

Ancient Order of Hibernians



Major Dooley Division Richmond, Virginia

The Dooley Dispatch

September 2020

Celebrating 41 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
[Mike Canning](#) 690-0338

Vice President
[Larry Keefe](#) 360-8159

Recording Secretary
[John Condon](#) 980-5649

Financial Secretary
[John Costello](#) 920-0534

Treasurer
[Fred Gerloff](#) 305-2662

Chairman of Standing
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[Bill Casey](#) 690-2764

Marshall
[Rob Kutz](#) 360-1929

Sentinel
[Peter "PJ" George](#)

Right to Life
[Mike Smith](#) 873-2198

Executive Secretary
[Dan Caffrey](#) 512-6288

Raffle Chairman
[Jim Woods](#) 747-9286

Chair of the Sick
[Scott Nugent](#) 503-9888

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

Next Meeting – Tuesday September 8, 2020 7:00 p.m. Virtual Zoom Meeting

President's Message:



Brothers,

I would like to welcome everyone back from our usual Summer hiatus. I am looking forward to the Fall and cooler temperatures with the hopes that we can continue to make progress in our community towards our routine of meetings and social events. I have to confess that I had hoped that concerns related to COVID-19 would have lessened further by now but staying within the guidelines of the Diocese, St. Michael's

Parish and the larger community necessitates resuming our meetings virtually.

As a result our next Business meeting will be held on Tuesday September 8th at 7 p. m. via Zoom using this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8194077416>. I encourage all Brothers to join as we resume our calendar of meetings.

In communicating with St. Michael's, there is a possibility to hold a meeting in-person at the Lake House but with significant changes and restrictions to our current format which I will explain to all on Tuesday. In considering that with Officers, Committee Chairs and Past Presidents, the consensus was that for resuming our meeting this month it was wisest to proceed virtually and then look ahead at the upcoming months as changes occur or we develop a plan to hold in-person meetings safely within those guidelines.

With the unusual times that we are all living through there are two notable events that did occur since our last meeting that I would like to mention. On June 27th the drawing for the Dooley Division "Trip for Two to Ireland raffle was held and the winner was Dianne George, Mom of our Sentinel P. J. George! We are always happy to keep the raffle winnings in the family. Although there remain ongoing restrictions for international travel, Rachel was very grateful to receive the \$5,000 check. I presented the check to Dianne on July 1st along with Treasurer Fred Gerloff and P. J., who brought his Mom and Dad through a torrential downpour to accept the winnings. Pat Shea captured a few pictures of the check presentation which he has posted on the website, you can see them here <https://aohrichmond.org/2020/06/live-stream-raffle-drawing/>.

Later in July the first Virtual AOH National Convention was held. It was my first National Convention and at one point I was able to provide a brief impromptu update on the Dooley Division, our activities and efforts throughout the time of the Pandemic to that point, to all those attending from around the country. One advantage of the virtual format was unprecedented attendance and participation from Brothers all over the U. S. The Convention saw the election of a new National President Danny O'Connell, succeeding Judge Jim McKay. Despite the relatively short window of time to transition the National Convention from a live to virtual event, the Convention was considered a success by all who attended.

While we still have much uncertainty related to the Pandemic and how it has and will affect our calendar planning, meetings and other activities looking ahead, I am eager to gather again and resume our conversations, stories and interactions as we carry forward through uncertain times as Hibernians, as all of our ancestors did when they left Ireland and came as immigrants to this country with no clear path to a better life but which they each managed to create to our benefit.

God bless and we will speak soon. See you Tuesday.

Mike Canning
President

Upcoming Events:

Dooley Division Business Meetings in 2020 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)

All events are tentative based on Chinese Wuhan Coronavirus (COVID-19) scare

~~May 18 & 19, 2019 Sat/Sun Fishing Trip to Chesapeake Bay, Cancelled Chinese Wuhan Corona Virus~~

~~(May 16-17, 2020 Sat/Sun Fishing Trip to Chesapeake Bay, fish early on Sunday morning; Captain Crabbe fish charter. CANCELLED-~~

~~(TBC) 4th of July Picnic at Columbian Center (Family Event) with the KOC 4th Degree Assembly. Ashland Parade.~~

~~**CONFIRMED – June 12, 2020**, at 7:05 pm (Irish Night)– Richmond Flying Squirrels Baseball Game Outing (Family), The Diamond, 3001 N. Boulevard, Richmond, VA 23230 (Tim McDonnell Chair) (ph 804-678-9764; tmc1918@gmail.com – let Tim know how many tickets you'd like).~~

