



February 2019 News

General Info:

Mail correspondence to:
The Emerald Association of Putnam County
P.O. Box 141
Brewster, NY 10509

General Membership Meeting Schedule

2nd Friday of each month September through June. Mark your calendar!

Our next general membership meeting will be held Friday, February 8th, March 8th, April 12th, May 10th, June 14th at Trinity Lutheran Church hall located at 2103 Route 6 in Brewster.

We will have a Feis meeting following the general membership meeting.

Executive Board 2018-2019:

President: Nuala Donnelly 845.494.9460

Past President: Jim Scully 845.612.1808

Vice President: John Shanley 845.590.3052

Treasurer: Margaret O'Reilly 845.225.7375

Correspondence Secretary: Pauline Killeen 845.628.5745

Recording Secretary: Tara Keegan 845.279.0645

Membership Secretary: Sally Ann Comparetto 914.924.4331

Web Site: www.emeraldapc.com.

Our website and e-mail system continue to provide all the information on the association and our activities at your fingertips. We are continually working at updating and improving our site. If you have suggestions for content please contact Nuala at nualadonnelly55@gmail.com

Member News Items:

Happy Valentine's Day to all and Happy Birthday to all our February babies!

Get Well wishes to Kathleen Healy recovering at home after a recent stay in the hospital.

Get Well wishes to Maryellen McDonough recuperating at home in Brewster from a recent accident.

Sending thoughts and prayers to Russ Lavan who has been at The Paramount at Somers Rehabilitation and Nursing Center this past month. If anyone plans to visit please call ahead 914-232-5101.

Condolences to Eileen Weir and family on the passing of her sister Maura Smyth last week in Ireland.

Join us Friday, February 1st for the St. Patrick's Day parade Grand Marshal Installation dinner at Centennial Golf Club in Carmel from 6pm – 9pm. 2019 Grand Marshal - Bill Dowling. Congratulations Bill!

A nominating committee will be formed at the February meeting for elections to be held in May. We are asking for 3 volunteers from the general membership to be on the committee with two members of the Executive Board. Positions available are President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Correspondence Secretary and 5 Board members. A slate will be presented at the April meeting and nominations will also be accepted at that time.

Our Snow bird correspondent Pat Farrell takes us down memory lane – have a read below!

Mike and Maryellen McDonough hope to be in North Port Florida soon. If any snowbirds are on the West Coast please reach out to them at mcdonough81@verizon.net.

John Molly has sent us a little story on the environment (see attached)

Thank you to Catherine Cioffi, Pauline Killeen and Mary Thorne from the refreshments at the January meeting.

45th Annual St. Patrick's Day Dance

Congratulations to Eileen Weir on being selected as Emerald of the Year 2019! Eileen, a long-standing member of the Emeralds will be honored at our Annual dance to be held on Friday, March 15th at Vails Grove Pavilion in Brewster. Music will be provided by Mike & Noreen Sherry and dancers from the O'Rourke School of Irish dance will perform. Tickets are \$60 per person.

Please do Dympna a favor and don't wait until the last minute to get your tickets. Reserve your spot as soon as possible. We have attached a Dance flyer with all the information.

2019 Scholarship Opportunity:

Applications are now available on our website and at membership meetings for the 2019 Emerald Association Scholarship. Six \$600 scholarships will be awarded to children/grandchildren of members in good standing. Deadline for submission is at our March 8th meeting – selections will be made at our April 12th meeting. Criteria are outlined on the application form. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Scully, Scholarship Chair at skullman@reagan.com.

Social Media:

If you are a Facebook user go ahead and “Like” our page and share it with your friends! If you have content you would like to see posted, please pass it along to Nuala Donnelly or Lisa Scully. Any comments or suggestions are always welcome.

Dues:

If you are unsure of your membership status, please contact Sally Ann Comparetto:
scomparetto@houlihanlawrence.com . \$30 for Family; \$20 Single

Save –the- date

Sunday, March 10th: St. Patrick's Day Parade, Rt 6 Mahopac.

