

On the corner of North Bancroft Street and Equality Avenue in beautiful downtown Fairhope lies our June destination for “Best Burger on the Eastern Shore,” McSharry’s Irish Pub. For almost a decade, McSharry’s has provided a fun and friendly atmosphere you’d expect in an Irish Pub. The service is top notch, the atmosphere is comfortable and inviting and the bartenders know you by name it’s about as close as you get to an Irish “Cheers!”

Founder and owner, Ronan McSharry, was born in Sligo, Ireland. After spending some time in New York, some friends from Fairhope convinced Ronan to visit their wonderful city. He instantly fell in love with the area and realized the one thing missing was a real Irish Pub. Nine years later, McSharry’s is a local favorite not just for the bar, but for the outstanding food as well. Inside, the pub is casual and warm with plenty of vintage Guinness signs; big screen TV’s a count-down clock to St. Patty’s Day. There’s even a stuffed moose head mounted on the wall. Outside features the “PaddyO,” which offers plenty of seating, dart boards and big screen TV’s to catch the big game.

The menu features everything from Shepherd’s Pie to some of the best wings you’ll find on the Eastern Shore. Ronan’s Reuben and the Fish and Chips are also favorites among patrons. The corn beef is house roasted and the fish is a flakey Haddock that is fried in Guinness beer batter! Another great food find, and the worthy contestant for our competition, is the Super Blarney Burger. This delicious tower of burger excellence features a half pound hand-partied, grilled certified Angus burger topped with bacon, Swiss cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickles, jalapenos, sautéed mushrooms and a fried egg!! A large appetite and extra napkins are necessary to conquer this super burger!

The night of the event, we decided to sit inside to escape the heat. We were seated were quickly and attended to by the friendly staff. When the drink orders were taken, I could not help but start out with a draught Guinness (when in Rome... or Ireland in this case!) which is as good here as anywhere. Every Guinness poured has a shamrock etched in the foam!

When the burger arrived, many questioned how one could fit this monstrous creation into their mouth. Feeling up to the challenge, I studied the burger and devised a plan of attack. After adding desired condiments I mashed the top bun down on top, breaking the yolk which ran down every side of the burger. If you are one that believes that the messier the burger the better, then this is definitely the burger for you! Biting into the burger, the flavors blended very well and created a heavenly burger experience! The jalapenos added a spicy kick and the fried egg was a pleasant addition. The burger was seasoned and cooked perfectly (I ordered mine medium) and the side of fries were exceptional and well needed to wipe the plate after finishing the burger. The Super Blarney Burger will definitely be hard to beat!

We would like to thank Ronan and the staff at McSharry’s Irish Pub for being such wonderful hosts. The service was wonderful and everyone had a great time! Be sure to swing by McSharry’s and try the Super Blarney Burger for yourself. Happy hour is daily until 7 pm and Sunday evenings feature traditional Irish music performed live.

We would also like to thank our members that joined us for the event. Please join us on Wednesday, July 22nd at Beef O’ Brady’s in Spanish Fort starting at 5:30 for our next “Best Burger on the Eastern Shore.” We look forward to seeing you there!