

# **the emerald Society** **shamrock news**

April 2009  
Aibrean

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

## Emerald Society Officers

### **President**

**Oliver Kerr**  
305-251-6208

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**Janice McKay**

### **2nd Vice-President**

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### **Treasurer John Doherty**

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**Daniel L. Fitzgerald**

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### **Immediate Past Pres.**

**David (Skip) Russell**



Photo by Candace West/ Staff, Miami Herald, March 15, 2009

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**Erin Ashley**

**Jeffrey S. Bailey**

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**Oliver Kerr**

**Jon Lindeman**

**Janice McKay**

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**Patrick Novak**

**William O'Brien**

**David (Skip) Russell**

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## Editors

**Barbara &**

**Joe McManus**

**561-338-8848**

## FLYING FEET OF BREFFNI DANCERS AT ST. PATRICK'S DAY FESTIVAL.

Would you believe that there were 3,500 of us? Well, we have the **green** wrist bands to prove it. It was a wonderful to see all that **green**. St. Patrick blessed us with another day of marvelous weather. Emceed by our Master of Ceremonies Dan Fitzgerald, the Miss Colleens, Peter Fuchs, Topsy Laird, Paddy Kellaghan, and the Breffni Dancers and St. Andrew's Pipe Band kept everyone entertained and enjoying the **craic**.

At the Leprechaun Corner, there were at least 500 kids; one craft area had 231, and the face painter had 300 faces painted. The kids loved decorating the rock to lure the leprechaun out.

Dolores Fitzgerald made a whiskey cake which was presented to Mayor Don Slesnick by Mary Ann Kerr.

### Upcoming.....

**April 2 SFES Board Meeting, Miami Yacht Club.**

**April 5 *The Book of Kells*, Fr. Sean O'Sullivan, John Martin's.**

**April 15 Social at Miami Shores Country Club, Miami Shores.**

**May 3 Nigel MacDonald, St. Andrews Bagpipers, John Martin's**

**May 7 SFES Board Meeting, Miami Yacht Club.**

**May 20 Installation Dinner, Parrot Jungle Island**

**Make the Scene at the Miami Shores Country Club on April 15**

**Irate because you had to write a check to the U.S. Treasury? Come along to the Miami Shores Country Club at 6:30pm, Wednesday, April 15 and commiserate with Emeralds over generous hors d'oeuvres and liberal beverage prices. This Country Club is a familiar stopping place and we are always welcome there. The Country Club is located at 10000 Biscayne Boulevard. Phone 305 795 2366**

**Directions:**

**Take 1-95 to the 95th Street Exit. Go East on 95th Street to 2nd Avenue. (95th Street dead ends at 2nd Avenue)**

**Turn Left on 2nd Avenue. Once you have turned left get in the right hand lane.**

**Turn right on 96th Street.**

**Take 96th Street to Biscayne Boulevard.**

**Turn left onto Biscayne Boulevard, Miami Shores Country Club is 2 blocks up Biscayne Boulevard on the left.**

**Celtic Cultural Series: *The Book of Kells***

**On Sunday April 5, Father Sean O'Sullivan, Irish native of West Cork will present the history of the Book of Kells, which has been kept at Trinity College, Dublin for hundreds of years. The Book of Kells, dating from around 800 AD, represents how, with great love and care, Irish monks and scribes preserved this written treasury of the West, saving it from being lost to the chaos of the European Continent.**

**The Book of Kells is an illuminated manuscript in Latin, containing the four Gospels of the New Testament together with various prefatory texts and tables. It is a masterwork of Western calligraphy and represents the pinnacle of Western illumination. It is widely regarded as Ireland's finest national treasure. (from Wikipedia)**

**Fr. Sean will make his presentation at 4:00pm Sunday April 5 in the Tipperary Room of John Martin's, 253 Miracle Mile, Coral Gables. Ample parking is available on Miracle Mile or in the adjacent City Parking Garage, entering from Aragon Avenue.**

***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.

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Message from President Janice McKay:

Special thanks to Charlie Davis, Chuck Daley, Sean Ferrell, Jeff Bailey, Bill O'Brien, Richard Welch, John Kane, C. L. Conroy, Carroll Cameron, Oliver and Mary Ann Kerr, Dan and Dolores Fitzgerald, Marge Hartnett, Mary Gerhardt, Henry and Carmen Kissane, Judi Sherry, Phil Morrissey, and John Doherty, Sean Glynn, Bill Gregory, and the clean up crew. Thanks to all volunteers--Columbus Key Club, Gulliver and Westminster. Thanks to Phil Morrissey, and Jack and Dorothy Thomson ( and the Elks) for use of their offices for St. P. weekly meetings.

Welcome to our new food vendors: LJ's Backstage Cafe, Power Pizza, Anacapri, Mr. G's Roaster Corn and thanks to our returning vendors who support this event each year. New vendors were: Quillows, Genealogy Society of Greater Miami, Sandra DuBousquest, Couturecharmz, Rosie & Ed Hart et al, and Sandra Jane Designs.

A new feature of the Festival was the Leprechaun Corner with its many Irish crafts with a special feature of the face painter, Barbie, who painted shamrocks and elves on our wee ones faces.

We are starting on a new festival and we already could use your help. We need a secretary, and we need someone to run the Leprechaun Corner next year with many volunteers who may give an hour or two. The Tinkers and the Soda Bread Booth could always use someone. Please do not forget to be on the "Clean Up" committee. We felt very lonely out there after 8:00pm when everyone left.

