

## President's Pint of View



Well, January has come and gone and the countdown is on. It is a mere few weeks until we host one of the largest celebrations in the city! We need all the help we can get, so if you are not in the parade, please volunteer to help with the program.

Ever-rising expenses are again a concern and we have two grants in the works, from Prairie Meadows and Polk County, that we hope will defray some costs. We are also actively working with the city to minimize our bill and have had several suggestions from Sgt. Beardsley on using the police support more efficiently.

As in the past, we are again sponsoring a hole at the annual Skywalk Golf Classic, with proceeds going to help children in need.

I encourage you to go see what that event is all about (and it's a great excuse to get out and practice your putting in the middle of winter). We all know you need all the help you can get for the Leprechaun Open in June!

On a different note, you can look forward to prizes from 'the ends of the earth' from our newly-appointed prize committee next week.

Thanks to Mr. Fogarty for his many years running this essential monthly fundraiser.

Stay classy, Sons.

*President Tim Schuck*

## Wearin' of the Grin

Bubba and Billy Joe are on vacation, walking downtown and window shopping, when they see a sign on a store which reads, "Suits \$5.99 each, shirts \$1.99 each, trousers \$2.49 each."

Bubba says to his pal, "Billy Joe, look here! We could buy a whole gob of these, take 'em back to Alabama, sell 'em and make a fortune. Just let me do the talkin', 'cause if they hear your accent, they might think we're ignorant and not wanna sell that stuff to us."

I'll use a slow Texas drawl so's they don't know we is from Alabama."

They go in and Bubba says with his best fake Texas drawl, "I'll take 50 of them suits at \$5.99, 100 of them there shirts at \$1.99, and 50 pairs of them there trousers at \$2.39. I'll just back up my pickup and..."

The owner of the shop interrupts, "Ya'll from Alabama, ain't ya?" "Well...yeah," sputters Bubba. "How come ya'll knowed that?" "Because this is a Dry-Cleaners shop."



I went to the liquor store Tuesday afternoon on my bicycle, bought a bottle of Jack Daniels and put it in the bicycle basket.

As I was about to leave, I thought to myself that if I fell off the bike, the bottle would break. So I drank bottle before I cycled home.

It turned out to be a very good decision, because I fell off my bike seven times on the way home.



# The Blarney

## Upcoming:

**Monthly Meeting**  
February 12

**Menu:**  
Meatball & Sausage  
Sandwiches w/Salad

**Next Meeting**  
Mar. 12  
@ the Marriott

**Skywalk Golf Classic**  
Feb. 24



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FEBRUARY [FEABHRA] 2018



## Paddy's Day parade prepped & planned

Saint Patrick's Day Parade Chairman (for Life) **Mike Dennis** is getting all his little ducks in a row with detailed plans for next month's rapidly approaching event. T's are being crossed and i's are being dotted and, should you want to mark your calendars, here are some relevant dates to share with friends who want to enter Irish-themed floats:

### PARADE REGISTRATION MEETINGS AT THE DM MARRIOTT HOTEL

*[ALL ENTRANTS MUST ATTEND ONE MEETING]*

TUESDAY, FEB. 20 - 7 P.M.

SUNDAY, FEB. 25 - 2 P.M.

SUNDAY, MAR. 4 - 2 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 7 - 7 P.M.

In addition, these dates are set for our annual board and volunteer parade activities:

QUEEN SELECTION - THURSDAY, MAR. 8 AT THE MICKLE CENTER, 6 P.M.

STREET PAINTING - SAT., MAR. 10 (*MEET AT EXILE*)

FSOSP MEMBERS' MEETING - MON., MAR. 12 AT THE MARRIOTT

FLAG RAISING - ST. PAT'S MORNING AT SULLY'S, 7 A.M.

The board will be making some important decisions in coming weeks, designating the Irishman of the Year and selecting a worthy Parade Marshal. Nominations are welcome so speak up at the coming meeting if you have a person in mind.

Each year's parade takes a lot of effort to produce and the results proudly showcase our organization to the community. Chairman Dennis needs the support and assistance of all of you, so next Monday evening be ready to sign up to volunteer in any capacity you can, Sons. 🍀



May love be the pot o’ gold at the end of your rainbow

You must surely know Irishmen are a tender, caring lot, and as Valentine’s Day draws nearer romance is likely stirring in your soul, lads. Collected here are some marvelous Irish love quotes from renowned Irish writers and poets like Oscar Wilde, W. B. Yeats and others. Slainte! 🍀

Man always wants to be a women's first love. Women have a more subtle instinct: what they like is to be a man's last romance.

Oscar Wilde

*You don't love someone for their looks, or their clothes, or for their fancy car, but because they sing a song only you can hear.*

Oscar Wilde

How far away the stars seem, and how far is our first kiss, and ah, how old my heart."

William Butler Yeats

"I see when men love women. They give them but a little of their lives. But women when they love give everything."

Oscar Wilde

*Women are made to be loved, not understood.*

Oscar Wilde

*If you do not love me I shall not be loved, If I do not love you I shall not love.*

Samuel Beckett

THE VERY ESSENCE OF ROMANCE IS UNCERTAINTY.

OSCAR WILDE

How can a woman be expected to be happy with a man who insists on treating her as if she were a perfectly normal human being.

