

**February 2006**  
**Mi Feabhra**

**Member Tel: (305) 949-8400**  
**www.emeraldsocietySFL.com**

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**Cameron (305) 232-2015**

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**Patrick Novak**

**David Russell**

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**Editors**

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**St. Patrick's Day is only a few weeks away**

Here it comes again, another glorious celebration of Irish culture, food and friendship! Join us on March 11, 2006 at 12:00 noon at Fred B. Hartnett Park on Ponce Circle in the Gables, just five blocks south of Miracle Mile. The St. Patrick's Day Committee, Inc. has been meeting weekly, planning for another memorable festival with music, songs, step dancing, clowns, face painting, rock climbing, a giant slide, Irish soda bread, Irish whiskey cake, Irish coffee, a Miss Colleen pageant, and an excellent selection of Irish food, beer, and spirits. Best of all there's that wonderful feeling of pride in showing the community the Irish contribution to the cultural kaleidoscope that is South Florida. More details inside.

**Make your own St. Brigid's Cross and hear Dan Fitzgerald talk about and sign his new book**

The Celtic Cultural Series meets on Sunday, February 12 at 4:00 p.m. upstairs at John Martins Irish Pub and Restaurant, 253 Miracle Mile, in Coral Gables with a double feature. You may have seen pictures of those little crosses made of dried rushes in Irish homes. Well, here's your chance to learn about the formidable St. Brigid, second only to St. Patrick himself, and to make your very own St. Brigid's cross.

If you missed Dan Fitzgerald's book signing a few weeks ago, here's another chance to hear some of Dan's stories and pick up a personally autographed copy for yourself. You might want one for a friend, too. This is a book worth reading with some very funny anecdotes.

**The February Social returns to the Hurricane Bar and Grill in Miami Springs**

The February social will be on Wednesday, February 26, at member Joe Healey's Hurricane Bar and Grill, 365 North Royal Poinciana Blvd., Miami Springs. Tel: 305-884-5077. The establishment has a reputation for excellent steaks and the complimentary snacks are great. Come and meet old friends and help us welcome new members. We gather at 6:30. See you there for a relaxing evening.

## **Board Meeting**

The March Board meeting will be at the Miami Yacht Club on Watson Island on the McArthur Causeway on Thursday, March 2, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. Attendance of all Board members is expected and members are welcome to attend. We will be finalizing the preparations for the St. Patrick's Day festival. Come and find out how you can help us. Remember that all Emeralds have bar and restaurant privileges at the Club. Just identify yourself as an Emerald at the entrance gate and you can enter.

## **New Members**

Join us in extending a *cead mile failte*, a hundred, thousand welcomes, to our new member.

- John Lloyd Murphy sponsored by William J. Hartnett.

Please join us in extending a warm Irish welcome to this new Emerald at the March social.

## **Sympathy to Shirley Roth**

We extend sincere sympathy to Shirley Roth on the passing of her husband, Wally, a stalwart Emerald Society member. Our prayers are with you and yours, Shirley.

## **Poetry Corner**

Each month the Shamrock News presents a poem by an Irish poet. This month we bring you a little poem written by member, attorney Robert Meyer, who won the first prize at the Christmas Time in Ireland party in December. It was a four-night cruise for two in the Carnival Fantasy. Robert and his family were involved in a terrible automobile accident in Turkey this past summer. His wife, Desiree, suffered severe burns and is slowly recovering. It has been difficult for the whole family. Our best wishes to you, Bob, and your family! May 2006 bring you many blessings! Enjoy the cruise.

**SOMETHING TELLS ME NEXT YEAR WILL BE BETTER.**

TWAS THE FORTNIGHT BEFORE  
CHRISTMAS, WHEN ALL THROUGH THE  
HOUSE  
EVERYONE WAS SNORING, EVEN MY  
SPOUSE

CLOTHING WAS WASHED AND HUNG UP  
WITH CARE  
TOMORROW'S VACUUMING CHORE WOULD  
SOON BE THERE

THE ONE CHILD WAS NESTLED IN A MESSY  
MESSY BED  
WITH VISIONS OF GALACTIC WARS IN HIS  
HEAD

MAMMA IN HER OINTMENTS AND I IN MY  
CAP  
ALWAYS SEEM UNSETTLED BUT TRY FOR A  
LONG LONG NAP

THEN A MIRACLE OCCURRED, I HEARD A  
LOUD CLATTER  
THE EMERALD SOCIETY ANNOUNCED THE  
GRAND PRIZE MATTER

ROARS EMBELLISHED WITH DIGITAL  
CAMERA FLASH  
MY NAME WAS ANNOUNCED TO WHICH I  
THEN MADE A DASH

THE CAPTAIN'S CABIN I HAD WON,  
GARNISHED LIKE SOMETHING FOR SHOW  
NOT THE SMALL KIND, LIKES THOSE  
LESSER CABINS LOCATED BELOW

