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**February
2019**

Presidents Message

Brothers & Friends of The AOH

At our last meeting we covered quite a bit of old & new business. This included discussions about the parade, and we wanted to make sure that everyone knows and is encouraged to bring their families to march with us. The more the merrier, as they say.

Jack & Gerry are working on getting us a new banner, so we are prepared and looking good on parade day. Please remember to wear your "official" AOH hat, and if you haven't gotten yours yet, we have more on order straight from Hanna Hats in Donegal, which should be arriving before the parade. Contact me directly if you'd like to purchase one at our special "members only" price.

Don't forget that the Emerald Ball is coming up on Saturday, February 9th at the Poughkeepsie Elks Club. Get your tickets and show your support for the Parade Committee & this year's Grand Marshall, Doreen Shephard.

Enda & Gerry had a wonderful idea to encourage more social interaction between our membership & our families. We would like to set a date for "AOH Irish Movie Night" at the Poughkeepsie library on Boardman Rd. We are working on a date for our first show and are looking forward to seeing everyone there. We will be working to get more social events on the calendar to promote friendship and build stronger bonds amongst our brotherhood.

A reminder that Mike Shephard is running our Superbowl fundraiser pool, so please contact him if you or someone you know is interested in getting a box... We are looking to raise \$1000 for the AOH's various charitable works, so please ask your family & friends to support us.

Following that, I will be running the March Madness pool again, and we will need your help with filling that pool, too! I have invited representatives of the Vet2Vet Program & Hudson Valley Veterans Alliance to come speak at our meeting in February, and strongly encourage members to attend the meeting to learn more about the work they are doing in our community and how we can help.

Speaking of February's meeting... we will be rescheduling the meetings from the 3rd Thursday of the month to the 3rd Tuesday of each month for February, March, April & May. Please make note of this change and contact me with any questions or concerns.

Emmett Woods was generous enough in offering a wonderful fundraising / awareness-raising opportunity to us. Straight from Ireland, the band Kelly's Men will be performing at Mahoney's on Friday, March 15th from 5 – 8PM. Emmett has suggested that we "sell" tickets for a suggested donation of \$10, we keep all the proceeds. We can also set up a table at the door to sell merchandise, pass out information and maybe run a raffle. More to come on this, but mark your calendars!

Please contact Jim Englishby with any questions regarding our "Lunch Box" dinner on March 13th. Should you want to volunteer to help serve or would like to know what supplies might be needed, please let Jim know, and I am sure he will be happy to assign you something. I am planning to be there with my family to help serve what stands to be another delicious Corned Beef dinner!

Finally, I'd like to welcome our 2 newest brothers, Garrett Lynch & Richard Malvey, who received their Shamrock Degree at January's meeting. I am sure I speak for everyone when I say welcome and we are looking forward to getting to know you both better!

Until we meet again, May the Road Rise to Meet You
CJ Tomaskovic
AOH President
Dutchess Co. Msgr. Sheahan Division 1



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**Dutchess County
Msgr. Sheahan
Division # 1**

**Division Website:
www.dutchessaoh.com**

Gene Noone
Editor
gene.noone13@gmail.com
(914) 469-6661



**MAY YOUR DAY BE TOUCHED
BY A BIT OF IRISH LUCK,
BRIGHTENED BY A SONG IN YOUR HEART,
AND WARMED BY THE SMILES
OF THE PEOPLE YOU LOVE.**





Historian-Seanchai's Corner:

