

Issue No. 5

March 2025



WEARIN' of the GREEN

Official Parade Publication



MARCH 15, 2025

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FROM THE FOUNDER

It's the 40th year of the parade! The parade, this event, this day is not about one person or one family. It was a simple walking parade beginning at the corner of Lakeshore Drive and Perkins Road, ending near the foot of the Perkins Road Overpass. Back then, there were only a few food and beverage establishments in the area, nothing like today.

In 1989, the parade expanded. Initial opposition was met with tremendous support from the residents of Hundred Oaks. It's another example of being surrounded by supportive people. Over the years, friends, relatives, and associates have greatly assisted and embraced our vision.

We wanted to have an event where, for a single day, we would be one color – green! And it would all be for fun. Now, friends and family from across the nation come in for reunions, weddings, anniversaries, and birthdays. You can feel the camaraderie. It's in the air. Seven years ago we added the 5K Shamrock Run to the mix. It is a healthy reminder to put your best foot forward on the greatest day of the year.

There have been so many people who have taken part as krewe members or volunteered their time to help us in some way or another. To all of you, thank you! This is your parade. Your support on that day in March has made the Perkins Road area what it is today.

Founder,
Wearin' of the Green,
St. Patrick's Day Parade





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Designed By
TILT
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Photographers
John Ballance
Heather McClelland
Hilary Scheinuk
Bransen Phillips

Writers
Brittany Weiss Shingleton
Michael Shingleton
Pat Shingleton

Website Team
Gatorworks
Digital edition available at
wearinofthegreen.com/magazine

Business Manager
Mabyn Shingleton

The Parade Group, LLC
6906 Moniteau Court
Baton Rouge, LA 70809
brishparade@gmail.com
info@wearinofthegreen.com

@IrishParade

@irishparadebr
@shamrockrunbr

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WATCH THE WEARIN' OF THE GREEN PARADE LIVE ON WBRZ, WBRZ+, WBRZ.COM, AND THE WBRZ APP.



SCAN THE QR CODE FOR PARADE COVERAGE AND REPLAY INFORMATION



ABOUT THE COVER

Our 2025 parade represents the bringing together of Louisiana and Ireland. Pictured are St. Joseph Cathedral (Baton Rouge, Louisiana) and St. Mary's Cathedral (Killarney, Ireland) with our respective flags joined together with the Claddagh Ring, the Irish emblem of love, loyalty, and friendship. Cover and poster illustration by Mason Fry, Slash Design.

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AND I QUOTE...



"With my favorite color being green, I am honored to serve and to lead the 2025 Wearin' of the Green St. Patrick's Day Parade"

Sid Edwards,
Mayor-President of
East Baton Rouge Parish



"I love the Wearin' of the Green Parade because it brings our city together in one of, if not the best, family parades of the year. So put on some green and join us this year at the Wearin' of the Green Parade in our Irish celebration of the best of Baton Rouge."

The Most Rev. Michael G. Duca,
Bishop of Baton Rouge



"Louisiana was created by the sediment deposits of North America – but if there is one natural rock formation, it is the Blarney Stone of Clan Shingleton who have brought the joy and luck of the Irish to Baton Rouge for 40 shamrockin' years. Erin Go Bragh! Or...I'm more Irish than Todd Graves."

Garret Graves,
US Congressman



"Forty years!! I think I have been to every one of them! It is an iconic community event that is more than just a parade; it's a time-honored tradition of celebration that has brought together generations of Baton Rougeans for years. Our business has been on the route for at least 30 of those years."

Jenni Peters,
Varsity Sports on the Route!



"The Baton Rouge St. Patrick's Day Parade is a lively, can't miss celebration that transforms the city into a sea of green, filled with joyful crowds, music and colorful floats. Known for its family-friendly atmosphere and vibrant spirit, it brings the entire community together."

Dixon McMakin,
Louisiana State Representative



"Absolutely, Baton Rouge's best day of the year, rain, snow or sunshine!"

Hillar Moore,
EBR District Attorney



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AND I QUOTE... CONTINUED



"The Parade is classic Baton Rouge – it's an institution. I've been attending the parade since the early years when I was a teenager, and it continues to be one of my favorite traditions in Baton Rouge each year. Congrats on 40 years, and sláinte to 40 more!"

Todd Graves,
Chief Fry Cook & CEO Raising Canes

"Having the opportunity to be the Grand Marshal in 2008 was incredible. The parade is so much fun every year, but that year was the best!"

Matt Flynn,
CEO & King of Hydration. MYHY



"The Wearin' of The Green parade is one of the best days of the year for the city of Baton Rouge and showcases the best of our city and culture"

Al C. Moreau, III, PT,
Moreau Physical Therapy



"For years, I was on duty at the parade. In 2024, I was honored to lead it. Whether working the parade or leading it, it's obvious that Wearin' of the Green is an exciting tradition that brings... the whole city/all of Baton Rouge... out to celebrate."

Chief TJ Morse,
Baton Rouge Chief of Police

"I've always been honored to be a part of the parade! In my opinion, it's the biggest and best parade Baton Rouge has that is also fun for all ages. With a name like Gautreaux, I can't claim to be Irish, but I do wear the green. It's a day I look forward to every year, especially when my float is in front of Hillar Moore's!"

