

IRISH BOOK GROUP 2018-2019*

SEPT 27** *Chief O'Neill's Sketchy Recollections of an Eventful Life in Chicago*

by Francis O'Neill

Host Mary Craig

In 1865 Francis O'Neill left Ireland for America. Read his memoirs of a life well lived. He married in Bloomington IL, became police chief of Chicago, and had an unusual hobby of collecting and preserving the songs of Ireland.

OCT 25** *Yours Faithfully, Florence Burke: An Irish Immigrant Story* by Ellen B. Alden

Host Maggie Bratcher

Written by the great, great granddaughter of Florence Burke after finding 19 original letters in the attic written by Burke to his wife during his service in the Civil War. Irish immigrant Florence Burke had lived in Massachusetts ten years in near poverty as a tenant farmer. He gambled that by serving in the Civil War he would receive a land grant and have his own farm.

NOV 12 *Many A Twist: A County Cork Mystery* by Sheila Connolly Coffeehouse 9 a.m.

Another mystery in a series we have read and enjoyed.

JAN 24 *The Irish RM* by E. Somerville and Martin Ross

Host Janet Blue

In 1895 Ireland, transplanted Englishman Major Yeates, the new Resident Magistrate, shares an affectionate relationship, amid many mutual misunderstandings, with his Irish neighbors. (Also a Masterpiece Theatre series)

FEB 28*** Luther Oaks Dinner. No book. May switch to January date.

MARCH 28 *The Guards* by Ken Bruen

Shannon's 9 a.m.

Book one in a popular series. Meet Jack Taylor, a former Garda, stuck in Galway with nothing to look forward to. In his sober moments Jack aspires to become Ireland's best private investigator, not to mention its first—Irish history, full of betrayal and espionage, discourages any profession so closely related to informing. (Also a BBC series)

APRIL 25

The Sea by John Banville

Mary Stack's home, Jean Newmister co-host

A novel about love, loss, and the unpredictable power of memory. Max Morden, a middle-aged Irishman has gone back to the seaside town where he spent his summer holidays as a child to cope with the recent loss of his wife. (Also a movie starring Ciaran Hinds)

*Meetings begin at 6:30 unless otherwise noted.

**The books *Chief O'Neill* and *Yours Faithfully, Florence Burke* are available by special request thru your library. They are outside of the inter-library loan system and have to be special ordered by your library for you. Order at least 6 weeks before book group meets and tell library your book group meeting date and they should extend the due date for you.

All other books are available thru regular inter-library loan.

***The Luther Oaks dinner may switch to January.