Many people find it remarkable that Ireland, a non-wine-producing country, should have a wine drinking tradition stretching back some 2,000 years. The answer may well lie in our Celtic blood. The Celts, one of the founding civilizations of Europe, were undoubtedly the most culturally influential of the primordial peoples to settle in Ireland; the feast was central to Celtic life and wine was the all-important factor of the feast.

The feast, central to the Irish the world over where good food, good wine, great conversation are the recipe for classic Irish evenings. As we begin our preparations to celebrate the 15th anniversary of The Ireland Funds’ WineGeese Society, I wish to extend to you, your family, and friends an invitation to attend our events around the world in 2017 marking this jewel in the crown of the Irish diaspora.

Sincerely,

Ted Murphy
WineGeese Society members and prospective WineGeese gathered at the Bennett Estate to induct Mark McWilliams of Arista Winery in Sonoma into their hallowed halls. The McWilliams’ family originally from Texarkana trace their Irish roots to Co. Roscommon in the West of Ireland. The winery, only in existence since 2002, is now receiving rave reviews by Robert Parker and Wine Spectator. Among those gathered for the induction in the spectacular cellar at the Bennett’s were: longtime WineGeese Society members Ken Gorman, Cliff Miercort, John Sharkey, John Tillotson, Dolores McCall, Shelly & Tom Codd, Caroline Rose Hunt, Susan & Vincent Bradley and Lou Ann & Mike Corboy. The food pairings were provided by Chef Erin Miller of Texas Bleu Steakhouse in Keller from a menu chosen by 2016 Texas Emerald Ball Chair Rachel Gaffney Smith.

On Saturday June 6th, more than 30 San Francisco Young Leaders set off for a Napa Valley tour, led by SFYL Co-Chair Michael McGrath. The itinerary included visits to one of our finest WineGeese wineries—Twomey Cellars in Calistoga. Twomey Cellars was established in 1999 by the Duncan Family, who have operated the successful Silver Oak Cellars in California since 1972. From there, the group continued on to Frank Family Vineyards for another fantastic tasting and finally over to Sullivan Vineyards, a boutique winery located in the Rutherford Appellation, producing Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Bordeaux style blends.
The London Young Leaders Society hosted a Wine Reception at the magnificent One Great George Street in the heart of Westminster, London. 100 guests gathered to sample Doran Vineyards’ outstanding South African wines and to learn about the work of The Ireland Funds. Mark Carrigan, Managing Director of The Ireland Fund of Great Britain welcomed everyone and introduced Marcus Walsh and Edward O’Hare, Co-Chairs of the London Young Leaders who talked about the work of The Ireland Funds and their global reach and positive impact on Irish causes. Following that, Edwin Doran, of the renowned Doran Vineyards, gave an informative and witty introduction to a few of his favorite wines to the fascinated crowd.

An enthusiastic group of San Francisco Young Leaders took off for a unique wine country tour. Led by energetic Event Chair, LJ Prendergast, it was a perfect month to be there with warm weather and fewer crowds than during harvest time in September and October. First stop was Ram’s Gate Winery in Carneros where guests were greeted with glasses of Chardonnay and whisked off for a tour of the winery. The 30-acre vineyard produces Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon and Zinfandel. From there, the group continued on to Maze Wines and was greeted at the private Bennett Vineyard by one of the owners, Paul McSharry. Paul was a generous host and led the Young Leaders up the hill to a beautiful picnic location with breathtaking scenery. The final stop was at the small and rustic McKenzie-Mueller Winery where the Young Leaders enjoyed a private tasting from several interesting offerings.

To learn more or to organize a WineGeese event in your area, please contact Ginny Edwards at winegeese@irlfunds.org or 469-232-9601
The Winegeese returned to Bordeaux, their spiritual and cultural home. The splendid chateaux of Bordeaux and the wines they produce comprise one of the great cultural treasures of France – a cultural treasure that is inextricably tied into the tapestry of Irish history. Some of the great chateaux visited include La Dominique, Fieuzal, Leoville Barton, de La Ligne, Lynch-Bages and the Barton family’s latest Chateau, Mauvesin Barton. The Winegeese enjoyed five glorious days at the Grand Hotel de Bordeaux & Spa in the historic hub of the city on the famed Place de la Comedie facing one of the finest opera houses in Europe.

The Irish continue to leave their mark on the wines of Bordeaux. The tour began with lunch at honorary Winegeese member Terry Cross’ enchanting Chateau de La Ligne in the Entre-Deux-Mers. After Lunch we toured the medieval town of St. Emilion, followed by a tour and dinner at famed Grand Classe Chateau La Dominique. The following day on to Chateau Lynch Bages for a tasting and lunch at Café Lavinal, in the small village of Bages. After a cooking class and wine tasting at Chateau Kirwan, we made the decision to revisit Chateau Margaux, the home of our very first wine tour. We had cocktails in the garden and a fabulous dinner in the renovated Hotel. As our tour and dinner, at Chateau Pavie de Lure scheduled for that night had to be cancelled due to a tragic auto accident.

A morning tour at the Barton’s recently purchased Colon Seguar, which has been renamed Chateau Mauvesin Barton. One of the highlights was a discussion with Lillian Barton Satorius on wine fraud and the steps the Barton’s have taken to protect their wines. For several years, they have etched the bottles and added a holograph onto their label. Followed by lunch at Lion d’Or, where all the wine-makers of Bordeaux have their wines displayed and stored around the dining rooms.

