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FRIENDLY SONS OF THE SHILLELAGH OLD BRIDGE, NJ

SHENANIGANS



As my first term as your President comes to an end, I am amazed that the year has come and gone so quickly. I would like to thank each and every member of the club for your confidence in me and your endless support. It takes a lot of dedication not to mention the countless hours of time to run this club. Thank you to the entire Executive Board for guiding me during my first term. We have a fine organization here and it does not function without the help of ALL of the members. I could never do it alone and I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Our Annual Mardi Gras event was once again a great success. Although we had the threat of an impending snow storm it did not stop anyone from coming down and enjoying themselves. It was a packed house thanks to John Sheridan and the Dinner Dance Committee. Thank you for the beads, masks and funny hats. We looked marvelous. The VOODOUES entertained us until the wee hours, much later than I can stay awake. The food was outstanding and a shout out to Tom McGrath for once again preparing his famous Jambalaya. Tom, it was one of your best. Thank you to Johnny D, the Murph, Mr. Cummins and John Reilly for all your help that day.

The 6th Annual Great Guinness Toast, hosted by Joe Patterson was outstanding. It was an evening to toast our beloved Guinness. The music was provided by Tim and Bob of Bogside Rogues. It was fun to witness everyone tapping their feet to the variety of traditional Irish favorites and some Irish rock. I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did. Again, they played to the wee hours and then some. Thank you for hosting this event once again Joe.

I would like to extend a huge "thank you" to the 99 members that took the time out of there busy day to come down and vote. I hope you enjoyed a drink and had some food. Even though the turnout for the blood drive was on the light side, we were still able to collect approximately 50 pints of blood. Thank you, Marty Cameron, for coordinating and running this event every year.

I would like to extend my congratulations to our very own John Sheridan, 2014 Grand Marshal of the Belmar Parade, Charlie Donnelly for being named Irishman of the Year and Kenny Brown, our Parade Adjutant. These fine gentlemen are well-deserving of these honors bestowed upon them.

I would be remiss in my responsibilities if I did not spend some time talking about Parade Day. Personally, I can only say that I felt honored to lead our fine club down Main Street in Belmar. It's a great feeling and I can hardly wait to march again next year. The day was a huge success, starting with our Mass. It was standing room only as we heard the good word of Father Desmond who offered us his blessings in honor of St. Patrick and our Irish heritage. His prayers worked as we walked down Main Street with barely a sprinkle of precipitation. Thank you to the lecturers, JD "The End" DeMaio, the musicians, deacons and all who assisted in making this Mass special. The day would not have been complete without the help of the Corned Beef Committee consisting of Tom McCarthy, Jim Hartwyk and George Kuebler for cooking over 800 pounds of corned beef. The Slicing and Setup Crew thank you. Thank you to the Kitchen Crew, consisting of Butch, Bill and Mike and the Serving Crew who lovingly served you the delicious corned beef. They are Jane Falzone with daughter, Christy and friend, Taylor, Dot Sullivan, Maureen McKiernan, my wife, Cathy and my Mother-In-Law, Roseann Johnson. Thank you to Miriam Sheridan and Dot Sullivan for baking the many loaves of Irish Soda Bread. Countless hours are spent preparing for this day so if you gave of your time and pitched in, please know that it is greatly appreciated. You all are the best! THANK YOU!!!!

Enough said. The End!

All the Best,

Scott

Good and Welfare

Once You Started Wearing Those Shoes

March Meeting Thursday, March 13th 8:30PM

Saint Patrick's Day Monday, March 17th
No other explanation necessary

Club Dinner Dance Saturday, March 22nd
Again at the wonderful Molly Pitcher inn, see John, or Dave or Scott

Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 12th 11-1

Widows Luncheon Sunday, April 27th 1PM
Details inside

Fiftieth Anniversary Meeting held prior to General membership meeting on 3/13

Charlie Costello is still recuperating, Tom Essers Mom and Dad are ill, Bill Jarvis mom passed, please spare a thought and a prayer.



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



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

IRISHMAN OF THE YEAR



HE WAS BORN IN MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK IN 1935, AND LIVED THERE EXCEPT FOR A TWO YEAR PERIOD SPENT LIVING IN BLACKSTONE, MASS. HIS FAMILY THEN MOVED TO BAYSIDE, QUEENS, N.Y., WHERE HE ATTENDED ST. MICHAEL'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL IN FLUSHING.



Having Two Uncles who were Irish Christian Brothers, he naturally went to All Hallows High School in the Bronx. He worked for Union Carbide in Manhattan before enlisting in the Army during The Cold War. He served from 1955- 1958 in the Signal Corps, where he fought the battle of Baguettes and Wine in Bordeaux, France for 27 months.

After being discharged from the Army, he took what he thought was a temporary job with United Airlines at Idlewild Airport. Forty three years later, he retired. He started as a Ramp Serviceman, and moved up to become the IAM Union Representative, serving in that position for over 35 years.

