



**Major Dooley Division
Richmond, Virginia**

The Dooley Dispatch

June 2013

Celebrating 33 years of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity

Editor – Pat Naughton 360-2969 (p.naughton@comcast.net)

Photographer – Pat Shea (pshea1128@verizon.net)

Webmaster – Charlie Connell (connell.home@verizon.net)

Webpage <http://aohrichmond.org> Check out the web page for better pictures.

President
Brian Kiernan 754-1938
bri1v1@comcast.net

Vice President
Vince Eikmeier
Vince.eikmeier@oracle.com

Recording Secretary
Mike Smith 873-2198
pats3xchampz@verizon.net

Financial Secretary
Mike Sweeney 559-4717
mjcasweeney@comcast.net

Treasurer
Tim McDonnell 678-9764
tmc1918@verizon.net

Chairman of Standing
Committees
vacant

Marshall
Scott Nugent 346-3955
swnugent44@yahoo.com

Sentinel
Mike Canning 364-8483
mcanning3@comcast.net

Right to Life - vacant

Political Education
Tom Murphy - 360-1568
TJfMurphy@comcast.net

Organizer (membership)
Paul McFadden- 550-0347

Next Meeting - Tuesday June 11th 12th 7:00 p.m. St. Paul's Church



President's Message

Brothers, What a busy few months!

Another successful March for the books! We started St. Patrick's with a wonderful Mass & homily from **Fr. Ball** on Saturday evening. After a brief reception, many headed over to the Columbian Center where we had our joint party with K of C 395.

We had a great time down at Rosie's on Sundays followed by a splendid lunch at Sine.

What a showing we had for the parade at the Irish Festival this year! St Patrick himself made an appearance! Thanks to all those who attended, especially with their families. Additional recognition to those who helped the raffle effort both at the booth and on the street. Special thanks are given to **Tim, Chad, and their families** who ran another great raffle this year. Thanks to all of you who sold/purchased raffle tickets. Our winner was our own **Mike Lynch** who is currently stationed in the Outlands of Frisco, Texas. Congratulations to Mike and his family! The luck of the Irish was with us as there was only a little light rain on Sunday which turned into snow just after we broke down our booth; and yet we had a great turn out. See the photos on our web site! A plan to distribute the proceeds to our various parishes is being developed.

May 13 was our **Chaplin Fr. Zahn's** 45 anniversary of his ordination. Thanks you Father for your ministry and for your support and guidance to the Division.

Dan Caffrey organized an excellent fishing trip. The high light was the capture of a 43 pound 10 ounce striped bass by **Connor Caffrey**. Connor will receive a State Citation for landing this monster.

Mike Sweeney has arranged an opportunity for the Division to play foursomes at a golf benefit for Atlee High School June 9th. Please contact Mike for details. Our upcoming family outing to cheer on our Squirrels baseball team at the Diamond will be June 15th. Please contact Pat Naughton for tickets.

The State Convention is in July. It will be a great weekend of Hibernian fellowship in Fredericksburg. I urge all division members to attend.

We have several other summer events planned. While we have no business meetings in July and August, Dan Caffery will keep us all informed!

Pat Shea has resigned as Chairman of Standing Committees for business reasons. If you are interested in serving the Division as Marshall, please see me or let one of the other officers know.

Finally I must sadly report that **Tom McGranahan Sr.** has joined the company of St. Patrick to enjoy his eternal reward. Past President Dan Caffrey's words bear repeating.

"He was an inspiration to me and the division with his energy and involvement.

He recruited many members to our division and sold many raffle tickets.

He was the Chair of our Vocations Committee and attacked like he attacked life.

In fact, he was at our last meeting on May 14 proposing a Vocations Fund to support seminarians.

Even though he was diagnosed with a terminal illness he didn't let it slow him down.

He lived way beyond the initial time frame they gave him.

He was an actor, but his greatest role was living life.

His sons, Tom, Tim and Kevin and his son-in-law are AOH Members.

Please keep all of them in your prayers."

See you at St. Paul's on the 11 of June.

In our motto,

Brian



Prayer List – Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Tom McGrannahan Sr.** and **Jack Muldowney**, brother of **Mike**, **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.

Veteran Funeral Honors

A Veteran with anything other than a Dishonorable Discharge is entitled to Military Honors at his/her funeral. The family just needs to present a DD 214 (or equivalent for some one that served in the Guard of Reserves) and the DD 214 is presented to the Funeral Director who contacts the military.

If you area veteran and would like to have Military Honors at your funeral, let your family members know that in advance and to have a copy of your DD 214 available.

