



Mahony

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Welcome to our November 2021 Edition of the O Mahony Society Newsletter. 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 newsletter. The newsletter is a completely volunteer publication and we deeply appreciate ALL of the volunteers that make this newsletter a reality.

A SALUTE TO IRISH AND CELTIC WOMEN

by William F. Badzmirowski (aka Bill O'Badz) O Mahony Council and OMS Newsletter Editor

*"...while Ireland is not free I remain a rebel, unconverted and unconvertible.
There is no word strong enough for it. I am pledged as a rebel, an
unconvertible rebel, to the one thing - a free and independent Republic."*

- COUNTESS CONSTANCE GEORGINE MARKIEVICZ -



Countess Constance
Georgine Markievicz
(1868 -1927)

Countess Constance Georgine Markievicz was an Irish politician, revolutionary, nationalist, suffragist, socialist, and the first woman elected to the Westminster Parliament. She was also elected Minister

for Labour in the First Dáil, becoming the first female cabinet minister in Europe. Markievicz was a founding member of Fianna Éireann, Cumann na mBan and the Irish Citizen Army.

From warrior queens to political revolutionaries, Celtic and Irish history boasts no shortage of formidable foremothers to honor and applaud.

(Continued pg. 2)





According to Irish mythology in pre-Christian times Queen Maeve led the warriors of Connacht into battle to claim one of the most famous victories in Ireland. The tale is known as the Cattle Raid of Cooley.

Celtic women were distinct in the ancient world for the liberty and rights they enjoyed and the position they held in society. Compared to their counterparts in Greek, Roman, and other ancient societies, they were allowed much freedom of activity and

protection under the law. Iron Age Celts were nevertheless a patriarchal people and for the most part men had the ultimate power in politics and the home. Despite this fact ancient Celtic women remain an inspiring example of womanhood from the past.

Celtic women frequently served as leaders and warriors. They generally enjoyed the same freedoms and privileges as men. In ancient Celtic times, women were often trained alongside men to fight and use weapons, and they led armies into war.

Boudicca was the female leader of the Iceni, a Celtic tribe in Britain. In an act of peace, her husband Prasugatus had agreed to give the Romans a large portion of his holdings after his death. But when the Romans came to collect, they carried out horrific acts against the Celtic tribe.



Boudicca

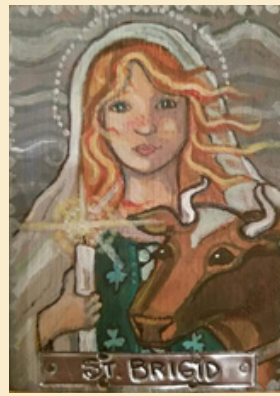
In response, Boudicca united the local Celtic tribes and led a revolt against the Romans. They leveled the Roman administrative center of Londinium (London) and sacked two other Roman towns. They were ultimately defeated, but Boudicca was able to unite the communities and make a stand against injustice.

When Romans attacked the island of Mona (now Anglesey in Wales), Celtic women were reported to have used psychological tactics during the battle, such as yelling, dancing wildly and pulling at their faces. They frightened the Romans and were temporarily able to hold them off.

Celtic women were highly educated. Druids were the intellectual elite in Celtic society, and both men and women were allowed to become Druids. They were educated in history, poetry, astronomy, and Celtic law. They presided over religious ceremonies and were advisors to kings and queens.

Countless other women also shaped the course of Irish society and history, and enriched our understanding of the world.

They often challenged female stereotypes. The list includes saints and stargazers, pioneers and revolutionaries, medieval queens and medical doctors.



Among them was Brigid of Kildare (c451 -523), namesake of my maternal grandmother, Bridget Theresa O'Mahoney Gifford. Brigid is Ireland's only female patron saint. Celtic legend tells us that Brigid was the goddess of poetry, healing and blacksmith work. During the 19th century, she was held up as a symbol of divine femininity, while generations of Irish schoolchildren still associate her with reed crosses. But she was much more

than that: a powerful Abbess who offered an alternative to the confines of domestic life to up to 14,000 women, a peace-weaver, a fearless negotiator who secured women's property rights, and freed trafficked women. She was also reputed to be an expert dairywoman and brewer.

Margaret O'Carroll of Éile, Co Offaly (d. 1451) was a medieval queen, patron of the arts, road and bridge builder. The pirate queen Grace O'Malley (c. 1577-1597) was a fearless leader, canny diplomat, and long-time thorn in the side of the British ruling class. Maria Edgeworth (1767-1849) is often overlooked among the greats of the Irish literary canon, despite



Margaret O'Carroll of Éile, Co Offaly

being one of the most successful novelists of her generation. Margaret Ann Bulkley, (1789-1865) a young Cork woman, who grew up to hold the second highest medical office in the British Army. But she first had to "reinvent" herself and pretend she was male so she portrayed herself instead as Dr James Barry.



Lady Jane Wilde (1821-1896)

Lady Jane Wilde (1821-1896) was the mother of Oscar Wilde and a significant figure in 19th-century Ireland. She was a gifted linguist and poet who published under the name Speranza, a documenter of Ireland's Great Hunger, a women's rights activist, and a nationalist who used her writing to call for insurrection.

At least 300 women actively served as Gunrunners and front-line fighters during the 1916 Easter Rising. Many of

them formed Cumann na mBan which was an Irish republican women's paramilitary organisation formed in Dublin on 2 April 1914.

Along with Constance Georgine Markievicz, Kathleen Clarke was a founding member of Cumann na mBan, the wife of signatory Thomas Clarke and sister of Edward Daly. She supported the Anti-Treaty side during the Irish Civil War and was imprisoned in Kilmainham Gaol in 1923 for her activities. In 1939 she became the first female Lord Mayor of Dublin.

In 1916, Cumann na mBan, became an auxiliary of the Irish Volunteers. Members included Margaret Skinnider, Winifred Carney, Kathleen Clarke, Helena Molony, Molly Osgood, and Countess Constance Georgine Markievicz.

(Continued pg. 3)

My own ancestor Grace Gifford Plunkett was an Irish artist and cartoonist who was active in the Republican movement, who married her fiancé Joseph Mary Plunkett in Kilmainham Gaol only a few hours before he was executed for his part in the 1916 Easter Rising.



“Mother Jones”
1837-1930

Born in Cork, Mary G. Harris Jones (better known as Mother Jones from 1897 onwards) was an Irish-born American schoolteacher and dressmaker who became a prominent union organizer, community organizer, and activist. She helped coordinate major strikes and co-founded the Industrial Workers of the World.

After Jones’ husband and four children all died of yellow fever in 1867, and her dress shop was destroyed in the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, she became an organizer for the Knights of Labor and the United Mine Workers union. In 1902, she was called

“the most dangerous woman in America” for her success in organizing mine workers and their families against the mine owners. In 1903, to protest the lax enforcement of the child labor laws in the Pennsylvania mines and silk mills, she organized a children’s march from Philadelphia to the home of President Theodore Roosevelt in New York.

Mary Robinson is an Irish independent politician who served as the seventh president of Ireland from December 1990 to September 1997, becoming the first woman to hold this office. She also served as United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights from 1997 to 2002 and a Senator for the University of Dublin from 1969 to 1989.



Mary Robinson

Mary McAleese is an Irish politician who served as the eighth president of Ireland from November 1997 to November 2011. She is an academic and author and holds



Mary McAleese

a licentiate and doctorate in Canon law. McAleese was first elected as president in 1997, having received the nomination of Fianna Fáil. She succeeded Mary Robinson, making her the second female president of Ireland, and the first woman in the world to succeed another woman as president.

The O Mahony Society has been fortunate for the leadership of numerous female leaders throughout our history. Anne O Mahony Ryan, Nora Hickey, and Eileen Mahoney McConnell (late mother of our present Taoiseach) have filled the role of

Taoiseach. Jean McConnell Dinwiddie, once again, follows her mother as current Taoiseach of the O Mahony Society. Many other women have and currently fill O Mahony Society leadership roles as Council Members, committee members, newsletter and journal authors, and many other vital volunteer roles with the Society.

This issue of the O Mahony Society Newsletter is dedicated to Irish and Celtic Irish Women everywhere and more specifically Irish Women past and present who have contributed to the success of the O Mahony Society.

prologue in ireland

My children, what have I given you?
Nothing less than what I received from the centuries.
My genes were programmed to preserve the precious heritage:
Blood of Celts and Normans comingled with
An ancient race in barrow graves in Ireland.
Your blood, your bones have the look of these men,
Fashioned long ago in a cool green misty land
Surrounded by the sea.
The music of their life is ours to share:
Music born in the rhythms of their world--
The restless white clouds dancing along the ocean winds
In a contradiction of wild movement and lilting grace;
The solitary seagull cries as song;
The soft rain in a steady patter of refreshment;
and
The cycle of fertility for which they wisely
Thanked the warming sun.

