

LEARNING ABOUT



March, 2010

www.life.ucf.edu

An Irish Blessing

May you always have
Walls for the winds
A roof for the rain
Tea beside the fire
Laughter to cheer you
Those you love near you
And all your heart might desire.

and

May you live to comb the hair of your
children's children.

May you live to be a hundred years,
with one extra year to repent!



Irish Coffee

1 tsp sugar
2 oz. Irish whiskey
Hot coffee
Heavy cream



In the bottom of a stemmed glass,
stir sugar and whiskey until sugar
dissolves. Add coffee and float cream
on top. (Do not stir or combine.)
Enjoy!



Irish Proverbs

The older the fiddle, the sweeter the
tune.

An old broom knows the dirty corners
best.

Wine lets out the truth.



Half a loaf is better than no bread.

You'll never plow a field by turning it
over in your mind.

No one is ever poor who has the sight
of his eyes and the use of his feet.

What butter and whiskey will not
cure there's no cure for.

Burning the candle at both ends will
soon leave you without a light.

Leave the bad tale where you found
it.

You never miss the water till the well
has run dry.



An Irish Quiz

1. Some areas in Ireland are known to receive this many inches of rain each year, which accounts for the brilliantly green grass that has earned Ireland the nickname the "emerald isle".
 - a) Sixty inches
 - b) Seventy inches
 - c) Eighty inches
 - d) Ninety inches
2. "Erin Go Bragh," a phrase heard often on St. Patrick's Day, means:
 - a) I Love Ireland!
 - b) Ireland Forever!
 - c) Brave and Free
 - d) Ireland, My Home
3. Irish tradition says that anyone who kisses the blarney stone, which is located near this town, will be blessed with the Irish "gift of gab":
 - a) Dublin
 - b) Wexford
 - c) Cork
 - d) Waterford
4. This Nobel Prize-winning Irish poet and playwright was also a senator of the Irish Free State from 1922 to 1928:
 - a) George Bernard Shaw
 - b) James Joyce
 - c) Jonathan Swift
 - d) William Butler Yeats
5. This film, shot in Ireland in 1952, was directed by John Ford:
 - a) Ryan's Daughter
 - b) The Quiet Man
 - c) The Dead
 - d) The Informer
6. Traditional Irish music has found an international audience with the popularity of such Celtic bands as:
 - a) The Chieftains
 - b) The Lads
 - c) Shannon Rovers
 - d) Sweet Honey on the Rock
7. Today, the prime minister of the Republic of Ireland is:
 - a) Frank McCourt
 - b) Ian Dunkirk
 - c) Brian Cowen
 - d) Gerry Adams
8. In November 1995, the people of Ireland narrowly passed a referendum legalizing:
 - a) Same-sex marriage
 - b) Abortion





(Irish Quiz continues . . .)

- c) Divorce
 - d) Marijuana
9. With 27, 136 square miles of land, the Republic of Ireland is approximately half the size of this U.S. state:
- a) Montana
 - b) California
 - c) Louisiana
 - d) Arkansas
10. Today, this number of Americans trace their ancestry back to Ireland:
- a) Ten million
 - b) Twenty-five million
 - c) Forty million
 - d) Sixty-five million

[Answers can be found on the back page of the newsletter.]



MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
February 1, 2010
A Summary

Items of Note:

- a. Nominating Committee will be appointed in the spring and will present a Board slate by November 1.
- b. Motion approved to add Board term limits to the By-Laws, subject to a membership vote. Discussion of a Past Presidents' Advisory Council Will continue.

Special Reports

UCF Representative – Martha Hitt reported that, under the “Direct Connect” program, students from 4 area community colleges are accredited to continue their third year of education at UCF. The number of students has tripled since 2006 and non-local students are enrolling in these 2-year schools so they can graduate from UCF.

UCF Liaison – Dick Tucker reported that UCF would like its LIFE members ID information entered into the UCF data system. No decision now as to how and when this would take place.