Friday, March 15th Emerald's 45th Annual St. Patrick's Dance.

Sunday, May 19th Annual Feis at Putnam Park

Sunday, August 25th Annual Picnic at Putnam Park

Other:

All Emerald Association members are invited to help by recruiting family members, friends, co-workers, etc... to join our organization, and encouraging entrepreneurs, store owners, etc... to place an ad in our newsletter.

If you have any news/information regarding our members (engagements/marriages, births, death notices, hospitalized/sick/injured members, etc...) that you would like to be included in the newsletter, please contact John Shanley at jtsconstruction@aol.com. Thank you!



Please keep in your thoughts and prayers All our First Responders and the Women and Men in the Armed Forces. Also, a thank you to all our veterans.

Have a laugh

The solicitor died and went to the gates of heaven where he was interviewed by St. Peter to see if he should be let into Heaven or sent down to Hell.

“I don't know why I died so young,” said the solicitor. “It doesn't seem fair I'm only 35.”

“I know,” said St. Peter, but according to all the time you've billed your clients for, you're at least 208!”

A Man walked into a psychiatrist's office with a fried egg on top of his head and two sausages and a rasher over each ear.

The psychiatrist sat him down and asked pleasantly, “What can I do for you?”

The man sighed: “Doctor, I'm very worried about my wife.

If you have a joke or funny stories that you would like to share with the members please email me at jtsconstruction@aol.com.

Please Patronize our Advertisers:

Ad rates: Member \$30; Non-member \$50 for 10 months

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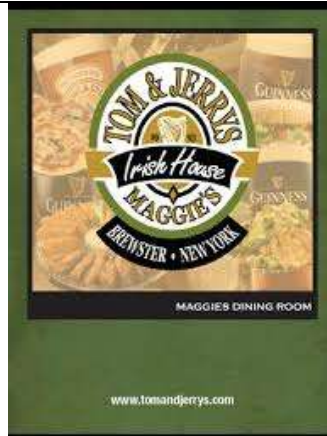
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Tom & Jerry's Bar and Maggie's Restaurant "The Place Where Strangers Are Friends You've Yet to Meet."

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Serving Lunch and Dinner 7 Days a Week



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& The Kelly-Oster School of Irish Dance, LLC

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Baldwin Place, NY 10505

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Checking out at the store, the young cashier suggested to the older woman, that she should bring her own grocery bags because plastic bags weren't good for the environment.

The woman apologized and explained, "We didn't have this green thing back in my earlier days." The young clerk responded, "That's our problem today. Your generation did not care enough to save our environment for future generations."

She was right -- our generation didn't have the green thing in its day.

Back then, we returned milk bottles, soda bottles and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilized and refilled, so it could use the same bottles over and over. So, they really were truly recycled. But we didn't have the green thing back in our day.

Grocery stores bagged our groceries in brown paper bags that we reused for numerous things, most memorable besides household garbage bags, was the use of brown paper bags as book covers for our schoolbooks.

This was to ensure that public property, (the books provided for our use by the school) was not defaced by our scribbling's. Then we were able to personalize our books on the brown paper bags. But too bad we didn't do the green thing back then.

We walked up stairs, because we didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. We walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time we had to go two blocks. But she was right. We didn't have the green thing in our day.

Back then, we washed the baby's diapers because we didn't have the throwaway kind. We dried clothes on a line, not in an energy-gobbling machine burning up 220 volts -- wind and solar power really did dry our clothes back in our early days. Kids got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new clothing. But that young lady is right; we didn't have the green thing back in our day.

Back then, we had one TV, or radio, in the house -- not a TV in every room. And the TV had a small screen the size of a handkerchief (remember them?), not a screen the size of the state of Montana.

In the kitchen, we blended and stirred by hand because we didn't have electric machines to do everything for us.

When we packaged a fragile item to send in the mail, we used wadded up old newspapers to cushion it, not Styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap.

Back then, we didn't fire up an engine and burn gasoline just to cut the lawn. We used a push mower that ran on human power. We exercised by working so we didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity. But she's right; we didn't have the green thing back then.

