



June 2009

Mi an Meitheamh

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ReJoyce Miami 2009--Don't Miss Bloomsday, an Emerald Tradition

It's here already! Bloomsday 2009! Join us for our seventh annual celebration. Bloomsday is a worldwide celebration of that day--June 16, 1904--immortalized in James Joyce's *Ulysses*, perhaps the greatest novel of the Twentieth Century. The fun begins at Books & Books, 265 Aragon, at 6:00 pm. Tuesday June 16 with the Bloomsday proclamation by the City of Coral Gables; then we will hear professional actors from Actors Playhouse read selections from *Ulysses*. We will then parade with flags, following our piper and drummer around the block, to John Martins Restaurant, 253 Miracle Mile, for a Bloomsday feast with a special menu, prices, music and readings. Come in costume, something reminiscent of the 1900 to 1920 era. Bowler hats, waistcoats, stiff collared shirts, dressy hats, flapper dresses and frocks are all welcome. Like to help? Call Oliver Kerr at 786-287-6146.

Here is a run-down on what the book, *Ulysses*, is all about, but you don't have to know this to enjoy Bloomsday. For background, in 1904 on the evening of June 16th a young Galway woman and a young Dublin man, Nora Barnacle and James Joyce, walked out together for the first time; and as a tribute to his life-long companion, Joyce set his masterpiece *Ulysses* on that day. *Ulysses* is the story of three Dubliners of lower middle class, Leopold Bloom, Stephen Dedalus, and Molly Bloom, and what they did and what they thought about on that one day, from 6:00 that morning until the following morning. Their observations and thoughts were introduced by Joyce's new literary technique, stream-of-

consciousness, which painted a very realistic picture of life in the city of Dublin. There's a parallel between the wanderings of the Greek hero, Ulysses, and Bloom's

daylong walk around Dublin. And at the end of this special literary feast, you'll hear the ending of *Ulysses*--the famed affirmation of Molly Bloom's soliloquy--"Yes I said yes I will Yes."

ReJoyce Miami 2009 (Cont'd)

At 3:00 pm Saturday July 13, an Irish Tea will be held at the Coral Gables Branch Library, 3442 Segovia St., Coral Gables, accompanied by authentic live Irish music played by the world-famous fiddler, James Kelly.

Dress up in some vintage digs of the early 20th century and bring along your blackthorn walking stick.

Social at La Palma on June 24

you must be through the Rickenbacker Causeway toll plaza by 9:00 am. because of the heavy Fourth traffic. Get out your green shirt and white shorts and join the Emeralds in this tradition--which is our 24th year of participation. Carroll and Billy Cameron will host our Continental breakfast starting at 9:00



La Palma Ristorante and Bar, 116 Alhambra Circle Coral Gables (305-445-8777) is located in the historic La Palma Building, originally opened as a hotel in 1924. It reminds us of what

am at St. Agnes Church, 100 Harbor Drive. Please, your donation of food, candy or beverages is welcome, contact Carroll at cameronc@bellsouth.net. After the parade, we are all invited by 50-year member Tom Flynn to the KB Yacht Club, cash bar only.

Upcoming.....

- June 13** *Bloomsday Irish Tea, Coral Gables Branch Library*
- June 16** *Bloomsday Books & Books and John Martin's*
- June 24** *Social at La Palma, 116 Alhambra Circle, Coral Gables*
- July 2** *SFES Board of Directors Meeting, Miami Yacht Club.*
- July 4** *4th of July Parade, St Agnes Church, Key Biscayne*
- August** -----No meetings, no socials-----

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.

Message from President Janice McKay:

We are starting on a new festival and we already could use your help. We need 24 volunteers, plus the students in key clubs. We need a secretary, and we need someone to run the Leprechaun Corner next year with a minimum of 4 volunteers; perhaps you might give an hour or two. The Tinkers Faire and the Soda Bread Booth could always use someone. Please do not forget to be on the "Clean Up" committee.

To fill out our roster of volunteers, we need new Emerald members!

