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# **EDITOR**

William F. Badzmierowski, M.ED., CSW, NP (aka Bill O'Badz)

# ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dr. Jean McConnell Dinwiddie

LAYOUT AND DESIGN Joel J. Kotchevar, M.S. WELCOME to our First Edition of the O Mahony Society Newsletter of 2021. Go raibh maith agat (thank you!) to our volunteer authors and contributors for this and all previous and future publications! If you would like to submit an article to be considered for publication, please see the newsletter guidelines in this issue and on the O Mahony Society website. The newsletter is a completely volunteer publication and we deeply appreciate ALL of the volunteers that make this newsletter a reality.

# 66TH ANNUAL GATHERING OF THE O MAHONY SOCIETY

JUDE 20, 2021

Mark your calendars now for the 66th Annual and Second VIRTUAL Gathering of The O Mahony Society

Once again, our Taoiseach has had to make the very difficult decision to forego our beloved in-person Gathering in Ireland and move to an all-virtual event. Unfortunately, COVID-19 and its variants continue to make travel and close contact too risky.

The Zoom gathering is scheduled on June 20, 2021. The Zoom link is https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4777199229?pwd=dFpXajRXbzBmNCtlMGdXTmRHKzFFQT09. This link will also be posted on the O Mahony website at https://www.omahonysociety.com, Facebook page, and emailed to members (along with the AGM agenda) by May 15th, with a reminder within a week of our meeting.

Greetings and welcome will start at 2:30 pm GMT. Speaker Finola Finlay will present her lecture "The O'Mahonys and the Tower Houses of West Cork" at 3 pm GMT. Following a short break, our Annual General Meeting (AGM) will commence at 4:30 pm GMT.

Please note that the O Mahony Council plans to meet on Saturday, June 19th.

All are welcome to attend the AGM, although only members in good standing may vote on issues. If you have any questions regarding the status of your membership, please contact Mary Haislip at mlhaislip@icloud.com

It may be fair to say that we all have pandemic fatigue and that we all miss being together. Technology allows us the opportunity to see each other virtually, and science is forging the path toward improved immunity from Coronavirus Disease (19). For those gifts as well as the gift of our membership, the Officers and Council of The O Mahony Society are grateful.

# Pandemic Positives

The O Mahony Society uses technology to maintain connections.

Virtual yDNA Project and Genetic Genealogy Update AND Traditional Genealogy Workshop are greatly successful!

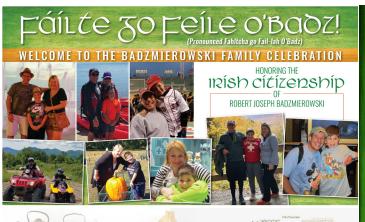


Society members around the world were wowed by Taoiseach Finbar O Mahony's October 2020, virtual yDNA Project and Genetic Genealogy updates as well as a January 2021, Traditional Genealogy workshop presented by Cartlannai and Journal Editor Nora Hickey. Finbar's presentation is available on this website under the Genetic Genealogy tab, Virtual Project Update Presentations sub-tab. Nora's workshop can be viewed under the Traditional Genealogy tab, Virtual Workshops sub-tab.

Our Society has been gifted to have these two leaders, experts in their respective and complementary fields, give so much of their time and attention that serves our membership so well!

Feedback from attendees has been remarkably positive and reiterates the obvious: while not everyone can attend the annual Gathering, most can tune into a Zoom meeting and see and hear those we love well. On a personal level, for this Runai, it has been a joy to see former Runai Mary O Mahony, wife of our late Taoiseach Peter O Mahony of Scotland, our Social Media Administrator, our Newsletter Editor, many current and former Council members, and even more of our beloved members. We always say we are related by blood or affection. These examples of deeply appreciated relationships have been a pandemic positive!



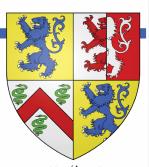




# che o mathuna clan

(Pronounced O Ma-hoo-na)

- Several English translations and spellings of the same translation including O'Mahoney, O'Mahony, O Mahoney, O Mahony, Mahoney, Mahony, Mahane, Mahon, and many others.
- O Mahoney's descend from Mathuin (Mahon), son of Cian mac Maol Muadh, Prince of Raithleann, and Saidhb, daughter of Brian Boru.
- Brian Boru (who lived approximately 941 1014 AD) is a revered name in Irish history because he unified the Island of Ireland into one Kingdom under his rule as High King. The unified Kingdom was able to at least temporarily end Viking rule of the Island of Ireland.
- Our great-grandfather Denis O'Mahoney was a descendant of these prominent Irish pioneers.
- Dunlough Castle was founded in 1207 by Donagh O'Mahony. It is one
  of the oldest Norman castles in southern Ireland and an example of
  Norman architecture and dry-stone masonry.







# O MAHONEY SOCIETY MEMBERS AT

# reíle o'badz!

By Bill Badzmierowski (aka Bill O'Badz)

O Mahoney Society Members from throughout the world enjoyed Feile O'Badz on March 20, 2021 via Zoom! Although not an official society event, the Badzmierowski family was honored to invite members to this historic and inspiring family event.

Feile O'Badz was a virtual celebration honoring the Irish Citizenship of O Mahony Society Member Robert Joseph Badzmierowski (Bob)!

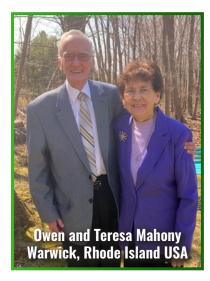
Like me, Bob is now a proud dual citizen of the Republic of Ireland and the United States. Like mine, his Irish Citizenship derives from our own mother's Irish Citizenship.

Under Irish law, our maternal grandmother (Bridget Theresa O'Mahoney Gifford) was an Irish citizen since she was born on the Island of Ireland. Our mother was also an Irish citizen despite the fact that she was born in Boston - because her mother (Bridget) was born on the Island of Ireland. It is through our mother's Irish Citizenship that Bob and I were eligible for Irish Citizenship by descent.

During this vibrant virtual event we explored the roots of our shared Irish Heritage through the lens of Irish history. We also walked the history of our Irish grandmother, her life in Ireland, and her journey to Boston in 1905. We examined the process through which our mom, myself, and Bob were granted Irish Citizenship, and we toasted Bob for his recent approval as an Irish Citizen.

During Feile O'Badz, I shared my "Top Ten Reasons My Irish Citizenship is So Important to Me". I further challenged my brother Bob to develop his list and share it with us down the road. My "Top Ten" list appears elsewhere in this newsletter.

