

The Irish Congress of Southern California, Inc.

The Early Years



Preserved by Frances Avik, Parade Founder
And Official Irish Congress Historian
Compiled by Scott Dodge

1981

City Wears The Green

By CARL RITTER

Staff Writer, The San Diego Union

It was San Diego's first full-fledged annual St. Patrick's Day parade, drawing 189 units yesterday and moving 26 city blocks, mostly up Fifth Avenue and down Sixth alongside Balboa Park. It attracted a turnout estimated at between 15,000 and 18,000.

And the chances are that it would have filled with delight the heart of ecumenical Pope John XXIII.

It was full-flavored Southern California ecumenical. A Boston or New York City St. Patrick's Day parade, it was not. Parade watchers straining for a look down Fifth Avenue from the Quince Street intersection for the first parade units saw a couple of roller skaters whizzing along ahead of the traditional motorcycle cops and the whole thing.

Not that it mattered. Somehow, one sensed then that a strictly San Diego fun tone was being set for this day.

Oh, the pretty colleens selected by the Irish organizations sponsoring the parade were there all right, and the cherry-cheeked younger ones with Irish freckles splashed across their noses, but so were parade queens representing Finland, Czecho-

slovakia, Lithuania and Japan among other ethnic groups.

Rod Page, a key organizer, said even the non-Irish are Irish on St. Patrick's Day. "Let's face it. March can be a rather dull time, even here in Camelot, and a good St. Patrick's festival with all organizations, nationalities and ethnic groups partici-

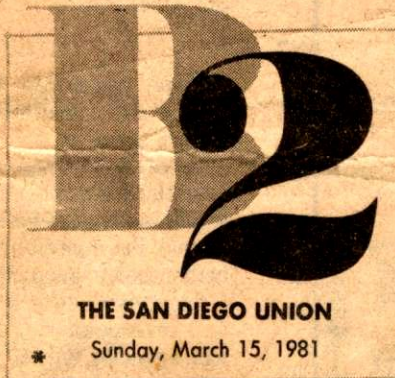
Imperial Beach were prominent participants, fittingly enough. But so were city Police Chief Bill Kolender and Waddie Deddeh. Pacific Beach's honorary mayor, John Pernicano, was perched atop the back seat of a touring car.

The Irishtocrats, the Masonic affiliate Al Bahr Shriners with several units, black baton twirlers, the gang from the Blarney Stone pub, old fire trucks, a re-enactment of Finnegan's Wake, a don in a wide-brimmed vaquero hat, a kazoo band playing the Notre Dame Fight Song, the Squibob Chapter of Clampus Vitas, the military bands, the Knights of Columbus Band — all had a hand in the parade's success.

A man in a powered wheelchair — a green balloon tied to it — symbolized a more serious side of the parade.

At a flag-raising, Page had said: "The greatest division in modern times was over the Vietnam War. This has been a terrible injustice to the men and women who were called up or joined up to do their duty 'n service ... to us.

"The Irish Congress of Southern California would like to take this moment to honor the men and women who served their country during a time of great crisis at home



pating can be the elixir to chase away the winter doldrums."

Said parade director Jim Foley: "Our theme is unity."

An Indian from Lakeside in a chief's feathered brown-and-white headdress and other regalia held a prancing steed in check. Sheriff John Duffy and Mayor Brian Bilbray of

The Irish Congress of Southern California
Presents the First Annual

IRISH SHINDIG

Sheraton Harbor Island Ballroom — Nov. 14, 1981

No Host Cocktails 7:00 p.m.

Dinner 8:00 p.m.

Dance to the BIG BAND SOUNDS of Chuck Morgan
and His Orchestra

Dress: Semi-Formal

Donation: \$30.00

No 328

1981



— Photo by TR
Irish spirit blends with bagpipes and costumes of other nations at the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

1981

ECUMENICAL TONE

St. Patrick's Has San Diego Look

(Continued from B-2)

Grand Marshal Pete Wilson said he expects the St. Patrick's Day program here "to become an institution of marvelous good humor and fun." He said he already is looking forward to the next one.

The next one will be roughly a year from now, because yesterday was not exactly St. Patrick's Day, 1981. A leprechaun apparently changed something around so that it was celebrated in part yesterday instead of on the rightful March 17, which is Tuesday.

The date is not exactly

important, because there was great debate after St. Patrick's death whether he died on March 8 or 9. The Irish decided to add the two numbers together and settle on that date for paying tribute. The saint was born in Scotland, the son of a Roman colony magistrate and a Frenchwoman.



— Staff Photo by Russ Gilbert

A young baton twirler wears a mask of concentration as she tries the difficult behind-the-back maneuver.

1981

Parade kickoff

A dinner-dance Nov. 14 at the Sheraton-Harbor Island will kick off the Irish Congress of Southern California's plans for its second annual St. Patrick's Day parade next March. A chef from Dublin, 16-piece orchestra, and dancing to 1 a.m. will be featured. For ticket information call Vince Lynch or Larry Cronin at 291-0085.

1981



San Diego To Green Up

Last year, San Diego was treated to its first ever St. Patrick's Day Parade and 30,000 people showed up to cheer the bands, floats and marching units.

The Second Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, held on Saturday, March 13, according to Vince Lynch, Parade Chairman, will be bigger and better.

"Our Theme this year is "Unity with our Senior Citizen groups from all over the country with school bands, town officials, marching units, equestrian units and floats representing San Diego and sixteen surrounding cities, as well as several commercial entries. We expect a crowd of upwards of 100,000 people."

The marchers will start at 12:00 noon in Balboa Park at Sixth and Juniper, marching south along Sixth to Grape then west to Fifth and north along Fifth to Unas,

east to Sixth, then south along Sixth to Laurel.

The festival will feature food, drink, Irish music and dancing with a generous helping of Irish Cheer!

The parade is organized by the Irish Congress of Southern California, comprised of the following groups: The Ancient Order of Hibernians, The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick (San Diego and North County chapters), The Harp and Shamrock, The House of Ireland, The Irish American Club, The Irish Rights Committee, The Irishtocrats.

For more information contact Charles Fox at 461-4342.

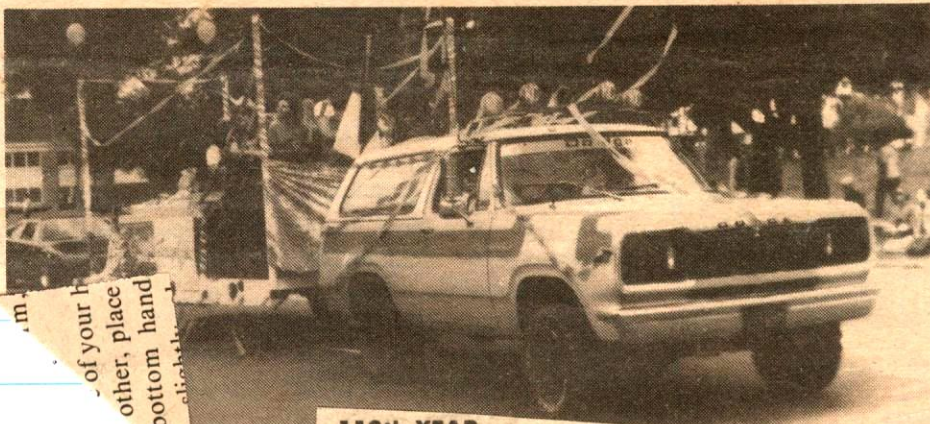
Editor's note: San Diego Police Chief Bill Kolender, who is on the advisory committee for the parade, will miss the parade but he has a perfect excuse — he was married March 3rd and will be out of town on his honeymoon.

1982



1982

1982



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113th YEAR

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA



1982

'TIS ONLY ~~THE~~ BEGINNIN'

1982

Everybody'll be Irish tomorrow for the St. Patrick's Day parade

By John Farina
Tribune Staff Writer

It won't be as long as New York's, where the Kelly-green-clad hordes will gather 100,000 strong.

Nor will it measure up to Chicago's or Boston's, both expecting 60,000-plus marchers.

But San Diego's St. Patrick's Day Parade is a mere babe, just two years old and proud to be putting on the green again tomorrow when 5,000 marchers are expected to assemble.

In sheer spirit, the parade here will be more than big enough, organizers say.

"Sure, and St. Paddy's Day itself will be duly observed on Wednesday," the actual feast of St. Patrick, said Charles Fox, an Irishman who visited the Emerald Isle recently, yet didn't have to kiss the Blarney Stone there to gain his eloquence.

"But tomorrow," he said, smiling through Irish eyes, "is a day when the entire community — Mexicans, Greeks, Poles, Lithuanians, everyone — will be invited to participate in this grand and wonderful Irish event of immense proportions."

It will still be a parade as big in spirit as the spread of an Irishman's grin.

A day for Irish colleens, Dublin brogues, green beer, Irish coffee, shenanigans, shamrocks.

And Irish humility, of which, fortunately, there will only be a short supply.

Last year, 30,000 spectators turned out to see the parade. This year, 100,000 are expected.

So there is never any danger of it all being a deep, dark secret. Buttonhole any Irishman and he'll know about it.

But for those unfamiliar with the route and starting time, here it is:

Beginning at noon, 200 floats, bands, horses, and marching units will tramp and trot from Sixth Avenue and Juniper Street, south along Sixth Avenue to Grape Street, west to Fifth Avenue, north along Fifth Avenue to Upas Street, east to Sixth Avenue, and south along Sixth Avenue to Laurel Street.

Participants will be from San Diego and 16 other county cities.

There will be Irish flags, Celtic crosses, green balloons and green candy.

After the parade, the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick will host a party in Balboa Park at Sixth Avenue and Laurel Street, where music will waft across the green from a bandstand, and food and beverages, including beer, will be sold.

"It will be a nice family affair for anyone who wants to come," said Michael Neil, of the Irish group, "sort of an end-of-the-parade event."

The parade is for St. Patrick, of course.

The grand marshal will be Rear Adm. Paul Gillcrist, commander of the San Diego Naval Base. The Irish Man of the Year has already been selected. He's former San Diego Mayor Frank Curran. Irish Woman of the Year is Delza Martin, a civic leader.

"But we'll also honor the non-Irish," Fox said. "This event is not limited to the Irish. For example, the Italian community participates in our parade, and on Columbus Day, we march in theirs."

St. Patrick would have liked that, of course, because he brought Christianity and brotherhood to Ireland, and the Irish have been spreading good cheer throughout the world ever since.

"To be Irish is a grand thing," said Fox, who starts growing shamrocks in his home so they'll be in full bloom by St. Paddy's day.

St. Patrick used the three-petal shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity — three in one.

"There's a legend that shamrocks only grow in Ireland," said Fox. "But perhaps the reason I can grow them here at home is that I'm Irish."

As well known as St. Patrick is, there are a lot of confused notions about his background, and more than a few Irish tall tales.

Like the controversy over when he was born. March 8 claim some, March 9 others insist. And it was settled by adding up those dates to produce 17.

There's also a claim that St. Patrick was born in Italy.

A story, said Fox, no doubt concocted by Christopher Columbus.

"And there's a vicious rumor goin' 'round, too," he added "that St. Patrick was British.

"There's absolutely no truth to it. None at all."

Perhaps not, but did the saint really drive the snakes out of Ireland?

See *IRISH, B-9*

1982

Frank Rhoades

THE COMMITTEE heading San Diego's second annual St. Patrick's Day parade here March 13 expects to attract 100,000 spectators, says chairman **Vince Lynch**.

The two-hour parade, consisting of 200 units, will include 15 floats and 16 bands, with another 5,000 participants marching on foot. K

The parade route will be Fifth Avenue from Juniper to Upas streets and Sixth Avenue to Laurel Street. The procession starts at noon.



Frank Rhoades

Lynch said 10,000 are expected at the barbecue in Balboa Park. A feature of that will be continuous entertainment until 6 p.m.

Some girl of Irish descent, 21 to 25, will get a free roundtrip to Ireland by winning a "prettiest Colleen" contest at Sheraton Harbor Island at 2 p.m. Feb. 28.

"Actually, it will be more of a personality contest," said Patricia Foley, who has a hand in staging it. The five Irish-American organizations comprising the Irish Congress here are distributing entry blanks.

The congress sponsors the St. Patrick's celebration.

ELEANOR POWELL was no stranger to many in the North County.

She was a friend of the Sam Garrett family, visited the Garrett home in Fallbrook frequently in the late 1960s and became acquainted with many at the San Luis Rey Country Club.

In fact, one year the dancing actress served as grand marshal of the Avocado Festival parade in Fallbrook.

Garrett, a Western showman and roping champion brought up by Will Rogers, taught roping to Eleanor at MGM Studios, for her role in "I Dood It," with Red Skelton. It was the start of their friendship.

Sam's daughter, **Maxine Garrett**, said the family received letters from Eleanor all during the illness that resulted in her death in Beverly Hills Thursday.



SHAMROCKS BLOOM — Charles Fox displays his home-grown shamrocks, blossoming just in time for tomorrow's St. Patrick's Day parade. — Tribune photo by Joe Holly

1982

300-Pound Leprechaun Steals March On St. Pat

'Tis A Grand Day For THE Parade

St. Patrick's Day Parade planners here promise today's event will be the biggest such procession west of Chicago.

Earlier this week a 6-foot-8, 300-pound leprechaun and city Deputy Mayor Lucy Killea showed up at the parade starting point, Sixth Avenue at Juniper Street, to begin painting a green line on the first street the parade route will follow.

The green line later was extended all the way: south along Sixth to Grape Street, then west to Fifth Avenue and north on Fifth to Upas Street, where the parade units will move east to Sixth and finally south again to Laurel Street, where Irish music, dancing, food and drink will await.

Irish folklore pictures leprechauns as green-clad elves cavorting in the woodlands and capable of revealing a crock of gold to anybody who catches one. In San Diego, the parade people say, their outsized leprechaun recognizes that the biggest pot of gold to be found anywhere is the city of San Diego itself.

SAN DIEGO

WEEKEND

The parade, of course, is scheduled four days in advance of the March 17 birthdate of Ireland's patron saint. "It gives us either a running start for the March 17 celebration or time to recuperate from parade day," explains a son of Erin.

"We expect a crowd upward of 100,000," parade chairman Vince Lynch said. Rear Adm. Paul Gillcrist, commander of the San Diego Naval Base, is the parade's grand marshal.

Today's marchers will step off at noon with the Marine Corps Band leading the way. Lynch said the number of participating units will exceed the 90 that took part in San Francisco's 1981 St. Patrick's Day parade, and will include at least 22 school bands from Los Angeles and San Diego counties.

Seventeen cities will be represented with various units including floats, Lynch said, in addition to commercial entries from several business and industrial enterprises.

Ginger Kathleen Hoy, a county resident majoring in mass communications at UCLA, will be the St. Patrick's Day "Irish Colleen."

Other honorees will include ex-San Diego Mayor Frank Curran as "Irish Man of the Year," Delza Martin as "Irish Woman of the Year," the city Senior Citizens Center's Evelyn Herrmann as "Community Woman of the Year" and San Diego Union columnist Frank Rhoades as "Community Man of the Year."

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MORNING, MARCH 13, 1982

The S

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

CLOUDY

Increasing cloudiness today with a temperature range of 52 to 70 degrees along the coast; 45 to 70 degrees inland. Page A-19.

14th YEAR

198

1982

San Diego:

'Temporarily Irish'

what's doing IN SAN DIEGO

Continued from First Page

The first traditional St. Patrick's Day parade, held 220 years ago in New York City, was seen as a political statement. Irish immigrants, both Catholic and Presbyterian, marched down the city's affluent Fifth Avenue to demonstrate their disdain for the rich who lived there. In Ireland, the day traditionally had been one of religious celebration.

There are an estimated 15 million Americans of Irish descent, 2 million of whom live in California.

Shannon says that, although Southern California has no Irish ethnic neighborhoods like those in the East, a sizable number of Irish-Americans live here and their enthusiasm and participation have helped the parade grow.

Theme of Unity

The theme of this year's parade is "Unity with our Senior Citizens." A festival and picnic in Balboa Park, with Irish dancing, food, drink and entertainment will follow the parade.

On Wednesday, official St. Patrick's Day celebrations will take place at many local Irish pubs, including The Patriot Game, 5353 Mission Center Road in Mission Valley, where Irish music will play continuously from 10 a.m. Irish food and drinks also will be available. Seamus Kennedy will perform Irish songs in the afternoon and evening. And a five-piece bagpipe, drum and tin whistle group will perform throughout the day.

Other places around town planning special observances of St. Patrick's Day include Houlihan's Old Place, 5323 Mission Center Road; Jose Murphy's, 4302 Mission Blvd.; The Blarney Stone Pub, 5617 Balboa Ave.; Carlos Murphy's, 4303 La Jolla Village Drive at the University Towne Centre, and McDini's No. 1, 647 Market St.

Might Be Cloudy

According to the National Weather Service, another storm system was moving south from the Gulf of Alaska on Thursday, which could bring rain by Sunday. Although the forecast calls for it to be cloudy today and Saturday, no rain is expected, according to Roger Hegstrum, a weather forecaster at Lindbergh Field.

"We are looking for some rain on Sunday," depending on which course the storm system takes, he said.

Highs in all areas today will be in the mid 60s, increasing to the upper 60s Saturday, the forecaster said. Lows are to be 55-58 along the coast and 50-55 inland.

Rain or shine, the Discover Ireland 10-kilometer and 2-mile fun runs will take place at 7:30 a.m. Saturday at Mission Bay. Ireland's Eamonn Coghlan will lead the field in the 10K run. Coghlan's mile of 3:50.6 in the Jack-in-the-Box Invitational at the Sports Arena in February, 1981, set a record.

Coghlan's mile was the fastest ever run in the United States. The previous record belonged to Jim Ryun, who ran 3:51.1 outdoors in 1967. Today is the last day to register for Saturday's race, which will benefit the University of San Diego sports programs. Registration will be held from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. at USD's Serra Hall, across from the campus church.

(Continued from B-1)

freckles splashed about her face.

She has her heart set on being a future parade colleen, obviously because it runs in the family. Her aunt, Ginger Hoy, was this year's beauty. Ginger's parents, Bob and Virginia, also were on hand to cheer their reigning daughter.

"Call it the luck of the Irish," said Virginia Hoy. "My middle name's Curran." Bob Hoy said it was more good looks than anything else that made his daughter a winner, and his eyes lit up when he spoke of the trip to Ireland she had won.

Larry Baines managed two cans of beer in one hand, a cigarette in the other and a cheery smile on his face. His green tam-o'-shanter had a jaunty tilt and he talked about presenting an Irish flag to President Reagan.

"Oh the Irish, we just think about three things — and the other two are drinking and fighting," he said with a twinkle in his eye.

Up walked Kristine Hayes and Mary Testa, two parade marshals from the Irish Congress of Southern California, the parade sponsors.

"We're under orders to be polite and not get carried away," they whispered, pinning a green carnation on a bystander. Orders might be orders, but by the end of the afternoon they had joined a rowdy, ragtag contingent along the parade route.

And what an odd parade it was

that stretched about the west side of Balboa Park. There were green cowboys on horseback and green clowns and even a couple of dogs dyed green.

When the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick came by passing out dollops of beer from coolers in the back of an antique Rolls Royce, one of their jolly number had his own hair dyed green.

Signs read: "Kiss Me, I'm Irish," "I'm Not Irish but Kiss Me Anyway," "I'm Irish, Eat Your Heart Out," "God Made the Irish No. 1," and "Temporarily Irish."

When the Navy Recruit Training Band marched by, two women rushed out to grab a surprised sailor, tug on his cap, march along for a bit and leave him with a startled look and an Irish flag stuck in his belt.

Toward the end a somber note: marchers representing the Irish Republican Army and carrying a picture of Bobby Sands, who starved to death a year ago in Northern Ireland's Maze Prison. A man in battle fatigues and beret, his face darkened, held a lily and others carried a coffin, while the rest of them raised their fists in the IRA salute.