While working at Idlewild, he met a girl who was geographically correct. She lived-in Queens, not the Bronx. He married Kathleen in 1963. They both transferred their jobs to Newark Airport, and they bought a home in Old Bridge. Fifty years later, the family consists of their 4 children, Noreen, Patrick, Eileen, and Brian, and 11 Grandchildren!. He also has three sisters, Liz, Maryjo, and Maureen.

He joined the FSOS in 1970. Throughout the years, he has held several offices in the club and was President for 4 years. At one point in time, he wrote The Shenanigans, and also helped or organized many dances, anniversaries, picnics, pancake breakfasts, and golf tournaments, as well as our Mass before the parade etc. He also heads up the Flags And Banners crew for our Pipes And Drums Band. He's been active with The Belmar Parade Committee (now Lake Como), for approximately 20 years. In 2002, he was selected as Grand Marshall of The Belmar St. Patrick's Day Parade

**Without further adieu I give you the FSOS
IRISHMAN OF THE YEAR 2014 Charlie Donnelly**

ELECTION RESULTS



- **President: Scott Fitzgerald**
90 votes, Unopposed
- **Vice President: Jim Hartwyk**
87 votes, Unopposed
- **Recording Secretary: Dennis Pinkiewicz Jr.**
86 votes, Unopposed
- **Treasurer: Jim Connor**
90 votes, Unopposed
- **Corresponding Secretary: Tom McGrath**
86 votes, Unopposed
- **Keeper of the Shillelagh (2):**
 - 1st Keeper: Mike Murphy** - 86 votes
 - 2nd Keeper: Robert Mikulak** - 52 votes
- **Steward: Tom McCarthy**
89 votes, Unopposed

99 members voted

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE PARTICIPANTS
FOR BEING A PART OF THE PROCESS.**



THE ORDER OF THE FRIENDLY SONS OF THE SHILLELAGH
OLD BRIDGE, NJ

50TH ANNIVERSARY

Fiftieth Anniversary Recollections

I can account for 41 of those 50 years. Some of the particulars may be hazy, but I'll take a shot at it.

My journey with the Friendly Sons started at my workplace - Newark Airport - when a fellow employee suggested that he would sponsor me for membership in the Old Bridge FSOS. My wife Kathy has never forgiven him. In 1970 under the leadership of Pat Connor, one of my first meetings I found myself standing on the Jersey City side of the hall. They were conducting a vote to see where they would march in the St. Patrick's day parade - Jersey City or Newark - Jersey City won out.

Here in our 50th year, I would like to share some of my experiences. My involvement began when president Jim Fennessy appointed me to his executive board in 1976 as a Trustee. I then went on to the positions of Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President and President. It was always a team effort and Jim Byrne and Bob Coyle made me look good as they were hard working Vice Presidents. My first project as president was when founding member Don O'Malley approached me and suggested expanding the building to accommodate a larger kitchen and heating system. This was expertly designed and installed by late member - John Moran. Later on in my second tenure as president, it was followed up by the creation of a new bar built by Tom Duffy and Kevin Wyer.

I mention these endeavors only to encourage you all to participate in ongoing projects and to become part of the team - especially this - our 50th Anniversary Team!

Fraternally,
Charlie Donnelly

NOTE: The 50th Anniversary Committee will have a scheduled meeting before our monthly meeting at 7:00pm sharp



Widows Luncheon

Sunday April 27th at 1pm

THIS IS THE 27TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LUNCHEON. HOPE TO SEE ALL ATTEND. INVITATIONS WERE SENT OUT. PLEASE RESPOND AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. and enter your menu selections. **If you are not able to drive, please feel free to invite a guest who will supply transportation.**

We would love to see all the widows get together and truly enjoy themselves.

FORMER PRESIDENTS PLEASE KEEP THE DATE OPENED, WE NEED YOUR HELP.

BOB QUINN

EASTER EGG HUNT

Please join us once again, to hunt for “real” Easter Eggs, Bring the kids down, or the “yolk” is on you!
11:30 sign up, 12 noon start, Hot Dogs, Soda,
Candy, loads of tons of fun! SATURDAY, April 12th
See Marty Cameron for questions.

**The Good Idea: Finding Easter eggs on Easter. The Bad Idea:
Finding Easter eggs on Xmas. ~Author Unknown**

Membership News

EFFECTIVE AS OF THE **FEBRUARY** MEETING

1st Reading: None

2nd Reading: None

New Members:

Jeff Pronnicki, Steve Lopez, **WELCOME**

Parade: I think it was a great parade day, John Sheridan leading the marching throngs, resplendent in his crocagator shoes; no one lost their pants, during, or after the parade, as far as I could see. Cheers!



March Anniversaries

30 YEARS

JOHN O'CALLAGHAN

25 YEARS

JAMES HILLIER

20 YEARS

DANIEL DUGAN

15 YEARS

TIMOTHY DUGGAN

JOHN LOTTI

10 YEARS

BRIAN SOMMERS

5 YEARS

JOHN HARRIS

THOMAS LAYDEN

AD Book: 158- Kevin and John Hoag

F.I.L.F.F.C: Paul Benoit



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