

"The Story Teller" Seanchaí



P.O. Box 303, Wharton, NJ 07885 / 973-366-5980

www.iaanj.com

January 2012

The Irish American Association of Northwest Jersey, Cultural Center, Richard Mine Road, Rockaway Township, NJ

CLUBHOUSE AVAILABILITY

The Irish American Association of Northwest Jersey clubhouse is on Richard Mine Road. The clubhouse is used for IAANJ functions and parties and is made available for rent to club members.

The IAANJ clubhouse is available on a "first come, first served" basis to all club members at the Rental Rate of \$150.00. In addition: \$100.00 refundable security deposit.

The first floor Great Room is approximately 1500 square feet and the building interior is heated as well as air-conditioned. Refrigerator, stove top and microwave are available in the Great Room.

Please call 973-903-9410 for further information or to make reservations.

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY ON THE HORIZON

All committees are in full working mode at this time. The finance committee's sole purpose is to raise the approximately \$80,000.00 that it takes to put the parade on the street. This is an area everyone can lend a hand with by selling an ad for the journal or by just sending in a personal donation to defray the expenses.

The Grand Marshal's installation reception is being held at the Madison Hotel in Convent Station on March 2nd and attending this would be another way to help. This year Richard Smith is the Grand Marshal elect and he is a member of our association. The Parade Committee who handle all the preparations in getting the parade on the street can certainly use your help. There is no one who cannot help either financially or giving some time working for what we should all be proud to be associated with. Contact me and I will be happy to direct you to the right party who will be happy to hear from you. *Eamonn Long*

This is the first message to you in 2012 and I hope it is finding you well. I would like to start by wishing you and your families a very Happy New Year and a prosperous and healthy 2012. If my math is correct, this is my 9th month as President of the IAANJ. Looking back and reflecting over the past year, I think we are heading in the right direction. Attendance seems to be increasing each month at the meetings and it's good to see so many faces. If you haven't been to a meeting as of yet, make a New Years resolution to start attending and become active within the organization.

In 2012, my resolution to you is to further increase the meeting attendance and to get more people active in "the club". In the past, there was some reason that you joined the IAANJ. I ask you, what has changed? Why don't you come out to a meeting? Why not volunteer at the Feis? I welcome any and all suggestions and comments that you have to improve this organization. Please feel free to call or email me; my info is elsewhere in this newsletter.

This past weekend, I attended my first session here at the "clubhouse". There were about 20 musicians, playing various instruments, from harps to fiddles to flutes, squeeze-boxes and accordions. Also in attendance with me were about 20 spectators. It was a fun night of music and camaraderie which I was glad to be part of. The music of the Irish culture as well as the dancing (step dancing and ceili dancing) is very important and needs to be supported as well and added to. Please mark your calendars and come out to a session or ceili this year.

To start you off on the right track, there will be what I am calling a "Pub Night" at the clubhouse on January 28th. Doors open at 7:00 p. m. There will be Irish music playing, the Dubliners, Tommy Makem, The Clancy Brothers, Paddy Reilly, Dermot Henry, The Wolfe Tones as well as anyone's favorite band or tune. If you have a favorite please bring a CD and it will be played. We will be having sing-a-longs and maybe some dancing will break out. Please gather your friends and bring them with you. They don't need to be members but we hope they will be when they leave. All we ask is a \$5.00 donation & bring your own favorite beverages & snacks. I hope to see you there. *Keith*

IAANJ OFFICERS

President.....Keith Wood
973-903-9410
keith_wood_pm@yahoo.com

1st Vice PresidentPatricia Jones
973-729-3236
Pat838a@yahoo.com

2nd Vice President Mary Waller
973-729-0415
waller@ptd.net

Recording Sect. Kerri Lynn Walsh
908-208-4043
kerwalsh@hotmail.com

TreasurerMichael J. Quinn
973-292-4971
mjpquinn51@hotmail.com

Corresponding Sect..... Pat Schoeck
973 729-9687
wsp729@embarqmail.com

Sergeant-at-Arms.....Jack Regan
ajack1@aol.com

Trustees

Rosemary Harrington
Eddie Hansberry
Deirdre Garie

For Information On:

