

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. 142 Newsletter Nov 2018

Regular Meeting Tuesday, November 13, 2018

Where: St. Sebastian Parish Center

39-60 57th Street Woodside, NY 11377

Time: <u>7:30 P.M. Sharp</u>

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

Our President's Note

Dear Members,

I hope you are all well. I hope too many people weren't disappointed with no October meeting.

We are delighted beyond words that Brian O'Dwyer is the Grand Marshall to the biggest parade in the world, New York City. Brian has done and will continue to work hard for the Irish community. And of course, it will be a proud day for Mayo. I'm so glad.

We have a lot of good news this month. Rita Lydon Lenz is the Grand Marshall for the Mineola Parade on March 3rd, 2019. We congratulate you Rita, you are such a wonderful person and very deserving of it. So, the Green & Red will be flying high in 2019.

We would like to wish Mike Moffitt a very Happy 90th Birthday and we thank you for all your hard work with the Mayo Society over the years, many more birthdays to come Mike.

Get well wishes to Jim Prendergast. We hope you will be out and about soon.

Our Communion Breakfast is fast approaching, please let myself or Rita know if you can attend, November 18th at 10am, mass at Connolly's Corner in Maspeth.

Noreen Lydon O 'Donoghue and I had a lovely weekend in Cleveland and were honored to be there. We met a lot of nice people. Jerry Quinn welcomed us with open arms.

It was wonderful to meet the Mayo basketball teams and their coaches. Lovely boys, very respectful and enjoyed their breakfast at the Irish center in Mineola.

I'd like to wish each and everyone of you a Happy Thanksgiving and enjoy your family time. See you all on November 13th. Our Grand Marshall May attend our meeting.

God Bless

Betty

Upcoming Events

The Irish In New York City, The Keough-Naughton Institute for Irish Studies

Friday, November 16th., 3:00 PM, Admission is Free American Irish Historical Society,991 5th. Avenue, NY, http://aihs.org/event/the-irish-in-new-york-city-the-keough-naughton-institute-for-irish-studies/

La'na Gaelilge - "Irish Language Day"

Saturday, November 17, 2018. 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM Glucksman Ireland House,

1Washington Mews, NY, NY 10093. Free Admission

The Dead, 1904

The sold-out holiday hit returns to the American Irish Historical Society, at 991 5th. Ave., NY, directly across from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

A minimum of 80 tickets to The Dead, 1904, including dinner will be made available throughout the run of the show for \$19.04 through a daily lottery with TodayTix, which is a free app. More information available at aihs.org

Bill Whelan Presents: Featuring Emily Flack and Séamus Flaherty,

Nov 16-17 @ 8:00 PM Irish Arts Center, 553 W 51st Street, New York, https://irishartscenter.org/event/bill-whelan-presentsemily-flack-and-séamus-flaherty

Elections this month

In accordance with our Constitution, all of the officer positions are up for election tonight. To run for any office, members must be in good standing, paid up to date and must have attended five meetings within the calendar year.

Boston's Fenway Park - Home to GAA, hurling, and freedom

The hurlers of Cork, Clare, Wexford, and Limerick will take to the field at Boston's Fenway Park on the November 18 where they will do battle in a super 11's format for the Players Champions Cup. This annual event sees the famous Boston venue turn into a cauldron of Gaelic athleticism as baseball bats are replaced with hurleys and the humble baseball is trumped by the sliotar. Hurling in Fenway Park is not a new concept, back in 1954 the Cork hurling team took to the famous baseball field where legendary Christy Ring stole the show.

Apart from Irish sporting activities, the hallowed turf of Fenway Park also hosted Irish political activities. The Irish roots of Fenway Park can be found in its very foundations. Derry native Charles Logue was tasked with building the cathedral of Boston baseball in 1912. Seven years later the home of the Red Sox staged a mass rally for Irish independence.

On the 29th of June 1919, Eamonn De Valera addressed an Irish freedom rally in Fenway Park. The baseball ground burst with over 60,000 people and the Boston Globe of June 30th reported: "To say it was thrilling is putting it mildly - it was electric!" The newspaper goes on to describe the atmosphere: "it was an inspiring assemblage......the audience appreciated the eloquent prayer with which Rev. Fr Philip O'Donnell opened the meeting - a prayer so thrilling in its appeal that it was frequently applauded."

The large crowds proved to be a headache for organizers as the Boston Globe reported "There were thousands on the street outside....the jam became so great between the platform and the grandstand that several women fainted and had to be carried on the speaker's platform where they were attended by Dr James F. Gallagher. The crowd surged around the reporter's table that was on the ground in front of the speaker's platform and one of those tables was crumpled up but fortunately, nobody injured."

Another Irish independence rally was held in Fenway Park three years later which saw the formidable Countess Markiewicz take to the platform to speak for the Irish Republic

On the 22nd of May 1922, the Boston Globe reported how thousands packed into the baseball ground to hear Markiewicz and Kathleen Barry, sister of the martyred Kevin, and Captain Cornelius Conroy of the Irish Republican Brotherhood. The Globe reported that "the meeting was held under the auspices of the American Association for the recognition of the Irish Republic and the women's auxiliary. At least half of those present were women. The countess and her party were escorted on the field by the Brian Boru pipers of Worcester and a group of ex-servicemen - the De Valera guard - carrying the American and Irish flags."

In 1954 a Cork team fresh from winning a third All Ireland title in a row appeared at Fenway to take on the New England exiles. Christy Ring was described in the press as 'Irelands Babe Ruth' and he played up to such a comparison when he donned a baseball uniform for a photo shoot in Fenway Park. An article appeared in the November 8th edition of Sports Illustrated which described the Cork star as 'a balding 33-year-old Irishman with a broad back, strong legs, and hands that could choke a bear.'

When today's hurling teams take to Fenway Park this November, they do so in the steps of giants of the game and ghosts of the past.

https://www.irishcentral.com/roots/history/fenway-park-home-gaa-hurling

Ireland Re-elects Michael D. Higgins as president for a second seven-year term



Interesting Facts About Mayo, The Series Continues......

The term "boycott" originated in Co. Mayo.

The word derives from Captain Charles C. Boycott, a 19th-century British land agent for an absentee landlord, Lord Erne. Boycott was frozen out by his local community in Ballinrobe, Co. Mayo during the Irish Land War as a part of the Irish Land League's campaign of ostracism.

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<u>Newsletter Editors</u>: Mary Lydon & Sharon Trotti. All Articles are welcome ©