



upcoming events

AUG. 16-19

MILWAUKEE IRISH FEST

@ HENRY MAIER FESTIVAL PARK

\$20 GEN. ADMISSION, \$38 FOUR-DAY PASS

IRISHFEST.COM

AUG. 25

IRISH HOOLEY MUSIC FESTIVAL

@ DUBUQUE STAR BREWERY, PORT OF DUBUQUE

\$12 GEN. ADMISSION

IRISHHOOLEY.ORG

AUG. 31 - SEPT. 2

ANNUAL KANSAS CITY IRISH FEST

CROWN CENTER SQUARE & WASHINGTON PARK

FRI., 5-11 P.M. / SAT. & SUN., 11-11 P.M.

\$30 WEEKEND PASS

KCIRISHFEST.COM

SEPT. 29

25TH ANNUAL SOS GOLF TOURNAMENT

INFO AT SULLY'S PUB OR

SULLYSDESMOINES.COM

MONTHLY IRISH "SESSION" OPEN JAMS / 7-9:30 P.M.

1ST TUESDAY @ FIDDLE & WHISTLE, MARSHALLTOWN

2ND TUESDAY @ JAVA JOE'S, DES MOINES

3RD TUESDAY @ COONEY'S, DES MOINES

4TH TUESDAY @ DUBLIN BAY, AMES



The Blarney

upcoming:

Monthly Meeting

Aug. 13, 6:30 p.m.

Menu:

Burgers, Hot Dogs
Beans, Tomatoes, Sweet Corn
Pasta Salad

Halfway to St. Pat's Bike Ride

Sept. 22

Next Meeting

September 10

august (Iunasa) 2018

Friends of the Friends



This month we are pleased to again be recognizing our "friends" from the past year's activities and hosting them for a sum-sum-summertime picnic-style meal at the Mickle Center to thank them for being a part of our "community of caring."

This includes all those people and organizations who have supported our events with sponsorships, aiding and abetting our efforts to raise monies for charity.

Also invited are representatives of the many groups to which we have made financial donations in the past 12 months.

The board has sent invites to all of them and we are planning on a big turnout. Name tags will be provided as a courtesy and attending groups will be recognized and given a short time to speak.

Remember that your usual meal fee can be waived if you bring a box or sack of non-perishable food to be donated to the **Food Bank of Iowa**. In fact, we would like to recommend you do just that.

The Food Bank is a private, non-profit association and can use all the help it can get for its valuable work. Volunteers distribute food and grocery products to 375 partner agencies in 55 counties, agencies that include soup kitchens, food pantries, homeless and domestic violence shelters, child and adult care centers, and youth and senior programs. Your food donation will be greatly appreciated!

Learn more about this amazing organization at www.foodbankiowa.org.

Also, the raffle will be especially delectable, according to our co-Raffle Czars.

"During the August meeting, you will have an opportunity to enhance your ICKQ - Irish Cultural Knowledge Quotient. There will be prizes from around the globe, with an emphasis on the Celtic. And with your participation in the raffle you will surely know more, feel better about the world, and only lighten your wallet a little to benefit the club. Don't miss it," said co-chairs **Tony Orcutt & LJ Pollak**.

Just a note, gents, that the "usual suspects" that handle set-up will require some extra hands next week, so please plan on getting there a little early to help arrange the tables and chairs. 🍀

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Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick
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GET PUMPED UP FOR THE SEPT. 22 HALF-WAY TO ST. PAT'S BIKE RIDE

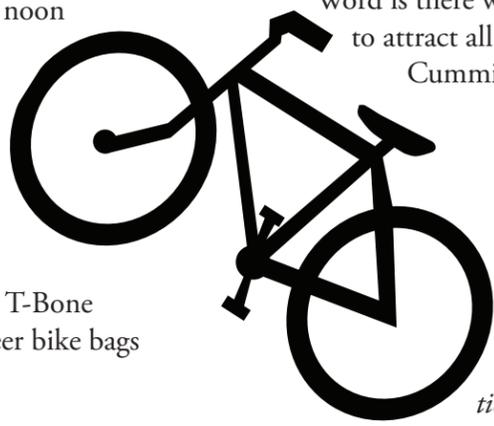
We've finally escaped knocking heads with the Beavertdale Fall Festival and moved the **Halfway to St. Pat's Bike Ride to Sept. 22**. Attendance should climb.

This year the Cumming Tap hoo-hah will include a food truck and a bag toss game in addition to the traditional "spud & spoon" races. Kelly's Old School band will be "puttin' out the jams" (whatever that means).

Registration will be at 11 a.m. at Orlando's, per usual. Expect theme judging about noon and everyone will hit the trail at 1 p.m. Raffle drawings will be at 5 p.m. at the Cumming Tap.

At press time the word is that posters and banners are coming soon, along with notices on Instagram, Twitter and god-knows-what-else.

In a creative departure from the past, T-Bone has ordered nifty leather tool and/or beer bike bags for all registrants.



Also, it looks like Ride Chair **T-Bone** is going to succeed in getting all 500 raffle tickets out and sold ahead of the date.

And in late-breaking news we report that Orilla will be a more refreshing stop on the way as it has a second new bar, in addition to Outskirts, to give us a half-way stop on the half-way ride. It's The Chicken, Full Court Press' new-est bar/restaurant which opens soon this summer.

Word is there will be specials at both bars after 5 p.m. to attract all the riders on their return trip from Cumming.

"Both bars in Orilla have agreed to sponsor us," said T-Bone. "Outskirts has been a huge advocate of the bike trail, cycling and the FSOSP for several years now. The Chicken is a great new addition to the trail and the Full Court folks have also been good friends of cycling and our organization."

"We hope all this adds to the enjoyment of this year's ride and can't wait 'til the big day," he said. 🍀

WEARIN' OF THE GRIN



TOMBSTONE HUMOR

Try browsing in old cemeteries - there are some fascinating things on old tombstones:

Harry Edsel Smith of Albany, New York:
Born 1903--Died 1942.

Looked up the elevator shaft to see if the car was on the way down. It was.

In a Thurmont, Maryland, cemetery:
Here lies an Atheist, all dressed up and no place to go.

On the grave of Ezekial Aikle in East Dalhousie Cemetery, Nova Scotia:
Here lies Ezekial Aikle, Age 102. Only The Good Die Young.

In a London, England cemetery:
Here lies Ann Mann, who lived an old maid but died an old Mann. Dec. 8, 1767

In a Ribbesford, England, cemetery:
Anna Wallace

The children of Israel wanted bread, And the Lord sent them manna. Clark Wallace wanted a wife, And the Devil sent him Anna.

In a Ruidoso, New Mexico, cemetery:
Here lies Johnny Yeast.... Pardon him for not rising.

A lawyer's epitaph in England:
Sir John Strange. Here lies an honest lawyer, and that is Strange.

John Penny's epitaph in the Wimborne, England, cemetery:
Reader, if cash thou art in want of any, Dig 6 feet deep and thou wilt find a Penny.

In a cemetery in Hartscombe, England:
On the 22nd of June, Jonathan Fiddle went out of tune.

In a bucolic, remote rural cemetery somewhere in Northern England:

Remember man, as you walk by, As you are now, so once was I As I am now, so shall you be.. Remember this and follow me.

To which someone replied by writing on the tombstone:
To follow you I'll not consent, Until I know which way you went.

BOARD NEWS

Treasurer **Josh Soliday** reports that we are getting on solid financial footing again. The \$5G Prairie Meadows grant came through and we raked in another \$1000 profit from our Leprecaun Open and Bags Tourney events.

Hopefully, the September bike ride will be just as profitable and to make that happen, raffle tickets must be sold. Almost 300 of the 500 tickets printed are checked out and the rest will be available to you at the next meeting.

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St. Pat's Parade planning is always warm on one burner, whether front or back. Currently, all the Marriott dates are set and 2019 entry apps are on the website. By the way, it is going to occur on Saturday again.

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Blarney mailings run us about \$24 per member per year. If you can live with an emailed PDF version (it will have color!) instead, then let us know by signing up at the next meeting to indicate you'll be happy to get only that.

REQUIESCAT IN PACE

Once again we regret to tell you of the recent loss of two FSOSP "family" members: **Bree Young's mom, Waynette Oldham & Bob Myers' brother, Dick**. Our condolences to their families.

president's
pint of view



Firstly:

I would like to start off by saying a big "THANK YOU" to Bree (and all of the Board) for covering for me in my absence last month. From what I heard the meeting went off without a hitch; in fact, some might have said its brevity was almost serene. I'll make a note of it.

Secondly:

If I have not seen you out and about since our last meeting, I look forward to seeing you at this month's meeting. This is, after all, our annual Friends of the Friendly Sons meeting – our chance to get to know those we help and those who help us a little bit better.

Please reach out to any and all FSOSP queens you know and invite them to join us for this event. And in case you were on the fence about attending the meeting, remember, there will be no treasurer's report, minimal club business discussed & you get a free meal and beverages for a \$10 donation to the Food Bank of Iowa. You can't beat that! You can also donate some non-perishable goods in lieu of cash. By the way, did you know that a \$10 donation will provide over 40 meals for those in need? Wow! Thank you in advance for your donations. See you there!

Thirdly:

Stay classy, Sons.

President Tim Schuck

EXTRA! EXTRA!
Read all about it!

BLARNEYBITS

Coming in September, a **free lending library** for the members of the FSOSP.

Here are the details: When you come to the Sept. meeting, bring along any books that you would care to donate to the FSOSP library. Bring paper-back and hard cover books; no magazines or tabloids.

"We ask that the books be in good condition (not missing the last 10 pages!). And ideally, we are looking for a variety: fiction, biographies, self-help, history, etc.," says Bob Fogarty.

Members may check out books free of charge and without any accountability. No sign out, no records, just take a couple of books home, and return them at the next month's meeting. And bring along any books that you would like to donate.

"I understand that we have a donation of approx. 50 books to help us get started. We hope that many of you will have a book or two to donate to the collection," said Fogarty.

This begins in Sept., so do not bring books to the August meeting.

There will be more information and a reminder in the Sept. Blarney.