



The Dooley Dispatch

March 2023

Celebrating 44 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)

Major Dooley Division Richmond, Virginia

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

Chaplain
Jim Arsenault

President
Mike Smith 873-2198

Vice President
Dan Caffrey 512-6288

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

Financial Secretary
Tim McDonnell 678-9674

Treasurer
[Fred Gerloff](#) 305-2662

Chairman of Standing
Committee
Joe McGowan

Marshall
[Rob Kutz](#) 360-1929

Sentinel
[Peter "PJ" George](#)

Historian
[Brian Hegarty](#) 814-3517

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 March 14, 2023 7:00 p.m. St. Michael's Church

President's Message: President's Message:

"Our Time" has arrived! I have always loved this time of the year. Weather is getting warmer, days a little longer and we get to celebrate our Irish ancestry. This is Irish American Heritage Month. Make sure to tell folks about the contributions the Irish made to this country. If you don't tell them, Who will?

March historically has been the biggest month for new members to join according to the AOH National Board. There has been a resurgence in interest in genealogy over the last few years. Invite your neighbors, friends, co-workers, and former classmates to join us at Mass on St. Patrick's Day or at the Irish Festival on Church Hill. Tell them what the AOH is all about.

We are lucky that we get to celebrate Mass at St. Patrick's Church on St. Patrick's Day. This beautiful church was built by Irish immigrants in the late 1850's. At that time many Irish lived in the eastern part of Richmond and worked in the tobacco factories.

In my opinion the Irish Festival is the best event in Richmond. This is THE authentic Irish Festival. Between the traditional music, dance, vendors, and children's activities there is something for everyone. It was wonderful to walk around last year and see so many smiling faces.

Thanks to everyone who helped after Mass selling tickets at St. Mary's last month. We wrapped up another successful sales effort at the local churches. On-line sales have really picked up this year.

We have a full agenda for our March meeting. I'll ask that we dispense some of the business items until our April meeting. We have an initiation, we need to plan for the upcoming events, make sure our signup sheets are filled out, and we will be treated to our annual quiz on Irish history and culture by our division historian, Brian Hegarty.

MARCH CALENDAR

Sat 11th 12n- [Rosie Connolly's](#) Pre Paddy's Day Party

Sat 11th 6p-9p LAOH Mary Ryan Irish Gala, St. Michael's (SOLD OUT)

Tue 14th 7p-9p Monthly Division Business Meeting @ St. Michael's

Fri 17th 9am Mass at [St. Patrick's Church](#) with **J.P. Carroll Breakfast** to follow in basement (donated meat-free breakfast items welcome)

continue to **Rosie Connolly's** (opens at 11am)...and onto Rare Olde Times or wherever the wind takes us

Fri 24th afternoon Help needed to set up booth for Irish Festival

Sat 25th 10a-6p **Church Hill Irish Festival** please be there at 9:30a for the 10a parade...sign ups to follow for raffle sales & recruiting

Sun 26th 10a-6p Church Hill Irish Festival...sign ups are on the website.

In Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity,
Mike

Upcoming Events:

March 17, 2022 8:30 am Mass at St. Patrick's Church followed by Rosie Connelly's

March 25, 2022 Irish Festival Church Hill Setup on Friday evening. Festival is starting on Friday afternoon for the neighborhood residents.

March 26, 27 2022 Irish Festival 8:00 am Parade and sell tickets at booth. **Raffle drawing on Sunday at 5:00 pm.**

Sign-up sheets for Irish Festival weekend:
<https://aohrichmond.org/sign-up-forms/>

April 23, 2023, Sunday, St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church – Providing and Serving Breakfast to Parishioners (Fr. Jim).

April 21-24 , 2023 (Fri-Mon) – Golf Trip to Myrtle Beach – Big Dan Caffrey

(TBD) May , 2023 Sat/Sun - Fishing Trip to Chesapeake Bay.

May 6, 2023, Saturday, 12 to 5 pm; Montpelier Celtic Festival – Sell Raffle tickets; Irish food, drink, Whiskey tasting, music. Order tickets online at <https://www.montpeliercenter.org/celtic-festival.html>

June 9, 2023, Friday, at 6:35 pm; 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). Irish Night Promotion not announced yet.

