

American Irish Club of West Citrus County

Incorporated as a non-profit Social, Fraternal, Cultural, Historical, Philanthropic and Charitable Organization

December Newsletter

Volume No.12, 2006

Issue No10

From the President's Desk



What a great month we had at the best club in Citrus County, the American Irish Club.

I have to start off by thanking Philomena and Alex Mitchell and all their helpers, for the wonderful meal they served last month. It was delicious. We can not forget to thank Pat Kennelly and Jeannine Davis who helped serve the meal. I want to thank Esther Kelly for the great meal she prepared for the November meeting.

Thanks you Lou Coggins for making the beautiful oak podium. Lou is a gifted carpenter and has come to our aid many times. My thanks to you, Lou, for also running the kitchen.

The Wednesday work crew worked on the new shed under the direction of Charlie Mattingly. The carpenters were Ray Spratt, John Foye, Joe Holland, Captain Red Holleran, Bob Bianculli, Jack Kennelly, Tom Brownhill, and Larry Stephens. Believe it or not, most of the nails went in correctly. Did you notice the great paint job Jim O'Connor did on the front entrance? I believe Owen Shevlin did the first coat and Jim did the finished coat. Jim also painted the doors on the cottages and they look great. Thank you all. The shed is about half way finished. While all this was going on, Jim Hynes was cutting down trees around the area of the shed.

I can't forget Frank Hayes who polished the coins that put on the serving area in the cottage. I will mention more on this subject later.

Larry Stephens repaired the lawn mower and Jimmy Barnes mowed the property. Thanks to both of you.

The club is in good condition thanks to all the people who contribute time and effort to this club. There are other events going on in the club and I hope you will support these activities. I hope everyone had a happy Thanksgiving.

Jim Foye

2006 Annual Raffle

Last month the winners for the Annual Raffle were drawn. The Grand Prize winners were Pete & Doris McHugh. Other prizes were won by J. Barnes, O. Shevlin, J. Foye, and D. Chapman. Thanks again to all who sold tickets and especially to those that donated to the Prize Basket. Lets give a special hand to Herb & Joan for all their hard work on the raffle.

Christmas with the Celts

The American Irish Club of West Citrus is bringing "Christmas with the Celts", a Family Holiday Experience to Citrus County on Friday, December 22, 2006. This Celtic Heritage Show is being held at Citrus Springs Community Center and begins at 4:00 p.m.

The Show features Marcille Wallis an accomplished Dulcimer Player and her special guests will be:

The 2004 Florida State fiddle Champion, Matt Miller; Multi instrumentalist/vocalist, Don Pigeon, Vocalist Elly Gilmore, Piper Robin Hendrickson, Celtic Dancers Ann & Cal Lloyd with a special appearance by the Inverness Highland Dance Trip.

Tickets go on sale November 13th and will be available at the Citrus County Chamber offices in Inverness, Crystal River and Homosassa. Tickets can also be bought at the American Irish Club in Lecanto during their regularly scheduled meetings.

Presale ticket prices are: Adults \$12.00 / Children 6-12 \$3.00
Children 5 and under free. Ticket sales at the door if available will be Adults \$15.00 / Children 6-12 - \$5.00.

Don't miss this opportunity to bring the family and enjoy a special holiday event and help our club. For more information contact Owen or Carol Lee Shevlin at 352-257-1015. Proceeds benefit the American Irish Club.

Annual Irish Show

Don't forget that our club, under the direction of Carol-Lee & Owen Shevlin, will put on the Irish Variety Show at Curtis Peterson Auditorium on March 3 at 4pm. Entertainers include Michael Funge, Harriet Earis, Bernard McHugh, Sandie Hartford, and Barry Collins. Get your friends, family, neighbors, organizations ready for our big yearly show.

Remember the next monthly meeting is **December 12th**

The December meeting should be a lot of fun. Food will be provided by Cody's Roadhouse Restaurant at no cost to members.

This is so each member can bring a minimum **\$10.00** gift for the Christmas tree. These gifts will be exchanged during our yankee swap, which always proves to be a lot of fun. Our own Ron Davis will coordinate the activities. Note that the amount of the gift has been increased this year. Be generous, these are your fellow members.



