

Shorenanigans



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE JERSEY SHORE ORDER OF
THE FRIENDLY SONS OF THE SHILLELAGH

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March 2022

Your President's Message

President's Letter – March 2022

Brother Shillelaghs,

Welcome to March and Parade Season!

On Sunday February 27th, the club hosted a fundraiser for the Belmar/Lake Como Parade. Thanks to the Snakes for providing the music. Thanks to all the bartenders, the kitchen crew, the security team led by Stu Archer and all the volunteers who helped out collecting money at the door and to the volunteers who helped sell 50/50s and who helped set up the club and helped clean up the next day. It was a great time.

On Saturday March 5th, the Belmar/Lake Como Parade Investiture Mass was held at St. Rose. Amanda Cregan and Craig Coyle were installed as Grand Marshals. The Pipe Band played at the mass. Bobby Byrne sang a few songs. It was really beautiful mass. Thanks to all the Shillelaghs came who attended. We had a great turnout.

On Saturday Night March 5th, the club was happy to welcome back the Bantry Boys to play their traditional set the night before the parade. It was a great crowd and really helped get everyone in the mood for the parade day.

On Sunday March 6th, the Belmar/Lake Como St. Patrick's Day Parade was held and it was a beautiful day weather wise. Congratulations to Amanda Cregan and Craig Coyle who led the parade as Grand Marshals. We had a tremendous turnout of members who marched. It was my honor to lead our members down Main Street. Thanks to Parade Adjutant Frank Lemkan and Assistant Adjutant Chris Kincaid for helping to keep everyone in line. Back at the club, after the parade, we had an amazing crowd. Thanks to DJ John for providing the music. Thanks also the Pipes and Drums of the Jersey Shore Shillelaghs. It was a great day.

It takes a lot of people to make this event happen. Thanks to our bar manager Mike McCormick, all our bartenders, our kitchen crew, security team and all the volunteers who helped set up the tent and take it down. Thanks to everyone who helped set up the club for the day and who helped with the clean up of the club the day after parade day. Thanks to Dave Matteo and Bill McKim for taking pictures.

It was a busy couple of weeks at the club and the Shillelaghs stood tall.

Nominations for officers took place at the March Monthly meeting. The nominees are Craig Coyle for President, John Padgett for Vice President, Ryan Lavender for Recording Secretary, Kevin Giblin for Correspondence Secretary, Ray Barnes for Treasurer and Mike Siverson for Steward. The only contested race is for Keeper. Three people have been nominated for two Keeper positions. Anthony Aldorasi, Matt Doherty and Chuck Healey. Election Day will be on Saturday March 26th. Voting hours are Noon until 5:30pm. Please come out and vote. To vote, you must be a member in good standing, which means you have paid your dues. Thanks to Snuffy Smith who is in charge of the election committee.

We still have some things to look forward to in March, St. Patrick's Day, college hoops, baseball and spring.

Happy St. Patrick's Day to you and your family!

Bill "Mumbles" Ryan
President FSOS Belmar



**Saturday, April 1st • Evening with the Jersey Shore Medium
Linda Shields**

Wednesday, April 6th • Membership Meeting

Saturday, April 9th • Easter Bunny

Sunday, April 10th • Blood Drive

Saturday, April 23rd • FSOS Polar Bear Plunge

Saturday, May 7th • Cinco de Derby

Saturday, May 14th • Club Picnic Pat's Forty Acres

**The Foundation of the
Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh, Inc.**

The Foundation of the Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh, Inc., is a charitable organization established and operated to benefit the public interest and is the club's only IRS designated 501C(3) charity and donations are tax deductible. Please help us help individuals in need. If you have any questions, please feel free to email us at Info.fsosbelmar@gmail.com.

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The Order of The Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh of the Jersey Shore



about us:

We invite you to show your support, honor friends and family, to remember loved ones, or commemorate special occasions by purchasing tribute bricks to be placed in the walkway and landscaped area in front of The New Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh Clubhouse in Belmar. Best of all, your brick purchase will help the new FSOS clubhouse, which in turn helps the FSOS continue its mission of celebrating Irish- American culture and helping countless members of our community who are less fortunate or in need.