Sid Gautreaux,
EBR Sheriff



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HALFWAY DAY

Let's be honest: Just one day each year to celebrate St. Patrick, The Irish, our ancestry and the connections between The Old Country and Baton Rouge simply isn't enough. The Halfway to St. Pat's party falls on the second Friday in September since most people usually have bigger plans for Saturdays on campus. "Halfway Day" is kind of the coming out party for the Grand Marshal. It's when we announce who has been chosen to lead the next parade. Uncle Earls on Perkins Road has been the home base for the celebrations in 2023 and 2024. Since the 40th Grand Marshal, Noreen Coffey, lives about 4,200 miles away in Killarney, Ireland, we had to improvise in getting her and her sister Mary to the party! I hope you came hungry! The food prepared by Porktoberfest was excellent: pulled pork, brisket tacos, mac n' cheese and those boudin pistolettes. All food proceeds benefited Hogs for the Cause.



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GRAND MARSHAL 2025



Baton Rouge welcomes Noreen Coffey as Grand Marshal for the 40th Wearin' of the Green St. Patrick's Day Parade

2025 marks a major milestone in Baton Rouge. It's the 40th celebration of the Irish on the streets of the Garden District and Southdowns.

Noreen Coffey joins a short list of grand marshals that have traveled from across the pond to join Baton Rouge on the third Saturday in March for the largest statewide celebration of the Irish and the connections to South Louisiana. "To me, this is special," Pat Shingleton explained. "Forty years ago, I never could have imagined what this event would turn into and to have our dear friend Noreen lead the parade... we couldn't ask for much more."

Noreen has lived in Killarney, Ireland most of her life. She's now retired but was a teacher for more than 30 years. She spent two years teaching at St. Killian's mission in Zimbabwe



in the mountains near the border with Mozambique.

"I thoroughly enjoyed my time there," Noreen said. "Once I got over the initial shock of it."

The mission was about 50 miles away from the nearest town. Imagine having to collect firewood in order to heat water to take a hot shower!

"I remember driving home one night. The petrol gauge didn't work, so it was a guessing game... The headlights were a bit dodgy as well, and we were on a dirt road," Noreen explained. "It was the only time I was thankful for a thunderstorm because the lightning lit up the sky so I could see where I was driving."

Like most teachers, the reward for Noreen was learning of the success of her students years later.

"It was extremely gratifying to see so many of my past pupils in the teaching profession and telling me I had inspired them when choosing their career path."

These days, Noreen volunteers her time in several facets of Ireland. She was part of the Adult Literacy Scheme when it launched years ago. Noreen also volunteers with Killarney Tidy Towns. Killarney was named overall Tidiest Town in Ireland a few years ago.

Noreen spends a lot of time on the golf course, and she's quite good.

Noreen has been named Golfer of the Year twice at Dooks Golf Club in Glenbeigh, Ireland where she also won the Captain's Prize in 2014. Noreen and her sister, Mary also won the Club Championship Foursomes in 1996.

She was named Lady Captain of Killarney Golf and Fishing Club in 1994. Noreen was part of the organizing committee for the Curtis Cup in 1996 – a tournament between amateur ladies from the USA and the UK/Ireland.



PREVIOUS IRISH GRAND MARSHALS



2001
MARK KELLY



2004
DENIS COFFEY



2007
MIKE ROSNEY



2010
MICHAEL LEAHY



2019
FATHER MIKE MORONEY



2002
IVAR QUIGLEY



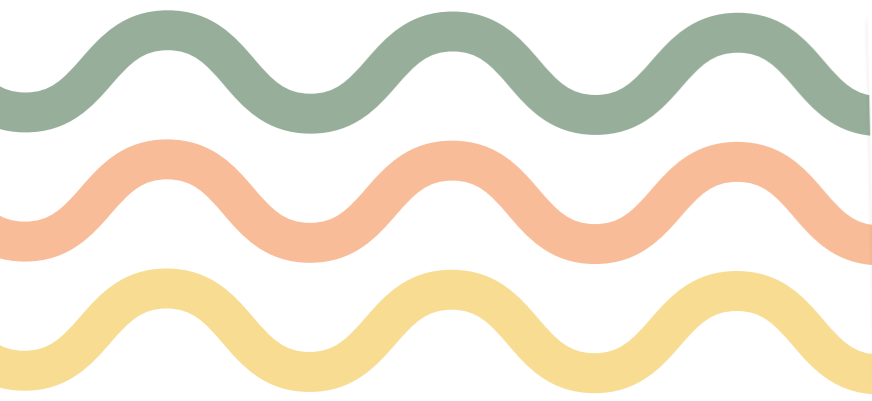
2005
JUNIOR FINNEGAN



2009
DICK BOURKE



2012
TIMOTHY O'BRIEN



The Killarney Golf and Fishing Club hosted the Irish Open in 1991, 1992, 2010, and 2011. Noreen's brother Denis was the tournament director and "volunteered" her services as the leader of the team recording the scores of the players.

Denis visited Baton Rouge for the first time in 2002 when longtime friend of the Coffey family – Ivar Quigley – led the parade. Denis would return two years later, this time as Grand Marshal.

Denis had a way of capturing the attention of the room," Pat said. "We thoroughly enjoyed all of the years Denis came in for the parade because of the camaraderie, the stories, and the songs."

Denis died in 2011, but his impact on the Shingletons and the Wearin' of the Green Parade was palpable. Five others made the trek from Killarney in the subsequent years.



