



March 2018 Club Newsletter

Make your plans to celebrate St. Patrick!

Hope we see you on Parade Day on Saturday, March 10th! We need lots of help in preparation of this day such as Float preparation, marching in the parade, food service, door monitors, and we would greatly appreciate any time you can provide in making this day a success for the Club. We will have sign-up sheets posted at the Club so please stop by and join in on the fun!

For both parade day and St. Patrick's Day there will be a two guest limit for each member. Also, there will be a \$10 guest fee for each guest entering the Club.

Parade Day information

- The St. Patrick's Parade is scheduled for March 10, 2018. See the St. Patrick's parade website for more information: CapeCodStPatricksParade.com. The parade will start at 11:00 am, beginning at Bass River Sports World and ending at the Town 'N Country Motor Lodge.
- This year's Grand Marshall is Tim Kelley, NECN's Meteorologist. The 2018 Colleen Scholarship finalists are Eilish Dillon, Molly Harper, Robin Moynihan, and Seyla O'Hearn.
- Grand Marshall dinner and Colleen Coronation is on Friday March 9th at 6:00 pm at the Riverway Restaurant. Tickets are \$30 per person and are available through from CapeCodStPatricksParade.com; seating is limited. Tickets will also be available at the Club. See the bartender if you would like to purchase one, and make your check out to Cape Cod St. Patrick's Parade.
- Paul Glynn is this year's recipient of the Thomas Francis Meagher award.
- Irish Woman and Man of the year are Kathy Hegarty and Bill Hurley.
- At 9:30 am, buses will transport any and all members wishing to walk with the SOECC contingent from the Club to the starting point and will return you back to the Club after the parade. An Irish breakfast will be available starting at 8:30 am at the Club prior to the parade.
- After the parade, we will be serving corned beef sandwiches, hot dogs, chicken fingers, and French fries. Entertainment will be:
 - 1 pm to 3 pm - John O'Sullivan and Ciaran Dalton
 - 3 pm to 6 pm - Boston's Erin Og
 - 7 pm to 10 pm - Boxy
- There will be trolley service on route 28 after the parade to bring revelers to other establishments and a free taxi service (within a designated area) that night.

St. Patrick's Day March 17th

The Club's famous corned beef and cabbage dinner will be served and along with a few other dishes, from 5:30 pm to 8 pm. Dave Hickey and Sean Brennan will be performing from 7 pm to 10 pm.

Kitchen help wanted!

We are in need of waitresses and kitchen staff. Do you have a child at least 16 years old looking for work? Do you have time on Friday and Saturdays to meet other members and serve up the dishes of the day? If you or someone you know is interested, contact Katie Fitzsimmons at the Club for details on these positions.

Upcoming events

- March 3rd – Come help decorate the Club for the St. Patrick's festivities starting at 11 am.
- March 10th – St. Patrick's Parade
- March 17th – St. Patrick's Day
- March 24th – After all the celebrating, we will need help removing all of the St. Patrick's decorations from the Club starting at 11 am or come on in to keep the festivities going!
- April – CPR training. Date to be determined. You would need to pre-register at the Club for this event as the class size will be limited.
- May 2nd – Blood drive from 11 am to 5 pm. Stop by the Club and donate a "pint" to give someone the gift of life.

Member Spotlight

Each month we introduce you to a member of the Club. This month, we spotlight Kathy Hegarty and Bill Hurley, Irish Woman and Man of the year:



Have you ever tried to interview people who don't like to talk about themselves? Meet Kathy Hegarty and Bill Hurley, the Irish Woman and Man of the Year. They are two accomplished individuals who are devoted to their families, their Irish heritage, and, especially, to the Sons of Erin of Cape Cod. It is for these reasons that they make the perfect recipients of the Irish Woman and Man of the Year Award. But they are humble: they don't like to trumpet their own accomplishments and are most likely to sing the praises of others.

Both Bill and Kathy spoke in glowing terms of their families. The third of six sons, Bill grew up in Somerville. He joined the Marines at age 17, and went on to a 28-year career in the military, retiring as an infantry officer. He and his wife of almost 59 years lived in various locations as they raised their four daughters, but they always considered Hyannis their home as their children attended Barnstable schools. Since 1982, Cape Cod has been their full-time home. Kathy states emphatically that family always comes first. The middle child of seven siblings who grew up in Jamaica Plain, Kathy has 16 nieces and nephews, and 16 great-nieces and nephews who affectionately call her AK, short for Auntie Kathy. Many of the little ones will be riding on this year's parade float, and all are junior members of SOECC. Two of Kathy's siblings live on the Cape, and the rest visit frequently in the summer. In fact, all of them helped Kathy remodel her home in South Dennis, where she has lived full-time since she retired from her long-term career with Pitney-Bowes.