Executive Committee Reports

President – Chuck Fritz asked the Nominating Committee to have its slate of board members ready by November 1. Written ballots will be used if there is more than one candidate for a position, with the annual meeting held before class on the day of Annual Meeting and Luncheon. Ballots will be counted prior to this meeting. Chuck also suggested that new candidates be interviewed.

Vice-President – Ann Funk reported plan for the Spring Awards session are being made. She is working on seating adjustments in the Cape Florida room.

Secretary – Alice Reinhardt presented a current board roster for corrections. Thank you letters to retiring members were distributed for signing.

Treasurer – Kermit James explained that as a campus club we are now required to maintain a positive balance in a LIFE account at UCF. Thus, \$100 has been deposited in the account.

[Minutes continued on back page . . .]



Only an 8th grade education . . .

Remember when our grandparents and/or great grandparents used to lament the fact that they only had an 8th grade education. Well, check this out. Below is an 8th grade final exam from 1895 in Salina, KS, USA.

GRAMMAR: (Time – one hour)

1. Give nine rules for the use of Capital Letters.
2. Name the Parts of Speech and define those that have no Modifications.
3. Define Verse, Stanza, and Paragraph.
4. What are the Principal Parts of a verb? Give Principal Parts of lie, lay and run.
5. Define Case, Illustrate each Case.
6. What is Punctuation? Give rules for principal marks of Punctuation.
7. Write a composition of about 150 words and show therein that you understand the practical use of the rules of grammar.

ARITHMETIC: (Time – 1.25 hours)

1. Name and define the Fundamental Rules of Arithmetic.
2. A wagon box is 2 ft. deep, 10 feet long, and 3 ft. wide. How many bushels of wheat will it hold?
3. If a load of wheat weighs 3942 lbs., what is it worth at 50 cts/bushel, deducting 1050 lbs. for tare?
4. District No. 33 has a valuation of \$35,000. What is the necessary levy to carry on a school seven months at \$50 per month and have \$104 for incidentals?
5. Find cost of 6720 lbs. coat at \$6.00 per ton.
6. Find the interest of \$512.60 for 8 months and 18 days at 7 per cent.
7. What is the cost of 40 boards 12 inches wide and 16 ft. long at \$20 per meter.
8. Find bank discount on \$300 for 90 days (no grace) at 10 percent.
9. What is the cost of a square farm at \$15 per acre, the distance around which is 640 rods?
10. Write a Bank Check, a Promissory Note, and a receipt.

HISTORY (Time – 45 minutes)

1. Give the epochs into which U.S. History is divided.
2. Give an account of the discovery of America by Columbus.
3. Relate the causes and results of the Revolutionary War.
4. Show the territorial growth of the U.S.
5. Tell what you can of the history of Kansas.
6. Describe three of the most prominent battles of the Rebellion.
7. Who were the following: Morse, Whitney, Fulton, Bell, Lincoln, Penn and Howe?
8. Name events connected with the following dates: 1607, 1620, 1800, 1849, 1865.



ORTHOGRAPHY (Time – one hour)

1. What is meant by the following: alphabet, phonetic, orthography, etymology, syllabication?
2. What are elementary sounds? How classified?
3. What are the following and give examples of each: trigraph, sub-vocals, diphthong, cognate letters, linguals?
5. Give four substitutes for caret 'u'.
6. Give two uses of silent letters in spelling. Illustrate each.
7. Define the following prefixes and use in connection with a word: bi, dis, mis, pre, semi, post, non, inter, mono, sup.
8. Mark diacritically and divide into syllables the following, and name the sign that indicates the sound: card, bali, mercy, sir, odd, cell, rise, blood, fare, last.
9. Use the following correctly in sentences: cite, site, sight, fane, fain, feign, vane, vain, vein, raze, raise, rays.
10. Write 10 words frequently mispronounced and indicate pronunciation by use of diacritical marks and by syllabication.



8th grade education (cont...)

