



**Major Dooley Division  
Richmond, Virginia**

# The Dooley Dispatch

## September 2017

**Celebrating 38 years of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity**

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Webpage <http://aohrichmond.org> Check out the web page for better pictures, events, green pages, various reports

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Next Meeting – Tuesday September 12, 2017 7:00 p.m. St. Paul's Church



### President's Message:

Hello Brothers,

Fáilte ar ais lads. (Welcome back!) I hope everyone had a grand summer. Our last business meeting in June was a special one. Dr. Bayliss spent some time before the book signing presenting the impact that John Dooley had on Richmond that she had captured in her book "The Dooleys of Richmond". Since then we've been together numerous times this summer.

Our Irish Heritage Night at the Diamond was a smashing success. Eighty plus members, family and friends gathered to watch some baseball, hear Vince Eikmeier sing the Irish National Anthem and watch Saint Patrick throw out the first pitch. The only thing better would have been if the Squirrels had won! Shortly after, PJ George made us proud by marching solo in Ashland's fourth of July parade representing The AOH Dooley Division. Thanks PJ! Then in August, it was a tough assignment but I want to thank our membership and all of you who were there supporting the beer truck at the Saint Elizabeth's Jazz Festival. Our Lady of Knock Mass at Saint Paul's had a great turn out with many members from the division in attendance. This support carried over to McGann residence. A big thanks to Steve and Helene for hosting the barbeque that afternoon and to Brian Kiernan for filling in as Lord of the Bar and supplying the main course. Thanks to Pat Shea for the fine grill skills while still managing to capture photos of the event. A good time, and lots of good food, was had by all!

On a sad note, one of our members, Rev. James Kauffmann, passed away on June 19 at the age of 67.

Looking ahead, the AOH Virginia State Convention is being held at the Virginia Beach Resort on September 22 - 24. It's not too late to register to attend. We currently have five delegates for the Major Dooley Division and need one more. Let me know as soon as possible if you can represent our division as a delegate.

Lastly, National is promoting the 'Why Are You a Hibernian' campaign to help attract and recruit new Irish Catholics to join the Order. We encourage the Dooley membership, in less than 100 words, to respond to the statement: "Why I'm a Hibernian," and send it to committee member John O'Connell at his Digest editor email: [EditorHibernianDigest@yahoo.com](mailto:EditorHibernianDigest@yahoo.com). National intends to use the best responses in social media campaigns on the national and state websites.

Slán go fóill

(goodbye for now)

In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Brian P. Hegarty Jr.

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## Upcoming Events:

### Business meetings second Tuesday of the month except July, August.

- **September 17, 2017**, Sunday at 5 pm – Halfway to St. Patrick's Day at Rare Olde Times.
- **September 22-24, 2017** – AOH Virginia State Convention at Virginia Beach Resort, 2800 Shore Dr, Va Beach, VA 23451. Registration information to be sent out as soon as available.
- **October 8, 2017, Sunday (TBD)** – Commemorate Commodore Barry Day (9/13/1803- date of death) at 1 pm at St. Michael Catholic Church? or Columbian Center? Family Picnic (Chair Mike Muldowney)
- **October 28 & 29, 2017 (TBC) Central VA Celtic Festival at Richmond Raceway**; [www.vacelticfestival.com](http://www.vacelticfestival.com) Kickoff the selling of 2018 Dooley Raffle Tickets and Recruiting at Double Booth (FAMILY Event).
- **November 12, 2017, Sunday, Memorial Mass (TBD)** for deceased military veterans and Dooley Division members at 11 am at St. Paul's Church? Or at individual parishes.
- **December 10, 2017, Sunday at 1 pm at St. Mary's Catholic Church – Family Christmas Party.** (Chair Mike Muldowney)

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### Prayer List – Please Pray for the following:

