

**Congratulations to Our 2018
Member of the Year Linnea Meaney
by Linda Walsh**

On Monday, February 12, 2018, the Executive Board was happy to make the announcement with our choice for the 2018 Member of the Year. Linnea Meaney was our choice for 2018 and let us share her story with you all.

Linnea who is of Swedish and Irish descent was born in Cleveland Heights to Gunhild & Henry Rupp on July 21st. She and her sister Gunny grew up in Cleveland Heights where Linnea attended Heights High. Linnea married the late Jim Meaney on June 7, 1958 at St. Louis Church on Taylor Rd in Cleveland Heights, living in Cleveland and then moving to Euclid where they raised their six children Dennis, Shireen, Tami, Kevin, Eileen and Gunny. She has 18 grandchildren and three great grandchildren. She is a member of Our Lady of the Lake Parish in Euclid. Linnea worked for Hough Bakery and was the Manager of the Gwen Estate in University Circle for over twenty years.

Linnea has many outside activities that have kept her busy through the years. She loved ice skating, playing the accordion, cross country skiing and it's been said that when encouraged you may see her do the occasional "splits". She enjoys yoga, staying in shape, dancing, golfing and traveling, having been to Ireland four times. Linnea also biked her way across the Golden Gate Bridge. Her family says that everyone loves her roast beef, she can make it like no other along with her rum cake and famous chocolate chip cookies that her grand and great grandchildren love. Linnea also has an extended family in the Carney Family with whom she and Bill Carney (who also served as the best man in Linnea and Jim's wedding) have brought together.

Linnea is one of our members who is a behind the scenes worker. She is currently a member of our Ladies Drill Team. Always there to help wherever needed Linnea is one of our great volunteers. She contacts volunteers for the After Funeral Committee, has been an active committee member for our Anniversary Dance, fish fries and many other events. She is always willing to help when it comes to cleaning and has even been spotted inside one of our refrigerators in the kitchen scrubbing it out, and we mean really inside. She has also traveled on many of the Bus Trips that the Club has sponsored.

We are proud to say that Linnea Meaney is a great asset to the Irish American Club East Side, and we wish Linnea and her family the very best while celebrating this wonderful honor. As her daughter Shireen says she is like the energizer bunny. Well Linnea, stay charged up and enjoy this time and honor. Thank you for all that you have done and will continue to do for us. You are one of a kind and we love you!