Johnny Killbane at the Cleveland International Film Festival!!!
Monday, April 8, 2013
Get your tickets through IAAS and benefit the Killbane Memorial Fund.

The documentary film, A Fighting Heart, filmed "on location" in both Cleveland and Ireland, will be shown at the Cleveland International Film Festival. Gateway-based filmmaker Des Kilbane directed the piece, which focuses on the life and career of Cleveland boxer Johnny Killbane and traces his family roots to Achill Island in County Mayo.

We invite you to attend a screening of the film and—at the same time—support the IAAS in its efforts to create a Killbane memorial in Battery Park area of the Detroit Shoreway neighborhood, near Killbane’s home at the time of his first title fight in 1912. The design process for the memorial is in the beginning stages. More news and a fundraising campaign will be announced in early summer.

Event “package” options—to benefit the Killbane memorial fund—include:
• Dinner at Stone Mad Pub (1306 W. 65th St. Cleveland 44102) or The Harp (4408 Detroit Ave. Cleveland 44113). 5:00-6:30 pm. Order from a limited, fixed price menu; gratuities and refreshments included, cash bar.
• Documentary screening, 7:20 pm at the Capitol Theatre (1900 W 65th St. Cleveland 44102). Note that the screening is a double feature with a documentary about Cleveland mob boss Angelo Lonardo.
• Meet the Director (after the film) 9:30-11:00 pm. at Stone Mad Pub (1306 W. 65th St. Cleveland 44102). Appetizers, live music, cash bar.

RETURN RSVP INSERT FORM NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, APRIL 5. LIMITED SEATING.

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Preserving Our Heritage, Sharing Our Stories
The Newsletter of the Irish American Archives Society of Cleveland & Northeast Ohio

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The “Year Of Johnny Killbane” Continues...

In 2012, IAAS joined with Johnny Killbane’s family to launch a celebration of the 100th anniversary of the boxer’s first featherweight championship. We helped to organize a traveling exhibit with the Cleveland Public Library, landmark Killbane’s 1912 home with the Detroit Shoreway Development Corporation, and tap a limited edition commemorative beer at Great Lakes Brewing Company.

2013 promises more Killbane events:
• The Killbane exhibit is on display in the lobby of the Justice Center (1200 Ontario St. Cleveland 44113) through April.
• IAAS is sponsoring a panel discussion in conjunction with the Killbane exhibit, with Thomas Corgian (president of the CFL Board), Patrick Swecnsey (former Ohio legislator), and the Hon. Harry Hanna (visiting Judge, the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas). The panel—a free event which will focus on “The Irish in Cleveland Politics, 1910s and ‘60s”—takes place on Friday, April 5, Noon at the Justice Center (1200 Ontario St. Cleveland 44113) in the Sheriff’s Training Room off the 1st Floor Lobby. Light refreshments will be served.
• The documentary, A Fighting Heart, will be screened at the Cleveland International Film Festival. Details on page 4. IAAS helped with research for the documentary.
• Free walking tours of “Killbane Town” and the site for the proposed Killbane memorial will be offered during the Gordon Square Arts District’s “pArty in the Square” on Saturday, June 8, 2013. Check for details on the IAAS website at www.irisharchives.org in May.
• The design process for a Killbane memorial in Battery Park is also underway, with the help of LAND Studio, the Detroit Shoreway Development Corporation, Vintage Development Group, and Councilman Matt Zone.

Killbane programming is supported in part by the residents of Cuyahoga County through a public grant from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture.
President's Note

The 2013 Walks of Life dinner held on February 28th was our 17th award event and our largest yet. Tables were set for 500. Among the RSVPs were 20 of our 81 past Walks of Life honorees, 43 of our 129 Life Members, and 9 former trustees. We are very pleased that so many supporters join us again, year after year, in celebrating the achievements of each new “class” of honorees. This year, for the first time, we asked all of our former honorees to join our current ones for a group photograph (below), and most of them took us up on the invitation. It’s the start of a new tradition. Thin and other Walks of Life photos can be viewed online at www.irisharchives.org and on our Facebook page.

Jim Brennan, President, IAAS Board of Trustees

Director’s Corner

IAAS has been meeting with the Catholic Cemeteries Association to explore how to illuminate forgotten corners of our community’s past. As a first step, I compiled profiles of “pioneers” Irish priests of the Cleveland Catholic Diocese, many of whom are buried in St. John Cemetery, and other early diocesan priests of other nationalities who are also buried in St. John. Profiles of prominent lay people buried in St. John are also being compiled, drawing on the cemetery itself, Bernie McCaffrey’s database of visible inscriptions. The profiles—a work in progress—can be found online at the IAAS (www.irisharchives.org, click on “Local History Links”) and Cemeteries Association websites. Profiled are such individuals as Fr. Joseph Gallagher, pictured here, pastor of Holy Name Parish in Newburgh from 1870 until his death in 1886.

Margaret Lynch, IAAS Executive Director

WALKS OF LIFE 2013
February 28, 2013
Holiday Inn Rockside

Honorees:
Chris Connor,
Dan Coughlin,
Sr. Susan Durkin OSU,
Hon. Richard J. McMonagle


First Row: Chris Connor (2013 Honoree and Life Member) and Sr. Maureen Doyle (Innovation and 1997 Honoree); Dan Coughlin (2013 Honoree) and Ed Crawford (2012 Honoree). Second Row: Pat Sweeney (Life Member) and Sr. Susan Durkin (2013 Honoree); Hon. Richard J. McMonagle (2013 Honoree), Meg McGarry (IAAS Trustee and Life Member), and Jim McMonagle (Life Member); Representatives of Presenting Sponsors Cleveland Steel Container and Pipeline Packaging. Third Row: Gerry Quinn (Emcee, 2007 Honoree, Life Member, and IAAS Trustee Emeritus) and Jim Beland (2002 Honoree and Life Member); Ed FitzGerald (Cuyahoga County Executive) and Henry Higley; Tom Scallan (2004 Honoree, Life Member, and IAAS Trustee), Hon. Laura Gallagher, and Michael O’Donnell. Fourth Row: Mary Coyne (1998 Honoree, Life Member, and Former IAAS Trustee); Jack Coyne (1998 Honoree and Life Member), and Ralph DeFrancisco; Kathleen Sheehan, Catherine Sheehan Daly, and Jim Brennan (IAAS Board President and Life Member); Leo Spellacy and John Myers (IAAS Trustee). Photographs by Marianne Mangan (www.mariannemangan.com).