



September 2009
Mi Mean Fomhair

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We're Halfway There! Let's Raise a Glass on Sept. 18th!

Starting a new tradition is always difficult, so we are looking to the young, the adventurous, the daring—not to mention the true Irish. For our September Social on Friday, Sept. 18, Mary Gerhardt will lead **Our 1st Half Way to St. Patrick's Day Pub Crawl**. Our fun begins at 6pm at the Miami Yacht Club, located on Watson Island directly behind Jungle Island. Parking is free, but pause at the gate and call leprechaun Christina for entry (identify yourself as an Emerald). There will be food and drinks (cash bar) from 6pm -7pm at the Miami Yacht Club. For those not wishing to go on the Pub Crawl, you are welcome to relax and continue to enjoy your evening at the Yacht Club. The adventurous Pub Crawlers will be crawling over to South Beach; departing at 7 pm from the Miami Yacht Club on our Luxury Shuttle Buses courtesy of the University of Miami. Led by our Piper, our Pub stops will be: Clarke's, 840 1st St.; Finnegan's Way, 1344 Ocean Dr.; The Playwright, 1265 Washington Ave.; Waxy O'Connor's 1248 Washington Ave.; and then back to the Miami Yacht Club, by midnight. The cost is \$25.00 per person not including libations along the route. To launch an expedition of this magnitude, reservations are required well ahead of time. Space is limited to two buses so please call Mary Gerhardt at 305-754-7805 to save your spot. Payment should be mailed to South Florida Emerald Society, P.O. Box 836225, Miami, FL 33283-6225. This is sure to be one of our best socials ever so please join us. *Slainte!*

Celtic Cultural Series Launches 10th Season !

Paddy Kellaghan opens the 10th Season of the Celtic Cultural Series at John Martin's at 4:00pm Sunday October 4. He will tell how the music of Ireland has changed over the years. Accompanied by his guitar or mandolin, he can be counted on to play and sing some of those Irish songs. Stay after and enjoy the *craic*.

Upcoming.....

September 18 Social: Halfway to St. Patrick's Day, starting at Miami Yacht Club.

October 1 SFES Board of Directors, Miami Yacht Club.

October 4 Celtic Cultural Series: Contemporary Irish Music, John Martin's Irish Pub.

October Social: TBD

December 2 Dublin City Ramblers, Rusty Pelican, Rickenbacker Causeway



**They're Back!
The Dublin City
Ramblers in an
Encore Per-
formance!**

Known worldwide, they have had 30 albums, with 8 gold albums, ten top hits, numerous awards and honors

--they are Ireland's number one group.

Sean McGuinness and the Ramblers will entertain Emeralds and guests on December 2 at the Rusty Pelican on Rickenbacker Causeway in an Economic Stimulus Package. Ticket prices have been reduced to \$50 for a lovely buffet and this world-class entertainment. Those who attended last December will vouch that this will be a grand time—think about rounding up a table of 8.

A book of raffle tickets will be shortly mailed to all Emeralds. Prizes are: a \$1,500 voucher for Air Lingus airfare; two nights at Clonard Court Hotel; a stay at Clontarf Castle, and round-trip airfare on Air Canada. These last three awards are through the efforts of Emerald Ann McShane. Raffle tickets are \$10 each or 6 for \$50.

This is our major fund-raiser: to be successful, every Emerald needs to buy a Dinner/Dance ticket ; we need to sell at least 500 raffle chances.

For Dinner/Dance tickets, reservations and tables, call Mary Ann Kerr at 305-251-6208. Make out your checks to "South Florida Emerald Society" and mail to South Florida Emerald Society, c/o Mrs. Mary Ann Kerr, 8305 SW 169 Terrace, Palmetto Bay FL 33157.

The Taurus Returns for Another Round

After an eight year hiatus, the Taurus reopened in Coconut Grove. Forty Emeralds and guests marked the occasion August 19th including **Hugh Ryan, Chuck Harty** and his guest **Ed Steinberg, Paul Reilly, Gae Garrity, C.L. Conroy, Judi Sherry,**

Joe and Linda Healy, Lionel and Pilar Baugh, Frances Baboun, Tony Vega, Ann Rebillard, Ann Eustace, Bill and Mary Lynne O'Brien, Sean and Teresa Glynn, Jeff Killian, Janice McKay, Jean McEnany, Billy and Carroll Cameron, Phyllis McSweeney Lane and her guest Ernie Raynor, Jon Lindeman, Dick O'Connell and his guest Larry Faye , Shayne O'Connor, Oliver and Mary Ann Kerr, Bill Owens and his daughter Anna-Louise Owens, Emma Doris Kohler and Conrad Kohler, John and Dorothy Kane, and Chris and Stephanie Kelley.

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:

We need volunteers!

Our SPDC meetings will resume at **6:30 pm Monday September 14 at the Elks Club, Sunset and 103 Avenue.** Come join us—We are a friendly, out going group to know. Think about becoming a chair - or co chair of one of the committees. Leprechaun Corner could be calling you as well as the Soda Bread Booth. Like to know what's going on? - think about taking the Secretary position on the SPDC.

