



upcoming events

APR. 11

ED KELLY ACOUSTIC CRAIC

@ SULLY'S PUB - 8-10 P.M.

IRISH PUB MUSIC W/ DRINK SPECIALS

APR. 18

TROPHY HUSBAND TRIVIA CONTEST

@ SULLY'S PUB - 7-10 P.M.

APR. 25

STU RYAN O'BRIEN IRISH PUB MUSIC

@ SULLY'S PUB - 7-10 P.M.

IRISH SING-A-LONG

MAY 2

TROPHY HUSBAND TRIVIA CONTEST

@ SULLY'S PUB - 7-10 P.M.

MAY 5

KENTUCKY DERBY PARTY

@ SULLY'S - 12 P.M.

FREE MINT JULEP BAR @ 2:30

DERBY-THEMED PRIZES FOR BEST HAT

FOOD & DRINK SPECIALS...RACE STARTS 5:30

MAY 12

ANNUAL IRISH OPEN DISC GOLF TOURNEY

@ GRANDVIEW PARK - 10 A.M.

\$30 EARLY REGISTRATION ONLINE

@ FRIENDLYSONSIOWA.COM

SOUVENIR DISCS, FOOD & PRIZES

MAY 25-28

32ND ANNUAL CHICAGO GAELIC PARK IRISH FESTIVAL

OAK FOREST, IL / 4-DAY PASS \$28 / DAILY \$10



upcoming:

Monthly Meeting

April 9 / 6:30 p.m.

Menu:

Corned Beef w/Cabbage,
Carrots, Potatoes & Bread

Next Meeting

May 14

Irish Open Disc Golf

May 12

Grandview Park

Leprechaun Open

June 16

Copper Creek in Pleasant Hill



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Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick
The Mickle Center #241
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Des Moines, IA 50314



The Blarney

april (aibreán) 2018

still got a grand after-paddy's glow?

All the St. Patrick's hoo-hah is finally over and we barely hung on. But in the wake of last month's Irish Spirit sunami we have a proud new Irishman of the Year, a regal Queen for 2018 and a passel of lucky raffle winners.

Before we go any further, let's tip one to the organizing point men who made it all transpire so smoothly, **Parade Chairman-for-Life Mike Dennis** ("Dilly, dilly!") and the Friendly Son who stepped up in our time of need, **T-Bone** ("Ditto dillies!")

Dennis will be on the mend for a few more weeks yet, recovering from his winter car accident. After many operations he says he has more metal in him than a '57 Chevy but he's rarin' to get back and he sends his best to y'all.

T-Bone stepped into his shoes to keep the parade rollin' and says it was a "fantastic" success, in his opinion. The board agrees.

Plusses? Over 30 club volunteers helped with the management that fine March day and the old chaos in the de-staging zone was largely contained. Plans are underway to make it run even better next year. Also, the new announcing stands were well-received.

If you haven't already, give **Andy Harkin** a hearty congrats for being chosen Irishman of the Year. It's long-overdue recognition and he will bask in the honor proudly throughout 2018. Huzzah!

Queen Elizabeth Douglas impressed the selection committee in her interview at the Mickle Center on March 8. She was chosen over two other worthy candidates and she hit the ground running, making her first public appearance on March 25, firing the starting pistol at the Annual 5K/10K Run.

She lives in Huxley and has a Bachelor of Science (BSN) degree in nursing and works in the Emergency Dept. at Mary Greeley Medical Center in Ames.

"I have family located in both Melrose and Georgetown and I hope to make my Uncle T-Bone and my Grandpa George ("River") proud this year. I've always wanted to get involved in the Sons and my family and I have been involved in events, the parade and fundraising for years.

"I think highly of the Sons for their devotion and their efforts to support local Des Moines Metro charities.

"During my time at Mercy College I spent a lot of time involved in many of the same organizations, such as Children's Cancer Connection, DMARC, House of Mercy, and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

"I'd love nothing more than to continue these efforts with the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick," she said. 🍀



march in the rearview...



New "Coneheads" are the Craig Clan: Dan, Rocky, Randy & Steve

Indianola HS senior Gabe Pottebaum was one of our 5K/10K \$500 scholarship winners.

WEARIN' OF THE GRIN



Old Adult Truths
(You know who you are!)

1. Sometimes I'll look down at my watch 3 consecutive times and still not know what time it is.

2. Nothing irks me more than that moment during an argument when I realize I'm dead wrong.

3. I totally take back all those times I didn't want to nap when I was a youngster.

4. We really need a sarcasm font.

5. How the hell are you supposed to fold a fitted sheet?

6. Was learning cursive really necessary?

7. Map Quest or Google Maps really need to start their directions on #5...I'm pretty sure I know how to get out of my neighborhood.

8. Obituaries would be a lot more interesting if they told you how the person died.

9. I can't remember the last time I wasn't at least kind of tired.

10. Bad decisions make for good stories.

11. You never know when it will strike, but there comes a moment when you know that you just aren't going to do anything productive for the rest of the day.

