



November 2017 Club Newsletter

President's Welcome

Thanksgiving is one of my favorite holidays and thank goodness, one of the least commercialized. It is a special day in which family and friends get together and celebrate; a day in which we thank God for all of our blessings: family, friends, and good health. It is a day where we sit together, enjoy a traditional turkey with mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, vegetables, and pie with ice cream. It is a day in which the best exchanged gift is: being together.

It is also a day in which we should all remember those that are not as fortunate as ourselves. People who are sick, people with no family or friends, people who are hungry, and don't have money to buy food. These are the people that we must support on this special day. The Sons of Erin CC once again will be holding a non-perishable food drive that will benefit the Yarmouth Food Pantry. At the door of the Club is a large box, in which I am asking all members that when you enter the Club, make a donation to the food bank.

There are several organizations who will cook and serve meals to the poor and homeless on Thanksgiving. Below is a list of some of these places. If you want to help the less fortunate and want to volunteer, feel free to contact them.

The Salvation Army
11:30 a.m. to 12:15 pm
100 North St., Hyannis
508-775-0364

Cataumet Methodist Church
Noon to 2:30 pm
1093 County Road, Bourne
508-563-3555 or 508-280-8582

Falmouth Community Dinner, The Navigator Club
Noon to 4 pm
55 Ashumet Road, East Falmouth
Ken at 508-495-0930

Yarmouth Moose Lodge
Noon until everyone is served
769 Route 28, South Yarmouth
508-394-2341

Buzzards Bay Eagles Aerie No. 3741
1 to 4 pm
9 Cohasset Ave., Buzzards Bay
508-759-9974

West Dennis Community Church
Noon to 3:00 pm
288 Route 28
508-398-6420

Orleans-Eastham Elks Lodge
1 McKoy Road, North Eastham
508-240-5826

Next year, I would like to see the Sons of Erin CC appear on this list. It would be a major undertaking of money and time from the members of the Club to make it happen. I will not commit the Club to this unless there is a firm positive, commitment from the membership to move forward. If you agree and will be willing to commit to this community project, please write me at johnflah@gmail.com.

From myself, the club officers, and on behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

John Flaherty, Club President

Upcoming events

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

October

- 28th – **Halloween party** from 8 pm until closing

Come dressed in your favorite costume! Terry Brennan will be the entertainment for the evening (as well as all the ghouls and goblins!). Prizes for the best costume: ladies, mens, and couple.

November

- 15th – **Wills and Trusts** at 6 pm with Boyd and Boyd Law Firm from Hyannis.
- 22nd – The night before Thanksgiving! Join us for pub food and great entertainment of the Johnny O'Sullivan and Sons!
- 25th – Come help us decorate the Club for Christmas starting at 10 am.

December

- 2nd – **Children's Christmas Party** from 12 pm to 2 pm.

There will be lots of arts and crafts activities for the children. Complimentary pizza and water will be served. A special visit will be paid by Santa and his helpers. **Parents/Grandparents must sign up their children or grandchildren by Wednesday, November 29th on the sign-up sheet at the Club.** Parents/Grandparents need to bring a wrapped gift labeled with their child's name.

- 3rd – **Road trip to Heritage Gardens to see Gardens Aglow** leaving the Club at 5 pm.

This treasured family holiday tradition features beautiful light displays throughout the gardens. Enjoy marshmallow-roasting, a reindeer scavenger hunt, visit with Santa Claus in the Model T, take carousel rides, holiday treats at Magnolia Café, and more. We will carpool from the Club or if you live near Heritage Gardens, be there by 5:30 pm. Cost for adults is \$18. The guest policy is not in effect for this event. After the light display, join back at the Club for a glass of holiday cheer!

- 9th – **Adult's Christmas Party** starting at 5 pm until closing

There will be a cocktail reception with complimentary hot and cold hors d'oeuvres. Music for the reception will be provided by Sean Brennan. Beginning at 8:00, until closing, DJ Patrick will provide your favorite music for dancing.

- **New Year's Eve** 5:00 pm until closing

The party will begin by ringing in the Irish New Year at 6:00 with a televised celebration. Details are still being developed by the Events Committee and will be posted at the Club and on the website.

Member Spotlight: Marcia Tierney



"When life hands you lemons, make lemonade." This is an old adage which many have heard. It's an admirable goal, but one which is often difficult to achieve in the face of life's trials and tribulations. This month, the spotlight will be on an SOECC member who embodies the very essence of this saying: the ability to face daunting obstacles, while continually maintaining a focus on the positive elements in life. Meet Marcia Tierney.

Marcia and her husband and two sons moved to Cape Cod from Connecticut in 2002. Her oldest boy was entering high school, and the younger son was starting 7th grade. That's not an easy time for young men to change locations, but the family made the difficult transition. Marcia began teaching 5th grade special needs students at Wixon School, continuing her long-time teaching career; she is currently in her 40th year in the field. In this position, Marcia helps students who need accommodations in their classroom, according to their individual plans. There was a difficult family break-up in 2010.

And then, most recently, came the latest challenges for Marcia. On April 8, she fell, breaking her pelvis and seriously injuring one of the two hips which had previously been replaced. After consultation at Cape Cod Hospital, she was sent to Brigham and Women's Hospital for surgery, and then on to a Cape rehab facility. Currently, she is confined to a wheelchair, managing on her own, and awaiting further surgery and rehab. Unable to drive, she is spending lots of hours on her own at home.

Instead of focusing on the difficult paths behind and ahead of her, Marcia, in our conversation, enumerated her many blessings. She has a 3-year-old granddaughter, Phelan, whom she adores. She is very happy that she joined the Sons of Erin in 2010, and found the fun and camaraderie of the Cribbage Group. And, above, all, she is most grateful for the caring and help given to her by her friends in the Club. For example, club members visit, take her grocery shopping, to Cribbage; some have even driven her to Boston for medical appointments. The most amazing example of this help from her Club friends: on Valentine's and Parade days, the wait staff at SOECC usually pool their tips, to be used for a later social outing for the group. This year, instead, they took those tips, and donated them to Marcia to help cover her medical expenses.

Marcia loves the club for the great music, the delicious food, and the friendliness of the members. One of her favorite recent memories was volunteering to help the wait staff on Parade Day. Most of all, however, she appreciates the unbelievable way her SOECC friends have supported her in her trials and helped her turn her lemons into lemonade.

Culture Corner: Hurricane Ophelia



We Old Salts in the northeast US are used to the threats of hurricanes and the realities of brutal winds and rain of Nor'easters. Not so in our mother country. Last weekend, for the first time since 1961, Ireland was belted by a hurricane. That means that everyone under age 56 in the Emerald Isle has no memory of anything this powerful and devastating.

And powerful it was. With wind gusts as high as 120 mph, Hurricane Ophelia also boasted the record for the biggest wave ever measured off the Irish coast: a 58.4-foot surge off the coast of Waterford – equal to the height of a six-story building. Ophelia traveled farther east in the Atlantic basin than any Category 3 hurricane on record. The storm was powerful enough to knock out electricity and telecommunications to more than 350,000 people. Three people were killed by falling trees. The areas most affected by the storm were in the south, including Cork, Wexford and Limerick.

On the Cape, we have not seen some of the more unusual storm effects experienced in Ireland. For example, at Forlorn Point at Kilmore Quay in Wexford, the storm unearthed ancient skeletal remains from over 1000 years ago. In another town, roads were engulfed in foam, in a “freak weather phenomenon,” caused by high winds and foam spraying off the ocean.

Hannah Kiely, SOECC friend from Galway and honorary member who visited last July, wrote, “Wow, now I know what a bad storm looks like, sitting here in the woods, watching branches breaking and waiting for the trees to come down! The whole of Ireland is on red alert and the whole country is shut down: schools, colleges, work, everything.” Hannah also sent the accompanying image of the Salthill coast in Galway being battered by the storm.

We on the Cape have been safe, but it has been a terrible hurricane season for many island dwellers surrounding the Atlantic basin: US Virgin Islands, Florida Keys, Puerto Rico, and many more. Who would ever have expected to add Ireland to the list of that devastation?

Holiday Donations

Each year, the Club strives to help those less fortunate than us by setting up donation bins for the Yarmouth Food Pantry, 912th Forward Surgical Team (FST), and Toys for Tots. Next time you stop by for dinner or a pint, bring a donation to spread cheer to all this holiday season.

St. Patrick's Day Parade

There is a new website for the parade: CapeCodStPatricksParade.com The parade committee is now taking orders for the new 2018 Coupon book. If you advertised in last year's Parade ad book, contact your St Patrick's Parade contact to secure your ad today!

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 November including Trivia Night with DJ Patrick!

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.

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.

Cribbage League

Join us the starting September 14th 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.

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.

Closing note

To live above with the Saints we love,

Ah, that is the purest glory.

To live below with the Saints we know,

Ah, that is another story!