



# Ancient Order of Hibernians

JOHN CARDINAL D'ALTON DIVISION 3

Pearl River, NY

October, 2016



**Brother Hibernians,** \_\_\_\_\_



Our next meeting will be held on Friday, October 28th. Welcome aboard to new members Pat Toal, Jim McMorrow, and Seamus Mullen. Many thanks to Brian Booth for running a great Division Picnic and to Sean Walsh for running the Triple Crown party. Thanks to all for the tremendous support at the Mary McDonagh Run/Walk and the Lourdes Kids of Rockland Golf Outing. The first drawing for our Pot O'Gold raffle is fast approaching on November 13th. Don't miss out on an excellent shot of winning cash for the holidays. Get your ticket now from a bartender at the pub or calling Bill Lee at 845-558-4148 or me at 845-735-8793. Any help for our Senior Citizen's Thanksgiving Luncheon would be greatly appreciated.

Dan Callanan reports the following Good and Welfare News...Please say a prayer for the repose of the soul of Larry Finucane's wife Patricia. Bill Hall underwent surgery to remove his gall bladder and then had to deal with blood clot issues.

As always, please remember to say an extra prayer or two for our wounded warriors and their families.

*Yours in Friendship, Unity & Christian Charity,*

*Dermot O'Connor Moore, President.*

## **ELECTED OFFICERS DIVISION \_\_\_\_\_**

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**DERMOT O'CONNOR MOORE**

*Vice President*  
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*Financial Secretary*  
**WILLIAM YOUNG**

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**MARTIN DAVIN**

*Recording Secretary*  
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**KEVIN DONOHUE**

*Sentinel*  
**WILLIAM LEE**

*Chairman Grievance*  
**JACK O'CONNOR**

*Chaplain*  
**REV. MSGR. JOHN O'KEEFE**

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**FRANK McDONAGH**

*Vice President*  
**PETER DUNNE**

*Treasurer*  
**PHIL SHERIDAN**

*Recording Secretary*  
**JOHN GANNON**

## **CALENDAR \_\_\_\_\_**

- |         |                                   |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| Oct. 21 | Dancing Like the Stars            |
| Oct. 28 | Division Meeting                  |
| Nov. 13 | First POG Raffle<br>Drawing Party |
| Nov. 19 | Senior Citizen<br>Luncheon        |



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## LAOH

At our October meeting we initiated Suzanne Russo. Mary Mulcahy and I shared with the members what we learned at the National AOH/LAOH convention on Missionary and Charity and Catholic Action. Mary Mulcahy and Christine Madigan, co-chairs and committee members of Dancing Like the Stars, are busy getting ready for our 4th annual fundraiser which will be held on October 21st at 8pm at the Pearl River Elks Club. We are hoping for another successful night.

*Yours in friendship, unity and Christian charity,  
Terry McGeever, President LAOH Division 3*

## HIBERNIAN HOUSE

Summer is over and Halloween is almost here. Halloween is actually a festival that originated in Ireland. The town people would put food outside of their homes for the spirits of the deceased. Tried to get that done where I live last year but was only able to scarf up a couple of chickens. Please do not give Warren Hennessy any candy this year, last year he ate so much he ran around the pub for two hours. Weather is changing and Johnny O is looking for some long sleeve shirts. Someone is leaving bikes at the AOH, don't know who is doing it. If we get a few more we can start a bike rental service. Great job by Ed "all" day in running the Lourdes Kids golf outing and thanks to all those who helped. If anyone likes small nips of beer stop by CCs house on Halloween. Just don't let the kids have too many. Tickets are on sale for the pot of gold drawing. You can get them at the Pub. Two great parties and you might win some money, it's for a good cause. Knockout pool winding down, once again I am out of it. By being out of it, I mean the pool, although others may disagree. Have a happy Halloween and watch out for you know who.

*Pete Dunne*

### SENIOR CITIZEN THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON

Saturday, November 19 at noon  
Volunteers greatly appreciated starting at 9:30 am  
Call Jack O'Connor at 845-731-7697 for more details

### DANCING LIKE THE STARS

LAOH Division 3 Fundraiser  
Friday, October 21 8pm  
Pearl River Elks Club  
\$25 pp. Tickets available at the Muddy Brook Café  
Or call Joan Moore at 845-735-8793

### POT O'GOLD

\$100 Ticket entitles the holder and a guest admission to two Drawing parties  
All winners at the first party are still eligible for the grand prize drawing  
First Drawing Party- Sunday November 13 at 2 pm, \$2000 will be awarded  
Second Party- Sunday December 18 at 2pm, \$12,000 will be awarded,  
Including our Grand Prize of \$10,000 cash  
Get your ticket at the Pub or call Bill Lee at 845-558-4148

# History

## Thomas Osborne Davis and the birth of "The A Nation"



The often heard lament when people are faced with injustice or frustrated with the apparent state of affairs of society is "What can one person do?" Yet, if history teaches us anything it is that great events or movements rarely spring out of the ground fully formed; they can usually be trace back to one man or woman with a vision. Sadly and unjustly these great individuals are often eclipsed by the very people and events they inspired and made possible. No better example of this is the writer and poet Thomas Osborne Davis.

