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**Deacon**  
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of Old Bridge

FRIENDLY SONS OF THE SHILLELAGH

OLD BRIDGE, NJ

# SHENANIGANS



Gentlemen,

First of all, I sincerely hope this Shenanigans finds you all in good health and spirits. Unfortunately we had to say good bye to another member, Mr "Dick" Farnham. Dick was a member for over four decades and will be dearly missed. Please keep Dick and his family in your thoughts and prayers as they try to cope with the loss of their loved one. My sincere condolences go out to them all. RIP Dick.

Well, January has come and gone and now we set to prepare ourselves for the many tasks and tribulations that this new year will bring to us all. As nice as it makes everything look, its "back" saving that we have not had too much of the white stuff falling upon us so far, my vote is to bring on an early Spring. Apparently this is actually going to happen as rumor has it our very own "Groundhog Keegan" has not seen his "Shadow" recently...some say...that's not the only thing he hasn't seen in a while...but...we won't go there!!

As we prepare for our fine club's busiest time of the year, there are a couple of issues I really need to address. Parade Day is a very special day where we are gifted the opportunity to display our true "Irish" heritage as we lead the parade and march down Main St. in Belmar. This is a day that you are all well aware that it is your obligation as a member to participate in. This club was founded by an extremely special group of Irish men who came together to pay tribute to their native land and their Patron Saint of Ireland, Saint Patrick. It is thanks to these gentlemen and the loyal men who followed them that we continuously are granted the opportunity to show our commitment to our club as we proudly form our very own "Sea of Green". This is a sight that you can never grow tired of seeing. This makes me so proud as an Irish man and I thank you all for the opportunity to witness it. At this time I encourage you all to please check your uniforms as you never know they may have...er... "shrunk" during this past year!! (What are you talking about dear...I can close it and no the button won't pop!!). I will announce this year's very well deserved "Parade Adjutant" at our upcoming February meeting, a man who I am very proud of for all his work and endless dedication to our fine club.

Speaking of Parade Day, thank you's go out to Charlie and Cathy Donnelly as they successfully hosted the parade fundraiser at our Friendly Sons. What a great day was had by all as they were well entertained, well nourished, well oiled and even gifted a surprise visit by our very own award winning Pipes and Drums Band. Also thank you to all who help out that fine day, once again displaying our club's true "Teamwork" spirit.

As you know every parade fundraiser helps defray the expenses of the parade so members are encourage to attend these fun events which are advertised in detail on our notice board in the bar.

Thank you to Donnie and his crew of elves from SERF for keeping us laughing all night as we celebrated another great Comedy Night at our Friendly Sons and to "Chef" DeMaio, Gary Murphy and Tom McCarthy for keeping us well nourished and to our bartenders Brian and Kenny for keeping us very well oiled. You can't beat Teamwork when it comes to our Friendly Sons.

"Mardi Gras" in Old Bridge are you kidding me...and...will there be beads...Hmmm...you may just have to come and see for yourself!!...and yes, by popular demand "The VooDudes" will be back to entertain us "New Orleans Style". So come on down and bring you "Irish Funk" with you and join in for some surprise fun and games...Giddy Up !!

Just in case you have not witnessed this before...well my good friend, Mr. Joseph Patterson, is gifting you the opportunity to witness it now...yes it's our "Annual Great Guinness Toast" (St. Practice Day) where the black stuff will be flowing endlessly all night long for your enjoyment and trust me it goes down as smooth as true Irish creamy milk !! Joseph will be toasting us all night long as will Bob and Tim from the "Bogside Rogues" who are our entertainment for this spectacular "Irish" night set for Friday, Feb.15th. The "craic" will be ninety with tons of giveaways... "Happy Days"

Well it's that time of year again, our Annual Club Elections. At this time, I sincerely want to thank each and everyone of you who dedicate your time and step up to become an Officer of our fine club and wish you all the very best of luck in the upcoming elections. To each and every member please come down and show your support to these gentlemen by attending and voting on election day. That very same day we also need your support at our Annual Blood Drive, so come on down and give us a pint and we will give you a pint...fair swap, right ?

Our top class "Annual Dinner Dance" is quickly approaching and will once again be held at the Molly Pitcher Inn, set for Saturday, March 23rd. For those of you who have witnessed this spectacular night we welcome you to spread the word and join us again for a classic night of entertainment by "The Jazz Lobsters" and some surprise guests. You also witness the installation of our clubs 2013 incoming officers. Sign up for your table now at the club or see Scott or myself for further information.