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Irish History #90

Efforts to Undercut the Irish Provisional Government and the Northern Ireland Government

In these chapters, we have reviewed the Easter Rising, Irish War of Independence and Anglo-Irish Treaty negotiations. The next period we will review is the Irish Civil War. It was a bitter and painful period of Irish history. Families split by taking different sides, either for or against the Treaty. Brother literally fought brother. The agonizing specter of close relatives taking up arms against each other was vividly portrayed in the movie "The Wind That Shakes the Barley." Fallout from the Civil War - acrimony and heartache - divided families and the nation for decades.

Recriminations after the Dail debate on Treaty provisions put Ireland on a course for more bloodshed. (See Chapter 88). This war would not be against the despised British. It would be fought between fellow Irishman and Irishwoman with zeal and hatred.

In a democracy, one expects opposing parties to wage fights over policy disagreements (example - the oath to the King) with words in a parliamentary setting. The chosen weapons for this disagreement, however, went far beyond words. By leading a group of republicans out of the Dail after the vote in support of the Treaty, Eamon de Valera had drawn a line in the sand. Leaders may not have foreseen at that moment how Ireland would descend into civil war. But defying the will of the people and declaring the right to resist "by every means in our power" set the newly minted democratic country on a downward spiral. The Civil War did not start immediately. But harsh rhetoric fanned flames making violence likely and then inevitable.

On March 16, 1922 de Valera gave a speech in Dungarvan. He told supporters: "The Treaty . . . barred the way to independence with the blood of fellow Irishmen. It was only by civil war after this that they could get their independence." The following day, St. Patrick's Day, he gave two speeches. First, in Carrick-on-the-Shannon, he said: "If the Treaty was accepted the fight for freedom would still go on; and the Irish people, instead of fighting foreign soldiers, would have to fight the Irish soldiers of an Irish government set up by Irishmen." Second in Thurles, he said: "If the Volunteers of the future tried to complete the work the Volunteers of the last four years had been attempting, they would have to complete it, not over the bodies of foreign soldiers, but over the bodies of their own countrymen. They would have to wade through Irish blood, the blood of the soldiers of the Irish government, and through, perhaps, the blood of some of the members of the Government in order to get Irish freedom." On the next day in Killarney, he once again inflamed passions and exhorted violence by stating: "[T]hese men, in order to achieve freedom, will have, I said yesterday, to march over the bodies of their own brothers."

These speeches were a clarion call for armed insurrection against the new government. De Valera knew that a majority

of the Irish people had accepted the Treaty. Nevertheless, he defended his defiance by calling the people wrong. In his strident view, "the majority had no right to do wrong."

In late March, militant republicans held an Army Convention in repudiation of the Dail and in violation of a government order. Allegiance to the Republic was re-affirmed at the convention, and an executive sanctioned to issue orders to IRA members throughout the country was created. This was a declaration of "independence from the Ministry of Defense" and the nation's new National Army.

The executive established a Military Council to take charge of the IRA for the purpose of safeguarding the honor and maintaining "the independence of the Irish Republic." Rory O'Connor, a member of that Council, warned: "If the government goes wrong, it must take the consequences. . . . If the Dail is the government of the country, we are in revolt against it."

Michael Collins, although the nation's Finance Minister, was still the President of the Irish Republican Brotherhood. Many IRA members took a pro-Treaty position out of loyalty to him. Collins sought to mend the IRA rift and restore unity. One attempt to accomplish this involved his decision to institute a policy of "destabilizing" the Northern Ireland government.

After the Treaty, the plight of the six northern counties was not far from Collins' mind. While the Treaty ended the war in the 26 southern counties, a guerilla war continued in the 6 northern counties. From the outset of the Irish Provisional Government, Collins continued to organize and direct that campaign. Collins authorized smuggling guns and ammunition across the border, and he approved kidnapping 42 Orangemen and holding them hostage until a trade for IRA prisoners in the north was made.

On March 24, Owen McMahon, his four sons and a barman present in the McMahon family home were clinically executed. It was one many sectarian murders in Belfast. Its horror sent a clear message that no Catholic was safe. McMahon was one of the wealthiest Catholics in Belfast, and he lived in an affluent and predominantly Protestant neighborhood. Yet he and his family were murdered in cold-blood. It is believed that a Royal Irish Constabulary gang led by District Inspector John Nixon was responsible for the killings.