To learn more about them, and me, and you,
I crossed back over the waters they braved
In a much more perilous time.
I walked the fields they trod in quaint named places
Like Enachbeg and Lenamore.
Singing the songs they sang in all simplicity,
Speaking the proud though dying tongue,
Knowing the comfort of burning turf
Whose smell had filled their senses--
These were my rewards in a labor of love.

The story of those whose names we bear
That I have tried to reconstruct
Is my special gift to you.

Eileen Mahoney McConnell. 1924 - 2008
(past O Mahony Society Taoiseach)

EDITOR’S NOTE: The women highlighted in this article represent a small sample of incredible past and present Irish and Celtic Women whose strength and leadership inspire all of us. There are thousands of others not mentioned only due to space limitations in this newsletter.

67TH ANNUAL GATHERING OF the O mahony society

Mark your calendars now for the 67th Annual
and Second VIRTUAL Gathering of
The O Mahony Society
June 17-19, 2022!

PLANNING HAS BEGUN for our 67th Annual Gathering. If it is safe to travel and gather again, we are hoping to return to a headquarters at Coolcower House in Macroom, Co. Cork and rally at the cradle of the O Mahony Clan, Rath Raithlean.

Once again, the charming Coolcower House in Macroom, Co. Cork, will serve as the headquarters for the 2022 Gathering. This 19th-Century built home, largely rebuilt after a 1920 fire, offers twelve (12) ensuite rooms, multiple sitting areas, a cozy bar, meeting and banquet rooms, and a dining room. Many updates have been made, including a redesigned conservatory for indoor casual dining, as well as expanded outdoor seating on the large patio overlooking the River Lee. The breakfasts at Coolcower House are outstanding, and an evening bar food menu was introduced a few years ago with great success.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOU BOOK YOUR ROOM(S) EARLY: www.coolcowerhouse.ie or email proprietress Bernie O Callahan directly at coolcowerhouse@gmail.com. Remember that your reservation deposit will secure your accommodation and allow you to remain in the hub of Gathering activities!

There are other accommodations available in the nearby town of Macroom. Additional information about various accommodations are available by logging in to the O Mahony Society Website and clicking on the News and Events option. There you will also find a preliminary schedule of events!

Macroom Castle Gate, with its 12th C origins, is in town center. Beginning as a fortified Flynn home, it transitioned to a McCarthy stronghold, and was briefly the residence of Admiral Sir William Penn (father of the founder of Pennsylvania, USA). It is worth a tour!

Macroom, West Cork, is a beautiful and colorful town. Weekends frequently have town square fairs, and every need can be satisfied in this ancient yet modern town.

Charming Coolcower House has been a longstanding and welcoming host to The O Mahony Society for many years. When you join us, you'll know why! Centrally located in West Cork and with many conveniences onsite and in town, it always feels like our home away from home.

The rings at Garranes, County Cork are very distinctive. You have to see it to believe how large the site of our clan's birthplace is!



Charming Coolcower House



Macroom Castle



Macroom, West Cork



Rath Raithlean at Garranes, Co. Cork.



The view from the patio at Coolcower House, overlooking the magnificent River Lee.

COMING TO NORTH AMERICA IN 2022 O Mahony Society USA-North American Get Together October 14-16, 2022 - Albany, New York



Devoted member Dan Mahoney is graciously coordinating our second event of 2022. We are being welcomed by the Irish American Heritage Museum and Dan has confirmed the availability of a block of rooms at the Courtyard by Marriott Albany/Clifton Park. Tanaiste John O Mahony of Galway will be the featured speaker, providing an interesting and informative lecture on An Gorta Mor, or the Great Hunger. Details are emerging and will be posted on the O Mahony Society website and shared with Society members by Shout-Outs and our Newsletter.

2021 Virtual Gathering OF THE O MAHONY SOCIETY, JUNE 20, 2021

By Maeve McConnell Perno
OMS Council Member and OMS USA Bursar

Entering the new year of 2021, with vaccine availability on the horizon, we had hope and prayers that the global pandemic might be in our rearview mirror. A month or two into the new year it was becoming clear that the reality of being able to travel and meet together was a fading possibility. For the health and safety of us all, the 2021 Gathering of the O Mahony Society in Macroom, Co. Cork in June was canceled for the second year due to COVID.

The O Mahony Clan holds the record for Gathering annually for 66 consecutive years. Fortunately with the Zoom Meeting platform it is possible to “gather” virtually. The Zoom meeting was scheduled for Sunday, June 21, 2021. It was, as is the tradition, the weekend of the Summer Solstice.

Forty-five people logged into the opening event where Finola Finlay gave an excellent lecture on “The O Mahony Tower Houses Of West Cork.” She was thorough and informative with fascinating information about life within the walls of these castles in their heyday. Finola presented a very visually engaging talk.

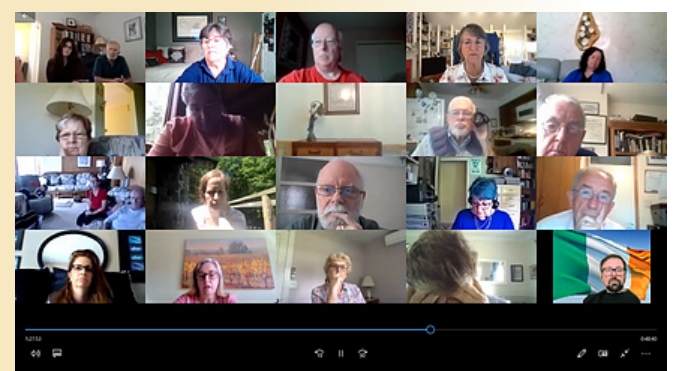
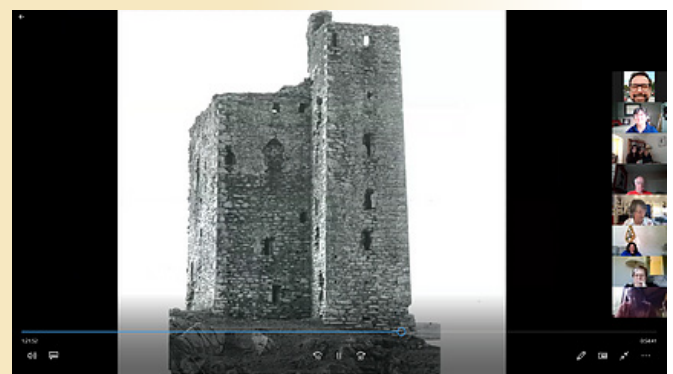
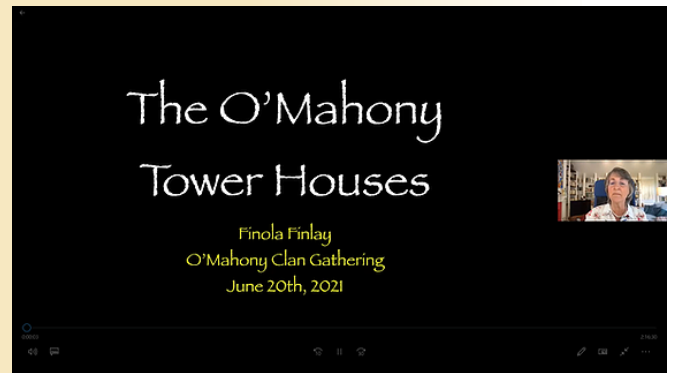
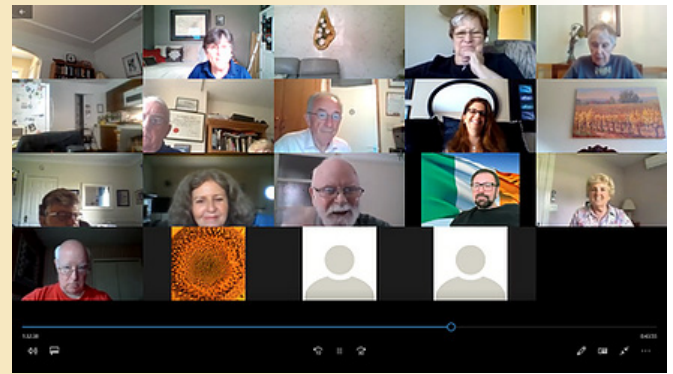
After Finola’s lecture Taoiseach Finbar O Mahony called the Virtual Annual Meeting to order. Thirty-five Society members attended. Finbar thanked Finola for her wonderful talk and then passed the virtual baton to Tanaiste Jean Dinwiddie who facilitated the meeting as the Society’s new Taoiseach.

