

THE IRISH SOCIETY NEWS

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The Irish Society
www.TheIrishSociety.org
P.O. Box 980334
Houston, Texas 77098

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HAPPY THANKSGIVING AND MERRY CHRISTMAS!

IRISH SOCIETY - NEW MAILING ADDRESS

The Houston Irish Society has a New Mailing Address:

The Irish Society of Houston

P. O. Box 980334

Houston, Texas 77098

2019 CELEBRATION DINNER

The Irish Society is Honoring all of Our Founding Members in 2019. We are celebrating the 20 Year Anniversary of the Irish Society's inception. On October 15, 1999, 21 people gathered in Pat Sharkey's office and created The Irish Society. We are grateful to our founding members in that we have a Society where we can share our Irish Heritage and Culture with so many. We look forward to many more great years!

The 2019 St. Patrick's Celebration Dinner will be held on Saturday, March 9, 2019 at 6:30pm at the Petroleum Club. We look forward to celebrating this magnificent milestone with all our members and beyond.

Founding Members of the Irish Society:

Mike Daly, +Dorothy Davitt, Judge Dan Downey, +Mary Lou Doyle, +Paul Doyle, Mary Jo Clancy Faykus, Eamonn Finnerty, Delia Fitzpatrick, Michael P. Fleming, Rev. Charles Greene, Col. Michael H. Harrington (USMC, ret.), +Ann Caraway Ivins, Hon. John Kane, +Jeannie Kearns, +Mary Barden Keegan, +Dr. Jim Keegan, +Glenn McCarthy, Jr., Leah McCarthy McCurry, +Madeline O'Brien, Dr. Joseph McFadden, Patrick T. Sharkey. (+ denotes deceased).

MARCH 9, 2019 ST. PATRICK'S CELEBRATION DINNER, SAVE THE DATE

The 2019 St. Patrick's Celebration Dinner will be held on Saturday, March 9, 2019 at 6:30pm at the Petroleum Club.

JEANNIE KEARNS - REST IN PEACE



Jeannie Kearns passed away August 24, 2018. She was born in Sioux City, Iowa and was raised in Houston. She attended Reagan High School and was a graduate of the University of Texas in Austin in 1949. She was married to her husband of 38 years Dr. Edward E. Kearns.

Jeannie was an Elementary School teacher in San Antonio and in Houston. She also was the Office Manager for Dr. Kearns. She was extremely proud of her Irish American heritage and was the driving force behind the Houston St. Patrick's Day Parade for nearly 40 years. Jeannie also co-founded a charity called Project St. Brendan, which brought Irish seminary students over from Ireland to become priests in Texas. Jeannie was always kind, loving and she was quick to give you her winning smile. We will miss you.

TOM HORAN, JR. - REST IN PEACE

Tom Horan, Jr. passed away on June 30, 2018. Horan, a native Houstonian, was a graduate of St. Thomas High School and the University of St. Thomas. Horan was married to his wife Jeani Horan for 52 years.

Horan served on the board of the Center for Irish Studies at the University of St. Thomas. Horan was a member of the Irish Society and past President of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Dick Dowling Division. Horan was honored to be the Grand Marshal of the 2001 Houston St. Patrick's Day Parade and received the 2005 Rev. Vincent J. Guinan, CSB Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of St. Thomas. Horan was an honoree at our 2014 Celebration Dinner and the Irish Gala with the Center for Irish Studies at UST.

Horan was honored by John Rydman, owner of Spec's, by having an Irish Whiskey named after him, Old Tom Horan Irish Whiskey and Old Tom Horan Irish Cream. He is the only person we know that could make his "OWN" brand of Irish Coffee!

"Being an Irish Catholic and having an Irish Whiskey named after me is better than being canonized a Saint!" - Tom Horan. We thank you for all things Irish!



THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

The Irish Network invites you to mingle with the Irish. These monthly mixers are a great way to connect with the local Irish community, advance your own professional career, improve business prospects and make new friends. Everyone is welcome. Go to irishnetworkhouston.com for further information.



