



November 2003

Member Tel: (305) 949-8400 [www.emeraldsocietySFL.com](http://www.emeraldsocietySFL.com)

### Emerald Society Officers

#### President

Michael Francis

O'Connor

(305) 385-2956

1<sup>st</sup> VP Tom Dunn

2<sup>nd</sup> VP William O'Brien

Treasurer David Russell

Historian Dan Fitzgerald

Recording Secretary

Carroll Cameron

Immediate Past Pres.

Edward S. Cooke

#### Directors

Billy Cameron

Carroll Cameron

James Cooney

John Cosgrove

Mary Ann Fierro

John Kane

Oliver Kerr

William O'Brien

Joseph McManus

Patrick Novak

David Russell

Judi Sherry

#### Editors

Mary Ann Fierro

305-251-6208

Oliver Kerr

305-662-6744

## Hey, it's the season already!

Can you believe it? It's November already! Thanksgiving is just around the corner. The baseball season is over. Yea, Marlins!! Our college and pro football teams are winning some and losing some, and ready or not we are slip-sliding toward the holiday season.

- The date and place for our annual Christmas Time in Ireland is set, December 8 at the Dadeland Marriott.

You should have gotten your invitation already. Get those reservations in to Mary Ann or she'll be on your case! Like to help? Please contact Tom Dunn at [trfdunn@prodigy.net](mailto:trfdunn@prodigy.net) or 954-989-5054.

## Another great social in the Gables

Before that year-end rush we'll take a little break from working and shopping by assembling in Coral Gables.

- When? Wednesday, November 19, at 6:30 p.m.
- Where? A great new place, Splendido, at 121 Alhambra Circle, Ground Floor.

There's meter and valet parking. Great food, too! Come and check it out for yourself.

## Help us welcome our new members

Timothy J. McDermott

Sponsored by Bill O'Brien.

**Board Members** The monthly Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 4 at 6:30 p.m. at the Miami Yacht Club on Watson Island. Attendance of all Board members is expected. Dinner and drinks, as usual, will be available. Stick around after the meeting and enjoy good company by the water's edge under the stars.

## Calling All Colleens!

Does your daughter, grand-daughter, sister, niece, cousin or friend want to be "Miss Colleen" at the St. Patrick's Day Festival on Saturday March 13, 2004? Yes, this is the Saturday before March 17!

Here are the qualifications:

1. Single female of any age.
2. Must have some Irish blood in her veins.
3. Will definitely attend the St. Patrick's Day Festival wearing green on Saturday, March 13, 2004 in the Fred. B. Hartnett Ponce Circle Park in Coral Gables. Please arrive before 1:00 p.m.
4. Deadline for submitting information is February 1, 2004. We will have a rehearsal at the Steinway Piano Gallery at 4104 Ponce de Leon where Marge Hartnett is in sales. (Let her know if you know anyone interested in a Steinway!) Time of rehearsal will be given later.

Does the Colleen have a special talent—does she sing, dance, compose an Irish poem or limerick? Regardless of talent, all Colleens will be "Stars of the Show" when presented at the Festival by our famous Master of Ceremonies, Dan Fitzgerald.

In the meantime please send a recent clear photo showing her pretty Irish face to

- Marge Hartnett—the Rose Lady  
4410 Monserrate Street  
Coral Gables, FL. 33146.  
Telephone 305-666-8148.

Include with the photo, her age, name, home address and telephone. Photos will be in the St. Patrick's Festival Book. On Saturday, March 13, 2004 a beautiful "Miss Colleen" sash will be awarded to all participants who have completed the information in advance. We will meet at 1:00 p.m. in the park for this ceremony with City officials and Irish "big wigs." Let's plan right now before the rush of the holidays. More details later.

## May the road rise to meet you, Stu!

We bid fond farewell to the former editor of this newsletter (for four years), Stu Robinson, who leaves this week on a leisurely drive to California to spend some time with his son. Have a safe trip, Stu, and keep in touch with your Emerald friends! The Board presented Stu with an appreciation plaque at the November board meeting.

## Emerald Stickers Available

We now have emblematic car window stickers available thanks to the diligent work of our tireless secretary, Carroll Cameron. These will be presented to all those buying a ticket to our Christmas in Ireland dinner. The transparent stickers display our South Florida Emerald Society logo. These will be available later from the Membership Committee for a nominal fee.

## Poetry Corner

Each month the Shamrock News presents a poem by an Irish poet. This is a poem by **James Joyce**, who wrote some good prose, as we all know, but also some decent poetry. In this a poem James lambastes an Irish firm for refusing to publish his collection of short stories, "The Dubliners," written abroad. You may recall that we read the most famous of these, "The Dead," at Books & Books two years ago.

### Ladies and Gents, You Are Here Assembled.

Ladies and gents, you are here assembled  
To hear why earth and heaven trembled  
Because of the black and sinister arts  
Of an Irish writer in foreign parts.  
He sent me a book ten years ago.  
I read it a hundred times or so,  
Backwards and forwards, down and up,  
Through both ends of a telescope.  
I printed it all to the very last word  
But by the mercy of the Lord  
The darkness of my mind was rent  
And I saw the writer's foul intent.  
But I owe a duty to Ireland:  
I hold her honor in my hand,  
This lovely land that always sent  
Her writers and artists to banishment  
And in a spirit of Irish fun  
Betrayed her own leaders, one by one.

## March 13, St. Patrick's Day Festival

We are currently looking for many more volunteers for our annual St. Patrick's Day Festival to be held in Coral Gables at Fred Hartnett Ponce Circle. We need greeters, setup people, staff for the ticket and raffle booth, the Irish Coffee and soda bread booth, the Tinkers' booth, etc. High school students can earn community service hours. Where will you volunteer your time?

And save those white elephant items for the Tinkers' Booth. Contact Dan Fitzgerald at 305-665-1812 if you have items to donate. Dolores Fitzgerald has volunteered to do the Tinkers' Booth and Mary Ann Fierro (305 251-6208) is recruiting helpers for her. Come on all you garage sale junkies, sign up!

Members, do you know or patronize any businesses that would like to sponsor an ad in our Festival book? Or do you want to advertise yourself? Put in a memorial for someone?

For information, contact Bill O'Brien at 305-854-1330.

Organizational meetings are held every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the office of John Thompson, 370 Minorca Ave, Suite 1, Coral Gables. Any member can just show up and ALL are welcome. Many hands make light work! The Festival is a fun Irish day.

## **Emerald Society Ties**

**Men—remember to get your Emerald Society Tie! They make great gifts also. Mary Ann's brothers in Connecticut love them and Oliver's family in Ireland wants more. Put those out-of-town Irish friends and relatives on you Christmas list for a fashion-statement tie! Cost \$10, a great price for a silk-blend tie. Have you priced ties lately??**

**Call Billy Cameron at 305-233-0989. He will be happy to help you.**

## **Editors' Note**

**If you got a printed copy of this newsletter it's because we do not have your email address. If you have an email address please let us know and save time and money in our distribution. An added bonus will be your ability to see the photos and pictures in color that we hope to add in future editions. The printed copies will be black and white only for now.**

**We welcome your comments, questions, literary submissions, and praises or complaints. Letters of praise will be framed and hung on the wall. Complaints? Well...**

**The Emerald Society, Inc.  
P.O. Box 144844  
Coral Gables, FL. 33134.**





