St. Patrick’s Celebrations

For both parade day and St. Patrick’s Day there will be a two guest limit for each member. Also, there will be a $5 guest fee for each guest entering the Club.

Parade Day March 5th

- The St. Patrick’s Parade is scheduled for March 5, 2016. See the St. Patrick’s parade website for more information: http://capecodstpatsparade.com. The parade will start at 11:00 am, beginning at Bass River Sports World and ending at the Town ‘N Country Motor Lodge.
- Grand Marshall Ball and Colleen Coronation is on Friday March 4, 2015 at 6 pm at the Irish Village. Tickets are $25 per person and are available through Tom MacCormaic at the Irish Village. Entrees include corned beef or broiled scrod. Grand Marshall is Ryan Delaire, Defensive End of the Carolina Panthers.
- Parade Colleens this year are Catriona Barr (Chatham), Orla Coughlin (West Yarmouth), Saarah Murphy (Hyannis), and Shannon McGovern (Mashpee). The Queen will be chosen from among these four and announced at the Grand Marshall Ball.
- At 10:00 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 4 pm - John O’Sullivan and John Quilter
  - 4 pm to 7 pm - Stanley and Grimm (Sean Brennan and Nikki Engstrom)
  - 7 pm to 10 pm - Boxty
- 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 4 pm to 7 pm. Dave Hickey will be performing starting at 5 pm to at least 8 pm.

Upcoming events

Watch the website calendar and upcoming newsletters for more information on these events.

March

Easter buffet on March 27th: There will be three seatings starting at 1 pm, 3 pm, and 5 pm. Reservations are required. There will be a special commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the 1916 Easter rising. See the history article at the end of this newsletter.

April

SOLD OUT! Spring Golf Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, April 30 at The Golf Club at Yarmouth Port, King’s Way. A scramble tournament with a shotgun start will be limited to 92 players. Interested in sponsoring this event? Sponsorship opportunities are $50 a hole. Do you have something to donate for our prize raffle? Contact Ed Tierney at the Club or send us an email to contact@sonsoferincc.com.
May

The Sons of Erin 5K Run/Walk will be held on Saturday May 14, 2016. Entry fee is $20.00. The race begins and ends at the SOECC. The Irish Village is offering a Run/Stay package for just $75 per night/per room. For more information, see their website: http://sonsoferin5krunwalk.org/.

Club News

Reminder: Beginning March 1, 2016, there will be an increase of $2 to $3 on every entrée offered during meal service.

Trivia nights on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month starting at 7 pm.

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.com/) 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 Member Spotlight

Each month we spotlight a Club member. This month, we introduce you to Elizabeth Lynch.

Elizabeth Lynch

Elizabeth was born and raised in West Roxbury, MA. Her Grandmother had a home on the Cape where she spent her summers as a child. Gradually over the years, her entire family transplanted to the Cape (except one sister still in Boston). Elizabeth is a Project Manager for Cape Cod Healthcare’s Behavioral Health Department where she has worked for 15 years. She has been a member of SOECC for about 10 years and an active member the past three years.

Currently, she is the Chair of the Events Committee for the Club. Elizabeth has witnessed firsthand the love and support members have provided to her family and friends during very difficult times and her “Gratitude” is what she projects into the future of SOECC. Her Irish heritage comes from both sides of her parents. Her father’s family was from Roscommon and her mother’s family from County Cork.

A perfect day for Elizabeth would be enjoying a summer day on Cape Cod with her husband Mike and her daughter Grace, shopping, and a sunset beverage on the beach.

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!

- Thursday Night Round Up Night: We will alternate between various cuts of beef such as pot roast.
- Friday Night Fish Fry: Yummy fish and chips and something for the non-fish lovers too!
- Saturday Night: A great night to bring a guest or have a special dinner out with your special someone.
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.

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.

Trivia Night

Trivia nights on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month starting at 7 pm.

