



February 2004

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**

A **happy Valentine's Day**, belatedly, to all you Emeralds and your families, friends, and lovers! Our poem this month is our little Valentine's Day gift to you!

And now it's time to turn to our attention to another glorious and grand celebration of **St. Patrick's Day**. On March 13 from noon to 6:00 p.m. join us at Fred B. Hartnett Ponce Circle Park on Ponce De Leon Boulevard in the Gables. The Committee meets at John Thomson's office, 270 Minorca Ave, just off LeJeune Road in the Gables at 6: p.m. every Tuesday. We welcome your participation. Look for more details and invitations to help below.

**February Social at Fritz and Franz Bierhaus in the Gables.**

The February social will be on Wednesday, February 25 at the Fritz and Franz Bierhaus in the Gables from 6:30 to 9:30. The address is 60 Merrick Way and the telephone number 305-774-1883. If you haven't been to one of our socials in a while you ought to check it out. Last month we enjoyed great food and drinks and got to meet one of our new members, Stephen James. Come on out, spend an hour and get to know your fellow Emeralds.

Thanks to Maurice Grondin for hosting a Superbowl Sunday open house at his home in Miami. What a game it was! Do you think St. Patrick was looking out for the Pats? Anyway, thanks Maurice!

**Help us welcome our new members**

**Gregory Great Glorious**

Sponsored by Jeremiah O'Shaughnessy

**Owen Old Original**

Sponsored by Seamus Buide McGillacuddy

Only joking, folks. There were no new members approved by the Board this month. New members are always needed. Do you know someone who might qualify?

## **Board Members Meeting**

The monthly Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 4 at 6:30 p.m. at the Miami Yacht Club on Watson Island. Attendance of all Board members is expected. All Emerald members are invited to attend. Dinner and drinks, as usual, will be available.

## **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:

Single female of any age. Must have some Irish blood in her veins. 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.

Deadline for submitting an application has passed but you can obtain information from

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

## **St.Patrick's Day Irish Festival**

On March 13 from noon to 6:00 p.m. join us at Fred B. Hartnett Ponce Circle Park on Ponce De Leon Boulevard in the Gables. As noted above, the Committee meets at John Thomson's office, 270 Minorca Ave, just off LeJeune Road in the Gables at 6:00 p.m. every Tuesday. We need your participation and support.

Here's an easy way for YOU to contribute (if you can't buy an ad). Look around your house and gather up some of the items you've been shifting around from cabinet to shelf, stick a realistic price tag on them, (consider what you would pay at a yard sale), and put them in a box. Next: call Dan or Dolores Fitzgerald at (305) 665-1812 and give them an estimate of how many items you have.

Bring these items to the Emerald Society's "Tinker's Booth" between 1130 a.m. and noon and, if you have some time, become a traditional Irish tinker by being a part-time sales person thereby helping offset the expense of holding the festival.

We'd like to have our "ducks in a row" by Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>, so please help us prove that there are caring Emeralds who are willing to contribute. Start looking today and call us soon. No item is too small but only originally packaged clothing, please. Trying on clothing is too difficult to deal with. Let's have a great festival!

We are currently looking for many more volunteers. 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.

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? Use the form attached to this newsletter. If you receive this by email you may complete the form on the web site, [www.emeraldsocietysfl.com](http://www.emeraldsocietysfl.com). For further information, contact Bill O'Brien at 305-854-1330.

## **Emerald Society Cultural Series**

The 2004 Cultural Series was inaugurated on January 11, 2004 at 4:00 p.m. in John Martin's Restaurant and Irish Pub on Miracle Mile. Joe and Barbara McManus have taken the reins from Ed Cooke and are off to a good start. They are asking for suggestions and volunteer presenters as they plan for the year ahead. Any ideas? Contact Joe at 305-375-4907.

The February presentation was a talk about going to Ireland in the off-season and seeing some beautiful and interesting places not frequently seen by visitors. "Ireland—off the Beaten Track," presented the adventures of your

editors on a recent winter visit to the Emerald Isle.

The March presentation will be a talk by Brian Gillis on the Boston Irish. Brian is a planner with Miami-Dade County but grew up in Boston and went to school there. This promises to be a witty, funny, and eye-opening review of the Irish and their rise to power in Beantown. Be there on Sunday, March 14 at 4:00 p.m.

In May look for a professional Irish storyteller straight from Dublin. The April presentation will be announced later.

The Series is establishing a small lending library in the upstairs room at John Martin's and is acquiring videos of Irish movies, both oldie goldies and more recent productions of merit that you may not have seen.

### **Do you have musical or theatrical talent?**

We have had requests for Irish tenors, pipers, and others to perform at various celebrations and occasions across South Florida. If you have such a talent or know of someone who does please inform John Doherty so that he can make a list on our web site and help meet some of these requests.

Email John at [dohertyjohn@bellsouth.net](mailto:dohertyjohn@bellsouth.net).

### **Poetry Corner**

Last month we printed Oliver Goldsmith's "The Village" and noted that the poet's statue graced the main entrance to Trinity College in Dublin. We posed this question: Whose statue graces the other side of the entrance? The winner was none other than our former President and founder of the Irish Cultural Series, Edward Cooke. The statue on the other side of the Trinity College entrance is Edmund Burke, an outstanding Irish politician who served in the Westminster parliament and who has left us a legacy of brilliant political and philosophical speeches and essays. Congratulations, Ed! Your prize will be presented at the March Cultural Society talk.

This month our Valentine's Day gift to you is this sweet old Irish love song by Samuel Ferguson. A lawyer and politician he was born in Belfast in 1810 and died in Dublin in 1886. He gained fame as a poet and expert on Ogham inscriptions. He was knighted in 1878 for his public services.

### **The Lark in the Clear Air**

Dear thoughts are in my mind  
And my soul soars enchanted,  
As I hear the sweet lark sing  
In the clear air of the day.  
For a tender beaming smile  
To my hope has been granted  
And tomorrow she shall hear  
All my fond heart would say.

I shall tell her all my love,  
All my soul's adoration;  
And I think she will hear me  
And will not say me nay.  
It is this that fills my soul  
With its joyous elation,  
As I hear the sweet lark sing  
In the clear air of the day.

Samuel Ferguson.

We are recruiting a wonderful Irish tenor to sing this for you at a future Cultural Series meeting.

### **Emerald Society Ties and Polo Shirts**

Remember to get your Emerald Society Tie! Cost \$10, a great price for a silk-blend tie. Pick a few up at the St. Patrick's Day festival.

Emerald Society polo shirts with the new Emerald culture logo (a benefit of your membership) are now available at new member Gordon Arora's shop, On the Shore, in the Cutler Ridge Mall. New members may go there for their shirts that will be charged to the Emerald Society.

## **Editors' Note**

**Speedy Recovery to Joe Healey, proprietor of the Hurricane Bar and Grill in Miami Springs. Joe is recovering from knee surgery. We wish him well and look forward to seeing him out and about soon.**

**The best of Irish luck, Jay Love! Emerald Society member Jay Love, proprietor of Hooligan's Pub and Oyster Bar and affiliated establishments is running for mayor of Miami-Dade County. We wish him well in what will be a hotly contested election.**

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

