

Events for March and April!  
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## I'ON AT HOME NEWS

### Member Newsletter for March 2018

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**HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY TO ALL OF YOU!!!**

**It's the time for the wearin' o' the green! Don't forget our community celebration at O'Brion's on March 17<sup>th</sup>!**

As many of you know, I'On At Home celebrated its first full year of operation on March 1, so we are now in the process of asking our terrific members to renew their memberships. My heartfelt thanks go out to those of you have responded so quickly. Of the 49 memberships that expired on February 28, 41 have renewed as of March 9. That's 84%!!

To explain the renewal process: our website system automatically sends each member a personalized e-mail three weeks before the membership expires. It includes complete information about your current membership type as well as instructions on renewing. To avoid credit card processing fees, we prefer payment by check or cash. If you have a strong need to use a credit card, that option is on our website.

The IAH Board and other volunteers have worked hard to bring you programs and services that meet your needs. We hope this great renewal rate means that we are succeeding. But we don't intend to stop now. Please give us your suggestions and your feedback, so that we can continue give you what you want.

We are certainly aware, to paraphrase the old saying, that "you can't please all the people all the time." I want to assure each of you, however, that our goal is to come as close to doing that as humanly possible. If you are an IAH member, and we are not meeting your expectations, I invite you to be in touch with me.

I'On At Home is here to offer activities and services that will build a community of support for our members as we "progress in life." While many of us do not require much in the way of services now, we see IAH as "insurance." When the time comes that we do need assistance, our network and this organization will be ready to provide it.

As always, please contact me directly if you have questions or thoughts to share ([brvanwie@gmail.com](mailto:brvanwie@gmail.com) or 843-860-2990).

Becky Van Wie  
President, IAH Board of Directors

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## **FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: MEMBERSHIP IS A BARGAIN!**

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I'On At Home provides a lot of bang for the buck! In addition to a wide range of both educational and social programs, we offer helpful services as well as peace of mind. It's a great perk of living in the I'On Community. And it's a really good deal: do you realize your full family membership actually costs under \$10 a week? That's less than two Starbucks! And a lot more fun with fewer calories!

Members joining in January are Kay Burner and Linda and Richard Felner. Please greet them as you meet them. We'll look forward to their participation and are so glad they've joined.

As Becky mentioned above, 84% of our February-expiring memberships have renewed. Thank you so much. We are delighted that you continue to support this effort. We sincerely hope that those of you who have not renewed yet will

do so. We don't want to lose ANY of you.

For those whose memberships expire in March: you will receive a renewal letter from IAH about two to three weeks before the end of the month, with full instructions on renewal. There is an opportunity to change your membership from "supporting" to "full," or the reverse, if you wish to do so. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Wilbur at wilburme@comcast.net.

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## VOLUNTEER NEWS

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We've added two new services to the Household Chores category. If you're a Full Member, check them out and think about how taking advantage of them can make your life more carefree!

- The first is a **two-hour handyman (or woman) service call**. If your list of typical "honey-dos" keeps getting longer, request this service. One of our skilled handyperson volunteers will be in touch to find out exactly what you need (for example, in two hours, someone could put new flappers in toilets, hang a few pictures, fix a door or gate latch, do touch-up painting in small areas). There are lots of possibilities for ways to use this service. Walk around your house and see what's bugging you – then CALL ON US.
- Do you travel? Then you can use our new **house-watching service**: a neighbor-volunteer keeps an eye on your house while you're away for an extended time, whether it's six weeks or three months. These volunteers will meet with you to understand exactly what needs to be taken care of as they watch your home. Included could be starting a car that has been parked while you're gone; checking your appliances; turning your water on or off as needed; watching for unexpected deliveries like circulars that get left at your door; and watering indoor and outdoor plants. Our volunteers can also be on call if there is an emergency, like a pending severe storm.

The Volunteer Services Committee met with the Membership Committee recently to discuss improving service delivery as well as assigning Membership Liaisons to ALL IAH Members, not just Full Members. This would give every member a "buddy" who is available to answer questions and to check on Members occasionally to be certain all is well.

We continue to work to make IAH more essential in your everyday lives by being prepared to respond to your needs and wishes. Keep reading the newsletter because we plan to announce new or expanded services, each month.

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## **BUY A BOOK, SUPPORT I'ON AT HOME**

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Of course, there's lots more to buy on the Internet beyond books, but shopping for things you'd buy anyway, while using Amazon Smile or IGive, provides financial gifts to IAH.

For Amazon, go to [Smile.Amazon.com](https://Smile.Amazon.com). The site will ask you to select a charity to support—you simply choose Ion At Home (note: NO apostrophe). The Amazon Foundation makes a donation to IAH for virtually all items you purchase through [Smile.Amazon.com](https://Smile.Amazon.com).

For IGive, go to [IGive.com](https://IGive.com), and follow the instructions to download the small button that will install on your browser. Whenever you shop at a participating site, you'll see the IGive logo.

Or simply go to our website, [ionathome.org](https://ionathome.org), and click on the respective links for Amazon and IGive, right on the home page.

Since IAH received its 501(c)(3) approval, we've received \$83 from Amazon Smile and \$210 from IGive. It all adds up!

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## **PREFERRED PROVIDERS**

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One of our goals is to maintain a list of service providers in our area who you've used and would recommend to others. If you'd like to share some names, please forward the contact information to [Arlyn Stoy](#).

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## **PARTICIPANTS ENJOYED RECENT IAH EVENTS**

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**J.Jill Event**



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## IAH EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

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### **Want to make some new friends?**

Our Event and Programs Committee is always on the lookout for new ideas, especially for group activities designed for our members. If you've got a suggestion or are looking for—or would be willing to lead—a group, please get in touch with [Barbara Fowler](#). Some options might be clubs for books, mah jongg, bridge, beer, bourbon or cigar tastings, poker, biking, museum trips, restaurant outings, progressive dinners—there's no limit to your imagination!

We have two great events lined up for the rest of March— perfect choices for the cinephiles and indoor gardeners among you! Please check the website to register.

### **Here's our remaining March events—and there's room remaining for both of them:**

- [Fred's Film Forum](#) (3/14, Members Only)
- [Make Your Spring Flower Container](#) (3/19, Members Only)

### **And April promises some old favorites and new gatherings:**

- [Great Decisions](#) (4/2, Members Only)
- [The Art of Bookbinding and Seeing Treasures](#) (4/5, Members Only)
- [Wine and Cheese Tasting](#) (4/9, Members Only)
- [Spring Decorating Ideas](#) (4/10, Members Only)
- ["Want to Look Younger?" Try Happy Face Yoga](#) (4/10, Members Only)
- [Come and Find Out About Beer](#) (4/13, Members Only)
- [Bird Watching at the Rookery](#) (4/14, Members Only)
- ["Aging in Place" Renovations to Consider](#) (4/24, Members Only)



Follow the links above for more information on our website and to register. If you see that an event in which you are interested is full, please e-mail [ion@ionathome.org](mailto:ion@ionathome.org) or call 843-284-3590 to let us know you'd like to attend. Sometimes our numbers can be stretched a bit, or there may be a cancellation.

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## RESOURCES AND INTERESTING INFORMATION

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In this section, we include information about issues related to advancing in life. If you see something that you think IAH Members and friends might find of interest, please send it to [Deborah Bedell](#).

### Cancer Support

If you've had cancer and would like to help others who've received a diagnosis of the same type of cancer, register at [CanCare.org](#) for volunteer training here in Mt. Pleasant on March 22, 23 or 24.

If you have recently been diagnosed with cancer and would like to request a volunteer to help support you through it, [CanCare.org](#) can find a match for you within 48 hours.

For additional information, contact [Lynn Joye](#) here in I'On.

### MUSC Center on Aging Senior Expo

MUSC will hold its Senior Expo at the Omar Shrine Center here in Mt. Pleasant on May 24. All seniors and caregivers are welcome. The Expo will offer free health screenings, exhibitors and raffle prizes. For more information see the [MUSC website](#).