A farewell dinner at Premier Cru Chateau de Fieuzal in Pessac-Leognan with hosts Brenda & Lochlann Quinn was made all the more memorable with the presence of Pierre & Kristal Lawton and Paulin & Isabelle Calvert of Chateau Picque Caillou.

Our last morning was spent touring La Cite du Vin the ultra-modern wine museum and short 3 stop tram ride from our Hotel. The museum, which opened only 3 weeks earlier, covers the history of wine and the wine regions throughout the world not just France. Unfortunately, three hours was not enough time to visit all eight floors – however, we ended the tour and trip on the eighth floor wine bar where we tasted wines from around the world. Throughout the trip the wine flowed, the conversation flourished, and the WineGeese enjoyed the treasures of Bordeaux again.
Tour of Bordeaux 2016

1 Ken & Kerry Gorman, Kevin Curley and Deirdre Coleman, Archie & June Bennett, John & Helen Sharkey at Château La Ligne
2 Archie Bennett, John Sharkey, Kevin Curley, Ken Gorman
3 The WineGeese at famed Grand Cru Classé Château La Dominique with the red wall of world-famous architect Jean Nouvel behind them
4 Inducting Pierre and Kristal Lawton into The Ireland Funds WineGeese Society
5 Chef Gaëlle Benoiste Pilloire took the WineGeese through their paces sharing her superb technique at Grand Cru Classé Château Kirwan
6 Tasting wines from around the world at La Cité du Vin
The WineGeese had delicious appetizers with their wine; just as soon they finished preparing them, Lilian Barton-Sartorius of Châteaux Léoville-Barton and Langoa-Barton, 3rd and 2nd classified growths in Saint Julien at their new château, Mauvesin-Barton, set out the exquisite appetizers prepared by the WineGeese pairing perfectly with the wines of Château Kirwan. Lochlann Quinn of Château de Fleuzal with June & Archie Bennett and Fleuza winemaker Stephen Carrier at Il Cité du Vin.
Pinot Noir, from its home in Burgundy to Washington State, this most challenging of grapes attracts the intrepid winemaker the world over. We tasted the acknowledged greats and uncovered some hidden gems in the Willamette Valley. Most delightfully, we had the pleasure of inducting seven new Irish and Irish-American winemakers and proprietors into the Society: Trish Rogers of R Stuart, David O’Reilly of Owen Roe, Scott Flora of Native Flora, Dick Shea of Shea Vineyard, David Hansen of ArborBrook, Tom Fitzpatrick of Alloro Vineyard and Elevée Vineyard, and David Polite of Carlton Hill.

Our home for the tour was the four-star Allison Inn & Spa in Newberg, Oregon wine country’s premier luxury destination resort, surrounded by vineyards, flower and herb gardens.

Our first evening was spent in the company of Irish-born Trisha Rogers, founder and partner at R Stuart & Co with her friends Rob and Maria Stuart. They founded the winery in 2002 having worked together with one of the great pioneers of Pinot Noir in Oregon, Dick Erath of Erath Vineyards. Trisha’s background led her to write the exuberant and eye-opening The Zing! thing, a way of seeing and understanding wine and food anew. We received autographed copies of her book. Chef Carmen Peirano Ferguson prepared a stellar meal paired beautifully with R Stuart wines at Nick’s Italian Café, where Founder and owner Nick Peirano welcomed us.

The following days passed swiftly with visits to JK Carriere Wines led by its talented and much-respected winemaker and owner, Jim Prosser. Owen Roe led by the delightful Belfast-born David O’Reilly, whose wines enjoy a near-cult following; then on to the small and secluded vineyard Native Flora to dine with owners Scott and Denise Flora where the vistas entice as much as the wines, not least their ravishing sparkling wine. Tom Danowski, head of the Oregon Wine Board, kindly joined us for dinner and provided insight into wine developments in Oregon.

Friday morning a tour and tasting at Domaine Drouhin Oregon (Burgundy’s first venture into the New World from where they now produce exquisitely elegant wines in the Burgundian style. Assistant winemaker, Arron Bell and Sales Director, Ashley Bell made our visit memorable. Then on to Domaine Serene for a tour and tasting lunch guided by Ryan Harris, President of Dom Serene.

Before departing for dinner, we assembled on the terrace of the Allison to enjoy the superb wines of the McWilliams family from the Russian River Valley of Sonoma, Arista Winery, provided through the kind assistance of Rachel Gaffney. At Recipe, the winemakers’ favorite, in a classic Victorian home in the heart of old town Newberg, chef and owner Paul Bachand prepared a feast showcasing the exquisite Willamette Valley wines.

The superb wines kept coming with a tasting at Bergström Wines and a delightful al fresco lunch at charming ArborBrook Vineyards) with the ebullient David Hansen, then on to Shea Wine Cellars and Vineyard where Dick Shea enchanted us with his stories of vineyard practice and winemaker Blair Trathen shared his wine expertise, while Peter Shea kept the superb wine flowing.
1 From vine to vat with David O’Reilly of Owen Roe
2 The delectable ‘Parting Glass’ at Owen Roe
3 The WineGeese at JK Carriere; let the feasting begin
4 Pepper Jackson, Waymon & Ann Levell
5 The chairmen induct David Polite into the 
WineGeese Society in the barn at Carlton Hill
6 The WineGeese with Scott Flora of Native Flora
7 Maureen Newman, Ann LeVell, Netta Blanchard, 
June Bennett, Ken Gorman tasting the 2013
Arista Pinot Noir
8 June & Archie Bennett, winners of the croquet match 
with their glorious 2008 Carlton Hill magnum
9 David explains the croquet rules to the assembled 
WineGeese
10 Cathy Grimes and Kevin Curley take second place
Once more into the vineyard with winemaker Tom Fitzpatrick of Alloro Vineyard, in the western reaches of the Chehalem Mountains. Our evening concluded with dinner at the charming Lenné Estate with winegrower Steve Lutz. Gorgeous wines, a beautiful setting, and marvelous music provided by Dublin-born Johnny B Connolly on the button accordion and Cary Novotny as vocalist and on guitar.

Our last day in the Willamette Valley brought us to magical Carlton Hill Vineyard where David Polite charmed all. And yes, sitting on top of Carlton Hill is a croquet court where from time to time local wine makers engage in a battle for supremacy. Croquet, the sport of winemakers and now the sport of WineGeese when a marathon match ensued won ultimately by June and Archie Bennett who received to remember their triumph, on a perfect Sunday afternoon, a magnum of the 2008 Carlton Hill Pinot Noir, a vintage and a wine for champions. Teams surged forward and fell back with astonishing regularity, but second place was taken finally by Kevin Curley and Cathy Grimes, who are ready to enter the lists once more in a re-match.

Our far-reaching and memorable tour concluded with a farewell dinner at justly famed Ponzi Vineyards, one of the pioneers of the region, with a perfectly paired meal provided by their own Dundee Bistro showcasing local ingredients and those seductive Ponzi wines.
The tour began in magical Rome with a WineGeese dinner at the Irish Embassy hosted by HE Bobby McDonagh, the Ambassador of Ireland to Italy and his wife Mrs Mary McDonagh, at the Villa Spada, the jewel in the crown of Ireland’s diplomatic missions and the nation’s most valuable foreign embassy property. Constructed in the 1630s, it was the home of the Nobili family of Montepulciano and subsequently purchased by the Spada family who employed amongst other great Italian artists Bernini and Borromini on the villa. The Irish government purchased the Villa Spada in 1946.

NOTE: Author Pauline Ryan is a member of The Ireland Funds WineGeese Society and a Board Director of The American Ireland Fund. The following account is an excerpt from her daily blog that was written as the WineGeese travelled through Italy in October of 2014. For an expanded account of the trip, visit Pauline’s blog at: www.winegeeseintuscany.blogspot.com

We visit Italy this year just because it’s October, potentially the middle of the grape crushing season in Tuscany. The Winegeese, a collection of wine lovers from The Ireland Fund, begin their pilgrimage in Rome. An itinerary has been compiled around strategic venues which will educate our minds and satiate our palates.

A visit to the burial site of Hugh O’Neill puts into perspective the name “Winegeese” as O’Neill was one of the original Wildgeese who fled Ireland in the early 1600’s to gather continental armies to fight against King James I. The Irish Ambassador and his wife host our dinner this first evening.

A small number of us visit the Hibernian crypt in St. Peter’s Basilica for an early morning mass. We savor the square and vast edifice as dawn breaks before the crowds roll in — an ethereal experience! The afternoon is spent in the gardens at Castel Gandolfo, the Pope’s summer residence now open to the public.

For dinner we are transported to a palazzo hidden away in the heart of the city with family records dating back over a thousand years. Our beautifully restored dining room offers us a chance to connect with life as it was during the Renaissance.

We move on to Tuscany and en route we lunch at Avignonesi – a well know producer of Super Tuscan. We learn about the biodynamic method of producing wines which are ecologically friendly.

Our home for the next few nights is in a borgo outside Castelnuovo Beredenga – typical Tuscan-style architecture with sandstone blocks, green shutters, a terra cotta roof and pots and
pots of geraniums set amid vineyards on the turn to autumnal glory, but still sporting some black bunches of grapes awaiting harvest.

We embark on three days of winetasting at some of the most prominent wineries Tuscany has to offer. A visit to the medieval town of Montalcino sets the scene for our appreciation of the Sangiovese grape. The Biondi Santi winery has been in the same family for over 300 years and here we were afforded the taste of an extremely pricey 1975 Riserva.

We take a break from traditional three course fare and visit the village of Montesi where we hear a talk by Italy’s leading guru on Tuscan wines. We enjoy antipasti and sample local cheeses learning about their composition and qualities.

The Chianti region summons us and our day begins in the cellars of the Antinori family. Twenty-six generations have been in the business of winemaking and today the family owns twenty vineyards and some two hundred labels. Lunch here is the treat of all treats. Olive oil and honey, also produced here, are our starters. The rest of the lunch is paired with Chianti Classico, Tignanello, Brunello and Solaia, just to name a few of the wines.

The three daughters of the Antinori family have broken with tradition and built a state-of-the-art winery at Bargino. The “factory” built of glass and steel with psychedelic lighting and quirky-colored cushions produces thousands of bottles of wine per day on site.

We dine tonight at La Botega del 3o – a Michelin star restaurant of fame where we sample more Tuscan cuisine and leave with yet another memorable experience.

Our last day is more relaxed. We enjoy a lovely lunch at a winery of a friend of the Winegeese who also owns a couple of restaurants in the States. We move on to Siena for some shopping and a rest on Il Campo, the famous piazza of Il Palio – the horse race which is run here twice a year.

At our farewell dinner we toast Ted Murphy and his wife, Garry, who were unable to join us on this trip. Ted is so much a part of the Winegeese and his book, “A Kingdom of Wine” was presented to each of our hosts as our “thank you” gift. We thank our guides, Elisabet Bordt for setting up the trip and Nicki, our last-minute stand in guide, “Lynchpin” for a most successful chapter in the annals of the Winegeese.

Alla prossima!
1. Archie Bennett, David Newman, Michael Wecker, Brinda Curley, Helen and John Sharkey, Maureen Newman, and June Bennett at Casali di Bibbiano
2. The WineGeese Society with Amb Bobby McDonagh at the Ambassadorial Residence, Villa Spada
3. Pauline Ryan, Pepper & Michael Jackson, Netta Blanchard, Tommy & Sarah Gallagher at Casali di Bibbiano
4. The WineGeese Society meet Albert Guadagnini at Casali di Bibbiano
5. Ken Gorman, Maurizio Castelli, Antonella Piredda and John Sharkey at Vitis Vinifera
7. Ken Gorman, John Sharkey, John Fitzpatrick and Michael Jackson at the induction of John Fitzpatrick into the WineGeese Society
8. John Sharkey, Ken Gorman and Jacopo Biondi Santi at Biondi Santi Vineyard
9. WineGeese Society at Palazzo Massimo alle Colonne
10. Michael Jackson, Maureen Newman, Tommy Gallagher, Kerry Gorman and Pepper Jackson at Avignonesi Winery
Thomas Barton, from County Fermanagh, arrived at Bordeaux in 1725, where he achieved immediate success and became one of the leading wine shippers in Bordeaux. Thanks to his energy and enthusiasm, his reputation spread rapidly throughout Europe and he became known, quite simply, as French Tom.

By the time Thomas Jefferson arrived in Bordeaux in 1787, it was thought to be the most beautiful city in France, reflecting the opulence of its commercial success. Those mainly responsible for the conferring of eighteenth-century Bordeaux with its opulence were mostly not of French origin, but a community of foreign merchants and brokers who, obliged to settle outside the city walls, established their homes and warehouses in the suburbs of the waterfront on the Quai des Chartrons.

It is remarkable that in a relatively short period of time the Chartronnaise and particularly those of Irish origin devised an effective commercial structure, including châteaux owners, brokers, and négociants, that saw claret shipped to virtually every corner of the wine-drinking world of that time.

Thomas Barton’s grandson, Hugh Barton, who was born in Limerick, was just twenty when his father William took him into the business. His grandfather, French Tom, taught him the art of the wine trade and he was the first member of the Barton wine dynasty to buy a château in Bordeaux. In 1802 Hugh Barton signed a contract with Daniel Guestier, and the firm became known as Barton & Guestier, as it remains to this day.

With the outbreak of the French Revolution in 1793, Hugh Barton was arrested and confined in prison but, managed to escape home to Ireland. During his stay in Ireland he purchased Straffan House in County Kildare where Anthony Barton, the present custodian of this wine dynasty, was born five generations later. Returning to Bordeaux, in 1821 Hugh bought Château Langoa and five years later purchased the property that is today known as Château Léoville-Barton, 3rd and 2nd classified growths in Saint Julien.

Anthony Barton and his daughter Lilian follow in the footsteps of their predecessors Thomas and Hugh Barton. Under their guidance, the wines of Château Léoville-Barton and Château Langoa are internationally acclaimed. Lilian and Michel Sartorius’s children are involved in wine as well, at their family château, Mauvesin-Barton.

This extraordinary family has added one more feather to their glorious cap. Mitchell & Son, who began trading in 1805 as purveyors of fine wines and confectionary, have joined Château Léoville Barton, to produce their Green Spot Pot Still Irish Whiskey, which is finished in Léoville Barton oak wine casks.

These casks impart a delicate touch of floral perfume and a hint of ripe berries from the wine-seasoned casks. Green Spot is made from 7 to 10-year-old Single Pot Still Irish Whiskey, matured in Château Léoville Barton casks, and bottled at the Middleton Distillery. This is the first ever Single Pot Still Irish Whiskey to be finished in Bordeaux wine casks. (All single malts are also purely from a pot still; however, single pot still whiskeys use partially unmalted barley, so they cannot be called a single malt.)

Anthony Barton notes, “We are delighted to collaborate with the Middleton Distillery to create the new Green Spot Château Léoville Barton. Having been born in Ireland, whiskey is very close to my heart, and wine has been in my family for hundreds of years, so it is an enormous privilege to be able to merge the two now and share our heritage with the Mitchell family with such an exceptional result.”
Raymond Twomey Duncan, A Wine Pioneer

With the death of Raymond Duncan on 9 October 2015, the world of wine lost one of its great entrepreneurs. Raymond Duncan founded Duncan Oil in 1958 and went on to establish the Purgatory Ski Resort in 1968. While visiting old college friends, the founders of Spottswoode Winery, led to his own venture into wine with the purchase of property in the Napa and Alexander valleys.

The progenitor of the Duncan family in America was Nicholas Duncan from County Mayo in the West of Ireland, who settled in New Jersey in 1841, the same year in which he married Isabella McBoyle, whose family originated from the town of Boyle in County Roscommon.

Raymond T Duncan (whose middle name is Twomey after his mother’s maiden name) first engaged in the California wine trade, when in partnership with Justin Meyer, he established Silver Oak Cellars in Alexander Valley, Sonoma County, in 1972. Duncan brought entrepreneurial initiative and considerable financial backing to the venture, while Meyer brought an extensive knowledge of winemaking.

Silver Oak Cellars was founded for the sole purpose of producing one wine, Cabernet Sauvignon – considered to be the most noble of grape varieties. From the start, Meyer adopted winemaking practices which produced a beautifully balanced wine of great elegance, ready to be enjoyed when released, yet possessing the ageing attributes of a firmly structured classic Cabernet Sauvignon. In 1999 the Duncan family purchased the Soda Canyon Ranch located in Calistoga; the Twomey Merlot met with instant success. Robert Parker described the 2001 vintage as “California’s version of a top notch Pomerol”, a reference to the famous commune on Bordeaux’s right bank that produces the world’s greatest Merlot wine. The family has gone on to purchase land in the Russian River valley, on famed Westside Road, from where their new Pinot Noirs are enjoying great acclaim.

Today, Silver Oak Cellars and Twomey Cellars are run by managing partners and brothers David and Tim Duncan, both honored members of The Ireland Funds’ WineGeese Society. The WineGeese extend their heartfelt condolences to the Duncan family.

Daniel Lawton, A Bordeaux Legend

Daniel Lawton, of long established Bordeaux wine broker firm Tastet & Lawton and the last surviving member of the panel that promoted Mouton Rothschild to first growth status in 1973 died aged 85 in April 2015. He was a great friend to the WineGeese, one of its earliest honorary members, and someone with whom we always celebrated those émigré Irish in Bordeaux.

On settling in Bordeaux in 1739, Abraham Lawton, of County Cork, established the wine-broking house of Tastet & Lawton. He was to become the leading broker of his day and one of the most influential figures in the wine history of Bordeaux, described by a contemporary as “all powerful”. In 1765 when Thomas Jefferson visited Bordeaux, it was a Lawton who advised him on the best wines to choose for his wine cellar in Paris.

The Lawtons over the years have been connected with some of the great châteaux of the Bordeaux region: Château Paveil de Luze, Château d’Issan, Château Batailley, Château Cantenac Brown, and Château Léoville-Poyferré which still carries the Lawton family crest on its bottle label. Involved in sporting activities, the family produced international hockey and tennis players, with the first game of tennis played in France taking place in the grounds of the Lawton home.

Daniel Lawton, who was Deputy Mayor of Bordeaux for some 30 years, maintained an interest in the firm of Tastet et Lawton to the end. Hugues Lawton’s son, Pierre Patrick, continues in the family tradition as a négociant and in 1997 was voted in a poll conducted by Decanter magazine to be one of the fifty most influential wine people in the world.

It was at Tastet et Lawton that the Bordeaux wine trade were first awaken to the impact that Robert Parker’s Wine Advocate vintage assessments would have on the region’s wine business. Daniel Lawton’s nephew Eric Samazeuilh, who now heads up the company, in an interview with Elin McCoy recalled that one day asking a colleague, “What’s going on with Château du Tertre? I’ve just taken twenty-five calls and now we’re sold out”. “Oh, some American named Robert Parker just wrote something good about it,” was the reply. Château du Tertre 1979 vintage had been briefly reviewed by Parker who highly recommended it having the immediate effect of increasing its price to a level never previously attained. Robert Parker would go on to be the most powerful wine critic in the world. Samazeuilh would later say of the Parker influence that any Bordeaux estate awarded 90 or above points in a Parker review would sell out within hours.

We will continue to raise the parting glass to our dear friend Daniel Lawton, most sadly missed; Bordeaux has lost a star.
The second edition of Ted Murphy’s award-winning A Kingdom of Wine: A Celebration of Ireland’s Winegeese has been published. We have followed the sold-out first edition by an equally lavishly illustrated coffee table hardback book that traces the winemaking and wine trading history of the Irish from pre-Christian times to the present day. Both editions were made possible by the support of the Patrons of The Ireland Funds’ WineGeese Society.

Coined by the author, “Winegeese” is an evocative term, bringing to mind a unique vinous tradition that reveals a cultural identity, which has long been the hidden jewel in the glittering crown of the Irish diaspora. A Kingdom of Wine is their history and tribute.

As wine writer Tomás Clancy notes, “Ted Murphy in offering this revised edition has extended again the reach of his scholarship. In that he is an example to all scholars in never resting or being satisfied with his information, he is always eager to refine, review, and embrace every new shred of information and evidence. This makes the second edition a vital addition to the body of wine and wine history writing because, like the first edition it is breaking new ground again, telling new stories and bringing an even clearer picture of the Irish hand in sculpting our present picture of wine.”

The first edition was awarded “The Best Book in the World for Wine History for 2006” at the Gourmand World Cookbook Awards April 7, 2007 in Beijing China. The Gourmand World Cookbook Awards seeks to help readers find the best out of the approximately 24,000 food and wine books produced each year. The worldwide winners are selected from over 5000 entries in 48 categories.

This beautiful and original book, admired by winemakers, wine writers, and “civilians” alike, is available for purchase. Please email Ginny Edwards at winegeese@irlfunds.org for more information. Put a smile on a friend’s face and give him or her the story of the Irish diaspora’s great gift to wine.
A Kingdom of Wine to Share

1 Ken Gorman, Betty O’Shaughnessy of O’Shaughnessy Estate, John Sharkey at Angwin, California
2 Ken Gorman, Maurizio Castelli, Antonella Piredda, and John Sharkey at Vitis Vinifera in Tuscany
3 Ken Gorman, Tim Duncan of Twomey and Silver Oak Cellars, and John Sharkey at Oakville, California
4 Michael Houlihan, John Sharkey, Ted Murphy, Duchess of Magenta, Michael Jackson, Ken Gorman at Château de Sully, France
5 John Sharkey, Ken Gorman with Jacopo Biondi Santi of Biondi-Santi at Montalcino, Italy
6 John Sharkey, Ken Gorman, David O’Reilly of Owen Roe, Michael Jackson in the Willamette Valley, Oregon
Membership

MEMBERSHIP

As of this writing we have 122 members and 79 honorary members. Honorary members are primarily the owners of vineyards we have visited, or dignitaries supporting our events.

NEW MEMBERS

To celebrate our upcoming 15th anniversary, we are reviewing membership criteria in order to expand the society and bring this fascinating story to a greater audience.

Your fellow members include HE Amb Anne Anderson, HE Amb Niall Burgess, HE Amb Paul Kavanagh, HE Amb Bobby McDonagh, HE Amb James McIntyre, and HE Amb Patrick Scullion. Other honorary members include HE Mariano Fernández of Chile and HE Amb Cecilia Mackenna of Chile as well as some of the great winemakers of the world.

Of the 122 regular members, many are our most generous donors to The Ireland Funds; indeed “From Wine what Wondrous Friendships Spring.” This is an aspect of the Irish diaspora that is not universally known. The 17th and 19th century emigrants made their mark in Europe and the New World and today their names are synonymous with excellence in the wine industry worldwide. In their illustrious footsteps follow the new WineGeese of Ireland – Terry Cross of Château de La Ligne, Lochlann Quinn of Château de Fieuzal, Séan and Caroline Feely of Château Haut Garrigue/Feely Wines, David O’Reilly of Owen Roe, Tom Fitzpatrick of Alloro Vineyard and Elevée Vineyard, and Dick Shea of Shea Vineyard.

Consider joining these great names and become a member of this cheerful society.

To recommend a candidate or to share your views on the society’s growth, please contact Ginny Edwards at winegeese@irlfunds.org. She will be happy to put you in contact with the founding chairmen, should you prefer to discuss the society with them.

Members of The Ireland Funds WineGeese Society represent some of The Ireland Funds’ most generous donors. The Society celebrates wine, food and art of Irish provenance from around the world while raising support for the work of The Ireland Funds. Today, members enjoy access to private trips, tours, and tastings at vineyards around the world. Membership is by invitation only and all activities are funded by WineGeese Society members.

The Worldwide Ireland Funds are a philanthropic network that supports worthy causes in Ireland and around the world. Our mission is to be the largest network of friends of Ireland dedicated to supporting programs of peace and reconciliation, arts and culture, education and community development throughout the island of Ireland.

Founded in 1976, The Worldwide Ireland Funds currently operate in 12 countries and have raised over $500 million for over 3,000 outstanding organizations.

We invite you to learn about giving back to the land that has given us so much. Please visit: www.theirelandfunds.org

“Wine, unlike spirits, is rarely a secret indulgence: one of its virtues is that it is the better for sharing. You may speak of your prowess at shooting without being expected to send your neighbour a brace of pheasants; discuss your wardrobe without standing a man a waistcoat or a pair of socks; and if you are wise in showing your library you will add that you never lend books. But wine demands unhurried hospitality between men of good will and good taste . . .”—Youngman Carter, On to Andorra (1963)
THE IRELAND FUNDS WELCOME THEIR NEWEST

WineGeese Society Members

1. John Sharkey, Ambassador Bobby McDonagh, Mrs Mary McDonagh
2. Ken Gorman, John Sharkey, John Fitzpatrick, and Michael Jackson
3. John Tillotson, John Sharkey, Mark McWilliams of Arista Winery, Ken Gorman, Cliff Miercott
4. The WineGeese welcome David O’Reilly of Owen Roe into the Society
5. John, Ken and Michael with our charming host, David Hansen, at ArborBrook
6. John Sharkey, newly inducted society member Dick Shea, Ken Gorman, Peter Shea, Michael Jackson
7. The chairman induct David Polite into the WineGeese Society in the barn at Carlton Hill
Our Members

