



Division Newsletter

Dutchess County Msgr. Sheahan Division # 1

Division Website: www.dutchessaoh.com

Gene Noone - Editor genenoone13@optimum.net (914) 469-6661

**January
2017**

DIVISION OFFICERS

Chaplain:

**Deacon
Robert Horton**

President:

**Michael
Shepherd**

Vice President:

Gerry McVicker

Financial Secretary:

Jack Fedigan

Recording Secretary:

Michael Quinn

Treasurer:

**Robert
Shepherd**

Marshal:

James Sweeney

Sentinel:

James Englishby

Historian:

Matt Fitzgerald

Standing Committee:

John Kelly

Presidents Message

Brothers and Friends of the AOH,

Our current President will begin his monthly muses starting in February. Until then our outgoing President has supplied an outgoing message for the membership.

Brothers and Friends of the AOH,

I hope everyone had a nice Christmas with family and friends! 2017 is upon us and we look forward with hopes of happiness, prosperity, and peace. We also have the comfort of our Faith, family, and friends to strengthen us during the inevitable times of challenge that will happen in the New Year.

This is the last newsletter submission that I will author as my 2 year term as Division President will end at the monthly meeting on Thursday, January 19th when the gavel of office is officially turned over to our new President, the very capable Michael Shephard. The Division is in good hands with Michael and the fine slate of Officers.

President: Michael Shephard, Vice President: Gerry McVicker,
Financial Secretary: Jack Fedigan, Treasurer: Robert Shephard,
Recording Secretary: Michael Quinn, Standing Committee: John Kelly,
Sentinel: James Englishby, and Marshal: James Sweeney.

The Christmas Dinner Meeting in December at Mahoney's was well attended and a very enjoyable event. Emmett Mahoney enabled a very hospitable event and shared some very moving thoughts about the Freedom For All Ireland movement. We were proud to have 100% donation support of FFAI from the attendees, which is in addition to the donation from our Division.

The meeting included a very special presentation of a plaque commemorating the long service to the AOH and Irish community of Brother Noel T. Morris. It was with pride and appreciation that our Brother Noel was recognized with enthusiasm and congratulations. Thank you, Noel. And the Guinness was good!

It is with sadness that I report the passing of Deacon Robert F. Schimpf, the brother of our own Bill Schimpf. Deacon Bob went back to our Lord on December 25th and is in our prayers.

Please join us on Thursday, January 19th at 7:30pm for our monthly meeting at the usual location of the Knights of Columbus in Wappingers Falls. We will have food and refreshments for the meeting as is the custom when welcoming a new slate of Division Officers. See you then!

Yours in Motto,
Stephen Ren

Soon to be Past-President of AOH

Dutchess County Msgr. Sheahan Division 1



**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's Corner

It's the first day of the New Year of 2017 and I am still like the butcher boy who backed into the meat grinder --- I got a little behind in my work. For some reason, probably the cold temperatures of late, I harkened back to the first trip I took to Florida to visit my late brother Larry---God rest his soul---in his "escape from New York winters" abode in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. I had received a CD for Christmas featuring Tommy Makem. One of the selections I played over and over again during the trip was "Four Green Fields". Makem wrote this piece, which the New York Times described as a "hallowed Irish leave-us-alone-with our beauty ballad". Of Makem's many works, it has become one of his most famous, and it is very often sung by many other folk singers. The ballad fits into the category of songs of conquest, rebellion and suppression. It relates a piece of Irish history in which Ireland (personified as an "old woman") and its four provinces (represented by "green fields"), one of which remains occupied by the British. These strangers took the land despite the best efforts of the Irish people. The old woman laments the past and "continuing" acts of the British conqueror-occupiers, and her "sons", who died trying to defend the Holy Ground. The song's middle stanza is a description of the violence and deprivation experienced by the Irish, including the people in what is now Northern Ireland. At the end of the song, one of the old woman's fields still shows the promise of new growth and liberty. In addition to lamenting the loss of her "sons" in the struggles, she projects new hope in regaining her lost province back, since her "sons have sons as brave as was their fathers". The old woman is seen as a traditional personification of Ireland herself [Kathleen Ni Houlihan]. The words spoken by the woman in Makem's song are taken directly from "Cathleen ni Houlihan", an early play by W. B. Yeats.