A PDF version of the slide presentation involved in Feile O'Badz is available for download on the O Mahony Society Website. Members may also request access to a video of this virtual event by emailing Newsletter Editor Bill Badzmierowski at wfbjjk@gmail.com.





When I first moved to Frankfurt, Germany from Rhode Island, USA in the fall of 1981, I was often asked where I came from and I inevitably gave the incorrect answer; "I am Irish", I proudly said.

My pride about being of Irish descent or "Irish" seemed to be inborn as I had grown up hearing this same proud self-declaration from my American/New England parents' mouths since before I could even utter a word.

The question coming from a curious German/ European perspective had me quickly and incorrectly classified as "an Irish lassie". Years

later I realized my error. From a European perspective, I was an American. I was so used to answering the same question in America in this generation-limited manner that I did not give it much thought until my seventh grandchild arrived last month.

He is the first Mahony lineage, German/American grandchild born unto my elderly parents; Owen (95 on May 26, 2021) and Teresa Mahony (91 on June 6, 2021) from Warwick, Rhode Island, USA. They are the proud parents of 12 adult children and 37 grandchildren, and 5 great grandchildren. There are 8 more grandchildren weddings coming up in the next months.

Perhaps this is when the innate tendency toward tribalism and clan identity pushes to the forefront of our conscious desire for self-identification. Perhaps we all want to be part of a cohesive group of people who feel an affinity for one another and are proud therefore to share a common ancestral background and a sense of strength and security in numbers. Isn't it this true sense of "home" and family/clan cohesion which all of us really want to pass on down to our children and grandchildren?

It was with great delight that my older sister Maureen (now married Cohen) and I attended our first O'Mahony clan meeting in the summer of 1978 with the clan's charming Tynan O'Mahony being our welcoming, bearded host. The summer reunion was lots of fun and the weather was good! We made many new friends and exchanged postal addresses as there was still no internet nor email nor cell phones at the time. A letter written and posted with a stamp took about a week to ten days to arrive in Ireland from the States. It took another week or so to receive a response in the States if the Irish recipient sent their letter out with the post the day the other letter was read and received.

Alas, life races on, connections were lost, and new connections were made for me through a change of residence via marriage. My mother primarily focused our Mahony family relationships on the progeny of her own parents: Bernard and Anna (born Dorsey) Heslin, who were originally from Lowell, Massachusetts. She also focused on her own seven siblings.

After my marriage in 1984 I was immediately ensconced into the patriarchal lineage of the rare, German Riesenkampff family of my former husband who is an international business lawyer. We raised six children together while my Mahony heritage lay dormant for the better part of four decades.

The traceable part of my Mahony roots began with Agnes E. MacNamara, my father's mother. She was the oldest of a family of 8 children when her mother died. At the age of 13 Agnes had to leave school to take care of her seven younger siblings. She eventually met and married my grandfather, Timothy Augustin Mahony. She gave birth to my father, Owen William Mahony in 1926 and later to his sister Claire (deceased-married Diamond).

Timothy A. Mahony was a reticent, pipe smoking, quiet, slim man, relatively tall and possessed a gentle connection to nature, especially with animal and bird inhabitants. I fondly remember "Poppy" calmly feeding the birds and squirrels directly from his hand. He was a salesman with MetLife Insurance. My grandmother, ("Nana") would walk two miles one way to work as a seamstress at "Murphy's" clothes shop in Woonsocket, Rhode Island, USA.

The sweet memories I have of my "Nana and Poppy" are all that is left to me of their lives except for some family photographs in yellowing albums, the O'Mahony coat-of-arms with its intriguing three lions and three snakes heraldry which hung above Dad's work room den. I also had found and the entry of their marriage online in the 1940 Massachusetts census. It stated that Timothy A. Mahony married to Agnes E. (born MacNamara) Mahony, were the parents of Owen and Claire Mahony and that they lived at 22 Fifth Avenue in Woonsocket, Rhode Island.

Thankfully, my own parents are in good health. Mom is a prolific storyteller in her own right and prides herself in remembering names, dates and situational anecdotes. She always maintained a slender physique through her frequent fasting and extremely busy workload.

Now that he and Mom have had both of their Covid shots, my Dad again enjoys the opportunity to drive to Mass at their nearby church. This had been their daily custom since Dad's retirement as the director of mental health care and hospitals in Rhode Island over 35 years ago. He only "retired" from his bi-weekly doubles in tennis at the ripe age of 90 years.

Dad has always been deeply devoted to my mother. He is proud of her ability to tell amusing and interesting family stories to visitors at their 1874 built, three floor, stone home in Warwick, Rhode Island. This is where the twelve of us grew up. Mom's parents lived just over the back fields from us.

# MY PARENTS HAD AN INTERESTING BEGINNING.

At the tender age of 18, Dad fought at Omaha beach on "D Day" and survived. Thousands of his fellow military men perished along those blood-stained shores. At one point, during his duty at the heavy guns during anti-aircraft combat, he and his best friend switched the guns they manned on that ship. Seconds later, his buddy was shot dead from enemy aircraft fire as he manned the machine gun that my father had used seconds before. My father never spoke about this until the blockbuster movie Saving Private Ryan prompted a silent generation into conversations about that harrowing time.

My mother celebrated her 14th birthday as my father fought on that D-Day on June 6th, 1944. They providentially met 5 years later at a Providence College dance and married at St. Catherine's church in Warwick, Rhode Island on the summer solstice of June 21st, 1952.

Twelve children were born to them between 1954 and 1970: Maureen Susan, Kathleen Ann, Timothy Owen, Patricia Lee (myself), Kevin Joseph, Sean Patrick, Sheila Jane, Margaret Mary, Michael Francis, Ellen Teresa, Thomas Phillip, and Brian James. Mom wanted to have 15 children to represent the fifteen mysteries of the Holy Rosary; a litany of prayers my parents recite/pray daily as did their parents before them.

On most evenings during our childhood, we were on our bent knees in front of Mom's 12 white, porcelain angeloccupied, wooden altar which hung above the mantel. In their angelic midst was a statue of Jesus Christ who was always dressed in a seasonal, perfectly ironed and clean, priest-like, chasuble outfit.

Mom used to hide her private intentions written on a small piece of folded scrap paper placed securely under Jesus's feet which I found once dusting as a youngster doing my chore posted upon our Saturday "chore chart".

