

Hibernians on Parade



Members of the AOH and LAOH paraded proudly in honor of our patron, St. Patrick, during the month of March. From Minnesota to South Carolina, from Alabama to New Jersey, from NYC's Fifth Avenue to Iowa, Hibernians celebrated their faith, their heritage and their culture. More photos, pages 27 and 28.

Support Vocations with Project St. Patrick

By Vic Vogel, PSP Chairman

The Ancient Order of Hibernians was founded to protect our clergy. What better way to reinforce the importance of our clergy than by supporting vocations? To accomplish this, we need the immediate assistance of all Divisions and Boards at every level.

Currently, all Divisions and Boards should have received the 2019 Project St. Patrick Donation Form and the Diocese Information Form. We need these forms to be completed and returned as soon as possible so that we may begin distribution of the Scholarship Applications. Additional forms are also available online at the National website.

The goal of the Project St. Patrick Easter Appeal is to raise funds for the \$500

Scholarships awarded to our Diocesan Seminarians and Religious. Each \$500 creates a Scholarship in the name of your Chaplain or anyone you select as worthy of such recognition. The donating Division or Board will receive a Certificate recognizing that person. Donations of \$500 in memory of a deceased individual will also qualify for a Certificate. These Certificates will serve as an ongoing reminder of mission of the Honoree and, of equal importance, your generosity.

We are asking every Division and Board to participate with a donation to insure the success of the 2019 Project St. Patrick Easter Appeal. In doing so, we will all demonstrate our commitment to our Holy Church and the need for vocations. Thank you!



Ancient Order of
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Connecticut



Danbury Hibernians of the Year Jeanne Hurgin and Tom Hennessy stood tall as the Grand Marshals of the 2019 Danbury, Connecticut, St. Patrick's Day Parade. Jeanne's Dad, Leonard "Link" Hurgin, was Hibernian of the Year in 1994.

By Phil Gallagher

A recent Triple-A newsletter highlighted the major St. Patrick's Day Parades in the Northeast, including the one in New Haven, which was founded by the late William Gallogly back in 1955 when he was AOH State President. This was the only Connecticut Parade cited in the Triple-A article. It did not mention any of the others, which are held in Greenwich, Stamford, Danbury, New Fairfield, Bridgeport, Waterbury, Hartford, Milford, Meriden, New London, Norwich, Mystic and any other one that I may have inadvertently left out.

Kudos to Co-Chairs Doreen Roddy and Jim Finley for making sure that the 46th annual Meriden Parade stepped off at all on March 23. The two co-chairs led a successful "Save the Parade" fundraising effort after the city of Meriden cut their funding. The two co-chairs stated that the Meriden AOH was very thankful to the business community and individual contributors in helping to reach their minimum funding goal. A special thanks went out to Thompson Candy (\$2,500), the Puerto Rican Festival Committee (\$500), and Jonal Laboratories (\$250) for jumpstarting the fundraising effort. The Meriden Parade is always a well-attended event and it is good that it will continue.

The New Fairfield Parade sponsored by the Danbury AOH is now in its 49th year and has been chaired since its inception by Peter Hearty Sr. who is a native of Crossmaglen, County Armagh, Ireland. This event is in the spirit of the old time St. Patrick's Day processions. The proceedings start with a Mass at St. Edward the Confessor Church, followed by a parade, led by pipers to the New Fairfield Town Hall where the Irish and American flags are raised, afterwards, there was a collation in the Town Hall Meeting rooms. New Fairfield is cited by census statistics as being the most Irish municipality in the State of Connecticut with almost one third of its population claiming Irish ancestry!

Father Mark O'Donnell, Chaplain of the New London Division, helped to celebrate the season of St. Patrick when he and the Blarney Stones played some Irish tunes on March 9th, at St. Joseph's School, March 16th at St. Paul's in Waterford, and March 17th at the Flanders Fish Market.

At the other end of the State, in Stamford, on February 22, Hibernians were entertained at a St. Patrick's Day fundraiser by Mayor Kevin Scarpatti as he sang the songs of Frank Sinatra!

The Monsignor Slocum Division, of Waterbury, had its usual full calendar of events honoring the Patron Saint of Ireland, but many I am sure were still saddened by the recent loss of Francis "Pup" Doolin. Pup was a man who I might have never had the joy of meeting if I had not joined the AOH. To say that he will be missed in Waterbury is an understatement. I bet he is already striding down the fairways of heaven hitting the ball straight and true with his trusty 4-iron. To paraphrase an old Fenian song: "We still have good men, but we'll never have better."

For news or info contact me at: jpgallagherct@sbcglobal.net

The National
hibernian digest



"Ireland, One and Indivisible, Though the heavens Fall" HIS EMINENCE, PATRICK CARDINAL O'DONNELL OF IRELAND

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president's message

By Jim McKay III

When this issue of your Hibernian Digest arrives, the snow will finally be over with and everyone will be in spring mode. I hope you and your family had a meaningful Lenten experience and a Happy Easter.

The annual March for Life took place once again in Washington, D.C. and the Hibernians were out in full force. Our contingent was led this year by two of our Pennsylvania brothers playing the bagpipes. I can't remember our numbers ever being larger over the past eight years. If anyone of you can make the Right to Life March in Washington, D.C., you should do it. While the March was solemn in its message, the Hibernians, like most Irish, enjoy what we are doing when the cause is just.

I returned from Ireland in the beginning of February of this year with Martin Galvin, Chairman of our National Freedom For All Ireland Committee. Martin was conducting a tour with many of our AOH and LAOH members in order to distribute the monies to the recipients of the FFAI grant requests. Almost \$90,000 of AOH and LAOH monies was distributed to cross community groups in the North of Ireland. They were properly vetted by our committees and deemed legitimate and purposeful. While we were there, we got to participate in a BREXIT soft-border demonstration, where the Co. Armagh line meets the Republic border. The AOH was well received, and a question and answer period that followed the demonstration was both helpful and meaningful.

We also met with some of the Ballymurphy Massacre families for their court hearing on one of the mornings while we were in Belfast; they were very appreciative of our presence and support. They seemed to be greatly encouraged to discover that their travails have been monitored in America as well as in Ireland.

I was also very honored to announce the 2019 Sean MacBride Humanitarian Award recipient, Father Gary Donegan, of Co. Fermanagh. Fr. Donegan came and accepted the nomination in the chambers of the Lord Mayor of Belfast, Deirdre Hargey. Our National LAOH President, Carol Sheyer, joined me in this event.

We also had the opportunity to participate in the commemoration of Pat Finucane's murder, in a candlelight vigil on the street where it happened 30 years before. It was very moving and enlightening. Pat Finucane's widow, Geraldine Finucane is a great lady, and we showed her that she had the support of all Hibernians in America.

We had an opportunity while in Dublin to meet with the Irish Foreign Affairs Committee at Leinster House and discussed the recent immigration bills filed in Washington, D.C. I also got to meet for an hour with the Taoiseach Leo Varadkar concerning a Hibernian statue project, which would commemorate the assistance the Hibernians gave to the Irish Republic throughout the years to obtain its freedom. He thought it was an excellent idea and we are now in correspondence with some of the officials in Dublin who can make it happen.

As you may be aware, the date of my President's Dinner is October 19th in Washington, D.C. There will be a Mass at 5:30 p.m. that evening at St. Patrick's Church on Capitol Hill, one and a half blocks away from the Marriott Metro Center, where the banquet is scheduled immediately following. Father Gary Donegan will officially receive his Sean MacBride award in person. A block of rooms at a very good price have been set aside at the Metro for any Hibernians who plan to attend. If you are planning to attend and you want to stay at the Marriott Metro Center, then I suggest you book as soon as possible.

Wishing that all my Brother and Sister Hibernians had a Happy and Holy Easter.



vice president's report

By Danny O'Connell

Thank you all for the support provided to my family and me during my father's recent hospice and funeral. John O'Connell was so very kind when he made last minute adjustments to my article and added my father Jack O'Connell's obituary into the last Digest at the very last moment before hitting the presses. John is one of the many Hibernians who amazes me time and time again. The work he does for you and me is nothing short of brilliant. We are blessed to be Hibernians. We are blessed!

When you receive this Digest the State Convention season will be underway. The most important thing we can do is participate in our state conventions and help us continue to grow the Order. If you can't make your state convention, be sure to support the efforts of your local officers and members who are able to attend. Two years ago, it was great to see members attend conventions outside their state. Ohio went so far two years ago as to hold our convention in Pennsylvania. Presidents Ron Hagan, Ohio, and Joe Hosie, PA, held their own border protest, taking time during the Ohio convention to bring focus to the border issue in Ireland still in the news and impacting Ireland today.

We are updating WWW.AOH.COM with state conventions as information becomes available. Major Degrees will be offered at many conventions, providing a great opportunity for our new members to receive their Degrees. We are aware that Hibernians from around the country are looking to travel during convention season to receive their Degrees. The hospitality from hosting states has been fabulous in the past and is sure to continue.

The Marketing, Promotions and Advertising committee continues to promote the AOH and membership growth at every possible opportunity. The purpose of the committee is to promote our organization's creating an awareness of who we are and what we do. The awareness of the AOH enables us to recruit new members. Once recruited and initiated, it is the responsibility of all of us to get our new members involved, which helps retain them.

Please follow our Facebook page and share the various articles and calls to action we publish. Moving forward, we will publish a recruiting ad with a link to our application. We are asking each member to share the recruiting ad on your personal Facebook page. This will give us an expanded reach. We also ask you to recruit all your eligible Irish Catholic friends and family. Peace be with you, Danny O

P.S.: The Project St. Patrick Easter Appeal kicks off this month. I will be riding my bicycle to raise money for PSP this year. My longest ride to date is 63 miles on a trail. My challenge will be to ride 100 miles on the Ohio & Erie Canalway. The date of my ride will be June 15. Details of how to pledge your support for my challenge will be found online at WWW.AOH.COM and the various Facebook pages. You can pledge per mile or simply for completion. You may also contact me directly for information at DANIEL.OCONNELL@AOH.COM.



A celebration of the life of Jack O'Connell. Peace be with him.



'Why I'm a Hibernian'

Help us recruit new members



Why are you a Hibernian? What are the benefits of being a Hibernian? What's your favorite thing about the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America and what's the best activity your division does and the Order does?

As part of our new Marketing, Promotion and Advertising Committee, we are gathering content to help attract and recruit new Irish Catholics to join our Order. We'd like you to join in that effort by thinking about these questions and send your responses in writing to the National Board.

So we'd like you, in less than 100 words, respond to the statement: "Why I'm a Hibernian," and send it to committee member John O'Connell at the editor email: EditorHibernianDigest@yahoo.com.

We intend to use the best responses in various social media campaigns, on our national and state websites, and in other media.

We're also planning to encourage Hibernians to make brief, informal videos that will enable brothers to tell potential membership candidates "in person" why they are Hibernians and why other Irish-American Catholics should join, and how.

Email blast enables immediate Hibernian call to action!

The national email system provides an opportunity for the National Board to share information with members between publications of the Hibernian Digest. This system also gives us instant contact with our members when we need a call to action on any Hibernian issue.

If you do not receive our email blasts and wish to be a part of our call to action team, please be sure to get your email updated on your membership information. Your financial secretary can update your information today. We need you as part of our team.



secretary's report

By JERE COLE

Take Charge of Your Roster

Important reminder as of this writing: There are still just over 40 divisions that have not paid their per capita for 2018. This payment was due on February 15, 2019, and is now seriously overdue. If you have not paid you will be ineligible to participate in your state convention this coming convention season beginning in May.

And very importantly, next year if payments are not submitted on time you will incur a charge of \$4 per member. That is over a 30 percent increase just for being tardy.

We have completed the field test of our new system to permit you to make revisions to your own roster. We are now in the process of including divisions to participate. We are doing this regionally so as not to create any issues as we go. You will initially receive an email inviting you to register.

The email will come from: noreply@aoh.com.

The subject will be: AOH.com membership roster management invitation.

If you don't see it in your inbox, check your SPAM, Junk or Bulk folders.

Open the email and you will see a link to register your email in the tool. Follow the link and create a password.

It will read as follows:

Your Login ID is your E-mail address, exactly as shown above.

You need to create your password, please click the following link:

<https://aoh.com/membership-roster/?key=201903141633532739873065>

(This link will only be valid one time.)

Once you create your password, you will have access to your Division's Roster. Your access will last until you log off, or the browser cookie for AOH.com is cleared. Save this link for subsequent access to the roster: <https://aoh.com/membership-roster/> If you forget your password, go to the link above, enter your email and enter "forgot" as your password. You will be sent an email with a new link from which you can create a new password.

Once in the system you will see your roster before you. Simply click on a member number to edit the information OR click on the button on top of the grid that is labeled "Add New Member."

Fill in the fields with the information and, when complete, click on the "submit" button.

Your changes will be reviewed and incorporated the next business day. Cards will be printed and mailed to you as in the past. Initially cards will only be printed once per week on Friday.

If you have any questions/problems please email rather than call with your concerns.



Director's report

By LIAM MCNABB

Strengthening the Order for the next generation...

Saint Patrick's Season and Irish American Heritage Month have come and gone and was, once again, a very special time for all of us to celebrate our faith and culture. Throughout March, there were many enjoyable events that included Communion Breakfasts, Saint Patrick's Masses, parades and raising of the Irish flag at City Hall. Each of these events is an opportunity to showcase who we are as Irish Catholic Americans and promote the good work of the Order.

However, as Hibernians, **we're proud to be Irish every day of the year** and we can find many other ways to promote the Order all year long. During Saint Patrick's Season, the community may look for us as we march together down the avenue or as we listen to Irish music and enjoy step dancing at a Church hall. Now, we need to look outward and turn toward the community to engage others regarding who we are and the great work we do as Hibernians.

Have you been on the local radio station in recent years to give your pitch for your Division? If you don't have an upcoming local event to market on the radio, we encourage you to talk about our National AOH Membership Initiative and how our organization has invested resources in an effort to attract new members. Remember, we have something for everyone; Irish history, local and national charitable work, advocacy related to political issues, etc., and perhaps most important is **Brotherhood!**

A member of my Division recently requested and was given an interview on a local television station where he shared data (volunteer hours, money donated, specific charities, etc.) related to the charitable work we perform in the community. The interviewer was clearly impressed with the information as it was much different than expected. Throughout the exchange, "AOH.com/join" was mentioned several times to learn more about the AOH and to join if interested and eligible.

As always, if you need help with your pitch or with ways to promote your Division in your community, don't hesitate to contact me directly.



treasurer's report

By SEAN PENDER

As our states prepare to meet to hold state conventions this year, I will be forwarding to all states an updated list on the 501c8 tax-exempt status of all divisions in those jurisdictions. Earlier this year the IRS sent the updated list of all divisions and boards that are attached as subordinates to the national parent account. Regrettably, despite spending the better part of the last 30 months on this project, we are not making the progress we should be. My goal is to have this issue fixed before our next National Convention and to do that I will need the support of the leaders of our organization to commit to the same.

It was an honor and privilege to help FFAI chairman Martin Galvin on the February FFAI tour of Ireland. Led by the National Presidents of the AOH and LAOH, it was an unforgettable trip that you can read about elsewhere in this issue. Special thanks to National Director Dan Dennehy for setting up an memorable two days in Dublin with unfettered access and tours of Leinster House and meetings with leaders of Irish government.



NJ Assembly passes McGuinness Principles

Sincere thanks to New Jersey Assemblyman and AOH Division 10 of Mercer County, NJ, member Wayne DeAngelo for sponsoring NJ Assembly Resolution 236, in support of the McGuinness Principles. It was an honor to be on the floor of the assembly and cast Assemblyman DeAngelo's vote as the resolution passed unanimously. To date, the NJ State Assembly resolution represents the highest governmental body to support the McGuinness Principles of Equality, Respect, Truth and Self-Determination. The National Board passed a resolution to support the McGuinness Principles at the Louisville Convention, please help to continue to gain support for the principles by getting your city, county and state to support these basic principles of equality, respect, truth and self-determination.

For more information and resolution templates visit www.mcguinnessprinciples.com #McGuinnessprinciples.



Director's report

By DENNIS PARKS

Brothers, I hope this message finds you well and that spring has finally arrived wherever you are. It has been a very busy time for the Order across the United States as well as in Ireland. In February, I was honored to install the new Kentucky State Board at the Cathedral of Christ the King in Lexington. Led by President Shaun McKiernan, Vice President Bradley Miller, Secretary Andrew Moore and Treasurer Tim Bourke, the new board is in the process of forming their by-laws and are already conducting official AOH business. Congratulations brothers!

Also in February, I participated in the FFAI trip to Ireland. Brothers, I cannot say enough about the good things that we do in Ireland through our Christmas Appeal. The people that we support are genuinely grateful. I urge all Divisions and members to participate in this work. The third tenet in the Preamble to the AOH National Constitution is: To aid and advance by all legitimate means the aspirations and endeavors of the Irish people for complete and absolute independence, promoting peace and unity for all of Ireland. The Christmas Appeal allows us to do this work. Please read the full details of the trip in FFAI Chair Martin Galvin's report in this issue. (Page 13)

In March, all eyes nationwide turned to the AOH as we celebrated the feast day of our patron, Saint Patrick, as well as Irish-American Heritage Month. Among other events, I was able to attend parades in my hometown of Akron as well as Pittsburgh. Thanks to the brothers in Pittsburgh for the hospitality.

As we move into the summer months and prepare for state conventions, please remember that the conventions are not successful without you. If your state is having a convention, please make an effort to attend. Brothers and sister members spend untold hours to make these conventions a success.



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By **Bill Sullivan**

Spring has sprung in New England! After a winter with relatively colder than normal temperatures, but with less snowfall than usual, Hibernians celebrated Irish American Heritage Month with a host of parades, and cultural and social events.

During March, John Schell, Chairman of the Irish American Heritage Month Committee for the Maryland State Board, shared with me a wealth of information on Irish American Heritage Month that I shared with State, County and Division Presidents in New England. Thanks, John, for what you do to further our knowledge of our heritage.

One of the last events to take place in New England during March was the Saint Patrick's Parade in Manchester, New Hampshire, on March 31st. What a terrific way to close March 2019! Hopefully many Divisions used this prime time to recruit new members. Please do your part to help increase our membership. As the adage goes: There is strength in numbers!

With spring here and summer just around the corner, many State Boards hold their Biennial State Conventions and the New England area is no exception. Here's a guide to what's happening.

The Massachusetts AOH /LAOH State Conventions will be held over the weekend of May 3-5 at the Seacrest Conference Center in Falmouth, on Cape Cod. Since the convention is slated for the same weekend as the Kentucky Derby in Louisville, the theme and activities for the Friday night festivity will be centered around the Kentucky Derby. A full lineup of social events and meetings are scheduled for the remainder of the weekend.

