

☘ The Order of ☘
the Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh
of the Carolina's



Carolina's Shillelagh Quarterly Newsletter – January 2026



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Brother Shillelagh's,

The monthly meetings at **The Beaver Bar** have been going well. The Beaver family have been great hosts. A big thank you to **Jack Gregory** for providing the food at the meetings. In October **Drew Chambers** hosted a **Cigar & Bourbon night** at **O'Keefe's Irish Pub**. This was the best attended C/B night and planning is underway for the next cigar night event that will be **Irish Whiskey**.

Our **Food Drive** was run by **Jim Dougherty**. Members and people in the area were very generous this year. Our members delivered the food to the **South Strand Helping Hands**. They were very appreciative. The **Murrells Inlet Christmas Parade** was a big hit and well attended, despite the cold weather. Our **Xmas Toy Dive** was one of our largest yet. We delivered the toys to **The Village Group of Pleasantville**. They were very grateful and impressed with the amount of toys. Compliments to our members and the people of our area for being so generous. We also presented a check for \$2500 to the Village Group - Thanks to our **Golf League** for **donating \$500**.

We hosted this year's **Quint Golf Outing**. **Gary Friedhoff** ran the outing and did a great job., There were **116 golfers** with **76 coming down from NJ**. The day before the golf outing we held a **Meet & Greet** at **Doyle's Bar & Grill**, a good time.

The **Christmas Party** was a great night. The entertainment was provided by **35 Knotz** and the **Coastal Shields Pipe Band**. Our **Super 50/50** was our largest so far with **over \$16k!** **Jimmy Gaffigan** and **Gary Friedhoff** did a great job distributing the raffle books to our members. **Jack Gregory** provided the food for the night; we are so grateful for his contributions to the club.

We took a **vote by the members** that were present before the Christmas party. The vote was for the approval to rent a **store front at 2464 Rt 17B in Murrells Inlet for a club**. The vote was overwhelming to go forward with renting the space for 2 years. We must apply for a liquor license that could take 2 months. So, we are looking forward to a **March Opening**.

We had **11 new members** installed this quarter bringing our membership to **210**.

For the new year we have the **Polar Plunge** scheduled for February, and the **North Myrtle Beach St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 14th**. **All members are required to march**. For those who cannot physically march, transportation will be provided.

Best Wishes for a Healthy and Prosperous New Year!

Slainte'

