

Ancient Order of Hibernians



Major Dooley Division Richmond, Virginia

The Dooley Dispatch

September 2019

Celebrating 40 years of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity

Editor – Pat Shea 804.516.9598 (pshea1128@gmail.com)

Photographer – Patrick Shea (patrick.shea@aohrichmond.org)

Webmaster – Patrick Shea (pshea1128@gmail.com)

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

Chaplain
Fr. George Zahn

President
Steve McGann 651-3960
mcgannsteve@yahoo.com

Vice President
Mike Canning 690-0338
mcanning3@gmail.com

Recording Secretary
John Condon 980-5649
jgcondon@aol.com

Financial Secretary
John Costello 920-1796
owenson357@comcast.net

Treasurer
Patrick Knightly 687-3868
patrick@myrvataxpro.com

Chairman of Standing
Committees
Bill Casey 690-2764
bill.casey@capitalone.com

Marshall
Rob Kutz 360-1929
rkutz@yahoo.com

Sentinel
Peter "PJ" George
peter.george74@icloud.com

Right to Life
Mike Smith 873-2198
pats3xchampz@verizon.net

Executive Secretary
Dan Caffrey 512-6288
kkcaffrey@hotmail.com

Raffle Chairman
Jim Woods 747-9286
jwoods0701@gmail.com

Chair of the Sick
Steve McGann 651-3960
mcgannsteve@yahoo.com

Next Meeting – Tuesday September 10, 2019 7:00 p.m. St. Michael's Church



President's Message:

Welcome back Brothers! While we Dooleys take the summer off from business meetings, we sure do manage to stay busy: Squirrels baseball, Ashland 4th of July Parade, St. Elizabeth Jazz Festival, Tuesday golf, Our Lady of Knock Mass and picnic, AOH State Convention – whew!

Everyone is welcome at our events, and all have a grand time. Each requires someone to step up and make it happen or contribute to its success. So many Presidential thanks go out to Dan Caffrey for organizing most of our events, everyone who marched in the Ashland parade and for Paul McFadden for running it, the volunteers who helped at St Elizabeth's, to my wife Helene and daughter Maggie for doing so much to make the Lady of Knock picnic such a success – and thanks to Dan for getting the food, Jim Donahue for beverages and Chad Costello our resident smoked meats expert. And thanks to Vince Eikmeier for singing Our Lady Of Knock at Mass.

One more comment regarding the Our Lady of Knock Mass. Thanks to all who attended Mass at St Bridget, it was a fine Division showing. And hopefully, it will pay off for us as we had several queries about joining us.

Congratulations to all our new AOH VA State Officers and in particular to our very own Brian Kiernan, State Vice President, and Vince Eikmeier, State Treasurer.

On a sad note, we had to say goodbye to founding Division member and friend, Jack Cassell. We will have a draping of the charter during the September business meeting.

Watch for information and volunteer opportunities for upcoming events, especially the Commodore Barry/40th Anniversary picnic on October 6th. Our Anniversary Committee has some interesting things cooked up, so don't miss out. Best place to keep up with Division events is via our website, aohrichmond.org. Pat Shea does a great job keeping it up to date for us.

In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Steve McGann

Upcoming Events:

Dooley Division Business Meetings in 2019 at 7 pm every 2nd Tuesday of each Month, except for July and August, at St. Michael Catholic Church. 2019 Meeting Dates - 1/8, 2/12, 3/12, 4/9, 5/14, 6/11, 9/10, 10/8, 11/12, 12/10 (**Officer Installation**)

October 26 & 27, 2019 – Central VA Celtic Festival at Richmond Raceway; www.vacelticfestival.com Kickoff the selling of 2020 Dooley Raffle Tickets and Recruiting at Double Booth (FAMILY Event).

December 8, 2019, Sunday at 1 pm at St. Mary's Catholic Church – Family Christmas Party. (Chair Mike Muldowney).

December 10, 2019, Tuesday – Officer Installation for 2020 Officers by State AOH Officer at St. Michael's Church.

AOH Dooley Division Prayer List For June 11, 2019 Meeting, as of 06/5/2019

Please let Daniel Caffrey know if you'd like to be the Chair of Sick Committee at kkcaffrey@hotmail.com

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 and since May Meeting (new):

- Chad Costello's brother-in-law (Doug Dakins, Alisha's brother). 48 years old, colonoscopy found cancerous mass in his colon. Doc removed a large stage 3 tumor and is confident he got the margins and will be fine after chemo.
- Prayers for Tom Nolan, procedure went well.
- Mike Muldowney's dad, Michael James Muldowney, age 91, minor stroke.
- Gene Johnson, cousin of Jim Mundy, prostate cancer.
- Rob Kutz' mom on mission to South Sudan Catholic School
- Prayers for Tom Forbes – kidney stones.
- Jim Mundy, friend Don Tharpe, cancer surgery.
- Steve McGann, recovering from complications – prostate biopsy.
- Hugh Naughton's wife, Jessie, has lower back issues and other ailments.
- Paulie McFadden's wife, Mary Ellen, back pains.

