



Ancient Order of Hibernians

JOHN CARDINAL D'ALTON DIVISION 3

October 2024

Brother Hibernians



We have been blessed with a great run of weather, though I'm sure a lot of our yards could do with a couple of days of rain. Our prayers go out to the many in the southeast affected by the hurricanes. You should have seen an email from national President Sean Pender on how you can support relief efforts by contributing to Hibernian Charities (we'll make sure to forward that email just in case).

Our next division meeting will be at the Hibernian House this **Friday, October 25th at 8:00pm**. Key agenda items include accepting nominations for divisional representatives for Rockland Parade Battalion Commander and Aide to the Grand Marshal. We'll also review the status of our HVAC improvements on the House. While we're on that topic, a huge thank you to State Assemblyman John McGowan and his office for their efforts in helping us obtain grant funding for this work. It is hugely appreciated.

Our big fall events are coming up – see the following articles on both the Pot Of Gold fundraiser and our Senior Citizen Thanksgiving Luncheon. Please also keep an eye out for raffle tickets supporting “Wreaths Across America” – this has been a very successful effort over the last several years to make sure that veterans' graves are recognized during the holidays (thanks John Draper Sr. and team!).

Good & Welfare – Please pray for the repose of the soul of Patrick Frawley (father of Patrick Jr. and Michelle Reilly), Kay Hogan (mother of Bernadette Hogan) and Florence “Flo” McCoy (wife of Frank McCoy), may they all rest in peace. Also keep the following in your prayers for their quick recovery: Jim and Eileen Finn still recovering from a bad car accident and Francis Cull battling with health challenges.

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

Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Chuck Parnow

Upcoming Events



- **Rambling House – Friday, November 15th**, 7-10pm at Hibernian House: a great night of traditional Irish music! No cover.
- **Rock at the Hibernian – Saturday, November 16th**, 5-8pm; The Rummies will perform an acoustic set (or two) upstairs in the Hall. Again, no cover.
- **Seniors' Thanksgiving Luncheon – Saturday, November 23rd**: Our annual feast of food and Irish culture for our senior citizen community
- **Pot of Gold Party – Sunday, November 24th**: First drawing party – great food and multiple chances to win.
- **'Freeze your Arse Off' golf tournament – Friday, November 29th** (in the works so put it on your calendar!)
- **Dueling Pianos – Friday, December 6th**: Show starts at 8pm. Get your tickets early as we always sell out. Contact Dennis Madigan at (914) 714-8287.
- **Pot of Gold Party – Sunday, December 22nd**: Final drawing party – see following article for all the details
- **Traditional "Wren Night" at the Hibernian – Thursday, December 26th**

Pot of Gold



The first Pot of Gold drawing party is right around the corner on Sunday, November 24th starting at 2pm (\$2,000 of prizes will be awarded), so don't get left behind! There will be tickets behind the bar at the pub, and we'll have tickets available at our division meeting. Tickets are available to all, so please consider grabbing a few and selling them to friends, neighbors and your friends at work.

Tickets are \$100 dollars and not only give you the chance to win a variety of cash prizes including the grand prize of \$10,000, but the ticket affords you and a guest to two Sunday afternoon parties at the end of the year. The second party featuring the grand prize drawing will be Sunday, December 22nd starting at 2pm.

As noted, this is one of two major fundraisers we have each year, so we need our members to support it – not only by making sure to buy your own ticket but, more importantly, by helping sell tickets to our friends and the community. Our charitable giving does a lot of good work throughout the year, but we need the money to do it, so our fundraisers have to be successful.

Seniors' Luncheon



On Saturday, November 23rd from 10-2pm at the Hibernian House - We are once again hosting this great day of food and Irish culture. Seniors in the community are invited and

as always, we will need volunteers, whether it be members or if you have teenagers who need community service hours! Set up starts at 9am with clean up done shortly after 2:00. For questions, please reach out to Larry DeGennaro at ldegenn931@aol.com.

