



AS I SIT HERE TYPING MY THOUGHTS ONCE AGAIN I can't believe it is already Labor Day. Summer has almost passed and it is time once again for our final fundraiser of the year, and fellas, we need this one. Our revenue is down and we are moving into the time when we typically start to distribute our donations.

At the risk of sounding like a broken record, we need all the help we can get. If you can make it out for the ride, please come out and join us. If you can't make it for the entire day, come and join us for some good music provided by Ed Kelly's band Old School and a pint or two down at the Cumming Tap (heck last year a wedding party showed up; who knows what will happen this year).

If you have a book of tickets checked out, please do your best to sell them or turn them in to T-Bone so we can sell them the day of the ride.

On a side note, the friends of the Friendly Sons meeting last month was a great success. We donated close to 200 pounds of food and over \$200 to the Food Bank of Iowa.

Nice work! It is always good to meet those that help us and those whom we help. Stay classy Sons.

President Mike Schuck

Wearin' of the Grin

A new Army captain was assigned to an outfit in a remote post in the Afghan Desert. During his first inspection of the outfit, he noticed a camel hitched up behind the mess tent.

He asked the sergeant why the camel was kept there.

The nervous sergeant said, "Sir, as you know, there are 250 men here on the post and no women. Sometimes the men have urges. That's why we have Molly the camel."

The captain said, "I can't say that I condone this, but I can understand about the 'urges', so the camel can stay."

About a month later, the captain starts having his own 'urges.' Crazy with lust, he asked the sergeant to bring the camel to his tent. Putting a ladder behind the camel, the captain stands on the ladder, pulls his pants down and makes passionate love to the camel.

When he's done, he asked the sergeant, "Is that how the men do it?"

"No sir. They usually just ride the camel into town. That's where the girls are."



Please boycott and do NOT use the \$1.00, \$20.00, \$50.00, & \$100.00 bills, as they have images of slave owners on them. Please send them to me, and I will see to it that they are disposed of properly. Thank you very much!!



Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick
The Mickie Center #241
1620 Pleasant
Des Moines, IA 50314



Upcoming:

MEETING

September 11

Menu:

"Chef's Surprise"

[nourishing & satisfying]

FALL BIKE RIDE

Sept. 16

NEXT MEETING

Oct. 9



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The Blarney

SEPTEMBER [MEÁN FÓMHAIR] 2017

Get 'yer butts in gear for biking 9/16



The half-way point to St. Pat's is worthy of celebration. Try beer-drinking, whiskey-sipping, name-your-own-vice chugging...whatever. And, if you're in the mood for a little cardio, some bike-riding, 'eh?

If we lost you on that last cycle craic item, no worries. Show up anyway at our buddy Pat Renda's bar, Orlondo's on Park, on Sept. 16 and we'll get you in the swing of things for a wild whoopee party when we host our 2017 **Annual FSOSP "Halfway to St. Pat's" Ride** on the

Great Western Trail. Come to ride or just cheer on those who do.

Y'all got a raffle ticket booklet to sell? With only 500 tickets sold the odds someone you sell to will get some of the \$950 in prize money are way more than average, as we've often seen in past years.

At minimum, just one book is all you need to sell...just 10 tickets. You don't need to be reminded that if we get our annual fundraising done with these easy steps, we get to make the charity donations we are known for. (*If not...well...it's "Mission Impossible."*)

These events don't just happen without a lot of help from the membership. Ride day volunteers are needed and we'll have a short gathering at next Monday's meeting to get everyone organized.

Yes, we'll have drink specials (*right, Pat?*), a souvenir orange, long-sleeve, dri-fit shirt for riders, and contest & raffle prizes. Banners are up at the bars, so "Let's ride!" 🍀

RIDE TIMELINE

11:00 Registration at Orlondo's (*volunteers should come about 10 a.m. to prep for the day*)

All riders will sign up "day-of," not in advance or on-line.

The merch table will be set up that morning, as well.