In response to the McMahon murders, Collins intensified his efforts and focus on the north. As Tim Pat Coogan points out, Collins had a two-fold purpose. He wanted to defend northern Catholics. He also hoped the move would secure republican support - at least northern republican support - for the Treaty.

Collins entered a secret agreement with the anti-Treaty IRA Council to "launch an armed offensive . . . in support of the beleaguered six counties Catholics." In furtherance

of this effort, he approved the creation of an IRA Northern Military Council. Additionally, he exchanged some of the military equipment received from the British for weapons held by the anti-Treaty IRA, and smuggled the weaponry across the border.

Also, contrary to Treaty provisions, Collins urged the Irish Cabinet to refuse to recognize the Northern Ireland Parliament. This "non-recognition policy," obstructed cooperation between the two governments. He established a Belfast Guard to protect Catholics and paid their salaries; and he paid the salaries of Catholic school teachers in the north from a secret fund so they could ensure a nationalist curriculum was taught. Again, these measures were aimed at wooing republican support for the Treaty. Unfortunately, events on the ground overtook Collins' strategy before it could play-out.

The Four Courts on the River Liffey was a major administrative center for the Irish government. O'Connor led the anti-treaty IRA's seizure of the Four Courts in April. He made it their headquarters. It was no surprise to hear de Valera proclaim in response to that move: "Young men and women of Ireland, the goal is at last in sight. Steady altogether; Ireland is yours for the taking. Take it." His supporters knew what "take it" meant.

The anti-Treaty IRA's occupation of the Four Courts set the stage for violent confrontation. It would become the flashpoint for the start of the Civil War in June. The war ended Collins' effort to destabilize the Northern Ireland government. It also led to his death.

Collins blamed de Valera for "prejudicing" the chances of achieving 32 county Irish "unity." He believed the first element to gaining northern allegiance to a united Ireland was for the new Irish nation to have "unity among

ourselves." De Valera, however, stoked division to suit his own purposes.

Primary Sources: Michael Collins, The Path to Freedom, Roberts Rinehart Publishers (1996); Tim Pat Coogan, The IRA - a History, Roberts Rinehart Publishers (1993); Tim Pat Coogan, Ireland in the 20th Century, Palgrave MacMillan (2006); Darragh Gannon and Fearghal McGarry, Ireland 1922, Royal Irish Academy (2022)

May you and your families enjoy the blessings of St. Patrick throughout this holiday season. Slan, EMN



We proudly support the Friendly Sons of Shillelagh of Belmar.

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The Pipes and Drums of the Jersey Shore - March 2022

The twice a week rehearsals continued throughout February. The Grand Marshals Fundraiser and the last Parade fundraiser held in February were both held here at the club. It was a packed house for each event and the Band performed upstairs and downstairs at both events. Both were awesome events!

Thank you Ryan L. and Kevin G. for organizing the Grand Marshal fundraiser! What a great event and I know that Amanda and Craig are very thankful for the support shown by our club and our band!

We all had a lot of fun at the events leading to the Parade. Some of us will be performing at the Investiture Mass at St. Rose the day before the parade. During the mass, Craig and Amanda will be presented with their sashes.

Parades in March are set:

Belmar March 6 • Seaside March 12 • Asbury March 13
Keyport March 19 • Keansburg March 26

We are also performing at the club on March 17 as well!

Rumor has it that we are looking to get that Savannah trip going in 2023, you remember the parade that covid blew out of the water on us in 2020..... also in 2023 we are looking into going back to Ireland for the Rose of Tralee. Stay "tuned" for more info.....

April, May and June have quite a few events set already, more on that in the next column.

We are always looking for Bagpipers and Drummers to join the ranks performing in parades, fundraisers and other events. Growth is key for the band's future. The club is around 1300 strong..... it would be great to see more of you (and your families) join the band!

For seasoned club members, you know the scoop on how to join. For the many new club members out there, you can join the band to learn to play bagpipes and/or drums with free, yes FREE lessons! The band is not just for club members. We encourage anyone out there that wants to learn to play to visit us on Tuesday nights at 6:30pm, upstairs at the club.

This is a great way to be involved and do something fun! ANYTIME of the year is a good time to start learning!

All you need to do is show up on Tuesday evening and/or contact me 732-685-9232 so you can get started to become a bagpiper or drummer in the band!

