

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



Carolina's Shillelagh Quarterly Newsletter – April 2026



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Brother Shillelagh's,

*The new year has been dominated by getting our clubhouse up and running. The building committee is getting plans ready and submitted to Horry County. We are in the process of restructuring the interior of the store front. Our building committee is chaired by **Gary Friedhoff**, and he is doing a fantastic job.*

*Our meetings at **The Beaver Bar** have been well attended. Our social happy hours at **Neal's Creek House**, **Bovines** and **Lad's** have been well attended as well.*

*In February the **Polar Bear Plunge** event went off with a low turnout by our members. In the past we had a large turnout by members and their families. There have been some issues raised by the event planners which we'll need to address. It is a worthwhile fundraiser, and we do get good exposure.*

*March was our time to shine. The North Myrtle Beach parade was a good day. We had 91 members march. That is not even half of our 217 membership! We need to do better in future parades. A big thank you goes out to our member **Austin Mueller** for leading us with his bagpipes throughout the entire parade.*

*I want to thank **Graham's Golf Cars** for the use of their parking lot and to **Kevin McGuire** for setting it up.*

*On **St. Patrick's Day**, we celebrated at **O'Keefe's Bar**. We were able to set our tent up and sell our 50/50 tickets. All sales of our 50/50s totaled \$15k with \$7,500 going to three winners.*

*Member **Jack Gregory** has continued to be a great asset to our club. He provides the food for our monthly meetings. Thank you Jack.*

*Jack is organizing **The International Food Festival** in May at the **Beaver Bar**. We need our members and their families to attend to make it an overwhelming event.*

The club house will be open in the near future and will make being a member of the FSOS of the Carolina's the best of the Shillelaghs!!

Slainte'

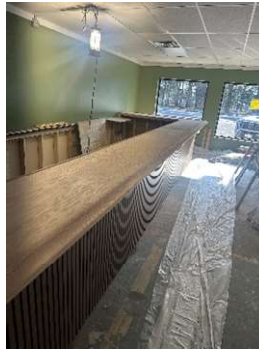
*Paul A. Mueller
President of the FSOS,
Carolina's Chapter*



CLUBHOUSE UPDATE...

Our Club House is coming together nicely! Thanks to the many members who have volunteered and/or donated their time and money to our Club!

The clubhouse project is **90% complete** and we are still waiting on the county for our permits. They have reviewed our plans which were handed in a few weeks back and informed us that we are required to have a **second bathroom** which would have to be **ADA compliant**. Unfortunately, Horry County only follows National Building code and not federal guidelines governing ADA. According to the federal guidelines we are a members only private club and are not required to have any ADA compliant bathrooms. At this point we have roughed in the plumbing for the second bathroom, awaiting our inspection. We will keep everyone posted as we move forward.



Cost & Donation thus far

Building supplies	\$11,815.00
Furniture	\$2,485.99
Equipment	\$10,254.07
Service fees plumbing, Art etc.	\$20,307.31
Admin fees, licenses etc.	\$1,143.50
Total as of 3/23/26	\$46,005.93
Minus donation	\$-24,505.00
Out of cost for the club	\$21,500.93

Donations made by members

- Steve Hines** - \$15,000.00
- Joe Carolan** - a Point-of-Sale System \$2,000.00
- Jack Gregory** - a 3 bay Stainless-Steel Sink \$500.00
- Bobby Olesen** - Ice machine water filtration \$300.00
- Gary Friedhoff** - Stainless-Steel Sink for bar \$150.00
- Jim Higgins** - faucet & drain for 3 bay bar sink \$125.00
- Pete Ganzer** - \$1,500.00 under counter 60" Bar Fridge
- Jersey Shore** - Chapter \$1,000.00
- Tim McHale** - \$1,000.00
- Paul Mueller** - \$500.00 Chicago bar rail
- Tommy Carroll** - \$230.00 for Chair rail

- Don Stratton** - \$150.00 table
- Gary Friedhoff** - \$150.00 table
- Bill Mayfield** - \$150.00 table
- Ron LaBrie** - \$150.00 table
- Dave Gomez** - \$150.00 Table
- Matt Bigley** - \$150.00 table
- Ray McKinstry** - \$200.00
- Mike Clancy** - \$300.00
- John Collins** - \$300.00
- Rick Ritcher** - \$500.00

TOTAL \$24,505.00 in donations

Information Provided by: Building Committee



1st Quarter Recap...

Friday, February 20th – Irish Whiskey, Bourbon & Cigar at O’Keefe’s Irish Pub. This was another successful event, with 21 attendees, a good diverse crowd of locals, cigar shop patrons and club members enjoying Great Food and Drinks. **Irish Whiskey was Writers Tears and Tullamore Dew Purple Label.** The Bourbon was **Weller and Buffalo Trace.** Shoutout to **Good Fellas Cigar Shop** and **West Tampa Tobacco** for the Cigars! Special Thanks to **O’Keefe’s** for hosting and **Drew Chambers** for managing these awesome events!



Saturday, March 14th – The 36th Annual North Myrtle Beach St. Patrick’s Day Parade – A good time was had by all, with **91 members in attendance.** A big thanks To **Austin Mueller** for leading our club in the parade route. Also, a big thanks to **Ron LaBrie** for pulling the trailer for us, and **Michael Cannone** for capturing all the photos. Well Done, Gentleman!





1st Quarter Recap...continued

Tuesday, March 17th – FSOS St. Patrick's Day Super 50/50 at O'Keefe's Irish Pub. We hope everyone enjoyed their St. Patrick's Day festivities. We collected a total of \$15,000.00 for our Super 50/50!