12:45 Judging for Best Irish-themed Bike (*decorate yourself and your bike*)

1:00 (or so) Bikers leave for Cumming

2:00-5:00 Kelly's Old School band plays at Cumming Tap

4:00 Spud & Spoon Races (*teams of two*)

5:00 Raffle Drawings (*prizes of \$500, \$250, and four \$50*)





To be sure, just as “everyone’s Irish on St. Pat’s,” everyone is German during Oktoberfest each year and you’ll soon be blissfully enjoying this month’s activities in Des Moines or its surrounding communities.

On Sept. 22-23 the historic Court District will offer a Craft Beer Village, Lederhosen Lane, Carnival Corner and the Silent Disco Party Plaza.

You can pay \$7 for a 1-day general admission or \$12 for a weekend pass.

Don’t want to be in the downtown swirl? Try Ankeny’s suburban celebration from 2-10 p.m. on Sept. 23 in cool new outdoor pavilions in the “old-town” area, just south off of First St. at the bike trail (think north of Firetrucker Brewery). Beer, music, food trucks, contest prizes... all for \$12.

Those are just examples of what you can find in towns all around the state during this festive time. In addition, nine major festivals will soon be on tap, stretching from Sept. 16 to Oct. 14. Here are a few of the best:

Dubuque Oktoberfest - Dubuque, IA - Sept. 16

“Rain or shine under the tri-states’ largest festival tent. Event runs from 11 AM to 7 PM. Bier tasting from 3 to 6 pm with 25+ breweries. Live music, food, dancing, wiener dog races. Proceeds benefit Camp Albrecht Acres. General admission tickets are \$5 with bier tasting tickets \$25.”

Fort Dodge Oktoberfest - Fort Dodge, IA - Sept. 23

“Featuring a large bier garten tent with custom wooden dance floor, food & a variety of draught beers on tap and live college football broadcasts all day.”

Amana Oktoberfest - Amana, IA - Sept. 29 to Oct. 1

“Beer keg tapping (Friday at 2), parade (Saturday), live entertainment, games and activities. Other contests: log sawing, brat eating and the timber trek. Fest-halle admission is \$10 for one day and \$15 for two days.”

Northside Oktoberfest - Iowa City, IA - Sept. 30

“10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 200 N Linn St., Iowa City. Includes brewfest with over 500 beers, Sodafest, 14 local food venders, live music, beaked chicked dance, adult contests. Admission is \$20 which gets you a .2L Kolsch glass & 8 drink tickets. Additional tickets \$.50 for samples costing from 1-4 drink tickets.”

Adventureland Oktoberfest - Altoona, IA - Sept. 30

“General admission is \$25 online. VIP ticket is \$500 each (2 person minimum). Rain or shine event. 21+ only.”

Burlington Lions Club Oktoberfest - Burlington, IA - Oct. 7

The club’s signature event on the first Saturday in October. German food including bratwurst and sauerkraut. Bavarian musicians. Games including Stein Hoist. Authentic attire contest.

Manning Oktoberfest - Manning, IA - Oct. 14, 2017

“German food, polka music, dance lessons and Hausbarn tours. 5 PM keg tapping with Home Brew contest followed by German music and dancing from 7-10:30 p.m.”

Learn more at funtober.com/oktoberfest/iowa. 🍀

As with Mardi Gras celebrations, this well-known German carnival has long encouraged alcohol consumption over a 16-day period. And, alas, many of us can attest that alcohol brings on a more beastial carnality.

This month you may find your friends “swatting,” which is to drink voraciously...and with a noise, as a duck does.

A 1592 book by Thomas Nashe described several animal-inspired archetypes of drunks:

The first is **ape-drunk** where he “leaps and sings and hollers and danceth to the heavens.” (*Anyone you know?*)

The second is **lion-drunk** and he “flings the pots about the house, calls his hostess whore, breaks the glass windows with his dagger, and is apt to quarrel with any man that speaks to him.” (*Got a few in mind here...*)

Third is **swine-drunk**, “heavy, lumpish and sleepy and cries for a little more drink.”

