



August 2017 Club Newsletter

President's Welcome

Welcome to the revised Sons of Erin monthly newsletter. I am John Flaherty, your newly elected president, and in each newsletter I will be sharing some of my thoughts and ideas, as well as some of the many happenings going on at the Club.

My vision for the Sons of Erin is in line with the what the founders of this Club intended—the Sons of Erin should be a fun place to go and to share our Irish heritage, meet new/old friends, have a pint, enjoy good food, and listen to great music. Since its founding the Club has grown significantly to over 1,700 members strong. To keep membership costs low, the Club operates on a shoe string budget and relies heavily on membership involvement. The members drive the success of our Club and make the Sons of Erin community to be so strong.

To that end, if you have web skills, we could use your efforts to organize the Club's website. If you are a lawyer, we sure could use occasional legal advice. If you like to cook, the kitchen can always use a helping hand. None of these have to be a full-time commitment, but a few hours here or there. If you like to meet people, help the membership committee by conducting Club interviews which is an easy fun task to perform.

It would be great if every member could volunteer a few hours per year helping out in the kitchen, spring and fall Club clean ups, or working with our entertainment committee in helping promote and run events.

The easiest way to contribute is to attend the monthly general membership meeting. Currently, this meeting is attended by approximately 25 members, which is unfortunate as this is the best way to know what is going on at the Club. We are working on ways to make attending this meeting easier, however, we need ideas from the 1,700 members to figure out the best way to do this. So please consider joining the next meeting on August 13th and sharing your ideas while enjoying the terrific Irish breakfast buffet.

Club Election Results

The following Club members were elected: President: **John Flaherty**, Board Members:, **Tom Hickey**, **Mike Shea**, **Ed Tierney**, and **Lisa Williams**.

Reminder, your membership renewal is due!

All members were required to renew their memberships by July 1st. If you have already renewed your membership, Thank You! As of August 1st non-renewed members will be subject to a \$25 late fee and their card will be deactivated.

- Membership **cost is \$65** for all members.
- Honorary children memberships are available for **\$5** and must be paid for at the Club.
- Memberships can be paid online through PayPal, or by cash or by check by mail or by giving the renewal form and payment to staff tending the bar at the Club..
- A membership renewal form must accompany all renewal payments, except if paid using PayPal

If cash is used, it is the member's responsibility to get and keep a receipt as proof of payment in case any questions arise concerning membership status.

And remember to get your new membership card!

You can stop by the Club to pick up your replacement card. If you cannot make it to the Club and you would like to **help defray the costs of mailing** the card to you, please send us a self-addressed envelope to Sons of Erin Cape Cod, P.O. Box 403, South Yarmouth, MA 02664 and we can send your card to you.

The SOECC 2017 scholarships



Scholarship checks were awarded to these recipients:

Siobhan Hemeon-McMahon was sponsored by her father John Hemeon-McMahon. Siobhan currently attends Lesley University as a Clinical Psychology major. Siobhan plans to use the scholarship funds towards a study abroad semester in Ireland.

Daniel Lavelle was sponsored by his grandparents Michael and Eileen Lavelle. Daniel was the Valedictorian of his graduating class at Georgetown High School. Daniel will begin pursuing an engineering degree at Notre Dame University in September.

Michelle Healy was sponsored by her father PJ Healy. Michelle is a recent graduate of Dennis-Yarmouth High School. She is headed to UMass Amherst in the Fall. Michelle plans to major in Biology on a Pre-Med track in hopes of entering Physician's Assistant School.

Club Member Spotlight

Each month we spotlight a Club member. This month, we introduce you to **Hannah Kiely** CEO of Galway 2020, European Capital of Culture:



We were delighted to welcome Hannah to our Club on Thursday night, July 20th. Hannah Kiely was visiting on the Cape with friends and members, Helen and Jerry Niedermeier, whom she met in Galway in October 1999 and she has continued with this great friendship ever since. Hannah was happy to meet so many officers, volunteers, and members of SOECC during her evening at the Club.

Hannah is a native of Waterford on the South Coast of Ireland and has been living in Galway for many years. A well-established business woman, Hannah was previously President of Galway Chamber of Commerce, a director of many organizations, with extensive experience in Ireland and the UK, and the recipient of many awards including Business Woman of the Year. Hannah is involved in many charitable, community and cultural organizations.

Galway, on the west coast of Ireland, has been designated European Capital of Culture for the year 2020. Hannah, in her address to the members here, outlined what this means for Galway, Ireland, and the Irish abroad. The European Capital of Culture is a designation by the European Union for a period of one year, in this case 2020, during which the city and county organizes a series of cultural events which bring about a great opportunity to generate considerable economic, social, and cultural benefits, and raises the image of Galway City and County on an international scale.

Hannah extended the hand of friendship to all the members of the Sons of Erin, Cape Cod and thanked the President, John Flaherty, for his invitation to speak at the Club. She stated that she hoped this would be the start of a strong connection between SOECC and Galway 2020. Hannah will create links with the Club on her return from vacation here on the Cape through the good offices of President Flaherty. If you want more information, consult www.galway2020.ie.

Hannah sees this appointment as, "an amazing opportunity to do something truly transformational for Galway City, County, the wider region and Ireland," and she concluded, "My head has always been in business but my heart in the arts".

Upcoming events

Watch the [website](#) calendar and upcoming newsletters for updated information on these events.