God Bless,  
Cheers for now,

John



# Good and Welfare

With great sadness,  
we mourn the passing of  
Richard "Dick" Farnham



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.

## Dreamer, Fool, or Sage?

**February Meeting** Thursday, February 14th 8:30PM

**Mardi Gras** Friday, February 8th 7:30 - ????  
New Orleans in Old Bridge

### Great Guinness Toast

Friday, February 15th 8PM  
5th annual foam fest. See poster or Joe Patterson

### Club Elections / Blood Drive

Saturday, February 23rd

**Belmar Parade** Sunday, March 3rd  
Instructions inside.

**Saint Patrick's Day** Sunday, March 17th  
no other explanation necessary

**Club Dinner Dance** Saturday, March 23rd  
Again at the wonderful Molly Pitcher inn,  
See John or Scott.



## FSOS Pipes & Drums – Schedule

Saturday, March 2nd - Belmar Mass

Saturday, March 16th - NYC Parade

Sunday, March 3rd - Belmar Parade

Sunday, March 17th - Allentown, PA Parade

Saturday, March 9th - South Amboy Parade

Saturday, March 23rd - Highlands Parade

Sunday, March 10th - Somerville Parade

Saturday, April 6th - PUB NIGHT

Friday, March 15th - Jersey City/NYC

Anyone interested in playing Pipes or Drums, come down on Monday nights. - John Hatton

# CLUB ELECTIONS AND BLOOD DRIVE



## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD

Blood Drive begins at 10AM. Please come down and have a pint drawn from you, and then we will draw a pint for you.

Voting commences at 12 Noon through 7 PM.

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### THE BALLOT POSITIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

#### President:

- Scott Fitzgerald - Unopposed

#### Vice President: (vote for one)

- Dave Cummins
- Jeff Schuld
- Jim Hartwyk

#### Recording Secretary: (vote for one)

- John DeMaio
- Dennis Pinkiewicz Jr.

#### Treasurer: (vote for one)

- Jim Connor
- Thomas Esser

#### Corresponding Secretary:

- Neil Beinert - Unopposed

#### Keeper of the Shillelagh:

(Keeper with the most votes will be 1st keeper)

- Robert Mikulak
- Mike Murphy

#### Steward:

- Tom McCarthy - Unopposed

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**And be sure to come down to the pub election night to hear the results, welcome your new officers, and, well, get vociferous**

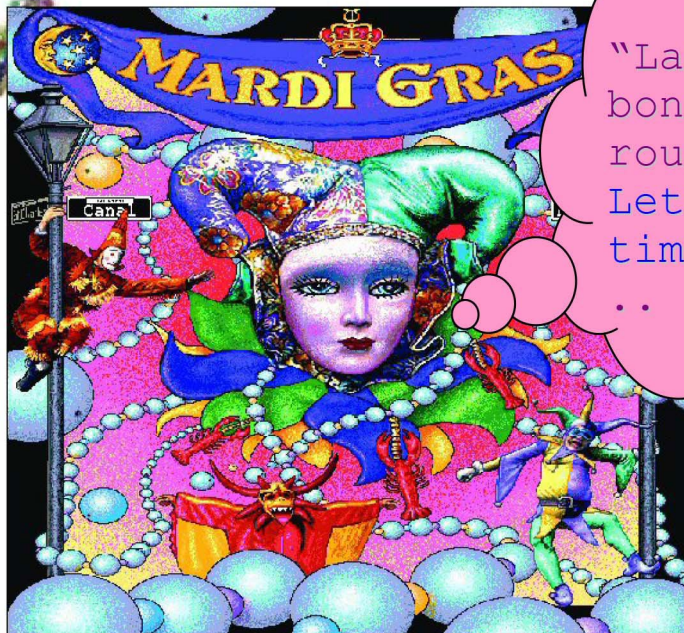


**\*\*2013\*\***

**It's time for the...**

**FSOS MARDI GRAS PARTY**

**Friday Feb. 8**



"Laissez les  
bon temps  
rouler" ...  
Let the good  
times roll!  
.. and rock

With New Orleans funk  
and Cajun tunes by

**The VOODOUES**

7:30 to (whenever...)

