



upcoming  
events

**MAY 11**

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

**MAY 24-26**

ANNUAL IRISH FESTIVAL  
@ CHICAGO GAELIC PARK, OAK FOREST, IL  
\$18 DAILY PASS  
CHICAGOGAELICPARKIRISHFEST.ORG

**JUNE 14-16**

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

**JUNE 14-16**

IRISH FEST @ LAWLER, IA  
PARADE / MUSIC / FOOD / FAMILY ACTIVITIES  
LAWLERIRISHFEST.COM

**JUNE 15**

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

**JUNE 28**

26TH ANNUAL O'DONNELL & FRIENDS OPEN  
@ TOAD VALLEY GOLF COURSE

**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

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



# The Blarney

upcoming:

**Monthly Meeting**

May 13, 6:30 p.m.  
Menu:  
Steak, Baked Potato  
Pasta Salad & Bread

**Next Meeting**

June 10

**Irish Open Disc Golf**

May 11

**Leprechaun Open**

June 15

may (bealtaine) 2019

have you really met our lovely 2019 queen?

Jamie McCarthy says her Irish heritage has always been a defining characteristic of her life. All through school her favorite projects were about Irish history and legends.

She started traditional Irish Step Dancing at age 9, dancing at festivals in the Midwest for over 10 years, even helping to start an Irish Dance club at the College of Saint Benedict.

Having traveled to Ireland on vacation during high school, she later studied abroad in Galway for 4 months, using her time to study the culture and visit many historic cultural sites, including her family's homestead.

"My family is originally from just outside Knock, in County Mayo, and way back my ancestors built Cormac's chapel in Cashel and the Blarney Castle," she said.

Jamie coaches Mock Trial at Dowling and often travels to schools in Iowa and Minnesota to talk about Irish history, culture and dance. She currently works in Des Moines at ARAG Legal Insurance.



Her pride in her heritage made both becoming our queen and her St. Pat's Day exciting.

"St. Patrick's Day has always been my favorite holiday and this year was no exception. The day was perfect from start to end and I didn't stop smiling the whole time," she said.

"What a memorable list of traditions and firsts: my first limo ride, first St. Patrick's Mass, and first time celebrating as Queen, although that will probably become a tradition once my year's reign is over.

"Throughout the day everyone was incredibly welcoming and friendly, and I met so many people who were just as happy to be there as I was. I would like to say thank you to the Friendly Sons for that perfect parade day and I'm sure I will remember it for years to come.

"The Friendly Sons have always been the standard of community involvement to me by showing

a commitment to genuine service to others. I'm thrilled to be part of a group focused on helping others, along with celebrating my Irish traditions," she said.

Slainte, Queen Jamie! 🍀



## 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

## be a flippin' discer this week, be a swingin' duffer in June

Our annual run last month was faced with some real challenges, but kudos to **John Leonhart** and his crew for handling them all masterfully to make it a fun success.

Now more of our FSOSP outdoor fundraising activities are rapidly approaching. Spread the word!

This coming weekend you can spend a Saturday morning in the sunshine (we hope) playing disc golf with your friends and in a mere 5 weeks you can play a round of golf with other hopeful hackers. See the details below:

## wearin' of the grin



One day God was looking down at Earth and saw all of the mischievous behavior that was going on, so he called one of His angels and sent the angel to Earth for a spell.

When he returned, he told God, "Yes, it is bad on Earth, 95% are misbehaving and only 5% are not."

God thought for a moment and decided he had better send down a second angel to get another opinion.

So God called another angel and sent him to Earth for another look. When the angel returned he went to God and said, "Yes, it's true. The Earth is in decline, 95% are misbehaving, and only 5% are being good."

God was not pleased. So He decided to e-mail the 5% that were good because he wanted to encourage them and give them a little something to help them keep it up.

Do you know what the e-mail said? No?

Okay, I was just wondering, because I didn't get one either!

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A filthy rich Florida man decided that he wanted to throw a party and invited all of his buddies and neighbors. He also invited Leroy, the only Redneck in the neighborhood. He held the party around the pool in the backyard of his mansion. Leroy was having a good time drinking, dancing, eating shrimp, oysters and BBQ and flirting with all the women.