Hibernian House



Congratulations to the new slate of Hibernian House Officers, including those newly elected or continuing terms. For the upcoming year, the full slate is as follows:

President – Dennis Madigan

Vice President – Michael Mulcahy

Secretary – Quinton Van Wynen

Treasurer – Christopher Power

As noted in the opening letter, much of the work has been completed on the new HVAC work in the hall. We are now looking at the next phase of capital improvements – more on that in the next month or two.

Also, a quick note that the monthly fundraising drawings. Sign-up for next year's monthly drawings will in the near future – so make sure to sign up – you have to be in it to win it! And stay tuned for some special events upstairs in the hall including an NFL Sunday event

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

support our advertisers ; they support our organization



REALTOR



NEW YORK LISTING SERVICE
MLS

Mary Fitzgerald

NYS Licensed Real Estate Associate Broker

Better Homes & Gardens Rand Realty

19 E. Central Ave., Pearl River, NY

c. **845.536.9418**

marymfitz@aol.com

Our greatest compliments are your referrals. Thank you!



ROCKLAND MATTRESS

Family owned for over 40 years

DAN MILLER

160 East Route 59
Nanuet, NY 10954
RocklandMattress.com

Phone: 845-623-3030
Fax: 845-623-3160
rmattress@optimum.net

RAYMOND SHERIDAN

INSURANCE &
FINANCIAL SERVICES

19 E. WASHINGTON Ave., PEARL RIVER, NY 10965

PHONE (845) 735-8080

WWW.RSHERIDAN.COM

PERSONAL AUTO • HOMEOWNERS • LIFE • COMMERCIAL
RESTAURANTS • CONTRACTORS • STRIP MALLS • RETAIL
BUSINESS





**HIBERNIAN HOUSE
RENTALS
CALL 845-731-9697**



Pearl River Florist

45 EAST CENTRAL AVE. • PEARL RIVER, N. Y. 10965
(845) 735-3366 • FAX (845) 735-8725
www.pearlriverflorist.com

Maryann Walker
Stephanie Walker



*"Committed to Service Excellence"
Affordable Funerals & Cremations
Independently Owned & Operated*

Assumma-Shankey Funeral Home

Our Family Serving Yours

34 North Summit Street Pearl River, NY 10965 845-735-4849
Fax 845-735-1377
Assummashankey@gmail.com



Volumetric Fund

Pearl River, New York
Your Neighborly Mutual Fund

- ❖IRA Accounts
- ❖Saving Accounts
- ❖Monthly Investing Plans
- ❖Business Accounts



(845)623-7637

Web: volumetric.com ~ Email: info@volumetric.com



**AMERICAN
LEGION**

JOHN H. SECOR POST 329

30 Railroad Avenue, P.O. Box 205
Pearl River, New York 10965

Phones: "Dug Out": (845) 735-7868
(includes Hall rentals)



Daniel L. Hooker, CRPC, LUTCF, FICF, MDRT
Field Agent

Phone: 845-548-8350
daniel.hooker@kofc.org
License #LA-786102



Life Insurance • Long-Term Care Insurance
Retirement Annuities • Disability Income Insurance
Protecting Catholic families since 1882.



ShopRite of Pearl River

Middletown Road, Pearl River, NY
Joanne Winous, Manager
(845) 735-4871



Open 7 Days • Kitchen Open to 1:00am • Full Bar • Lunch & Dinner
ALL sporting events via satellite on large screen TV's & 8 monitors
(201) 391-9356
Kinderkamack Rd. & Grand Ave. • Montvale, New Jersey
www.daveyspub.com

MURTY'S PUBLIC HOUSE
Restaurant & Pub

(845) 620-7502

29 W. Central Avenue, Pearl River, NY 10965



DAVID FISHER
CHRISTOPHER FISHER
Directors

Wyman Fisher Funeral Home, Inc.
100 FRANKLIN AVENUE
PEARL RIVER, NY 10965 TEL (845) 735-2161
www.wymanfisher.com FAX (845) 735-9123



Neil T. O'Sullivan, CPA/PLLC
38 South Main Street
Pearl River, NY 10965
T 845-735-9500
E neil@neilosullivancpa.com

