

President's
Pint of View



LOOK WHAT THE STATE FAIR CAT
drug in! As far as I'm concerned this is best thing I saw at the fair, our



past prez **Bob O'Hern** looking fit as a fiddle. Bob tells me that his treatments are going well and hopes to join us for our Christmas Party. Let's keep Bob and his family in our thoughts and prayers. See you Monday at the meeting.

With the end of the fair means fall is just around the corner and that means we have a bike ride coming up. It's our last fundraiser for the year so it's crunch time to crank up our raffle ticket

Remember this is what makes the ride a success. Slainte!

President Mike O'Connell

Wearin' of the Grin

An Italian husband and wife were having dinner at a very fine restaurant when an absolutely stunning young woman comes over to their table, gives the husband a big open-mouthed kiss, says she'll see him later and walks away.

The wife glares at her husband and says, "Who was that?"

"Oh," replies the husband, "she's my mistress."

"Well, that's the last straw," says the wife. "I've had enough, I want a divorce!"

"I can understand that," replies her husband, "but remember, if we get a divorce it will mean no more shopping trips to Paris, no more wintering in Barbados, no more summers in Tuscany, no more Jaguar in the garage and no more yacht club. No more credit card and large bank accounts. But...the decision is all yours."

Just then, a mutual friend enters the restaurant with a gorgeous babe on his arm.

"Who's that woman with Tony?" asks the wife.

"That's his mistress," says her husband.

"Ours is much prettier," she replies.



The older we get the wiser we become. I've disconnected our home alarm system and quit our candy-ass Neighborhood Watch.

Last week I bought two Pakistani flags on eBay and raised them in the front yard, one at each corner, plus a black flag of ISIS in the center.

Now, the local police, sheriff, FBI, CIA, NSA, Homeland Security, Secret Service and other agencies are all watching the house 24/7.

I've never felt safer and we're saving \$49.95 a month.

Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick
The Mickie Center #241
1620 Pleasant
Des Moines, IA 50309



Upcoming:

MEETING

September 14

Menu:

Smoked Chops

Beans / Potato Salad / Bread

FALL BIKE RIDE

Sept. 19

NEXT MEETING

Oct. 12



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The Blarney

SEPTEMBER [MEÁN FÓMHAIR] 2015

Saddle Up/ me lads/ for our Halfway to St. Pat's Ride/ Sept. 19

As of our September meeting evening, 185 days and 6 hours will remain until St. Patrick's Day next spring. And on the morning of our **Annual FSOSP "Halfway to St. Pat's" Ride** a mere 180 days shall loom before us.

We feel it's never too soon to get the St. Pat's party started, though, so we're looking to see hundreds of bikers show up on the Great Western Trail on Saturday, Sept. 19.

Almost \$1500 sponsorship money is already in hand and much appreciated!

No advance registration is planned. Most riders make up their minds on a given morning, anyway.

Bikers can hit Orlondo's on Park that morning to register for \$25 anytime after 11 a.m. and souvenir shirts will be available. While you grease your throat for the grueling ride ahead, enter the "Best Irish Theme" contest, if you've given yourself or your bike a fine Gaelic grooming.

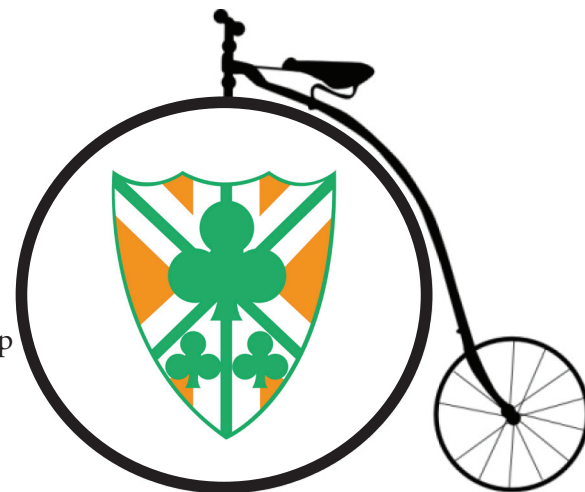
All will hit the path about noon or so and the day's activities include:

*Drink opps along the way in Orilla
Spud & Spoon Races at the Cumming Tap (turnaround bar)
Music with Old School from 2-5 p.m. at the Tap
Raffle prize money totalling \$950*

Raffle ticket sales are crucial to the success of these FSOSP events, so pick up a book or two at the meeting next week to sell to friends & neighbors. Only 500 tickets will be sold so the odds of winning some of the \$950 in prize money are high. Winners can take home a \$500 first prize, \$250 second prize, or one of the four \$50 prizes.

Note: In the morning, use trailhead parking areas to help keep the lot open at Orlondo's for regular business that day (let's keep Pat happy).

