



Preserving Our Heritage, Sharing Our Stories

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

Volume 23, Number 2, Fall 2020

Save the Date!

Virtual Family History Research
Workshops

Four Sundays in November
(11/1, 11/8, 11/15, 11/22), 2-3 pm
Via Zoom

Registration via Eventbrite.com
See details on p. 1

Limited copies of "The Day We
Celebrate: 175 Years of Cleveland's
St. Patrick's Day"
are available
now through December 31.
\$50 (free shipping)

Order online
via the homepage
of the IAAS website
at www.irisharchives.org

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



"Virtual" Cleveland-Irish Family History Research Workshops

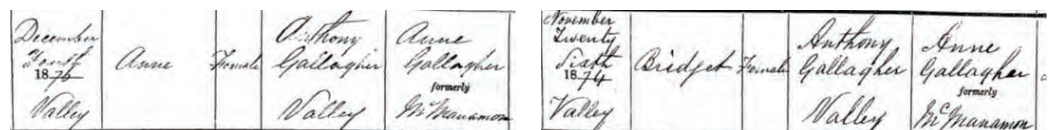
If you're keeping close to home these days, what better time to start or resume work on your family tree! If you're tracking an Irish family who came to Cleveland, join us for one or more Irish family history research sessions conducted by IAAS Executive Director Margaret Lynch via the video-based "zoom" platform. The sessions will be held on four Sundays in November at 2 pm; each will last about an hour. You do not need to have a Zoom account--just internet access. Click on the link you receive after registering! To register at Eventbrite.com, search by Irish American Archives Society or go directly to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/irish-family-history-research-workshops-via-zoom-tickets-123458689263?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch>

The three-part workshop sessions will be videotaped and can be made available to anyone who registered but was unable to participate. Direct questions about access to iaasadmin@gmail.com.

- Introductory Overview: "Irish Family History Research: How to Get Started" (Nov 1, 2020)
FREE; registration required via EVENTBRITE.com
- Three-part Workshop Series: Diving into Documents
\$100/all 3 sessions (\$75 with IAAS newsletter discount code IAAS1120); payment and registration required via EVENTBRITE.com
 - Who's Afraid of Vital Statistics: Finding free access to birth, marriage, and death records, along with death notices and cemetery records (Nov 8, 2020)
 - Beyond the Census: Supplementing US Census records with Cleveland City Directories and County Property and Tax Records (Nov 15, 2020)
 - Back to the Old Country: Exploring free Irish records such as Griffiths Valuation, Irish Civil Records, the 1901 and 1911 Census records (Nov 22, 2020)
- Zoom or Teleconference Consultation Sessions for individuals or small family groups \$65/hour; schedule on an individual basis via email at iaasadmin@gmail.com; payment by credit card.



Sisters Annie Gallagher Laird and Bridget "Liz" Gallagher Sammon immigrated to Cleveland with their family in 1883, when they were children. They're shown here ca. 1906 in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Their birth records can be found on the free Irish Record site, www.irishgenealogy.ie--a source that will be explored in the virtual family history research workshops.



SUMMER 2020: VIRTUAL RESEARCH INTERNSHIPS

IAAS created “virtual” research internships this summer, offering several local students the opportunity to burnish research and writing skills while helping to advance the work of IAAS. Weekly teleconference calls and electronic document sharing allowed IAAS Executive Director Margaret Lynch to collaborate with five students this summer despite the restrictions on in-person meetings during the pandemic.

“Tuke Assisted Emigration” Research

When a series of bad weather and bad growing years in the late 1870s and early 1880s caused what historians now call the “Forgotten Famine” in the west of Ireland, James Hack Tuke, an English Quaker, raised funds to offer “assisted emigration” to more than 3,000 needy individuals in communities surrounding Blacksod Bay. A significant number came to Cleveland. The passenger names have been transcribed and indexed by Rosemarie Geraghty of the Ionad Deirbhile Heritage Center in Belmullet, County Mayo, and can be searched on the center’s website, www.blacksodbayemigration.ie.

Every spring semester since 2016, a John Carroll University history major has helped IAAS to track and document these Tuke-sponsored passengers in public records in the US and Canada. Six students, five from JCU, have contributed to the effort to date: Shane Meehan (2016), Erin Kelly and Jacquelyn Wilson (2017), Mary Rose Flynn (2018), Acadia Palocko (2019), and Sean McCarthy (2020).

West Park native **Sean Joyce**, a rising junior at Holy Name High School, has spent the past two summers as an IAAS research intern, helping to review and standardize the format for Tuke passenger research data.



Sean Joyce

Strongsville native **Sean McCarthy**, a double English and History major, was able to continue work on the project this summer while finishing his studies for graduation from JCU in August 2020. Aiming to attend law school in the future, McCarthy says the internship helped “to bolster my deductive reasoning skills.”



Sean McCarthy

Erin Kelly, a Mayfield Heights native, held the JCU internship in spring 2017 and subsequently studied abroad at National University of Ireland Galway in a JCU-NUI student exchange program fostered in part by the Mayo Society of Greater Cleveland. She is currently pursuing a master’s degree in public history at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA. Inspired by her JCU internship in 2017, Erin decided to make the “Tuke Assisted Emigration Scheme” the focus of her MA thesis project and spent the summer laying the groundwork and defining the scope for her thesis research.



