



The Blarney

UPCOMING:

Monthly Meeting:

February 10th 6 P.M.

Mickle Center

**Menu : Sausage Sandwiches, Salad,
and Dessert**

Next Meeting:

General meeting March 10th

Windows @ The Marriott

6:00 P.M.

BOARD CONTACT INFO

Pres. – Tim Schuck –

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Vice Pres. – Tony Schmid –

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Sec. – Jeff DeMoss – 771-7070

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Parade Chairman –

Colton O’Connor – 770-2419

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Scott Tilton – 822-2342

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FEBRUARY (FEABHRA) 2025

Elections were a success, 2025 officers are: President – Adam McCarty, Vice President – Justin Dye, both Secretary and treasurer were retained for another year. New Board seats are: Tim Schuck, Tony Schmid, Colton O’Connor, Scott Tilton, and Donnie Corben. These Gentlemen will take their respective place at the March meeting.

Misters Schmid, O’Connor, and Dye recently attended the 2025 Bike Expo. They had a really good turnout at their booth raising over \$2500. Plans are in place to also do this at the 2025 Deer Classic.

The board is also excited to announce our first annual ‘Pre Paddy-Party!’ scheduled for Saturday March 15th. See the flyer on the inside of the Blarney.

Countdown to St. Pat’s

Yes, the news is true, there will be a parade this year! Our Parade Chairman for life Colton O’Connor is hard at work with plans moving forward both with the city and the Marriott. **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!** There are other decisions for the parade and the club that you can help with. The board is still going over lists for Parade Grand Marshal and Irishman of the year. If you have any ideas, please let the board know.

Queen candidates will be interviewed on February 16th 2:00 P.M. at the Mickle Center. Applications are available on the Son’s web site.

- Parade Entrant Meetings (all at the Marriott):
- o Saturday 2/22/25 @2:00pm
- o Tuesday 2/25/25 @ 7:00pm
- o Thursday 3/6/25 @ 7:00pm
- o Sunday 3/9/25 @ 2:00pm

More info inside



Presidents Pint of View

Well, February is upon us and with it we are one month closer to our day. Fear not, the parade is well-in-hand with Mr. O'Connor at the helm.

This year as you may know, we are hosting a pre-party the Saturday before St. Patrick's Day. This is in addition to the regular post parade party we host at the Marriott. We are hoping this will become an annual event to further help the club raise money, and advertise ourselves a bit more. So, if you're up for it, please come out and join us at our first annual pre-St. Patrick's Day party (see The Blarney for details).

As for the rest of this POV, I'd like to acknowledge the fact that I did not realize there were not one but two notorious female Irish Pirates (thanks to what I like to call the "I can't sleep so I might as well watch a documentary channel"). I knew there were only a handful of female pirates and to have two of them be Irish; wow. I guess that tells you nearly all you need to know about the tenacity of Irish women.

Speaking about Irish women, there is still a chance to let an Irish lass in your life know that if she is eligible, and willing, she could have the honor of being our Parade Queen. We can never have too many applicants (as long as they aren't pirates).

May the road rise up to meet you, and the sun shine warm upon your face.

Until then, stay safe
President, Tim Schuck





Friendly Sons of St. Patrick
of Central Iowa



PRE-PADDY PARTY



LIVE BAND • FOOD TRUCK • CASH BAR

Saturday, March 15
2-6pm

The Shop DSM
901 Cherry St, Des Moines

Thank You to Our Partners:
The Shop DSM
Des Moines Firefighters Local 4
Off the Griddle Food Truck
Black Dirt Ramblers



Parade News continued.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PRE-PARTY:

- Saturday March 15th at "The Shop DSM – Event Center" 2:00pm-6:00pm
- Partnering with Local four Des Moines Firefighters Union
- Band: Band Black Dirt Ramblers (club cost: \$500)
- Food Truck: Off the Griddle will be selling food at the event
- Family friendly event. No entry fee only asking for donation at the door (will need board member to main the door).
- Whole venue opens for the event.
- Foy Dancers have been invited to perform.

o Street painting will be **Sunday March 16th** with a rain date of Saturday March 15th.

Parade day will be challenging with staging set to be down the sides of Grand. Extra help will be needed.

- **We still have raffle tickets available, if you haven't picked up a book or three, come help us out.**

Pictures are needed from all of the Friendly Son's events. Please contact me about acquiring any pictures you have.

GO TO THE WEBSITE: <http://WWW.FRIENDLYSONSIOWA.COM> FOR ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR FORMS. ALL PARADE FORMS ARE ON THE SITE.