It's boogie-time...

All the authentic Cajun food  
You can eat! Beer, wine, soda!

Raffles, door prizes

Contact John Sheridan, Scott Fitzgerald or John DeMaio

\$30 per person with advance ticket purchase

\$35 @ the door

Beads, beads and more beads ...

Show the beads ... and then show ... uh ...

... how much fun you're having!!!

# BELMAR ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE



## SUNDAY, MARCH 3RD 2013

The day begins with 9:00 AM Mass at the club followed by a Continental Breakfast before Parade Registration. **Buses (6) will leave the club at 11:30 sharp. BUS return: Transportation back to the club is scheduled as follows; 3 buses to depart approx. 2:00 PM directly after the parade, 1 bus will depart at 3:00 PM, LAST BUS HOME will depart at 4:00 PM. All buses will depart from MAIN STREET AND 5TH AVE. The Parade Adjutant for 2013 will be announced at the February meeting. Please let us know ASAP if you need special transportation for the parade. We will have a special bus. Call Charlie D @ (732) 257-2866.** The club will be closed to all except those authorized to be in the building to prepare for our return from Belmar. The doors will remain locked until the first bus returns. All members are required to sign-in either at the club or in Belmar. If meeting in Belmar, please look for the Registration Crew. It is your responsibility to sign-in. Those not signed-in or excused WILL receive a censure.

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**All members are required to march.** If for any reason you cannot march, you must submit a written excuse to the Executive Board requesting to be excused prior to Parade Day. There are NO automatic excuses issued due to residence, etc.

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**All members are to be in full uniform:** Green blazer with club patch, gray slacks (no jeans), polished black shoes (no sneakers), club beret and badge, and official club tie. Please limit any accessory to those in good taste. If you have a question on something you would like to wear, please check with the Parade Adjutant, President, or Marshals to see if the item is acceptable. Smoking and drinking is not allowed during the march, you must step-off with the club. You will not be allowed to jump in line as we pass any local taverns you may have been in. You may be censured for this. Please do not embarrass the Friendly Sons or yourself. Proper conduct is expected at all times. **Remember, you are representing the finest Irish-American Club in the world. The spectators and other marchers deserve your courtesy and respect.**

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Your parade day package includes 2 food tickets, after the use of said tickets; all sandwiches will now be \$5.00 due to rising costs.

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**FSOS UNIFORMS: RALPH QUICK AT TRIPLE CROWN SPORTS 18 THROCKMORTON LANE HAS A COMPLETE LINE OF UNIFORMS & PARTS. CONTACT HIM. 732-679-2231**

# WATER OVER AND UNDER THE BRIDGE



Where to begin; I began writing this newsletter almost nine years ago. For me those were lofty times, full of honor to serve, and the innocence of not quite youth.

I know the newsletter has become a proud badge for the club, some of that is my doing, I have had uncountable amounts of help though. Every president, and executive board member has contributed to the once fledgling idea of making this newsletter a brilliant means of communicating the club's activities to the membership. Thank you all from the depths of my heart.

I have seen much, reported some of it; I believe I have made some good friends along the way, which is a prize I will always cherish.

I have seen my life change greatly as well. Sometimes you lose the reflection of yourself, despite yourself.

It's time now , for me, to take a step back. I have the utmost confidence that the great work and traditions this newsletter has been built upon will continue, and grow.

This is a great club, embrace and respect it, it will serve you well.

And, The Walrus wasn't really Paul. Cheers for now. T



## President's Joke of the Month

A man was driving down the road with twenty penguins in the back seat. The police stop him and say that he can't drive around with the penguins in the car and should take them to the zoo. The man agrees and drives off.

The next day the same man is driving down the road with twenty penguins in the back and again he is stopped by the same police officer who says, "Hey!! I though I told you to take those to the zoo."

The man replies "I did. Today I'm taking them to the movies."

Yes...his name was...Barney !!

"Happy Days"



# AD Book - #91, Bob Kelly

## FILFFC- The Indomitable KEEGAN



### Membership News

Effective as of the January meeting.

**1st Reading:** Sean O' Connor–Sponsor, Bart McDade  
Liam Barrett–Sponsor, Bob Kelly

**2nd Reading:** None

**New Members:** Michael Casani, Jon Hayden, WELCOME



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