Our St Patrick's Festival was financially successful even though we only reached 80% of our ad revenue goal. Our income was \$29,721 and expenses were \$24,318 resulting in a surplus of \$5403 for the period 10/1/08 to 5/08/09 which covers the major Festival activities and the Celtic Cultural Series.

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

the Gables must have been. Meet your Emerald friends at 6:00 pm for hors d'oeuvres and your favorite libation.

Remember when we went to Novecento on Alhambra Plaza in January? La Palma is just a is located at Aragon and Galiano.

Fourth of July Parade on Key Biscayne

All Emeralds, family members, and friends are invited to join in the 50th Annual Key Biscayne

An Gorta Mor- The Great Hunger



The Great Irish Famine Memorial in Dublin

The Irish Government has officially designated a day to commemorate the victims of the Great Famine of 1845-47--as many as a million. Irish around the world observed the first ever Famine Memorial Day on Sunday May 17 in commemoration of The Great Irish Famine. In the future, the Irish government plans to rotate the location of the annual event between the four provinces of Ireland. It is expected that next year, the official ceremony will be held in County Mayo, another area greatly affected by the Great Hunger. The likely site for the next international Famine Memorial Day is the U.S. where 40 million people of Irish heritage reside.

Locally, a full house observed "A Waking" for the famine victims on Sunday, May 17 at The Field, "Soup Kitchen", Griffin Road, Hollywood, accompanied by soup, entertainment, and storytelling. Before the "Waking", a Gaelic Mass was celebrated at Little Flower Church, Hollywood. These events were sponsored by Irish American organizations in South Florida. Our *Uachtaran* (President), **Oliver** (and

wee bit north. Valet parking is available, but there should be ample parking on the street at that hour. To the south, a City parking garage

Independence Day Parade. This delightful small-town American parade starts at 11:00 am. but

Mary Ann) Kerr, Ann McShane and Chuck Harty represented the South Florida Emerald Society.

Join a Committee

The Emerald Society works through the Board of Directors but relies on various Committees to be efficient and effective. Think about joining one of the Committees. You can meet new friends!



Poetry Corner

Walt Whitman (1819-1892) whose poetry speaks of a bygone America of the 19th century, was moved by the Great Famine in Ireland during 1845-47. His poem written in 1861 paints an allegory-- the old woman in the poem is Ireland starving during the famine; the son she mourns is the young emigrant bound for America and a new beginning.

Old Ireland

Far hence, amid an isle of wondrous beauty,
Crouching over a grave, an ancient, sorrowful
mother,
Once a queen, now lean and tatter'd seated
on the ground,
Her old white hair drooping dishevel'd, round her
shoulders,
At her feet fallen an unused royal harp,
Long silent--she too long silent--mourning her
shrouded hope and heir,
Of all the earth her heart most full of sorrow

because most full of love.

Yet a word, ancient mother,
You need crouch there no longer on the cold
ground, with forehead between your knees,
O you need not sit there, veil'd in your old white
hair, so dishevel'd,
For know you, the one you mourn is not in that
grave,
It was an illusion--the heir, the son you love, was
not really dead;
The Lord is not dead, he is risen again, young and
strong, in another country,
Even while you wept there by your fallen harp,
by the grave,
What you wept for, was translated, pass'd from the
grave,
The winds favor'd, and the sea sail'd it,
And now with rosy and new blood,
Moves to-day in a new country.

Walt Whitman

Installation Dinner

Sixty Emeralds and guests attended the Installation Dinner at Parrot Jungle Island on May 20. **Janice McKay** chaired the event and also was the Emcee. **Chris Kelley** was called upon at the last minute and installed the in-coming officers and directors (see first page, left column). Great Show, Janice and Chris! The new Emeralds are:

2008

Mary Ellen George	James O'Neill
John Kenney	Christopher P. Quinn
Desmond Lyons	Kenneth R. Pines
Philip F. Morrissey	James G. Worth

2009

Lionel Baugh	Susan J. Latham
Joseph Hackney Jr.	George L. Powers
Ann Marie Johnson	Pauline E. "Polly" Ramos
Jeff Killian	Bob Rance
Doris Kohler	Ann D. Rebillard

Those Emeralds shown in **bold** received their pins at the Dinner; other incoming Emeralds are invited to receive their pins at the next social at La Palma. Contact Carroll Cameron at cameronc@bellsouth.net for arrangements.