Left to right: 2010 Grand Marshal Michael Leahy, Noreen, Pat and Mabyn Shingleton, 2005 Grand Marshal Junior Finnegan

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Seimone



"This is quite the accomplishment," Seimone told the crowd during the opening ceremony. "I've been many places, but it always feels good to come back home and celebrate amongst my community and my people."



Many people look forward to traditional crowd favorites like the Ancient Athletes and their basketball goal mounted to a trailer. Kids and even some adults take turns taking a shot as the float rolls down the road. (The parade route is only two miles, but The Athletes burn off far more calories while dodging flying basketballs, grabbing rebounds and passing basketballs off to the next kid.)

You might not have noticed, and that's always the goal of parade organizers, but rain was a major concern 24-hours before the start of the 39th Wearin' of the Green St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Cloud cover blanketed Baton Rouge in the early morning hours of March 16, 2024. South Louisiana was just hours removed from a deluge of rain throughout the day on Friday and much more rain expected Saturday and especially Sunday.

By 9:30 a.m., the celebration started for the Grand Marshal, Seimone Augustus.

It's difficult to come up with the appropriate title for Seimone after all she has accomplished in her basketball career, her business career and now her coaching career. But the title of Grand Marshal: that was a first.

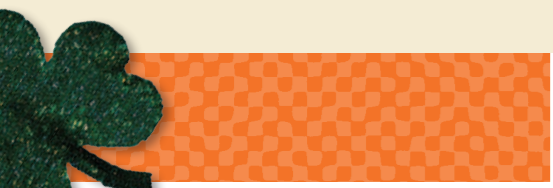


By 10 a.m., they were off! Seimone's float featured an elaborate design by local artist Mark Fresh. Seimone and her family were armed with dozens of boxes of green-themed beads, throws and thousands of mini-basketballs (hopefully you caught one).

About 90 other krewes and a dozen high school marching bands followed, showering tens of thousands of people with throws, good music, and a great time.

Some relative newcomers to the parade are also gaining attention. Maybe you've seen the trolley float, the train float, the Raising Cane's float featuring "Cane," the jazz float and more.

We have some big plans to celebrate the parade in 2025. The celebration continues for the 40th Wearin' of the Green St. Patrick's Day Parade. More to come.



2024 GRAND MARSHAL

PARADE RECAP: SEIMONE AUGUSTUS





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2438 TERRACE



Credit: RC Davis

The Fred Trapp family lived at 2530 Terrace for 17 years, hosting an expanding number of guests for the annual Wearin' of the Green parade. After a six-year overseas stint, they returned and bought a home at 2438 Terrace, allowing the parade crowd to grow even larger. In 2023, they began collecting paintings from self-taught landscape artist R.C. Davis, from Amite, Louisiana. In 2024, R.C. attended his first parade and created what they call a "Where's Waldo" painting, since friends and family can easily spot themselves. The Trapps hope others appreciate R.C.'s unique style and consider commissioning pieces that preserve joyful family memories.

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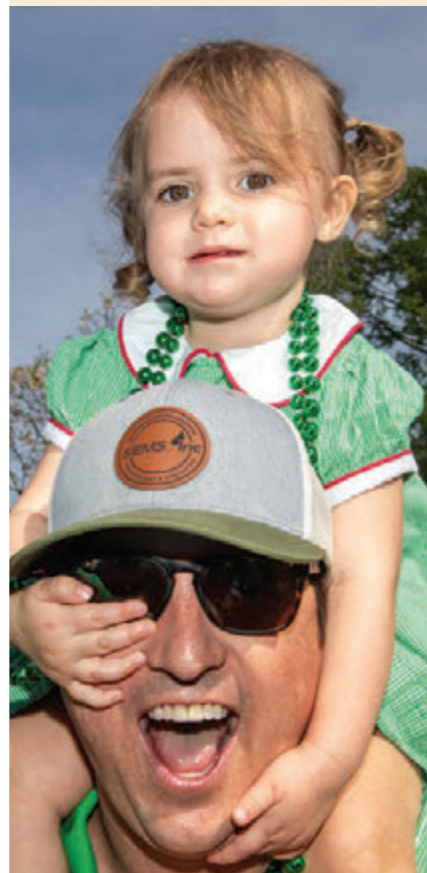
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THE STORY OF THE STICK

A well-known Irish tool is the shillelagh which we call a walking stick. These sticks are designed to be lightweight for walking, but sturdy enough to withstand a duel. Shillelaghs are created from one solid piece of wood. Years ago, shillelaghs were used in the ancient dueling Irish martial art called Bataireacht.

We were very fortunate to have a sculptor by the name of Jim Eaves with Trinity Tree Consultants create the first walking stick for 2020-2022 Grand Marshal Todd Graves before the parade.

Jim carved another for Grand Marshal Tim Mockler in 2023. Tim's stick was created from a live oak that was removed after being severely damaged after a storm. This stick was the first for Jim to incorporate a hand carved spiral feature as well as a painted feature. A shamrock and date were hand painted by his nephew Seth Langley, a local tattoo artist.

The shillelagh made for 2024 Grand Marshal Seimone Augustus is one of the most remarkable. This beautiful LSU themed walking stick was made from a cedar tree on the campus in 2024. The tree was growing alongside the LSU lakes and was removed due to the dredging project. Her stick has a three stranded triple pass Turks head to symbolize her # 33, as well as a triple spiral hand carved below the pommel, the spirals represent: college, Olympic and professional aspects of her career. The eye on the pommel was hand painted by Seth Langley as a homage to Seimone's play at LSU.



