

Nuacht

THE NEWSLETTER OF
THE IRISH CLUB OF ALASKA

Issue Date October 12, 2007

October Pub Quiz

Test your knowledge and your memory at ICA's Samhain Pub Quiz, Thursday, October 25th, at McGinley's Pub. We'll form teams and compete for bragging rights and prizes beginning at 7:00 PM. Question categories will include Irish history and culture as well as many other areas both trivial and weighty.

Come early, have supper, and gather your team together before the contest begins. Then stay for the traditional seisiún with John Walsh and other talented local musicians.

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KELLS DVD

The Book of Kells contains lavishly illustrated and ornamented transcriptions of the four Gospels, and is the most elaborate manuscript of its kind to survive from the early Middle Ages. It has been in Trinity College, Dublin, since 1661. Now a digitized copy of the Book of Kells is available on a DVD-ROM. For details visit the website.

www.bookofkells.com



Samhain Celebration on Track

This year's Celtic New Year Celebration will be at the Anchorage Senior Activities Center on **Saturday, October 27**. Tickets are available at a discount at Celtic Treasures and Suzi's Woollies. Lots of information was printed in last month's article, but here's an update.

Worried about parking at the Senior Center? Worry no more. The Center's volunteers are offering valet parking at no cost (but you can always tip them – tips go to the Senior Center). Now you don't have to get in a swivet about damaging your fairy wings while walking into the building.

Menu: Provided by Aardvark catering, the night's menu is a dinner buffet containing the following (substitutions might be made depending on availability of ingredients):

Appetizers:

Haggis
Welsh Rarebit

Soups:

Cock-a-leekie Soup
Blue Stilton Soup

Sides:

Colcannon
Tatties and Neeps
Green beans with tarragon and leek sauce
Yeast buns

Entrees:

Corned Beef
Shepherd's Pie
Stovies
Sauté of Turkey with Cider

Desserts:

Butterscotch Banoffee Pie
Shortbread

To make sure we have enough food – please buy your tickets early – we have to project attendance based on ticket sales!

Band: Last Night's Fun is unable to perform this year, but the Back Alley Banned will be there to keep things lively. This delightful mix of musicians believes in audience input and participation, so come ready for some great music, dancing and laughter.

Costume Contest: The children's contest will begin early (about 7:30), and the children's prizes will be awarded at the first band break. The adult contest will be right after the Ancestor Walk, with adult awards given at the band break following the contest.



The Samhain Parshell

The Parshell is an important Irish craft as it is the cross which keeps the evil spirits away from your door on Samhain (Halloween) and keeps the barn animals safe the year round. While you want to welcome the good spirits that walk the earth at Samhain, you also want to be sure to guard against the bad spirits or the spirits of your enemies! So get the Parshell made and on your door right away!

Materials:

1. Two sticks, 1-2 feet long, about 1/2 inch diameter at most.
2. Tape or string to tie the sticks together.
3. Wheaten straw, similar plant material or paper twist (I use green, purple, and tan colored twist).

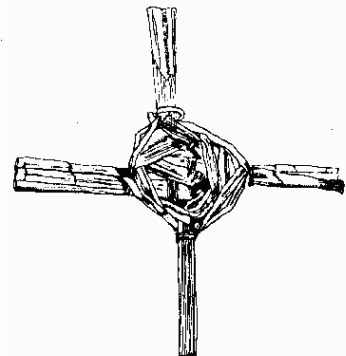
Instructions:

1. Fasten the two sticks together securely at right angles to form a cross (use tape or string).
2. If using twist, untwist it and flatten it out but not too flat. It should resemble corn stalk/husk.
3. Attach twist or stalk to underside of one of the sticks, or if using straw, wedge it under one and over the other stick starting in the center.
4. Moving clockwise weave the twist or straw over one stick and under the next going around the cross. Stop before you get to the ends of the sticks; a few inches of stick should be exposed.
5. If using twist try to use two or three colors, attaching one to the next as you go.

Now you have your Parshell, what do you do with it? On Oct. 31 make the Parshell and place it over the front doorway on the inside. The powers to ward off ill-luck, sickness, witchcraft, and evil spirits only last one year. You can only make a new one on Oct. 31. When you take the old one down, you must take care to shout: Fonstarenheehy. Take the old one out and put it in the barn or garage over the car as its power is still good to help the animals and perhaps even protect the car in the new year. Once you get your Parshell up, you can carve your turnip head!

Source: Kevin Danaher, The Year in Ireland

To view photos of a completed Parshell go to <http://www.bcpl.net/~hutmanpr/parshal.html>



What Do You Say to a Banshee?

