Irish Cousins in Lawrence Park makes you part of the family



By Dan Morey Contributing writer

March 17, 2011 12:28 AM, Erie Times News

e and Chachi and Shibs went down to Irish Cousins in Lawrence Park for some

beers. I don't think you know Shibs, but he is a wild guy who likes to go out drinking at night when his girlfriend lets him.

Anyway, like I said, we all went down to Irish Cousins for some beers. Shibs is a big pool shooter, so we shot pool. I won a game and Shibs won two. Chachi realized he was outclassed and wandered over to the Wii screen, where a lot of bowling was going on. This happens on Wednesdays at Irish Cousins, and some of the bowlers are very good.

Chachi was not one of the very good bowlers. But when they cued up the boxing game, a new Chachi emerged. In a matter of minutes he went from the befuddled bowler to the Italian Stallion. He got down in a crouch and put his dukes up. He jabbed. He uppercut. He threw a wicked right cross. His computer opponent stumbled. Chachi smelled blood and went for the body. After three vicious kidney blows, the bum went down. Chachi, victorious, paraded around the barroom, pumping his fists and yelling "yee-ah!"

I know what you're thinking. "That's great, Dan. We're really proud of Chachi. But this is St. Patrick's Day. And you're writing about a bar called Irish Cousins. So, like, what's going on today?"

OK, I'll tell you.

Irish Cousins will open at 8 a.m. Revelers, some of them already intoxicated, will come in and commence drinking.

Will they drink green beer?

"If they want green beer we'll be happy to dye it for them," said Irish Cousins half-Irish co-owner Selena Dufala.

What else will be happening, Selena?

"We'll give away beads, hats, T-shirts ... all kinds of stuff."

And?

"Reubens. Lots of Reubens. But you have to pay for those."

Is there more?

"Yes, there is."

Like what?

"Well, around noon a couple big buses will roll in. These are the St. Pat's party buses, and they will deliver over a hundred additional patrons."

Will they be inebriated?

"What do you think?"

Then what happens after that?

"DJ Josh Walters will show up at 6 p.m. and play music. People will dance."

That sounds like fun.

"It is."

I should pause here to make a statement in the interest of journalistic integrity. "I, Dan Morey, attended Harbor Creek High with the aforementioned DJ Josh Walters." That does not mean I'm giving him a shameless plug. OK, I am -- but he really is fun.

Actually, most of the people who hang out at Irish Cousins are fun. And pretty tight, too.

"This is a real neighborhood bar," said Selena Dufala. "We look out for each other."

It's true. Everyone at the bar banded together to help Shibs enjoy his night out. But after his girlfriend texted for the 12th time asking him to come home and take back the movie rentals, we had to give him up. Don't worry. He'll be back at Irish Cousins today -- dancing to the DJ and sporting something green.