

# DIVISION NEWSLETTER

DUTCHESS COUNTY MSGR. SHEAHAN DIVISION # 1

Division Website: [www.dutchessaoh.com](http://www.dutchessaoh.com)

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ANCIENT ORDER  
OF  
HIBERNIANS  
IN AMERICA



## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Dear Brothers,

First let me express how very thankful I am for having been given the honor of being your Chieftain for the last six months, through another Dutchess County St. Patrick's Parade, Castle Point VA Luncheon, an An Gorta Mor Mass with a donation of \$1000.00 to the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry, and will get to finish with the summer BBQ at Castle point on Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, a day that lets the whole family come out and help us give back to those who gave for us.

I would also like to welcome our four new Brothers, Brian Lanigan, Kieran Brennan, Robert Herder, Michael Sullivan and look forward to their input and advice, as all Brothers should be encouraged to do. I hope that all of us get some time to relax and enjoy the coming summer months, but before we finish the spring we meet for our June meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

As a shameless plug, St. Mary's of the Falls in Wappingers, is struggling to sell their Golden Raffle Tickets, which is one of the big fund raisers for the school, the tickets give you the chance to win \$10,000 with the very good odds of 1/250, but with only till June 15 to buy the tickets the time is running short. The President of the Dutchess County LAOH, Mary Joe Quinn can be reached at her home number 845-592-0147.

I hope to see as many of you and your families on the week of the 20<sup>th</sup>, and to everyone have a healthy and happy summer, God Bless you and yours.

In Brotherhood and Motto,  
Michael P. Quinn

### Hibernian Hunger Project, An Gorta Mor Remembrance Mass, and Membership Drive.

Brothers,

I would like to congratulate and thank all the brothers who contributed to the Hibernian Hunger Project, the An Gorta Mor Remembrance Mass, and the Membership Drive. A special thanks to Brother Jack Fedigan for his help in distributing all of the mailings, to Brother Deacon Robert Horton for arranging the details with the church, to Brother John Kelly for manning the tables at each of the masses, and getting two candidates for membership, and to Brother President Mike Quinn for all of the email reminders. A special thanks to Fr. McGeory, and Saint Katreri, for hosting the mass, and allowing our membership drive. Together, we accomplished to raise \$1000 to donate to the Saint Vincent DePaul Food Pantry, which was in dire need and appreciated our help immensely. To all the brothers who showed up to celebrate the mass, your attendance was critical to showing the community that we are a brotherhood worth noting. Also, we had a lot of interest in membership and handed out many applications for both the men's and ladies division. In addition the following introduction was read at the beginning of the mass:



(continued on page 4)

(continued on page 4)



*LEPRECHAUNS, CASTLES, GOOD LUCK AND LAUGHTER.  
LULLABIES, DREAMS AND LOVE EVER AFTER.  
A THOUSAND WELCOMES WHEN ANYONE COMES...  
THAT'S THE IRISH FOR YOU!*



JUNE  
2013

### DIVISION OFFICERS

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### The Historian's Corner

This the first time that I am giving a "warmed over" morsel to you. During the passed month, PBS has telecast an item in their "Secrets of the Dead" series about the Irish immigrants murdered in PA in the 1830s. They were working on a railroad project named "Duffy's Cut". Since I am swamped with other matters at this time, I am resubmitting my original September 2010 article. By our next meeting, I hope to have the telecast available in our library on a USB flash drive in the event that you missed it. **Now to the replay...**

There was an interesting item in the AOL news section last month concerning the massacre of 57 Irish immigrants who came to Pennsylvania in the early 1830s to work on the construction of a railroad 30 miles from the city of Philadelphia. Anthropologists and historians are unearthing a mass grave containing the remains of dozens of Irish workers who died nearly two centuries ago. The find, called the *Duffy's Cut Project*, started out as an investigation into local folklore and ghost stories. It has since transformed not only into a significant historical find but also, perhaps, one of the oldest murder mysteries in the state.

"All the remains found so far indicate the men were brutally murdered," William Watson, Head of the history department at Immaculata University in Immaculata, Pa., told AOL News. "Some of them were just bludgeoned [to death]. It's unbelievable."