At the height of the party, the host said, "I have a 10-foot man-eating gator in my pool and I'll give a million dollars to anyone who has

the nerve to jump in. The words were barely out of his mouth when there was a loud splash. Everyone turned around and saw Leroy in the pool!

Leroy was fighting the gator and kicking its ass! He was jabbing it in the eyes with his thumbs, throwing punches, giving head butts and choke holds, biting the gator on the tail and flipping it through the air like some kind of judo instructor. The water was churning and splashing everywhere.

Both Leroy and the gator were raising hell.

Finally, Leroy strangled the gator and let it float to the top like a dime store goldfish. Leroy then slowly climbed out of the pool and everybody just stared at him in disbelief.

The host couldn't believe his eyes and said, "Well, Leroy, I reckon I owe you a million dollars."

"No, that's okay. I don't want it," said Leroy.

The rich man said, "Man, I have to give you something. You won the bet. How about half a million bucks then?"

"No thanks, I don't want it," answered Leroy.

The host said, "Come on, I insist on giving you something, that was amazing. How about a new Porsche and a Rolex and some stock options?"

Again Leroy said no.

Confused, the host asked, "Well, then what do you want?"

Leroy said, "I want the name of the sumbich who pushed me in the pool!"

## board news

The board has proposed the creation of a "**Lifetime Achievement Award**" for the club.

The criteria for this honor is still being decided, but obviously, longevity as a member is to be considered first and foremost.

In time we'll have more news about this.

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The annual **FSOSP Halfway to St. Pat's Bike Ride** is next up on the activities event calendar. Though September is usually the target for this outing, no firm date has yet been set.

A committee is needed to put the ride plans together so consider letting us know if you'd like to be in that cohort.

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The annual run held last month was a success, though participant numbers were down, mostly due to the late publicity because of all the planning changerooskis.

Reactions to the new route were generally favorable and the 2020 event should be great.

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At that event, two scholarships were awarded to outstanding track athletes: one to Grace Millsap, a Waukee HS student who is planning on a career as an optometrist, and another to Brice Rhodes, a Hoover Huskie heading to Wartburg College. Congrats to those two!



Gentlemen,

I'm very happy to say that my first regular meeting last month as your new president was a great success in my eyes! Thank you for all the encouraging words I received!

We welcomed 5 new members at the April meeting (it's usually a month with lower attendance) which made the total attendance over 50 members. This ran our food resources a little tight, but everyone still enjoyed a delicious dinner AND plenty of readily available cold drinks!

Please understand that we may have to re-evaluate some of the inner workings (amount of food/drinks/seats) of our monthly meetings as we try to grow back to the membership levels we once had!

I would love this trend to continue, so make sure to put Monday, May 13 on your calendar and try and make this month's meeting to show your support of the club and to enjoy a delicious steak dinner!

Don't forget, as your president, I'm always looking for good advice/suggestions (all BAD advice/suggestions, you can deliver to my trusty VP, Tim Schuck....Haha!) So please feel free to stop and talk about anything club related with me!

Tonight I'll toast to great weather for all our upcoming events this summer!

*President Tony "T-Bone" Schmid*

## blarneybits

### LEPRECHAUN OPEN

Copper Creek Golf Club in Pleasant Hill is reserved for the Sat., June 15 event this year.

"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," said Brian Kreps.

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 at 515-669-2531.

### BEER BREAK!

Home brew will be provided at the May meeting. Mike Hall has arranged to bring an Irish Red and a Dry Irish Stout.

Irish red ale is noted to be a "balanced, easy-drinking pint, with a moderate malt character full of caramel and toasted notes. A deep reddish copper color comes from both crystal malt and a small dose of highly kilned grain, such as roasted barley." And dry stout often is a "black beer with a dry-roasted character thanks to the use of roasted barley. The emphasis on coffee-like roasted barley and a moderate degree of roasted malt aromas define much of the character." Let's see what our homies come up with!

### CLUB LIBRARY

Bob Fogarty says we have room for more books in our new club lending library. Look around the house for some titles that you read and liked. Bring them in to add to our collection. Chances are that others will enjoy them, too.