

June 2007

Mi an Mheitheamh

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Mary Ann &

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305-251-6208

Member Tel: (305) 949-8400

www.emeraldsocietySFL.com

ReJoyce Miami, 2007

Bloomsday comes again

It's here already! Bloomsday 2007! June 16 is a Saturday this year; thank heavens. You can stay out later that evening and not worry about getting up for work on Sunday morning unless you're a member of the clergy. Join us then for our fifth annual celebration of James Joyce's famous novel, Ulysses. It is part of a worldwide celebration of that day, June 16, 1904, immortalized in the novel. The celebration begins at Books & Books at 5:00 p.m. Note the early start—5:00 p.m. First a song or two to set the mood and then once again hear the dramatic readings courtesy of actors from Actors Playhouse. Then join us as we embark on our own little odyssey with flags and pipes and drums around the block to the Bloomsday feast in John Martins at 7:00 p.m. with still more songs and fun, a literary feast for all of your senses. Come on out and join us in a wacky and wonderful celebration. Like to help? Call Oliver Kerr at 786-287-6146.

We have happy memories of our Bloomsday celebrations over the past four years and we would love to have the same crowd of literary mavens out there again. We can't promise that you'll be featured on the front page of your newspaper as has happened, but we can guarantee you a memorable evening of literary and musical fun. By the way, dig out your vintage duds for the occasion.

For the last few years the Coral Gables Library has hosted a Bloomsday tea with proper teacups and snacks, including Mary Ann's famous Irish soda bread. This year, for the first time, it is actually on Bloomsday starting at 2:30 p.m. with Irish music and, of course, some readings from Joyce. And it's only a short drive from there to Books and Books for the start of the evening's celebration at 5:00. You may even have time to pop in to John Martins on your way if you park in the garage behind the pub.

Make a day of it! Dress up, get out your old blackthorn walking stick and let's have some fun at our last cultural event of the 2006-2007 season.

June Social returns to Miami Shores

The June Social is at the **Miami Shores Country Club, 1000 Biscayne Blvd., 305-241-6246, at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday June 19, 2007.** The last time we were there we had a lot of fun. It was hard to keep some dancers off the floor. So all you residents of Coral Gables, South Miami and the SW area, head north across the river to Miami Shores. Join your northern brothers and sisters for a wonderful evening in a great setting.

June Board Meeting

The June Board meeting will be at the Miami Yacht Club on Watson Island on the McArthur Causeway on **Thursday, June 7, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.** It's right next to Parrot Jungle Island. Attendance of all Board members is expected and members are welcome to attend. Just identify yourself as an Emerald at the entrance gate and you can enter.

Emerald Society Committees

Don't be shy. Get involved in your society. Contact one or more of these committees and make some new friends.

1. **Membership**—Tom Lynch and Ann McShane
2. **Installation of Officers**—Janice McKay
3. **St. Patrick's Festival**—Jon Lindeman
4. **Christmas in Ireland**—Pat Novak
5. **Celtic Cultural Series**—John and Dorothy Kane
6. **Newsletter**—Oliver and Mary Ann Kerr
7. **Nominating**—Joe McManus
8. **July 4th. Celebration**—Carroll Cameron
9. **Bloomsday**—Oliver Kerr
10. **Socials**—Bill O'Brien
11. **Public Relations**—John Kane and C.L. Conroy.

Poetry Corner

Each month the Shamrock News presents a poem by an Irish poet. This month we bring you a wonderful romantic old song by Padraic Colum. I remember my father singing this often in the evening back home in Armagh. And, it's not really as old as I thought.

Padraic Colum was born Patrick McCormac Colm in County Longford in 1881, the son of a workhouse master. As a novelist, playwright, and poet he was a considerable figure in the Irish Literary Renaissance. As kids in Armagh in the 1950s we learned his poem, The Old Woman of the Roads. He married Mary Molly Maguire in 1912 and emigrated to New York two years later. He and his wife taught comparative literature at Columbia University from 1939 to 1956 and in 1958 Columbia honored him with a doctorate. He died in Enfield, Connecticut in 1972 and was buried in Sutton, County Dublin.

She Moved Through the Fair

My young love said to me," My brothers won't mind,
And my parents won't slight you for your lack of kind."
And she stepped away from me and this she did say,
"It will not be long, love, till our wedding day."

She stepped away from me and she moved through
the fair,
And fondly I watched her go here and go there;
Then she went her way homeward with one star
awake,
As the swan in the evening moves over the lake.

The people were saying no two were e'er wed,
But one had a sorrow that never was said,
And I smiled as she passed with her goods and her
gear,
And that was the last that I saw of my dear.

I dreamt it last night that my young love came in,
So softly she entered that her feet made no din;
She came close beside me and this she did say,
"It will not be long, love, till our wedding day."

Padraic Colum

July 4th. Celebration on Key Biscayne

The Emeralds have traditionally marched in Key Biscayne's small-town celebration of July 4th. Join us in the parking lot of St. Agnes Church, on the

right at the first light in the Village. Drinks and light refreshments will be served. Try to get through the Rickenbacker toll booth prior to 9:30 a.m., as it tends to back up there later.

New Members

Join us in welcoming the following new members.

Harold MacKenzie, Jr. of SW Miami-Dade

Sponsored by John P. Doherty.

David L. Kinney of the Dadeland area

Sponsored by Hadley C. Williams.

Health and Welfare

Remember Louise Owens in your prayers and good thoughts and she undergoes some medical treatments. Louise, you are in our prayers and thoughts.

Are you getting a paper copy of the newsletter?

This newsletter has a color picture on the back page, which is only black and white on the printed copies. Those receiving it via email can view it in color. If you are not getting an email version and would like one, just email us at kerr39@bellsouth.net. If you decide not to receive a paper copy let us know. It will save us the cost of printing and mailing.

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.

St. Patrick's Day Festival

It was certainly one of the best Festivals that we have held in Coral Gables, blessed once again with perfect weather and a large and appreciative attendance. Thanks again to all who helped make it such a great success.

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, it has been directed most recently by members Barbara and Joseph McManus. Joe is our immediate past president. John and Dorothy Kane have stepped up to run the series next season starting in September. They would appreciate your help and any suggestions for next season's program.

A good crowd attended the May meeting to hear Dubliner, Professor David Kilroy of Nova Southeastern University, discuss the peace process in Northern Ireland. In attendance were Jon Lindeman, Ann McShane, Marge Hartnett, Gerry McGinley, Barry McHugh along with his brother Mark, Claire MaDan, Helen Lennon, Billy and Carroll Cameron, Oliver and Mary Ann Kerr, Pat Franco, Liz Kelly, Pat Kelly, Dave and Judy Russell, and Frances Baboun.

It was an excellent presentation and much appreciated by those in attendance.



The Bloomsday Odyssey in 2006 moving south on Ponce de Leon Boulevard from Books and Books and heading steadfastly for John Martins. Do you recognize any of these pilgrims?

**The South Florida Emerald Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 836225
Miami, FL 33283-6225**