



The Blarney

UPCOMING:

Monthly Meeting:

October 13th 6:30 P.M.

The Mickle Center

Menu: Pork Loin Sandwiches,
Baked Beans, Corn Bread, and
dessert.

Next Meeting:

General meeting November 10th

Mickle Center

6:30 P.M.

BOARD CONTACT INFO

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OCTOBER (DEIREADH FÓMHAIR) 2025

BOARD NEWS

The Halfway to St. Pat's Car Show is now in our rear-view mirrors, and what an event it was. Thanks to everyone that came out to help and support this great event. Special thanks go out to Misters Corbin and Tilton for all of their hard work making this a huge success. Another special thanks to Mr. Craig Lein who won the 50/50 raffle and donated it to the club!

Speaking of the car show, it has come to the boards attention that scammers are out and about trying to infiltrate our events. Remember that we will never require you to pay online, most of our events are either pay in person or the day of. If it sounds too easy or too good to be true, it is. Spread the word sons!

Our annual bags tourney is this Saturday October 11th. Mr. Soliday is hard at work putting together prizes. The Tourney will be held at Sully's; Registration is at 11 and will cost \$30 per 2-person team. Play starts at noon.

The Christmas party is in the works. Keep in mind the date, December 1st, which is the first Monday of the month. Attendance is limited to 66, and will once again be held at Chicago Speakeasy. Meal selections will be: Prime Rib, Pork Chop, Mahi Mahi, Ribs/ Chicken, Alfredo, any side, plus salad bar. Cost is \$40 per person and can be paid at the monthly meeting.

Mr. O'Connor is already busy making big plans for our annual holiday extravaganza (THE PARADE) If anyone has some ideas on how to make our pre-paddy party more spectacular, please let him know.



Presidents Pint of View



As I reflect on this year with the club, I must give a huge shout out to all the members who helped make it what it's been. We just wrapped up the Halfway to St. Patrick's Day Car Show, and it was a ton of fun and bigger than ever! Big thanks to Donnie Corbin and Scott Tilton for organizing the event.

We had over 50 cars enter, and we sold just over 12% more tickets for the Three Little Pigs Raffle than last year. The 50/50 raffle was over \$700, and the winner even donated the money back to the club. Thank you to everyone who showed up to help on the day of the event, and to those who have been selling tickets for the past few months.

I'm so proud of how everyone has stepped up this year. Because of your efforts, we've been able to give back to the community approximately \$10,000, the largest sum in over five years—even with the increasing costs of putting on the parade every year.

We absolutely couldn't do any of this without the effort of the entire club. I hope to see as many of you as possible at the next meeting. Our raffle prize table should be full of higher quality prizes, including a custom Friendly Sons cutting board.

President

Adam McCarty



F.S.O.S.P UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday October 11th – Annual FSOSP Bags Tourney

- Sully's Pub Registration is \$30 per 2-person team
- Registration is at 11 AM with play to start around noon.
- Cash payouts for the top 3 teams
- Raffle prizes and a 50/50 raffle

Monday December 1st, Annual FSOSP Christmas party

- Chicago Speakeasy
- Seating limited to the first 65 paid members and guests
- Menu: Prime Rib, Pork Chop, Mahi Mahi, Ribs/ Chicken, Alfredo, any side, plus salad bar



FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK
OF CENTRAL IOWA





Friendly Sons of St. Patrick
of Central Iowa present

Leprechaun Bags Tournament

Saturday, Oct. 11

REGISTRATION 11 A.M. • PLAY STARTS AT NOON

\$30 PER 2-PERSON TEAM

CASH PAYOUTS FOR TOP 3 TEAMS

RAFFLE PRIZES - 50/50 RAFFLE - FUN FOR ALL



For further information contact Josh Soliday at (515) 577-0990 or FSOSPtreasurer@gmail.com.

Irish History

Dark history of Halloween originates with the Celtic fest of 'Samhain'

To find the origin of Halloween, you have to look to the festival of Samhain in Ireland's Celtic past.

Samhain had three distinct elements. Firstly, it was an important fire festival, celebrated over the evening of October 31st and throughout the following day. The

flames of old fires had to be extinguished and ceremonially re-lit by druids. It was also a festival not unlike the modern New Year's Day in that it carried the notion of casting out the old and moving into the new. To our pagan ancestors it marked the end of the pastoral cycle – a time when all the crops would have been gathered and placed in storage for the long winter ahead and when livestock would be brought in from the fields and selected for slaughter or breeding. But it was also, as the last day of the year, the time when the souls of the departed would return to their former homes and when potentially malevolent spirits were released from the Otherworld and were visible to mankind.

Samhain & the Celtic Calendar

The Celts celebrated four major festivals each year and none of them was connected in any way to the sun's cycle. The origin of Halloween lies in the Celt's autumn festival which was held on the first day of the 11th month, the month known as November in English but as Samhain in Irish. The festivals are known by other names in other Celtic countries but there is usually some similarity, if only in the translation. In Scottish Gaelic, the autumn festival is called Samhuinn. In Manx it is Sauin.

The root of the word – sam – means summer, while 'fuin' means end. And this signals the idea of a seasonal change rather than a notion of worship or ritual. The other group of Celtic languages have very different words but a similar intention. In Welsh, the day is Calan Gaeaf, which means the first day of winter. In Brittany, the day is Kala Goanv, which means the beginning of November. The Celts believed that the passage of a day began with darkness and progressed into the light. The same notion explains why winter – the season of long, dark nights – marked the beginning of the year and progressed into the lighter days of spring, summer and autumn. So, the 1st of November, Samhain, was the Celtic New Year, and the celebrations began at sunset of the day before its eve.

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2025 Halfway to St. Pat's Car Show



Lots of vendors this year as well as a DJ kept the crowds entertained.

