As I start this “renewed” literary thrust, I have decided to include some information that I have written about over the years in separate newsletters. I am basing this first on the fact that new members have been coming in over the recent past; secondly, from time to time it is good to recall some of what I deem as the more important things concerning our culture and history; and, thirdly, but by no means final, I am listening to Paddy Reilly on Pandora with the instant selection of “The Fields of Athenry”. [By the way, do you know the theme of the song, who wrote it, and when was it written. What connection does it currently have to Irish sports?] As you know, I have previously written about the lessons we can learn from other songs by really listening to the lyrics. When was the last time you mulled over the story told in “Four Green Fields”? We can categorize some Irish songs as: Songs of Rebellion, Songs of Emigration, and Songs of Transportation, as well as romance, humor and general patriotism. The song lyrics of these categories hold volumes of history lessons for us, and/or give us roadmaps for our own “education.” [I dare you to listen to “My Grandfather’s Immigrant Eyes” and not tear up even if you are third [or more] generation Irish. When I want to express appreciation for the blessings of this country, I say: “I am glad my father and mother came to this country.”] Another vehicle for learning with ease is selecting some well done and fairly accurate movies. [As you know even documentaries can be somewhat misleading. And you must also be careful of “docudramas”.] My main standing suggestion for the learning of Irish history is the reading of books. I have found quite fruitful the reading of historical fiction by good authors. Back in 2012, when Ireland and the global Irish community were preparing for An Cruinniú [The Gathering], I prepared a variety of these lists for those who were to participate in the Kevin Barry Irish Club’s Gathering Event in St. Christopher’s Parish in Red Hook. I am sure, with a bit of detail work, I can resurrect those lists if any one is seriously interested. Besides the song references above, I would just mention the extensive works of Morgan Llewelyn, Leon Uris, Robert McKee, Thomas Flanagan and Liam Flaherty to name just a few. You could spend this coming year reading Llewelyn and get a good grasp on our history and culture. Even if you did not want to go all the way back to Grace O’Malley or the Celts [the Milesians] leaving Spain to go to Ireland in response to the call of The Greener Shore and just wanted to start with the 20th century, you would be immensely rewarded in the reading of Llewelyn’s 1916, 1921, 1949, 1972, and 1999. The author does take reasonable poetic license, but her writing style and your own curiosity will do you well.

Kilmainham Gaol [Jail]. In any of your trips to Dublin, assuming you have visited the Emerald Isle at some time or other, have you ever visited this famous [or infamous] institution? This former prison is now a museum run by the Office of Public Works, an agency of the [Government of Ireland](#). I visited the jail in the Spring of 1990; it has been greatly “improved” as a museum and is a must to get a feel of Irish history, especially The Rising. [The following is not meant to be a full historical treatment of the Prison, rather just enough to peak your interest. Many Irish revolutionaries, including the leaders of the 1916 [Easter Rising](#), were imprisoned here and executed in the prison by the British. We know that 14 rebel leaders of the Rising were executed in the Stonebreakers Yard over a two-week period after the surrender of the rebel forces. Thomas Kent was executed in Cork City Detention Barracks, and Roger Casement was hanged in Pentonville Prison located in England the following August. [An interesting “side-light” to the Rising period is that many of the residents of Dublin, in particular, were not happy with the disruption of government and governmental services that occurred as a result of the Rising. The Rebels were jeered by the populace and stuff [sticks and stones and garbage] was thrown at them as they were marched through the streets of Dublin to places of incarceration and/or transportation. However, the mood of the people changed dramatically as a result of General Maxwell’s order to execute the rebel leaders. General Sir John Maxwell, the Commander of the British Forces had already declared martial law as the Rising began. You can also imagine their outrage when it became known that James Connolly was taken from a hospital bed, where he was confined as a result of wounds suffered in the fighting, to the prison yard, placed in a chair before the firing squad and executed. The courts martial were basically star-chamber proceedings: no representation or other legal or personal assistance’ Some 90 Irish Patriots were sentenced to be executed, but the greater number of them had their capital sentences commuted, including that of the only woman so sentenced, Countess Markievicz.

From AN CISTIN [the kitchen]... How about a hearty treat for the cold winter nights that are on us? A nice hot bowl of potato soup should do the trick, especially with a thick slice of Irish Brown bread to dip in and/or to slop up the leavings in the bowl. This would be a great time to get into the history of the introduction of the potato into Ireland and discuss the origin of the word spud. But, I will leave that for another time with a fuller exploration of the Spanish word for “spade” and the British “Society For The Prevention of Unwholesome Diets”.

Ingredients:

**one pound of bacon [Irish, Canadian or American] **one onion chopped **one cup of celery chopped
 **6 medium sized potatoes [scrubbed, peeled, and cubed] If you don’t mind the presence of the skins in the soup, you may wish to not do the peeling.

Directions:

**Place the bacon in a large, deep skillet, and cook over medium-high heat, turning occasionally, until evenly browned, about 10 minutes. **Remove the bacon slices from the skillet and drain them on a paper towel-lined plate, crumble, and set aside.
 **Cook and stir onion and celery in the remaining bacon grease over medium heat until the onion is translucent and tender.