The Connecticut AOH and LAOH State Conventions will take place in Waterbury at the home of the Waterbury AOH over the weekend of June 23-25. As in the Bay State, a well-rounded list of meetings and social activities are in the planning stages.

Planning for the AOH and LAOH Rhode Island State Conventions is still ongoing and will be hosted by Division 1 in Newport in September. More news on each of these conventions will be forthcoming in future Digest articles.

Our Irish Brothers in the Burlington, Vermont, area are working diligently to try to form a Hibernian Division under the guidance of National Organizer Tim McSweeney. We know in time they will be successful in their efforts, and another state will be added to our Hibernian roster!

As this Digest goes to press, the scholarship deadline for our \$1,000 Irish Way Scholarship, as well as the two \$2,000 College Study Abroad Scholarships is fast approaching. We are delighted to note that a record number of inquiries were received over the past year regarding the National Board's scholarships. Hopefully many of those who sought applications and information will return their application and supporting materials by the May deadline. In the next several editions of the Digest we will be announcing the recipients of this year's Scholarship Awards. When the 2020 scholarship opportunities are announced this fall please consider taking advantage of them.

In the last issue of the Digest, we discussed the possible closing of Ireland's Great Hunger Museum at Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Connecticut, which houses the world's largest collection of Great Hunger-related art. At this point it appears that the news on this issue is somewhat more positive, and that funding may be secured. We will keep you posted!

Please feel free to contact me at any time with any comments, concerns or questions. My email address is: williamsullivan@verizon.net Happy Easter! Happy Spring!



Snowbirds gather in Delray Beach



Sixty Hibernians gathered for the second annual Snowbird Social at Tim Finnegan's, Delray Beach, FL. There were Hibernians from many Northeast states who gathered for lunch, music and conviviality. The event was organized by Tim Myles and a committee of brothers, Jim Sullivan, Frank Corcoran, Ed Wallace, Matt Reilly and Ray Lynch. The event kept the Hibernians in touch with the AOH during the winter and also spurred interest in Florida divisions.



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By **Dan Dennehy**

AOH leaders at Irish government meetings during FFAI Tour

National FFAI Chairman Martin Galvin ran an excellent and highly productive 2019 FFAI Tour of Ireland in February. The trip was exciting and educational, and demonstrates to the people we meet — and to the members who donate to the FFAI Christmas Appeal — our genuine concern, understanding and desire to help on a range of issues, and ultimately to see a United Ireland with peace and justice for all in our lifetime.

2019 is the 125th Anniversary of the LAOH, so it was fitting that the delegation was led by both National Presidents, Judge James McKay and Carol Sheyer, and well represented by leaders of the AOH and LAOH from 12 states, including AOH National Treasurer Sean Pender, LAOH National Secretary Marilyn Madigan and AOH National Director Denny Parks.

Sean Pender assisted Martin Galvin in planning this trip, and I organized the Dublin segment, with a walking tour with author Lorcan Collins, a talk at Padraig Pearse's birthplace by Ruan O'Donnell, government meetings; and in Belfast, a lunch with Ireland's Department of Foreign Affairs' Belfast representative, Kevin Comney. Following last year's efforts on Irish E3 visas, I was invited to a hearing of the Oireachtas Committee on Foreign Affairs and Trade to discuss the state of U.S.-Irish immigration issues. As the invitation coincided with the FFAI Tour, National President James McKay, National Treasurer Sean Pender and I traveled from Belfast to Dublin and were given a warm welcome at Leinster House from Senator Billy Lawless, a member of the Oireachtas Committee, and the wonderful Tracy Young, the Senator's Personal Assistant.

Chaired by TD Brendan Smith, the Oireachtas committee includes members of all parties from both houses of Irish Parliament, Dáil Éireann and Seanad Éireann. I have met with Oireachtas delegations often in Washington and New York, but the meeting in Leinster House was a first. The conference also included TD John Deasy, Taoiseach Varadkar's representative in the recent Irish E3 effort. President McKay, Sean and I detailed AOH work on immigration. We met families of Irish immigrants who cannot return for family events. While at Leinster House, we briefly met Tánaiste Simon Coveney; Peadar Tobin, Ind. TD; Martin Ferris, Sinn Fein TD; and our old friends Senator Niall Ó Donnghaile and former Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams TD. Then, President McKay, Sean Pender and I attended a historic meeting with Taoiseach Leo Varadkar, joined again by Senator Billy Lawless. For nearly an hour, a lively, informative discussion on many issues ensued. The Taoiseach closed with an expression of commitment to work with the AOH and find ways to demonstrate Ireland's recognition and the many contributions of the Hibernians in America.

On our last tour day, the entire delegation was treated to lunch at the Dail dining room by Senator Lawless and his Oireachtas Committee colleagues. All enjoyed convivial round table discussions of issues and each other's company! Tracy Young led us on a tour of the historic building. We were honored attendees at a session of the Seanad and welcomed to the famous Dail bar, where we met many other legislators and toasted our hosts, Billy Lawless and Tracy! That evening, we were guests at Iveagh House, the opulent former Guinness family home. Located at 80 St. Stephen's Green, Iveagh House is the headquarters of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. A meeting was held with Carol Sheyer, Marilyn Madigan, Delores Desch (NYS LAOH FFAI), Sean Pender, Martin Galvin, Denny Parks and I, and Fergal Mythen, Director General, Ireland, UK and Americas Division, recent NY Deputy Consul Anna McGillicuddy and others. We then joined the entire delegation at a lively reception, which featured American BBQ delicacies, and hosted by another old friend, DFA Secretary General Niall Burgess, recipient of the 2017 AOH LAOH National Sean MacBride Humanitarian Award. What a great trip, I recommend it to every Hibernian!

Deadline

Articles for the June-July issue are due no later than June 1.

Remember the AOH in your will

Please consider the Order when writing or rewriting your will, and add a paragraph along the lines of: "I leave to The Ancient Order of Hibernians in America [*X percent of my estate or a specific dollar amount*] for its charitable works."



Director's report

By Eoin Halligan

March is always a wonderful month with the promise of spring and all the gatherings and parades to honor St. Patrick. It also has been a very busy time with Brexit, McGuinness Principles, Malachy McAlister's situation and AOH business concerning per capita, label program and recruiting.

On February 19, Mike Cummings arranged a meeting with House Representative Brendan Boyle of Philadelphia. We heard his update on Brexit and the possible hard border. Brendan also informed us on the proposed trade agreement between the U.S. and Britain. Representative Boyle is well informed and keeping close tabs on these situations. He highly recommends that you contact your representatives in Washington to support the Bill HR 88 that he sponsored.

Hope every one of you received the email blast concerning an AOH brother, Malachy McAllister. If you did not, please make sure that you are on your state's email list or the one from National. The Brits are again harassing Malachy with deportation to Northern Ireland. The AOH has sent out several requests to contact your senators to support Senate Bill 653, introduced by Senator Menendez, and House Resolution 1547, created by NJ Congressman Pascrell. These email blasts need to reach every member. Malachy's deportation situation was on a very tight timeline. We hope that by the time you read this, these bills were passed, and Malachy is still with his family.

Philadelphia Division 39 arranged a meeting with Pearse Doherty, Sinn Fein, TD Donegal, on March 13. Pearse explained the numerous negative consequences that Brexit would have on Northern Ireland. The meeting was well attended and Pearse left us with optimism on how Brexit could be a positive for a united Ireland.

March was coming to a close, but not without an educational event put on by Judge Patrick Dugan and Bob Gessler (both AOH members) in a courtroom at Philadelphia's City Hall. It was a mock trial charging the British government, the Anglican Church, the British landlords and the Irish tenant farmers with the murder of one million Irish during the Great Hunger. Professor Christine Kinealy, the Director of Ireland's Great Hunger Institute at Quinnipiac University, gave an introduction and some facts about the potato blight. The courtroom was packed. There were several AOH and LAOH members along with more than 80 high school students from St Joseph's Prep, Roman Catholic and Little Flower and others who answered the invitation. There were two prosecutors, one being George Shotzburger an AOH member, three defense attorneys and a Deputy Clerk, Colleen McGuinness, an LAOH member, all in the courtroom and part of the proceedings. If you were not chosen for the jury, you were in one of the accused groups. Arguments were heard from both sides. The jury was sent out and came back with their decisions. The Irish tenant farmers were found not guilty. The British government, the Anglican Church and the British landlords were all found guilty of murder. The results were not surprising. The best part was that not only the students, but some of the attorneys received an education in Irish history.



Director's report

By John Wilson

I recently received a letter from a disgruntled member from one of my states for which I am his liaison. He writes "... My feelings are probably due to the fact that a lot of the people I knew when I joined have passed away. The Old Guys I liked to talk to are gone, and now that I am one of the old guys, none of the younger ones want to talk and certainly don't want to listen.

"I understand that it is time for the younger generation to take over, but must we let our old traditions die away? We no longer have a hedgerow Mass or the Mass for the living and the dead. In fact, we do nothing remotely Catholic. We concentrate on Mouse Races, Trivia Nights and Pub Crawls. I worked or marched in the parade every year until my bad knees (the official reason I gave for dropping out) but I am just tired of the way we do things. Also, my blood boils when I see how (other) divisions honor their veterans by having a ceremony to award the veteran's pins. Our president announced at a meeting that any veteran could buy a pin for \$5. I used to laugh this all off by saying it is one more reason the Irish have never ruled to world."

Although we have seen an overall increase in membership due to our recruitment efforts, it's no secret that our Order has seen a substantial decrease in membership over the last 10 years. Many factors contribute to the decrease: aging membership, lack of interest, failure to engage members, changes in society, generational differences, lack of recruiting, just to name a few. Take your pick, every division in the country has run into one if not all of these problems.

So let's look at ways to solve some of these problems. Tim McSweeney, our National Organizer, offers suggestions to help. One idea is to host an event called "Theology on Tap." This event is a discussion led by a local clergy member about Catholic issues. This could take place in the local pub or Division hall, hence the "On Tap." Another idea is consider running a "Clergy Dinner" where your Division sponsors a dinner to which all local clergy are invited.

McSweeney also suggests steering your Division into community improvement activities. Natural disaster recovery, community clean-up days, food drives and volunteering at community events. Not only does this achieve our charitable mandate, but increases public exposure and draws younger members in.

On a lighter note, how many of you sing the "Soldiers of Erin" and the "Star Spangled Banner" at the end of your meetings? It is part of our history and a tradition that should be followed. During your meeting a good part of our Irish history is in our songs. It might be a good time during our history lesson to learn the meaning of the song and teach others about it.

Let's remember our motto of friendship, unity and Christian charity. All members matter and should feel welcomed.

National Director and Liaison Duties, Responsibility, and Authority

This is the first in an ongoing series of job duties for your national officers. These are being presented for two reasons. First, it is important that everyone has a clear understanding of the duties, responsibility and authority of your elected and appointed officers. Second, these job descriptions can be applied to the duties of officers at every level of the Order. All job descriptions are posted on the AOH Website.

In this article, we are covering the elected Directors and Liaisons. It is important to understand that being an elected director does not establish any specific territory to cover.

National Directors

The basic duties of National Directors are covered in Article X, NATIONAL DIRECTORS: Section 14. Shall:

A. Form a National Program Committee; B. Be charged with the duty of arranging suitable programs of a nature that will attract, and be of interest especially to, young Americans of Irish ancestry; C. Advise and assist State, District, County and Division Officers in promoting programs in their jurisdictions; and D. Report to the National Convention and National Board Meetings.

Liaisons

The national President has established Liaisons for the national board with duties and responsibility to specific states around the country. The Duties, Responsibility and Authority of national Liaisons is covered in the position description that follows.

AOH National Liaison Responsibility – 2018-2020

Duties, Responsibility and Authority

Communicate, Recruit, Inform, and grow your states. Goal is for each Liaison to grow each of your states each and every year. Primary contact with your constituents is electronic. Telephone, E-mail, etc.

Communicate with your states – support and encourage timely AOH national projects. Speak to your state presidents monthly. Communicate to your state presidents and vice presidents monthly via email. Work with National Organizer to promote recruiting and retention at the division level. Promote recruiting monthly – get to the division level.

Grow your states daily. Promote retention of members – get to the member level. Promote membership renewal early in the year. Promote getting members who left back into the fold. Sometimes a letter of encouragement will get them back. Sometimes a phone call will get them back. Encourage state to implement programs listed 1 and 2.

Communications: Work to get all members of your state on the national e-mail list. Work to get all officers (and members) from your area to attend Conventions and board meetings at every level: County, State, National.

Rituals: Work to get all officers at every level degreed. Help you states follow proper meeting protocol.

Grievances: Read the constitution now. Read it again in two months. Read it again every six months. Understand procedures, you will be the first contact when there is an issue in your states.

Remember: No one can suspend a member without a tribunal except when their per capita are not paid. Whenever an officer is involved in any way the tribunal must be filed at the next level up. Charges must be filed by the accuser in writing and sent to the accused as prescribed in the constitution.

May attend up to two meetings of each state board you represent annually with permission from the National President.

If you are unable to attend a state convention please notify the National President as early as possible.

National Communications: Hibernian Digest Responsibility: Submit a 300- to 600-word article to the Hibernian Digest prior to the established deadline for each and every Hibernian Digest published.

Web Page Responsibility: Responsible for creating and approving all content on the AOH web-page as related to chairmanship. Must provide a monthly update to the AOH webmaster. Weekly updates are encouraged. Updates are a simple action picture and a paragraph.

Email Blast Responsibility: Prepare articles for email blast as requested. Suggest articles for email blast as needed.

Other: Additional duties as assigned by the national president.



immigration

By Dan Dennehy, chairman

It is time for a permanent solution for Irish Deportees and the Malachy McAllister family.

The Irish Peace Process is now 21-years-old, yet participants in the conflict over the occupied Six Counties, addressed by the Good Friday Agreement, still are subject to visa denial and, in some cases, deportation by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Recently, Hibernians Matt Morrison and Malachy McAllister, and their families, who have long fought for permanent status in the United States, faced hurdles that required Hibernians to mobilize. These issues are increasingly difficult for all of them, while Malachy faces imminent deportation. It is time that Ireland's Peace Process, which is a model for many other nations, is recognized by Homeland Security. Indeed, many of those other nations and organizations once considered terrorist in nature have received exemptions from DHS, yet Ireland has not. We are working to secure the granting of a DHS Terrorism-Related Inadmissibility Grounds Exemption for Ireland. This exemption will end visa denial for Republicans and Loyalists alike and allow our members Matt, Malachy and others to live here without the threat of deportation or work and travel restrictions. As I write this, we are working with National President Jim McKay, National Treasurer Sean Pender, National FFAI Chair Martin Galvin, the Irish America Unity Conference, U.S. legislators, the Irish Embassy, the U.S. State Department and the agencies of DHS on these issues.

E3 Visas for Irish Revisited

At the time of writing, U.S. Representative Richie Neal plans to reintroduce the E3 Visas for Ireland Bill, which received bi-partisan support in the last Congress. This bill, which would allocate the remainder of Australia's 10,500 E3 visas for Irish applicants, passed unanimously in the House but narrowly missed in the U.S. Senate. On the eve of the government shutdown, despite yeoman efforts by Hibernians in several states, one "hold" remained as the government ultimately shut down. This time, it is hoped that the obstacles that slowed and stopped passage last year will not be an issue. Please pay attention to Calls to Action on this legislation, should they arise.

As National Immigration Committee Chairman, I want to thank our dedicated committee members and our National Board, State Presidents, Immigration Chairs at every level, and all members across the U.S. for your resourcefulness and connectivity. The issues of immigration are complicated, yet our focus on how they affect the Irish, and what we and legislators from all parties can do to help, keeps us working together. The connections we make with legislators on Irish immigration matters helps us flex our political muscles, familiarizes the legislators and staff with Hibernians, which can help with other issues of great interest to us, and them.



political education

By Neil Cosgrove, chairman

As Political Education Chair I have been deeply saddened by the partisan politics that has broken out on the AOH's Facebook page and on several email threads involving the Irish community. While certainly everyone is entitled to an opinion, we must remember that our oath and commitment as Hibernians transcends politics. We are seeing partisan politics fracture our nation; as citizens we should defy that trend and as Hibernian brothers we must not let this infect our Order.

I think back to the Easter Rising, the centennial of which we recently celebrated. I can not conceive of a more diverse ideological group than the leaders of 1916; I think it is safe to say that philosophically James Connolly and Padraig Pearse were on opposite ends of the spectrum on many issues (to the point where Connolly admonished the Citizen Army to "hold onto their rifles" in the event the rising succeeded). Yet they came together and died in common cause for the greater good of an independent Irish Republic. They realized their differences counted for nothing if Ireland wasn't free.

As Hibernians and Americans we should be inspired by their example. Let's get rid of party labels and unite under the common name of Hibernian. We should be able to work without fear with people on issue A without worrying that we disagree with them on issue B. When we disagree it should be on fact, not invective and ad hominem. Let us not, as the English did in Ireland, create "test acts" where we expect perfect ideological conformity before we will work with someone. I am reminded of the scene in George Bernard Shaw's Major Barbara where Barbara condemns her superior in the Salvation Army for taking money from an arms dealer. The officer replied that he "would take money from the devil himself and be only too glad to get it out of his hands and into God's."

The sad truth is there are groups far smaller than Irish America that have disproportionate influence because, to their credit, they work together without public factious infighting. When we voluntarily divide ourselves we destroy our chances in pursuing any objective and not only the one under debate at the moment. Our motto of "Friendship, UNITY, and Christian Charity, must guide us. If we practice these principles our Order (and, if taken to heart on a broader level, our Nation) will be freed from the quicksand of wasteful divisiveness and actually begin making progress on what is important.

Getting back to what is important, it is my hope that in the time between the writing of this article and publication we may finally — after more than 800 days — have a U.S. Ambassador to Ireland and a sensible resolution to the Brexit crisis. If not, we must, as Irish Americans be willing to work together and speak with a united voice to ensure that the land of our heritage is respected equally among the nations of the earth and that two decades of U.S. brokered peace is not sacrificed to partisan British interests.



anti defamation

By Neil Cosgrove
chairman

This past March was seriously troubling on the Anti-Defamation front. While we have made inroads on the sale of stereotype-ridden merchandise, it was a bumper year for ignorant defaming comments targeting Irish Americans in the media and social media.

It started with an article in Philadelphia Magazine. An article by writer Claire Sasko made the following statement: "Here comes St. Patrick's Day, and with it a wave of green-clad, likely intoxicated, Irish potato-eating Philadelphians and (plenty of) suburbanites."

