

President's Pint of View



I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S SUMMER days or nights that I miss the most already. At least I'm not mowing anymore. Now that fall is past full color and most of them damn leaves have been picked up, I can sit back and enjoy a nice adult beverage, celebrating a job well done.

Speaking of a job well done, I would like to thank all the volunteers, donators and sellers for our past year's events. If you are not one of these people, then it is time for you to step up next year!

I would like to applaud everyone who made a donation or who is headed to the HCI Hospice benefit this weekend. Just because we are done with regular FSOSP events doesn't mean we are done with charitable events. The Hospice benefit and silent auction is one example of how our members are more than just Friendly Sons. It makes me proud to be associated with this organization.

Don't forget this next Monday is our last general meeting at the Mickie Center for 2015. Make sure you get signed up for the December 14 Christmas Dinner at the Downtown Holiday Inn; you don't want to miss it.

As for the November meeting, there's no more baseball to see and we'll get you out so you can see most of the Monday night game. So join us for a rousing T-Report and our famous raffle featuring prizes gathered by our top-notch prize committee, which spares no expense to offer us fabulous prizes of a delectable, international flavor.

So see ya Monday.

President Mike O'Connell

Wearin' of the Grin

The sayings may not be new, but they ring true today more than ever:
"If God wanted us to vote, he would have given us good candidates."
- Jay Leno -
"The problem with political jokes is they get elected."

- Henry Cate, VII -
"We hang the petty thieves and appoint the great ones to public office."
- Aesop -

"If we got one-tenth of what was promised to us in these State of the Union speeches, there wouldn't be any inducement to go to heaven."
- Will Rogers -

"When I was a boy I was told that anybody could become President; I'm beginning to believe it."
- Clarence Darrow -

"Politicians are people who, when they see light at the end of the tunnel, they go out and buy some more tunnel."
- John Quinton -

"Politics is the gentle art of getting votes from the poor and campaign funds from the rich, by promising to protect each from the other."
- Oscar Ameringer -

"I offer my opponents a bargain: if they will stop telling lies about us, I will stop telling the truth about them."
- Adlai Stevenson -

"A politician is a fellow who will lay down your life for his country."
- Tex Guinan -

"I have come to the conclusion that politics is too serious a matter to be left to the politicians."
- Charles de Gaulle -

"Instead of giving a politician the keys to the city, it might be better to change the locks."
- Doug Larson -

"There ought to be one day -- just one -- when there is open season on senators."
- Will Rogers -

The best is from *Harry Truman*: "If you want a real friend that you can trust in Washington, go buy a dog!"



The Blarney

Upcoming:

MEETING November 9

Menu:
"Award-Winning"
Chili w/Bread & Fixin's

CHRISTMAS DINNER

(also the next meeting)
Holiday Inn Downtown
"Top of the Tower"
Dec. 14 / 6-10 p.m.



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NOVEMBER [SAMHAIN] 2015

29th Annual Benefit for HCI Hospice anon

About the time you get this Blarney, you'll have enough time to plan to come to this Friday night's **29th Annual HCI Hospice Dance and Silent Auction**. It's right here in town at the Holiday Inn Downtown, courtesy of FSOSP stalwart Bob Conley.

Doors open at 6 p.m. for the Silent Auction and dance music by FreeStyle starts at 7 p.m. A cash bar and food will be on hand, as well.

The Holiday Inn's "Top of the Tower" will look waaaaaay different to you without its trademark "turntable" dining area. It was removed and the dance floor was enlarged.

The FSOSP is one named, prominent sponsor of this long-standing charitable event. So get there! It's party time, gents. 🍀

29TH ANNUAL

Benefit Dance



Live music by *FreeStyle*
Iowa Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame and
central Iowa's favorite variety dance band!

Friday, Nov. 6

7-10 p.m.

Holiday Inn Downtown
@ "The Top of the Tower"

Live Music

Cash Bar

Dining Specials

Silent Auction
(auction opens at 6 p.m.)