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SHAMROCK RUN MORNING

On March 16, 2024, there were 513 runners who crossed the finish line for the fifth Shamrock Run. A vibrant 5K that's captured the attention of the running community whether it's their first time, or fifth time participating.



While runners lined up that morning, wearing their best green attire, there was a lot going on behind the scenes. At the start and finish line is Moreau Physical Therapy. What started out as a boutique clinic has turned into a booming business with 23 locations in Louisiana and Texas. Al Moreau is the President of MPT and grew up in the world of physical therapy started by his father in 1977.



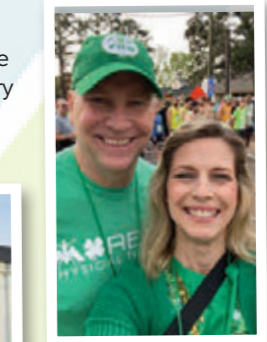
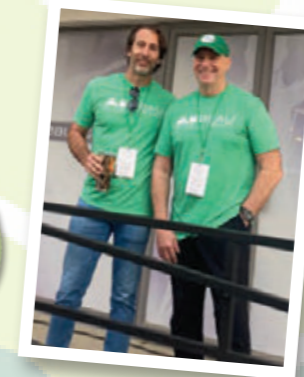
Early in the morning on race day, Moreau can be found directing runners, helping event organizers and other participants get to the start line. He says there's something about that Saturday morning that sticks out to people.

"I see some of the same faces every year, so we know that there are people participating every year that enjoy it that much, but beyond that I see new faces every year," said Moreau.



The physical therapy clinic moved into the Perkins Road location after a sandwich shop closed its doors. Moreau says they had their eye on the space because of the people - primarily runners - in the area. Down the street is Varsity Sports, where athletes not only shop for shoes and apparel, but have made lasting friendships through the running community.

"We've been able - at that location in particular - to grow a very loyal following that has kind of transitioned to our other locations as well," said Moreau.



While the visibility of the Perkins Road location has been fantastic for MPT, Moreau says it's located in an area of the city where people are physically fit, care about their health, and their well-being. Mark Fay has been with Moreau Physical Therapy

since 2015 and he's the Clinical Director at the Perkins Road location. Fay says that's one of the reasons why he came to the area, to get involved with the running community.

"It certainly brings out a different population on St. Patrick's Day with all the runners," said Fay. "It lets everyone know who doesn't know we're here that we are here. This has been a really good, positive vibe for us."

March 2025 will be the Shamrock Run's sixth event, but starting a run takes a village. The logistics came together with the help of MPT and Varsity Sports.

Jenni Peters at Varsity Sports had a vision long before it became reality. When The Wearin' of the Green Parade Group reached out for her help to get a 5K started, she already had a route in mind. The only problem was the location - Varsity Sports wouldn't be able to handle the volume of people. Enter Moreau Physical Therapy.

"It was a little overwhelming that first year, making sure everything was correct, right, prepared," said Fay.



During the morning of the run team members from both businesses were helping keep things organized and on track. Fay says the best part of the day is watching the looks on people's faces as they cross the finish line.

"Whether it's people who have run a million times or whether this is their first 5K, it's such a good day in Baton Rouge," he said.

Along the route, runners are cheered on by people lining up for the parade. Runners bring their family and friends to the event, who all stick around after the race to enjoy cold drinks, food, and the morning leading up to the Wearin' of the Green Parade.

"I think the only thing that is stopping this from getting bigger is the route. People really like it. There are a lot of people I know that this is one of their favorite runs of the year," said Moreau. "It's just a fun, great event."

The clinic and the sports shop are a part of the fabric of St. Patrick's Day in Baton Rouge.



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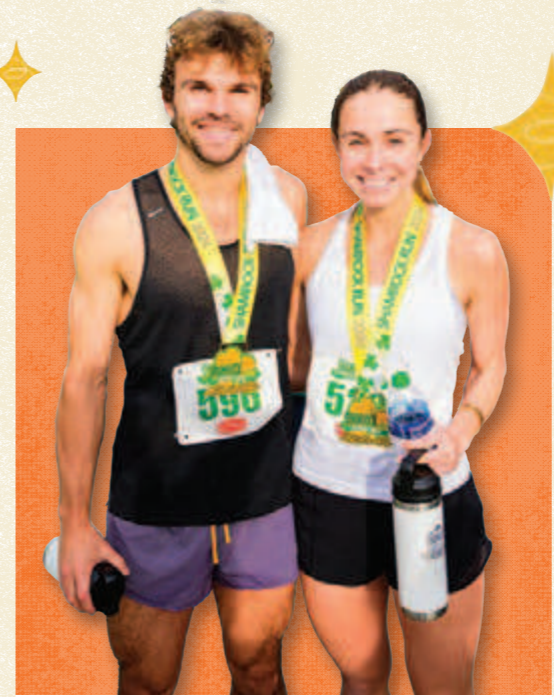


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- A Game
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- Stretch Zone
- Fresh Pickins

Thanks to our generous donors and sponsors, the Shamrock Run was able to make a sizable donation to *Baton Rouge Green*. The non-profit helps to educate and inspire the planting and sustaining of the trees in the community.

TOP RUNNERS 2024



CONGRATULATIONS to Adam Wise and Alicia Stamey for finishing as Top Male and Top Female.

