



February 2023 Newsletter

General Info:

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

General Membership Meeting Schedule

2nd Friday of each month September through June.
at the Trinity Lutheran Church hall located at 2103 Route 6 in Brewster.
March 10th, April 14th, May 12th, June 9th. Doors open at 7:15pm – meeting starts at 8pm.

Executive Board:

President: John Shanley 845.590.3052
Past President: Nuala Donnelly: 845.494.9460
Vice President: John Molloy 914.438.9384
Treasurer: Margaret O'Reilly 845.225.7375
Correspondence Secretary: Dympna Zazzero 845.278.8271
Recording Secretary: Mary Reamer
Membership Secretary: Declan Sheeran: 845.661.7527

Board Members:

Kerry Desandre; Jim Dolan; John Glynn; Pauline Killean; Mary Thorne; Mickey Tierney

Member News:

Members are encouraged to submit news of births, deaths, marriages, et al to John Molloy by telephone to (914) 485-1241 or by text to (914) 438-9384 or by email to jgmpe@optonline.net or by mail to 11 October Lane, Mahopac, NY 10541.

There is no member news to report this month.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE NEWS:

The St. Patrick's Day Parade for 2023 will be on March 12, 2023. Step off time is 2:00 PM. (Please remember that on March 12, 2023 at 2:00 AM the clocks are moved forward by one hour to commence Daylight Savings Time.)

There are seven parade sponsoring organizations, plus the Parade Committee itself. Each year one of these eight organizations has the responsibility of appointing the Grand Marshal of the parade. This year that honor went to the Northern Westchester Putnam St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee.

The 2023 Grand Marshal is Patrick O'Malley. The choice has been overwhelmingly applauded. It should be noted that Patrick O'Malley's Grandfather was one of the founding members of the Northern Westchester Putnam St. Patrick's Day Parade, and its first Grand Marshal.

On February 3, 2023 the Grand Marshal Installation Dinner was held at Centennial Golf Club, Simpson Road, Carmel. The Emerald Association was well represented and, you will please note that every member of the Northern Westchester – Putnam Saint Patrick's Day Parade Committee is also a member of the Emerald Association of Putnam County.

Every year, on parade day, the reviewing stand is constructed on a flatbed truck supplied by Liffy Van Lines and the construction crew is made up entirely of Emeralds.

It would not be an exaggeration to call the Emeralds the "backbone" of the parade. Notably, many of the people who work so hard to put the parade "on the street" every year in March are the same people who work so hard to make the Feis successful each May. Let's please have a great turnout for the parade. Please remember to wear your green Emerald jacket.

Please also understand that the Emeralds and the Parade Committee are completely separate and autonomous. The Emeralds do not control what the parade committee does and vice versa. Anyone, from any organization or from no organization, is free to apply for membership in the parade committee or the Emeralds.

Save the Date:

St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance

The 2023 Emerald Association St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance will be on March 25, 2023 beginning at 6:00 pm. The location is Tilly's Table, Route 312, Brewster. Live music will be provided by The Susan and Gerard Band.

Every year one member of the Emerald Association is selected to be honored as the Emerald of the Year at the St. Patrick's Day dinner dance. This year the Emerald of the Year will be Catherine Cioffi. Catherine hails from Tarbert in County Kerry. She was raised on her parent's dairy farm and her biography is attached to this newsletter.

Emerald Association Scholarship 2023

2023 Scholarship applications will be available at our monthly meetings through March. It is also posted on our website. Applications are due no later than March 11th with scholarships awarded April 14th. Please refer to the application for qualification criteria. See attached.

Social Media

“Like” our page on Facebook 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. Comments or suggestions are always welcome.

Member News Hotline:

Our newsletter competes for your attention with television news; newspapers; Facebook; emails and countless other media, so to raise the level of the quality of our Newsletter we have set up an electronic hotline at jgmpc@optonline.net. Please submit all birth, death, marriage, social events and other news which our members should hear about. Don't think that someone else may submit the tid-bit, so you don't have to. You may be the only person who has heard about something and you should not keep it to yourself.

Dues:

If you are unsure of your membership status, please contact Declan Sheeran at dsheeran62@yahoo.com. Dues are \$30 per Family; \$20 per Individual.

Feis 2023:

On Sunday, May 21, 2023, the annual Feis will take place at Putnam Veteran's Park, but that is just the date for the music and dancing. The work to set up the stages, kitchen, trophy area, picnic tables, etc takes place in the days before the Feis. After the Feis is over, the stages and everything else that was set up needs to be taken down.

Beginning on Thursday May 18, 2023 volunteers are needed to transport tons of plywood from the trailer to the stage areas. On Saturday May 20th, starting at 8:00 AM we need 15 or 20 volunteers to drive screws into plywood with a screw gun. People with no experience will be taught. Please recruit any able bodied teenage young men for a day of “on the job” training.

On the day of the Feis, we need volunteers for a wide range of tasks. Please come to the Feis meeting following the January General Membership meeting and sign up for something interesting.

Other:

All Emerald Association members are invited to help ensure the future of the organization by telling family members, friends, co-workers, etc.... about the events, comradery, fellowship and raucous good times enjoyed by all in our presence! Especially in difficult times, people with similar values and backgrounds seek comfort in the company of similar souls. A new friend is simply a stranger that you have not met yet.