Oscar Wilde

Never love anyone who treats you like you're ordinary.

Oscar Wilde

*The mystery of love is greater than the mystery of death.*

Oscar Wilde



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**2017-2018 CONCERT SEASON**

**Skipper's Alley** - October 21, 2017 - Holy Trinity Hall  
**Tallymoore** - January 13, 2018 - Holy Trinity Hall  
**Dáimh** - February 10, 2018 - Holy Trinity Hall  
**Socks in the Frying Pan** - March 9, 2018 - Hoyt Sherman Auditorium

All concerts start at 8:00 p.m. doors open at 7:00 p.m.  
Holy Trinity Hall: 2926 Beaver Ave., Des Moines, IA  
Hoyt Sherman Auditorium: 1501 Woodland Ave., Des Moines, IA  
www.facebook.com/celticmusicassociation, www.thecma.org

**skipper's alley** **Tallymoore** **DÁIMH** **Socks in the Frying Pan**

The Gaelic band **Daimh** (“dive”), based around West Lochaber and the Isle of Skye, is touring Iowa this month and will perform on Feb. 10 at Holy Trinity Hall.

Recent accolades include last year’s award for the “Best Folk Band in Europe” at a competition in Germany and most recently winner of “Folk Band of the Year” at the Scottish Traditional Music Awards.

Tickets are on sale now. Go to [thecma.org](http://thecma.org) for more info. 🍀

Board News

**Raffle books** should be in your hands by now, gents. Our mission is to sell 1000 tickets this year and only about half of the books have been distributed.

We need everyone’s best efforts to make this a successful sales year, so if you’ve been waiting to get your book(s), this next Monday is the time.

Annually, tweaks are made to the parade preparations and format. This year we will be altering a couple of street access points and adding trash boxes (more expense!).

Also, we are looking to renew our parade insurance policy so the shopping for good rates is underway.

One innovation that has been long overdue is to add some announcers to speak to the crowd about the entries. So, in addition to the miked activities at the 10th & Grand judges’ stand, **Jerry Grady** has helped us line up some announcers to be placed at 15th & Locust and at 13th & Grand.

They will broadcast the names of entries, along with some background and explanation of their origins.

This should be entertaining to spectators and add a little more life to the procession.

The **FSOSP Prize Committee duties** are in new hands. **LJ Pollack** and **Tony Orcutt** have volunteered for a 1-yr stint to “spare no expense” in searching for exciting table-treasures each month. Slainte...and good luck, lads!

A new Des Moines organization, the **European Heritage Association**, is forming and we may find ourselves involved in its activities.

The association’s mission statement is “to connect Iowans with European traditions, language education and cultural experiences.” In this regard, members intend to support cultural heritage organizations (like ours) with resources and tools to maintain and grow their memberships.

Together we may find ways to celebrate our Irish roots and find new ways to share Gaelic culture, cuisine, music and traditions with the Des Moines community.

The EHA produced the Christkindlmarket event this past December. Food, entertainment, sales booths and displays were sponsored by many of Des Moines’ cultural organizations and we are looking to be a part of that event, and possibly others, this year.

The months are slipping by and it is high time for each of you to...ahem... **GET YOUR DUES PAID.**

BLARNEY BITS

Below you will notice a Sat., Mar. 3 event that should be of interest.

The hard-working O’Donnell clan has tirelessly put in 24 years of charity fundraising by means of their annual O’Donnell & Friends Open golf outing, held at Toad Valley Golf Course, just east of Des Moines. An amazing \$1.2 million dollars has been garnered through their efforts.

Now they have moved to create an actual 501c3 non-profit organization to continue their mission, **O’Donnell & Friends Charities**. The golf outing will continue, but just be a part of their family’s wider endeavors to continue their charitable giving.

An inaugural event will be a Silent Auction from 4-7 p.m. on March 3rd in the banquet hall at the Toad Valley course.

Check out *O’DonnellCharities* on Facebook.

Upcoming events

- FEB. 10**

CMA PRESENTS DAIMH IN CONCERT  
@ HOLY TRINITY HALL - 8 P.M.
- FEB. 13**

“SECOND TUESDAY” TRAD MUSIC JAM  
@ JAVA JOE’S - 7-ISH P.M.
- FEB. 7 & 21**

TRIVIA CONTEST @ SULLY’S - 7-10 P.M.
- FEB. 24**

SKYWALK GOLF CLASSIC @ CAPITAL SQUARE, 9 A.M.
- FEB. 25**

IRISH TENOR EMMET CAHILL IN CONCERT  
@ SACRED HEART CHURCH - 7 P.M.  
TICKETS \$30 AT THE DOOR OR ONLINE  
@ EMMETCAHILL.COM/TOUR-DATES.
- FEB. 28**

STU RYAN O’BRIEN SINGALONG @ SULLY’S, 7 P.M.
- MAR. 3**

O’DONNELLS’ & FRIENDS CHARITY SILENT AUCTION  
@ TOAD VALLEY GOLF COURSE - 4-7 P.M.
- MAR. 4**

DANIEL O’DONNELL IN CONCERT  
@ DM CIVIC CENTER - 8 P.M.
- MAR. 17**

ST. PAT’S FLAG-RAISING @ SULLY’S, 7 A.M.  
w/ BLOODY MARYS AND FOOD ON HAND