From and since April Meeting (new):

- Steve McGann's sister, Patricia McGovern, passed away May 5th, after a long fight with leukemia.
- Jim Whelen, wife Alesia's Mom, Norma Oakley, had cancerous kidney removed a couple weeks ago.
- Brian Kiernan – recovering from a leg infection.
- Mike Smith, family friend Whitney Bush passed away.
- Tim McDonnell's friend, Rob Northern – recurrence of cancer.
- Fr. Jim Arsenault's mom.
- Jim Woods – Uncle Philip cancer in jaw.
- Brian Kiernan – first cousin brother-in-law Jim, stage 3 cancer.

From and since February Meeting:

- Brother Jack Cassells (Past President, Historian, St. Patrick, Founding Member) had surgery on Aorta on 1/2/2019 to improve circulation. Surgery went well. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Fr. George Zahn - This year is 51 years as a Priest. Keep our Chaplain in your prayers. Please contact Steve McGann (email below) if you'd like his phone number.
- John Mulligan, Jack Rowe, 18, 2nd kidney surgery.

From Prior Meetings:

- Billy Spicer's brother-in-law, William McCracken, had an infection on the brain and had brain surgery to remove it. Also his heart is very weak. And he has emphysema as well. He's been doing better recently.
- Pat Saizan, sister of Larry Keefe, reoccurrence of breast cancer.
- Fred Gerloff – Jude Crouch leukemia, husband of cousin Cecelia.
- Gary McAuliffe's wife, Betty, macular hole in retina needs surgery.

From Prior Meetings:

- Don Lattanzi, AOH Brother, had 2 back surgeries, pneumonia and breathing problems. Out of hospital and back at rehab in Waverly. Keep in your prayers.

Contact Daniel Caffrey at 804-512-6288 or at kkcaffrey@hotmail.com

Audie Murphy

Contributed by Brian P. Hegarty Jr.



I was moved and impacted by the ceremonies surrounding the seventy-fifth anniversary of D-Day, the invasion of Normandy, France. We owe so much to these men whose selfless sacrifice made for us the lives we have today. It's difficult to comprehend what they endured. I'm grateful. Thank you.

I remember it was a rainy Saturday afternoon and my two brothers and I were watching television with our father. My father was flipping channels and stopped at the movie *'Drums Across the River'*. My father pointed to the television and said, "that Irishman was the most decorated soldier in WW II". Then he explained how Audie Murphy single-handedly turned back an entire German company and received the Medal of Honor. This is Audie Murphy's story.

He wanted to join the Marines, but he was too short. The paratroopers wouldn't have him either. Reluctantly, he settled on the infantry, enlisting to become nothing less than one of the most-decorated heroes of World War II. He was Audie Murphy, the baby-faced Texas farm boy who became an American Legend. Murphy grew up on a sharecropper's farm in Hunt County, Texas. Left at a very young age to help raise 10 brothers and sisters when his father deserted their mother, Audie was only 16 when his mother died. He watched as his brothers and sisters were doled out to an orphanage or to relatives.

Seeking an escape from that life in 1942, he looked to the Marines. War had just been declared and, like so many other young men, Murphy lied about his age in his attempt to enlist. But it was not his age that kept him out of the Marines; it was his size. Not tall enough to meet the minimum requirements, he tried to enlist in the paratroopers, but again was denied entrance. Discouraged, he chose the infantry.

Following basic training Murphy was assigned to the 15th Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division in North Africa preparing to invade Sicily. It was there in 1943 that he first saw combat, proving himself to be a proficient marksman and highly skilled soldier. His actions on the ground impressed his superior officers and they quickly promoted him to corporal. Consistently his performance demonstrated how well he understood the techniques of small-unit action. He landed at Salerno to fight in the Volturno River campaign and then at Anzio to be part of the Allied force that fought its way to Rome. Throughout these campaigns, Murphy's skills earned him advancements in rank, because many of his superior officers were being transferred, wounded or killed. After the capture of Rome, Murphy earned his first decoration for gallantry.

Shortly thereafter his unit was withdrawn from Italy to train for Operation Dragoon, the invasion of southern France. It was there that his best friend, Lattie Tipton, was lured into the open and killed by a German soldier pretending to surrender. Enraged by this act, Murphy charged and killed the Germans that had just killed his friend. He then commandeered the German's machine gun and grenades and attacked several more nearby positions, killing all the German soldiers there. During seven weeks of fighting in that successful campaign, Murphy's division suffered 4,500 casualties, and he became one of the most decorated men in his company. But his biggest test was yet to come.