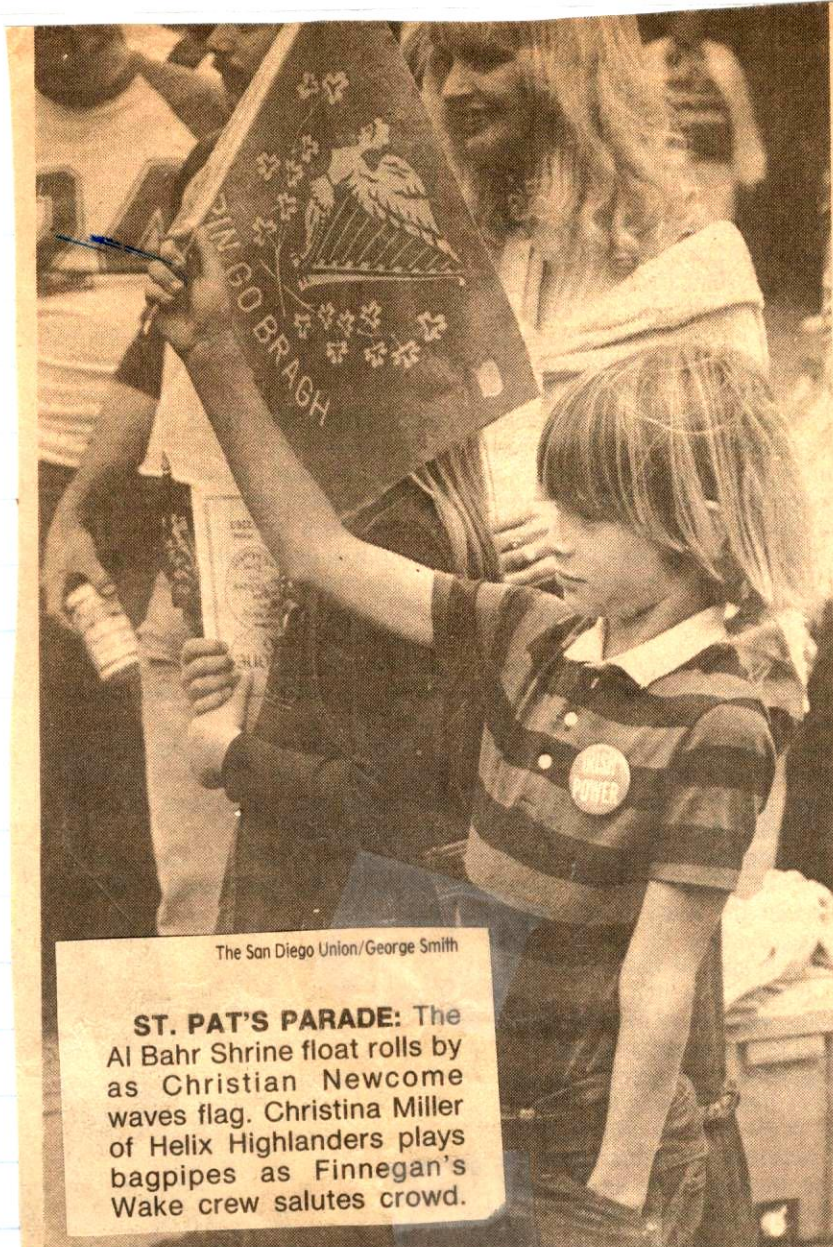
And then two tiny girls came alone with their heads down in a deliberate attitude to themselves between them they carried a banner reading: "Peace standing."

Evelyn Herrmann of the Senior Citizens Center was honored as the "Community Woman of the Year." Other honorees included *San Diego Union* columnist Frank Rhoades, who was named "Community Man of the Year;" former mayor Frank Curran, "Irish Man of the Year;" and Delza Martin, "Irish Woman of the Year."

As the parade ended, participants walked into the park where tables of hot dogs, chicken and steak sandwiches were on sale along with barrels of cold beer. On a wide green field a stage was set up for traditional music and speechmaking.

By midafternoon only a few bits of green crepe paper and crumpled beer cans were left on the street. The street-sweeper that came along to clean up bore a huge shamrock and a sign reading: "Today Everybody's Irish."

1982



The San Diego Union/George Smith

ST. PAT'S PARADE: The Al Bahr Shrine float rolls by as Christian Newcome waves flag. Christina Miller of Helix Highlanders plays bagpipes as Finnegan's Wake crew salutes crowd.

For A Day, San Diego Was Irish ¹⁹⁸²

By ED JAHN
Staff Writer, The San Diego Union

Could it be Kilkenny in California? The Vale of Glendalough along San Diego's Sixth Avenue? A touch of Irish mist among the sage and chaparral?

But of course, if you'd been there, it wouldn't be hard to imagine the Republic of Eire on the march yesterday, at the city's second annual St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Cead Mile Failte and *Erin Go Bragh!* What was once an impromptu sidewalk affair has turned into a rousing, daylong prelude to the real St. Patrick's Day on March 17.

Imagine legions of leprechauns with the wind at their backs and songs in their hearts and spirits as high as all Carrantal praising their snake-hating saint.

No one doubted the "I've Got Green Roots" button on Kelly Dougher's dress, what with her green-painted face, green hat and green fingernails.

"I guess it's the Irish in me that drives me to this extent," she said. Her sister Kathy bore a "Sleen on the 18th" button while her aunt, ^{as the} West, wore a "Shamrock Power" badge.

There was Frank McKenna of Chula Vista, a fistful of green-white-and-orange flags for sale, shouting: "Going fast, Irish flags, made in Taiwan."

"Have a look at me sons," he said, pointing to two freckle-faced lads at his side.

The two youngsters smiled, admitting their father's brogue had a tendency to thicken this time of year.

Nearby was pretty Mary Adams the toast of Old Town and no wonder the way she plays the Irish harp, or more correctly, the *clairseach*.

"It's a month of work," she revealed, brushing back her braided brown hair and setting down her harp for a moment to talk. "Tonight" really not going to be that busy for me but I'll be working."

There'll be plenty of requests for "Too-ra-loo-ra" and "Galway Bay, but not to worry about boredom, said the lass, adjusting her cape with its green satin lining. "My favorite song's 'Danny Boy,' wouldn't you know, and that's the one they ask for most."

Among the other Irishtocrats was Suzanne Steckler, a red-haired young girl from San Clemente with green



1982

Frank Rhoades

1982

Not available

IF THE LOCAL Irish fail to get Ronald Reagan here for a major speech after the March 13 St. Patrick's parade, it won't be for lack of effort.

Vincent J. Lynch, chairman of the Irish Congress of Southern California, headquartered here, already is mapping a heavy campaign to lure the President.

Seeking help from Ed Meese, expected to return here soon, will be only the beginning.

Naturally, the Irish will welcome Mr. Reagan, speech or no speech, but Vince prefers something on the order of the speech Winston Churchill made at a small college in Fulton, Mo.



Vincent J. Lynch

The President would speak at the Balboa Park picnic following the parade. At least 10,000 people were expected at the picnic before Lynch got the Reagan idea.

AL HIESHETTER, who stuck with the downtown district all during its decline, sold his 44-year-old shoe store, but will continue to work in it to achieve 50 years service there.

He sold half of Brothers Foot Comfort Shop to Roger D. Caron, a member of the sales staff, after selling the first half to his son Jack. Caron was a 25-year veteran of the Dr. Scholl organization, holding top jobs.

Al Hieshetter's faith in the downtown district was not misplaced. His business tripled in the last 10 years, and this will be the best month in its history. The store at 1143 Sixth had three previous locations.



The San Diego Union/C

Local leprechauns ride a bicycle built for 10 in the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade.

1983

March 13, 1983
Luck Of Irish



The San Diego Union/Jerry R

Joe Gallagher and daughter, Meghan, 16 months, and a member of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick were on hand

yesterday for the third annual St. Patrick's Day parade touted as the biggest event of its kind west of Chicago.

Luck Of Irish Shines On St. Pat's Parade

Sea World Aide Named 'Colleen Of Year' As 100,000 Attend Festivities

By ED JAHN

Staff Writer, The San Diego Union

The forecast had called for a clear and sunny day yesterday, but a sudden wave of Irish mist settled on the west side of Balboa Park.

"There's an Irishman up there somewhere," shouted Chuck Fox, who just happened to be chairman of a St. Patrick's Day parade taking place in that location.

"Some people call it living right," said Fox, a bearded and bemused leader of the Irish Congress of Southern California, the group putting on its third annual event, touted as the biggest St. Patrick's Day parade west of Chicago. "I just call it living Irish," he smiled.

Certainly the crowd — estimated at nearly 100,000 by the parade organizers — knew there was something in the air.

What started as an impromptu get down among the Irish two years ago has grown into a well-produced and popular welcome to spring. Anyone coming near Balboa Park came down with a touch of the Gaelic.

Just ask the man in the ski cap and green wraparound dress downing Guinness along the parade route or the red-haired woman with the green garter showing from above her calf at the Lowenbrau go Bragh tent or the young man with his top half painted a vivid green who danced a jig as the bands marched by.

If you didn't notice something in

the air then you were more than numb. You were somewhere else.

"I think 51 percent of San Diego is Irish," said smiling mayoral candidate Maureen O'Connor, an obvious victim of the benign influence from the meteorological confluence as she ran up to contender Bill Cleator and offered him a sip from her soft drink.

"What can I say," said her sister, Colleen, who said she was born on March 17, the actual St. Patrick's day.

"Hey, what's happening? There's something going on here," said Roger Hedgecock, another candidate in Tuesday's mayoral election as he stepped along behind the contingent from the local Special Olympics.

"Who says I'm not Irish today," he

grinned.

"Castenada for mayor" read banner on an antique car in the parade. "The question was about how felt to be a colleen," said Eris McCoy, a 23-year-old graduate student at the University of San Diego who described her elimination in the colleen contest this year. She stood all freckles and fetching green-eyed good looks along the parade route.

"I thought it would be great. But this is just as good," said the second runner up in the contest. Some people thought Eris, who was named after the priest that married her parents, had been robbed by the judge.

"I'm just glad to represent handicapped students," said McCoy, a special

(Continued on B-8, Col. 3)



The San Diego Union/George S.

A "Pot of Gold" illustrates "The Luck of the Irish" in a float entered in this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Sun for Irish even on cloudy day

By Ed Jalm
Staff Writer

1983

Gray skies be gone. This was a St. Patrick's Day parade that was not to be denied.

For the thousands of folks lucky enough to be Irish yesterday and the thousands more who wished they were, the fifth annual St. Patrick's Day Parade at Balboa Park turned out to be a perfect day despite the overcast skies.

From the moment the Marine Corps' mounted color guard turned down Sixth Avenue to the grand finale more than two hours later, a city not known for ethnic constituencies turned green with admiration for Ireland.

"I like it. It feels good," said Marine Col. Jack Kelly from Camp Pendleton, all spit and polish in his dress blues with a green carnation peeking from a lapel. Kelly was chosen Man of the Year by the Irish Congress of Southern California, parade organizers.

The theme of the parade this year was "Saluting Our Men and Women in the Armed Services" and Kelly said it appeared that "everybody thinks they are both Irish and former Marines today." Officially, St. Patrick's Day is today, but yesterday suited everyone in the mind to be Irish.

"It's a good feeling. Ten years ago, people would have probably been throwing things at us when we marched," said Kelly, a veteran of Vietnam who has helped raise money for Muscular Dystrophy Association here for the last five years. "The Marines are proud of San Diego and the city is proud of the Marines. It really shows," Kelly said.

Police could not estimate the numbers of parade watchers who lined the west side of Balboa Park to see the 184 entries march over a two-mile route. There were no incidents, police said, and the advance estimate by parade organizers of 200,000 people seemed a bit exaggerated.

Maj. Gen. Tony Lukeman, who commands the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, and retired Rear Adm. James d. Ramage were grand marshals for the parade and tried to stay diplomatic when it came to comparing the marching units from their respective services.

"They really had it together," Lukeman said of the MCRD marching unit. "Makes you feel proud to be in the military, especially the Marines."

"All branches of the military are honored to be part of this happy event," said Ramage. "Did you see that Navy band? Those kids have only been together for six weeks and they were great. What a feat to get them playing like that."

The last float in the parade carried members of the military units serving in the San Diego area. The float stopped at the reviewing stand and the Madison High School band began playing "God Bless America." Suddenly thousands of green, white and orange balloons — the national colors of Ireland — rose from containers along Sixth Avenue.

Lukeman and Ramage stood proud.

"I've had some honors in my life, but none greater than this," said Ramage, a veteran of 40 years in the Navy and the leader of a devastating air strike on the Japanese fleet off the Marianas in 1944.

KUSI-TV Channel 51 is scheduled to show videotape of the parade tonight at 8 p.m.

"I got Irish lucky and won," said Ma McLaughlin of her designation as Parade Colleague. The legal secretary for Schall Boudreau & Co. Inc. had to beat out Molly Wilson and Molly Tia for the distinction.

Madison High School won top honors in the band contest, with Kearney High School placing second and Sweetwater High School placing third.

"Well, there's some Irish blood in just about everybody," explained Father Pat O'Neill of Columba Roman Catholic Church in Serra Mesa, the Irishman of the Year recipient.

"Myself, I was from County Tyrone and there were nine Patrick O'Neills in the county so I was Barney's Pat after my father and maybe a name or two you couldn't print," he said. "Actually lived in Scotland until I was two, but that was only because of the hard times in Ireland."

Something curious happened after the parade ended and Brian Connolly got up on the stage singing a few traditional Irish songs. It was somewhere in the middle of "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling" that the sun broke through.

Anyone lucky enough to be holding a bottle of Guinness Extra Stout or any liquid of close proximity could tell this was a sign from above and lusty voices joined in the sing-a-long. The afternoon light soon faded and the skies grew dark, but the sun still shone on the Hills of Connemara in Balboa Park.

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No matter the nationality, everyone is Irish on St. Patrick's Day. Balboa Park came alive last weekend as thousands of Irish and would be Irish gathered for a St. Pat's parade, an Irish festival and a Spring Dart Classic.

It was obvious that St. Pat's Day was just an excuse for a day of fun. The third annual parade was a fun-filled international affair, with more than 160 entries.

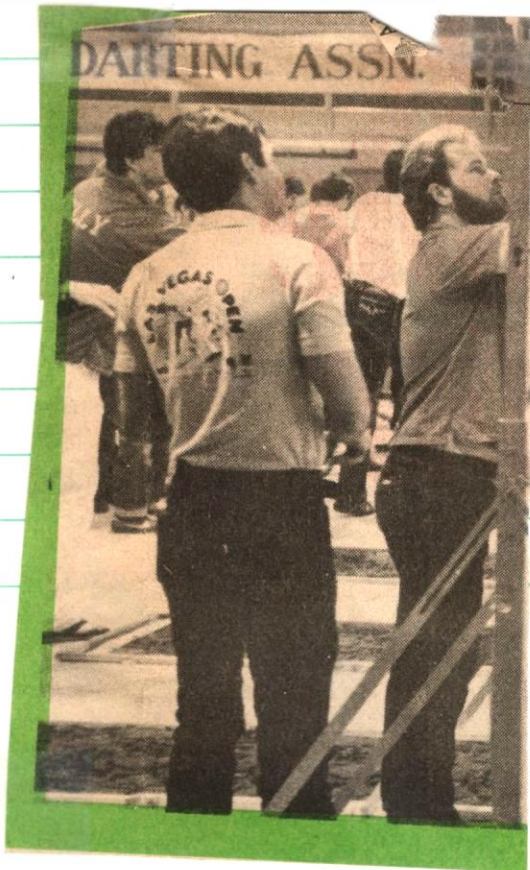
There were Mexican horsemen, Turkish dancers, Scottish bagpipers and, of course, Irish groups such as the Ancient Order of Hibernians, with Irish wolfhounds in tow, the Irish Woman of the Year, the Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick from San Diego and North County and the "Colleen of the Year."

Local politicians running for office took advantage of the occasion as did service groups such as Al Bahr and the Muscular Distrophy Association.

But everyone seemed to enjoy the bands, the beer, the clowns, the beer, and the sunshine. Many of the parade entrants followed in the steps of the "traditional" Irishman — downing ale along the way.

Everyone was "wearin' the green" with green carnations in abundance. More honest observers wore "honorary Irishman" buttons, while one brave soul sported a t-shirt saying "I'm Proud to be Italian."

Following the parade was a festival with barbequed hamburgers and hot dogs and music.



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ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE MARCH 12



Irish eyes will be surely smiling for the Third Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade which will be held in San Diego on Saturday, March 12, 1983 at 12 noon. The parade route will start at the corner of 6th and Juniper Streets on the west side of Balboa Park in San Diego.

Vince Lynch, President of the Irish Congress of Southern Cali-

"We've got the largest St. Patrick's Day Parade west of Chicago."

ifornia, announced that the theme of this year's parade will be "Unity with our Disabled Citizens." According to Lynch, "Every year we have themed the parade around unity with some segment of our community. The first year it was "Unity with our Vietnam Veterans" and it was



1983



On Parade—St. Patrick himself presides over the parade in his honor Saturday in downtown San Diego. The third annual event drew about

35,000, police said, to see the more than 30 floats, 5,000 marchers and 10 bands. The theme was "Unity With Our Disabled People."

BOB GRIESER / Los Angeles Times

1983

'TIS ONLY THE BEGINNIN'

1983

Everybody'll be Irish tomorrow for the St. Patrick's Day parade

By John Farina
Tribune Staff Writer

It won't be as long as New York's, where the Kelly-green-clad hordes will gather 100,000 strong.

Nor will it measure up to Chicago's or Boston's, both expecting 60,000-plus marchers.

But San Diego's St. Patrick's Day Parade is a mere babe, just two years old and proud to be putting on the green again tomorrow when 5,000 marchers are expected to assemble.

In sheer spirit, the parade here will be more than big enough, organizers say.

"Sure, and St. Paddy's Day itself will be duly observed on Wednesday," the actual feast of St. Patrick, said Charles Fox, an Irishman who visited the Emerald Isle recently, yet didn't have to kiss the Blarney Stone there to gain his eloquence.

"But tomorrow," he said, smiling through Irish eyes, "is a day when the entire community — Mexicans, Greeks, Poles, Lithuanians, everyone — will be invited to participate in this grand and wonderful Irish event of immense proportions."

It will still be a parade as big in spirit as the spread of an Irishman's grin.

A day for Irish colleens, Dublin brogues, green beer, Irish coffee, shenanigans, shamrocks.

And Irish humility, of which, fortunately, there will only be a short supply.

Last year, 30,000 spectators turned out to see the parade. This year, 100,000 are expected.

So there is never any danger of it all being a deep, dark secret. Buttonhole any Irishman and he'll know about it.

But for those unfamiliar with the route and starting time, here it is:

Beginning at noon, 200 floats, bands, horses, and marching units will tramp and trot from Sixth Avenue and Juniper Street, south along Sixth Avenue to Grape Street, west to Fifth Avenue, north along Fifth Avenue to Upas Street, east to Sixth Avenue, and south along Sixth Avenue to Laurel Street.

Participants will be from San Diego and 16 other counties.

There will be Irish flags, Celtic crosses, green balloons and green candy.

After the parade, the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick will host a party in Balboa Park at Sixth Avenue and Laurel Street, where music will waft across the green from a bandstand, and food and beverages, including beer, will be sold.

"It will be a nice family affair for anyone who wants to come," said Michael Neil, of the Irish group, "sort of an end-of-the-parade event."

The parade is for St. Patrick, of course.

The grand marshal will be Rear Adm. Paul Gillcrist, commander of the San Diego Naval Base. The Irish Man of the Year has already been selected. He's former San Diego Mayor Frank Curran. Irish Woman of the Year is Delza Martin, a civic leader.

"But we'll also honor the non-Irish," Fox said. "This event is not limited to the Irish. For example, the Italian community participates in our parade, and on Columbus Day, we march in theirs."

St. Patrick would have liked that, of course, because he brought Christianity and brotherhood to Ireland, and the Irish have been spreading good cheer throughout the world ever since.

"To be Irish is a grand thing," said Fox, who starts growing shamrocks in his home so they'll be in full bloom by St. Paddy's day.

St. Patrick used the three-petal shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity — three in one.

"There's a legend that shamrocks only grow in Ireland," said Fox. "But perhaps the reason I can grow them here at home is that I'm Irish."

As well known as St. Patrick is, there are a lot of confused notions about his background, and more than a few Irish tall tales.

Like the controversy over when he was born. March 8 claim some, March 9 others insist. And it was settled by adding up those dates to produce 17.

There's also a claim that St. Patrick was born in Italy. A story, said Fox, no doubt concocted by Christopher Columbus.

"And there's a vicious rumor goin' 'round, too," he added "that St. Patrick was British."

"There's absolutely no truth to it. None at all."

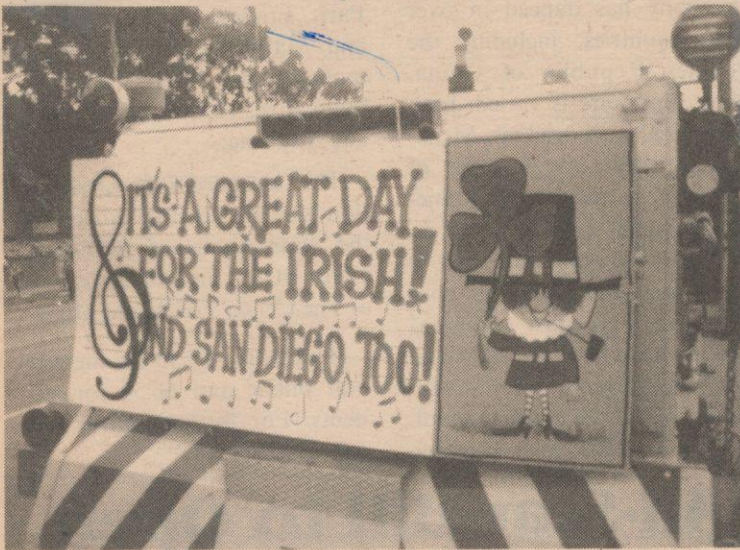
Perhaps not, but did the saint really drive the snakes out of Ireland?