"Grunt" Service Awards were bestowed on: **Erin Ashley, Chuck Daley, Sean Glynn, Dolores Fitzgerald** and **Dorothy Kane**; a saffron kilt was awarded to **John Kane**.

In his acceptance remarks, *Uachtaran* **Oliver Kerr** saluted the Good Friday Accords as finally bringing peace to the Emerald Isle; he viewed his major accomplishment in his first term as bringing the Celtic Cultural Series to a new level under the leadership of **John and Dorothy Kane**

June Board Meeting

At the June Board Meeting, President **Oliver Kerr** nominated **Mary Ann Kerr** to the Board of Directors filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Bella Kelly. The Board ratified the nomination. Congratulations, Mary Ann!

The Board also voted to suspend 20 members for non-payment of 2009 dues. Directors **Mary Gerhardt** and **Jeffrey Bailey** had volunteered to personally call those members (28) who were delinquent, after they had been previously contacted by mail and phone

Three new Emeralds were approved by the Board:

- **Philip T. Humphries**, Del Monte HR Department, sponsored by Jeff Bailey, whose Irish roots extend back to the Leary family.
- **Shayne O'Connor**, relater/court reporter, sponsored by Dick O'Connell, with Irish ancestry from Listowell, County Kerry.
- **John J. Mangan**, letter carrier, sponsored by his sister Mary Gerhardt, with Irish ancestry by way of Counties Clare and Galway

"Crawling to St. Patrick's Day" Would you be interested in observing half-way to St. Patrick's Day with a pub crawl via trolley on the Beach in September? Contact a Board member and express your interest; we are trying to see if this would interest younger members. And aren't we all young at heart?

Irish-Americans to Dominate Late-Night TV.

Will the luck of the Irish strike again in the battle to snare late-night TV viewers? NBC sure hopes so. Irish-American comedian Conan O'Brien took over Jay Leno's post as the new host of NBC's "Tonight Show" this past Monday, June 1.

The former host of the immensely popular "Late Night with Conan O'Brien" is only the fifth person to take on the coveted spot, joining the ranks of comedy greats Johnny Carson and Leno.

To replace Conan O'Brien, NBC named another Irish-American comic, Jimmy Fallon. Fallon will take over Conan's Late Night 12:30 a.m. gig, which he (O'Brien) in turn, inherited from another late-night legend, David Letterman in 1993. Irish Central

July Emerald Board Meeting

The next Board meeting will be at the Miami Yacht Club on Watson Island on the MacArthur Causeway
The South Florida Emerald Society, Inc.
PO Box 836225
Miami, FL. 33283-6225.

on **Thursday, July 2, at 7:00 pm.** Attendance of all Board members is expected and all members are welcome to attend. It's right behind the Parrot Jungle Island off MacArthur Causeway. Just identify yourself as an Emerald at the entrance gate and--open sesame--you can enter! Our *Uachtaran* has admonished all Board members to respect the dignity of, and to share fellowship and courtesy with, all Board members

"A trout in the pot is better than a salmon in the sea"

Emeralds Add Social Media Networks

If have an account on these social networks, **MySpace, Facebook, Linked In, Twitter, Emeraldsociety's** blog is **Word Press Blog**, then visit the sites and add yourself as our friend. You can connect to our pages via the Home page of the South Florida Emerald Society website. (<http://www.emeraldsocietysfl.com>)

For further information, e-mail **Erin Ashley** at elaserbeam@aol.com.

Health and Welfare

Judge **Carroll Kelly's** mother, **Patricia Kelly**, who is also an Emerald, has been ill. Great to see **Judi Sherry** and **Skip Russell** at the last Board meeting