TOP MALE RUNNERS

- 1 Adam Wise
- 2 Conor Doan
- 3 Josh Browning
- 4 Warren Kimball
- 5 Alicia Stamey
- 6 William Fell
- 7 Bradyn Wilkerson
- 8 Alex Ludwig
- 9 Mason Dukes
- 10 Kelly Baker

TOP FEMALE RUNNERS

- 1 Alicia Stamey
- 2 Isabella Buttaci
- 3 Cortney Haser
- 4 Meghan Wilt
- 5 Hannah Robinson
- 6 Kathryn Wroten
- 7 Hannah Amoroso
- 8 Krystal Frank
- 9 Juliet Brophy
- 10 Rebecca Tucker



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LOUISIANA IRELAND TRADE COMMISSION



Since the inception of The Wearin' of the Green St. Patrick's Day Parade in 1986, its message has reached far and wide. The launch of the St. Patrick's Day Parade originated at Zee-Zee Gardens. This pub gained success due to the creative direction of The Mabyn Kean Agency's marketing efforts and the Zee-Zee Gardens Gazette newsletter by attracting new patrons. Within the confines of the pub, The Baton Rouge Irish Club was re-established. When Pat Quigley opened Ivar's next door, another connection to Ireland was born. When our children, Mike Shingleton and Katie Maxcy, selected Noreen Coffey as the 2025 Grand Marshal, a mere phone call would have sufficed. Instead, Mabyn and I planned to travel to Killarney, a town in southwestern Ireland, to extend the invitation in person.

Several weeks before we left, Louisiana Senator Beth Mizell (R-Bogalusa) filed a bill to establish the Louisiana Ireland Trade Commission. This legislation designates March as Irish American Heritage Month in Louisiana! The bill also furthers reinventing both countries' economies, stronger commercial links through bilateral trade and investment, propose business and academic exchanges as well as mutual investment and interests in the infrastructure between Louisiana and Ireland.

THE NINE-MEMBER COMMISSION :

Appointments by Governor Jeff Landry

- Ronald Burke, Jefferson Parish District Attorney's Office
- Charles Harrison Crabtree, World Trade Center New Orleans
- Dr. John Kirwan, Pennington Biomedical Research
- Patrick Shingleton, The Parade Group, LLC
- Kerry Stockwell, Tulane University

Appointments by Senate President Cameron Henry

- Senator Patrick Connick
- Senator Beth Mizell

Appointments by House Speaker Phillip DeVillier

- Representative Peter F. Egan
- Representative Dixon McMakin

Alton Ashy, of Advanced Strategies, introduced me to Senator Mizell and mentioned that my wife, Mabyn and I were heading "across the pond." The senator recommended we visit with Senator Mark Daly, 24th Chair of the Senate of Ireland. Senator Daly had connected with Senator Mizell to recommend membership in the American Irish State Legislators Caucus, a collection of States to further economic,

"The establishment of the Louisiana Ireland Trade Commission shows the strong and enduring relationship between Ireland and Louisiana. The United States played a pivotal role in bringing peace to the island of Ireland. There are people alive in Ireland today because US states, got involved, and more improperly stayed involved in the Irish peace process.

This Commission will help grow and solidify a two-way relationship economically, educationally, culturally, and politically. 2024 marked the 100th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Ireland and United States of America and this this trade commission is helps deepen this tie between our Island and the State of Louisiana.

As the 24th Chair of the Senate of Ireland, I look forward to working with the commissioners on this important initiative."

Senator Mark Daly (An Seanadóir Marcus O Dalaigh)
Leas-Chathaoirleach of Seanad Éireann
24th Chair of the Senate of Ireland
Irish Parliamentary Liaison with US State Legislators

"The Louisiana Ireland Trade Commission is a first step outreach with economic growth in mind between our two regions. We have so much in common and with our shared histories there are endless possibilities to expand our relationship and benefit Louisiana and Ireland."

Beth Mizell
State Senator
District 12



cultural, and educational relationships between the two countries. Under Senator Mizell's direction, this relationship became the Louisiana Ireland Trade Commission in August 2024 . This is where the commission was formed.

Our friends, John and Linda Spain, joined us when we met with Senator Daly in Parliament. We learned a great deal about how successful trade commissions in other states have been and enjoyed a marvelous dinner. The next day Senator Daly conducted a session "from the chair"



which was televised on Irish-TV. He kindly recognized Pat's Coats for Kids, Fill-A-Prescription-For-the-Needy and of course, The Wearin' of the Green Parade while Mabyn and I were there.

After our second meeting, we had lunch with Richard Tierney, Director of the St. Patrick's Day Festival in Dublin. Dublin's parade is the largest in the world! We were happy to exchange ideas.

While in Dublin, we met with the United States Deputy Chief Ambassador to Ireland, Michael Claussen and his assistant, Julieanne O'Leary at the Embassy. The discussion revolved around securing dual citizenship and greater access to tourism engagements in Louisiana. Ms.



O'Leary pointed out the desire for Irish citizens to play golf in the southern sections of the United States September through May.

I am looking forward to meeting with my fellow members of the Louisiana Ireland Trade Commission to see how we might expand on our mutual interests.

“SO... YA WANNA GO TO IRELAND?”



Our first visit across the pond occurred in our 25th wedding anniversary year, 2004.