Erin Kelly

Encyclopedia of Cleveland History: Walks of Life Entries

In the fall of 1987 Case Western Reserve University published the Encyclopedia of Cleveland History. It was the first modern study of an American city published in encyclopedic format. David D. Van Tassel, a CWRU Professor of History, was the founding editor. John Grabowski joined the project as managing editor in 1981. The Encyclopedia moved online in 1998, the first urban encyclopedia to do so.

John J. Grabowski, the Krieger-Mueller Associate Professor of Applied History (a joint position with the Western Reserve Historical Society), currently serves as editor. In early spring, Grabowski asked IAAS Executive Director Margaret Lynch and former IAAS Board President Dennis Dooley to develop an entry for IAAS founder Thomas F. Campbell, following up in early summer with a request to add bios of deceased Walks of Life honorees as well. The Society's annual Walks of Life Awards recognize northeast Ohioans of Irish heritage whose attainments in their chosen and diverse Walks of Life have been truly remarkable and stand as an inspiration to others. IAAS has honored 111 individuals and 4 companies since the inception of the award in 1997. Only deceased individuals can be represented with ECH entries. 30 entries had to be researched and written over the course of the summer.



David Patrick Ryan

IAAS was eager to showcase the achievements of community members of Irish heritage within this larger civic project. Lynch reached out to two St. Ignatius High School alumni for assistance. One of the students, Broadview Heights native David Patrick Ryan, had approached IAAS in 2016 about doing a history research project to fulfill Eagle Scout requirements. A pamphlet profiling Grand Marshals of Cleveland's St. Patrick's Day Parade was the resulting project. Strongsville native Daniel Brennan, grandson of the late Jim Brennan, former IAAS Board President, had assisted Ryan with his Eagle Scout research. Both Ryan and Brennan, now rising sophomores at Case Western Reserve University and University of Notre Dame respectively, were eager to participate.

Each Walks of Life honoree was profiled when the award was bestowed, but the honoree might have had subsequent or additional accomplishments. And, in any event, the ECH bios had to follow a specific format that was different than the feature-style approach taken in the Walks of Life profiles. Lynch provided editorial guidance on research and writing, with Ryan and Brennan checking in weekly. Their work has now been incorporated into the Encyclopedia of Cleveland History! Going forward, new entries will be added on a yearly basis.



Daniel Brennan

Names added to the Encyclopedia of Cleveland History as of 9/15/2020:

Dr. Kenneth R. Callahan (2010)
Rev. Nelson J. Callahan (1997)
Thomas F. Campbell, PhD (2003)
William F. Chambers, Jr. (2004)
Michael Cleary (2012)
George E. Condon (2007)
Hon. John V. Corrigan (2000)
Hon. William Corrigan (2005)
Richard Coyne (2011)
Marilyn McGuigan Cunin (2006)
Mary Dowling Daley (2004)

Eamon D'Arcy (2006)
Vincent Dowling (2000)
Rev. Thomas Flynn (2002)
Dr. Joseph M. Foley (2001)
John A. Gannon (1997)
J. Packy Hyland (2003)
Terry Joyce (1999)
Jack Kahl (2014)
Thomas M. Lynch (1999)
Anne Laughlin Marotta (1998)
Dr. Robert J. McEvoy (1999)

William T. Monroe (2002)
Eileen Mullally (2009)
Murlan J. & Margaret S. Murphy (2003)
Kevin O'Donnell (2001)
Neil Raleigh (2006)
Raymond (Rip) Reilly (1998)
Patrick A. Sweeney (2016)
Robert E. Sweeney (2006)
Hon. Francis J. Talty (1997)
Robert J. Welsh, SJ (1998)



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IAAS Podcast

In May IAAS initiated a free podcast series. Titled “Finding Home,” the series explores aspects of the history of the Irish in Cleveland in 20-minute segments. The series begins with an episode about an Irish fur trader operating at the mouth of the Cuyahoga River in the 1740s and is progressing chronologically through such topics as Early Irish Parishes, the Fenian Invasion of Canada in 1866, Early Irish Undertakers, Bishop Gilmour’s Excommunication of the Ladies Land League in 1883, and so on. A link on the homepage of the IAAS website at www.irisharchives.org brings you to the episode menu. Listen at your own convenience to individual episodes or follow the whole series. You can also listen on Spotify, iTunes, Google Podcasts and other podcast platforms.



One of the early Irish undertakers featured in Podcast Episode 16 is Mark McGorray, whose family undertaking business, founded in 1872, is still flourishing today

Virtual Fundraising In The Time Of The Coronavirus

We’re anticipating that it won’t be feasible to hold a large-scale indoor event in February 2021, when we would ordinarily be hosting our annual Walks of Life dinner. The Walks of Life dinner will be celebrating its 25th anniversary in February 2022, and we’ll be back in our familiar format then. In the meantime, we’ll be announcing an alternative “virtual” fundraising event soon. We’re grateful for your continued support and interest during these trying times! Stay safe!

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.