



The Blarney

UPCOMING:

Monthly Meeting:

October 9th

6:30 P.M.

Mickle Center

Meal: Brat's Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Dessert

Next Meeting:

General meeting November 13th

Mickle Center

BOARD CONTACT INFO

Pres. – Tim Schuck –

515-778-8390

schuck.t@cmbaarchitects.com

Vice Pres. – Tony Schmid –

515-554-1107

bonetender@hotmail.com

Treas. – Josh Soliday – 577-0990

Jsoliday2323@gmail.com

Sec. – Jeff DeMoss – 771-7070

jjdemoss3@gmail.com

Parade Chairman –

Colton O'Connor – 770-2419

Migilly2010@gmail.com

Bill McCarthy – 975-5254

Mccar7660@aol.com

Scott Tilton – 822-2342

Setilton13@gmail.com

Justin Dye – 641-757-2375

Justin.dye.23@gmail.com

Adam McCarty – 515-802-0141

amccarty2000@gmail.com



OCTOBER (DEIREADH FÓMHAIR) 2023

NEWS

Our first annual car show was a huge success! We had 49 'classic' cars, and the weather was stupendous. If you would like to see any of the pictures from that day, please visit our Facebook page.

October's meeting will be a vote for ratification of our updated by-laws. Please plan to attend, we need your vote.

The Celtic Music Association has announced its new winter concert schedule, the following four dates have been announced:

The Wee Heavies

- Saturday, November 11, 2023
- 7:30 PM-10:00 PM
- Franklin Junior High Event Center

Tallymoore

- Saturday, January 20, 2024
- 7:30 PM-10:00 PM
- Franklin Junior High Event Center

Heron Valley

- Saturday, February 24, 2024
- 7:30 PM-10:00 PM
- Holy Trinity Hall

Dàihm

- Saturday, March 23, 2024
- 7:30 PM-10:00 PM
- Franklin Junior High Event Center

BOARD NEWS

Club By-Laws have been updated and approved by the board, reading and ratification by the club will happen at the October meeting. Please be present to vote. Copies will be available at sign in.

Parade planning is on track and going well, Parade Chairman for life Mr. O'Connor will be meeting with the city in the coming months to finalize the route. The Marriott has been booked for our prestigious gala.

The board is working on a new charity that Mr. Hedding brought to our attention. We are currently working on details and will have a signup sheet in the next few meetings. The charity is called 'Sleep in Heavenly Peace.' More information at the October meeting.

The 1st Annual Halfway to St. Pat's Car show was an overwhelming success! Many thanks to Mr. Scott Tilton and everyone that came out and helped that day. Pictures are posted on our Facebook page.

There is no smoking and/ or drinking at the front door during meetings. It must be done out by the grill area.



FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK
OF CENTRAL IOWA





Presidents 'Pint of View'

I'd like to start out this month by saying a big THANK YOU to Mr. Tilton for putting on an excellent car show! The turnout was great and the weather was fantastic, it was an absolute success. If you didn't make it out this year you should definitely make plans for next year.

As we move into October and fall is upon us so is Samhain, a Gaelic festival marking the end of the harvest with celebrations beginning on October 31st with feasts, and bonfires. It was considered a time when the boundary between this world and the Otherworld thinned allowing spirits (aos si) to more easily pass into our world...spooooooky. Sound familiar?

Yep, you guessed it, that's where our Halloween traditions started (one more thing to thank our ancestors for). At the time festival people would go door-to-door mumming and gussing, where they dressed in costumes, presumably to disguise themselves from the aos si, and recited verses in exchange for food. I'm sure most of you already were aware of this tidbit but consider this a little reminder to pass this on to the little goblins in your life as the go about mumm... I mean, trick-or-treating

Now that the educational part of my schpiel is over, it's not too early to start thinking about our Christmas party in December. This is one of my favorite events where we get to show those, we love what it is we do all year, so if you have any pictures from any of the events from this past year, we would greatly appreciate it if you could send them to one of the board members so it can be included in our masterfully crafted end of the year presentation extravaganza.

See you at the meeting. Until then, stay safe.

