



upcoming events

MAY 9

ED KELLY ACOUSTIC CRAIC
@ SULLY'S PUB - 8-10 P.M.
IRISH PUB MUSIC W/ DRINK SPECIALS

MAY 12

ANNUAL IRISH OPEN DISC GOLF TOURNEY
@ GRANDVIEW PARK - 10 A.M.
\$30 EARLY REGISTRATION ONLINE
@ FRIENDLYSONSIOWA.COM
SOUVENIR DISCS, FOOD & PRIZES

MAY 16

TROPHY HUSBAND TRIVIA CONTEST
@ SULLY'S PUB - 7-10 P.M.

MAY 23

STU RYAN O'BRIEN IRISH PUB MUSIC
@ SULLY'S PUB - 7-10 P.M.
IRISH SING-A-LONG

MAY 25-28

32ND ANNUAL CHICAGO GAELIC PARK IRISH FESTIVAL
OAK FOREST, IL / 4-DAY PASS \$28 / DAILY \$10

JUNE 6

TROPHY HUSBAND TRIVIA CONTEST
@ SULLY'S PUB - 7-10 P.M.

JUNE 8-10

IOWA IRISH LANGUAGE & CULTURE WEEKEND
\$125 TUITION @ COE COLLEGE, CEDAR RAPIDS
CONTACT JOHN GIBNEY - GAEILGEDM@YAHOO.COM

JUNE 15-17

IRISH FEST @ LAWLER, IA
\$65 REGISTRATION ONLINE @ FRIENDLYSONSIOWA.COM
MUSIC / FOOD / FAMILY ACTIVITIES

JUNE 16

ANNUAL LEPRECHAUN OPEN GOLF TOURNEY
@ COPPER CREEK - NOON
\$65 REGISTRATION ONLINE @ FRIENDLYSONSIOWA.COM
TROPHIES & STEAK DINNER

JUNE 22

25TH ANNUAL O'DONNELL & FRIENDS OPEN
@ TOAD VALLEY GOLF COURSE



The Blarney

upcoming:

Monthly Meeting

May 14, 6:30 p.m.
Menu:
Steak, Baked Potato, Salad
Green Beans & Bread

Irish Open Disc Golf

May 12, 10 a.m.
Leprechaun Open
June 16, noon

Next Meeting

June 11

25th O'Donnell & Friends

Open
June 22

whatever your golf taste may be...come and 'par'take

Friendly Sons of St. Patrick 9th Annual Charity Disc Golf Irish Open

Sat. May 12, 2018

Registration 10:00 AM
Shot Gun Start 11:00 AM

Grandview Disc Golf Course
32nd and Easton, Des Moines

Cost: \$30

All registrants for this charity
tournament will receive a souvenir disc.

Contact Info:
Mike O'Connell: 515-271-0018
oconnell@mchsi.com

Sponsored By:
Terry Taylor State Farm Agency
Consumer Credit of Des Moines



\$200
1st Place Prize



IRISH OPEN DISC GOLF

Are you a newby to the pleasures of disc golf or don't you give a flip?

Lots of Sons enjoy the "walk in the park" fun of the game and would be glad to help you get involved.

There is a little challenge to the techniques for beginners, but most pick it up pretty fast.

Your chance to try out a new sport is this next Saturday morning at Grandview's course at 32nd and Easton, where you can show up and play in the 9th Annual Irish Open.

Food & drink will be available to all participants. Details and contact info are at left. 🍀

LEPRECHAUN OPEN

Unga galunga! The June 16 Leprechaun Open is close at hand. Time is running out, so bring your \$65 payment to the May members' meeting and get signed up!

Even if your partner isn't the Dali Lama - hey, a big hitter, the Lama - you might still become Leprechaun Open champion... and receive total consciousness.

The Copper Creek Golf Club in Pleasant Hill, a picturesque 18-hole course, will again host us that day and we'll hit the links at noon, says planning poobah Brian Kreps.

