



SHAMROCK SKIBB

66 MERRYMAKERS

by Patricia Dolata

What a wonderful way to start this holiday season! When 66 merrymakers including a baby in a shamrock onesie gathered to hear Cheryl Murphy play her harp at the Annual Shamrock Club Christmas Dinner Party.

Diane Kane smiled and noticed the weather was agreeable before she and everyone else paused to listen to Sr. Annice. She gave a blessing and said "Merry Christmas" in Gaelic.

We enjoyed a delicious dinner at tables adorned with candles and small red carnations.

While people savored the Shepard's pie, backed chicken, or corned beef and cabbage, Joe Cullen from County Donegal played his accordion and sang a mix of Irish ballads.

He also shared stories and history about Ireland. He graciously took requests and sang "Silent Night" in Gaelic as the audience sang it in English. A dessert of chocolate cake with mocha filling was served.

Towards the end of the extravaganza Tim O'Connor was proudly awarded Irish Person of the Year.

Next meeting:

Monday, Jan. 28

7:00 p.m.

The Village Grille

801 Hoffman Rd.

**Viking House
Curator**

**UWGB Professor
Heidi Sherman**

Bring:

Pantry donations



CONGRATULATIONS, TIM!

Pictured at left are Tim O'Connor, Theresa Sincoular, Jon Kolb, and Michelle Anderson. Pictured above are Helen Desotell and Mary Waldecker.



MERRYMAKERS (*Continued*)

Figurines created by local artist Bill Jauquet were given as door prizes to the luckiest ones.



Pictured above left, Katy Wettengel and Patti Kelly Cullen at our Dec. 3 Christmas party at the Village Grille. Above right, Cheryl Murphy, who has played harp at our parties since 1996.



Pictured above left, Sr. Annice McClure and the youngest Shamrock at the party, Maggie Sincoular. Above right, Barb Jenkins, Joanne Burns, Sr. Annice, and John McManus. Partygoers at right are Jon Kolb, Mary Jo Blaney Kolb, and Burnell Van Egeren.





ETHNIC CHRISTMAS 2018

Hazelwood Historic House

by Joan Kreuser

The Hazelwood Historic House on Monroe Avenue in Green Bay sponsored its second Ethnic Christmas at Hazelwood on December 8 and 15, 2018. Participating in this year's event were six local cultural groups eager to share how their countries celebrate the Christmas Holiday.

In Germany, we learned the history of Silent Night or *Stille Nacht*. In 1816, Joseph Mohr, an assistant priest, wrote out a poem starting with the words: "Silent Night! Holy Night!" In 1818, Franz Gruber composed a melody to fit the poem . . . and the rest is history. *Fröhliche Weihnachten!*

Among the Many Czech traditions, is that of children watching and waiting for St.

Nicholas, who comes on December 6, accompanied by an angel and a devil. If the child has been good, the angel gives them candy and fruit; if naughty, the devil gives them a lump of coal! *Veselé Vánoce!*

In Norway, we tasted Lefse, a traditional Norwegian flatbread made from potatoes, whipping cream, brown and white sugar, and other ingredients. Norwegians also like carp (possibly a different type of carp than that found in the bay of Green Bay), and Lutefisk. During the holiday season, the *julenisse* (Christmas Elf) often brings Christmas presents. *God jul!*



Pointed out to us in the French room was the beautiful crèche. In France, the crèche often includes everyday people standing along with the usual crib figures. Children leave out their shoes on Christmas Eve to be filled with toys and small foodstuffs by *Père Noël*. *Joyeux Noël!*

In the América-Latina room we learned that the poinsettia, also known as the Christmas Star, is indigenous to Mexico and is widely seen at Christmas time around the world. Its name comes from the first US Minister to Mexico, Joel Roberts Poinsett, who in 1825 introduced the plant to the USA. *Feliz Navidad!*

Now on to Ireland!

In Ireland at Christmas time in years past, you would find a candle in a window to welcome the Holy Family into the home. In penal times, it signified a welcome to a traveling priest indicating that the home was a Catholic one. Today the candle keeps the old memories alive and continues to welcome visitors into the home.

The history of the Laden Table, an Irish symbol of hospitality, is that the family on Christmas Eve would have their dinner, clean up after, and reset the table with a pitcher of milk, a loaf of bread, and a candle. The door would be left open so wandering folks could come in and find nourishment and perhaps a room to rest a bit before continuing on their way.

Pieces of peat were displayed in the Irish room and information on the harvesting of peat, for centuries used for the heating of homes, was explained. Today other methods of heating homes are available, but peat is still used in some



ETHNIC CHRISTMAS (*Continued*)

rural areas. By 2030, peat will no longer be used in favor of biomass energy developed from organic materials, a method of using methane gas, a cleaner and sustainable source of energy.

An added touch to the Irish room was a visit from St. Patrick, played by 2018 Irish Person of the Year Tim O'Connor, who had his picture taken with children visiting the Hazelwood ethnic event.

Theresa Sincoular, who chaired the event for the club, would like to thank all those who generously gave of their time to assist in showing visitors the Shamrock Club's room—the library. Any successful organization is beholden to its members who step forward when help is needed. The Shamrock Club has been fortunate.

Nollaig shona dhuit!

Atbhbliain faoi mbaise duit!

Téigh le Dia! (Go with God!)



Pictured above, book display in the Hazelwood library, sponsored by the Shamrock Club.

Photo on page 3, Jack Kreuser, Katy Wettengel, Theresa Sincoular, and Erin Comer at Hazelwood.

