

Happy St. Patrick's Day !

March 2021
Mi Na Marta

The St. Patrick's Day Committee, Inc.

Charlie Davis, President &
Festival Chair

Rosemary Hart, 1st Vice President
Judi Tierney Sherry 2nd Vice President
John Doherty, Treasurer
Clodagh Michel, Secretary

Committee Members:

C.L. Conroy	Don Harrington
John & Noreen	Noel McManus
Cunningham	Stillings
Bob Friedlander	

Member Tel: (305) 596-9995

E-Mail: emeraldsocietysf@gmail.com

WEB: www.emeraldsocietysf.com

Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/
SouthFloridaEmeraldSociety/](https://www.facebook.com/SouthFloridaEmeraldSociety/)

Editors

Joe & Barbara McManus
(561) 338-8848

The South Florida Emerald Society
Inc.

PO Box 836225

Miami FL 33283—6225

ST. PATRICK'S DAY FESTIVAL

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St. Pat
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Miss Collee

Celtic Cross

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St. Andrews

Great Iri

Corned Beef & Cabbage,
Shepherd's Pie, Authentic Irish Coffee,
Soda Bread, Whiskey Cake, Other Great
American & Ethnic Foods

Vendors Galore

Irish Arts & Crafts, Jewelry, T-shirts

Fun For Kids

Giant Slide, Rock Climbing, Merry-Go-Round,
Bounce House

Full Service Bar

Irish & American Beer, spirits, soda, juice

305.596.9995 ■ stpatrickssf@gmail.com

The St. Patrick's Day Festival is produced by the St. Patrick's Day Committee, Inc. with the support of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, The Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor, the Board of County Commissioners and by a Grant from the Coral Gables Community Foundation.

COVID-19

St. Patrick's Day Program of Virtual Events 2021 [Sponsored by Atlanta Consul General-see p. 4]

Tuesday March 16 7:30pm An Evening of *Cultur agus Ceoil*
(Culture and Music)

www.Ireland.ie/atlanta

Wednesday March 17 4pm Atlanta Virtual Celebration
7pm Shades of Green
(register now online per email instructions)

In adhering to the COVID-19 guidelines, our annual St. Patrick's Day Festival has been cancelled and all Emerald social activities have been curtailed.

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

Although our St. Patrick's Day Festival has been cancelled, our Committees and Chairs are looking ahead to 2022

- * Festival Chair/ Entertain- Charlie Davis
- * Volunteers Chair Johnette Hardiman
- * Site Coordinator Sean Ferrell
- * Vendor Chairs Rosie Hart &
- * Festival Book Chair Judi Tierney Sherry
- * Publicity Chair C.L. Conroy
- * Miss Colleen Pageant Chair Melissa Davis
- * St. Patrick's Festival Judi Tierney Sherry &
- * Grants Chair Noel McManus Stillings
- * Advertising Chair C.L. Conroy
- * Advertising Sales John & Noreen Cunningham, Donald F. Harrington
- * Site Cleanup Bill Gregory,
- * SF Emerald Society Membership Committee
Host Booth/Membership

And the St. Patrick's Day Committee wishes to thank all of our sponsors who have supported us— please patronize them

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Baptist Health | Mercedes-Benz of |
| Bryson's | Coral Gables |
| Conroy Martinez Group | Mike's at Venetia |
| Coral Gables Community Foundation | Miami-Dade County |
| Duffy's Tavern | Shorty's BBQ |
| Farrey's Lighting & Bath | Snow's Jewelers |
| John Gregory | South Florida |
| Horr, Novak & Skipp | Emerald Society |
| | Waste Management |

South Florida Emerald Society

March Committee Reports

The Board conducted their monthly meeting via ZOOM on Thursday March 4.

Social Committee – Mark Donnelly

ZOOM–BoomTriviaNight

Wait for date and time instructions to connect.

Website Committee —Ann Eustace

Ann Eustace and Consultant Justin Arrondo assisted by the Website Committee have completed the new WEBSITE.

Nominating – Chris Kelley

The new officers and directors will assume office on that great day—March 17—and will be inaugurated in April.

Treasurer John Doherty

We have 110 members; 78 have paid annual dues but John is waiting to hear from the remaining 29 who have not yet paid.

A sign seen in the window of a shop in Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland. It reads: 'The bargain basement...is on the first floor.'

How are you celebrating St. Pat's Day? Prexy David Donnelly promises a \$25 gift card for your best St. Pats Family pics. Post on the Emeralds Facebook page by April 1.
—Noel and David Stillings



Dear Emeralds:

My first year started out on a bumpy cobblestone road but it was very exciting to be leading the SF Emerald Society. All was going well until the Covid-19 pandemic hit, which put a halt to all our social activities - which plays a huge role in what the Emerald Society does to promote "Up the Irish" in Miami. The board and the committees then started the Zoom meetings, where we were able to hold the membership together, accomplish some exciting things and still have some fun.



