

AMERICAN CONFERENCE *for* IRISH STUDIES

formerly AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR IRISH STUDIES

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NEWSLETTER

Update for the Madison Conference

As members know, the 1991 National ACIS conference will be held between April 10 and 13 at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. ACIS President Jim Donnelly has provided the following summary of highlights.

--The Humanistic Foundation and the Anonymous Fund of the University of Wisconsin has provided funding to bring six poets to the conference: Eavan Boland, Ciaran Carson, Michael Donaghy, Medbh McGuckian, and Nuala Ni Dhomhnaill.

--The British Council has provided travel grants to three scholars coming to Madison from Northern Ireland and Britain: R.H. Buchanan, Director of the Institute of Irish Studies in Belfast; Dr. Elizabeth Malcolm, a Fellow of the Irish Studies Institute at the University of Liverpool; and Dr. Maria Luddy of the University of Warwick.

--The Cultural Relations Committee of Ireland has sponsored visits of three scholars from Ireland: Senator-Professor David Norris of Trinity College--Dublin; Dr. David Dickson of Trinity College--Dublin; and Dr. Kevin Whelan, Newman Fellow in the Geography Dept. at University College--Dublin.

--The conference has also received additional support from the Irish American Cultural Institute, the Irish Consulate in Chicago, and the Irish Tourist Board.

--Several concerts will be given over the course of the conference including performances by Arcady, Boxy, the Trinity Dancers, and others.

--There will be an exhibition of Ulster photographs by Rachel Geise; an exhibition of Irish manuscripts; the screening of three Irish films--"The Shadow of Bealnablath," "The Promise of Bart O'Brien," and "Eat the Peach"; a dramatic revue entitled "A Pint of Playin'" by the Irish Fest Theatre Group; and an expanded book exhibit.

--Closing dates for hotel reservations are 27 March for Lowell Hall and 10 March for the Madison Inn, the Inn on the Park, and Howard Johnson's Plaza-Hotel.

--Jim Donnelly also asks us to remind those on the program who have not yet sent this year's dues payment to do so now (c/o ACIS Treasurer, Bill Lowe 206 Iowa, Oak Park IL 60302).

Spring 1991

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Regional Conferences

Western Region

The 1991 Western Regional conference will be held during the second week of October at the University of the Pacific. Those interested in participating should write to Kara Brewer, University of the Pacific, Stockton, California 95211. The 1990 regional meeting was held in Ashland, Oregon. It attracted 70 participants, and featured a performance of Brian Freil's The Aristocrats

New England Region

The 1991 New England Regional conference will be held on October 25th and 26th at Stonehill College. The theme will be revising Ireland. For information, write Professor Richard Finnegan, Director of Irish Studies, Stonehill College, North Easton, MA 02357. The 1990 meeting--entitled "Women and Children, First"--was held on November 9th and 10th at The College of the Holy Cross, hosted by Jim Flynn with Adele Dalsimer and Conor Johnston coordinating the academic program. Ann Saddlemeier gave a luncheon address on Mrs. William Butler Yeats, and Larry McCaffrey spoke at the banquet on the current condition of Irish America. The Irish Consul General of Boston, Liam Canniffe, and the Vice Consul, Geoffrey Keating, were featured guests.

Midwest Region

18-19 October 1991, Notre Dame University, Notre Dame, IN. Plenary speakers will include Edward McParland (Trinity College--Dublin), Seamus Deane (University College--Dublin), and Gerold O'Tuathaigh (National University, Galway). Additionally, a two day conference "Jonathan Swift and Irish Studies" will be held on 16-17 October at Notre Dame immediately preceding the ACIS Midwest Regional meeting. Brief one page proposals on all aspects of Irish culture are invited for the ACIS meeting and the Swift conference. Please send all proposals to Professor Christopher Fox, Department of English, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN 46556. Deadline: April 10th.

Mid-Atlantic Region

1-2 November 1991, Pennsylvania State University, Ogontz, PA. A call for papers and additional information will be mailed to members in April. The deadline for submission of papers will be 15 June. For additional information contact: Professor James Cahalan, Director of Graduate Studies in Literature, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 111 Leonard Hall, Indiana PA 15705. The 1990 meeting at Catholic University attracted 90 registrants and 15 papers. Writer George O'Brien read from his works at the Saturday lunch. New officers include: Pat Haberstroh (Pres.), Yvette Sencer (Treasurer), Jim Cahalan (Rep.-at-Large), and Tram Turner (Rep.-at-Large).