There was a great incentive for us youngsters during this nightly family ritual of saying the rosary together. Each of us was given a brief allotted time the coveted opportunity to kneel directly in front of our kneeling mother, in her cozy embrace with usually the softness of her next child cushioning

against our backs. This delight usually only lasted the duration of a few "Hail Mary's" until the next sibling was given their turn.

"There was such a brawl of flying fists and rosary beads that the freckled, red-faced perpetrators were sent to bed without supper."

I dare say that a few jabs were pushed between some of my brothers one evening when one of them was inadvertently "allowed" to tarry one Hail Mary too long in Mom's embrace. There was such a brawl of flying fists and rosary beads that the freckled, red-faced perpetrators were sent to bed without supper.

Each of us was also given a "mystery" of the Holy Rosary to represent and to pray when it was our turn. Being the fourth born, I was given the fourth Joyful Mystery- "The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple". I sometimes thought that my older brother Tim was luckier with his "Holy Nativity" status, but I was keenly grateful not to have been given the "Crucifixion", nor, as I imagined even worse as a child, "The Crowning of Thorns". My poor sister Ellen. I often wondered if this added spiritual affiction somehow thwarted her emotional development.

During the summer of 1994 my German family visited Rhode Island for a summer vacation. My 9-year old daughter Erika consoled my mother (her "Masie") by saying - in her unemotional, and serious German manner: "Don't be sad about only having 12 children, dear Masie. My brothers and I make up for your missing, three Catholic children to represent the last mysteries of the Holy Rosary."

Mom and Dad sent all twelve of us to private Catholic schools and expected us to get a job as soon as we could to help pay for our own needs and wants. We all were taught the importance of self-motivation, self-reliance, determination and education. We were expected to pay our way through college and university. Each of us had to take out a student loan and thankfully Dad could co-sign our loans.

All of us graduated with Bachelor's degrees and a few with Master's degrees. Mom achieved her full degree as a registered nurse in her forties. She used to work the 3-11 pm shift, twice a week as an associate nurse when we were all little. She later worked at the local hospital until her retirement. At the age of 70 she enrolled again as a part-time student and graduated at the age of 80 with a degree in history.

During our early years in Rhode Island, Mom decided that she and Dad would become foster parents and that our family should become home to many different families of kids over the next 5 years. We intermittently fostered over 27 children during that time, some of whom were living with physical or emotional challenges.

Mom opened up a little "Irish Corner" shop which she maintained for several years. She sold imported Irish goods such as Aran sweaters and blankets, Belleek porcelain, Waterford glassware, and handmade Irish art works. She loved this little occupation as long as it lasted.

On Mom and Dad's 25th wedding anniversary, they made their dream come true: a visit Ireland! They took a three-week vacation through Ireland, England, Scotland and Wales. They absolutely loved it! Their enthusiasm about Ireland led them back there another seven times.

Many of these trips were made with relatives and friends. Dad acted as the well-informed tour guide.

Our parents' love of everything Irish was clear. Various prints of places the visited in Ireland adorned our walls sparked all of our interests to also travel to Ireland. Many of us were able to realize this independent goal during our college/university years. Years later, I also traveled to Ireland a few times together with my husband and six children. We drove there with our family car and rented the cottage of German friends near Cork. It was important for my children to know why I always kept a penny whistle in my purse and an Irish ballad on my lips.

As kids we often loved to go to sleep to the music of the Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem playing on the record player console downstairs in the dining room.

There was a palpable air of romanticism and the mystical growing up as Irish Catholics. Dad used to sing and tell us stories about leprechauns and elves which allowed us an easy belief in our guardian angels as well. We grew up sensing the things beyond what we could actually see and touch. Religion and the cultural Irish color continued to be the scaffolding of our family rituals.

My Celtic Irish parents laid the foundation of faith for me to pass on. I am forever grateful to be blessed with such wonderful parents.

Owen and Teresa Mahony will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary on June 25, 2022 in Rhode Island with all of their twelve children and their families.



Food is Meaningful and Unites Us!

by Linda McConnell Baker, Runai -

Genesis has many meanings, and in this case, car and health care models do not come to mind. In this case, I'm talking recipes, and specifically, to the stories and recipes my late mother (and former O Mahony Society Taoiseach) Eileen Mahoney McConnell, shared.

My sisters and my parents' first trip to Ireland was in 1971, in celebration of their 25th wedding anniversary. They had not yet made the connection to our O Mahony relations, but that's a different story.

On our mother's mother's side (Murphy and Corrigan), cousin Danny Corrigan had made the genealogic connection that found the Irish cousins who lived in the Co. Mayo birthplace of our maternal/maternal great-grandmother, Margaret Corrigan. At that time, the cottage, in an enclave near Crossmolina, still had a thatched roof and what I will politely call outdoor plumbing. On that first visit, our mother was unflummoxed, and always said she was amazed how much the cottage owner, Brian Corrigan, looked like his first cousin and our mother's uncle, Eugene Murphy. According to our mother, soda bread was part of the menu of the tea that Brian's wife, Margaret, presented. It was traditional brown bread, and Mom asked Margaret for her recipe.

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A second-generation American, our mother later reported that she was not prepared for the answer given: "You start with a certain quantity of flour." Apparently, it went downhill from there. Our mother was a subscriber to the science of baking. As brilliant as she was, the term "a certain quantity" had little meaning.

The following year, our parents took our grandmother, our Nana, Florence Murphy Mahoney, and her younger sister Irene Murphy Fremgen (our Aunt Sis), to Ireland to meet the Mayo family. From the family stories, I don't think the phenotypical similarity between Brian Corrigan and our uncle Eugene ("Babe") Murphy was lost on anyone. Per our parent's recollections, Florence (our Nana), Aunt Sis, and Margaret sat together near the peat fire, and when our mother asked for the soda bread recipe to be repeated, Margaret used the same terminology: a certain quantity of flour. Our grandmother and our aunt reportedly nodded in complete understanding. Our mother was still perplexed.



Upon returning to the US, our mother asked her mother to measure out "a certain quantity." The rest is history, and here repeated in our mother's own hand is that she put into my copy of Joy of Cooking. A marvelous gift my husband Larry (and our Society's webmaster) received from our older daughter (and Society member) Hillary Siobhan Baker Driscoll was a tea towel copied in HER Nana's hand of this same recipe. I'm here to tell you it's a great soda bread recipe.

You may have your own recipes, or recipes that came from generations before you that are comfort foods, if not staples. Please share. We have so much to learn from each other!