August

19th Comedy Night starting at 8:30 pm. Join us for an evening full of laughter and comedy as all of the proceeds go directly to the building fund. Cost is \$25 per ticket and are available at the Bar. Snacks will be served during the event. **Non-members welcome!**



Dave Rattigan, our fantastic headliner, is a funny, funny guy. He has played numerous comedy clubs, fundraisers, and corporate shows. He writes humorous columns and essays for publications and websites, co-created and hosts the themed stand-up show *How Men Think (Or Do They?)* and is the creator/writer/producer of the *Post Office Golf League* web series. His CD is called *Dave Rattigan: Thinks He's Funny*. He's appeared in TV commercials, the 2011 film *Heavy Times*, and has written humorous pieces for the *Boston Globe*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Northshore Magazine*, and others. He owns the Cape Cod branch of Funny 4 Funds, which raises money with comedy night fund-raisers.



Mark Riley is an energetic Boston headliner with a unique perspective on everyday situations. He was the runner-up at the 2016 Boston Comedy Festival. Mark he is a former professional ice hockey referee (he spent a very short time in the NHL) and also ran a Gymboree. He headlines at top clubs in Boston as well as playing top rooms in Las Vegas, Los Angeles, and Atlantic City. Among those with which he has performed: Steven Wright, Joe Rogan, and Lenny Clarke. He headlines colleges and corporate shows and has worked as an actor in commercials and industrial films.



Paul Keenan is best described as a "12 year-old boy trapped in a 6' 4" adult body" which makes him a favorite for comedy crowds and casting directors alike. Paul also likes to take his shirt off for money, which is why you may recognize him as a crazy, shirtless fan in an NESN.com/mobile commercial, or in the back of the cab (his chest is painted with an "X") in an Olympia Sports commercial. He's a winner of the annual Plymouth Rock Comedy Festival, was a finalist in the Magners International Comedy Festival, and a semi-finalist in the international Great Canadian Laugh Off.

September

17th - **Halfway to St. Patty's Day** with the Paddy Murphy Quartet from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Ongoing Events

Be sure to check our Calendar of Events page on the website as well as the bulletin boards at the Club updated information on scheduled entertainment.

SOECC Golf League

Meets Wednesday at Bass River with tee off time starting at **3:30 pm** until the end of August. The golf league is coed and they play nine holes in a best ball format. **Non-members are welcome!** Contact Jay Collett at ljcollett22@gmail.com for more information or show up at Bass River at 3:30 pm on Wednesday, weather permitting! A second league goes from September – November. Details to follow.

Irish Language classes

The Irish language class is from 2 pm to 3 pm every Thursday at the Club. It is informal, led by ourselves, where we listen to language tapes, study Irish language books, and practice conversing in Irish.

Cribbage League

During **July and August**, the cribbage league **does not meet** as the Club is abuzz with summer visitors for Thursday night dinners. Join us the first week in September from 6 to 9 pm to play cribbage. This is a social

league and if you haven't played in a long time, we'll get you back up to speed in no time. Don't forget to bring a \$1 for the skunk jar! For more information, contact Dianne Duffy at soe_733@comcast.net.

Irish Ceili and Set Dance Classes

No dancing experience necessary!! Classes are held every Tuesday from 6 to 7 pm; cost is \$10 a week. Dancers should wear comfortable clothes and footwear. Singles and couples are welcome. You need not be a member of the SOE to join the dancing class.

Traditional Irish Music Classes

The multi-instrument class for intermediate or experienced players is held every Tuesday from 7 to 8 pm. This class is suitable for anyone who can play an instrument and wish to learn how to play traditional Irish tunes. Class members have the opportunity to play in a monthly session at the Club.

Classes are \$10 a week and you need not be a member of the SOE to join the music classes. For more information on the music and dance classes, please contact Sean Murphy at 1-508-790-0438.

Chair Plaques

We would like to remind Members that they can purchase memorial dedication plaques to be put on the back of a chair in the dining room, library or function room for \$100.

Keeping up with Club events

We recommend that you keep up-to-date with Club events by reading this newsletter but you can also visit our website (<http://sonsoferincc.org/>) or like our Facebook page (Sons-of Erin Cape-Cod).

Not receiving emails from us?

Email newsletters can be blocked or filtered to a spam folder. You may be unable to read certain email communications even if you have subscribed to receive them.

To avoid these situations, add our email address (Info@sonsoferincc.com) to your contact's list or safe senders list.

Club Merchandise

Club Gear is in the case by the front door. If we don't have your size, color or clothing you're looking for orders can also be placed with Katie Fitzsimmons by leaving a note at the Club or contact Info@SonsofErincc.com.

Dining Room News

Current hours are 5:30 pm to 8 pm, Thursday through Saturday. Prime rib is back on the menu on Thursday nights! A reminder that tables are to be cleared by Club members.

You are entitled to a **free** birthday meal the last Thursday of your birthday month!

Function Hall Rentals

To reserve the Function Room, you must sign a rental agreement, and a fee of \$100 and a \$50 security deposit are required for all rentals. If you need to use the kitchen to cook or heat food, you will be charged a \$50 non-refundable fee. The security deposit will be returned if the room is left in the same condition as it was found.

The Function Room is not available on Friday nights and Saturday's are limited to 35 guests. Contact Katie Fitzsimmons at the Club to book the room.

Closing note

When Irish eyes are smiling, they are usually up to something.