First up: London. Our excursion began with a

train trip from Kensington Station to Essex. We hopped in a rental car and drove on the opposite side of the road. Our destination was a village that embraced my wife's name – St. Mabyn. Without the luxury of GPS, we utilized folding maps and a few stops for guidance. Along the way, a petrol station

attendant alerted us that there would be no street signs directing us to St. Mabyn. Luckily, we found it. This quaint little village called St. Mabyn was comprised by a pub, grocery, and a little church. If we had not had tickets for a play in London, we probably would have stayed the night. The second leg of the trip took us to Shannon, Ireland.



Pat Quigley's parents, Ivar and Rena Quigley, offered their home to us near Killarney. Our first trip to Ireland included sight-seeing, new discoveries, and visits with friends who



we met through the parade. The weather was gnarly during our April trip. While Mabyn downloaded her pictures from the day, I walked to a local pub, The Golden Nugget, for a pint or two. With our Killarney connections, our dear friend Denis Coffey graciously took the day to show us to the Ring of Kerry, the Gap of Dunloe, and Dingle Peninsula. We made great memories; Denis Coffey died unexpectedly in August of 2011.



Trip number two in 2005 was golf related. I went with my brother Denis, Tom Riley, Chris Maltese, Mike McCormack and Quigley. Once again, based in Killarney and Quigley's home, it was special to enjoy with my brother on his first trip to Ireland. It was also exciting to witness a possible "knockdown" with Quigley and Noreen Coffey, Denis' sister. He bet on his sister.

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Trip Number three was a father-son golf trip in 2009. The Andersons, Parkers, and Eatons came along for the fun. We arrived in Killarney ready to play! A rainy



56 degrees, we teed up and found a liquid libation to take the chill out of our bones, courtesy of Junior Finnegan. He drove his small car onto the golf course to help. Our golf tracts were many and include the Killeen courses at the Killarney Golf and Fishing Club, Lackabane, Tralee, Ballybunion, and Waterville.

Entering the ledger for the fourth visit: Luke Guarisco. He set out to enjoy Ireland. Pat Quigley, through his company Green Jacket Sports was going to Ireland with golfers. Guarisco insisted on visiting with me, Pat Quigley and my son, Mike



Shingleton. The 2015 trip began in Dublin, ended in Killarney and included courses in the North and South. Checking into the hotel at Ennistymon, Quigley's group was scheduled for an early round. As Quigley and I walked to the village for a pint, we were accosted by eight young ladies in pajamas, bathrobes, hair rollers and slippers requesting Euros! It was the traditional "Hen Party," a long-standing Irish tradition to recognize the bride (Hen!), her bridal party and a means of increasing her dowry through donations. As we were greeted, I informed the girls that a taller, good-looking young man was coming around the corner with a shorter, not-so-good-looking older gentleman. I continued that the shorter lad was loaded and would help the bride-to-

be. As I finished that pint, there they were, enjoying and crashing the Hen Party. Tee time for my son and Guarisco was early the next morning at Lahinch Golf Club. With just two hours of sleep, the boys made it!

Trip number five: 2017. "Dad, I'm not going to get married at Our Lady of Mercy with a reception!" said my daughter Katie. "I'm getting married in Ireland!" Through an



art course at LSU, Katie studied there, and once again placed her and her classmates in Killarney at the Quigley residence. Katie and Spence Maxcy were married in St. Mary's Cathedral in Killarney. In attendance were Maby and I, brother Michael, Brittany Weiss Shingleton, Doreen Maxcy, Dr. Colleen Maxcy, Father Mike Moroney, Pat Quigley, and friends from Killarney.



Trip number six occurred in May 2024.

Though much of the trip was a business trip, we visited with representatives from Jameson at the distillery as well as the organizers of the Killarney, Ireland parade. We met with Jason Clifford who is the manager of the Dunloe Hotel & Gardens in Beaufort and past chairman, Paul Sherry. After dinner, we were treated to a performance by Celtic Steps, organized by director David Rhea outside Killarney.

Recognizing these examples, and "Ya Wanna Go To Ireland?", here is some guidance. Our trips have generally brought us to Dublin and South but there are many great opportunities in Northern Ireland.



PAT'S TIPS ON IRELAND

WEATHER

Can be rough from December through April

AIRPORTS

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Holy mountain, Croagh Patrick. It was on the summit of the mountain that Saint Patrick fasted for forty days in 441 AD and the custom has been faithfully handed down from generation to generation.

The Peace Bridge is a cycle and foot bridge across the River Foyle in Derry, Northern Ireland. Interestingly, Derry and Londonderry are both names for the same city, but they are associated with different political causes.



SOUTHERN IRELAND

is where Gaelic traditions blend with lively cities and coastal beauty. From Dublin's historic pubs and the artsy vibe of Galway to the jaw-dropping Cliffs of Moher and scenic drives along the Wild Atlantic Way, Southern Ireland brings a sense of warmth and culture. Here, you will experience traditional Irish music in local pubs, explore ancient sites like Newgrange and the Rock of Cashel, or take in lush views along the Ring of Kerry. For golf lovers, courses like Old Head Golf Links promise a spectacular game on rugged cliffs overlooking the Atlantic.



MUST-VISIT ATTRACTIONS



Guinness Storehouse: Learn about Ireland's iconic beer with a rooftop view of the city.

Temple Bar District: Known for lively pubs, restaurants, and street art.

Cliffs of Moher: Dramatic cliffs located on the west coast offer breathtaking views of the Atlantic Ocean.

Galway: Coastal city with bohemian vibe has live music, street performances, and great seafood.

BEST PUBS



Brazen Head – Dublin: Established in 1198, it's Ireland's oldest pub! Enjoy traditional Irish music, hearty pub fare, and a cozy, historic ambiance.

