



May 2017 Club Newsletter

Upcoming Elections: Voice your Choice

Over the next two months, there are several important dates in the **election** process for officers of SOECC. This year, there is a regular election to elect four at-large members of the **Board of Directors**. There is also a special election to fill the vacant positions of **President** and **Recording Secretary** for the remaining one year of those terms. Next year (2018), all officer positions, including President, Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Membership Secretary, and Sergeant at Arms, will be up for election.

The responsibilities of the President include running membership and Board meetings, making appointments to the various committees of the Club, and consulting with Club managers and staff to ensure smooth operation of the facilities and programs. The duties of the Recording Secretary include keeping accurate minutes of all meetings, providing them to members, and maintaining official records. Members of the Board provide supervision of SOECC and attend monthly meetings which involve control of the Club property and funds.

To be **eligible for nomination**, an individual must have been a member in good standing for 18 months prior to nomination. In addition, they must have been recorded as **attending five regular monthly meetings** from July through June of the year preceding nomination. If the individual's fifth meeting is the June meeting, they would still be eligible for nomination. The **official nomination day** is the **June** regular membership meeting. Names are to be submitted to the Nominating Chairperson at that meeting.

Elections take place on the day of the regular **July** membership meeting. Club members may vote between the hours of 10 am and 6 pm on that day, by showing their membership card and completing a secret ballot. All members are encouraged to take part in the election to make sure that SOECC remains a successful enterprise.

Upcoming events

The next Membership meeting will be held on **Sunday, May 21**.

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

- **D.J. Patrick** on **Saturday, May 6th** from 7 pm until closing. He played at last year's Christmas Party. Celebrate at "The Day After Cinco de Mayo" party. Special additions to the dinner menu. A **prize** will be given to the person wearing the best decorated Sombrero!
- **The SOECC Golf League** meets Wednesday at Bass River starting **May 3rd** with tee off time starting at 2:30 pm. The golf league is co-ed and they play nine holes in a best ball format. Non-members are welcome! There will be two leagues this year, one from May to September and then from September to November. Contact Jay Collett (ljcollett22@gmail.com) or Bob Clare (bc4813@yahoo.com) or show up at Bass River at 2:30 pm on Wednesday, weather permitting! *Tar Gailf Spraoi Le Athas!* (Come play golf with joy)
- **Spring Golf Tournament** is scheduled for **Sunday, May 7th at Bayberry Hills Golf Course** in West Yarmouth. Tee off is at 8 am. Cost is \$125 per person and is limited to the first 120 **paid** golfers. Sign up forms are available at the Club. Include the names of your foursome and your email address.
- **The Plywood Ponies** are back! Join us on **Sunday, May 21st**, for a fun afternoon of horseracing. The races start at 2 pm and end by 5 pm. Teams are decorating the ponies for race day. See which pony is the fastest at the SOE Derby. Fun for the whole family! A **prize** will be given to the person with the best "Derby Hat".
- **The Healy Brothers Invitational** takes place on **Sunday May 28th**. Registration ends at 8:30 pm at the Sons of Erin on Friday the 27th. Weigh in is between 2 pm and 4 pm in the Sons of Erin parking lot on Sunday. Awards and food starts at 5 pm. Entry fee is \$20. No fishing experience is required. Every fee paid automatically assigns each entry for a possible prize. Contact Peter O'Sullivan or Gus Healy at the Sons of Erin Club for more information. This year's donation will go to the Michael Quinn rehabilitation fund.
- **Painting Party Night** Save the date **June 14th**. Details to follow.

SOECC Scholarships

Eligibility: All applicants must be the child, step-child, grandchild or step-grandchild of an active member of the SOECC. Applicants must be attending or be going to attend a 2 or 4 year college or 4 year university or some secondary work/study program that is comparable. Applications are available at the Club. The full application is due by **May 15th**. Any applications received after May 15th will not be reviewed. Scholarship recipients will be notified by the Scholarship Chair in June 2017 and announced in the newsletter. Awards shall take place at our June or July membership meeting.

Club Member Spotlight

Each month we spotlight a Club member. This month, we introduce you to Charlie Kennedy:



St. Patrick's Day parade

There are certain people that leave an impression on you even if you only meet them once. Charlie is one of those types of guys. The son of Thomas and Ann Kennedy, Charlie spent a lot of time on Cape but attended schools in Peoria, IL and Wichita, KS. He currently attends the Habilitation Assistance Corporation of South Yarmouth where he met his current girlfriend, Tish.

Charlie is constantly on the move having worked at Shaw's, The Flower Shop, the Dennis/Yarmouth school system, Papa Gino's, Subway, Daggett's, Ryan's Family Amusement Center, and at the Sons of Erin. You see him most Friday and Saturday nights helping Katie's Kitchen Krew.



Charlie and Cindy Dickey

He has volunteered for Little League, the Yarmouth Police and Fire departments, Meals on Wheels, Shriner's Hospital, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), and the D/Y shelter during weather emergencies. He never misses a St. Patrick's parade and, behind the Grand Marshall, Charlie gets the most cheers as he makes his way in his tractor or aboard a float down the parade route.