"Duffy's Cut," as it's known, is a stretch of rail line in Malvern, 30 miles west of Philadelphia. It was constructed for the Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad in 1832. Much of the construction was completed by a group of 57 Irish immigrants from Donegal, Tyrone and Derry, Ireland, who arrived in Philadelphia in June 1832 aboard the ship *John Stamp*. "They came here to partake of the American dream," Watson said. "No doubt, they thought they were going to get some good work, and they were hired right off the docks by a fellow Irishman named Philip Duffy, who came to America around the War of 1812. He basically brought them out here to complete the most expensive and difficult mile in the entire Philadelphia and Columbia system." Within eight weeks of their arrival, all 57 reportedly died during a cholera pandemic. The dead were buried together in a mass grave along Duffy's Cut. By 2004, Watson and his twin brother, the Rev. Frank Watson, had amassed enough documentation from their grandfather's records to have a *historical marker* erected on the site with the inscription: "Nearby is the mass grave of fifty-seven Irish immigrant workers who died in August, 1832, of cholera," the marker reads. "They had recently arrived in the United States and were employed by a construction contractor named Duffy. Prejudice against Irish Catholics contributed to the denial of care to the workers. Their illness and death typified the hazards faced by many 19th-century immigrant industrial workers." Once the marker was in place, the Watsons began an archaeological dig at the site of the Irish workers' camp. Before long, they managed to unearth over 1,000 artifacts, including an old clay pipe with an Irish logo and a bowl inscribed with the words "Flag of Ireland."

The investigation of the bodies found so far would seem to indicate that many of the men may not have died of the dreaded disease, but, instead were the victims of foul play. "There is a newspaper account from October 3, 1832, about cholera striking the camp," Watson said. "Some of the men panicked and tried to get out and were forced back in. Another article, from November 1832, says the earlier story was not accurate and that there were only eight or nine men who died." As a result of the brothers' research and the evidence found upon skeletal remains, the Watsons suspect local vigilantes killed most of the workers.

"The fact is, they were murdered," Watson said. "In the first layer of burials, we suspect most of the men are going to be victims of cholera, which leaves no physical traces. But, we believe the others were killed to make sure there would be no cholera getting out of that valley." According to Watson, it could take several more years of digging to fully excavate the area and uncover the rest of the men's remains. Once that work is completed, he says, they will not be displayed in a museum and will instead be given proper burials.

If you are interested in finding more information, you can do so through the Google and/or Bing search engines. A reference on the university's website, [duffyscut.immaculata.edu](http://duffyscut.immaculata.edu), states: "The Duffy's Cut Project is an ongoing archival and archaeological search into their [the 57 Irish immigrants] lives and deaths and seeks to provide insight into early 19th Century attitudes about industry, immigration, and disease in Pennsylvania. With the help of the Chester County Emerald Society, we obtained an official State Historical Marker for the site in March, 2004, thereby putting Duffy's Cut on the map of history. The marker was dedicated on June 18, 2004, and was placed by us at the intersection of King Rd. and Sugartown Rd. in Malvern."

*[Historian's note: It would be some 30 years before the birth of the Molly Maguires in that same state of Pennsylvania.]*

(Continued on next page)



**Library Books** The following is a list of the books donated through Mary Connelly. Let me know by the day before or next meeting if you wish to borrow any. Matt Fitzgerald at irishrm@juno.com

Title	Author	Details (If Needed)
<i>Early Christian Irish Art</i>	Francoise Henry	
<i>Eternal Echoes</i>	John O'Donohue	Celtic Spiritual Heritage
<i>Graham Greene</i>	Leopoldo Duran	American History
<i>Honey Spike, The</i>	Bryan MacMahon	A Novel
<i>Ireland's Civil War</i>	Calton Younger	
<i>Irish Churches &amp; Monasteries</i>	Sean D.F. O'Reilly	Historical & Architectural
<i>Lincoln Collection</i>	Carl Sandburg	American History
<i>Lincoln Nobody Knows, The</i>	Richard N. Current	Biography /American History
<i>Perfect Prince, The</i>	Ann Wroe	British Royals
<i>She-Wolves</i>	Helen Castor	British Royals
<i>Sun Dancing</i>	Geoffrey Moorhouse	Celtic Spiritual Heritage
<i>Green Crow, The</i>	Sean O'Casey	Selected Writings
<i>An Irish Country Doctor</i>	Patrick Taylor	A Novel
<i>How the Irish Saved Civilization</i>	Thomas Cahill	
<i>Amazing Civil War, The</i>	Webb Garrison	American History
<i>In the Midst of Life-Tales of Soldiers &amp; Civilians</i>	Ambrose Bierce	American History / Civil War
<i>Triangle-The Fire That Changed America</i>	David von Drehle	American History
<i>Paddy's Lament</i>	Thomas Gallagher	An Gorta Mor
<i>1921 A Novel of the Irish Century</i>	Morgan Llwyn	Irish Civil War
<i>The Victoria Vanishes</i>	Christopher Fowler	Crime Novel/British
<i>A People's History of the United States</i>	Howard Zinn	1492 to present
<i>The sum of Our Days</i>	Isabel Allende	A Memoir
<i>God Save Ulster</i>	Steve Bruce	Paisleyism
<i>The Quest of Three Abbots</i>	Brendan Lehane	Irish Golden Age
<i>Ireland Since the Famine</i>	F.S.L. Lyons	An Gorta Mor
<i>Ireland Since 1800: Conflict and Conformity</i>	K. Theodore Hoppen	

## FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S



I had the privilege of attending graduation on May 19th at the University of Notre Dame and during a stroll around campus was reminded of an individual who not only had a major influence on the University, but on the Irish of New York as a Chaplain to the 88th New York (Irish) Brigade during the Civil War.

The monument to Reverend Father William Corby is a bronze statue created by Samuel Murray that stands eight feet tall and is located at Gettysburg battlefield site. It shows Father Corby as he blessed and gave final absolution to the men of the Irish Brigade who were about to attack into the Wheatfield. It is believed the statue stands on the very boulder that Father Corby used on that day. The monument was dedicated on October 29, 1910 and a copy of the statue is outside Corby Hall at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana.

William E. Corby was born in Detroit on October 2, 1833, and attended Notre Dame, entering the novitiate in 1856 and taking his final vows in 1859.

When the war came in 1861 Notre Dame sent a number of priests to serve as chaplains with Union regiments. Father Corby left his professorship to become the first of these, assigned to the 88th New York in Brigadier General Thomas Meagher's legendary Irish Brigade.

Although Father Corby accompanied his men on many battlefields, giving comfort to the wounded and absolution to the dying, perhaps his greatest moment came at Gettysburg. Little more than 500 men remained of the original 3,000 veterans of the brigade, but they were to be sent to the rescue of the crumbling Union flank in a vicious maelstrom that would become known to history as The Wheatfield.

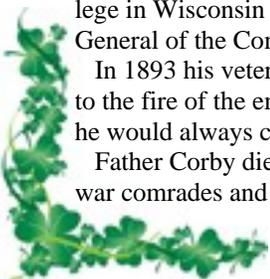
Father Corby donned his stole and mounted a large rock as the men of the brigade knelt, Catholic and Protestant alike. He offered absolution to the brigade, reminding them of their duties, warning them not to waver and to uphold the flag. Their attack bought precious time for the Union defenses but cost them dearly, with over one third of the brigade becoming casualties in a few moments.

After the war Father Corby became President of Notre Dame from 1866-72, then after a five year term at Sacred Heart College in Wisconsin returned to Notre Dame as President from 1877-82. He later became Provincial General and then Assistant General of the Congregation of the Holy Cross, as well as serving in several other posts.

In 1893 his veterans nominated Corby for the Medal of Honor, noting that "no spot was too dangerous or too much exposed to the fire of the enemy." Although he never received the medal, the veterans of the brigade presented him with a chalice that he would always cherish.

Father Corby died in 1897. In an unusual ceremony for a priest of the Holy Cross, his flag-draped casket was borne by civil war comrades and a rifle volley was fired as it was lowered into his grave.

Stephen Ren,  
Financial Secretary



## AOH Division 1 Events

(continued from front page)

\*\*\*\*\* *An Gorta Mor Mass Announcement* \*\*\*\*\*

Today's mass is being celebrated in memory of the over one million Irish men, women and children, who starved to death during "An Gorta Mor" - Ireland's Great Hunger (1845 - 1850.) It is commonly referred in the history books as the "Potato Famine" and is considered to be the worst human calamity of the 19th century.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians remembers those who died, through their Hibernian Hunger Project collecting and donating to those who are in need. This year the proceeds have gone to The Saint Vincent De Paul Society, at Saint Columba School.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians is an Irish Catholic Fraternal organization promoting Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity. All who share our Catholic Faith, and are of Irish Ancestry, are welcome to join with either the men's or ladies division of the AOH.

There are membership tables in the Narthex to provide additional information.

THANK YOU.

