



**IAAS Walks of Life 2008**  
**Regina Brett**

Regina Brett is a thrice-weekly metro columnist for the Cleveland *Plain Dealer* and hosts a weekly radio program on WCPN (90.3 FM), Cleveland's National Public Radio station. She is past president of the National Society of Newspaper Columnists.

With over half a million readers a week, plus her radio listeners, Regina has the ability to comfort the afflicted, afflict the comfortable, and shine a light on what is good—and bad—in Greater Cleveland. Her work generates great debate, and changes the way we think about our community and the people and issues that affect it.

"She keeps the tough issues before us," said IAAS president Dennis Dooley, "by putting a human face on the statistics, and forces us, in her beguiling way (and sometimes by writing follow-up columns), to linger over problems that are not going to go away when we toss the day's paper into the recycling bin. Her passion for fair play is palpable. But then, her ancestors hail from County Clare and County Mayo."

Brett earned her B.A. from Kent State University and her M.A. from John Carroll University. She came to *The Plain Dealer* in 2000 after seven years as a reporter and columnist for the *Akron Beacon Journal*. Her awards and honors include the 1999 Batten Medal, established in memory of the late chairman and CEO of the Knight Ridder newspaper chain, to recognize yearly one journalist nationwide whose body of work displays "compassion, fairness, courage, and a deep concern for the underdog."

Irish American Archives Society  
P.O. Box 91756  
Cleveland, OH 44101-3756  
[info@irisharchives.org](mailto:info@irisharchives.org)