

Ancient Onder of Hibernians

JOHN CARDINAL D'ALTON DIVISION 3

Pearl River, NY

February, 2018



Brother Hibernians, _____



Our next meeting will be held on February 23rd at 8pm. Welcome aboard to new members John Duffy, Robert Dupee, Michael Caroll, and Sean Kavanagh. Neil Cosgrove gave a great talk at Division 1's Communion Breakfast. Many thanks to Chuck Parnow and Dan Peterson for running a great ski trip to Belleayre Mountain, a fantastic time was had by all and Patrick Parnow was so intent on eating that he almost missed the bus home. Thanks for the great Division 3 presence at the NYC St. Patrick's Day Parade and Celebration Committee's reception to honor the Aides to Grand Marshal. It is vital that we support our duly and legally elected committee even if the Board continues to shun them. Hopefully the Board will come to its senses and listen to the voices of the Affiliated Organizations who are the heart and soul of the parade.

I hope to see you all at the Emerald Ball and thank you in advance for supporting the journal which is the main fundraiser for the St. Patrick's Day Parade. The County will once again sponsor a bus to the NYC parade on March 17th for those that will march with the county, contact Cy Hughes at 914-804-7162 to reserve your seat.

Dan Callanan reports the following Good and Welfare News...Please say a prayer for the repose of the souls of Joe Walsh Jr, Mike O'Connor's mom Margaret, Peg Matone, and Jim Lever's wife Mary. Please pray for the recovery of the following: Denis Troy's better half Bea has a new hip, Pat Finnegan's better half had back surgery and Quentin Van Wynen's better half Liz is recovering from a fall as is John McElligott's better half Pat. Please note that our St. Patrick's senior citizen luncheon will be held on March 10th, please ask your high schoolers in need of community service hours to volunteer their services

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.

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FRANK McDONAGH

Vice President

PETER DUNNE

Treasurer

PHIL SHERIDAN

Recording Secretary JOHN GANNON

CALENDAR____

- 2-23 Division meeting
- 2-24 Emerald Ball
- 3-2 No Stone Unturned
- 3-3 Lourdes Kids Breakfast
- 3-10 Senior Citizen's Luncheon
- 3-17 NYC Parade
- 3-18 Rockland County Parade



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LAOH

We installed 2 new members at our January meeting: Lisa Dowling and Caroline Reichert. The following students are the winners of the LAOH Div 3 Irish history essay contest: High School level: 1st place, Kian McGeever, 2nd place Amelia Lesnick,3rd place tie: Megan and Kaitlyn Heffernan; Middle School: 1st place, Patrick Basler, 2nd place, Danny Hooker, 3rd place Erin Hooker. There was a nice turnout at the St. Brigid's mass on 2/3/18. Plans are underway for our annual St. Patrick's Day party which will be held on 3/13/18, which will be chaired by Tracey Dickey and Mary 0'Sullivan. I hope to see many members marching in the Rockland County St Patrick's Day parade on 3/18/18. Happy St. Patrick's Day to all members and their families.

Yours in friendship, unity and Christian charity, Terry McGeever, President

LOURDES KIDS BREAKFAST

SATURDAY, MARCH 3RD 10 AM AT THE HIBERNIAN HOUSE Looking to support an amazing cause and get a chance to win some amazing prizes?

The Lourdes Kids of Rockland are holding a raffle with some great prizes: 2 Roundtrip tickets on Jet Blue; A gift certificate to NOBU 57 Restaurant (a \$300 Value) and an I-Pad. The drawing will be held on March 3rd at our Family Fun Breakfast at the Hibernian House with guest appearance of some of Disney's best loved princesses. With the \$20 purchase of a ticket, it admits one person to the breakfast. There will be an opportunity to meet these characters and take pictures with them. It should be a fun event for the children in all of us!!!! This well help send our Pilgrims to Lourdes ,France the week of Easter. For more information visit www.lourdeskidsofrockland.org. Thanks for your support. Tickets can be purchased by contacting Joan Moore at 845-536-2742. Margaret Moore (who will be one of the Princess') can also take orders via Venmo and fill out your tickets for you. There are also some tickets at the pub.

SENIOR CITIZEN'S ST. PATRICK'S DAY LUNCHEON

Saturday, March 10th noon to 2pm

Volunteers are asked to arrive by 10am as we usually have many early arrivals

Excellent opportunity for your kids to build up their community service hours

Contact Jack O'Connor at 845-731-9697 for more info

2018 EMERALD BALL

Saturday, February 24th 7pm @ Pearl River Hilton

HIBERNIAN OF THE YEAR, WILLIAM YOUNG

BUSINESSPERSON OF THE YEAR, NEILL ACER

PARADE COMMANDER, FRANCIST. DUFFY

GRAND MARSHAL, EMMETT WOODS

AIDE TO GRAND MARSHAL NYC, JAMES RUSSELL

To donate or purchase tickets, or for more info please

visit www.rocklandcountyaoh.com

HIBERNIAN HOUSE

Our pub scribe is indisposed due to hip surgery. We wish Pete Dunne a speedy recovery!