The article drew a considerable response, including a condemnation from the AOH. Unbelievably, in an act of cowardice and hypocrisy, the editors removed the statement and yet refused to have the maturity to apologize; deflecting on the fact that "Irish potatoes" are a local candy, while ignoring their outrageous "green-clad, likely intoxicated" remark. Do we think for a moment that a magazine would write "Here comes Cinco de Mayo, and with it a wave of sombrero-wearing, likely intoxicated, Dorito-eating Philadelphians"? Would a writer engage in such a stereotype in describing Philadelphia's "Juneteenth Celebration," an annual parade commemorating the emancipation of African Americans from slavery? Of course not, and both would be equally offensive to any decent person irrespective of heritage

Then we have a meme released by the Republican National committee on St. Patrick's Day, with a 20-year-old DWI mug shot photo of candidate "Beto" O'Rourke wearing a photoshopped green top hat and shamrock with the caption, "On this St. Paddy's Day, a special message from noted Irishman Robert Francis O'Rourke. Please drink responsibly." This attack on a political opponent based solely on their heritage belongs in the 19th century with the anti-Irish, Anti-Catholic bigot Thomas Nast, and the AOH denounced it as such. It was very sad to see some Brothers view this strictly through the narrow lens of partisan politics, completely losing the focus on this defamation of our heritage. Let me make one thing clear; the same condemnation would have been issued if a similar meme had been issued by the Democrats, Conservatives, Green Peace, Federalist or Whigs. Sadly, defamation is an equal opportunity employer, and we will call it out equally. When it comes to defaming our heritage, there is only one label we act under: Hibernian.

Finally, we come to what must have been the lowlight of defamation during Irish American Heritage Month. On the March 18th episode of ABC's nationally syndicated Strahan and Sarah Show, host Sarah Hines described St. Patrick's Day as an Irish holiday celebrating "Drinking and Public Urination." What more need be said?

While sadly it appears that the concept of being responsible is alien and the art of making an apology a lost art in 21st century America, we feel confident in all the above cases the offenders know that Irish Americans and the Hibernians are out there. It is to be hoped they will think twice before engaging in similar tropes, stereotypes and insult targeting Irish Americans.

Brothers, we are an Order whose bedrock is being proud of both our faith and heritage. That such outrageously insulting statements are believed acceptable when the subject is the Irish when they would not even be considered if the subject was any other ethnic, racial or religious group should outrage us. We should take to heart the warning that "the great enemy of truth is very often not the lie but the myth." Stereotype and myths have been used against the Irish and Irish Americans too long. Allowing yourself to be insulted is not nobility, it is a symptom of apathy, and it can be a fatal condition to the future of our heritage and Order if left untreated.

Alabama

Brothers of the Father Tracy Division, in Huntsville, were honored to be the escorts for the Grand Marshal, Queen and Court Coronation and were humbled to carry the flags blessed during the 42nd Ellen McAnnelly Memorial St. Patrick's Day parade in Huntsville, Alabama.

Division members were called upon by parade organizers to serve as escorts during the parade's coronation ceremony in January for pictures of the Grand Marshal (Liz Hurley, who is a long-time anchor at WAFF 48 news and also a breast cancer survivor who started a 5K that is now the largest 5K in Alabama much needed funds for breast cancer research), Queen and the Court.

Brothers were also asked to continue their tradition of serving as the color guard for the parade and carried the American and Irish flags that were blessed by Father Kelly during the traditional stopping of the parade outside of St. Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church.



Father Tracy Division - Blessing of the Flags 2019.



Historical Happenings

by Mike McCormack
Historian

It has been said that history cannot be written in its own time because of the many opinions, prejudiced or otherwise, that exist in its own era. With that in mind, at least two generations must pass before current events become history and that's 50 years!

Well, this is the 50th anniversary of the Apprentice Boys parade in Derry on August 12, 1969, that led to large scale unrest and the Royal Ulster Constabulary, aided by Loyalist militants, attacking the Bogside district of Derry. Conventional accounts concluded that during the Battle of the Bogside, nationalists called on the Belfast IRA to create a disturbance to draw some of the RUC away from Derry and that began that era of the Troubles. It mattered not that the Provisional IRA had not yet even been formed.

Now, thanks to brother Ed Kelly, of Division 36, Worcester, MA, I've learned of a book written by Michael McCann, a 14-year-old Belfast resident in 1969, who has since researched and written the true story of the time in which he lived and related events. For all interested in history, "Burnt Out" is an eye-opening account of the circumstances leading up to the landmark events of August 14-15 that left eight killed and near 2,000 homeless by government forces working with Loyalist paramilitaries. Years of research, including eyewitness accounts, police and fire reports, court transcripts, archives and media documents combine to verify this long overdue true story behind events that time has now moved from current events to history. While much has been written about the Troubles, little had been written about the actual spark that lit the fire in Belfast; this is it. I'm reading it a second time! Burnt Out is available on Amazon.

More in line with current events, I was honored to be part of the Suffolk County delegation to the County Legislature, along with AOH NY State President Vic Vogel, who piped us into the chamber. The Brehon and Emerald societies were also there, as were LAOH County President Pat Cremmins, and Cathie Norton Doherty, representing Boots on the Ground. We spoke on behalf of a bill submitted by legislator Steve Flottreron to declare the month of March as Irish Heritage Month in perpetuity. That way, in future years, we can request recognition in February since some media reps won't recognize our request for recognition until it is officially declared in March, by which time it is too late. The bill passed!

Later in the month, I was also honored to address our thanks to that same Legislature for endorsing the McGuinness Principles on behalf of Suffolk County AOH/LAOH Presidents Jerry Belmont and Patricia Cremmins.

I was also honored to assist NY State President Vogel in compiling his legacy book on the Monuments, Memorials and Commemorative Plaques scattered around New York State. With the assistance of several brothers who alerted us to icons of Irish and Irish-American contributions to America in their areas, the illustrated 112-page book will be debuted at the New York State Board meeting in East Durham on May 4.

Until next time, pray for those who care and keep the tradition alive!

Echoes of Irish History

By Mike McCormack, AOH National Historian

In keeping with anniversaries, one hundred years ago, Eamon deValera and Sean Milroy returned to Ireland after breaking out of Lincoln Prison in England. DeValera was prime minister of the new rebel parliament, Dail Eireann, and Milroy was the head of the Hibernian Rifles, who were associated with the American AOH. The February 12, 1919, prison break was engineered by Michael Collins and Harry Boland shortly after the unauthorized January 1919 ambush of a gelignite transport by Dan Breen, Sean Tracey and the Tipperary IRA. During that ambush, two RIC men, who had been guarding the transport, were killed. Breen was later asked if he had any regrets about his unauthorized action and he responded that his only regret was that there were not more RIC men!

In the April 1919 session of Dail Eireann, new ministers were elected and Countess Markievicz, became Ireland's first female cabinet minister, as Minister for Labor. Other ministers elected were Michael Collins as Minister for Finance; Arthur Griffith as Minister for Home Affairs; Count Plunkett as Minister for Foreign Affairs; Cathal Brugha as Minister for Defense; Eoin MacNeill as Minister for Industries; W.T. Cosgrave as Minister for Local Government and Sean T. O'Kelly as Minister for Irish. DeValera assumed his post as Prime Minister. The new government was in place and the courageous Irish people supported it as much as their means would allow, but running a government is an expensive proposition.

An Irish Race Convention met on February 22-23, 1919, in Philadelphia with Judge Daniel Cohalan as convention chair. Philadelphia Clan leader Joseph McGarrity proposed an Irish Victory Fund of one million dollars. The resolution passed and the goal was met. The Convention sent three men to the post-war Paris Peace talks to lobby Ireland's case to be included in the self-determination of small nations that American President Wilson had spoken of and promised.

In addition, on June 6, the U.S. Senate asked the American Delegation in Paris to secure a hearing for deValera to plead Ireland's case. In spite all the efforts made, the American delegation did nothing for Ireland! Britain proposed to legislate for Ireland and President Wilson, whose ancestors were of Irish Loyalist stock, agreed that Ireland was a British internal issue! The Irish now had no alternative and the War for Independence moved into high gear!

Project Saint Patrick Prayer Cards

Are now available by contacting

Vic Vogel

victorjvogel@yahoo.com

A Peak at the Past



-The group photo from the AOH San Antonio State Convention, circa 1900.



hIBERNIAN HUNGER PROJECT

By paul gowdy, chairman

Being elected as the Grand Marshals of the 2019 Detroit United Irish Societies, St. Patrick's Day Parade, my wife and I just finished a three-week hectic schedule of public appearances at various organization dinner functions, a series of Detroit television appearances and guest appearances at various radio programs. Not to mention riding down Detroit's Michigan Avenue sitting atop a Ford Mustang convertible (the ten millionth model off the Ford assembly line, on-loan from the Ford Company) in a freezing 20-degree morning! It was an exhausting yet very rewarding experience. We were inundated with many gifts mostly of an Irish flavor. We need to buy another cabinet to house all the fabulous items.

Due to the Grand Marshal responsibilities, my commitment to the AOH Hunger Project slowed down somewhat. So I am getting back on track. I have requested from our National Secretary's office an up-to-date email listing of all AOH state presidents. I intend

to contact them and request their assistance with some data collection. Specifically, any AOH Boards in their jurisdiction who presently perform any of the following charitable functions:

Have any of your AOH Boards appointed a current Hunger chair?

Details regarding any regular Feeding the Hunger projects.

Frequency of any monetary donations to neighborhood groups that feed the hungry, e.g., soup kitchens, etc.,

Combination Hunger projects with other charitable groups or parishes, e.g., LAOH, Knights of Columbus, etc.

Members who volunteer with their parish or a local church to help the neighborhood hungry.

I will also be seeking some AOH members from various AOH boards to act as appointees to the National Hunger team. If you know of any worthy candidates, please forward their contact data to me and I will follow-up with them.

I am seeking Hunger related items to upload to the AOH National Website. If you have any success stories, please forward them to me for my review.

So, all you AOH State Presidents, I will be in contact with you soon. I would appreciate if you read this article that you get a start to assist our AOH Hunger Project.



veterans affairs

By Jim Green, chairman

With St. Patrick's season behind us, and Lent and Easter also in the rear-view mirror by the time you read this, it is finally spring in the northern states! I feel like I hold my breath all winter just waiting for the "normal" seasons of spring, summer and fall to come back. We're all looking forward to getting around easier now and visiting with Hibernian brothers and sisters wherever we find them – especially veterans, in my case.

I am submitting to this issue of the Digest a couple of photos and narratives of some very special active duty and veteran honorees. One is from brother Rob Fallahay, of AOH Division 1, in Louisville, KY. He submitted a photo and resolution to share with you honoring the U.S. Army's "Charlie Battery," commanded by their Division brother, Capt. John Moriarity. Please take a look at them. I'm happy to share photos and information like this in the Digest.

Also in this Digest I'm sharing a photo sent to me by our Division Secretary, Kevin Day, of a Veterans Pin presentation that I had the honor of providing for my home Division 1 in Pittsburgh, PA. The photo shows me presenting a pin to brother Billy McKee, who sadly passed away on March 23. Billy was a tremendous brother who always had a quick smile and a generous spirit. Knowing that brother McKee proudly received his pin with great appreciation and has now gone to his rest really makes these pins so special. I also just mailed a group of 20 pins to a Division near Harrisburg, PA, and I've heard from many other Divisions, such as in Lowell, Mass, for example, looking for information on ordering them. The primary way to do that is by using the order form on our website at: <https://aoh.com/official-aoh-forms/> then scroll down to open up the National Board Order Form. The area for ordering pins is on page 2. Pins are only \$5, so order enough to keep them on hand for future presentations.

I recently received a copy of the latest database extract of Hibernian veterans information from Vice President Danny O'Connell. While we have many, many veterans listed, I know that not all Hibernian veterans have been identified by their Divisions. I know of veterans in my own area that are not listed in this database. Please check your 2019 membership card, and if you are a veteran and it doesn't say that on your card, your information needs to be updated in the national database via the Form 40. Please get it updated so that we can communicate more effectively. Thank you.

A late-added note: I just received, via brother Jere Cole's office, a wonderful multi-page, hand written note from a soon-to-be 91-year-old veteran named brother Kennedy of AOH Division 3 – Kevin Barry - from Indianapolis. He goes by the nickname "Irishman." Brother Kennedy currently serves as Division Historian and told me so much about his heroic military service as a machine-gunner in the Korean War. Some of his skirmishes include Heart Break Ridge, Bloody Ridge, and others. He was wounded in 1951 and returned home 100 percent disabled. Let me say, from the bottom of my heart, brother Kennedy, "God bless you and thank you for your letter and your service." I sincerely hope that your Division has ordered veteran pins and I'd love to have a photo of one being presented to you. Stay strong and healthy, my brother.

I pray that all of you and your families had a blessed Easter Season. And, until next time, God bless all you do for the Order and for our veterans.

In our motto of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity.

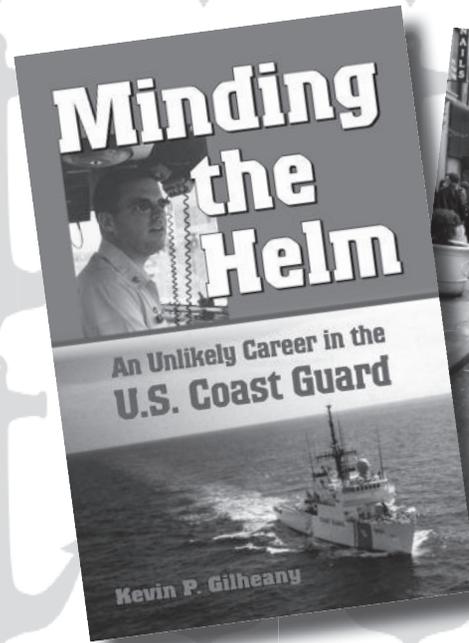


Charlie Battery, commanded by a Hibernian, Capt. John Moriarity.



Veterans Pin presentation at Division 1 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

READ THE STORY OF THE AOH PIPER WHO FOUNDED THE U.S. COAST GUARD PIPE BAND



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Tomhas na Teanga

by Jim Norton
Le Séamas Ó Neachtáin

Thosaigh mé ar an gcolún seo a scríobh seacht mbliana déag ó shin. *I started to write this column 17 years ago. Ní raibh a fhios agam ag an am, ach, ba é an ceann roimhe seo sin uimhir a céad! I didn't know it at the time, but the one before this one was number 100! Mar sin, seo tús don dara céad, b'fhéidir. So, this is the start of the 2nd 100, maybe. Tá gach ceann acu ar fáil ar an idirlíon ag tomhasna-teanga.blogspot.com. Every one of them is available ón the internet at...*

Is iomaí ábhar a bhí agam sa cholún seo thar na blianta. *It's many the subject I've had in this column over the years. Scríobh mé go minic faoin stair, agus faoi dhaoine suimiúla ón aimsir a chuaigh thart. I often wrote about history, and about interesting people from the past. Uaireanta scríobh mé faoin nGaeilge fhéin. Sometimes I wrote about the Irish language itself. Bhíodh ceachtanna agam ní ba mhinice ag an dtosach. I used to have lessons more often at the start. Is minic gur scríobh mé faoi áiteanna suimiúla a chonaic mé ar mo laethanta saoire. I frequently wrote about interesting places I saw ón my vacation. Ábhair ghinearálta a bhí idir lámha agam ó am go chéile, freisin, maraon le cúrsaí creidimh agus rudaí a bhaineann leis an AOH go háirithe. I handled general subjects from time to time, too, together with matters of faith and things that have to do with the AOH particularly. Go hiondúil, bím ag scríobh faoi rudaí a bheadh suimiúil daoibh toisc go bhfuil baint acu le hÉirinn nó le sliocht na hÉireann i Meiriceá. Usually, I write about things that would be interesting to you because they have a relationship to Ireland or to the Irish in America. Tugtar cead mo chinn dom, agus táim buíoch de na heagarthóirí as sin. I'm allowed to do what I want, and I'm grateful to the editors for that.*

Tá súil agam go mbaineann sibh taitneamh as an gcolún seo. *I hope that you enjoy this column. Déanaim gach iarracht Gaeilge nádúrtha a scríobh, chun cleachtadh a thabhairt dóibh a bhfuil Gaeilge ar bith acu. I make every effort to write natural Irish, to give those who have any Irish at all some practice. Mura bhfuil Gaeilge agat, níl sé ródhéanach! If you don't speak Irish, it's not too late! Tá ranganna ar fáil ar fud na tíre, agus ar an idirlíon. There are classes available all over the country, and on the Internet. Féach www.scoilgaeilge.org nó www.philo-celtic.com, nó daltai.com, mar shamplaí. See...as examples.*

Ba mhaith liom a fháil amach cén saghas colúin ab fhearr libhse. *I'd like to find out what type of column you'd prefer. Má tá smaointe agaibh le roinnt liom, scríobh chuig an eagarthóir nó chugamsa (jamusn@aol.com – ná bígí ag magadh fúm!). If y'all have thoughts to share with mé, write to the editor or to mé (...don't make fun of me!).*



RITUALS & DEGREES

By Jack Schneider, Chairman

The Order's Major Degree Teams swung into action and got 2019 off to a very active start in bringing the Lessons of the Order to our Membership. Florida's Innisfail Major Degree Team (MDT) kicked the year off with a Degree Ceremony in Spring City, FL on Feb. 9. The Tara Court MDT of New York exemplified a Major Degree the next day on Feb. 10 in Island Park, NY, while Virginia's Brian Boru MDT rounded out the February MD schedule with a ceremony in Triangle, VA, the following weekend on Feb. 16.

Major Degree activities took a recess during the month of March as the focus of the Order moved to commemorations and celebrations of our Patron Saint. Major Degree activities resumed in earnest in April with Pennsylvania's Isle of Erin MDT exemplifying the Major Degrees in the Germantown section of Philadelphia on April 7, while the Bronx County, NY, Team, the St. Columbkil Knights, saw double duty with Major Degrees in River Edge, NJ, on April 13, and again on April 27 at Iona College in New Rochelle, NY.

The focus of our MDT's now moves to the biennial State Conventions in the summer months. For a listing of known state conventions offering the Major Degrees as part of their agendas, please see the Upcoming Major Degree Schedule listed below.

Happy to report that Brothers from the Pittsburgh area are working diligently in pursuit of forming a new Major Degree Team in the western part of Pennsylvania. We wish them much luck in their quest to achieve official certification as an MDT. Other areas of the country where strong growth of the Order is taking place have made inquiries on the possible formation of Major Degree Teams in their locales.