The new slate of office bearers and Council members were announced, along with financial and membership reports. Updates from the y-DNA Project Administrator, Social Media Coordinator, Website Administrator and the Newsletter Editor were given. The 2020/2021 O Mahony Society Journal was presented.

There is a 2022 US/North American Get Together planned in Albany, NY, USA. Target date is October 14-16, 2022. The Irish American Heritage Museum will host the event, Dan Mahoney of Rockville, Maryland is the coordinator.

So we move forward with great hope and anticipation for our next Gathering, our 67th! The Gathering of the O Mahony Society will be June 17-19, 2022. It will be headquartered at the Coolcower House, Macroom, Co. Cork. We will gather on Sunday for our traditional piper led march into the field for our picnic and lecture at “the cradle of the O Mahony Clan” - Rath Raithean.

All information will be available on the website. Keep checking for updates and additional information: www.omahonysociety.com





Waterford Castle, County Waterford Ireland Painting by Keith Thompson

more on castles

by Linda McConnell Baker, Runai and O Mahony Council Member

Surely I am not the only human who loves to connect the dots. It just so happens that for me, the time between the formation of said dot connections can be years long.

To that end, I want to thank Finola Finlay for her superlative lecture, "The O Mahony Castles of West Cork" she presented at June's virtual Gathering. If you were present, you already know she shared her significant expertise and provided a tutorial in medieval architecture as well a focus on many of our beloved O Mahony castles; if not, hopefully you've been able to see the Zoom recording available on The O Mahony Society website (www.omahonysociety.com).

Ms. Finlay delivered a well-organized and largely chronologically-based and informative presentation with a unique focus on our O Mahonys. While listening to our Gathering speaker (and admittedly, taking notes), some of my thoughts also went to a 2014 Sidelines Production television series entitled, "Tales of Irish Castles."

Hosted by Simon Delaney (with Director of Photography Ken O Mahony) and presented in a story-telling style, this multi-part series has been the inspiration for several of my sisters' and my journeys across the island of Ireland.

For some, the overview of Irish and Anglo-Irish history presented in the series will be illuminating, whilst for others it will provide

an easy review of history already learned. I will admit that I have benefitted from the former, and have personally been happy to be able to verify what has been presented, thus further expanding my understanding of the history.

The series kicks off with the 1066 Battle of Hastings and William the Conqueror. In just over a century, the (now) Anglo-Normans had invaded Ireland near Bannow Bay near Wexford. The Anglo-Normans are credited with launching the cultural change of the native Irish's building of ring forts and stone houses to building fortified homes that could serve as garrisons, jails, homes, and administrative centers.

As we all remember, the Anglo-Norman invasion of 1169 resulted in the surrender of the Irish Chieftains to the English King Henry II (father of Richard the Lionheart and John I). Of significance, in 12th Century Ireland, there were regional kings and warring Clans. A condensed history reveals that Diarmuid MacMurragh (King of Leinster) sought support from Henry II after being deposed by Rory O Connor, the High King of Ireland.

Result? Introduction of Strongbow (the Welsh Earl of Pembroke, Richard de Clare) to Ireland. de Clare had backed "the wrong side" in an English war and he went to Ireland after promises of land, wealth, and the hand of MacMurragh's daughter Aoife in marriage. Strongbow brought to Ireland the tools of a knight, which had not yet been seen in Ireland: saddled horses, bows & arrows, chain mail, etc.

The Vikings still controlled Dublin, and the Anglo-Normans wanted it. Rory O Connor (not the greatest military strategist, per history) defended the city from the south only. MacMurragh, more aligned with the Anglo-Normans, marched through Glendalough and defeated the Vikings. MacMurragh then went to England seeking more help; a campaign to start building a network

of defensive structures/castles began in the areas west of Dublin and east of the Shannon River. Initially, motte and bailey structures were built, mostly at key crossing points and strategic river sites; they were made of earth, stone, and timber. They later built stone castles, which introduced a more “English” way of living.

Diarmuid MacMurrough died in 1171; Strongbow inherited the King of Leinster title through his marriage to Aoife. Henry II reportedly feared Strongbow would become High King of Ireland and sought a counterbalance. Henry subsequently sent Hugh de Lacy as Lord of Meath and chief governor; he gave huge tracts of land although de Lacy had to “win” the territory. de Lacy built Trim Castle, and if you’ve never been there, it is (in this writer’s humble opinion) worth the near-Dublin venture and the reasonable entrance fee. On the edge of the Pale, it was started in the late 12th Century. Hugh de Lacy introduced more modern architectural elements and enhanced defensive tactics to the castle’s plan, including stairs that ascended clockwise, etc. I won’t even mention that a large part of Mel Gibson’s “Braveheart” was filmed there.

By the late 1170s, the Anglo-Normans were in Cork.

In 1177, the ambitious John de Courcy, who had been established in the garrison in Dublin, went “solo” and moved to Carrickfergus on Belfast Lough in County Antrim. King John I was not pleased and de Courcy was expelled by Hugh de Lacy in ~1205. King John then looked west to Limerick, which was still a Norse-speaking city. King John decreed a defensive castle be built, now known as King John’s Castle, although he was never there (but my sisters and I have been). Records of 1211 or 1212 indicated that £700 was spent on construction (equivalent of billions today).

The mid-13th Century was the height of Anglo-Norman power. Notably, English influence was less pronounced in areas west of the Shannon. The Anglo-Normans consolidated their presence under the Great Earldoms.

The great knight William Marshall married Isabel de Clare, daughter of Strongbow and Aoife in 1189. He was an Earl of Pembroke, and she the granddaughter of Diarmuid MacMurragh and a wealthy princess of Leinster. Despite their approximate 20 year age difference, this was a love match. William and Isabel moved the capital of Leinster to Kilkenny and together started building Kilkenny Castle. Marshall’s experience fighting in the Crusades gave him exposure to other domestic and defensive architectural styles: some of these were used in what he and Isabel built, including Kilkenny Castle (yup, been there, too).

Back in Cork, the Muskerry Branch/Cormac the Strong McCarthys of Munster began building Blarney Castle; originally a wooden structure, within the first decade of the 13th Century a small stone structure was started. Of significance to that structure, it should be noted that beyond the Pale, the English struggled to maintain control of the locals.

If you choose to watch the series, please note that Episode 3 is entitled, “TOWER HOUSES “The Fight Back” and the one that focuses the most on Cork/West Cork castles and the O Mahonys.

Per the series, the Irish “fightback” against the English started in the 13th Century, and accelerated in the 14th Century (partially due to the plague and the Bruce Wars, which affected the Anglo-Norman colony more than the native Irish). Until Tudor times, the Irish were in a period of ascendancy. The Anglo-Norman colonies shrank to areas of the Pale, and the great Earldoms of the Fitzgerald’s of Kildare, the Butlers of Ormonde, and the Desmond’s of Munster. Of note, many Anglo-Norman families became Gaelicized.

This series takes the viewer through the 15th and 16th Centuries, including Dunluce Castle (been there, too), the role of England’s Elizabeth I and her 1599 dispatch of the 2nd Earl of Essex, Robert Devereux, to Ireland to defeat Hugh O Neill. The siege at “impregnable” Cahir Castle (County Tipperary/on the River Sur, and next on our list) ended in 1599, just a few years before ER I’s death. I think we all know how it ended for Devereux, who went off to the Tower of London (without return) following his unapproved truce with O Neill. Despite the influx of Spanish troops at Kinsale, O Neill was defeated by English Lord Mountjoy, leading to the Flight of the Earls, the end of the Irish rebellion, and the start of the Plantation of Ulster.

Interested? This writer has no interest in the series, other than what it can provide to the viewer. In my experience, I have seen it across multiple streaming services, including Amazon Video, Netflix, and Acorn. My suggestion is to search for it and see where this popular series is currently under contract. I don’t think you’ll be disappointed!



Trim Castle, County Meath, Ireland



King John's Castle, County Limerick, Ireland



Kilkenny Castle, Kilkenny, Ireland



Blarney Castle, County Cork, Ireland

In Celtic Tradition

By Linda McConnell Baker, OMS Council and Runai

My sisters and I were incredibly blessed to be borne into a family started by Margaret Eileen Mahoney and Kenneth Bruce McConnell. Growing up, we always knew that mom was 100% Irish, as all four of her grandparents had been immigrants from Ireland. As a second daughter in the family, she was named after her maternal grandmother, Margaret Corrigan (immigrant from County Mayo). We knew that our dad had two Irish immigrant grandparents.