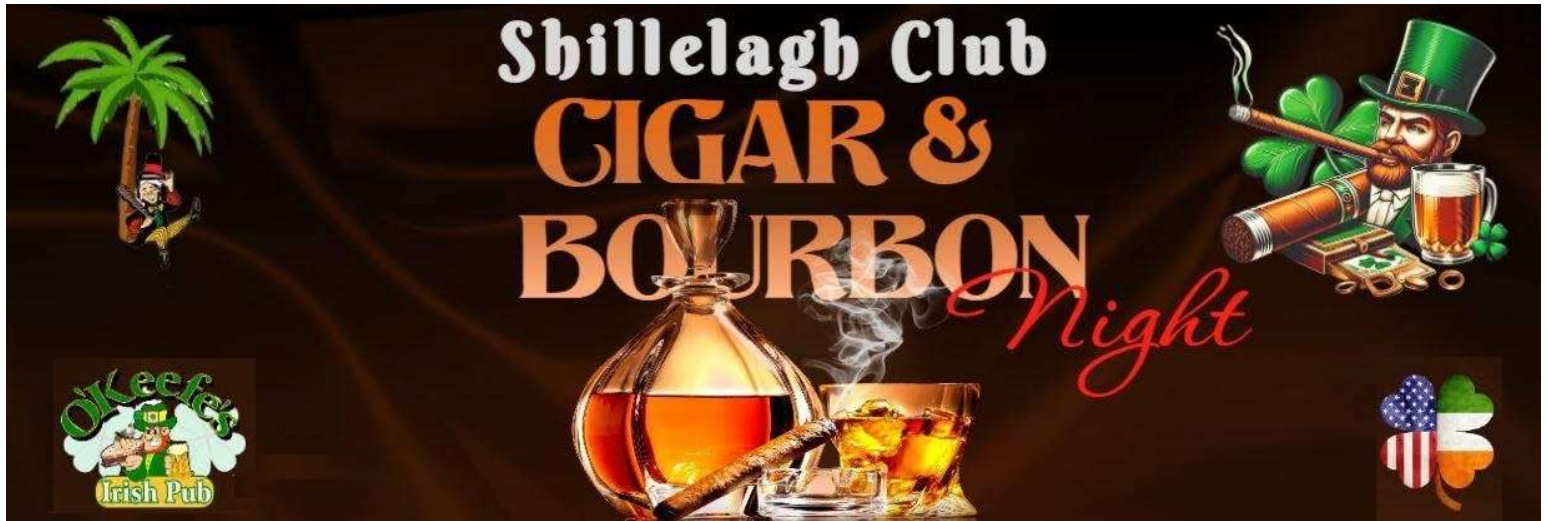
Paul A. Mueller

President of the FSOS,

Carolina's Chapter

4th Quarter Recap...Cigar & Bourbon / Food Drive

Friday, October 24th – Cigar & Bourbon Night at O'Keefe's Irish Pub. This was another successful event, with over 30 people attending. The Largest Yet and Netted **\$1000+ profit**. The next event is being planned for the new year and will be an **Irish Whiskey Night**. We'll keep you posted on all the details as we get them. Thanks **Drew Chambers** for all your effort on these events!



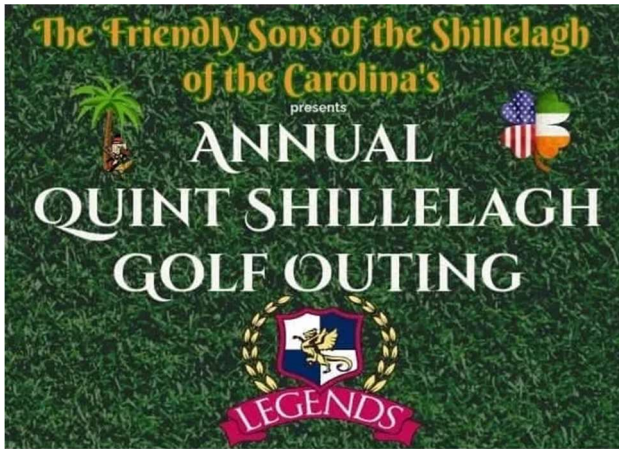
November 12th - Thanksgiving Food Drive – Jim Dougherty reports that we received a good amount of food and delivered it to **South Strand Helping Hands**. Special thanks to **Willbrook Plantation, Southside Patty's, O'Keefe's Irish Pub, Mulberry Street NY Pizza, Goodfellows Cigar Shop** for their support with collection boxes. Congrats to **Southside Patty's** for collecting the most, while second most goes to **Bohemian Bull!**





4th Quarter Recap...*Quint Golf Outing / Christmas Parade*

Saturday & Sunday, November 15th-16th – Our FSOS Chapter Hosted this year's Annual Quint Shillelagh Golf Outing! There were 116 members, including 75 members from up North. Thanks to everyone who helped make this such a huge success. The Clubs from up North would like to have the next Quint in Myrtle Beach again.



*Thanks to **Ernie Schriefer & Bill Mayfield** for handling registration and, thank you to all who came out and supported our cause.*

Sunday, December 7th – Murrells Inlet Christmas Parade was another fun event for our club. Thanks to everyone who participated.





4th Quarter Recap...Christmas Toy Drive



December 19th - The Shillelagh Club 4th Annual Christmas Toy Drive was at the Beaver Bar. We had another great turn out with music by 35 Knotz and Coastal Carolina Shield Pipes & Drums. We had over 400 people walk through the door with hundreds of toys donated. Thanks to O'Keefe's Irish Pub, Southside Patty, Bohemian Bull, Goodfellas Cigar Shop, Blue Sky Restaurant, Q's Chair Barber Shop and Mulberry Street NY Pizza for supporting this effort with Collection boxes. This year O'Keefe's Irish Pub topped it off with the most toys collected.

Our Super 50/50 was also pulled and the winners were:

1st. Place - Tom Parker club member \$4,115.00

2nd. Place John Krawczyk \$2,469.00

3rd. Place John Davin club member \$1,647.00

***John Krawczyk donated back \$496.00 to the club.**

The toys were delivered on Dec 16, to The Village Group at the Plantersville Elementary School with a U-Haul filled with Toys. The club also presented Ray Funnye, Director of the Village Group, with a check for \$2,500.00. Rob Conroy and the Golf Club stepped up big time and donated \$500.00 towards the total. Thank you to LeAnn from Low Country Tops for donating the U-Haul truck for the delivery. Also, a big thank you to Jason Kiley from Tito's Trolley for providing the transportation. A huge thank you to Leslye and Allison Beaver from The Beaver Bar. We could not pull this off without them.