Membership Kathy Hansberry
973-663-3208
nana19@ireland.com

Building

Good & Welfare Kathy Boegershausen
973-428-8274
Kathy@boegershausen.org

Children's Dance ClassesDeirdre Garie
973-366-1297
adgarie@optonline.net

Rental of Hall..... Contact any Officer

Committee Chairpersons

Ceili Dancing.....Jack Regan
973-853-7047

Parade Committee Eamonn Long
973-267-9681
aliceandeamonn@verizon.net

Irish LanguageMatt Tully
973-579-1510

Newsletter..... Eamonn Long
973-267-9681
Eamonn@longstravel.com

Website..... Willie Quinn
quinnwilliam@optonline.net

Library Marge Greenan
914-713-4262
roskeamg@yahoo.com

Social Committee

OUT & ABOUT

Our condolences to the family of Mary Walsh who passes away on December 27, 2011. Mary was a native of Ballyhaunis, County Mayo. Mary was a very active member of our Association and was one of the leading sellers of 50/50's at the Feis each year from early morning right up to Raffle time at 5:00 p. m. Mary kept selling. She was also a dedicated set dancer being a member of the Jack Regan dancing "cult". Mary was predeceased by her husband, Eddie, and her daughter, Patricia. She is survived by three sons, Kieran, Dennis and Eamonn along with their wives and children. Bagpipe music for her arrival and departure at St. Virgil's Church, Morris Plains was by our own President, Keith Wood.

Our "Lord of the Dance", Jack Regan, wants the membership to know he has those nice blue shirts with the IANJ logo available. I don't know if he is having an After Christmas sale or pre-St. Patrick's Day sale but we recommend you get in touch with him at ajack1@aol.com or give him a call at 973-853-7047 while supplies last.

One of our greatest workers who rarely grace the pages of this ethnic publication because she just wants to keep a low profile has reached a milestone in her life. Congratulations to Jay Long who retired in December from Picatinny after 42 years of dedicated service. Jay, may you have many great years ahead which I am sure will include a few trips to Ireland.

Our December meeting and Christmas party was well attended and our bartender, Brian Kelly, was kept busy turning out his Irish coffees. They were enjoyed by all who sampled them. Thanks to all who provided the Jameson's for the occasion and to those who brought along the great desserts.

The Grand Marshal reception will be held on Friday, March 2, 2012 at the Madison Hotel and the costs are \$70.00 prior to February 24th and \$80.00 at the door. Art Flynn of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick said the Publicity Tour is scheduled for February 24, 2012 starting at 6:00 p. m.

Parade pins are on sale. The pins have a Celtic Cross design giving them a great new look. They are selling at three for \$5.00 or \$2.00 each.

We just learned that Pat Scanlon was recently involved in a car accident but was not injured. He landed in somebody's bedroom without an invitation. Kathleen's not going to let him out on his own anymore.

"The only advantage in not being too good a housekeeper is that your guests are so pleased to feel how very much better they are." Eleanor Roosevelt.

NEXT MEETING JANUARY 19th at 8:00 p. m. BRING A FRIEND!!

CEILI AND SEISIUN NEWS

The next Rockaway Ceili is scheduled for January 29th from 4–8:00 p. m. Looking a bit ahead, our February session will be held on February 11th and the guest host will be Linda Hickman. We'll also celebrate my, um, OK, will tell.... 60th birthday!! Hope everyone can make it. Please no gifts necessary, your "presence" will be my present! Hope to have a great session. Archie Fisher will be appearing at the Unitarian Fellowship, 21 Normandy Hts. Rd., Morristown as part of the Minstrel Concert Series on February 17th. Archie is a master guitarist, singer and songwriter and Scotland's foremost troubadour. For info: www.folkproject.org or 973-335-9489. *Iris*

Looking for a way to keep your New Year's fitness resolution? This is the time of year when we begin holding the intention of a New Year resolution to lose weight or get fit. Irish set and ceili dancing at the IAANJ will help with both and also enjoy your heritage with the company of fun loving people. If you haven't danced in a long time and feel a bit self-conscious to start—not to worry. Whatever the case, there's no time like now to rediscover the joy of our Irish music and dance. Wednesday classes are stress-free and the monthly Ceili is *always* a great time. Beginners and improvers are always welcome. Partners are not necessary. Just wear comfortable clothing and join us on a Wednesday evening from 6:30 p. m.—9:00 p. m. Information: #973-853-7407 or ajhack1@aol.com
Jack Regan

Articles for next month's Seanchai are due by February 6, 2012. Send to Eamonn@longstravel.com.

"The Story Teller"
Seanchaí

P.O. Box 303
Wharton, NJ 07885

NEXT MEETING THURSDAY, December 15, 2011

.