



The Dooley Dispatch

November 2024

Celebrating 45 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
Dan Caffrey 512-6288

Vice President
Mike Valacer 516-4004

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

Financial Secretary
Tim McDonnell 678-9674

Treasurer
[Fred Gerloff](#) 305-2662

Chairman of Standing
Committee
Dave Woychik

Marshal
Dan McLaughlin

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 November 12, 2022 7:00 p.m. St. Michael's Church

President's Message: President's Message:

Dear Brothers,

Looking forward to our meeting on Tuesday, November 12 at 7 pm at St. Michael's.

We'll be **draping the Charter for Gary McAuliffe** who passed away recently. Gary was a St. Mary's Parishioner and a devoted AOH Dooley Member. He also was the Marshall for Church Hill Irish Festival Parade for 20 years. He was also a longtime member of The Virginians Barbershop Chorus.

We'll be VOTING our **Slate of Officers for the 2025 Fraternal Year**. The Officers will be installed at the December meeting.

We'll also be praying and learning about our Irish History from Brian Hegarty. Also, we'll have pizza and drinks and socializing after the meeting.

2025 AOH Dooley Slate of Officers to be voted on at our Meeting on November 12. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor:

President –	Mike		Valacer
Vice President –	Joseph	"Joe"	McGowan
Recording Secretary –	Charles	"Charley"	O'Connor
Financial Secretary-	Tim		McDonnell
Treasurer –	Fred		Gerloff
Standing Committee -	Dave		Woychik
Marshall –	Dan		McLaughlin
Sentinel –	Peter "PJ" George		

Thanks to all of those who attended or assisted with the following events since our last meeting in October:

October 16, 2024, Saturday at 9:30 am – AOH State Quarterly Meeting and Tower Degree at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 9505 Gayton Rd, Henrico, VA 23229.

Thanks to Mike Valacer, Dan McLaughlin and Lucy Lindsey (LAOH) for helping with the food and set-up for the Meeting and Degree. And to AOH State President Bob Fay and LAOH State President Lori Forbes.

Also, congratulations to 10 of our brothers for getting their Tower/Major Degree. And thanks to the Brian Boru Degree Team led by Brian Kiernan, Vince Eikmeier, and Joe McGowan. Congrats to:

Mitch Irvine

Aidan Nannery

Sean Nannery

Colin McMurtray

Tom Nolan

Brian Baker

Mike Dean

PJ George

Peter George

Dan McLaughlin

Following are our upcoming events for the remainder of the year:

- **AOH Golfing** - we have up to 12 of us on average play 9 holes every Thursday afternoon (2:48 pm) at Sycamore through the Winter weather permitting (50 degrees or higher) and every Sunday afternoon (2 pm) at Hanover Golf Club through the winter weather permitting. Please let me know if you'd like to join us. Email Dan Caffrey at kkcaffrey@hotmail.com.
- **December 10, 2024, Tuesday at 7 pm – AOH Meeting/Officer Installation** for 2025 Officers by a State AOH Officer at St. Michael's Church (family event). Short Meeting followed by the Installation Ceremony and Social (Shepherd's Pie).
- **December 15, 2024, Sunday at 1 pm at St. Michael's Catholic Church - Family Christmas Party.** (Chair Mike Muldowney). Please look for sign-ups at AOHRichmond.Org. Please bring side dishes. Division will provide Main food and beverages.

A reminder to try and recruit **new AOH members** (Irish Catholic men who've received their First Communion, been Confirmed and are in harmony with the teachings of the Faith). Invite them to attend our meeting (they can be installed at the meeting), or invite them to attend one of our events, i.e., Christmas Party.

Reminder to **bring cash to each meeting** for our 50/50 raffle (50% to our Vocations Fund) and donations to the Pregnancy Resource Center.

Hope you can attend our November meeting.