(from George Steeler's October online newsletter)

So there you are walking down a lonely Irish road. It's near midnight and the full moon is casting those forever mysterious shadows in front of you. And to top it off it's Samhain. What do you do? Why, you learn the following Irish phrases to help you get back to your snug turf fire. Thanks to our very own Bridget Haggerty, you'll never have to worry about those awkward moments when you come face to face with a Pooka or Banshee.

For more great articles from Bridget. Please go to.

<http://www.irishcultureandcustoms.com/3Focloir/1Home.html>

Word: Bat

Irish: sciathán

Pronunciation: shkee-hawn

Word: Strange/Weird

Irish: ait or aisteach

Pronunciation: atch ash-thukh

Word: Sinister

Irish: drochtuarach

Pronunciation: dhrukth-oor-ukh

Word: Scare/Scared/Fright/Frightened/

Irish: scanradh/scanraithe

Pronunciation: skahn-rah/skahn-rah-heh

Word: Haunt/Haunted/ Haunting

Irish: gnáthóg/gnáthaithe/dodhcarmadra

Pronunciation: gnaw-hohg/gnaw-ah-heh/dudh-kahr-mah-dhrah

Word: Spectre/ Bogeyman

Irish: taibhseach or púca

Pronunciation: thye-v-shukh or pook-ah

Word: Spirit

Irish: anam

Pronunciation: ah-nahm

Word: Ghostly/spooky

Irish: taibhsiúil

Pronunciation: thye-v-shool

Word: Banshee

Irish: bean sí

Pronunciation: bahn-shee

Word: Scream/shriek
Irish: scréach
Pronunciation: shkraykh

Word: Howl
Irish: uail
Pronunciation: oo-il

Word: Moon
Irish: gealach
Pronunciation: gi-ahl-ukh

Word: Moonlight
Irish: solas gealaí
Pronunciation: sol-ahs gi-ah-lee

Word: Dark
Irish: dorcha
Pronunciation: dhur-khah

Word: Shadow
Irish: scáth or scáil
Pronunciation: skaw or skaw-il

Word: Midnight
Irish: meán-oíche
Pronunciation: mi-ahn- ee-heh



Irish Club of Alaska Board of Directors

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Treasurer, **Nuacht** editor, Membership: Kate O'Dell (ksdo@gci.net, 360-8547)

Board Members: Mary Digney, Sean McGrane, Miriam Dean, Lisa Caress-Beu, Angel Ellers.

October Events at McGinley's Pub

- Some
Sundays
3pm
Traditional Irish Seisiún (Session)
Hosted by the one & only Back Alley Banned!
Time for a snack, a brew & tapping of the feet!
- Every
Wednesday
8:00pm
Old Time Music Jam
Slap your thighs & take a sip while listening to our local musicians play grand music rooted in the Irish Tradition.
- Every
Thursday
8pm
Irish Seisiún Hosted by John Walsh & Friends
Listen to Live Irish music while sipping on a Guinness!
Better yet, have a Shepherds Pie with your brew.
- First
Friday
5-9pm
McGinley's own "First Taste" to inspire your taste buds!
Special priced beers to taste & critique. Win Prizes Too!
Hosted by La Bodega Shop of Wines, Beer & Spirits.
- Oct. 6
Saturday
9pm
Rick Brooks - Singer/Songwriter
A Great One Man Show with a Guitar.
Come to the Pub for a fun evening out with your friends!
- Oct. 13 *** McGinley's 1st Anniversary Party *** – T-Shirts For Sale - Saturday - Specialty Drinks & Food adds to this Grand Occasion! You'll be tapping your toes to the music of Rakish Paddy! Craic 'n Hooley for All!**
- Oct. 14
Sunday
2nd Sunday
of month
Celtic Knock Down Competition starting at 5pm
Competition of Scottish Bagpipes, Snare, & Tenor Drums.
Pub Crowd votes the winner! Prizes for the winners!
Contact Doc Schultz Alaska Highlanders for info 245 0869
- Oct. 20
Saturday
9pm
Deb Wessler – Singer/Songwriter
A Great One Woman Show with Banjo & Guitar.
Dance in your chair or up on your feet! Party at the Pub!
- Oct. 25
7-8:30pm
Pub Quiz – Hosted by the Irish Club
Uisce beatha/whiskey makes things clearer!! Irish Session follows.
- Oct. 27
Saturday
&
Oct. 31
Halloween
McGinley's "Trick or Treat" Halloween Party – 2 nights!!
Come in costume & say Cheese!!! If the Bartender wants a picture –
You get a \$5 McGinley's gift certificate Treat!

**Around the corner 7th & G St.
Look for the Pint - Join Us for the Craic!
www.mcginleypub.com**