



SHOP RAG



The origin of Halloween lies in Celtic Ireland

To find the origin of Halloween, you have to look to the festival of Samhain in Ireland's Celtic past. Samhain had three distinct elements. Firstly, it was an important fire festival, celebrated over the evening of 31 October and throughout the following day. The flames of old fires had to be extinguished and ceremonially re-lit by druids.

It was also a festival not unlike the modern New Year's Day in that it carried the notion of casting out the old and moving into the new.

To our pagan ancestors it marked the end of the pastoral cycle – a time when all the crops would have been gathered and placed in storage for the long winter ahead and when livestock would be brought in from the fields and selected for slaughter or breeding.

But it was also, as the last day of the year, the time when the souls of the departed would return to their former homes and when potentially malevolent spirits were released from the Otherworld and were visible to mankind.

Samhain: its place in the Celtic calendar

The origin of Halloween lies in the Celt's Autumn festival which was held on the first day of the 11th month, the month known as November in English but as *Samhain* in Irish.

The festivals are known by other names in other Celtic countries but there is usually some similarity, if only in the translation.

In **Scottish Gaelic**, the autumn festival is called *Samhuinn*. In **Manx** it is *Sauin*.

The root of the word – *sam* – means summer, while *fuin* means end. And this signals the idea of a seasonal change rather than a notion of worship or ritual.

The other group of Celtic languages (known as Q-Celtic) have very different words but a similar intention. In **Welsh**, the day is *Calan Gaeaf*, which means the first day of winter. In **Brittany**, the day is *Kala Goanv*, which means the beginning of November.

The Celts believed that the passage of a day began with darkness and progressed into the light. The same notion explains why Winter – the season of long, dark nights – marked the beginning of the year and progressed into the lighter days of Spring, Summer and Autumn.

The Roman Autumn festival

Harvest was celebrated by the Romans with a festival dedicated to Pomona, the goddess of the fruits of the tree, especially apples. The origin of Halloween's special menus, which usually involve apples (as do many party games), probably dates from this period. Pomona continued to be celebrated long after the arrival of Christianity in Roman Europe. So, too, did *Samhain* in Ireland and it was inevitable that an alternative would be found to push pagan culture and lore into a more 'acceptable' Christian event.

Sure enough, the 7th-century Pope Boniface, attempting to lead his flock away from pagan celebrations and rituals, declared 1st November to be All Saints Day, also known as All Hallows Day.

The origin of Halloween's spookiness

The evening before became known as Hallows' Eve, and from there the origin of Halloween, as a word, is clear.

For Celts, *Samhain* was a spiritual time, but with a lot of confusion thrown into the mix. Being 'between years' or 'in transition', the usually fairly stable boundaries between the Otherworld and the human world became less secure so that puka, banshees, fairies and other spirits could come and go quite freely. There were also 'shape shifters' at large. This is where the dark side of Halloween originated.

To ward off the evil let loose at *Samhain*, huge bonfires were lit and people wore ugly masks and disguises to confuse the spirits and stop the dead identifying individuals who they had disliked during their own lifetime.

They also deliberately made a lot of noise to unsettle the spirits and drive them away from their homes. The timid, however, would leave out food in their homes, or at the nearest hawthorn or whitethorn bush (where fairies were known to live), hoping that their generosity would appease the spirits.

For some, the tradition of leaving food (and a spoon to eat it!) in the home – usually a plate of champ or [Colcannon](#) – was more about offering hospitality to their own ancestors.

Just as spells and incantations of witches were especially powerful at *Samhain*, so the night was believed to be full of portents of the future.



Ireland's best Halloween party is in Derry

While the origin of Halloween doesn't lie specifically in Derry, the world's biggest Halloween party is held in that city every year. More than 30,000 people take to the streets, most of them dressed as witches, ghouls, vampires and monsters from the Otherworld. It's a time when you're almost certain to hear the Banshees screaming – assuming you can hear anything much above the marching bands, ceilidh music, hard rock and calypso as the carnival proceeds through the town.

Waterloo Place plays host to a free concert, and many events, including Ghost Walks, are held throughout the city before a spectacular fireworks display brings celebrations to a close.

