February 2022 • Sixth Edition

The Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh of Ocean County

President's Message

Brothers,

We are about to enter the High Holy Season for our people! St. Patrick's Day is almost upon us, and we will be ready to celebrate! The Seaside St. Patrick's Day Parade is on Saturday, March 12th. This is the parade that, as is stated in our by-laws, all members need to participate in. We will be marching in full uniform, proudly showing the Ocean County community our colors. We will have transportation available and you can sign up for the bus on our website @ https://oceanfsos.wildapricot.org/event-4654028. We will also have an after party as soon as we get back to Manahawkin (see below parade article for details). You can register for the party on the website @ https://oceanfsos.wildapricot.org/event-4683050.

We are also looking for members to march in the Belmar St. Patrick's Day Parade on Sunday March 6th. Mark Whitley will be the point of contact for the details of this event. It would be great to have representation from our club to join up with our brothers from Belmar and Old Bridge for this great day!

We are also in the planning stages of other exciting events and fundraisers. We will soon be selling our mega 50/50 tickets. We are looking to have an event at the end of April to coincide with the drawing of the 50/50 and we are anticipating progress on the opening of our club. So, as we enter the Spring season, all I can say is that it's great to be a Shillelagh!

Slainte.

Jim McCabe
Ocean County FSOS President

Mega 50/50

uring the months of February thru April, the Ocean County Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh will be selling mega 50/50 tickets. The tickets will be \$100 each and there will be only 500 sold. The prizes will be as follows: First Prize - 25%, Second Prize - 15%, Third Prize -10%. We are asking all members to sell at least 5 tickets. Last year we came close to sell out. We would like to make sure that we sell out this year. The drawing will be on April 30th. We will have tickets available at the next General Membership meeting and make them available for pickup from designated officers.



Seaside St. Patrick's Day Parade



o All Members:

Please review this important information about the 2022 Seaside Heights St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 12, 2022.

For those who are taking the bus, we will meet at the Manahawkin Elks at 8:30 a.m. with the bus leaving no later than 9:00. We will probably pre-game at Klee's Bar in Seaside before the parade and then go to the step-off area by 11:00. The parade begins at 12:00. We will post the street we are stepping off from as soon as we receive that information. The parade ends at the Hershey Hotel, which is on the boulevard by Carteret Ave. We will meet the bus there and leave around 3:00 p.m.

The Manahawkin Elks is having their St. Patrick's party the same day as the Seaside Parade. They will have food, beer, wine, soda, and entertainment. For any member who is marching in the parade, the club will pay for their entrance to the party. If you are planning on attending, please register on the website, https://oceanfsos.wildapricot.org/event-4683050. If you would like to bring a guest, it will be \$25, payable to Manahawkin Elks.

All Members are required to march in the Seaside Parade. If for any reason you cannot march, you must submit written notification to President McCabe prior to Parade Day, requesting to be excused. Uniform Information: Full FSOS uniforms must be worn on Parade Day. Uniform consists of gray dress slacks, white dress shirt, black shoes, which you may acquire from any clothing store, and a flat Irish black hat, which can also be purchased at any store or online. Uniform components are: green blazer; FSOS patch on blazer, and FSOS neck-tie, which are available from TRIPLE CROWN SPORTS (TCS). See bulletin from TCS on the club website for prices, and the TCS Ad in this newsletter for location information. Also see below link regarding jacket website.

https://www.uniformsinstock.com/collections/maxwell-park-blazers-and-uniforms/products/maxwell-park-mens-hunter-green-blazer.

Parade Day Etiquette:

Gentlemen, ensure your uniform is clean and pressed, and black shoes are polished (NO BLACK SNEAKERS). Limit any accessory to those in good taste. You must step-off the parade with the club and you are not permitted to jump in or out of the line if we pass any taverns you may be interested in. Smoking and drinking are prohibited during the parade. Proper conduct is expected before, during, and especially after the parade. Do not embarrass the Friendly Sons Organization, or yourself.

You represent the finest Irish-American Club in the world. You may be censured for any transgression from expected parade etiquette from all members!



New Sign-in Procedure

s of January of this year, there is a new sign-in procedure for club members. There will be several sign-in books, divided alphabetically. Every member will have a sheet with his name on it, along with a spot for the date and their signature. The member will fill out the date and sign next to the appropriate month. It will also list whether or not the member has paid dues for the year. Members who do not have a sheet. whether they were not listed or are new, will have a general signin sheet to use and a sheet with their name will be added before the next meeting. While it is a slight departure from what we used to do, it is a big step in helping us keep better and lasting records.

