



# Ancient Order of Hibernians

JOHN CARDINAL D'ALTON DIVISION 3

*March 2022*

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



We were blessed with a tremendous day for our parade this past week and people voted with their feet and their seats and showed up big-time. Thank you to the 25 or so members who marched down the Avenue with us. It's been quite the busy month, so a lot in this newsletter.

Our next division meeting will be at the Hibernian House **this Friday, March 25th at 8:00pm.** Aside from recapping the last month, at the meeting, we will talk about the many events requiring planning and participation – including our spring golf outing.

Congratulations once more to all the honorees at the Emerald Ball including: Parade Commander: Deirdre Smith-Withers, Businesspersons of the Year: Peter and Kwan Bellhouse of Kwan Thai Restaurant, Aide to the Grand Marshal: NYC, Lillian Murphy, Nadine Faughan Green as Hibernian of the Year, and our own Rockland County Parade Grand Marshal: Frank McDonagh. It was a great night for us as a community to show that we have come back strong, while there was also a touching remembrance of all those we have lost these last two years. More on the parade itself in the article that follows.

Also, congratulations to Larry DeGennaro and his extended team for a very successful St. Patrick's Day Seniors' Luncheon. No threat of bad weather was going to slow down our team or the seniors who have come to love the event. Again – an article on that to follow.

**Of special note:** This Saturday at the GAA there will be an event at around 2pm as Division 3's own Ed O'Dea will be receiving the Annual Noel O'Connell Award for Outstanding Community Service by a Member of the Law Enforcement Community. The award is issued by the Rockland County District Attorney. Please come out and help recognize Ed and all he does, not only for Division 3 but for the community at large!

Also note, Sean Walsh and the [golf committee](#) are now meeting regularly on Wednesday nights at 7pm in the pub. Our golf outing is a huge undertaking that requires outreach to sponsors and donors, advertising, organizing the golfing itself and the many logistical elements required for the day and the dinner following. We can use all the hands we can get, so please drop by and get involved. Again, the date of the outing: [Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup>](#).

**Good & Welfare** – Please say a prayer for Frank Duffy’s wife, Bridie, as she fell ill the week preceding the parade. Also remember Neil Cosgrove who has been under the weather for over a week with a late case of Covid – he’s doing better, but remember him and anyone else who is still struggling with the virus or its affects. Also continue to pray for the Ukrainians – their safety and a resolution to what is going on. Please also keep continue to keep our law enforcement professionals, healthcare workers and members of the armed services in your prayers.

As always, we pray that you and your family are healthy and safe.

Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

**Chuck Parnow**

## New Members



At our February meeting, nine new members joined. Congratulations and welcome to them – let’s make sure they feel welcome and let’s get them involved!

Joe Downing – Orangeburg  
Cormac Fitzpatrick – Pearl River  
Chris Fleming – Pearl River  
John McKenna – Piermont  
Conor Mitchell – Park Ridge

Brendan Moore – Pearl River  
Joe Orecchio – Pearl River  
Dennis O’Sullivan – Stony Point  
Tim Reilly – Cocoa Beach

## AOH Scholarships



We have a healthy slate of scholarship applicants. At this point, the scholarship test is being scheduled, and we’ll have results next month. Note, we are looking to re-start our Hibernian Mass in conjunction with a Communion breakfast as a venue for awarding the scholarships. More to come on that regarding scheduling in the coming weeks.

## St. Patrick’s Luncheon



“Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night ....” – On **Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>** there was little heat, but plenty of desire to be out and about with friends as 80+ seniors attended the annual St. Patrick’s Day luncheon. Larry DeGennaro was assisted by over 15 Brothers and an army of tweens/teens in delivering a great day of food (100 pounds of corned beef), cheer and entertainment. A special shoutout to Teddy Herlihy who has shown up for years to sing and play at these events, and the seniors always look for him!

Also, thanks to the dancers, Irish musicians and the **Rockland County AOH Pipe & Drums** (see the picture below) for their always rousing finale to the event.



Special thanks to NY State Assemblyman (and Division 3 member) Mike Lawler for attending and presenting Division 3 with the “*Best Non-Profit in the 97<sup>th</sup> Assembly District*”. We do it because, ‘that’s what we do’ but it is nice to get recognized. Congratulations to you all.



## Rockland Parade



The Rockland County Ancient Order of Hibernians' St. Patrick's Parade once again stepped off from the Pfizer campus on Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. The long-awaited parade was three years in the making, and it did not disappoint. Not only were we blessed by great weather for a day March, but the crowd was large, loud and appreciative. Clearly, everyone had had enough waiting!

Our own Frank McDonagh finally had his march down Central Avenue – congratulations to him and the McDonagh family. Following is a picture of Frank with Division 3 member and an Aide to the Grand Marshal, Patrick Lenihan. Many thanks to Patrick for his and his mom, Patty's, efforts in preparing while he was away at college and for carving time out of his break to be there. Your dad, Richie, was smiling down on us all that day.



