

The Emerald Society

shamrock news

September 2020
Mi Mean Fomhair

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Emerald Society Officers

President

David Donnelly
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1st Vice-President

Mark Donnelly

2nd Vice-President

Noel McManus

Stillings

Secretary

Ann Eustace

Treasurer

John P. Doherty

Historian

Christopher P Kelley

Immediate Past President

Maureen Hickey

Directors

Sean Ferrell

Donald F. Harrington Jr.

Paul Reilly

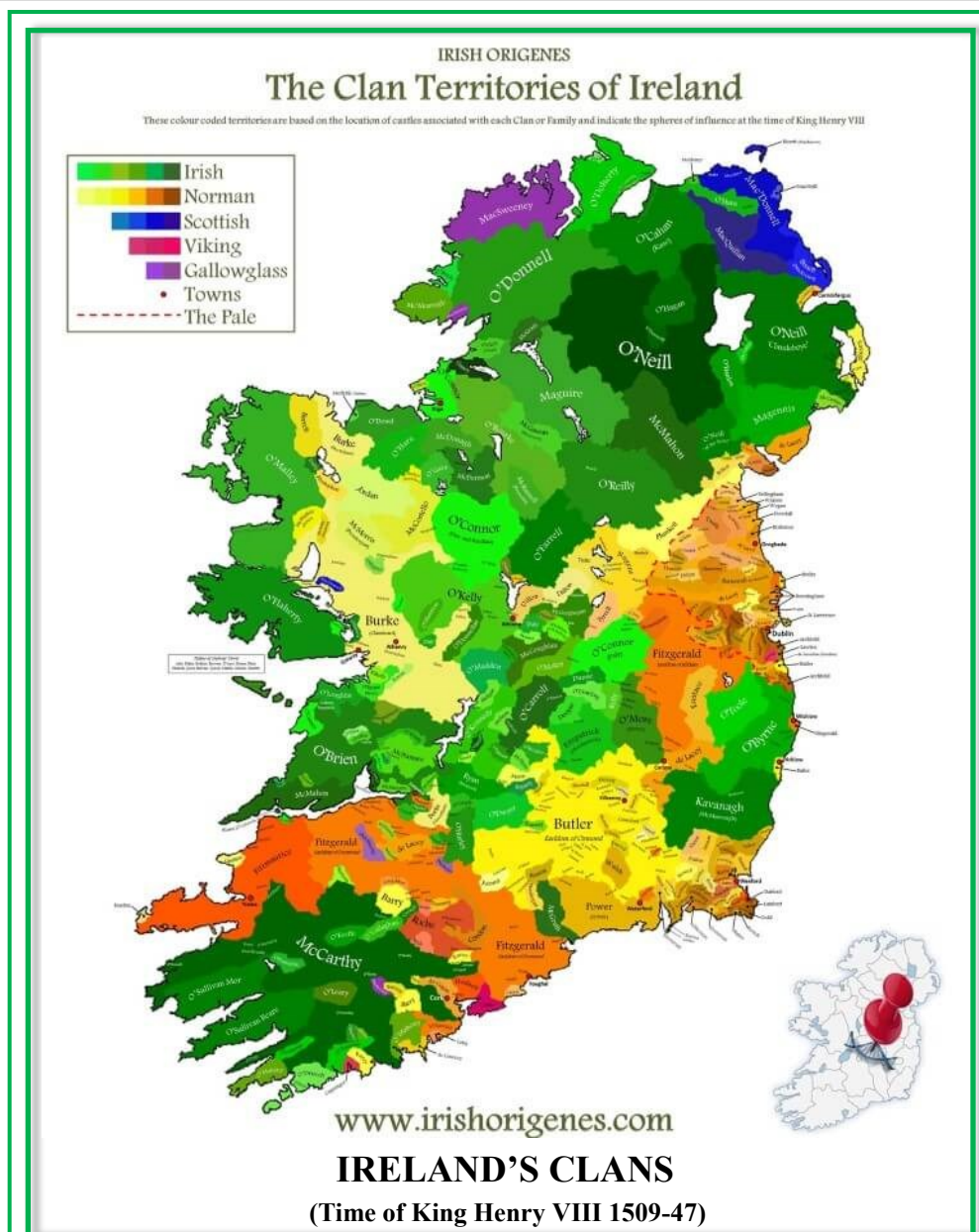
Katie O'Connor-Schultz

Judi Tierney Sherry

TBA

Editors

Joe & Barbara McManus
561 338-8848



The South Florida
Emerald Society, Inc.
PO Box 836225
Miami, FL33283-6225.

