



The Dooley Dispatch

June 2025

Celebrating 46 years of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity

Editor – Patrick 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 Valacer 516-4004

Vice President
Joe McGowan 703-593-7866

Recording Secretary
Charley O'Connor 514-8023

Financial Secretary
Tim McDonnell 678-9764

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

Next Meeting – Tuesday June 10, 2025 7:00 p.m. St. Michael's Church

President's Message: President's Message:

Brothers,

We have had successful raffle sales and increased our funds available to do good work in our community. As a result, under new business at the June Meeting I will be proposing increasing our donations to charitable organizations and we will discuss the merits and vote on the approval to provide additional support.

All budget modifications need your approval. I am the current president and we brothers are responsible for the AOH Dooley Chapter.

As we enter the summer months, please be safe and take care of yourself and loved ones as the weather turns warmer. Being of Irish Decent you should lather up with sunscreen on the outside to fight skin cancer and find something cool to consume for your inside to stay hydrated.

I appreciate all you do to support the AOH and making my role easier by your efforts.

I pray for good health, long lives, love and mercy for all.

Yours in friendship, unity, and Christian Charity,

Mike

Upcoming Events:

June 14, 2025, Saturday, at 6:05 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).

(TBC) Ashland July Fourth Parade & Celebration — Hanover Arts & Activities Center

July 4 Parade, March as AOH, meet up at 10:30 am at Henry Clay Elementary School

4th of July Picnic at Columbian Center (Family Event) with the KOC 4th Degree Assembly and KOC 395.

Independence Day Indoor Picnic

K of C Council 395, the Richmond Assembly, and the Ancient Order of Hibernians will co-host an Independence Day Picnic again this year.

<i>The</i>	<i>Event:</i>
July 4,	2025
12:00 Noon -	Doors Open

12:20 PM - Lunch is Served in the Fr. Adrian Hall

The Cost: \$10.00 per person / \$30.00 Family maximum
Beer is \$3.00 a glass / Wine is \$4.00 a glass (soft drinks are provided).

Location: The Columbian Center - [2324 Pump Road Richmond, VA 23233](#)

The menu is classic picnic food: *Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Italian Sausage, Brats, Garden Salad, Cold Salads, and Desserts.*

This is a picnic and therefore the dress code is casual: jeans and shorts are preferred and encouraged.

Please RSVP at your earliest opportunity!

We need helpers to make this event a success. Sign up as you can to volunteer!

Please use the link below to sign up for attendance, and/or to help:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080945ACA72DA7F49-57049223-independence#/>

August 1-3, 2025, Fri. thru Sun.- AOH State

Convention. Registration sent out. Hilton Garden Inn in Innsbrook, please plan on staying at the hotel for Friday and Saturday night and enjoying the Evening Events, as well as attending the Business Meeting on Saturday morning, Mass on Saturday afternoon. The Tower Degree will be offered on Sunday morning, so please plan on attending especially if you need your Degree. Golf on Friday at 10 am at Sycamore Creek.

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:

- **Betty McGowan** – knee replacement 5/20/2025
- **Tom Forbes** – severe AFib, pacemaker – 6/25/2025
- **Tom Murphy** – update - congestive heart failure, emphysema, COPD, HBP, gout, aortic stenosis
- **Frank Kelly** – double hernia surgery

Presented at Previous Meeting:

- **John Hegarty** – **Passed away**, cousin of *Brian Hegarty* – had cancer.
- **Pam Lingle** – melanoma, Dave Woychik's sister-in-law.
- **Cathleen McNulty** – eye cancer surgery, surgery week of April 8, friend of Dave Woychik's.
- **Mary Margaret McGowan** – had a fall, had to move into Assisted Living. Undergoing Physical Therapy. Pat McGowan.
- **Pat Naughton** – Diagnosed with glioblastoma
- **Joanne Antenino** – myeloma. Dave Woychik.
- **Courtney McGowan - Pat McGowan's sister-in-law** – breast cancer surgery, had double mastectomy. Had another surgery in December of 2024. Surgery went well. Appreciate the prayers.
- **Marty Schofield** – Mike Smith's uncle in MA. Growth on pituitary gland survived long surgery to remove tumor on his jaw, undergoing chemo and radiation. **UPDATE – no chemo needed! 30 days of radiation needed.**
- **Qin Costello** – **Matt's** daughter-in-law, blood disease, doing ok now.
- **Brian Kiernan**- recovering at home from foot surgery.

From Prior Meetings:

- **Alesia** – Jim Whelen's wife – back surgery.
- **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.
- **Scott Nugent** – Finished initial treatment for his brain tumor. Ongoing treatment now
- **Debbie Brokaw** – Wife of *Matt Brokaw* – diagnosed with colon cancer and starting chemo
- **Sean O'Grady** – AOH brother, bone marrow cancer.
- **Jim Donohue** – Meniere's disease

- **Ruth McMurtray** – Grandmother of *Colin McMurtray* - has back pain
- **Karen Lucas** – sister of **Chad Costello** – breast cancer, Stage 1.
- **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
- **Debra Fitzgerald** – Wife of Past President *Jim Fitzgerald* – Had a bad fall and recovering.
- **Oscar Nauman** – recovering from car accident; facial reconstruction surgery.
- **Marty McAuliff** – cancer; brother-in-law of Brian Kiernan.
- **Taylor Ribar** – daughter of Marty; brain cancer surgery; Brian Kiernan.

- **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
- **Jim Calpin** – Recovering from stroke
- **Rita Hastings** – *Tom Hastings*' mother – Hip operation, gallbladder removed
- **Dover Harper** (Social Member, Good friend of *Jack Cassells*) – Recovering from Triple Bypass Surgery

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

May 2025

Dave Allen

Contributed by Brian P. Hegarty Jr.



