



The Blarney

UPCOMING:

Monthly Meeting:

March 11th

Windows at the Marriott

6:30 P.M.

Menu: No Meal

Next Meeting:

General meeting April 8th

Mickle Center

6:30 P.M.

BOARD CONTACT INFO

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MARCH (MÁRTA) 2024

BOARD NEWS

DUES - DUES - DUES - DUES - DUES - DUES ...are due now! Help us out. About 25% are paid, this is your last call to get them paid.

Parade planning is on track and going well, Parade Chairman for life Mr. O'Connor has got all the details ironed out, and with God willing we will have a fantastic day. Please note parade route will change this year, as well as the date, which is Saturday March 16th.

The Queen has been selected and you can meet her at the next meeting. The Parade Marshall and Irishman of the Year will also be announced.

Parade Float meeting dates are: Thursday March 7th @7P.M.

All meetings will be at Windows on 7th.

Breakfast this year is again at Windows at the Marriott.

Hopefully you have already paid for this.

Don't forget, we need volunteers for this fine event. Without all of us the parade would not go on.





Presidents Pint of View'

Wow, I can't believe its March already! To start off,

I would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to Bill McCarthy for his many years serving this club as a board member. He is a valued member of this club and has not only helped to keep the board on task, he served as a historian of sorts reminding us of the club's origins and purpose, he has provided us with countless meals, he has continually offered his insight to the everchanging dynamic of the board; the list goes on. Thank you once again Bill! We are glad you are feeling better and look forward to seeing you out there among friends, relaxing and enjoying a meal prepared by somebody else. It'll be challenging to "fill your shoes". With this board I think we can at least make a good effort!

I would also like to thank Colton "Parade Chairman for Life" O'Connor for his commitment to keeping our parade moving forward while rolling with the changes due to the construction on MLK this year. From what we can predict it is going to be a great parade as always, just packed into a little less space.

I would also like thank our queen, Alison, for her help and attendance at our meetings and events this past year. Not only did she make us look good, I don't think I ever saw her without a smile on her face. It has been great to have her as part of our club. She will be missed. We wish you well in your new adventures in Chicago!

That being said, we had a great turnout for our queen interviews this year. Can you believe we had seven candidates? That is the most candidates we have ever had in the history of the club (just ask Bill). It made for a long but enjoyable afternoon getting to know each one of them and look forward to introducing you all to our new queen at the March meeting.

Lastly, I would like to formally welcome Christopher Douglas to the board. I have known him since he was just a wee lad. Watching him grow up was a joy. Although there were plenty of shenanigans along the way, he will be a great addition to our board. I look forward to working with him.

As for the rest of the board members, thank you all for your continued commitment to this club and for putting up with me for another year!

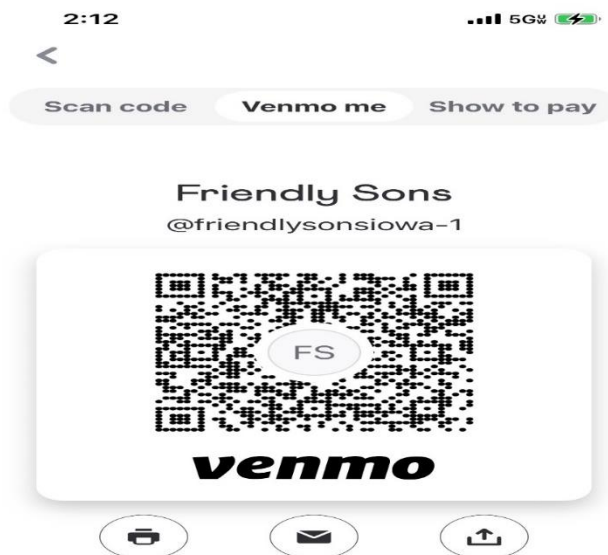
I look forward to seeing you all at the March meeting at the Marriott.

See you at the meeting. Until then, stay safe.
President, Tim Schuck

Our own Sean Sullivan has a couple of musical events coming up with his band, The Black Dirt Ramblers. **Cumming Tap Irish Hooley / March 16th 6: 30 PM:** It is very humbling to play Irish Music at the Cumming Tap, Cumming IA. over St. Patrick's Day, The Irish Settlement, where post Potato Family, early 1850's, several Irish families immigrated to this area, traveled hundreds of miles starting a new life. Wouldn't you love to be a fly on the wall. Many of those First Irish Families are still here today, farming on original homesteads. Hope you can join us for this Hooley and give honor to those who came before us and made our path easier. Black Dirt Ramblers will be playing Irish songs and Irish Fiddle Tunes and waving the Irish flag.