A concerted effort is taking place to ensure notification of all Major Degree events both here in the Hibernian Digest and on the National Website on the Rituals and Degrees subpage. We recently took note of one Brother from the Atlanta, GA, area who flew into Philadelphia to participate in the April 7 MD ceremony, indicative of such publication efforts paying dividends.

On a more somber note, The Isle of Erin MDT recently mourned the passing of two long time and very dedicated members of their Team. Brothers Ed Connor (1931-2019) and Carl Fox (1936-2019) entered into their eternal rewards on Feb. 24 and March 12, respectively. Their memory and service to the Order were appropriately recognized at the recent Philadelphia Major Degree.

Upcoming Major Degrees of the Order:

Saturday, May 18 (Tentative) – Tara Hall, 274 Innis Ave, Columbus OH 43207. Sons of Milesius MDT (OH). Contact: Pat Visel, visel.1@osu.edu

Saturday, June 22 – Michigan State Convention, Detroit Marriott Livonia, 17100 Laurel Park Drive North, Livonia, MI 48152. Sons of Milesius MDT (OH). Contact: Pat Visel, visel.1@osu.edu

Saturday, July 20, 12 Noon – Pennsylvania State Convention. Doubletree by Hilton Greentree, 500 Mansfield Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA. Degree Team Pending. Contact: John Tarpey, tarpey49@verizon.net

Saturday, August 17 – Ohio State Convention. Radisson Hotel at the Univ. of Toledo, 3100 Glendale Ave., Toledo, OH 43614. Sons of Milesius MDT (OH). Contact: Pat Visel, visel.1@osu.edu

Minnesota



Archbishop John Ireland Division celebrates St. Patrick Minnesota's Archbishop John Ireland Division 4 Ramsey County celebrated St. Patrick's Day with our annual Mass at the Cathedral of St Paul. Joining us were the recipients of our scholarships, which are awarded to students of Irish heritage attending Catholic high schools in Ramsey County. Following Mass, our division proudly marched through the streets of downtown Saint Paul in the annual St Patrick's Day Parade. From left, Sheila Ryan (St Agnes School), Mike Hannon (Cretin Derham Hall), Vince Courtney, Bill Clagherty, James Hammond, our President Dan Murphy, Dan Lyons, Mike Haney, Jeff Ruff, Jim Haney and Quinn Walsh (St Agnes School). Not pictured, Katherine Hull (Hill Murray School).

Massachusetts

By Charlie Sinclair

Here is a sampling of AOH events and activities that are taking place across the Bay State.

Division 8 Lawrence: Division 8's 50th Golden Anniversary Saint Patrick's Day Luncheon, which was held on March 15, with 400-plus guests in attendance, was attended by Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker, Ambassador Ray Flynn, Irish Minister Sean Kyne and Irish Boston Consul General Fionnuala Quinlan, among others. Jack Lahey of Division 8 chaired this event. Division 8's award recipients this year were: John Cuddy, Irishman of the Year; Robert Crowley, Cardinal Cushing Award and the Hon. John E. Fenton Service Award was presented to the Cor Unum Meal Center. Division 8 will host the AOH Essex County Convention on April 6.

Division 9 Plymouth: The annual Easter Rising Commemoration will commence on Sunday, April 29, at 11 a.m. in Scituate Harbor at the Cole Parkway Grandstand. The Father John Murphy Division will be involved in the event, which will include a reading of the proclamation along with the singing of the Irish and American National Anthems. All Hibernians are encouraged to attend as this will be the only commemoration occurring in the Bay State this year.

Division 14 Watertown: The Annual AOH Division 14 Memorial Golf Tournament in Memory of Tom Walsh, Sr. will be held on Friday, July 19 at Wayland Country Club, Wayland, MA. This golf tournament will benefit the AOH Division 14 Scholarship Fund.

Division 18 Salem: Division 18 hosted a St. Patrick's Day Party on March 17 with a full day of entertainment. Entertainment was provided by the Irish Band, Rainbow's End and The Finding Dimes Party Band, celebrating their 40th Anniversary of providing Irish music. Traditional Corned Beef and Cabbage was served along the awarding of the Irishman of the Year. This year's recipient was Gerald Martin. Division 18's Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held May 6 at Olde Salem Greens in Salem, MA, to benefit the AOH Division 18 Scholarship Fund.

Division 19 Lowell: Division 19 has been renamed in honor of the late James C. Campbell, a very active member and Past President of Division 19 as well as a fervent advocate for Irish culture in Lowell. The Division will henceforth be known as the James C. Campbell AOH Division 19. Jim, a longtime Police Officer in Lowell passed away April 19, 2018.

This year's AOH State Golf Tournament will be hosted by Division 19 Lowell in September.

That's the way we see it in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. God Bless.



AOH Division 10 Essex County, Lynn, MA celebrated its 125th St. Patrick's Day Dinner. Those shown in the photo, from left, are Division 10 Chaplain Fr. Brian Flynn, 2019 Catholic Irishman of the Year Michael Cross, 2018 Catholic Irishwoman of the Year and Division 10 LAOH President Ann McLaughlin, Division 10 AOH President Dick Wall, and 2019 guest speaker and recipient of AOH Project St. Patrick Scholarship Award Fr. Godfrey Musabe.

**Make it your job
to grow the AOH!**

Deadline

**Articles for the June-July issue
are due no later than
June 1.**



Irish American Heritage Month

By Neil Cosgrove, Chairman

I am happy to report some great progress in seeing Irish American Heritage Month this year. Our Irish American Heritage Month video was seen by over 24,000 people. The profiles of famous Irish Americans again generated thousands of views apiece. The most viewed was the one on the Sullivan Brothers, which had over 1,200 shares and reached 21,000 people. Remember, not only are we honoring our commitment to Irish American Heritage Month as enacted in a National Convention resolution and perpetuating the history and traditions of the Irish people as called for in our constitution, but we were getting the name of the Order out there to people who may not be as familiar with their heritage as they would wish. It's a strong case for a little effort in Irish American Heritage Month yielding big returns; if your division is not embracing it you are missing an opportunity.

There was also stories of great efforts by our members. Kudos to Brother John Schell, who engaged the National Archives, and for the first time the archives put a banner ad on their homepage acknowledging Irish American Heritage Month. Brother Denis McGowan proved that "you can fight City Hall." When Brother McGowan noticed that the New York

City agency he works for was (rightfully) acknowledging Women's History Month without similarly acknowledging Irish American Heritage Month he did not sit idle. Brother McGowan wrote a respectful and eloquent letter laying out the case as to why Irish American Heritage Month should be acknowledged. Not only did this result in an agency-wide announcement recognizing Irish American Heritage Month, but it led to Brothers McGowan, John J. Manning and Kevin Mannion to raising funds and organizing an inter-agency Irish American Heritage Month Breakfast with the ceremonial unit of the FDNY, benediction and speakers. What an accomplishment! From tiny acorns great oaks grow! Well done brothers and I hope this is the start of an annual event.

We are making progress, Brothers, and it is important that we do so. We are increasingly seeing the contributions of Irish Americans either marginalized if not outright defamed in our schools and broader society (a shameless plug for the Anti-Defamation column). If we don't promote our heritage, history and culture, who will? We are concerned on the aging of the Order, if young people are not aware and proud of their heritage, if they think that being Irish is something you put on on "St. Paddy's Day" [sic], where does the next generation of Hibernians come from?

Next year marks the 30th anniversary of the first Irish American Heritage Month presidential proclamation. It is also a census year and heritage is a question and it is vital that Irish America is accurately represented in the results. I ask you please to have you division start planning now to commemorate Irish American Heritage 2020 inspired by the tremendous accomplishments of our Brothers. Heritage is not something you receive, it is an obligation to pass on.

Irish-American Heritage Month Celebration

Brother Denis McGowan, Richmond County AOH Recording Secretary, NYPD Emerald Society member, recipient of the 2017 Federal Law Enforcement Agencies 'Emerald of the Year Award' and Recipient of the 2017 Irish Echo 'Law and Order Award', learned that his City of New York agency's website was celebrating March as Women's History Month. So he sent an email to his agency. He respectfully reminded his fellow DOB employees that March had also been designated Irish-American Heritage Month since 1991 by Presidents of both parties.

He reminded them of the contributions of the Irish and their descendants by sharing a litany of examples, beginning with the fact that 32.7 million Americans claimed Irish ancestry in 2017. He listed examples of Irish loyalty from Commodore Barry and two-thirds of Washington's army to the 150,000 who fought for the Union during the Civil War. He even included the seven who signed the Declaration of Independence and noted that 261 Irish-born and 2,018 Irish-American received the Medal of Honor for their bravery and sacrifice.

As builders, he cited Kilkenny-born architect James Hoban, who designed and built the White House and the Irish who built thousands of parish churches, cathedrals, schools, hospitals and orphanages across the country. They also built railways, tunnels, bridges and skyscrapers and became leaders in the labor movement from the Knights of Labor to the AFL-CIO and scores of union leaders in between right up to Peter McGuire, the father of Labor Day. He mentioned John Holland, who built the U.S. Navy's first submarine, and William 'Wild Bill' Donovan, commander of the Fighting 69th, who became head of the

Office of Strategic Services (OSS) which became the CIA. He included military heroes from Audie Murphy, the most decorated soldier of WWII, to Col. Eileen Marie Collins, the first woman to pilot the Space Shuttle in 1995, and of course, AOH brother, President Kennedy. He closed with the request that St. Patrick not be referred to as 'Paddy' and asked for proper respect for the Patron Saint of Ireland during this Irish Heritage Month.

As a result, an agency-wide announcement was made about Irish-American Heritage Month, and a day was designated for a celebration. With a committee of Irish and Irish-Americans from his agency, Bro. McGowan raised funds and hosted a free Irish traditional breakfast for his agency's workers, serving as a master of ceremonies for the event. With the assistance of Bro. John Manning, AOH NY State Secretary and FDNY Special Events Coordinator, the FDNY Ceremonial Unit Color Guard posted the colors, and Bro. McGowan sang the national anthems. Bro. Kevin Mannion, Vice-President of AOH St. Columille Division 4, a retired NYPD Detective and current FBI officer, was the guest speaker discussing the history of the Irish in America and the important role they and their descendants played in public service despite hardships faced. Rev. Craig Hughes, an Irish-American Protestant minister and Chief Inspector with the agency, rendered an opening prayer, Grace, and blessed all in attendance. The delicious buffet Irish breakfast was provided by Lilly O'Brien's Irish pub, to traditional Irish music with scenes of Ireland displayed on a large screen. The event will now become an annual event at the agency based on the success of the breakfast.

(Photos by Samantha Modell).



New York



Irish American Heritage Month in New York

New York Hibernians spoke before the Suffolk County Legislature regarding the contributions of the Irish to the culture and heritage of the county. The Legislature, spearheaded by Leg. Steven Flotteron, voted unanimously to declare March 2019 as Irish-American Heritage Month in perpetuity. Members of the Suffolk County AOH and LAOH are pictured in front of the H. Lee Dennison Building in Hauppauge, which was lit in green for the entire month of March. From left, Div. 8 President Rich Cremmins, Al Norton, Joann Smith, Div. 7 Sentinel Chris Brogan, Sean Frey, Cait Dogherty, Tara Court Major Degree Team member Jim Dogherty, NYS Catholic Action Chair Cathie Dogherty, Legislator Steven Flotteron, National and NYS Historian Mike McCormack, Suffolk County LAOH President Pat Cremmins, NYS President Vic Vogel, Div. 7 Past President Kathleen Ring, Div. 7 President Madonna Nolty, Sean Connolly and Irene Shanahan. Photo by Ed Bell.



ORGANIZER

By *tim mcsweeney*

As discussed in previous articles, our noble Order is experiencing a nationwide growth spurt. But on the division level recruitment efforts need to be frequently assessed and improvements made as needed. What is your division doing to draw in new membership? Does your division actively recruit? Here are some improvements that could be made.

- Schedule four recruitment events: fairs, festivals, community days and hall open houses.
- Utilize our customizable recruitment material in the Organizer resource page on the national website.
- Set recruitment goals for your division. You can start as low as 10 percent growth.
- Host a recruitment night, where each division is encouraged to bring a least one new member.

Need help? ASK. Contact your state Organizer or myself (newjack12007@yahoo.com) for assistance.

Phoenix rising

On April 23rd, National President McKay went to Phoenix, Arizona, to swear in the Reorganized Maricopa County Division 1. This marks the return of the AOH to Phoenix after a 20- year absence. Local Organizing efforts were spearheaded by Shawn O'Brien.

Sarasota comes on board

Manatee County Division 1, of Sarasota, Florida, was installed in February. Congratulations to Fr. Tim Harris who coordinated local efforts and will serve as President.

At-Large members

Our At-Large membership program under the direction of Deputy National Organizer Joe Casey is rapidly growing. This program allows for membership in remote areas (60 miles or greater from an established division). At-Large members are tasked with the coordination of recruitment efforts in their area. One of our newest At-Large members, Tim Dunne, on the right in the photo below, of Honolulu, Hawaii, is pictured with former Taoisach Enda Kenny during a recent event in Honolulu.



AOH Parade Policy

JUDGE JAMES E. KUHN (RET)
253 W. OAKST PONCHATOULA, LA 70454

Re: AOH Parade Policy

Brothers,

The Ancient Order of Hibernians in America, Inc. is the largest Irish organization in the United States. We are an Irish Catholic fraternal organization committed to supporting our local communities. It stands to reason that members of the AOH should continue to support the many St. Patrick's Day parades around the country. Please remember, though, that when we participate in local parade committees, we do so as an individual not as an organization.

Remember that it is not lawful for any unit of the Order to organize and conduct a parade. I have included the specific article of the Constitution that addresses parades. This article has been in effect for quite a while. Again, moving forward, please understand the AOH does not participate in organizing or otherwise "running" any parade.

Respectfully
Judge James E. "Jimmy" Kuhn, (RET) National Legal Counsel

Editor's Note: To summarize the relevant sections of the Constitution cited below, a separate corporation must be formed to run the parade or event, and that corporation — not the AOH or any unit of the AOH — is "solely responsible for the organization and conduct" of the parade.

ARTICLE XXIX PARADES, HIBERNIAN RIFLES AND PUBLIC EVENTS

PARADES, HIBERNIAN RIFLES AND PUBLIC EVENTS: Section 1. It shall be lawful for any unit of the Order to organize and conduct a parade or other public event, or operate a Hibernian Rifles Division, subject to the conditions contained within this Constitution.

CORPORATION: Section 2. A unit of the Order seeking to organize and conduct any parade or public event for which authorization, permission, or license must be obtained from any governmental entity or authority must form a corporation, which corporation must be solely responsible for the organization and conduct of such parade or event.

AOH Advertising in High Gear for Irish American Heritage Month

By **Scott Partika,**

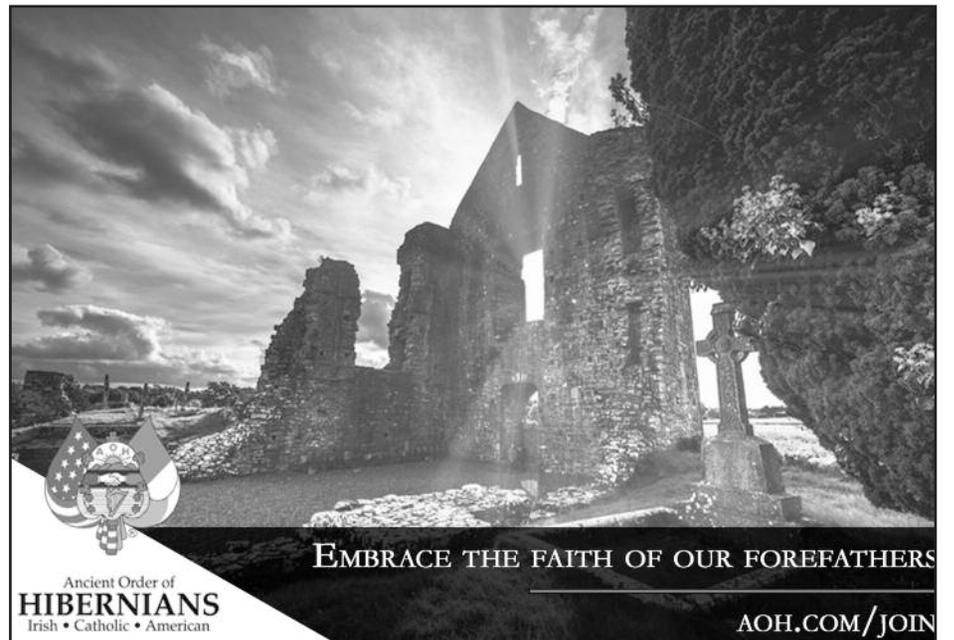
The Marketing, Advertising & Promotions Committee is very excited with the initial results of the 2019 St. Patrick's Day March Campaign, which has given the National Organizers plenty of work to do, given the amount of new-member applications pouring in!

This year, in addition to a continued Irish Central partnership, we were excited to partner with EWTN Global Catholic Network to launch an advertisement campaign targeting Catholics across the United States. Hibernian advertisements ran on multiple EWTN affiliated websites, including Catholic News Network, The National Catholic Register, and Church POP. Initial results show that our message has resonated well with readers, and engagement of our advertisements is high.

As we continue to collect data from the campaign, it will better assist our future efforts in targeting potential locations for new divisions & membership growth.

We also would like to extend our appreciation to each and every one of you that engaged with AOH content on social media during the March campaign! Sharing AOH content on your Facebook page, whether it was one of our Irish American Heritage Month features or an Irish Central article about the FFAI trip in February, is truly the best way for the AOH to spread our message of all the good work that we as an organization do throughout the year.

Please, continue to follow the AOH Facebook account and share our content on both your personal and local division pages. Look for new membership ads to share on your page that will link directly to our application.



Iowa



Presentation of the Green AOH Jacket
Dubuque Co. 1 and Iowa State Board Chaplain Rev. Dennis Quint presented the Co. 1 Green Jacket to new member Rev. Dennis Conway prior to the 2019 St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dyersville, Iowa. Assisting is the Rev. Carl Ries, Grand Marshal for the parade.

Hibernian fact-finding mission a success

By Martin Galvin, National FFAI Chairman

Hibernians completed a highly publicized nine day fact-finding mission which included, a Ballymurphy Massacre Inquest session, receptions by Belfast and Derry Mayors, questioning Derry's Unionist Deputy Mayor and eight Councillors, briefings on collusion, legacy justice, Brexit, Pat Finucane, Bloody Sunday and the Dalraidian environmental threat, as well as meetings and presentations to community groups. The Freedom For All Ireland (FFAI) delegation led by President Jim McKay and LAOH President Carol Sheyer included leading Hibernians from 13 states. They concluded in Dublin briefing Irish Foreign Service officials and making a commitment to bring the facts back to AOH and LAOH members across the country.

