

Ancient Order of Hibernians



Major Dooley Division Richmond, Virginia

The Dooley Dispatch

December 2013

Celebrating 34 years of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity

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Next Meeting - Tuesday January 14th 7:00 p.m. St. Paul's Church



I hope everyone had a happy Thanksgiving! My travels to Connecticut and back only took 17 hours round trip. Family is the warmth in any Irish home.

We continue to hold our deceased members in our prayers this holiday season especially Ed Barry, Tom McGranahan, and JP Carroll, Jr.

If you haven't already done so, please see the most recent edition of the Catholic Virginian where there was a great article about St. Elizabeth's Church and their parish priest, brother Hibernian and Dooley Division member, Fr. Jim Arsenault.

Our final Division of the year will be our Annual Christmas Party on Sunday, December 15, at St. Mary's Church. Chairman Mike Muldowney has planned a great event. During the Party we will install our 2014 officers, announce the Gael of the Year and other activities for all ages. I hear even Santa may stop in! Please be sure to add this to your family's holiday calendar and let us know if you're coming.

I am honored to have served as President of the Dooley Division this year. My thanks to all Officers and Chairmen who lead the Dooley Division. We have a great new slate of officers for 2014 to lead us forward- a nice mix of veteran AOH'ers as well as some newer members. Thanks to all for serving.

Thank you to Fr. Zahn, our Chaplin, for his active support and participation in the Division and to the St. Paul's parish community for providing the Division a home.

The division had a successful year of adding new members and despite a snow storm at the Church Hill Irish Festival, we were able to expand our charitable donations to include dedicated support to religious vocations. Despite rain and cold at the Celtic Festival, our raffle efforts are off to great start-thanks again to Tim & Chad for running the raffle committee again this year.

Every year we hope to end with a few more members, and special thanks to Paulie and his usual enthusiastic recruiting efforts, he's invited 30 some new prospects to our Christmas party. Please make an extra effort to reach out to the folks with the temporary name tags on and make them and their wives & kids feel like family.

It makes me proud to see how our annual events are the cornerstone of our social calendar- each year they all get even better attendance. From our Dooley memorial event at Maymont, St Patrick's Mass and Irish events were their usual big success. We filled a section at the Squirrels game and our members were golfing and even winning State Citations fishing this year. Unsettled weather couldn't keep us from having a great pool party at Murphs! And at each presentation at our parishes, "all those guys in green jackets" are getting noticed like never before.

I wish everyone and their families a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year, and don't forget to sign the cards to our priests as you enter the party!

In our Motto,

Sláinte!

Brian

Prayer List –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 Chaplain 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.

Upcoming AOH Dooley Events

- Business meetings second Tuesday of the month except July, August, and December
- December 15, 2013 Sunday at 1 pm (St. Mary's Catholic Church) – Family Christmas Party (Family)/Officer Installation for 2014



Division Christmas Party December 15th 1:00 p.m. St. Mary's Church

If you are planning to attend the Dooley Division annual Christmas party Sunday December 15th from 1-4 p.m. at St. Mary's Church, please help us make it success by doing the following:

- 1) Calling Paul McFadden at [\(804\)550-0347](tel:8045500347) not later than 12/6/13 with the number attending the ages of any children. Because we have 37 members with another potential 16 recruits, we may require more space to ensure everyone can sit down to enjoy their food beverages and entertainment. We may have to move from the lower commons to the gym.
- 2) Wear your green name badges.
- 3) Bring a food dish for the common table.
- 4) Greeting everyone with a paper tags who will be new members or potential prospects.

Does prayer help us resist temptation? Talking to God boosts self-control and emotional stability, claims study.