Bill's parents emigrated to the US in the 1920's, from West Cork and Limerick. Bill's father had been a member of an IRA brigade, for which service he spent two years in an Irish prison. Bill has visited Ireland several times; he has three cousins in Dublin and three in West Cork, one of whom still lives in the family homestead. Kathy's grandfather, William P. Grimes, emigrated from Tipperary at the age of 17, with his brother. He established the E.L. Grimes Printing Company, while his brother became a Monsignor who served in several parishes in the Boston area. Her grandmother's family had a milk company, and her Aunt Kate was on the household staff of a wealthy family on Commonwealth Avenue in Boston. Both Bill and Kathy are proud of their Irish heritage, and of what their parents and grandparents accomplished after they arrived on this side of the Atlantic.

Neither Bill nor Kathy wanted to boast about their many contributions to the club. In the course of the conversation, however, it was possible to tease out some of them. Bill has a strong focus on learning the Irish language, using books and tapes to study with three other members each week. He is a stalwart member of the breakfast crew, serving the members who attend the monthly membership meetings. He helped in the negotiations to purchase the current building, and faithfully attends every clean-up day. This year, for the first time, he will not be carrying a flag in the parade; instead, he will be riding in a car in his capacity as Man of the Year. Kathy modestly states that, "I help out wherever I can." That has included being the second person ever to volunteer as a waitress, and to serving a stint as bartender. Currently, she is chair of the Events Committee, planning and publicizing so many of the events enjoyed by all members.



Kathy is most eloquent when she speaks of the club as her second family, saying, "If I didn't have the club, I don't know what I'd do." She emphasizes the fact that club members need to look after one another.

While they downplay their own contributions, Kathy and Bill clearly epitomize the ideals of the Sons of Erin. Devoted to family, proud of their Irish heritage, and dedicated to serving and promoting the SOECC, Kathy and Bill richly deserve the honor of Irish Woman and Man of the Year.

Interesting St. Patrick facts and myths

- March 17th is when Patrick died.
Saint Patrick is a saint of the Catholic Church, and his holy day is the day of his death.
- St. Patrick wasn't Irish.
Patrick's parents were Roman citizens living in modern-day England, or more precisely in Scotland or Wales (scholars cannot agree on which). He was born in 385 AD.
- St. Patrick was a slave.
At the age of 16, Patrick was kidnapped by Irish raiders who took him away and sold him as a slave. He spent several years in Ireland herding sheep and learning about the people there. At the age of 22, he managed to escape. He made his way to a monastery in England where he spent 12 years growing closer to God.
- St. Patrick used the shamrock to preach about the trinity.
Many claim the shamrock represents faith, hope, and love, or any number of other things but it was actually used by Patrick to teach the mystery of the Holy Trinity, and how three things, the Father, The Son, and the Holy Spirit could be separate entities, yet one in the same.
- Legend says St. Patrick drove all the snakes from Ireland.
In reality, this probably did not occur, as there is no evidence that snakes have ever existed in Ireland, the climate being too cool for them to thrive. Scholars suggest that the term "snakes" may be figurative and refer to pagan religious beliefs and practices rather than reptiles or amphibians.
- Patrick's color is blue.
- St. Patrick's was a dry holiday in Ireland until 1970.
Aside from the color green, the activity most associated with St. Patrick's Day is drinking. However, Irish law, from 1903 to 1970, declared St. Patrick's Day a religious observance for the entire country meaning that all pubs were shut down for the day. That meant no beer, not even the green kind, for public celebrants. The law was overturned in 1970, when St. Patrick's was reclassified as a national holiday - allowing the taps to flow freely once again.

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.

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.

Dining Room News

Current hours are 5:30 pm to 8 pm, Friday and Saturday. **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. In February and March, on that same Thursday night, we will have Trivia with DJ Patrick!

Club Merchandise

We have restocked! 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.

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.

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.

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.

Cribbage League

Join us any Thursday 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.

Closing note

There's a dear little plant that grows in our Isle,
'Twas Saint Patrick himself sure that set it;
And the sun on his labor with pleasure did smile,
And with dew from his eye often wet it.
It shines thro' the bog thro' the brake, thro' the mireland,
And he called it the dear little Shamrock of Ireland.
~ Andrew Sherry