Finucane

The 37 delegates stopped at the border, where "Border Communities Against Brexit" catalogued the dangers of Brexit. They joined Pat Finucane's family where Judge McKay praised "the special courage of the lawyer who fought for justice despite death threats."

Belfast

The Hibernians joined Ballymurphy Massacre victims' families at the inquest where Judge McKay said "Hibernians across the United States had their eyes on that courtroom and were behind these families in their long fight for justice." National Director Denny Parks, said "if anyone refused to obey court orders in America the way the British had, the case would be dismissed and someone jailed for contempt!" Solicitor Padraig Murray and Barrister Michael Mansfield briefed the delegation.

The FFAI delegation were received at City Hall by Mayor Deidre Hargey, and Judge McKay announced the MacBride Award would go to Fr. Gary Donegan. They presented checks at the Felon's Club to applicants approved for AOH-LAOH Christmas Appeal donations.

Day Two

Campaign leader John Teggart and Carmel Quinn showed where Massacre victims were murdered. Hibernians visited Milltown Cemetery with Joe Austin and Brendan McFarlane of National Graves. Author Richard O'Rawe talked about Gerry Conlon of the Guildford Four. Niall Murphy discussed the recent Belfast Forum. Andree Murphy and Mary McCallan of Relatives for Justice spoke about problems faced by women during the conflict. Sean Murray previewed his film, Unquiet Graves, along with Anne Cadwallader and Alan Brecknell.



The delegation at the George McBrearty Mural in Creggan, Derry.



Gerry McGeough and the group in the Sperrin Mountains.

Derry

At the George McBrearty Mural in Derry, Kevin Hasson of the Bogside Artists talked about political murals. Alongside the family, Martin Galvin spoke about George McBrearty's life and what Republican commemorations mean.

Former H-Block Blanketman Tony O'Hara described his brother Patsy O'Hara's death on Hunger Strike, and Dixie Elliot shared memories of former cellmate Bobby Sands, and the song Back Home in Derry.

Civil Rights leader, author and journalist Eamon McCann spoke on the Civil Rights Movement and Bloody Sunday, and charged that the Saville Inquiry was unsatisfactory because it did not acknowledge the systematic cover-up begun almost immediately by the British Army.

The delegation met Derry Mayor John Boyle and eight Derry Councillors, including Unionist Deputy Mayor Derek Hussey. FFAI Chair Martin Galvin said the last time he "accompanied an American delegation and requesting a meeting with the British or Unionists he got an exclusion order in reply."

At the Museum of Free Derry, AOH-LAOH heard presentations on Bloody Sunday by John Kelly and today's justice issues by Paul O'Connor of the Pat Finucane Center.

Liam Ryan

Alongside Tyrone AOH President Gerry McGeough, delegates climbed to the historic Mass Rock threatened by Dalraidian gold mining, and visited the Republican memorial at Carrickmore with special mention of AOH member Ed Walsh, killed in the 1916 Easter Rising.

At the Battery Bar Ardboe, they saw where American citizen Liam Ryan was murdered by members of the British Ulster Defense Regiment, and heard from Martin Mallon about the murder of Roseann Mallon with the same weapons. Francie McGuigan, one of the Hooded Men, spoke about being tortured.

AOH-LAOH members visited the Dungannon offices of Republican ex-prisoner group EALU and Relatives for Justice, and met victims' relatives at Galbally Community Centre.

Tyrone AOH then hosted the delegation to a night that included two pipe bands, other musicians and presentations to several delegates.

Dublin

The FFAI group went to Dublin for a 1916 Easter Rising Walking Tour with Lorcan Collins, and by author and historian Ruan O'Donnell at Pearse House. Independent TD Peadar Toibin spoke about his newly formed political party. The AOH-LAOH members were hosted at Leinster House by Senator Billy Lawless and met Irish Foreign Service officials in meetings organized by National Director Dan Dennehy and Treasurer Sean Pender.

AOH Freedom For All Ireland Chairman Martin Galvin noted:

"The end of this tour is just the beginning of a greater national campaign."



In Dublin, Hibernians at the table with Ireland's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

All photos by Jeff Nisler



freedom for all ireland

By Martin Galvin, Chairman

Malachy McAllister deportation fight

Malachy McAllister's fight against deportation is now at a critical point. He and Irish political deportees like Matt Morrison are examples of Britain making political points with Irish victims. Malachy, like Matt, has multiple grounds that should entitle him to legal permanent residence under American law. He is a prominent AOH member, key member of the National FFAI Committee, and a respected member of the Irish-American community. Malachy was a political prisoner decades ago in a war that is long over.

Malachy is a pawn in an old British game of criminalization. The British think they can brand anyone who dares oppose them as criminals. That was true of the patriots they shot in 1916. That was true of George Washington, who said to the "Patriots of Ireland" in 1788, "had I failed, the scaffold would have been my doom." It was true of Bobby Sands and the Hunger Strikers who suffered torture and death rather than be masqueraded as criminals for Margaret Thatcher.

The British want America to brand Malachy a criminal by deporting him. The human

continued on page 23

In Memoriam



John Terrance "Terry" Boylan, Jr., 78, passed away on February 26, 2019, in Harrisburg Hospital after a brief illness. Born April 9, 1940, in Philadelphia, the son of the late John and Margaret (Breen) Boylan, he is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Sandra "Sandy" Conway Boylan; his son, Sean Terrance Boylan and his wife Stephanie Magaro Boylan, of Raleigh, NC. He was known as Pappap to his grandchildren, "TJ" and Emmarose. He is also survived by his sister, Margaret Boylan Bellwoar.

He was preceded by his brother, Joseph, of Tulsa, OK. Terry attended Villanova University and was a proud U.S. Marine veteran. He was employed by Ingersoll-Rand Company, Rand Air Division, for 30 years. He was Past President of AOH Michael Collins Division, and a member of the Camp Hill Fire Company. His passion was life, golf, skiing, hunting and traveling. He also fulfilled a dream of discovering his Irish heritage and found the Boylan homestead in Cootehill, Cavan, Ireland, and subsequently received his dual citizenship to the two countries he loved the most. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Camp Hill, PA 17011, with Fr. William Forrey as celebrant. Interment with Military Honors will take place at Indiantown Gap at a later date. In his memory, please consider contributions to the PA Wounded Warriors, Inc., 1117 Country Club Rd., Camp Hill, PA 17011, or HCP Hospice of Central Pennsylvania, 1310 Linglestown Rd., Harrisburg, PA 17110.

Francis P. 'Frank' Burnett Vice President of Lackawanna County Div. 2, passed away at home on 5 March 2019 at 66 years of age. He is survived by his son and fellow AOH member, Matthew, with whom he resided, as well as a brother, James Burnett; two sisters, Marita Doherty and Margaret Scholl and many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews. Beside one term as president and two terms as vice-president, Frank served his Division as MC at many communion breakfasts and dinners. He originated and organized the AOH annual awards that had been presented at these events for many years. He also introduced the tradition of presenting a blackthorn stick to the Hibernian of the Year. He created several other awards, named in honor of many of the Division's leading members over the years, which were also presented at these events. He was a past recording secretary of the AOH Lackawanna County Board and was instrumental in forming the Trinity Club which provides the Division's current home, serving as one of its original members.

Active in his community he was a long time member of the Carbondale Housing Authority Board, serving as its chairman for several years. He also served two years on the Carbondale Area School Board. He was also part of fellow Division member Mayor John E. Moran's 'kitchen cabinet'. Frank was a lifelong parishioner of St. Rose of Lima Church, Carbondale and a member of Carbondale's Columbia Hose Company No. 5. An avid golfer, he participated in many golf leagues including over 25 years in AOH Division 2's league.

Frank graduated from St. Rose High School, Carbondale and Mansfield University majoring in criminal justice. He retired from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a counselor at the Juvenile Detention Center, Norristown, and Farview State Hospital, Waymart which later became part of the PA Department of Corrections, designated as SCI Waymart. His Mass of Christian Burial took place at St. Rose of Lima Church, Carbondale on 8 March 2019.



Fr. Edward Anthony Doyle, Past Missouri State Chaplain and Division Chaplain for the Michael J Roarty Division, in St Charles, Missouri, at the age of 82, of Montgomery City, MO passed away Sunday, March 3, 2019.

Fr. Doyle was born May 23, 1936, in Dublin, Ireland, the son of Edward Michael and Grace Violet Arnold Doyle. He attended St. Conleth College in Dublin and worked at Browne & Nolan Printing Company in Clonskeagh, Dublin, as a managerial trainee.

From 1952 to 1957 he participated in Ireland's National Guard. Fr. Doyle entered the seminary in 1957 in the Dominican and in 1961 transferred to St. Patrick's Seminary in Carlow, Ireland. He graduated and was ordained a Priest on June 6, 1964, in Carlow. Fr. Doyle arrived in the United States on July 31, 1964, to assume duties with the Diocese of Jefferson City, Missouri.

During his tenure with the Diocese, he served St. Joseph in Jefferson City 1964-1965; went to Peru 1965-1969; St. Bonaventure in Marceline 1969-1978; St. Clement in Bowling Green 1978-1987; and Immaculate Conception, Montgomery City 1987-1991. Fr. Doyle served outside the Diocese from 1993-1994 in the Cayman Islands and from 1994 until presently served Spanish Ministry in Nursing Homes, hospitals and prison ministry, as well as a weekend fill-in when needed. He was passionate about making the celebration of the Eucharist as beautiful as it could be, with parishioners participating to the best of their ability. He was ordained to bring God to man and man to God.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let the perpetual light shine upon them. And may the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

To the editor...

Dear Editor,

My sister, your Kathy B, kept telling me all about the Hibernians. She would say, "Kerry you have to come and hang out with me one night, you are going to love it." She was right!

Kathy felt very safe in your presence. She said it's the first time in a very long time she felt important, felt special. Kathy was a very giving kind soul. Probably the most unselfish person I have ever known. And she was my sister. How lucky I was!!

But how lucky was Kathy? She had the Hibernians!!

The Hibernians looked after her like a sister.

The Hibernians took care of her when she was in deep mourning.

The Hibernians made sure she was looked after at the Jets games.

The Hibernians visited her in the hospital and the rehab center.

The Hibernians came together and raised \$10,000 for her to take a trip. Sadly, that trip did not happen. What did happen was her insurance changed last year and she could not afford the deductible for chemo treatments so she used the money that the HIBERNIANS raised to pay her bills!!

I can't say how grateful and thankful I am for what you did for my sister. You all should be so proud of your organization and yourselves!!

Thank you again,

Kerry Gluck

Virginia

Irish American Heritage Month in Virginia

By Bill Halpin, President, VA State Board

IAHM was celebrated with high energy throughout Virginia. AOH was the highlight in parades in Alexandria, Manassas, Fredericksburg, Roanoke, Richmond and beyond. Historic displays of Irish and Irish American heritage were evident in every Virginia AOH jurisdiction. For example, in Fairfax Station (FA03), the Irish were featured in the Railroad Museum displays; in Richmond the Father Dooley Division (HE01) led the 34th annual Church Hill Irish Parade; and in Roanoke the Fr. Lynch Division (RO01) marched in the Roanoke St. Patrick's Day Parade.

In Fredericksburg, Gen. Meagher Division's (SP01) theme for the 2019 IAHM was Irish in the American Revolutionary War and featured Col. John Fitzgerald. Division brothers volunteered about 90 hours at three area libraries to welcome library patrons, discuss the theme and distribute literature. On the 16th the Division led Fredericksburg's annual parade honoring deceased AOH brother Jeff Fitzpatrick. It was followed by an Irish Festival attended by several thousand people. On the 17th a corporate communion at St. Patrick Church was followed by brunch at a local restaurant and was a spectacular success.

In Alexandria, the Herbert-Cady Division (AL01), together with the Basilica of Saint Mary, held their 4th annual Saint Patrick Irish Hooley. About 400 people attended this sold-out event raising \$8,000 for Christ House Shelter. Honored guests included Bishop Michael Francis Burbidge of the Diocese of Arlington, St. Patrick (AOH Brother Jim McLaughlin), and the family of late Brother Pat Troy.

Gen. Meagher and Fr. Judge (PW03) Divisions (with a nod to Louisville's Fr. Ryan Division) sponsored St. Patrick coloring contests at three Catholic elementary schools (K-3). Winners in each class received a certificate and appropriate prizes.

Several divisions hosted Irish dinners as community outreach programs and fund raisers for Catholic charities.



St. Patrick coloring contest winners received certificates and a leprechaun's bag of gold. School principal George Elliott reported the children were ecstatic! Gen. Meagher Division Corporate Mass.

Kentucky

By Rob Fallahay

'Tis the season of St. Patrick

The Father J Ryan Division has been very busy over this St. Patrick Season.

The Division kicked off the season by holding their annual Wearin' O The Green Party. Music was provided by the Clarke Band and I never knew so many Hibernians and Friends were such good dancers. We also honor our Knights of St. Patrick who work tirelessly and without any glory sought. They are the people that promote what it is to be Irish through our heritage and through our values of Friendship Unity and Christian Charity. We also honor our Hibernian Heroes, these are the first responders who go above and beyond in our city to make sure all of us can do what we do daily without a thought that they are actually there protecting, serving and assisting without fail.

On March 9, the Father J Ryan Division met at the Church of St. Louis Bertrand to celebrate our St. Patrick Day Mass. During the celebration we recognized our coloring contest winners of St. Patrick from both our local Catholic Grade Schools as well as the Ireland Catholic Grade School winners. I was told the judging was very difficult this year. The mass celebration concluded by announcement of the Irish Person of the Year. The 2019 Irish Person of the Year was awarded to Christina Brown.

Afterwards it was on to the 46th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. It might have been a rainy afternoon but judging by all the smiles from the parade participants and the crowd the rain could not dampen the Irish spirit of all who were in attendance.

On March 15, the Division made their annual trip to the Franciscan Shelter House, where the members prepared and served an Irish Meal, consisting of corn beef, cabbage and potatoes to the Louisville Homeless Community.

On March 21st, 22nd and 23rd the division joined forces with Operation Brightside and planted 92 trees in the Louisville area, two trees for each year of our St. Patrick Day Parade. This is just another way the Hibernians continue to support the beauty and health of Louisville.



Hibernians joined with the Franciscan Shelter House and served an Irish meal of corn beef, cabbage and potatoes to the homeless in the Louisville area.

Remember the AOH in your will

Please consider the Order when writing or rewriting your will, and add a paragraph along the lines of: "I leave to The Ancient Order of Hibernians in America [X percent of my estate or a specific dollar amount] for its charitable works."

Indiana

Kevin Barry Division celebrates St. Patrick's Day

Once again, Our Lady of Knock Division 1 LAOH and Kevin Barry Division 3 AOH gathered for a photograph on the altar steps of St. John's Church to begin our annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration. Always on the Sunday before St. Patrick's Day and sponsored by the Kevin Barry Division, this year the March 10 event commemorated the founding of the division 60 years ago. The Celebration Committee was chaired by Jimmy McGinley.

The laying of a wreath at the Celtic cross with a short blessing followed in St. John's courtyard. Mass, said by Fr. Joseph Moriarty, came next in the first Irish Catholic church established in Indianapolis. Cantors were Kate Miller and Allison McGinley; Jeremy Hambrick and Dave Certo did the readings. Mass chairman was Dan Shea.

After Mass, Tom McAndrews and Victor Doucleff ushered the crowd to the parade, which went from the church to the Indiana Roof Ballroom. This short but festive parade was coordinated for many years by Mike O'Dwyer, who recently passed away.

At the ballroom the St. Patrick's Day Rogues Pipes and Drums Band ushered in the crowd with spirited bagpipe music. The singing of the Irish and American National Anthems by Eamon Hegarty was followed by the serving of a delicious luncheon.

Next, four-time president and senior member, Jim McGinley, introduced MC Dave Ruhmkorff, who then introduced Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett, who delivered a lively and humorous presentation. He concluded by bringing AOH member Kevin Murray to the stage; he was recently named Irishman of the Year by a civic organization for his contributions to the City of Indianapolis. The mayor declared March 10 Kevin Murray Day.

The presentation of the AOH President's Award for service to the local Irish community followed. Division President Bob McCurdy presented the award to John Shaughnessy, journalist for the Indianapolis Star and the Criterion, the newspaper of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. Shaughnessy has also written three books with an Irish theme.

Vice-President Jeff Veldhof then presented a check for \$3,500 to Fr. Joe Moriarty, representing St. Meinrad's Seminary, with money collected through our annual Map of Ireland program. In this program members make a donation to have their family names and/or deceased family members' names published in our 81-page Celebration printed program. Each year this program is beautifully edited by AOH member Pat Miles.

After a short intermission, the entertainment of the Willoughby Brothers from Co. Wexford followed. The five Irish tenors fully caught the attention of the 450 people in attendance; it was said that they were the best entertainment we've had in years.

The Celebration was coming to a conclusion with the awarding of \$1,500 college scholarships to four outstanding students. Winners were Patrick Lyons from Seccina High School, Kate Bosley from Chatard High School, Quinn Gallagher from Guerin High School and Margaret McAndrews from Westfield High School.

The final act in our great day was the raffle drawing with a grand prize of two tickets to Ireland. This year's winner was Chris Meehan, past-president and very active member.

Again this year and for the 60th time, Kevin Barry Division celebrated St. Patrick's Day with great tradition and fun. — Jim Lynch



North Carolina

by Ray FitzGerald, Central Director, North Carolina AOH State Board

As with many Divisions, late winter was a busy time for the St. Brendan the Navigator and Sons of Erin Divisions in Mecklenburg County. On Feb. 27th, Brothers from both Divisions attended a lecture at Belmont Abbey College presented by Dr. Joseph Kelly, Director of Irish Studies at the College of Charleston. More than 40 people came to hear Dr. Kelly speak about the Irish influences on the founding of the Jamestown Colony in Virginia.

The Irish Lecture Series at the Abbey is supported by the local Hibernian Divisions and County Board. Several days earlier, St. Brendan Division accepted a Proclamation from the Town of Huntersville, designating March as Irish Heritage Month.

On the weekend of March 2nd and 3rd, the Sons of Erin Division conducted a recruiting drive at its home parish, St. Matthew, the largest Catholic parish in the U.S. More than a dozen men expressed interest in becoming Hibernians. The Division also partnered with the local Knights of Columbus Council with their St. Patrick's Celebration on March 16th.

