

Teach Tábhairne Fógara

Pub Notice

Deireadh Fómhair - 2010 - October



CONOR O'NEILL'S
TRADITIONAL IRISH PUB



ann arbor, mi boulder, co



Conor O'Neill's Traditional Irish Pub
1922 13th Street - Boulder, Colorado

Spend Sunday night, **Oct. 31st Oiche Shamhna (Hallowe'en)**, at Conor O'Neill's in Boulder listening to an Irish Session of musicians at 7 PM, followed by a 10 PM performance of "Mumbouli".

Mumbouli is a local Boulder band best described this way ... *"energetic, high-powered, big sound, and a bit reckless are all phrases that could be used to describe Mumbouli. A high-powered, acoustic-electric based quartet ... that melds jam-band sensibilities with sonic textures ranging from deep blues dance grooves to high mountain bluegrass, with beg for mercy Irish whisky music in between. They have earned a reputation of being one of the more diverse acts around the Rocky Mountain region."*—JamBase Review

Oiche Shamhna - Oidhche Shamhna (Ireland) (Scotland)

Hallowe'en

Samhain (pron. "sow'en") heralds the beginning of the *Celtic New Year* where the summer and fall harvest are now complete. It is a time when the Irish and Scottish Celts in pre-Christian times believed it also to be a moment when the gate separating the physical and spirit world opened. Turnips were hollowed out and used as lanterns to help ward off evil spirits. Later in America, pumpkins replaced turnips.

In rural Ireland some believed the fairy mounds opened and the *Bean Sé* ("Shee", banshee) swarmed out travelling around the countryside intent on abducting the living. To protect yourself it was customary to leave out a "**glass of milk and barley**" offering it to the Shee. Feasting played a big part in rural homes and it was common to see "*Colcannon*" (a mashed potato, cabbage, and melted butter dish) prepared for the occasion. In rural Scotland young men blackened their faces and put on white clothing attempting to impersonate the dead.

Pope Boniface IV in 609 AD consecrated the Pantheon in Rome to the Blessed Virgin Mary adopting the "*Festival of Saints and Martyrs*" on May 13th. Later Pope Gregory III (c.735 AD) shifted that celebration to November 1st, "*All Saints Day*", in honor of those who have attained the beatific vision in Heaven. For Catholics, Anglicans and Lutherans, Nov. 2nd is "*All Souls Day*" which commemorates the departed who have not yet reached Heaven. "All Souls Day" was begun in 998 AD by Benedictine Abbott Odilo of Cluny, France. After the Reformation, many Protestant churches continued to commemorate "All Saints Day" on Nov. 1st.

Meanwhile, Oiche Shamhna stories became celtic folklore. When the Irish and Scots came to America, they brought their celtic festival of **Hallowe'en - Oiche/Oidhche Shamhna** with them.

An Beathaisnéis - Biography



David Bonham
Drum Major
AOH Michael Collins Pipes and Drums

There perhaps is no more recognizable face in Colorado pipe bands, than that of David Bonham. To those who know him personally, he is a gentleman who has volunteered at the Denver Rescue Mission, worked with the Boy Scouts for 26 yrs., a Mason for 36 yrs., and a teacher in the Denver school system for 31 years. David is also a proud grandfather of 7 grandchildren!

David Bonham was born in Denver, and is the grandson of an Irish grandmother whose maiden Irish surname was **'Whalan' (Ó Faoláin)**. David is proud of his celtic heritage with his pipe band experience beginning in 1976. When as Drum Major he calls out "pipe band" at parades and festivals, all know it is time to assemble and get ready to perform. He is the consummate professional who seeks band professionalism during every performance.

David first joined the El Jebel Shrine Band in 1976 and was a Highland dancer for 10 years, winning "Dancer of the Year" twice (1980, 1985). He then served as Drum Major for the band from 1987 to 1995. Today he is a member of their "*Hall Of Fame*".

In 1995 he left them and joined the "Clan of the Isles (P.O.G.) Pipe Band" serving as Drum Major and Performance Coordinator. He soon left them to form a new Irish pipe band.

In 1996, he joined several pipers and drummers and was instrumental in helping to form the new **AOH Michael Collins Pipes and Drums**. For the past 14 years he has served the MCPD band as Drum Major, Performance Coordinator, Secretary, Chieftain, Board Member and Treasurer. His list of honors and awards are legendary not only from various festivals, but also from his peers. David has earned the respect of many as the following list shows.