Davis was born in the town of Mallow in County Cork on 14 October 1814.

He was the son of a Welsh father, a surgeon in the British Army who died shortly after his birth, and an Irish mother whose ancestry descended from Cromwellian planters. Little is known of Davis' early life prior to his attending Trinity College; but such a pedigree would have seemed unlikely to produce an anti-Unionist Irish republican. Yet Davis joined the College's Historical Society, which in previous years had among its members Wolf Tone and Robert Emmett. Davis was elected president of the society and immediately took it into a new direction. Prior to his election the society had become known for tedious speeches written "more to astound than to persuade". Davis changed that; he spoke on real things, practical issues that were both relevant and inspirational. A frequent theme was education and how it was a moral duty for his peers to educate themselves to be of service to their country of Ireland. People who heard him speak described it as a "new light being shown on Ireland". He graduated with a degree in law, but though called to the Bar in 1838 he never practiced.

In 1842, a chance meeting set Davis on the road to the destiny he is remembered for. Davis and his friend John Blake Dillion met a young journalist Charles Gavan Duffy. With youthful energy and naivety as to how difficult a task they were under taking, the three men decided to create a weekly newspaper devoted to the cause of an independent Ireland. They decided on the appropriate title of "The Nation" for their effort. This paper, organized by three young men ages twenty-six, twenty-seven and twenty-eight, was immediately recognized for its influence on Irish consciousness across the spectrum of the population. Its first edition of 12,000 copies sold out in a few hours.

When asked what was the tone of the "The Nation", a British wag replied "a Wolfe Tone". The paper stood for a sovereign Ireland and the repeal of the union with Great Britain. Davis and "The Nation" espoused Tone's view that all of Ireland's factions should find unity

in the common title of "Irishmen". The paper's growing popularity and youthful energy soon attracted followers and jealousy from both sides of the political establishment who derisively christened Davis and his followers as "Young Ireland". Among Davis' adherents were names that would write their own chapter in the history of Ireland and America: John Mitchel, William Smith O'Brien, Michael Doheny (who would as an exile found the 69th Regiment) and Thomas Francis Meagher who would command that regiment and the Irish Brigade in the Civil War.

The centerpiece of The Nation was Davis' writing. He covered the gamut from advocating the use of Ireland' water power to foster industrial development to admonishing his fellow citizens to be tourist in their own county first. However, what Davis is most famous for is poetry which still comes down to us today in works such as The Lament for Owen Roe and the lyrics to the beloved songs A Nation Once Again and The West's Awake. Some snobbish modern critics are condescending of Davis' verse, failing to realize that Davis was not an airy poet writing Odes to Grecian Urns for purely self-indulgent artistic reasons; Davis was a Bard in the Irish tradition memorializing great deeds and men in a style that would awaken the conscience of a nation.

Sadly, a great light such as Davis' could not be sustained. He contracted scarlet fever and died on 16 September 1845; he was only 30 years old. This was a tragic blow for Ireland, one can only speculate on the course of Irish history if Davis with his intelligence, zeal and charisma had lived to develop into one of the country's leaders. While not known at the time, Davis' death was a double blow to Ireland; just days before the Dublin Evening Post printed "We regret to learn that the blight of the potato crop, so much complained of in Belgium and several of the English counties has affected the [Irish] crop". In less than two weeks Ireland had lost Davis and the potato blight that was to lead to the Great Hunger had arrived.

It is against this backdrop we must evaluate Davis. Before Davis and his paper "The Nation" the memory of Wolf Tone, the United Irishmen of '98 and the noble ideals they represented had almost faded away from the Irish memory. Davis resurrected their legacy and that of earlier Irish patriots and put muscle on the bones of their memory and strength into the causes they embraced. Davis was the right man at the right hour; if not for the brief but illuminating life of Davis the concept of an Irish Nation with a unique heritage may have died and been buried with the one million Irish who succumbed to the brutal policy of an uncaring foreign government during the famine. Instead, Davis and his ideals were preserved in the hearts of those who survived this genocide and were also transported to the United States, Canada, Australia and Tasmania where they were protected, nurtured and grew until they could be transplanted back to Ireland where watered with the blood of patriots they would grow into an Irish nation, still a sapling that has yet to reach maturity.



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