



**Major Dooley Division
Richmond, Virginia**

The Dooley Dispatch

April 2017

Celebrating 38 years of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity

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Next Meeting –Tuesday April 11th 7:00 p.m. St. Paul's Church

President's Message:



Dia Dhaoibh. Hello.

Boy what a month it's been! We certainly managed to fill March with a host of great events.

The Ladies AOH division hosted their 2nd Annual Irish Gala at Keagan's on March 12 which proved to be a lot of fun. We were entertained by the Donnybrooks and the Muggivan Dance School as well as Emma Dulog on her harp. At last month's meeting, we voted to give Emma a \$200 scholarship for her summer Harp class in Wales. Our annual St. Patrick's Day Mass was well attended and there were good times to be had by all as we made our way to Rosie's and on to Rare Ole

Times. Thank you to Vince Eikmeier for selecting the music and being the cantor at Mass. We had beautiful weather for the Church Hill Irish Festival. Thanks to everyone who came out for the parade and to man the booth and sell tickets.

Speaking of tickets, the winner of our "Trip for two to Ireland" was Laura Rossmoore earning the \$4,000 prize. The Rossmoore family sure is lucky! (The probability of winning two years in a row given that 10 tickets were bought each year and approximately 2300 tickets were sold is about 0.002%. If we consider the fact that there's a 100% probability that a NFL team will win the Super Bowl each year and the sad fact that the New York Jets have a 0% chance of ever being that team, this is a pretty amazing feat.) Congratulations! And a big thank you to Jim Woods for running another successful raffle. Thank you to the Kelly Division, LAOH and all the businesses that support us each year.

Many of us gathered at Rare Ole Times, this past week, to give Pat Naughton his framed newsletter signed by the members of the Division. We are ever grateful for his dedication and service to the Division.

The fishing trip is scheduled for May 12-13. Please let Daniel Caffrey know if you plan on attending.

Please note that there will be a change in the calendar for the Richmond Squirrels baseball game. The family outing is changed to Friday, June 23 because that night is dedicated Irish Heritage Night and our own Vince Eikmeier will be singing the Irish National Anthem. Perhaps Saint Patrick can even make an appearance and throw the first pitch.

Slán go fóill.

(goodbye for now)

In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,
Brian P. Hegarty Jr.

Upcoming Events:

- Business meetings second Tuesday of the month except July, August, December.
- **May 12/13, 2017 Fri/Sat - Fishing Trip to Chesapeake Bay**, Spend Friday night, fish early Saturday morning (all day); Captain Crabbe. Openings are still available. Contact Kingfish Dan Caffrey to make your reservation. 804-512-6288
- **June 10, 2017, Saturday (JUST ADDED) – Major Degree Offered & AOH State Quarterly Meeting** at St. Joseph Church, 828 Buford Rd, Richmond, VA 23235. (Details TBA). Meeting is usually at 10 am with lunch at 12 pm and Degree at 12:30 pm. If interested in receiving the Degree please contact Daniel Caffrey 804-512-6288 or kkcaffrey@hotmail.com.
- **June 23, 2017, Friday at 7:05 pm (NEW DATE & TIME)– Richmond Flying Squirrels Baseball Game** Outing (Family), Irish Heritage Night (free Irish shirt to first 1,000). Vince Eikmeier to sing the Irish National Anthem. The Diamond, 3001 N. Boulevard, Richmond, VA 23230 - (Tim McDonnell - Chair) (ph 804-678-9764).

Prayer List – Please Pray for the following:

We will be draping the Charter for Bob Strutton & Mike Gawkins on Tuesday and will be having an Irish Toast after the meeting in their honor.

- **Bob Strutton, Past Dooley President (multiple times)**, passed away April 6. Viewing is at 9:30am next Tuesday 4/11 and the mass will be at 11am. Both being held at **Our Lady of Fatima Church** located at 5217 Futura Ave., Richmond. Bob did an awful lot for our division including serving four(!) terms as division president from 2002-04 and 2007. Bob was the chairman and coordinated the VA State Board Biennial Convention held in Richmond in 2011
- **Mike Gawkins passed away April 8**. His viewing is Tuesday 4-11 night from 6 to 8 pm at Staples Mill Bliley's. Funeral Mass is Wednesday, at 11 am at St. Mary's. With the division just the past several years, Mike was always stepping up for us. Whether it was transporting Fr. George to the meetings, picking up our meeting refreshments, or anything else that was requested, Mike was a true Hibernian brother in every respect. He leaves with many memories, including his portrayal of Irish patriot James Connolly in our Centenary Easter Rising Reenactment last year.
- **Ed Gillikin's wife, Ann**, pray for recovery from ongoing complications from spinal surgery.
- **Joe McGann (USAF), brother of Steve McGann**, has been deployed to ME

