

upcoming  
events

MAY 2

**ROY MOORE**

TRAD MUSIC FROM NORTHERN IRELAND  
@ ROYAL MILE - 8 P.M.

MAY 24-26

33RD ANNUAL CHICAGO GAELIC PARK IRISH FESTIVAL  
OAK FOREST, IL / CHICAGOGAELICPARKIRISHFEST.ORG

**MONTHLY IRISH "SESSION" 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



of Central Iowa

# The Blarney

upcoming:

**Monthly Meeting**

April 8, 6:30 p.m.

Menu:

Corned Beef w/Cabbage,  
Carrots, Potatoes & Bread

**Next Meeting**

May 13

**Annual St. Pat's Run**

Apr. 14

**Irish Open Disc Golf**

May 11

**Leprechaun Open**

June 15



**Board Contact Info:**

Pres. - Tony Schmid - 554-1107

bonetender@hotmail.com

Vice Pres. - Tim Schuck - 778-8390

schuck.t@cmbaarchitects.com

Treas. - Josh Soliday - 577-0990

jsoliday2323@gmail.com

Sec. - Ed Kelly - 577-3843

ylleke@mchsi.com

.....

Jeff DeMoss - 771-7070

jjdemoss3@gmail.com

Mike Dennis - 779-7026

mdennis1958@gmail.com

George Hedding - 250-4220

geohedd@aol.com

Bill McCarthy - 975-5254

mccar7660@aol.com

Scott Tilton - 822-2342

setilton13@gmail.com

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



april (aibreán) 2019

## annual run breaks stride but a new course is clear

After the WDM police department told us that they would no longer provide police protection for our events, it was an all-hands-on-deck problem to relocate the coming **36th Annual St. Patrick's Day Run**. The City of DM gave us some downtown course options, but organizer John Leonhart and his buddy T. Michael Franke came up with a superb plan of their own, utilizing the areas shown in the map below.

"We were somewhat limited in a possible race area because we wanted to keep Sully's involved in our pre- and post-race activities," said Leonhart.

Unfortunately, the late planning has made advertising and publicity a little weak.

"This will probably adversely affect the number of entries, but the cost estimate from the DMPD is no more than we paid WDM, so that helps," he said.

The new run plan will offer 5K and 8K (5 mile) options (without a 10K for now). The map here shows the short route. The longer run will follow 51st St. farther north to Grand, then track to the east around the Art Center, south into Greenwood Park, and return west on the Bill Riley and Walnut Creek trails.

The entry app is on the FSOSP website and packets can be picked up from 2-5 p.m. at Sully's the day before the Sun., April 14 event.

Race day morning, packet pick-up time will be 9:30-10:30 at Sully's and the start will be at 11 a.m. just to the east across 1st St. at the Sands Volleyball parking lot, south of Pal Joey's Lounge. Parking is available there, also.

Post-race activities take place back at Sully's.

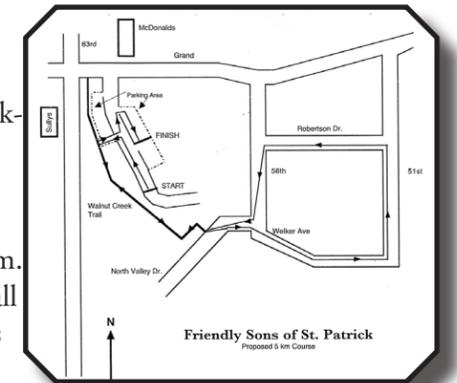
Volunteers are needed and can sign up at next week's meeting, or email Tony Orcutt at [tony.orcutt@gmail.com](mailto:tony.orcutt@gmail.com).

Some of the course is on bike paths so some of the course control will be easier. Also, the shorter route means a water station may not be needed, but Leonhart may still decide to add one.

T-shirts, race numbers, blank entries and money will be delivered and on hand at Sully's, but volunteers are needed to handle the packet pick-up periods on Saturday and on Sunday morning.

