



upcoming events

OCT. 6

THE FITZGERALDS - CMA CONCERT
@ HOLY TRINITY HALL
8-10 P.M. / \$25 GEN. ADMISSION
THECMA.ORG

JAN. 12

CONNLA - CMA CONCERT
@ HOLY TRINITY HALL
8-10 P.M. / \$25 GEN. ADMISSION
THECMA.ORG

FEB. 8

EILEEN IVERS - CMA CONCERT
@ HOYT SHERMAN
8-10 P.M. / \$25 GEN. ADMISSION
THECMA.ORG

MAR. 9

JIGJAM - CMA CONCERT
@ HOLY TRINITY HALL
8-10 P.M. / \$25 GEN. ADMISSION
THECMA.ORG

MONTHLY IRISH "SESSION" OPEN JAMS / 7ISH-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

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



The Blarney

upcoming:

Monthly Meeting
Oct. 8, 6:30 p.m.

Menu:
Brats & Dogs
Granny Hedding's Potato Salad
Beans & Fixin's

Next Meeting
Nov. 12

OCTOBER (deireadh fomhair) 2018

FOAMY FUN OF OCTOBERFEST IS UPON US AGAIN

Writer Dave Barry once said, "Without question the greatest invention in the history of mankind is beer. Oh, I grant you the wheel was also a fine invention, but the wheel does not go nearly as well with pizza."

Other notables have chimed in.

Benjamin Franklin famously said, "Beer is proof that God loves us and wants us to be happy."

Even Homer Simpson has given us wisdom on the pint, saying, "Ah, beer! The cause of and the solution to all of life's problems."

Beer-making goes back thousands of years. In Mesopotamia (ancient Iraq), early evidence of beer is a 3900-year-old Sumerian poem honoring Ninkasi, the patron goddess of brewing, which contains the oldest surviving beer recipe, describing the production of beer from barley via bread.

Love a hoppy IPA these days? Here are some interesting, arcane facts from recent centuries about how that popular "modern" brew evolved.

By royal decree until the 16th century, ale was brewed in England without hops, a bitter and aromatic twining vine of the mulberry family, once known as the "wicked weed." Before that time, various bitter and flavoring substitutes were used, including balsam, dandelion, hay, pine needles, mint, tansy, wormwood, coriander, and even ivy.

An old proverb makes reference to "the coming of the hop" from Holland in the early 1520s, about the time Henry VIII challenged the Pope's authority, and turkeys were introduced from the New World: "Turkey, heresy, and hops in beer, came into England in the same year."

By the 19th century, English laws declared malicious damage to hops a felony. 🍀

make your holiday reservations

Christmas is a little ways away, but if you and yours are planning on attending our **Annual FSOSP Christmas dinner party on Dec. 10**, it's time to get some dinner reservations on the books.

We will once again be gathering at the Holiday Inn Downtown. Cocktail time starts at 6 p.m. and your choices for dinner that evening are the same classics: Filet Mignon, Baked Salmon, and Chicken DeBurgo, all with potatoes, salad and extras.

Entertainment, charming gifts, a fabulous raffle, a dazzling slide show and our dressed-out Irish Christmas tree will all be part of the evening, too.