One of our most exciting accomplishments was when the Board approved the WEBSITE committee report, which was chaired by **Ann Eustace**, and assisted by **John and Noreen Cunningham**, along with other board members. From there we developed the now fully functional "all you can get" green WEBSITE. The SF Emerald Society website is very user friendly, interactive, and can be accessed through your cell phone or home computer. The SFES web site is shared with the St. Patrick's Festival committee to bring you important updates on future festivities and happening around Miami. Thanks to **John Doherty**, our Treasurer, membership and Sponsorship payments can now be processed electronically on the WEBSITE. We have also established a good relationship with the SE Consulate General of Ireland in Atlanta and hope to see them in Miami in 2022 at one of our events.

I would like to thank the 2020 Board for inspiring me and the membership to see a broader vision and seek new beginnings, while keeping the traditional family Irish shenanigans in play. **Joe and Barbara McManus** - a big *Slainte* to you both for maintaining the monthly Shamrock Newsletter. **Judy Tierney Sherry**- thank you for your hard work and keeping the green flowing.

So, in closing I encourage all Emeralds to resume their blarney, have a pint with our fellow Celtic friends, recruit new members and consider joining the board to make our Irish community stronger. The upcoming 2021- 2022 term is going to be a full, fun year with virtual webinars, fun social events, and a few surprises. Please give the SF Emeralds some of your time, talent, and treasure.

I wish **Mark Donnelly**, the incoming President and my brother, lots of Irish Luck . Let's all rally behind him and kick start the blarney and shenanigans all over again for a successful year.

Thank you all and **Up the Irish!!**

David Donnelly President



A Message from Consul General O'Floinn

March 2021



Dear friends,
Beannachtaí na Féile Pádraig oraibh, my very best wishes on St. Patrick's Day.

This is an unusual St. Patrick's Day, tinged with many emotions for many people. I fully understand how difficult it is to not be able to see friends and family in Ireland and here in the U.S, in person, for a second St. Patrick's Day. There is much uncertainty, and it remains difficult to predict when we will be able to celebrate in the way we once did.

At the same time, I feel it is important to mark this day, Ireland's national day, as a special date in the calendar. It is important to honour the bonds of Irish history and heritage here in the Southeast U.S, and to recognise the contributions that Irish people and their descendants have made down through the years. It is a time to come together as a community in the broadest possible sense. St. Patrick's Day is also an opportunity to highlight what Ireland and the Irish community is achieving across the fields of business, trade, culture, education, political

outreach and community organisations.

We have a host of exciting virtual events happening through the Consulate, our Embassy in Washington, and Irish organisations across the U.S. Southeast. Here in Atlanta I will be hosting a virtual 'Cultúr agus Ceoil' celebration on the evening of Tuesday 16th of March. We are partnering with the Irish Chamber of Atlanta and Irish Network of Atlanta for a high profile 'Virtual St. Patrick's Day Celebration' on Wednesday 17th of March, and joining the Irish Embassy in Washington for a virtual community event later that evening. We will also be 'greening' Atlanta City Hall on the 16th and 17th. This newsletter is packed with details of other events and initiatives, so please read on!

On a personal note, I am thankful to be spending St. Patrick's Day 2021 in Atlanta. I have appreciated and enjoyed the virtual connections I have made with so many friends across the Southeast over the last 6 months. It has given me a taste of how dynamic and special the Irish community is here, and made me long to travel and meet as many of you as possible in the future.

I am looking forward to what the future may bring for my family, our Consulate, and our community in the coming months and years. I know that we can achieve great things together.

I look forward to connecting virtually over the coming weeks through the many exciting events highlighted in this edition of our newsletter.

Warm wishes

Ciara O'Floinn
March 2021

Poetry Corner

Seamus Heaney (1939-2013) received the Nobel Prize in literature in 1995. Looking back to when he was 12, he was profoundly affected by the untimely death of his younger brother, at age 4.

Mid-Term Break

I sat all morning in the college sick bay
Counting bells knelling classes to a close.
At two o'clock our neighbours drove me
home.

In the porch I met my father crying—
He had always taken funerals in his
stride—
And Big Jim Evans saying it was a hard
blow.

The baby cooed and laughed and rocked
the pram
When I came in, and I was embarrassed
By old men standing up to shake my hand

And tell me they were "sorry for my
trouble"
Whispers informed strangers I was the
eldest,
Away at school, as my mother held my
hand

In hers and coughed out angry tearless
sighs.
At ten o'clock the ambulance arrived
With the corpse, stanced and bandaged
by the nurses.

Next morning I went into the room.
Snowdrops
And candles soothed the bedside, I saw him
For the first time in six weeks. Paler now,

Wearing a puppy bruise on his left temple,
He lay in the four-foot box as in his cot
No gaudy scars, the bumper knocked him
clear.

A four-foot box, a foot for every year.

—Seamus Heaney



Bill O'Brien Hits 80!

William J. "Bill" O'Brien celebrated his 80th birthday. For years, Bill was tasked with rounding up the \$\$\$ to underwrite our St. Patrick's Day Festival. Now retired, he is resident at Jackson Plaza Rehab, 1861 NW 8th St. Miami. Call Bill between 10 and 12noon at (305) 347-3380; ask for William O'Brien in Room 421 and the staff will arrange the connection. Bill would like to hear from you.

—Courtesy of Judi Tierney Sherry
and Bill Cassidy.