In 1989 he competed as Drum Major in Toronto Canada against 25 other Drum Majors, and came away with a **2nd Place** finish. **In 2007**, the Scottish American Military Society (SAMS) awarded him the U.S. Navy Seal **Danny Deitz, Jr. "Outstanding Individual in the Community"** award, at the Colorado Scottish Festival & Rocky Mtn. Highland Games.

David is the only Drum Major from an Irish Pipe Band to have ever been chosen "**Drum Major of the Games**" leading both Irish and Scottish Bands onto the field. (Longs Peak Scottish Festival 1988, 1990, 1996, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2010) (Colorado Scottish Festival 1988, 1990, 1999) (Pikes Peak Games 1989, 1992) (San Francisco Highland Games 1991) (Las Vegas Highland Games 1993) (Kiowa Scottish and Irish Games 1996, 1997) (Colorado Irish Festival) (Elizabeth Highland Games) and (Albuquerque Highland Games).

Along with Pipe Major Jay Leasure and Chieftain Jim Murphy, he has become the "face" of the **AOH Michael Collins Pipes and Drums**. You can see David Bonham leading the band every year as the **OFFICIAL** band of the **St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee** in Denver, at the **Longs Peak Scottish Festival Parade** in Estes Park, and at Littleton's **Western Welcome Week Parade**, along with numerous other events around the region.

But no matter where you may find David Bonham, you will be in the presence of a gentleman who is humble and caring in his community; while also the consummate professional in Colorado's award winning premier Irish pipe band.



SASC of Colorado

Welcome to the St. Andrew Society of Colorado where the scots are a Mile High

2010 Kilted Golf Tournament ~ Homestead Golf Course Lakewood, CO. ~ October 2nd ~ Check in 7:45-8:30 AM

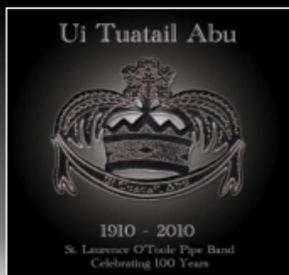
Jean Casson has written a wonderful article on “Golf: 500 Years Old and Still Going Strong”. We would like to share some of her information here ...

~ **Golf** was first played in Scotland in the 15th century. By **1445 AD**, the Scottish Parliament decreed able bodied men should stop playing “gawf” or “goff”, and devote themselves instead to practicing their archery for the protection of the people against English forces!

~ By **1848** the balls were made of a hard substance which by game’s end became dented, and yet though damaged they produced a better trajectory. This discovery brought about “dimpled” golf balls.

~ **Mary Queen of Scots** was the first prominent woman to play Golf. She referred to the lad carrying her clubs as a “cadet”. Having been educated in France, she pronounced the word “ca-day” which later became “caddy”.

Now if you want to play in the Tournament the cost is \$100/person. (Thanks to Jean Casson for the history of Golf.)



ST. LAURENCE O'TOOLE PIPE BAND DUBLIN, IRELAND WORLD PIPE BAND CHAMPIONS 2010! GLASGOW SCOTLAND

Go maire tú an lá, Uí Tuatail Abu!

Celebrating their Centennial Year (1910-2010) and wearing their **GREEN KILTS** the **St. Laurence O'Toole Pipe Band of Dublin** captured the **World Pipe Band Championship** at Glasgow, Scotland for 2010. Click the link below to hear the **Grade 1~World Champions** play, and listen to the BBC announcer's comments when he quietly states, “Well, they are playing in the zone!” A performance state every pipe band aspires too.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/music/worlds/2010/bands/st_laurence_o_toole/?mediaset1=2#mediaset1



NUAcht na hÉireann

Faddan Mór Psalter

In early September 2010 the National Museum in Dublin announced that the Book of Psalms found four years ago in a Co. Tipperary peat bog - had now risen to the **TOP TEN** archaeological discoveries in Ireland.

Readers may recall that just over a year ago (*September 2009*) we brought our readers the first story on this find. In Faddan Mór townland in north Co. Tipperary a man harvesting peat with his bulldozer suddenly uncovered the Psalter. Museum archaeologists were quick to move in and save the artifact, as well as looking for possibly more items. The result of their dig clearly left the Psalter (Book of Psalms) as the only artifact in the peat bog.

