Ancient Order of Hibernians

Major Dooley Division
Richmond, Virginia

The Dooley Dispatch

February 2014

Celebrating 34 years of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity

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Next Meeting - Tuesday February 12th 7:00 p.m. St. Paul's Church

February, the month we finally take a break from all the Holiday activities. We had a good showing at the Celebration of Major James Dooley's Birthday on a day that we really wanted to stay indoors. The Division placed a colorful wreath at the mausoleum of James Dooley in Maymont Park. Twenty seven members attended a wonderful presentation by Dr. Lynn Bayless. We learned that Maj. Dooley was very involved with the roads of our state. Much of what he wrote eventually became the basis of our nation's highway system. What a brilliant man he was! As always, Dr. Bayless was interesting and very informative about our name sake. I can hardly wait to read her book.

At our January Meeting, we held the Lesson of our Motto Ceremony... The Shamrock Degree, for 17 members, adding 6 new members to our ranks. Our growth is unequaled in Virginia. The Division Officers will work to continue the special mix of charitable work and social activities that make the Dooley Division the best in the AOH.

Our Preamble to the AOH Constitution states that we, "Promote Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity", and "To foster the ideals and perpetuate the history and traditions of the Irish Culture". I am aware that our Historian, Brian Hegarty, prepared a presentation for us at the January meeting but was preempted by so many things going on. I will make time for our history lesson at this month's meeting. We have a responsibility to share with our Irish brothers, this opportunity for education, charitable work, and social interaction, for ourselves, our families, and our community.

St. Patrick's Day will soon be upon us. Our Irish Night will be on March 15th at the Columbian Center. Mary Smith and *Turf Fire* are the musical entertainment for the evening. Please stay tuned for more information as it develops. Plans are also underway for the St. Patrick's Day Mass at St. Patrick's Church on Monday, March 17th. The J.P. Carroll Memorial Breakfast will be served after mass. Of course the St. Patrick's Irish Parade and Festival will take over Church Hill the following weekend. I hope you bought your Dooley Division "Trip to Ireland" raffle tickets; the winner will be announced Sunday, March 23rd at the Festival.

Add April 12th to your AOH calendar. The Major Degrees of the Order will be offered at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Triangle. This will be the last Major Degree before the National AOH Convention, July 30th through August 2nd in downtown St. Louis, MO. Let your financial Secretary know if you would like to attend the Tower / Major Degrees of the Order.

Mise le meas, (mish-e leh mass) Yours Respectfully,

Vince.

Prayer List – Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Art Slack** and his wife Barbara. Art was a long time member of our Division and will be missed.

Jim Cremins is recovering from surgery, **Jack Griffin's son, Neil Griffin** will be begin treatment shortly for cancer, **Jack's daughter, Carleen,** has also been diagnosed with cancer, **Wanda Walsh,** wife of **Tom**, receiving treatments for cancer, **Michael Maynes,** son of member **Ed Maynes**, continues to be challenged with cancer, **Bill McKay** who continues to struggle with back pain, and Walt Fergusson's sister is battling a long illness, **Jessie Naughton, Thomas Zahn,** brother of Father Zahn**, Jeannie Barrett** wife of **Tom Barrett**, and **Don Reilly**. Please pray for the members of our Division who are serving in the Military. **Father David McGuire**, has returned from Afghanistan. He is serving as Chaplin with the 1st Special Operations Wing of the Air Force. **CW2 David Bulger**, US Army has been deployed to Iraq with "B" Co. of the 5/159th Aviation Regiment, **Dennis Flanagan, son of Jack,** is a helicopter mechanic in Afghanistan.