E-Mail us at houstonirishsociety@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the Board of Directors of The Irish Society, I wish each of you a joyous, healthy and blessed holiday season. Thanks to your continued support, 2018 has been a good year for The Irish Society. In keeping with Irish tradition, we would like to share the good times with our members by hosting a holiday gathering for our members. Please keep in touch with The Irish Society's website, www.theirishsociety.net, for updated information on our upcoming social events. In addition, please insure we have your current contact information so we can keep in touch with each of you via email and texts. The current technological times in which we live require that we communicate with our members in a variety of ways, e.g., email, text, cell phone calls and USPS mail. Since you members are the life-blood of our organization, we want to insure we have accurate membership information to keep you informed of our activities.

With the advent of a new calendar year around the corner, please watch your mail for our 2019 dues statement. As you know, The Irish Society depends on members' dues and members' participation in the St. Patrick's Celebration Dinner for our operating funds. Consequently, your prompt payment of the 2019 dues is important to the viability of The Irish Society. Of course, our Life Members are exempt from annual dues, so if you are interested in becoming an Life Member, please contact Greg Horan at gfhoran@hotmail.com.

Enjoy a festive family celebration at Thanksgiving and a joyous and merry Christmas season in December. Thanks again for your continued support and all the best to each of you. Slainte!

PAULINE WARD WISHES MOM HAPPY 80TH!

In Celebration of my Mom's 80th Birthday: Culinary Memories from Mayo. Some of my favorite memories from growing up on a farm in County Mayo, Ireland, revolve around food. My Mom was (and still is) an avid baker and is a dab hand at making brown bread, soda bread, scones, apple and rhubarb pies, porter cakes, fruit cakes, sponge cakes, buns and the list goes on! Buns were front and center of every occasion. Trying to recreate those memories for my Son, I have asked Mom to pass on some of her recipes. A simple task, one would think. However, many a phone conversation with Mom on the specifics of a recipe would go something like this. Me: "So Mom, what temperature do I cook these at" Mom: "Oh, a hot oven" Me: "OK, but what exactly is hot?" Mom: "Well you would know, wouldn't you". Well Mom DID know. Everything was intuitive to her, whether it was a pinch of this, a dab of that, a handful of the other, a HOT oven! (In fairness, growing up, we had the old Stanley range which ran on turf and no fancy dials to let you know what the temperature was). But for her not so gifted daughter, a recipe with weights, measures and temperatures WAS required. Mom finally relinquished and broke it down.

Buns: 8 ounces Butter (Kerrygold); 8 ounces Castor Sugar; 4 Eggs; 8 ounce Self-Raising Flour; 1 teaspoon of Vanilla essence. 1. Heat oven to 180°C (360°F) 2. Cream butter and sugar with a wooden spoon (don't ask me why, but wooden spoon is better) (or electric mixer) until pale and fluffy. 3. Add one egg, mix until incorporated and then mix in ~ ¼ of the flour. 4. Repeat, step 3 above until all the eggs and flour are used up. 5. Add the vanilla essence and mix until incorporated. 6. Bake 15-20 minutes until brown on top.

So as I travel back home this month to celebrate her 80th birthday, I hope I will be welcomed with the smell of hot buns straight out of the oven! Here's to you Mom!

UPCOMING IRISH EVENTS

November 29, 2018 Deck the Mall at the University of St. Thomas

Join us for this annual Christmas event for all ages, including music and the tree lighting, Thursday, November 29, 2018 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM, Free, Academic Mall 1018 W Alabama St., Houston, TX 77006

December 9, 2018 - A Celtic American Christmas Concert with Aubrey Atwater

From Warren, Rhode Island, award-winning musician, vocalist, writer, and dancer, Aubrey Atwater, presents a captivating concert of traditional folk music, dance, and narration. "A Celtic American Christmas" will feature winter holiday songs and pieces Aubrey has collected for many years, including American Scots-Irish songs from Jean Ritchie and the Ritchie Family of eastern Kentucky. 2 - 4PM, \$15 for adults; \$10 seniors (65+); UST faculty, staff and students free. Jones Hall, 3910 Yoakum Blvd., Houston, TX 77006; Contact Lori M. Gallagher - irishstudies@stthom.edu or 713-525-3592.

**Happy Thanksgiving and
Merry Christmas to All!**



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