

Ancient Onder of Hibernians

JOHN CARDINAL D'ALTON DIVISION 3

Pearl River, NY

February, 2020



Brother Hibernians



The winter has flown by - it seems we went straight from New Year's Day to baseball's spring training overnight. I hope all have remained healthy. We are entering the busy season with lots going on, so please read through the newsletter to see all the upcoming events.

Our next meeting will be held on Friday, February 28th at 8pm. Welcome aboard to new members Thomas Sullivan, James Burke and Anthony Raimone. Congratulations to Dan Peterson and all who attended the annual Ski Trip – 43 went and 43 came back, and a good time was had by all. Just this past weekend, all who attended had a rousing time at the Emerald Ball. It was great to see such a turnout for the honorees from our division – congratulations again to Hibernian Businessman of the Year, Edmund Hartnett, Grand Marshal, Frank McDonagh and Hibernian of the Year, Fergal Hayes. We're looking forward to marching down Central Avenue behind Frank. I'd ask that all members make the effort to march with the division in the parade. It's not too long a walk and the time required is a small portion of the day's festivities. As the country's largest division, we should make a strong, impressive showing behind our Grand Marshal.

As an Irish-American Heritage Month event, we are showing the film, "Rebel Rossa" on Sunday, March 8th. See the article following on details. It should be an informative event, and we appreciate the efforts of Phil Lane to organize, member Kevin Cole for arranging and the presentation by film-maker Williams Rossa Cole.

Phil Sheridan reports a welcomed quiet on the Good and Welfare front... Please continue to pray for Dan Callanan and Gene Flood. And as always, please remember to say an extra prayer or two for our troops convalescing in hospitals around the world.

Yours in Friendship, Unity & Christian Charity, Charles Parnow, President.

HIBERNIAN HOUSE

I'm back, just got out, no restrictions, well maybe a few. In a few weeks we will have the weigh out for the fat off at the AOH. Noticed that several of our entrants may have confused the intent of this contest. The idea was to lose weight, not put it on. We may have to change the rules. I'm doing great only put on 7 lbs. While I'm typing this, I have the "corrector", Mr. Hennessy sitting next to me just in case I make a miistake. Nice job by the nutty professor, Mr. Whelan putting a do not use this door sign on the exit door. Unfortunately, he put it on the wrong side. Was down in the Villages in Florida recently, it really is an adult Disney World. Who was that masked man knocking off all that wine at the Emerald Ball, no names. Congrats to all our Honorees, all well deserved. Golf season starting soon will have to teach some of the boys how to count past five. LBI is bracing for the start of the Summer season. That means that crazy old man will be back down there selling the best ice cream on the Island. Tom Lynch and his crack or should we say cracked coaching staff getting ready for another winning season. All they have to do is be cleared by the league shrink. Good luck. Best of luck to our new Division President, Chuck Parnow, welcome to the Insanity.

ELECTED OFFICERS DIVISION

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CALENDAR —

- 3-8 Film showing at HH, "Rebel Rossa"
- 3-17 NYC Parade
- 3-21 St. Patrick's Luncheon for Seniors
- **3-22** Pearl River Parade
- 4-19 Hibernian Mass,
 Communion Breakfast
 & Scholarship
 presentations



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LAOH

The new Board is in place for 2020. I would like to personally thank Past President Terry McGeever for all her endeavors for the past (4) years for our Division 3. On January 25, 2020 LAOH Div. 3 celebrated the St. Brigid's Mass and Birthright Shower at St. Margaret's Church. There were many Members in attendance. Our Members were very generous with their donations to Birthright. Member Jill Simms niece's Siobhan and Fiona Roberts collected baby items in lieu of receiving birthday presents for their 5th Birthday and then donated them to Birthright. In lieu of a meeting in March, the LAOH will celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a dinner on 3/10/2020 at the River Court in New City.

Yours in friendship, unity and Christian charity, Teresa Hartey-Adametz, President

STATEAND DIVISONS CHOLARSHIPS - FINAL CALL

The process will be the same this year for the state and division scholarship. All applicants should visit the state website homepage at www.nyaoh.com and click on the link 2020 Scholarship opportunities. The direct link is http://www.nyaoh.com/nys-aoh-board-scholarship-competition/. Here the applicant will find directions, applications and study materials. State Chairman Dermot Moore will forward all division 3 applications to Division Chairman Kevin McNulty for further consideration by our division scholarship committee.

Please note the following differences. While the state scholarship is available to any child or grandchild of a NYS member, the division scholarship is only available to the child of a member and the member must have been an AOH member for at least 3 years.

Any questions, please contact Dermot at dermotomoore@gmail.com.

THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS FEBRUARY 28TH!

