

FRIENDLY SONS OF THE SHILLELAGH

OLD BRIDGE, NJ

SHENANIGANS

VOLUME 48

ISSUE 3

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Dear Fellow Members,

As my journey continues, I would like to take this opportunity to let you all know how grateful I am to have been given the privilege to be the President of this fine club this past year and for the year ahead. I would like to thank all of the Executive Board members who gave their time, because without them this club would not be the success that it is today. And to all those that helped out in so many ways I thank you for all that you have done as well. I speak for all of us when I say we look forward to the many successes we will share this coming year.

February was a whole lot of fun. Thanks to our in house comedian Donnie Bruchez, the SERF committee, and the Dinner Dance committee for yet another successful Comedy Night. This event was sold out with proceeds going to help our members in need. And yes at this time I would like to cancel mentioning Pub Night.

Cheers to you Joe Paterson for hosting the second annual Great Guinness Toast. Many turned out to hear this fine toastmaster hour after hour after hour. The Bogside Rogues provided the entertainment that evening when Joe needed a break. Brilliant job by all!!!!!!!

Kevin Morgan and Jim Byrne ran the club elections again this year. As you know all positions went unopposed with congratulations to everyone returning to the board. The blood drive was the true success this day with many people turning out to donate.

I would like to congratulate my friend, Kevin Wyer, for being named the Irishmen of the Year. It was Kevin that asked me to join the Executive Board a few years back and it is by his example and accomplishments that have prompted many of us to continue to work together as he did with us. Kevin's hard work and dedication has not gone unnoticed and this title is well deserved. Congratulations Kevin!!!

Our time to shine is here again. With a forecast of sunny and a high of 49, March 7th is Belmar Parade Day. The days events will begin at 9:00 am with mass in the Banquet hall followed by breakfast. All members are asked to attend the march in full dress uniform. I look forward to seeing you all on Main Street.

Be Well and God Bless You all-

Mac



The club joins the O'Kane family in sorrow at the loss of Matthew, son of Jamie, nephew of Brian. Please say some prayers.

Brother member Jim Nolan passed away. Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers.

Please always, take a moment to think of all our troops and support staff overseas, and those less fortunate than us.

Good and Welfare information should be given to Barney Shannon @ (732) 254-6153, or to any officer.



SHENANIGANS DEADLINES

Please note, we are going to try and get the paper online sooner than usual from now on, that said, please have any items you want in the paper submitted by the 20th of the month. Thanks

Always By Your Side...

March Meeting - Thursday, March 11th 8:30PM

St. Patrick's Day - Wednesday, March 17th
BLIZZARD OF MAYHEM BEGINS AT 3PM, GO GREENER THAN YOU EVER IMAGINED! LIVE MUSIC ALL NIGHT!

Club Dinner Dance - Saturday, March 20th 3PM
INFO INSIDE, AND ON FSOS DIARY.

Pub Night - Friday, March 26th 8PM
WE'LL KEEP TRYING NEITHER SLEET, NOR SNOW, WELL...

Easter Egg Hunt - Saturday, April 3rd

Widows Luncheon - Sunday, April 25th
INFORMATION INSIDE



*Aran Island sweaters have a variety of "family weaves."
These were developed because when a fisherman drowned, his sweater would often be the only thing washed up on shore. The distinctive weave would tell a family their loved one had been lost.*

ELECTION RESULTS

116 Members Voted

President:.....Rob "Mac" McKiernan - 106 votes - *Unopposed*

Vice President:.....John Sheridan - 110 votes - *Unopposed*

Recording Secretary:Bill Jarvis - 103 votes - *Unopposed*

Treasurer:Jeff Schuld - 102votes - *Unopposed*

Corresponding Secretary:Tom McGrath - 107 votes - *Unopposed*

Keeper of the Shillelagh(2):..... 1st Keeper - Jim Hartwyk - 83 votes

.....2nd Keeper – Joe Patterson - 82 votes

Steward:.....Dennis Pinkiewicz - 104 votes - *Unopposed*

Congratulations to all the participants for being a part of the process.



WIDOW'S LUNCHEON – Mark your calendars; Sunday, April 25th marks the day for one of our annual "special" events. Hosted by the club's former presidents (organized by Bob Quinn, Sr.), invitations with food selections will be in the mail shortly.

If you are unable to drive, please feel free to invite a guest who can assist you. It is always a joy each year to see the widows get together and reminisce. The event has been heartily enjoyed by all who have attended. As usual Patrick Donnelly will provide superb food choices. **Former presidents, please set this date aside.**

As you slide down the banister of life, may the splinters never point in the wrong direction.

2009 Irishman of the Year - Kevin Wyer



He was born in New Brunswick, NJ on August 26, 1961, the 2nd of 7 children of Vincent & Ann, grew up on Gerard Avenue in Old Bridge, attended St. Ambrose School, Jonas Salk Middle School and graduated from Madison High School in 1979.

After leaving High School, he joined the U.S. Navy and served aboard the USS L.Y. Spear. Upon his discharge from the Navy, he returned to Old Bridge and started his own contracting business, KW Construction.

In 1986, he married his lovely wife, Catherine Murphy, and they had 2 sons, Sean and Ryan.

In 1990, he joined the FSOS and since then has been involved in many projects at the club, such as renovation of the bar, building a shed, new siding on the building, renovation of our lounge, the Pavilion construction, repairs to both bathrooms, which had him working 10 - 12 hour days. He was also instrumental in getting our roof re-done and a new A.C. system installed at substantial savings to our club.