We had 11 Premier Sponsors and 71 Advertisers. Please look through your festival book to see who supported the Festival this year, and if you can support them in the community.

Mark **Saturday March 13, 2010** on your calendar.

## Celtic Cultural Series: The Bagpipes

At 4pm, Sunday May 3, Pipe Major Nigel MacDonald will explain the history of the bagpipes which are a feature of all the Celtic countries of Europe: Northern Spain, Scotland and Ireland. The St. Andrews Pipe Band is always a feature of our St. Patrick's Day Festival, and we march with them at the Key Biscayne 4th of July Parade. Major Nigel last appeared in the Cultural Series with **Ed Cooke** discussing James Webb's book *Born Fighting*. (See directions to John Martin's on page 2)

## New Board Met April 2

As a result of the recent elections, a new Board met at the Miami Yacht Club and was welcomed by **Uachtaran Oliver Kerr**; the new Board is shown in the left hand column of the front page. New Board members **Erin Ashley**, **Jeffrey Bailey** and **Charles (Chuck) Daley** were greeted; the congenial service of **Tom Lynch** and **Jan Paris** was acknowledged as their terms had expired. **David (Skip) Russell** was acclaimed as Immediate Past President.

President **Oliver Kerr** announced the following Committees and their Chairs for the coming year:

1. <b>Membership</b> —Carroll and Billy Cameron	7. <b>Nominating</b> — Skip Russell
2. <b>Installation of Officers</b> —Janice McKay	8. <b>Audit</b> --Christopher Kelley
3. <b>St. Patrick's Day Festival</b> —Janice McKay	9. <b>July 4th Parade</b> --Carroll and Billy Cameron
4. <b>Christmas in Ireland</b> —Erin Ashley, Pat Novak, and Mary Gerhardt	10. <b>Bloomsday</b> --Oliver Kerr.
5. <b>Celtic Cultural Series</b> —John and Dorothy Kane	11. <b>Social</b> --William O'Brien and Hugh A. Ryan.
6. <b>Newsletter</b> —Joe and Barbara McManus	12. <b>By-Laws</b> --Jon Lindeman.
	13. <b>Publicity</b> --C.L. Conroy and John Kane.
	14. <b>Big Mouth and WEBSITE</b> -- John Doherty.

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



## Poetry Corner

James Clarence Mangan, 1803-1849, a Dublin native, was a poet, translator, and essayist who supported Irish nationalism during the time of the Irish famine with his passionate verse. At one time, he was an assistant in the Library of Trinity College, Dublin. His poems were published in *The Nation*, a Nationalist newspaper first published in October 1842. Yeats considered Mangan one of the best Irish poets, claiming, "To the soul of Clarence Mangan was tied the burning ribbon of Genius." Although he had a short, unhappy, lonely life, he is considered one of Ireland's greatest poets; Mangan wrote over 1000 poems.

### **And Then No More**

I saw her once, one little while, and then no more:  
'Twas Eden's light on Earth a while, and then no more.  
Amid the throng she passed along the meadow-floor:  
Spring seemed to smile on Earth awhile, and then no more;  
But whence she came, which way she went, what garb she wore  
I noted not; I gazed a while, and then no more!

I saw her once, one little while, and then no more:  
'Twas Paradise on Earth a while, and then no more.  
Ah! what avail my vigils pale, my magic lore?  
She shone before mine eyes awhile, and then no more.  
The shallop of my peace is wrecked on Beauty's shore.  
Near Hope's fair isle it rode awhile, and then no more!

I saw her once, one little while, and then no more:  
Earth looked like Heaven a little while, and then no more.  
Her presence thrilled and lighted to its inner core  
My desert breast a little while, and then no more.  
So may, perchance, a meteor glance at midnight o'er  
Some ruined pile a little while, and then no more!

I saw her once, one little while, and then no more:  
The earth was Peri-land awhile, and then no more.  
Oh, might I see but once again, as once before,  
Through chance or wile, that shape awhile, and then no more!  
Death soon would heal my griefs! This heart, now sad and sore,  
Would beat anew a little while, and then no more.

Online text © 1998-2009 Poetry X. All rights reserved.  
From *Anthology of Irish Verse* | Boni and Liveright, 1922

### New Mystery Applicant at Festival

A number of persons of Irish origin applied for membership at the Festival. And wouldn't you know it! We received \$50 from an applicant and, being Irish, we mislaid the paperwork. Will this mystery applicant phone **Carroll Cameron** at 305 232 2015 and identify himself or herself?

New members approved at the April Board meeting were **Lionel Baugh** sponsored by **John Doherty**; **Joseph Hackney** sponsored by **John Doherty**, **Ann Marie Buelterman Johnson** sponsored by **Billy Cameron**, **Jeff Killian** sponsored by **Sean Glynn**, **George L. Powers** sponsored by **Pamela Edwards**, and **Ann Rebillard** sponsored by Judith Sherry,

### Emerald Dues are Overdue

Dues are due on Jan 31 each year. Emails and phone calls have been made to those who are as yet unpaid. Please make your checks payable to the South Florida Emerald Society, Inc. and mail to the address below. Thank you for your support.

A Kerryman emigrated from Ireland to England, thereby increasing the average IQ of both countries.

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One day a piper left his bagpipes in clear view on the backseat of his car. When he returned he was shocked to find the rear window broken and another set of pipes beside his.

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