For those who struggle to read our mother's Catholic grammar school taught penmanship, here's the typed version and I apologize in advance for not having the metric conversions, as apparently 1 cup of cane sugar is 200 grams but 1 cup of all-purpose flour is 250 grams:



# 4 cups white flour

(note: this recipe was written using all purpose flour, not strong, aka, bread flour)

½ tsp salt

¼ cup sugar

3 teaspoons baking powder

1 teaspoon baking soda

2 cups buttermilk (about)

2-3 Tablespoons shortening

1 cup raisins

# 1 tablespoon caraway seeds

Mix dry ingredients, cut in shortening with fork or pastry blender, add raisins and caraways (note: not with the pastry blender). Add liquid to form stiff dough [like biscuits (note: American biscuits, not European)]. Roll out on floured board and knead 2-3 times- just enough to form a round loaf. Put into a greased and floured pan (note: our mother always used a cast-iron skillet). With floured knife, cut in quarters ("farls") through to pan. Sprinkle loaf with flour. Bake at 375F (note: 190C) for at least one hour (test at 45 minutes) till knife comes out clean.

For brown bread, omit raisins and caraways. For the 4 cups white flour, substitute 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  cups white flour, 1 cup whole wheat flour, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup raw oatmeal.









Larry Baher's Taste Test

Until we can all be together again, the only thing I can wish for you all is all the best, and slainte mhath!

# Dr. Finbar O Mahony MBA, BA, Dip. Psych, FRPSL, RDP (Irl.) from Dublin, Ireland - O Mahony Society Taoiseach and yDNA Project Administrator

# A Few Words

from Taoiseach Dr. Finbar O Mahony

Greetings to all O Mahony sept members everywhere.

More than a millennium has passed since the Battle of Clontarf 1014 A.D. in which Cian, son of Maolmuadh, and progenitor of the sept played his part; a millennium in which the sept has suffered dispossessions, triumph and disasters. We have survived "in spite of dungeon, fire and sword" and we proudly guard the memories of earlier times.

We are facing our second June without the opportunity to meet in Coolcower House, Macroom, view the lovely River Lee and a visit to Gougane Barra for our Field Day. The months since March 2020 have been difficult for most people and tragic for some. Isolation and loneliness are offset somewhat by the opportunity for Zoom meetings. However, we cannot hug our children or grandchildren over the internet, nor can we meet for our Gathering and see the smiling faces, exchange handshakes, share a convivial drink and spend hours chatting about the O Mahonys, or share our latest breakthrough in our genealogical brick walls.

In the recent past, we have been offering a wide range of contact points for our members and potential members: The O Mahony Society Website, the O Mahony Society Facebook Page, the O Mahony yDNA Project Facebook page, the O Mahony surname yDNA project at FTDNA, the periodic Newsletter, and periodic "Shout Outs". These are all internet based and supplement the Journal. These services are provided by volunteer members for the benefit of all.

I wish to express my gratitude to all the members of the Council, particularly those on whom I have had cause to lean for support during what has been a singularly difficult twelve months for me: they know who they are, so I will spare their blushes. I appreciate the hours and days of labour freely given to the Society.

My term of office as Taoiseach will end in June and the Tánaiste, Jean Dinwiddie, will assume that role at our virtual Gathering. My very best wishes and gratitude to you Jean.

Thank you, one and all.
Lasair romhainn go buadh (Victory!)
Finbar (Taoiseach)

# The Bill O'Badz Top Ten Reasons His Irish Citizenship Means So Much to Him!

**TEN:** My Irish Citizenship has not given me the love of Guinness beer – I still don't like the taste of Guinness!

NINE: My Irish Citizenship has made me smarter, better looking, and more fun!

**EIGHT:** My Irish Citizenship gives me something unique to talk about at social and professional gatherings.

**SEVEN:** My Irish Citizenship means that I now travel to Ireland as an Irish citizen, so I don't have to wait in long lines to clear customs. Since Ireland is a member of the European Union (EU), the same is true when I travel to any other EU member country.

**SIX:** My Irish Citizenship provides a vast number of flexible options to myself and my family both now and in the future.

**FIVE:** My Irish Citizenship has provided me intimate insight into the rich, fascinating, painful, and rather complicated history of the Irish people and our shared cultural heritage.

**FOUR:** My Irish Citizenship has taught me that even though I was not born in Ireland, Ireland was born in me.

THREE: My Irish Citizenship has introduced me to Irish friends and family around the world.

**TWO:** My Irish Citizenship has given me a unique way to honor the life of my grandmother, Bridget Theresa O'Mahoney Gifford.

**ONE:** Most importantly, my Irish Citizenship has provided me a beautiful way to honor and pay loving tribute to my mother, Rita Janet Gifford Badzmierowski. This was my overall goal and mission in seeking Irish Citizenship when I started this journey several years ago.







# LOIS POPE

April 30, 1927 - June 2, 2019

US Member Lois Pope passed away on June 2nd, 2019. She was an energetic, creative, and talented person who valued family and faith and reveled in her discoveries of her Irish heritage. She was a delightfully witty member who always apologized for doing everything "in longhand." She and computers did not like each other! She asked one of her many grandchildren to post her genealogy research (including her O Mahony heritage) on FamilySearch.com. She passed away in 2019 in Provo, Utah.



# **SEAN O MAHONY**

Irish honorary member, Sean O Mahony from Cooladereen, Leap, County Cork passed away December 25th, 2020. He passed peacefully in the tender loving care of the staff of Marymount University Hospital & Hospice, Cork. Sean was the beloved husband of Rosaleen (nee Rogers), and loving father of Miriam (Casey), Tim, Jemma (Williams), and Laura (Smith). He is sadly missed by his loving family, extended family, kind neighbours and his many close and dear friends. Sean kindly and generously allowed the O Mahony Society to use his farm for the annual gathering in 2001 and therefore he was honorary member.

# Join or Renew!

Join or Renew your O Mahony Society Membership! Membership is open to all associated with the Clan by blood or affection. The Society currently includes members in Ireland, the United Kingdom, France, Spain, the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

The subscription year runs from 1 July to 30 June of the following year. Membership includes regular newsletters, the annual Society Journal, and full access to the website.

The annual membership subscription is €30 for Ireland and the EU, £25 for the United Kingdom, and \$35 for the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. The subscription year runs from 1 July to 30 June of the following year.

There are two options for submitting your annual membership dues.

You can pay via PayPal on this site in US dollars; the PayPal link is below (black on yellow elongated button. PLEASE NOTE THAT CURRENT EXCHANGE RATES ARE APPLIED.