Following from this nostalgic reflection, I came across a piece in a recent edition of The Wild Geese newsletter. It deals with the history of ancient Ireland's provinces. As you know most of us believe that there are four provinces in Ireland, namely, Ulster, Munster, Leinster and Connaught. What many people are not aware of is the fact that in the distant past, there were five provinces, the fifth one being the province called Royal Mide, or Mi in modern Irish. Mide, Mi, Meath gets its name from its location --- roughly in the center [middle] of the country. Through centuries of fighting among the clans and provinces, and eventually the Norman Invasion in 1172, Mide [Meath] was given by King Henry II to Hugh de Lacy, stipulating that King Henry would let de Lacy hold the land if he could conquer it. In early 1172, Henry allowed de Lacy to take royal troops into Meath, where they plundered and burned the monastic towns of Fore and Killeigh. As a result, de Lacy became the first Lord of Meath. Henry also made Dublin available for the freemen of Bristol, England to colonize. Many of the Norse-Irish inhabitants were forced to re-settle outside the walls of Dublin [beyond the pale], at what became Oxmantown, "up" the River Liffey. In the process, Meath was reduced to the status of what eventually would be called a county. Among its many claims to fame, Meath boasts the revered Hill of Tara, the ancient seat of the High Kings.

And how about a slight change of pace for the New Year. Meandering among the grave yards in County Kerry, a friend of mine spied a tombstone with the following inscription:

"Here are five rules to follow for a happy life.

- 1] It's important to have a woman who helps around the house, cooks your food, cleans up, and has a job.
- 2] It's important to have a woman who makes you laugh.
- 3] It's important to have a woman you can trust and doesn't lie to you.
- 4] It's important to have a woman who is good in bed and likes to be with you.
- 5] It's very, very important that these four women do not know each other or you could end up dead like me.

(continued on next page)



And how about another change of pace for the lead of the coming Holy Season or Seasons – Lent and/or St. Patrick’s Day.

Below is the recipe for a really tasty dish.

DUBLINER-COLCANNON TORTE [Serves 8]

Mashed potatoes and buttery cabbage are the heart of colcannon, one of Ireland’s most traditional dishes. This recipe is a slight variation in that it uses sliced potatoes instead of mashed, shredded cabbage, Dubliner cheese, and bacon or ham for a four-in-one combination of classic ingredients. It’s easy enough to assemble for a quick supper and goes well with a green salad.

Ingredients

- 1/2 head Savoy cabbage, shredded*
- 6 tablespoons butter*
- 1/2 pound bacon or thinly sliced ham*
- 2 large baking potatoes, peeled and cut into 1/4-inch-thick slices*
- 2 cups grated Kerrygold Dubliner cheese [Kerrygold dairy products are available at most national food chains]*
- Freshly ground pepper to taste*
- 2 tablespoons minced fresh chives*

Preparation and cooking steps

1. Preheat the oven to 400° F. Butter a 9-inch casserole dish.
2. In a pot of boiling water, blanch the cabbage for about 2 minutes. Drain and refresh in cold water. Pat dry and transfer to a large bowl.
3. If using bacon, cook in a large skillet over medium heat for 6-7 minutes, or until crisp. Crumble the bacon and toss with the cabbage. Drain bacon fat. Return the skillet to medium heat and melt the butter. Add potato slices and stir to coat. Sprinkle generously with pepper.
4. If using ham, toss in butter and then toss with cabbage. Add potato slices and stir to coat. Sprinkle generously with pepper.
5. Place one-third of the potatoes in the bottom of the prepared pan; sprinkle with half the cheese. Top with half the cabbage mixture, and then repeat with one-third more potatoes and remaining cheese and cabbage mix. Top with remaining potatoes.
6. Cover with a sheet of buttered aluminum foil and bake for 40 minutes. Remove foil, sprinkle with chives, and cook for 10-15 minutes longer, or until the potatoes are tender and lightly browned. Remove from oven and let cool for 15 minutes before cutting into wedges. (To make ahead, let cool completely, cover and refrigerate for up to 1 day. Bring back to room temperature, and then reheat in 300° F oven for about 20 minutes.)