AOH Dooley Division Prayer List For November 10, 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:

- **David Cockrell** – *Mike Canning's* brothers' BIL – Passed away in early February. Prayers for David and widow Gigi
- **Theresa** – Sister of *Mike Canning* – Diagnosed with cancerous lesion on her face. Undergoing surgery.
- **Molly Nugent** – Daughter of Scott Nugent – Diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. Beginning treatment.
- **Aoife Donegan** – Cousin of *Mike Canning* – First anniversary of passing. Parents Des and Josephine and sisters Grainne and Niamh
- **Danny Condon (72)** – Brother of John Condon – Passed away suddenly on February 13.
- **Allen DiBuono (61)** – Cousin of Jim Woods – Passed away last month after brief battle with cancer.
- **Ramon Colarte** – *Tim McDonnell's* FIL – Diagnosed with prostate cancer. Currently undergoing treatment.

From Prior Meetings:

- **Caitlyn Woychik** – Daughter of *Dave Woychik* – was hospitalized for kidney issues. Is home now recovering.
- **Nancy Namen** – Wife of *Joe Namen* – Recovering from ankle surgery
- **Andy Cox** – Diagnosed with metastatic adenocarcinoma of the right lung. Having further tests and putting together a treatment plan.
- **Dick Kemper** – Undergone medical procedure in late September
- **Melissa Atchison** – Daughter of *Mark Atchison* – Stage 3 cancer
- **Jack Griffin** – Seems to be doing better and should be heading home soon.

- **Helene Zaepeel** – Mother-in-law to *Steve McGann* – Covid recovery/rheumatoid arthritis pain
- **Mercedes McGann** – Mother to *Steve McGann* – Recovering from a fall
- **Lori Forbes** – Wife of *Tom Forbes* – Continuing blood pressure/neurological issues
- **Bill Shelton** – *Chad Costello's* sister's father-in-law – Covid
- **Barbara Muldowney** – Wife of *Mike Muldowney* – Having knee replacement surgery in December
- **Anne Gillikin** – Wife of *Ed Gillikin* – Recovering from an operation on October 25.
- **Bob Boyle** – Had bypass surgery and is recovering well
- **Kelli Smith** – Wife of *Mike Smith* – Kelli had Gamma Knife surgery and she is at home and feeling good. The doctor said it went really well. They will do scans every six months or so to monitor her progress.
- **Melissa Stellman** – Daughter of *Mark Atchison* – Has Stage 3 colon cancer. Finished chemo in early Sept.
- **Phyllis Collins** - Mother of *Mark Collins* – She is currently in the hospital
- **Siobhan Nolan (53)** – Sister of *Tom Nolan* – Having open heart surgery
- **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.
- **Dover Harper** (Social Member, Good friend of *Jack Cassells*) – Recovering from Triple Bypass Surgery
- **Mark Atchison** – Brother **Daniel Atchison** – Quadruple bypass in August, spot on lung discovered, biopsy indicated cancer, determining treatment.
- *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

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

February 2023

Jonathan Swift

Contributed by Brian P. Hegarty Jr.



Between 1600 and 1900, the people with the best opportunities to write and publish in Ireland were members of the Anglo-Irish ruling class. These people generally identified themselves as being English and frequently went to London to take advantage of the greater number of theaters and publishers there. These Anglo-Irish writers often maintained emotional ties to Ireland that surfaced in the content and style of their work. And Jonathan Swift was no exception. Born in Dublin in 1667 to Protestant English parents, Jonathan Swift was Ireland's first great contributor to English literature. Swift faced financial challenges after his father's early death, but the help of an uncle enabled him to receive an education at Trinity College. He moved to London to serve as secretary to Sir William Temple, who was a leading advisor to King Charles II. With Temple's help, Swift obtained appointments with the Church of England in both England and Ireland. In 1713 he became the dean of Saint Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin, where he remained for the rest of his life; when historians of the Protestant Ascendancy refer to "the dean" they are talking about Swift.

