



Ancient Order of Hibernians

JOHN CARDINAL D'ALTON DIVISION 3

Pearl River, NY

March, 2017



Brother Hibernians, _____



Happy St. Patrick's Day and Irish American Heritage Month to you and yours. Welcome aboard to new members John Duffy, Robert Dupee, Michael Carroll, and Sean Kavanagh. Our next meeting will be held on Friday, March 24th. Congrats to Frank McDonagh and Phil Sheridan on their reelections. Everyone had a great time at the Emerald Ball. Many thanks go out to all the volunteers who worked so hard and to all the honorees. It was great to see the strong Division presence at the St. Margaret's party, the proclamation of Irish American Heritage Month by the Orangetown Board, the Friendly Sons dinner, and the screening of the Project Children documentary. A bus leaves the Cultural Center in Blauvelt at 11 am for people marching with the County in NYC on March 17th. We have "180 Strong" buttons for marchers to wear signifying their support for the Parade Celebration Committee that was elected by the 180 Affiliated Organizations in November of 2015 but which continues to be shunned by the Parade Board of Directors. Don't forget that the deadline for scholarship applications is Saturday March 18th. Jack O'Connor and Larry DeGennaro would greatly appreciate any help for the Seniors St. Patrick's Luncheon on the 18th. Volunteers are needed starting at 10 am. Let's dress appropriately and march with pride with Division 3 through the streets of Pearl River behind our Aide to Grand Marshal Marty Davin and Battalion Commander Chuck Parnow in the 2017 St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 19th.

Dan Callanan reports the following Good and Welfare News...Please say a prayer for the repose of the soul of Mark Donnelly. Another couple of good thoughts are due for Brian Gallagher and please support our Friend in Need campaign for him and his family. Denis Troy is scheduled for a new knee due to too many high school jump shots, Charlie Murphy has a brand new pacemaker, Marty Meaney is recovering from surgery that his surgeon Dr. Tiger Woods claims will drastically improve his golf swing, John Taylor is doing well after his latest bout with COPD as his son Brian is doing quite well with his canonical studies in Rome, and Gene Flood is looking great after losing 40 pounds to get back to his fighting weight..

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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CALENDAR _____

- 3-17 NYC Parade
- 3-18 Senior Luncheon
- 3-18 Scholarship apps due
- 3-19 Rockland Parade
- 4-07 Night at the Races
- 4-08 Scholarship Exam
- 4-23 Communion Breakfast
- 5-12 Golf Outing



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LAOH

Jim Russell, Cy Hughes, Brian and Lillian Murphy and I had the pleasure of attending the Grand Marshal and Aides to Grand Marshall, NYC luncheon at Antuns. Helen Kilgallen Murphy, our recording secretary, is the Aide to Grand Marshall, NYC and was honored Helen lost her father on 2/25/17 so please keep Helen and her family in your prayers. Due to the inclement weather our St. Patrick's Day gathering was rescheduled. It will be held on 3/18/17 at 6:30 PM at the Castle at Blue Hill. Our next meeting will be held on 4/11/17 at 7:30PM. I hope we get a great turnout marching on 3/19/17. Happy Saint Patrick's Day to all members and their families.

Yours in friendship, unity and Christian charity,

Terry McGeever, President

HIBERNIAN HOUSE

Just back from a great trip to Ireland, run by Neil O'Sullivan. Great time was had by all. While in Killarney, Rich Lenihan bought a great hat. This particular store where Rich bought this hat referred to their hats as hads. Needless to say Rich had a great had on the whole time we were there. Wonderful event at the Pub last Sunday, John Lowry bought a drink. The recipient asked if he could take it home and save it for posterity. Warren Hennessy was a close runner up in the annual fat off which was won by Brian McIntyre who lost 39 lbs. and by Bobby Winkelman who won the percent lost. Good to see the thundering herd back to normal. Budweiser sales are back to normal since one of our members thought Lent was over last Sunday. No names, but you can make an educated guess as to who it was. Please remember the friend in need that is being run for Brian Gallagher. You can make checks out to a friend in need and mail them to or leave them at the Pub.

Congrats to Carmel Reilly as our Grand Marshal, hope you have a great day. Just heard they gave Pete Engel a map of the parade route, just follow the guy in front of you. Golf season is almost here. If you need lessons contact Doug Meeks at Old Tappan. He helped my game in a big way. I am now hitting the ball further out of bounds than ever before. All kidding aside, he is a great teacher. Hope everyone enjoys Saint Patrick's week. We are allowed to have our own week. Rooting for good weather for the parades. *Pete Dunne*

2017 SCHOLARSHIPS

The scholarship application and all materials are on our website, <http://praoh.org>. Applications must be emailed to kmcnulty@shp.org by March 18th, The test will be administered on April 8th at the Hibernian House and the scholarships will be awarded at our Communion Breakfast on April 23rd.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADES

NYC- Friday, March 17th. A bus will depart the Cultural Center in Blauvelt at 11 am for people who will march with the County. For those who may be coming directly from work, the County will step off from E. 46 St. between Madison and Vanderbilt Avenues at 2:30 pm. The RCAOH Pipe Band will be performing in the Roosevelt hotel before the parade.

Pearl River-Sunday, March 19th. 9am mass at Dominican Convent in Sparkill will be followed by breakfast at the Pearl River Hilton. The parade steps off from the Pfizer parking lot at 1:30 pm sharp so please get there no later than 1 to line up behind Chuck Parnow in the 5th Battalion.

PLEASE DRESS APPROPRIATELY AS WE CELEBRATE OUR CULTURE AND HERITAGE.