First, it allows us to see clearly who attended the meeting. This allows us to keep more updated records on who is an active club member. Some of our rolls are outdated and include members who have left the club over the past several years. By analyzing the sign-ins, we can pull out the older members who are still listed, but no longer are members of the club.

Second, this format allows the steward to easily add a new member in the book. With every member having his name printed out, it only takes a second to add a new name and print out a new sheet. The Excel file can easily be transferred to a new steward when the time comes.

Third, this format ensures that there are no discrepancies in record keeping. No misreading signatures or guessing names. With the addition of the part listing due payments, each member will know when they were paid, and the steward will know whether they still have to pay dues.

Finally, the new format makes it easier to communicate membership information between committee heads as well as the general membership and the e-board. Since dues can be paid in-person or online, this format allows the membership committee to easily communicate to the steward that a member had paid online. It also allows members who have paid in-person to have it marked in their sheet so there are no discrepancies. It also allows members to see if they have or have not paid their dues, which can be confusing in the beginning of the year, especially to those who pay in cash in person.

While the first night of the new sign-in seemed chaotic, as we move forward it will be made easier and faster. More books will be added so that members will be able to sign in faster. The few names that were missing will be added in. As we move forward to having our own clubhouse, this type of sign-in may be incorporated into our club sign-in in the future.

2022 Belmar St. Patrick's Day Parade

On Sunday, March 6, 2022, the annual Belmar Saint Patrick's Day Parade will step off from Main Street (at Lake Como) at 12:30 p.m. This year, the Grand Marshall of the Belmar Parade is current Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh of the Jersey Shore (Belmar) Vice President Craig Coyle. I have contacted Craig on our behalf, and we have been invited to march as a group behind the Belmar contingent.

If anyone wants to join us on Parade Day, I will be organizing a group from the Ocean County F.S.O.S. at the Belmar F.S.O.S. Clubhouse at 815 16th Avenue in Belmar. The plan will be to meet there around 10:30 a.m. (but no later than 11:00 a.m. – traffic and parking in the area gets horrible very quickly) to organize our group, and pre-game accordingly. In an effort to get an idea how many of us will attend, I ask that anyone who is planning to attend contact me through our Club website, by phone at 973-508-8202 or by e-mail at whit1689@aol.com, so that we can get an idea how many from our group will be attending.

I hope to hear from as many of you as possible. It would be great to get a big turnout to support Grand Marshall Craig Coyle on this great day. And it would also serve as a great "warm-up" for our parade in Seaside Heights less than a week later.

Slainte!

Please Support Our Irish Festival Sponsors

The following is a list of our Irish Festival sponsors. We ask members and their families to support these important contributors to the success of our organization. If you know any business that would like to be a sponsor now would be a good time to reach out to them.

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Off the Hook Yachts

Cluck'n Crabs

2022 Membership Dues

s we are nearing the end of the year, we want to remind you that annual dues will be collected starting in January. As per our by-laws, "The annual dues of this organization for active members shall be \$100 payable by April 1. Dues not paid by this date shall be subject to a late fee in the amount of \$10.00 for each month that they are not paid." You will be able to pay on the website or at our meeting. Please take care of this obligation in a timely fashion so that you don't incur a penalty or have your privileges revoked.









Aigéan, a gaelic word for ocean, is published by the Order of the Friendly Sons of the Shilielagh of Ocean County.

Executive Board

President: Jim McCabe

Vice President: Charlie Schmitt

Treasurer: Kevin Lyons

Recording Secretary: Mike Curry

Corresponding Secretary: Bob Flanagan

For more information contact: oceanFSOS@gmail.com

General Membership Meeting

February 28, 2022

Our next General Membership Meeting will be on Monday January 28th, 7:00 pm at the Manahawkin Elks 520 Hilliard Blvd. Manahawkin, NJ

Once again we will be collecting items for the Vetworks food pantry at the meeting.

The Order Of The Friendly Sons Of The Shillelagh PO Box 1017, Manahawkin, NJ 08050

Members can keep up to date with our events, meetings and etc. by checking our clubs website at:

https://oceanfsos.wildapricot.org/