We drank from a fountain when we were thirsty instead of using a cup or a plastic bottle every time we had a drink of water. We refilled writing pens with ink instead of buying a new pen, and we replaced the razor blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor -- just because the blade got dull. But we didn't have the green thing back then.

Back then, people took the streetcar or a bus and kids rode their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their moms into a 24-hour taxi service. We had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And we didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 23,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest burger joint.

But isn't it sad the current generation laments how wasteful we old folks were just because we didn't have the green thing back then?

Please forward this on to another selfish old person who needs a lesson in conservation from a young person.

The Life and Times of Emerald Snow Birds in Florida.

This month I will digress from my snowbird activities and take a trip down memory lane and briefly describe our first Feis. I am tapping into long term memory for this report and I am not sure who was there back then to help me fill in the blank spots. Owen Farrell or Seamus Burke might be a good source as I know they were there, as was Rose Kelly. As you all know it was held in Smoyer's field.

Smoyer's field was a lovely piece of land on route 52 in the Town of Kent.

There was nothing there other than a fine crop of grass. Our first task was to cut the grass and that was done by Johnny Mulvihill on a riding mower. That I remember vividly.

Johnny was John's son, may they both Rest in Peace.

Next on the agenda was laying wire for to carry electricity to the stages, kitchen, and wherever electricity might be needed. Everyone in attendance pitched in with a shovel, pick ax or whatever was available to complete the task at hand. The wires had to be buried to make sure nobody tripped on them.

Our Jack of all trades, John Mulvihill, took over the task of supervising the laying of the cable and positioning the stages.

In the meantime, another bunch of tasks were going on simultaneously and they included building the kitchen, building the bar, assembling the gift Shop. I had built a lean-to structure at the back of John Mulvihill's house. I built it in such a way that it was held together with hinges and could easily be assembled and disassembled relatively easy. And that was our first Gift Shop. Kathleen Farrell (RIP) ran the gift shop that year.

And yes folks we had a bar at our first Feis but never since. It was designed and operated by Ed Kelly (RIP) who was Rose's husband. I have no statistics pertaining to its success. Since a person can run up a thirst on a hot day in May, I am sure it was visited pretty often.

We were really multi-tasking on that faithful Saturday. While all the aforementioned activities were going on, another group had gone to Brewster to get the stages. After they were delivered to the proper locations on the field a group of carpenters patched the bases and attached the plywood for the dancers.

All the tasks were completed and everyone went home very tired to rest up for the next day. The Feis ran very smooth. I don't have any statistics as to the number of entries but I am sure it was a success as we have been doing it ever since.

We had only one complaint and that was from some old hump from New York City who owned property at the other end of Smoyer's field who complained about the announcements coming from the speakers. John Mulvihill lowered the volume a notch and the activities continued uninterrupted.

By the end of the day, the field was returned to its former beauty. The stages were returned to the United Irish Counties by Eddie Burke (RIP) in better shape than when they were received. Additional cleanup was performed on Monday by a few staunch senior citizens and they included, Eddie Connors, Pat Boyle, John Feerick and Martin McManus. There may have been others but I had to go to work and was not present to do a head count. As they are all dead now, may they Rest in Peace, but they were the best, dedicated and great workers.

That is all for now.

Pat Farrell

Meet this year's Grand Marshal for the 43rd Annual St. Patrick Day Parade, Bill Dowling.

Please join us this Friday, February 1st at Centennial Golf Club in Carmel to honor and congratulate Bill at the 2019 Grand Marshal Installation Dinner

Bill Dowling

William "Bill" Dowling was born in Saint Francis Xavier Parish in the Morris Park section of the Bronx, the son of Edward and Mary (Finegan). Bill's brother, Reverend Edward T. Dowling S.J., is a member of the Jesuit community of Fordham University.