See IRISH, B-9

1983

1983

St. Patrick's Day... continued from page 1



"Up With People," the internationally known performing group.

The grand marshal for this year's parade will be San Diego Sheriff John Duffy and Colleen Maher will reign as this year's queen or Irish "colleen."

The colleen and her court reign over a number of "Shamrock Days" festivities of which the parade is the largest. Other events include a Smiling Irishman contest on March 6, the 7th



Annual St. Pat's Spring Dart Classic, March 11-13, House of Ireland Lawn Program on March 13 and the Irish American Club's Dinner Dance on

March 19 (see local lineup for times, locations and additional information).

An Irish Man and Woman of the Year and San Diego Man and Woman of the Year are chosen each year to honor the accomplishments of each. This year's Irish Man of the Year is Tim Foley, owner of the Blarney Stone Pub and Blarney Stone Too. Mr. Foley is from County Kerry in Ireland and is a founder of the San Diego St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Irish Woman of the Year is Mae Barnett, current president of the House of Ireland in Balboa Park.

John T. Holt, attorney and Catherine Campisi Johns, research specialist for the Handicapped Resource Center were chosen as San Diego's Man and Woman of the Year, respectively.

The parade, organized by the Irish Congress of Southern California, hopes to attract spectators from Southern California as well as from other states. This is one event that San Diegans should not miss as it promises to be a fun-filled celebration for the wee bit of Irish in all of us.

R.M.

St. Pat's parade may lure 100,000

Irish eyes surely will be smiling tomorrow as San Diego's third annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade, touted by organizers as the largest such parade this side of Chicago, passes west of Balboa Park.

Police estimated that last year's parade drew 80,000 spectators on a rainy day, and parade organizers expected that good weather might attract more than 100,000 people tomorrow.

Led by the police department's marching unit, chiefs and color guard, the parade — to begin at noon — will make its way from Sixth Avenue and Juniper Street south to Grape, west on Grape to Fifth Avenue, then north to Upas.

After turning on Upas, the parade will return to Sixth and travel south to Laurel Street, where an Irish festival is to last until sunset.

The parade's 182 entries include more than 30 floats, 10 bands, swarms of clowns, horses, about 5,000 marchers and 50 vehicles to cart parade officials and local dignitaries along the two-mile route.

Sheriff John Duffy will serve as grand marshal.

The parade will be televised live on Channel 51.

The sponsoring Irish Congress of Southern California, an umbrella organization for six county Irish heritage groups, suggested people planning to attend the parade call San Diego Transit at 233-3004 for information on bus schedules and routes.

Irish Man Of Year Is Jim Foley

1983

The Irish Congress of Southern California recently announced their honorees for the third annual St. Patrick's Day Parade to be held in San Diego on Saturday, March 12, at noon.

Irish Man of the Year is Jim Foley, owner of the Blarney Stone Pub in San Diego and the Blarney Stone Pub Too in La Mesa. Foley, from County Kerry in Ireland, is a founder of the San Diego St. Patrick's Day Parade. This year's parade is expected to attract over 100,000 spectators and will be televised locally on Channel 51.

Irish Woman of the year is Mae Barnett, current president

of the House of Ireland. Barnett has been a member of the House of Ireland for 23 years and is a member of many other Irish organizations. She was born in Ennistymon, County Clare in Ireland and has been married to Pat Barnett for 38 years.

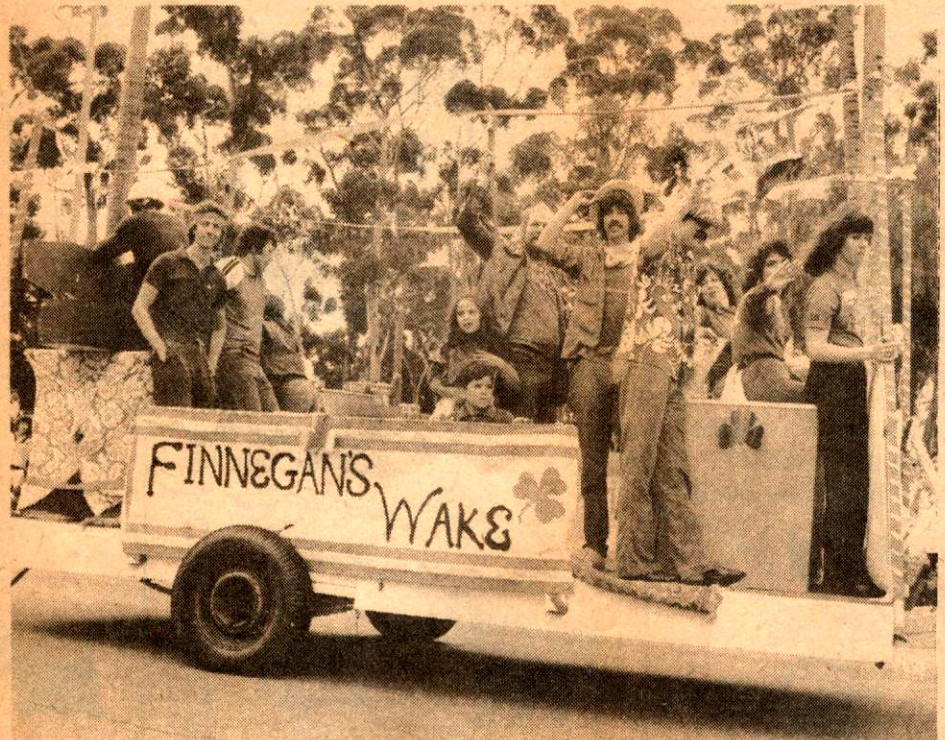
The San Diego Man of the Year is John T. Holt, an attorney. Holt has been honored by the San Diego County Bar Association in recognition of his 50 years of practice in the community.

San Diego Woman of the Year is Catherine Campsi Johns. Johns holds a PhD in Social Psychology.

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The San Diego Union/Tony Doubek

Everything from bagpipes to floats will be part of the St. Patrick's Day celebration at the third annual St. Patrick's Day Parade Saturday. San Diego will celebrate all weekend long with the 7th annual St. Pat's Spring Dart Classic on Friday and continuing through the weekend, the Discover Ireland St. Patrick's Day 10k run on Saturday, and later an Irish festival.

Festivities Precede St. Patrick's Day

It's the Irish in San Diego who will make this weekend a treat. And that's no blarney.

With their shamrocks, Irish jigs, green beer and leprechauns, they plan to sweep all San Diegans into various events honoring their snake-hating saint whose birthdate March 17 has been celebrated in the United States since colonial days.

The highlight of the weekend will be the 3rd annual St. Patrick's Day parade beginning at noon Saturday at the corner of 6th and Juniper.

The parade, according to chairman Chuck Fox, will attract about 100,000 spectators. More than 3,000 persons are expected to march, ride or otherwise participate.

Fox said 180 units, including 20 floats, will participate in the procession, billed as the largest St. Patrick's Day parade west of Chicago.

There will be bands from Kearny, Clairemont, Helix and Madison high schools. Other musical groups will include the Optimist Youth Band, the Shriners Band, the Navy Training Center Drum and Bugle Corps, Dixieland bands, and the Cameron Highlander Pipers.

Fox expects a heavy turnout from the local Irish American community. He said he did not have "the

foggiest notion" if a claim by a public relations firm that there are 268,943 sons and daughters of Ireland in the San Diego area. But he does not scoff at the estimate.

"On St. Patrick's Day, there're only two kinds of people: The Irish and those who wish they were Irish," he said.

The parade will feature an unlikely leprechaun. No one is saying whether Tom Cox can lead anyone who catches him to a buried crock of gold, but he shouldn't be difficult to spot.

Cox, 6 feet 8 inches tall and weighing 325 pounds, is a standout anywhere he goes. He's been participating in the parade since it was organized three years ago.

The event is sponsored by the Irish Congress of Southern California, which includes the Ancient Order of Hibernians, The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, The House of Ireland, the Irish American Club, and the Irishtocrats.

Vince Lynch, congress president, said the theme of this year's parade is, "Unity with disabled citizens."

"Every year, we have themed the parade around unity with some segment of our community," he explained. The first parade was dedicated to Vietnam veterans. Last year, senior

citizens were honored.

In keeping with the theme, Catherine Johns, a research specialist with the community colleges who works with the disabled and who is disabled herself, is being honored as woman of the year.

John Holt, an attorney, is being honored as man of the year. Parade grand marshal will be Sheriff John Duffy.

The parade also will honor the Irish man and woman of the year, Jim Foley, co-founder of the parade and an all-Ireland football player, and Mae Barnett, president of the House of Ireland.

Following the parade there will be an Irish festival in the park.

But there also will be other events over the weekend before St. Paddy's Day. For the sports minded, there's the Discover Ireland St. Patrick's Day 10k

and two-mile fun run that will be held at Mission Bay at 7:30 a.m. Saturday; it is expected to attract 7,000 participants.

The race, to start at the south end of Mission Bay Park, includes the largest competitive, timed and scored 10k in the United States. It is sponsored by the Industrial Development Authority of Ireland and will benefit the Old Globe Theater. "Made in Ireland" prizes, including trips to Ireland, will be awarded.

Participating in the run will be Monica Joyce and Desmond O'Connor, two of Ireland's top runners.

The race will end with a finish line party that will include hot food, soft drinks and beer. All finishers will receive T-shirts or tank tops.

Another event is the 7th annual St. Pat's Spring Dart Classic at the Conference Building at Balboa

Park beginning at 7:30 p.m. Friday, with other events beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Pam Steward, a spokeswoman for the Greater San Diego Darting Association, said more than 1,000 shooters are expected to participate in the seven events and will compete for \$30,000 in prize money. For the tournament, 50 boards will be installed in the Conference Building.

Shooters who place in the open and ladies singles will earn championship points for national standings.

The final weekend event is a program at 2 p.m. Sunday sponsored by the House of Ireland of the House of Pacific Relations. Entertainment will include Patrick Briggs with Irish songs and anthems; the Ruby McKeivitt dances, the Plummer Dances, and performances by the Donna Means School of Dancing.

St. Patrick's Parade May Draw 100,000

Organizers of the Third Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in San Diego say they expect 100,000 spectators and at least 5,000 participants for the 1983 event, scheduled to begin at noon on March 12.

Parade Chairman Chuck Fox and

Vince Lynch, president of the Irish Congress of Southern California, announced the parade theme as "Unity with Our Disabled Citizens."

Last year's event, which drew an

estimated 80,000 spectators, salute the area's senior citizens.

Deadline for the 1983 float and organizational entries is Feb. 7 for parade.

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\$2,000,000 STOCK

1983



The San Diego Union/Bob Ivins

St. Patrick's Day Celebrations: County Mayo-born Father Martin McGovern, his gray cap sloped rakishly, his right hand on the crook of his carved wooden cane, enjoys the fellowship at a St. Patrick's Day party in Mission Valley. Story, B-4.

1983

1983

St. Patrick's Day Parade Lined Up

Continued from First Page

The parade will be televised live by Channel 51, KUSI-TV.

A temperature of 70 degrees is forecast for Saturday's parade. Wilbur Shigehara of the National Weather Service predicts a chance of light rain today and clearing for the rest of the weekend.

Daytime temperatures along the coast are expected to be in the mid 60s and possibly the mid 70s on Sunday and the high 60s to high 70s in the inland valleys. Evening temperatures will drop to the mid 50s along the coast and the high 40s in the inland valleys.

The mountain region forecast is for rain and gusty winds today and clearing for the rest of the weekend, with temperatures ranging from the low 30s to the high 50s. The deserts also expect a chance of showers today and clearing for the rest of the weekend, with temperatures between the mid 70s and low 50s.

Footraces Planned

It has become a common practice to celebrate a holiday the weekend before it occurs and St. Patrick's Day in San Diego is no exception.

For people who want to run off the beer they plan to drink at the Irish festival, a "Discover Ireland St. Patrick's Day 10K and 2-mile Fun Run" will be held Saturday at Mission Bay Park. The run, to benefit the Old Globe Theatre, will begin at 7:30 a.m. at the south side of the San Diego Hilton Hotel. Day-of-race registration will begin at 5 a.m. Hot food, soft drinks and beer, including Guinness Ale, will be available at the finish line.

The Irish weekend continues with the Seventh Annual St. Pat's Spring Dart Classic at the Conference Building in Balboa Park. The classic, held tonight through Sunday, will feature open doubles, mixed doubles, blind draw doubles and open and ladies singles in the standard tournament game of 501.

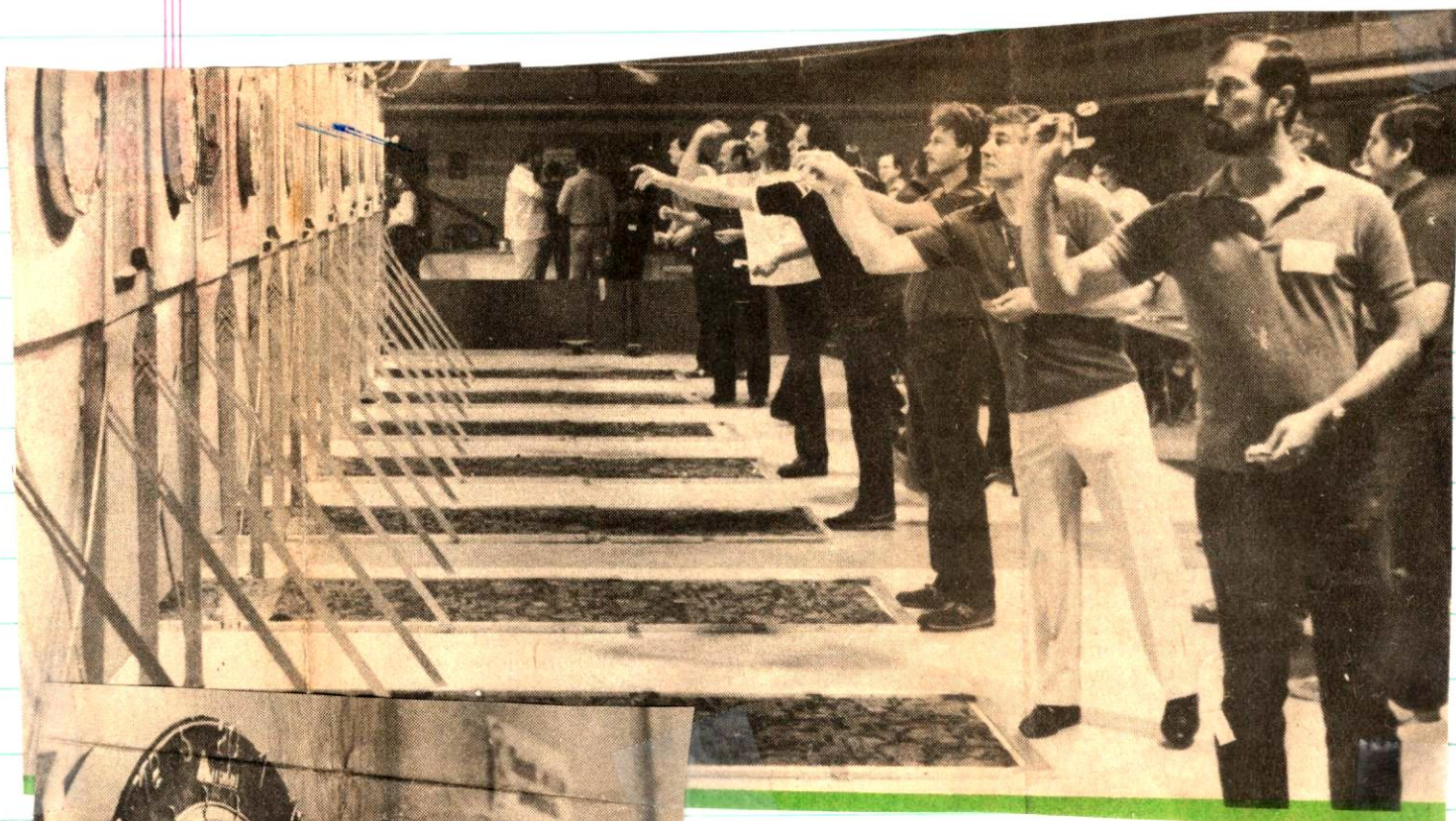
Entry fees range from \$5 to \$25, depending on the event, and \$30,000 in prize money will be awarded, according to the Greater San Diego Darting Assn., which may be contacted for starting times.

Irish Music Too

The House of Ireland will present a St. Patrick's Day program with entertainment by singer Patrick Briggs, the Ruby McKevitt dancers and the Plummer dancers at 2 p.m. Sunday at the House of Pacific Relations patio in Balboa Park.

If beer, particularly green beer, is not to your liking, but you are in the mood for some holiday libation, the San Diego Chapter of the American Diabetes Assn. will present its eighth annual wine tasting and auction of rare wines from 6 to 9 p.m. today at the Unicorn Company Arts and Antiques Mall in the Gaslamp Quarter, 310 Fifth Ave. Tickets for the event are \$12.50 and may be obtained at the door.

125



The Seventh Annual St. Pat's Spring Dart Classic was again a roaring success. Saturday, 197 teams had signed up for the open doubles and 416 registered Friday for the blind draw doubles. Unbeknownst to many, darts is a thriving sport, with

several big money tournaments held each year. The San Diego classic is the third most prestigious in the United States, with total prize money more than \$30,000.

Put on each year by the Greater San Diego Darting Association, which boasts a membership of about 1,500, the classic draws participants from all over the world. Previous winners include players from New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and Arizona. This year players from Australia, China and England entered.

The Conference Building at Balboa Park was crowded with darters and their families. Competition must have been keen, with generous prize money at stake, but it was unnoticed by the casual observer. This seems more a sport of fun and companionship than competition.

But darters take their sport very seriously. Top money for the open doubles, mixed doubles, cricket doubles and open singles was \$2,000, each, with an entry fee of \$25.

Three-piece dart sets were sold carrying price tags up to \$84.

The darting association schedules matches three times each week during fall, summer and winter leagues at pubs around San Diego County, with several pubs in North County participating. For information, call the Association at 469-6128.

The average dart player, according to Association president Scott Ullman, is male, 25 to 45 years old. The crowd Saturday was predominantly male but there were women participants — some of whom were the best entered.

The classic is sanctioned by the American Darts Organization and shooters placing in these two events earn championship points for national standings.

In case you missed your chance to dance a jig or throw a dart this year, the St. Pat's parade and dart classic are planned for St. Patrick's Day weekend again next year.

Erin Go Bragh!

1983

Kelly firm honors some winners: those aiding greening of San Diego

'Twas a day for saints and winners. The beer was green, the coffee was Irish, and the blarney was as thick as a Dublin brogue.

Welcome to San Diego, St. Patrick's Day.

"I don't know who wrote these lines," said Bill Kolender, San Diego's chief of police. "But with my Don Coryell speech and Jewish accent, how can I sound Irish?"

Kolender — that fine broth of a lad, he — and TV personality Danuta Rylko were called upon yesterday to present the awards for the second annual "Kelly Services Blarney List."

Blarney List?

"We chose leading San Diego people or institutions whose services or shenanigans have made them prominent community members," explained Mary Scavezze, district manager for Kelly Services, a temporary help firm.

Kolender and Danuta presided at a luncheon at Cafe del Rey Moro, dispensing mirthful lines and Blarney List awards in the spirit of the holiday.

Don Coryell, coach of the San Diego Chargers, was designated recipient of the major accolade — a green derby. Alas, however, he could not walk up the emerald aisle to accept.

Coryell is in Hawaii, attending National Football League meetings. Pat Curran, Charger business manager and ex-tight end, accepted instead.

"The award," said Danuta, "is to recognize purity of soul and chastity of mind."

Added Kolender, true to his script:

"It goes to someone who brought glory, delivered a winner and still waded into the mud, blood and beer to make San Diego a winner."

Additional Blarney List winners:

● Ted Leitner, KFMB-TV sportscaster, for his "true

sense of Irish humility."

● Richard and Dorothea Morefield, for putting up "with enough blarney and bluff for 1,000 heroes."

● San Diego Business Journal, for its "classic Irish instinct for a good story. As a year-old addition to the San Diego media, your publication should garner plenty of green."

● Steve Brezzo, director of the San Diego Museum of Fine Art, for keeping "Irish eyes smilin' from ages 8 to 80 with innovative, exciting exhibits."