~~**July 22-26, 2020 – AOH National Convention in Orlando, FL.** Status is still pending as of 05/10/2020~~

~~(TBD) August 23, 2020, Sunday – Our Lady of Knock (8/21/1879) Mass at 11 am at St. Michael's Church? Party afterward (late afternoon?); location TBD.~~

~~September 17, 2020, Thursday at 6 pm – Happy Hour – Halfway to St. Patrick's Day at Rare Olde Times.~~

AOH Dooley Division Prayer List For September 8, 2020 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:

- **Phyllis (Tish) Tucker** – Mother-in-law of Pat McGowan – Double pneumonia. Also pray for Pat's wife Mary

- **Norma Oakley** – Mother-in-law of Jim Whelen – Passed away in August – Repose for her soul

From Prior Meetings:

- **Ellen Donahue** – Sister-in-law of Jack Griffin – Has cancer
- **Mary Kelly (96)** – Mother of Frank Kelly – Mary is diagnosed with Covid-19
- **Jim Woods (83)** – Father of Jim Woods – Having a heart operation

- **Mike Shannon** – Brother-in-law to Tom Forbes – Had major heart attack, in the hospital
- **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
- **Tom Edwards** – Brother-in-law of Jim Donahue – Battling esophageal cancer for two years with some success. Started a new regimen of chemo.
- **Jim Calpin** – Recovering from stroke
- **Edward Maynes** – is having an upcoming heart procedure (date is not yet known)
- **Brian Kiernan** – New date for surgery is June 8 for his hip replacement
- **Tom Forbes** – Completed sixth chemo. Next step is remission.
- **Kin Headly** – Friend of Scott Nugent – Brain cancer
- **Jeffrey Gargulo** – Friend of Brian Kiernan and others – Various ailments prior to having gallbladder surgery
- **Rita Hastings** – Tom Hastings’ mother – Hip operation, gallbladder removed
- **Juanita Collins** – Wife of Mark Collins – Released from hospital. COPD. Virus infection
- **Phyllis Collins** – Mother of Mark Collins – Had seizure. Has brain tumor. Age 87.
- **Joanne Kennedy** – Aunt of John Kennedy – Breast cancer. Operable. Good success for recovery.
- **Tom Edwards** – Brother-in-law of Jim Donahue – Esophageal cancer. New chemo regimen started.
- **Barbara Laroza** – Aunt of Tom Nolan
- **Siobhan Mooney** – Sister-in-law of Jack Griffin - Diagnosed with lung cancer
- **Stokes McCune** – Had triple bypass heart surgery and is recovering. Doing much better.
- **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.
- **Fr. George Zahn** - Keep our Chaplain in your prayers. Weak. Is now at Our Lady of Hope.
- 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
- **Paulie McFadden** skin condition and his wife, **Mary Ellen**, back pains
- Jim Whelen, wife Alesia’s Mom, **Norma Oakley**, had cancerous kidney removed a couple weeks ago, cancer in spleen/lungs, in hospice care
- Hugh Naughton’s wife, **Jessie Naughton**, has lower back, migraine issues and other ailments
- Tim McDonnell’s friend, **Rob Northern** – recurrence of cancer
- 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, suffering from Lymphoedema
- **Don Lattanzi**, AOH Brother, had 2 back surgeries, pneumonia and breathing problems

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

June 2020

Dracula was Irish

Contributed by Brian P. Hegarty Jr.

As the Count leaned over me and his hands touched me, I could not repress a shudder. It may have been that his breath was rank, but a horrible feeling of nausea came over me, which, do what I would, I could not conceal. The Count, evidently noticing it, drew back; and with a grim sort of a smile, which showed more than he had yet done his protruberant teeth, sat himself down again on his own side of the fireplace. We were both silent for a while; and as I looked towards the window I saw the first dim streak of the coming dawn. There seemed a strange stillness over everything; but as I listened I heard, as if from down below in the valley, the howling of many wolves. The Count’s eyes gleamed, and he said:- “listen to them, the children of the night. What music they make!” Seeing, I suppose, some expression in my face strange to him, he added:- “Ah, sir, you dwellers in the city cannot enter into the feelings of the hunter.” [From Bram Stoker’s novel Dracula]