- **Vince Eikmeier's uncle, Joseph Eikmeier passed away.**
- **Lori Forbes, wife of Tom Forbes and President of LAOH Mary Ryan Division**, surgery on April 3rd. Had complications and pain and is recovering now.
- **Tom Forbes friend's daughter passed away**
- **Sean and Matt Costello's mother and sister Maura**, had hysterectomy and is in chemo for cancer treatment.
- **Patrick McGowan's uncle, Jerry Meranda**, is having dementia problems and took a turn for the worse.
- **Brother John McCann** who is undergoing chemotherapy treatment for metastatic prostate cancer.
- **Brother/Past President Chad Costello** – was in hospital for shortness of breath. Found blood clots in lungs and legs. Was in hospital for a while and released (1/23/17). Has oxygen with him at home (off it now) and is on blood thinner. Please pray for his continued recovery.
- **Brother Chad's parent-in-laws** – MRI on father-in-law (Jim) for bulge on aorta. Mother-in-law (Sally) has irregular heartbeat and is getting valve replaced.
- **Johnny Cates** – son's fiancé stage 1 cancer, shrunk tumor 50% (Hayden). Doing better.
- **Jim Woods** – mom had 3rd knee replacement, going to PT, doing great. Now needs other knee replaced.

Prior to March Meeting:

- **Bishop Francis Xavier DiLorenzo** recently had stents put in.
- **Elizabeth Moore** (girlfriend of division Treasurer **Patrick Knightly**). Elizabeth was been in the Surgical Trauma ICU at MCV since Friday. She underwent significant intestinal surgery. Recently left the hospital (1/23/17)
- **Fr. Zahn for spinal stenosis, back spasms.**
- **Deacon Wayne Snellings** – inoperable cancer.
- **Rich Aleksy, Past State Pres.** - Rich had surgery to remove the lower node of his left lung and several lymph nodes which will be sent out for biopsy.
- **Hugh Naughton's wife Jessie is in pain again** – had surgery last October; **brother John** is recovering from stroke, progress is slow; **sister** – knee replacement; **brother Mike** – diagnosed with Parkinson's or MSA; **brother Bob** broke leg.

Contact Steve McGann, Chair of AOH Dooley Division Sick

Contributed by Brian Hegarty

Whenever I visit Ireland, I always go to Kilbrittain, Co Cork. It reminds me of the time I first visited the village with my grandmother in 1989 when she showed me her home and then around the village. Now when I go, I always knock on the door of the house next to where my grandmother was raised. This is the old Jack Roche home. Eugene Fallon, the current owner, opens the door and says to me “Hi, you’re the American.” When I first met Eugene in 2014, I talked to him about my grandmother and her family growing up in Kilbrittain Village around the turn of the twentieth century. Eugene told me he met my grandmother in 1997. Eugene was more than happy to show me around the town, bringing me to the Community Centre to show me a picture of my Great Uncle Ned who I met in 1989, and the school where the Roche family went to get an education.

I’ve been back twice in the last several years and each time Eugene invited me in for coffee and cake. I sent Eugene information about Jack Roche, including his military records, in 2014. He advised me that he gave this information to the Bandon Town Council. So, when Annette Hickey, who is involved with a historical group in Kilbrittain Village, contacted me in November 2016, and asked me to review what she was writing about Jack Roche, she caught me by surprise. She told me that he would be honored with a plaque. Annette said they received my name from a local Cork historian and the owner of Jack’s old house, Eugene. She asked me if I could check the accuracy of dates, edit and add to the information that she had collected, and perhaps secure a picture of Jack as a young man (the only picture they had was when Jack was older). I managed to do all the above. After four months of going back and forth through emails, the following represents the text of Jack Roche’s plaque placed on the wall of his house, next to the house where he and my grandmother were born and raised. I didn’t realize that I would get any credit for the information I provided, but I thought it was pretty cool that my name is printed on the bottom of the plaque, along with the other contributors who helped supply this information.

