



# Mayo Society of New York

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Founded 1879; incorporated 1891 as Mayo Men's Benefit, Patriot and Social Association of the City of New York; later as Mayo Men's P & B Association and in 1985, gender neutral as the Mayo Society, Inc. of the City of New York.

*Vol. 139*

*Newsletter*

*February 2018*

**Regular Meeting** Tuesday, February 13, 2018  
**Where:** St. Sebastian Parish Center  
39-60 57th Street  
Woodside, NY 11377  
**Time:** 7:30 P.M. Sharp

Regular meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month. There are no meetings July & August.

ads contact: Mary B. Lydon 917-974-4871, Noreen O'Donoghue 914-643-1014, Sharon Trotti 914-382-9089. Email: [mayosocietyofnyjournal@gmail.com](mailto:mayosocietyofnyjournal@gmail.com)

**Please see our list of parade dates below:**

Rockaway is March 3rd, Mineola is March 4th, @ 1:00 PM, NYC is March 17th, with more information to follow. Bayside Parade is March 24th, Line-Up at 10:00 AM. Yonkers Parade is also the 24th @ 1:00 PM.

## Our President's Notes

Hello members and friends, some of you may know me and some may not. First and foremost, I would like to thank the Mayo Society for having me as your President, I am humbled.

I come from a small village in Erris called Glenamoy, 15 miles from Belmullet and 30 miles from Ballina. I came to the United States in year 1962. I spent approximately a year in Philadelphia before moving to the Big Apple. I met the man of my dreams in the Jaeger House Ballroom and we got married in 1966. We lived in Brooklyn until 1971 at which time we moved to Bayside and have remained there. Jim passed away in 2005. We had 4 children, Mary (deceased), Francis who resides in Manhattan, Seamus, Christine and family live in Floral Park, and my daughter Breda, Seamus and family live close to me in Bayside.

We had a wonderful Installation of Officers reception at the Irish Center in Mineola, A big thank you to the Mayo members and all others who made this such a memorable occasion.

A special "Thank You" to out-going President, Jim Prendergast for his hard work and dedication these past two years. I just can't thank him enough.

March is fast approaching and a busy month for all of us. We are looking forward to our big dance on March 10th we will have 2 great honorees: Mary Coyne Byrne and Tony McGarry, so please come out and support our society. This is our only fund raiser and we support so many other organizations during the year. For reservations contact Rita Lydon Lenz, Jim Prendergast 917-497-4657, Michael Regan 516-850-6813. For Journal

I was saddened by the passing of one of our dear friends; Paddy Nee, a true gentleman, may he R.I.P.

Once again I thank you for your support as I venture into my new position as your President. Please stay warm this winter, stay safe and keep our members who are sick in your prayers.

Sincerely,

**Betty McLoughlin, President**

## A note from this editor:

Our membership is delighted to have **Betty McLoughlin** as our president. She comes with a good deal of experience after being twice President of the Irish American Society of Nassau, Suffolk and Queens. The IASNS&Q is model of its kind which serves a variety of vital social and cultural needs in the Irish-American community in the metropolitan area. It provides multi-activities seven days weekly. Betty comes to the Mayo Society of New York with a reputation as a very capable leader and an indefatigable worker. On our part we wish her much success and assure her of our cooperation.

Betty replaces an exceptional president, **Jim Prendergast**. Jim's commitment to our society was always continuous and admirably unconditional. His sole agenda was the betterment of the Society and this writer, among others, believes he has achieved that. We look forward to continuing our work with Jim in his capacity as active member and Trustee. The Board of Trustees consists of the last, most recent, five past Presidents.

**John J. Garvey, Editor**

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P.S. We had six inoperable email addresses in our emergency eBlast of Paddy Nee's funeral arrangements. Again, we ask you to notify us promptly of email address changes.

## News of our members

Congratulates to member **Maura Mulligan** who will be honored as Irish Woman of the Year by the Irish American Heritage & Culture Committee NYC Department of Education. Maura retired some years ago from the NYC DOE as a Teacher of English as a Second Language (TESL). Her memoir, *The Call of the Lark*, received many accolades from a variety of Reviewers and was especially admired by our members for its depiction of life in Ireland as they remembered it.

Condolences to members Mary Nee on the death of her Beloved father, **Paddy Nee**, our esteemed member and to Paddy's brother Vincent, also a member. Paddy hailed from Louisburg. He was 86. The Family relocated from the Bronx in 1980 to what became for Paddy and Bea, R.I.P., their beloved Rockaway. Paddy was a quiet, unassuming man beloved by all. Beneath this quiet veneer he was exceptionally committed to our society and within months of his becoming a member in May 11, 1999 he began to recruit many Rockaway Irish of Mayo heritage. We now have a significant number of wonderful members in the Rockaways – mothers, daughters, sisters, brothers, his own daughter Mary and brother, Vincent as well as nonrelative friends. We were terribly sorry to hear that he lost his battle with his illness. We will miss him – may he rest in peace.

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Best wishes for a speedy, full recovery to our peerless National Anthems singer at all events, **Teresa Egan Cunningham**. Beloved Teresa proudly admits to being 93 next birthday. Onward to 100, Teresa.

Congratulations to **Rita Lydon Lenz** on her election as First V.P. of the United Irish Counties Association, Inc. (UICA). Rita progressed, unopposed, from 2<sup>nd</sup> V.P. Rita did a commendable job as President of the Mayo Society of NY. She currently does an equally commendable job as our Treasurer and she has no hesitation expressing her passion for the Mayo Society.

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Congratulations to **Gerry Quinn**, President of the Cleveland Mayo Society on being honored by Malachi House for distinguished service to the Irish American Community. Gerry is host of the super-popular The Irish Show broadcast on **AM1420**, broadcast from Independence, Cleveland, Ohio at

<http://salemininteractivemedia.com/listenlive/player/whkam>

The Malachi House is a hospice for the poor manned entirely by volunteers to offer dignity in death. 400 attended the event.

Isn't it terrific that we have two Mayo people offering the best in Irish entertainment on the Internet, including priceless interviews of notable Irish personalities. Member and Radio host **Adrian Flannelly** may be reached at:

<http://media02.ultratek.com/livestream.html>. Gerry's link is above. Both Radio Hosts lived within ten miles of each other near Ballina, Co. Mayo – Adrian about five miles east of Ballina and Gerry about five miles west of Ballina. A further irony – both of Adrian's parents Patrick & Linda (O'Dwyer), were teachers and Principals in. Attymass N.S. while Gerry's father, Liam O'Coinne, was Principal of Garracloon N.S. Apple OS computer users should use the Google browser rather than Safari to access both programs.

## Events

Feb. 25 – The Irish-American Society of Nassau, Suffolk & Queens will hold its Grand Marshal Dinner Dance at the Irish-American Center, Mineola. Music is by The McClean Avenue Band. Admission is \$65 pp. Our society will have a table. If interested contact Rita at 516-444-3879. Another feather in their hat is the establishment of the Mineola St. Patrick's Parade, this year on March 4, and the Center's leadership role in making the Parade successful ever year.

## News we should keep abreast of . . .

17% of the population of the Irish Republic was born outside the country. In relation to its overall population this does not include births in the Republic of non-Celtic-Irish, further reducing its Celtic-Irish proportion. Ireland prides itself on the fact that it conducts an "open economy" where even non-EU citizens as well as EU citizens and we understand, EU legal residents are eligible to fill vacant positions.

. . . a battle rages in Ireland to repeal by referendum, the Eight Amendment to the Irish Constitution, to allow abortions possibly up to 12 weeks of pregnancy. The Eight Amendment expressly acknowledges the right to life of the unborn. Professor of Law, [Irish] Senator Ivana Bacik has written, [that] the eighth amendment "is uniquely misogynistic, in that it expressly sets up the right to life of both the pregnant woman and the foetus (fetus) that she carries in conflict – anticipating that a time would come when somebody would have to decide between them." See Abortion Referendum Tracker at:

<https://www.irishtimes.com/news/politics/referendum-tracker>

Another on-going battle is to wrest control of the National School System from control of the Catholic Church. So far, this latter effort is being strongly resisted by the Church. The quest for secularization of the Country continues as the proportion of Roman Catholics falls – The CSO reveals that Ireland's Catholic population is now reduced to 78% (many of whom are non-practicing – JJG).

## Words to ponder . . .

**"Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other."**

Remarks Prepared for Delivery at the Trade Mart in Dallas, TX, November 22, 1963 [Tragically Undelivered]

**John F. Kennedy**

**John J. Garvey, Editor** with input from **Betty McLoughlin, President**, and **John Gray, Financial Secretary.**

**Items of interest for our newsletter may be sent to**  
**JGarvey386@aol.com**