Casual Attire

Proceeds benefit:


HCI hospice
Care Services

Proceeds donated in
the name of:

FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK


ELKS LODGE #98



Admission: \$10 Tickets & Information: (515) 577-3843

Yule certainly enjoy our Dec. 14 Christmas dinner

Give the night a jump-start with cocktails at Cooney’s or Sully’s, if you like, and then make sure to get over to the Holiday Inn Downtown “Top of the Tower” by 6 p.m. for the comraderie of our end-of-the-year social & Christmas dinner.



We’re keeping the same menu choices as last year (see right) and an accurate count for pre-ordering is needed. Check them out and come to this next Monday’s meeting with (1) choice(s) for you & your SO & (2) payment. It’s still \$50/couple with the club subsidizing the bill.

Deadline for any last-minute, “Hey, I didn’t hear...” whining is Dec. 7. It’s not a cafeteria...the chef is a linear, plan-ahead kind of guy.

Gifts for the ladies are in-hand already and you’ll enjoy music & entertainment from Kelly’s Clan and the Foy Dancers and a deluxe cash bar. The Irish-theme tree, initiated last year, will again be on display.

Count on a bounteous raffle table, laden with prizes to delight one and all.

Bring your own ebullient holiday cheer & attitude and you’ll find that you can’t end the year in a better fashion, cavorting with friends.

See you there! 🍀

How the Internet began...really...trust me...

In ancient Israel, it came to pass that a trader by the name of Abraham Com did take unto himself a healthy young wife by the name of Dorothy (Dot for short). Dot Com was a comely woman, large of breast, broad of shoulder and long of leg. Indeed, she was often called Amazon Dot Com.

And she said unto Abraham, her husband, “Why dost thou travel so far from town to town with thy goods, when thou canst trade without ever leaving thy tent?”

And Abraham did look at her as though she were several saddle bags short of a camel load, but simply said, “How, dear?”

And Dot replied, “I will place drums in all the towns and drums in between to send messages saying what you have for sale, and they will reply telling you who hath the best price. The sale can be made on the drums and delivery made by Uriah’s Pony Stable (UPS).”

Abraham thought long and decided he would let Dot have her way with the drums. And the drums rang out and were an immediate success. Abraham sold all the goods he had at the top price, without ever having to move from his tent.

To prevent neighboring countries from overhearing what the drums were saying, Dot devised a system that only she and the drummers knew. It was known as Must Send Drum Over Sound (MSDOS), and she also developed a language to transmit ideas and pictures, Hebrew to The People (HTTP).

And the young men did take to Dot Com’s trading as doth the greedy horseflies take to camel dung. They were called Nomadic Ecclesiastical Rich Dominican Sybarites, or NERDS. And lo, the land was so feverish with joy at the new riches and the deafening sound of drums that no one noticed that the real riches were going to that enterprising drum dealer, Brother William of Gates, who bought off every drum maker in the land. Indeed he did insist on drums to be made that would work only with Brother Gates’ drumheads and drumsticks.

And Dot did say, “Oh, Abraham, what we have started is being taken over by others.” And Abraham looked out over the Bay of Ezekiel, or eBay, as it came to be known. He said, “We need a name that reflects what we are.”

And Dot replied, “Young Ambitious Hebrew Owner Operators.”

“YAHOO,” said Abraham. And because it was Dot’s idea, they named it YAHOO Dot Com.

Abraham’s cousin, Joshua, being the young Gregarious Energetic Educated Kid (GEEK) that he was, soon started using Dot’s drums to locate things around the countryside.