Fourth would be **sheep-drunk**, a drunk “wise in his own conceit when he can’t bring forth a right word.”

Beyond these four were the **martin-drunk**, a drunk man “who drinks himself sober ere he stir,” the **goat-drunk**, “who, in his drunkenness hath no mind but on lechery.” (*Hit close to home?*)

Do some classifying of your friends this month! 🍀

Board News

Believe it or not, Ripley, we are still dealing with some city bills for the March parade.

Fact: parade costs and our fund resources don’t match and that can’t be avoided any longer.

We’re currently looking for grants and sponsors, but the sore spot is the “two-standard” treatment of parade events in DM.

It’s not clear why some require expensive fencing (ours) and others (Gay Pride, State Fair, Beaverdale, etc.) don’t.

President Tim Schuck has asked for a multi-year report on past parade expenses to be prepared by **Treasurer Josh Soliday** and **Parade Chair-for-Life Mike Dennis** has arranged for a “come to Jesus” meeting (*too strong?*) with city reps sometime in October.

Fact: we are a charity organization, not a parade organization. And we just don’t have the money to keep supporting one, even next year’s.

Film at eleven.



The **August “Friends of the Friends” meeting** was a big success. The donations collected in lieu of the regular monthly meal fee meant about \$250 and over 200 lbs. of food went to the **Iowa Food Bank**.

It’s rewarding to think that each \$1 will provide about 4 meals for those who need them.

Next year, the board is thinking of asking the membership to only contribute money, say \$5-10, rather than collect any canned goods because the money does so much to help that organization.



We signed on to help with the 9 & 10 a.m. **Miracle League games on Sept. 30**.

Only 8-10 volunteers are needed and a sign-up will be at the head table next week.

The board voted to make a \$500 donation to that group, as well.

Requiescat in pace

He didn’t attend many meetings, but paid dues faithfully. We sadly note that FSOSP member **Frank Carroll** passed away on August 22.

Showing off his family on the Carroll float in the annual St. Pat’s Parade every year gave him pride.

Our condolences to his many children, grandchildren and siblings. Slainte, Frank!

BLARNEYBITS

Seems as though many of the Sons are not aware that **Cooney’s Tavern** in north Beaverdale hosts a music session monthly.

You can hear some fine **trad music on the 3rd Tuesday of each month** from 7 p.m. “till 10-ish,” says owner **Brian Cooney**. 🍀

Our friends **Bill and Amy Boggs** have successfully transplanted **Sully’s Pub** “around the corner” from Grand Ave. to First St. in WDM.

The new kitchen is rockin’ and all reports are that the hard-core regulars like the new digs.

A variety of events from music to prize competitions are on each month’s schedule.

Make a note: **every Saturday in September will be a Hawkeye I-Club Game Watch**. You’ll find \$2 bottles/draws/wells, food specials and give-aways and a raffle. Oh, yeah, good football-watching, too! 🍀

Some last-minute **Celtic Music Assn.** news: Look for the CMA entry in the Beaverdale Fall Fest Parade, along with the Foy Dancers and the Iowa Scottish Pipes & Drums groups.

Also, the first concert this season will be **Skipper’s Alley on Oct. 21 at Holy Trinity @ 8 p.m.** 🍀

Here’s the **Irish Cocktail of the Month: Screaming Orgasm**

Combine equal amounts vodka, Kahlua, Amaretto and Baileys. Build all ingredients over ice in an old fashioned glass & serve over ice.

This drink can also be layered and drunk as a shooter. 🍀

Upcoming events

- SEPT. 6
TRIVIA NIGHT SULLY’S PUB, 860 1st, WDM
- SEPT. 13
ED KELLY SULLY’S PUB, 860 1st, WDM
- SEPT. 15
KELLY’S CLAN @ THE WORLD FOOD/MUSIC EXPO, 1-3 P.M. DOWNTOWN DSM
- SEPT. 20
STU RYAN O’BRIEN SULLY’S PUB, 860 1st, WDM