



Shamrock Club Sacramento

August 2014
Volume 2, Issue 8

The Irish Pipes

August 13th Meeting

The **Next Meeting** will be held:

August 13th

at 7 PM

SMUD 6301 S Street in
Room **Sequoia 1**

1ST TUE LUNCH

August 5th

CAFÉ BERNARDO R15
1431 R Street

Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: 916-930-9191
Please wear your name
tag if you have one.

Sharon Young
916/539-8931

President—Bill O'Connor
VP—C.J. Kennedy
Treasurer—Billyann Groza
Membership—Linda O'Connor

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Did you ever wonder what the Irish (bag) pipes are and how they differ from their cousin the Scottish pipes? Well I did so I went looking for information. Here is what I found.

From Wikipedia I learned that “Evidence of the bagpipe in Ireland occurs in 1581, when John Derrick's *The Image of Irelande* clearly depicts a

bagpiper. Derrick's illustrations are considered to be reasonably faithful depictions of the attire and equipment of the English and Irish population of the 16th century. The "Battell" sequence from My Ladye Nevells Booke (1591) by William Byrd, which probably alludes to the Irish wars of 1578, contains a piece entitled The bagpipe: & the drone”. That makes the Irish Bagpipe almost 450 years old—I would think that qualifies as pretty ancient.

The Irish bagpipes are usually referred to as “uilleann pipes” as opposed to the more commonly seen Scottish “Great highland” or “small border” pipes. The Scottish pipes are probably more common due to the British Empires influences in the last couple of centuries. Let's just say the Irish didn't have as much clout!

This doesn't necessarily mean the Irish pipes are inferior to the Scots pipes. They are just different. The Scottish pipes have a continuous melody (read sound). The Irish pipes do not have (require) a continuous melody. This



Mike Euritt

allows the Irish pipes produce a wider variety of melodic effects. The Irish pipes can produce about twice the range of octaves as the Scottish pipes. This is not to say one is better than the other, but it means it can be used to produce a wider range of sounds.

If you really want to hear the sounds it can make don't miss our upcoming meeting where we will have a demonstration by Mike Euritt of the Irish Pipes—and you can ask an expert everything you want to know about the pipes—and hear it too.

DON'T MISS OUT NEXT MEETING

At our upcoming meeting we will be having a demonstration of the Irish pipes by local piper **Mike Euritt**. Mike plays several different instruments. Some of you may have seen him playing in our membership tent at the Highland Games in April. He will be making a special appearance at our meeting and may even demonstrate a few other musical instruments.



Mike Euritt and his Irish Pipes

Half-Way to St Patrick's

Plans are in the works for the Half-Way to St. Patrick's event! I have contacted **Robert Scott of Mighty Old Gents**, who played on our float in the St. Patrick's Day parade. They are in the process of rebuilding their band, but they are going to try to make an appearance at the picnic, and "practice" on us. We are attempting to line up some other Irish cultural entertainment to go along with the distinctly

American Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and salads. Please feel free to invite friends (potential members) to attend. Hope to see all of you there!

CHRISTMAS PARTY

We are looking for a location to hold our annual Christmas Party. If you know of place please let me know with an email to sacshamrockclub@gmail.com or better yet come to the meeting and let me know there (and you can enjoy interaction with other members and learn about the Irish pipes!



UPCOMING ELECTIONS

I have been the president of the Shamrock club for the last two years. I believe it is time for me to step aside and allow others to take over a leadership role in the club.

At the last meeting I announced my desire to accept nominations for officers of the Shamrock club, in preparation for an upcoming election. If you have someone you would like to nominate for the various officers of the club please send me an email at sacshamrockclub@gmail.com. I anticipate holding elections at our October meeting.



Upcoming events:

1/2 way to St Patrick's Day	September 20th
Halloween	TBA
Christmas Party	TBA
Irish New Year	December 31st @ 4 PM