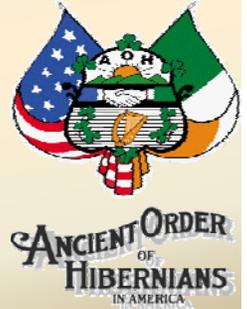


# DIVISION NEWSLETTER

DUTCHESS COUNTY MSGR. SHEAHAN DIVISION # 1

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

Gene Noone - Editor [genenoone13@optimum.net](mailto:genenoone13@optimum.net) (914) 469-6661



## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Brothers and Friends of the AOH,

Welcome back from the summer hiatus. I hope everyone had a safe and relaxing summer spent with family and friends. It is time to gear up for the exciting activities at the end of 2015. Wow, where does the time go?

The 2015 Charity Dinner/Dance will be held again at 7pm at the Elks Club in Wappingers Falls. Please bring your family and friends for a truly Irish evening. Great food, fun, music, dancing, and some good old-fashioned Criac are all in store. Please consider donating to the silent auction. The prizes are always wonderful and have enabled a fine raffle with proceeds going to the several worthy causes that our Division supports. Please see the following link for the reservation form on our website:

<http://www.dutchessaoh.com/2015%20AOH%20Dinner%20RSVP%20Letter.pdf>

And how about some thrilling news for 3 of our Brothers? James Englishby, Gerry McVicker, and Michael Quinn volunteered and were subsequently invited to be ushers at the Mass being said in Madison Square Garden on Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> by Pope Francis! What a tremendous opportunity of a lifetime. And I am proud to say that each passed the background check with flying colors! (Never a doubt.)

Many of you have heard of my relocation to Boston which thankfully is settling down. My wife Peggy's job relocation actually comes at a good time as the last child is off the books and the house was suddenly big and quiet. My car can almost drive itself to Poughkeepsie for those times that I need to be there for work. I am suddenly an even bigger fan of mild winters.

That is it for now. Our monthly meetings resume on September 17<sup>th</sup> and I can't wait to see you there!

*As we say good-bye to  
summer and hello to  
Autumn.  
Let our endeavors be  
fruitful!*

Yours in Brotherhood and Motto,

Stephen J. Ren

SEPTEMBER  
2015

## DIVISION OFFICERS

CHAPLAIN:

DEACON  
ROBERT  
HORTON

PRESIDENT:

STEPHEN  
REN

VICE PRESIDENT:

MICHAEL  
SHEPHERD

FINANCIAL SECRETARY:

GERRY  
MCVICKER

RECORDING SECRETARY:

KEN  
MCCORMICK

TREASURER:

ROBERT  
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MARSHAL:

JAMES  
SWEENEY

SENTINEL:

JIM BRADY

HISTORIAN:

MATT  
FITZGERALD

STANDING COMMITTEE:

GLEN KELLY



*DEAR LORD,  
GIVE ME A FEW FRIENDS WHO WILL LOVE ME FOR WHAT I AM,  
AND KEEP EVER BURNING BEFORE MY VAGRANT STEPS  
THE KINDLY LIGHT OF HOPE...  
AND THOUGH I COME NOT WITHIN SIGHT OF THE CASTLE OF MY DREAMS,  
TEACH ME TO BE THANKFUL FOR LIFE, AND FOR TIME'S OLDER MEMORIES  
THAT ARE GOOD AND SWEET.  
AND MAY THE EVENING'S TWILIGHT FIND ME GENTLE STILL.*





### Historian's Corner

As we begin this new program year, I would like to re-state that we are basically the last “active” Irish-American organization in the county still standing. It's been at least a year now that the Irish Heritage Foundation stopped functioning as such with some of its activities continuing under the Slainte banner. The Kevin Barry Irish, although still operational seems to have pulled back on much of its activities. As I understand it, the monthly Sunday ceilis have been discontinued; the traditional summer picnic was cancelled, as has been the annual memorial service at the Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery for one of the founders of the late 18<sup>th</sup> Century Society of United Irishmen, Samuel Nielson. They will hold a Fall Fling Dance sometime this month.

Because of the importance to our Irish history and heritage, and the involvement of previous AOH Divisions with Neilson's final resting place, Past-President Brother Michael Quinn is planning to propose that our Division take on the responsibility for this annual memorial service. An extensive article about Neilson was submitted in a previous newsletter, but I would like to present a “Readers Digest” version of Neilson's place in Irish history.

Samuel Neilson (1761–1803) was born in County Down, Ireland, the son of a Presbyterian minister, and was one of the founding members of the Society of United Irishmen. The United Irishmen was a political organization with members of all religious persuasions, greatly inspired by the American Revolution, dedicated to the establishment of an independent Irish Republic. Neilson was the founder-editor of the Belfast-based newspaper *The Northern Star*, the voice of the United Irishmen. The motto of *The Northern Star* was “Civil and Religious Liberty to all Mankind.” Imprisoned in 1796 for ‘seditious libel’, he was later wounded and rearrested in 1798, during the Uprising of 1798, a major event in the annals of a free and independent Ireland. Neilson, after his release from the newly constructed Kilmainham Jail, was again arrested for treasonous activities and exiled to Holland. Not being able to live in his native Ireland, he immigrated to America. After his arrival in this country, he was busy with the work of establishing another “Northern Star” to be published here and to continue the cause for a United Ireland. His travels to secure funding for this endeavor took him to Poughkeepsie, although there are those who report that he actually moved to Poughkeepsie. In any event, he died in August 1803 of either Yellow Fever or consumption, or, as cemetery records indicate, “apoplexy”. After being buried in 2 [or possibly 3] other area cemeteries, he was finally interred in Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery in 1880.