On the same mission from a different perspective, members are asked to regularly don their thinking caps to come up with creative ways to increase membership. For example, opening our doors to non-members at the Fall Social was a great way to show people how great some of us dance and how gregarious all of us are. The Emeralds will survive only by continuing to add members.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE FUNDRAISER

As you likely realize, it costs a substantial amount of money to stage the Putnam Northern Westchester St. Patrick's Day parade each year. All of the work is done by volunteers. There are eight members of the parade committee and seven sponsoring organizations. The sponsoring organizations pay dues and money is raised in a number of creative ways each year, but I would like to bring to the community's attention that Dana and Danny at Fiddlers Green Pub are extremely generous with their time and money. Fiddlers Green helps many Irish organizations in our community and the community's loyalty to Fiddlers Green is well known and well deserved.

On Sunday February 19, 2023, beginning at 5:00 PM, Fiddlers Green will be holding what promises to be a raucous good time, judging from the same event last year. In 2022 Fiddlers Green hosted a fundraiser for the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee and the place was packed with smiling, friendly people from wall to wall.

This year, beginning at 5:00 PM on February 19, 2023 there will be live music, both trad and contemporary; raffles; adult beverages; 50/50 drawings; wholesome food and a great deal of comradery. A percentage of the sale of Smithwicks and Guinness will be donated to the Parade Committee.

All are invited and a great time is guaranteed. Once again, Dana and Danny have come through with a greatly appreciated helping hand.

**JOHN GIFFORD MOLLOY BC.
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW**

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845-743-1234 Rich,Anthony,Tom



EMERALD ASSOCIATION OF PUTNAM COUNTY
P.O. Box 141
Brewster, NY 10509

2023 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Candidates Name: _____

Home address: _____

email address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

High School: _____

Member's Name: _____

Representative's Name: _____

The Emerald Association Scholarships are awarded each year to graduating high school students who are planning to continue their education at a college, university or approved technical or business school. The candidates must be sons, daughters, grandchildren of members of The Emerald Association of Putnam County. Please complete the application and return to: **Jim Scully** (skullman@reagan.com)

Guidelines for the \$600 Emerald Scholarship:

- Candidates who meet all the guidelines will participate in the scholarship drawing. Six (6) will be chosen.
- The drawing will take place at the April general membership meeting.
- A member in good standing must submit candidate's name.
- Dues must be paid by March General Membership meeting of current year.
- Candidate's representative must be a member for the last two (2) years - September through June.
- Member must have attended a minimum of four (4) meetings each year. Attendance sign-in is required.
- Candidate must be represented at the drawing by herself/himself or the representative listed above.
- The proceeds of the scholarship will be paid upon successful completion of the 1st semester and submission to the scholarship administrator of an "official, raised stamped" transcript from the institution.
- Candidates or members of their family are required to help at the annual Feis held each May and demonstrate a history of participation in events that promote "Irish Culture"* or participate in Community Service during Middle and High School. (Min 10 hrs)
- Completed application must be received by the Scholarship Administrator, Jim Scully on/or before the March meeting.

*Gaelic football, hurling, Irish step dancing, musical instrument or other Irish traditional activity.

Good Luck!

Jim Scully

Scholarship Administrator

The Emerald Association of Putnam County
46th St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance

Saturday, March 25, 2023

Tilly's Table

At Tilly Foster Farm

100 Route 312, Brewster, NY

Music provided by The Susan & Gerard Band
Irish Step 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
Catherine Gioffi
as "Emerald of the Year"

\$80 per person

(Includes: appetizers, buffet dinner, beer, wine, soda, coffee, tea,
Irish soda bread and assorted desserts)

For reservations & info contact:

Dympna Zazzero - Chairperson

845-278-8271

or email dympnaz@aol.com

Checks payable to: Emerald Association of Putnam County

mail to: Dympna Zazzero

280 Farm to Market Rd

Brewster, NY 10509

RSVP deadline March 15, 2023



Congratulations to Catherine Theresa Cioffi Emerald of the Year 2023



Catherine Theresa Cioffi (Nee Sheehan)

Catherine was born in Tarbert Co. Kerry Ireland to Nora & John Sheehan on a large dairy farm.

She was the fifth child, born in the middle of nine children, four brothers and four sisters. At the young yet mature age of seventeen Catherine came to America and found herself residing in the Bronx.

The first of various jobs was with the New York telephone company in New York City. Her older sister Maureen, who was a manager, had taken her under her wing.

It wasn't all work; she soon began to enjoy time away from the city and ventured with friends & family to the Catskills. In 1960, on one of the many trips to East Durham in the Catskills, she met Al Cioffi, who she described as "the man of her dreams" at a dance held at the Shamrock House. Knowing they were meant for a lifetime of love they were wed at Christ the King Roman Catholic church on the Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY.

Through their marriage built a loving home on Gleason Avenue in the Bronx and were blessed with four children (3 girls & one boy). In 2001 they made a life changing decision to move to Mahopac New York.

With this move they were also introduced to the Emeralds and were welcomed to join and Catherine became an active member.

This brings us to today. Catherine enjoys family & friends. She loves to be hosting in her home and being with her ten grandchildren whenever she can. A perfect day now is sharing love with family & friends knowing Al is smiling down from above.