



TCFA Chuairt Litrí (TCFA Newsletter)

Tucson Celtic Festival Association



Website: TucsonCelticFestival.org

Editor: Jack Hamilton

Email: Tonoham@comcast.net

Date: April 8, 2019

UPCOMING EVENTS...

The next TCFA meeting is April 13, 2019 at St. Pius X Church at 1800 N. Camino Pio Decimo.

First Annual "HALFWAY TO THE HIGHLANDS GOLF TOURNAMENT"

Saturday, May 11, 2019 will find pipes and kilts on the Omni Tucson National Resort golf course. This will be the first annual golf tournament fundraiser for the Tucson Celtic Festival and Highland Games – and we need your help.

The 2019 Scottish Masters Heavy Events World Championships, being held at our 33rd annual Tucson Celtic Festival in November is the *Crown Jewel* of Celtic Festivals and Highland Games. We are very fortunate to be the only city in the United States chosen to host these games this year! Planning is already underway, but we are going to need three things to make these World Championship games successful: World Class Athletes, Volunteers, and Money. The athletes have already virtually booked all 118 openings. The Volunteers are coming... we hope. That leaves Money. This will be a very expensive undertaking for TCFA. That's where the fundraising golf tournament comes in.

We are fortunate to have a new member in TCFA – an "angel" who has staged seven professional fundraising golf tournaments here in Tucson. Brigid Gannon is a former TEP employee (and TEP Volunteer of the Year – several times), who has put together our golf tournament. We have a planning committee that is gathering to work out the details.

HOW CAN YOU HELP? – First, take some sponsorship/registration flyers and give them to local businesses and philanthropists who may want to help sponsor the tournament. Sponsorship opportunities are available from \$100 to \$5,000 – and donations are made to our non-profit Tucson Celtic Festival Association. As the accountants say... *"Contributions may be tax deductible. Please consult your tax advisor."*

Second – Mark your calendars for May 11th. We will need volunteers to: help prepare the course early that morning (tables, chairs, signs...); greet and register participants; sit at tables to distribute materials or collect money; help with the luncheon and awards ceremony; generally, "Look Celtic!" We are always amazed that folks have never heard about the Tucson Celtic Festival.

Well, this is our chance to show off and let them know who we are. Kilts, sashes and TCFA attire are all welcomed! Questions? – Contact Greg Landers: 520-955-2609 or VicePresident@tucsoncelt.org.



MEMBER BIOGRAPHY

Reverend Doug Knox

The profound 20th century philosopher, Lily Tomlin said: "I always prayed I would grow up to be somebody – now I see I should have been more specific." For me specifying wouldn't have mattered. What did was going with the flow guided by the hand of Providence. By doing so my life has been blessed with four vocations: Husband/Dad/Granddad; Navy Officer; Human Resources Exec; and Old Catholic/Anglican Priest & Bishop.

My steadfast companion through all this has been my wife, Bev. We met in the youth group at Grace Church and were high school & college sweethearts. After road-testing me for 7 years 'til we graduated (Bev from U of A, me from Dartmouth), she said "yes." We married 57 years ago.

Then came the Navy; Hawaii & Vietnam. I had 3 deployments hooking up with the "Tonkin Gulf Yacht Club." Two notable sea stories were: 1) a VC round missing me (and 8 others) by inches when it ricocheted around the pilothouse; 2) being KOIC of the detail that brought a pair of kangaroos from the Sydney zoo to the Honolulu zoo (KOIC = "Kangaroo Officer in Charge".) The hilarious moments when we passed the roos to CINCPAC & Mrs. Admiral to pass on to the zoo curator made "News at 10:00."

Uncle Sam enticed me to stay in the Navy, but we decided not. Moved to Boston and began yuppie life. My first job was HR Management Trainee for MONY. A year later, with the help of a headhunter, I leveraged from my resume to become Personnel Director at Harvard Medical School. During my 8-year tenure Bev became one of the Fenway faithful, and both Scott and Heather were born into Red Sox Nation.

My HR management experience, plus graduating from Harvard Business School's program for same, opened doors for my corporate career. First, at Coopers & Lybrand's Management Consulting Group, then as HR Director in Boston. I left Coopers and returned to Arizona. I had my own HR Consulting/Executive Search firm. Then I was then hired by Drake Beam Morin, and Arizona State University.

At ASU an argument with God ensued. He kept saying, "become a priest." I kept saying, "no way, Jose" (God has many names.) After all, he'd provided us with a good life. We had kids in college & graduate school. But God won (big surprise.) So, we started "making preparations to get underway," to make a leap of faith.

First was a new master's program at the Episcopal Seminary, structured like an Executive MBA program so you could work while going. Next, I needed a job in Austin. I was hired as Training Director for Sears Customer Network. Next was selling & buying two houses at the right price differential. And, Heather's wedding in Santa Fe, which came in the middle of this 5-month frenzy. Bev said to me one night: "You know, there have been times I've liked you better as a husband."