GEOGRAPHY (Time – one hour)

1. What is climate? Upon what does climate depend?
2. How do you account for the extremes of climate in Kansas?
3. Of what use are rivers? Of what use is the ocean?
4. Describe the mountains of North America.
5. Name and describe the following: Monrovia, Odessa, Denver, Manitoba, Hecia, Yukon, St. Helena, Juan Fernandez, Aspinwall & Orinoco.
6. Name and locate the principal trade centers of the U.S.
7. Name all the republics of Europe and give the capital of each.
8. Why is the Atlantic Coast colder than the Pacific in the same latitude?
9. Describe the process by which the water of the ocean returns to the sources of rivers.
10. Describe the movements of the earth. Give the inclination of the earth.

--Smokey Valley Genealogical Society & Library
Salina, Kansas

It's worth noting that the exam took five hours to complete. Gives new meaning to the expression "he/she only had an 8th grade education, doesn't it?"



THE HYSTORICAL PLAYERS

If you could go back in time and space and become an historical figure, who would you choose to be? Ben Franklin? Queen Elizabeth I? Attila the Hun? Annie Oakley? Abraham Lincoln?

All the above characters, and more, now live and breathe through a group called "The Hystorical Players." Begun about 7 years ago by LIFE member, Roy Scherer, who had been inspired by Steve Allen's TV show, "A Meeting of the Minds," the players perform individually and as a group for various functions and fundraisers. They do it for the sheer joy of transforming themselves into famous people from the past. Each designs his or her own costume. Each researches his/her character and brings the person to life, with careful attention paid to the small nuances, the personality quirks, the prevalent attitudes of the day, the facts and the foibles.

"Queen Elizabeth I" is also a LIFE member and is rumored to be sleeping with Roy, the Impresario, as he calls himself. Other players include a corporate executive, an attorney, a banker, a professor, a writer/video artist and a business consultant.

The whole idea is to have fun while exploring a character in depth and the historical period in which he/she lived. Each impersonator is heavily

HYSTORICAL PLAYERS (continued . . .)



steeped in the material. Roy said that one of the fringe benefits for him has been a new appreciation for the characters and the historical implications of their lives.. He finds it intellectually stimulating and allows that it “keeps his brain alive.”

Several years ago, the group performed for LIFE and they are still going strong. They give about 25 performances per year, almost all at no charge. They’ve added new characters: William Shakespeare appears on occasion. Thomas Edison, Leonardo da Vinci, and Napoleon surface from time to time. Children and adults alike are fascinated by the stories told.

If you would like to know more about this group, contact Roy Scherer (the guy who puts all the announcements up on the screen each week) at 407-341-8420. Of course, you never know who might answer the phone. It could be Tom or Will or Liz . . .



Minutes (continued . . .)



Standing Committees

Venue Search – Dick Tucker is exploring options for more spacious meeting space; however, there are not that many options. He is meeting with Arena personnel to see what’s available.

Scholarship/Awards – Doug Garner offered thanks for all the help, citing Phil Rosenberg in particular. More recipients acknowledged their grants this year, and the electronic submission process went quite well. The medical school was overlooked in the process, however. This will be corrected.

Honors College Field Trips – Marty Wiener announced the first field trip scheduled on February 9 and outlined the rest of the schedule. Events are listed on the website and Tuesday morning screenings. 70 members plan to take the campus walking tour.

Newsletter – Vonnie Bradbury granted permission to buy candy as part of the Valentine survey effort. She asked about placing Bach Festival Society brochures on the table. It was explained that only UCF-related materials can be promoted at LIFE.

Unfinished Business:



After considerable discussion, Phil Easterling moved that we recommend to the membership a change in the By-Laws as follows: Effective January 1, 2011, Board members may serve for two consecutive three-year terms, except for the Executive Board which would be allowed a third term. A member could run again after a one-term hiatus. Motion passed. Dick Tucker suggested a “Council of Presidents,” composed of past presidents who would serve in an

advisory capacity. No final decision was made on this issue.

