

# January 2020 Skibb

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**SHAMROCK  
CLUB**



**OF GREEN BAY  
& NORTHEAST WISCONSIN**



**SHAMROCK SKIBB**

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## VIKING HISTORY COMES TO LIFE

We were treated to a remarkable program on Viking culture by UW-Green Bay professor of history and archaeology Heidi Sherman, PhD and her special guest, performance artist Adrian Spendlow, at our November meeting. Prof. Sherman specializes in experiential medieval archeology, teaching history through “hands on” experiences.

It was her passion for Viking culture that brought the Viking House, a circa 1000 A.D. replica of a typical home in medieval Norway, to the UWGB campus. Prof. Sherman described how her interest in Viking textiles and their traditional way of growing flax and sewing clothes led her to meet an American Scandinavian couple who had built the Viking House on their property. She made several visits with her classes to the house so they could relive history. She became good friends with the couple, Owen and Elspeth Christianson, and when they decided to move, they wanted to gift their Viking House to her.

Prof. Sherman was able to garner support for its installation at the University. Students helped carefully mark and disassemble the Norwegian style tressle-framed *grindbyggning* structure for its move from Christianson’s land in Central Wisconsin to the UW-Green Bay campus in 2017.

With the house now on campus, Prof. Sherman holds classes there, and students can step into the daily life of medieval Scandinavia. They study textile manufacturing and try their hands at weaving flax linen. Other classes involve blacksmithing, leatherworking, and cooking experiences in the outdoor kitchen. During special events there may be a Swedish cook and Viking crafters. Workshops are open to the community.

“I encourage you to visit for a tour April through May and September through October,” said Sherman.

Visiting from York, England, Spendlow gave us several memorable performances of Norse mythology drama. He gave us the Viking creation story, with giants, beheading, and Odin creating the cosmos out of the great nothing. Lyrical and fantastical, another tale involved the god of mischief, a brick mason and his magical horse and a payment of “The sun, the moon, and the beautiful lady Freya as his wife. (Oooo-ooooh!)” A renowned poet, actor, and performance artist, Spendlow recently secured the position of *skald* to the chieftain in a Viking village in Gudvangen Valley, Norway. Prof. Sherman is hosting a trip to the village this summer.

Watch a clip of the performance here:

<https://www.facebook.com/UWGBVikingHouse/videos/2566132996949207/> and learn more about the UWGB Viking House here: <https://www.uwgb.edu/viking-house/>

Many thanks go out to our guests and to Theresa and Erin for bringing us such a unique program. See below for photos.

### Next Meeting

Monday, Jan. 27

7:00 p.m.

Village Grille

**Kinsella Irish Dancers**  
dance performance

### Club Calendar

Feb. 24	Monthly club meeting
March 14	St. Patrick's Day Parade
March 15	Irish Mass & Breakfast



Pictured left, Viking performance artist Adrian Spendlow.

Below left, Heidi Sherman, PhD. with Spendlow and Joan Kreuser.

Below, the Viking House on the University campus.



## IRISH PERSON OF THE YEAR



Nancy Williquette was named our 2019 Irish Person of the Year for her years of service as editor of the Shamrock Skibb club newsletter. Nancy is a charter member of the club along with her parents Leo and Arlene Malone who were our 2013 Irish Persons of the Year.



Nancy is pictured with her father, Leo Malone.

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## A JOLLY EVENING

The Shamrock Club Christmas party was a festive evening of friendship, food, and music. Partygoers enjoyed shepherd's pie and corned beef dinners and decadent desserts at the Village Grille. Musicians Kevin Huss and Jonathan Leahy entertained us with their acoustic guitar, percussion and vocals.

"The Irish music was unique, beautiful, and heartfelt. Kevin Huss and Jonathan Leahy were very talented and friendly in relating to our Irish Shamrock Club gathering," said Dianne Wiesner.

Our event planners are much appreciated for the jolly evening. Enjoy photos below.







## GET INVOLVED

### **2020 St. Patrick's Day Parade**

Organize your clan and march with us Saturday, March 14th for the Green Bay St. Patrick's Day Parade downtown at City Deck. Line up is at 9 a.m. Members and non-members alike are welcome to join the planning committee. Contact Theresa Sincoular at [shamrockclubofgb@gmail.com](mailto:shamrockclubofgb@gmail.com) to get involved.

### **Irish Mass & Breakfast**

Help plan this favorite annual event. Contact Sr. Annice.

## Community Calendar

- Jan. 16** Gerry Sloan, 7-10 p.m. at Narrow Bridge BrewHouse, Howard
- Jan. 17** Gerry Sloan, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. at The Longbranch, De Pere
- Jan. 18** Kevin Huss, 8 p.m. at McGuinness Irish Pub, Appleton
- Jan 23** The Roving Scallywags, 7 p.m. at Rock Garden Studion, Appleton
- Jan. 25** Fox River Hurling Club Indoor League, 8-10 p.m. at Purdy Performance Training, Green Bay
- Feb. 15** 12th Annual Irish Heritage Day at McGuinness Irish Pub, Appleton
- March 13** We Banjo 3, 7:30 p.m. at the Meyer Theatre

Find more info on our [Facebook page](#).

“What is the quickest way to get to Cork?” I  
asked the Irish farmer  
“Are you walking or driving?” he  
said  
“Driving” I replied  
“Yes that would  
be the quickest”



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**Our mailing address is:**

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