



The Dooley Dispatch

May 2021

Celebrating 42 years of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity

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Major Dooley Division Richmond, Virginia

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

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[Scott Nugent](#) 503-9888

*All phone numbers are area
code (804) unless otherwise
indicated*

Next Meeting – Tuesday May 11, 2021 7:00 p.m. St. Michael's Church/ZOOM



President's Message:

Brothers All:

While I was in NY tending to the affairs of my parents, I had a chance to pick up a copy of the *Irish Eco* at a newsstand.

The main article was the deterioration of the peace in Northern Ireland triggered by Brexit. As Brother Forbes briefed us last month troublemakers are inciting the younger generation into acts of violence aimed at destabilizing the Good Friday Accords. The Echo called for President Biden to immediately appoint a special envoy to intervene and get the factions to back to a peace of sorts.

By my read today Northern Ireland is majority Catholic and the Loyalists are not happy bunch. Hence Brexit is the catalyst the Loyalists have choose to inflame unrest.

Now let's focus on the Dooley Division. One word. Raffle. Buy raffle tickets to pay your dues, \$100 for ten tickets and your dues paid in full. Post tell tickets. The on-line raffle link on your social media accounts and encourage your followers to buy a ticket, or two, or more. It is that easy for you to sell tickets.

I look forward to seeing you at our in person Business Meeting on May 10th.

In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Larry.

Upcoming Events:

All in-person events are cancelled due to COVID

AOH Dooley Division Prayer List For May 11, 2021 Meeting

Please contact Fr. Jim Arsenault if you need him to visit and pray for and with someone in the hospital. Contact him at M 804-221-1508 and/or jarsenault@stelizcc.org

From Previous Meeting and since then:

- **Annie Carroll** – Cousin of *John Costello* - Died of a heart condition with COVID19 complications April 6
- **Michael Carroll** – Cousin of *John Costello* - Died of a brain cancer May 7

From Prior Meetings:

- **Lucia Bremer** – Known by a few brothers – Life taken way too soon
- **Rev. Benedict McDermott** – Former Abbot and former Principal of Benedictine College Prep - Died March 19
- **Lawrence J. Keefe** – Father of President Larry Keefe – Died March 15
- **Joseph and Kieran Donahue Marinucci** – Daughter and son-in-law of *Jim Donahue* – Contracted Covid
- **Peg Madden** (91) – *Jim Woods*' brother-in-law's mother – Passed away from cancer
- **Phyllis Collins** - Mother of *Mark Collins* – She is currently in the hospital
- **Joe McGreal** passed away after his battle with dementia over the past several years.
- **Anne Kiernan** (93) – Aunt of *Brian Hegarty* – Died in County Cork
- **Lori Forbes** - Wife of *Tom Forbes* – Still recovering.
- **Fr. George Zahn** – Contracted COVID-19. Keep our Chaplain in your prayers.
- **Barbara Casey** – Sister of *Bill Casey* – Recovering from knee replacement surgery

- **Mary Kelly** (96) – Mother of *Frank Kelly* – Mary is diagnosed with Covid-19
- **Jim Woods** (83) – Father of *Jim Woods* – Recovering from heart operation
- **Siobhan Nolan** (53) – Sister of *Tom Nolan* – Having open heart surgery
- **Betty McAuliffe** – Wife of *Gary McAuliffe* – Recovering from eye surgery to repair a macular hole
- **Gary McAuliffe** – Dealing with tremors in his hand
- **Jim Calpin** – Recovering from stroke
- **Edward Maynes** – is having an upcoming heart procedure (date is not yet known)
- **Rita Hastings** – *Tom Hastings*' mother – Hip operation, gallbladder removed
- **Joanne Kennedy** – Aunt of *John Kennedy* – Breast cancer. Operable. Good success for recovery.
- **Siobhan Mooney** – Sister-in-law of *Jack Griffin* - Diagnosed with lung cancer. Had lung removed.
- **Dover Harper** (Social Member, Good friend of *Jack Cassells*) – Recovering from Triple Bypass Surgery
- **Mark Atchinson** – Brother **Daniel Atchinson** – Quadruple bypass in August, spot on lung discovered, biopsy indicated cancer, determining treatment.
- **Chad Costello**'s brother-in-law (**Doug Dakin**). 48 years old, colonoscopy found cancerous mass in his colon.
- **Paulie McFadden** skin condition and his wife, **Mary Ellen**, back pains
- **Hugh Naughton**'s wife, **Jessie Naughton**, has lower back, migraine issues and other ailments
- **Billy Spicer**'s brother-in-law, **William McCracken**, had an infection on the brain and had brain surgery to remove it.
- **Pat Saizan**, sister of *Larry Keefe*, suffering from Lymphoedema
- **Don Lattanzi**, AOH Brother, had two back surgeries, pneumonia and breathing problems

Contact Scott Nugent at 804-503-9888 or at swnugent44@yahoo.com

To order green jackets and sashes, click on the picture:



The Irish Boys of Summer

Contributed by Brian P. Hegarty Jr.