The Temple Bar – Dublin: The iconic pub in Dublin's Temple Bar district is vibrant, with live music daily and an extensive whiskey selection.

O'Connor's Famous Pub – Galway: A quintessential Irish pub filled with antiques and knick-knacks, known for its character, live music, and an authentic local feel.

Dick Mack's – Dingle: This pub doubles as a leather shop and has an inviting, old-world charm with live music and an impressive whiskey selection.

Morrissey's – Abbeyleix: Dating back to 1775, this pub is a mix of an old grocery store and a bar. Rustic and welcoming.

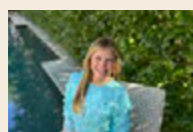
McGann's Pub – Doolin: Known as the home of nightly traditional Irish music, it's a perfect stop for those visiting the Cliffs of Moher.

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If it is a golf extravaganza you desire contact **Pat Quigley with Jacket Sports, LLC**
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MARCH 15, 1986

The original idea was for The Irish Club to handle the entire Wearin' of the Green Parade once Pat Shingleton helped to reorganize the club. On Parade mornings, members would meet at the original Zee Zee Gardens for an Irish breakfast before proceeding to the start of the parade. Members were issued pins and cards identifying that they were club members.

1986



MARCH 14, 1987

The second year of the parade turned the foot of the Perkins Road Overpass into a large street party.

PARADE HISTORY

1987

1996



Frank Keen was in his vintage laundry truck. Charlie Vallesco drove the McDonald's float. These little parade goers have the right idea.

MARCH 16, 1996

1997

MARCH 15, 1997

The Sunday Advocate reports that this St. Patrick's Day Celebration has become a substitute for Mardi Gras... and for some other holidays that traditionally bring families together from all over the country.



2001

MARCH 17, 2001

Ireland's St. Patrick's Day parades were cancelled because of a livestock related disease dubbed Mad Cow disease. A Dublin native came to Baton Rouge to celebrate as our 16th Grand Marshal, Mark Kelly. He reported that all roads were lined with people in white coats and masks spraying cars with disinfectants.

Dublin man braves best of city's St. Paddy parade

By MARLENE HAGAN
Ireland's St. Patrick's Day parades were cancelled because of a livestock-related disease, but a Dublin native came to Baton Rouge to celebrate with his friends back home in the pubs. Ireland, which does not have a case of mad-cow disease, is taking precautions to deter its spread from other European countries, the Associated Press reported. Kelly said roads from his college to



2010

MARCH 13, 2010

"Our town is blessed to have a wild and crazy weather man, Irish of course, who didn't think we had enough parades and parties, per the Human Condition."



St. Patrick's Day parade celebrates ties to N.O.



Boomtown

Baton Rouge's economic explosion post-Katrina big story in 2006

MARCH 18, 2006

"We've gone through so much since last August," Shingleton said. "We're hoping our newest residents (displaced New Orleanians) will attend. This was the first parade since Baton Rouge's population had grown since Hurricane Katrina. The Ancient Order of the Hibernians was honored at the parade."



2017

MARCH 17, 2017

Two Baton Rouge police officers and an East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office deputy were killed by a lone gunman in July 2016, a month later, historic floods devastated parts of Baton Rouge and nearby parishes when a three-day system dumped more than 20 inches of rain. We honored the sacrifices and bravery of those who wear the blue and continue to be grateful to all first responders.



- 2025 Noreen Coffey
- 2024 Seimone Augustus
- 2023 Tim Mockler
- 2022 Todd Graves
- 2021 Todd Graves (Didn't roll)
- 2020 Todd Graves (Didn't roll)
- 2019 Father Mike Maroney
- 2018 Patrick Mockler
- 2017 Deputy Sheriff Brad Garafola
Officer Matthew Gerald
Corporal Montrell Jackson
- 2016 Rick Nevils
- 2015 Robert G. Hammett
- 2014 Colonel Mike Edmonson
- 2013 Hillar Moore Sr.
- 2012 Timothy O'Brien
- 2011 Grandmas Shirley Shingleton & Gene Hammett
- 2010 Michael Leahy
- 2009 Dick Bourke
- 2008 Matt Flynn
- 2007 Mike Rosney
- 2006 Harry Morel
- 2005 Junior Finnegan
- 2004 Denis Coffey
- 2003 Gary Mockler
- 2002 Ivar Quigley
- 2001 Mark Kelly
- 2000 Mayor Tom Ed McHugh
- 1999 Oldest Irish Club Members
- 1998 Richard Condon
- 1997 Judge Joe Keogh
- 1996 Bishop Stanley Ott
- 1995 Pat Screen
- 1994 Bishop Alfred Hughes
- 1993 Firefighters
- 1992 Sister Margaret Hennessy
- 1991 Veterans
- 1990 Hab Shingleton
- 1989 Vietnam Veterans
- 1988 Don Yesso
- 1987 TJ Moran
- 1986 Judge Joseph Keogh

Given Posthumously
From Ireland

PARADE FAQS



WHAT SHOULD WE WEAR?

WEAR GREEN! Dress comfortably by checking the weather forecast the night before. Louisiana weather can be unpredictable, and we roll rain or shine!

IS PARKING AVAILABLE?

Parking is a rarity in the area. Do not park on private or commercial property unless you have written permission. Road closures will be posted on our website days before the parade.

IS THERE RESTROOM ACCESS AVAILABLE?

