

## THE SHILLELAGH CLUB 648 PROSPECT AVENUE WEST ORANGE NJ 07052 (973) 325-9338



The potato famine in Ireland in 1845-50 drove millions of Irish to emigrate to other countries, primarily Great Britain and America. The Irish who came to America became the dreamers, the builders, the laborers, the policemen, the firemen and the politicians of this country. Like all immigrants, they fought discrimination, served in wars for America and competed for jobs. They and their lineage rose to positions of power and prestige as exemplified with the election of John F. Kennedy in 1961.

Although the Irish population first centered in the major cities, by the 1950's and 60's they had begun to move into the surrounding suburbs in search of the America Dream of their own home in the country. In their new surrounds they looked for camaraderie with other Irish. So it was that in 1963 eight men in Old Bridge, NJ (led by John Cryan, Bart Dougherty and Harry Knox) assembled a group of Irishmen to march in the Newark St. Patrick's Day Parade. An organization meeting was planned and in February, 1964, forty men came forward to become charter members of **"The Friendly Sons of The Shillelagh"** in Old Bridge. The name of the organization was adopted from the popular television show of the time, the Jackie Gleason Show. On the show, Jackie had a skit as "Joe the Bartender." In that skit, the never seen customer, Mr. Donahey, was either going to or coming from a meeting of "The Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh."

Our Essex County Division was founded in October 1967. In 1971, the Essex Division of the Friendly Sons purchased the existing club building which has been known as the West Orange Women's Club building. There have been extensive renovations to the club since that purchase and these are continuing, sometimes at great expensive.

The Friendly Sons is an Irish-American social and charitable organization dedicated to the purpose of keeping alive the Irish traditions through the fraternity and good fellowship of its members. The organization is non-profit, non-sectarian and non-political. To become a member you must be one-eight Irish, be of good cheer and eager to become an active member of a very elite fraternity.

If interested fill in the reverse side of this paper and return it to the club either by mail or in person. Along with a \$25.00 application fee, check made out to the Shillelagh Club. Once a member, you will have a Bond fee of \$150; dues are \$100.00 a year. You will be asked to obtain a green blazer with a Shillelagh pocket crest, gray slacks, and club tie for various club functions. (St Patrick's Day Parades etc). Our monthly meetings are the second Wednesday of each month. We ask all members to attend as many meeting as possible and to participate in our club activities. Of special importance is our annual Dinner Dance, held in the Spring. This event is the Club's major fund raiser. There are also a variety of charitable organizations we support where your assistance would be required and appreciated.

We're looking for new members who will join us playing golf, marching in parades, singing a song. Telling a joke, enjoying fellowship, and most of all keeping the Irish Tradition alive!!!





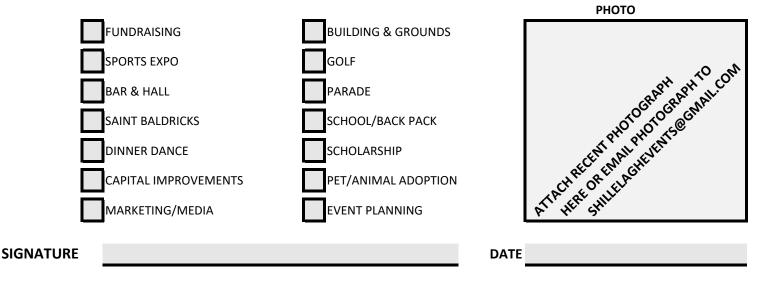
Home of the Order of the Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh



## **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

		PLEASE PRINT		
NAME				
	LAST	FIRST	MIDDLE	
ADDRESS				
		STREET		
	CITY	STATE	ZIP	
PHONE				
	MOBILE	HOME	BUSINESS	
EMAIL				
	PERSONAL		PROFESSIONAL	
OCCUPATION				
	TITLE		EMPLOYER	
	STREET	CITY	STATE, ZIP	
SPOUSE				
	LAST	FIRST	EMAIL	
	A PREREQUESIST FOR FULL MEMBI	ERSHIP IS THAT A CANDIDATE HAS	AT LEAST 1/8 IRISH LINEAGE(GRANDPARE	NT)
LINEAGE				
	FATHER MO	THER GRAN	DFATHER GRANDMO	THER
SPONSORED BY		P	HONE	

MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO VOLUNTEER THEIR TIME AT OUR CLUB EVENTS; CHARITABLE, FUNDRASING, COMMUNITY, MARCHES & PARADES. BELOW PLEASE CHECK THE BOX FOR THE COMMITTEES YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING AND VOLUNTEERING. (FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT ANY CLUB OFFICER OR MEMBER)



THE APPLICATION MUST BE COMPLETED IN FULL AND RETURNED WITH A RECENT PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPH AND A NON REFUNDABLE \$25 APPLICATION FEE (MADE PAYABLE TO FSOS). PLEASE RETURN TO THE BAR STAFF OR A CLUB OFFICER.