● The San Diego Convention and Visitors' Bureau, for "spreadin' the word on San Diego from glen to glen. Their spirited civic boosting will have the city comin' up clover."

● Maureen O'Connor, for "serving the community for more than a decade in a variety of roles."

● Charlie 'n' Harrigan, KCBQ radio personalities, "two great morning-after guys ('cause they keep doing it morning after morning)."

● The Gaslamp Quarter Association, for making downtown San Diego "a charmin' place to visit. St. Patrick would've been proud."

● Signal Company, a new addition to San Diego, which "has many a clean industry headquartered here countin' their Irish pennies."

● Irish Congress of Southern California, "whose faith 'n' begorra is bringing the first annual St. Patrick's Day Parade to San Diego (staged last Saturday)."

To the winners were delivered live shamrocks and bottles of Irish cream liquor.

Commented Maureen O'Connor on receiving her bottle: "I may be the first Irishman who doesn't drink — but I have five brothers who do."

— Jack Williams



Danuta presents derby to Pat Curran

Tribune photo by THANE MCINTOSH

A bit o' blarney in Finest City

By Cheryl Clark, Staff Writer

1984

San Diegans dyed their hair green and painted their lips chartreuse. Their T-shirts carried such slogans as "To hell with the Blarney Stone," "Kiss me" or "Ireland Forever."

For some, just a green bow in one's hair or a green T-shirt told the story. Yesterday was a day San Diegans celebrated the Irish.

For about five hours yesterday afternoon, Balboa Park and large stretches of Fifth and Sixth avenues and Juniper Street were turned into a shamrock homeland for the fourth annual St. Patrick's Day Parade and celebration, sponsored by the Irish Congress of Southern California.

Thousands braved intermittent strong winds and sprinkles, huddling along the side of the parade route under blankets or awnings between Grape and Upas streets to view the spectacle of floats, bands, antique cars and performers.

Parade chairman Tom Mulcahy, director of sales for the San Diego Padres, was busy drinking beer and greeting all those with a love for the Irish.

"This is the first time San Diego has celebrated St. Patrick with a parade on St. Patrick's Day," he said. "And look," he added, observing the fast-disappearing rain clouds. "There's your blue sky."

With what might have been just a touch o' blarney, Mulcahy said San Diego's parade is always the biggest one west of Chicago "that we know of."

This year's parade theme was "Unity with our Olympic Athletes," and officials from the Olympic Council of Ireland acted as theme marshals.

The parade featured the 1st Marine Division Band, the Ugly Bartenders, the Daughters of Dublin, the Friendly sons of St. Patrick, the Naval Training Center Color Guard, the police and sheriff's departments, 1,000 members of the Al Bahr Shrine, the Gaelic Athletic Association and dozens of clowns. Mayor Hedgecock was the grand marshal.

About 160 units comprised of thousands of San Diego businessmen, politicians, charity activists and celebrities participated in the two-hour parade.

Bob Helliwell, a San Diego resident for 15 years, stood beside the parade route with Matilda and Gisselle, his two basset hounds. He's actually Welsh, he acknowledged, but insisted he had enough Irish blood inside of him to celebrate the feast of the patron saint of Ireland.

"It's a lovely parade," Helliwell said. "A good day to take the dogs for a nice walk in the park."

Victorio Deguido, a retired teacher from Chicago who has lived in San Diego for 35 years, isn't exactly all Irish either. But he sat along Sixth Avenue in a green aluminum lawn chair, wearing green socks, green slacks, a green flowered shirt, green jacket and a green plastic Irish hat. He also had little green dots pasted all over his face. His wife did, too.

"Even though we're paisanos, we enjoy the Irish," he said. "St. Patrick did so much. He drove the snakes out of Ireland." Or so the legend goes.

Claire White said the parade turnout shows what a strong Irish community San Diego has. "And I think people know that it's not political. It's a cultural celebration," she said.

The parade and park festivities were not the only holiday events. The day began with a 10-kilometer run in Mission Bay, and continued with parties and dances all over town.

In Mission Beach, merchants staged a block party featuring a Hawaiian shaved ice "Eat Off" at the Belmont Park roller coaster.

1984

What's Happening

By Sherral Robinson

1984

The March Of The Irish



More than 150,000 spectators are expected to attend the fourth annual **St. Patrick's Day Parade**, which begins at noon Sat., Mar. 17, at the intersection of Sixth and Juniper streets on the west side of Balboa Park.

Chuck Fox, president of the Irish Congress, has named Tom Mulcahy, director of group sales for the San Diego Padres, the 1984 parade chairman. Both Fox and Mulcahy expect this year's parade to be very special, as the parade falls on St. Patrick's Day. In the past, the parade has had to be held on the Saturday preceding St. Patrick's Day.

The theme of this year's parade is "Unity with our Olympic Athletes," a tribute to the dedication and hard work of all Olympic athletes. Special guests include the Irish Olympic Team, the parade's Theme Marshals. The team rejected all other invitations to be present in San Diego for the parade.

Last year's parade consisted of more than 5,000 marchers, 200 units representing various Southern California Irish organizations, local and national businesses, school bands,

police bands, marching units, military bands, civic and commercial floats, independent bands and local politicians. The schedule for this year's parade promises to be just as grand as last year's, and features Rodger Hedgecock as grand marshal.

The parade route follows along Fifth and Sixth avenues between Grape and Upas streets.

KUSI Channel 51 will televise the parade live from noon-2 p.m.

For further information on the Shamrock Day's events call 696-0688.

Performing Arts

The Glass Menagerie. One of Tennessee Williams' best works will be performed at 8 p.m., Mar. 23, 24, and 27-31, at the Main Stage Theatre, San Diego State University. Admission: weekdays, \$5; students and seniors, \$3.50; weekends, \$5.50; students and seniors, \$4. Ticket information: 265-6884.

1984



Clowns frolic through steam that rose after a brief shower during the parade.



The San Diego Union/Russ Gilbert

A Marine Corps color guard leads other marchers at the St. Patrick's Day fete.

1984

1984

St. Pat's Parade Set for March 17

Irish Congress of Southern California will present the Fourth Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 17.

The parade will begin 12 noon at the intersection of 6th and Juniper sts. on the west side of Balboa Park. The parade route follows along 5th and 6th aves. between Grape and Upas sts.

According to Charles Fox, President of the Irish Congress, the 1984 Parade Chairman is Tom Mulcahy of the San Diego Padres.

"We're very excited about this year's parade," said Mulcahy, "because it actually falls on St. Patrick's Day."

"Unity With Our Olympic Athletes" — a salute to the dedication and hard work of all these fine athletes," is the theme of this year's parade.

"We are extremely proud that the Olympic Council of Ireland will be sending representatives to march in our parade and they have been named our Theme Marshals," said Mulcahy.

Last year there were more than 5,000 people marching in the Parade and more than 125,000 spectators. The parade consisted of 200 units representing various Southern California Irish organizations, local and national businesses, school bands, police bands, marching units, military bands, civic and commercial floats, independent bands and local politicians.

"The San Diego parade is the largest St. Patrick's Day parade west of Chicago," said Mulcahy, "and we're going to do it up right again this year for the wearin' of the green."

KUSI-TV 51 will televise the 4th annual San Diego St. Patrick's Day Parade live on Saturday, March 17, from noon to 2 p.m.

1984

Irish Congress Names St. Patrick's Day Parade Honorees

The Irish Congress of Southern California, governing body of the San Diego St. Patrick's Day Parade has announced their 1984 honorees. According to Charles S. Fox, President of the Irish Congress and Tom Mulcany, 1984 Parade Chairman, the honorees are as follows:

Grand Marshall — Mayor Roger Hedgecock, continuing an unbroken string of appearances dating back to the Parade's inception;

Theme Marshalls — The Olympic Council of Ireland. This organization is the best example of the recurring Parade theme of Unity. The Irish entry in the Olympic Games marches under neither the Tri-Color or the Union Jack, but under the 32 County Olympic Council of Ireland banner;

Irish Man of the Year — Jack McKeon, San Diego Padres General Manager;

Irish Woman of the Year — Audrey Miles, long interested in Irish-American affairs as reflected in her membership in many Irish organizations;

Man of the Year — John Helmer, President and founder of Contractor Supply of San Diego;

Woman of the Year — Gloria McColl, Councilwoman of the Third District.

These individuals will be honored at a breakfast preceding the Parade on Saturday, March 17 at 9:00 a.m. at the Imperial House Restaurant.

1984



Tribune staff photo

Kiss for a colleen

Stacia Lucki is congratulated by 6-foot-8 leprechaun Tom Cox last night after being selected 1984 Irish Colleen by members of the Irish Congress of Southern California in a pageant at the Hilton Hotel. Lucki, 25, an industrial buyer for General Dynamics Corp., was selected from among nine candidates to reign over the congress's St. Patrick's Day parade.

1984

The Fourth Annual San Diego St. Patrick's Day Parade is scheduled for Saturday, March 17, at Balboa Park - Fifth and Sixth Avenues between Grape and Upas Streets. The parade starts at 12 noon. The theme of this year's celebration is "Unity with the Olympic Athletes." Representatives from Southern California Irish Organizations, local and national businesses, school bands, police bands, marching units, military bands, civic and commercial floats, independent bands, local politicians ... all from San Diego and sixteen surrounding communities, are participating in this popular parade. In 1983, the parade drew 125,000 spectators. Estimates for '84 is in excess of 150,000. For information call Chuck Fox, President of the Irish Congress of Southern California - (619) 696-0688 (days) or Tom Mulcahy, Parade Chairman - (619) 283-4494 (days).

Irish to parade

The Irish Congress of Southern California will present the Fourth Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 17.

According to Charles Fox, President of the Irish Congress, the 1984 Parade Chairman is Tom Mulcahy of the San Diego Padres.

"We're very excited about this year's parade," said Mulcahy, "because it actually falls on St. Patrick's Day. Normally, the Parade is held on the Saturday preceding St. Patrick's Day. So we can expect really big crowds this year."

Mulcahy announced that the theme of this year's parade is "Unity with our Olympic Athletes"—a salute to the dedication and hard work of all these fine athletes. "We are extremely proud that the Olympic Council of Ireland will be sending representatives to march in our parade and they have been named our Theme Marshalls," said Mulcahy.

The parade will begin at noon at the intersection of 6th and Juniper Streets on the west side of Balboa Park. The parade route follows along 5th and 6th Avenues between Grape and Upas Streets.

... Crooner Frankie Laine, whose sturdy pipes belie his years (he turns 71 March 30), headlines a St. Patrick's Day dinner-dance with Les Brown and his Band of Renown at the Sheraton-Harbor Island. Laine, in the words of KMLO general manager Gene Alfred, "is bouncing around like a kid these days" on the strength of a new hit album, "So Ultra Rare."

1984

Much to do for St. Pat's Saturday

St. Patrick's Day is Saturday, and you don't have to be Irish to enjoy the celebrations going on around the county. Among the scheduled festivities:

■ The biggest local event is the St. Patrick's Day Parade in San Diego, near Balboa Park. It is billed as the largest such parade west of Chicago. Last year, some 125,000 watched the 2½-hour parade. An estimated 150,000 are expected this year.

The parade begins at noon at Juniper and Sixth streets, adjacent to the park. It proceeds down Sixth to Grape, turns right at Fifth to Upas, right to Sixth, then another right on Sixth to Laurel, where it ends.

This year's theme is "Unity with our Olympic Athletes." The Olympic Council of Ireland will take part in the parade. San Diego Mayor Roger Hedgecock will be grand marshal. Padre General Manager Jack McKeon, named Irish Man of the Year by the Irish Congress of Southern California, is also expected to participate.

St. Patrick's Day Parade

'Cead Mile Failpe' — You're Invited

By MARC APPLEMAN, *Times Staff Writer*

Cead Mile Failpe—"100,000 welcomes" in Gaelic—is offered by Chuck Fox as an optimistic invitation to the many people he hopes to see line the streets of downtown San Diego for Saturday's third annual St. Patrick's Day Parade.

The largest St. Patrick's Day parade west of Chicago, according to chairman Fox, is scheduled to begin at noon at Sixth Avenue and Juniper Street and end two hours later after following a two-mile winding path at Sixth Avenue and Laurel Street. Sheriff John Duffy will be the parade's grand marshal.

The parade, featuring more than 4,000 participants, 12 bands, 20 Irish wolfhounds, equestrian units, the "Up With People" music group and many floats, expects to attract nearly 100,000 spectators, Fox said. Last year, the parade, despite rain,

drew an estimated 80,000 people. Partly cloudy skies and no rain are forecast for Saturday.

"There is nothing quite like Irish cheer," Fox said, "and our goal is to let the community experience the joy



of good Irish feeling."

From its starting point at Sixth Avenue and Juniper Street, the parade will go south on Sixth to Grape Street, west on Grape to Fifth Avenue, north on Fifth to Upas to Sixth and south again on Sixth to its conclusion at Laurel Street.

The parade is just part of an all-day Irish party. Starting at 10 a.m.

at Laurel and Quince streets in Balboa Park, young people, ages 6 to 18, will partake in traditional Irish folk dances.

'Nothing Like It'

"Celli dancing, known for its jigs and reels, is truly something to see," Fox said. "There is nothing like the sight of thousands of people doing the Irish jig."

A two-hour stage show featuring local entertainers Sean McVicker and Brian Connelly will be held at 2:30 p.m. in Balboa Park. "In addition to the Irish singing and dancing and the authentic tweed costumes, we also hope to provide green beer," Fox said. Last year there was only regular beer and there was a real outcry from the St. Patrick's Day faithful, he added.

Please see WEEKEND, Page 4

Leading the parade...on St. Patrick's Day will be San Diego Mayor Roger Hedgecock, continuing an unbroken string of appearances dating back to the parade's inception. It is sponsored by the Irish Congress of Southern California and has become the largest St. Patrick's Day parade west of Chicago. Hedgecock also has been selected as the grand marshal for a parade this summer...the one in Rancho Bernardo celebrating the Spirit of the Fourth.

1984

Weekend Diversions

St. Patrick's Day events



There's much to enjoy today for St. Patrick's Day throughout the area. Among the scheduled festivities:

■ The biggest local event is the St. Patrick's Day Parade in San Diego, near Balboa Park. It is billed as the largest such parade west of Chicago. It begins at noon at Juniper and Sixth streets, adjacent to the park. It proceeds down Sixth to Grape, turns right at Fifth to Upas, right to Sixth, then

another right on Sixth to Laurel, where it ends. This year's theme is "Unity with our Olympic Athletes." The Olympic Council of Ireland will take part in the parade.

1984

San Diego, Thursday, March 15, 1984

Saturday's big parade will be colored green

San Diego will observe St. Patrick's Day Saturday with a parade beginning at noon in Balboa Park.

Charles Fox, president of the Irish Congress of Southern California, said about 4,000 people, all of them wearing something green, will march in the fourth annual parade. Fox said about 150,000 spectators are expected.

Among those taking part will be Mayor Hedgecock and a 6-foot 8-inch "leprechaun" that weighs 300 pounds. Stacia Lucki, 25, a purchasing agent for General Dynamics-Convair, has been chosen the 1984 Irish Colleen and will reign over the parade.

The parade will begin at Laurel Street and Balboa Avenue inside the park and proceed west to Sixth Avenue. From there, the procession will make a giant loop, heading south on Sixth to Grape Street, then north on Fifth Avenue to Upas Street, and then south again on Sixth to return to the starting point.

We're all Irish on St. Patrick's Day

TODAY THE Irish in all of us popped to the surface, bringing forth jaunty steps and smiling faces.

Neighbor was meeting neighbor — mostly in such taverns as O'Connell's and Kelly's — calling out the greetings, "Top o' the morning to ya," and "The rest of the day to you."

There was a parade in Balboa Park, and, elsewhere, there were scads of Irishmen holding forth at the pubs, wearing green suits, sipping from mugs of green beer and wondering whether or not they should try another plate of corned beef and cabbage.

All the noise and the merriment, of course, is in honor of the patron saint of Ireland, St. Patrick, who

died more than 1,500 years ago.

The celebration of St. Patrick's Day goes back a long way in this country. Friendly Sons of St. Patrick chapters were organized in colonial times in such cities as Philadelphia and New York and then spread throughout the land. In fact, honoring the saint on this day is much more of an institution here in America than it is in Ireland.

St. Patrick, once a shepherd slave to an Irish chieftain, was responsible for converting the Irish people to Christianity. He founded more than 300 churches in Ireland and baptized more than 120,000 persons.

Many of their offspring came to this nation and helped make it great. We lift a glass to all the Irish and to their patron saint.

1985



MAR 14 1985

SAN DIEGO NAVY DISPATCH-MIRA MESA JOURNAL

St. Patrick's Day Parade and Picnic

Sunday, March 17, 1985 - 10:00 a.m.

"Everybody loves a parade!" Why don't you come along! Join us for a curb-side seat to watch one of the largest parades in San Diego. Bring out a little of the Irish in ya"! Then on to Balboa Park of a delightful picnic on the lawn. It'll be fun...and if you are a "people-watcher" you'll have plenty of opportunity! Sign up in the Program Office—just \$2.00 will cover the cost. Don't forget to wear a little green!

Green on parade

1985

Although they may not be Irish, two local groups will observe St. Patrick's Day with a great deal of enthusiasm.

Bands from both Madison and Clairemont high schools will participate in the Fifth Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade March 16, at noon, beginning on the west side of Balboa Park.

According to Brian McLellan, chairman of the event, more than 200 organizations throughout San Diego are scheduled to take part in the event. McLellan said 200,000 people are expected to watch the procession as it winds down Fifth and Sixth avenues.

In addition, the Madison High School Band is in the last days of a fund-raising drive to send the group to the World Music Festival, to be held in Lucerne, Switzerland.

The final payment for the trip is due March 15.

1985

Parading for St. Patrick's Day

More than 100,000 participants and spectators, ranging from the slightly whacky to the truly Irish, turned out to celebrate the Irish in everybody Saturday afternoon at San Diego's fifth annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. The 250 units in the parade came from all parts of the county to represent their communities in festive style like that of the "Precision Surfboard Drill Team," above.

At left, Virginia Hoy paints a set of green freckles on her granddaughter, Terri Steckler, for the occasion. The family gets together at the parade to celebrate their Curran family name with its roots in County Wicklow, Ireland.

The parade, with the theme "Unity with Our Men and Women in the Military," followed a 2½-mile route starting at 6th Avenue and Juniper Street. It was followed by a festival in Balboa Park with Irish entertainers, food and drink. Although most local festivities were Saturday, the official St. Patrick's Day holiday is today.

DON BARTLETT/
Los Angeles Times

1985



MAR 4 1985

SAN DIEGO NAVY DISPATCH-MIRA MESA JOURNAL

Shamrock Shindig Planned For Saturday

KyXy 96.5 FM celebrates the "Wearing of the Green" and the "Luck of the Irish" as it hosts the 5th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, Saturday, March 16, beginning at noon in Balboa Park.

Presented by the Southern California Irish Congress, the parade will be a glorious

pageant of leaping leprechauns, jig dancers and flamboyant floats. This year, the parade will honor men and women from all branches of the armed services.

Immediately following the parade, a huge St. Patrick's day festival, with abundant

food and green beer, will commence in Balboa Park with Irish musicians and dancers appearing on two stages.

This year, KyXy will produce the grandest surprise finale ever in San Diego's parade history.

The parade will begin at

Laurel and Sixth Ave., continues down Sixth to Fifth Ave., to Hawthorne and back to Balboa Park.

KUSI-TV 51's roving camera will film spectators and parade alike, and broadcast its program on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, at 8 p.m.

1985

1985

Curtain up! Everything's coming up .

The Irish in New York have been parading on St. Patrick's Day for more than 200 years. In San Diego, the St. Patrick's Day Parade is a bit on the green side.

The fifth annual parade starts at noon tomorrow and follows a 2½-mile route along Fifth and Sixth avenues between Grape and Upas streets. According to the 1985 parade chairman Brian McLellan, the event is dedicated to "Our Men and Women in the Military."

More than 200 units from throughout the county are participating including high school marching bands, Chula Vista's High Riders Bicycle Team and Ocean Beach's Geriatric Precision Marching Surf Club. Representatives from various Southern California Irish organization will also attend.

The parade is the product of a yearlong effort by the Irish Congress of Southern California, whose sole function is to arrange and present the procession.

Other St. Patrick's Day activities include:

Tom and Judy Carlstrom will play Irish music for a St. Patrick's Day Party at 8 p.m. tomorrow and Sunday in Drowsy Maggie's, 31st Street and University Avenue.

A St. Patrick's Dance Party will start at 8 p.m. tomorrow in the Folk Dance Cafe, 2927 Meade Ave., North Park.