We will again participate in "**Shop for a Cause**" at **Macy's at the Falls on Saturday Oct. 17** - Time TBA. All members are encouraged to participate. For a \$5 donation to the St. Patrick's Day Committee, Inc., the participant will receive a 20% discount on all Macy's purchases - except those items that are excluded. It's a great way to shop and support the St. Patrick's Day Festival. We also need volunteers to help sell those \$5 coupons. Please call. Janice Mc Kay or Mary Ann Kerr if you are available to help - one hour is a great help in between shopping. We made \$900 in 2007 and \$600 in 2008. Let's do it again!

Mark Saturday March 13, 2010 on your calendar. 2

Marching Forth on the Fourth!

The younger Emeralds had their fun at the past Fourth of July Parade on Key Biscayne. **Sean** and **Teresa Glynn**, and their guests **Sylvia Breton** and **Louise Sekman** were there with **Patrick** aged 10 and **Kyle** aged 5 **Glynn**. **Bill Gregory** had his helpers **Arielle** (11), and **Billy** (8.). Not to be outdone **Oliver** and **Mary Ann Kerr** were joined by their grandchildren **Zachary** (10), **Matthew** (7) and **Juliana** (5) **Peredo**. **Jeff Killian** was assisted by **Briana** (10), **Fiona** (8), and **Jeffrey Jr.** (5). Adult Emeralds attending were: **John Sorgie**, **Jon Lindeman**, **Bill O'Brien**, **Jean McEnany**, **Janice McKay**, **Jan Paris**, **John** and **Dorothy Kane**, **Louis Clark**, and his fire engine, **Barbara** and **Joe McManus**, **Tom Flynn** (sometimes), **Bob Skinner** (Tom's guest), **Bob Meyer**, and our ever-reliable Chairperson for the event **Carroll Cameron**, and **Billy Cameron**. But where were you? Plan to join us next 4th.

Kudos to Carroll

At the July Board meeting, a commendation was voted unanimously and awarded to **Carroll Cameron** for her past service to the South Florida Emerald Society, especially the Membership Committee. Carroll was the 1st woman to be elected President of the South Florida Emerald Society (2005-06); she followed this distinction by being elected 1st woman to be President of the St. Patrick's Day Committee (2006-07). Emeralds have seen Carroll more recently at the Fourth of July Parade (see above) and at St. Patrick's Day Festivals dispensing free dental aids on behalf of the dental hygienists.

...and to Martin and Maurice

Also, at the July Board meeting, Life Memberships were voted unanimously and awarded to **Martin Lynch** and **Maurice Grondin**, in recognition of their long record of unexcelled hospitality to social and cultural events of the South Florida Emerald Society.

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Then there's the Irishman on the construction site who was asked if he knew the difference between a joist and a girder. "Well, sure anyone would know that," he replies. "Joist wrote Ulysses and Girder wrote Faust."



Poetry Corner

Our Irish poet this month, Charles J. Kickham (1828-1882) was an Irish author of several books, a ballad writer and patriot. He founded a branch of the Young Ireland Confederate Club in 1848, and was forced into hiding after the unsuccessful rising at Ballingarry, Co. Tipperary. He joined the secret nationalist organization, the Irish Republican Brotherhood (IRB) or Fenians, in 1860. He had a deep sense of veneration for America as a model and travelled here. Charged for writing "treasonous articles" and with committing high treason, he was tried in 1865 and sentenced to fourteen years penal servitude. Released in 1865 for poor health, he ran for Parliament—and lost by only 4 votes. He was the first chairman of the Supreme Council of the IRB until his death at age 54. (Source: UCC, Cork, Ireland)

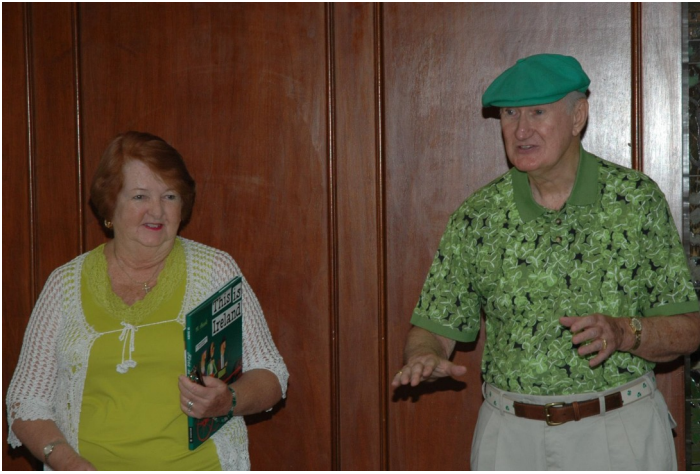
Slievenamon (*Sliabh na mBan*), one of the sacred mountains in ancient Ireland, is located in the heart of County Tipperary, Ireland.