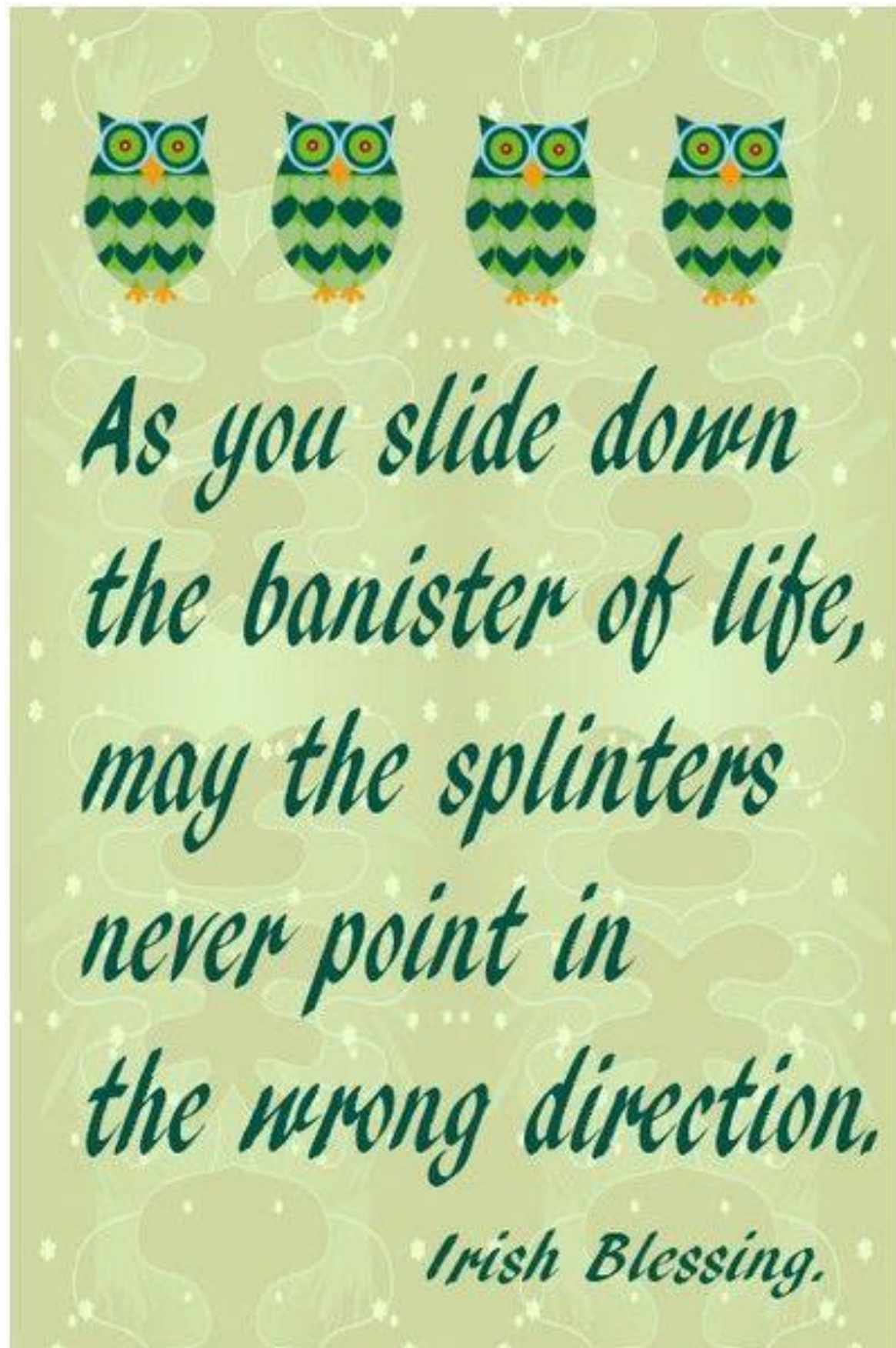
### Some interesting articles:

- Gibson, Caitlin (February 18, 2018), [Sharing Stories from Decades Ago, Older Women Find Their Place in #MeToo](#), *Washington Post*
  - Lagnado, Lucette (February 17, 2018), [In Hospitals, Pneumonia is a Lethal Enemy](#), *Wall Street Journal*
  - Bakalar, Nicholas (March 7, 2018), [For Arthritis Pain, Nonopioid Drugs Work as well as Opioids](#), *New York Times*
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# MARCH IS INTERNATIONAL MIRTH MONTH AND IRISH-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH!

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The perfect combination for celebration:



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## CONTACT US

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Just to be sure you have this information:

- Website: [www.ionathome.org](http://www.ionathome.org)
- E-mail: [ion@ionathome.org](mailto:ion@ionathome.org)
- Phone: 843-284-3590 (office hours 9:00 AM-1:00 PM Monday-Friday; leave a message and someone will get back to you)

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