

## 2002 Dignitaries

### 2002 Mr. Pat: James R. (Jim) Bresnahan



Jim was born in Hibbing, Minnesota. He graduated from the College of St. Thomas with a degree in Political Science in 1953. After graduation he served as an intelligence officer in the United States Air Force during the Korean War. In 1960 he received B.S.L. and J.D. Degrees from the William Mitchell College of law. That same year he began the practice of law as a partner in the law firm of Cochrane, Thomson and Bresnahan in St. Paul, where he has maintained his office ever since.

He is a member of the Ramsey County and Minnesota State Bar Associations, American Legion, Bloomington Lions Club, Bloomington Business Association and a Life Member of the Elks Club. He is a past member of the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce, Plumbers' Local #120 and St. Paul Curling Club. He served as President of the St. Patrick's Association from 1989 through 1991, and remains on the Executive Committee and actively supports the Wearing of the Green Dinner. He was the Big Button Purchaser in 1992. Hobbies include hunting and golf.

Mr. Bresnahan and his wife Nancy maintain summer residence in Minnesota and winter residence in Naples, Florida. He is the father of two grown children, Mike Bresnahan and Shawn Gardner, and grandfather of five: Andrea, Alison and Mark Bresnahan and Megan and Molly Gardner.

### 2002 Miss Shamrock: Annie Mackey Markwardt



Annie Mackey Markwardt, is very proud of her Irish heritage. She is able to trace her family back to counties Cork and Tipperary. She considers receiving the title of Miss Shamrock a great honor, which she dedicates to the memory of her father Richard Kent Mackey. Annie is a native of Duluth, Minnesota. She has lived in St. Paul, MN, Idaho and Illinois and currently makes her home in Farmington, MN. She is happily married to Paul Markwardt, and they are the proud parents of Kegan and Kinzie. Annie has degrees from Mankato State University and The College of St. Catherine. She works part-time as an occupational therapist and all of the time as a "domestic engineer."

### 2002 Distinguished Irish Woman: Betty Buckley



Author of **The Power of Why**, Betsy Buckley is a speaker, facilitator, coach and consultant who helps leaders and teams in the organizations they serve build their revenues and their reputations. As an investment officer for a leading regional investment firm, she helped clients survive during and prosper after the market crash of 1987. She holds seven securities licenses. From 1989 to 1998, she drove growth for one of the world's largest public relations firms in the North America and Asia as an executive vice president, including living and working in Tokyo.

Betsy's Irish--- on both sides--- and married to an Irishman, Dennis B. McGrath. She and her husband live and work in Saint Paul and Tampa, where she has found her entrepreneurial calling as founder and partner of two businesses. One is her own speaking, facilitating and coaching company, **What Matters**, and the other is a strategic public relations and communications consultancy she runs with her husband, McGrath Buckley Communications Counseling.

Active in community and civic affairs, Betsy is on the Board of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, member of the Alumni Board of St. Norbert College, chair of the National Speakers Association PR Task Force and past president of NSA-Minnesota, a volunteer for Women Venture, co-chair of the Ambassadors Council at the Minneapolis Club and on the Advisory Board of St. Olaf Parish. She and Dennis have three grown children and co-parent their twin grandsons.

#### 2002 Grand Marshal: Tim Fuller



Born and raised in Saint Paul, Tim Fuller, is a veteran with the Saint Paul Department of Fire and Safety Services in Minnesota. He was appointed to the position of Fire Chief in 1991; previously holding positions of Firefighter/Paramedic, Fire Captain, Emergency Medical Services Chief, District Fire Chief, and Assistant Fire Chief. He was one of Saint Paul's first paramedics as the program was introduced in 1973.

Tim has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Public Administration and has completed the Executive Fire Officer Program at the National Fire Academy. In 1997, he attended the Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. He is Chairman of the Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Section of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and National Fire Protection Association. Other memberships include the Minnesota State and Ramsey County Fire Chief's Association, Association of Minnesota Emergency Managers, Salvation Army Advisory Board and the Rotary Club of Saint Paul.

#### 2002 Celebrity Grand Marshal: Mayor Randy Kelly



Randy Kelly is a graduate of Harding High School and the University of Minnesota, and lives on Saint Paul's East Side with his wife, Kathy.

Randy served in the Minnesota State Senate and is respected for his efforts in representing the lower- and middle-income people of Minnesota by increasing the minimum wage, increasing access to home ownership, creating more higher-paying jobs, and retaining those that exist. He is proud of his economic development work as well. Prior to being elected Mayor, Randy served as the Chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee, and a member of the Crime Prevention Committee, Finance Committee, the Telecommunications, Energy, and Utilities Committee, and the Transportation and Public Safety Budget Division.

Randy worked at 3M for ten years and recently worked with his brother in a small family-owned business, in addition to serving the Legislature.

### 2002 Honorary Irish Person: Don Boxmeyer



Don Boxmeyer was born and raised on St. Paul's West End and is a 1959 graduate of Monroe High School. He is also a graduate of the Journalism School at the University of Minnesota and served several years in the U.S. Navy as an enlisted journalist, after which he became a general assignment reporter at the St. Paul Dispatch-Pioneer Press in 1966. He covered such hard news beats as City Hall, Legislature and science and the environment, after which he became an editor of EXTRA/Saturday, one of the newspaper's new feature sections, in 1978. In 1980, he was given an opportunity to write a weekly column, which then became a three-and-sometimes-four-day-a-week job, and he remained a columnist until his retirement this year. He and his wife, Kathy, have lived on the East Side for almost 40 years, raising their three children there. The Boxmeyers enjoy time with their grandchildren and great-grandchildren.