JACK ROCHE [1902 - 1973]



John [Jack] Roche was born in Kilbrittain in 1902 to Dan [a tailor] and Johanna Roche, oldest in a family of 10. The other family members were Patrick (Pap), Ellen (Nellie), Kate (Kit), Edward (Ned), Jane, Daniel (Dan), Michael, James (Jimmy) and Mary. Jack attended Burren National School. His family was sympathetic to the Republic but none were members of the IRA. Friends encouraged him to join. Although he incurred the disapproval of family, he followed his beliefs and enlisted in the Third West Cork Brigade of the Irish Volunteers. Like many comrades, he was soon on the run, sleeping in caves, bogs and even graveyards. He was captured by Crown Forces and imprisoned in Ballykinlar Camp, Co Down. He took part in a huge number of ambushes and skirmishes during the War of Independence including the 3 attacks on Kilbrittain RIC Station and 2 attacks on the Coastguard Station at Howes Strand. In Nov 1920 he took part in the Kilmichael Ambush and was one of only 5 men who also took part in the Crossbarry Ambush in March 1921. He was wounded in the knee at Kilmichael. He was on the Republican side of the Civil War and was arrested by The Free State in Feb 1923 and released in Dec 1923. He shared a cell with De Valera for some of that time.

After the Troubles, he was refused absolution because of Bishop Coholan’s edict. [In December 1920, Bishop Daniel Cohalan of Cork issued a decree saying that anyone within the diocese of Cork who organised or took part in ambushes or murder or attempted murder would be excommunicated]. This rejection left him greatly troubled and confused. In 1926 he married Margaret Roche and they had 3 children: Donal, James and a third child who unfortunately died in infancy. Jack worked with local farmers, builders and Cork County Council. He won many medals for hurling and football with Kilbrittain GAA and loved singing and dancing and a night out. He was a keen gardener and although he had been wounded in the knee at Kilmichael, gardening became his livelihood in later life.

Each year he attended the commemorations of the ambush and was proud to take the salute with old comrades and friends. He showed no bitterness towards the British. He remained great friends with Tom Barry throughout his life. After Margaret died in 1957, his son Donal and his wife asked him to come and live with them in Liverpool, near their home. He was 70 before the nights sleeping on the damp ground, while on the run, caught up with him. He developed TB and was admitted to a sanatorium. Jack died on the 4th June 1973. In accordance with his wishes, he was buried in Ireland, in the small cemetery of Rathclaren, Kilbrittain not far from where he was born.

Extracts from *The White Heather Glen* by Louis Whyte, other information from Liam Waugh [nephew] and Brian Hegarty [grandnephew] and Diarmuid Begley.

IRISH Festival 2017



St. Patrick and Fr. James Arsenault



St. Patrick at the Irish Festival



St. Patrick leads the Dooley Division in the parade

2017 Dooley Division Raffle Winner



This year's winner of the 2017 "Trip for Two to Ireland" Raffle is Laura Rossmore. Laura is pictured with her husband and Dooley Division member Ed in a pose which is strikingly similar to last year's photo of the winner. Upon close examination, you will see the date on the check is 2017.

So, what are the odds of the same family winning the raffle twice you may be asking yourself? This is a relatively simple permutation problem to solve based on a couple of assumptions.

1. Ed is a member and bought 10 tickets each year to cover his annual dues.
2. Approximately 2300 tickets were sold each year.

$$10/2300 \times 10/2300 = 1/52,900$$

(#tickets per family yr 1 ÷ #tickets sold yr 1) x (#tickets per family yr 2 ÷ #tickets sold yr 2)

The odds of the same family winning twice is 1 in 52,900

Odds of the same family winning two consecutive years?

1. Same assumptions as above factoring in the number of consecutive years played. Assume the Rossmores played 5 consecutive years buying 10 tickets each year and approximately 2300 tickets were sold each year.

$$10/2300 \times 10/2300 \times 2/5 = 1/132,250$$

The odds of the same family winning two consecutive years if played 5 consecutive years is 1 in 132,500.

«First_Name» «Last_Name»
«Street»
«City», «State» «Zip»

Ancient Order of Hibernians – Dooley Division
Patrick Shea
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To order green jackets, click on the picture:



To order sashes, click on the picture: