



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**NEWPORT, OR** - The Celtic Heritage Alliance has announced their new Board of Directors after elections were held during their recent annual meeting.

We invited several nominees during our search new Board members for positions which were expiring and also to expand our Board membership with the hope of attracting a diverse group of leaders who would guide and advocate for CHA and its mission.

CHA is proud to welcome to its Board of Directors

- Ralph Grutzmacher, Esq. - Mayor of Toledo, Oregon elected as Treasurer
- Kimberly Herring - Lincoln County, elected as Director
- Raymond Mabey - Oregon Department of Transportation, elected as Director

They join current Interim President, Belinda Goody; Secretary, Jill Lyon and Director, Geoff Wilkie. Outgoing Treasurer, Marilyn Winston, will stay on until the close of the calendar year and Belinda Goody will stay on in her current role as President for the interim while CHA continues to recruit suitable replacements for both the President and Vice President positions which expired in November.

Outgoing Vice President, Susan Spencer, devoted her spare time as a founding member of the Newport Celtic Festival since its inception in April 2010 and for the Celtic Heritage Alliance when it became its own entity in July 2011. Susan was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for her distinct contributions which enabled CHA to achieve its mission.

“We are truly proud to have come so far in our journey to, not only create events which represent, promote, and preserve Celtic culture, but in our ability to keep Celtic heritage at the fore. We have successfully facilitated a very tangible experience for our community by enabling cultural connectivity as we grow each of our outreach events and activities,” said Belinda Goody, Interim President.

“Our organization is honored to have these new additions to our Board who are selflessly dedicated to helping us continue to cultivate our mission. We have some exciting new projects on the horizon and with the combined expertise of this group and new leaders yet to come; CHA is poised to have another successful year.”

If you are interested in being a part of the team or to learn more about the Celtic Heritage Alliance, please visit [www.newportcelticfestival.com](http://www.newportcelticfestival.com).

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**PHOTOS** - Courtesy of CHA



(L to R: Belinda Goody, Jill Lyon, Ralph Grutzmacher, Kimberly Herring, Raymond Mabey, Geoff Wilkie)

