



# Optimist Newsletter Continued



Ed Harrison  
Memorial  
Golf Scramble

Financial Support for:

YMCA  
Camp Carson



## Announcements & Upcoming Events

- Beth Paul suggested we add *Toy Time with the Salvation Army* next year. She's gathering details, so stay tuned.
- In May, we'll be supporting *Little Lambs* by bringing wipes and diapers to donate. (No, not for club members—we're not *that* old.)
- Jeff is reaching out to Mark Hackert to see if he can be our February 13th speaker. His topic? The wild world of being an Uber Driver. Buckle up!
- We are still wrestling with Indiana over our tax-exempt status. Stay tuned for updates on this thrilling saga.

## Guest Speaker: Ron Eberhart – Tales from Ireland

Ron took us on a virtual trip to Ireland, where his daughter Andrea and her family have been planting spiritual roots with their church in Belfast for the past decade. Ron's daughter, Andrea lives in Belfast, Northern Ireland with her husband and 3 children. They started a Church in Belfast about 10 years ago and are affiliated with Every Nation.. He and Emma Lee have made the transatlantic trek seven times, so Ron knows his way around a proper Irish breakfast.

To help us grasp the geography, Ron cleverly compared Irish cities to their Hoosier counterparts:

Dublin = Richmond, IN  
Belfast = Fort Wayne, IN

Ireland and Indiana are about the same size with Ireland slightly larger. Belfast is part of UK using the pound as their currency. It takes up about 20% of the land mass in Ireland in the Northeast.

Construction in Ireland is mostly with bricks and stucco due, concrete walls, due to the humid weather. Ron mentioned some of the most popular attractions including the Cliffs of Mohr, Giant's Causeway, and the Blarney Stone. Ron mentioned that he has never "kissed it". He also mentioned that the food tastes better due to less preservatives and most meat is raised in Ireland and a lot from grass fed animals. He also talked about his visit to the grave of St. Patrick which the holiday is named for. A visit to Ireland's first church was on his tour agenda as was several trips to Tesco, the Walmart of Ireland.. From roundabouts (a driving nightmare) to food (lots of potatoes) to weather (spoiler: it rains), Ron painted a vivid picture of life in Ireland. Now, who's up for a club field trip?

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, February 13th

Speaker TBD—hopefully an Uber driver with plenty of entertaining passenger stories.

See you then!

Ron Eberhart, Scribe.



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Evansville Downtown Charitable Foundation, Inc.