For **1,200 years** the Psalter had rested in the peat. On the outside was clearly a leather cover and on the inside written in Latin in the style of the 800s AD, the Book of Psalms. How it ended up in a peat bog was a mystery and still is to this day. Nearby had been a monastery where learned monks would spend their time transcribing documents such as this. Also present was the age of Viking raiders who pillaged monasteries for two centuries looking for riches and valuables. Speculation arose that possibly upon a Viking raid a monk hid the Psalter in the bog hoping to recover it later ... or perhaps a Viking took it and then on his way out changed his mind and tossed it into the bog.

Now comes new information from **Ragnall Ó Floinn** (Flynn) of the **National Museum of Ireland** ...

“it is a finding that asks many questions and has confounded some of the accepted theories about the history of early Christianity in Ireland. It appears the manuscript’s leather binding came from **Egypt**. The question is whether the **papyrus** (inner liner) came with the cover or if it was added. It is possible that the imperfections in the hide may allow us to confirm the leather is **Egyptian**...the cover could have had several lives before it ended up basically as a folder for the manuscript in the bog... it could have travelled from a library somewhere in **Egypt** to the **Holy Land** or to **Constantinople** or **Rome** and then to **Ireland**.” ~ Ragnall Ó Floinn

Ó Floinn stated the Psalter is the size of a tabloid newspaper, with 15% of the pages in Latin still readable. For the first time it will go on display to the public in 2011. Also, you should keep in mind that Egypt banned export of papyrus c.690 AD, and that papyrus had been used by the Egyptian Coptic Christian Church till c.1100 AD.

Teach Tábhairne Fógra

Pub Notice

CELTIC THUNDER



Proudly sponsored by



Tuesday, October 26th

1st Bank Center (Broomfield Event Center)
11450 Broomfield Lane, Broomfield, CO 80021

BREAKING NEWS



Celtic Thunder is releasing a new **"Christmas CD"**
and may be singing a few of their Christmas songs
at this concert!



Returning for one-night only, tickets On Sale: \$35.00 - \$79.50 (plus convenience fee).
Visit the Celtic Thunder website or Ticket Horse website for tickets, seating & directions.

<http://celticthunder.ie/>
<http://www.tickethorse.com/music>

Doing Business
the Celtic Way



IRISH NETWORK
COLORADO

Irish Network Colorado (IN-Colorado)

Officially launched in July of this year, *Irish Network Colorado* has now joined the other Irish networks in creating a business network connecting Irish-Americans, Irish expatriates, Friends of Ireland & **Non-Profits**.

A new **Non-Profit membership** level has been approved at a cost of \$50, which allows 5 representatives from the non-profit to attend membership events. Plans are in the works for a late October event with guest speaker on the topic of setting up a business subsidiary in Ireland. *Invest Northern Ireland* is partnering with IN-CO to put on a business breakfast Oct. 22nd at the Magnolia Hotel in downtown Denver.

For more information or to join the network as an individual/business or non-profit, visit these links:

<http://www.irishnetworkco.com/>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Irish-Network-Colorado/125953840777560?v=wall>



Did You Know?



Last month we told the story of Irish ex-pat Michael Corcoran who led the NY 69th Militia at the First Battle of Bull Run (Manassas). With Corcoran's accidental death while riding a horse, a new leader now arose to help recruit and form America's own Irish Brigade. Irish expatriate ~ **Thomas Francis Meagher (Ó Meachair)**.

His grandfather Thomas (1763-1837) had left Co. Tipperary, Ireland in the late 1700s emigrating to St. John's Newfoundland, Canada where a large Irish emigrant group existed. Formerly a farmer he soon became a trader, then a merchant and finally a ship-owner. After marriage, his eldest son was also named Thomas and it was then that business was so good between Newfoundland and Waterford, Ireland that the grandfather sent Thomas Jr. back to Ireland to handle the family business. Thomas Jr. married Alicia Quan (Ó Cuain; 1798-1827) who gave birth to *Thomas Francis Meagher* (Aug.3, 1823-July 1, 1867), a brother and three sisters. Of the five siblings only Thomas Francis and his sister, Christine Mary, lived past childhood.