In adhering to the COVID-19 guidelines, all Emerald social activities have been curtailed. We encourage everyone to keep in touch with one another. We wish you and your loved one's health and safety. Thank you for being a member as we manage through this time together.

Wear a Mask Keep your Distance Wash your Hands

South Florida Emerald Society

September Committee Reports

Social Committee – Mark Donnelly

- Look out for ZOOM Socials
- Next Social —October 2020
- (Miami Yacht Club Opening ? October 2020)
- Pub Crawl (Chairperson?)
- Women’s Tea Party (Chairperson?)
- Celtic Christmas (**Maureen Hickey/Don Harrington**)

Nominating – Chris Kelley

– Chris is Chair of the Committee; he will assemble a slate for the February election of all Officers and a third of the Directors. If you are interested, contact Chris .

Membership

Katie O’Connor-Schultz (new members),

Ann Sorgie (lost and unpaid members)

-2020-21 Goal: 145 members

-Encourage members to attend Board meetings and social events.

-Need to get guest speakers to talk at social events.

Secretary’s Report-Ann Eustace

-USA South East Counsel General of Ireland (Atlanta/Miami) – New Ciara (Flynn) O’Floinn.

Treasurer’s Report-John Doherty

-Combined BBT account balances
(CD + checking) \$29,781
-Quicken register balance \$6,607

Next Meeting ; October 1 ZOOM

Emerald **Brian Keeley**, CEO of Baptist Health, was interviewed by the *South Florida Business Journal* about the pandemic, and any past event that might have shaped him as a leader. His response was —Hurricane Andrew in August,1992 — and the lesson he learned from that striking experience at the hospital- ”We made a decision to be self-sufficient...We don’t have to depend on someone else. Prepare for the worst and hope for the best.”

The St. Patrick’s Day Committee

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

President	Charlie Davis
Vice President	Rosemarie Hart
Second Vice	
President	Judith T. Sherry
Secretary	Clodagh Michel
Treasurer	John P. Doherty

Committee.Members:

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

Hard at Work.....

During the interim, **John Doherty** and **Noel Stillings** have completed and are prepared to submit applications for financial grants to the City of Coral Gables and Miami-Dade County. These applications assume that the next St. Patrick’s Day Festival will be on **Saturday March 13, 2021** at Fred Hartnett Park in Coral Gables and that the Budget is over \$30,000.

Based on these assumptions, the St. Pat’s Committee will be looking to you, our corporate sponsors, and vendors for support.

The St. Patrick’s Day Committee will convene shortly via ZOOM for a wrap-up of the (cancelled) 2020 Festival.

Health & Welfare—Judi Tierney Sherry

Sean Ferrell is under the weather, visiting Mt. Sinai Hospital

Bill O’Brien

South Florida Emerald Society

To all Emeralds :

The hot summer months will soon be behind us and the busy fall and winter months are ahead of us. The Covid virus is still out there and we must all be diligent and support our fellow Irishmen when in need. The Board members are active and participating in Zoom meetings to complete this year's agenda.



With all the Emerald Society events coming to a screeching halt we can still be active in the society by participating at your local establishments which have supported the SF Emerald Society when our society needed their support.

We can also contribute to the club by asking friends and family members to join the SF Emerald Society to increase the membership so we can have a strong membership foundation going into the 2nd phase of 2020 -2021 year. Please volunteer and ask any Irishmen or Celtic women you meet to join the SF Emerald Society.