You can send a check, payable to the O Mahony Society, to your country's representative (below). Please include your complete contact information as well as your email address.



- 1. Go to https://www.omahonysociety.com/
- 2. Click "Login/Sign Up" (top of page)
- **3.** Select "Sign-Up" (upper right corner) on the "Login/Sign Up" form and fill in the requested information. Select "GO". THIS PROVIDES YOU WITH YOUR ULTIMATE LOGIN, PENDING APPROVAL (If you are an honorary member or your subscription is current, you are done.)
- **4.** First Time Members of members or those wishing to renew their membership also need to complete #3 and 4.
- **5.** Click "Buy Now" to make payment via PayPal. This button is a link to PayPal's secure site. You do not need to have a PayPal account to use this feature; you can use your credit card to make your dues payment.
- **6.** Once the required information and payment have been received your account will be updated to allow access to the members-only portions of the website. You will receive an email to notify you that your account is active.



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# APPENDIX I

yDNA Project Update

# APPENDIX II

Annual General Meeting (AGM) Summary Proposed Minutes to be Voted on at Next AGM on June 20th, 2021

# APPENDIX III

**Newsletter Submission Guidelines** 

# Some more thoughts on DNA and the yDNA project.

When the O Mahony Society took responsibility for the yDNA project, the aims focussed on Identifying how many distinct O Mahony family lines originated in Ireland and hoped to determine how O Mahony Irish emigrants to a given country are related. The journey which brought us deeper into the study of yDNA, assisted by the advances in DNA testing, has been a fascinating one. It is a journey that revealed that many participants in the project, but not all, have the Irish Type II yDNA, have the name O Mahony (or a variant thereof) and match other O Mahonys, and some also match other families with Eoghanacht roots and names, pointing to shared roots beforethe adoption of surnames.

The Geno 2 project, the uploading of FGS results from the Full Genome Corp, as well as the refinement of the FTDNA Big Y test, all contributed to the rapid development of a much more extensive phylogenetic tree. The number of men who have taken the BIG Y 700 have added not only new branches to the tree but have added a profusion of twigs. Some of these will be described below in Examples 1-3.

So, what is the Big Y? It is a "Y-chromosome direct paternal line DNA test. It examines thousands of known branch as well as millions of places where there may be new branch markers" (FTDNA).

Nobody should jump feet first into Big Y testing. It is a research tool that expands our knowledge of the phylogenetic tree and our place on it. It does NOT give us more matches. Paternal lines which have the same path or order on the phylogenetic tree indicate a common male ancestor, so the further down the phylogenetic tree that sequence or order is preserved, the more recent that ancestor lived. However, that "recent ancestor" may have produced that mutation 1,000 or 2,000 years ago or more. If the mutation occurred in genealogical time, then that is the point at which genetic genealogy and a comprehensive family can meet.

What can you get from the Big Y? The results will show a Big Y Block tree and that is a block diagram of the haplotree showing the relationship between you and other Big Y testers. Branch lengths on the tree represent evolutionary time, calculated by the number of mutations.

Those who have taken the Big Y test have generally been interested in testing at progressively higher level of markers, for example 37, 67 and 111, and have come to realize that the number of matches becomes fewer but more

pertinent. Those who have tested further have become familiar with their haplogroup, the age of that haplogroup, where it emerged, how ancient or modern it is. Familiarity with their Personal Page at FTDNA will have shown them the path of their SNP and they will know how to extend their SNP path on the phylogenetic tree. If they have got that far they will by now have checked the level of testing done by their closest matches. Perhaps they will discover that a close male in their paternal line has tested too. That prompts the question: "Has one of my matches tested at the Big Y level and are we also closely related in genealogical time?" It is generally at this point that interest in the Big Y is aroused. Here we must consider how we anchor our terminal SNP and private variants on the phylogenetic tree. If we test a grandfather, grandson and a male 2C1R (second cousin once removed) or other who shares a common great grandfather on the male line we may establish that they share a hitherto private variant that can now be added to the phylogenetic tree. I just need a male O Mahony 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> cousin willing to test, so the search is on.

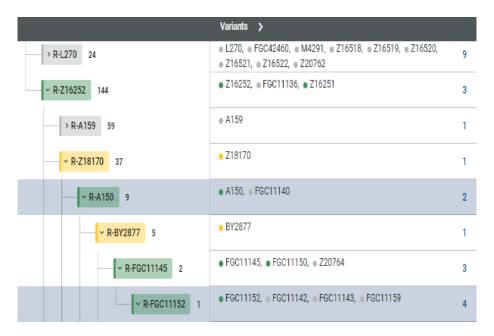
The discovery of R-CTS4466 was greeted with great excitement by those interested in Irish Type II. The recognition of R-L270 as a subclade of R-CTS4466 was followed by other subclades such as R-S1121 and the tree developed downstream from R-S1121 as the Big Y700 and other tests results were added. We can see the expansion of that section of the tree by referring to Example 1 below.

R-A541  $\rightarrow$  R-S1121  $\rightarrow$  R-L270  $\rightarrow$  R-Z16252  $\rightarrow$  R-A159  $\rightarrow$  R-Z19170  $\rightarrow$  Contd.  $\rightarrow$  R - A150  $\rightarrow$  R - BY8377  $\rightarrow$ R - FGC11145  $\rightarrow$  R- FGC11152 ... note

→ (R – FT140136 is another recently identified SNP just one step downstream from FGC11152 at present). A mutation may occur in one generation between father and son; the question is which generation? Such mutations are estimated to occur about one per 133 years.

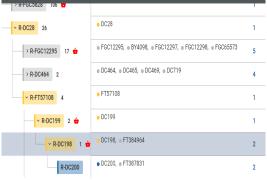
That chain in Example 1 shown above is the progression of mutations that occurred over time in successive ancestors of kit 115485 and kit IN23328, for example, and those who share their respective FGC11145 and FGC11152 terminal SNPs can be assured that their progression followed the same path.

There are 64 men in the project who cluster as matches under the CTS4466 banner and 17 of those have tested at the Big Y level and a further 15 have specifically tested a "terminal" SNP based on their matches.



Example 1: Eoghanacht R-FGC11152





Example 3. FGC5494 Group.

Example 2: Dal Cais R-DC198/200

The R-L266 (Irish Type III) shown in Example 2 above illustrates the path to the terminal SNPs found in three participants who have tested at the Big Y level, They were places at DC199, DC198 and DC200. There is an active research

group for R-L226 Big Y testers which identifies the group as Dal Cais, as I predicted years ago, and it shows a comprehensive tree of the various family name groups within their project. Irish Type III is unrelated to Irish Type II.