Doing a simple-form of genealogy math, that makes me and my sisters at least 75% Irish. We know that we also had a paternal great-great-grandfather who was an immigrant from Scotland and one who claimed to be from the Stewart Clan. Grandpa Alex Martin's DNA contribution allows us all to claim an 80+% Celtic heritage, and autosomal DNA results were consistent with that figure.

On our maternal side, our mother Eileen was a second-generation American and a proud holder of an Irish passport by birthright. Her father was John Joseph Mahoney, son of Denis (also spelled Dennis in some records), our immigrant O Mahony ancestor from Rathbarry, West Cork.

Having been to the area Denis left and where beloved cousins live still, we can only try to understand the fortitude (or the sense of desperation for a subsequent son in the latter half of the 19th Century) it must have taken to leave that beautiful place.

We know little of Denis's wife Mary Kinnelly, other than that she was from Co. Kerry. What we do know of Denis and Mary's life in Brooklyn, New York was that Denis was a (horse-drawn) trolley driver and times were hard. They had four children who survived infancy: Patrick, John Joseph (our grandfather), Anne, and Catherine, who died later in childhood. Mary died in childbirth; the infant did not survive. Denis tried to keep the family intact, but ultimately had to surrender the children to a Catholic orphanage in Brooklyn, NY.

Our grandfather John ("Jack") was probably born in 1887 in Brooklyn. He received an education in the orphanage, and emancipated himself when he was 16. In his life, he may have considered the year of his birth to be fluid, but we do know that he was a veteran of WWI and that he died in 1934, when our mother was only ten years old. Mom had vivid memories of her father, and always told stories of her memories of her father as well as the extended family.

The unpredictable truth is how those family stories impact developing human psyches. Our mother was not shielded from hardship, but was also exposed to love and joy, loyalty and faith.

Moving forward several decades, in 1971 our parents took the trip across the pond to meet the Co. Mayo cousins previously found by an American cousin. That trip led to many annual, semi-annual, or sometimes tri-annual trips Mom and Dad made to Ireland to explore the country, do research, and find more relatives. Before the end of the 70's, they had discovered The O Mahony Society.

As our parents continued their research, a common thread our mother noted was the strength of Irish women, including her forebearers; she made sure her daughters understood all that that trait and the ethos it bears can mean. Mom thought that in giving service to our community, we gain insight into other's needs as well as recognition of our personal strengths (she called them "gifts") and that our personal reserves would be replenished.

Some will remember that for many years our mother served as a O Mahony Society Council member and the USA Representative. She was not just dedicated. She was formidable. In her eighties, she was elected Taoiseach of The O Mahony Society and served in that role for one year. Through personal example, she had ensured that an active and supportive presence would exist to make sure The O Mahony Society would survive through many volunteers as well as her own daughters. That was her part of her legacy.

There is a funny story that goes back to 2001 and our first mother/daughters' trip to Ireland. Our cousin Donald Mahoney of Massachusetts was Taoiseach and we were headquartered at the Celtic Ross Hotel in Rosscarbery. There was a call for a new newsletter editor, and our sister Jean was happy to help with what Jean perceived to be an agreement to help our mother with the newsletter. By the end of the Gathering weekend, our mother said to Jean that she was, "so happy you've agreed to be Newsletter Editor."



Eileen Mahoney McConnell. 1924 - 2008
(past O Mahony Society Taoiseach)

meet our Taoiseach

by her little sister



Dr. Jean McConnell Dinwiddie
O Mahony Society Taoiseach

Some Society members will remember the January, 2012 newsletter that included an “Our New Taoiseach” article lovingly written by Jean McConnell Dinwiddie’s children to introduce her to the membership following her June, 2011 election as Taoiseach.

While that feature perfectly captured Jean’s native Washingtonian (DC) status, her long and happy marriage to her beloved Jim, their remarkable children, her proud position as a Nana, and her now twenty years of active support of The O Mahony Society, there are a few things that were omitted.

The notes and ideas that Jean’s children shared in developing the 2012 piece were recently rediscovered. They revealed a devilishly humorous, loving, and respectful perspective on the woman who is their mother.

Jean is one of the funniest, naturally witty people I know who is never unkind in the demonstration her sense of humor. Her example to her then-young children of the value of education were proudly and humorously reflected in their notes about Jean’s 1993 graduation as a Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of Maryland’s School of Pharmacy (the fourth oldest in the United States). Bedtime prayers concluded with, “Goodnight, I love you, and remember to finish college before you get married.”

Skillfully juggling the demands of family, marriage, career, and community, Jean and her husband Jim now have nine (gorgeous) grandchildren. After a successful career largely centered around pharmacy benefits management, Jean has retired from being paid.

An immediate past chair and active member of the Montgomery County (Maryland) Commission on Aging, a volunteer with her alma mater pharmacy school’s Lamy Champion program, a volunteer in her county’s public schools, her volunteer O Mahony Society responsibilities, and (pre-pandemic) volunteer ushering at the historic Washington, DC, Ford’s Theatre keep her more than busy. That’s only the broad brush strokes: she does more, with the same love, humor, and devotion she gives to everything to which she makes a commitment.

To quote what Jean’s children so brilliantly wrote in 2012, Jean carries the brightly burning torch for The O Mahony Society and its members in honor of her mother’s devotion to the Clan and all that is Irish. We are lucky to have Jean as our Taoiseach, again.

Well done, Taoiseach Jean!

AND NOW A WORD FROM OUR Taoiseach

Dr. Jean McConnell - Dinwiddie

Greetings to all kinsmen by blood or affection:

I’m very honored and pleased to have been elected as your Taoiseach at the virtual Clan Gathering last June. I’m delighted to be following in the footsteps of our esteemed former Taoiseachs, especially those of my mother, Eileen Mahoney McConnell.

While the global pandemic has been a challenge for us all, Mother would have been the first to see the positive. We are able to meet more frequently due to the availability of Zoom.

I’d like to recognize Nora Hickey and thank her for the many years she served as Journal Editor and Cartlannai. While Nora has resigned from that position, she has agreed to remain on the Council. We are all grateful for Nora’s service.

Work on the O Mahony DNA project continues to arouse enthusiastic interest among members all over the world. The Council will continue its work to increase our electronic visibility and membership.

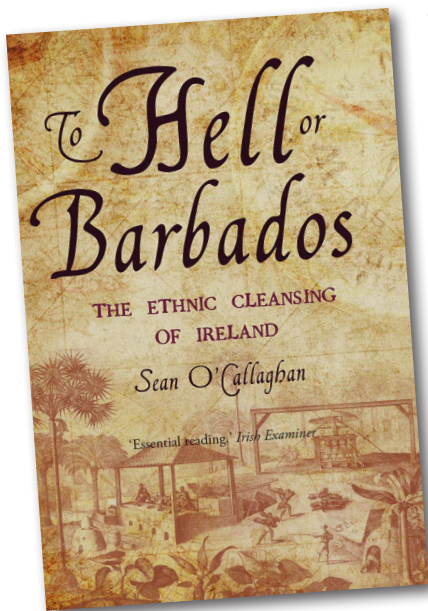
Let us hope that next year we are able to gather once again in Ireland. God willing, we will meet at the cradle of the clan, Rath Rathleann, on Sunday, June 19, 2022.

Is mise le meas (Respectfully yours),

Jean McConnell Dinwiddie

O Mahony Society Taoiseach





BOOK REVIEW:

To Hell or Barbados

The Ethnic Cleansing of Ireland

By Sean O'Callaghan

ISBN: 978-0-86322-287-0

Review by Linda McConnell Baker, OMS
Council and Runai

Written by journalist, author of multiple published books, and son of Cork Sean O'Callaghan, this eye-opening work was published in 2000, shortly after the author died. As a result of circumstance, Mr. O'Callaghan was unable to respond to his champions or his critics of this text.

During our 2020 Virtual Gathering, the topic of books members had read and found interesting was shared. Amongst others, *To Hell or Barbados* was enthusiastically discussed and my interest was peaked. With a reported focus on a portion of history I knew little or nothing about, I looked forward to learning more about ethnic cleansing, forced emigration, 17th Century Irish presence in the Caribbean and North America, and how Irish indentured servants were treated in these lands.

A quick Amazon search revealed the availability of a very affordable "used but in excellent condition" copy, which was quickly purchased and at just over 200 pages, put into what I thought would be my "summer quick reading" pile.

In his introduction, Mr. O'Callaghan acknowledged that he was not a historian; having read his brief enclosed bio, I expected a read that would be more investigative in nature and narrative in style than a footnoted or otherwise annotated work of a historical perspective. My expectations were met.