Charlie considers himself to be nice and a gentleman. This has taken him far in life but also got him in trouble. After his parents passed, he remained on-Cape in the family house, surrounded by friendly neighbors who looked out for him. His financial guardians were located off-Cape and ventured down to see Charlie from time to time. On one occasion, Charlie came upon a mother and three children who had lost their housing and he offered them a roof over their head for the night and a friendly meal, nothing new to Irish folk. However, the guardians became concerned and asked the family to leave and Charlie was brought off-Cape for a wellness check. Well, that lasted much longer than anyone anticipated, and after a series of unfortunate events, Charlie's old neighbors decided Charlie needed to come home. But how? New guardians would need to be on-Cape for this to happen, and there is the small thing about lawyer fees. Well, not so small! Mike Shea, along with Gus Healy and Dave Hickey, organized a fund raiser at the Sons of Erin Cape Cod hoping to collect about \$4000 to pay the fees and get Charlie back. Well, that didn't happen, they raised \$8000 instead! It took 14 months, but Charlie finally made his way back to the Cape that he so loves.

Charlie now has great guardians (Cindy and David Dickey) who understand how important Charlie is to so many people in the Club and Yarmouth and his neighbors, Gus, George, Ann Marie, and Jack, look after him and share the occasional meal. Charlie has been known to decorate his back yard with beach umbrellas or sneak a gas station driveway bell onto an unsuspecting neighbor's driveway. Ding dong, you're home! He is learning to play cribbage (he often stops by the Cribbage league at the Club on Thursday nights to pick up some pointers) and even bought his own board.

When he was asked about his Irish heritage, Charlie opened his hands, cocked his head to the side and said with a grin "I'm the most famous Kennedy left on the Cape." Enough said!

Star Wars and More in the Emerald Isle

Summer's coming. And although it may be difficult to leave the Cape in the summer, there are many beautiful places to visit in Ireland if you're so inclined. Famous, and not-so-famous, Americans have recently written about their fabulous experiences visiting the west of the Emerald Isle.

The actors and crew of Star Wars: Episode VIII originally intended to complete the filming of the new installment only at Skellig Michael in County Kerry. According to Ireland.com, the location scouts were so amazed by the scenery that they chose more filming locations from Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way, from Cork and Kerry, to Clare and Donegal. If you travel to Malin Head in Donegal, you will now find a mural of Yoda on the side of Farren's Bar. According to Hugh Farren, owner, "It was unbelievable that Star Wars was filming a mile and a half away from us. The buzz that we had for the month was surreal."

The Wild Atlantic Way, one of four suggested travel itineraries on Ireland.com, is described as, "...a sensational journey of soaring cliffs, buzzing towns, hidden beaches and epic bays...a once-in-a-lifetime experience." Stops can include: the rocky, remote Northern Headlands from Malin Head to Slieve League Cliffs; the thrilling waves of the Surf Coast from Mullaghmore to Yeats Country; the Bay Coast between Mayo and Galway; the Cliff Coast, including the Cliffs of Moher, the Aran Islands and the Burren; the Southern Peninsulas, including Skellig Island, and the Haven Coast including the Old Head of Kinsale.

A beautiful central home base for exploring the Wild Atlantic Way is the city of Galway, featured recently in the Travel Section of the Boston Globe. Described as the "hidden jewel of the Emerald Isle," Galway features a strong dose of Irish history, the cultural vibe of a modern city, as well as the natural beauty of the famed Galway Bay and the Corrib River. Quay and Shop Streets feature almost countless pubs, restaurants and shops. No visit to Galway would be complete without McDonagh's famous fish and chips. Should you wish to veer off the prescribed stops of the Wild Atlantic Way, you can head from Galway to the stunning beauty of Connemara National Park.

This might be the summer for you to dip your toes in the other side of the wild Atlantic.

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). 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. Menu changes week to week. A reminder that tables are to be cleared by Club members! You are entitled to a **free** birthday meal in the month of your birthday month! In **May** it will be **Thursday the 25th**.

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 limited to 35 guests. Contact Katie Fitzsimmons at the Club to book the room.

Ongoing Events

Be sure to check our Calendar 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.

Cribbage League

Come every 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.

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 do not have to be a member of the SOE to join the dancing class.

Traditional Irish Music Classes

A weekly class held every Tuesday from 7 pm to 8 pm. It is multi-instrument and suitable for anyone who can play an instrument and wishes to learn to play traditional Irish tunes. Instruments should be able to play in the keys of D, G, and A. Classes are \$10.

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 508-790-0438.

Tin Whistle classes for beginners are held when enough students enroll. If interested contact seanmurphy630@gmail.com or call 508-790-0438. The whistle for the class is a "D" whistle, which is available at several locations on Cape Cod, the internet, or from the instructor.

Irish History Classes

Cultural Center of Cape Cod: The Norman Invasion of Ireland 1169 - 1536. Thursdays 2 pm to 3:30 pm, May 4, 11, 18, and 25.

Cotuit Center for the Arts: The Viking Invasions of Ireland 795 - 1014. Tuesdays 2 pm to 3:30 pm April 25, May 2, 9 and 16. Irish Traditional Dancing for Adult and kids over 15. Six weeks on Thursdays 7 pm to 8 pm on May 4, 11, 18, and 25, June 1 and 8.

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.

Closing note

He who loses money, loses much;

He who loses a friend, loses more;

He who loses faith, loses all.