



Irish American Archives Society Inc.
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Save the Date!

Wednesday, October 23, 2019,
7:00 pm

Free Talk by Margaret Lynch:
“Gangs, Gangsters, and Gamblers
Among the Irish in Cleveland”
Presented by
the Padraic Pearse Center
Irish American Club East Side
22770 Lakeshore Blvd,
Euclid, OH 44123

Wednesday, October 30, 2019, Noon
Continuing Education Talk by Thomas
D. Corrigan and Margaret Lynch:
“Diversifying Cleveland’s Judicial and
Legal Community:
The Irish Led the Way in the 19th and
early 20th Centuries”
Presented by Irish American Law
Society of Cleveland
Cleveland Chop
824 W St Clair Ave,
Cleveland, OH 44113

Sunday, November 10, 2019, 4:00 pm
Free Talk by Mick Mulchrone,
Tiernaur Oral History Group:
“Remember Us – The People’s War,
Newport Area, Mayo 1914-1924”
Presented by Jack Kilroy with
assistance from the Irish American
Archives Society
West Side Irish American Club
(Abbey Room)
8559 Jennings Rd, Olmsted
Township, OH 44138

Thursday, February 27, 2020, 5:30 pm
Annual Walks of Life Awards Dinner
Windows on the River

Taimid ag suil le do comhlúadar
We look forward to your company!



Preserving Our Heritage, Sharing Our Stories

The Newsletter of the
Irish American Archives Society of Cleveland & Northeast Ohio

Volume 22, Number 2, Fall 2019

Upcoming Talks

“Gangs, Gangsters, and Gamblers Among the Irish in Cleveland”

From the McCart Street gang to Shimmy Patton, “Black Jack” McGinty, and Danny Greene, Cleveland’s cast of “notorious” characters has included Irish Americans.

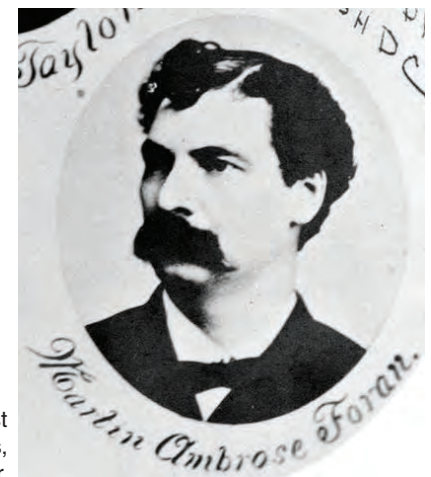


Sketching some of their haunts—the Angle, the Harvard Club, the Mounds Club, and the docks, IAAS Executive Director Margaret Lynch traces some of their paths into a life on the wrong side of the law. This free talk takes place Wednesday, October 23, 2019, 7:00 pm, at the Padraic Pearse Center of the Irish American Club East Side at 22770 Lakeshore Blvd, Euclid, OH 44123.

After obtaining the conviction of gangster Al Capone in Chicago, the “untouchable” Eliot Ness came to Cleveland in 1934 as the head of the alcohol tax unit for the northern district of Ohio. Appointed Cleveland’s safety director the following year, he vowed to go after Cleveland’s criminal element, including Shimmy Patton and “Black Jack” McGinty. Ness conducted celebrated raids on their gambling clubs, such as the raid on McGinty’s W. 25th Street “joint,” reported in the *Plain Dealer* on July 22, 1936.

“Diversifying Cleveland’s Judicial and Legal Community: The Irish Led the Way in the 19th and early 20th Centuries”

Irish Americans have also earned distinction in Cleveland on the “right” side of the law—as lawyers and judges and members of the city’s safety forces. At the request of the Irish American Law Society of Cleveland, IAAS Executive Director Margaret Lynch and Board President Thomas D. Corrigan will present a talk for continuing education credit that highlights some of Cleveland’s pioneering Irish American lawyers and judges and the ways in which they blazed a path for other ethnic groups to follow. The talk will take place on Wednesday, October 30, 2019, at Noon, in connection with lunch at Cleveland Chop, 824 W St Clair Ave, Cleveland, OH 44113. For fee and registration information, contact the Hon. Laura Gallagher at lgallagher2009@gmail.com.