In Brotherhood & Motto,  
Gerry McVicker.  
Hibernian Hunger Project Chairman  
Chairman Standing Committee.

## AOH Major Degree – New York

The next Major Degree scheduled for the AOH NY is July 13, 2013 in Saratoga Springs. It will be held at the Holiday Inn, 232 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. The organizer of this event is Michael Glenn and he can be reached at (518) 505-3558 or by e-mail: [mglenn2@nycap.rr.com](mailto:mglenn2@nycap.rr.com).

## IRISH COMMUNITY

### Irish Festival

On Saturday, September 21, 2013, from 11am to 7pm on the majestic banks of the Hudson River at Peekskill's Riverfront Green Park, the Fourth Annual Hudson Valley Irish Fest will celebrate the positive values of the rich Irish American culture and heritage alive in the Hudson Valley today.

Previous events were a tremendous success and enjoyed by over 6000 people. This year we have great bands, more vendors and fun for the whole family!

Performances by several top Irish recording artists and bands. Our area's finest Irish step-dancers and massed pipe bands will again entertain people of all ages. Our excellent vendors and exhibitors will provide culinary specialties, Irish literature, media and cultural crafts for all to experience and enjoy. Our children's area boasts pony rides, face painting, crafts and more for the wee lads and lasses.

Last year we introduced the "Jack McAndrew Memorial Cultural Tent" with a stellar assembly of the best Traditional Irish Musicians, Singers and Storytellers from the Lower Hudson Valley & beyond. The Kelly Oster School of Irish Dance will entertain visitors with their terrific talent.

The Jack McAndrew Memorial Cultural Tent will also feature fine artists and historical displays. Jack McAndrew, lifelong advocate for all things Irish and an AOH Division 18 member, passed away in 2012. For decades, Jack kept Irish traditional music alive in the Lower Hudson Valley with the legendary Rising of the Moon Seisuin at Jimmy Guinan's in Garrison, PJ Kelly's in Peekskill and other venues including its current home in the Stadium Bar & Restaurant. Recently, folk hero Pete Seeger visited a Rising seisuin in the hope of encouraging others to support Jack's labor of love. It is our hope that the Jack McAndrew Memorial Cultural Tent is inspire future participants and continue Jack's labor of love, the promotion of Irish music and culture in the Lower Hudson Valley.

The Hudson Valley Irish Fest Inc. is cosponsored by the Division 18, Peekskill Ancient Order of Hibernians & Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians and is a member of the Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce.

## NEW YORK NEWS

### 2013 NYS Convention

Brother and Sister Hibernians:

We, the 2013 New York State Hibernian Convention Committee, are working hard to ensure that each delegate and all of our guests have an unforgettable time in Saratoga Springs July 10th through July 13th. More information & Convention forms may be accessed thru our NY State website.

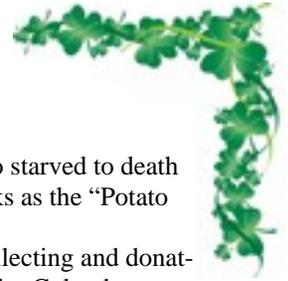
If you have any questions or concerns, please e-mail or telephone us. The Committee is eager to assist you plan for this event and we look forward to seeing you in Saratoga Springs in July.

Karen Keane Stephen Curran

LAOH State Convention Chair AOH State Convention Chair

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LAOH Local Convention Chair AOH Local Convention Co-Chairs



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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.

## IMPORTANT DATES

- June 20th: Regular Business Meeting
- July & August: NO MEETINGS
- September 19th: Regular Business Meeting

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Paul Becker	Deacon Bob Horton
Kevin Moran	Noel Morris
Nathan Redmond	David Ryan, Sr.
Bill Schimpf	

‡ IN MEMORIAM ‡

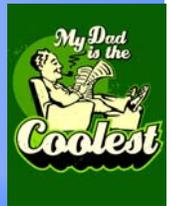
On the Radio 91.3 FM: "A Little Bit of Ireland"

Hosted by our own Brendan Daly and broadcast from Vassar College.

Saturday's from 1 PM to 3:30 PM.

To all of you Fathers, Grandfathers, & Great Grandfathers:

# Happy Fathers Day!



ANCIENT ORDER  
OF  
HIBERNIANS  
IN AMERICA

Dutchess County  
MSGR. SHEAHAN  
DIVISION #1

PO Box 1530 Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