With an Irish tricolor stitched into his glove, twenty-one-year-old Belfast born P. J. Conlon was drafted by the New York Mets in 2015. He became the first Irish born player to enter Major League Baseball since Corkman Joe Cleary, nicknamed ‘Fire’, in 1945.

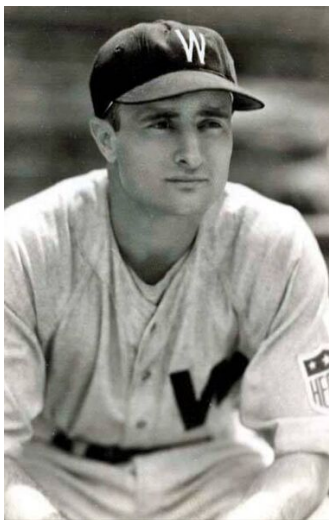
There was a time when there was so many Irish born players in professional baseball that it appeared the Irish had a natural born ability for the game, that they were particularly adapted to play the sport. The ‘golden era’ for Irish baseball players was from 1870 – 1900, which coincided with the mass emigration in post famine Ireland. In the 1880’s it is estimated that one third of all professional baseball players were Irish or of Irish decent. According to *Players by Birthplace*, Ireland statistically recognizes forty-seven Major League Baseball players, more than any other country in Europe.

One of the best was Patsy Donovan, a native of Cobh, played in more games than any other Irish born player over his 17-year career, most of them with the Pittsburgh Pirates and St. Louis Cardinals. With a lifetime batting average of .301 and only 16 homeruns, he made up for his lack of power hitting with his speed on the bases. A few years after managing the Boston Red Sox, Patsy Donovan was instrumental in bringing Babe Ruth to the Sox in 1914 through his acquaintance with one of the Xaverian Brothers who coached Ruth at a Baltimore orphans’ home. Donovan finished out his career coaching High School baseball at Phillips Academy where he coached the future 41st President, George H. W. Bush. Donovan ranks 31st among all-time stolen base leaders, shared with Kerry born native Jack Doyle, who was a hard-playing, hard-living first baseman spending most of his playing career with the New York Giants. His rough style on the basepaths earned him the nickname “Dirty Jack”. He was called “Dirty” because he was constantly getting caught up in fights; with opponents, umpires, fans, and even his own teammates. He regularly approached the stands to attack fans who were abusing him and was arrested for this on a couple of occasions. Doyle had a lifetime batting average of .299 and batted .342 over a five-year stretch at the prime of his career and ended his career with 26 homeruns.

Irish ball players tended to be colorful. They had nicknames like Cyclone Ryan, Sleeper Sullivan, Jocko Fields, and Curry Foley who just happened to be the first major leaguer to hit for the cycle. Or they played with one arm, like the pitcher Hugh Daily. He lost his left hand in a gun accident and fixed a special pad over the affected area and caught the baseball by trapping it between the pad and his throwing hand. Recognized as one of the first power pitchers, Daily’s turbulent temper led to six shorten seasons in the majors. Sometimes after long games his stump would become sensitive - so sensitive that he once punched his catcher for not heeding his warning to throw the ball back to him softer.

The Irish Baseball League recognizes Andy Leonard, from Cavan, as the most accomplished Irish-born Major Leaguer. A .299 lifetime hitter, he was the first true star to emerge from the Irish diaspora of the 1840s. He was a member of the 1869 Cincinnati Red Stockings, America’s first professional team, and the Irish League’s Most Valuable Player Award is named after him.

By the time of the Great War, Irish professional ball players had almost died out. Paddy O’Connor from Kerry played for ten years and his final game was with the New York Yankees in July 1918. Jimmy Archer from Dublin finished the 1918 season with the Cincinnati Reds.



Then, in 1945, the drought was ended when Joe Cleary took the mound for the Washington Senators against the Boston Red Sox. It was a memorable inning. But for all the wrong reasons. It was in the fourth inning of the second game of a doubleheader and Washington needed a fresh arm on the mound. Cleary came in as a relief pitcher. A pitcher's ERA is a means of measuring how good a pitcher is, so it is a bit like a golf score, the lower the better. Top baseball relief pitchers would be hoping for a career ERA between three and four. Cleary holds the unenviable record of having the highest ERA of any pitcher ever to toss a ball over home plate in Major League Baseball. He gave up seven earned runs (8 base runners – 5 hits and 3 walks) in a third of an inning which amounts to an ERA of one hundred eighty-nine. If that was not bad enough, he was replaced by Bert Shepard, a World War II amputee, who came in to relieve and pitched the final five and a third innings, giving up just one run. In Cleary's own words to the Baltimore Post – *"The man was up to bat for the second time during the inning. He hit two wicked fouls down the third base side. I decided to*

waste a pitch at that point. I did such a good job of wasting it, that it sailed about two feet to the right of home plate, and by the time the catcher had retrieved it, the runner on first had made it to third. The batter was laughing so hard that he totally missed my next pitch and struck out."

At his own request, P. J. Conlon's career ended with the New York Mets in July 2019 and now can be recorded as one of 48 Irish born players to play in Major League Baseball.

Ancient Order of Hibernians
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«First_Name» «Last_Name»
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MAJOR JAMES H. DOOLEY DIVISION

