

**September 2007**

Mi Mean Fomhair

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**It's the new season. Welcome back!**

**Well, the summer's almost gone. You don't believe me? I don't blame you. I can't remember a hotter or more humid summer. It's almost enough to make me move back to Ireland. But, despite the temperature and the humidity, we have passed the autumnal equinox when the sun moves south of the equator to shed more light and heat on our brothers and sisters to the south. And we hope and pray that hurricanes will still stay far away and leave us in peace. Roll on "seasons of mist and mellow fruitfulness." We could use a cold front or two.**

**The board meeting was held this past week and the Celtic Cultural Series kicks off the season with our good friend Paddy Kelleghan upstairs at John Martins on Sunday, October 7, delivering a musical talk entitled "Dublin in the Rare Ould Times." See more on this inside.**

**The St. Patrick's Day Committee is already meeting and planning for the St. Patrick's Day festival next March 15. St. Patrick's Day is on a Monday next year. Our festival will be the best ever, as we have never started planning this early. Why it was just last week that we celebrated half way to St. Patrick's Day with some appropriate libations down at John Martins.**

**The kids are back in school. Rush hour is as bad as ever. The football season has already started. Some local teams, for once, are showing lots of promise. Halloween decorations are in all the stores already. Now, now is the time for all good Emeralds to shake off that long summer lethargy and come on out to meet and greet old and new friends in the many events we have planned for you. We want to see you there. And we'll be disappointed if you don't show. We may even stop by to see if you are all right. Well, maybe we'll settle for just a phone call.**

## **September Social at the Colonnade in the Gables**

Bill O'Brien has the first social of the season, the September social, scheduled for the Colonnade Hotel, 180 Aragon Ave in Coral Gables on Wednesday, September 26 at 6:30 p.m. Bill, now assisted by board member, Nabil Salem, promises a fun evening in an elegant setting. Thank you, gentlemen. We'll see you there ladies and gentlemen.

## **Poetry Corner**

Each month the Shamrock News presents a poem by an Irish poet. This month we bring you another poem by your editor's favorite poet, Seamus Heaney. He is Ireland's best-known living poet and won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1995. He taught regularly at Harvard University. This poem may bring back some sad but sweet memories to our older members. And in the end it's a wonderful tribute to women who manage families.

## **Old Smoothing Iron**

Often I watched her lift it  
From where its compact wedge  
Rode the back of the stove  
Like a tug at anchor.

To test its heat she'd stare  
And spit in its iron face  
Or hold it up next her cheek  
To divine the stored danger.

Soft thumps on the ironing board,  
Her dimpled angled elbow  
And intent stoop  
As she aimed the smoothing iron

Like a plane into linen,  
Like the resentment of women,  
To work, her dumb lunge says,  
Is to move a certain mass

Through a certain distance,  
Is to pull your weight and feel  
Exact and equal to it,  
Feel dragged upon. And buoyant.

Seamus Heaney

## **September Board Meeting**

The September Board meeting was at the Miami Yacht Club on Watson Island on the McArthur Causeway on **Thursday, September 13, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.**

Minutes were not available at press time.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, October 4, at 6:30 p.m. at the same venue. Members are welcome to attend. There is a small restaurant and a bar and it is a pleasant place to spend an evening by the water's edge after the meeting.

## **Condolences to the Camerons**

We offer our sincere sympathy to Billy and Carroll Cameron, pillars of our group, who lost a family member a few weeks ago. Wayne Kinnard was a first cousin of Billy, but they were raised as brothers. May he rest in peace.

## **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](mailto: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.

## **Get Well Soon**

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery go to Past President Joe McManus who recently broke his leg. It was a serious compound fracture from a bicycle fall and Joe will continue to rehab for some time. Of course, a broken leg does not stop Joe from being active in the Emeralds and the St. Patrick's Day Committee.

Joe, thank you for your support and get well soon! St. Patrick's Day is only six months away.

## 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 by this Committee.

### St. Patrick's Day Festival

We are already planning for the next Festival on Saturday, March 15, 2008. A grant application has already been submitted to the City of Coral Gables and one is being prepared for the Miami Dade County Cultural Affairs office. The next meeting will on Thursday, October 18 at 6:30 p.m. To volunteer to serve on one of the many committees, please call or email Carroll Cameron at 305-232-2015, [cameronc@bellsouth.net](mailto:cameronc@bellsouth.net).

### The Celtic Cultural Series Seventh Season

The Cultural Series wrapped up its sixth season of presenting Celtic Cultural Programs in Miami-Dade County with the Bloomsday celebration on June 16. See photo by Noel McManus of Leopold Bloom just over from Dublin for the occasion with some Irish lassies in the background. We have spent the past two months drying out from one of Miami's rainiest evenings.

The series enters its seventh season directed by members John and Dorothy Kane, assisted by the McManuses and the Kerrs. The series opens on Sunday, October 7, 2007 with Paddy Kelleghan, Irish singer and guitar player, providing songs old and new and insights into traditional and contemporary Irish music. The musical talk is entitled **"Dublin in the Rare Ould Times."** Join us then, upstairs at John Martins at 4:00 p.m. Maybe you will join us for dinner after.

### Shop for A Cause

Macy's celebrates a national day of support for local non-profit organizations. The St. Patrick's Day Committee, Inc. is one of these. We are selling discount tickets for a \$5.00 donation to the Committee. These can be used for 10 or 20 percent off merchandise at all Macy's stores (except Downtown Miami) on Friday, October 12, 2007. There is also a chance to win a \$500 gift card. We will have these available at the Emerald Social next week, the Emerald Board meeting and at the Celtic Cultural Series. Please support your Society. And it's a good excuse to have to visit Macy's before the Christmas crowds.



**The South Florida Emerald Society, Inc.**  
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