



The Blarney

UPCOMING:

Monthly Meeting:

August 10th 6:30 P.M.

The Mickle Center

**Dinner: Sausage Grinders, Chips,
and dessert**

Next Meeting:

September 14th

6:30 P.M.

BOARD CONTACT INFO

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Parade Chairman –

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AUGUST (LÚNASA) 2026

BOARD NEWS

The recently completed Busch Light Carnival at Carl's was a big hit, even with the heat. The club managed to make a few dollars, hear all of the details on that at this month's meeting.

We are still figuring financials from the golf outing but the board voted to donate \$2,000 to the Puppy Jake Foundation.

Don't forget our annual halfway to St. Pat's car show is on Sunday September 20th. They are still looking for trophy sponsors. Contact either Scott Tilton, or Donnie Corben for more info. Also, don't forget to get those raffle tickets sold. This year's raffle is 3 drawings of a fully processed whole hog.

Mr. Soliday is busy planning for the bags tourney and he needs volunteers. If you are not planning to play, please give him a hand. There is not a lot that needs done, and you will get out of the house and have some fun. Maybe a beverage or two also.

Mr. O'Connor is already busy with the 2026 parade, the city is already taken care of, he will be signing the contract with the Marriott soon, and the agreement has been made for the St. Paddy's pre-party. Please keep in mind that it takes all of us to keep this club running, we can always use an extra set of hands. If there is ever an event that you wish to be a part of, don't hesitate to let a board member know.





FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK OF
CENTRAL IOWA PRESENT

HALFWAY TO ST. PAT'S DAY CHARITY CAR SHOW

SUNDAY **SEPT. 20** 2026



DJ.
FOOD.
TROPHIES.
VENDORS.

JOIN US AT
CHARLIE'S FILLING STATION
305 Grand Ave., West Des Moines

\$25 DAY-OF REGISTRATION • CASH OR VENMO

REGISTRATION 11 A.M. — 1 P.M.
TROPHIES AWARDED AT 3 P.M.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT SCOTT@FRIENDLYSONSIOWA.COM

SPONSORED BY

FAREWAY
MEAT & GROCERY

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FOR DETAILS



WWW.FRIENDLYSONSIOWA.COM

The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of Central Iowa are a merry band of gentlemen that enjoys gathering together to commune and celebrate our Irish heritage. We are also a benevolent organization. With the support of many sponsors & contributors we are able to raise money that is donated back to local organizations in need that we call our "Community of Caring."

Engaging men's clubs in community service, membership growth, and fundraising

Men's clubs have the potential to be powerful forces for good within their communities. By strategically combining volunteer efforts, membership drives, and fundraising initiatives, these organizations can achieve significant positive impact and build a thriving, engaged membership.

- Meaningful volunteering creates community bonds and attracts new members.
- Volunteering as a group fosters camaraderie and a shared sense of purpose among existing members. However, for a men's club to truly make an impact and attract new members, its volunteer activities must be meaningful and address real community needs.
- Focus on skills and interests: Rather than simply performing generic tasks, clubs should identify projects that align with the collective skills and interests of their members. For example, a club with members who enjoy woodworking might build ramps for residents with disabilities, or a club of sports enthusiasts could organize a youth sports tournament to benefit a local charity.
- Identify community needs: Collaborate with local charities, schools, or community organizations to identify specific needs that the club's skills and resources can address. This ensures the club's efforts are truly impactful and create a tangible difference in the community.
- Showcase accomplishments: Document the club's volunteer activities through photos, videos, and stories, and share them on social media and other platforms to raise awareness of their positive impact and attract new members who are motivated by a sense of service. Growing membership is crucial for the long-term sustainability and impact of any men's club. This is especially true for the Friendly Sons, as we are labeled as an ethnic group. To attract and retain members, clubs need to actively promote their value proposition and create a welcoming and engaging environment. Meaningful volunteering creates community bonds and attracts new members. Volunteering as a group fosters camaraderie and a shared sense of purpose among existing members. However, for a men's club to truly make an impact and attract new members, its volunteer activities must be meaningful and address real community needs. Focus on skills and interests: Rather than simply performing generic tasks, clubs should identify projects that align with the collective skills and interests of their members. For example, a club with members who enjoy woodworking might build ramps for residents with disabilities, or a club of sports enthusiasts could organize a youth sports tournament to benefit a local charity. It is important for each and every member to drive on membership, look around the room the next time you are at a general meeting. Our average age continues to rise; without new young members we will eventually cease to exist. Son's, grandsons, and even co-workers are all great additions to the club. It is also important that the club as a whole, volunteer for events, we cannot continue to rely on the board to drive and handle every single event. Most of the older members can say "Yea well, I did my part." Who will do your part when we are all gone?