The public is invited to read Irish poetry and prose for the sixth annual St. Patrick's Day Party at 7:30 p.m. Sunday in D.G. Wills Books, 7527 La Jolla Blvd., La Jolla.

The Paradise Street Band will perform Irish music for the annual St. Patrick's Day Show at 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. Sunday in the Old Time Cafe, 1464 N. Highway 101, Leucadia.

The fifth annual St. Patrick's Day 10K and 2-Mile Fun Run starts at 7:30 a.m. tomorrow at Mission Bay Park. Day-of-the-race registration will be taken south of Hilton Hotel starting at 5 a.m. Entry fees are \$11 for the 10K and \$9 for the fun run. Irish middle distance runner Dave Taylor will be among the field of runners. A special Belleck Award will be given for the best "Irish Theme" running costume.

Friday, March 15, 1985

SC

.. shamrocks

Being Irish and a police officer would give Connole enough cause to observe "the wearin' of the green" on St. Patrick's Day, March 17. But Connole has a better reason to celebrate this year — he's assuming the presidency of the North County Chapter of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick.

The group's been around for a while. According to Connole, who's been a Friendly Son for more than 15 years, the first official record of the group's existence in this country dates from 1771.

The strictly social club is "usually" limited to men, Connole said. Members must either be Irish or fervently wish they were, he added.

The main purpose of the gatherings, held several times a year, is to have a good time. Even though the Irish have a reputation for, shall we say, enjoying a nip now and then, the Sons are a pretty sober lot, according to Connole.

"It isn't the old hard-drinking group it was, I'll tell you. The drinking has gotten very moderate," Connole said. "And we're not supportive of the violence in Ireland — we'd like to see the country live in peace, whether it's ever united again or not."

Actor Martin Milner will join Connole and the Friendly Sons when they march in San Diego's St. Patrick's Day Parade, which begins at 11:30 a.m. Saturday in Balboa Park, at the corner of Fifth and Laurel Streets.



Between You & Me

By Shirley Thayer/T-A Staff Writer

Chief to be in St. Patrick's Day Parade

Almost every old gangster movie had its stereotypical Irish cop. And, especially back East, no police beat seemed complete without at least one Irish law enforcement officer.

"Cops and Irish seem to have gone together in this country for years," said Escondido Police Chief James Connole, whose ancestors came from the Old Sod.

1985

1985

'Twouldn't dare rain on St. Pat's parade

An abundance of sunshine will bathe the county during the weekend following morning low clouds today, tomorrow and Sunday.

The sun will disperse this morning's low clouds in the early afternoon and sunshine and patchy clouds will continue until evening, when a marine layer will return to coastal areas.

The luck of the Irish will prevail tomorrow, according to forecasters, when the sun will disperse the overnight low clouds in time for the 5th annual St. Patrick's Day Parade scheduled to begin at noon on the west side of Balboa Park.

Today's high temperatures will range from 59 to 65 in all areas. Lows in the coastal areas will be between 49 and 55, with slightly cooler overnight temperatures inland.

Morning fog and low clouds on the coastal slopes of the mountains this morning will give way to sunny but partly cloudy skies in the early afternoon. High temperatures in the mountains will be in the mid-50s, dipping to between 32 and 40 degrees tonight.

Police Lt. Les Guinn said clear weather has prevailed for all past St. Patrick Day parades.

The parade, featuring more than 200 marching units and floats, will be the largest yet and is expected to attract a record number of spectators, said Eileen Callahan of the Irish

Congress of Southern California.

The marchers will begin on Sixth Avenue near Juniper Street and proceed south to Grape Street, west to Fifth Avenue, north on Fifth to Upas and return to Sixth Avenue. The parade will be disbanded at Sixth Avenue and Laurel Street.

200,000 Expected to Watch St. Patrick's Day Parade

1985

By LENORE LOOK, *Times Staff Writer*

Gallant men, fair maidens and dancing chunks of Irish stew will pour into downtown streets Saturday for San Diego's fifth annual St. Patrick's Day Parade—the largest such lineup in California, organizers said.

The parade, featuring 7,000 to 8,000 participants in 250 units of marching bands, floats, dancers and equestrians, is expected to attract 200,000 spectators, said Jim Foley, founder of the parade.

"Everyone under the sun is Irish on St. Paddy's Day," Foley said. "Everybody is getting involved."

"Unity with Our Men and Women in the Military" is the theme of this year's parade, said Eileen Callahan, publicity chairwoman of the Irish Congress of Southern California.

To begin at noon, the parade will follow a 2½-mile route, starting at 6th Avenue and Juniper Street. The marchers will proceed south on 6th to Grape Street, west on Grape to 5th Avenue, north on 5th to Upas Street, then east to 6th, and south again on 6th to its conclusion at Juniper.

Sharing the title of grand marshal will be Marine Corps Maj. Gen. Anthony Lukeman, commander of the Marine Corp Recruit Depot, and retired Rear Adm. James D. Ramage.

Those following the grand marshals' car will include an 11-man bicycle team; a giant pot of live "Irish stew"; the Good, Bad and Ugly Bartenders; the Ocean Beach Geriatric Precision Surf Club Marching Team, and military and high school marching bands.

Entries were restricted to local groups, Foley said, to promote community pride and solidarity.

Chuck Fox, former president of the Irish American Congress, said the 70,000 Irish people in San Diego County began celebrating St. Patrick's Day in mid-February with family gatherings. And, the parade allows the rest of the community to share in the festivities.

"I've look forward to this all year," Fox said. "St. Patrick's Day is Christmas and Easter and the Fourth of July all rolled into one."

After the 2½-hour parade, there will be a festival in Balboa Park, Callahan said. Entertainers will include local singer Brian Connally, the Irish Step Dancers and Irish folk singers.

Vendors will sell corned beef, hamburgers, hot dogs, beer and Guinness ale, Callahan said. But no green beer. "We want to keep the celebration as authentic as possible."

Dress Rehearsal

If you're eagerly anticipating St. Patrick's Day celebrations this year, an early event will be held on March 13th. KS-103/FM and Donegal's Restaurant in Mission Valley are sponsoring an evening of shamrocks and shenanigans, featuring KS-103 air personalities, free hors d'oeuvres and discount drinks.

Morning disc jockey Crazy Dave Otto will host the party and auction which will benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association from 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, March 13, at Donegal's.

Crazy Dave surely will be busy—he also is leading the infamous KS-103 "All Transistor Drill Team" aboard the station's float in the Fifth Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade at noon on Saturday, March 16. Sponsored by the Irish Congress of Southern California, the parade will start at the corner of Sixth Avenue and Juniper Street on the west side of Balboa Park. What is an All Transistor Drill Team? It is composed of people who do a variety of routines with transistor radios.



Spirit of Irish is alive

Man and woman of year keep tradition brewing

By Ozzie Roberts
Tribune Staff Writer

THERE'S MORE than blarney in being Irish for San Diego Monsignor Patrick O'Neill and Spring Valley advertising executive Sheila Fox.

And because of it, they have been named Irish Man and Irish Woman of the Year by the Irish Congress of Southern California, sponsors of the elaborate annual St. Patrick's Day Parade and festival in Balboa Park.

For three decades, 70-year-old O'Neill has spread more than a wee bit of tradition among his congregation at St. Columba Catholic Church in Serra Mesa with regular cultural meetings and sermons delivered in Gaelic.

Please see IRISH, B-12

Tribune photo by Jerry McClard

MONSIGNOR PATRICK O'NEILL AND SHEILA FOX
It's not just luck that they're the Irish people of the year



photo by Larry Plaster

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE — A Catholic priest was named "Irishman of the Year" and was given a place of honor in the annual St. Patrick's Day parade, which wound through downtown San Diego March 16. The honoree, Msgr. Patrick O'Neill, pastor of St. Columba Church in Serra Mesa, is pictured here.

1985



Dan Rios/The Times-Advocate

Smilin' Irish eyes — Eamon Carey of San Marcos gets into the spirit of the day in his leprechaun costume. He'll be right at home in San Diego this afternoon, when the fifth annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade begins at noon on the

west side of Balboa Park. The 2½-mile parade route will follow Fifth and Sixth avenues between Grape and Upas streets. An Irish festival in the park will follow the parade and include live music, arts and crafts and refreshments.

1986

They'll color Saturday green for St. Pat's Day

By Robert Laurence

Irish eyes will be smiling and the green beer will flow like water in the Shannon.

Yes, St. Patrick's Day is upon us once again, with all its attendant green derbies, shillelaghs, bow ties, and "Kiss me! I'm Irish!" buttons.

And some people will enjoy other traditional Irish treats, pizza and Hawaiian shave ice.

The big day comes this Saturday and will be celebrated with the fourth annual St. Patrick's Day parade, plus a 10-kilometer run, dinners, concerts, dances and parties from one end of town to the other.

Mayor Hedgecock will take part in the biggest event of the big day, the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Hillcrest.

With the mayor as Grand Marshal, the St. Patrick's Day Parade, organized by the Irish Congress of Southern California, will begin at noon at 6th Avenue and Juniper Street, march up 5th Avenue to Upas and return down Sixth to Juniper.

Parade chairman Tom Mulcahy, group sales chairman for the San Diego Padres, calls the San Diego event "the largest St. Patrick's Day parade west of Chicago," declaring "we're going to do it up right again this year for the wearin' of the green."

For 1984 the parade will make its theme "Unity with our Olympic Athletes," and officials of the Olympic Council of Ireland will travel to San Diego to act as theme marshals.

Padres general manager Jack McKeon will be honored as Irish man of the year, and Irish woman of the year will be Audrey Miles, a longtime leader in local Irish organizations.

John Helmer, active in Children's Workshops and Nice

Guys of San Diego, will be Man of the Year, while the Woman of the Year will be city councilwoman Gloria McColl.

Some 150,000 people are expected to watch the 2 1/2-hour parade, lining the streets to cheer such sights as the First Marine Division Band with its flags borne by four white horses, and units from the San Diego Police Department, the Al Bahr Shrine, the Smizer mule team, Castle Park High School Band, the Optimist Youth Band, Ancient Order of Hibernians, Valhalla High School Band — a total of 160 units.

"We're very excited about this year's parade," said Mulcahy, "because it actually falls on St. Patrick's Day. Normally, the parade is held on the Saturday preceding St. Patrick's Day. So we can expect really big crowds this year."

For those looking for still more festivities, the parade will be followed up by an Irish festival — food, beer and entertainment in Balboa Park near Sixth Avenue and Maple Street, lasting until about 5 p.m.

But the day will start long before the parade.

On Friday, even.

Irish tenor Louis Browne will be featured in a St. Patrick's Day concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday at the East County Performing Arts Center in El Cajon.

At 7:30 a.m. Saturday, the fourth annual St. Patrick's Day 10-kilometer race and two-mile fun run will take off near the Hilton Inn on Mission Bay. The pre-registration deadline has already past, but late entry fees for the 10-K race are \$11, and \$9 for the fun run.

Snacks will include Guinness Stout and Domino's pizza, and prizes will include airplane tickets to Dublin, Irish porcelain, and shamrock medallions.

A part of the proceeds will benefit the Coronado Police Officers Association.

Also at the beach, the Mission Beach Merchants will sponsor a St. Patrick's Day Block Party from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday near the Belmont Park Roller Coaster.

Highlight of the party will be a Hawaiian shave ice eating contest, matching members of college fraternities and sororities, plus members of the San Diego Chargers against broadcasting personalities Larry Himmel and Whitney Southwick.

Clowns and magicians will be on hand, as well as trick

skateboarders and stunt bicycle rider Don Marckam.

The sounds of Ireland will be heard at 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. Saturday at Bazaar Del Mundo in Old Town, when the Celtic Paradise Street Band serenades the crowd with an array of Irish folk instruments, including the mandocello, bodran, neo-Celtic harp and tin whistle.

Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in Coronado will sponsor an Emerald Ball Saturday night at the Hotel Del Coronado, and St. Patrick's Church, 3585 30th St., will present a ham and cabbage dinner from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday at the church, featuring Irish entertainment.

1986



The Irish Rights Committee of San Diego and the Ancient Order of Hibernians will be two of the featured groups at this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade.



1986

Saturday's St. Patrick's Day Parade

300-Lb. Leprechaun Leads Way

By CARL RITTER

Staff Writer, The San Diego Union

St. Patrick's Day Parade planners here promise to make this Saturday's event the biggest such procession west of Chicago.

They already have the region's biggest leprechaun set to participate. He's 6-foot-8 and weighs 300 pounds, they say.

Irish folklore pictures leprechauns as green-clad, elfin old fellows, cavorting in the woodlands and capable of revealing a crock of gold to anybody who catches one. Here in San Diego, the parade people say, their outsized leprechaun recognizes that the biggest pot of gold to be found anywhere is the city of San Diego itself.

No malarkey!

Purists here, of course, will be quick to point out that the parade is scheduled four days in advance of the March 17 birthdate of Ireland's patron saint.

"It gives us either a running start for the March 17 celebration or time to recuperate from parade day," explains a son of Erin.

Two days ago the leprechaun and Deputy Mayor Lucy Killea showed up at the parade starting point, Sixth Avenue at Juniper Street, to begin painting a green line on the first street the parade route will follow.

The green line later was extended all the way: south along Sixth to Grape Street, then west to Fifth Avenue and north on Fifth to Upas Street, where the parade units will move east to Sixth and finally south again to Laurel Street, where Irish music, dancing, food and drink will await.

At this second annual San Diego St. Patrick's Day parade, a theme of unity will be stressed. "This year it will mark unity with senior citizens — last year it was unity with Vietnam War veterans," said Charles Fox, Irish Congress of Southern California spokesman.

The St. Patrick's Day parade is organized by the con-

gress, which comprises the following groups: Ancient Order of Hibernians, Harp and Shamrock, House of Ireland, Irish American Club, Irishtocrats and the San Diego and North County chapters of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick.

Saturday's marchers will step off at noon with the Marine Corps Band leading the way.

Parade Chairman Vince Lynch said the activity "will honor senior-citizen groups from all over the county." He reported the number of participating units will exceed the 90 that took part in San Francisco's 1981 St. Patrick's Day parade, and will include at least 22 school bands from Los Angeles and San Diego counties.

Seventeen cities will be represented with various units including floats, Lynch said. In addition, commercial enterprises from several business and industrial enterprises are ready to go.

"We expect a crowd upward of 100,000," Lynch said. Ginger Kathleen Hoy, a county resident majoring in mass communications at UCLA, will occupy a place of honor as the St. Pat "Irish Colleen."

Other honorees will include ex-San Diego Mayor Frank Curran as "Irish Man of the Year," Delza Martin as "Irish Woman of the Year," the city Senior Citizens Center's Evelyn Herrmann as "Community Woman of the Year" and San Diego Union columnist Frank Rhoades as "Community Man of the Year."

Rear Adm. Paul Gillcrist has been named the parade's grand marshal. Now San Diego Naval Base commander, he recently was selected to become Navy director of aviation plans and requirements this summer with the chief of operations in Washington, D.C.

St. Patrick's birth on March 17 in about 461 has been observed in the United States since colonial days. Since 1845 the recognition has been nationwide.

Many legends have grown up around him. One credits him with using the shamrock to illustrate the idea of the



Trinity. Another legend assures us he got rid of all the snakes in Ireland: "Where'er he put his dear forefoot, he murdered them in clusters."

What is known about St. Patrick is that he wrote "Letter to Coroticus," denouncing an attack on one of Patrick's congregations by that British chieftain's men, and "Confession," reviewing his own life and work. He is said to have composed the hymn, "Lorica."

The saint is believed to have trained for the priesthood as a disciple of St. Germanus in Gaul, returning to Ireland as a missionary bishop and enabling Christianity to make its first very strong impression there. He brought an organized church into existence.

1986

1986

Irish or Not, Parade Today Is Fun for All

It's time again for shamrocks and shillelachs but if the bairns want to kiss the Blarney Stone, it'll have to be members of the band at the Blarney Stone Pub.

They and other assorted groups will be at Balboa Park today at noon to kick off the sixth annual San Diego St. Patrick's Day parade.

Sponsored by the San Diego-based Irish Congress, the parade will feature at least 10 bands and 14 floats, along with clowns and bagpipers, said Elizabeth Nolan, information spokeswoman for the parade.

The parade will start and finish at Balboa Park and Sixth Avenue, traveling up Grape and down Upas street, Nolan said. It should take about 2½ hours.

There will also be festivities around the grandstand area, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m., Nolan said.

Hamburgers and Irish beer will be available, as well as the traditional Irish soda bread and tea, Nolan said.

Father Joe Carroll, director of the St. Vincent de Paul Center in San Diego, is this year's grand marshal.

Saint Pat's Parade set for March 15

The sixth annual St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held in San Diego March 15 at noon. The parade route will start at the corner of 6th and Juniper streets on the west side of Balboa Park.

Brian McClellan, president of the Irish Congress of Southern California, announced that the theme of this year's parade is "Unity With Our Community Volunteers."

Jim McNaughton will be this year's parade chairman.

There also will be an Irish Festival in the park following the parade.

1986

Close to Home

1986

THE LUCK OF THE IRISH barely carried the day as a San Diego City Council committee voted 3-2 to give up some of the revenues from food and beverage concessions in Balboa Park when a St. Patrick's parade is held next month. "I'm proud to be Irish," committee member Judy McCarty said in an exaggerated brogue, "and if you think I'm votin' against it, yer crazy." The Irish Congress of Southern California, which is staging the 7th annual event March 14, wants the city to waive any above-average proceeds of its 20.2 percent share of concession revenues for the day and donate the money — estimated at about \$2,000 — to help cover parade costs. McCarty was joined by Gloria McColl and Ed Struiksma. No word yet on how the city's most famous Irishwoman — Mayor O'Connor — will vote when the issue goes to the full council for a conclusive vote. — Jeff Ristine, staff writer

Irish parade set

1986

Colorful floats, bands, celebrities, horses, clowns and old-time cars highlight the Sixth Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade tomorrow at noon in downtown San Diego. The parade route starts at the corner of 6th and Juniper streets on the west side of Balboa Park.

This is the largest St. Patrick's Day parade on the West Coast. Over 5,000 people will be marching in the parade this year, with over 250,000 spectators expected.

The Irish Congress of Southern California, the governing body of the San Diego St. Patrick's Day Parade, has also announced their 1986 honorees. The parade's grand marshal is Father Joe Carroll; Irish Man of the Year is Tom Mulcahy; Irish Woman of the Year is Mary Tierney; Man of the Year is San Diego Chargers' placekicker Rolf Benirschke; and Woman of the Year is Deanna Orthmeyer.

The parade will be followed by an Irish Festival in Balboa Park near 6th and Laurel Streets featuring Irish singing and dancing and good cheer. The festival goes until 5:30 p.m. For more information, call 299-7812.

The sixth annual Smiling Irishman Contest and Party will begin at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 7 in the lobby of the El Cortez Hotel at Seventh and Ash. Men aged twenty-five to forty-five will be judged for extemporaneous wit, poetic license, Hibernian heritage, and of course, their smile. The winner receives a velvet "Imperial Margarine" crown, an engraved shillelagh, and a plaque. The world's largest leprechaun will make an appearance; Dean Atkinson and the Boogie Machine will play the hits; and Mike Reedy, last year's Smiling Irishman, will accompany the banshees and the baritones on the piano. All Irish and Irish-spirited are welcome, but be advised, as a member of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick put it, to "leave your dignity at the door."

Proceeds go to support this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade (next Saturday, March 15), which according to report is the third largest in the country, after New York and Boston. The event is sponsored by Tim Cronin and hosted by the Daughters O' Dublin, with the Irish Congress of Southern California. For additional information call Mary Pletcher at 225-9218. 1986

Colleen Contest In S.D. Sunday

1986

The Irish Congress of Southern California will choose its Irish Colleen for 1986 Sunday at the S.D. Hilton Beach and Tennis Resort.

Contestants are encouraged to sign up.

Contestants for the contest must be single women of Irish heritage who are between the ages of 18 and 30.

The colleen will participate in promotional and pre-parade appearances as well as ride in the 6th Annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade, March 15 at noon.

Applicants should contact Colleen Maher, the 1986 chairperson of the event, at 287-3626 regarding the contest.

1986

Luck of Irish holds — it didn't dare rain on Paddy's parade ¹⁹⁸⁶

By Jeannie Wong, Staff Writer

Irish eyes were smiling yesterday as nary a drop from an expected rainstorm fell on the sixth annual St. Patrick's Day Parade near Balboa Park.

"We're very happy. The luck o' the Irish is with us and our prayers have kept the rains away. We got what we wanted — a beautiful day," rejoiced Jim McNaughton, parade chairman.

Despite predictions of a heavy storm that was expected to sweep into the county yesterday morning (rains didn't begin until after dark yesterday), the numbers of onlookers at the parade were on par with those from past years, McNaughton said. There was no police estimate, but the crowd appeared much smaller than the 100,000 expected by parade organizers.