Dracula is one of the most successful novels of all time, translated to almost every language in the world, and over 1,000 movie and TV story lines inspired by it, lives on more than 100 years after it was written. What makes it so great? It hits on a kind of universal chord, it's classic terror fiction. Dracula's author, Bram Stoker was born in Clontarf, Co. Dublin in 1847 at the height of the Great Famine. He lived in Ireland for the first 32 years of his life. He had somewhat of a strange childhood in that he didn't walk until he was 7 years old and it appears, he enjoyed spending most of his time in his room in the dark. His mother had a great influence on him, and her stories would shape him into the person he was to become. She would tell many stories, like the one about the Cholera epidemic in Co. Sligo. *The habit was when there was a new batch to arrive to whom there was no beds. To take those who were stupefied from opium and nearest death and remove them to make room for the new arrivals. Many were said to be buried alive. One man brought his wife to the hospital on his back and she being in great agony tied a red*

handkerchief tightly around her waist to try and relieve the pain. When he came again to the hospital in the evening, he heard she was dead and lying in the dead house. He retrieved her body to give her a more decent burial than could be given there. The custom was to dig a large trench put in 50 corpses without coffins throw lime on them and cover the grave. He saw the corner of his red handkerchief under several bodies which he removed, found his wife and saw there was still life in her. He carried her home and she recovered and lived many years. Furthermore, Stoker heard stories of people digging pits (graves) and pushing people who were still alive not with their hands but with long wooden poles, so they didn't have to touch them, literally burying people alive.

His mother's influence didn't end here. Stoker listened to stories about the famine and the mass graves with corpses left on the side of the road and people looking like the walking dead. She would have seen the famine at its worst, emaciated ghastly figures walking around in the trance of extreme hunger.

Stoker, as a child, would often play with friends in cemeteries. His mother's family had burial plots at Saint Michan's vault, and a young Bram Stoker visited the vaults which contained coffins with mummies. These mummies were preserved for hundreds of years as if there were still sleeping – which is exactly how Dracula sleeps in Stoker's book.

All influences may not have begun or ended with his Stoker's mother. According to *The History of Ireland*, written in 1631, by Father Geoffrey Keating, there is a town named Slaghtaverty, in Co. Derry, where a large stone slab is overshadowed by a Fairy thorn tree and known to the locals as Dracula's grave. This could be the oldest vampire tale in the world and one story Stoker most likely heard. As the story goes, many years ago, there was an evil ruler and powerful magician called Abhartach (pronounced Av-ar-chack). He was small and deformed but he ruled the people with a strong and evil hand. The people were terrified of his tyrannical ways, so they wanted to be rid of him. But no one had the courage to kill this magical man, so they got a chieftain from a neighboring village to do the job. This warrior named Cathain stepped up and killed Abhartach and buried him upright as was the tradition for a Celtic chief.

Unfortunately for the towns people, Abhartach eventually rose from the dead and demanded large bowls of blood from his subjects to sustain his corpse. Three times Cathain killed and buried Abhartach and three times he rose from his grave seeking blood from his people. Finally, Cathain killed him with a wooden sword through the heart and buried him face down, with a large stone slab on top and planted thorn trees around the grave. Abhartach was never seen again though the stone slab and a lonely thorn tree still stand in the field to this day.

The novel Dracula has been translated into 44 different languages and is recognized as the one of the largest selling books of all time. The first authorized version of the Dracula story was released in 1931 with Bela Lugosi as Count Dracula. Newspapers reported that members of the audiences fainted in shock at the horror on screen! The film became a box office sensation and is regarded as the first full length horror movie. Dracula is considered the most filmed fictional character ever, apart from Sherlock Holmes. The story has lived through the ages and will no doubt continue to scare children and adults alike for years to come. It's interesting

how one Irishman's early life experiences can shape his future accomplishments. Well, after all this being said, if you strip away the Romanian accent from Bela Lugosi, what are you left with? A dead man with an Irish brogue.

News from the Dooley Division Athletic Department

Athletic Director: Dan Caffrey

BIKE RIDING & GOLF

Big Dan wants to get the word out that several Dooley brothers are getting together (socially distanced, of course) weekly for...

bike ride on **Wednesday Nights at 6 pm** out of West Creek (Kindred Spirit) and

play golf on **Thursday nights at 4:30 pm** out of Sycamore Creek.

If interested in joining us please contact me.

Daniel Caffrey

M 804-512-6288

kkcaffrey@hotmail.com

«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