ST. BRIGID OF IRELAND

5 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW



1. St. Brigid of Kildare (453-525) is a patron saint of Ireland, along with Patrick and Columba (Colmcille).
2. Brigid's feast is Feb. 1, the beginning of spring, when Brigid bestowed her blessings on the crops and livestock.
3. Born in Faughart, Co. Louth, Brigid founded convents in Kildare and Druin Criadh.
4. St. Brigid's cross is woven of rushes. Its origins come from the legend of Brigid's conversion of a dying pagan. She made a makeshift cross by braiding rushes strewn on the hut floor.
5. According to legend, Brigid was an ordained bishop in the early Catholic Church. This would not have been uncommon in the 5th century.



LEARNING ABOUT HAZELWOOD

by Nancy Williquette

Brooke Uhl from Brown County Historical society presented at our November 26 meeting. She gave a rich history of Hazelwood House and its owners Morgan and Elizabeth Martin.

The architect for the house located was Joseph Jackson. It was built in 1837-1838 in the Greek revival style. Interestingly, the front of the house faces the river, where the road originally ran. The back faces Monroe, which at that time was vacant land as far as Webster Avenue. The home got its name from the tangle of hazelwood bushes covering the hillside.

Morgan Martin served as a lawyer, Indian land agent, Brown County judge, and in

state government. He and his his associates were interested in the Menominee land and are said to be the first people to have crossed Wisconsin on horseback.

Both Morgan and Elizabeth were from New York where they met, and moved to Green Bay where they had six children. The oldest, Stephan, was a Lt. Colonel who

went to West Point Military Academy and served in the Civil War. Brooke told a colorful story of his service during the war when Stephan decided to take his due leave without asking. He set out on foot to pay his aunt a surprise visit. He was weary from battle, and days later when he reached his destination, his aunt didn't recognize him due to his rough appearance.

Brooke spoke at length about Sarah Martin,

one of the daughters of Morgan and Elizabeth. Sarah followed in her mother's footsteps and became the hostess of Hazelwood, hosting parties and socials. She lived to age 89.

Her sister Deborah was an author,

photographer, and historian of Green Bay and Wisconsin. Deborah initiated Heritage Hill with the preservation of Ft. Howard. She founded the Neville museum, the Green Bay Historical Society (which is now the Brown County Historical Society), and the Green Bay Art Colony.

Photo: Brooke Uhl of Brown County Historical Society





LEARNING ABOUT HAZELWOOD (*Continued*)

After the Martin family sold Hazelwood, it was home to three other families. The last was the brother of Curly Lambeau, Ray and Lorraine Lambeau. Club member Burnell Van Egeren chimed in to note that Hazelwood was on the market in 1967 when she and her husband were moving to Green Bay, and they toured it as a possible home for their family.

Today, Hazelwood is open to the public for tours. Brooke noted that volunteer opportunities are available through Brown County Historical Society. She also promoted the group's Voyageur magazine, which features articles on local history.

FIND US ONLINE

Visit our club Website and social media pages for more Irish happenings, more photos, and the latest updates. Share news, photos, and comments in our Facebook group.

- Our Web site:

www.shamrockclubofgreenbay.com



- Our Facebook group:

www.facebook.com/groups/158573754175792/

To check for winter weather cancellations of club activities, visit our Facebook page.

JOIN THE PARADE

We need members to march behind our club banner in our St. Patrick's Day parade March 16. Invite your friends and family and save the date.

2018-2019 SHAMROCK CLUB OFFICERS

President	Theresa Sincoular	shamrockclubofgb@gmail.com
Vice President	Erin Comer	
Secretary	Sharyn Collins	
Treasurer	Sue Whitney	
Membership Chair	Michelle Anderson	
Sergeant-at-Arms	Beth Schmidt	
Parliamentarian	Mike Trulley	
Trustee	Joan Kreuser	
Trustee	Mary Ann Daniel	
Newsletter Editor	Nancy Williquette	



Club Calendar

January 28, 2019

Monthly club meeting & presentation by UWGB Viking House curator, Professor Heidi Sherman

Feb. 25, 2019

Monthly club meeting & program TBD

March 10, 2019

Irish Mass & Breakfast

March 16, 2019

St. Patrick's Day parade

April 22, 2019

Monthly club meeting & presentation by Linda Gustke of Botanical Gardens.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Feb. 8, 2019

Joe Cullen, 8:00-11:00 p.m. at Ennis Inn & Pub, De Pere

Feb 8, 2019

Ian Gould, 8:30 p.m. at St. Brendan's Inn

Feb 16, 2019

Irish Heritage Day 12:00 noon at McGuinness Irish Pub, Appleton, with Joe Cullen, Ian Gound, and Brian Cunningham. Celtic Thunder's Colm Keegan performs Irish History through Music at 3:00 & 7:30 p.m.

March 7, 2019

We Banjo 3, 7:30 p.m. at Meyer Theatre

March 14, 2019

Gaelic Storm, at Meyer Theatre

March 22, 2019

Red Hot Chili Pipers, 7:30 p.m. at Meyer Theatre



More Christmas Party Photos

Pictured above is entertainer Joe Cullen. At right are Sharyn Collins and Sue Whitney.





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to have a good beginning and
a good ending; and to have the
two as close together as possible.

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May there always be work
for your hands to do.
May your purse always hold
a coin or two.
May the sun always shine
on your windowpane.
May a rainbow be certain
to follow each rain.
May the hand of a friend
always be near you.
May God fill your heart with
gladness to cheer you.

- An Irish Blessing