On March 9th, the St. Brendan Division hosted its ninth annual St. Patrick's Celebration in Huntersville. Two-hundred-plus people attended the sold-out event. During the evening, the Division presented a check for \$1,000 to Tara Thayer, winner of the Division's annual Dick Seymour Education Award. Tara, a student from Christ the King High School in Huntersville, titled her winning essay: Overcoming Indifference in the Catholic Church.

On March 15th, members of both Divisions, as well as the Ladies of the Loch Division of the LAOH, attended the annual Mass in honor of St. Patrick, at St. Joseph's Church in Mount Holly. St. Joseph's is the oldest original standing Catholic Church in North Carolina, built in 1843 by Irish gold miners. Very Rev. Christopher Roux, a member of the St. Brendan Division, offered the Mass and noted that St. Patrick came to Ireland to bring Christ to the people and to drive out sin; and that Catholics today have an obligation not to reduce this great saint to a mere cartoon or a reason to party. St. Patrick, Fr. Roux continued, was not about eating or drinking, but about getting rid of sin. The sermon concluded with a reminder that St. Patrick calls Catholics to holiness, not to corned beef or beer, and all should honor St. Patrick not with toasting, but with their hearts. Prior to the Mass, Fr. Roux blessed the grave of the church's founding pastor, Rev. T.J. Cronin, a native of County Cork.

On March 16th, members of both Divisions participated in the annual Charlotte St. Patrick's Day Parade. They were joined by the Queen City Junior Pipe and Drum Band. As part of the Charlotte Go Green Festival that day, the Sons of Erin Division hosted a tent offering corned beef sandwiches and Philly Cheese Pretzels, a local delight for many after the march.



Dr. Joseph Kelly, members of the AOH in Mecklenburg County and members of the History Department at Belmont Abbey.



Huntersville Mayor John Aneralla presented members of the St. Brendan Division (Paul Mescall, Earle Markey and Ray FitzGerald) a Proclamation declaring March as Irish Heritage Month in Huntersville, NC.



Members of the Sons of Erin and St. Brendan the Navigator AOH Divisions and the Lady of the Loch LAOH Division and friends at the annual St. Patrick's Mass.



Hibernians March in North Carolina
As brothers throughout the state were on the march at local St. Patrick's Day parades, members of Wake County Gov. Thomas Burke Division attended Mass Saturday morning before marching in the Raleigh St. Patrick's Day Parade. The division proudly marched with the 32 counties flags of Ireland.



Recruiting for new members in Charlotte!
Sons of Erin Division 1 held a Spring recruitment drive at St. Matthew Catholic Church in Charlotte after the Masses in early March. The drive was a success with many new prospective members reached and significant interest was stated with starting a Ladies AOH division. Fr Patrick T. Hoare of St Matthew's is already a member of Division 1 and a proud supporter of the Order

Editor's Note...

Not all the photos submitted for this issue could be used because they were low resolution, small images, which would have reproduced badly in print. Higher quality photos can help your important Hibernian articles get the attention they deserve. Please submit photos that are at least 600 kilobytes large (larger than 1 megabyte is even better). Also, photos of Hibernians-in-Action, actively engaged in living our motto, are better than a posed line up of members standing side by side.

Colorado



Honoring our Patron Saint in Denver

The Fr. Joseph P. Carrigan Division in Colorado marched in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Denver, Colorado, on March 16. Fr. Carrigan, the division's namesake, started the parade in the early 1900s. It is the largest St. Patrick's Day Parade west of the Mississippi River. Marching in the parade, from left, were Brothers Rick Steck, John Queen, Patrick Maguire, John Aylward and Dan Queen.



Ohio

Tech enables meeting participation

The Irish Brigade Division #1 in Medina County, Ohio tried something new at their February 2019 meeting. Division FFAI Chairman Chris Courtney is currently a graduate student at University of Dayton, located across the state from Northeast Ohio. Chris is able to attend meetings during semester breaks and in the summer, but not during most of the year. Swearing that he was alone in his apartment, Chris was teleconferenced in and broadcast on the big screen television in the meeting room. He was able to participate in the meeting and also give his FFAI report. Division Financial Secretary Joe Casey said, "Thanks to a couple of our members who are tech-savvy, we were able to pull this off. We felt like we brought our division into the 21st century and hope to continue this on a monthly basis."

— Submitted by Joe Casey, Irish Brigade Division 1, Medina County, OH.



At the division meeting, from left, Dave Manley, Scott Manley, Division President Tony Manley, Deacon Bruce Dobbins, Ray Schulte, Mike Maloney, Sr. and Joe Casey. In the screen is FFAI Chairman Chris Courtney.

Rhode Island

By Austin Behan

As with many divisions, the Rhode Island AOH celebrated St. Patrick's Day throughout the month of March. The month was packed with events that helped celebrate our Irish heritage and help raise awareness of our Order within the state.

To start the month, the Dennis E. Collins Division 1, hosted the world famous Wolfe Tones in Newport. It was a great event where the community all came and listened to some great music. Next we had our Green Eggs and Ham breakfast where dignitaries and the community come together at our local hall in Newport. We also welcomed dignitaries from our sister city of Kinsale, Ireland.

They also had a chance to celebrate our Hibernian of the Year in Newport, as we got a chance to honor our Very Rev. Francis O'Loughlin, a local pastor who has served as chaplain for a number of years and has continued to promote both our Irish and Catholic heritage in our community.

Finally the month ended with the annual St. Patrick's Day Parades. The first was in the capital city of Providence and next was our St. Patrick's Day Parade in Newport. Our parade in Newport has been one of the longest continuously running parades, we celebrated our 63rd annual parade this year, which has been held through rain, snow and sleet. The Grand Marshal this year was Division Past President Robert Lehane, a third generation Hibernian. There were more than 100 members either marching with our division, our Pipe & Drums Parade, or helping to host the best party in Newport. The month ended with our annual AOH/ LAOH St. Patrick's Day Mass at St. Mary's. The RI AOH cannot give enough thanks to all of our members who helped celebrate our Irish heritage throughout the Month.



Nebraska

By Phillip Scott Bauersachs Visiting 'future Hibernians'

Every year before St. Patrick's Day, I show up in full Honor Guard uniform to my parish at St. Robert's.

I use this time to talk to a few classes about what it means to be Irish, the life of St. Patrick, the lessons we can take from his teachings, and also what we do in the community as members of the AOH.

This year I presented to 120 awesome kids. I answered questions, gave every student a St. Patrick's gift that included Future Hibernian stickers I had had made, a couple of Shamrock pencils and erasers, and a chocolate gold coin with one of our more famous members on it, JFK.

I feel as an organization, reaching out to the next generation and showing what kind of difference we can make, as an individual and what we can do as a brotherhood in the community while leading by example with our faith as Catholics can only move us forward. I look forward to doing this every year and hope that other AOH brothers will see this as an opportunity to take this to their own parishes. I encourage anyone to reach out to me for information on how to get this started. Phil@drinkbrickway.com



New Jersey

Dinner Dance for Charity, In Belmar

Belmar, New Jersey's Division 32 held their fifth Annual Charity Dinner Dance on January 26, at the Spring Lake Manor. The goal of this event was to raise funds for local Catholic education programs and for this year's beneficiaries, Mary's House by the Sea, the Rebuilding Warriors Project and the Meagan Barnes Cardio-Vascular Nursing Scholarship at Jersey Shore Medical Center.

Special honorees included John Cardinal O'Connor Award winners Kathleen Mulvey from the Women of Irish Heritage of the Jersey Shore, Patrick Jockel, President of Ocean County Division 11 and Division 32 charter member and member of the Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh, Paul McNicholas. Irishman of the Year honors were presented to Division 32 President Patrick Gallagher while Hibernian of the Year honors went to Division 32 Past President and organizer Ray Barnes.

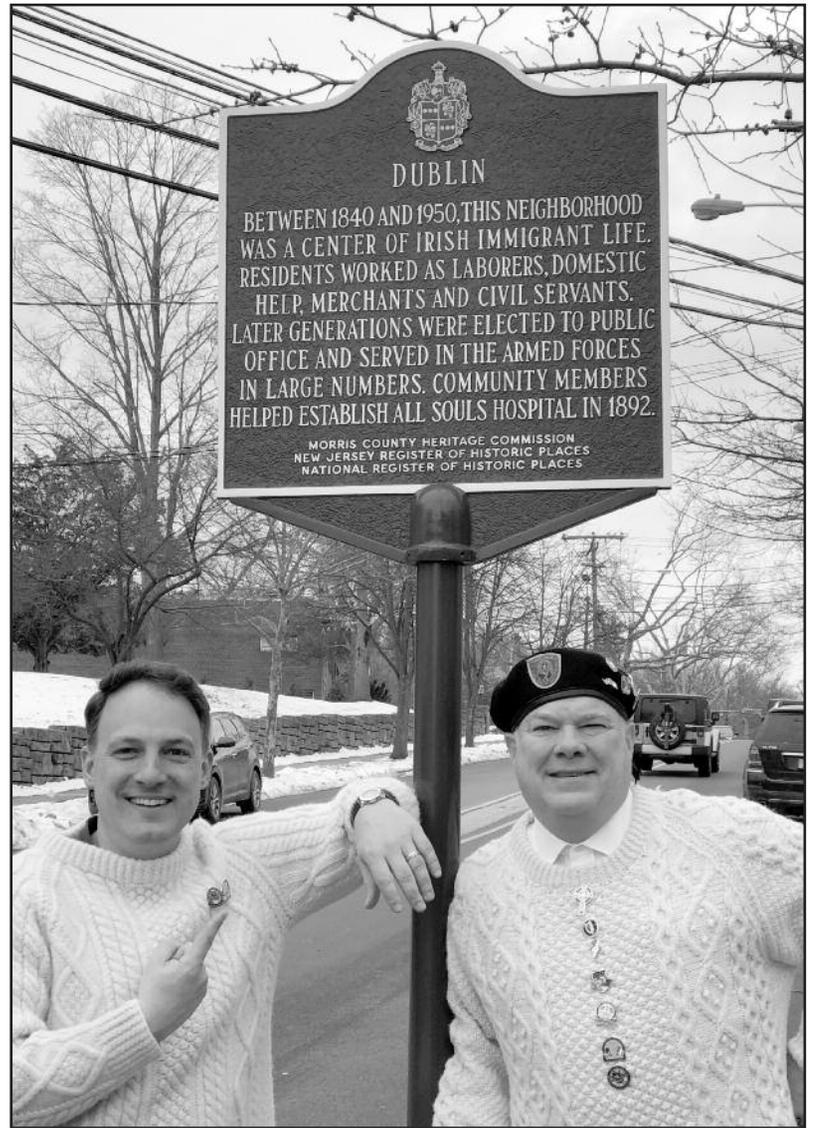
Musical entertainment was provided by The Snakes and an outstanding dinner and venue was provided by John Nagle and the staff at the Spring Lake Manor. Special thanks and recognition went to the brothers and sisters from the Pipes and Drums of the Jersey Shore, who provided color guard support along with their inspiring musical talents.



Ray Barnes, Hibernian of the Year, Past President Division 32 Belmar

Honoring Irish ancestors, in Morristown

On March 3, the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of Morris County, NJ, honored our immigrant past by placing a historic red marker and commemorative signs on the corner property owned by Assumption Church of Morristown, NJ. Pastor Fr. John Hart and area dignitaries commemorated this historic event, which was held with much fanfare and lively entertainment. More than 300 people attended the event and it marked a proud day in the history of the Irish, who came to America to escape the famine, seek religious freedom and find work in a land of opportunity. The archivist and author Cheryl Turkington, who wrote two books on the Irish of Morristown, was instrumental in gathering the needed details to celebrate the hard-fought struggles and success of our ancestors.



At the marker is the Mike Keown, of the Friendly Sons, and Bill Duggan, of AOH Division 9.

Montana



Cascade County Division 1's newest member, Jeff Beattie, Patrick Smith and Nick Wingerter in Great Falls, MT.



In Great Falls, top row, Matt Holbrook, Rory Schulte (Division President); bottom row, Gerald Boland, David Glaeske, a woman born on St. Patrick's Day, and Michael Carroll, all escorting the Fr. Denis Keane Memorial Cross.

South Carolina

Worshipping with future Hibernians

Each year just before St. Patrick's Day, members of the Joseph J McGarry Division 1 in Myrtle Beach, SC, attend mass with the students of St. Andrew's Catholic School and explain what Hibernians are and how we try live our motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity. After mass, members distribute medals and other items to the students.— Submitted by Liam Daley.



In this photo, from left, are Bill Frank, Jack Cahil, Mike Kenelly and Sean Nolan as they greeted future Hibernians.

Leading Division

Each year the South Carolina State Board conducts a state-wide limited ticket sale raffle with a first-place prize of a trip to Ireland for four people for one week, including air fares, car rental, B&B lodging and four rounds of golf. Drawing of the winner always takes place on St. Patrick's Day, and this year it was hosted by the Bishop Patrick Lynch Division of Bluffton immediately following the 9 a.m. Mass at St. Gregory the Great RCC. Proceeds of the raffle support statewide charitable efforts.



This year's Trip To Ireland winners, Hibernians Rich Kearns and Mary Moran, are flanked by Tim O'Connor, left, State Raffle Chairman, and Monsignor Ron Cellini, Chaplain of the Bishop Patrick Lynch Division.



Members of the Joseph J McGarry Division 1 in Myrtle Beach, SC, distributed medals and other items to students of St. Andrews Catholic School. Recruiting new members starts early in Myrtle Beach!

Remembering, honoring a fallen Hibernian

In December 2002, Hibernian brother Joseph J McGarry Jr., a Myrtle Beach police officer, was killed in the line of duty. At that time, we renamed our Division the Joseph J. McGarry Jr. Division 1 in his honor. Our Division also played a role setting up a monument honoring Joe. Each year we place a wreath at the monument in his memory.— Submitted by William Daley.



Paul Jenkins, Joe McGarry Sr., Anita McGarry, Sean Nolan and Glenn Wolverton said a prayer at the monument honoring their son and our Hibernian brother.

New York



Suffolk NY declares March IAHM - On March 5, AOH NY State President Vic Vogel piped a delegation into the Suffolk County Legislature to speak on behalf of a bill submitted by Legislator Steve Flotteron that would declare March as Irish Heritage Month — in perpetuity. Also in the delegation were members of the Brehon and Emerald societies, LAOH County President Pat Cremmins, and Kathy Norton Doherty. Brehon Greg Noone, left, former Councilwoman Kate Browning, Pat Cremmins, Mike McCormack, Steve Flotteron and Vic Vogel posed for a photo after the bill passed.

Pennsylvania



At the annual Allegheny County Division 9 Mass & Communion Breakfast, Jim Green, the AOH National Veterans Affairs Chairman, presented an FFAI donation check to board members of the "Conway Mill Trust" on behalf of the AOH & LAOH National Boards. From left, are Shirley Murphy, LAOH PA State Treasurer; Jim Green, AOH National Veterans Affairs Chairman; Ed McManus and Sandy Haas, Conway Mill Trust Board members; and Dennis Flanigan, AOH Division 1 FFAI Chairman.



Cumberland Division on parade
AOH Division II Honor Guard marching in St. Patrick's Parade, Harrisburg, Pa. on March 23. From left, Tom Kane, Jim Jones, Ed Gallagher and Patrick Donnelly. Our Cumberland County Division II is also known as the General William Thompson Division.



Preaching' about the Order
On Saint Patrick's Day, members of AOH Division 4, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, gathered to honor our Patron Saint at all Masses at our local parish, Saint Maria Goretti, in Hatfield. We hosted the monthly donut social and held a recruitment drive. We were able to speak to the congregation about the AOH and then after the Mass answer any questions. We also presented the pastor with a check for \$5,500, which was the proceeds from the night of Irish entertainment we hosted the week before. The donation will go toward the renovations of the parish social hall.

Virginia

Supporting charities in Virginia

The LAOH Mary Ryan Division, in Richmond, Virginia, held their annual Irish Gala on March 9, at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Glen Allen. This yearly fundraising supports such charities as Columban Fathers and Sisters, St. Vincent DePaul Society, Safe Harbor Shelter, Pregnancy Resource Center, Appalachian Teen Center and Project Saint Patrick.

Several brothers from the AOH Dooley Division, in Richmond, were also in attendance, tending bar and participating in the event.



From left, Brian Kiernan (VA State Board Secretary), Debbie Brokaw, Matt Brokaw, Bill Casey and Andrea Casey. Not pictured is the event photographer and Virginia State Board Webmaster Patrick Shea.



From left, Mary Ryan Division members Domenica (Mimi) Koepfel, Helen McGann, Diane Woods and Lori Forbes (Virginia State LAOH President).

Virginia

Father Kelley Division – Manassas, VA

Demonstrating exceptional planning and execution skills, the Father Edwin Kelley Division (Manassas, VA) sponsored a charitable beer tasting event in January, hosted a 30th Anniversary Charter Dinner in February, and their 20th annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in March, and sponsored a trip to Ireland raffle on St. Patrick's Day. All four events shared the magnitude and richness of Irish culture, demonstrated friendship, unity and charity, and promoted growth of the order.

The proceeds from the beer tasting supported the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (T.A.P.S.) and Wounded Warriors, charities who assist members of the military returning from overseas assignments who incur physical or mental injury due to their military service.



Brother Doug Morrison (3rd from left) presenting donation to TAPS.

The Charter Dinner celebrated the founding of the Division in 1988, the subsequent growth in membership and significant charitable programs, honored the Charter members who remain active and saluted those who have passed. The dinner was a formal, catered event that followed the tradition of a military dining-in. In addition to recognizing the anniversary, attendees received lessons in Irish history, heard live singing in Gaelic, and were treated to recollections of time spent in Ireland.



30th Anniversary Charter Dinner

The parade, recognizing twenty years of bringing Irish history and culture to the Northern Virginia area, presented pipe bands, Irish dance schools, Irish musical group, and community organizations. Support from area businesses and local elected officials contributed to the success of the parade. In concert with the parade, the Division conducted the raffle to raise funds that are donated to the Division's charities at the end of the Fraternal year. Performing the honors and drawing the winner was Parochial Vicar, Reverend, Father Noah C. Morey from All Saints Catholic Church. The trip winner is a parishioner of All Saints Catholic Church.



Brothers Jerry Partsch, Tom Maserick, Ticket Sales Chairman JP McCusker and Greg Rebbert (L-R) selling raffle tickets



Father Kelley Division parade participants. Division President John Masarick at far right.

New York



St. Patrick's Party for veterans

Division 1, in North Rockland, held their annual St. Patrick's Day party for the NYS Veterans Home in Montrose, NY.

The Irish family band, Called Away, played Irish favorites and military songs. Bagpiper from Div. 1, Tim O'Neill, and the Lynn Academy of Irish Dance also performed for the residents.