Scholarships to one male and one female student track athlete will be awarded. Notices were sent to area school athletic directors and applicant submissions are due in a week. Winning recipients will be selected by a committee on April 10.

Kudos to Leonhart, Franke, Orcutt and Mike Murphy for dealing so masterfully with all the changeroonies in our annual run event. 🍀



## GRAND MARSHAL TEKIPPE RELISHED HIS PARADE DAY WITH 'ALL GOOD THINGS IRISH'

Serving as the Grand Marshal for the 2019 Friendly Sons of St. Patrick Parade was an honor and a joy; a feeling shared by my wife, Sherri, who enjoyed the day with me. Every day should be filled with so many smiles, hugs, waves, handshakes, and laughter. I truly appreciate the Friendly Sons for even considering me to be an ambassador for a day to celebrate our Irish heritage. I feel humbled and blessed, thank you!

I want to thank our host, and magnificent tenor, Michael Reiter, as well as an old friend, Jim O'Donnell. I have been lucky to sing with Mike, and Jim and I share a commitment to keeping the community safe and doing so in a professional and ethical manner. The Friendly Sons are well-represented by these two, to be sure!

The day was a whirlwind! Bright, but not too early, we raised the flag and sang in fellowship. We broke bread together, celebrated the beginning of the day, and ensured we were prepared with a delicious meal. A limousine, the nicest mode of transportation the TeKippes have ever enjoyed, made every movement its own party. Mass with Bishop Pates and the Sacred Hearts Merry Men was just the blessing we needed.

At the parade, we smiled and waved, and tried to pay forward all we were taking in. Mike, Sherri, and I found a getaway between the parade and the grand finale.

And then the party, oh the party! The band, the dancers, the families, and all good things Irish! To top it all off, our raffle investment resulted in a dinner to be enjoyed later. What a day!

All of this was made possible due to your generosity. We trust our effort to represent was enough. Thank you so much!

**John Fitzgerald TeKippe**  
Fire Chief

[Our family hails from Poynstown, County Tipperary] 🍀



## BOARD NEWS

Congrats to **Mike Dennis, 2019 Irishman of the Year!**  
Well-deserved, me lad!

□□□

The parade is in the rear view now, but the board is mulling over ways to further fine-tune the event.

A few illicit “throwers” need to be reckoned with. A proposal is to put an “exit” break in the fencing at 15th & Grand and also later at 12th so we can smoothly escort violators off the route.

A perennial peeve is the lack of info in the media (think Register) about our public reception following the parade. The party, music and general hoo-hah is a big part of the day, yet all attention is put on Court Ave. and big tent parties in the suburbs.

We'll renew our publicity efforts next year.

□□□

**President T-Bone** is intent on bolstering our membership rolls and proposes some ideas:

*Renewal postcard reminders?*

*Getting our kids/grandkids involved for tradition?*

*Set up a social media poobah to hipifize us?*

Your ideas are welcome, too!

□□□

Reminder: Our outgoing **Prez Tim Schuck** prepared some new **donor “ask” forms** for us. Pick one up!

president's  
pint of view



hello gentlemen,

Let me start my very first “pint of view” by telling you all how excited I am to be your new president! Secondly, let me give you all a big “thank you!” for voting me into this prestigious position! I'm looking forward to being a positive part of moving this club into the future with great ideas and suggestions from the board, our members and other members of our own community.

I'm happy to report our illustrious 2019 Saint Patrick's parade appears to have come off with only minor hitches and, as always, we learned new things that will allow us to continue to improve the festivities in the future. I would like to offer a big welcome/congratulations/thank you to our new queen, Jaime McCarthy, Irishman of the Year, Michael Dennis and parade grand marshal, John TeKippe.

I also want to offer a big “pat on the back” to our outgoing president, my good friend and our new vice president, Tim Schuck. I watched his leadership help us through a pretty rough time for this club the last couple of years and I hope I can say I helped the club as much as he did at the end of my term!

