

O Dea Clan Gathering Washington, DC, July 29, 2000



Hosted by Paul T and Nancy O Day of Annandale with the able assistance of James E and Chris O Dea as well as, Patrick M O Day of Washington this was the O Dea/O Day social event of the year. In all, over 60 guests were at the O Days' home. Guests included clan Tánaiste, Andy and Mel O Dea of Salem SC, Theresa Sherman and family of San Antonio and DC, Joanne and Edward Zehlar of Baltimore, Nancy O Day of Virginia Beach, Helen Polivinale of Fairfield PA, Kate O Day from San Francisco, her sister Peggy from Chicago. There were the extended families of Paul T and Nancy O Dea, those of James E and Chris O Dea many of whom travelled vast distances from places as far away as Florida to be present, as well as, the family of Patrick O Day.

Throughout the afternoon there were talks by Tánaiste, Andy O Day and clan Chairman James O Dea who had come over from Ireland especially for the millennium reunion. Matters ranging from the history of the clan to tracing O Dea/O Day family heritage were the main topics of conversation. Highlight of the evening was a conference call to Wisconsin Rapids where all present could speak with our Hereditary Chieftain Jack O Day and his wife Anola and also with Chieftain Bill O Day. The Wisconsin O Days could not make it to DC because of family commitments but were delighted to be able to talk to all clan members present by phone. A special phone link was also made with clan stalwart Jack O Dea in Brisbane Australia. Jack has not been well of late and is recovering from his illness at a Brisbane nursing home.

The party lasted long into the night helped by copious amounts of draught Guinness which our hosts had so thoughtfully procured for the occasion.

Throughout the week of the re-union there were a number of other events organised for those who'd come to town early. Among these were a party at the apartment of James E and Chris O Dea, trips to Washington's Smithsonian Institute, the White House and Capital Building, Arlington Cemetery, Annapolis, Gettysburg, to name but a few. Our grateful thanks to those who came and especially to hosts Paul T and Nancy O Day, as well as, James E and Chris and Patrick M O Day and all others concerned with the organisation of the event.