



A Chairde



The Official Newsletter of the Irish-American Club of Tulsa



Edition 2024-1

A Letter from the IACT President – John Miggins

Greetings Irish American Club members, new and old. What a beautiful day to be Irish is how I usually start my day along with being thankful for all the other blessings I have received. We should all be thankful and look on the brighter side as that is not only healthy but infectious and it's the Irish way. Blind enthusiasm, I guess. (Continued on Page 2)

Call for a New Treasurer – unfortunately, our treasurer Rhonda Tyler had to resign. We are very grateful to Rhonda for the time that she was able to give the club but now we need to find a new treasurer. If you are interested or know of someone who may be able to take on this role, please let us know by email (IrishAC.Tulsa@gmail.com).

Upcoming Events:

January – Time to Renew Your Membership

Yes, it's that time again. We hope that you have all enjoyed the club this last year and will renew your membership for another year. The Tulsa IrishFest is offering free admission for IACT members with a small catch (see below). You can renew electronically on the website or mail in a check. Dues are still \$30 for a family and \$20 for an individual. Dues will be going up at the end of February so act quickly.

February – W.B Yeats, Irish Poet

This will be a day to learn about William Butler Yeats and his poetry. Date, Time and Place to follow. Yeats was an Irish poet, dramatist and writer, and one of the foremost figures of 20th-century literature. He was a driving force behind the Irish Literary Revival. Come and learn more. Details to follow.

March – Tulsa IrishFest 2024

Date and Time: **March 8-10 (for full schedule visit [Tulsa Irish Fest](#))**
Location: **River West Festival Park**





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IACF will have a 10' by 20' tent at the Festival to let us showcase our club and Irish Culture and Heritage. We will be looking for volunteers to help at the booth. Members of IACF will get free entry to the Festival, but you must be an active member with 2024 dues paid and volunteer for at least one time slot for either the IACF booth or with the Festival itself.

April – St. Patrick's Dinner Show

Date and Time: **April 7th – stay tuned**

Location: **American Legion Hall – 11328 E Admiral.**

We didn't want to overload everyone in March and want to encourage all our members to make it to IrishFest so we're having our St. Patrick's Dinner Show in April. Just another opportunity to enjoy live dancing and music.

A Letter from the IACF President (continued)

This past year saw the passing of the torch from the previous leadership of Rick and Debi Van Auken to a new board with legacy and new officers. We thank Rick and Debi again for their tireless work keeping the club going for the last 9 years and we wish them the best in their new endeavors. Who can forget Debi's tireless promotion of the club, selling t-shirts, calling about events and memberships and always being at the events to greet all of the members and guests. These two will be missed and are always welcome. Why indeed, we welcome everyone of Irish descent.

This past year we had a number of events including the appearance of the World's largest leprechaun Tim Wantland and his merry assistant. They thrilled the crowd with a reenactment of an Irish play performed by the kids to great fanfare. Tim's trivia competitions are something to be witnessed as his knowledge is legendary.

We had the Goode Academy of Irish Dancers again perform for a couple of Ceilis. That always brings a crowd as we witness the professionalism and dedication of the next generation of Irish Americans promote and sustain Irish Culture. The Goode Academy of Irish Dancing is a gem of an institution right here in Tulsa and as a board we have endeavored to align ourselves closer with them in recognition of the importance we hold in their success. We have had a couple of dance families join us last year and we hope more will in the coming year.

We did a night at the Drillers, lawnbowling at LaFortune park and participated in the annual trunk or treat event with the American Legion Hall 308. We did a Whiskey/Whisky (Irish vs Scotch) tasting with the Scottish Club of Oklahoma. We were invited to have a display and booth at the Tulsa Sister Cities Cultural Gathering which was well received. Many thanks to Jon Spryer and Amanda Johnson (and family) for great job.





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And to finish off the year, who can forget our annual Christmas celebration with music and food provided by the club and pot luck provided by members, dancing and the white elephant gift exchange. We welcomed founding members Tom and Kathy Hinchey at the Christmas event, it was good to see them as they are now some of the few founding members left.

Speaking of that, we lost Peter Byrne this year, a founding member. As the club ages, we have sought to attract young Irish families, new blood so to speak. It's an age old task and one we welcome. We have attracted several new families and board members, revamped our communications with new tools, streamlined our meeting processes and focused on the big picture, promoting Irish Culture and Heritage. This year we have a booth at the Tulsa Irish Festival, promising to be one of the largest Irish Festivals in the country and we need volunteers to man the booth. The good thing is by volunteering you get in free to the festival. What a deal from the Tulsa IrishFest! We have new events coming including a game night, a night out on the town to support Irish Restaurants and many other things, all the more reason to re-up your membership, stay tuned, get involved and make your mother proud. Ah it's a beautiful day to be Irish, who's with us?

IAC Board of Directors Meetings

Board Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 6 pm.
Location for the meetings is the American Legion Hall - 11328 E Admiral.

All Board Meetings are open to the membership and guest unless an executive session is required. The next meeting is January 16, 2024.

Like and follow us on - www.facebook.com/IrishCOT or [@IrishCOT](https://www.facebook.com/IrishCOT)

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IRISH FUN

Have you heard of "Foil Arms and Hog"? They are an Irish comedy team that put out a short video every Thursday. You can follow them on Facebook to get the very latest video. You can also see them on YouTube - [Foil Arms and Hog - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...) Great comedy!! Right now, they are featuring a clip of the "Top Ten" skits of 2023.

Did you know that Spotify has an incredible library of Irish music. Try any Irish group you've ever heard of and enjoy.