Thomas Francis was sent off to study with the Jesuits at Clongowes Wood College in Co. Kildare. It was there he developed a skill for oratory winning numerous debating medals. Years later he went off to a Jesuit catholic college in Lancashire, England named Stonyhurst College to continue his studies. It has been said that his father Thomas Jr. considered the only college in Ireland at the time, Trinity College, to be both anti-Catholic and anti-Irish. While in England, his Jesuit professors found his Irish accent to be "horrible" and so he developed an Anglo-Irish accent that was pleasing to them ... but not so to some of his fellow Irish.

Returning to Ireland in 1843, his life now began to turn toward involvement with a group known as the **Repeal Association**. They worked towards the repeal of the "*Act of Union*" between Great Britain and Ireland. After the *Rebellion of 1798* England worried about the uncertainties now present, and consequently drove the process to unite both Great Britain and Ireland. By **1800** both the British and Irish parliaments had voted 'yes' for union but those votes had come with the selling of honors and titles to some MPs, with Irish Catholics being assured of "Catholic Emancipation" after centuries of inhuman Penal Laws used against them. After the Act of Union became law those who sold their votes for honors and titles benefitted, but King George III argued that emancipating the Catholics would break his coronation oath - so he vetoed their freedom from the Penal Laws.

The Repeal Association movement was nationwide and by June 1846 the conservative Tories had fallen with a new Liberal administration rising under Lord John Russell. Daniel O'Connell tried his best to lead the Repeal movement into supporting this new administration ~ but on **June 15, 1846 Thomas Francis Meagher** denounced what he called "*English Liberalism in Ireland*". So long as Repeal was denied he believed Ireland should denounce any movement toward supporting English political parties. O'Connell and others on his side in the Repeal Association saw Meagher and his group as "**Young Irelanders**". This split in the movement's ranks caused those who stood to gain to be named the "Tail", while they called the Young Irelanders "revolutionaries, infidels, factionists and enemies of the Church". On July 13, 1846 followers of the "Tail" sided with the English Liberals introducing resolutions declaring "*that under no circumstances was a nation justified in asserting its liberties by force of arms*". This infuriated the Young Irelanders since they had never supported armed resistance and yet were now accused of such. England ... now became watchful and nervous once again.

(Continued pages 7 & 8)



Did You Know?



By January 1847, Thomas Francis Meagher along with John Mitchel, William Smith O'Brien and Thomas Devin Reilly, formed a new repeal body known as the **Irish Confederation**. In 1848, both Meagher and O'Brien travelled to France to study the revolutionary events of France. While there ... a few women of France sympathetic to their Irish cause, created for them a flag that would later be known as the **Irish Tricolour**. (The acquisition of the flag is today commemorated in the 1848 Monument in the Irish Dáil.)



"The white in the centre signifies a lasting truce between the 'Orange' and the 'Green', and I trust that beneath its folds the hands of the Irish Protestant and the Irish Catholic may be clasped in generous and heroic brotherhood."

~Thomas Francis Meagher
Dublin, 15 April 1848

The Tricolour did not supplant the older Green flag with Harp till 1916. The Green flag had represented Ireland dating back to Owen Roe O'Neill in 1642 A.D. (*Irish Rebellion*) and was later picked up by the *Irish Volunteers* and *United Irishmen*. On March 7, 1848 Meagher publicly unveiled the "new" tricolour in Waterford for the first time. Then on **April 15, 1848** he presented it to a crowd in Dublin where John Mitchel was quoted as saying "*I hope to see that flag one day waving as our national banner*".

But by now England had seen and heard enough. In August Meagher, Terence MacManus, O'Brien and Patrick O'Donoghue were arrested and tried for treason. They were given a sentence to be '*hanged, drawn and quartered*' but not till after Meagher gave his famous speech from the Dock.