Example 2: SNP path of R-L226

This particular SNP path does not share R-CTS4466 or R- S1115 and the common SNP at which the branching occurred is at R-DF13 which predates the date of Eoghan Mor the reputed progenitor of the Eoghanacta.

Example 3: SNP path of FGC5494

The cluster shown by Example 3 again illustrates the SNP path to the terminal SNP of FGC5494. This is a cluster found close to Drimoleague. FGC5494 predates the emergence of the O Mahony sept.

R-L21 
$$\rightarrow$$
 R-A5846 $\rightarrow$  R-S552 $\rightarrow$  R-F4006 $\rightarrow$  R-DF13 $\rightarrow$  R-DF21  
 $\rightarrow$ R-L580 $\rightarrow$ R-L513 $\rightarrow$ R-FGC11134 $\rightarrow$ R-FGC5494

This is an ancient branch of the SNP path and the branching on the phylogenetic tree occurred at FGC11134. It does not share the R-CTS4466 or R-S1121 of the Eoghanachta.

When the yDNA project began it was hoped to find different branches of the O Mahonys. I am sure that the discovery that we are such a diverse sept came as a surprise to many and a disappointment to some. What has emerged is that we have many participants who do not match others in the project, but more importantly we have two distinct subgroups of ancient origins who have chosen to adopt the name O Mahony although they are unrelated by blood or DNA to the Eoghanachta.

I will be demoting myself to co-Administrator of the project and will happily hand over shared responsibility to two co-administrators, Patrick and John, in June. I have found the experience fascinating, stimulating, and at times unnecessarily controversial, but I would not have missed it for the world. Through it I have had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Maurice Gleeson, Nigel McCarthy, Elizabeth O Donoghue Ross, Katherine Borges of the ISOGG, and a host of others: citizen scientists all. To those who are my matches in the project I say a special thank you for putting me in touch with my roots.

# Appendix II – Annual General Meeting (AGM) Summary/Proposed Minutes to be Voted on at Next AGM



# **Muintir Mathuna**

The O Mahony Society

# **Report of the Annual General Meeting**

June 22, 2019

Called to order at 7:05 pm by Taoiseach Greg Mahony

#### Attendees:

Linda McConnell Baker, Runai Jean McConnell Dinwiddie, Newsletter Editor Mary McConnell Haislip, Membership Coordinator Nora M. Hickey, Cartlannai Greg Mahony, Taoiseach Donald Mahoney, USA Bursar John W. Mahoney Mary Ann Mahoney Priscilla Mahoney William Mahoney Helen Mangan Joe Mangan Dermot O Mahoney, Cisteoir Emer O Mahoney Finbar O Mahony, Tanaiste, yDNA Project Co-Administrator Tony O Mahony, UK Representative Maeve McConnell Perno, Social Media Administrator Antoinette Walker Hannah O Mahony Walker

# Item I - Apologies

James Castellan Francis Mahoney John O Mahony Diarmuid O Mathuna

# Absent:

Deirdre O Mahoney

# Item II - Approval of 2018 Annual General Meeting Report

The minutes were reviewed. Motion to accept as the minutes of the meeting was forwarded by Jean Dinwiddie and seconded by John W. Mahoney. The vote to accept as the Minutes of same was unanimous.

# Item III - Nomination of Office Bearers and Council

 Greg presented the list of officer and Council nominations determined at the Council meeting as follows:

Taoiseach: Finbar O Mahony

Tanaiste: Jean McConnell Dinwiddie Council: Pat O Mahony (Kildare)

All other officers and Council members agreed to serve for another year.

- 2. There were no other nominations from the floor, and the slate of officers and Council were voted for unanimously.
- 3. It announced the Council had approved Finbar's recommendation that Pat O Mahony and John W. Mahoney be designated as yDNA Project co-administrators.

# **Item IV - New Business**

- A. Publicity/Promotion: There was a general recognition that the Society needs to do more to promote itself. Discussion included:
  - Continued advertising in local newspapers, radio, and through various historical and genealogical associations. Members were invited to contribute their ideas and Linda agreed to be the point person to accept ideas and communicate them to the Council.
  - 2. John W. Mahoney will investigate what are other clans doing re advertising, social media, websites, etc.
  - 3. Linda will update the website upon return to the States and will undertake some reorganization of the site in an effort to make it more user-friendly and ensure that we are offering members a valuable tool.
- B. Gathering Event Options
  - The membership was reminded that with the inability of former Council member John F.
     O Mahony of Bandon to continue his much-appreciated storage and set-up of Society rally equipment, all options for future Gatherings must be considered.
  - 2. The membership was informed that the Council is actively engaged in developing strategies and were invited to share their ideas. Linda will also accept member's ideas on this topic and forward to the Council.
- C. Distribution of Society Tasks: incorporated and discussed as above—everyone needs to take an active role/remain involved
- D. Warehousing of Family Trees
  - 1. The membership was informed that the Council unanimously accepted the subcommittee's recommendation that the Society use FamilySearch.org as the recommended repository of their individual family trees.
  - Linda to follow up with Jim Castellan regarding "next step," which will include directions to our members re adding their trees, etc. The website will be updated asap and will include a disclaimer that the Society is not responsible for the accuracy of information any member may post.

# Item V-Reports

# A. Financial:

- 1. Cisteoir Dermot O Mahoney's report is attached.
- 2. USA Bursar Donald Mahoney presented the USA funds report as follows:

For the period 23 June 2018 to present:

Starting balance: \$2,161.33

-370.00 Reimbursement to Jean Dinwiddie for

postage/supplies to mail

journals/newsletters

- 1,224.67 North American Get Together expenses; Mary

requested this

entry be clarified as event records sent to

Donald and Dermot showed a greater than \$700

profit

-3,300.00 To the Irish funds for journal costs

Present Balance: \$1,398.40

# B. yDNA Project:

Project co-coordinator Finbar O Mahony summarized some of what had been presented in the genealogy session this morning, noting that there are now 235 members, some of which are autosomal DNA results from female participants. The full report is attached.

#### C. Membership:

Mary McConnell Haislip presented a thorough and informative report (attached). Essentially, membership is flat.