And please remember: Cats don't like riding on bicycles, no matter how much duct tape you use. 🍀



Wanted: A new ‘crew of chew’ for the

For many years, our faithful club chefs have been supplying extraordinary meals for the various 40-60 Sons who attend our meetings monthly. They always come through & we bow to them! Never underestimate the time and effort they put forth to fill our bellies. It’s a creative endeavor. Each month they start with the question: What goes good with beer? Welllllll...darn near anything, I guess, ’eh? Actually, we expect traditional meals rotated throughout the year, from the wintertime pastas, to corned beef in April, steak in May, a pork-based “luau” in June, and a fish fry in July. We enjoy the burger and brat “picnic” for our Friends of the Friends meeting in August, a potato salad and brat delight at Oktoberfest time, and the inimitable “award-winning” chili in November. Alas, **Bill McCarthy, Jim and George Hedding, Jon Gyldenbrand** and their friends are ready to “pass the ladle” to new wanna-be cooks. Give yourself a good look in the mirror and see if you’ve got that Food Network mojo to take up the kitchen reins and help us out. Never fear, you’ll be leveraged in smoothly with lots of help and advice. At the next meeting, come up to the head table and let us know if you’re motivated to take over. 🍀



Our ‘friends’ were given heartfelt thanks in August

When the dust settled about 8:30 p.m. on August 10, a whole room of special invitees were aware of the value we put on our relationships, many of them multi-yeared. At our annual “Friends of the Friends” August event, **President Mike O’Connell** kicked off the night saying, “Tonight we proudly thank the donors who help us in our efforts to give back to the community we serve. Who knew that years ago, a few Irish guys sitting around Sully’s in WDM would come up with an idea that would lead to this.” The board addressed invites to almost 80 recipients about two weeks ago and the room was filled. Some former queens were welcomed and many organizations, such as HCI Hospice Care Services and Iowa Mentor, were represented by spokesmen that night. It is satisfying to see so much is being done for others. 🍀



Hospice Benefit help needed

Ed Kelly and his committee are working hard to present a memorable 29th Annual HCI Hospice Benefit Dance on Nov. 6. On the front burner: the need for Silent Auction items at the dance. Would you please contact him with any donations of items or certificates you can obtain from businesses you have an “in” with? Also, the “Wine Grab” is a big money-maker. At the Grab that night, people pay \$10 for a “mystery” bottle. To do a small, but important part in this charity effort, you could donate a bottle of wine, any style, with a \$10 or higher value. Just bring it to the next meeting. Thanks! 🍀

Board News

Good news from the board treasurer: All bank discrepancies have been cleared up. Be assured **Mr. Murphy** has a sure hand on the financial tiller and we are sailing smoothly with a current balance of \$17,214, as of the end of last month. But that was before...

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September donations were approved to:
Celtic Music Association (\$1000)
Plymouth Grounds Coffee House (\$500)
Prospect Park Disc Golf Course (\$800)
Amanda the Panda (\$1000)

The board voted to wait to distribute those monies after the bike ride event this month.

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The FSOSP Prize Committee has been on the road this past week, seeking out ever-wonderful raffle items, looking high and low, hither and yon, Smith and Wesson, to find delights of an international flavor.

During a late-night game of Pachisi in the hotel, mention was made that many Sons might appreciate knowing about **Emmetsburg's St. Pat's Assoc. Irish Shop**.

If you're looking for that special Irish gift for yourself or others, pay them a visit at 1001 Broadway. Phone them at 712-852-4326 for special orders or inquiries and ask for Billie Jo.

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Lord knows it’s always hard to find a few good people willing to step up and help out with running events, but **Ed Kelly, Mike O’Connell** and **Pat Rhoades** are no “sunshine patriots,” to be sure! For years they have selflessly offered their services in judging chili at the Krepes family’s Stockman’s Inn during the state fair.

On August 22 they once again put their palates and stomachs on the line to adjudicate almost 20 delectable entries.

Slainte, gentlemen! (and pass the Roloids) 🍀



BLARNEY BITS

An unexpected guest at the August meeting was **Jon Connors**, courtesy of his host **LJ Pollak**. Connors is a 4th generation Irishman from Boston. One June 14th he set out from NYC on a trans-continental bicycle tour the hard way, from east to west, trying to spread the word about the importance of buying local. One week ago he posted: “Thank you to all the support in getting 50% of the way across the country. 1,733 miles down, 1,747 to go. I leave Lincoln, NE tomorrow en route to Denver, CO. 500 miles, with a 4,500 ft incline.” At press time he had just entered Colorado. Track his exploits on *Facebook*: *jonconnors* or his webpage: *http://cycle2evolve.tumblr.com*. 🍀

Sully’s has fun, fall treats for you: First, on **Sept. 16**, come join the craic at the **Stu Ryan O’Brien Irish Sing-along**, held every “3rd Wednesday” from 7-9 p.m.

Next, on **Oct. 4**, you can be part of: **Sully’s Super Slow Sunday Funday Bicycle Ride**. Race starts at 2 p.m. and wings, drink specials and give-aways will be on hand. Prizes for the winners! 🍀

This next month, **Wednesday, Oct. 7**, the “**First Wednesday**” music jam at Sully’s will return. The Piranha Bros. will host & back all comers in playing tunes from the wide world’s library of music.

Owners **Bill and Amy Boggs** welcome you and say patrons will find that \$3 covers Guinness and all crafts and imports. 🍀

Upcoming events

- SEPT. 16**
STU RYAN O’BRIEN IRISH SING-ALONG
7-9 P.M.
SULLY’S PUB, 110 GRAND, WDM
- SEPT. 18**
KELLY’S CLAN @ THE WORLD FOOD/MUSIC EXPO
1-3 P.M.
DOWNTOWN DSM
- OCT. 7**
MUSIC JAM / 7-9 P.M.
&
“CUSTOMER APPRECIATION NIGHT”
SULLY’S PUB, 110 GRAND, WDM