12. Can we all just agree to ignore whatever comes after Blu-Ray? I don't want to have to restart my collection....again.

13. I'm always slightly terrified when I exit out of Word and it asks me if I want to save any changes to my ten-page technical report that I swear I did not make any changes to.
14. I keep some people's phone numbers in my phone just so I know not to answer when they call.

15. I think the freezer deserves a light as well.

16. I disagree with Kay Jewelers. I would bet on any given Friday or Saturday night more kisses begin with Miller Light than Kay.

17. I have a hard time deciphering the fine line between boredom and hunger.

18. How many times is it appropriate to say "What?" before you just nod and smile because you still didn't hear or understand a word they said?

19. I love the sense of camaraderie when an entire line of cars team up to prevent a jerk from cutting in at the front.
Stay strong, lads and lassies!

20. Shirts get dirty. Underwear gets dirty. Pants? Pants never get dirty...and you can wear them forever.

21. Even under ideal conditions people have trouble locating their car keys in a pocket, finding their cell phone, and Pinning the Tail on the Donkey.
But I'd bet everyone can find and push the snooze button from 3 feet away, in about 1.7 seconds, eyes closed, first time, every time.

22. The first testicular guard, the "cup," was used in hockey in 1874 and the first helmet was used in 1974. It only took 100 years for men to realize that their brain is also important.

board news

Unreservedly, the parade was a huge success (some would say "bigly!") but the board feels a vital change to our **parade prep & promo efforts** next year will be to get OUR NAME attached to the parade when it's mentioned! We need to make every effort to get our brand out to the public.

Also, it would be nice if every social media mention of a "post-parade party" highlighted our public reception at the Marriott and not just Court Avenue's blowout.

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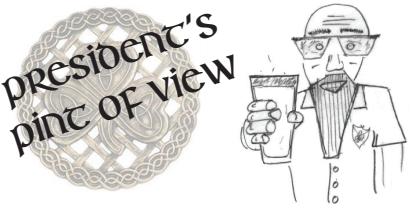
A change in **sponsorship designations** will be to give any \$250 level donor year-long recognition on banners and clothing. It's a fine thank-you to those who step up to help when we need it.

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The new "50/50 Raffle" that T-Bone inaugurated at the 5K/10K Run was a hit. **John Kirkpatrick** won half the pot, \$215, and then donated back the \$20 he spent on tickets to our takings. Huzzah to John!

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Treasurer Josh Soliday's efforts paid off and Polk County awarded the FSOSP a **\$5000 grant** towards our parade expenses. The other grant proposal submitted is undecided at this time. Film at eleven.



Well, Spring has sprung and another St. Patrick's Day has come and gone. So, take a deep breath, sit back and pat yourself on the back for hosting yet another successful event. I would like to say thank you to all who helped us on that day. Without your help, it all would not be possible. I would also like to thank all of our members who participated in the parade, especially those who carried our banner. And lastly, I would like to thank Mike Dennis and T-Bone once again for their efforts.

As you all know, the parade was immediately followed up by the run, which was a success as well. Thank you, John and Tony. These events helped to fill our coffers to a more comfortable level and get us on track to write some checks to the organizations we missed last year due to a funding shortage.

The success of these events is due in no small way to the new ideas we are presented with via the board and members alike. As always, if you have an idea, no matter how hair-brained or outlandish you may think it is, please share it. It could help the club; after all, this entire club was at one time someone's "Big Idea." I look forward to seeing you all at the April meeting!

Stay classy, Sons. *President Tim Schuck*



bLARNEYbITS

Our brewmeisters, **Mike Hall** and **Ken Murray**, have been at it again and plan to present us with an Irish Stout and an Irish Blonde this month. Don't miss 'em!

And, to wet your whistle, here are some interesting historical facts about the brewing of the cold ones we hold so dear to heart...

Robley Dunglison's 1844 *Dictionary of Medical Science* offered this English recipe for brewing "cock ale," a potent elixir: "Take ten gallons of ale and a large cock, the older the better; parboil the cock, flay him and stamp him in a stone mortar until his bones are broken then put the cock into two quarts of sack (sherry) and put to it three pounds of raisins of the sun, some blades of mace and a few cloves. Put all these into a canvas bag and a little before you find the ale has done working, put the ale and bag together into a vessel. In a week or nine days time, bottle it up. Fill the bottle but just above the neck and give it the same time to ripen as other ale."

Alice Morse Earl's *Stagecoach and Tavern Days* (1900) showed that the wide array of specialty beers available in today's microbreweries has a long history.

There she writes of beers from two centuries ago: "Some New England taverns were famous for their beer, boiled with scores of roots and herbs, with birch, spruce, or sassafras bark, with pumpkin and apple parings, with sweetening of molasses or maple syrup, or beet tops and other makeshifts."

From Jeff Kacirk's "Forgotten English"