Also, congratulations and thanks go out to the Hanson clan. Scott Hanson finally marched as our Battalion Commander, and the Hansons were there in numbers, with Division 3 members Sean Hanson and Brian Hanson carrying the flags out in front of Division 3.



***Don't forget our Advertisers and make sure to read through to the end for our Irish history article!***





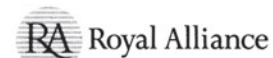
**Division 3 members Joe Moran and Sean Walsh, along with the Walsh boys, carried the County banner for their Grand Marshal.**

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# The Forgotten Irish Victim of the Boston Massacre



It was a cold, snowy night in Boston on March 5, 1770, but the city itself was at the boiling point. There was growing resentment of British soldiers who had been sent in to enforce the various British tax acts against colonists' protests of "No taxation without representation!". On a more pedestrian level, there was the additional growing resentment among members of Boston's working-class that off-duty British soldiers were taking jobs in the community to supplement their pay.

It was a powder keg awaiting a spark, and it was struck that night when a British sentry struck a young apprentice who was pestering an officer for a bill which later turned out to have been already paid. Rumor and misinformation soon resulted in a mob gathering around the sentry; some began taunting him and throwing objects while others watched, trying to figure out what was happening. The conflict escalated as the British guard was turned out to rescue the sentry.

One of the members of the crowd was Patrick Carr. Carr was a 30-year-old Catholic immigrant from Ireland employed in a leatherworking business. Hearing the ringing of church bells that began to toll as the riot ensued, he grabbed a short sword he owned, only to be dissuaded by friends to leave it. As he attempted to approach the scene of the disturbance, the British soldiers fired on the crowd. Carr was struck in the abdomen, which, while not immediately fatal, was a death sentence. Carr was to linger in agony for four days until succumbing to his wounds, the last of the 5 victims of the event that has come down to us as the 'Boston Massacre'.

As he lay dying, Carr forgave the man who shot him, believing that he did so out of fear and not of malice. Of the soldiers' actions on the 5<sup>th</sup> in Boston, Carr stated "*he had seen soldiers often fire on the people in Ireland, but had never seen them bear half so much before they fired in his life...*". Over the objections of the defense, Carr's doctor was allowed to present his statements at the trial of the eight British soldiers accused of murder during the massacre as those of a man knowing he was to die and having no reason to lie; it is the earliest recorded uses of the dying declaration exception to the inadmissibility of hearsay evidence in the United States legal code.

Famously, John Adams agreed to represent the British soldiers accused of murder for firing on the crowd, an action that is often portrayed as a gallant standoff principle. Adams, never shy in praising himself later described his defense as "*One of the best Pieces of Service I ever rendered my Country. Judgment of Death against those Soldiers would have been as foul a Stain upon this Country as the Executions of the Quakers or Witches.*"



However, the tactics used by Adams were anything but honorable, and in fact displayed the lowest form of bigotry. Adams had a problem in that he wished to show Boston as an enlightened society of law and order the equal of any in the British empire, yet to get his clients off he had to show that the soldiers were in fear of their lives and defending themselves from a mob. Adams' solution? Blame the incident as the work of "outsiders", not Bostonians. In his speech to the jury, Adams stated:

*"We have been entertained with a great variety of phrases, to avoid calling this sort of people a mob. -Some call them shavers, some call them geniuses. -The plain English is gentlemen, most probably a motley rabble of saucy boys, negroes and molattoes, Irish teagues and outlandish jacktars. And why we should scruple to call such a set of people a mob, I can't conceive, unless the name is too respectable for them"*

Despite the fact that Carr's dying declaration was beneficial to his clients and that Carr was clearly only incidentally involved, Adams continued to play on the anti-Irish Catholic bigotry of the jury.

*"Such things are not new in the world, nor in the British dominions, though they are comparatively, rarities and novelties in this town. Carr a native of Ireland had often been concerned in such attacks"*

It is clear that John Adams did not have the same regard for Irish Catholics that he had for 'Quakers and Witches.'"

Adams was successful in having six of the accused soldiers acquitted, with the remaining two convicted of manslaughter punishable by the branding of their thumbs rather than the hangman's noose. However, there can be no admiration for the base bigotry that Adams employed attacking both Crispus Atticus, the first victim of the massacre, and Patrick Carr, the last. Certainly, the nobility and honesty of Patrick Carr deserves to be remembered as are the facts that Irish Americans have often been victims of prejudice.

Post Script: One hundred years later, a proposal was made to erect a monument to commemorate the Boston Massacre. The proposal was met by stiff opposition by the Boston elite, who, harkening back to John Adams didn't want to honor a mob. One of the key advocates for the monument, who helped to finally secure its approval was the Irish American poet John Boyle O'Reilly.