It soon became known as God’s Own Official Guide to Locating Everything (GOOGLE). That is how it all began. Don’t bother to check with Snopes...it’s all true...honest.... 🍀

Christmas Menu



CHOICE OF:

- FILET MIGNON - TENDERLOIN SERVED WITH RED WINE DEMI GLAZE
- BAKED SALMON – FILET SERVED WITH CITRUS BUTTER SAUCE
- CHICKEN DE BURGO – SAUTEED BREAST FINISHED WITH SAVORY GARLIC-BASIL SAUCE

SERVED WITH:

- TOSSED SALAD WITH DRESSINGS
- GARLIC MASHED POTATOES
- CHEF’S CHOICE VEGETABLE
- ASSORTED WARM ROLLS AND BUTTER
- BAILEY’S IRISH CREAM CUSTARD
- COFFEE, DECAFFEINATED COFFEE, TEA AND MILK



Board News

Reservations for the Dec. 14 FSOSP Christmas dinner at Holiday Inn Downtown are due ASAP. The upcoming November meeting would be an ideal time to take care of that.

Peruse the opposite page to decide on your menu choices and bring a check or cash for \$50.



A recent board donation to Amanda the Panda was increased from \$1000 to \$1,350 in order to help with their new calendar project.

That organization provides year-long grief support services to all Iowa families who have experienced the death of a loved one.

In return, we become a Premier Sponsor, recognized on the front cover, as well as in a specific month. There will be a banner on the month’s page and we will be that month’s Family Night sponsor.

The FSOSP will be featured on the organization website and newsletter and will be recognized on their donor wall in Amanda’s House.

This sponsorship will bring a lot of marketing to the FSOSP. (More info is in the letter at right...)



In addition, a motion was passed to donate \$1,500 to HCI Hospice Care Services, continuing a long-standing commitment to support this valuable organization as a principal sponsor of the annual November benefit.



Following up on our successful Halfway to St. Pat’s Bike Ride, all that is needed is to order more shirts for those who registered. Dealing with a registration over-response is not a bad problem, eh?



A request has been made to Polk County that could yield a grant anywhere from \$250 to \$5,000. FSOSP member Jack Blackford is handling that and we’re hoping for some good news there.



Originally, the plan was for a new cook to mentor with Bill McCarthy for a year and then assume those duties. Now, we are looking at the idea of others taking on a month each to share the load, so to speak.

Never one to shy away from a challenge, Mike Murphy has has offered to take care of the January meeting. Let’s hope his efforts go beyond boiling a pot of spuds.

Speaking of food, Bill McCarthy and George Hed-dinger promise us their award-winning chili next week. Yum! 🍀

BLARNEY BITS

Here is Amanda the Panda’s Laura Holms to explain more about our donation of \$1,350 to this fine organization that helps families deal with the grief of the loss of a loved one:



“We are so grateful for the Friendly Sons’ continued support of Amanda the Panda.

A new project is a calendar, sponsored by a number of businesses/organizations, to provide information about our organization and help us reach out to Iowa families who need our services.

These calendars will be sent to each family receiving a Holiday Cheerbox, as well as our donors and local funeral homes and schools, where many families are first referred to us. They will have great artwork with powerful messages of hope and healing.

We are proud to have served more than 35,000 people over the course of our 35 years and this project will represent some of our history as well as our vision for the future.

The Friendly Sons would be a great addition to the calendar and definitely March would be the ideal month!

Thanks so much for your invaluable help over the years!” 🍀



Upcoming events

Nov. 6
29TH ANNUAL HOSPICE BENEFIT / 6-10 P.M.
HOLIDAY INN DOWNTOWN, “TOP OF THE TOWER”

Nov. 18
STU RYAN O’BRIEN IRISH SING-ALONG / 7-9 P.M.
SULLY’S PUB, WDM

DEC. 2
PIRANHA BROS. / 7-9 P.M.
SULLY’S PUB, WDM

DEC. 5
100 DAYS TO ST. PAT’S PARTY
SULLY’S PUB, WDM

JAN. 23
TEN STRINGS & A GOAT SKIN / CMA CONCERT
HOLY TRINITY, BEAVERDALE