O'Callaghan opens this work at the end of the English Civil War. Charles I is a head shorter, and Oliver Cromwell in ascendancy. An informative and engaging review of Cromwell's 1649 invasion of Dublin with his Parliamentarian forces is provided, with various contemporary accounts, letters, or ledger entries provided in support of the events. From Drogheda to Wexford and beyond, the recounting of man's inhumanity to man makes for a shocking, if not compelling, read.

I doubt that my experience in formally learning world history varies from many others. In broad brushstrokes only, we learned about the English Civil War, the abolition of the monarchy, Cromwell and the era of the Protectorate, and the restoration of Charles II. I believe that entire history was summarized in two pages of a high school text book and reviewed in five minutes of lecture, so details were scant. To read with more particulars about the transplantation of thousands of Irish landowners to Connacht was a revelation; to read about the forced indenture, and transportation to Barbados, the Caribbean, and portions of the Colonies was repugnant. The descriptions of the treatment of these people, many on sugar or tobacco plantations, defies reason.

For me, the last third of the book slowed in pace and readability. The story of Irish Buccaneers and Irish Pirates was entertaining, but given the small number of the indentured Irish who crossed into privateering or piracy, it felt as if the text got long-winded and tangential.

O'Callaghan clearly states that he relied heavily on the research of others as background material for this book, with full recognition that there are scarce surviving records to substantiate given claims. This may well have contributed to some of his severest critics' reviews. For me, I share the opinion of fellow members present in June, 2020: it's a worthwhile and thought-provoking read, even if Mr. O'Callaghan took some liberties with his opinions.

(Continued from pg. 8)

That was just the beginning, and although I feel comfortable in saying that neither my sisters nor I have ever waived from our dedication to the Society, we now have children who have contributed, as well. This writer's daughter Alison Baker developed the first Facebook Group page, and more recently her cousin Cara (daughter of Maeve McConnell Perno) updated the esthetic of the page.

Our eldest sister Mary continues to serve in spectacular fashion as Membership Coordinator, and our sister Maeve has transitioned to being US Bursar, handing off being Social Media Administrator to the very capable hands of Co. Wicklow resident Helen O Mahony Mangan. Our sister Jean is (again) our Taoiseach, after having served in that role from 2011 to 2014. Despite starting my eleventh year as Runai, I don't plan to be Runai for Life and welcome anyone wanting to assume this role (we can talk!).

How does this relate to a Celtic tradition? Women were warriors and leaders in ancient Celtic tradition. My own sister Maeve was named after Queen Maeve/Mabh, who was strong amongst the strong. We have a proud shared history of service and leadership, and I am incredibly proud to be a part of that tradition, especially if it means I/we can support our noble Clan!

Interested in serving the Society? LET US KNOW!
Please contact us at Lbaker8@ec.rr.com



MILDRED 'MILLIE' ELIZABETH MANEY MACY

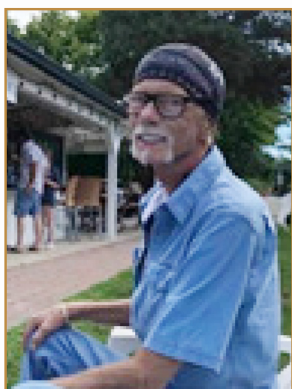
Mildred 'Millie' Elizabeth Maney Macy, brother of O Mahony Society Member Bill Maney, passed away on June 1, 2021, in Wilmington, N.C. She was born December 10, 1931 at the home her grandfather, Emil Ernst Raemsch, built in Bloomfield, New Jersey. Millie grew up in Waynesboro, Virginia with her parents Mildred Raemsch Maney and William J. Maney. She and her older brother, William J. Maney, Jr., graduated from Waynesboro High School. Following high school Millie entered the New York world of fashion attending the Traphagen School of Fashion. Upon graduation, her first jobs were in retail at renowned department stores Bambergers and B. Altman. She subsequently moved into the magazine world as fabric editor for Vanity Fair and Seventeen magazines. Work in Europe and New York brought excitement. She worked with supermodel and 60's icon "Twiggy" while on assignment in Paris. Millie went on to design needlecraft kits and to do interior design. Millie and her husband, Orrin Lane Macy, lived in and commuted from Greenwich, CT for many years. They were a striking couple during New York's Madison Avenue "Mad Men" era. She was tall, slim with striking blue eyes and Orrin was always a dapper dresser. They retired to Orrin's family town, Nantucket, MA. Being an eleventh generation Macy, they built a replica of the first Nantucket Macy house, doing much of the work

themselves. With no children of their own, they adopted Lhasa Apso "puppy" daughters over the years. The last and perhaps dearest was Julia. Millie and Orrin's last move was to Wilmington, NC, where many relatives reside. Her death was predeceased by Orrin's in 2014. Millie had a great singing voice and enjoyed being a member of the Wilmington Choral Society and lunching with the Juliettes! Millie is survived by her brother, William J. Maney of Carolina Beach, NC, and wife, Shirley. Nieces include Kathryn Maney Cowles (Jim), Beth Maney Struckell and Maureen Maney Boner (Michael). There are six grand nieces and nephews: India and Charlotte Cowles, John and Gabrielle Struckell and Tucker, and Bailey Boner. Close and dear relatives by marriage are Christine Feroli (Ron), Barbara Macy (Mrs. Donald) and nephews Thomas and Christopher. There are also many beloved cousins and dear friends. The family would like to acknowledge the "God Girls" who added so much to Millie's past three years through their companionship and loving care.



THOMAS F. MAHONEY, JR.

Longtime O Mahony Society Member Thomas F. Mahoney, Jr. of Buffalo Grove, Illinois, age 84. Loving husband of 57 years to Jeanette "Jan" nee Belmont. Loving dad of Mary Pat (Michael) Smagala and Sheila Kate. Grampi of Shannon (Steven) Paku and Rachel. Big brother of Sister Pat, S.P. He was a graduate of St. Joseph's in Rensselaer, Indiana, a Navy veteran, a Lawyer, a Pro-Life Conservative as well as a Sox fan. From 1971 – 1977 Tom was a Buffalo Grove Trustee and began with Life Source making regular donations of whole blood which in time reached 27 gallons. For many years Tom was a securities arbitrator for NASD/FINRA and served in hundreds of cases. Tom had a serious interest in his Irish Heritage and in 2012 gave St. Xavier's his private collection exceeding 1400 books and was inducted into the Leo High School Hall of Fame in memory of his immigrant father. Tom loved softball and played 16 in. and 12 in. until he was 79 years old.



JOSEPH RICHARD MAHONEY

Joseph Richard Mahoney died on September 13, 2021 after a brief but fierce battle with cancer. He was the brother of O Mahony Society Member Peter P. Mahoney and OMS friend Henry Mahoney. He was born on January 10, 1956, to Joseph and Julia Mahoney, the fifth of seven children. He was a proud, gentle, compassionate free spirit, who worked hard and partied harder. He was always ready to lend a helping hand to anyone who needed it. He was the primary caregiver to each of our parents in their final days. He cherished his daughter and doted on his grandchildren. He loved the New York Yankees, Rock & Roll, his Harley and herb. He is survived by his daughter Dawn; his grandchildren Anissa, Bianca and Isabella González, Adrian Iriarte, Adrián Molina, Ashleigh and Franky Molina, and great grandson Keanu Iriarte; his brothers Peter, Henry, Timothy, and Brian; and his sisters Kathleen and Martha. In accordance with his wishes, his ashes will be scattered over the Pacific Ocean. We will all miss him dearly.



RICHARD "RICK" NEIL REINHARDT

Richard "Rick" Neil Reinhardt, 66, of Dubuque, died Wednesday, June 2, 2021, at MercyOne Dubuque Medical Center. Rick was a former O Mahony Society Member and brother of member Tracy Reinhardt. Rick was born June 19, 1954, in Fond du Lac, WI, the son of Neil and Emma (Berghandler) Reinhardt. On May 11, 1974, he married Threse Burg in St. Joe, WI. They later divorced, but remained great friends. He graduated from Goodrich High School in Fond du Lac, WI in 1972. He worked his entire career as a proud pipeline welder over 40 years. He retired from Intercon Construction in 2019. Rick enjoyed racing, golfing, bird watching, gambling, fishing and cooking. He was an avid watcher of Jeopardy, Wheel of Fortune and Law & Order just to name a few. He was a foodie, enjoyed classic rock music, and anything Irish. Survivors include four daughters, Roberta Reinhardt of Asbury, IA, Lindsey (Owen) Wharton of Cedar Rapids, IA, Victoria (Dave) Friel of Lakeland, FL, and Laura (Michael) Reilly of Buffalo, NY; nine grandchildren, Gordon, Amari, Matthew, Olivia, Jack, Lilah, Madeline, Annabelle, and Jocelyn; his ex-wife, Threse Reinhardt; five sisters, Barbara (Thomas) Glassel of Madison, WI, Diane (Donald) Dubay of Outing, MN, Peggy Reinhardt of Minneapolis, MN, Tracy Reinhardt of Fond du Lac, WI, and Sarah Reinhardt of Albuquerque, NM; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother, John Reinhardt, and one niece, Leslie Dubay.