"Our yearly rollick and frolic over hill & dale is open to all - members, non-members, male, female and all between. Don't delay - get your twosome together for a fun day of golf (or whatever it is that you call what you do) and get signed up," said Kreps.

Two-person teams will compete in the "Best Ball" format, all hoping to add their names to the Leprechaun's Cup. Contests of putting and driving (a new event this year), as well as pin prizes will showcase the talents of participating golfers.

A steak dinner, awards ceremony and raffle will follow golf. More details & a sign-up sheet will be available at this month's meeting. Questions, call Brian Kreps 515-669-2531, or email to bdkdma@gmail.com. 🍀



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Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick
The Mickie Center #241
1620 Pleasant
Des Moines, IA 50314



all aboard for some cruisin' craic in cheddar-land

The summer is filled with many Irish fest opportunities and **Jim McGinn** is trying to put together a memorable getaway for us all this summer, a rollicking bus trip to the **Aug. 16-19 Milwaukee Irish Fest**.

"I'm hoping we can get 25 or so to go, but we're floating around 16 right now with room for more. The main thing is arranging for hotel rooms. We can block some rooms then have individuals make their own reservations," said McGinn.

The cost of the bus including the driver's hotel for two nights is right at \$3000. So cost per person is that amount divided by number on board. With 20 people the cost would be \$150 each for that part of the journey.

"I've inquired with a few hotels in downtown Milwaukee and think we could expect to be paying in the neighborhood of \$200 a day for a room. Room rate is for double occupancy so cost for single assuming there's a roommate would be around \$350 total for the trip. For a couple, the amount then would be around \$700.

"The bus I've researched will hold upwards of 35 people. A smaller vehicle's available, but only holds 21 and the price is virtually the same so the larger bus with more comfort and a restroom is the way to go," he said.

The plan is to arrive in Milwaukee on Friday mid-afternoon when people could choose dinner downtown & pubs or hitting the Fest, which is open 4-12 p.m. that day.

Festival hours are 12-12 p.m. on Saturday with music and other attractions. Check out the schedule at irishfest.com.

An option for Sunday is 9 a.m. mass on the festival grounds with more music afterward.

"The Mass is something I would encourage all to attend even if not a practicing church goer. It's held in the ground's arena which holds upward of 10,000 people and is quite impressive. Entry to the grounds on Sunday is a food item donation. The grounds are not as crowded on Sunday so a good time to check out gift shops and more music," he said.

All would leave Milwaukee around 2 p.m. or so to get back to DM around 8:30.

Interested? Contact Jim at james.mcgin9536@gmail.com. 



board news

We're currently moving to contract with the Marriott for the **2019 St. Patrick's Day** events, even though our stalwart team leader **Mike Dennis** is *still* laid up in the physical rehab center at Methodist.

He is progressing slowly, though, and he says May 14 is scheduled as his first "stand on legs" day. Go Mike!

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The Sons are heading into "event" season and here are some updates about things you may be looking forward to down the road:

Our annual volunteer effort to support **Miracle League at Kiwanis Field** is delayed until maybe early July because a new playing surface is being installed.

Last year's inaugural **"Bags Tourney"** was a big success and is set for **July 14 at Sully's Pub**.

After many years of trying to find an open, conflict-free target date for our fall bike ride, yet still always ending up the same weekend as the Beaverdale Fall Festival...it's time for a change.

The **Halfway to St. Pat's Bike Ride will be Sept. 22**. T-Bone is taking the lead on planning and has proposed selling all 500 raffle tickets ahead of the date and adding a food truck and a bag toss game to the festivities at the Cumming Tap that day. Kelly's Old School band will again be providing the music groove.

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Still working on getting the **Blarney mailing/digital delivery system** coordinated. Hang in there with us!



Can you believe it is already May? This month, we get back into the business of hosting events with our disc golf tournament which will have happened by the time of our meeting (a big thanks to Mike O. and Jerry G. for continuing to grow that event). In June, we have our annual golf open "tournament," so please remember to get your twosome or foursome together and paid ASAP.