In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Big Dan Caffrey

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AOH Dooley Division Prayer List For November 12, 2024 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:

- **Gary McAuliffe** – Passed away October 25 – pray for the repose of his soul
- **Pat Naughton** – Diagnosed with glioblastoma
- **Margaret D’Antuono** – First Cousin of *Brian Kiernan* – pray for the repose of the soul
- **Ruth McMurtray** – Grandmother of *Colin McMurtray* - has back pain
- **Mark Ambrozy** – Friend of *Tom Nolan* – has cancer
- **Dave Samson** – Recovering from ACL

From Prior Meetings:

- **Stokes McCune** – update - went to the hospital recently, TIA – mini-stroke, should have been released on Monday. Had Brain surgery, heart issues, lung issues. Stage 4 cancer.
- **Alesia – Jim Whelen’s wife** – had pancreatitis, also in hospital recently for a procedure.
- **Karen Lucas – sister of Chad Costello** – breast cancer, Stage 1.
- **Courtney McGowan - Pat McGowan’s sister-in-law** – breast cancer surgery, double mastectomy.
- **Lori Forbes** – Wife of *Tom Forbes* –will be getting a heart ablation procedure soon
- **Tom Forbes** – kidney stones.
- **Debbie Brokaw** – Wife of *Matt Brokaw* – diagnosed with colon cancer and starting chemo
- **Gary McAuliffe** – Diagnosed with Parkinsons and has Lewy body dementia
- **Sean O’Grady** – AOH brother, bone marrow cancer and wife who was in a recent car accident.
- **Bill Shelton** – update – passed away; *Chad Costello’s* sister’s father-in-law – Covid
- **Theresa** – Sister of *Mike Canning* – Diagnosed with cancerous lesion on her face. In recovery from surgery

- **Barbara O’Connor** – Wife of *Charley O’Connor* – has Multiple System Atrophy. In VCU at home hospice program
- **Shyler** – great niece to *Tom Forbes* – pneumonia.
- **Jennifer Jordan** – niece of *Frank Kelly*, age 40, murdered in California.
- **Joe Moore** – friend of *Billy Spicer*, hip repair.
- **Megan Keefe Sprague** – daughter of *Larry Keefe*, gall bladder surgery.
- **John Hegarty** – cousin of *Brian Hegarty* – Diagnosed with cancer. In chemo.
- **Scott Nugent** – Finished initial treatment for his brain tumor. Ongoing treatment now
- **Debra Fitzgerald** – Wife of Past President *Jim Fitzgerald* – Had a bad fall and recovering.
- **Tom Murphy** – low oxygen levels
- **Jim Donohue** – Meniere’s disease
- **Molly Nugent** – Daughter of Scott Nugent – Diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. Ongoing treatment.
- **Dick Kemper** – Undergone medical procedure in late September
- **Melissa Atchison** – Daughter of *Mark Atchison* – Stage 3 cancer
- **Anne Gillikin** – Wife of *Ed Gillikin* – Recovering from an operation on October 25.
- **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
- **Jim Calpin** – Recovering from stroke
- **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

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

History of the Bogside (Derry)

Contributed by Brian P. Hegarty Jr.



From the city walls you can enjoy a nice panoramic view over the Catholic Bogside neighborhood. For many years, Bogside was a tinderbox of the modern Troubles in Northern Ireland and Derry was the starkest example of anti-Catholic discrimination in this Northern State.

The area known as the Bogside was originally underwater. The river Foyle flowed round the island of Derry and was first settled as the river diverted. It dried out into marshland: hence the name Bogside.

When the English settlement in Derry was attacked and destroyed by Donegal chieftain Cahir O'Doherty in 1608, the attackers came through the bog. During the siege of 1688-1689, many of the attacking forces were based in what is now the Bogside, Brandywell, and Creggan – the area that was to become Free Derry. The first recorded settlers in the Bogside were 61 “British families” listed in a 1622 survey. Surveys of the time typically ignored any Irish inhabitants. Literally, they didn't

count.

The history of the Bogside has been characterized by the relationship between two communities; one within the walls – safe, secure, and powerful; one without – powerless, dispossessed and oppressed. The influx of migrants throughout the 18th century, which increased during and after the famine of the 1840s, created a Catholic majority in Derry. Since Catholics were forbidden from living within the walls, most settled in the Bogside. The steady growth of Catholic population was reflected in the construction of the city's first Catholic church, Long Tower (1784), and St. Eugene's Cathedral (1851).

From the beginning, the relationship between the Bogside and the walled city was antagonistic. As a result, sectarian tension flickered throughout the 1800s. In 1869, three people were shot dead during inter-communal trouble. That same year the Catholic Workingmen's Defence Association was set up to protect the Bogside. This is the beginning of when the Bogside community thought about taking control for their own defense.