Division 1 members and families served Irish soda bread and refreshments. A great time was had by all.

— Submitted by Dan Donohue, Division President.

From left, the Fitzsimmons Family; Dan Donohue, Div 1. President; Tim O'Neill on the bagpipes, "Called Away" Chris, Lindsay and Sarah Buteux; The Clarke family; Jim Gilmartin and Cy Hughes.

New York

Rochester AOH helps veterans

The Rochester Division of the AOH, working with the local LAOH Division and the Police Emerald Society, organized a multi-generation, day-long music festival called Rochester Guitars for Heroes (www.RochesterGuitarsForHeroes.com), which was held on November 10, 2018. The festival was comprised of 13 bands performing across two stages. The benefit raised \$10,200 for the Rochester Veterans Outreach Center's programs supporting local veterans and their families.



In the picture, from left, are Brandon Kasperkoski, director of Programs, Rochester Veterans Outreach Center; Nicholas Stefanovic, vice-chairman of the center's board; Patrick S. Miller, Rochester AOH division president, Michael Tobin, division vice-president; Tim Barry, division chairman of SC; Jason Gorton, division marshal. Submitted by Patrick S. Miller, Rochester Division president.

Staten Island AOH Holds 55th Annual Hibernian Ball

More than 300 Hibernians, family and friends gathered at the LiGreci's Staaten for the Richmond County AOH 55th Annual Hibernian Ball on Feb. 23. This year's honorees included Brother Jack King as the 2019 Grand Marshal of the 55th Staten Island Saint Patrick's Day Parade, his Aides to the Grand Marshal, Brother Sean King (his son), Sister Eileen Hayes, Sister Cathy Brennan and Brother Neil "Connie O" O'Sullivan. Brother O'Neill was also honored to be chosen as the Richmond County Aide to Dr. Brian J. O'Dwyer, Grand Marshal of the 258th New York City Saint Patrick's Day Parade.

During the evening, the Hibernian Ball committee chairman, Brother Martin Crimmins, AOH New York District 5 Director, announced the 2019 Miss Hibernia, Claire Harrington, and her court, Marie Cummings. Brother Crimmins crowned and sashed Ms. Harrington and Ms. Cummings and all the guests of honor received their tricolor sashes for the parade.

"It's the first time a father and son are Grand Marshal and Aide to the Grand Marshal," said Brother Crimmins. Last year, Brother Crimmins served as aide to Grand Marshal Ann Clark, as well as aide to the Grand Marshal of the Manhattan parade.

The attendees enjoyed a cocktail hour, complete dinner, live music dinner and an open bar at the beautiful Staaten ballroom.

AOH Director honored

Peekskill St. Patrick's Parade Aide Jim Witt, left, Deputy Consul General of Ireland Seán Ó hAodha, David Zeiger, Peekskill Grand Marshals Dan & Siobhan Dennehy, and Peekskill St. Patrick's Parade Aides Tim Warn and Mary Pat Driscoll. AOH National Director Dennehy and 2019 Peekskill St. Patrick's Parade Co-Grand Marshal, were presented with a framed copy of a recently passed and signed New York State Resolution recognizing the Centenary of the 1919 Dail Eireann (Irish Parliament) and Ireland's Declaration of Independence. The Hibernians in New York State achieved the legislation in early January. Photo by Kristen Marques.



By Brother Denis P. McGowan, Recording Secy. Richmond County Board

Staten Island Hibernians hold Irish breakfast

The brothers and sisters of the Staten Island LAOH St. Brigid's Division 4 and the AOH St. Columille Division 4 held their annual full Irish breakfast at the Staten Island Detachment of the Marine Corps League on March 2. Past Presidents Brian Nutley and Jack King served as chefs, serving bangers, rashers, eggs, black and white puddings, mushrooms, fried tomatoes, soda bread and gallons of coffee and Barry's tea to the nearly 70 Hibernians and family members who attended.

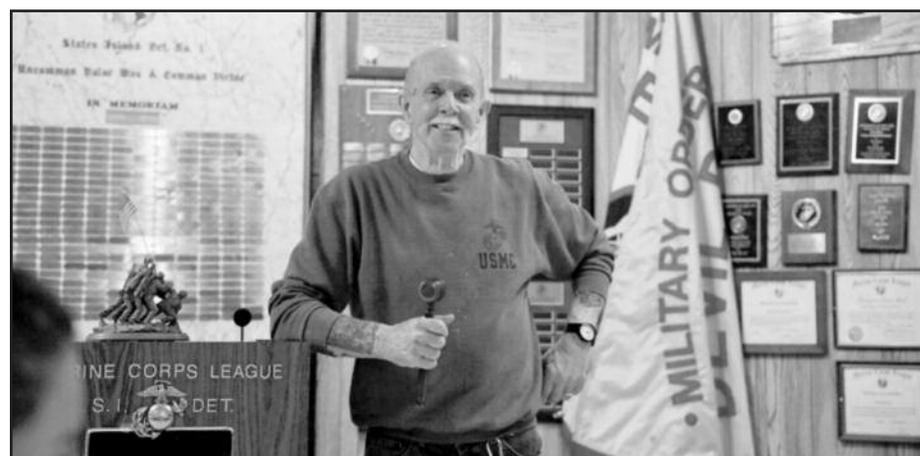
The Irish brekkie has been a Hibernian tradition on Staten Island for several years, and is held prior to the annual Staten Island Saint Patrick's Day Parade.

New York District 5 Director Martin Crimmins welcomed everyone to the breakfast, including Staten Island's 2019 Miss Hibernia, Ms. Claire Harrington, and several past and present National, State and County LAOH and AOH officers who were in attendance. NYPD Emerald Society's 1st Vice President, Brother Edward Patterson, son of retired Detective and AOH Division 4 historian, Brother Michael Patterson. Brother Ed Patterson kindly welcomed all Hibernians to attend as guests of the NYPD Emerald Society's post-parade hooley at Sacred Heart R.C. Church's parish hall following the 55th Staten Island Saint Patrick's Day Parade.

Hibernians enjoyed the delicious breakfast, hot coffee and "tay," as well as the warmth, happy camaraderie and good humor on a cold and snowy winter's morn. They gathered in the spirit of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity, and wished Brother Jack King a great day as Grand Marshal of the parade.



Hibernians who attended the Irish breakfast on Staten Island. Photos by George Gillis, St. Columille Division 4

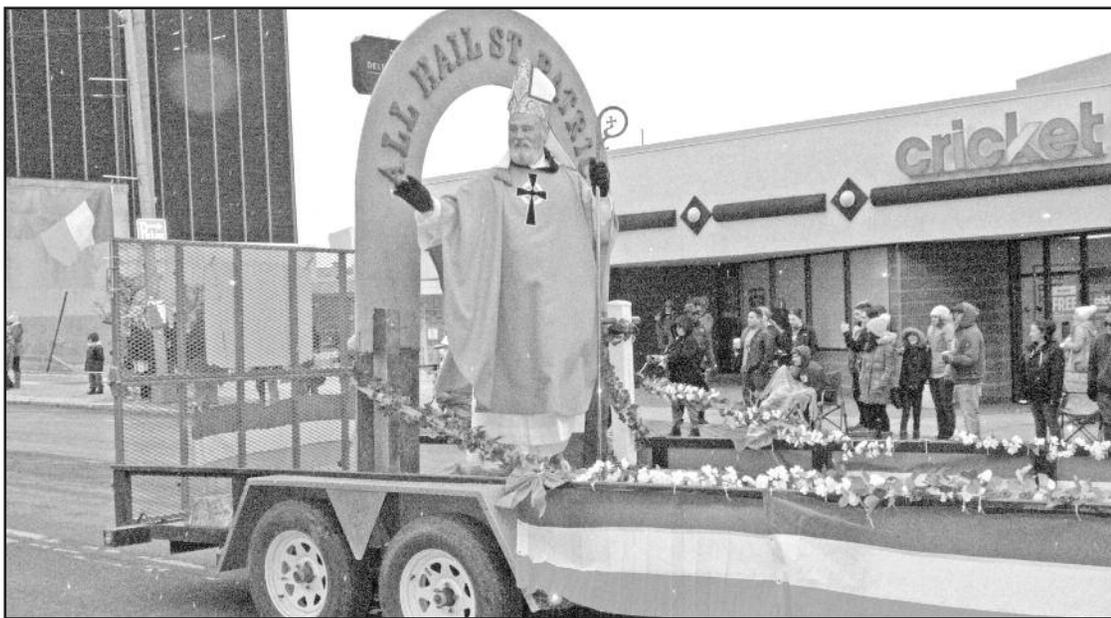


Jack King, Grand Marshal of the 55th Annual Staten Island Saint Patrick's Day Parade.

Upcoming Events

**National President's Dinner:
Saturday, October 19, 2019
at the Washington Marriott at Metro Center
details to come**

New York



A little history of the Utica St. Patrick's Parade

According to the Utica Observer Dispatch: Utica's very first St. Patrick's Day parade was organized in 1824 by John C. Devereux when Utica was still a village. Devereux, a Utica pioneer, was a proud Irishman from County Wexford. For many years, Utica had no parade, but it was resurrected on March 18, 1978, when a small contingent of marchers made their way down Varick Street from St. Joseph's St. Patrick's Church to the West End brewery parking lot. Among the participants were Oneida County Judge John J. Walsh, Utica Mayor Stephen Pawlinga, City Assessor Jake Finer and one lone band - Frasers 78th Brigade Bagpipers. The parade grew through the years but in time became infected by revelers along the pub-lined route. Alcohol was banned along the route in 1991, and in 1992, the parade was moved to Genesee Street, where it has since become a wonderful family event, drawing thousands of festive spectators annually.

Jim Sullivan of the AOH portrays St Patrick in the Utica, NY, parade on March 16.

Syracuse Hibernians celebrate a man of faith

The Commodore John Barry Division 2, in Syracuse, NY, along with the Ladies AOH and the Central New York Irish Cultural Society, celebrated on Jan. 27 the 200th anniversary of the establishment of the Salina Mission to serve Catholics in the Salt Point area (the city of Syracuse did not yet exist). In 1819 the first mass since French Jesuits left the area in the 1660s was celebrated in the home of Thomas McCarthy, a native of County Cork. McCarthy left Ireland and settled in Salt Point, Onondaga County, where he opened a store and manufactured salt. McCarthy served in the War of 1812 and later became a rich and influential man.

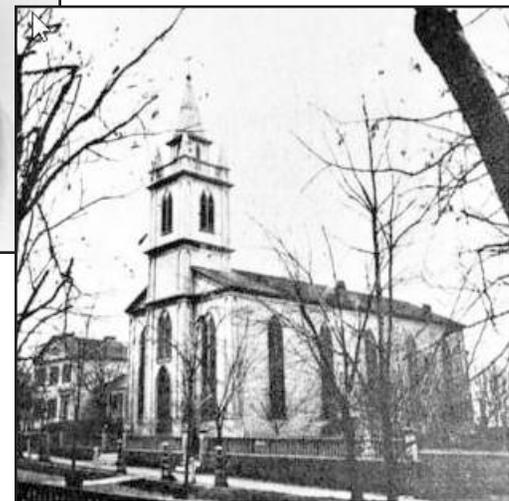
McCarthy was able to convince Irish-born Fr. Michael O'Gorman to travel 200 miles on foot, horse and mule, through mostly unsettled wilderness, to get to Salt Point. Fr. O'Gorman had to travel in disguise and couldn't wear his clerical collar due to hostility toward Catholics among New York's Protestant English and Dutch settlers. McCarthy's home continued to be used to celebrate mass and administer sacraments until a church was built for the Salina Mission in 1828. This church became St. John the Baptist.

The keynote speaker at the event was Congressman John Katko of New York's 24th Congressional District. Congressman Katko, an AOH member, spoke about the important role that the Catholic faith and Irish traditions play in his life. He thanked the AOH for keeping them alive and passing them down to the younger generation. The Commemoration Mass for Thomas McCarthy and the early founders of St. John the Baptist Church was followed by a very well attended brunch at the Syracuse Downtown Marriott.

— Submitted by Steve Leyden, Syracuse Division 2 past president.



Thomas McCarthy.



The Salina Mission Church built in 1828, which became St. John The Baptist.

FFAI - continued from page 13

cost to Malachy and his children does not matter to Britain. The AOH, led by our National President Jim McKay, Treasurer Sean Pender, Immigration Chair Dan Dennehy, and FFAI, together with other Irish American organizations are fighting back. Already a Call to Action, answered by state chairs in Texas and South Carolina, has gotten important support.

Things are moving quickly. The AOH-LAOH will need to respond quickly and I urge everyone to check the national web site, FFAI updates, and respond to Calls for Action. We have to win for Malachy and his family! We have to see Matt Morrison and the other deportees get all they were promised.

Easter commemorations and Declaration of Independence

A century ago, representatives elected in the 32-county election of 1918 assembled as a National Parliament in 1919 and voted Ireland's Declaration of Independence. An important theme for Easter commemorations should be the mandate the Irish people gave to the Easter Rising and 1916 Proclamation, first by their votes in the British-controlled

general election and second by ratifying 1916 in the Declaration of Independence. The British, instead of recognizing the democratic will of the Irish people, responded with Black and Tan terror and ultimately partition. Speakers are encouraged to include the Declaration of Independence and its historic import in all Easter Commemorations.

FFAI Tour, Christmas Appeal

Anyone who doubts the importance of the AOH-LAOH to people in the north of Ireland should read the full FFAI tour story or speak to any of the 37 Hibernians who attended. We met leading political figures in Belfast, Derry, Tyrone and Dublin. They met us because they regard us as their voice, as our National President said, the "voice of the Irish in America."

They count on us to put pressure on the British, to highlight injustice and for our donations to key groups. The reception we received is a credit to each member of the AOH-LAOH who works on FFAI or contributed to the Christmas Appeal. Your work matters and is deeply appreciated!



FFA TOUR - Garden of Remembrance at Carrickmore.

Ladies hibernian news

President's Message...

by Carol Sheyer



Hard to believe the Green Season is behind us and we are going into Spring. Hopefully everyone has had time to rest after all the St. Patrick Day festivities. By the time you read this, some States will have already had their Conventions. I want to thank all the State Officers, who have served these past two years, for all their hard work. To the new State Officers, I wish you success and always remember the National Board Officers are ready to help you.

I want to encourage the membership to make their reservations to attend the 125th Celebration this October in Dearborn. The committee is busy working on all the many plans on this once in a lifetime celebration. Rooms and event reservations are now open.

This past February, I was fortunate to be a member of the AOH/LAOH Delegation on the FFAI Tour. My trip to Ireland was very enlightening, moving and definitely unforgettable.

Our first stop was in South Armagh, where we met with members of the Border Communities Against Brexit and heard how their livelihood will be affected by a hard border. That evening, we attended the candlelight vigil for the 30th Anniversary for Pat Finucane. Pat Finucane was shot and killed in his own home on February 12, 1989 in front of his family.

On Monday morning, we sat in on the Ballymurphy Inquest at the Belfast Court House alongside the Ballymurphy family members. Afterwards, Mark Thompson, of the Relatives for Justice, was our Belfast tour guide. Later in the day, the AOH and LAOH delegation were guests at a reception hosted by Mayor Deirdre Hargey, Mayor of Belfast, at the Belfast City Hall. During the reception, AOH National President Jim McKay and I made the announcement that Father Gary Donegan is the recipient of the Sean MacBride Humanitarian Award to be awarded in October. That evening, we went to the Felons Club where presentation of checks to the local Belfast groups took place.

On Tuesday morning, we met with some Ballymurphy family members at the site where their family members were murdered. From there, we were given a tour of Milltown Cemetery where President McKay and I had the honor to place a wreath at

the Republican Monument. We went to the An Culturán for lunch and an afternoon of lectures and viewed the documentary "Unquiet Graves". During a break, Kathleen Savage, Dolores Desch, Marilyn Madigan and I went down the street to visit The Falls Women's Centre, where we learned of the many services they provide the women in the community.

The following day, in Derry, we met Kevin Hasson, of the Bogside Artists, and the mother and sisters of George McBreaty while visiting the George McBreaty mural and other murals. Mr. Hasson gave a brief talk about the murals. Tony O'Hara, brother of Patsy O'Hara, took time out of his day to speak to us about his experience as a blanket man and the Hunger Strike.

Thursday, the AOH and LAOH delegation met with Councillor John Boyle, Mayor of Derry, and the Council Representatives at Guildhall. In the afternoon we visited the Museum of Free Derry. The Derry AOH hosted the delegation to a wonderful evening of fun and music. During the evening, more FFAI checks were presented.

On Friday, we met with Gerry McGeough, Tyrone AOH President, at the Sperrin Mountains, the home of Mass Rock from the Penal times. This area is being threatened by a Canadian Company that is trying to purchase the land for gold mining. Afterwards, we went to the Community Center, where the AOH hosted us for lunch and provided Irish dancing for our entertainment. Our next stop that day, was at the Battery Bar for a presentation on the murder of Roseann Mallon. Saturday was a busy day in Dungannon, with a tour of Hill of the O'Neill, Ranfurly House Arts and Visitor Centre, Ealu (the Irish word for escape), where a check presentation was made and also, I was presented with a handmade replica of a Thatched Roof Irish Cottage. Ealu is a support group set up to provide help and support to ex-Republican POW's and their families. The cottage was made by one of the ex-Republican POWs. From Ealu, we walked to the office of the Relatives for Justice. Later, we went to the Galbally Community Center where a discussion was held with family members who suffered loss of loved ones. Saturday evening, after attending Mass at St. Patrick's, where the AOH and LAOH were recognized from the pulpit, we were the guests of the Tyrone Hibernians to an evening of bonding, music and much fun at Quinn's Bar. Proclamations were presented to some members of the AOH and LAOH. One of our own, Kathleen Savage, was honored by the Tyrone Hibernians. All the AOH and LAOH in attendance received a St. Brigid Cross from our Tyrone Hibernian Sisters who made the crosses from the fiber of native plants they gathered at the Sperrin Mountains.

Our next two days were spent in Dublin. On Sunday, we had a 1916 Walking Tour given by author and historian, Lorcan Collins. That evening, we attended a lecture given by Ruan O'Donnell at the Pearse Center. Monday morning began with a breakfast meeting with the National Board AOH and LAOH members and Peadar Toibin. Mr Toibin recently formed the Aontu Party (a Pro-Life Irish Republican Party). He wanted to discuss his new party with us. In the afternoon, we went to the Leinster House, where we were treated to a private tour and were the guests of Senator Billy Lawless to a lunch in the private dining room. Our last evening in Ireland found us at the Department for Foreign Affairs where we were guests of honor at a reception.