Matt Fitzgerald  
[irishrm@juno.com](mailto:irishrm@juno.com)  
845-454-5308

### FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S CORNER



Brothers,

It is vitally important that our records stay current, to that effect please contact me with any changes to your address, e-mail, phone numbers, etc.. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

In Brotherhood & Motto,

Gerard McVicker  
Financial Secretary.  
101 Brothers Rd  
Stormville, NY, 12582

## AOH ACTIVITIES

### Charity Dinner / Dance



Our Annual Charity Dinner Dance will be held on October 24, 2015 at the Wappingers Elks Club, Rte. 376, Wappingers Falls. Tickets are available through the Dinner Chairmen, as usual a pair will be mailed to each member. Help is needed in procuring donations for our silent auction, so if you frequent a preferred business ask if they would be willing to help us with a gift certificate or donation of their product or services. (see flyer, following)



Gentlemen,

I Hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer. Our first meeting back is, 9/17. I will be bringing the dinner dance tickets to the meeting, so please come with cash or checks on hand. I would also like to request everyone in attendance to bring at least one raffle prize. Last year we did quite well raising money, and I would like to try and do better this year. I currently have a few baskets, and silent auction prizes that I will discuss. Also, if you could let me know who wants full tables, so I can start planning that out as well.

If you are unable to make the meeting and want to attend the dinner dance please e-mail me: [mshephea@hotmail.com](mailto:mshephea@hotmail.com) -or- call my cell. (845)-489-8240.

Thank you for your support. Look forward to seeing you at our meeting.



Sincerely,  
Michael Shepheard

### NY Jets Raffle!

Our annual NY Jets ticket raffle is under way, with the drawing scheduled for our Charity Dinner / Dance, October 24th. With the proceeds to benefit our many charitable causes.



The winner will receive 4 tickets to the Sunday, November 29th game against the Miami Dolphins. It is a 1:00 PM game at MetLife Stadium. Donation price per ticket is \$5.00. For more information or to purchase tickets please contact: Jack Fedigan (914) 474-8706. (See flyer, next page)



### We were mentioned in the Empire State Hibernian:

District 8  
Dermot O'Connor Moore  
Many thanks to outgoing director Keith Reynolds for his dedication and hard work for the last two years; I hope I can come close to filling his shoes.  
Dutchess County Division One is pleased to announce their Annual Charity Dinner/Dance at the Elks Club in Wappingers Falls on Saturday evening, October 24th. This event raises funds for several very worthy charities in Dutchess County and will feature the Irish brothers band "MacCana". Please contact Stephen Ren at 845-214-5664 to secure your seat.

- ◆ September 17th, regular business meeting
- ◆ October 15th, regular business meeting
- ◆ October 24th, Charity Dinner / Dance
- ◆ October 24th, Jets tickets raffle
- ◆ November 19th, 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!*



**ANCIENT ORDER**  
**OF**  
**HIBERNIANS**  
IN AMERICA

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

# *Jets Ticket Raffle*

**Sunday, November 29, 2015**  
**1:00 PM Game Time @ MetLife Stadium**  
**4 Tickets to**  
**NY Jets vs Miami Dolphins**

**Drawing Date:           October 24, 2015**

**Donation:                 \$5.00 each**

***PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE AOH'S***  
***MANY CHARITABLE CAUSES***

For more information or to purchase tickets  
contact any AOH member

-or-

Call: Jack Fedigan  
(914) 474-8706 (cell)

E-mail: [info@addspace.com](mailto:info@addspace.com)





*Ancient Order of Hibernians  
Dutchess County - Msgr.  
Sheahan - Division 1*

## *Annual Charity Dinner Dance*

**Saturday, October 24, 2015 7:00 PM**

**Wappingers Elks Lodge  
Route 376**

**Complete Roast Beef Dinner  
With Dessert & Coffee  
Irish Step Dancers, Raffles and Prizes**

**Music by:  
"MacCana"**

*Donation: \$40.00 per person*

**PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE AOH'S MANY CHARITIES**

For tickets or more information contact:

Stephen Ren  
(845) 214-5664

Michael Shephard  
(845) 489-8240

# SPONSORS PAGE

  
**INDEPENDENT BENEFIT PLANS**  
  
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**Robert G Shephard Jr**  
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bshephard@optimum.net  


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web page: [www.embroideryd.com](http://www.embroideryd.com)

**Stephen P. O'Hare**  
Attorney at Law  
  
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Poughkeepsie, NY 12603  
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Fax: (845)452-4615  
E-mail: [oharelaw@optonline.net](mailto:oharelaw@optonline.net)

***Your Ad  
Here!***



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

- September 17th: Regular Business Meeting
- October 15th: Regular Business Meeting
- October 24th: Charity Dinner / Dance & Raffle
- November 19th: Regular Business Meeting

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Paul Becker	Deacon Bob Horton
Noel Morris	Nathan Redmond
Bill Schimpf	Richard Whalen

‡ 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.

*“I’m Irish, so I’m used to odd stews. I can take it. Just throw a lot of carrots and onions in there and I’ll call it dinner”*

*~Liam Neeson~*



Friendship, Unity & Christian Charity