Irish Language classes - NEW

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 6:30 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 $8 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

Tin Whistle classes for beginners are held every Tuesday from 5 to 6 pm. The whistle for the class is a “D” whistle, which is available at a number of locations on the Cape, as well as from the instructor.

The multi-instrument class for intermediate or experienced players is also 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.

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 contact@sonsoferincc.com.
Centenary of the Easter Rising of 1916 in Ireland

In 1169, soldiers arrived in Ireland with the consent of the King of England, and began their conquest of the people and land of Ireland. From that day forward, the people of Ireland resisted the takeover. English rule in Ireland was never accepted nor seen as legitimate by the majority of Irish people.

The colonizers never succeeded in extinguishing the dream of a free and independent Ireland. However, they did change Ireland making it almost completely subservient. Over time, they defeated the old Gaelic society and later Catholic Ireland. They forcibly replaced Irish Law, Irish Language, Irish culture, dress and ethics with their civilized English ways. They unsuccessfully attempted to convert Irish people to their religion. They sought to replace Irish people with settlers.

Over centuries, the English used military superiority take land and property from the historic owners, created famine, spread disease, forced emigration and slavery, created Penal Laws, forced evictions, suspended habeas corpus, assassinated and poisoned of leaders of Irish society, bribed, and did whatever they could to gain and keep control of Ireland. They created a society in Ireland where the vast majority were landless, impoverished tenants, uneducated, dispirited, and dependent on the potato for their sustenance and, whose future lay in exile.

After 800 years of English rule, Ireland was part of the network of countries colonized by Britain. Ireland supplied food, labor, and recruits to fight in British wars. The Act of Union in 1800 had brought Ireland under the direct control of the British Parliament and made her part of the United Kingdom. In 1916, England held one fourth of the world’s territory under its control and felt confident that its “Irish Problem” was a problem of the past.

The Easter Rising of 1916 was the sixth organized rebellion over the previous three hundred years. The Irish people desired to be free and independent from the British Empire. The uprising was led by people with a profound understanding of the travails of their country and its people, and who held a vision of a future that could only be achieved by a risen people. They had seen that the efforts of two of the world’s greatest politicians in the 19th Century, Daniel O’Connell and Charles Stewart Parnell, had not delivered. The spectacle of the Great Famine had not been enough to bring about the needed political change.

People watched as 200,000 young Irish men set off to the battle fields of Europe in the cause of Britain. They waited for the promise of Home Rule to become reality, and were dreading the day when forcible enlistment would rip out the rest of the youth of Ireland to go and die in Europe. The leaders of the Rising did not believe the sacrifice of young Irish men in the cause of Britain would lead to a generous gesture by the British to “give Ireland back to the Irish”. It was going to take an act of unimpeachable bravery, "blood sacrifice", to attempt to dislodge the British from Ireland. On Easter Monday, 24th April 1916, approximately 1,000 Irish men, women, and children took on the might of the British Empire. The Irish took over key locations around the center of Dublin and prepared to defend them with old rifles and with anything else they could use to fight. Around noon on that day, Padriag Pearse, on behalf of the Provisional Government of the Republic of Ireland, read out the Proclamation of a sovereign, independent and free Ireland. Over the next few days people rose in a number of locations around the country.

The Rebels, as history refers to them, held out for almost a week against impossible odds and then surrendered. Within days, they were court-martialed and immediately sent to be executed by firing squad. In all sixteen leaders were executed. Some were taken out on stretchers and in wheelchairs to be shot. Many were due to be executed, but public opinion was such that the executions were halted. Thousands of people were arrested throughout the country and sent to internment camps in Britain.

Closing note

Saint Patrick was a gentleman,
Who through strategy and stealth,
Drove all the snakes from Ireland,
Here’s a toasting to his health.
But not too many toasting.
Lest you lose yourself and then.
Forget the good Saint Patrick.
And see all those snakes again!