4th Quarter Recap...FSOS GOLF LEAGUE



FSOS GOLF LEAGUE - This year's golf league lasted **40 weeks**. It began the last week of **February** to **Thanksgiving**. We played at over **25 different courses** from Pawley's Plantation at the south end of Pawley's Island to Oyster Bay in Calabash NC. **712 rounds** were played by **71 golf members**; this does not include rounds played by guests with our group.

Each week we play different games such as **skins, drop 3 worst holes, odd or even holes only, scramble and best ball**. Our scores range from a few in the 70's to many well over 100. Every week after golf we go to a place near the course we played for lunch. We collect **\$20 per golfer** toward a **prize pool** each week and more often than not the winners lose money afterwards buying refreshments.

We had **3 parties this year**. The first was a **British Open breakfast at Sparky's** on the Sunday of British Open weekend. **Pete Ganzer** hosted a party at his home catered by **Jack Gregory** after we played nearby at Pawley's Plantation. and then the final week, we went to **The Goat in Carolina Forest** after playing King's North at Myrtle Beach National.

A huge thank you to **Kevin McGuire** who helped us with scheduling at all of the **Founders** courses. We only played 7 courses that were not in The Founders Group.

This year we started a season long competition. Low gross and low net were awarded 3 points for 1st, 2 points for 2nd and 1 point for 3rd. Prizes at the end of the year were awarded to the top 3 in both low gross & low net. The **low gross winners** were **Mark Alizeo** with 44 points, **Pete Ganzer** with 31 points and **Andrew Evangelista** with 19 points. These are the few who shoot in the 70's. The **low net winners** were **Don "Doc" Brown** with 22 points, **Rob Conroy** with 13 points & a tie for 3rd with 10 points for **Keith Chase & Mark Alizeo**.

If anyone wants to get into the golf league just send an email to fsosgolf@gmail.com and I will add you to the roster and get you set up with our scheduling and scoring app. We are going to tweak some things this off season to make next year our best yet!

Finally, I can't thank **Matt Bigley & Pete Ganzer** enough for all of their help running the league the past 3 years. They do a great job running a mini-golf outing each week!

Rob Conroy – Golf League Director



Upcoming Events...

Saturday, March 14th – The 36th Annual North Myrtle Beach St. Patrick’s Day Parade – This is always a great time. This is a **Required Event** in **Full FSOS Uniform**. For those who cannot physically march, transportation will be provided. More details will be provided as we get closer to the event.



**Enjoy food, vendors,
a kid’s area, contests,
and more!**

**Sat. March 14th
9 am - 4 pm | Main Street, NMB**



Shillelagh Club ANNOUNCEMENT

Saturday, April 25th – Team FSOS will compete for the very first time in the 2026 Annual Dragon Boat Festival held at the Market Common Grant Park Lake.

The Dragon Boat Festival is an exciting and family-friendly event centered around the ancient tradition of Chinese dragon boat racing. But more than that, it’s also a fundraiser, sponsored by Ground Zero — a faith-based nonprofit in Myrtle Beach whose mission is to help teenagers make healthy life choices through mentorship and leadership. We are looking for volunteers to fill our 25-member team (20 paddlers, 1 drummer and 4 alternates). Anyone interested in volunteering or donation to this fundraiser can contact Dan Dyer at 513-478-7818 or ddyer.tier1pr@gmail.com

18th Annual Dragon Boat Festival
Saturday, April 25, 2026
9am - 4pm
Grand Park at The Market Common, Myrtle Beach



Saturday, April 25th – Team FSOS will compete for the very first time in the **2026 Annual Dragon Boat Festival** held annually at the **Market Common Grant Park Lake**. The Dragon Boat Festival is an exciting and family-friendly event centered around the ancient tradition of Chinese dragon boat racing. But more than that, it’s also a fundraiser, sponsored by **Ground Zero** — a faith-based nonprofit in Myrtle Beach whose mission is to help teenagers make healthy life choices through mentorship and leadership. We are **looking for volunteers** to fill our **25-member team (20 paddlers, 1 drummer and 4 alternates)**. Anyone interested in **volunteering or donating** to this fundraiser can contact **Dan Dyer at 513-478-7818 or ddyer.tier1pr@gmail.com**



Upcoming Meetings...



