

IRISH HERITAGE SOCIETY

McLean County

Bloomington, Illinois

Upcoming Events

March 16, 2013 1:00 p.m.
St. Patrick's Day Parade
"The Sharin' of the Green"
Uptown Normal

March 23, 2013 9 a.m. -4p.m.
Irish Heritage Society in conjunction
with McLean County Museum of
History and McLean County Genealogy
Society presents:
**Irish Heritage Genealogy
Workshop**
McLean County Museum of History
(Register at mchistory.org)

June 30, 2013 1:00 p.m.
**Irish Society Indoor Summer
Picnic**
Knights of Columbus Hall
Bloomington, IL

October 27, 2013 4:00 p.m.
**Irish Autumn Social
and Annual Member Meeting**
Knights of Columbus Hall
Bloomington, IL

Ongoing thru August 9, 2014
**The Greening of the Prairie: Irish
Immigrants in McLean County
Exhibit**
McLean County Museum of History

For additional information about any
of these events, please contact us at:
Irish.Heritage.Society@hotmail.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members of the Irish Heritage Society!

The festivities of the holiday season are behind us now, and the Society would like to invite you to join us for an exciting new calendar of events in 2013.

Thanks to those of you who have let us know how much you and your families have benefited from our previous seasons. We've been fortunate to have a Board of Directors that does enjoy the planning of educational and social activities to give our community the opportunity to share our Irish culture together, and your encouragement and support have been greatly appreciated. **Please help us spread the word!**

Of course, no St. Patrick's Day would be complete without a good old-fashioned Irish parade, and we are again partnering with **WJBC** and **East-er Seals** to sponsor this chari-

ty event for the benefit of children in our community. We hope you will turn out on **March 16th** for our **3rd Annual Sharin' of the Green** parade in uptown Normal. Who would have thought this would become such an enormous success in so short a time!

If you have been eager to begin researching your family ancestry but don't know how to get started, be sure to register for our day-long **Irish Heritage Genealogy Workshop**, co-sponsored with the McLean County Genealogy Society, on **March 23rd**. This should be very well-attended and there is a limit of 100 reservations, so be sure to register well in advance to reserve a spot for you and your family.

The warm months bring us to our yearly **Summer Family Potluck Picnic**, so save the date for **Sunday, June 30th**

and bring your favorite dish to pass. Good fun, good food, and good people are an Irish combination that is hard to beat!

To close out the year's events, we hope you'll join us for our nostalgic **Irish Autumn Social** and **Annual Membership Meeting** on **Sunday, October 27th**. This is your chance to elect new officers and directors to the board, and to share an Irish menu and musical entertainment with your fellow members. Watch for more on this fun-loving event.

How fortunate we are to live in a community that celebrates the importance of the historic Irish culture that our ancestors helped to create, and I sincerely hope you'll renew your membership and join us again this year as we honor and perpetuate their valuable contributions!

Margaret Bratcher

Irish Heritage Society President

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!!! (clip and mail)

Please say that you will join us for another exciting year of events and activities. We hope that you will continue to support our programs through your membership in the Irish Heritage Society. Your membership is so important and makes it possible for us to provide educational and entertaining programs, exhibits, and social events. Renew today and stay involved.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Membership: \$15 single _____ \$20 family _____

Please renew by February 15, 2013.

Mail to: Irish Heritage Society, PO Box 23, Bloomington IL 61702

**3rd Annual St. Patrick's Day
Sharin' of the Green Parade**

Saturday, March 16, 2013

1:00 p.m. in Uptown Normal

Want your Irish clan to march with us?

Register at info@wjbc.com

Check the WJBC website for the staging area, and bring your family members and surname banner to that location at 12:15 p.m.



**Irish Heritage Genealogy
Workshop**

Saturday, March 23, 2013 9:00 to 4:00

McLean County Museum of History

Join the Museum, the Irish Heritage Society, and the McLean County Genealogy Society for a day of discovering your Irish roots!

Register now at mchistory.org. Space is limited.

IHS Officers and Board Members

Maggie Bratcher, president; Joe Solberg, VP; Dan Leifel, Secretary; Steve Young, Treasurer. Board members: Charles Baue, Doug Connor, Greg Connor, Neil Finlen, Larry Mertes, Steve Purcell, Pat Rochelle, Mary Stack, Margaret Theis and Kevin Woods.

Members of the Society are invited to attend the monthly board meetings and to participate on the various committees that plan and execute our activities throughout the year! Board meetings are held the 2nd Wed. of the month, 7 p.m., Farnsworth and Wylie Building, 2709 McGraw Drive, Bloomington.

Share your Ideas and Suggestions!

We are always interested in ideas and suggestions from our membership. Please include your comments below, or contact Irish.heritage.society@hotmail.com.

And don't forget to visit our page on [Facebook](#) for updates on events and activities