Join or Renew!



JOIN OR RENEW YOUR O MAHONY SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP!

Membership in the O Mahony Society is open to all associated with the Clan by blood or affection. The Society currently includes members in Ireland, the United Kingdom, France, Cyprus, 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. Membership includes regular newsletters, the annual Society Journal, and full access to the website.

There are two options for submitting your annual membership dues.

You can pay via PayPal on the OMS website in US dollars (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.

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dfomahoney@gmail.com

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TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE O MAHONY SOCIETY:

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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Ireland/EU Representative

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Please Remember to Take Care of You !

The past few years have been a-hard for all of us all over the world.
It is more important than ever to engage in self-care.
We share some tips from the Irish Red Cross:

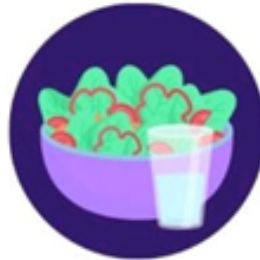


Crois Dhearg na hÉireann
Irish Red Cross



Get enough sleep

Inadequate or poor-quality sleep can negatively affect your mood, mental alertness, energy level and physical health.



Eat healthy diet

Eating a healthy diet can reduce the negative effects of stress on your body. Too much caffeine can lead to increased anxiety - try to drink more water instead.



Exercise daily

Exercise increases your overall health, it also reduces stress and boosts endorphin production, giving you sense of well-being.



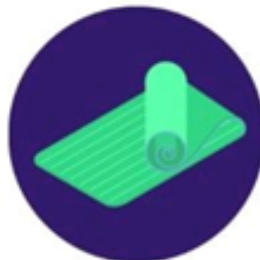
Nurture yourself

Invest your time in hobbies and learning new skills, listen to your favourite music, read a book, take a walk or ride a bike, have fun!



Improve your time-management skills

Better management skills can not only improve your work-life balance but also lower your stress level.



Learn relaxation techniques

Meditation, deep breathing exercises, yoga are powerful relaxation techniques and undeniable stress-fighters.



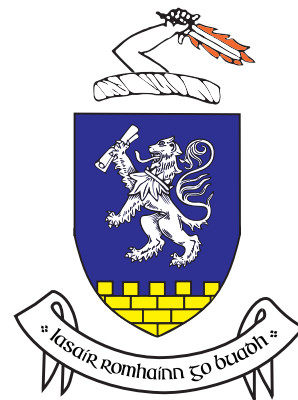
Keep in touch with others

Stay connected with others through social media, video calling, texting, or by joining support groups or interest clubs.



Resolve stressful situations

It's better to discuss your problems than to keep them to yourself. Don't be afraid to ask for help if you feel like you or somebody else might need it.



APPENDIX I

yDNA Project Update

APPENDIX II

Annual General Meeting (AGM) Summary

Proposed Minutes to be Voted on at Next AGM Meeting in June, 2022

APPENDIX III

Newsletter Submission Guidelines

yDNA Project Update

by John W. Mahoney, OMS Council and yDNA Project Co-Administrator

The DNA Project Report for September 2021

As mentioned in the June 2021 Report, the status of the project shows the greatest area of growth in the FamilyFinder test. This is an autosomal DNA test and as result, does not add to the yDNA knowledge, but does add to the project numbers on the FTDNA membership graph. As a consequence, the membership of the yDNA project shows an inflated number of 274.

In this Report, the O Mahony YDNA Project total has now grown to 200 (after adjusting, as previously noted, for the unused kits as well as the family finder numbers).

We have 68 men in the CTS4466 and related groups (one new addition), 17 in the R-L226 group and 22 in the R-FGC5494 (and related) group.

There are 9 men in the R-L21 group and they may benefit from targeted Big Y700.

The project results show that many participants, but not all, have the Irish Type II yDNA, have the name O Mahony (or a variant thereof) and match other O Mahonys. Some match other families with Eoghanacht roots and names.

Editor's Note: Following this edition of the OMS Newsletter, future YDNA Updates will appear in the O Mahoney Journal



Muintir Mathuna
The O Mahony Society

Report of the Virtual Annual General Meeting

June 20, 2021
4:30 pm (Dublin)

Called to order at 4:40 pm (Dublin) by Taoiseach Finbar O Mahony, who thanked Finola Finlay for her excellent lecture on “The O Mahony Tower Houses of West Cork” before passing the virtual baton to Tanaiste Jean McConnell Dinwiddie and requesting Jean facilitate the meeting.

A moment of silence was held to honor the lives of Donagh O Mahoney, son of Emer and Dermot O Mahoney, Pat O Mahony, brother of John O Mahony, Rick Reinhardt, brother of member Tracy Reinhardt, and longtime US member Lois Pope.

Attendees: Please note that some attendees of the lecture stayed for all or part of the AGM.

Bill Badzmierowski, Newsletter Editor
Alison Baker
Linda McConnell Baker, Runai
Gwynneth Bennet
Catherine Carbino
Anne O Mahony Davis
Donna Mahoney Devore
Jean McConnell Dinwiddie, Tanaiste
Mary McConnell Haislip, Membership Coordinator
Nora M. Hickey
Eileen's iPad
Eileen Mahoney Langdon
Frank Mahoney
Jim Mahoney
John W. Mahoney, yDNA Project co-Administrator

Michael Mahoney
Steven Mahoney
Thomas Mahoney
Mary's iPad
Helen O Mahony Mangan, Social Media Administrator
Dermot O Mahoney, Cisteoir
Emer O Mahoney
Finbar O Mahony, Taoiseach
Jeff O Mahony
John A. O Mahony
Pat O Mahony, yDNA Project co-Administrator
Diarmuid O Mathuna
Maeve McConnell Perno, USA Bursar
Macaire Mahoney Stein
Tricia Zucker

ITEM I - Apologies

Jim Castellan
Donald Mahoney
Tony O Mahony, UK Representative

Item II - Approval of 2019 Annual General Meeting Report

The report had been shared with the membership per the November, 2020 newsletter. Discussion was invited; there were no comments offered. Motion to accept as the minutes of the meeting was forwarded by Dermot O Mahoney and seconded by Maeve McConnell Perno. The motion passed by acclamation. Runai Linda McConnell Baker will post the minutes of the 2019 AGM to the website as soon as possible.

Item III - Nomination of Office Bearers and Council

The AGM was presented with the slate of nominations of office bearers and Council members as developed in yesterday's Council meeting:

Taoiseach: Jean McConnell Dinwiddie
Tanaiste: John A. O Mahony (Galway)
Runai: Linda McConnell Baker
Cisteoir: Dermot O Mahoney
Council: New: William Badzmierowski (Newsletter Editor), Helen O Mahony
Mangan (Social Media Administrator)
Continuing: James Castellan, Mary McConnell Haislip, Nora Hickey,
Donald Mahoney, John W. Mahoney, Greg Mahony, Finbar O Mahony, Pat O Mahoney, Tony O
Mahony, Diarmuid O Mathuna, Maeve McConnell Perno
Leaving: Dierdre O Mahoney

It was noted that this slate of nominees totals 17, thus the constitutional maximum. The membership was advised of Nora Hickey's resignation as Journal Editor and Cartlannai and that the Council welcomed her continued contribution to the Society as a Council member. Of note, Nora stated it was not her intention to resign from the Cartlannai position; Dermot added that the Cartlannai and Journal editor are a linked role, therefore, resignation from was one a resignation from both. There was no additional discussion. Again, Nora's resignation was accepted and Nora was thanked for her many years of service. For the foreseeable future, the role of Cartlannai will be vacant; the Council will be addressing this need, advise the membership, and any action will be formalized at the next AGM.

There were no other nominations from the floor. A motion was made to accept the slate of office bearers and Council as above by John O Mahony and seconded by Emer O Mahoney. The Officers and Council were elected by acclamation. New Taoiseach Jean McConnell Dinwiddie offered congratulations and thanks to all who serve.

Item IV – New Business

- A. 2022 North American Get Together, Albany, NY: Dan Mahoney of Rockville, Maryland has volunteered to coordinate this event and forwarded his report
 - 1. Target date is 14-16 October 2022
 - 2. The Irish American Heritage Museum has agreed to host the event; contact is Elizabeth Stack
 - 3. Hospitality industry executive Dan has confirmed with the Courtyard by Marriott Albany/Clifton Park that a block of rooms can be reserved below "rack rates."
 - 4. Updates will be posted on the News and Events tab as available and shared with the membership via Shout-Outs and the Newsletter.