There will be plenty of need for new members to volunteer for social events, The Irish Stew cook-off and the St Patrick's Day Festival. The new and improved SF Emerald Society web site should be completed very soon so look out for the launching of the Web site. Please volunteer your time, talent and treasure to the SF Emerald Society. **Up the Irish!**

-BI' curamach - Be safe!

Sláinte!

David Donnelly President

Poetry Corner

An Irish Blessing

Hills as green as emeralds	o	And rivers that shine like silver
Cover the countryside		Make Ireland look so fair—
Lakes as blue as sapphires—		But the friendliness of her people
Are Ireland's special pride		Is the richest treasure there.

—Submitted by Judi Tierney
Sherry

Last Ports-Round-the -World Cruise

2019 MS *Amsterdam* Holland-America Lines

Saturday May 4. Belfast, Northern Ireland.

We spent the day on “Hop-on/Hop-off” buses; we had lunch at the Ulster Museum and appreciated the description of the Spanish Armada of 1545? and the Viking Raids on Ireland in 700-800. On our bus tour, we drove through the Republican/Sein Fein/Catholic Falls Road area and the Unionist/Orangemen/Protestant Shankill Road area – within walking distance of each other—and marveled at all the flags, posters and murals, even a “Peace Mural”. Our guide said that steady progress had been made in the 21 years since the Good Friday Accords, but that school kids in the neighborhoods (above) still attended schools where they would never meet students of different opinions/religions. Despite the Good Friday Accords of 1998, shepherded by Sen. George Mitchell and President Bill Clinton, there were 68 shooting-and-bombing incidents recorded in Northern Ireland from 2017 to 2018, only 32 fewer than in 2008 through 2009.

Sunday May 5. Dublin, Ireland. We went by “Hop-on/Hop-off” bus to the National Museum where we observed the Viking Age and Medieval Ireland exhibits. The Museum presented considerable controversy over the 1014 Battle of Clontarf (a part of Dublin) —where the Irish supposedly defeated the Vikings. No trace can be found of the battle site-the River Liffey having been filled in at Clontarf-- and Brian Boru, the Irish King who was killed in the battle and Silken, leader of the Vikings were related and equally “Irish”. Their Treasury contains masterpieces of Irish Medieval (c. 1200) art: the Ardagh Chalice, Tara Brooch and Clonmacnoise Crozier

Next door, there is a restoration of Leinster House 1745, commemorating “Dail 100” the January 1919 meeting of the newly-elected Irish members of Parliament, which declared independence—well before the War for Independence.

New attractions in Dublin, all located together along the River Liffey: EPIC the Irish Immigration

Next door, there is a restoration of Leinster House 1745, commemorating “Dail 100” the January 1919 meeting of the newly-elected Irish members of Parliament, which declared independence—well before the War for Independence.

New attractions in Dublin, all located together along the River Liffey: EPIC the Irish Immigration Museum; Convention Centre Dublin, by Kevin Roche; Samuel Beckett Bridge, by Calatrava; and Jeanie Johnston Famine Ship, a replica.

Monday May 6. Ringaskiddy/Cobh (Cove) Ireland.

Today is Mayday in Ireland. Cobh, Cork’s harbor, is one of the great natural harbors in the world—second only to Sydney.

Our arrival preparations were frantic: the ship’s itinerary had long called for docking at Cobh, then on 24 hours’ notice, the dock was changed to Ringaskiddy (because the *Amsterdam* was ached out of the dock at Cobh by *Crown Princess* (Valatta) and finally on 12 hours’ notice, Holland America announced shuttle buses would operate from the Ringaskiddy dock directly to Cork City Hall.



Our son John had married Vivien Cooney in Ireland in 1996. So, on Monday we had a delightful luncheon at the Maryborough Hotel in Ringaskiddy with Vivien’s parents and sister—Tom and Mary Cooney, and Siobhan.

Tuesday May 7. Bantry Bay, Ireland

—Co-Editors Joe and Barbara McManus

Growing Up in Longford

Ireland is a lovely country with green grass. We have four seasons of the year: Winter, Spring, Summer and Autumn.