THE IRELAND FUNDS’ WINEGEES SOCIETY MEMBERS

HONORARY CO CHAIRS:
GARRY AND TED MURPHY

FOUNDERS:
KEN GORMAN, JOHN SHARKEY,
JOHN TILLOTSON

CHAIRMEN:
MICHAEL JACKSON, US WEST COAST
CLIFF MIERCORT, US SOUTHWEST

HONORARY MEMBERS

- Jim Allen, Sequoia Grove, Napa Valley, California
- HE Amb Anne Anderson, Irish Ambassador to the United States
- Kathleen and Michael Barry, Barry Fitzwilliam Maxxium, Cork, Ireland
- Anthony Barton, Château Léoville Barton and Langoa Barton, Médoc, France
- Federico Benegas Lynch, Bodega Benegas Lynch, Mendoza, Argentina
- HE Amb Niall Burgess, Dept of Foreign Affairs, Dublin, Ireland
- Jean-Charles Cazes, Château Lynch Bages, Médoc, France
- Sylvie Cazes-Regimbeau, Château Lynch Bages, Médoc, France
- Molly Chappellet, Chappellet Winery, Napa Valley, California
- Michael Collins, Limerick Lane Cellars, Sonoma, California
- Éamonn Cregan, University of Limerick, Ireland
- Terry Cross, Château de La Ligne, Bordeaux, France
- Charles Curran, Nassau Estate, NSW, Australia
- Charles Braastad Delamain, Delamain & Co, Jarnac, France
- Joanne DePuy, Napa, California
- Countess Pamela Dillon-Corneck, Paris, France
- David Duncan, Twomey Cellars and Silver Oak Cellars, Napa Valley, California
- Tim Duncan, Twomey Cellars and Silver Oak Cellars, Napa Valley, California
- Peter Dunne, Mitchell and Son Wine Merchants, Dublin, Ireland
- Gary Farrell, Alysian Wines, Russian River Valley, California
- HE Mariano Fernández Amunátegui, Santiago
- Tom Fitzpatrick, Alloro Vineyard and Elevée Vineyard, Willamette Valley, Oregon
- Niamh and Michael Flatley, Fermoy, Ireland
- Scott Flora, Native Flora, Willamette Valley, Oregon
- Thierry Gardinier, Château Phélan Ségur, Médoc, France
- Loretta Brennan Glucksman, New York and Ireland
- David Hansen, ArborBrook Vineyards, Willamette Valley, Oregon
- Dr Maurice Hayes, Ireland
- Frederic Hennessy, Hennessy Cognac, France and Ireland
- Tricia and Denis Horgan, Leeuwin Estate, Margaret River, Australia
- HE Amb Paul Kavanagh, Irish Ambassador to China
- Allison and Michael Kelly, Aravina Estate, Margaret River, Australia
- Howard & Michele Kessler, Palm Beach, Florida
- Sean Larkin, Larkin Wines, Napa Valley, California
- Pierre Patrice Lawton, Alais, Bordeaux, France
- Peter MacCann, Merrion Hotel, Dublin, Ireland
- HE Amb Bobby McDonagh, Irish Ambassador to Italy
- Fay and Brian McGuigan, McGuigan Wines, Hunter Valley, Australia
- Gay McGuinness, Domaine des Anges, Côte de Ventoux, France
- HE Amb James McIntyre, Irish Ambassador to Argentina
- HE Amb Cecilia Mackenna, Switzerland and Chile
- Alicia and Guillermo Macloughlin Bréard, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Noreen and JP McMamus, Killmallock, Ireland
- Scott McWilliam, McWilliam’s Mt Pleasant Wines, Hunter Valley, Australia
- Mark McWilliams, Arista Winery, Russian River Valley, California
- Francis Mahoney, Mahoney Vineyards, Napa Valley, California
- Maria Luz Marín, San Antonio Valley, Chile
- Brian Martin, Clairault Estate, Margaret River, Australia
- Ena Martin, Clairault Estate, Margaret River, Australia
- Duchesse de Magenta, Château de Sully, France
- Patricio Middleton, Viña MontGras, Colchagua Valley, Chile
- Kerry and Margie Murphy, DuMOL Winery, Russian River Valley, California
- Gavin Newsom, PlumpJack Winery, Napa Valley, California
- Mark Nolan, Dromoland Castle, Newmarket- on- Fergus, Ireland
- David O’Reilly, Owen Roe, Willamette Valley, Oregon
- Betty O’Schaughnessy Woolls, O’Shaughnessy Estate Winery, Napa Valley, California
- David Polite, Carlton Hill Vineyard, Willamette Valley, Oregon
- Lochlann Quinn, Château de Fieuzal, Pessac–Léognan, France
- Brendan Roche, Roche Estate Winery, Sonoma, California
- Trisha Rogers, R Stuart & Co, Willamette Valley, Oregon
- Prof. Michael Scott, Bordeaux, France
- HE Amb Patrick Scullion, Irish Ambassador to Cyprus
- Dick Shea, Shea Wine Cellars & Vineyard, Willamette Valley, Oregon
- Mary Driscoll Toboni, Toboni Vineyards, Russian River Valley, California
- Bruce Tyrrell, Tyrrell Vineyard, Hunter Valley, Australia
- Chris Tyrrell, Tyrrell Vineyard, Hunter Valley, Australia
Linda Armstrong
Philip Armstrong
June Bennett
Archie Bennett
Netta Blanchard
John Bowen
Susan Bradley
Vincent Bradley
Terry Browne
Mary Bush
Rick Bush
Sharon Bush
Anthony Callaghan
Karen Callaghan
Jerry Callaghan
Dorothy Campbell
Luther Campbell
Shelly Codd
Tom Codd
Margaret Condron
Kip Condron
Lou Ann Corboy
Mike Corboy
Joseph Corcoran
Nancy Crossman
Barry Crossman
Brinda Holt Curley
Kevin Curley
Connie Curran
Susan Dickie
Rebecca Dunn
Bill Dunn
John Fitzpatrick
Sarah Gallagher
Tom Gallagher
Lex Gamble
Bill Ganley
Carol Geary
Mike Geary
Mary Gilgan
Kevin Gilgan
Kerry Gorman
Ken Gorman
Jane Hanratty
Don Hanratty
Margaret Hayhurst
Joan Houlihan
Michael Houlihan
Pepper Jackson
Michael Jackson
Alayne Kane
John Kane
Margo Keyes
Jim Keyes
Maureen King
Ann Levell
Waymon Levell
Mary Mallaghan
Lee Mallaghan
Dolores McCall
Keelin McCormack
John McCormack
Simone McDonough
Peggy McGrath
Mike McGrath
Deanna McHugh
Steve McHugh
Anne McNally
William J McNally
Barbara Miercort
Cliff Miercort
Susan Morrice
Ruth Mulvaney
Mary Mulvihill
Dan Mulvihill
Garry Murphy
Ted Murphy
Eileen Murphy
Bart Murphy
Kevin Murray
Maureen Newman
David Newman
Maureen O’Driscoll Levy
Mari O’Connor
Michael ‘Buzzy’ O’Keeffe
Sally Phelps
Richard Phelps
Timothy C Phillips
Paula Pierse
Ged Pierse
Thomas C Quick
Brian Ruane
Pauline Ryan
John Ryan
Bernadette Shanahan
Paddy Shanahan
Helen Sharkey
John Sharkey
Margaret ‘Peggy’ Shelly
Frank Sinnott
Sylvia Tillotson
John Tillotson
Page Tucker
T Declan Walsh
Ellen Welch
Andy Welch
Bobbie Sue Williams

