

St. Patrick Society Boosters

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Fitzsimmons-Walton Family Davenport	Jordan Storage Davenport	Riverboat Development Authority Davenport	

Please Patronize Our Boosters

IRISH SPIRIT
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Davenport, IA 52808

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IRISH SPIRIT

The St. Patrick Society Quad Cities, USA

Phone (563) 324-5000 • Visit our website: www.stpatsqc.com

February 2009

Make Plans for St. Patrick's Day Weekend March 13-14, 2009

Plan now to celebrate your Irish heritage with family and friends throughout the St. Patrick's Day Weekend! We've got a grand lineup of events planned for you. Join the St. Patrick Society of the Quad Cities as we celebrate Grand Parade XXIV!



Gathering of the Clan Luncheon Friday, March 13th

The Gathering of the Clan Luncheon is always the official kickoff of our Grand Weekend. Gather your clan and join us from 11:00am to 1:30pm at the Col Ballroom, 1012 W. 4th Street, Davenport. During the luncheon you will meet the Grand Marshal for Parade XXIV, our lovely 2009 Irish Mother of the Year and the 2009 SPS scholarship winners. Live music from the Don't Be Brothers will entertain during your choice of a traditional corned beef or fish filet lunch served at noon. To reserve your

space, please call Chairperson Kathy Douglas at 355-8214 and mail the enclosed form with your \$12 per lunch payment.

Deadline for reservations and payments is March 9th. Additional reservation forms can be downloaded from the SPS website. **Advance reservations are requested to ensure enough dinners are prepared for all guests. Tickets purchased at the door will be \$15.**



The Mass Saturday, March 14th

The day begins at 10 am with **Mass at St. Mary's Church** in Rock Island. Please join the entire SPS Board of Directors, SPS Founders, current and past Grand Marshalls, Irish Mothers of the Year, Gilhooly Award winners, scholarship winners and the Knights of Columbus Allouez Council Rock Island Honor Guard, as we give thanks for the opportunity to celebrate St. Patrick's Day with those we love. St. Mary's Altar Society offers coffee, juice and donuts from 9-11:30 in the Church Hall.





Grand Parade XXIII Saturday, March 14th

The annual **Grand Parade**, the only inter-state parade in the USA, begins at 11:30 am at the former Knights of Columbus building on the corner of 4th Avenue and 23rd Street, Rock Island.

From there, the route follows the traditional path through the District of Rock Island, crossing the Centennial Bridge and



into downtown Davenport via Gaines, 3rd and Harrison Streets. Our past Grand Marshals and Irish Mothers will again be treated to riding in Trolleys.

Parade applications are available from Chairman John Scally, 309-788-2341. **Applications must be postmarked by February 26.** Trophies will be awarded at the Col Bash. We encourage you to get a group together to enjoy some fresh air and

exercise by walking in the parade. We hope to see many families competing for the Best Irish Family Walking Group trophy again this year. The winning family will also be honored at 2009 Erin Feis on Sep.20th. Other trophies will be awarded in the following categories: Best Irish Float, Best School Group, Best Commercial Entry, Most Unique Entry, International & Best Non-Irish, and Judges Choice.



The Post-Parade Bash Saturday, March 14th

Immediately following the Grand Parade, is the annual SPS members-only Bash at the Col Ballroom in Davenport. Doors open at 1:00. The party ends promptly at 4:30 pm. If you need a 2009 membership you can purchase it at the Col or in advance from any SPS Board member. 2009 memberships are \$15. Kids 15 and under are free. At the Bash there will be more "South Side Irish" music from the Don't Be Brothers, Irish step dancing performances from the Mullane-Healy-O'Brien Irish Dance Academy and delicious food, catered by Golick's Market.

2009 St. Patrick Society Membership Application

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP _____ PHONE _____

Email: _____

\$15.00 Yearly Renewal - Make checks payable to the St. Patrick Society.
Mail form and check to St. Patrick Society, P.O. Box 4487, Davenport, IA 52808

SPS Scholarships

The St. Patrick Society will award three \$1,500 scholarships this year including a scholarship in memory of Karen Fitzsimmons Walton. These awards are available to any high school or college student who is related to a Society member in good standing. Applications are available through school guidance counselors or by downloading a form from the Society website. **Applications must be postmarked by February 26, 2009.** This is a great opportunity for any student wishing to further their collegiate studies. If your school does not have an application, contact Matt Wissing at 563-324-1705. Winners should be available to receive their award during the Gathering of the Clan Luncheon on March 13th.

Irish Mother of the Year Nominations

Think about a special lady in your life or another exceptional woman you would like to honor with the title: Irish Mother of the Year and write to us with a tribute of 150 well-chosen words or less. Describe her general attributes, personality and how she makes you feel. Nominees should be involved in family, church, and community, have a good sense of humor and pride in their Irish heritage. An impartial panel of judges will review all the letters. **Entries must be post-marked by February 26, 2009.** Please send letters to: St. Patrick Society, c/o Irish Mother of the Year, PO Box 4487, Davenport, IA 52808 Please note: Irish Mother candidates must be in the Quad Cities on Grand Parade Weekend.

Full details of all Grand Parade Weekend events can be found at: www.stpatsqc.com.

Condolences

The St. Patrick Society would like to offer condolences to the family of **Jim Mullins**. Jim passed away Jan. 20, 2009. He was a long-time member and supporter of the Saint Patrick Society of the Quad Cities, USA, including being honored as the Grand Marshal of the Saint Patrick's Day Parade in 1997. Our sympathies are with the Mullins family.



**James Mullins
1997**

WANTED

The St. Patrick Society is in need of garage-type space to store our Parade Float. If you have floor space approximately 10 feet x 20 feet with a high door clearance and could store the float during the year please call Denny at 563-940-5755. The SPS is a 501c(3) organization which means your space donation could be tax deductible.