This was a most memorable trip and I was thrilled to have this wonderful opportunity. Hopefully in the future more of our LAOH Sisters will be able to go on the FFAI Tour.

Ladies AOH National Board

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Catholic Action

by Cathy Turck, National Chairman

Happy Spring, ladies! I hope you all had a wonderful St. Patrick's Day. It's such a special time of the year to be Irish with all the parades, proclamations, and celebrations around the county. In my Division, we always start our St. Patrick's Day by attending mass together. This sets the tone and reminds us what the day is all about: celebrating our faith, our heritage, and our patron saint.

Speaking of St. Patrick, I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to all of you for your generous donations to our Project St. Patrick initiative in the past year. I have been working with the AOH Project St. Patrick chair, Vic Vogel, to review applications and select the recipients. Working together with our AOH brothers, we were able to give out 78 vocational grants to men and women currently studying in preparation to serve in the Catholic Church. Vic has been great to work with and I look forward to continuing our collaboration on Project St. Patrick. All the checks have been mailed out to the grant recipients and we have been receiving thank you notes and cards from around the country. It is clear that we, as an organization, are making a difference in the lives of these young men and women who are committing their lives to serve in the church. Keep up the good work, ladies!

If you need additional Project St. Patrick cards please email me (laohcathyt@gmail.com) and I will send them out in the mail to you.

Until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand.

National Secretary

by Marilyn Madigan

This past February, I was privileged to participate in the AOH FFAI Tour. This tour was very educational. We met the groups that the Hibernians provide financial assistance to and experienced their gratitude. The AOH and LAOH was well represented with 37 members from 13 states including both National Presidents.

We were hosted by Border Communities Against Brexit for a short presentation on how Brexit and the possibility of a hard border will hurt the community. The Panel included representatives from the Nationalist and Unionist Communities along with members of the AOH. A No Deal Brexit and/or a Hard Border will have economic effects with companies shutting down due to lack of regulations and the Peace process with the Good Friday Agreement in jeopardy.

The delegation attended the 30th Annual Virgil for Pat Finucane, the Ballymurphy Inquest and visited the site of the Ballymurphy Massacre. All of these families are still awaiting the truth and justice of the murders of their loved ones. Attending the Inquest, we experienced the stall techniques used and witnessed the patience of the families in their quest for truth and justice. These families need our support in their quest.

Belfast Mayor Deirdre Hargey welcomed the delegation to a reception in Belfast City Hall. The AOH and LAOH were honored to announce the 2019 Sean McBride Award at this reception. This prestigious award will be presented in October in Washington D.C. To Fr. Gary Donegan for his heroic actions at Holy Cross and his work at the Ardoyne Houben Centre in Belfast.

At Milltown Cemetery, we paid our respects at the graves of Winifred Carney, Bobby Sands and many other Republicans. National Presidents McKay and Sheyer placed a wreath at the Republican Monument. A special presentation for the LAOH was given by Andree Murphy and Mary McCallan of Relatives for Justice on the women's perspective and the unique problems faced by women during the conflict.

In Derry, the Delegation met with the Mayor of Derry John Boyle. Following the meeting with the Mayor, 8 City Counselors (6 Sinn Fein and 1 Independent Republican) led by Unionist Party Deputy Mayor Derek Hussey answered questions in relation to Bloody Sunday and the Saville Report from the group.

Hibernian friendships were strengthened with visits with the Derry and Tyrone Hibernians.

In Tyrone we visited the site of a Mass Rock in the Sperrin Mountains. This site is in danger with the possibility of mining from a Canadian company Dalraidian. The local community is fighting to preserve this land and protect their community from the devastating environmental issues of mining this land. The AOH hosted us for lunch. Two of the children provided dancing entertainment. They made us feel at home with both the lunch and the wonderful evening of music and fellowship. They made some special presentations and gave each one of us a St. Brigid's Cross made by our Tyrone Hibernian Sisters. We hated to leave but know that this trip strengthened the bonds between the American and Irish Hibernians.

The trip's final two days were in Dublin. Lorcan Collins lead us on a 1916 Walking Tour. In the evening, Ruan O'Donnell gave us a wonderful lecture at the Pearse Center. The members of the AOH and LAOH National Board had the opportunity to meet with Peadar Toibin to discuss the new political party he founded. Senator Billy Lawless hosted the Hibernian Delegation at Leinster House for a lunch and a private tour. Our last evening the Department of Foreign Affairs hosted a reception in our honor as well as met with the AOH and LAOH leadership to discuss our thoughts about the trip and Irish and American relationships.

This was a trip of a lifetime and will hold a special place in my heart. A special thank you to Sean Pender, Dan Dennehy and Martin Galvin for planning this wonderful and educational trip.

I would like to share a statement from FFAI National Chair Martin Galvin "As many delegates said, the end of this tour is just the beginning of a greater national campaign. Members of this delegation from across the United States saw just how much American help is needed by those still denied freedom from British rule and suffer injustice. We were told again and again across the north that they count on Irish America and see the AOH-LAOH as their voice in America"

To be a Hibernian is truly an honor and a blessing, I experienced both on March 16. I had the privilege of attending Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral prior to the Parade. Thanks to my Brother Hibernian Tom Beirne for the great seat. A special thank you to my Sisters from New York for inviting their Sisters from around the country to March in the Parade with them to honor our 125th Anniversary. Thank you to Mary Hogan and Regina Begley for organizing. With the sun shining down on us as we marched, I could feel the presence of all of our Hibernian Sisters that have gone before us. We have had a proud history for the last 125 years and know our future is full of great works. I was especially proud to March as both a National Officer and a member of the best Irish Catholic Women's Organization in the world with Sisters from at least 9 States spreading over 1 1/2 New York City blocks. Looking forward to our 125th Anniversary Celebration in October. Hope to see many of our membership at the Celebration.

www.ladiesaoh.com

Vice President

by Karen Keane

We made it through the St. Patrick's Day season and now we prepare for our Holiest of Religious Holidays, Easter. We know that Easter is the time of renewal and Faith. It is the perfect time to renew our commitment to the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians. It is a commitment that each of us took at a meeting; some at a Degree ceremony; and still others installation as an officer. For each of us holds the LAOH at a different level in our lives. Some are book members, others are holiday members (attending meetings in March and December) and others spend dozens of hours every week performing work for the Order at all levels. Each member brings her skills to the table, each contributes a part to the overall work of the Order. We need to accept each member as we receive her, and this can be done when we renew our commitment to the Order.

To help renew our commitment, we can observe a Degree Ceremony. It is the perfect way to review our history and pledge ourselves to the work of Our Order. Please contact the local Degree Team to find when a ceremony will be performed in your area, or myself for information.

On the Junior front, I received notification that the Junior President of the Pittsburgh Pennsylvania Division 23 was honored as Miss Smiling Eyes of Pittsburgh. Maggie B. was honored at the Pittsburgh St. Patrick's Day Parade. For more information you can read about Maggie at www.missmilingirisshespeittsburgh.com. Our policy is not to use our Junior's last name and pictures, but the website with the information was shared by the family. Please share your Juniors information and achievements for inclusion.

Hibernian Lecture at University of Norte Dame

As I have written before, the lecture this year will be held on Friday, September 20, 2019 at 4:30-6:00pm at the Morris Inn Ballroom. The topic will be A Century of Suffrage: Catholic Activism, Class Consciousness, & the Contributions of Irish American Women. The National Board has secured rooms at the Inn at St. Mary at the rate of \$135.00 plus 13% tax; from Thursday to Saturday. Please call the hotel at 574-323-2465 to make your reservations. The cutoff date is August 20, 2019.

Sean MacBride Award

Fr Gary Donegan will be the recipient of the 2019 Sean MacBride Award. It will be presented to Fr. Gary at the AOH National President's Testimonial Dinner at the Washington Marriott at Metro Center (775 12th Street NW; Washington DC 202-737-2200). Reservations can be made through the AOH website.

Enjoy the Spring and remember to serve with a smile. You are the best spokesperson we have for our Order.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at loahkaren@live.com

Freedom for All Ireland

by Agnes Gowdy, National LAOH Chairman

I would like to announce the 2018-2020 FFAI Committee. They are, Mary Ellen Myers, Cathy Reinholdt and Kathleen Savage. Cathy and Kathleen have served on the 2016-2018 FFAI committee. All three of these ladies participated in the FFAI trip February 9-19, 2019. Unfortunately, Paul and I were unable to go this year because we were chosen as Grand Marshals for the Detroit St. Patrick's Parade and were committed to many media and organization events.

I did request that, if possible, each of the committee members send me a short report on what they saw or what impressed them most on the trip. I will have these reports uploaded to the LAOH website.

The 2019 FFAI trip was a huge success thanks to the organization of Martin Galvin, Sean Pender and Dan Dennehy.

Mary Ellen wrote about the "Women of the Troubles". This was very interesting, as this year in Ireland is the year of the "Strong Woman". Mary Ellen states that she got to learn about some of the women who lived through the Troubles of the 70's, 80's and 90's. Geraldine Finucane, wife of Patrick Finucane who was shot dead in his own home and in front of his family; Carmel Quinn, whose brother Frank Quinn was killed by the 1st Battalion Parachute Regiment in Ballymurphy; Emma Groves and Clara Reilly became Human Rights advocates and founded the Association for Legal Justice and the United Campaign against Plastic Bullets. Emma was blinded by a Plastic Bullet in 1971, and Clara is currently a Chairwoman for Relatives for Justice. Mary Ellen said it was an eye-opening experience to see what many women in Northern Ireland endured and continue to live with today.

Kathleen agreed and said that they met so many wonderful people on the journey, many of whom are still waiting for justice for lost loved ones. No one has been held responsible for their murders. Too many families have been denied inquests or admission of guilt from the crown forces. Kathleen states "We must continue to support all of these families."

The group received a wonderful welcome in Tyrone and were treated to a great night of pipe band and flute band entertainment. The group were also invited to events at Leinster House and Iveagh House, both in Dublin.

Per Kathleen, "It was a great group of Hibernian Sisters and Brothers from across the United States who traveled together for ten days and truly showed Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity."

There were 16 FFAI Christmas Appeal Applicants for AOH/LAOH donations. I will also put this list on the LAOH website.

Marilyn Madigan also wrote a very good report on the FFAI trip, and I hope that she will put her report on the LAOH website for all to read.

Thank you to my LAOH Sisters for their insight and comments on what surely was a marvelous FFAI trip to Ireland. I am sorry that I had to miss it.

Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians



Dear Sister and Brother Hibernians:

It is with great pride that we invite you to the Testimonial Hooley to honor our LAOH National President and Ohio Sister Carol Sheyer. Carol has been a long-serving and dedicated Hibernian at both the State and National level.

Carol's Testimonial Hooley will be held on Friday, October 11, 2019 from 7:00 - 11:00 pm. The celebration will provide transportation, food, and entertainment at the Hibernian Hall, 25300 Five Mile Road, Redford, Michigan 48239. The cost of the Testimonial Hooley is \$35.00 with checks made payable to the **LAOH Ohio State Board**.

Reservations are due by September 15, 2019 and can be made with Maire Manning, 1435 Olivewood Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44107. For questions, email Maire at manningrince@gmail.com.

A Testimonial Journal will be published to honor President Sheyer. This Journal will provide a lasting tribute to honor her many years of dedication to our Order. We ask that you show your appreciation and support of President Sheyer by purchasing an ad in this Journal. Details and requirements for the ads are shown on the ad form. The cost of the ads run from \$10.00 to \$250.00. Checks should be made payable to the **LAOH Ohio State Board**.

Ads are due by September 1, 2019 and should be sent to Patricia Lavelle, 26559 Chapel Hill Drive, North Olmsted, Ohio 44070. For questions, email Patricia at LAOHOOLEY19@gmail.com.

Please join us for a fun filled night to show your appreciation for Carol and all that she has done. We look forward to seeing you.

In our motto,

Clara Joyce

Ohio State President
ss_teacher_5m@yahoo.com

TESTIMONIAL HOOLEY

IN HONOR OF

LAOH NATIONAL PRESIDENT CAROL SHEYER

REGISTRATION FORM

The State of Ohio is privileged to honor our Ohio LAOH Sister National President Carol Sheyer by hosting a Testimonial Hooley.

Festivities will take place on Friday October 11, 2019 at the Hibernian Hall, 25300 Five Mile Road, Redford MI 48239 from 7:00 to 11:00 PM. The Testimonial Hooley event price is \$35.00 and includes transportation, food and entertainment. Please send your registration by September 15, 2019 with check payable to LAOH Ohio State Board to: Maire Manning 1435 Olivewood Avenue Lakewood, OH 44107 or email questions to manningrince@gmail.com.

The Testimonial Hooley is a separate event from the LAOH 125th Anniversary Celebration

Testimonial Hooley Registration Form

Please detach form and send with \$35.00 check payable to LAOH Ohio State Board to: Maire Manning, 1435 Olivewood Avenue, Lakewood, OH 44107-4410.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Division Name, County, and State _____

Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc.



Testimonial Hooley Ad Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Ad Size Desired _____ Amount Paid _____

Please Check Correct Box Exact Repeat Repeat w/Change New Ad/New Layout

Word or PDF files are required. If files are e-mailed, please state the name of the buyer within your correspondence and submission form MUST be included with your ad, either mailed or e-mailed.

E-MAIL ALL FILES TO: LAOHOOLEY19@gmail.com

Deadline For Submission
 September 1, 2019

Premium Ad Space

Back Cover	\$250.00
Inside Front Cover	\$150.00
Inside Back Cover	\$150.00
Full Page	\$100.00
1/2 Page	\$ 55.00
1/4 Page	\$ 35.00

One Line Patron Ad
 Only \$10.00

Please make checks payable to
 LAOH Ohio State Board

Mail Ad Request to:

Patricia Lavelle
 26559 Chapel Hill Dr.
 North Olmsted, Oh 44070
 440-899-5185

1 / 4 Page
 3-3/4 x 2-1/4

Circle, Vertical,
 or Horizontal

Full Page

1 / 2 Page
 3-3/4 x 4-1/2

New York



The LAOH was honored by the NYC St. Patrick's Day Parade on their 125th Anniversary, being invited to march with the Honor Units at the parade front. LAOH members from New York State and Hibernian sisters from eight additional states paraded up 5th Avenue on March 16th, 2019. Over 250 LAOH sisters were unified under the LAOH 125th Anniversary/NYS banner, while members that were unable to march cheered their sisters from the sidelines. The parade delegates surprised each LAOH county in NY and any state that had representatives marching with a sign designating their state.

This was a once in a lifetime honor. The NYC St. Patrick's Parade is older than our country and one of the largest Catholic and Irish parades in the world.

The LAOH Orange County and LAOH Suffolk County were each designated an Honor Unit, winning a Best Marching award for last year's parade. They marched as an Honor Unit in the same line with their Hibernian sisters celebrating 125 years.

Ladies, please subscribe to our website for updates and important information delivered right to your email.
www.ladiesaoh.com

Like and follow us on Facebook:

Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians or search @ladiesaoh2016

Five Hibernians receive Irish Echo's 40 Under 40 Award

By Brother Denis P. McGowan

Five of our worthy Brother Hibernians received the prestigious 40 Under 40 Award from the Irish Echo, America's oldest Irish-American newspaper recently. At a gala dinner held on February 22 at Rosie O'Grady's restaurant in New York City, the Irish Echo honored five of our Brother Hibernians in recognition for the tremendous contributions to the Irish-American community.

The following Hibernians were recipients of this award:

John Patrick Walsh, of Washington, DC. Brother Walsh is a charter member of the Sons of Aidan Division 4 at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. Brother Walsh was selected at state president of the AOH District of Columbia State Board at age 29, the youngest state president in recent AOH history, after serving as Division president and State Vice President. Brother Walsh was appointed in 2016 as the National Pro-Life Chairman by Worthy National President James McKay.

Lee Patterson, of Lewiston, NY. Brother Patterson is the Vice President of the James Browne Division 1, Niagara Falls, NY. He also serves as the Niagara County Board's Vice President. He was appointed in 2017 by National Vice President Daniel O'Connell to the National Marketing, Advertising and Promotion Committee. In 2018, he was named Hibernian of the Year by the Brothers of his Division.

Kevin O'Keefe, of Yonkers, NY. Brother O'Keefe is a Hibernian veteran of the

U.S. Marine Corps and served in Afghanistan in the Global War on Terror. He is a member of the Bronx Division 5. He is also a member of the Metallic Lathers/Reinforcement Ironworkers Local 46.

Patrick Dowdell of Breezy Point, NY. Brother Dowdell is a Hibernian veteran of the U.S. Army and served in Iraq and Afghanistan in the Global War on Terror. He is a member of the FDNY Emerald Society Pipes and Drums, and is the son of the late FDNY Lt. Kevin Dowdell, killed in the line of duty at the World Trade Center on September 11th, 2001. Brother Dowdell is a charter member and Vice President of the newly-formed Lt. Kevin C. Dowdell Division 4 in Breezy Point (Queens), NY.

Michael Joyce, of Austin, Texas. Brother Joyce is a charter member and Past President of the Monsignor Richard McCabe Division 1 in Austin, and has raised thousands of dollars for Caritas, a local non-profit charity whose mission provides for refugee relocation and homelessness relief services.

Kudos to all five of our Worthy Brother Hibernians on being the recipients of this year's Irish Echo's 40 Under 40, bringing honor to the good name and reputation of our Ancient Order, aiding and advancing our Irish-American community and honoring our Irish heritage and Roman Catholic faith.

There is an old saying in the Irish-American community. "To be Irish is a blessing. To be a Hibernian is an honor." These five Brothers bring both honor and blessings to our Order by their good works and serving in our Order's ranks as worthy and esteemed Brother Hibernians.



At the well-attended Irish Echo event on Feb. 22 in New York City were the Hibernian honorees and national and state AOH officers. The Hibernian honorees, seated, from left, were Lee Patterson, Patrick Dowdell, Michael Joyce, Kevin O'Keefe and John Patrick Walsh. National and NYS AOH officers who attended in support of our Hibernians were, standing, from left, Liam McNabb, Tim McSweeney, Jere Cole, John O'Connell, John Manning, Judge Jim McKay, Danny O'Connell, Kevin O'Keefe's father, Martin Galvin and Dan Dennehy.



A happy New Jersey Hibernian

He is one proud Hibernian father. Thomas A. Costello, a member of the AOH in Hamilton, NJ, was delighted that his daughter, Michelle, was recently named one of the Irish Echo's 40 Under 40. Michelle is pictured here with NY Assemblyman Michael Cusick.

More Hibernians on Parade