Southern Region

Next year's regional meeting will be in April of 1992. A venue has not yet been set, but inquiries can be made by writing to Professor Rand Brandes, Dept. of English Lenoir-Rhyne College, Hickory, NC 28603. The recent conference at the University of Montevallo on February 1st and 2nd--Three Irelands: North, South, and Overseas--attracted nearly one hundred participants. In addition to the regular academic sessions, the conference featured a performance of Frank McGuinness' Baglady and a reading by Richard Murphy of his poetry. New Officers include: Rand Brandes (Pres.), Ron Schuchard (Sec./Tres.), Jim Doan (Rep.-at-Large), and Maureen Hawkins (Rep.-at-Large).

National and International Conferences

International Legend Symposium

An International Legend Symposium--Migratory Legends of the Supernatural in Nordic and Celtic Tradition--will be held at University College--Galway, 17-22 March 1991. It is being jointly organized by the Department of Irish Folklore, University College--Dublin and the Department of Modern Irish, University College--Galway in conjunction with The Finnish Literature Society. For information, write Nordic-Celtic Legend Symposium, Department of Modern Irish, University College--Galway, Ireland.

AMERICAN CONFERENCE FOR IRISH STUDIES 1991 RESEARCH REPORT

This is a request for information for the 1991 ACIS Research Report. The deadline for submission is 1 June 1991. Research will be recorded in the following categories:

PUBLICATIONS. Work already in print or reasonably certain to be printed by 1 June 1991. Type complete bibliographical information.

WORK IN PRESS. Work accepted, but with date of publication undetermined or set for after 1 June 1991. List publisher or journal and, if known, tentative date.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS. Work incomplete or still under editorial consideration. List tentative title and /or a short sentence of explanation. ("Yeats" or "The Greate Famine" is not enough; a paragraph is too much.)

DIRECTIONS

PLEASE TYPE information on this form. Submit only one entry per page. For additional entries, photocopy this form.

Report only work directly related to Irish studies.

Do not include book reviews, publications previously reported, or work published before 1990.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR RESEARCH FIELD AND THE CATEGORY OF YOUR ENTRY.

- HISTORY AND RELATED AREAS
- LITERATURE AND LINGUISTICS

- PUBLICATION
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Send to: Dr. Yvette Sencer, History of Art, B634, SUNY F.I.T., Seventh Ave. & 27th St. New York City, NY 10001-5992.

1991 Jonathan Swift Seminar

Second annual seminar to be held from 8-13 July 1991 at Celbridge Abbey in Co. Kildare about 12 miles from Dublin (the former home of Esther Van Homrigh, 1688-1723). For information, write The Secretariat, Celbridge Abbey, Celbridge, Co. Kildare, Ireland.

1992 ACIS Conference

The 1992 national meeting of ACIS, "An Island between Two Worlds: Ireland, Europe, and the Americas", will be held at University College--Galway, 5-11 July 1992. One page proposals for individual papers or for sessions, particularly panels that approach a common topic from different disciplinary perspectives should be sent by September 1st to Mary Helen Thuente, Dept. of English, Indiana U.-Purdue U., Ft. Wayne, IN 46805. FAX (219) 481-6880; E-mail : thuente@ipfvcvax.bitnet.

1993 ACIS Conference

Mary Helen Thuente has announced that the Executive Committee is soliciting invitations from institutions wishing to provide the venue for the 1993 conference. For more information, contact Mary Helen Thuente at the above address.

Calls for papers:

Alexander G. Gonzalez will chair "The Exile in Literature" at the inaugural meeting of the Central New York MLA, 20-22 October 1991. He invites paper proposals from ACIS members. Papers must be received by 15 June 1991. Send to Alexander G. Gonzalez, Department of English, P.O. Box 2000, SUNY College at Cortland, Cortland, NY 13045.

ACIS member Peter Holloran has sent word that the annual New England Historical Association (NEHA) will meet on 19-20 April 1991 at the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester, MA. Send proposed papers or inquiries to Professor Peter Holloran, NEHA Executive Secretary, Pine Manor College, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167.