On Jan. 26, 1945, near the village of Holtzwihr in eastern France, Lieutenant Murphy's forward positions came under fierce attack by the Germans. Against the onslaught of six Panzer tanks and 250 infantrymen, Murphy ordered his men to fall back to better their defenses. Alone, he mounted an abandoned burning tank destroyer and, with a single machine gun, fought the enemy's advance. Wounded in the leg during the heavy fire, Murphy remained there for nearly an hour, repelling the attack of German soldiers on three sides and single-handedly

killing 50 of them. His courageous performance stalled the German advance and allowed him to lead his men in the counterattack which ultimately drove the enemy from Holtzwihr. For this Murphy was awarded the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest award for gallantry in action.

By the war's end, Murphy had become the nation's most-decorated soldier, earning an unparalleled 33 medals, including three Purple Hearts and one Medal of Honor. He also was awarded one Belgian and three French medals. Lieutenant Murphy had been wounded three times during the war, yet, in May 1945, when victory was declared in Europe, he had still not reached his 21st birthday.

Audie Murphy returned to a hero's welcome in the United States. His photograph appeared on the cover of Life magazine and he was persuaded by actor James Cagney to embark on an acting career. Still very shy and unassuming, Murphy arrived in Hollywood with only his good looks and — by his own account — 'no talent.' Nevertheless, he went on to make 44 feature films. His first part was just a small one in *Beyond Glory* in 1948. The following year he published his wartime memoirs, *To Hell and Back*, which received good reviews. Later he portrayed himself in the 1955 movie version of the book. Many film critics, however, believe his best performance was in *Red Badge of Courage*, Stephen Crane's Civil War epic. Murphy wrote the lyrics to 16 country and western songs and many of his songs were recorded by well-known artists, including Dean Martin, Jerry Wallace, and Harry Nilsson.

After nearly 20 years he retired from acting and started a career in private business. But the venture was unsuccessful, eventually forcing him into bankruptcy in 1968. Murphy, who once said that he could only sleep with a loaded pistol under his pillow, was haunted by nightmares of his wartime experiences throughout his adult life. In 1971, at the age of 46, he died in the crash of a private plane near Roanoke, Va.

Audie Murphy could very well be the last American war hero and the greatest combat soldier in American history. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery, just across Memorial Drive from the Memorial Amphitheater. A special flagstone walkway has been constructed to accommodate the large number of people who stop to pay their respects to this hero. At the end of a row of graves, his tomb is marked by a simple, white, government-issue tombstone, which lists only a few of his many military decorations. The stone is, as he was, too small.





*Jack with fellow HS Classmate
Hugh O'Brien at the National
Convention 2018*

John Patrick "Irish Jack" Cassells, 88, Bradenton, FL passed away July 25, 2019. Jack was preceded in death by the love of his life and wife of 60 years, Marge Becker Cassells; his son, John P. Cassells, II of Montpelier, VA; his daughters, Kelly Atchison of Fork Union, VA and Sharon Isbel of Richmond, VA. He is survived by his daughter, Kathlinda 'Kathi' Marshall and her husband, William 'Bill' Marshall of Charlottesville, VA and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Born and educated in Philadelphia, he received Insurance degrees from The American College. Jack started his life insurance career with John Hancock as an agent and proceeded in all phases of management including opening several offices and ultimately ending up in the home office. He advanced to the Life Insurance Company of Virginia where he was National Director of Sales in the corporate division. Jack started his own insurance company in the Commonwealth of Virginia with great success with the concept of never meeting a stranger. Jack was a founding member and past president of the James H. Dolley Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians; co-founder and president of the Greater Richmond St. Patrick's Day Parade in which, for twenty years, he portrayed St. Patrick, patron saint of Ireland; Grand Marshall for the Richmond Irish American Society; a member of the American Legion, the ELKS and Moose clubs and a volunteer at the Blake Hospital of Bradenton, FL. He was very active in the Knights of Columbus, a lifetime member of the 3rd and 4th degree and a past Faithful Navigator of the 4th Degree. He established the Cassells Academic Scholarship Fund in Council #395. Jack was a frequent traveler to Ireland, where his parents emigrated from Donegal and County Cavan. He enjoyed golfing, fishing and visiting friends and family. There will be a Celebration of his Life 4:00 - 6:00PM, Wednesday, July 31, 2019 at the VFW Post 10141, 5105 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, FL. Brown & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory 43rd Street Chapel is in charge of arrangements. Memorial donations may be made to 'CASSELLS ACADEMIC FUND', Knights of Columbus #395, 2324 Pump Road, Richmond, VA 23233. THE GOD OF ST. PATRICK CALLED JACK TO COMPLY WITH the LORDS wishes"THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN" AS IN THE LORD'S PRAYER.

The Division will be attending the Funeral Mass for Charter Member Jack Cassells

October 19th, Saturday

10 am Funeral at St. Mary's

Burial directly after at Westhampton (Gaskins and Patterson)

ROT after

Sign up to attend on the website on the sign-up sheet page

https://aohrichmond.org/sign-up-forms/?sheet_id=32

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

Ancient Order of Hibernians
Dooley Division
Patrick Shea
3312 Hard Rock Court
Henrico, VA 23230-1945

MAJOR JAMES H. DOOLEY DIVISION