By Robin Yapp

People turn to prayer 'as a coping response to the high demands in life' and are rewarded with an increased ability to resist temptation

Previous findings have shown that when people try to control their emotions, the risk of aggressive outbursts and binge drinking rises

Praying helps people stay in control of their emotions and behavior, according to a new study. People turn to prayer 'as a coping response to the high demands in life' and are rewarded with increased strength and ability to resist temptation, researchers said. Previous findings have shown that when people try hard to control their emotions and thoughts, the risk of aggressive outbursts and binge drinking or eating rises. But the latest study, by German psychologists at Saarland University and the University of Mannheim, found that praying helps people maintain self-control. 'A brief period of personal prayer buffered the self-control depletion effect', wrote the team, whose findings are published in the Journal of Experimental Social Psychology online. 'These results are consistent with and contribute to a growing body of work attesting to the beneficial effects of praying on self-control.' Praying has already been linked in the past to reduced levels of infidelity and alcohol consumption. The German authors recruited 79 people, of whom 41 were Christian, 14 atheists, 10 agnostic and 14 belonged to other religions. Participants were each left alone for five minutes and asked to either pray or think freely about one thing as intensely as possible. Next they all watched a funny film clips with half told to react normally and half required to try to suppress their emotions and control their facial reactions. Finally, they took part in Stroop tests, where words describing colors appear in different colored inks, such as the word blue written in red ink. Participants must respond to the ink color, not the written word, which requires self-control as our instinct is to read the word in front of us.

Those who thought freely in the first part of the test and then tried to suppress their emotions during the film clips were found to struggle with the Stroop task.

But this was not the case for participants who prayed at the start of the study - showing they still had high levels of self-control at the end.

The authors also found those who first prayed had tried just as hard to suppress emotions during the film clips 'but did not become depleted'.



The Boys of Kilmichael

Last meeting Brian Hegarty gave a presentation on the Boys of Kilmichael. The following is summary of that famous ambush:

The reason the Volunteers found it necessary to undertake military action. Home Rule, which looked imminent before the Great War, was suspended for its duration, but it was not honored when the war ended. The overwhelming success of Sinn Féin in the 1918 election meant that the Irish people placed their trust in their own representatives. The meeting of the First Dáil on 21 January 1919 laid the constitutional basis of the new Irish State. However, the British parliament declared it an illegal assembly.

The oath of allegiance to the Dáil of the Irish Republic by the Volunteers established them as an army for that parliament. As the RIC scoured the country and arrested Volunteers and Sinn Féin members, it was obvious that the British Government did not want the Irish people to control their own destiny. Tom Barry himself said: "When we went into the revolution, we had to feel that we were doing it for a purpose, we had been slaves for 700 years. When we tried to break free of this, they proclaimed anything that was nationalistic. Our people resisted arrest and that resistance led to shooting," and ultimately to guerrilla warfare.

On the 28th day of November, the Auxiliaries, who were stationed at Macroom Castle, had created terror among the citizens in these local districts. House raids, beating men, taunting women and taking pot shots at civilians who worked in the fields was their method of intimidating the people. The intention was to dampen the spirits of Volunteers. The activities of these Auxiliaries encroached on the Cork No 3 Brigade area, the border of which is just down the road from Kilmichael. On Sundays previous to this, these Auxiliaries travelled in Crossley tenders as they went on their rampage. So they had to be apprehended within Cork No 1 Brigade area — on the stretch of road before they reached Gleann crossroads, which led in different directions, just west of Kilmichael. Tom Barry felt there



should be no further delay in challenging them.

PREPARATION

Tom Barry had been appointed Training Officer and Commanding Officer of the 3rd West Cork Brigade Flying

Column. This spot was carefully chosen. Barry borrowed an IRA tunic from Paddy O'Brien in order to slow down any approaching enemy lorry. At 2am on the morning of 28 November, the Column met in Sullivan's Ahalina, outside Enniskeane. Each man was armed with a rifle and 35 rounds of ammunition; a few had revolvers and Barry had two Mills bombs.

Fr O'Connell had heard the men's confessions at the side of the road. It was 3am on this extremely cold, wet night when the men were told that they were moving to Kilmichael to take on the dreaded Macroom-based Auxiliaries.