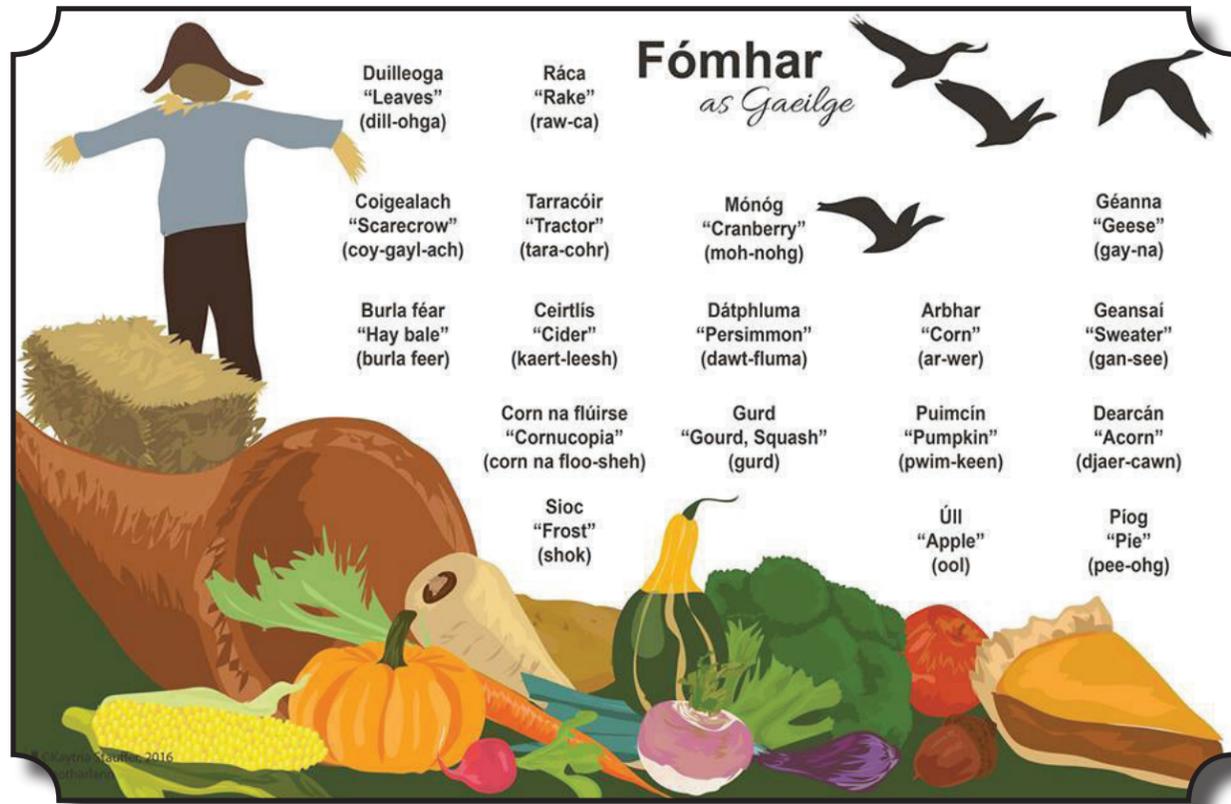
We want to avoid last minute chaos, so make plans to attend as soon as possible. Starting at this month's meeting you can reserve your spot for \$30/person. 🍀

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here's a gaelic take on our autumnal world:



WEARIN' OF THE GRIN



THE LONGEST BASEBALL LIMERICK EVER WRITTEN

Writer Garrison Keillor recently said:

"I ate a bratwurst at the Twins game last week and used the cardboard plate to write (I believe) the longest baseball limerick ever written.

I am 76 and am still looking for ways to distinguish myself."

*Baseball's a slow game, no doubt.
And a fan can go strolling about
For a bratwurst with mustard
And a soft frozen custard,
And why not a bottle of stout?*

*Come back to your place,
Still no one on base,
Same score and nobody out.
You sit with your thoughts
Then notice your brat's
Incomplete and you go back for kraut.*

*And thoughtfully
You go off to pee
And wash and dry off your hands
Then up goes a shout
At a powerful clout,
A long foul ball in the stands.*