AMERICAN IRISH CLUB OFFICERS

President	Jim Foye	(352) 527-0147
Vice President	Herb Duval	794-7465
Secretary	Madeline McCabe	795-7510
Financial Treasurer	Bob Bianculli	746-3947
3 Year Director	Ron Davis	527-2209
2 Year Director	Jim Hynes	527-7049
1 Year Director	Roland Rieck	362-2503

Standing Committees

Audit Budget/Finance	Marge Nichols	628-1746
	Cathy Clark	344-9630
Activities-Entertain	Carol-Lee Shevlin	382-1631
Building	Jack Kennelly	795-4871
Grounds	Jimmie Barnes	621-0617
	Owen Shevlin	382-1631
	Larry Stephens	382-4926
Membership	Linda Hynes	527-7049
Publicity	Ron Davis	527-2209

Service Committees

Attendance	Ann Harmon	628-2395
By-Laws	Mike Colbert	746-1331
	Jan Cody Foye	527-6757
	Jim O'Connor	746-4240
Chaplain	John Foye	527-6757
Food-Breakfast	Lou Coggins	564-1819
Historian	Delois Dick	637-4088
Hospitality	Jeannine Davis	527-2209
House	Roland Rieck	382-2503
	Vernon Budd	382-2109
	Pat O'Halloran	746-4515
	Russ & Ruth Doring	795-4548
	Wes Beaton	341-3768
	Larry Stephens	382-4926
Kitchen	Joan Duval	794-7465
	Jeannine Davis	527-2209
	Pat Kennelly	795-4871
Newsletter	Bob Bianculli	746-3947
Phone - Citrus	Teresa Stimpfl	341-1116
	Katy Hoey	341-2417
Sergeant at Arms	Ray Spratt	621-3895
Sunshine	Trish Higgins	746-2873

AMERICAN IRISH CLUB MEETING SITE

The American Irish Club of West Citrus County meets on the **3rd Tuesday** of each month (except Jun, Jul, and Aug) at the American Irish Cultural Center, 4342 Homosassa Tr (CR 490), Lecanto, FL. (It is located across from Pope John Paul II RC School)

For information, call the Club on Wednesdays at (352) 527-4890, or Jim Foye at (352) 527-0147. Email us at AICeditor@tampabay.rr.com. You can write to us at P.O. Box 760, Lecanto, FL 34460-0760.

Our website is <http://www.americanirishclub.com> check it out.

If anyone would like to submit an article, photo, or other information for consideration, to be included in *your* newsletter, send it to AICeditor@tampabay.rr.com

The Blarney Corner

On what days are Irish pubs closed?

- a) Never
- b) Every Sunday
- c) Good Friday and Christmas Day
- d) Ash Wednesday and Good Friday

[Answer on page 3]

LADIES BUNCO

(Bunco is a game played with dice.)

Ladies Bunco was started and meets at the clubhouse at 1:00 PM on the 2nd Friday of each month. We are looking for more substitute players. If we can get enough additional members interested, we can start up a second group. A group would require 12 members. If you're interested or need more information contact Carol Hayes 341 3603

Ireland sees spike in foreign workers

By Anthony Healy -The Washington Times
November 17, 2006

DUBLIN — First-time visitors to Ireland may be surprised to find that the comely colleen serving Guinness in the local pub is, in fact, Polish. After several centuries of a hardscrabble life that has seen Irish men and women emigrating around the world, taking their culture and legends with them, a decade of rapid economic growth has made the land of shamrocks a primary destination for hordes of immigrants, mainly from Eastern Europe. Foreign nationals now account for 10 percent of the population, twice as many as just two years ago, forcing the government for the first time to begin drafting a formal immigration policy to deal with the influx. "Make no mistake, we are in competition with other economies for go-ahead people with experience or qualifications that are in short supply at home," said Michael McDowell, the minister for justice, who must find a way to balance the nation's deep-seated traditions with the "Celtic Tiger's" growing demand for skilled labor. "Immigration policies are first and foremost about what is best for Irish Society."