QUINTA STEAKHOUSE

BEST STEAKHOUSE IN ROCKLAND! \$10.00 Prix Fix Lunch
• Wide Selection of Prime Steak & Chops
• Fresh Seafood
• Daily Specials
• Homemade Desserts
• Specialty Coffees & Espresso
• Sidewalk Dining Now Available
• Extensive Wine Bar
Open 7 Days
24 East Central Ave, Pearl River, NY • 845-735-5565



**FOR
HIBERNIAN
HOUSE
RENTALS
CALL 845-731-9697**



MORTGAGE MASTER INC.
THE LENDING EXPERTS

MATTHEW REID
Senior Loan Consultant
520 White Plains Road
Tarrytown, NY 10591
direct 914.586.1116
cell 201.953.1571
fax 914.509.5415
email mreid@mortgagemasterinc.com
NMLS # 9726/NY LIC # 9726 /NY Mortgage Banker B500773

support our advertisers ; they support our organization

The Haunting Legacy of St. Michan's: Where History Lived and Sadly Died



In the heart of Dublin stands St. Michan's Church, a haunting reminder of how history can live—or die—before our eyes. Founded in 1095 (and later refurbished in 1686), it was initially built to serve the Viking community on the north side of the River Liffey. Over the centuries, the church has borne witness to Ireland's evolving history—from the days of Strongbow to the Easter Rising. It is said that George Frideric Handel practiced and revised his *Messiah* on its famed organ before its debut performance. The church's Gothic architectural features stand as a testament to Dublin's rich religious and cultural heritage.

But it is beneath the church, in its ancient crypts, where its most haunting legacy lies: a set of vaults that once housed remarkably well-preserved mummies. The mummies of St. Michan's are a product of the unique conditions in the underground crypt. The dry limestone walls and cool air created an environment that naturally preserved some of the bodies interred there—some over 800 years old. The discovery and public viewing of these mummies were made possible by an unusual quirk: while tradition and church law would have forbidden the opening of a coffin, the natural decay of the coffins exposed the preserved bodies, allowing them to be seen without any human interference.

These mummies, many belonging to prominent Dublin families, were astonishingly well-preserved. Their leathery skin and skeletal faces were visible in open coffins, offering a chilling glimpse into the past. Among the most famous was the "Crusader," a towering figure who stood over 6' 5" in life and was believed to have participated in the medieval Crusades. His exposed body had one arm extended, and visitors to St. Michan's were once encouraged to shake his hand. Nearby rested a tiny woman known as "the nun," a man with a damaged hand referred to as "the thief" (though the exact cause of his injuries remains a mystery), and another woman known simply as "the unknown."

The crypt also contained the remains of notable historical figures, including the Sheares brothers, Henry and John. Leaders of the 1798 United Irishmen Rebellion were executed by the English authorities and laid to rest in the vault. Rumors persist that their fellow patriot, Robert Emmet, may also rest in the crypt, his body still undiscovered.

Of particular relevance during the Halloween season is a lesser-known connection to St. Michan's crypts. In 1847, a boy was born near the church and its crypts. Though there is no record of him visiting the church, his family held a burial plot in its graveyard, and knowledge of the mummies was widespread in the area. It's hard not to imagine that the boy might have visited the church and that its dark Gothic architecture, along with the stories of the mummies, left a lasting impression on young Bram Stoker, who would grow up to write *Dracula*.

The legacy of St. Michan's and its mummies might have led some to believe in the timelessness of history. But that belief was tragically shattered in 2024 when a man deliberately set fire to the crypt. The blaze caused devastating damage, and the water used to extinguish the fire destroyed the mummies that had survived centuries. Experts have deemed the loss irreversible—not just of the physical remains, but of the historical legacy they represented.



BRAM STOKER

St. Michan's mummies were more than relics; they were a tangible link to Ireland's past. While the mummies served as a reminder of the fragility of life, their destruction highlights the frailty of history itself and the urgent need for its protection. We cannot assume that because something has survived for centuries, it will continue to exist for future generations. The tragic fate of St. Michan's mummies is a stark reminder: history will not endure unless we actively work to preserve it.