Upcoming AOH Dooley Events

- Business meetings second Tuesday of the month except July, August, and December
- June 15 – baseball game
- 7/4 – Fourth of July picnic
- 8/18 – Our Lady of Knock Mass and pool party
- 9/14 – Commodore Barry commemoration and picnic at St. Michael's

AOH State Convention

July 19 - 21, 2013 in Fredericksburg, VA

If you plan on attending and are interested in being a delegate please notify President, Brian Kiernan (see contact information on page 1).

Because we have over 150 members we'll have 6 delegates representing us.

The Shamrock and Tower degrees will be offered on Sunday, July 21 at 12 pm.

If you don't attend the convention you can still come up and attend the degrees.

Would encourage those who don't have the Tower degree yet to attend, you pledged to take this degree when you became a member.





McGranaghan, McGrenaghan, McGranahan

In honor Tom McGrannahan Sr. the following is summary of the McGrannahan family history from <http://www.mcgranaghan.com/charlesmc.htm> developed by **Charles McGranaghan**, Carson City NV.

In many *Clan MagReannachain* surname families, several of the spellings referenced above have been used. In my own branch of the clan which began migrating to New Hampshire in the late 1850's, *McGranaghan* was used in the County Donegal in Ireland, *McGranaghan* and *McGranachan* were used in Glasgow, Scotland and *McGranaghan*, *McGrenahan*, and *McGranahan* were used in America. Today, two spellings survive, *McGranaghan* and *McGranahan*.

If *MagReannachain* is a place name, it might reference *the point people*. Late in 1993, I received a letter from Fergus Gillespie, the Deputy Chief Herald, Dublin, Ireland, which stated that the pre-anclicized surname was *MagReannachain* that is meant *son of the sharp-eyed one*. He stated that the *Reann* (rinna) portion of the name may mean *spearhead*.

In my letter to Mr. Gillespie, I had inquired about a coat of arms for the clan. He stated that his office had no official record of a coat of arms for *Clan MagReannachain*, but the descendent surnames may use the coat of arms *of thier home country, Donegal*. Gillespie's letter suggests that the *Clan MagReannachain* may have been named for a physical characteristic, *for being sharp eyed*. Barney McGranaghan of Bridgetown, County Wexford, Ireland has researched the name and the origin of the clan, and his conclusions are worth noting here. He argues that if *Reannachain* evolved from a point of land, the name would be vastly more popular because there are thousands of points of land along the rugged coasts of Ireland. From Barney's notes:

1.) Clan *MagReannachain* descends directly from the Erainn People, a European Celtic Tribe, which, in 500 BC, invaded Ireland and named it Erie.

2.) The Laigin People, another European Celtic Tribe, invaded Ireland at Waterford in 250 BC, pushing the Erainn People to the west and to the north.

3.) The Goidel People from the Hibernious Valley in Spain invaded Ireland in 50 BC and sought to possess all of Ireland. The Laigin People, who controlled Leinster, merged with them, creating the Gaels, a united warring people.

4.) Faced with the reality of possible extinction, the Erainn People, in 50 BC called the Celtic Tribe, fortified themselves in northwest Ulster. Their ancient fortress, Fir Bolg, was located at Aileagh in Donegal. The army of The Gaels swept north, destroying Fir Bolg and eliminating most of the Celtic Tribe. Those who survived the onslaught fled to the wild and craggy reaches of Northern Donegal where they were identified as the *Mag-Rinn-from-the-fortress* or *MagReannachain*.

Barney McGranaghan's research indicates that *Clan MagReannachain*, settling in Ireland 500 years before the birth of Christ, has been there longer than most other clans. According to one Gaelic Dictionary, the word *Erie* means *Reann* or *Rinn*. So *MagReannachain*, synonymous with *Erie*, the ancient name of the land itself, has a long history.

Could *Clan MagReannachain* have its own Christian saint? That's a possibility, and one that deserves more research. Many sources place the origin of the clan at Mevagh, a district on the wild north coast of Donegal. The patron saint of Mevagh is *Saint Ringan*, a name that comes close. Contemporaneous of Saint Patrick, *Saint Ringan* lived in the sixth or seventh century. In a number of countries in Ireland, especially in the north, *a granaghan* (pronounced *gran-a-han*) means *a place where grain is stored or a granary*.

I have checked the American national telephone directory for clan surname listings. Roughly 70% of them are McGranahan listings, roughly 25% are McGranaghan listings, and 5% are listings with variant surname spellings. According to what I've read, 80% of telephones are listed and 20% are unlisted. On examining the social security records, it appears that of the death benefits paid to clan surnames in America, 73% have been paid to McGranahan survivors, 23% to McGranaghan survivors and 4% to variant surname survivors. Nothing conclusive, of course, but it indicates that McGranahan is the most popular *Clan MagReannachain* surname in America, that McGranaghan is the second most popular clan surname in America

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

Hibernian Friendship



Conner Caffrey lands the a 43" citation striper



Another fun and productive AOH fishing trip