Barry and his men walked through by-roads and cross country, mainly in silence. They trudged on, locked in their own thoughts as the November rain lashed against them. They were drenched when they reached Kilmichael. Meanwhile, Pat Deasy, who had been ill during training, had been replaced by another man. Now well again, Deasy had followed the Column close behind, and pleaded with Barry to participate in the ambush. Barry agreed. It was 8.15am when the Column reached the ambush position. The men were wet, cold and hungry. Barry gave them their positions and told them that the terrain allowed for no retreat. Barry's plan was straightforward. He would be at the Command Post, supported by three picked marksmen.

THE AMBUSH

Section 1, was up on the rocks, in from the Command Post. Section 2, was just behind the monument. Section 3 was subdivided, with half of the men just around the bend and the other half across the road. Two scouts were north of the road and one south of the Command post.

The hours passed slowly. The men, without food since 6 o'clock the previous evening, lay in their rain-sodden clothes. Then the

people in an isolated house sent down a few buckets of tea and a homemade cake — all these people had — but this meagre supply of food did not go far. The men waited, and the day dragged. As the day wore on it began to freeze, so that the clothes froze on their bodies as they hid behind the rocks. All the time, Barry stood on the open road, as he fingered his Mills bomb. He was about to call off the ambush when a sidecar with some Volunteers arrived — they hadn't received mobilisation orders on time. Barry acted instantly and shouted to them to gallop up the side boreen.

Just a few minutes later, at 4.05pm, the first lorry came round the bend and began to slow as it neared the uniformed figure. Barry hurled the bomb, blew the whistle and fired the automatic. The grenade must have landed on the driver's seat because the lorry lurched forward, then stopped a few yards in front of the Command Post where Barry stood. The Auxiliaries jumped out and there was sharp fighting, even hand-to-hand action. When the men in the first lorry had been dealt with, Barry commanded the three men beside him at the Command Post to move with him towards the second lorry. This lorry had been engaged by No 2 Section, which was in the middle of the ambush area, behind the monument, high up on the rocks.

The second group of Auxiliaries had taken up positions beside the ditch on the road. Some also had taken cover behind their lorry as the fight went on. Barry, with the three men at the Command Post, crouched along the dyke and stole along at the back. When they were about half way between the two lorries they heard the Auxiliaries shout, "We surrender! We surrender!" Some actually threw away their rifles and the firing stopped. The Volunteers accepted the surrender. In No 2 Section some Volunteers, who thought it was over, stood up. But the Auxiliaries again took up their guns; some used their revolvers to open fire. Following this encounter, three Volunteers were fatally wounded.

Realising that the Auxiliaries had made a false surrender, Barry shouted at his men to retaliate.

Barry and the three men with him dropped into a prone position and began a rapid fire. Other Volunteers in No 2 Section did likewise. The Auxiliaries knew they were sandwiched between two groups of men. Once again they shouted, "We surrender"; but at this stage Barry shouted to his men to keep firing and "do not stop until I tell you". Later he said: "Now for that I take full responsibility... The only blame I have to myself is that I didn't warn these young lads about the old war trick of a false surrender." He never forgave himself for this.

It was a tough fight and when all the Auxiliaries appeared dead, Barry then gave the ceasefire order. Two Volunteers in No 2 Section, Michael McCarthy and Jim O'Sullivan, were dead, and Pat Deasy, who had been sick and had pleaded with Barry to take part, was seriously wounded. He died later. Barry sent scouts for a priest and a doctor, and ordered the lorries to be burned. Many of the Column men were in shock. Barry, conscious of this and of the need to jerk them back to reality, ordered the men to get into formation, gave the "attention" command and ordered them to reload. He marched and counter-marched his Column, their faces lit in the winter twilight by the flickering light from the burning vehicles. Barry halted with the Column before the rock, where the bodies of the two dead Volunteers lay, and ordered them to "present arms".

For more information <http://irishhistory.blogspot.com/2013/07/defending-tom-barry-and-boys-of.html>

https://www.facebook.com/pages/Boys-of-kilmichael/296292083737329?hc_location=timeline

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Hibernian Unity
Christmas Party
Sunday December 15th 1:00 p.m.
St. Mary's Church
R.S.V.P to Paul McFadden 550-0347