I have a couple of things that I really want to work on during my term. One of those things is finding ways to bump our membership numbers back up to what they were just a few years ago. I feel like we have a huge potential of finding new members (especially the younger generations) by finding ways to increase our online presence thru social media and our web site.

Another goal I have is finding ways to increase our club's income through donations, sponsors, grants, reinvigorating our existing events and seeking out new opportunities.

With the parade over and spring knocking on our front door I know we have a bunch of events coming up over the next 6 months. I hope at our meetings and those events I can spend time talking with all of you to hear your ideas to help the club.

Well...with as much as the press has been talking about it lately, I'm sure a lot of you are tired of hearing from “THE President” so I think “THIS president” will end his rant for now and give you all a break until our next meeting on Monday, April 8. I hope to see you then (and don't be afraid to bring a friend!)

I'll raise my glass to you all tonight and say here's to your health...Slainte!  
*President Tony Schmid*

## WEARIN' OF THE GRIN



A cowboy named Bud was overseeing his herd in a remote mountain pasture in Montana when suddenly a brand-new 2018 BMW advanced toward him out of a cloud of dust.

The driver, a young man in a Brioni suit, Gucci shoes, RayBan sunglasses and YSL tie, leaned out the window and asked the cowboy, “If I tell you exactly how many cows and calves you have in your herd, will you give me a calf?”

Bud looks at the man, who obviously is a yuppie, then looks at his peacefully grazing herd and calmly answers, “Sure, why not?”

.....

The yuppie parks his car, whips out his Dell notebook computer, connects it to his Apple iPhone, and surfs to a NASA page on the Internet, where he calls up a GPS satellite to get an exact fix on his location which he then feeds to another NASA satellite that scans the area in an ultra-high-resolution photo.

The young man then opens the digital photo in Adobe Photoshop and exports it to an image processing facility in Hamburg, Germany.

Within seconds, he receives an email on his Apple iPad that the image has been processed and the data stored.

He then accesses an MS-SQL database through an ODBC-connected Excel spreadsheet with email on his Galaxy S5 and, after a few minutes, receives a response.

Finally, he prints out a full-color, 150-page report on his hi-tech, miniaturized HP LaserJet printer, turns to the cowboy and says,

“You have exactly 1,586 cows and calves.”

“That's right. Well, I reckon you can take one of my calves,” says the cowboy.

He watches the young man select one of the animals and looks on with amusement as the young man stuffs it into the trunk of his car.

.....

Then Bud says to the young man, “Hey, if I can tell you exactly what your business is, will you give me back my calf?”

The young man thinks about it for a second and then says, “Okay, why not?”

.....

“You're a Congressman for the U.S. Government,” says Bud.

“Wow! That's correct,” says the yuppie, “but how did you guess that?”

.....

“No guessing required,” answered the cowboy. “You showed up here even though nobody called you; you want to get paid for an answer I already knew, to a question I never asked. You used millions of dollars worth of equipment trying to show me how much smarter than me you are; and you don't know shit about how working people make a living - or about cows, for that matter.

This is a herd of sheep.”

.....

“Now give me back my dog.”

## b LARNEY b ITS

LEPRECHAUN OPEN

**Mark the date!! This year's outing will be held Saturday, June 15 at the Copper Creek Golf Club in Pleasant Hill.**

Our annual “whack-and-ball-hunt” is open to all – members, non-members, male, female and all between. 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 marshmallow driving, as well as pin prizes will showcase the talents (or lack thereof) of participating golfers. A steak dinner, awards ceremony and raffle will follow play.

More details & a sign-up sheet will be available at this month's meeting, so don't delay – get your twosome, or foursome, together for a fun day of golf and get signed up. Payment reserves your spot so the earlier the better.

Questions? Call Brian Kreps 515-669-2531.

### ST. PATRICK'S PARADE RAFFLE RESULTS

*Ireland Trip* - Rhonda Gale

*\$500* - Phil Carroll

*\$100* - Jamilla Davis, Josie O'Halloran, Tim McGinn

*\$50* - Anna Keller, Allen Jerome, Cindy Soliday, Sean Fogerty