyed playing sports and taking them on many adventures whether it be jet skiing, sledding, amusement parks, or creek-walking on warm vacation days.

Tommy was a true fighter in life and in his health - he miraculously beat the odds over and over again to stay with us as long as he could. We are thankful to his nephrologist, Dr. Leonid Yankulin, for over 20 years of excellent medical care and friendship.

We would like to thank family and friends for supporting Tommy in life and in his passing. He had a beautiful life, one he was very grateful for. He was a remarkable man, husband, and father. We will love and remember him forever. RIP.

# IN MEMORIAM

SARAH MARGARET McDONNELL — JULY 30, 1935 - JUNE 15, 2023



Sarah “Sally” nee Carlin, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on Thursday, June 15, 2023. She is survived by her daughters Elizabeth Connolly (Oliver Connolly), Colleen McDonnell (Donie O’Donovan); her grandchildren Kelsey, Nicole, Kennedy Connolly, and Daniel O’Donovan; her sister Maureen Crawford and many more much loved family and friends here, Ireland, and around the world.

Sally was born July 30th, 1935 to Charles and Elizabeth Carlin (McHugh) in Castlederg, Co Tyrone, Northern Ireland. She was the 7th of 9 children. Sally completed her nursing training in Omagh, Co. Tyrone and Liverpool, England, which in the years to come would prove to be invaluable to her.

In 1961, Sally and her love, Tommy McDonnell, arrived in San Francisco to her eldest sister, Susan. She arrived on a Friday and Susan had a new pair of work shoes waiting for her so she could start work on Monday. From there, she never looked back. Her younger brother, Harry, joined them in San Francisco shortly after that. The bond Sally, Susan and Harry formed over the decades was unwavering. She also remained close to her family in Ireland making trips home as often as possible and welcoming all that traveled to the states.

Sally’s strong family values, loyalty to friends, and devoted work ethic helped her navigate through life’s twists and turns... and there were many. She never ever forgot the welcome and hospitality that she received from friend and mentor Anne “Ma” Conway and Sally was always ready to help others in return.

Sally worked at Mary’s Help Hospital on Guerrero St., then moved to San Francisco General hospital, City and Co of San Francisco. She provided care to patients with TB, HIV/AIDS, the refugees at camp Pendleton and inmates at the local CA prisons. Sally retired from the City and County of San Francisco at the age of 50.

In her later years, we saw the woman that was slowly disappearing before us. Losing her memory, motor skills, and eventually her verbal skills, through all this though she never lost her smile. On Thursday, June 15th her smile was taken from us.

Thank you to the Staff at the Pacific Care Home, San Mateo especially Gina & Ferdie for their support, care and comfort over the past years.



**Seeing is can't believe-ing**

*Nothing compares.*

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## BLOOD DRIVE

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**SF Firefighters Local**  
**Wed, Aug 16, 2023**  
 8:30 am – 12:30 pm  
**Irish Cultural Center**  
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 San Francisco, CA 94116



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# THIRD BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR WAWONA GATES!

Our outdoor hospitality space -Wawona Gates turned 3 last month. It was this space (formerly the Centers parking lot) which extended an economic lifeline to the Irish Center throughout the pandemic. People could safely gather together outside, meet up and talk with catch up with one another. We added a small stage in one corner, that allowed us to bring music, singing and Irish dance back -all of which were heavily impacted by the episodic lockdowns. Wawona Gates brought the community together then and still does as evidenced by the 300 people that came by on June 24th for the celebration.

What a party it turned out to be —fun, musical, family-friendly, festive— so fitting for this special place. Thanks to musicians Dan Dectis, Dave and Ray’s Sound Machine, the Irish Pipers Band of San Francisco, and The Gas Men. Thanks to all our volunteers for making it a great day. And thanks to all who joined the celebration! We are blessed with such a wonderful community.