By the end of the 19th century, Catholics had a clear voting majority in Derry but no corresponding political power. The Londonderry Improvement Bill (1895), the first gerrymander of the city, ensured that Catholics could elect only 16 of the 40 members of Londonderry Corporation.

Tensions rose across Ireland during the 1919-21 War of Independence. In the spring and summer of 1920, 40 people were killed in the city in clashes between republicans and an alliance of loyalists and British forces. When the Government of Ireland Act was passed in 1920, Derry remained a part of the north of Ireland. When partition became a reality in 1921, nationalist Derry felt abandoned, and a very reluctant part of the north.

After partition, the Unionist Party set about creating a 'Protestant Parliament and a Protestant State.' Unionist leaders ran the north on the basis that to give something to the Catholics was to take it away from Protestants. Working-class Protestants were urged to see equality for Catholics as a threat to their position. Catholics were excluded from government jobs while private employers were urged to employ only “loyal men and women.”

No effective opposition to the Unionist government was permitted. The Special Powers Act used the police and the Special Constabularies as sectarian political tools. At one point, there was one police officer for every two Catholic families in the north. Over the 50 years of Stormont rule, successive British governments retained ultimate authority over the north.

Derry was the starkest example of anti-Catholic discrimination in the northern state. Gerrymandering ensured that the nationalist majority could elect only 8 of the 20 members in the Londonderry Corporation. Nationalist voters were corralled into one of three electoral wards –creating overcrowded neighborhoods in the Bogside community. A much smaller number of unionist voters in the north and waterside wards could elect

twelve. The Unionist way of thinking was “to give someone a house was to give them a local government vote.” Preserving the sectarian arithmetic that ensured continued unionist rule was the key factor in who was housed and where. All housing allocation was in the hands of one person – the unionist mayor.

Derry also suffered from massive discrimination in employment. Unionist politicians directed industries to unionist areas. The average unemployment rate for the north was 8%. In Derry it was well over 20%.

The time had come to demand change.

In the 1950s oppressed people around the world began to demand civil rights and change. Inspired by events occurring in the United States and South Africa small groups in Derry were taking to the streets to demand action on housing, jobs, and votes. ‘We shall overcome’ became the anthem of the civil rights movement in Northern Ireland.

A march was planned for Derry in October 1968. Despite the march being banned by the Unionist government, the protestors went ahead. On October 5 the marchers were confronted by police and were physically battered off the streets. By chance a single television cameraman had filmed the incident and the truth of unionist abuse of power was splashed onto television screens around the world. An upsurge in support for the civil rights protest led to a series of reforms from the unionist government. But it was too little too late. The civic atmosphere in the north of Ireland had changed forever.

In early January 1969, as police attacked the Bogside, the slogan ‘You Are Now Entering Free Derry’ was first written on the gabled wall. It was inspired by sit-in protests at Berkeley University, in California. British and Unionist politicians fumed at the existence of Free Derry. To make matters worse, when the British introduced internment (imprisonment without trial) it enraged nationalist Derry. Angry protests became an everyday occurrence. A campaign of civil disobedience was undertaken. More than 130 non-unionist councilors (elected member of local government) withdrew from district councils. But internment had stiffened the nationalist community’s resolve. An anti-internment march was planned for January 30, 1972. The Bloody Sunday march began shortly after 3pm. A little over an hour later 13 people lay dead – innocent and unarmed marchers shot down by members of the British Army’s Parachute Regiment. Between July 1969 through July 1972, 53 Protestants and Catholics from both sides of the conflict were killed in the small area known as Free Derry. The Battle of Bogside, Operation Demetrius (AKA Bloody Sunday) and Operation Motorman, designed to retake “no-go” areas were complete failures on part of the British Government.

The Northern Ireland Civil Right Association found that Derry’s politics were “built on a foundation of sectarian discrimination, biased administration and a barrage of totalitarian legislation, which both protected unionism and instilled a deep sense of social injustice in the non-unionist population.”

Derry has come a long way from those days of sectarian discrimination and injustice. Voting districts now ensure the proportionate allocation of council positions. Catholics now have majority council representation in Derry and at Stormont (Parliament of Northern Ireland). However, Northern Ireland’s Catholics and Protestants continue to live mostly separate lives. More than 90% of the children go to schools segregated by religion. It will take many years for the hardliners who had lived through the Troubles to die off before their society becomes truly integrated.

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

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