(continued on next page)



Drain excess grease, then stir in potatoes. **Add water to cover all but 1 inch of the potatoes. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat, then reduce to medium-low, and simmer until potatoes are tender, about 15-20 minutes, stirring often.

**Stir in the evaporated milk and continue cooking until warmed through. Season with salt and pepper. Stir in bacon just before serving.

The Feast of St. Brigid Saint Brigid, or, to be really correct, Saint Brigid of Kildare, is a saint with many names: Brigid of Ireland, Brigit, Bridget, Bridgit, Brid, Bride, Naomh Bhríde or “Mary of the Gaels“. She is venerated in churches up and down the country, and her name has been given to many a townland (as in „Kilbride“, literally “Church of Brigid“). And, of course, it is not an uncommon given name. Living from 451 to 525 (according to hagiography and the consensus of the faithful), Brigid was an Irish nun, abbess, founder of several convents, held the rank of bishop and then generally venerated as a saint. Today, Brigid is considered to be one of Ireland's patron saints, ranking only (and by a small margin) behind [Saint Patrick](#) himself in importance. Her feast day, [Saint Brigid's Day](#), is February 1st, which is also the first day of spring in Ireland. In the January 2020 newsletter I will devote more time to her life and accomplishments. I wanted to get this much out to you since I feel that the February 2019 newsletter will be published just about on her Feast Day.

Matt Fitzgerald
irishrm@juno.com
845-454-5308

Chaplin's Wanderings



After the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we (the church) entered in ‘Ordinary’ time.

Besides the times of the year that have their own distinctive character (*Advent, Lent, Christmas, Easter*), there remains 33 or 34 weeks in which no particular aspect of the mystery of Christ is celebrated, but rather the mystery of Christ itself is honored in its fullness.

This period is known as Ordinary Time. It began on Monday January 14th and continues through Tuesday March 5th, the day before Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten Season. It will resume when Easter Season ends (June 10th) the day after Pentecost.

As we continue to listen to our liturgies at mass and absorb and reflect upon the life of Christ, we come closer to Him opening ourselves to all His wonderful graces. These resultant graces are seen in action in all that we say and in all that we do as Catholic Christians in God’s service to our communities and all those who are in need – spiritually, mentally or physically.

May God bless us all and our families as we continue our individual journeys in this Ordinary Time toward our Father in heaven.

Deacon Bob



Brothers,
See below for a letter I will be sending out to the membership.

In Brotherhood & Motto,
Jack Fedigan
256 Osborne Hill Road
Fishkill, NY 12524



*It's always time for membership, ask your friends, neighbors, even members of your church!
The only requirements are that you need to be a male, at least 16 years old, Irish and Catholic.
Help make our Division grow. Bring someone to a meeting!*



**ANCIENT ORDER
OF HIBERNIANS IN AMERICA
DUTCHESS COUNTY MSGR. SHEAHAN DIVISION 1**

Brothers,

It is that time of year again that I start to collect dues which are still only \$30.00. Also, I have enclosed an informational tri-fold about the AOH and our local division activities, and an application for membership. Membership is what keeps us alive and allows us to fulfill our Motto of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity. So, I ask all of us to try to bring in another brother to the order, especially those who have a desire to keep our Irish Catholic values and traditions strong. For those brothers who have not yet made their Major Degree, I will let you know when the date is available to do so. Please consider making your Major Degree this year and confirm your additional pride in being a full-fledged Hibernian.

Below I have listed our major activities for you to review. Please consider attending and/or helping organize these various events. I have added some check boxes for your feedback. In addition, we welcome all input in how to make our division stronger. If possible, take the time out of your busy schedules to come to a meeting and join your fellow Hibernians. Please note, our February, March, April and May meetings will be on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. But, most importantly please submit your membership dues in the amount of \$30 (payable to DCAOH,) along with the return section below in the self-addressed return envelope provided.