Athbhliain faoi mhaise duit! AND Nollaig na mBan shona!

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

Financial Secretary Corner 

Brothers,

Dues notices for 2017 will be arriving shortly, please be prompt in paying your dues. Thank You.

In Brotherhood & Motto,
 Jack Fedigan,
 Financial Secretary



*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!*

Sponsors Page


INDEPENDENT BENEFIT PLANS
WILLIAM J. SCHIMPF
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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

AOH Activities

Our meeting on January 19th, will be for the Installation of Officers for our Division, food and beverages will be provided as per custom. 7:30PM at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Wappingers Falls, NY.

The 22nd Annual St. Patrick's Parade will be on March 4th, but the Parade season begins with the Annual Emerald Ball. This event is being held at the Villa Borghese, tickets are only \$50.00 per person. The evening includes dinner, dancing and the Grand Marshal Eileen Sassmann who is a member of the DCLAOH will receive her Sash that night.

Hibernian Hunger Project

Gerry McVicker, as chairman of the Hibernian Hunger Project, would like to announce that plans are being made for our division to host a Saint Patrick's Day Dinner for those less fortunate at the Dutchess Outreach's "Lunch Box" food pantry and kitchen on Wednesday March 22. We will be serving a corned beef and cabbage dinner for approximately 150 people. We are looking for volunteers to join a committee, to organize, and support our effort on that day. All interested can contact me on my cell 845-664-1284. We would like to invite our sister Hibernians to support and assist us on that day.



◆ **January 19th, Installation of Officers, Regular Business Meeting.**
◆ **February 4th, Emerald Ball.**
◆ **February 16th, Regular Business Meeting.**
◆ **March 4th, 22nd Annual St. Patrick's Parade**

*Just some of the activities your
Dutchess County,
Division 1, AOH is involved in.*





Annual Emerald Ball

Sponsored By:

The Dutchess County St. Patrick's Parade Committee

2017 Grand Marshal
Presentation
Eileen Sassmann



Saturday, February 4, 2017

Villa Borghese

70 Widmer Road, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

Cash Bar - 6:00PM

Dinner - 7:00PM

Roast Beef or Vegetarian

Entertainment By: The Winslow III

Tickets: \$50.00 per person

For Information or Tickets:

Trish Costello
845-297-0800

Kathy Beale
845-298-8822

www.dcsppc.org
dcsppc13@gmail.com

Important Dates

- January 1st; Happy New Year
- January 19th; Installation of Officers, Business Meeting
- February 4th; Emerald Ball
- February 16th; Regular Business Meeting
- March 4th; 22nd Annual St. Patrick's Parade

Prayers for the Sick

Paul Becker
Nathan Redmond
Jim Sweeney

Noel Morris
Bill Schimpf

* In Memoriam *

Deacon Robert Schimpf,
Brother to William Schimpf

On the Radio 91.3 FM: "A Little Bit of Ireland"
Hosted by our own Brendan Daly and broadcast from Vassar College.
Saturday's from 1 PM to 3:30 PM.

"When ANYONE asks me ABOUT THE IRISH CHARACTER, I SAY LOOK AT THE TREES. MAIMED, STARK AND MISSHAPEN, BUT FEROCIOUSLY TENACIOUS"

~ Edna O'Brien ~



**ANCIENT ORDER
OF
HIBERNIANS**
IN AMERICA

*Dutchess County
Msgr. Sheahan
Division #1*

PO Box 1530 Wappingers Falls, NY 12590



Friendship, Unity & Christian Charity