If you already know how to play bagpipes or drums & want to join the band, just head over to practice on a Tuesday evening and check us out. Our email is band@jspipesanddrums.com which can be accessed by visiting our website at www.jspipesanddrums.com or talk to any band member for information.

Please contact the Band Manager, Mark Mastowski (732-233-6136) if you would like the band, a small group or a single bagpiper to perform. We perform for all kinds of events: weddings, funerals, parties, grand openings, ceremonies, graduations and more! We always try to accommodate all requests. Remember that we, just like you, have family, job and other commitments/obligations (some beyond our control). We appreciate the continued support from all of you!

Anyone with pictures or video of the band, please send them along to me pdjspiper@hotmail.com

Thank you!

Slainte,

Ray Spengler

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The Order of the Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh of the Jersey Shore

The Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh of the Jersey Shore is requesting sponsors for our 1st Annual Polar Bear Plunge. This event will take place on Saturday, April 23rd in Belmar, NJ at 18th Avenue and Ocean Avenue in front of D'jais Oceanview Bar & Café at 1PM. A post plunge party will also take place at D'jais.

The Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh membership has participated in many polar bear plunge events over the past twenty years. Our membership wants to now create its own event where we can focus on raising money for local charities or organizations at the Jersey Shore. We plan on making this an annual event to occur each April. We appreciate the town of Belmar partnering with us to allow the event to take place. We also appreciate the support of our sponsors, members, and friends.

Our net proceeds from the event will be donated to local charitable causes, including AutismMVP, as well as supporting the Belmar Junior Lifeguard program. AutismMVP is an outstanding local organization and with April being National Autism Month, it is a great time to support this charitable organization. About 1 in 44 children has been identified with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) according to estimates from CDC's Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (ADDM) Network. AutismMVP has a mission to increase the number of autism-focused educators and therapists to meet the current and future needs of students on the autism spectrum. They accomplish this by supporting unique training and professional development programs for teachers, therapists and paraprofessionals, and by providing scholarships to graduate students.

Any monetary sponsorship, gift cards, or donations of supplies would be greatly appreciated.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions via email or phone below. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dan Reilly
Irish0361@aol.com
732-829-1711

Craig Coyle
coyfive@aol.com
732-963-5987

Rob Defelice
Robertd1960@gmail.com
732-996-4725

Anthony Kelly
anjackel@hotmail.com
732-859-8444



1st Annual Shillelagh Polar Bear Plunge
Saturday, April 23, 2022
Sponsorship Opportunities

GOLD SPONSOR

\$2,000

Your company’s name and/or logo will be displayed on the custom sweatshirt, 1/4 ad in the monthly FSOS newsletter (circulation 1,300 + members) for 12 months with a direct link to your website, and on all digital promotional material (plunge banner ad in newsletter, banner ad in club e-mails, banner ad on FSOS website, social media, etc.) pertaining to the plunge before and after the plunge.

AFTER PLUNGE PARTY SPONSOR

\$1000

Your company’s name and/or logo will be displayed on all signage at the **After PLUNGE party at D’Jais Belmar**, and on all digital promotional material (plunge banner ad in newsletter, banner ad in club e-mails, banner ad on FSOS website, social media, etc.) pertaining to the plunge before and after the plunge.

SILVER SPONSOR

\$1000

Your company’s name and/or logo will be displayed on the custom sweatshirt, ad in the monthly FSOS newsletter (circulation 1,300 + members) for 6 months, and on all digital promotional material (plunge banner ad in newsletter, banner ad in club e-mails, banner ad on FSOS website, social media, etc.) pertaining to the plunge before and after the plunge.

CONTRIBUTING SPONSOR

\$250

Your company’s name and/or logo will be displayed on the custom sweatshirt and on all digital promotional material (plunge banner ad in newsletter, banner ad in club e-mails, banner ad on FSOS website, social media, etc.) pertaining to the plunge before and after the plunge.