*In Brotherhood & Motto,
Jack Fedigan
Financial Secretary*

-----Please Return Section Below with your 2019 dues-----

Please check all that you are interested in:

- TBD - Major Degree
- 2/09 - Emerald Ball
- 2/17 - AOH is sponsoring an Irish Music Seisiun at the Wappingers Falls VFW from 2-5 pm. Snacks, tea & Coffee provided for free. Drinks and refreshments available at bar. Please come as our guests.
- 3/02 - Saint Patrick's Day Parade
- 3/14 - Lunch Box Dinner
- 4/TBD - Birth Right Masses
- 5/TBD - Hibernian Hunger Project & Mass
- 6/TBD - Jets Raffle Fundraiser
- 10/19 - Hibernian Charity Dinner Dance
- 11/TBD - Msgr. Sheahan Memorial Mass

Comments Welcome:

P.S. The AOH is running a Super Bowl Pool to help our treasury so that we can do more charitable works. If interest please call me at 914-474-8706. P.S.S. Please keep Brother Noll Morris in your prayers

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12543-1019

Robert G Shepheard Jr CPA PC
Robert G Shepheard Jr
Certified Public Accountant
488 Freedom Plains Road
Suite 139 Poughkeepsie, NY 12603
bshepheard@optimum.net
PHONE 845-485-3000
FAX 845-485-3257


 Custom Machine Embroidery
Vicki Dunning
7 Jordan Court
Poughquag, NY 12570-5038

Stephen P. O'Hare
Attorney at Law
327 - 329 Main Street, Suite 200
Suite 103
Poughkeepsie, NY 126031
Tel: (845)452-4090
Fax: (845)452-4615
E-mail: oharelaw@optonline.net


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Attention, all AOH members, your help is needed. This newsletter needs sponsors, for a small yearly fee we will print a business card sized ad monthly. This newsletter goes out to all our membership and to several other Irish organizations. If you or someone you do business with wants to advertise with us, just get a business card to the newsletter editor. And the money to our Financial Secretary the cost is just \$25.00 per year.

Division Activities

At our February business meeting has been rescheduled to February 19th. As well as the March, April & May meetings they will be held on the third Tuesday of the month.

The Dutchess County St. Patrick's Parade Committee will be holding their annual Emerald Ball on February 9th at the Elks Club in Poughkeepsie Tickets are available from Trish Costello (845) 297-0800.

Speaking of the parade, it will be held on March 2nd, line-up at 12noon and step off at 1:00PM. We will be marching. We also will need someone to pull our float in the parade.

- ◆ February 9th - Emerald Ball
- ◆ February 19th - Regular Business Meeting
- ◆ March 2nd - Dutchess County St. Patrick's Parade
- ◆ March 13th - Lunch Box dinner
- ◆ March 15th - Event at Mahoney's
- ◆ March 19th - Regular Business Meeting
- ◆ April 16th - Regular Business Meeting

*Just some of the activities your
Dutchess County,
Division 1, AOH is involved in.
Be a good member and join in, be ACTIVE!*

Important Dates

- ◆ February 9th; Emerald Ball
- ◆ February 19th; Regular Business Meeting
- ◆ March 2nd; Dutchess County St. Patrick's Parade
- ◆ March 13th; Lunch Box dinner
- ◆ March 15th; Event at Mahoney's
- ◆ March 19th; Regular Business Meeting
- ◆ April 16th; Regular Business Meeting

Prayers for the Sick

Paul Becker
Noel Morris
Dan Reilly
Jim Sweeney

Deacon Bob & Judy Horton
Nathan Redmond
Bill Schimpf

* In Memoriam *



*"CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE AND LEPRECHAUN MEN.
COLORFUL RAINBOWS HIDE GOLD AT THEIR END.
SHAMROCKS AND CLOVERS WITH THREE LEAVES PLUS ONE.
DRESS UP IN GREEN-ADD A TOP HAT FOR FUN.
STEAL A QUICK KISS FROM THE LASSES IN RED.
A TIN WHISTLE TUNE OFF THE TOP OF MY HEAD.
FRIENDS, RAISE A GOBLET AND OFFER THIS TOAST-
'THE LUCK OF THE IRISH AND HEALTH TO OUR HOST!'"*

--Richelle E. Goodrich, Making Wishes--



ANCIENT ORDER
OF
HIBERNIANS
IN AMERICA

Dutchess County
Msgr. Sheahan
Division #1

PO Box 1530 Wappingers Falls, NY 12590



Friendship, Unity & Christian Charity