One day an Irishman, who has been stranded on a desert island for over ten long years, sees an unusual speck on the horizon. "It's certainly not a ship," he thinks to himself. As the speck gets closer and closer, he begins to rule out the possibilities of a small boat, then even a raft. Suddenly, emerging from the surf comes a drop dead gorgeous blonde woman wearing a wet suit and scuba gear. She approaches the stunned man and says to him, "Tell me how long has it been since you've had a cigarette?" "Ten years," replies the Irishman. With that, she reaches over and unzips a waterproof pocket on her left sleeve and pulls out a pack of fresh cigarettes. He takes one, lights it, takes a long drag and says, "Faith and begorah! Is that good!" "And how long has it been since you've had a sip of good Irish Whiskey?" she asks him. Trembling, the castaway replies, "Ten years." She reaches over, unzips her right sleeve, pulls out a flask and hands it to him. He opens the flask, takes a long swig and says, "Tis absolutely fantastic!" At this point she starts slowly unzipping the long zipper that runs down the front of her wet suit, looks at the man and asks, "And how long has it been since you've played around?" With tears in his eyes, the man falls to his knees and sobs, "Oh, Sweet Jesus! Don't tell me you've got golf clubs in there, too!"

BOARD NEWS

The 2018 edition of the **Halfway to St. Pat's Bike Ride** was a big success with 110 paid riders.

Though most of them couldn't tell a sprocket from a Schrader, they enjoyed a beautiful fall afternoon on the Great Western Trail with no road rash reports.

Lots of FSOSP schwag was sold, too.

As a special treat, rider **Troy Miller** donated a tricked-out bike to the club as a prize in any future event. A pic is on the website.

Also on the website you'll find names of the winners of the raffle, the Spud & Spoon races, and best bike decoration.

Ride committee leader **T-Bone** came up with the leather bike tool bag goodies idea and he and the group deserve a resounding "Huzzah!" for all their efforts in making the ride the most successful in years.



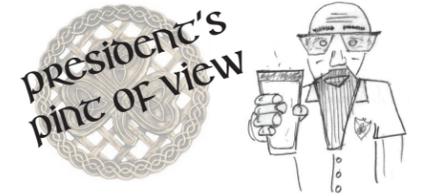
Since **parade costs keep heading skyward** (almost 20G now), the board is seeking some event organizing help.

Tony Rose is an experienced local organizer and was invited to visit with the board to discuss ideas for turning the parade day into more of an entertainment venue focussed on the Sons, instead of bar crawls and such. More meetings are planned.



The **board needs new members**. At the next meeting give some serious thought to helping run your FSOSP.

Also, more **Blarney "email only" volunteers** will save the club \$25/yr. each. Can you live with a PDF only?



I'd like to start out this month by saying a big THANK YOU to T-Bone and the bike ride committee for making the ride an absolute success! Also, thanks to all of the members who showed-up and joined us for a wonderful event that day. I'm also pleased to say the only things that got branded were the bike bags!

I know for a fact that part of the reason for the success of the ride was T-Bone's relentless social media presence. We have used social media in the past to advertise our events, however, it has been a rather passive approach.

As we are constantly looking for ways to promote our club, I look to those of you who are on social media to help us spread the word about all of our events, and if any of you have any thoughts on how we can improve our presence, please come talk to a board member.

The holidays may be months away, but it's not too soon to start thinking about the Christmas party. Please send us any photos you may have of any events you attended this year so we can include them in our slide show so we can let our significant others see what we have been up to this year.

Stay classy, Sons.

President Tim Schuck

BLARNEY BITS

This month we announce the opening of **Krazy Kelly's Exchange Emporium!**

All FSOSP members are invited to participate in this market extravaganza by offering good quality, near-excellent merch to any and all takers. If you don't want to bother with a sale, then make it free to one of us!

To kick off this new club idea, let Ed Kelly know if you would have any use for either a:

> 20" Westinghouse or 22" ACER desktop PC computer monitor <

Just email Ed at [ylleke@mchsi.com](mailto:yллеke@mchsi.com) to claim your choice. First come, first serve.

And in future months, if you have any items that you'd like to see find a good home with a FSOSP buddy, send a description to that same email address and it will be publicized in the Blarney. 🍀

Sully's Irish Pub is the place to be in October:

Oct. 3 - Trivia

Oct. 10 - Mike Aceto

Oct. 17 - Rock & Roll Bingo

Oct. 24 - Stu Ryan O'Brien

Oct. 27 - Halloween Party

And both Sully's and Mickey Finn's host game watch parties for all Hawkeye games! 🍀