"It's a great turnout, though, considering the weather," McNaughton said.

More than 130 entries marched along the parade route beginning at Laurel Street and Sixth Avenue. Father Joe Carroll, director of the downtown St. Vincent de Paul Center, acted as grand marshal.

Lining the sidewalks, the spectators wore varying shades of green and clutched umbrellas. Byron Atkinson of San Diego also thought it wise to bring a

stepladder.

"It makes sense if you are short," Atkinson said. "Sure, I expected rain. Didn't everyone? But I'm enjoying the parade very much — and I'm not even Irish."

Freckle-faced Jennifer Ellis, 8, Irish and proud of it, was down the street enjoying the parade with her mother, Kathy, and 3-year-old brother, Kevin.

"I think it's fun and I'm glad to be here," said Jennifer, wearing a bright green T-shirt and waving a small flag. "I've been coming to the parade ever since I can remember. I really like it."

It was the first time at the parade for Amber, Ebony and Brandy. The dogs of Julie and Kurt Spangler were barking happily and seemed to be thoroughly "enjoying" the parade, Julie Spangler said.

"For this parade, they are really McAmber, McEbony and O'Brandy," Spangler said. The dogs wore green scarves around their necks.

After the parade, which lasted about two hours, spectators were invited to join in the Irish Festival in the park. Food and drink, including Irish and American beers, were available. There was also a stage show featuring traditional Irish and Irish-American songs.

"This is fun," said Anthony Gunner, 6, of San Diego. "I'm glad I came."

1986

ced that the theme of this year's parade is "Unity With Our Community Volunteers." According to McClellan, "Every year we have themed the parade around unity with some segment of our community. Last year it was 'Unity with our Men and Women in the Military.'"

marching in the parade and over 200,000 spectators. This year we are expecting over 250,000."

There will also be an Irish Festival in the park following the parade.

Saint Pat's Parade

The Sixth Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held in San Diego on Saturday, March 15, 1986 at Noon. The parade route will start at the corner of 6th and Juniper Streets on the west side of Balboa Park in San Diego.

Brian McClellan, President of the Irish Congress of Southern California, announced

that Jim McNaughton is this year's parade chairman. McNaughton is anticipating a big turnout. "We've got the largest St. Patrick's Day Parade west of Chicago. Last year we had over 5000 people

Irish Colleen contest

Applicants are being accepted for a contest to select the Irish Colleen, who will reign over next month's Irish festivities including San Diego's sixth annual St. Patrick's Day parade, beginning at Sixth Avenue and Juniper Street in Balboa Park at noon March 15.

The competition, sponsored by the Irish Congress of Southern California, is scheduled for 5 p.m. Sunday in the San Diego Hilton Hotel. It is open to single 18- to 30-year-old women of Irish descent.

Women wishing to compete for the title may call Colleen Maher, chairwoman of the event, at 287-3626.

Style #61003 1-888-860-9120

1986

St. Patrick's Day Parade

The Irish Congress of Southern California, governing body of the San Diego Saint Patrick's Day Parade has announced their 1986 honorees. According to Brian McClellan, President of the Irish Congress and Jim

McNaughton, 1986 Parade Chairman, the honorees are as follows:

Grand Marshall — Father Joe Carroll, Irish Man Of the Year — Tom Mulchay, Irish Woman of the Year — Mary Tierney, Man of the Year —

Rolf Benirschke, Woman of the Year — Deanna Orthmeyer.

These individuals will be honored at a breakfast preceding the Parade on Saturday, March 15 at 9 a.m. at

the Imperial House Restaurant.

The San Diego Saint Patrick's Day Parade is the largest such parade west of Chicago attracting over 200,000 spectators in 1985. This year's theme is "Unity with our Community Volunteers." a crowd of 250,000 is expected.

1986 Geriatric nonsense

Regarding the letter of J.M. Fuller (March 20) in which the writer, while lamenting the prominence of alcohol consumption during the recent San Diego St. Patrick's Day Parade, expresses disgust at seeing a member of a parading group of "over-the-hill" surfers "vomit" publicly during the course of the march: This was a staged performance (ill)-conceived and executed, unfortunately repeatedly, by said individual, without knowledge or approval of the group.

Although rationalized as a means of bringing attention to the under-publicized problem of drinking and surfing, said individual was severely chastised and banned from the beach for the duration of the next good, clean south swell.

This troupe has performed from Coronado to Linda Vista to Pasadena, over 15 events, and received only one complaint (we know of) — a

record we'll put up against anyone this side of Pee Wee Herman!

In short, this was more a matter of indiscretion than indigestion, more of nonsense than nausea ("vomit" is such a harsh word) and should not be held against an, if not totally impeccable, at least generally respectable group.

Oh and hey! Who's J.M. calling "over-the-hill" anyway?

DIRTY DAVE GOMEZ
Artistic Coordinator
Ocean Beach Geriatric
Surf Club and Precision Marching
Surfboard Drill Team

On The Town

St. Pat's Day Parade set

It's become the uptown area's single largest event, and this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade and Festival on March 15 is likely to be the biggest yet.

nine high school bands, 120 clowns, floats, mounted units, the Navy 50-flag drill team and color guard, the San Diego Police marching unit headed by Police Chief Bill Kolender, the Sheriff's motorcycle team and color guard, and ten green-tinted llamas.

The parade and festival—a salute to

Up to 200,000 spectators are expected to line the two-mile parade route that starts at Sixth and Juniper at noon, then heads south on Sixth to Grape, west on Grape to Fifth, north on Fifth to Upas, east on Upas to Sixth, and Sixth back to Laurel.

The two and one-half hour parade will feature 3,500 entrants, including

volunteerism—will also honor several individuals. Grand Marshal is Fr. Joe Carroll of St. Vincent de Paul downtown.

After the parade, it's down to serious partying during the festival at the park with food and beer available.

MAR 17 1987

1987

1987

Irish agree on little but their pride

By John M. Glionna
Tribune Staff Writer

TOM NOLAN recalled the moment he exchanged his Irish roots for a new American identity.

"I remember it well. It happened on the boat coming over," joked the owner of the Irish Shop in Hillcrest. "I left Ireland and I never looked back. I was never homesick."

Not all Irish-Americans in San Diego share his sentiments. Because if there's one thing that the Irish here do agree on, it's that they agree on very little.

Not the economy. Not politics — neither Irish nor American. Not even the weather.

And they especially can't agree on the essence of being an Irish-American today.

"I'm proud to be Irish but I'm an American first," said Nolan, who left Ireland 28 years ago. "These days, I'm more worried about President Reagan than any Irish politician."

Nolan, like other local Irish, points out there is no distinct Irish community here, no section of town that could be considered distinctly Irish.

Jim Foley disagreed, naturally.

The owner of the Blarney Stone Pub in Clairemont said he opened the bar there in 1978 for a reason.

"Clairemont is mostly an Irish neighborhood," he said. "Before I bought the place I did a study of the neighborhood and found that's where most of the Irish and Northern Europeans live in San Diego."

He says his patriotic feelings are best represented in John F. Kennedy. "The Irish feel strongly about things. When they come to this country, they say 'This is my country now. The rest of you can go home.'"

"We don't stand around. We jump right into the melt-

ing pot."

Some Irish stay heavily involved with the local Irish community. Others prefer to express their patriotism through annual trips to the home country.

"I've never been to an Irish function of any kind here," said Monsignor Thomas Patterson, pastor at St. Rita's Catholic Church in Southeast San Diego, who arrived in San Diego in 1958. "I've never really had the time."

Patterson said he makes yearly trips to Ireland to visit friends and relatives. While in America, he keeps close tabs on the political situation back home, mainly because of national pride.

But he has another reason. His father was a former Parliament member in the Republic of Ireland. And his brother currently serves there.

When it came to acts of patriotism, not one dissenting Irish voice could be heard throughout San Diego in the summer of 1984.

That's when several Irish groups here raised \$25,000 to bring the Irish Olympic team to San Diego prior to the summer games in Los Angeles.

For about 10 days, 40 Irish athletes spent valuable time here preparing to represent their country in the eyes of the world.

Said Chuck Fox, chairman of the board of the Irish Congress, one group that collected funds:

"It was enough to make any Irishman proud."

All disagreement aside, St. Patrick's Day has personal significance for some Irish in San Diego. Ask Mayor Maureen O'Connor.

"My parents met and fell in love at the roller rink in Belmont Park on St. Patrick's Day almost a half-century ago," she said.

"You could say that if it weren't for St. Patrick's Day, I wouldn't be mayor."

St. Pat's parade set for Saturday

By Mark Petix
Times-Advocate Staff Writer

SAN DIEGO — San Diego County's Irish community and the Irish at heart will put their best feet forward Saturday at the seventh annual St. Patrick's Day Parade.

The parade begins at noon at Sixth Avenue and Juniper Street in downtown San Diego, according to Tom Nolan, a member of the parade organizing committee.

The parade will move down Sixth Avenue, turning right on Ivy Street. It will turn right again on Fifth Avenue, moving north until it reaches Upas Street.

The parade will turn right on Upas, where it will move toward Sixth Avenue, again turning right and heading down Sixth for the final leg of the journey, finishing at Sixth Avenue and Laurel Street.

Movie and television star Martin Milner will be the parade's grand marshal, which will also feature Mayor Maureen O'Connor.

Irish, would-be and real, parade for St. Patrick

By Pat Flynn
Staff Writer

Patrick Liston, a 71-year-old son of County Limerick, has seen St. Patrick's Day celebrations in his native Ireland and in New York City, not far from his adopted home in Rockaway Beach, N.Y.

With no more than a touch of blarney, he averred that San Diego's seventh annual St. Patrick's Day Parade yesterday was as fine as any.

"I wouldn't compare them," he said in a brogue as thick as a pint of Guinness Stout. "It's a beautiful parade. This is lovely."

Liston was struck by the swaggering lads of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick who marched by on Sixth Avenue.

"You have quite a few Irishmen in San Diego. I'm surprised. You could see the Irish written all over the faces," Liston said, an observation to be taken seriously from a man whose own ruddy visage is a map of virtually every hollow and bog in Eire.

Liston was one of thousands of festive Irish and would-be Irish who lined Fifth and Sixth avenues near Balboa Park yesterday to watch about 130 parade entries honor the English-born Roman who became the patron saint of Ireland.

The theme of the parade, organized by the Irish Congress of Southern California, was "Unity With Law Enforcement."

"I'd like to tell you how pleased we are to be able to salute all the men and women in law enforcement," said Joe Botkin, parade chairman, shortly before the event began. "It's important for the people to stand up and say thank you. So many people are indifferent to law enforcement. Every year we try to select a segment of the community to have unity with. Obviously, to the Irish, unity has a very special meaning."

An hour before the parade there was a special flag-raising ceremony to honor the 40 local, state and federal law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty in San Diego County since 1865.

Radio broadcaster Rod Page read a dedication to those officers that said in part: "After the potato famines in the 1840s, when Irish came en masse to America, they were greeted with never-to-be-forgotten signs, 'Irish need not apply,' as the new emigres searched vainly for work in the new world."

"However, police departments were only too willing to take on the big, strong Irish lads who were not afraid of a fight," Page said. He went on to stress how grateful the community is to law enforcement.

"Today," he concluded, "we hope you are as proud of being called a cop as we are proud of you for being one."

Police Chief Bill Kolender spoke briefly at the ceremony and thanked



The San Diego Union/Tom Kurtz

Members of the Ocean Beach Geriatric Surf and Drill Team gyrate for the spectators watching the 7th annual St. Patrick's Day Parade yesterday.

The Irish Congress for the dedication. After the U.S. and Irish flags were raised and national anthems played, a Marine Corps drill team fired a 21-gun salute in memory of the fallen officers.

Actor Martin Milner of Del Mar was the grand marshal of the parade. Pat Bergin was honored as San Diego Irishman of the Year and Peggy Cahill was the San Diego Irishwoman of the Year. Businessman Ron Fowler and City Councilwoman Judy McCarty also were honored for their efforts in the community.

A bevy of politicians rode in the parade, including Mayor Maureen O'Connor. Parade entries included the Ocean Beach Geriatric Surf Club &

Precision Marchingurfboard Drill Team & Gidget Piro!, the Helix High School BagpipBand, military bands and drill teas, Irish dance troupes, law enforcement units and Al Bahr Shriners, among many others.

The politically charged entries of the Irish Rights Committee, Irish Northern Aid and the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Division II, received some applause and souts of encouragement along the parade route.

The organizations carried banners with the likeness and words of Bobby Sands, the Irish Republican Army member who tarved himself to death in a prison unger strike in Northern Ireland in 1981. Other banners called for English troops to

leave Northern Ireland. Botkin, the parade chairman, said there were no tensions between nationalistic Irish organizations and the purely social groups.

"The Irish Congress of Southern California puts on this parade on an apolitical basis," he said. "We do not wish our parade to take on a political tone, and I know of no problems."

"This is the one time of year that the entire community gets together without a fight," said Jim McNaughton, president of the Irish Congress of Southern California.

At the conclusion of the parade, spectators remained in the park for an Irish Festival with food and drink and music and dancing.

1987

Founder Jim Foley Tom Mulcahy - Organizer

PARADE FOUNDERS
JIM FOLEY
TOM MULCAHY



Frank Rhoades

A FUNNY THING happened on the way to the St. Patrick's Day parade.

That was the two-hour parade put on by segments of the whole county last year, the first of many to come.

The funny thing: An immigrant Irishman who had been in town only two years put it across after longtime residents of Irish descent had repeatedly failed.

He is Jim Foley, 42, owner of the Blarney Stone Pub at 5617 Balboa Ave. and Blarney Stone Too, just opened at 70th Street and El Cajon Boulevard.

Last year's parade of floats, bands and marchers on foot was so long that it took two hours to complete the 26-block course.

Spectators were estimated from 18,000 to 30,000 and 5,000 attended the barbecue picnic that followed in Balboa Park. It is open to the public.

No one ever asked how it all started or how Foley hacked it with only three months of preparation, so this is his story.

"VINNIE LYNCH (stockbroker Vince Lynch) got the idea of a parade here, sitting in the Blarney Stone one night in November 1980."

Lynch was talking to the right man. Foley had arranged for the first of the annual St. Pat's parades in Hartford, Conn., 10 years before. He was a plumber there.



Jim Foley

"In Hartford," he recalls, "a radio station tried to put on a St. Patrick's parade to promote itself. Forty people showed up to march, along with a man who had a goat in an antique car.

"That made me sore. I complained to the organized Irish they should sponsor a parade. They said, 'OK, you're the chairman.'"

Foley had no such experience, so he had to pick somebody's brain. Visiting parade chairmen in New York, Boston and Holyoke, Mass., he liked the Holyoke procedure best.

He put it to work in San Diego on the basis of its success in Hartford. He surrounded himself with an executive committee that was purposely small to make decisions come easier. The members included Lynch, Rod Page, attorney Jim Shannon, Dr. John Reynolds (dentist), David Sheehan (stockbroker) and Tom Mulcahy.

FOLEY SAYS TODAY: "Tom Mulcahy (who heads group sales for the San Diego Padres) is the greatest worker we've got. He has a fantastic sense of organization."

And that was needed more than anything else: Organization. The eight Irish groups here had to be brought together in what was named the Irish Congress.

Mayors of surrounding towns had to be enlisted as parade chairmen in their own communities and come up with floats or marching units. A poster contest promoting the parade was arranged in Catholic schools.

Foley said: "We still haven't approached three towns in the county, but we will. They include Escondido and we want it very much.

"From Jan. 1 to March 1, 1981, we worked 14 hours a day, had as many as five meetings during those hours. Other attempts to put on St. Patrick's parades here died because the people who tried to start it were not prepared. You can't have a parade merely by announcing it and expecting people to fall in line."

FOLEY THIS YEAR has been succeeded as general chairman by Lynch, but he is serving as parade chairman.

Last year's parade was comprised of 200 units that included 16 floats and 12 bands. The parade this year will be larger.

"But we don't want it to get any bigger," Foley said. "We are shooting for class, not size. We want it to become an attraction that will draw tourists who otherwise would pass up San Diego."

Foley was unable to borrow one of Chrysler's new convertibles for the grand marshal, but Chrysler President Lee Iacocca was reported shipping his own here by rail for that purpose.

The report showed Lynch that the word about the parade here is getting around.

The parade next Saturday will follow last year's route: Fifth Avenue, Juniper to Upas, then down Sixth Avenue to Laurel.

ATTACHMENTS

9F: There will be one major activity, the Saint Patrick's Day parade. In connection with this, the Irish Congress will produce an Irish Colleen contest, a Smiling Irishman contest and a Program Book with advertisements for sale and distribution for purposes of raising funds for meeting expenses of the parade. In addition, the Congress will set up concessions and will produce pamphlets and T-shirts. The Irish Congress will also obtain sponsorships from businesses and organizations to create floats and participants in the parade. All activities of the Irish Congress will be in support of a successful parade, either for promotion of it or participation in it. The parade will focus public attention on the very active Irish-American community in San Diego and, through this, involve the public in Irish culture and will encourage them to find out more about Irish culture and traditions.

4(A)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Charles S. Fox - owner, Fox Communications, A full service public relations agency. Has organized Irish cultural activities - Imperial Bank Tower, 13th Floor, San Diego, California.

James D. Foley - Owner of Blarney Stone Pubs in San Diego. Has organized many Irish parades in other cities - 5617 Balboa Avenue, San Diego, California.

Brian J. McLellan - Sales representative with MPI Mocerri, an organizer of Irish cultural activities - 4656 Mission Gorge Place, San Diego, California.

Thomas Mulcahy - Director of Group Sales, San Diego Padres Baseball Club. Has helped raise funds for many charitable organizations - P.O. Box 2000, San Diego, California 92120.

J. Michael Wilson - An Attorney-partner in his own law firm. Will advise the Irish Congress on its corporate responsibilities - 7860 Mission Center Court; Suite 205, San Diego, California 92108.

Mary Testa - Buyer of University of California, San Diego Medical Center. Has organized and directed numerous parades in San Diego - c/o U.C.S.D. Medical Center, San Diego, California 92103.

OFFICERS

President:	Thomas Mulcahy
Vice President:	Patrick Bergen
Treasurer:	Frances Avik
Secretary:	Charlene Lynch

1ST EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE

Irish Congress of Southern California Executive Committee



*(Standing Left to Right) Jim Shannon, Tom Clancy, John Reynolds, Rod Page
Claire Houlihan, Tom Nolan, Father Martin McGovern, Frances Avik, Pat Foley
(Seated Left to Right) Dave Shean, Jim Foley, Vince Lynch, Larry Cronin, Tom Mulcahy*

*This page was sponsored by: The Blarney Stone Pub
5617 Balboa Avenue, San Diego, CA 92111 279-2033
Home of Great Irish Coffee and Brian Connolly*

IRISH CONGRESS of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MEDIA RELEASE

FIRST PRESS RELEASE

5,000 TO MARCH IN SAN DIEGO'S ST. PATRICK'S PARADE

The Irish Congress of Southern California, a consortium of the six major Irish Clubs and Associations in San Diego announced through its spokesperson, noted Radio and Television personality, Rod Page that plans, permits, and commitments assure a parade of no less than 5,000 at 12:00 noon Saturday, March 14, 1981. The route will be up Fifth Avenue between Juniper and Upas, and then down Sixth Avenue. There will be a reviewing stand for local and national dignitaries on Sixth Avenue on the Balboa Park side. Page indicates that following the parade there will be a typical Irish Picnic for all the celebrants.

Ancient Order of Hibernians

Friendly Sons of St. Patrick

House of Ireland, Balboa Park

North County Shamrock Club

Shamrock Society

Sounds of Ireland KMJC

COLEEN CONTEST TO BE HIGHLIGHT OF PARADE!

A coleen contest is also scheduled which is open to single women 18-23, of Irish heritage. Judging will be held February 22, 1981 at the Sheraton Harbor Inn. Applicants may contact Bernadette Cashman at 442-2363 for further details. Other events to include entertainment and Irish dancing during the picnic.

IRISH CONGRESS IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

The Irish Congress is a non-profit organization according to Jim Shannon, a La Mesa attorney, and a founder of the Irish Congress who said "This Congress of the Irish organizations enabled us to accomplish a parade for the first time in San Diego. We are financing the parade primarily through contributions and proceeds from the sale of advertising from our parade book" declared Shannon. Anyone wishing to place an ad should contact Jim Shannon at 462-9225.

NON IRISH NEED APPLY

"Let's face it" intoned Page, "Everyone is Irish on St. Patrick's Day and we are urging all organizations, nationalities and ethnic groups to participate. March can be a rather dull time even here in Camelot and a good St. Patrick's festival can be the elixer to chase away the winter doldrums, ---- so Non-Irish need apply."