- **Kevin Kitrick**, AOH Brother, recovering from a motorcycle accident.
- **Jane Caffrey Favrot** passed away, Aunt (like mom) of **Daniel Caffrey**. **Keith Wandtke**, AOH brother, please pray for him.
- **Mary Puccinelli**, for surgery to intestines on 6/28. Pray for good result and speedy recovery, by **Daniel Caffrey**. She's doing well, pray for continued recovery.
- **Rachel Anderson**, passed away, by Daniel Caffrey.
- **Brother Bill McKay** passed away. June 8, 2017 service at St. Peter's Church at 12pm.
- **Fr. James Kauffman**, passed away. Charter will be draped at September meeting for both him and Bill McKay.
- **Matt Woods**, brother of Jim Woods, pancreatitis.
- **Fr. Zahn** for spinal stenosis, back spasms. Considering spinal surgery, pray for discernment.
- **Fran Gawkins**, comfort after the passing of **Mike**.
- **Pat McGowan's** uncle Warren Henderson. Pat's mom, **Mary Margaret**, atrial fibrillation was in hospital doing better.
- **Lexi Shumway**, 25-year old daughter of

friend & co-worker of **Tim McDonnell**, diagnosed with thyroid cancer, caught early. Update- surgery got it all.

**Gordon?**, wife in ICU, by **Vince Eikemeier**.

- **Ed Gillikin's wife, Ann**, pray for recovery from ongoing complications from spinal surgery. Was in hospital recently to get medications and infection under control. Is walking (good news), home in a week or two.
- **Hugh Naughton recovering from foot surgery.** His wife **Jessie** might need to replace a plate in her hear; **brother John** is recovering from stroke, progress is slow, working on his speaking; **sister** – knee replacement and had shoulder injury and was being cared for by **Jessie**; **brother Mike** – diagnosed with Parkinson's or MSA is doing well; **brother Bob** broke leg and is walking around.
- **Patrick McGowan's uncle, Jerry Meranda**, is having dementia problems and took a turn for the worse and is in a facility.
- **Patricia Dore and Andrea Dworkin, 1<sup>st</sup> cousins of Steve McGann**, undergoing chemo and radiation treatments for cancer
- **Sean and Matt Costello's mother and sister Maura**, had hysterectomy and is in chemo for cancer treatment.
- **Brother John McCann** who is undergoing chemotherapy treatment for metastatic prostate cancer.
- **Brother/Past President Chad Costello** – Please pray for his continued recovery from blood clots.
- **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.
- **Jim Woods** – mom had 3rd knee replacement, going to PT, doing great. Now needs other knee replaced.
- **Elizabeth Moore** (girlfriend of division Treasurer **Patrick Knightly**). She underwent significant intestinal surgery. Pray for continued recovery.
- **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.

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Contact Steve McGann, Chair of AOH Dooley Division Sick

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## Our Lady of Knock Picnic

On August 20<sup>th</sup>, the Division attended Mass at St. Paul's Church as a Division celebrating Our Lady of Knock. Following Mass, Brother Steve McGann, wife Helene, and daughter Maggie hosted our annual Lady of Knock family picnic at their home. A grand time was had by all.

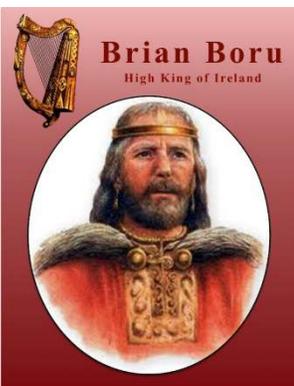


More pictures on the website at: <http://aohrichmond.org/?p=7249>

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## Brian Boru

Many brothers in the Dooley Division have taken the Major degree. The exemplification of the Major/Tower Degree of our Order is performed by the Brian Boru Major Degree team. If you have not received the Major Degree, please try to set aside a Saturday afternoon to receive the exemplification. So, who was Brian Boru?



Celtic Ireland in the early centuries AD had more than a hundred kingdoms and sub-kingdoms, involved in dynastic struggles, feuds, rivalries and shifting alliances. The five principal kingdoms, from north to south, were Ulster, Meath, Connaught in the west, Leinster in the south-east and Munster in the south-west. To make things even more complicated, from the 790s Ireland was harried by Viking raids, which in due time led to permanent settlements. The Norse established themselves in Dublin in 841. Other Viking settlements included Waterford, Wexford, Cork and Limerick, while bands of Norse warriors frequently took service with rival Irish kings as mercenaries.

