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FRIENDLY SONS OF THE SHILLELAGH OLD BRIDGE, NJ

SHENANIGANS



Gentlemen,

It is with sadness that I must ask you to remember the Costello family in your prayers. Brother Member, Charles Costello, Sr. passed away on April 7, 2014. Charles is the Father of Former President, Ray Costello. Please keep them in your thoughts during this time of sorrow.

Marty "Bunny" Cameron was once again instrumental in coordinating this year's Easter Egg Hunt. The event was a huge hit with over 35 children in attendance to hop around the grounds in search of Easter eggs. It was great to see the participation up this year from last year. Thank you, Marty!

The Widow's Luncheon was again a huge success. It is not always happy when the attendance for this event increases. We had 42 women in attendance this year. It was great to see both the old faces and the new faces. Thank you to Bob and Agnes Quinn for hosting this event for the 27th year. Also, thank you to all the past presidents that came down to help out. Thank you all for attending and I hope you all enjoyed the day. It was my pleasure to meet you and serve up a nice lunch.

This year, as in the past, we will offer scholarships to Old Bridge High School students. If you have a son or daughter who will be graduating from OBHS in June, please have them write a letter to include accomplishments, future education plans, club or team involvement and why they feel they deserve this award. Please have all letters to me by May 15, 2014. Letters can be left in an envelope in the safe to my attention.

Please remember that Spring has Sprung. There is always a project happening down at the club. So pick any Saturday morning and come on down. Your Keepers will direct you. Thank you for your support.

All the Best,
Scott

Good and Welfare

What Is Love

May Meeting Thursday, May 8th 8:30PM

Pancake Breakfast Sunday, May 11th,
10AM - Noon
Stack em' up boys!

MS Bike Ride Saturday/Sunday, May 7th
More inside

Lakewood Blue Claws Trip June 19th
See Tom Esser

THE PIGS ARE COMING>>>>>>> June 7th
See inside for specs

Next month's meeting Thursday, June 12th



Charlie Costello
passed away.

Rob Young and his
wife, welcomed a
baby girl on 4/2.



Please remember our
troops and support staff
all over the globe.

Please keep charity in
your heart and hands.

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

FSOS Pipes & Drums

Sumer Parades:

Matawan - Sunday May 25

Sayreville & South River - Monday May 26.

Milltown - July 4th



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



MS Bicycle Run

Saturday, May 17th

Each year, several brave and determined riders from the FSOS participate in a heartfelt, grueling bicycle ride to aid in the search for a cure to this dreaded disease. This year's details:

This year's MS bike ride is May 17th The ride we take part in is 25 miles from Monmouth university along some beautiful shore towns and then back to Monmouth university. This is a fundraiser for multiple sclerosis. You receive a free t shirt for participating as well as a boxed lunch back at the college. Anyone interested in riding our team name is FSOS Riders. For more info please contact Donnie Bruchez at 9087054687. And the MS Society website: http://bikenjm.nationalmssociety.org/site/PageServer?pagename=BIKE_NJM_Detailscoast. Please lend a hand.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

SUNDAY, May 11th 10 am to 12 Noon

Once again into the fray, the original , oft imitated, never equaled "Boys Of Batter' led by Charlie Donnelly, with get the sticky icky on your plate, also, sausage, Coffee, Tea, and OJ. to warm you and your mother's heart's. \$5.00 per plate . Treat Mom, or your significant other mother to a breakfast worth remembering.

Summer is like the ultimate one-night stand...hot as hell, totally thrilling, and gone before you know it.



The FSOS Pig Roast

Saturday, June 7th 1PM/?

\$25.00 per person, over the age of 21. If you purchase your tickets in advance (by May 30), you get an early bird price of \$20.00. Purchase 10 tickets to reserve a table. All others are free!

This has become our greatest outdoor event. The pig selection is a secret ritual, trust the pigs! We will have (aside from roast swine) Deep Fried Turkey's, Chicken, Sausage, Clams, Burgers, Hot Dogs, but no Pizza. Oh, yes there will be BEER. Live music by SUMMER BOB, a great band! Please SIGN UP TO HELP, this event is a backbreaker of love to set and as well as clean up after. See JIM.

SUPER RAFFLE

1st prize: Stainless Steel six burner Gas Grill

2nd prize: Wicker Love seat and two Chairs

3rd prize: 28 inch flat screen TV

4th prize: Stainless steel ice chest on wheels

\$10.00 per raffle Ticket



THE ORDER OF THE FRIENDLY SONS OF THE SHILLELAGH OLD BRIDGE, NJ 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The Friendly Sons And It's Tradition Of The Feis

The Feis, an ancient Irish traditions going back a thousand years before the birth of Christ was first held on the hill of Tara called "Teamhair na Riogh". And so it was in the early 1970's that the Friendly Sons carried on this ancient tradition.

Pat Connor has been credited with the idea of the Friendly Sons of Shillelagh hosting a Feis in central New Jersey and Paul Smith was appointed as the chairman of the first feis.

It would be a gross understatement to call the Feis a tremendous undertaking, it was a SPECTACULAR, one Cecil B. DeMille would have been proud to create. A committee was formed to research the tasks that had to be accomplished and then, somehow do them. The professionalism and enthusiasm of the committee soon produced results.

Funds to initially finance the Feis were pledged by the Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh executive board. Additional funds from the Ad Book and Competitors were arriving on a daily basis.

The enthusiasm spread rapidly to the Friendly Sons of Shillelagh membership and it seemed that every member was contributing in one way or another.

Freehold Raceway was rented and we prayed for a sunny day. A press release was mailed and the membership took on the task of building massive stages for the hundreds of dancers. The pipers tuned up, and May 15, 1971 arrived. It was a beautiful day. (Thank you again, Lord)

Thousands of visitors attended and the Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh once again rallied. Had the Hill of Tara ever hosted such a sight?

The fiddlers, the pipers, the 1375 dancers, the drums. What incredible music! There was such an aura of happiness at Freehold Raceway that day in May. The decision was made to continue this great Irish Festival and Scottish Games in future years.

The Friendly Sons Feis was the Feis in which to compete and in one feis visitors arrived from 21 states, Ireland, Scotland, and Canada. The Feis in 1974 had 1463 dancers compete for prizes. Three more Feiseanna were held in Freehold Raceway. The respective dates of the Friendly Sons Irish Feis and Scottish Games were:

May 15th 1971, June 24th 1972, June 17th 1973, July 14th 1974.

About the same time as we were conducting our own games at Freehold Raceway, the Garden State Parkway Authority was beginning to form it's own ethnic festivals at the Garden State Arts Center and naturally came looking to us for support in promoting it's Irish Festival. As a Club we joined in and began promoting this festival which continues to this day.

Among the many accomplishments of the Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh of Old Bridge over the past 30 years in connection with the Arts Festival was helping Senator John P. Gallagher, then Chairman of the New Jersey Highway Authority, present the first Heritage Festival ever held at the Garden State Arts Center on Sunday, July 24, 1971.

Representing the organization that first year on the Irish Festival Committee were the late Jack Williams, Jerry Kennedy, and Robert Trachman. Freg Duggan helped arrange the colorful Irish Pipe and Drum Band competition which has continued to be highlight of these Festivals.

Each of these men continued to support the Irish Festival in those formative years, and the Club was host to early organizational meetings.

"The program in which you will be taking part today is one of the most significant in the history of the Garden State Arts Center," said Gallagher in his message of welcome at the first Irish Festival. "The Irish community of New Jersey has received the single honor of being the first such group to organize this experimental program."

"Today's event is also important since proceeds will benefit various school children and senior citizen groups who attend free performances from Spring through Fall"

This "Great Day for the Irish" continues with the support of the Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh who come out in good numbers on the last Sunday of every June when the Irish Festival is held at the Garden State Arts Center. Many of New Jersey's other ethnic groups have presented Arts Center Festivals since 1971, but there is something special about the Irish Day, and we can be proud of it.

Gentlemen, this Month I decided to remind you all about the New Jersey Irish Festival and how our club became very involved in the building of it to make it the largest Irish Festival to date. I sincerely hope you enjoyed reading it. This years Festival in on Sunday June 8th at the Monmouth Racetrack.

God Bless, John P Sheridan.



N.J. Irish Festival

Sunday, June 8th Monmouth Park

The 44th Annual New Jersey Irish Festival is back! Join us for live entertainment on two different stages, Pipe & Drum Band Competition, Catholic Mass, Food Vendors, Craft Vendors, Irish Step Dancing, Family Activities, 50/50 Raffle, Ceili & Step Dancing, a Human Horse Race, as well as a full day of live Thoroughbred racing!

Gates will open EARLY for Irish Fest: 10:00am. Catholic Mass will be held at 11:00am. First post 12:50pm.

Widows Luncheon 2014

This year, we had 37 ladies attend the Widows Luncheon, they told me they truly enjoyed themselves.

I would like to thank my wife, Agnes, and my daughter Denise for all their help, Rich Gahan as well.

To all the former presidents in attendance, and worked their tails off. THANK YOU, hope next year we will have a better turn out.

Bob Coyle, Ray Costello, Tiny Redden, Michael Lee Foster, John Wagle (aka Dishpan Hands), President Scott Fitzgerald for his unexpected help. To Pat Donnelly (Top Hat Catering) for his expertise in cooking delicious meals for the gals. – Bob Quinn

Summer–Lately, I have been thinking, which I do, about friends, alive, and lost, and Family, God too as well.

As we age, it becomes a daily battle with the balance sheet that is life, mortality is not fun. Think about the folks you hold dear, cherish every day you are privileged to see and touch them. Call someone, anyone, and sit down and actually TALK, memories fade and fail. The pub can be like a church sometimes, of course, with alcohol added. I remember being told, "you can always find someone who will listen down here" Just think about it. Cheers. Tom

Membership News

EFFECTIVE AS OF THE **MARCH** MEETING

1st Reading:

Patrick Mulvihill, Sponsor - Alan Purcell

2nd Reading: None

New Members: None



April Anniversaries

35 YEARS

RAYMOND COSTELLO

30 YEARS

MICHAEL CAVALLO

20 YEARS

PETER CASSIDY

10 YEARS

SCOTT FITZGERALD

PATRICK O'DWYER

AD Book: Kenny Cameron #175 F.I.L.F.F.C: JOSEPH "Elk Of The Year" Patterson



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