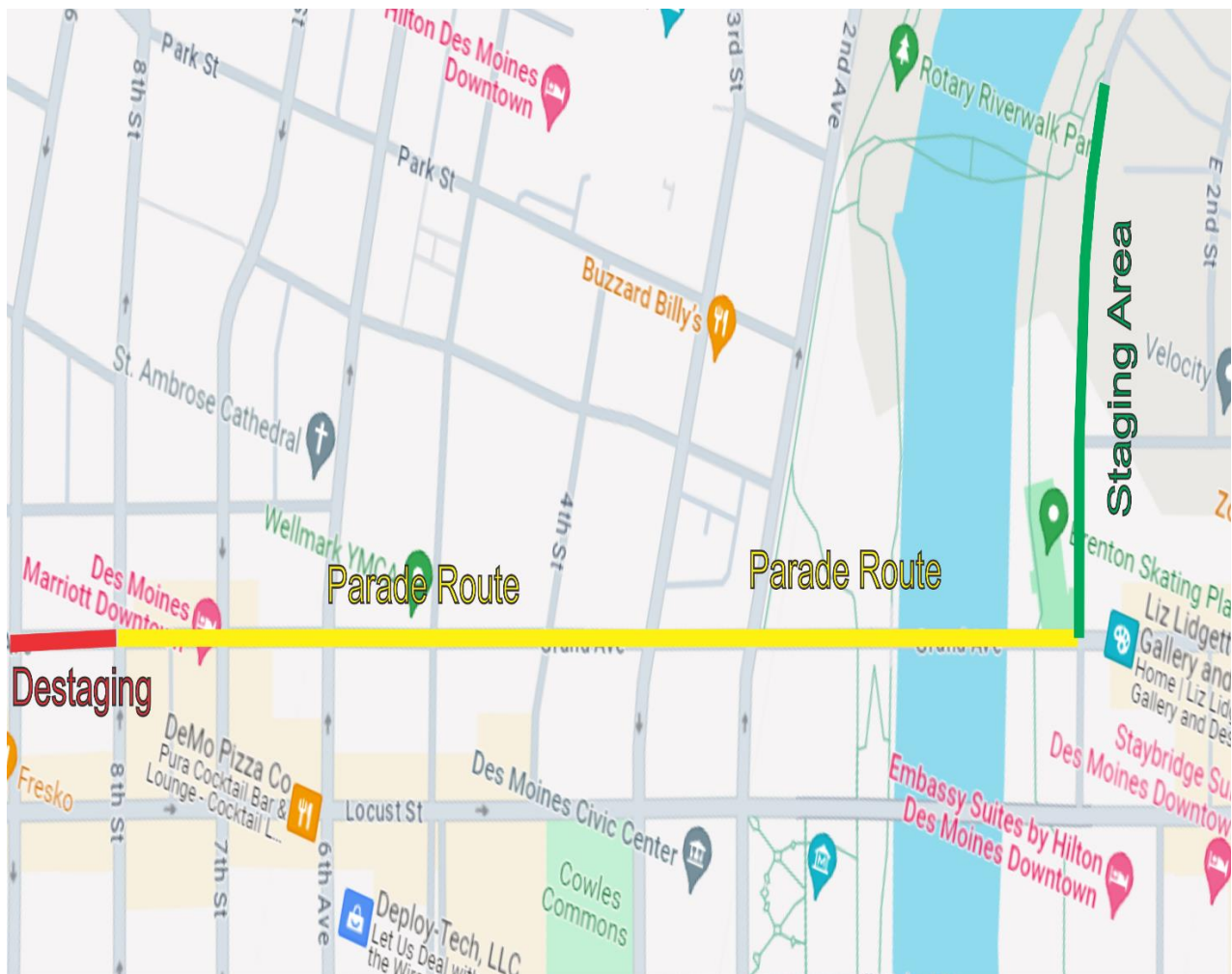
<https://www.facebook.com/events/921912806214980/?ref=newsfeed>

Magee's Irish Pub and Eatery / March 17th 6 PM: Magee's now has more seating and really sets the tone for Irish Hooley on St Patrick's Day. They put up a large stage on the east side of main dining area and it is quite a party. We now have Billy Kearney on fiddle, so we will be doing a lot of great Irish fiddle tunes as well as Irish Songs.



If you are out selling raffle tickets and someone says they don't have any cash, here is our VENMO QR code. The passcode is 0990. We also will have a raffle ticket table set up at Windows the day of the parade that needs volunteers.

Parade Route



Parade staging will be on Robert D. Ray Drive north towards the Botanical Center. The Parade will go West down Grand and end at 8th street. Please remember parade meeting dates are as follows:

Thursday March 7th @7P.M.

All meetings will be at Windows on 7th.

It is with a heavy heart that the board announces the passing of several members of the Friendly Son's Past President Jim Sheehan has passed away.

Visitation will be on March 15th, from 11:30 to 1p.m. at St. Teresa's 1230 Merle Hay Rd.

Mass will be from 1 to 2 p.m. at St. Teresa's with burial to follow at Glendale Cemetery 4909 University in Des Moines.

Past member and good friend of vice President T-Bone, Judd Furlong passed away on Monday February 26th. His memorial was March 2nd, with a private burial at a later date.

Gary O'Donnell, 59, passed away in the comfort of his own home, surrounded by his loving family, on February 28, 2024. After almost 5 years of battling Stage 4 colon cancer with the utmost courage and strength, he is now at peace with the everlasting Lord. Visitation was held March 3rd, and funeral services were held March 4th. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to two charities very close to his heart: The Ripple Effect and/or O'Donnell & Friends Charities, in loving memory of Gary.

- The Ripple Effect is a charity established by Gary's family in 2017. "When one person, or a group of people, reaches out and touches another group. And that group in turn embraces its neighbors and the ripple goes on and it carries across time."
- O'Donnell & Friends Charities was established in 1994 as a family charity with the goal to "receive by giving."

May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind always be at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face,
and rains fall soft upon your fields.

May the lord smile upon you all the days of your life.

And until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand.



2024 St. Patrick's Parade Day Schedule of Events

Flag Raising - in the Marriott Mezzanine 7:00 A.M.

Breakfast – Windows on 7th, at 8:00 A.M.

Streets close parade volunteers meet in lobby at the Marriott 9:00 A.M.

Parade Float staging begins 10:00 A.M.

Parade starts 12:00 P.M.

Windows on 7th opens back up with the day's activities, Music provided by Ed Kelly and his band

1:00 P.M.

Raffle drawing 4:00 P.M.



2024 Friendly Son's planned events

Disc Golf Tournament – date to be determined

Baconfest – Saturday May 4th

Friendly Son's Irish Open – Sunday June 9th

FSOSP Bags Tourney – Saturday July 13th

Annual Halfway to St. Pat's Car Show – Sunday September 22nd