

Hibernian Happenings

HIBERNIAN BENEVOLENT SOCIETY OF ATLANTA

DECEMBER, 2008

Volume 2 Issue 2

ST PATRICK'S DAY—2009

It is getting closer every day! Irish Atlanta awaits with eager anticipation the biggest and best celebration of the Irish year—St Patrick's Day! The anticipation even stronger than ever because of the tornado which cancelled the biggest event of our 2008 celebration—the parade! All the auxiliary events went on as planned—the Father O'Rielly wreath laying, the St Patrick's Day Mass at the cathedral, the Hibernian Ball and even the VIP party scheduled as the grand finale, were all successful 2008 Hibernian Happenings, although the after-party was a bit subdued after the great disappointment of the parade being cancelled. But one thing for

sure, 2008 will live on as a memorable year and feed the legends and stories on which the Irish thrive!

So with all that said, 2009 planning is fast and furious and all are looking forward to all the preliminary and associated events that have come to symbolize the Atlanta Irish spirit. A calendar of events as well as specific information on all the unique affiliated incarnations of the Celtic season can be found on the following pages!

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SUNDAY IN THE PARK SUCCESS-FULL!



OAKLAND CEMETERY EVENT A LIVELY AFFAIR!

The Spring tornado did significant damage to all of Atlanta's historic Oakland Cemetery including the Hibernian plot. Despite the damage, Hibernian member and Oakland volunteer extraordinaire, Davant Turner, did a fantastic job organizing clean up and repairs to the plot and planning for the annual Sunday in the Park held on October 5th.

It was a beautiful sunny Fall day and the cemetery was alive with music, dancing and activities for young and old alike. At 2:15PM the Hibernian wreath laying ceremony was conducted by

President Matt Naughton flanked by color guards Pat Egan and Pat Flynn. All wore the tri-color sashes and as a large crowd watched, the tradition continued.

Afterwards, Jessie King O'Sullivan Irish dancers entertained the crowd with several sets of dances in a variety of dance costumes—one reflecting the "ghost" theme and another the Irish sport of "hurling". The music and dancing attracted even more people to the Hibernian area.

Refreshments followed the entertainment to top off the 2008 celebration of history and tradition!



EVERYTHING IRISH ATLANTA

Bits & pieces of what is happening in the Atlanta Celtic community



Check out the web site for the latest news in the South East League. Congratulations to the Atlanta Ladies team that won the Southeast title for the third time!

Clan Na Gael
Atlanta
www.atlantagaa.org

And look for them in the parade!



Congratulations to IAF founder Katherine Irwin Thomas and her husband, Dr Russ Thomas on the July 25th birth of their first child, daughter Lucy!

Atlanta
Irish Arts
Foundation



Hibernian member and President of ICCUSA-SE, Kevin Conboy, was among an illustrious group of prominent Irishmen honored by *Irish America* magazine at an awards dinner at the Commerce Club in October. Founding publisher of *Irish America*, Niall O'Dowd, presented the awards to the nine honorees from throughout the Southeast and a lifetime achievement award to Don Keough, former CEO of Coca Cola. Several current Hibernians were in attendance to especially honor our fellow Irish men and women from Georgia .

Thank You to Honor John Falstaff
WRFG, Atlanta Celtic Show presenter

Hibernian member and songstress, Kathleen Donohoe, was the force behind this well deserved recognition function to celebrate 18 years of dedication to Irish and Celtic music by this well known local volunteer DJ. On October 11th a full house, a lot of craic, a lot of music and a lot of fun at a Buckhead *Chinese* restaurant, no less. And with a bit of Irish history and trivia thrown in, too!

Irish Heritage Celebrated in Words & Art

★ 2008 Honorees ★



★ Kevin Conboy ★
President, Ireland Chamber of Commerce
Georgia

2008 marked the third annual SCAD (Savannah School of Art & Design) poster contest and the 4th Annual St Patrick's Essay contest. The winning entry of the 2008 poster contest was designed by Rodrigue Ben. The essay contest "The Meaning of St Patrick's Day" winning entry was written by Katrina Parsons of the *Atlanta Girls School*. The essay prize of \$1000 was presented by Dr James Flannery of Emory University at the now annual ICCUSA St Patrick's Day breakfast. These two relatively recent competitions greatly enhance the celebration of St Patrick's Day for all of us as we share in our heritage the elements of culture so meaningful to all of us through the creativity of our youth.

2008
SCHOLARSHIP WINNER



One of the newest outreach programs of the Hibernian Benevolent Society of Atlanta awarded the second annual scholarship to Matt Ellis, an upcoming sophomore at Georgia Tech who achieved a 4.0 freshman Grade Point Average. The scholarship is a total of \$1500 to be paid by \$750 per semester.

Thanks to Dot Mears and her selection committee for all her hard work soliciting and selecting this deserving recipient. Dot also spearheaded the fundraising activities that comprise the monetary base of this annual outreach program of the Hibernian Benevolent Society of Atlanta. Slainte, Dot!!!

Hail & Farewell

On behalf of all HBSA members, congratulations to the newly elected Officers and Trustees and a sincere Thank You to our outgoing President George Lane and his officers for a job well done!

2008-09
Officers & Trustees

President

Matt Naughton

Vice President

Bob O'Neil

Treasurer

Frank McGing

Recording Secretary

Imelda McVann

Corresponding Secretary

Rose Begley

Trustees 2007 - 2009

Hugh Caffrey

Joe Boyle

Trustees 2008 - 2009

George Lane

Trustee 2008 - 2010

Mary Ann McLoughlin

Marian Lynch



December, 2008

3 Moira Nelligan Eddie's Attic 5:30&8pm

6 HBSA Christmas Harp II 6:30pm

Eileen Ivers Ferst Center Arts/Ga Tech 8:00pm

Music in the Glen Eddie's Attic 5:30pm

7 Music in the Glen Red Door Playhouse, Roswell

12 & 13-8PM James Flannery's 16th Annual

14-2:30PM Celtic Christmas

Emory University Schwartz

Center for the Performing Arts

20 Music In the Glen St Aidan's, Alpharetta 7:30pm



Sharing Irish community, culture
and craic in Atlanta since 1858

**Hibernian Benevolent
Society of Atlanta**

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We are on the web!
www.irishatlanta.com

The Hibernian Benevolent Society of Atlanta
Regularly meets the 2nd Thursday of each month
Fellowship, food & drink 7:00 pm
Business Meeting 8:00 pm

Harp Irish Pub - Roswell

1425 Market Blvd, Suite 1330
Roswell, Georgia 30076
770-645-0118

Come Dance with Us!

Irish Set and Ceili Dancing
Lessons and dancing from 3 – 5pm,
1st and 3rd Sundays of each month,

Location: The Harp Irish Pub (non-smoking room)
1425 Market Blvd, Roswell, GA. 770-645-0118
Off Holcomb Bridge Rd just east of GA 400

We'll teach (or review) the dances and dance them!
Everyone is welcome.



Mark your calendar!!!

March 13, 2009

*Hibernian Benevolent Society of Atlanta
Annual Black Tie Ball
Druid Hills Golf Club*

R. I. P.

Steve O'Hagan, long time HBSA member and Past President and Theatre Gael board member, passed away on October 17, 2008. Condolences to Steve's family and many friends in the Celtic community who will always remember his smile and enthusiasm for all things Irish.

Céad Mile Fáilte

A hundred thousand welcomes to our following new members:

Crystal Painter
Justin, Nicole & Jean Berutich
Tracy Fiall
Robert Hopper