- B. Voluntary Addition of GED Match numbers to OMS Website
 - 1. In follow up to a suggestion made by a member at the January, 2021 virtual genetic genealogy workshop, the membership was advised that the Council discussed the benefits and burdens of the voluntary addition of member's GED match numbers to our website.
 - 2. In order to simplify the effort on the part of the website administrator and deviate as little as possible from our focus on the yDNA Project, the Council agreed that a password-protected tab should be established for the voluntary posting of member's GED match numbers and their email addresses. Linda will follow up on this action and include an announcement of the tab's availability in the next Shout-Out.

- C. Council Planning
 - 1. It was shared that the Council plans to use technology to meet on a quarterly basis, thus expediting response to Society needs.
 - 2. "Job Descriptions" will be developed in order to make it easier for any person assuming additional Society roles in the future

Item V -Reports

- A. Financial reports:

1. USA Bursar: Maeve McConnell Perno assumed the role in late 2020, with a final transfer of records in January 2021. Due to the pandemic, there were few expenses incurred. After the transfer of \$3,000 to the Irish account, the ending balance in the Bryn Mawr Trust account is \$11,455.22
 2. Cisteoir Dermot O Mahoney stated that his report is incomplete due to awaiting receipts/reimbursement for Journal expenses. A full report will follow asap, but the following summary was provided:
 - a. €2,463 transfer from US account results in €6,894 in the Irish account.
 - b. Anticipated expenses include approximately €1,547 for Journal expenses, €100 as an honorarium for our speaker, and €230 for insurance. Ending balance is expected to be approximately €5,000.
- B. yDNA Project : Finbar O Mahony (see attached)
1. Greatest growth is in Family Finder autosomal testing, which inflates gross number of yDNA participants.
 2. There are a total of 274 participants, with 6 kits outstanding
 3. Thanks were offered to those who sponsor tests as well as to those who extend their testing, which increases the body of information and understanding.
 4. A reminder was shared that full details can be found on the Family Tree DNA (FTDNA) O Mahony yDNA Surname Project Page
- C. Membership Report: forwarded by Mary McConnell Haislip (see attached)
1. Membership continues to trend down. John O Mahony suggested that members who have not submitted dues in three years be given notice of impending change of membership status (active to inactive). Linda to follow up with Mary re same.
 2. Dermot O Mahoney made a motion that due to the COVID Pandemic, that an additional year of grace be given before culling the membership rolls for non-payment of subscriptions/dues. A second was given by John O Mahony. Discussion was invited (none offered) and the motion passed by acclamation.
- D. Website: Linda McConnell Baker for Webmaster Larry Baker (see attached)
1. It was shared that our website is GDPR compliant and also meets the privacy standards imposed by the state of California.
 2. The goal for this coming year is to research and implement enhanced esthetic and functionality options now available to us at no additional cost on the Wix platform. Additionally, OCR software will be researched to determine if standards have improved from our experiment of some five or six years ago.
 3. Re expenses, the Society saves ~10% by paying 2 years fees for the website and domain name. The next expense is expected in March, 2022.
 4. Zoom will need to be renewed in September, 2022. Expected expense is approximately \$150/year.
 5. Flipbuilder expense for the newsletter is \$12/year
- E. Social Media: Helen O Mahony Mangan (see attached)
1. Helen assumed the role of Social Media Administrator in 2020.
 2. There are now 349 O Mahony Society Facebook Group page members, with 80 new members last year alone.
 3. ~20% of new Society members come from Facebook.
 4. All new Facebook members are given a welcome note and a private invitation to join the Society.
 5. It was shared that the Council plans to follow up on capturing more Facebook members, as well as adding points of interest that can lead to our website.
- F. Newsletter: Bill Badzmierowski (see attached)

1. Bill introduced the Newsletter team, the new formats available, and the establishment of new author guidelines, which have been included in newsletter issues (also available on the website). Note Bill donated the first year's expense for Flipbuilder, which has been popular with users.

2. The next newsletter is expected in October or November, 2021

3. Expenses:

a. November 2020: \$0 (Remaining mailing supplies and postage were exhausted and used for the few worldwide members who do not have email and therefore receive a print copy)

b. May 2021: \$ 87.07 printing
 7.19 envelopes
 5.86 tax
 48.24 postage
 \$148.46 total

4. Emer O Mahony asked if we should invite children/grandchildren to contribute to the Newsletter to increase interest for readers as well as the younger contributing authors. Bill to follow up.

G. A motion was made by John O Mahony to accept the reports as submitted; second was forwarded by Linda McConnell Baker. There was no further discussion, and the reports were accepted by acclamation.

H. New Taoiseach Jean McConnell Dinwiddie offered thanks to all who contribute so much to the running of the Society.

Item VI – Presentation of the 2020/2021 O Mahony Society Journal

In light of the resignation as Editor/Cartlannai Nora Hickey, Jean McConnell Dinwiddie reported that hard copies of the Journal have been received in Ireland and the UK. There are not enough hard copies for US distribution at this time and the availability of the PDF of the issue is pending. Dermot stated he will get the PDF for electronic distribution and that the Society will reimburse the bearer for expenses related to printing/ mailing hard copies to the few members who do not have email addresses.

Item VII – 2022 Ireland Gathering Plans

A. Plans are tentative and based on availability and the ability to safely gather in person. Updates will be posted on the OMS website and shared in Newsletters and in Shout-Outs as details evolve.

B. 2016: Dates: June 17-19, 2022
 Headquarters: Coolcower House
 Rally: Rath Rathleann, Templemartin

C. Nora Hickey to follow up with land owner and "Rath Rathleann custodian" John Crowley, and Linda McConnell Baker to follow up with the proprietress of Coolcower House to confirm arrangements.

Item VIII – AOB

A. Alison Baker recommended the use of other Social Media platforms to reach younger people for membership, including Twitter, Instagram, and TikTok. Bill Badzmirowski

added that there is software that can push posts to all platforms. Council will take this up at the next quarterly meeting. Tricia Zucker offered her assistance with this outreach. B. Taoiseach Jean McConnell Dinwiddie offered congratulations again to the new Council members, many thanks to our speaker Finola Finlay, and a warm thanks to all who were able to participate in today's meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:22 pm (Dublin) .

Respectfully submitted,

Linda McConnell Baker
Runai

Addenda:



Social Media Report

June 2021

In a change of roles, Helen Mangan assumed the role of Social Media Administrator from Maeve McConnell Perno in 2020.

1. We currently have 349 members of the Facebook Group page, 80 of whom are new in this past year. Approximately 20% of new members to the O'Mahony Society come directly from Facebook.
2. Helen writes a personal welcome to all new Facebook members and sends a private message to invite them to join the O'Mahony Society.
3. Facebook participation includes posts of interest to members and interaction between members on genealogy.
4. The 66th Annual and Second virtual Gathering of The O Mahony Society on the 20th of June 2021 has been promoted on our Facebook page.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Mangan, Social Media Administrator



Newsletter Report to the O Mahony Society Council

2021

This editor accepted the offer to serve as Newsletter Editor for the O Mahony Society in September 2020. I also enlisted the volunteer services of my husband (Joel Kotchevar) - who is a professional graphic designer – to carry out layout and graphic design functions.

For many unavoidable and valid reasons, the O Mahony Society Newsletter had not been published for approximately two years when I assumed the role of editor. For this reason, the November 2020 Newsletter consisted of an expanded version in order to accommodate various stories and reports that had not been previously published.

The newsletter is an all-volunteer team effort involving:

- Bill Badzmierowski, Editor
- Jean Dinwiddie, Assistant editor
- Joel Kotchevar – Layout and Graphic Designer
- Linda Baker – Proofreader
- Numerous volunteer authors

A new format for the newsletter was introduced in the November 2020 publication. This included making the newsletter available in PDF format for electronic and print distribution as well as an online interactive Flipbuilder format which includes background music. The Flipbuilder link was shared electronically, published in the body of the publication, and listed on the OMS website.

The November 2020 publication proved to be very time and labor intensive for the editor and graphic designer. This was not due to the volume of news. Instead, it was because there was clearly a need for author guidelines that would explain submission procedures and formats. Without such guidelines, information had to be tediously patched together through numerous email exchanges and phone calls.

These guidelines are now in place. They are explained on the OMS website and will also be published within all future editions of the OMS newsletter. The guidelines have already resulted in a significant reduction in time and labor for the newsletter team for the recently published May 2021 newsletter.