To reserve a seat on the Friday bus or at the Sunday breakfast, contact Jim Russell at 845-300-2930.

NIGHT AT THE RACES FUNDRAISER

Friday, April 7th at the Hibernian House
Doors open at 7pm, 1st race at 8pm
Contact Pat Tully@845-709-5624

SENIOR CITIZEN'S ST. PATRICK'S DAY LUNCHEON

Saturday, March 18th Noon to 2pm
Starting at 10am volunteers will be needed before, during, and after
Contact Jack O'Connor, oakie0023@yahoo.com, or Larry DeGennaro, LDegenn931@aol.com

DIVISION 3 GOLF OUTING-SAVE THE DATE!

Friday, May 12th at Blue Hill,
details to follow
To join the committee or volunteer,
please call Sean Walsh
at 845-300-1718

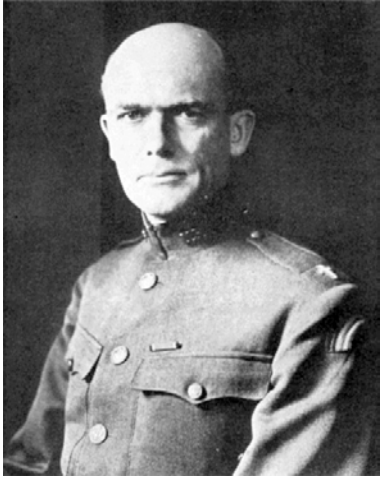
COMING THIS SUMMER-RGAA CELEBRATION AND PIPE BAND COMPETITION

The Rockland GAA will celebrate the Grand Opening of their clubhouse during the weekend of July 7th through the 9th. The Rockland County AOH will sponsor a Ceol Mor festival on July 22nd that will bring the best bagpipe bands in the Northeast together at the Rockland RAA fields to compete against each other.

Save both dates, more details to follow on both events.

History

A Meeting in Rockland, a Reunion in No Man's Land



Fr. Francis P. Duffy

In the summer of 1896, a newly ordained Priest said one of his first masses at St. Peter's in Haverstraw, Rockland County. Though the young Cleric was born in Ontario Canada, he was the grandson of Irish immigrants who had fled the horrors of the Great Hunger. During the mass he was assisted by a young Irish American altar boy who was born and raised in Haverstraw. The young cleric would eventually leave

to continue his education, earning a doctorate in philosophy and becoming a teacher at the Seminary of the Archdiocese of New York; the young altar boy would go on to win some renown as a professional prizefighter.

The two would meet again; not a chance encounters on a street corner or at a restaurant, but on the bloody battlefields of France in WW I. Fr. Francis Duffy was now the Chaplain of the Fighting 69th, the last vestige of the famous Irish Brigade of the Civil War and still a predominantly Irish American regiment. His young Altar Server from that summer two decades earlier was Michael Aloysius Donaldson, now a Sergeant in that same regiment. Duffy fondly recalled the reunion with his altar sever, now known as "Big Mike" in his memoirs and with some humor describe Donaldson reverently giving him a gift of a set of boxing gloves as a gift that the bemused priest was not sure what to do with.

It was often reported that the line for Fr. Duffy's confessions often exceeded the chow line. Fr. Duffy was not a passive witness to war; he invariably accompanied stretcher parties under fire into "no man's land" to bring comfort to the wounded and dying. For his courage in ministering to his men under fire, Fr. Duffy would be awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion d'honneur and Croix de Guerre. Despite his calmness and resolution under fire, even Duffy could not escape the horrors of the Western Front unscathed; witnesses recall that in turning over one young soldier to give the last rites, Duffy broke down into tears; he remembered baptizing him as a baby.

Recognized as a natural leader and the heart and soul of perhaps the hardest fighting regiment of WWI, Duffy was briefly considered to be appointed its commanding officer, which would have been unprecedented as a Chaplain. Fr. Duffy though had other plans. He saw in the heavily Irish Catholic 69th a living example of Irish Catholic patriotism, patriotism which was still far too often questioned back home by the forces of ignorance and prejudice. Duffy used his influence to see that the 69th finished the war and marched back to New York under another shining example of Irish American Patriotism in action: Colonel "Wild Bill" Donovan, who would be awarded the Medal of Honor and lead the OSS, a forerunner of the CIA, in WW II. Fr. Duffy would conclude the war as the most decorated Chaplain in the history of the U.S. Army for his service and is honored with a statue in Times Square, a block from his post war parish of Holy Cross.

During World War I, the 69th took part in five major engagements and served in the front lines for 164 days. The regiment would sustain casualties of 644 killed in action and 2,587 wounded (200 of whom would later die of their wounds). One member of the regiment killed in World War I was Daniel Buckley of County Cork who had survived the sinking of the RMS Titanic in 1912. Sixty members of the 69th earned the Distinguished Service Cross and three of its members were awarded the Medal of Honor. One of those was awarded to the former altar boy from Haverstraw's Sargent Michael Donaldson who while his unit was pinned under heavy machine gun fire, ran into "no man's land" six times to carry back wounded comrades. After the war Donaldson returned to Haverstraw where he remained a lifelong resident and is buried in Saint Peters Cemetery.

As we begin the commemoration of the centennial of the U.S. participation of WW I, let us remember the heroism of Fr. Duffy, Michael A. Donaldson and the service of the 69th that maintains the legacy of service of the Irish Brigade. On St. Patrick's Day let us wear our green proudly and respectfully for all the Irish who wear the green on their graves in our nation's service.



Sgt. Michael A. Donaldson

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