*Wawona Gates Crowd during the celebration.*



*SF Pipers: Kevin Deibl, Maggie Baglin, Brendan O'Leary and Mike Bowler.*



*Anne Cassidy Carew and Liam Reidy get ready to cut the cake.*



*Sean and Trish Reilly with Ann Baglin.*



*Ray Wilcox, Liam Reidy and Dave Ridnell.*

*Adrian Driscoll, Brendan O'Leary, Kevin Deibl, Terry McHugh and Mike Bowler.*



*Aoife Cotter, Naimb and Aibhlinn Cassidy and Cillian Cudden.*







Anne Cassidy Carew, Jeanne Connolly, Aileen Dulobery and Kathleen Kraus.

Cormac Gannon and Vince Keeban.



Katie Talbot and Ann Marie Carr.



Heidi Ward and Ray Wilcox.



UNITED IRISH CULTURAL CENTER of SAN FRANCISCO

**Céad míle fáilte**

**Welcome to Our Newest Members!**

Judith Ellen Allen  
 Andrew Oliver Ames  
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 Carolyn Bass  
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 Caitly Marie Beard  
 Paul Boyle  
 Nora Marie Brennan  
 Geoffrey Caldwell  
 Liam Caldwell  
 Eileen M. Carabine  
 Logan Samuel Caraway  
 Caitlin Connolly  
 Joseph Michael Costanzo  
 Bles Simon Costello  
 Erin M. Dowling Custer  
 Daniely De Souza  
 Dr. Jay Le Roux Dillon

Marcos DuBon  
 Ross Edward Dykes  
 Siobhan Farr  
 Joseph Patrick Fox  
 John FP Gavney  
 Jeanne C. Haugh  
 Colleen Riley Haupt  
 Adrienne Herro  
 Laura M. Holland  
 Kirsten Dawn Hutchinson  
 Declan Ivory  
 Adam Keenan  
 Loryn Joan Kehoe-Ross  
 Katie Elizabeth Kelly  
 Sean P. Kelly  
 Siobhan Kelly-Tuvo  
 John T. Kerins  
 Lauren Doyle Kerins

Cheryl Lynn King  
 Rose Kingston  
 Shannon Nelson Kissinger  
 Debra Kleinfeld  
 Robert Lacy  
 Deborah (Debbie) Lynch  
 Daniel Colin McCarthy  
 Dr. Chris McCarthy  
 Tina M. McNeal  
 Christina Sutherland Mockler  
 Candice Morrissey  
 Danny Patrick Murphy  
 Michael Neveu  
 Claudia O'Callaghan  
 Rory Joseph O'Connor  
 Lauren O'Neil  
 Mary Owen  
 David S. Parrish

Brian Pendergast  
 Kelly Stanton Pisciotta  
 Mary E. Powers  
 Steven Donald Quinlan  
 Tim Shea  
 Danny Francis Sullivan  
 Therese Marie Swan  
 Caitlin Gillespie Taffe  
 Dan Twomey  
 Edwina Tynan  
 Martin Tynan  
 Catherine Valentine  
 Alan Wald  
 Kathleen Grace Weckenman  
 Ryan Mark Weible

We are so grateful for our members. Did you know that a membership makes a great gift? Interested in learning more about the benefits?

**Questions?** Maggie Overbay at 650.892.4050





## BELFAST DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHER SEAN MCKERNAN'S CAPTIVATING EXHIBITION COMES TO SAN FRANCISCO

Over the last weekend of June, the Center was thrilled to host Belfast documentary photographer Sean McKernan and his captivating exhibition titled "Belfast - Conflict to Peace." This remarkable collection showcased a series of stunning images that depicted life in Belfast, spanning from the Hunger Strikes era through the Peace Process and beyond. McKernan's photographs encapsulated his personal documentation of the city's deeply divided state over a period of 40 years, capturing its tumultuous journey towards peace and transformation into a resolute and thriving metropolis. Having recently exhibited at the London Irish Centre as part of the 25th Anniversary Year celebrations of the Good Friday Agreement, This remarkable collection came to San Francisco, in collaboration with the Irish Consul General's Office.