Martin A. Foran (1844-1921), one of Cleveland’s first Irish-American judges of the Court of Common Pleas, also served as U.S. Congressman and county prosecutor.

Walks of Life Honorees Past and Present

At each annual Walks of Life dinner, we take a photograph that brings together the current year’s honorees with past honorees in attendance that night. Our honorees, past and present, continue to devote their time and talent to making Cleveland a better place, and we’re pleased to share this photo every year as a reminder of the contributions that individuals of Irish heritage have made to our community. We look forward to welcoming our honorees, and all of our faithful supporters, to our next Walks of Life dinner on February 27, 2020. Save the date!

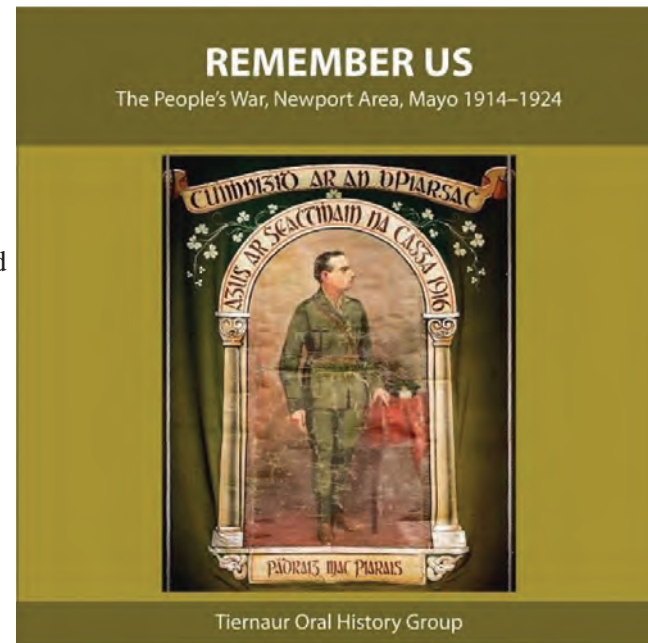


2019 Honorees (seated): Hon. James J. McMonagle, Veronica “Vera” Casey, Christopher Ronayne, Charlene “Char” Crowley, Sean W. Hardy. Past Honorees (standing): William M. Denihan (2018), Lawrence J. McGarry (2016), Patricia Hollywood (2004), Terry Joyce (2015), Sheila Murphy Crawford (2008), Dan Coughlin (2013), Francis Weir (2017), Kathleen Raleigh (2006), Neil Raleigh (2006), Hon. Patricia Gaughan (2011), Gerry Guinn (2007), Hon. Richard McMonagle (2013)

Trustees: Ken Callahan Jr., Dan Conway, Thomas D. Corrigan, John Coyne, Ray Daull, Margaret (Meg) McGarry, John Myers, Erin O’Toole, Kevin O’Toole, Jim Proctor, Colleen Reali, Thomas J. Scanlon. Trustees Emeritus: Rosemarie Feighan DeJohn, Helen Malloy, Mary Karen O’Neil, Gerald Quinn, J. Gerard Sheehan. Executive Director: Margaret Lynch, PhD.

“Remember Us – The People’s War, Newport Area, Mayo, 1914-1924”

Cleveland Mick Mulchrone, who currently lives in Ireland, returns to his native city in November to discuss a new book that he had a hand in compiling. The publication, “Remember Us – The People’s War, Newport Area, Mayo, 1914-1924,” honors people from the Newport area who participated in the struggle for Irish independence in the early 20th century. An informal gathering of people interested in local history in 2014 led to the formation of the Tiernaur Oral History Group. The group conducted oral history interviews, collected photographs, dug up battalion rosters, found poems and song lyrics, and assembled maps. Five years later, a 400-page volume had been assembled. Reviewing the undertaking in the *Mayo News* on May 7, 2019, columnist Liam McNally wrote, “The work that has gone into this publication is, quite frankly, unbelievable. For a local historical group to publish such a valuable source of important material is awe-inspiring.” Presented by Jack Kilroy with assistance from the Irish American Archives Society, Mulchrone will speak on Sunday, November 10, 2019, 4:00 pm, in the Abbey Room at the West Side Irish American Club. The book will be available for cash purchase at the price of \$30.