<u>Upcoming AOH Dooley Events</u>

- Business meetings second Tuesday of the month except July, August, and December
- March 15, 2014, Saturday - Irish Knight from 6:30 to 10:30 with and at KOC 395 Columbian Center, 2324 Pump Rd, Henrico, VA. Pot Luck ... Beers $2.00 … GK Brian Kiernan and Steve McGann
- March 17, 2014, Monday - St. Patrick's Day Mass- 9:00 am Mass at St. Patrick's Church, 213 North 25th Street, Richmond, VA 23223, JP Carroll Breakfast to follow; 11 am, Sine, 1327 E. Cary St.
- March 22 & 23, 2014, - 29th North 25th Street between Broad and Franklin Streets and will run from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm on Saturday and 10:00 am to 7:00 pm on Sunday.
  March 22, 2014, Saturday - St. Patrick's Day Parade at 10 am
- April ??, 2014, (TBA), –Golf Outing; Course and Chair TBD (???)
- April ??, 2014, Communion Breakfast at St. Elizabeth's. Chad Costello chairman. Fr. Jim Arsenault requested that the AOH attend mass and serve breakfast.
- May 10, 2014, The Barry Memorial Formal Dedication at the U.S, Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD.
- May ??, 2014, (TBA) – Fishing Trip to Chesapeake Bay (???)
- June ??, 2014, Saturday at 6:05 pm – Richmond Flying Squirrels Baseball Game Outing (Family), The Diamond, 3001 N. Boulevard, Richmond, VA 23230 - (Pat Naughton, Chair)(ph 360-2969)
- 4th of July Picnic (TBA) at Columbian Center (Tentative Family Event Plan) with the KOC 4th Assembly.
- August 17, 2014, Sunday – Our Lady of Knock (8/21/1879) Mass at 11 am at St. Paul's Church with Annual Pool Party (Family) to follow at Tom Murphy's House, 11908 Dalkeith Ln, Henrico, VA 23233.
- September 14, 2014, Sunday – Commemorate Commodore Barry Day (9/13/1803- date of death) at 1 pm at St. Michael Catholic Church, 4491 Springfield Rd, Glen Allen, VA 23060 – Family Picnic.
- September 17, 2014, Wednesday, – Halfway to St. Pat's Day at Sine Irish Pub...Happy Hour.
- October ??, 2014, (TBD) Central Virginia Celtic Festival & Highland Games, at Richmond Raceway; www.vacelticfestival.com Kickoff the selling of 2015 Dooley Raffle Tickets and the Recruiting of New Members at Double Booth (FAMILY Event).
- November 9, 2014, Memorial Mass for our deceased military veterans and Dooley Division members at 11:00 am at St. Paul's Church.
- December 7, 2014, Sunday – Family Christmas Party & Officer Installation at 1 pm (St. Michaels's? - to be confirmed) 2015 Officer Installations by State President. (to be Confirmed)

Mia Hernon launches Fleadh Cheoil at Rare Olde Times February 23rd

Well known Irish Traditional singer Well known Irish Traditional singer Mai Hernon, will be performing in Richmond, Virginia, on Sunday, February 23rd at the Rare Olde Times Restaurant and Pub, to help launch the world's biggest Irish festival. Ireland's "Fleadh Cheoil" (festival of music), will be held in the town of Sligo, Ireland in August of 2014, and Sligo and Richmond, Virginia-based tour company, Wild West Irish Tours, has invited Mai Hernon and Mick McEvilly of "Celtic Font" to perform and celebrate Irish music and dance with the traditions of her hometown of Gurteen, County Sligo. Wild West Irish Tours has recently shifted USA operations to Richmond. Wild West Irish Tours will present a dynamic visual presentation of the "Wild West" of Ireland. Mai Hernon has performed with some legends of Irish music including Dervish, Cathy Jordan, Dolores Keane and Seamie O'Dowd. The show will begin at 12

noon on February 23rd and is expected to finish by 4 P.M. The Rare Olde Times Restaurant and Pub will also debut a talented new chef direct from the west of Ireland. Chef Connor Cleary from Galway, Ireland, spent many years as chef in Galway's renowned Latin Quarter. Con's menu at Rare Olde Times will include many traditional Irish recipes which he has updated in order to incorporate today's fresh tastes while maintaining the integrity of the ingredients and continuing to showcase Ireland's culinary heritage. Michael Regan-Waugh, co-owner of Wild West Irish tours said: "We are delighted to be in Richmond and are new members of the Richmond Irish-American Society. We are looking forward to our afternoon at the Rare Olde Times and celebrating the world's best and biggest festival of music." Wild West Irish Tours has donated a FREE Wild West Irish Tour and those who come to the Rare Olde Times on Sunday may enter the drawing.
For more information contact Michael Waugh at info@wildwestirishtours.com, phone 571-236-9650 or contact the Rare Olde Times at 804-750-1346.
Just added: *Charity drawing of a FREE Wild West Irish Tour (value $2,150) to benefit The Irish Viet Nam Veterans Memorial Project. http://www.theirishvietnamveteransmemorialproject.org/