Tuesday, January 6 – Social Happy Hour at Neal’s Creekhouse
Tuesday, January 20 – FSOS Member Meeting at The Beaver Bar

Tuesday, February 3 – Social Happy Hour – TBD
Tuesday, February 17 – FSOS Member Meeting at The Beaver Bar

Tuesday, March 3 – Social Happy Hour – TBD
Tuesday, March 17 – FSOS Member Meeting at The Beaver Bar



New Members...

**Welcome To Our 4th Quarter New Members,
 And Thank You to Their Sponsors!**

New Members

James Brooks
 Robert Brownrigg
 John Coleman
 John Considine
 James Cummings
 James Higgins

Sponsors

Jim Evans
 Keith Chase
 Drew Chambers
 Paul Conlin
 Gary Friedhoff
 Gary Friedhoff

New Members

Brendon Keatley
 Brett Kowalewski
 Michael Matthews
 Raymond McKinstry
 Patrick Tripodi
 Caz Ziobro

Sponsors

Rick Richter
 Chris Lopez
 Gary Friedhoff
 Mike Devins
 Brendon Keatley
 John Gregory

In the 4th Quarter of 2025 Our Membership Grew By 12!

Sponsors, please note that applicants must meet with the Membership Committee prior to their second reading to be accepted as a member!



Membership Housekeeping...

Our official uniform consists of the Shillelagh Shirt, Khaki Shorts or Pants, & Hat

Full uniform is required for marching in parades, honor guard, memorial services, and other important events. During less formal occasions, just the Shirt is acceptable. While you are representing our club, locally and elsewhere, we do ask that you do so in a respectful and dignified manner.

Shillelagh Uniforms and Apparel can be purchased by contacting the Keeper of the Shillelagh, Kevin Scully by phone at 732-766-3961 or via e-mail at rotti-2@hotmail.com

Shirts



Uniforms

Hats



We also have some new gear available!

Hats \$25



Koozies \$5



Membership Dues

The annual membership fees are due in July. This year's membership fee is \$50 by check or \$55 for online payments to cover processing fee. Payments can be made in person at any FSOS Meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the **FSOS Member Meeting at The Beaver Bar** or by mail to **Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh, P.O. Box 392, Murrells Inlet, SC 29576.**

If you have any questions, please contact

Don Stratton at drs295@sc.rr.com or Mike Devins at mfdevins@gmail.com

Members Website

Our **FSOS Website** is available to the **Public** at: <https://fsoscarolinas.com/>

From the **Public FSOS Website** there is a **Members Only** tab – but you need to **Sign-Up** to get access. Here is where you sign-up: <https://fsoscarolinas.com/m/create-account>

Here are a few items available from within the **Members Only** section:

- * Annual Membership Dues Payment Portal
- * Online Donation Portal
- * Shillelagh Club Members List
- * Club Meeting Minutes
- * New Membership Application
- * FSOS By-Laws

If you have any questions, please contact Jim Dougherty at jimdoc58@gmail.com

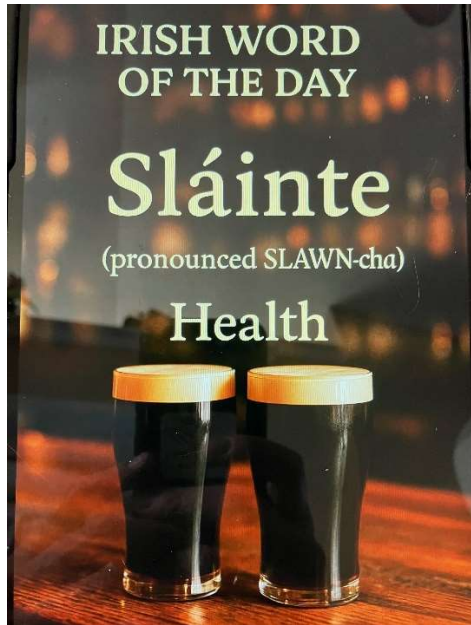
Website Suggestions / Newsletter / Photo Submissions

The tech committee would love more content on our website, both members-only and public-facing material. We restarted with a clean slate, but do have all previous editions of our site. We are collecting memories, anecdotes, cultural notes and important club and Celtic history in general. We are also assembling photos for internal historical photo galleries, and/or to be displayed on our vestibule/menu TVs in between promotional items (to come).