Sponsorship Level: _____

Company: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Contact: _____

Address: _____

Website: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____



Please make checks payable to: FSOS Foundation-Shillelagh Plunge
 FSOS - P.O. Box 1226, Belmar, NJ 07719
 Contact: FSOSbelmarplunge@gmail.com with any questions



The Order of the Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh of the Jersey Shore

1st Annual Shillelagh Polar Bear Plunge

DATE: Saturday, April 23, 2022

TIME: 1:00 PM

LOCATION:

Entry Fee: \$25 Entry Fee, Each Plunger Raises Minimum of \$100

Participants are encouraged to get plunge sponsors to offset individual cost

All plungers registered by 4/16/22 with \$100 in donations will receive a Shillelagh Polar Bear Plunge sweatshirt

Plunge Day Registration begins at 1130AM

PRIZES: Top Three Fundraisers, Best Group Theme, Best Display of Autism Awareness

(Award winners must participate in Plunge)

Post Plunge Spring Splash Party at D'Jais Belmar

This year we will be raising funds for local charities and organizations,

including AutismMVP and the Belmar Junior Lifeguard Program

Registration also on-line at Eventbrite.com choosing Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh Polar Plunge as the event

Contact: FSOSbelmarplunge@gmail.com with any questions

Last Name:

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First Name:

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Age: Sex:

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State

ZIP Code:

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Circle Sweatshirt: YM YL S M L XL XXL XXXL

Shillelagh Member? (circle) YES NO

Registration Fee \$ _____

Optional Additional Donation \$ _____

Waiver: FRIENDLY SONS OF THE SHILLELAGH, JERSEY SHORE
RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND INDEMNITY, AND PARENTAL CONSENT AGREEMENT ("AGREEMENT")

In consideration of participating in the Shillelagh Polar Bear Plunge in Belmar, NJ, I represent that I understand the nature of polar bear plunge events and that I and/or my minor child am qualified, in good health, and in proper physical condition to participate in such Activity. I acknowledge that if I and/or my minor child believe event conditions are unsafe, I and/or my minor child will immediately discontinue participation in the Shillelagh Polar Bear Plunge in Belmar, NJ.

I fully understand that polar bear plunge events involve risks of serious bodily injury, including viral infections, bacterial infections and other communicable diseases and illnesses, permanent disability, paralysis and death, which may be caused by my own actions, or inactions, those of others participating in the event, the conditions in which the event takes place, or the negligence of the "releasees" named below; and that there may be other risks either not known to me or not readily foreseeable at this time; and I fully accept and assume all such risks and all responsibility for losses, costs, and damages I and/or my minor child incur as a result of my and/or my minor child's participation in the Polar Bear Plunge in Belmar, NJ.

I hereby release, discharge, and covenant not to sue Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh, Jersey Shore, its respective board members, officers, volunteers, and other participants, any sponsors, advertisers, and, if applicable, owners and lessors of premises on which the Activity takes place, (each considered one of the "RELEASEES" herein) from all liability, claims, demands, losses, or damages on my account caused or alleged to be caused in whole or in part by the negligence of the "releasees" or otherwise, including negligent rescue operations; and I further agree that if, despite this release, waiver of liability, and assumption of risk I, or anyone on my and/or my minor child's behalf, makes a claim against any of the Releasees, I will indemnify, save, and hold harmless each of the releasees from any loss, liability, damage, or cost which any may incur as the result of such claim.

I have read this RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT, AND PARENTAL CONSENT AGREEMENT, understand that I have given up substantial rights by signing it and have signed it freely and without any inducement or assurance of any nature and intend it be a complete and unconditional release of all liability to the greatest extent allowed by law and agree that if any portion of this agreement is held to be invalid the balance, notwithstanding, shall continue in full force and effect.

I hereby grant my full permission to any and all of the foregoing to use any photographs, videotapes, motion pictures, recordings, or any other record of this event for any legitimate purpose. All persons and items are subject to search and must go through a security check. This Form Must Be Accepted By Clicking on "I Agree" In Order To Participate.

Signature _____

Date _____

Participant signature (or parent/guardian if under 18). Must be a signature here.

Return Completed Form with check made payable to the FSOS Foundation – Shillelagh Plunge

Mail to FSOS Shillelagh Plunge, PO Box 1226, Belmar, NJ 07719

FSOS Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) Non Profit organization

Upcoming Meetings

Wednesday, April 5th, 2022

7:30pm

Not receiving email or have contact information to update?

Contact Ned Barrett at nbarrett@deltec-ny-com

Have information on bereavement?

Contact Dan Reilly at Irish0361@aol.com

or

Ray Spengler at PDJSpiper@hotmail.com

Have news to share in the newsletter? Contact info.fsosBelmar@gmail.com

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