Ace Enterprises places port-potties along the parade route. Visit The Route on our website for bathroom locations.

WHAT MAKES THE ST. PAT'S PARADE IN BATON ROUGE DIFFERENT THAN OTHER PARADES?

It is organized by a family for families and friends. Southern crowds love to be loved by the Krewe's and the way this is done is by tossing trinkets like cups and beads from the floats to the parade watchers.

WE ARE HAVING A HOUSE PARTY. WILL MY FRIENDS BE ABLE TO GET TO MY HOUSE?

Yes, but they will need to get there early. The Shamrock Run takes place on Perkins Road which closes around 7:30 a.m. There will be a small window of time after the runners leave the route. Police ask that residents create an invitation with their name and address on it so it can be shown to officers in case the streets are closed off.

HOW CAN I IDENTIFY A FLOAT?

Each float will have a float number posted on each side of the float. Use that number if you want to compliment a float or make a report. If you report them, please use their name and send a photo.



HOW LONG DO YOU EXPECT THE PARADE TO LAST?

You can expect 2-3 hours from the start of wherever you are standing to watch it. So, if you start seeing it at 11, expect it to be finished by 2. The pace of the parade changes every year due to weather and humans.

WHO WILL TELEVISION THE PARADE?

ABC affiliate WBRZ has carried the first couple of hours of the parade, including an opening ceremony, and live streamed it on their platforms. This information will be posted on our website when it becomes available.

CAN I BUY OFFICIAL PARADE ITEMS?

Yes. Visit our website www.wearinofthegreen.com/store to purchase limited edition parade prints, flags, cups and official tees.



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77 YEARS OLD!



The late Grey Hammett saw an antique firetruck at the Ponchatoula Fire Department in 1989. And so, a



Tank Powell's fire truck sold to the Irish of Baton Rouge

The late Grey Hammett saw the antique fire truck at the Ponchatoula Fire Department in 1989. And so, a tradition was born when the Shingleton and Hammett families bought the 1947 Mack on September 13, 1989, for \$3,200!

And so, a tradition was born when the Shingleton and Hammett families bought the 1947 Mack on September 13, 1989, for \$3,200! The odometer registered 1,687 miles and we were certain that it hadn't rolled over or been

altered to show lower mileage. Following the necessary transfers and registrations we added a Louisiana license plate appropriately displaying 47-MACK. Realizing it needed some "fix-ups," Kevin's Custom Car Creations in White Castle initiated painting and other upgrades.



Originally stored on Capital Heights behind some business offices, we used the truck for the Wearin' of the Green St. Patrick's



Day Parade, birthday parties, Christmas, the Fourth of July, and pub crawls. Southland Street Rods provided additional rehab help. In 2003, Ferrara Fire Apparatus in Holden completed an extensive renovation. This repair and "fix-up" included full body painting, wiring, and engine adjustments.

With limited knowledge of a six-cylinder L-head type engine that was 42-years-old, we were fortunate, as many in Baton Rouge can attest, to have the assistance and services of Wallace Powell from Henry's, located on the corner of Government Street and Jefferson



Highway. Crankcase ventilation, connecting rods, pistons, valve tappet, clearance and timing, fuel system, carburetor, generator



and regulator; Powell knows and understands the '47 Mack!

For 34 years, there have been numerous break downs. In 2023, following a Christmas ride with family and friends,

there was a larger breakdown. Wallace diagnosed the symptoms and coined the classic expression, "It threw a rod." He and I grew-up with the manual transmissions and the "H" with "four-on-the-floor," or "three-on-the stick." These gear boxes offered a gear selection of first, second, third, fourth and reverse, activated by the clutch. Once learned, it was "Happy Motoring*." I taught everything I know to my children while owning a manual transmission BMW 537-I.

Wallace, Katie Maxcy, Mike Shingleton, Mabyn Shingleton, and Bruce Kelfstrom all outvoted me and, in everyone's best interest, it was decided that a new powertrain** was needed for the '47 Mack. Wallace suggested a few local shops but it was not in their wheelhouse to complete a repair.

Then, Wallace suggested Pellegrini Performance Group. They were referred to him by a friend in Madisonville. Owner Jay Pellegrini looked over the '47 Mack in Baton Rouge with his team, including Kyle Costanza and Nick Prevost. Wallace and Bruce, who also tinkers with the truck, were there too. They determined the engine-well size and



* "Happy Motoring" was a popular advertising slogan from the Esso (now Exxon) brand.

** The powertrain comprises the main components that generate power and deliver that power to the road surface, water, or air.

*** The driver's gear shifter on an automatic transmission. The name comes from pronouncing the positions of the shifter as read on the shifter display: PRNDL is a slang term for park, reverse, neutral, drive, and low (gear).

needed spacing for a new automatic engine with the traditional prindle***, motor mounts, gauges, wiring, and transmission.

On June 11, 2024, Rusty Gerace with No-Limit Towing transported the '47 Mack to Pelligrini for repairs. On two occasions we visited for updates. Jason Holden and the team continued the detailing progress.



A Chevy 5.3ls engine will be installed with an automatic 4l60 transmission, GM bell housing, automatic valve body and standard shift pattern. Powell could have provided a temporary repair for the truck but it would have only done further damage. It was the first year since 1990 the firetruck didn't roll.

The '47 Mack is a great parade tradition, which provides enjoyment for all. Look for it near the end of the 2025 parade.



47 MACK OVER THE YEARS





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PARADE MAP



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