Editors note * For your information or your readers and listeners you might save this in case they want to contact us.

Parade Director Jim Foley 565-9540
Parade Book Vince Lynch 284-2353

Publicity Jim Shannon 462-9225
Picnic Rod Page 565-4188



IRISH CONGRESS of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

1st WOMAN OF THE YEAR

ARLENE STRAZA

WOMAN OF THE YEAR

The Irish Congress of Southern California is pleased to announce that Mrs. Arlene Straza has been named it's Woman of the Year for 1981.

Mrs. Straza, President of the 22nd Agricultural District and a Commissioner of the Del Mar Race Track, was instrumental in acquiring the twelve day expanded racing season, and the full use of the Del Mar Fairgrounds on a year round basis.

Mrs. Straza has long been involved in various charitable and civic causes in the community, some of which follow:

Expo 80 - Fair and Racing, Liaison Coordinator
 Chairman for North County Heart Fund
 Publicity Chairman for Cerebral Palsy,
 Beach and County Guild
 Finance Chairman of the Vista Handicapped Childrens Center
 San Diego Chairman of the Cancer Crusade
 Vice President of Bethelham Lutheran Church
 Actively involved in the Vietnamese Re-Settlement and
 Re-Location in San Diego

Mrs. Straza is also active in many other charitable efforts.

In addition to her various Civic and Charitable activites Mrs. Straza has been a member of the Board of Directors and Treasurer of both Jet Air, Inc. and Straza Enterprises from 1960 to the present.

Mrs. Straza is married to Industrialist George T. Straza, President of Jet Air, Incorporated and Straza Enterprises. She is the mother of three children, George C., Gay Laurel, and Geosef Thomas.

There are many other civic activities in which Mrs. Straza is involved , space does not permit listing all of them.

Ancient Order
of Hibernians

Friendly Sons
of St. Patrick

House of Ireland,
Balboa Park

North County
Shamrock Club

Shamrock Society

Sounds of Ireland
KMJC

IRISH CONGRESS of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

JOHN STACY LYONS

MAN OF THE YEAR

Ancient Order
of HiberniansFriendly Sons
of St. PatrickHouse of Ireland,
Balboa ParkNorth County
Shamrock Club

Shamrock Society

Sounds of Ireland
KMJC

THE IRISH CONGRESS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PROUDLY PROCLAIMS JOHN STACY LYONS AS IT'S MAN OF THE YEAR FOR 1981.

AS SECRETARY-TREASURER OF THE 3,000 MEMBER TEAMSTERS LOCAL 36 SINCE 1967, LYONS HAS BEEN AN ACCOMPLISHED NEGOTIATOR OF CONTRACTS. THE TRIBUTES THAT HAVE BEEN HEAPED UPON HIM SHOW CLEARLY THAT HE IS RESPECTED IN THE COMMUNITY AS WELL AS THE LABOR UNION MOVEMENT.

HIS INTEREST IN CIVIC AFFAIRS IS BOUNDLESS. HIS MAIN INTEREST LIES IN THE LEUKEMIA SOCIETY OF AMERICA. HE IS THE NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY AND HELPED FORM THE SAN DIEGO CHAPTER OF THE LEUKEMIA SOCIETY OF AMERICA. HE IS, OR HAS BEEN, A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF THE BOYS CLUBS OF SAN DIEGO, VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA, EPILEPSY SOCIETY, NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS. HE IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE EAGLES AND ELKS. JOHN IS A PAST MARCH OF DIMES CAMPAIGN FUND DRIVE CHAIRMAN FOR SAN DIEGO.

JOHN IS A FORMER PRESIDENT AND STILL ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK AND IN 1972 WAS SELECTED AS SAN DIEGO'S "OUTSTANDING IRISHMAN OF THE YEAR".

IN MARCH 1979 JOHN WAS THE HONOREE OF THREE DINNERS: NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS, THE SAN DIEGO/IMPERIAL COUNTIES LABOR COUNCIL HISTADRUT DINNER, AND THE SAN DIEGO PRESS CLUB ANNUAL DINNER.

THERE ARE MANY OTHER COUNCILS THAT JOHN SERVES ON AND HONORS THAT HE HAS RECEIVED. SPACE DOES NOT PERMIT LISTING ALL OF THEM.

NEEDLESS TO SAY, THE IRISH CONGRESS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DEEMS ITSELF PROUD THAT JOHN STACY LYONS HAS ACCEPTED IT'S FIRST ANNUAL MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD.

IRISH CONGRESS of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

FIRST NEWSPAPER
ARTICLEAncient Order
of HiberniansFriendly Sons
of St. PatrickHouse of Ireland,
Balboa ParkNorth County
Shamrock Club

Shamrock Society

Sounds of Ireland
KMJC

The San Diego Union

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 28, 1981

Frank Rhoades

A ST. PATRICK'S parade scheduled here March 14 promises to be the biggest thing of its kind ever in San Diego.

That may not say much, because San Diego never has been a parade town. But Rod Page, a spokesman for the parade, said yesterday 100 units, including 18 floats and more than 5,000 marchers, are committed to take part in it.

Page is prime minister of the new Irish Congress sponsoring the parade. The congress represents the six major Irish organizations here and Page said "smaller Irish clubs are coming in."

The parade will start at noon, assembling in Balboa Park, near Sixth and Juniper. The main route will be along Fifth Avenue, Grape to Upas, then on Sixth Avenue, Upas to Laurel. Passing a given point will take about two hours, Page said.

Ethnic groups are banding together as friends of the Irish to march in the parade. Harvey Furgatch is organizing the Jews, Jim Pagni, the Italians. All mayors in the county are invited to an Irish flag-raising in the park followed by a 10 a. m. breakfast at either Cullpeppers or the Imperial House.



Frank Rhoades

FIRST PARADE - LINE OF MARCH
132 ENTRIES

1st ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE - 12 Noon - BALBOA PARK

VANGUARD

1. Marine Color Guard
2. Marine Band
3. San Diego Police (40 Men)
4. Grand Marshall - Mayor Pete Wilson (Joe Bunn, Mercedes Conv.)
5. Aids to Grand Marshall (Hollis and Marie Glass)
6. Dignitaries - March
8 Autos
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.
- 13.
- 13A. Larry Kapiloff
14. Pipe Band - Cameron

DIVISION I

15. Marshall - George Jacques
16. V.F.W. Color Guard - County Council
17. Miss San Diego County **Need Convertible
- 17A. Two San Diego Fire Trucks
18. Irish Rights Committee
19. South Mission Beach Marching Kazoo Band
20. Liam's Float

- 20A. 2 Ferrori's - John Marks
- 21. Cabaret Supper Club (Auto or Truck)
- 21A. ~~Optomist~~ Band
- 22. Shamu (1970 Mustang Convertible Larry Cronin)
- 23. Dee Gee The Clown
- 23A. Clancy the Beat Cop
- 24. American Auxiliary Color Guard District #22
- 24A American Legion Group Marchers

DIVISION II

- 25.
- 26. Marshall - Nancy Stoll
- 27. V.F.W. Post 5179
- 28. Army-Navy Cadet Drill Team
- 29. Army-Navy Cadet Marching Band
- 30. House of Ireland
- 31. Darth Vader
- 32. Bill Schneider - Car
- 32A. Plummer Irish Dancers (Marching Unit)
- 32B. Dave Knight Equestrian

DIVISION III

- 33. Marshall - Al Block
- 33A. to 59. Shriners
- 59A. District I Color Guard V.F.W.
- 59B. Colleen Float - Irish Congress (Pat Patrick)

DIVISION IV

60. Marshall - Alfredo Pena
61. U.S. Navy Color Guard
62. Crack Rifle Team
63. Navy Drum and Bugle Team
64. 50-Flag Drill Team
65. U.S. Navy Band
- 65A. V.F.W. Post 9327 Color Guard
66. Ancient Order of Hibernians
67. Irish Congress Float
- 67A. VFW Post 2111 Color Guard
68. Friendly Sons of St. Patrick
69. Clairemont C. B. Club
70. Chula Vista Elks Bike Riders
71. Chula Vista Fire Department - Antique Fire Truck
72. Dolly the Clown
- 72A. Antique Car - W P C Club

DIVISION V

73. Marshall - Ethel Phillips
- 73A. V.F.W. Post 2082
74. Coronado High School Band
75. Mayor - Callahan
76. Fire Truck
77. Miss Coronado
78. Rugby Club
79. 20-30 Club (11 Man Bicycles)
80. Soccers - (Car)
81. Pacific Beach Town Council - 3 Cars

DIVISION VI

- 82. Marshall - Maria Cormier - Horses
- 83. V.F.W. Post 5985 Color Guard
- 84. Mayor
- 84A. Colson Band and Fire Truck
- 84B. San Diego Sockers
- 85. Cinderella Girl Pageant
- 86. Queen & Court from Mother Goose
- 87. San Diego Dance Center
- 88. Jr. and Sr. Flag Corps.
- 89. Irish Jeep Float (Larry Cronin)
- 89A. Tim Cronin Convertible
- 90. La Mesa Banner
- 90A. Mayor
- 90B.
- 91.
- 92. Decorated Van (Roger Hartney)
- 93. 1931 Buick
- 94. Blarney Stone Float
- 94A. Gaelic Athletic Assn.
- 95. K of C Band and Marchers (50 People)
- 96. Lemon Grove V.F.W. Color Guard
- 97. Lemon Grove - Lemon Car
- 98.
- 99.

DIVISION VII

- 100. Marshall - Jim Robinson
- 101. V.F.W. Post 7420 Color Guard

- 102. Mayor - Brian Bilbrae
- 103. Imperial Beach City Council
- 104. Imperial Beach Kazoo Band
- 105. Citizen of the Year
- 105A. 4 Clowns - Thelma Lorrens
- 106. Pageant Contestants
- 107. Pinkey The Clown and Friends
- 108. V.F.W. Post 5867, Lakeside
- 108A. Kit Clowns - Deanna & Barbara
- 108AA. Scotch Pipes
- 108B. Santee Banner
- 109. Mayor - Gene Ainsworth
- 110. Antique Fire Truck
- 111. Bubble Gum Clown
- 112. Dance Center and 1 Baton Twirler
- 113. KCBQ Float

DIVISION VIII

- 114. Marshall - L C Settle and Vickie (Horses)
- 114A. North County Friendly Sons of St. Patrick - Car
- 115. World's Largest Leprechaun (Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of North County)
- 116. Irishtocrats
- 117. North County Shamrock Club Float
- 118. Shamrock Club Decorated Convertible
- 119. Chrissy Cuscuto - Leprechaun on Bike
- 120. California Clowns
- 121.
- 122.

DIVISION IX

123. Marshall - Chief Rolling Thunder
124. Mayor - Clyde Rexroad
125. Ozzie's Youth Band
- 125A. La Mesa Flashettes
126. Tierney Irish Dancers
127. Antique Fire Truck (Poway)
128. Kelly Girl Services
- 129.
130. Irish American Club and Clairemont High School Band
131. E Clampus Vitus - Fire Truck 20 people
132. Sadies Saloon Girls



IRISH CONGRESS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

P.O. BOX 87011
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92138
223-5566, EXT. 455

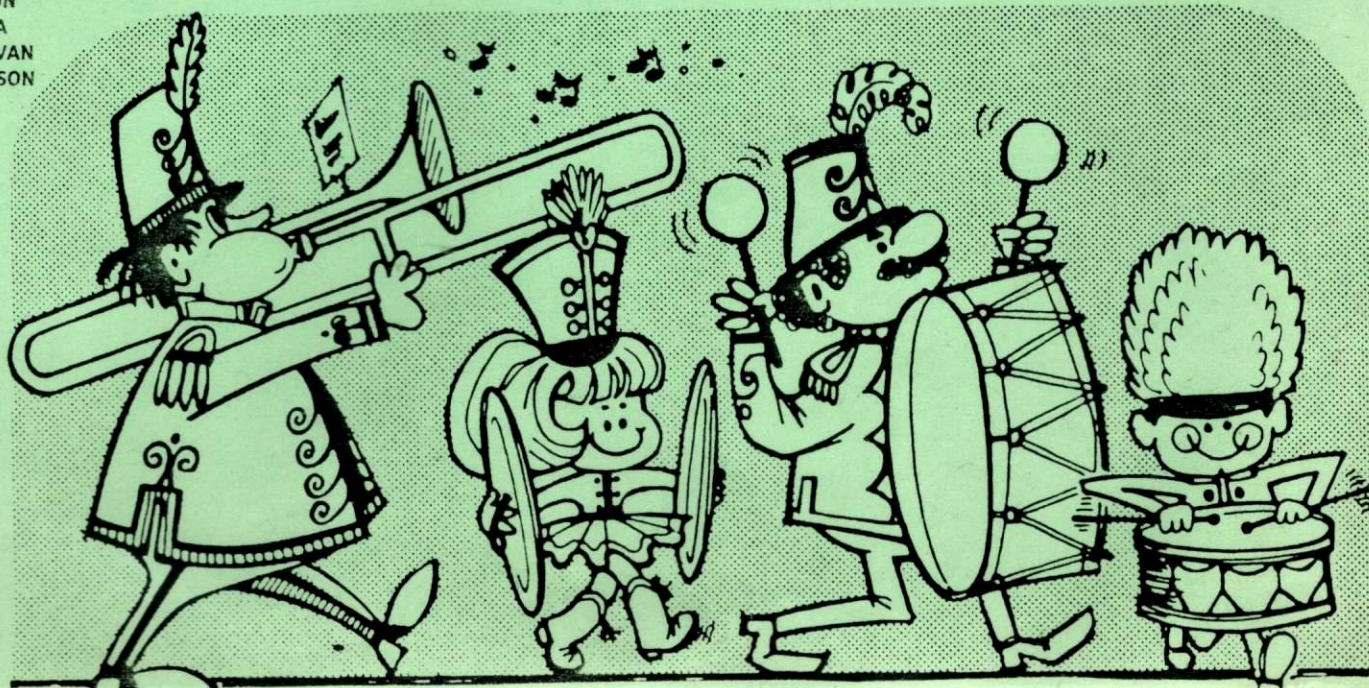
FIRST
STATIONARY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

VINCE LYNCH, GENERAL CHAIRMAN
FRANCES AVIK
LARRY CRONIN
JIM FOLEY
CLAIRE HOULIHAN
REV. MARTIN MCGOVERN
TOM MULCAHY
TOM NOLAN
ROD PAGE
JOHN REYNOLDS
BOB SHANAHAN
JIM SHANNON
DAVE SHEAN

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

LARRY BARNES
HELEN ANNE BUNN
HON. PETE CHACON
GERALD CHASE
SHERIFF JOHN F. DUFFY
SUPV. PAUL FORDEM
MATTHEW C. GLEASON, M.D.
SUPV. ROGER HEDGECOCK
JOHN HELMER
JOHN HOLT
LUCY KILLEA, CITY COUNCIL
CHIEF WILLIAM B. KOLENDER
HON. J. MORGAN LESTER
SEN. BILL LOWREY
JOHN STACY LYONS
DELZA MARTIN
DICK MURPHY, CITY COUNCIL
JOHN MURPHY
DEP. CHIEF KEN O'BRIEN
HON. ROBERT O'CONNOR, RET.
JACK PEARSON
FRANK RHOADES
R.R. RICHARDSON
ARLENE STRAZA
RICHARD SULLIVAN
HON. PETE WILSON



October 24, 1987

ORGANIZATIONAL
MEETING
AGENDA

Greetings,

Please plan to attend the special meeting of the Irish Congress of Southern California announced in the attached notice. Much new information will be made available and planning for the 8th Annual San Diego St. Patrick's Day Parade will begin.

As promised last year, a committee of past presidents has met with legal counsel to revise the by-laws of our non-profit corporation to accomplish the following:

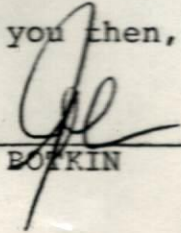
1. Bring the corporation into compliance with State and Federal regulations.
2. Bring the by-laws and our actual operating procedures into agreement.
3. Define the make-up, and responsibilities and privileges of:
 - a. Active Membership
 - b. Associate Membership
 - c. Patrons
 - d. Board of Directors
 - e. Executive Committee
4. Establish a "ladder" of succession to the parade chair.
5. Establish the necessary lines of communication between various entities.
6. Normalize election procedures.
7. Provide clear information regarding the duties and privileges of the various offices and stations within the ICSC and the requirements to hold same.

These by-laws are our "Constitution" and dictate our course for the future. Everyone associated with the ICSC needs to be familiar with these new by-laws and this meeting represents your best opportunity to learn and ask questions.

Planning and committee staffing for the 8th Annual Parade will begin following the information session.

In celebration of a successful 1987 and anticipating the best ever in 1988, the treasurer has dipped into reserves and will host refreshments for one hour following the meeting.

See you then,



JOE BOTKIN

IRISH CONGRESS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

November 16, 1982

BOARD
MINUTES
3rd PARADE

The first meeting of the Irish Congress of Southern California for the 1983 St. Patrick's Day Parade was brought to order on November 16, 1982 at 7:20 P.M.

Vince Lynch, 1982 Parade Chairman welcomed everyone to the "kick-off" meeting and introduced to the Congress, Chuck Fox as 1983 Parade Chairman. Chuck was Publicity Chairman for the 1982 parade, is 1983 President for Muscular Dystrophy Assoc. in San Diego, and in charge of training for ERA.

The question was raised as to the status of Incorporation for the Irish Congress. Vince stated that it is all set to go as soon as we can raise the money to do this - about \$700.00 Vince will be in touch with Jim Shannon who drew up the initial draft for incorporating the congress.

Old Business: The Congress still owes Jim and Pat Foley about \$1,500 as they paid out of their pocket \$700 for the band for the festival in 1982, and the Collen's ticket to Ireland still needs to be paid for. Brian McClellan mentioned that we owe Straw Hat Pizza an ad in the 1983 parade book as they donated the helium and valves for the balloons last year.

The financial report for the 1982 parade will be given at next weeks meeting, as Frank Munley had not received the books in time to prepare this.

Chuck took over Chairing of the meeting and stated that the parade is now three years old and with the onset of our incorporating, our organizational chart must be updated. With the way the parade has grown, there must be delineation of responsibilities of each office and a natural progression of elevation to make for a smooth transition from year to year. Chuck stated that each year the parade must be better than the year before to achieve the level of notarity we wish for San Diego, as well as the Irish Community. To do this we must be organized. An outline of responsibility for the 1983 Parade was passed out (copy attached). Discussion was very positive on the outline and volunteers for the different offices and Chairpersons, as well as committee members was asked for. These names are on the outline, however, nominations from the floor will be taken at the next meeting. Discussion about the position of 2nd Vice President was had, and it was felt that the 2nd V.P. did not necessarily have to be THE fundraiser, but could choose a committee for this duty. Some mention was made about hiring a professional to do the fundraising, and that may happen in the future, but for this year we would like to keep it within the talent and expertise of the Congress.

Refreshment distribution after the 1982 parade was brought up. Jim Foley stated that the beer concessions for 1983 will be staffed by professional bartenders and will be under the control of the beer distributor with the Irish Congress receiving a percentage of the profits.

The subject of what would be considered appropriate as floats and marching units was discussed. The concensus was that the St. Patrick's Day Parade was for fun and to honor St. Patrick - not for political purposes. However, the bottom line was entrys would be screened and anything inappropriate would not be allowed to enter, but for the most part, anything "in good taste" would be allowed to go.

Chuck brought up the thought that perhaps dues were in order to help defray some of the expenses, i.e. \$20/yr. This would entitle the member to a monthly newsletter telling what stage the parade was at, as well as what was going on in the Irish Community (dances, dinners, etc.). Another thought was that instead of the newsletter,

maybe a membership card would be more financially feasible. This would entitle the member to discounts at different Irish functions. More discussion about this will take place at the next meeting.

Chuck mentioned that there is a 75% chance that this years parade will be televised live in L.A. with a tape delay here. Negotiations are underway between Channel 11 in L.A. and Channel 10 & 51 in San Diego. This year they will not pay for the rights for this event as we need the exposure, but in the future this will be a source of revenue. He also mentioned that Mike Solomon of Channel 10 has volunteered his services as producer of this program.

Chuck announced the exciting news that there will be not only a parade this year, but an entire weekend of fun and merriment. These will be called Shamrock Days with different events scheduled (i.e. dart throwing contest, Smiling Irishman Contest, bike race prior to parade, a fun run, etc.). The weekend to mark on your 1983 calendar is March 11-13. Shiela Fox has in the works a trip give away (20 trips for 2 people from L.A. to S.D.) for the weekend of the parade. This will be sponsored by Amtrak, S.D. Visitors and Convention Bureau and Caltran. It will include roundtrip trainfare, a hotel room and admission to the various events. She stated there is also \$30,000 being donated for radio and newspaper time and space in L.A. for promo of our parade.