Cleveland Connections with the Irish Struggle for Independence

In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising, IAAS began collecting stories of Clevelanders who had a connection with the Irish struggle for independence, from the 19th century through the 1921 treaty with England and the ensuing civil war. Newspaper articles and public records shed light on Clevelanders who had worked tirelessly—as Fenians, Land League activists, and members of the Clan na Gael—in support of their native land throughout the 19th century. But another significant group consisted of individuals who were active participants in the struggle in Ireland during the 1910s and 1920s and subsequently immigrated to Cleveland in the 1920s and 1930s. In honor of the 50th anniversary of the Easter Rising in 1966, the Parade Committee of the United Irish Societies identified and invited about 25 veterans of the Irish Republican Army to march in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade as an honored group that year. The Parade Committee’s list provided a starting point for trying to find descendants of those veterans. Along the way, information began to surface of others who had died before 1966 or hadn’t been identified at the time, or didn’t come to Cleveland but had close relatives here. The effort grew but had to be tabled for a time while IAAS and the United Irish Societies worked to publish *The Day We Celebrate: 175 Years of Cleveland’s St. Patrick’s Day Parade*. Compiling the stories of Irish nationalists could be a never-ending task, since new ones come to attention all the time. But a way of sharing the work—even if “in progress” and perhaps online—will be found shortly.

25 IRA Veterans Ride in Parade Here



Plain Dealer, March 18, 1966: Johnny Corcoran, Johnny Fergus, and Johnny Ryan were among the IRA veterans who marched in Cleveland’s St. Patrick’s Day Parade in 1966.

Students Help to Advance Research on the “Tuke Assisted Emigration Scheme”

A conference was held at Quinnipiac University in June 2019, entitled “Famines in Ireland Before 1845 and After 1852.” The conference was organized by Christine Kinealy, Director of Ireland’s Great Hunger Institute at Quinnipiac University. IAAS Executive Director Margaret Lynch was able to participate and present research work that she has completed with the assistance of several student interns.

The conference brought attention to the important humanitarian effort by English Quaker James Hack Tuke (1819-1896) in bringing relief to Ireland during the Great Famine of 1845-1852 as well as the lesser-known Forgotten Famine of 1879-1881. The so-called “Forgotten Famine,” which afflicted northwest Mayo and Galway most acutely, prompted Tuke to enlist sponsors for 3,267 people to depart from Blacksod Bay in 15 sailings during 1883 and 1884. Along with the coal-mining regions of Pennsylvania, Cleveland, with its growing steel and shipping industries, was one of the prime destinations for the Tuke-sponsored immigrants.



Holy Name High School intern Sean Joyce with IAAS Executive Director Margaret Lynch at the Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival in July. Joyce said, “Through my internship I learned the values of time management and critical, logical thinking. Having a previous interest in genealogy, I found the project that we did on the Tuke Immigration Scheme very intriguing. This internship has inspired me to possibly pursue a career in research or genealogy.”

In order to assess the significance of Tuke’s philanthropy for Cleveland, some basic, but time-consuming, research must first establish where the 3,267 Tuke-sponsored immigrants ended up. That’s a lot of people to track in public records. Lynch approached the history department at John Carroll University for assistance. And, every spring semester since 2016, one or more JCU history students have served as research interns. Six students in all have contributed to the effort to date. 5 have been JCU students: Shane Meehan (Spring 2016), Erin Kelly and Jacquelyn Wilson (Spring 2017), Mary Rose Flynn (Spring 2018), and Acadia Palocko (Spring 2019). Sean Joyce, a Holy Name High School sophomore, also assisted with research this past summer.

The work of combing through census, birth, marriage, and death records is laborious. The passengers on 4 sailings have been documented to date; there are 11 sailings to go. The information will be shared at some point down the road, but the research is already helping to document where these families settled in Cleveland. Preliminary findings suggest that St. Malachi Parish in the Angle neighborhood was the “point of entry” for many, with Holy Name in Newburgh receiving some of the families as well.

As part of The Great Famine Voices Roadshow, funded by the Government of Ireland Emigrant Support Programme, interviews were recorded at the Quinnipiac conference this summer with many of the speakers, panelists, and descendants of Tuke-assisted immigrants who were present. The following link leads to those interviews, including one with Lynch about the Cleveland research project: <http://greatfaminevoices.ie/hamden-ct/>.



JCU intern Mary Flynn during her study abroad semester at NUI Galway.