*Photographer Sean McKernan and Frankie Keenan.*



*Catherine and Seamus Kelliber.*



*Teresa and Pat McLoughlin.*



*Attendees view the Belfast Photos during the exhibition.*



*Valerie McGrew and Maggie Overbay.*



*Adrian and Donna Driscoll.*



*Photographer Sean McKernan and Vince Keenan.*



*Karen Laffey and Don Walker.*



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# CASINO OUTING



**THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2023**

10:00 A.M. - BUS DEPARTS UICC

11:00 A.M. - ARRIVE AT GRATON CASINO

4:00 P.M. - DEPART GRATON CASINO

5:00 P.M. - ARRIVE AT UICC

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED AS SPACE IS LIMITED

CALL CHRISTINA AT 415.432.2552

OR EMAIL WELLNESS@SFIIPC.ORG

The Irish Immigration Pastoral Center  
Active Retirement Program presents:

## THE MISSION IRISH a look back

**Tuesday, July 18, 2023** 📅

**10.30 AM** ⌚

**United Irish Cultural Center** 📍  
2700 45th Avenue, San Francisco



**Speaker :**



**Elizabeth Creely**  
WRITER  
PUBLIC HISTORIAN

We welcome Elizabeth Creely, local writer & public historian and Cultural & Heritage Officer & Emigrant Support Program Manager of the Consulate General of Ireland, as our guide on a virtual walk through the Mission District. We hope you can share your local knowledge too!

**Light refreshments provided**

**Admission: \$5:00**

Register at [linktr.ee/sfiipc](https://linktr.ee/sfiipc)





**ACTIVE RETIREMENT CLUB  
OUTREACH PROGRAM**



# CAIRDE CAFE

We are excited to spend some time with you during our summer break at our July Cairde Cafe Coffee morning at the United Irish Cultural Center!

Join us for your morning tea or coffee, delicious treats over a chat, and perhaps a game of bingo or cards. We cannot wait to see you!

**Tuesday, July 25, 2023**

10:30 a.m. - 12 noon

**United Irish Cultural Center**

St. Francis Room  
2700 45th Avenue, San Francisco

Cost: \$5

For more information, call Christina at 415.752.6006 or email [wellness@sfiiipc.org](mailto:wellness@sfiiipc.org)

IIPC is generously funded by:



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A Community Outreach Program of the Irish Immigration Pastoral Center ARC Program



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# TEA DANCE & SOCIAL

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# UNITED IRISH CULTURAL CENTER INCORPORATED



A California Nonprofit Corporation  
2700 45th Avenue San Francisco, CA 94116  
Telephone: (415) 661-2700 | Fax: (415) 661-8620  
[www.irishcentersf.org](http://www.irishcentersf.org) | [membership@irishcentersf.org](mailto:membership@irishcentersf.org)

Hello,

Want to renew your membership or purchase a membership for someone? Want to make a donation to the Irish Center on behalf of yourself or in memory of someone? Want to support the Library or Cultural Programming? The Irish Center relies on dues and participation from its Members so that it can continue to grow and help connect current and future generations with their Irish heritage.

## MEMBERSHIP FEE SCHEDULE (Check One):

Single Membership Renewal (Dues) \$150       Couple Membership Renewal (Dues) \$250

The term for annual dues is 365 days from the date your dues are recorded. Dues are regulated by the UICC Board of Directors.

Name #1:	Member #:
Name #2 (Couple):	Member #:

MEMBERSHIP (per schedule above)      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

BULLETIN SUBSCRIPTION (\$30/Year)      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

DONATION (thanks for your generosity)      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL PAYMENT      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FEES/DONATIONS can be paid by Check or Credit Card or online at [irishcentersf.org](http://irishcentersf.org)

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Thank you so much for supporting the Membership Program! ~ The UICC Board!

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