SENIOR CITIZEN'S ST. PATRICK'S DAY LUNCHEON

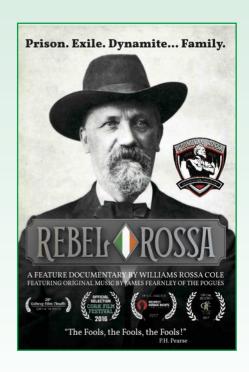
Saturday, March 21st, Noon to 2pm

Volunteers are asked to arrive by 9:30am 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

IRISH HISTORY MOVIE: REBEL ROSSA



Sunday afternoon, March 8th, we will be showing the film, "Rebel Rossa", upstairs at the Hibernian House, and we will be joined by the filmmaker, Williams Rossa Cole. Doors open at 1:30pm for a meet and greet and the movie will start at 2:30pm, with a Q&A session with Williams to follow. The showing is open to the public. We will have coffee, tea and soda bread and the bar will be open.

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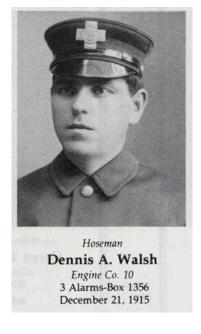
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Listory

The story of William G. Walsh







It has been said of those that fought at the battle of Iwo

Jima that "Uncommon Valor was a Common Virtue." It could also be said of many Irish American families that "Uncommon Virtue is a Common Value". Both are illustrated in the story of William G. Walsh.

William G. Walsh was born on April 7, 1922, in Maine to a young mother who gave the child to her grandmother to raise. When the grandmother herself fell ill, she entrusted the baby to her friend Mary Walsh from Roxbury, Massachusetts. Mary, who had emigrated from Ireland in 1898, was no stranger to adversity. She had been married to Dennis Walsh, himself an Irish immigrant, who had been killed in a building collapse while fighting a fire as a Boston firefighter in 1915 just a few days before Christmas leaving her with two children and a third on the way. Mary Walsh provided for her family by working as a housekeeper, cook, waitress and by taking in borders, a model of Irish strength and grit. Despite her own struggles, she still took in the infant William and, when his grandmother died, adopted him.

Young William was quickly christened "Red" in the neighborhood due to his sandy red hair. He developed a reputation as both an athlete and a natural leader;

in baseball, he was a catcher known for being able to manage his pitchers. When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on Sunday, December 7, 1941, he and his entire baseball team went to the closed Federal Building in Boston and slept outside on benches to be first in line when the recruiting office opened Monday morning.

Enlisting in the Marines, William Walsh volunteered for the elite Marine Raiders and saw extensive service at Guadalcanal, Bougainville, Tarawa, and the Russell Islands. He was nominated for noncommissioned officers school, promoted to platoon sergeant and assigned to the G Company 27th Marines, 5th Marine Division, when his unit took part in the invasion of Iwo Jima.

On February 27, Walsh and his men were tasked to take a strategic ridge vital to the capture of Motoyama Airfield 2. Despite heavy shelling and bombing, as soon as the Marines moved forward, the Japanese defenders reoccupied defense which had been constructed to put any attacker in a murderous crossfire and was pre-sighted for artillery and mortars. Walsh's unit was pinned. Realizing that to stay was to die, Walsh shouted, "Hell, we can't stay here! Let's hit them again!" Walsh's Marines charged again only to be met with machineguns and grenades. Men began to

Listory

The story of William G. Walsh

Continued

scramble back, but Walsh had taken cover in a crater with some wounded men and refused to leave them. A Japanese grenade was thrown into the hole and Walsh without hesitation, threw himself on the grenade giving his life for his men. William Walsh was awarded the Medal of Honor.

However, this would not be the last medal presented to the Walsh family. Dennis Walsh, the child that Mary Walsh had been carrying when her husband was killed as a Boston firefighter, had joined the Franciscan Order taking the name Cormac. When the Korean War broke out, Fr. Cormac Walsh joined the U.S. Army as a chaplain, where he was awarded four Silver Stars and a Presidential Citation for his care of the wounded while under fire; he was the most decorated chaplain of the Korean War. After his career with the Army, Fr. Walsh served for eighteen years as the prison chaplain at the maximum-security Clinton Correctional Facility in Dannemora, New York. An inmate at the prison stated, "He created a legend of

goodness and left us a legacy of love."

In Boston, there is a memorial plaque with the name of Dennis Walsh's inscribed for his sacrifice as a firefighter. In Dorchester, there is a park named for William Walsh, and there is a bridge named for Fr. Cormac Walsh. There should equally be a monument to Mary Walsh, who, like so many Irish women, silently lead a life of dedication and fortitude in the face of adversity while never losing her Christian Charity.

There are many, many stories like the Walshs; many of us have similar stories in our own families. We should remember them as we march on St. Patrick's Day and make sure they are not lost by passing them onto the next generation.

Note that with deep regret and despite best efforts, I was unable to locate a photo of Mary Walsh.