F.S.O.S.P ACTIVITIES PAGE

Busch Light Carnival –July 11th, 2026.

- In conjunction with Carl's Place
- Volunteers needed
- Carnival Games
- Food and Drinks

Sunday September 20th – Annual Car Show

- Charlie's Filling Station
- Vendor spots are \$30.
- Trophy sponsors are \$150.
- Entry fee \$25.

Saturday October 10th– Annual Bags Tourney

First Monday in December

- Annual Christmas Party
- Plans are in the works



Irish History

Ancient Traditions and Early History –

- **August 1, Lughnasadh:** The traditional Gaelic festival marking the start of the harvest season, featuring ancient feasting, athletic games, and gatherings like the Puck Fair.
- **August 14, 1598:** The Battle of Yellow Ford took place, where Gaelic forces led by Hugh O'Neill decisively defeated an English army during the Nine Years' War.
- **August 15, 1649:** Oliver Cromwell landed in Dublin with an English parliamentary army to begin his brutal campaign in Ireland.
- **August 22, 1798:** French troops landed at Kilcummin to support the Irish Rebellion of 1798, swiftly followed by the "Races of Castlebar" victory on August 27.
- **1835** - St. Vincent's Ecclesiastical Seminary opened at Castleknock.
- **August 26, 1913:** The Great Dublin Lockout began, turning into one of the most severe industrial disputes in Irish labor history under union leaders Jim Larkin and James Connolly.
- **August 20, 1919:** Dáil Éireann passed a motion requiring the Irish Volunteers to swear allegiance to the Irish Republic, officially forming the Irish Republican Army (IRA).
- **1922** - Dublin Castle is formally handed over to the IRA by the British.
- **1930** - Rembrandt painting found in an Irish cottage is authenticated.
- **1946** - Work starts on a comprehensive English-Irish dictionary.
- **August 13–15, 1969:** Riots erupted in Belfast and Derry during the Battle of the Bogside, marking a major escalation in the Troubles.
- **1961** - Seán Mac Eoin leaves Ireland to serve as General Commanding Officer of the United Nations.
- **1972** - Bloody Sunday - 13 demonstrators killed by British paratroopers in Northern Ireland.

Wearin' O' The Grin

Things to Ponder –

- What if my dog only brings the ball back because he thinks I like throwing it?
 - If the expiration date on rat poison is past, does that mean its more or less poisonous?
 - Do twins ever realize that one of them was unplanned?
 - Why is W pronounced double U instead of double V?
 - What if oxygen is really killing you and it just takes 75 to 100 years to work?
 - Every time you clean something you make something else dirty.
 - 100 years ago, everyone had at least one horse, only the wealthy had cars. Today everyone has a car and only the wealthy have horses.
 - If you rip a hole in a net, you have less holes than you started with.
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- I got a new stick of deodorant today. The instructions said “remove cap and push up bottom” I can barely walk now, but when I fart the room smells lovely.
 - A man sits next to a little boy on a plane and says, “lets talk.” The boy says “what about?” The man (making fun of the boy) says “how about nuclear power?” The boy replies “interesting,” then says “why do deer, cows, sheep, and horses all have different poop when they all eat the same food?” The man replies “I don’t know.” The boy replies, “do you really feel qualified enough to discuss nuclear issues when you don’t know shit?”
 - Before performing a baptism, the priest approached the young father and said solemnly, “baptism is a serious step, are you prepared for it?” “I think so,” Paddy replied. “My wife has made appetizers and we have a caterer coming to provide plenty to eat for all our guests.” “I don’t mean that,” the priest responded. “I mean are you prepared spiritually?” “Oh sure,” says Paddy. “I’ve got a keg of beer, and a case of whisky.”
 - Recently at an Irish wedding reception, someone yelled.
“All the married men stand next to the one person who has made your life worth living.”
The bartender was nearly crushed to death!