Anecdotal feedback from several OMS members indicate that the new formats are being enthusiastically received by the membership. While anecdotal feedback is certainly not objective data, it does take the general temperature of the membership relevant to their experience with the different formats of the Newsletter. I feel it is safe to say that the newsletter is well received by the membership.

The Flipbuilder version of the newsletter does incur minimal cost and this cost was donated for the first 12 months. The cost is \$1.00 US per month per newsletter posted. In order to keep future costs manageable, we propose that the O Mahony Society pay for one newsletter posting at a time. This would involve removing the immediate past newsletter each time an updated newsletter is posted. This would result in a cost of \$12.00 US per year to OMS, beginning in April 2022. The team requests that the Council approve this expense as it is a value-added benefit for our membership.

The only downside to this method will be the fact only the most current Flipbuilder version of the newsletter will be accessible to members. However, all newsletters will continue to be available in PDF format on the O Mahony Society website.

There were no expenses incurred with the November 2020 OMS Newsletter.

Expenses incurred for the May 2021 Newsletter were related to hard copy distribution in the US and Ireland:

15 printed copies: \$87.07 US

9X12 envelopes for mailing printed copies: \$7.19 US

Tax on the above: \$5.86 US

Postage: \$48.24 US

Total: 148.46 US

The Newsletter team plans to publish and distribute newsletters on a semi-annual basis.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William F. Badzmierowski". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'W' and 'B'.

William F. Badzmierowski, M.ED., CSW, NP

Editor - O Mahony Society Newsletter



Website Report

2021

I. Expenses

A. Website

1. Unlimited Premium Plan (10 GB storage; unlimited bandwidth); ~20% discount received for paying 2 years' service fee[\$274.00 USD (credit \$19.79 applied from previous purchase)=net] **\$254.21 USD**
2. Domain Name charge 2 years' service fee
3. Next payment due March 24, 2022; expected to be \$321.70 if current rates prevail

47.70

B. Zoom

1. One year contract expires September, 2021. First year contract was obtained at a discount. **104.93**
2. Subsequent yearly contracts are currently \$14.99/month or \$149/year, USD

Total

\$ 406.84 USD

II. Analytics

- A. This report covers period June 2020 to May 11, 2021
- B. Website host introduced free analytic software in mid-2019; there was a two week data collection period prior to the AGM that year, which was not statistically relevant.
- C. Analytic software provides the following summaries:
 1. (Opportunity) Most popular page is the Homepage. More time is spent by users on this page than any other

2. (Opportunity) Second most popular page is Genealogy, followed by News and Events, then Join/Renew
 3. (Risk) The last page visited before leave the site: Genealogy
 4. Trends
 - a. Most popular traffic source: Google
 - b. News and Events page show a large increase in traffic
 - c. Genealogy page shows a “big drop” in traffic compared to this time last year
 - d. Average session time is 5’34” (longer than 94% of comparable sites)
 5. Homepage score is 88/100 and can vary. Homepage score affects SEO ranking. Any rating above 80 is deemed favorable.
- D. Other statistics
1. Over the past 12 months, there have been a total of 2272 visits to the website, 1448 of which are” unique visits,” defined as the number of visits during a selected time frame (365 days) regardless of how often the user visited.
 2. An extensive cross check was done within the website host and our membership rolls; this was part of the annual maintenance done to maintain compliance with the GDPR as well as accuracy and maintaining Society integrity.
 - a. There were 78 new website members this year, with 36 deletions per the membership rolls for a net total of 190.
 - b. Please note that some users maintain more than one email address and some members’ spouses/partners also have website privileges per the established standard of spousal membership privileges, therefore this number should not be considered a percentage of overall membership who are website members.
 3. Overall, the average length of stay on the website in the past 365 days is 3’32”. In April and early May, the average LOS was 5’34”, which is greater than 94% of comparable websites (Social Sciences/Arts & Humanities category)
 4. The bounce rate (% of users who left the site after viewing only one page) is 58%, which is better than 54% of sites in our category.

III. Suggestions for improvement

- A. Cost of posting one issue at a time of the Flipbook version of the Newsletter should be approved; current cost is \$12 USD per year. Flipbook is an inexpensive and easy way to keep us relevant to increasingly-tech savvy users.
- B. Advanced options per Wix

IV. Addenda

A. Analytics table

Page Path ⓘ	Page Views	Site Sessions	Unique Visitors
/Homepage	2,272	1,448	1,086
/genealogy	903	700	592
/news-and-events	530	388	278
/join-renew-2	413	242	199
/surname	323	242	205
/contacts	306	225	188
/project-results	248	198	163
/dna	218	171	144
/trees	212	159	143
/omahony-journals-table-of-contents	179	105	31
/gallery	169	61	37
/genetic-genealogy	166	107	95
/roots	148	100	90
/research	130	89	84
/founders	128	104	95
/famine	102	74	68
/art-and-literature	102	86	69
/society-newsletters	80	55	28
/area-map	75	59	55
/constitution	49	37	33
/publications	49	38	32
/links	48	39	34
/project-participation	48	38	34
/certification	47	34	34
/council	46	29	27
/project-update-presentations	41	29	23
/other-administrative-roles	40	15	13
/officers-2	36	17	13
/agm-minutes	33	28	24
/supporting-others	15	13	12
/booksbibliography	11	11	8
/oms-privacy-statement	6	6	6
/virtual-workshops	5	5	5
/officers-1/cartlannai-(historian)(journal-editor)	1	1	1

/council-members/donald-mahoney	1	1	1
/council-members/james-castellan	1	1	1

B. Invoices

Muintir Mhathúna

Membership Report 2020-2021

Since there was no membership report in 2020, this report covers activity since our Gathering in 2019, with a summary of our membership by country as of June 1st, 2021.

	Members 2019	New	Removed	TOTAL 2021	<i>Honorary /Comp.</i>	Due for Removal	%
Ireland	45	1	9	37	9	8	22%
UK	18	2	5	15	1	5	33%
Australia	14	2	3	13	0	4	31%
US	161	14	29	146	8	25	17%
TOTAL	238	19	46	211	<i>18</i>	42	20%

The downward trend in membership is concerning. In order to determine what impact the COVID pandemic may have had, I have looked at the number of members removed for non-payment of dues pre and post pandemic.

The table to the right reflects cancellations for non-payment of dues by country. *(This does not include deceased members.)* There is no clear evidence that the pandemic caused more people to forgo their membership, except perhaps in the UK.

	Lapsed Members 2019	Lapsed Members 2020
Ireland	5	3
UK	0	4
Australia	3	0
US	17	19
TOTAL	25	26

As of June 1st	New Members
2016	22
2017	23
2018	25
2019	20

2020	10
2021	9

It's possible that COVID may have had an impact on the number of new members joining, as shown in the table on the left.

Nonetheless, our ratio of new members to lapsed members is clearly showing a worrisome trend.

The Website continues to be the major vehicle for new member enrollment, with 79% of new members joining that way.

Submitted by:

Mary Haislip

Membership Coordinator



The DNA Project Report

June 2021

The DNA project update has been pre-empted by the SHOUT OUT articles which followed the 2019 report. If anyone has mislaid their 2019 report, I can forward a pdf file of the two pages. They can request it from fin.omahony@gmail.com

The current status of the project shows that the greatest area of growth is in the area of the FamilyFinder test. This is an autosomal DNA test and as result, does not add to the yDNA knowledge, but does add to the project numbers on the FTDNA membership graph. As a consequence, the membership of the yDNA project shows an inflated number of 274.

From the 274 we must discount 6 unused kits pending return to FTDNA, as well as the FamilyFinder numbers to arrive at the 199 members shown on the FTDNA spreadsheet.

We have 57 men in the CTS4466 and related groups, 17 in the R-L226 group and 22 in the R-FGC5494 (and related) group.

There are 9 men in the R-L21 group and they could benefit from targeted Big Y700.

There are 67 men in the project who form a cluster of matches under the CTS4466 heading. Of those, 23 have tested at the Big Y 500 or 700 level and a further 15 have specifically tested a “terminal” SNP based on their matches.

The project results show that many participants, but not all, have the Irish Type II yDNA, have the name O Mahony (or a variant thereof) and match other O Mahonys. Some match other families with Eoghanacht roots and names.

The FTDNA Big Y 700 test contributed to the rapid development of a much more extensive phylogenetic tree, and the 23 men who have taken that test, have added many new branches to the phylogenetic tree relevant to the O Mahonys.

A special word of thanks is due to those who have taken the Big Y 500 or 700 and those who have sponsored those upgrades.

My term of office as Project Administrator ends at the upcoming AGM. John and Patrick will be Co-Administrators for the Project thereafter.

Finbar

Dr. Finbar O Mahony, Taoiseach and yDNA Project Administrator



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 of 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).