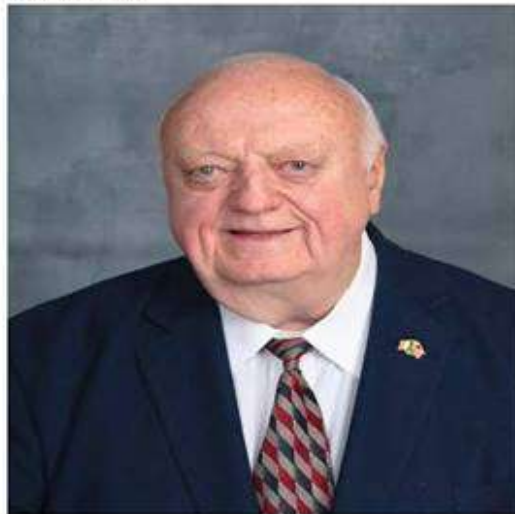
Bill grew up in the Throggs Neck / Silver Beach section of the Bronx and was educated by the Sisters of Mercy and the Marist Brothers. He enjoyed playing all sports, especially football and coached local football and basketball teams.

He married his childhood sweetheart, Mary Rush, in 1964 and they are the proud parents of four children: Katie, John, Christine and Billy. They have lived in Lake Carmel since 1971, where Bill coached Little League baseball and Flag Football for Kent Recreation. Bill has been a member of Local 28 Sheet Metal Workers Union for 55 years.

Endowed with a natural love and respect for his Irish heritage, Bill was an active member of the Emerald Association of Putnam County and the West-Put Gaels, where he was selected Gael of the Year for 1995. He also served on the Saint Patrick's Day Parade Committee for several years.

Bill was a member of the Holy Name Society at Saint Francis de Chantal Parish in Throggs Neck, and served as an usher in Our Lady of the Lake Church in Carmel. He has been an active member of the Knights of Columbus 6318 since 1975, where he served as Inside Guard, Outside Guard, Lector and Sergeant-at-Arms; he also served on the Board of Directors for many years. He has devoted many years to the Schmidt-Tangredi Squires, our local chapter of the Knights of Columbus youth group, involving boys 13 to 17 years of age.

Bill has been proud to march in the Northern Westchester-Putnam Saint Patrick's Day Parade for many years, first pushing his young children in a stroller, and in later years, carrying his young grandson in his arms. He now proudly marches with all seven of his grandchildren.





Northern Westchester – Putnam 43rd Annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade

**Sunday, March 10, 2019 at 2:00pm
Grand Marshal of the 2019 Parade**

Bill Dowling

This Parade is one of the largest parades in New York State with 6 divisions – it consists of numerous marching bands, police and fire departments, civil servants, schools and various organizations throughout the state.

Parade will be kicked off with the Pledge of Allegiance at 1:30 by the 9/11 memorial on the corner of Route 6 and Croton Falls Road.

Parade will kick off at 2:00 pm sharp. Lineup will be on Route 6 between Mt. Hope Road and the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department.

Buses will run from the Lake Plaza Shopping Center to the Corner of Route 6 and Croton Falls Road starting at 11:30 am.

**PLEASE COME OUT AND SHARE THE DAY
CELEBRATE YOUR HERITAGE AND BEING AN AMERICAN.**

**For Participation or Sponsorship Information go to
www.SaintPatricksDayParade.net or email Info@SaintPatrickDayParade.net**



The Emerald Association of Putnam County
45th Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance

Friday, March 15, 2019
Vails Pavilion
5 Vails Blvd, Brewster, NY

Music provided by Mike & Norzen Sherry
O'Rourke Irish Dancers will perform

Doors open at 6pm; Appetizers served from 6pm-7pm;
Buffet Dinner from 7pm-8pm; Dancing from 7pm-11pm

The Emerald Association will honor
Eilgen Weir
as "Emerald of the Year"

Donation: \$60 per person; BYOB
(includes: appetizers, dinner, beer, wine, soda, coffee, tea,
Irish soda bread and assorted desserts)

Reservations & info contact:
Dympna Zazzaro - Chairperson
845-278-8271
or email dympnaz@aol.com

Checks payable to: Emerald Association of Putnam County
mail to: Dympna Zazzaro
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Brewster, NY 10509

RSVP deadline March 8, 2019