NO STONE UNTURNED FRIDAY, MARCH 2nd 7:30 pm HIBERNIAN HOUSE 28 RAILROAD AVENUE, PEARL RIVER, NY FREE ADMISSION, DOORS OPEN AT 7PM ALL ARE WELCOME

Division 3 will host a showing of the award winning documentary "No Stone Unturned" about the 1994 Loughinisland massacre. We are honored to have relatives of the victims as well as their attorney with us to present the film, answer questions, and provide commentary. We hope you can join us.

Listory

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On April 10th, 1998, the historic Good Friday Agreement was signed ending nearly three decades of violence in Northern Ireland known as "the Troubles". It led to the formation of a devolved Northern Irish Assembly

providing some measure of home rule for Northern Ireland. However, for the past year that government has been shuttered over the failure of the two primary parties, the loyalist Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) and the nationalist party Sinn Féin to enter into government together as required by the Good Friday Agreement. There are many issues: a corruption scandal involving a botched green energy scheme involving the head of the DUP, the failure to enact a bill of rights for Northern Ireland and continued delays by the British Government to address the legacy of the past with justice. However, the issue that the DUP and an ill-informed media have settled on is the implementation of an Irish Language Act to promote and protect speakers of Irish. Many commentators have described the insistence on an Irish language act as "holding captive" the restoration of devolved government in Northern Ireland; characterizing it as a triviality and those who insist on it misguided zealots or motivated by other political ends. Those commentators are ignorant of Irish history.

The Irish language is one of the ten oldest languages in the world still spoken. Irish inscriptions have been found dating back to the 4th century AD. Europe's oldest known vernacular literature (written in a native language other than Greek or Latin) is written in Irish. They include the "The Blackbird of Belfast Lough" and "The Cattle Raid of Cooley", which has often been compared to Homer's Iliad.

However, when the English invaded Ireland it began a long war of cultural domination with the specific aim that the Irish should lose all knowledge of themselves as a free and independent people. In 1367 the Statutes of Kilkenny criminalized the speaking of Irish, the wearing of Irish clothes and the playing of Irish music with the punishment of death. Thankfully a shortage of troops thwarted the crown's attempts to enforce the edicts, but it did not end attempts to anglicize the Irish. In 1523 Galway's English ruling council ruled that no man should be made a citizen 'unlesse he can speche the Englishe tonge and shave[s] his upper lipe wickly' (the wearing of a moustache was an Irish custom and seen as a threat).

However, the greatest threat to the Irish language came through far more subtle and insidious means: instead of direct conflict, they would indoctrinate the young. England established the National School system where the English language was exclusively taught, and Irish language and culture totally excluded; a slip into Irish could result in severe punishment for the student. The availability of education combined with the prospect of perhaps attaining a secure job in the growing Civil Service was often sufficient temptation for Irish parents who were barely clinging to survival to send their children to these schools in the natural desire for their child to have a better life. Even the Catholic Church misguidedly endorsed this cultural extermination under the guise of education. Combined with the Great Hunger which decimated the Gaelic areas of Ireland; it is a wonder that the language has survived at all. While not banned out right, Irish and Irish names was not recognized in Courts of Law. A young barrister named Padraig Pearse participated in only one case during his legal career, the trial of a man accused of his name being "illegible" on his cart; it was written in Irish. Pearse lost. One can speculate if that is why he left the law into education emphasizing the Irish language. It was the "Gaelic Revival", a rediscovery of the Irish language by a new Irish middle class that resulted in a reawakening of Irish pride and identity that would result in the rising under Pearse in 1916.

While the end of the Anglo-Irish War in 1922 ended the systematic denigration of the Irish language in 26 of Ireland's counties, it persisted (and persists) in the six that formed Northern Ireland. As a basis for a lasting and just peace, The Good Friday Agreement committed the British government to exercise "rigorous impartiality on behalf of all the people in the diversity of their identities and traditions and shall be founded on the principles of full respect for, and equality of, civil, political, social and cultural right". As part of that rigorous impartiality, the agreement calls out the Irish language specifically and cites eight points where the British government is to take "resolute action". This commitment was reaffirmed in the St. Andrew's Agreement of 2006 which established the current devolved Northern Ireland executive. Despite DUP spin and ill researched reporting, an Irish Language act protecting the right of those who wish to express their Irish identity is not "a new demand", it the request to fulfill one of many long overdue commitments enshrined in signed treaty.

Recognition and respect for the Irish language is an integral part of the Good Friday Agreement, it is not a triviality as the media proposes. Besides the worthiness of preserving a great piece of our world heritage, recognizing the Irish language is an important symbol that a new Northern Ireland is being built on respect and not on the aging stones of imperial triumphalism. It is a test of the credibility of the Unionist community to honor their commitments; for the Good Friday Agreement not to join the Treaty of Limerick, the Home Rule Act of 1912 and a litany of other treaties that promised peace only to fall victim to arrogance.

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