#### D. Website:

Runai Linda McConnell Baker presented the report on the website for Webmaster Larry Baker. See attached report. Costs for the basic website have increased this year, and as the cost for the second (.org) domain almost tripled and there is little to no analytical data to support the need to maintain both, the .org domain has been suspended. Henceforth, all publications will show <a href="https://www.omahonysociety.com">www.omahonysociety.com</a> as an electronic address. As previously noted, changes to our website layout structure will be made in anticipation of more fully meeting the needs and expectations of our members.

# E. Social Media:

- 1. Maeve McConnell Perno reported that we currently have 195 members of the Facebook Group page, 65 of whom are new in this past year. There have been no inappropriate posts. Activity amongst participants continues to increase.
- 2. It was noted that Facebook was used to promote the North American and New Zealand gettogethers as well as the Ireland Gathering at 3- and 1-month intervals as well as 1 week ahead of the events. It has been impossible to measure any outcome but deemed worth the mini al effort. Additionally, it was noted that each shout-out sent to members was also posted on Facebook.
- 3. Maeve continues to write a personal welcome to all participants and sends a private message to non-members to invite them to join the Society. Currently, there is no electronic method to determine how many Facebook users have become Society members; when the next membership roster is distributed, Maeve will do hand calculations to find the conversion rate.

# F. 2018-2019 Electronic Council vote recap

- 1. Electronic distribution of the Journal: The membership was informed that the Council had held a virtual vote regarding the electronic distribution of the Journal to those members with email access and that the result of an overwhelming majority voting to move forward with this notion this year was shared. It was recognized that the content of the Journal would not/did not change despite the method of distribution.
- 2. The membership was informed that a second electronic vote to increase the subvention paid to Nora Hickey for Journal editing/preparation was held and passed.

# G. Overseas Get-togethers

- 1. Jean Dinwiddie reported that the October 2018 North American Get-Together was a great success with a net profit of more than \$700.
- 2. Greg Mahony reported that the April 2019 Get-Together in Christ Church, New Zealand resulted in fewer participants than hoped for, but was a very successful event nonetheless, with at least one new Society member joining.

#### Item VI - Presentation of the 2019 Journal

Journal Editor Nora Hickey was thanked for the production of the 2019 Journal. Hard copies will be mailed to those without email addresses; electronic distribution will start as soon as the digital copy of this volume is available.

#### Item VII - New Business/AOB

- A. The membership was informed that the Council had approved Julia Cotter, niece of Eoin O Mahony, and Cisteoir (and former Taoiseach) Dermot O'Mahoney be made honorary members of the Society. The membership validated these decisions with a warm applause.
- B. A moment of silence was offered in memory of former Taoiseachs Padraig O Mathuna and Professor David O Mahony.

#### **Item 8-Gathering Announcements**

A. The plans for the remainder of the current Gathering events were reviewed. Rain is at almost a 100% prediction for Sunday. We received confirmation that Coolcower House can accommodate our Sunday rally indoors and that announcement was made. Although the website cannot be updated per the available mobile devices, Greg will add signs at Castle Mahon/Castle Bernard to redirect other attendees to come to Coolcower House. The Kanturk Wild Boar Warriors have been cancelled. The raffle and auction plans were reiterated.

B. 2020 Gathering Plans:

Dates: 19-21 June 2020

Headquarters: Coolcower House.

Rally: Hope to go back to Castle Mahon/ Castle Bernard, but if that is not feasible, rally site at Gougane Barra.

The Council hopes to return further west in 2021, perhaps to 3 Castle Head. The website will be updated as soon as arrangements are confirmed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda McConnell Baker Runai

# O Mahony Society - Muintir Mhathúna

# Income and Expenditure Statement for Period 14th June 2018 to 17th June 2019

Bank Account	€			
Opening Balance Closing Balance	3220	4719		
Increase for Period	1499	<u></u>		
Income	2018/2	2019	2017/2	2018
	€	€	€	€
Subscriptions Transfer from USA	907 2937 ²		554 1786	
Surplus from Gathering Sub-total	<u>200</u>	4044		<u>114</u> 2454
Expenditure				
Journal Editing	1200		1000	
Printing Editor's Expenses	780 147 ¹		615 190	
Luitor & Expenses	147	2127	190	1805
Retrieval of Archives	Nil		304	
Subs to Clans (Irl) Insurance	50 335		50 335	
Bank Charges	33		23	
-		418		<u>712</u>
<u>Sub-total</u>		2545		2517
Loss/Profit for Period  Notes: <sup>1</sup> Postage for Journal to <sup>2</sup> \$3,300 (USD) receive		<b>1499</b> etc.		(63)

Prepared by: Dr. D. F. O'Mahoney – Cisteoir June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019

# Report on the DNA Project for the Council of the O Mahony Society

June 2019

The project now has 235 members. The main membership tested their y-DNA.

Women have been accepted by testing their autDNA using the FamilyFinder test. This allows them to find cousins (including O Mahony cousins).

The number of men testing at the BIG Y level has increased, which has allowed a more detailed clustering of the main group of matches in the CTS4466 Group. The cost of the BIG Y 700 has been reduced at present from \$649 to \$249.

The recent developments have allowed for more precise groupings and these are colour coded on the project spreadsheet. The results of the BIG Y Group Family Tree" was/will be presented at the DNA session.

I propose Patrick O Mahony for the position of co-administrator of the project, and I propose John Mahoney, Albany, also as co-administrator. Hopefully one other member of the Council will accept the invitation to act as co-administrator so that the roles can be allocated to cover Britain, Ireland and parts of Europe, another covering USA and Canada, and a third to cover Australia and New Zealand.

The spreadsheet is GDPR compliant. The public site will be updated with appropriate content in the coming year. More fact than myth.

Three of the four kits that I sponsored and posted last year arrived in the USA but not at FTDNA. This is the first time this has happened.

The administrators are not responsible for answering genealogy questions, doing family research, or conducting educational programmes. On the latter point, the FAQs on the FTDNA site is extremely good and there are also online webinars held regularly.

Dr. Finbar O Mahony
Project Administrator and Tanaiste

#### Muintir Mhathúna

Membership Report 2019



This is a summary of our membership by country as of June 1st.

	Members 2018	New	Removed	TOTAL 2019	Paying	Honorary /Comp.	Due for Removal	%
Ireland	42	5	2	45	35	10	5	11%
UK	18	3	3	18	18	0	0	0%
US	167	10	16	161	152	9	20	12%
Australia	13	2	1	14	14	0	2	14%
TOTAL	240	20*	22	238	219	19	27	11%

Complimentary Members include wives of deceased Taoiseachs, former Gathering hosts, clergy, etc.