President, Tim Schuck

Irish History October

(From Mr. Kelly's file cabinet.)

Dark history of Halloween originates with the Celtic fest of 'Samhain'

To find the origin of Halloween, you have to look to the festival of Samhain in Ireland's Celtic past. Samhain had three distinct elements. Firstly, it was an important fire festival, celebrated over the evening of October 31st and throughout the following day. The flames of old fires had to be extinguished and ceremonially re-lit by druids. It was also a festival not unlike the modern New Year's Day in that it carried the notion of casting out the old and moving into the new. To our pagan ancestors it marked the end of the pastoral cycle – a time when all the crops would have been gathered and placed in storage for the long winter ahead and when livestock would be brought in from the fields and selected for slaughter or breeding. But it was also, as the last day of the year, the time when the souls of the departed would return to their former homes and when potentially malevolent spirits were released from the Otherworld and were visible to mankind.

Samhain & the Celtic Calendar

The Celts celebrated four major festivals each year and none of them was connected in any way to the sun's cycle. The origin of Halloween lies in the Celt's autumn festival which was held on the first day of the 11th month, the month known as November in English but as Samhain in Irish. The festivals are known by other names in other Celtic countries but there is usually some similarity, if only in the translation. In Scottish Gaelic, the autumn festival is called Samhuinn. In Manx it is Sauin. The root of the word – sam – means summer, while 'fuin' means end. And this signals the idea of a seasonal change rather than a notion of worship or ritual. The other group of Celtic languages have very different words but a similar intention. In Welsh, the day is Calan Gaeaf, which means the first day of winter. In Brittany, the day is Kala Goanv, which means the beginning of November. The Celts believed that the passage of a day began with darkness and progressed into the light. The same notion explains why winter – the season of long, dark nights – marked the beginning of the year and progressed into the lighter days of spring, summer and autumn. So, the 1st of November, Samhain, was the Celtic New Year, and the celebrations began at sunset of the day before its eve. Slainte



Wearin O' the Grin

- A Texas rancher comes to Ireland and meets a Kerry farmer. The Texan says: "Takes me a whole day to drive from one side of my ranch to the other." The Kerry farmer says: "Ah sure, I know, sir. We have tractors like that here too."
- Sean and his wife, Aoife, had been debating buying a vehicle for weeks. He wanted a truck. She wanted a fast little sports-like car so she could zip through traffic around town. He would probably have settled on any beat-up old truck, but everything she seemed to like was way out of their price range. "Look!" she said. "I want something that goes from 0 to 200 in just a few seconds. Nothing else will do. My birthday is coming up so surprise me!" Sean did just that. For her birthday, he bought her a brand-new bathroom scale. Nobody has seen or heard from him since.
- A farmer finally decided to buy a TV. The store assured him that they would install the antenna and TV the next day. The next evening the farmer turned on his new TV and found only political adverts on every channel. The next morning, he turned the TV on and found only political adverts again. When he came in to eat dinner, he tried the TV again but still only found political adverts. The next day when he still found only political adverts, he called the store to complain. The owner said that it was impossible for every channel to only have political adverts, but agreed to send their repairman to check the TV. When the TV repairman turned on the TV he found that the farmer was right. After looking at the TV for a while he went outside to check the antenna. In a few minutes he returned and told the farmer he had found the problem. The antenna had been installed on top of the windmill and grounded to the manure spreader.
- A European tourist is lost and stops in an Irish village to ask for directions. He sees two old men sitting outside the pub enjoying their Guinness. "Parlez-vous Francais, he asks. The old men look at each other and shake their heads. "Sprechen sie Deutsch?" Again, the old men shake their heads. Beginning to get a bit irritated, the tourist asks "Habla Espanol?" The men once again shake their heads. Totally exasperated by now, the tourist asks "Parla l'italiano?" The men once again look at each other and then shake their heads in puzzlement. The tourist is so disgusted that he drives off. One old man sais to the other, "You know, Sean, perhaps we should learn another language." "Ah get on with yeh; look at him, he knows four and it didn't do him a bit of good."