The concept of a 'high king' of all Ireland had developed at some uncertain date and although St Patrick and other missionaries converted the Irish to Christianity from the fifth century on, pagan traditions clung to the high king. Usually more of a symbolic figure than a national ruler, he was considered the consort of the goddess of love and war and Ireland, Maeve. Traditionally he was crowned at the prehistoric hillfort at Tara in Meath, where an ancient standing stone called the Lia Fail, or Stone of Destiny, was said to cry out when the true high king touched it, with a shriek that could be heard all over the country.

The greatest of the Irish high kings, famed in saga and legend, was Brian Boru ('Brian of the Tributes'). Much about him is uncertain and disputed, but he was an unrivalled war leader and the 'tributes' seem to mean substantial levies of cattle that he extracted from lesser potentates. He is generally said to have been born around the year 940 in Munster as a younger son of a sub-king called Cennetig (Kennedy in modern English), whose clan controlled part of today's County Clare, though some sources date Brian's birth back as far as the 920s. After Cennetig's death around 960 his eldest son and successor, Mathgamain, ousted the ruling Munster dynasty in 964 and made himself a powerful figure in southern Ireland, until he was murdered by the Norsemen of Limerick in 976.

Brian succeeded as king of Munster, avenging his brother by killing the Norse ruler of Limerick and his sons and going on to defeat all rivals for the throne. By force of arms and force of character he gained control of much of southern Ireland and he had a powerful fleet with which to support his land armies and attack the Norse. In 997 he made an alliance with the reigning Irish high king, Mael Sechnaill (or Malachy) of Meath, and in 999 he took and sacked Dublin, but restored the Norse ruler Sitric Silkbeard to the Dublin throne as his underling, gave him one of his daughters in marriage and took his mother, Gormflaith, as one of his wives – like other kings in Ireland he had several. Mael dominated the north of Ireland and Brian the south, but in 1002 for reasons that are unknown Mael surrendered the high kingship to Brian.

Brian subdued the Ulstermen in the north. He was a generous benefactor and strong supporter of the Irish church, which backed him in return, and he upheld the claim of Armagh in Ulster to be Ireland's religious capital. He is said to have made a journey round the whole country in 1005 and he was recognised by the lesser kings as the supreme ruler of Ireland.

In 1013, however, Brian was attacked by an alliance of Leinstermen and Norsemen from Dublin under Sitric Silkbeard, who brought in Norse warriors from the Hebrides and the Isle of Man to swell his host. The decisive battle was fought on Good Friday at Clontarf, just north of Dublin. There were Irishmen and Norsemen on both sides and it was a ferocious struggle, said to have lasted all day, but the Dublin-Leinster alliance was defeated. According to one story Brian was killed in man-to-man combat, but the widely accepted account says that, now in his middle-seventies at least, he was too old to fight in the battle and his army was led by his son, Murchad. A small group of Manxmen, fleeing from the battlefield, chanced on Brian's tent, overpowered his bodyguard and slew him with a battle-axe. 'The men of Ireland will suffer a grief,' recorded the Norse Njal's Saga, 'that will never grow old in the minds of men.'

Brian's body was taken to Armagh and buried there in St Patrick's cathedral and Mael now took back the high kingship. Brian's son by Gormflaith, Donnchad, later ruled Munster until his death in 1064 and Brian's descendants, the O'Briens, were powerful figures in Ireland for many centuries.

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## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

DGMW, but we have gotten lazy. AFAIR, our motto was one we wanted to espouse. ICYMI, we have gone from closing correspondence with "In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity" to "In Our Motto" to "IOM". What's next? Will we sign cards this December "Merry Xmas"?

Let's be proud of our motto and type it fully after all correspondence. I mean, WTH.

In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Thomas J. Murphy



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