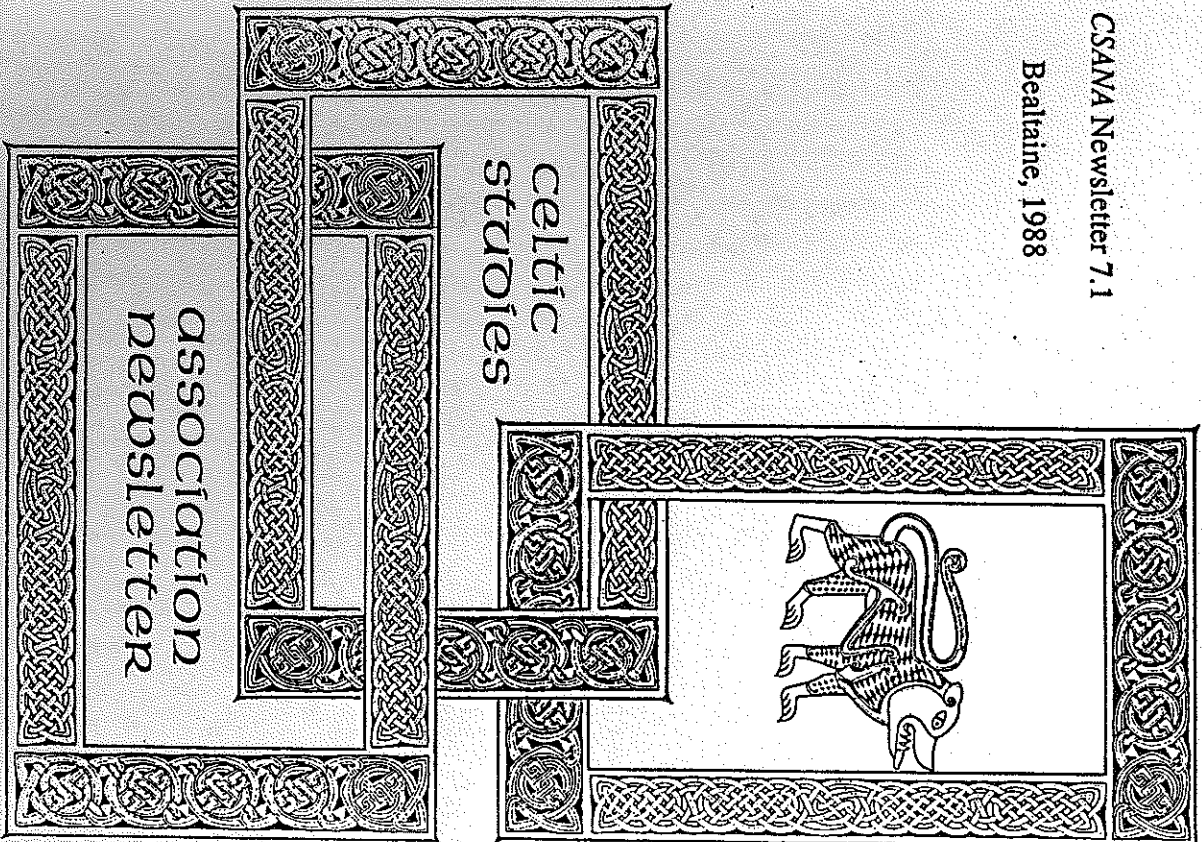


A.T.E. Matonis  
7312 Emlen Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19119

CSANA Newsletter 7.1

Bealtaine, 1988



## The Celtic Studies Association of North America

### Officers:

P. K. Ford, President  
A. T. E. Matonis, Vice-President  
Edgar Slotkin, Secretary-Treasurer

### Members at Large:

Marilyn Gerriets  
Jean Rittmueller

Incorporated as a non-profit organization, the Celtic Studies Association of North America has 134 members drawn from the United States, Canada, Ireland, Wales, England, Europe and Japan. CSANA produces a bi-annual newsletter and a bibliography of Celtic Studies. The 1983-85 bibliography may be ordered through the Secretary-Treasurer. The next volume will appear in 1989.

Membership in the Celtic Studies Association of North America is open to those with a serious interest in Celtic Studies. Dues are \$15.00 a year, or for non-USA residents, the equivalent of \$15 US dollars payable to 'CSANA' in a check or international money order. Dues include the bibliography and a bi-annual newsletter, which appears in the Spring and the Fall.

This mailing reflects pre-May 1, 1988 membership.  
1988-89 dues are payable May 1, and should be sent to

Professor Edgar Slotkin  
University of Cincinnati  
Department of English  
248-249 McMicken Hall  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45221-0069

*Members Only:* For a list of current CSANA members, send \$1.00 (U.S.) to the Treasurer, Edgar Slotkin.

## New CSNA Publication

CSANA will establish an annual publication for the dissemination of scholarly papers on Celtic subjects. The papers will be refereed by an editorial board to be appointed by CSANA's Executive Committee.

## Conferences

CSANA Annual Meeting: Cambridge, Massachusetts,  
May 12-14, 1989

The next annual CSANA meeting will be held in conjunction with the Harvard Celtic Colloquium. Further details regarding housing, etc. will appear in the Samhain newsletter. Dr. Catherine McKenna will act as program chair for CSANA and will also chair the seminar. Papers on topics relevant to Celtic Studies are invited. Abstracts of not more than 250 words should be sent to Dr. McKenna at the following address:

Professor Catherine A. McKenna  
Department of English  
Queen's College  
Flushing, New York 11357-0904

DEADLINE: January 31, 1989

The CSANA seminar topic will be *Gereint vab Erbin*. Professor McKenna would like to hear beforehand from those interested in participating in the seminar. To allow for coherent organization, please get in touch with Professor McKenna by January 31, 1989 if you would like to give a brief presentation, pose questions for consideration, or simply call attention to a particular passage. Address same as above.

The proposed meeting in Halifax, 1989 was polled and discussed among the CSANA members at the UCLA April meeting. The membership decided that the August date was not compatible with their academic schedules. The idea of meeting in Halifax was widely supported; however, the consensus was that it would be best to keep the CSANA meeting a spring event.

The 1988 CSANA meeting held at UCLA, April 7-10, recorded the highest attendance yet for an annual meeting. In addition to thirty-four conference papers there were six invited lectures given by an internationally distinguished group of Celticists, namely: Peter Harbison, Dublin: "The Golden Age of the Celtic Crosses;" Patrick Sims-Williams, Cambridge: "Seeing Ireland from Wales: Perspectives on Late Medieval Literary History;" Wolfgang Meid, Institut für Sprachwissenschaft, Innsbruck: "The Gaulish Inscriptions: Linguistic and Other Approaches;" Breandan O Madagain, University College, Galway: "The Meaning of Song in the Gaelic Tradition of Ireland and Scotland;" R. Geraint Gruffydd, Center for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies, University of Wales, Aberystwyth: "William Morgan's Bible (1588): A Welsh Humanist Triumph;" George Henderson, History of Art, Cambridge University: "The Celtic Elements in Insular Art: Some Recent Reassessments."

#### Second Irish Conference of Medievalists: Maynooth, Summer 1988

As reported in the Samhain newsletter, the Second Irish Conference of Medievalists will be held at St. Patrick's College from Thursday 30 June through Saturday 2 July 1988 under the auspices of the Medieval Academy of Ireland, the National Museum of Ireland and St. Patrick's College. The program has now been set and is as follows:  
**Thursday, June 30** – E. P. Kelly, "The Lough Kinale Shrine: A Preliminary Report;" Johan Corthals, "The rhetoric in *Aided Conchobuir*;" Marvin Colker, "The Text of Hermann of Carinthia's *De essentiis*;" Thomas Fanning, "Decorated Medieval Irish Pavement Tiles;" Paul O'Callaghan, "Theology and Origins of the Bangor

Antiphony Creed;" A. P. Smyth, "Iona in the Days of the Founding Fathers;" Grace Neville, "Medieval French *fabliaux* and Modern Urban Legends;" Kathleen Ryan, "Holes and Flaws in Medieval Irish Manuscripts;" Yolande de Pontfarcy-Sexton, "A Solution to the Problem of the Date of the *Vision of Tnúgdal*."

**Friday, July 1** – Michael Ryan, "Early Irish Chalice: A Typological Approach;" A. F. O'Brien, "The Formation of the Later Medieval Irish Economy and Overseas Trade, c. 1200-1520;" John Gerard Rice, "The Book of Kells: Illustration or Gloss;" J. F. Lydon, "English Statutes and Ireland: the Declaration of the 1460 Parliament;" Cathy Swift, "The Columban Church in Pictland: An Archaeological Perspective;" Martin McNamara, "Maurice O'Fihelly (Mauritius Hibernicus, de Portu, Flos Mundi) and Some Late Medieval Scholars on the Continent;" P. E. Michelli, "Some New Thoughts on the Crozier of St. Patrick *alias* the Bachall Isu;" Kim McCone, "The Bible and Early Irish Narrative;" Michael Olsen, "The Reception of Griselda Material;" Clare Stancliffe, "Early Irish Hagiography and the Miraculous;" Celia Taylor, "King David and Early Irish Iconography."

**Saturday, July 2** – P. F. Wallace, "The Banqueting Hall at Tara;" Anthony Harvey, "The Database and Dictionary of Celtic Latin: Progress Report;" Suzanne McNab, "A Reassessment of the Romanesque Stonework at Kiltel, Co. Kildare;" R. Morabito, "Griselda and Intertextuality;" Dora Faraci, "The Turtle Dove as Image of the Perfect Widow in the Bestiary Tradition;" Damian Bracken, "The Origin and Basis of Law: Some Hiberno-Latin Reflections;" Nancy Rose & C. Karkow, "The Salmon, the Bear and the Snake: Beowulf and the Ir. *Tecosca*;" Maurice Hurley, "Medieval Waterford: A First Report."

The conference fee of £45 includes daily coffee, lunch and the Conference dinner. There is a special student rate of £20 for students – exclusive of the Conference dinner. Application may be made to Professor McCone before 15 June 1988, Department of Old Irish, St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, Co. Kildare, Ireland.

Dr. Anders Ahlqvist wishes to call attention to the forthcoming **Fifth International Conference on the History of Linguistics** to be held in 1990. As of this newsletter, no firm date for 5.ICHoLs has been set. However, Dr. Ahlqvist, who is organizing the conference, would like to communicate with those interested in the conference as of this mailing. Write to Dr. Ahlqvist Room 512 Tower 1, University College, Galway, Ireland.

## Academic Programs and Summer Courses

The University College of Wales, Aberystwyth announces a college diploma in Welsh and Celtic Studies for overseas students. The Diploma course is a one-year program open to undergraduates of recognized academic institutions and will provide a foundation in language, history and social studies. A core of language and historical courses is compulsory; electives include literature, archaeology, mythology, history, law, politics and geography. Address inquiries and applications to: The Director, The International Centre, University of Wales, Aberystwyth, Dyfed SY23 2AX, Wales, U.K.

Celtic Studies at University College, Galway has instituted a one-year Diploma in Celtic Studies. Further information is available from: The Dean, Faculty of Celtic Studies, University College, Galway, Ireland.

Summer School 1988 University College, Galway will be offering credit courses for undergraduates and graduates. The programs and inclusive dates are: Irish Studies (June 20 - July 25); Education in Ireland (July 1 - 25); Geology of Atlantic Ireland (June 23 - July 18); Beginners and Intermediate Irish (July 22 - August 19). Application letters should include the name of the program you wish to attend; the name of your academic institution and your current year; an academic transcript; your date of birth, current address and telephone number, nationality, special

dietary or housing requirements. A deposit of \$100 US is also required. Cost of programs exclusive of bed and board: Irish Language (\$680), Education (\$1050), Geology (\$1100), Irish Studies (\$1470). Letters of application are requested before May 6th, so if you have interested students, urge them to move fast. It is still worth a try for this summer. Write to: Seamus O'Grady, Administrative Director, Summer School, University College Galway, Galway, Ireland.

*Cwrs Cymraeg, Wisconsin.* August 7-14. Sponsored by *Cymdeithas Madog*. Classes for learners at all levels at Carthage College, Kenosha, Wisconsin. \$375 adult; \$325 student - includes room, board and tuition. Enrollment is limited. Reserve a place by sending a \$75 deposit, payable to Cwrs Cymraeg Wisconsin. Refundable before June 15. Write to: Dick Myers, 2407 Taylor Ave., Racine, WI 53403. For information, call (414) 632-6804 or (612) 644-1650.

**Full Tuition Scholarship in Irish Studies:** The Society of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, Washington, D. C. has established a full tuition scholarship at The Catholic University of America for one M.A. candidate specializing in Irish Studies in the Department of English or Politics. Although the deadline for application is April 30, 1988, please keep this in mind for next year's promising undergraduates. Requirements are: native born U.S. citizen between 21 - 28 with some Irish ancestry, resident for the last five years in the District of Columbia, or Prince George's, Montgomery, Fairfax or Arlington counties or their environs (students from any of these areas but attending college elsewhere also eligible). For further information on conditions of eligibility, write to the Center for Irish Studies, The Catholic University of American, Washington, D.C. 20064. If you have an eligible student who would like to try for the 1988-89 award despite the late date, application forms are to be had from The Associate Dean for Graduate Programs, School of Arts and Sciences, The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. 20064. Phone: (202) 635-5251.

## Books of Interest

Con Howard has called attention to a collection of essays on literary and historical topics concentrating on the Irish vein in Australian culture and history, 1788-1988. The volume, *Australia and Ireland Bicentenary Essays* (price \$45) may be ordered through Con Howard. Checks are payable to the A-I Conference. Mr. Con Howard, Department of Foreign Affairs, 76 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2, Ireland.

The four volumes of the long out of print Keating's *History of Ireland* has been reprinted and is now available through the Irish Texts Society. Copies may be obtained from the Honourable Secretary, Mr. Noel O'Connell, c/o The Royal Bank of Scotland, 22 Whitehall, London SW1. Price per volume: Irish and British pounds £14, US dollars \$35. Post free.

### Review

Joe Neil MacNeil, *Tales Until Dawn: The World of a Cape Breton Gaelic Story-Teller*, trans. and ed. John Shaw (Kingston and Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1987). Pp. xxxix, 269.

This dual publication (Gaelic-English and English translation only) by a major academic press is a noteworthy event in North American Celtic studies and like its editorial conception only underlines the gloomy conclusion that our scholarship is being extended and enhanced at a pace still outstripped by the decline of the living cultures whose traditions concern us so deeply. John Shaw assumes for his readership a general familiarity with the emigration of some 15,000 Scots, chiefly from the Western highlands and islands, to Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and in particular Cape Breton Island in Canada between 1770 and 1815, and immediately brings his focus down to the settlements near Big Pond and Middle Cape where storyteller Joe Neil MacNeil was raised by an elderly

couple. This seems to have been the determining factor in his vigorous interest in traditional Gaelic culture. Shaw's introduction is exemplary and signals that the book will be as much concerned with the process of transmission and the attitudes of tradition-bearers to their material as with the narratives, their origins and cognates. Joe Neil MacNeil tells his own story and gives the background of his stories and their earlier tellers in an easy, economical style in two introductory sections which have been given editorial polish by both informant and editor. The tales which follow are in the main from single tellings. Rather than give exhaustive treatment of MacNeill's repertory of tales, organized here by the families who were his informants, the editor opts for relatively fuller exemplification of wit, lore and pastimes. The notes and critical apparatus well meet scholarly criteria. With its welcome emphasis on cultural and narrative dynamics rather than the simply archival the book invites us down a path with many fresh questions, at which this note can only hint. For example, just what did Joe Neil MacNeil think he had got when he got a story from someone?

William Sayers  
Council of Ontario Universities

## From European Celticists

### Newsletters

At the suggestion of Rolf Baumgarten, the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies has initiated a *Newsletter of the School of Celtic Studies*. Intended to promote familiarity with work being done at the Institute and to bring attention to projects where work needs to be done, the newsletter accordingly addresses itself to Celticists everywhere. To that end, Professor Mairtin O Murchu, the Director of the Institute, welcomes the views of colleagues in helping him to identify important work in Celtic Studies requiring attention. Also invited are notes and comments for

inclusion in later issues of the *Newsletter*. The first issue appeared in November 1987 under Dr. Baumgarten's editorship. Paper slip cover, 28pp. Contents include: a select survey of the School's publications; notice of the various symposia, seminars, public lectures given at the School in 1987 (these include speaker and topic); external activities and staff publications for 1987; and three scholarly notes ("Kuno Meyer's Irish Manuscript," "Breton Dialectology: A Sample Survey," by Malachy McKenna, and "The Cataloguing of Irish Manuscripts," by Pdraig de Brun).

*Celtic Cultures Newsletter*, Number 5 (December 1987) 48pp. continues to function as an informative source on a number of Celtic matters, from the continuing threat to Emain Macha (Navan Fort, Co. Armagh) to current research and archival projects. In the foreword to the December issue, the editors, Gearoid Mac Eoin and Anders Ahlqvist, review the uneasy future of Celtic Studies in several countries as reduced funding and national support jeopardize existing programs and institutions. It is now apparent that the Chair of Celtic Studies at the University of Oslo, vacant since the death of Magne Oftedal in 1985, will not be filled, and while a 35% reduction in the annual grant made to the School of Celtic Studies, DIAS, has been averted by funds made available from the Irish National Lottery, its future programs and publications cannot be regarded as secure. Those of you wishing to support the preservation of Emain Macha are urged to contact the Friends of Navan, 17 University Square, Belfast BT7 1NN. For copies of the newsletter, write to Dr. Anders Ahlqvist, Department of Old and Middle Irish, University College, Galway.

## Miscellaneous

### Reminder – Celtic Studies Bibliography

In order to ensure that we have as comprehensive a listing as possible and as a double check against items eluding us, I ask you again to send me notices of works you feel should not be passed over, including your own work. Attached to this newsletter is a form on which you can record the data. Xerox the form in an optimistic commitment to making some contribution to this very large and important project. Please include items omitted from the 1983-85 volume. Please DO NOT forward references to any work you have not actually laid your hands on or seen if only in passing. Send entries to A. T. E. Matonis, 7312 Emlen St., Philadelphia PA 19119.

### From the Editor

My last call for members to contribute reviews of books on pertinent subjects happily resulted in Dr. Sayers' review of Cape Breton tales, which appears in this newsletter. Once again I invite members to contact me if they have a particular book they would like to review for the November 1, 1988 newsletter. Write: A. T. E. Matonis, 7312 Emlen Street, Philadelphia, PA 19119 until 31 May. Thereafter and until 15 August my address will be: The Schoolhouse, Arnisdale, by Kyle, Ross-shire, Scotland, Great Britain. After 15 August the Philadelphia address.