The question was asked as to what the 1983 Parade Theme would be. Chuck suggested "Family Unity" as a possibility. More suggestions are expected at the next meeting.

Due to the increasing thirst of the Irish Congress members present, and the time factor, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15, with everyone looking forward to the next meeting which will be held:

DATE: Tuesday, November 23, 1982

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

* PLACE: Romaines Restaurant
4105 Taylor Street
San Diego, Ca.
295-5111

Please park behind the restaurant.

*Note: We were not able to get the large room at the Padre Trail for this date. Romaines is directly across the street from the Padre Trail.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Bromley

Charlene Bromley
Acting Secretary

**HAPPY ST.
PATRICK'S DAY**

**St. Patrick's Day Parade
Fifth Annual Dignitary**

Breakfast

March 16, 1985

San Diego, California



Mesa
DISTRIBUTING CO., INC.
AND MR. RON FOWLER

THE IMPERIAL HOUSE

1985 HONOREES

Co-Grand Marshals R. Adm. J.D. Ramage, USN (Ret.)
 Major Gen. Anthony Lukeman, USMC

San Diego Irishman of the Year Msgr. Patrick O'Neill

San Diego Irishwoman of the Year Sheila Fox

San Diego Man of the Year Col. Jack Kelly, USMC

San Diego Woman of the Year Carol Lebeau

OFFICERS OF THE IRISH CONGRESS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

President Tom Mulcahy

Vice President & Parade Chairman Brian McLellan

Secretary Christine Carrillo

Treasurer Frances Avik

Parade Coordinator Mary Testa

Presidents Emeritus Jim Foley, Vince Lynch,
 Chuck Fox

Executive Board Pat Bergin, Chuck Fox,
 Jim Foley, Brian McLellan, Jim McNaughton,
 Tom Mulcahy, Bob Mulrooney, Tom Nolan,
 Mary Testa, Dave Shean

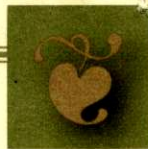
A DEDICATION

Welcome to the Fifth Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade dignitary breakfast. We are most happy to dedicate the day to Unity with our men and women in the military service. Irish men are no strangers to our armed forces. Among the names from the past are Generals Phil Sheridan, McClellan, McDowell; the famous Fighting 69th Division of W.W.I; Medal of Honor winners such as Colin Kelly, Fr. O'Callaghan of the USS Franklin in World War II and the famous five Sullivan brothers. The present commander of the United States Marine Corps is Gen. P.X. Kelly. We mention the above named with affection because they were from Ireland or of Irish descent.

We salute those who have served their country in the military no matter what nationality, color or creed. Without their dedication we might not be enjoying this beautiful celebration we call St. Patrick's Day—a day, by the way, that is looked forward to by all nationalities!

To those who have given their lives for our land we say in the Irish "Milla gurev maha guth" (a thousand thanks). To those who have served and now serve we say "Slán lath is gun eireg un bohur lath" (may the road rise up to meet you).

TOM MULCAHY
 President



IRELAND

Ireland is an island, situated in the Atlantic Ocean, immediately west of England, measuring 302 miles from north to south and 189 miles from east to west. It has 137 rivers, the main ones are: Shannon (the longest at 240 miles), Liffey, Lee, Blackwater, Boyne, Bann, Swilly, Noir, Suir, and the Barrow. There are several mountains, the highest, Carrantouhill at 3,414 feet. It also has many lakes, the loveliest being the Lakes of Killarney in Co. Kerry.

It is divided into 4 Provinces, Ulster, Munster, Leinster, Connaught.

Each Province is divided into Counties:

<u>Ulster:</u>	<u>(North):</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>Antrim, Down, Armagh, Derry, Donegal, Cavan, Fermanagh, Monaghan, Tyrone.</u>
<u>Munster:</u>	<u>(South):</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>Cork, Kerry, Clare, Limerick, Tipperary, Waterford.</u>
<u>Leinster:</u>	<u>(East):</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>Louth, Meath, Dublin, Wicklow Wexford, Kilkenny, Kildare, Carlow, Laois, Offaly, Westmeath, Longford</u>
<u>Connaught:</u>	<u>(West):</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>Galway, Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim, Roscommon.</u>

A further breakdown divides the counties into towns and villages, though, older Topographical References divided them into townlands within parishes.

The climate is temperate and described as 'Soft' though, occasionally there are violent storms. The peculiarity of the climate which wafts in a mist from the Atlantic Ocean, with the moist softness of the air and the moss greenness of the fields gives a feeling of wistful melancholy. George Bernad Shaw, trying to describe the weather to an Englishman said, "You have no such colors in the sky, no such lure in the distances, no such sadness in the evenings, Oh! The dreaming! never satisfying dreaming!..."

*A little bit of Heaven fell from out the sky one day,
it nestled in the ocean in a spot so far away,
When the Angels found it, it looked so sweet and fair,
They said suppose we leave it, it looks so peaceful there,
they sprinkled it with stardust just to make the Shamrocks grow,
theres no other place you'll find them, no matter where you go,
they dotted it with silver to make it's lakes look grand,
and when they had it finished they call it IRELAND.*



MOTHER IRELAND

Ireland was personified as a female figure during the many years of her distressful history. At one time, harsh laws prevented the written glorification of Ireland, so, serving to glorify her or to console her in times of bitter oppression or defeat, she was known by different female names. This continued, with affection, after these laws were repealed. One such name was "Cathleen Ni Houlihan" dramatized by William Butler Yeats and performed in Dublin as part of the Irish Literary Movement in an effort to inspire a spirit of nationalism in Irish society. The same name was also used by poet Ethna Carbery. Her poem, (with slight spelling variation), "The Passing of the Gael" referred to the mass exodus of people from Ireland during the famine years:

*...They shall carry to the distant land a tear-drop in the eye,
and some will go uncomforted-their days an endless sigh,
For Kathleen Ni Houlihan's sad face, until they die!*

Ethna Carbery

(From "Four Winds of Eireann" dedicated to the Gaelic League of Argentina 1902)

Ireland personified as "Sean Bean Boct" translates as "Poor Old Woman" (pronounced and written in song as "Shan Van Vocht") the song once again popularized in recent years, was written at a time Ireland was awaiting help from France:

*...The French are in the bay, they'll be here without delay, says the Shan Van Vocht,
What colors will be seen where our Father's homes have been?
OUR OWN IMMORTAL GREEN! says the Shan Van Vocht.*

(excerpt) Street Ballad 1798

One of the most beautiful Gaelic poems in this category is "Roisin Dubh" translated from Gaelic by Irish poet, James Clarence Mangan, who enhanced it's poetic meaning and called it "Dark Rosaleen". He wrote it in the Aisling manner (pronounced Ashling, meaning dreamlike or visionary). It asks her not to give up hope until help arrives, this time awaiting help from Spain:

*O My Dark Rosaleen, do not sigh, do not weep,
The priests are on the ocean, they march along the deep,
There is wine from the royal Pope upon the ocean green
And Spanish ale will give you hope, My Dark Rosaleen, My Own Rosaleen,
shall give you heart and give you hope, shall give you help and health and hope,
My Dark Rosaleen.*

James Clarence Mangan 1803-1849



The Legend Of The Shamrock

Shamrog (Gaelic) Shamrock (English) Trebol Irlandes (Spanish)

The Shamrock, though not the official national emblem of Ireland (which is the harp) is a beloved emblem of Irish people at home and abroad. It is the symbol internationally associated with all people and things Irish.

The Shamrock is a type of clover which grows in abundance in Ireland. It is green, of course, and is characterized by having three leaflets on one stem. This gives rise to the legendary story of Saint Patrick using it to explain the concept of the Trinity-The three leaflets represent The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit - all and the same part of one stem -The Divine Creator.

Some historians have offered different viewpoints on Saint Patrick's use of the Shamrock and suggest he used it to depict a cross. Others point out the penchant of pagan Celts of the time to use triadic images to depict one identity and suggest the legends might be interrelated. Whatever the real story might be, Saint Patrick's reverence for the Trinity cannot be mistaken. In one of his writings known as "The Lorica", (also known as the "Breastplate of St Patrick") a form of chant for protection. It begins and ends with this proclamation:


*I arise today
In vast might, the invocation of the Trinity,
Through belief in threeness,
Through confession of oneness,
of the Creator of Creations*

Irish people wear the Shamrock as a little bunch, hopefully freshly plucked, pinned on their lapels on Saint Patrick's Day and they swell with pride when abroad to see the recognition and love of the Shamrock by people of different races and creeds.

One of the favorite melodies relating to the Shamrock is "The Dear Little Shamrock of Ireland". Nobody worries, that, in terms of exaggeration, it takes poetic license to the edge of Blarney-they love it anyway.

*There's a dear little plant that grows in our Isle,
'Twas Saint Patrick himself, sure that set it,
And the sun on his labor with pleasure did smile,
And the dew from his eye often wet it.*

*It thrives through the bog, Through the brake, and through the mire
and he called it the dear little Shamrock of Ireland
.The sweet little Shamrock, the dear little Shamrock*



The Legend of Saint Patrick

Naom Padraig (Gaelic) Saint Patrick (English) San Patricio (Spanish)

The man now known to us as Saint Patrick was born in the year 373 A.D. and christened with the name Succat. He was the son of a Roman Municipal Official. The place of his birth is still disputed, but was most likely Britain or Brittany in Gaul, though the heaviest leaning of historians is Britain.


Patrick was first brought to Ireland at the age of sixteen as a captive of Irish raiders. They sold him as a slave to an Irish Chieftain, Miliucc, who put him to herding livestock in the hills of Antrim. He remained in captivity for six years and during those years, though he endured many hardships, he learned the language, became imbued in the Celtic culture and grew to love the people.

After six years of captivity he escaped and traveled by boat to Gaul. He gives a vivid description of the journey, beset with problems, in one of his writings known as "Confession" He devoted the next many years of his life to ecclesiastical studies and monastic life, however, he remained unlearned in the formal education of the times. He ultimately was consecrated as a Bishop at which time the name of Patricius was given to him. His dearest wish was to return to Ireland as a missionary. In his writings he tells us he heard the Irish people calling him back; ... "We ask thee, boy, come walk among us again"... He returned in 432 A.D. as a missionary and taught Christianity to the Irish People.

The legend of Saint Patrick teaching the concept of the Trinity by holding the Shamrock aloft has made it the foremost Irish emblem of the world. The story of him driving the snakes out of Ireland dies hard despite the fact there is no scientific support that snakes existed in Ireland at that time, however, Celtic mythology makes references to snakes and iconic images of snakes exist.

Saint Patrick is the beloved "Apostle of Ireland". His Feast Day is March 17th, it is celebrated in Ireland as a Holy Day and a National Holiday. It is also celebrated in most areas of the world with a grand "Explosion of Irishness". Surely, if Patrick were among us today, he would revel in this, because, besides being very spiritual he was very humble and human. In his writings he refers to himself as being rustic and unlearned and wanted to be a brother of the common man. The coming of Saint Patrick to Ireland is not only the greatest epoch of Irish history but a dominant force in the world at large.

*Hail Glorious Saint Patrick, Dear saint of our Isle,
On us thy poor children bestow a sweet smile,
On Erin's green valley look down from above,*



THE CEILI.

The Ceili, originally a gathering of friends and neighbors for the purpose of storytelling or sharing village information or as part of a community event such as a wedding, or an "American Wake"- a send-off party for an emigrant. Irish dancing and music soon blended into the Ceili. These gatherings, in an atmosphere of warmth and intimacy, were an informal school where the art of storytelling, music and dance were passed from one generation to another.

Besides the Ceili being held in houses, "Dancing at the Crossroads" was popular in rural areas. As an expression of exuberance, frugality and organized with great simplicity, this event is used metaphorically to express an idealized Irish way of event planning "Exuberance with simplicity-simple and fulfilled" Besides the lively gossip and storytelling, reels, jigs, hornpipes, set dances and line dances were rollicking to the music of a sole musician, a nonprofessional, well accomplished in his instrument. Any instrument at hand was acceptable, often a fiddle, an accordion or malodeon was used, however, particularly revered was the piper who played what we now call the Uilleann pipes, quite often the Piper was a blindman. He was paid by "passing the hat" alms, but, Alas! both the Ceili, in a house, barn or crossroads and the meager income of the Piper came to a sorry end as a casualty of perceived needed legislation.

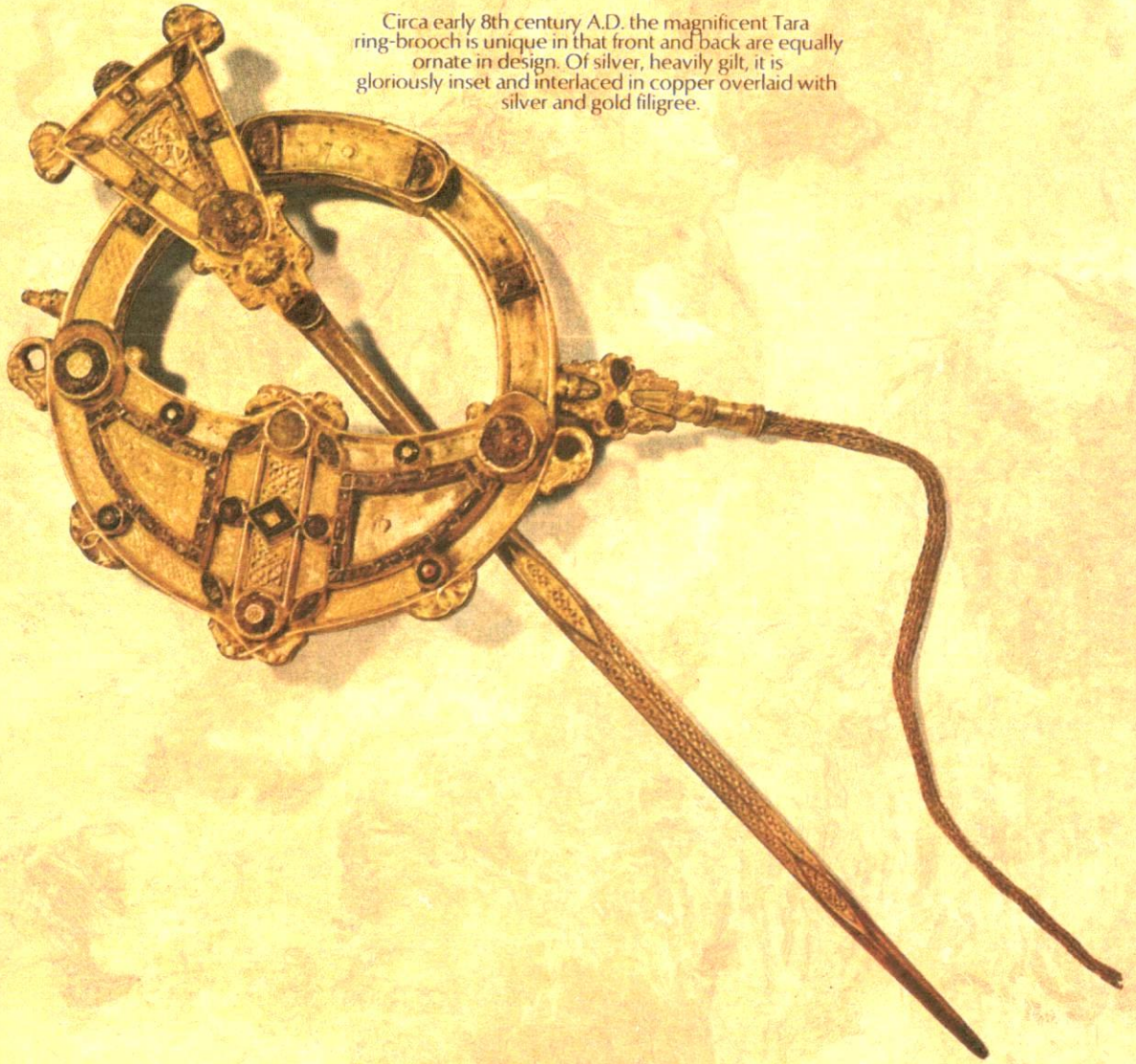
In 1936 the "Dance Hall Act" was enacted by the Irish government, required all dances to be held in a licenced hall. Imported modern dances were becoming popular and both clergy and law makers felt there was too much shimmy-shaking that might affect Irish mores and morals, so some control was needed. Later there was a resurgence of Ceili dancing in the dance halls and it became popular in America and other countries. In 1993 the electrifying phenomenon of "Riverdance" reenergized the Irish dance everywhere, but the memory of the oldtime Ceili did not die, it is commemorated through song and poetry.

*O' The days of the Kerry Dancing, O' The ring of the Pipers tune,
For one of those hours of gladness, gone Alas! like our youth to soon,
When the boys began to gather in the glen of a summer night,
And the Kerry piper's tuning, made us long with wild delight,
Was there ever a sweeter colleen in the dance than Elly Moore,
or a prouder lad than Thady as he boldly took the floor,
Lads and lassies to your places, up the middle and down again,
Ah!, the merry hearty laughter, ringing tru' the happy glen.
Loving voices of old companions stealing out of the past once more,
and the sound of the dear old music, soft and sweet as in days of yore...*

James Lyman Molloy (1837-1909)

TARA RING BROOCH

Circa early 8th century A.D. the magnificent Tara ring-brooch is unique in that front and back are equally ornate in design. Of silver, heavily gilt, it is gloriously inset and interlaced in copper overlaid with silver and gold filigree.



WILSON & ROBINSON
A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORPORATION

J. Michael Wilson
Roberta J. Robinson
Kathleen W. Corbin

February 20, 1985

ORIGINAL
ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
BYLAWS

Suite 205
7860 Mission Center Court
San Diego, California 92108
Telephone (619) 299-9784

Suite F
2048 Aldergrove Avenue
Escondido, California 92025
Telephone (619) 489-9002

Reply to: San Diego

Mr. Jim Foley
The Blarney Stone Pub
5617 Balboa Avenue
San Diego, CA 92111

Re: Irish Congress of Southern California;
Our File No. 106

Dear Jim:

Enclosed are three (3) copies of the following:

1. Articles of Incorporation of Irish Congress of Southern California;
2. Bylaws of Incorporation of Irish Congress of Southern California;
3. State Exemption Application; and
4. Application for Recognition of Exemption.

Please circulate these copies to the appropriate people.

As soon as I hear anything from Attorney John Howard, I will let you know.

Best regards,

Michael

J. Michael Wilson
WILSON & ROBINSON, A.P.L.C.

JMW/n#3

Encl.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

89233808

Date of This Notice

05-28-85

If you inquire about your
account, please refer to
this number or attach a
copy of this notice.

Employer Identification Number

33-0090269

IRISH CONGRESS OF SOUTHERN
CALIFORNIA INC
1200 THIRD AVENUE STE 1500
SAN DIEGO CA 92101

NOTICE OF NEW EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER ASSIGNED

Thank you for your Form SS-4, Application for Employer Identification Number. The number assigned to you is shown above. This number will be used to identify your business account and related tax returns and documents, even if you do not have employees.

Please keep a copy of this number in your permanent records. Use this number and your name, exactly as shown above, on all Federal tax forms that require this information, and refer to the number on all tax payments and tax-related correspondence or documents.

If your business is a partnership which must obtain prior approval for its tax year, the tax year you entered in Block 3 of your Form SS-4 does not establish a tax year. For guidance in determining if you must request prior approval and the method of doing so, see IRS Publication 538, Accounting Periods and Methods, available at most IRS offices.

Please note that the assignment of this number does not grant tax-exempt status to nonprofit organizations. For details on how to apply for this exemption, see IRS Publication 557, Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization, available at most IRS offices.

For Exempt Organizations, please see the message on the reverse side.

Thank you for your cooperation.

575 0

Form 5372 (Rev. 1-85)



IRISH CONGRESS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

P.O. BOX 87011
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92138
223-5566, EXT. 455

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RICHARD SULLIVAN
HON. PETE WILSON

SECOND ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE FACTS

- DATE:** March 13, 1982 (Saturday)
- TIME:** 12 Noon
- PLACE:** Balboa Park - corner of 6th and Juniper, then proceeding down 5th and 6th Avenues and returning to Balboa Park at 6th and Laurel.
- UNITS:** Representatives from San Diego, sixteen surrounding cities and several local and national businesses, including school bands, police bands, marching units, military bands, civic and commercial floats and independant bands.
- SPECTATORS:** The 1981 parade drew an estimated 30,000 spectators. Experts anticipate that figure increased to 100,000.
- ORGANIZED BY:** The Irish Congress of Southern California, comprised of the following groups:
- The Ancient Order of Hibernians
 - The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick (San Diego and North County chapters)
 - The Harp and Shamrock
 - The House of Ireland
 - The Irish American Club
 - The Irish Rights Committee
 - The Irishtocrats