

the emerald Society shamrock news




May 2013
Mi na Bealtaine

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South Florida Emerald Society

President Hugh Ryan

Officers and the Board of Directors

Invite you to the

2013 Installation Dinner

Wednesday, May 22

6:30 pm

Jungle Island

Jacaranda Room

1111 Parrot Jungle Trail

MacArthur Causeway

Miami, Florida

Emerald Society Installation Dinner on Wednesday, May 22

Emeralds, this is one of the premier events of our Society. President Hugh A. Ryan and the 2013 Officers and Directors (see column at left) will be duly inaugurated. Bob Meyer and Bill Gregory will share the Master of Ceremonies role. President Ryan will announce his action platform for the coming year. Chris Kelley will be honored for his service. Ken Pines has graciously donated the table decorations.

tions.

New Emeralds who will receive their Emerald pins are: Christian Adkins, Caryn Berryman, Matthew James Feeley, Michael "Mike" Patrick Fitzgerald, Paulette Flores, Johnette Hardiman, David Higgins, Kimberly "Kim" O'Brien, Sean O'Flaherty, Kathryn "Kate" Swain. We also welcome back Michael M Lally.

RSVP

Judi Tierney Sherry, Chair, has announced a ticket price of \$40 pp, payable to the "South Florida Emerald Society", 9320 SW 102 Street, Miami FL 33176. Please RSVP to Judi (305 271-2750) judi-retired@aol.com by Wednesday May 15 if you plan to attend.

Upcoming:

Sunday May 19 4pm Celtic Cultural Series, *Irish Americans as Soldiers in America's Wars: the Heroic and the Notorious*, JohnMartins, Coral Gables

Wed May 22 6:30pm Installation Dinner, Jungle Island, Watson Island

Thurs June 6 6:30pm SFES Board of Directors Meeting, MiamiYacht Club, Watson Island, MacArthur Causeway

Sunday June 16 BLOOMSDAY!

Celtic Cultural Series

Sponsored by the South Florida Emerald Society

Ed Cooke– Founder, Chairman and Presenter

4pm, Sunday, May 19, 2013

JohnMartin's Irish Restaurant, 253 Miracle Mile, Coral Gables

PROGRAM

4:00pm Half-hour of Irish song, poetry and Celtic culture

Irish Americans as Soldiers in America's Wars: The Heroic and the Notorious

- Revolutionary War----First St Patrick's Day Order by General Washington
- War against Mexico 1845-1847 --The 253 "turncoats" of the St Patrick's Battalion.
- War between the States 1860-1863---The Irish Brigade @ Gettysburg
- The NYC Race Riots----(5 days after Gettysburg Victory) Irish Immigrants vs. Free Blacks.
- WW1 --Fighting 69th (NY State Regiment) & Chaplain Father Duffy

Interview with local Irish American VIP: Dan Fitzgerald
Conferral of Diplomas on Frequent Attendees
5:45pm Adjournment

Emerald Society Members: free. Visitors and guests: donations will be gratefully accepted.

*"To perpetuate the glories of the Gaelic Culture
And to record the history of the descendants of Ireland..."*



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 is, in turn, a 501 (c) 7 fraternal organization in the IRS Code.

Following the cancellation of the 2013 Festival, election of officers will be held in the coming months; current officers are: Charlie Davis, John Doherty, Clodagh Michel and Rosemary Hart.



Poetry Corner

Percy French (1854-1920)

Although French considered himself to be primarily a painter, he is, in fact, widely regarded as one of the most successful Irish songwriters of all time. In *Mountains of Mourne*, the somewhat naïve singer visits London in 1898 and describes what he sees in a letter to a friend back in Ireland called Mary Macree.



Percy French

Mountains of Mourne

Oh, Mary, this London's a wonderful sight,
 With people all working by day and by night.
 Sure they don't sow potatoes, nor barley, nor wheat,
 But there's gangs of them digging for gold in the street.
 At least when I asked them that's what I was told,
 So I just took a hand at this digging for gold,
 But for all that I found there I might as well be
 Where the Mountains of Mourne sweep down to the sea.

I believe that when writing a wish you expressed,
 As to know how the fine ladies in London were dressed,
 Well if you'll believe me, when asked to a ball,
 They don't wear no top to their dresses at all,
 Oh I've seen them meself and you could not in truth,
 Say that if they were bound for a ball or a bath.
 Don't be starting such fashions, now, Mary mo chroi,
 Where the Mountains of Mourne sweep down to the sea.

I've seen England's king from the top of a bus
 And I've never known him, but he means to know us.

And tho' by the Saxon we once were oppressed,
 Still I cheered, God forgive me, I cheered with the rest.

And now that he's visited Erin's green shore
 We'll be much better friends than we've been heretofore

When we've got all we want, we're as quiet as can be

Where the mountains of Mourne sweep down to the sea.

You ,remember young Peter O'Loughlin, of course

Well, now he is here at the head of the force.

I met him today, I was crossing the Strand,

And he stopped the whole street with a wave of his hand.

And there we stood talkin' of days that are gone,

While the whole population of London looked on.

But for all these great powers he's wishful like me,

To be back where the dark Mourne sweeps down to the sea.

There's beautiful girls here, oh never you mind,

With beautiful shapes nature never designed,

And lovely complexions all roses and cream,

But let me remark with regard to the same:

That if of those roses you venture to sip,

The colours might all come away on your lip,

So I'll wait for the wild rose that's waiting for me

In the place where the dark Mourne sweeps down to the sea..

June Board Meeting

The Board of Directors will meet at **6:30pm Thursday June 6** at the Miami Yacht Club. All Emeralds are welcome.

Dues

John Doherty has mailed 2013 dues invoices to all members. If you have not yet paid, please send your check to the address below.

Health and Welfare

Mary Ann Kerr is recuperating at home.

The South Florida Emerald Society, Inc.

PO Box 836225

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A Cat Limerick

There once were two cats of Kilkenny,
Each thought that was one cat too many,
So they quarrel'd and fit,
They scratched and they bit,
Till, excepting their tails,
Instead of two cats, there weren't any!

Mary Gerhardt announced that the **Halfway to St. Patrick's Day Pub Crawl** is scheduled for Friday, September 13.