Providence made it up to us. Two days before classes started, my faculty advisor asked Bev what she was going to do. She said, "I'm going to audit all Doug's classes." He said: "Then why not enroll in the program?" Reply: "We only have money for one." He picked up the phone. After a brief conversation, said: "Our Provost says we can provide you a scholarship for 3 years and your Admissions Committee interview is tomorrow."

In my ministry career I've been a parish priest/Rector, and chaplain for hospitals, nursing homes, and prisons. It's been blessed with many moving moments presiding over life's "hatchings, matchings, & dispatching's" (baptisms, weddings, & funerals), retreats, and house blessings. Other ministries included harvesting sacred herbs for Native Americans and obtaining runes for Asatru's.

I've been TCFA Chaplain over 12 years, as well as former Board Member and VP. Folks ask me what they should call me. "Doug," "Fr. Doug," "Rev," & "Padre" work; so, does "Bishop" and "Your Grace." You pick. I am big on the friendships and fun I've enjoyed through TCFA, however. Blessed times. Thank you.

PATRONIZE OUR SPONSORS: Canyon's Crown, Celtic Corner/Scottish Treasures, Dillinger Brewing, Evergreen Mortuary-Cemetery, Four Peaks Brewery, Gannon Consulting, Hampton Inn and Suites, Kiwanis Club of Tucson, Kiwanis de Amigos, KOLD-TV, Knight's of Pythias, La Posada Hotel, McGraw's Cantina, Mutts Hot Dogs & Sausages, Quail Construction, Rillito Park/Heirloom Farmers Market, State Farm Insurance – Paul Heiser, Sierra Fitness, Silent

Partner Corporation, Spera Dental, StorQuest Storage, Sundance Press, The Shanty, VIP Taxi, Walkers Shortbread, Welsh Bakery, and Wylly Coyote Foods Please include our 2018 Charity of the Year – Aviva.



CELTIC HISTORY AND CULTURE

Part 1: The Beginning

By Jack Hamilton

This is the beginning of a short series describing the history of Celtic life which will be a synopsis of my reading of more than 12 articles and 3 books written on the subject. As a child, when I heard of the Celts and Druids, my immediate young mind saw them as a weird culture. When I took on the chair of the membership committee, I knew I would have to learn as much as I could to discuss the topic with prospective members. I am totally amazed at what I've learned.

When researchers discuss the present-day Celtic Nations, they are referring to territories in Europe, mainly western areas, where the Celtic language and culture still exists. It must be understood that the Celts, in their early days did not believe in writing their history but fortunately, the Greeks and Romans wrote many items about their associations with them. Keep in mind some information written by them may have been distorted due to bias.

Many researchers believe the Celts originated about 25-33 centuries ago in areas in Southern Germany, Austria and Switzerland and lived there until 800 BC: The Late Bronze Age. They were referred to as Urnfield Culture (major site – Austria), mainly, because they cremated their dead and buried them in pots in cemetery-like fields. The name Celt originated with the ancient Greeks using their word Keltoi. Discoveries of their existence also has been found about that time in the Balkans, Italy, Bohemia and even Turkey. Early writings described the Celts as barbarians by the Greeks and the Romans referred to them as crude, uncivilized savages. Since the Celts didn't log

history, there is no evidence disputing their writings. Archeology has been found that does contradict the Greeks and Romans claim. In fact, it indicates quite the opposite; the Celts were superior in many ways.

What has many times been referred to as the 'Celtic homeland' was near Hallstatt territory in Austria during the European Iron Age. Archeologists have discovered that the Celts were trading salt with Greeks, Romans and other cultures as they found clothing and tools in the mines.

During the later La Tène (Switzerland) period (c. 450 BC to the Roman conquest) this group is suspected to have migrated to the British Isles (Insular Celts). There are 2 labeled groups in the Celtic existence; Continental and Insular. Continental being Celtic-speaking people of mainland Europe and Insular Celts are the Celtic-speaking peoples of Britain and Irish islands. The Celts of Brittany language came from migrating Insular Celts.

The majority of those knowledgeable believe there are six areas that the Celtic culture and language still exist today and are referred to as the Celtic Nations. They are Brittany, located in the northwest coast of France; Cornwall, the most westerly county in England; Wales; Scotland; Ireland; Isle of Man, located in the Irish Sea and equidistant from England, Northern Ireland and Scotland (the closest). Some believe that Galicia, located in the northwest corner of Spain and Asturias, located in northern Spain should also be included in today's present-day Celtic Nations but they, today, do not use the Celtic language.

Next Issue: CELTIC HISTORY AND CULTURE

Part 2: Celtic Art

Part of your Celtic Experience...

*"Here's freedom to him who would read;
Here's freedom to him who would write;
None ever feared that the truth should be heard,
But them that the truth would indict."*