Minutes for the April 27th 2018 Meeting

Meeting was Called to order at 6:58

Board Members and Committee Chairs Present

President - Charlie Lieber

V.P. - Bob Pisciotta

Secretary - Suzanne Macenas

Treasurer - Dave Lazzarini

Merchandise - Leilani Hosking

Membership - Craig Evans

Sergeant at Arms - Jerry Macenas

Events Chairman - Bob Pisciotta

Sunshine - Paulette Lieber

Pledge of Allegiance lead by Jerry Macenas, Sergeant at Arms,

Membership - Craig Evans An Introduction was in order for Wayne Hamel a Visitor for the evening. He has a 31 Chevy 3 Window coupe. Birthday Announcements were made.

Events Report- *Progressive Dinner* -Date will be October 27th starting at 2:30. Hors d'oeuvres will be at the home of Bob and Linda Pisciotta. Main meal at Craig and Karin Evans home, and then dessert will be hosted by Mark and Judy Jessop. Address and directions will be emailed out.

Secretary Report - Motion was made to approve the minutes from the August 2018 meeting a motion was made and approved unanimously.

Treasurer Report - Dave Lazzarini gave a report and said there was no income or expenditures for the month of August.

Check book balance as of August 1st 2018 was **\$4,606.88**

	\$ 55.00	Revenue 50/50
Expenditures	\$ 70.00	Parking for Rod Run
	\$ 25.00	Tax Board
	\$ 20.00	Sunshine cards
	\$ 200.00	Christmas Deposit

Expenses \$315.00

Revenue/Losses (\$260.00)

End Balance 8-31 \$4,346.88

Car Shows in the Future - Earl Oakden reported on the upcoming car shows. Veterans show will be November 10th, bring a wrapped gift.

Merchandise - Leilani Hosking said that 2 shirts were ordered and already picked up.

Christmas Dinner - Leilani and Diane Oakden have worked on the dinner and Diane had many details for us. Steak had been added to the menu so we have a choice of 4 items to choose from the menu. Dinner should be served within an hour and a half after we arrive. A full bar will be available to purchase any drinks we want. Charlie suggested that the club pick up the tab for dinner since we had \$2,200 budgeted for it. Motion was moved and carried. Soooooo dinner is on the club, YEAAAA!! Below information from Diane's flyer she passed out.

Over The Hill Gang TV
Christmas Party
Monday, December 3, 2018
6:30 pm

Francesca's Italian Kitchen
31165 Temecula Pkwy
"Hwy 79 South"
Temecula, CA 92592
(951) 303-3306
Menu Choices:

Appetizers

Choose one

Bruschetta - Homemade bread with fresh tomatoes gorgonzola

Polpetta Italiana - Italian 100% ground beef meat balls

Salad

House Salad - Mix greens, cherry tomatoes, corn, carrots

Entrée

Choose One

Ravioli Checca - ravioli stuffed with ricotta cheese, garlic, chopped tomato

Chicken Mamma Mia - breast of chicken creamy mushrooms sauce

Filet Mignon - cooked just the way you like it

Fish - TBD depending on the market it will be Salmon, Sole or Tilapia

Dessert

Cannoli & Gelato (ice cream) - pastry shell filled with chocolate chips, lemon & orange zest and ricotta cheese

(Beer, Wine & Cocktails available to purchase)

GIFT EXCHANGE

Bring a wrapped gift valued at \$20. Men bring a gift for men and ladies bring a gift for ladies.

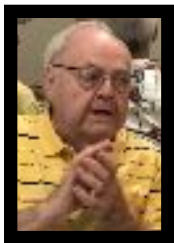
Mystery Run - Charlie said that it was a big success with 35 attendees and a lovely day in Idyllwild there were several break downs, mostly over heating or fan belts stopped, about 5 in all, but the one that will take home the BREAK DOWN TROPHY is non other than Earl Oakden, who had to be towed home due to a "NOISE" that he did not ever recall hearing



before.

Closing -Charlie reminded us that NEXT month is OFFICER nominations, so be thinking who you want to be your President, V.P., Secretary, Treasurer, Events Chairman, Sunshine, Merchandise, Sergeant at Arms. There will be a recruiting committee so be ready for a phone call with all your excuses...

50/50 - Won by Gary Moore. Several Gift Certificates were generously given by Richie's. Also two bottles of nice Wine were raffled.



Guest Wayne Hamel

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 P.M.

Mystery Run Photos, Idyllwild/Hemet!



Had to take a picture of this old service station in Rancho Cucamonga. I think they made it into a Museum



Over The Hill Gang Picnic



Proud Parents of a "FULL BIRD" Colonel, Scott Mayfield



For Sale 1965 GTO Conv. \$39,500 OBO!



Call owner JOHN GADDIS for all details (951) 751-5007