Slievenamon

Alone, all alone, by the wave-washed strand
All alone in the crowded hall
The hall it is gay and the waves they are grand
But my heart is not there at all,
It flies far away, by night and by day
To the times and the joys that are gone
But I never can forget the sweet maiden I met
In the valley of Slievenamon.

It was not the grace of her queenly air
Nor the cheeks of the roses glow
Her soft dark eyes or her curly hair,
Nor was it her lily white brow.
Twas the soul of truth and of melting ruth,
And a smile like the summer's day.
That stole my heart away on that bright summer's day
In the valley of sweet Slievenamon.

In the festive ball and the wave-washed shore
My restless spirit cries -
My land, oh my land, shall I never see you more,
My country will you never arise.
By night and by day I will ever, ever pray,
As darkly my life it rolls on,
To see our flag unrolled and my true love unfold
In the valley near Slievenamon.



Mary Ann Kerr and Dan Fitzgerald Telling Stories (Photo-John Kane)

Irish Storytellers Go Over with Youngsters

Mary Ann Kerr and Dan Fitzgerald concluded the Celtic Cultural Series season with Irish stories for children. A standing-room only audience of 92, composed of grandparents, parents and children, was held in rapt attention at the Coral Gables Branch Library August 29th. Girls from the Breffni Academy illustrated one of Dan's stories with Irish dancing. Dan is Past President and Mary Ann Kerr is current First Lady of The Emerald Society. Dan is a veteran actor; his latest film appearance was *In Her Shoes* starring Cameron Diaz. Mary Ann taught in the Miami-Dade school system for 28 years; she has read stories at Epiphany and Pinecrest schools.

From June and July Board Meetings.....

Welcome to our new members:

- **Patrick Roach** is self-employed now, but retired from the City of Miami Police and Fire departments. Patrick's grandparents are from County Kildare. Sponsor: Billy Cameron.
- **Edward "Ed" E. Walton III** has his business, Walton Wholesale, which is into wall and floor coverings. Ed cites the Hagans as his Irish family roots. Sponsor: Bill Gregory.

Mary Ann Kerr has resigned as Director. Our ***Uachtaran*** (President) Oliver Kerr then appointed **Sean Glynn** as Director and Chair of the Membership Committee, to be assisted by **Jon Lindeman** and anyone else who is interested in volunteering(?). **Sean** assumes the vacancy on the Board (one-year term) created by the previous resignation of **Bella Kelly**.

Condolences

Thomas "Tom" Graham Brodie MBE, a former Emerald, passed away at 78 on August 13. Son of a pioneering South Dade family, he grew up at Brodie's Corner in the Redlands. Captain Brodie retired from the Miami -Dade Police Department in 1983 after 28 years of service, most notably for leading the bomb squad. In the '80s, he ran for Dade County commissioner and the U.S. House of Representatives. He was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II in 1969 for his work researching bomb disposal methods in England. Condolences to his family. R.I.P.

Edward "Ted" Kennedy

Senator Kennedy died August 26 at the age of 77. *Taoiseach* Brian Cowen said Senator Kennedy, "who hailed from the most famous Irish-American family, through his own endeavours and achievements added further distinction to his family's reputation for public service."

"In good days and bad, Ted Kennedy worked valiantly for the cause of peace on this island," Mr Cowen added. "He played a particularly important role in the formative days of the Northern Ireland peace process." R.I.P. Source: Irish Times

Health and Welfare

Get well wishes to Peter J. O'Connell, past Emerald President and Parade Marshall of our last parade in Miami Springs.

2009-10 Celtic Cultural Series Schedule

Chairs John and Dorothy Kane have announced the schedule, as follows:

Paddy Kelleghan	Oct. 4
Joyce's <i>Ivy Day in the Committee Room</i>	Nov. 1
by Prof. Pat McCarthy PhD.	
Mary Pat Kelly's <i>Galway Bay</i>	Jan. 3
Sean O'Casey's <i>Bedtime Story</i> (Reading)	Feb. 7
Waterford Crystal, Mary Balza	Apr. 4
John Huston's motion picture "The Dead"	May 2
Bloomsday Celebration	June 16
Irish Stories for Children	Aug 28
(For details, see Attachment)	4

October Emerald Board Meeting

The next Board meeting will be at the Miami Yacht Club on Watson Island on the MacArthur Causeway on **Thursday, October 1, 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* Oliver Kerr has admonished all Board members to respect the dignity of, and to share fellowship and courtesy with, all Board members.

The South Florida Emerald Society, Inc.
PO Box 836225
Miami, FL. 33283-6225.

Arthur! Arthur!

JohnMartin's Irish Pub, 253 Miracle Mile, CG has a series of events in late September:

- Irish Night Tuesday, Sept. 22
- World-wide recognition of the Thursday, Sept.24
250th Anniversary of the
establishment by the Guinness
Family of the St. James Gate
Brewery in Dublin. Problem:
only 750 years left on the land lease.
(or visit your favorite pub, such as
Joe Healey's Hurricane Bar in MS)
- 20th Anniversary Celebration Friday, Sept.25
--JohnMartin's (Wear Green) **5**