We are happy to take your submissions directly at: FSOS.Carolinas@gmail.com



History & Humor:



Slàinte is a word from the Gaelic language that means "health" or, in the context of a toast, "cheers".

When used in the phrase "Slàinte Mhath," it translates to "good health" and is a traditional way to wish well-being to others during a drink.

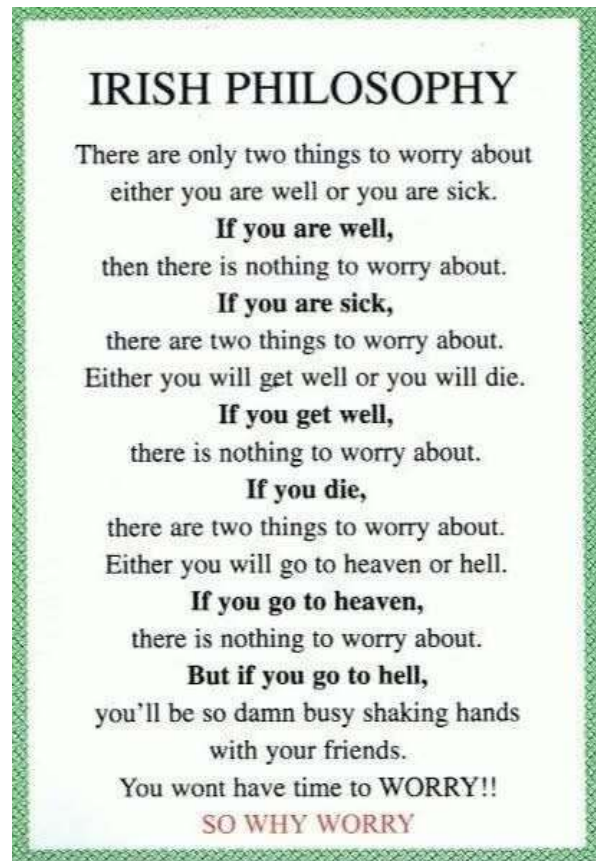
Slàinte to our members and their families 🍀

Learn more at: [The Irish Gem](#) on Facebook

Submitted by: Don Stratton



Submitted by: Don Stratton



Submitted by: Dan Dyer

Now accepting submissions for History & Humor at: FSOS.Carolinas@gmail.com



Good & Welfare...

One of our Charter Members, Bill Paglione (Pags as we call him) has had health issues for a while, preventing him from participating in our events and meetings.

Member Andrew Wahlberg, and co-owner of Southside Patty's is having health issues as well.

***Keep Bill "Pags" Paglione and Andrew Wahlberg in our thoughts.
Get Well Brothers!***



***Remember...Love the Ones You're With,
Slàinte!***



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Rob Conroy



Businesses Mentioned in this Newsletter!



O'Keefe's Irish Pub



The Beaver Bar



Founders Group International



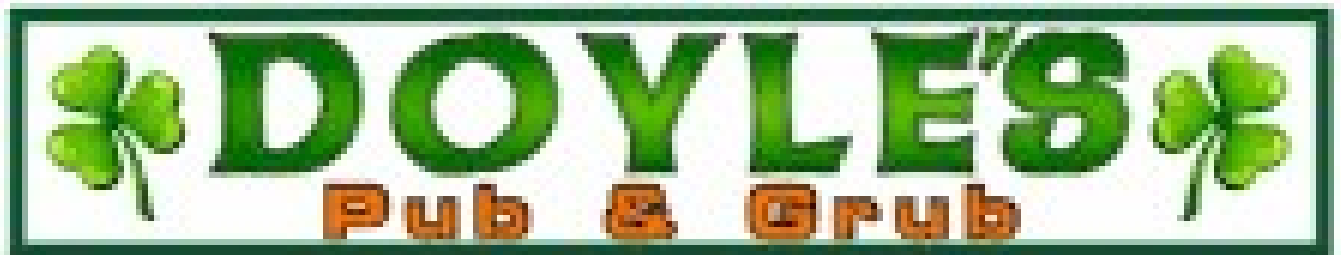
Willbrook Plantation



Plantersville Elementary



The Village Group



Doyle's Pub & Grub