He started what has become an annual Pig Roast by staying here overnight and cooking the pigs in the barbeque pit.

Throughout all of this, he found time to serve on our Executive Board. First as a Keeper, then as Vice-President and eventually as President for 2006 - 2007.

Being an elected officer during most of this time, he was ineligible for this prestigious award until he left office.

Long overdue, I give you the FSOS Irishman of the Year, Kevin Wyer.



Reputation is what other people know about you. Honor is what you know about yourself.

- Lois McMaster Bujold, "A Civil Campaign", 1999

CLUB DINNER DANCE

Saturday, March 20TH

The Crown Plaza Hotel (609) 655-4775

\$55.00 per person.

4PM/ 12?

Welcome incoming officers. This event is more than celebratory, it is about HONOR and RESPECT of your club and your officers. It is ALSO a GREAT NIGHT OUT!

Open bar begins in Yogi's pub at 4PM!!!!

Ticket price includes Cocktails, 4 Course Meal, Open Bar & Live Music. Be a part of a spectacular evening filled with fun, friends and pageantry (but NO BEAUTY CONTEST). Note: Members and wives in attendance will be eligible for a \$15 discount on Christmas Party tickets.

Music, early by Backbeat, and until late by Primitive Soul.

This is a GREAT package; go to FSOS Diary to see the full menu.

Rooms available, ALL Prime Rib End Cuts are taken by Kevin Morgan, negotiate as you will.

Support your club, and YOUR elected officers.



Cary W remarked to me that each time Pub Night is cancelled, we have a Blizzard, soooooooooo keep those shovels handy for March 26th now. Hope he is wrong.

Upcoming - Pancake Breakfast, May, 9th;
Pig Roast (!) June 5th; Atlantic City Bus Trip, June?; MONMOUTH PARK TRIP JULY 11th, details very soon. John Sheridan Pussywilly festival, date to be determined.

The tallest identical twins ever born were the Knipe Brothers from Magherafelt in County Derry who were 7ft 2in. They were born in 1761

FSOS Pipes and Drums, Events:

3/7 - Belmar

3/13 - Seaside 12pm & South Amboy 2pm

3/14 - West Orange

3/17 - NEW YORK CITY

sign posted in club for second bus

3/20 - Atlantic Highlands & FSOS Dinner Dance

3/26 - Pub Night

4/11 - NYPD Auxiliary Police Memorial

5/30 - Matawan Mem. Day Parade

5/31 - Sayreville Mem. Day Parade

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

The bereavement committee is put in place to help our members families during their darkest hours. We help them, first of all by sending someone to their home to represent the friendly sons, to give our respects and to help them by offering them a piper for the funeral, members in uniform to act as pall bearers/ honor guard and anything else that we can possibly help them with. As a member in good standing they are entitled to a repast luncheon at the club for all of their guests, we then need to know how many guests they are expecting. How is that for a tough question we usually ask a family member at the wake how many people they are expecting, no one can really answer that question so we look at the size of the wake and we guess. For those of you who do not know Barney Shannon orders a large floral arrangement in the shape of a shamrock, for this time is of the essence we have to give the florist enough notice to order the flowers necessary to create our piece. If you know of the passing of a member please call Barney as soon as possible, don't wait for someone else to call him. (732-254-6153) we then have to get the word out to hundreds of members.

We are now sending it out three ways:

You will receive :

- 1. A personal phone call.**
- 2. An E-mail notification.**
- 3. A computer generated phone call.**

If all else fails you can probably get the information off the board at the club.

The message will state the members name, the name of the funeral director, what days and times the wake is, what time we will be meeting at the club.

We ask you to please attend the wake in full uniform. As you know we attend the wake to support the family of the deceased. You are there to show them support at probably the worst time of their lives. I have personally seen this from both sides as a member of the family of the deceased, and as a club member supporting the family of a deceased member. A member of a family will tell you that the sea of green blazers that was overwhelming the room seemed like it went on forever. Please help us to make the family proud at their saddest moment. At this point I am in need of a few volunteers, we still need call captains for the call out. We are looking to form a list of available pall bearers/honor guard members. If a family member of a member or a friend of the club passes on you will be notified by an e-mail message I am told that at this time only about half of the club is on the E-mail list. This will be your only notification so get your E-mail information to Dave Cummins.

**Your bereavement committee consists of
Bob Quinn, Larry McGrath, Tom Keegan,
Jim Hartwyk, John Sheridan, and Ray Costello.**

Repast luncheons

The repast luncheon is the nicest way the FSOS helps the family of a brother member in their hour of need. The last thing the family wants to worry about is where to have a meal after the funeral. The Bereavement committee makes the call, the spouses committee gets an approximate number of people that will be attending. The spouses committee then does the shopping and the night before the funeral they cook and prepare the hall. The day of the funeral they finish cooking, serve and clean up. We offer any leftover food to the family. The families are extremely grateful for all that is done. The FSOS should be commended for what they do for the family as they will always remember it.

URGENT!!

CALL CAPTAINS NEEDED!

Call Ray Costello (732)-500-6929

or

Tom Keegan (732)-246-2044

PALL BEARERS NEEDED!

Call Bob Quinn (609)-395-1677

or

James Hartwyk (732)-251-2384

AD Book: #067, John, "I can be in Atlantic City within the hour" Wagle.

F.I.L.F.C.: John Sellmeyer, the desire to eat Dennis Pinkiewicz's food, appears to be overwhelming, Keegan ate dust this month.

Please remember to bring a canned food item every time you come to the club, there are many needy people these days.



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