"My Lord, this is our first offense, but not our last. If you will be easy with us this once, we promise on our word as gentlemen to try better next time." -*Thomas Francis Meagher*

International pressure forced a royal clemency with the death sentence commuted to exile on the island of Tasmania in Australia. While there Meagher escaped to California and then travelled on to New York City where he was given a hero's welcome by Col. Corcoran and the 69th NY Militia in May of 1852. His friend, John Mitchel had also escaped and together they published the *Irish News*. Mitchel, however, supported the South and his 3 sons would fight for the Confederacy. Meagher sided with the Union and found himself lecturing and forming Company K of the 69th Regiment, the "**Fighting 69th**". Thomas Francis Meagher was to lead his Company and the Irish Brigade up until his resignation on May 14, 1863. With Corcoran's death, the Army rescinded his resignation and he took over the Irish Brigade once again leading them till the end of the American Civil War when he once again resigned on May 15, 1865.

After the American Civil War, Thomas Francis Meagher like many others went west in search of his future. He became **Secretary and Acting Governor of the Territory of Montana**. This new territory was created from the older Territory of Idaho. Searching for gold settlers invaded Indian lands and many skirmishes took place. In the summer of 1867, Meagher headed off to Fort Benton, Montana to accept a shipment of ammunition and guns sent by General Sherman. Meagher had been ill for six days and was so upon his arrival at Fort Benton. On July 1, 1867 Meagher accidentally fell overboard drowning in the swift currents of the Missouri River. His body was never recovered. The captain of the steamboat *G.A. Thompson* stated the waters were "instant death".

After his death, Montana honored him with a statue in Helena and created Meagher County. A monument was dedicated to him at Antietam battlefield. In 1962, the *Act of Union* was finally repealed by the Irish Oireachtas. Then in 2004 in Waterford, Éire a statue of him on horseback with raised sword was erected on the mall in the city of his birth. Thomas Francis Meagher had finally returned home a hero to an Ireland free and independent †