May also brings us a couple of holidays, Mother's Day and Memorial Day, so remember to thank any and all mothers and veterans you know. Our lives as we know them would not be possible if it were not for them. Thank You!

Did you know May also brings us Limerick Day? That's right, May 12 is the birthday of Edward Lear, a man who popularized the limerick in the 1800's via his writings in "A Book of Nonsense." The limericks published in the book, however, were intended for children and accompanied with simple illustrations. Somewhere along the line, these simple rhymes became predominantly (*ahem*) adult in nature, involving people from various cities and counties. However, here is a grand, clean one...for Mother's Day!

*There exists a woman like no other,
She is the one that we call mother.
No matter how good or bad
We were as lasses and lads,
She loves you like no other.*

Stay classy, Sons.

President Tim Schuck

wearin' of the grin



John, who lived in the north of England, decided to go golfing in Scotland with his buddy, Shawn so they loaded up John's minivan and headed north. After driving for a few hours, they got caught in a terrible blizzard so they pulled into a nearby farm and asked the attractive lady who answered the door if they could spend the night.

"I realize it's terrible weather out there and I have this huge house all to myself, but I'm recently widowed," she explained, "and I'm afraid the neighbours will talk if I let you stay in my house."

"Don't worry." John said. "We'll be happy to sleep in the barn and if the weather breaks, we'll be gone at first light."

The lady agreed and the two men found their way to the barn and settled in for the night.

Come morning, the weather had cleared so they got on their way and enjoyed a great weekend of golf.

But about nine months later, John got an unexpected letter from an attorney. It took him a few minutes to figure it out but he finally determined that it was from the attorney of that attractive widow he had met on the golf weekend.

He dropped in on his friend Shawn and asked, "Shawn, do you remember that good looking widow on the farm we stayed at on our golf holiday in Scotland about 9 months ago?"

"Yes, I do." said Shawn.

"Did you, er, happen to get up in the middle of the night, go up to the house and pay her a visit?"

"Well, um, yes," Shawn said, a little embarrassed about being found out. "I have to admit that I did."

"And did you happen to give her my name and address

instead of telling her your name?"

Shawn's face turned beet red and he said, "Yeah, look, I'm sorry, buddy. Why do you ask?"

"She just died and left me everything."

(Thought the ending would be different, didn't you?)



SOME SIMPLE TRUTHS TO REMEMBER IN LIFE

1. Money cannot buy happiness, but it's more comfortable to cry in a Mercedes than on a bicycle.
2. Forgive your enemy, but remember the a-hole's name!
3. Help someone when they're in trouble and they will remember you when they're in trouble again.
4. Many people are alive only because it's illegal to shoot them.
5. Alcohol does not solve any problems, but then neither does milk.
6. Lovers help each other undress before sex. However after sex, they always dress on their own. Moral of the story: In life, no one helps you once you're screwed.
7. Condoms don't guarantee safe sex. A friend of mine was wearing one, when he was shot dead by the woman's husband.

Calling All Sons!


BLARNEYBITS

We're still looking for fishing reels to donate to Wildwood Hills Ranch.

A lot of you are likely familiar with this ranch that works with at-risk kids; the club has actually made donations to them in the past. **Ed Modglin** just finished up teaching basic financial literacy classes to some of the kids recently and now they are gearing up for the summer camps.

"The kind of reels we are looking for are the closed face reels like a Zebco 202 or 33. The other types of reels are too difficult for most of the kids and we spend more time untangling the line than fishing. We need about 20 so whatever you all can do is appreciated.

"A couple of guys at a recent meeting said they would like to donate \$20-\$25 to the cause. If you would like to do that just make your check to Wildwood Hills Ranch and in the memo put fishing reels.

"I can meet anyone that wants to donate reels or money wherever you want to collect them. My cell is 515.491.5881. Thanks for the support," said Modglin. 

Volunteers are needed to help with each month's meal-prepping-cooking-serving activity. You don't have to be chef-worthy! Just willing to help out with whatever is needed. Menus vary and there's nary a dull moment. And...wait for it...there's FREE BEER! 