Busselton Airport, Margaret River, Australia
## WINERIES VISITED TO DATE  as of July 2016

### FRANCE
- **BORDEAUX**
  - Château La Dominique
  - Château de Fieuzal
  - Château d’Issan
  - Château Kirwan
  - Château de La Ligne
  - Château Latour
  - Châteaux Léoville-Barton
  - Langoa-Barton, Mauvesin-Barton
  - Château les Ormes de Pex
  - Château Lynch-Bages
  - Château Haut-Marbuzet
  - Château Magnol
  - Château Margaux
  - Château Pape-Clément
  - Château Phélan-Ségur
  - Lalande Château Siran
  - Château du Tertre
  - Château d’Yquem

- **BURGUNDY**
  - Bouchard Père et Fils
  - Domaine Chandon de Briailles
  - Domaine Drouhin-Laroze
  - Domaine Faiveley
  - Domaine Grivot
  - Maison Louis Jadot
  - Domaine Olivier Leflaive Fréres
  - Domaine du Duchesse de Magenta
  - Château de Sully
  - Château de Meursault
  - Domaine Ponsot
  - Domaine Comte du Senard
  - Comte Georges de Vogué
  - Château de Vougeot
  - Domaine de la Vougeraie

- **COGNAC**
  - Delamain et Cie
  - Jas Hennessy & Co.

- **LOIRE**
  - Château de Goulaine

### ITALY
- Antinori
- Avignonesi Winery
- Casali di Bibbiano
- Biondi-Santi
- San Felice Winery
- Tenuta Tignanello

### SPAIN
- Bodegas Garvey

### ARGENTINA
- Bodegas Achával Ferrer
- Finca Adalgisa
- Bodegas Benegas Lynch
- Bodegas Catena Zapata
- Cheval des Andes
- Clos de los Siete
- Bodega DiamAndes
- Terrazas de los Andes

### CHILE
- Viña Almaviva
- Viña Altair
- Clos Apalta
- Viña Cono Sur
- Viña Cousino-Macul
- Viña Errázuriz
- Casa Marin
- Viña Montes
- Viña MontGras
- Viña Undurraga

### AUSTRALIA
- Clairault Estate Wines
- Cullen Wines
- Fermoy Estate
- The Growers
- Leeuwin Estate
- McGuigan Wines
- McWilliams Mount Pleasant Estate
- Oakvale Winery
- Roche Wines
- Tyrrell’s Wines
- Xanadu

### UNITED STATES
#### CALIFORNIA
- NAPA
  - Carneros Creek Winery
  - Chappellet Winery and Vineyard
  - Château Montelena Winery
  - Clos Pegase
  - Flora Springs Winery & Vineyards
  - Hess Collection Winery
  - Jarvis Winery
  - O’Shaughnessy Estate Winery
  - Round Pond Estate
  - Sequoia Grove Vineyards
  - Silver Oak Cellars
  - Twomey Cellars
  - Whitetail Lane Winery

- SONOMA
  - Driscoll Toboni Vineyard
  - DuMOL Winery
  - Gary Farrell Vineyards and Winery Lane
  - Limerick Lane Cellars
  - Murphy-Goode Estate Winery
  - Roche Estate Winery

### WINEGESEE TOURS
- Bordeaux June 2002
- Scotland June 2003
- Napa October 2003
- Bordeaux June 2004
- Spain June 2005
- Sonoma April 2006
- Carton House June 2007
- Bordeaux June 2007
- Australia Sept-Oct 2007
- Napa September 2008
- Normandy June 2009
- Argentina Chile Oct-Nov 2010
- Napa October 2011
- Burgundy June 2012
- Sonoma Napa September 2013
- Rome and Tuscany October 2014
- Willamette Valley Sept-Oct 2015
- Bordeaux June 2016

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