A TICKET FOR TWO WILL SOON COME TO  
APPEAR  
AT MY MAIL BOX SO I CAN PACK MY BAGS  
WITH MY DEAR

THIS UNFORESEEN VACATION OBVIOUSLY  
CAME FROM SAINT NICK  
NO ONE COULD HAVE ANTICIPATED SUCH  
A GOOD LUCK TRICK

THE PRIZE WAS DELIGHTFUL, A GIFT AS IT  
CAME  
CHANGE OF LUCK, THIS CANNOT BE  
CALLED ANY OTHER NAME

TO THE EMERALDS, MY HEART SHALL  
ALWAYS BE SMITTEN  
BUT, RARELY DO I LIKE THIS FACT TO BE  
ADMITTED

THIS AUTUMN, THIS HORRIBLE VEXATIOUS  
FALL  
STAND AWAY IS OUR NEW CRIED OUT  
CALL

INSTEAD, A NEW YEAR FOR US HAS  
STARTED SO RIGHT  
AND, HER WOUNDS WILL BE HEALING AND  
SO WILL HER MIGHT

AND NOW WE BREATH ON AND HOPE FOR  
MANY MORE YEARS  
AS WE FINISH THIS YEAR, CHAPPED BY  
OUR TEARS

AND TO ALL THOSE HELPERS WHO HELPED  
US ENDURE THESE PAST SEVERAL FRIGHTS  
WE SAY "HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL, AND  
TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT."

Robert C. Meyer

### **Volunteers for Ford Championship Golf at Doral**

Mary Ann Kerr is looking for volunteers for the Ford Championship Golf tournament at Doral. Call her at 305-251-6208.

### **Scottish Festival and Games**

The Scottish Festival and Games are at Ft. Lauderdale Stadium (one half mile west of I-95 on Commercial Blvd.) on Saturday April 22, 2006. Where else can you see big men tossing the caber? Call 954-577-9010 or 305-888-1152.

### **Celtic Woman at the Broward Center**

You may have seen the PBS special. Now is your chance to experience this phenomenal show filled with Celtic mythology and music. It's at the Broward Center on Tuesday, March 28. We may get a group together and get a discount. Call the editors for more information (305-251-6208).

### **Look for Emerald Ballot in the mail**

Ballots for new officers and Board members were mailed out yesterday. There is a February 25 deadline for the receipt of your vote. There is an open two-year slot on the board and, after the ballots were mailed, Phil Gallagher graciously consented to run for this position as a write-in candidate. Please review the ballot carefully, cast your vote, and help ensure the continued leadership and administrative excellence of the Board and officers.

## **The St. Patrick's Day Committee, Inc.**

The St. Patrick's Day Committee is a not-for-profit 501 (c) 3 organization affiliated with the South Florida Emerald Society, which, in turn, is a 501 (c) 7 organization in the IRS code. We are devoting a separate section of the newsletter to the activities conducted under the umbrella of this Committee. We have received a grant from the Miami-Dade Cultural Affairs Committee to help us conduct the St. Patrick's Day Festival on March 11, 2006.

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

Michael O'Connor, former President of the South Florida Emerald Society, Inc., has volunteered to chair the event again this year. Weekly planning meetings are being held at the offices of C. L. Conroy, 2121 Ponce de Leon Blvd at 6 p.m. every Monday. All members are invited and encouraged to attend. Volunteers are needed in all areas, e.g. Information Booth, Tinker's Booth, Soda Bread Booth, festival setup, children's activities, etc. This is an important part of running a successful festival.

**Each Emerald should solicit an ad for the festival booklet now.** How about placing an ad of your own? For more information call 305-445-7550.

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

### **The Celtic Cultural Series Sixth Season**

The Cultural Series is in its sixth season of presenting Celtic Cultural Programs in Miami-Dade County. Founded by Edward Cooke, a past-president of the South Florida Emerald Society, Inc., it is now directed by member Joseph McManus with the assistance of his wife Barbara.

We call your attention to the little lending library that the Series maintains upstairs at John Martins. There are books and other materials there that members can borrow while attending one of our Sunday sessions. Check it out. It operates on the honor system.