

TROPHY WINNERS



The first ever feis at NASA's Johnson Space Center was this past Saturday, May 7 and saw dancers from Oklahoma, Houston, Florida and even Germany take part. The event was the fourth for the Tew Academy of Irish Dance, Texas' only "open platform" school and feis. This means the events are open to all dancers regardless of organizational affiliation.

This supportive and family-friendly event was enjoyed by all.

Trophy sponsors included Patrick Devlin in honor of his late wife Kelly, Pete Little/Irish Aires in honor of Pat Patton, Joe O'Rourke in honor of his father Burke O'Rourke and the Irish Society in honor of the Honorable John Kane.



Jane Abreo (Top Left) was the winner of the Irish Society sponsored John Kane Trophy! The overall winner was Gaby Thompson (Left Middle). She is from Germany but now lives in San Antonio. Gaby won the Burke O'Rourke Memorial Trophy! Congratulations to all the dancers.



The Irish Society • P.O. Box 820010 • Houston, Texas 77282

www.theirishsociety.org

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BLOOMSDAY- JUNE 15TH



This year's other big Irish Society social event of the season will be held on **Wednesday, June 15, 2016**, rain or shine (getting a jump on the James Joyce's traditional June 16th date. We will again gather at the **Bull and Bear Tavern**, hosted by Irish Society member Tommy O'Reilly and his staff, located at 11980

Westheimer (77077) behind Specs, just west of Kirkwood. The fun begins at **6:30PM** with live music while enjoying your complimentary welcoming beverage and light buffet, followed by Irish dance from a new name in Houston, The Clann Kelly School of Irish Dance. We wish to extend the invitation to all our Irish Society members and their guests for this gathering which celebrates a day in the life of Leopold Bloom, Joyce's character from his classic work Ulysses. There is plenty of parking available and always great food, music and fun at the Bull and Bear Tavern.

Please contact Pete Little at petelittle@comcast.net for more information.

PAY YOUR IRISH SOCIETY DUES ONLINE

You can now go to our website, www.theirishsociety.org and pay your dues with a credit card. More convenient for you and us.

You can also send us a check if you would rather not use the internet. Please mail your check to our P.O. Box: The Irish Society, P.O. Box 820010, Houston, Texas 77282. We appreciate your membership in your Irish Society of Houston.



The Irish Society
www.TheIrishSociety.org
 P.O. Box 820010
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VICE PRESIDENT

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IRISH NETWORK / HOUSTON GAELS

Irish Network Houston & the Houston Gaels are hosting a family day Sunday May 22nd from 1-4pm at Barbara Fish Daniel Picnic Pavilion right on the Buffalo Bayou.

This is an opportunity for Irish community to get together in family-friendly surroundings and enjoy an afternoon of fun and games.

We'll have kids games (ring toss, sack races, water balloon spoon races, etc) with prizes. We also have a face painter/balloon artist on site for the kids (and adults!)

We will also be providing food (meats) but require people to bring a side dish of their choosing to share with the group. Go to www.houstongaels.com for more information.

The Irish Network hosts '3rd Thursday' of the month networking mixers. This is a great way to stay in touch with colleagues and friends and meet new business contacts. Go to www.irishnetworkhouston.com for more information.

GOLF OUTINGS SUCCESSFUL

Thanks to all who came out to support Dan's House of Hope and Texas Prader-Willi charity golf outings. These events helped raise much needed funds for both worthy causes.

The charities survive with your generosity and kind donations. Please consider a donation to each of these Non-Profit organizations:

Dan's House of Hope: www.danshouseofhope.org

Prader-Willi: txpwa.org

A GREAT 2016 CELEBRATION DINNER

Thank you to all the Irish Society Members for attending our only Fundraiser for your Irish Society. We had a great night filled with great Irish music, great Food and a lot of great Irish Lore. Thanks to our Honorees, David O'Keefe and Lyn Brogan. You are a great asset to the Irish Community as a whole.

A special thanks to Jeremie Milwee, General Manager for the Petroleum Club and her staff for helping put on such a grand event.

A wonderful night was capped off with an Irish Coffee Bar featuring Old Tom Horan Irish Whiskey and Old Tom Horan Irish Cream.

Our annual Celebration Dinner helps fund our organization which continues to thrive from great members like yourself. Thank you.

We hope to see you all at our next Celebration Dinner Friday, March 3, 2017!

Please visit our Website www.TheIrishSociety.org for regular updates.

A LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

As Ireland and its proud descendants continue to celebrate the 100th year anniversary of The Easter Rising, The Irish Society encourages all of our members and their families, friends and Irish mates to come out and celebrate Ireland at this year's Bloomsday Day party. As you know, Irish literature is one of Ireland's great legacies, and James Joyce's Ulysses tops the list of Irish classics. Our annual Blooms Day (June 16th) Party is a tribute to our Irish culture and a great opportunity to share our Irish heritage with fellow Houstonians of Irish descent. We hope you will join the festivities on June 15th. Additional information on the Blooms Day Party, as well as other Irish news and events in the Houston area and membership information, can be found on our website, www.theirishsociety.org. Please visit our website for current information on all things Irish in Houston.

In addition to Irish literature, one of the endearing attributes of the Irish is their compassion for others. The Irish Society has been contacted to spread the word of a desperate Irish family seeking financial assistance to bring their 5 year old daughter, Shauntelle, to M.D. Anderson Cancer Center for treatment of an extremely rare form of cancer. The background on the Irish community's call to support Shauntelle and her parents can be found on our website. As a Section 501(c)(3) tax exempt charity, The Irish Society is legally prohibited from contributing its funds to the benefit of private individuals, such as Shauntelle. However, I urge each of you to consider contributing to this young child's campaign to come to Houston for treatment. The Irish Society thanks all of its members in advance for their generous and compassionate response to this Irish family's terrible plight.

Finally, The Irish Society relies on its members' dues for its financial viability. If you have not yet paid your 2016 dues, i.e. \$35 for individuals and \$50 for a family, I urge you to do so now to retain your good standing in The Irish Society. With your continued financial support, we can continue to provide Houston's Irish community with social gatherings such as the upcoming Blooms Day Party. Our website has the membership information for your review as well as the address to which your dues payment should be mailed. I thank you in advance for your continued support and I look forward to seeing all of you at the festive Blooms Day Party on June 15th. Slainte!

KEITH FAIRBROTHER, REST IN PEACE

It is with heavy hearts that we mourn the passing of Keith Fairbrother on April 19, 2016 peacefully at home. Keith was actively involved in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, Juvenile Detention, Crisis Hotline, the Grand Jury and in ushering at St. Anne Catholic Church. Keith was a valued member of our Irish Society. He will be missed, but never forgotten.

Please visit our Website www.TheIrishSociety.org for regular updates.