Dave Allen, comedian, was born David O'Mahony on July 6, 1936, in Dublin, Ireland. He was known as a master storyteller with a razor-sharp wit. The Irish comic was renowned for his humorous anecdotes and jokes told while he was sitting on a tall stool smoking a cigarette and whiskey glass in hand (believed to be ginger ale). The ex-journalist turned TV personality captured the world's hearts in the 1960's and 1970's.

He was known as one of the most controversial comedians in the United Kingdom as he frequently highlighted political hypocrisy and demonstrated his disregard for religious authority. His delivery was dry and sophisticated but was backed up with razor-sharp intelligence that cut through the absurdities of life. His use of the f-word on one program even led to questions about the word in Parliament.

Allen lost half a finger on his left hand in a childhood accident the circumstances of which he sensationalized as a prop in later accounts. His claim that his father had chopped it off while prankishly threatening him with an axe to dissuade him from picking his nose appears to be as much a figment as his suggestions that it had dissolved in alcohol. Another is that he was once so poor that 'when I wiped my arse one day my bum ate my finger it was so hungry'.

He made his television debut on the talent show *New Faces* (BBC, 1959). However, it was Australia which gave him his first taste of television fame. Back in the United Kingdom on tour in 1963, he was offered a television spot on the chat show *Tonight with Dave Allen*, which ran for two years. He returned to Australia several times over the years to appear in television comedy specials and series.

Returning to Britain in 1964, Allen gradually became familiar to British viewers on numerous television shows and series running through 1990. He won Variety Club's Personality of the year in his own comedy/chat series, *Tonight with Dave Allen* in 1967.

In semi-retirement, he made the occasional chat show appearance, and presented the six-part *The Unique Dave Allen* (BBC, 1998), in which he talked about his career in between extracts from his past shows. Allen died in his sleep on March 10, 2005, but remains one of the world's favorite Irish stand-up comedians.

Some of Dave Allen's best-known jokes and stories:

Irish skill of giving directions.

1. I suppose Ireland is the best place in the world for directions. People will say to you, "I wouldn't start from here if I were you."

I was driving to Wicklow town and outside Wicklow town, there's a kind of country road and I came to a crossroad and there was one signpost and it had Wicklow on it and the other way was Wicklow. And there was a fella sitting there and I said does it make any difference? And he said, "Not to me it doesn't."

2. The classic: on my way to Limerick and I said to this fella do you know where this place is? And he said, "Ahh yes. Ahh yes. Oh God yes. Now go down the road, straight down the road just follow your nose. Ahh keep going straight and you'll see a turn on the right-hand side. Now ignore that. And then there's a second turn on the right-hand side and ignore that one as well. There's two, three, four, five. Five turns on the right-hand side, ignore them. Then you see a house on the left-hand side, turn left there. That's where you want to go."

And I said why did you tell me about all the right-hand turns? Why didn't you just say take the first on the left? And he said, "Who's giving these directions, me or you?"

3. Toast at a wake "Here's to your health"

A very important part of the Irish way of life is death. See if anybody else anywhere else in the world dies that's the end of it. They're dead. But in Ireland when somebody dies we lay them out and watch them for a couple of days.

It's called a wake. And it's great. It's a party, a sendoff. The fella is laid out on the table and there are drinking and dancing and all the food you can eat and all of your friends come from all over the place and they all stand around the wake table looking at you with a glass in their hands looking at you and they say, "Here's to your health."

The terrible thing about dying over in Ireland is you miss your own wake. It's the best day of your life. You've paid for everything and you can't join in. Mind you, if you did you'd be drinking on your own.

4. First day at school

The first question they ask, what do you know about God?

I didn't know anything about God, Who? "God!" Who's God? "God, you do not know who God is? Sister! Sister! We have an Atheist here!" "Let me tell you, little boy, God is, God was, and God always shall be..." What? "What he is!" What was that? "He is the father! He is the son! He is the holy ghost! He is 3 in 1." "Do you understand?"

I'm four years of age, why wouldn't I? Greatest Theological question in the world, three people in one... Where is he? "He is here!" Where? I can't see him. "That doesn't mean because you can't see him he's not here." It doesn't?

He's in the cupboard? "He's not in the cupboard! God doesn't go into cupboards!" He's under the stairs? "He's not under the stairs! He is here, with us now. He's upstairs. He's downstairs. He's outside. He's inside. He's everywhere."

He's a big bloke, why can't I see him? And I'm asked, "Do you love him?" I don't know, I've never seen him. "God loves you and he wants your love, but if you do not give him your love he will cast you into everlasting

flame.” What? “He will cast you into everlasting flame, have you ever burnt yourself? Yes, I burnt myself on a candle. “What was it like?” It was sore. “Can you imagine that pain all over your body? That’s what will happen to you if you do not love God! What do you think of that?”

5. The demon drink

An old drunk is on his way into a bar when a nun standing outside the bar suddenly speaks to him. “Your drinking is the easy road to evil and damnation. Drink will pollute your body and soul. Give up the foul spirits and live a better life!”

The drunk looks at her and asks, “How do you know that drinking is so bad for you?”

The nun looks puzzled and shrugs. The drunk asks, “Have you ever even tried a drink?” The nun admits she hasn’t, so the drunk tells her, “Listen, I’ll go into the bar and order myself a drink and I’ll get one for you too. I’ll bring it out here and you can taste it yourself and see that alcohol is nothing bad.”

The nun reluctantly agrees, but says, “I don’t want anybody out here getting the wrong idea about me, so would you mind bringing me the drink in a paper cup?”. The drunk agrees to this and goes inside. At the bar, he tells the bartender “Give me a double shot of whiskey, and a second-half shot in a paper cup.”

The bartender groans and says: “Is that bloody nun out there again?”

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



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