My Mom, MaryRose, was a school teacher in Primary School. My Dad was a Garda (Policeman) who passed away May 9, 2013 RIP. I have 3 brothers and 2 sisters.

I had a lovely childhood with my parents and siblings. We played outdoors together or with friends. It was safe in those days. In the summer evenings it got dark at 10pm and during winter it got dark at 4:30 pm.

I would read, swim in the indoor community swimming pool. I started playing soccer at the soccer field and the table tennis (ping-pong) at the Temperance Hotel with my friends. I won a silver medal for playing table tennis in the Competitions.

We ate simple foods: potatoes, vegetables, chicken, and fish. Sometimes we would have shepherd's pie, pot roast or Irish stew. Also fish and chips, fruit and cereal. Everyone drank hot tea with toast and fresh brown bread with Derrygold butter with marmalade and honey.

We used to vacation at Tramore, West Tramore, Co. Waterford. My whole family would stay in a Caravan (RV) that

I used to swim at the beach, the water was cold even though it was the middle of Summer. Later, we would play on the Amusements, a sort of carnival, at night. During the day we swam in the ocean or walked 3 miles on the sandy dunes & cliff walks. I have great memories going to Tramore.

We always go to Mass on Sundays then go to visit our grandparents, aunts and uncles & cousins. It is always great to see everyone on these trips. It is always nice to go home to visit Mom & Family in Ireland.

A Whiskey Tasting

—- Chris Kelley

In 2010, together with my wife Stephanie & our 20 year old daughter Sarah, I traveled Ireland from Dublin to Dingle to Galway. The whole country was beautiful and the Guinness was delicious. Our most memorable stop was at the Jameson Distillery, County Cork. Towards the end of the tour, our guide mentioned to the group that a few people would be selected to participate in a whiskey tasting— comparing Irish, Scottish, and American whiskeys. Once the guide started wrapping up the tour, without speaking about it, my daughter and I walked in opposite directions to stand in separate corners of the room. We each wanted to participate and didn't think we'd be chosen if we were standing right next to each other. The trick worked! We were 2 of 6 selected for the tasting. And yes, Irish whiskey was the best. For years to come, we'd toast Jameson whiskey for Christmas in memory of a wonderful trip! Sláinte!

Best Wishes!

Chris and Stephanie's daughter

Sarah

will be married to her beloved Garrett

on September 26th

**Message from Comm. Eileen Higgins
District 5, Miami-Dade County**



Dear Fellow Emeralds:

There is no doubt that the road to recovery is going to be long - and at times feel overwhelming - for small businesses, workers, and those who remain unemployed.

History has proven time and again that government action and innovation is required to lead the way back from economic crisis. Since March, Miami-Dade County has continued to launch programs that get CARES Act funds into the hands of residents, businesses, and organizations across the County for rent relief, small business forgivable loans, grants to local businesses and restaurants, and nonprofits. I have championed programs like the RISE Miami-Dade Fund, The Hotel Worker Relief Program, the District 5 Retail Relief Program, and more – ensuring residents and business across all industries receive the relief they need. From food distributions; to preventing further spread of COVID-19 in hot spot areas by providing residents with masks and information on how to keep they and their families safe; to expanding testing to include mobile, walk-up testing for residents without access to cars – addressing the public health impact of COVID-19 has been my top priority.

While I am grateful that COVID-19 positive numbers continue to drop, now more than ever we must continue to follow health and safety guidelines, including wearing masks, social distancing, and frequently washing our hands

Please know that my office is here to answer any questions or address any concerns you may have. Contact us at 305-375-5924 or District5@miamidade.gov.

LEADERBOARD 2020		
Place	Emerald	# of New Members
1	David Donnelly	3
2.	John and Noreen Cunningham	1
2.	Mark Donnelly	1
2.	Chris Kelley	1
2.	Ann McShane	1

Need more Information on SF Emeralds Society happenings? follow SFES now on twitter - Its easy to join and get tweets from the Irish communities @SFemeraldsmiami