Swift was no big fan of living in Ireland. At the same time, he was quite aware of the problems facing Ireland, most of which were brought on by its colonial status. The older he got, the more he identified with his adoptive homeland, and this became an inspiration for many of his most biting critiques. In his early career, Swift used his talents for satire and allegory in addressing these political causes. His work skillfully articulated the positions of the Tory party¹ while skewing his enemies. As his career progressed, he increasingly identified with Ireland. His "Drapier's Letters" (1724), which helped block an English coinage scheme that would have debased the Irish currency, made him a hero in Dublin. He bitterly attacked the society which tolerated the terrible condition of poverty and overpopulation. He published "A Modest Proposal" (1729), a savage biting satire in which he offers for public consideration a scheme for killing off year-old children, whose flesh will make a 'most delicious, nourishing and wholesome food'. It was a bitterly ironic attack on Whig policies² of ignoring Irish social problems.

Swift's greatest work was not so much an attack on a political enemy as a criticism of human irrationality. *Travels into Several Remote Nations of the World, in Four Parts* by Lemuel Gulliver, better known to us as *Gulliver's Travels*, published in 1726 is a satire in the form of a fantastic travel journal. The version read to children bears little or no resemblance to the Swiftian original. Lemuel Gulliver, a ship's physician, voyages to four exotic lands: Gulliver discovers that in the land of Lilliput, where no one is more than 6 inches tall, that the main difference between two dominant political factions is the controversy over which end of their breakfast boiled eggs to lop off. The dispute had already resulted in eleven thousand deaths. The other lands included Brobdingnag, a land of giants; Laputa, an empire run by wise men; and Houyhnhnmland, where the Houyhnhnms are rational and virtuous horses and Yahoos are described as vicious and physically disgusting humans.

His tendency to contradict himself over the course of his publications put together with his personal life, and political affiliations, makes Swift's true opinions hard to gauge. Swift was a man of changeable character, who was depressed by human behavior and had a very low opinion of mankind as a whole. Ironically, he was perhaps only able to remain devoutly loyal to a single idea throughout his life: his religion. However, it is clear that Swift believed in a free Ireland as long as it was a Protestant-controlled Ireland. This ensured the survival of both himself and the Church of Ireland.

A lot of curiosity surrounds Swift's relationships with two women. The first was Ester Johnson. Swift had met her in England when she was eight, and he was her twenty-one-year old tutor. He called her 'Stella' and in 1702, by the time she was twenty years of age, he brought her to Ireland. There were rumors that the two were lovers, even that they had secretly married. The second woman, Esther Vanhomrigh, nicknamed Vanessa,

he also met in England. This second Esther returned with him to Ireland and became Swift's lover and correspondent for over ten years. She was eventually cast aside for Johnson and went on to die a broken-hearted woman. He frequently corresponded with both women. Some of the letters to Johnson were published as *Journal to Stella*, while Vanhomrigh was the inspiration for published poems, namely *Cadenus and Vanessa*. When Stella died Swift was at her bedside and was deeply affected by her passing. There is no evidence that Swift ever married.

The later years of Swift's life were a constant struggle with mental illness. He suffered a stroke in 1742, leaving him unable to speak. He died three years later and was laid to rest beside Ester Johnson inside Dublin's St. Patrick's Cathedral. Most of his fortune, a sum of 12,000 pounds, was left for the endowment of a hospital in Dublin for the mentally ill. St. Patrick's Hospital, founded in 1757, is still with us today.

Near Swift's burial site in St. Patrick's Cathedral is his epitaph, inscribed in Latin, and composed by the Dean himself. It says:

Here lies the body of Jonathan Swift,
Doctor of Sacred Theology,
Dean of this Cathedral,
Where savage indignation can no longer tear at his heart.
Pass on traveller, and, if you can, emulate his tireless efforts in defence of liberty.

Jonathan Swift, dean of St. Patrick's Cathedral, satirist, poet, essayist, and troublemaker, died October 19, 1745 at the age of 78.

Notes:

Tory party¹ believed inheritance based on birth was the foundation of a stable society. Tories tend to support a stronger monarchy.

Whig policies² opposed absolute monarchy, Catholic emancipation and wanted more power for Parliament. Whigs were defined by large industry, merchantmen, and empire-building, dubbed the "new money" of the time, (today's liberals).

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



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