Teach Tábhairne fÓgra

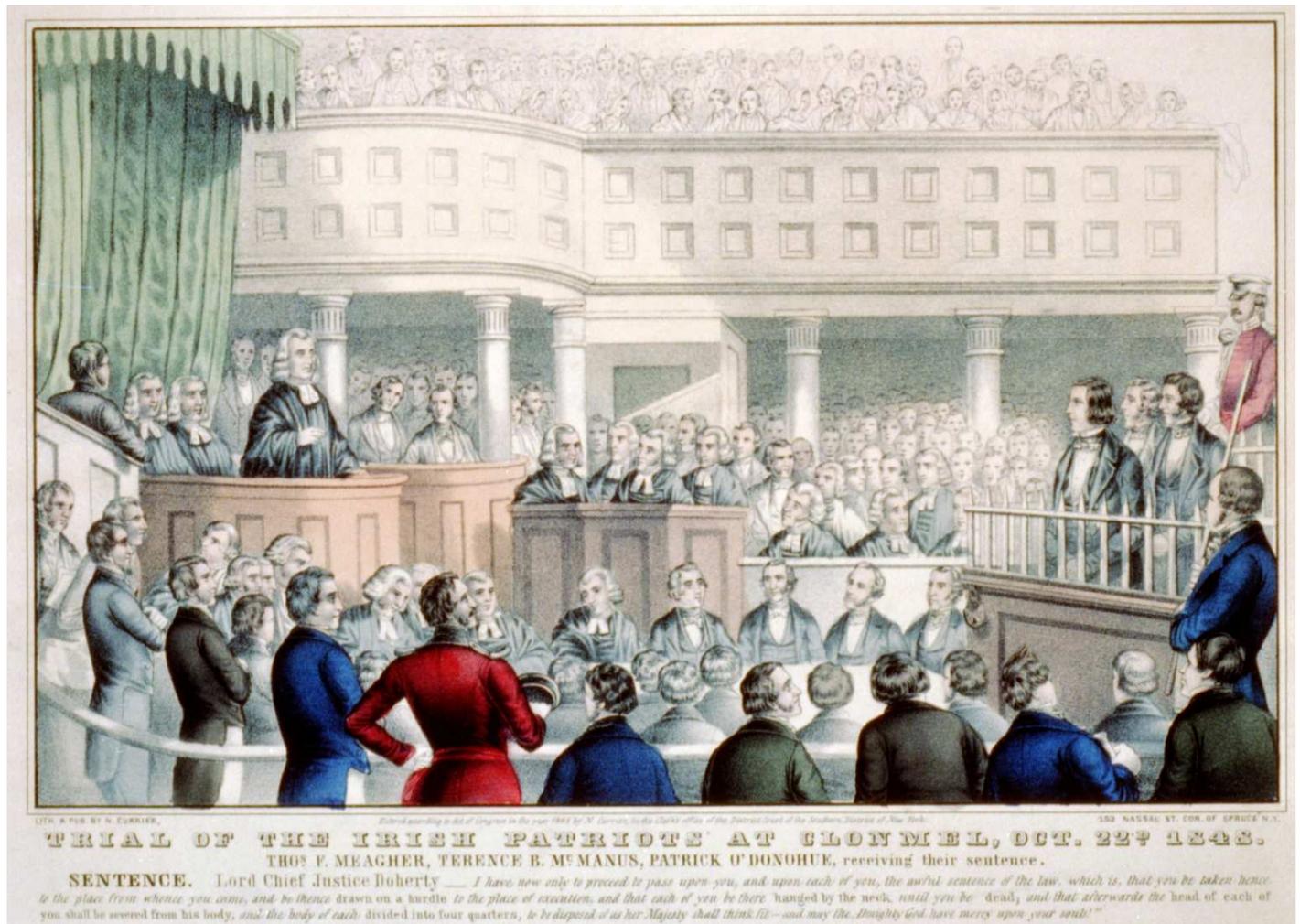
Pub Notice

Did You Know?

(Famous 19th Century Currier and Ives Lithograph)

Receiving their Sentence at Clonmel, Oct. 22, 1848

Thomas Francis Meagher ~ Terence B. MacManus ~ Patrick O'Donohue



The Sentence from Lord Chief Justice Doherty ...

“I have now only to proceed to pass upon you, and upon each of you, the awful sentence of the law which is, that you be taken hence to the place from whence you came, and be thence drawn on a hurdle to the place of execution and that each of you be there hanged by the neck until you be dead; and that afterwards the head of each of you shall be severed from his body, and the body of each divided into four quarters, be disposed of as her Majesty shall think fit - and may the Almighty God have mercy upon your souls.”

This sentence was later commuted to exile in Tasmania by **Queen Victoria**, due to overwhelming international pressure upon her and her government.

Montana Statewide 3-Yr Program in search of the **Caoineadh Tradition**

THE GATHERING

COLLECTED ORAL HISTORIES OF THE IRISH IN MONTANA



Under the guidance of Research Director **Dr. Bernadette Sweeney**, the *University of Montana in Missoula* is currently looking to hear from Irish Elders that have a memory of the *Caoineadh* (weeping, lament) Tradition that was once found in Co. Cork ... only to surface later amongst the Cork Irish miners in Montana.

From their website ...

“The Gathering is a long-term interdisciplinary oral history project which seeks to record and to archive the Montana Irish and Irish-American folk histories, memories, practices, and traditions. This project has been awarded funding by the *Irish Government's Department of Foreign Affairs Emigrant Support* program, through the *Consul General of Ireland in San Francisco*.

The Gathering will be delivered by faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Montana. Faculty will include members of the English Dept, the Irish Studies Program and other disciplines, with specializations in History, Irish Language, Anthropology, Drama and Performance Theory, Media Arts, Literature and Culture.

In part, the impetus for this project comes out of a visit in 2008 by a scholar of the Irish lament or *Caoineadh* tradition, *Professor Seán Ó Coileán (Collins)*, from *University College Cork*. After Professor Ó Coileán's lecture on the lament tradition, in which he made clear the historical disappearance of the *Caoineadh* in Ireland, a number of Butte and Anaconda elders came down to talk to him. These living repositories of the memory of Irish and Irish-American tradition explained to Professor Ó Coileán that the *Caoineadh* tradition lived on in Montana and that they, themselves, had witnessed the very traditions that Ó Coileán knew to have vanished in Ireland.

The Gathering is intended to be at least a three-year state-wide project, a collaboration between disciplines and institutions, with input from scholars at the folklore and history departments of *University College Cork*. We have formed partnerships with historical and cultural societies in Montana such as the *Ancient Order of Hibernians*, *Silver Bow Archive* in Butte, *Humanities Montana*, and the *Montana Historical Society*.”

~ ~ ~

<http://www.cas.umt.edu/thegathering/>

Editor: Ken Hannon Larson

Email: cainnech@clanhannon.com

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