Profs. Catharine Malloy and Phyllis Carey are editing a collection of essays tentatively titled Sheamus Heaney: The Consciousness of the Artist. Those wishing to submit essays for possible inclusion in the volume should write to either Malloy or Carey at the English Department, Mount Mary College, 2900 N. Menomonee River Parkway, Milwaukee, WI 53222.

Announcements

ACIS is seeking a volunteer to assume responsibility for the preparation and compilation of the Research Report in 1992 and subsequent years. Yvette Sencer has done this job with great thoroughness and professionalism for several years, but, because of the pressure of other duties, she will be laying aside this burden within the next few months. She has kindly consented to begin data collection for the 1992 Research Report (see form included in this issue of the Newsletter), but she is anxious to hand over the reins as soon as a suitable successor can be found. If you are interested in the position, please contact Jim Donnelly or Mary Helen Thuente. To Yvette Sencer we owe great thanks for her distinguished service.

The first volume in the Modern Irish Literature Monograph Series, Synge: A Review of the Criticism, by Edward A. Kopper, Jr., assessing Synge criticism through 1989 is now available. Likewise, a special expanded issue of Notes on Modern Irish Literature containing articles on Beckett, Bowen, Gogarty, Heaney, Joyce, Keane, Julia O'Faolain, Parker, Synge, and Trevor has just appeared. For information on either publication write to Professor Edward A. Kopper, Jr., P.O. Box 59, Lyndora, PA 16045. (Professors Kopper will be teaching in South Korea from February to July 1991, and this may delay his responses to correspondence.)

Donna Gerstenberger has announced that a revised edition of her book, John Millington Synge, has just been re-issued by G.K. Hall.

The Fifth Annual Graduate Student Conference on Irish Literature, Culture, and Politics will be held at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, on 15-16 March 1991. For information, contact Lauren Onkey or Madeleine Marchaterre, Department of English, Univ. of Illinois, Urbana, IL 61801, (217) 333-2633.

The ACIS has received a gift of \$500 and a pledge of another \$500 in 1991 from a member who wishes to remain anonymous with the stipulation that the money be set aside to assist in the launching of an ACIS journal.

Dr. Caoimhin Mac Aoidh, who is researching material for a book on the Donegal fiddle tradition, writes to ask the assistance of ACIS members in locating a 1940s publication written in Tirchonail Irish by Antoin O' Dochartaigh (Anthony O'Doherty) on the folklorist and musician Padraig

Mac Suibhne (Patrick Sweeney). Dr. Mac Aoidh asks anyone with any information to write to him at An Crann Darach, Tullach a' Choirce, Beal Atha Seannaigh, Co. Thir Chonaill, EIRE.

John Gleason has announced that the Irish Fest Theatre is sponsoring a competition for the best original play based on the Irish experience (following the pattern of the Theater of Interaction). Plays should run no longer than forty minutes. The winning entry will receive \$500 and a production at Irish Fest Milwaukee (16-18 August 1991). Gleason also announced the Don Goodwin Memorial award of \$500 for a poem with an Irish or Irish American theme. Entries or inquiries can be sent to John Gleason, Irish Fest Theatre, P.O. Box 599, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

Corrections

Just the FAX ma'am. Despite the misleading statement that appeared in the last newsletter regarding our capabilities to receive FAX transmissions, the Newsletter does in fact have a working FAX number: (414) 288-3300. We welcome any items that you would like to send, in care of Michael Patrick Gillespie or Thomas Eugene Hachey, over this line.

(corrections, cont.)

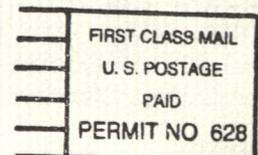
Dr. Anthony Roche of University College--Dublin informs us that he was recently appointed to the position of college Lecturer in Anglo-Irish Literature at University College--Dublin and not, as reported in the winter Newsletter, to the Chair of Anglo-Irish Literature. We apologize for any embarrassment or confusion that may have been caused by our first announcement.

IN MEMORIAM

Victory Pomeranz, born on Armistice Day, 11 November 1918, died 23 August 1990. A well known scholar and long time member of the James Joyce Society (New York) and the James Joyce Foundation, Vicki Pomeranz was the author of numerous critical essays on the works of Joyce, a perennial participant in Joyce conferences and symposia, and a thoughtful and generous reader. She will be sorely missed and remembered fondly at Joyce conferences and symposia for years to come.

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