Put Your Dancing Shoes on it's Time for a Ceili

"The Muggivan School of Irish Dance is pleased to invite the AOH to the 2nd Annual Winter Ceili! Joni Muggivan, TCRG, will be calling traditonal Irish ceili dances accompanied by the amazing and lively band ***Scalaheen***. Our ceili is open to all! You do not need to be an experienced Irish dancer to enjoy ceili dancing.

February 9, 2014
Capital Ale House Downtown Music Hall
623 E Main Street, Richmond, Virginia
Doors open at 4:00PM
Music and dancing from 5:30PM-7:30PM

- Adults: $10
- MSID Students and children under 18: $5
- Children 2 and under are free

Tickets are available for purchase through the Richmond MSID studio at (804)308-8442 and on-line at Eventbrite (Linked below). https://www.eventbrite.com/e/muggivan-school-of-irish-dance-2nd-annual-winter-ceili-tickets-10093165931

50/50 Raffle

Menu provided by Capital Ale House however food and beverage are not included in the admission cost.

We look forward to seeing you there and experiencing a true Irish tradition!"

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Division Mourns the Loss of Bob Corcoran

Bob Corcoran passed away last December. Bob served as Financial Secretary and Organizer for many years in the late 1990s and early 2000s. Bob and his wife Peg moved from upstate New York to Richmond. Bob was active in the AOH in New York and brought many new ideas to the Dooley Division. To promote Irish culture in Richmond Bob built harp, shamrock, Celtic cross and the map of Ireland that we use at the festivals. Bob and Peg attended many national conventions. They moved to Florida around 2005. When you see the map of Ireland, say a prayer that Bob has returned home to Hibernia.

Patrick J. Naughton
12400 Periwinkle Road
Glen Allen VA 23059-5319

Feast of St. Brigid – February 1st

Brigid was born in about 450 in Ireland. Her father was an Irish chieftain and her mother was a slave in his court. Her parents may have been baptized by Saint Patrick and she herself likely heard the great saint preach. She was interested in the religious life from a young age.

Brigid likely worked in her mother's dairy, which prospered under her hand, despite the fact that she gave much of its produce away. She was known as a generous, kind-hearted girl who tried to help anyone in need.

Brigid became a nun as a young woman and lived for a time with seven other young nuns at the foot of Croghan Hill. Around 468, she moved to Meath and in 470 she founded a double-monastery (for both men and women) at Kildare (from Cill-Dara or "church of the oak" because it was located under an oak tree). Because a priest was necessary to ordain the monks and priests, Brigid appointed St. Conleth as the first Bishop of Kildare. Together, he and Brigid lead the nuns and monks and for many years this tradition of an abbess and bishop continued at Kildare.

At Kildare, Brigid also established a school of art that became famous for its illuminated manuscripts, in particular the Book of Kildare which has unfortunately been lost.

She was known for her travel around Ireland, preaching and healing. Her early biographers described many miracles worked by Brigid's prayers or intercessions, including blind and dumb children made well and lepers cured.

Some have suggested that the traditions associated with St. Brigid come from older traditions about Celtic deities. For example, St. Brigid's feast day is also the day of the pagan festival of spring and Brighid was the name of a well-known pagan goddess. Oak trees were sacred to the Druids. In Ireland, Christianity melded itself with the traditions already present, rather than trying to destroy those traditions. A uniquely Celtic Christianity thus developed.

Saint Brigid's Cross

One popular story about Saint Brigid is how she went to visit a dying pagan chieftain. While she sat by his bed, she picked up some rushes from the floor and began fashioning them into a cross. The sick man asked what she was doing. She responded that she was making a cross in honour of Jesus, who died on a cross to save humankind. Her explanation of her faith caused the chieftain to request baptism before his death.