Timothy J. Flanagan

August 3, 1954 - January 20, 2025

Born in Des Moines, Iowa

Resided in Des Moines, Iowa

Timothy Joseph Flanagan, 70, died peacefully Monday, January 20, 2025 at Broadlawns Medical Center in Des Moines.

Born August 3, 1954 to William and Mary (Flaherty) Flanagan, Tim attended Holy Trinity School and graduated from Dowling High School. After learning the tricks of the trade at Christopher's Restaurant, Tim opened Flanagan's Restaurant & Lounge in 1985—providing the place to celebrate St. Patrick's Day for nearly 30 years. With a vision for bringing fine dining back to Des Moines, Tim later opened Timothy's Steakhouse.

Even in retirement, Tim found himself drawn back to the bar-business, slinging drinks at other local bars. Tim loved to golf and meet friends for Thursday afternoon cocktails and a few games of pool. Tim loved people and made a life for himself that can only be described as iconic.

Preceded in death by his parents and brother Billy, Tim is survived by his sisters: Mary Ann Flanagan of Clive, Kathleen (Geno) Garton of Winter Haven, FL, and Patty (Greg) Halsey of Des Moines as well as many nieces, nephews, and children who loved him as Papa Tim.

A proud father and papa, Tim leaves as his legacy to this world, his daughters: Andrea (Justin) Flanagan-Reese of Urbandale, Stephanie (Dave) Arrigo of Clive, Katie (David) Seidman of Norfolk, VA, and his beloved Irish grandchildren: Kalleigh, Keagan, Hunter, and Connor.

The family will receive friends from 4-7 p.m. Friday, January 24th at Iles Dunn's Chapel. Funeral services will be held at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, January 25th at Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

Memorial contributions may be made to The Friendly Son's of Saint Patrick.

Irish History

Courtesy of Mr. Kelly –

THE IRISH HARP

The Irish harp, though not as popularly well known around the world as the shamrock for being an Irish symbol, is the official emblem of Ireland. This status dates back several centuries, and the instrument's history tells much about the history of the island.

Today, a representation of the traditional harp is to be found on the Presidential Seal and on many official documents, on passports, on the flag of Leinster (but not the national flag), on Irish euro coins and as a logo for a number of prominent state-supported organizations such as the National University of Ireland. As one of the national symbols of Ireland the harp is also used extensively by businesses and other corporations wishing to convey 'Irish-ness'.

Guinness bottle labels are perhaps its most famous gig while a heavily stylized harp puts in an appearance on the tail fins of budget carrier Ryan Air.

There are a number of names for the Irish harp. It is also known as the Celtic harp, the Gaelic harp, the clàrsach (in Scotland) or the cláirseach (in the modern Irish language). Purists might argue some minor points of difference, but to the layman, these terms are synonymous. While its earliest origins are lost, the Irish harp has a certain history dating back at least 1000 years. Brian Boru, the last High King of Ireland (d 1014), is said to have been an accomplished player, but while he is attributed with all manner of skills for which there is no evidence, surviving 12-century annals refer to the Celtic harp being the only music played during the Crusades.

At this time, the Gaelic harp was revered in Celtic culture (and all over Europe). It was de rigeur for Scottish and Irish kings and chieftains to have their own resident harper who, in turn, enjoyed high status and special privileges. The musician's main duties were to accompany poetry recitations or the singing of psalms. While they may have composed their own music, they did not write them down. The English monarch Henry VIII declared himself King of Ireland

in 1531. Such was the fame and prestige of the county's harp, it was chosen as the official national symbol of Ireland and stamped onto the coinage of Henry's new realm.

The Celtic social order was on the wane by this time and as the decades pass, harpers lost much of their status, and their numbers declined. Some become travelling musicians, playing their harps and singing, because rich patrons no longer retained them. In many ways, the harp's success became a problem.

continued

Still very much recognized as a symbol of Ireland and Irish pride, the Gaelic harp became an emblem of resistance to the Crown and England. As such, it was banned at the end of the medieval period and the old Celtic harp tradition began to die out. By the 18th century, the Scottish clarsach had disappeared. A century later, the Irish harp, too, was extinct.

Fortunately, a group of harpers had been lured to Belfast in 1792 for a traditional harp festival where the musician and folk music collector, Edward Bunting wrote down the music they played and the terminology of the harpers. This was the first time traditional Gaelic harp music had been recorded on paper and it is thanks to Bunting that these genuine Celtic tunes were not lost forever.