But recognition of the economic need for foreign workers has done nothing to ease the shock experienced by one woman on a visit to Dublin from rural Ireland. "I asked three people for directions, and not one of them spoke English," she complained.

More than 80 percent of the new immigrants are under age 44, and almost half come from states that joined the European Union in 2004. Large numbers are employed in the retail, agriculture and construction sectors, helping to fuel one of the fastest-growing economies in Europe.

Stunned by the unexpected influx, Ireland has followed Britain in imposing tougher restrictions on citizens of Romania and Bulgaria when their nations join the EU in January.

Michael Martin, the minister for

Continued on page 3



WHEN PLANNING YOUR FINANCIAL AFFAIRS, KEEP THE AMERICAN IRISH CLUB IN MIND. YOUR SUPPORT WILL HELP TO ENSURE OUR FUTURE

DECEMBER

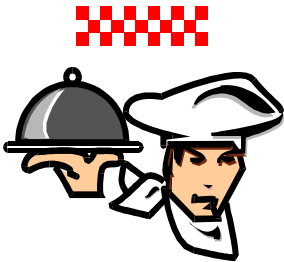
Bring Your Aluminum Cans and Newspapers to the Clubhouse

We save aluminum cans and dry newspapers for extra revenue. The bins are located off to the side of the clubhouse. We have made several hundred dollars by doing this. We thank the people who have saved, sorted and hauled the recycled items to the recycle center.

American Irish Bingo

The Bingo wheel generally spins on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month, however there are changes for November and December. These dates are Nov 7 & 28 and Dec 5. Doors open at 11:30 a.m.. The first number is called at 12:45 p.m. A lite lunch is available before the game or at the break for a nominal charge. Bring your family and friends for a fun time

American Irish Sunday Breakfast



Breakfast is served on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. The cost is \$3.30 + tax. Members and guests are encouraged to join us for one of four entrees, including either eggs, pancakes, french toast, sausage, bacon, potatoes and sausage gravy with biscuits.

Newsletter Booster Club

Costs for printing, paper, ink and postage are defrayed by the generosity of our booster club members. Please be as generous as possible and mail your donations to the club or give it to one of the officers. We need your support.

The following members have kindly contributed during the last month: **George Cronin and LynCryslar**

Superbowl XLI Party

Will be held at the club on February 4th, 2007. Tickets will be \$9.00 per person and will include a Happy Hour followed by Dinner and the game. Doors open at 5pm. Get in the football pools early

The American Irish Club will now offer the option, for you to receive the Newsletter by way of e-mail. If you would like to sign up and join a number of members already using this option, send an e-mail with your name and e-mail address to AICeditor@tampabay.rr.com This option will also allow us save some money on the production of the newsletter.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5 Board Meeting & Bingo 12n	6 ★	7	8	9
10 Breakfast	11	12 Membership Meeting	13 ★	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 ★	21	22 Christmas wit the Celts	23
24 _____	25 <i>Merry Christmas</i>	2	27 ★	28	29	30
31						

Foreign Workers Continued

Enterprise, Trade and Employment, has said it is time “to take stock, be cautious and concentrate on addressing the integration needs of those who have already come to live and work in Ireland.” It is not clear how the new legislation will affect the handful of Bulgarians and Romanians already living in Ireland — people like Chris, a Bulgarian who overstayed a student visa, works in a supermarket while studying accounting, and has married an Irishman. “It is very strange, is it not?” said Chris, who only on the condition that her real name not be used. “In most countries in the world, the men chase the women, but in Ireland it is the women who chase the men.”

Do You Like To Cook?

There are many talented cooks in the club. Would some of you like to try a recipe out on the club? We need your help with cooking for the membership meetings. You would be supplied with both the food and the volunteers you need. Just advise the board what ingredients you need from our supplier and any other ingredients you purchase yourself will be reimbursed with receipts.

Don't be afraid. There will be lot's of assistance for you.

Day Star Donations

A special **THANK YOU** to all those that contributed to Day Star. Because of the generosity of our members we were able to donate over \$800 to this worthwhile organization.