Looking at recent history since we have consolidated lists, overall Society membership is basically flat. Last year we added a few more than we removed, this year it's the reverse. Of those that we remove, just over 90% are non-payment related.

Year	Total Membership	New Members	Removed
2015	233	13	12
2016	226	22	33
2017	241	23	29
2018	241	25	22
2019	238	20	22

#### Per

Society procedure, members are notified of their dues payment status in mailings with Newsletters and Journals (U.S.), or with Newsletters only (Ireland, UK, Australia).

During this past year, this was the type of mailing sent based on last payment year.

Last Paid	Letter Type
2018	Your Annual Dues are due
2017	Your Annual Dues are Past Due
2016	We Miss You (Please send dues to be re-instated)

We continue to see a re-capture rate of past due members between 10-20%.

Submitted by: Mary Haislip Membership Coordinator

<sup>\* 61%</sup> of new members joined via the web site

# Muintir Mhathúna

# Website Report

June 22, 2019



I. Since inception June 2014:

as of June 2015 (1 year since Wix site inception: 80 authorized member users, 1,700 website hits

as of June 2018: 162 authorized member users (net loss 9; note UK/EU users were deleted d/t GDPR regs\* (GDPR actions prevented collection of data of number of requests from non-members). 12.735 website hits

as of June 2019: 187 authorized member users (net gain 25), 15,260 website hits (net gain 2,525 this year)

(Unable to capture global non-member requests; there were 105 "Dear Friend" messages sent to non-member email addresses outside the EU.)

- II. New software for tracking and analyzing website use was added in mid-May. The free version has some limitations, but on first review, seems adequate for the Society's needs. This software contributes to our continued GDPR compliance as we have now anonymized IP addresses and added cookieless tracking *for EU addresses*. Data that can be captured includes:
  - A. Visits per day/week/month, including the number of repeat visits by a user per day
  - B. Highest day of the week usage (currently Saturday/22.4%, lowest Friday/7.3%)
  - C. User browser access (currently 28.6% Chrome on Windows, 18. % Safari on iOS, 11.1% Firefox on Windows)
  - D. Referrer tracker (currently 52% direct access, 21% Google, 10% Facebook)
  - E. Mean user time on site per visit (currently 6.81 minutes)
  - F. Countries of origin of all users (currently 55.6% US, 18.5% Ireland, 11.1% Australia, 7.4% UK, 3.7% NZ, etc.)

# PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS DATA REFLECTS ~2 WEEK STUDY AND IS NOT STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT, MERELY ILLUSTRATIVE.

- III. Our .org domain has lapsed. The cost increased dramatically (\$68/year vs ~\$24/year before) and data did not support that maintenance of the .org domain adversely affected usership or the ability to locate the Society via a search engine or direct access.
- III. Please refer to the Membership Report for impact of the website on recruiting and maintaining members.
- IV. Cost to the Society for site and domain maintenance:

Annual cost for site: \$168.00 USD (\$19.00 increase from last year)

Annual cost for .com domain: \$ 14.95 USD \$182.95 USD

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Baker, Webmaster <a href="mailto:lvbaker@ec.rr.com">lvbaker@ec.rr.com</a>
Prepared: 3 June 2019



# **NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

Revised January 10, 2021

# Background - Muintir Mhathúna

Muintir Mhathúna - The O Mahony Society, is the international association of members and friends of the O Mahony Clan. The O Mahonys (O Mhathúna in Gaelic) descend from Mathuin (Mahon), son of Cian mac Maol Muadh, Prince of Raithleann, and Saidhb, daughter of Brian Boru. Mathuin became Prince of Raithleann and chief of the Ui Eachach Mumhan in 1014 A.D.

The O Mahony Society's purposes are to foster studies on the history of the Clan, to promote interest in Irish culture and heritage, to promote and encourage the restoration and preservation of the historical sites associated with the Clan, and to promote fellowship among members.

The Society's activities embrace historical and cultural events via social meetings, a periodic newsletter, and the O Mahony Journal. The programme includes an annual Gathering of the Clan each summer in Ireland, and a Get-Together in the United States, Australia, New Zealand, or other countries as possible. Society members residing in countries outside of Ireland are developing additional programmes in cities where members are concentrated.

# The O Mahony Society Newsletter

The O Mahony Society Newsletter is an all-volunteer produced publication. Its overall goal is to provide our worldwide membership with a communication vehicle that delivers information on Society events, member activities, and updates that support the Society's mission.

All newsletters are stored on The O Mahony Society website as an ongoing Society record.

We have created this guide to assist potential article authors in helping the editors to create a high-quality newsletter that will be fascinating and useful to our worldwide membership. We love submissions, so please keep them coming!

Article contributions vary, and can include anything from:

- Book reviews relevant to clan or Irish history and culture
- Stories about your own O Mahony ancestors
- Memorials
- Historic Irish photos with written historical context to
- Favorite Irish family recipes.

The editor is happy to discuss your article ideas with you.

# **HOW TO SUBMIT AN ARTICLE:**

- 1. Write an article. We will accept articles of any length. The editors reserve the right to edit articles to best fit the size and theme of newsletter editions.
- 2. Consider submitting relevant photographs/images along with the article. Photos/images help with both context and reader interest.
- 3. Send the article text, photos/images, your full name, and a suggested article title to newsletter editor Bill Badzmierowski at wfbjjk@gmail.com

Attach articles to your email. We will accept articles in the following formats:

- Microsoft Word (\*.doc or \*.docx)
- Google docs
- Plain text (\*.txt)
- Please note that we are unable to accept PowerPoint presentations, PDFs, or any non-editable formats.
- 4. Please refrain from placing photos/images within the document. This diminishes the quality of the photo/image in the final publication. Instead, attach your images directly to the same email as your article.

While there is no minimum image size, image size does need to be acceptable to the both the sending and receiving email servers. If the combined image size (of your attached document and photos/images) is too large, the sending or receiving email servers may reject it.

Please identify the location and/or people's names, and any other relevant information specific the photos/images in a simple and clear manner. We like to mention the home city/town/and country of individuals in your photos/images. If more than one person is involved in a photograph, please name them from left to right in the photograph. This will assist the editor with accuracy in the final version if the newsletter.

Photos/images will be accepted in the following formats:

- -.jpg
- -.png
- 5. Please suggest an engaging title for your article and include your name and home city/town/country.
- 6. If you use an Irish language term in any area of your submission, please also include its English translation (in parentheses).