Congratulations to the Winners:

1st Place - Larry Raymond - \$3,750.00

2nd Place - Joe Pietrofere - \$2,250.00

3rd Place - Ned Barret - \$1,500.00

*A big thanks to **Jeremy and Jason** for allowing our Club to set up our tent at their event. Selling tickets there really pushed the grand total where it needed to be. Shout out to **Kevin McGuire, Rick Ritcher, Jason Tyree and Tommy Carroll** for their efforts at the tent. A big thank you, to **Jim Gaffigan** for all he does with the raffle committee.*

A big shout out to the community and those who purchased a ticket we really appreciate your support.



*The Shamrockers Golf Club teed off its highly anticipated 2026 season with style at the **River Club** welcoming an impressive turnout of **43 golfers** eager to hit the links. The weather was perfect and course was in good shape. **Mike Clancy's** net 67 took top honors in the "A" Flight. The "B" Flight saw a three-way tie at net 75 between **Jim Gaffigan, Rich Donato and Frank Rutkowski**. We followed up the round at **Litchfield Sub and Pub** for \$5 Cheese steaks and happy hour drink prices.*

*A tip of the cap goes to **Chairman Rob Conroy, Co-Chairman Matt Bigley**, and the dedicated Golf Club committee, whose off-season efforts ensured the opening event was nothing short of a hole-in-one success. There are now 11 members of the committee including: **Keith Chase, Jim Notarfrancesco, Jason Tyree, Mike Devins, Jim Evans, Pete Gillan, Rick Raudabaugh, Jim Higgins and Mike Merkel**. Big thanks to Keith we have new bag tags, shirts and pullovers with the new Shamrockers logo.*

*The golf club grew out of friendships formed amongst the **Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh - Carolina Chapter**, but we extend a warm invitation to anyone passionate about golf. Everyone is welcome, regardless of your ability or if you're just out for the camaraderie.*

Get ready for an exciting calendar of courses this year—no matter what your handicap is, you'll find a place on the greens! Enjoy group rates, automated scoring and handicapping, easy signup, flexible play options, choose-your-own tees, and don't miss our legendary end-of-season party. So, dust off your clubs, join the fun, and meet a fantastic crew of golf-loving new friends.

The season swings into action every Wednesday through mid-November, rotating play across a variety of courses along the scenic Grand Strand.

For all the details, visit www.Shamrockers.golfclub.net or shoot us an email at Shamrockersgolf@gmail.com.

FORE!



Upcoming Events...

Saturday, May 2nd - Annual International Food Festival Presented by Jack Gregory (aka Big Jack). This event will start at 3 pm at The Beaver Bar. Advance tickets are \$30.00, or \$40.00 at the door. 35 Knotz will hit the stage around 3 pm. For more information call Jack at 908-347-9503. This is a great event and Jack's food is outstanding. All proceeds will be split with our FSOS club and the VFW Post #10420. We can't thank Jack enough for all the things he does for the club. **Great job Jack!!!!!!!**

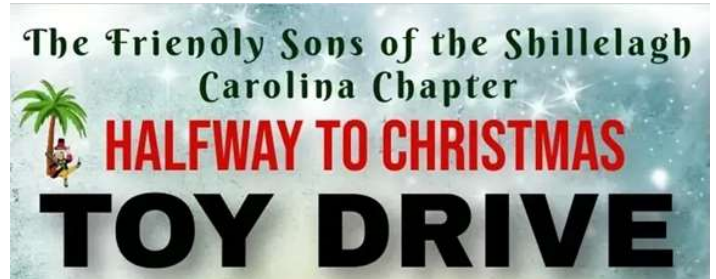


Thursday, May 14th - Time for another Shillelagh Club Family Picnic with the Pelicans! This year we have tickets for the Right Field Picnic Area that includes all you can eat buffet of cheeseburgers, hamburgers, hot dogs, baked chicken salad. We have a reserved section in a covered grandstands - all of this for \$36 per person. For tickets, contact Ernie Schiefer at 732-904-7587. You can also order tickets on our [website](#) - scroll down to the payment button - \$38 Per person online.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

June 13th, 2026 - Shillelagh Club 1/2 Way to Christmas Toy Drive



Friday, July 25, 2026 - 4th Annual Shillelagh Club Golf Tournament



Saturday, July 31, 2026 - FSOS 4th Anniversary - Awards & Sash Exchange Celebration





Upcoming Meetings...



Tuesday, April 7 – Social Happy Hour at Surfside Charlies
Tuesday, April 21 – FSOS Member Meeting at The Beaver Bar

Tuesday, May 5 – Social Happy Hour – TBD
Tuesday, May 26 – FSOS Member Meeting at The Beaver Bar

Tuesday, June 2 – Social Happy Hour – TBD
Tuesday, June 16 – FSOS Member Meeting at The Beaver Bar



New Members...

**Welcome To Our 1st Quarter New Members,
 And Thank You to Their Sponsors!**

<u>New Members</u>	<u>Sponsors</u>	<u>New Members</u>	<u>Sponsors</u>
Gary Meissner	Greg Wurzburger	Vincent King	John Davin
Michael Napier	Jay Killion	Cole Kelly	Drew Chambers
Fred Peoni	Nick Bell	Joseph Lawton	Steve Roberts
Michael Steynberg	Ron Labrie	Patrick McDonnell	Tom Brown

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, 2454 S Hwy 17 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:



Submitted by: Don Stratton



Submitted by: Don Stratton

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



Good & Welfare...

*It is with a heavy heart that we report that fellow club member Bill Rohan recently passed!
Please keep Bill, his family & friends in your prayers!*

*Please also keep the following club members in your thoughts as they deal with health issues:
Bill Paglione, John Collins, Tom Hyland, Rick Richter, and Andrew Wahlberg*



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



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