



Ancient Order of Hibernians

JOHN CARDINAL D'ALTON DIVISION 3

Pearl River, NY

April, 2017



Brother Hibernians, _____



We hope you and your families had a Happy and Blessed Easter. Welcome aboard to new members Christopher Vergine, Michael Babiak, and John Morgan. Our next meeting will be held on Friday, April 28th. Many thanks to all of you who marched in the NYC and Rockland Parades. Thanks and congratulations to Jack O'Connor and Larry DeGennaro for running the Senior Citizen's luncheon and to all the volunteers who made the day such a success. Many thanks to Scholarship Committee chairmen Kevin McNulty and Neil Cosgrove as well as the whole committee for handling such a tough job. We had a great bunch of applicants this year but unfortunately we can only award 10. Congratulations to the winners and best wishes to all of the applicants. Congratulations to Ed O'Dea on being selected for the Community Champion award by the Irish Echo for his work with the Lourdes Kids of Rockland. Looking forward to seeing you all at our Joe Walsh Memorial Golf Outing on May 12th.

Dan Callanan reports the following Good and Welfare News...Please continue your prayers and best wishes for Brian Gallagher who has been released from the Mayo clinic after open heart surgery and is undergoing rehab back home in South Carolina, Jack "Pots and Pans" Cunningham is also rehabbing at home after having a few heart valves replaced, Dan Holland is doing well after a bout with health issues, Bill Gaynor was taken to Good Sam for medical tests and observations, Kevin McGeever is home recovering from injuries sustained in a serious car accident, and Pete McGovern's son Patrick is battling stage 4 cancer. There will be a fundraiser for Patrick on the night of May 12th at the PR Elks.

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.*

HIBERNIAN HOUSE

Boys just back from Myrtle Beach, stayed at the Estates Hanson. We found out that Joe Moran has to eat 10% of his body weight every day. The stairs at the Legion are coming along nicely. They may be done before the Tappan Zee Bridge is finished. However they will still be standing when the building is gone. Golf season is in full swing and one of our members almost had an eagle last week. Actually it was more like a goose, which he just missed. No names but he works Sundays. George Leahy is back from Florida looking tan and fit. With his new haircut he looks like Howard Hughes. The annual golf outing is coming up in May, looks like it will be another sellout, anyone interested stop

by the Pub and sign up or if you want to sponsor a hole there are forms at the Pub. This year's honoree is Joe Walsh, well deserved. Our own Mook is now running security at Yankee Stadium. If anyone needs tickets I suggest you try Stub Hub. The voice of reason award for the month goes to Tom Lynch. That's correct, Tom Lynch. Good job. Anyone interested in going fishing and not catching anything contact Doug Meeks. Dan Callanan's weekly lotto is going well. He is almost ready to buy his new house in Hawaii. Sorry water company Al. Tickets, what tickets. Thanks to everyone who helped out with Friend in need fund raiser.

Pete Dunne

ELECTED OFFICERS DIVISION _____

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CALENDAR _____

- 4-23 Communion Breakfast**
- 4-28 Division Meeting**
- 5-12 Golf Outing**
- 5-29 Pearl River Memorial Day Parade**
- 7-07 RGAA Grand Opening Weekend**
- 7-12 NYSAOH Convention**



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LAOH

Thank you to all the LAOH division 3 members who marched in the NYC St. Patrick's Day and the Rockland County St. Patrick's Day parades. Helen Kilgallen Murphy, Carmel Reilly and the marchers appeared in the NYS LAOH St Brigid's newsletter and the Irish Echo. Our annual St. Patrick's Day party, chaired by Mary O'Sullivan and Katie Basler, was well attended and very enjoyable. Many LAOH division 3 members hosted the St Zita's annual St. Patrick's Day party on 3/28/17. My daughter, Kaileen and son, Kian along with Kieran Flanagan and Colleen Griffin entertained the seniors at St Zita's with some Irish tunes at the party. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the April 11th meeting. Happy Easter to all members and their families.

Yours in friendship, unity and Christian charity,

Terry McGeever, President

2017 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Caitlin Holt, Kevin Moore, John Hogan, Kevin Lynn, Theresa Glynn, Christian Madigan, Brianne Lee, Jack Deegan, Mairead Dillon, Niall Glynn

NYSAOH CONVENTION

July 12th to 15th For info please visit www.nyaohlaoh2017.com

DIVISION 3 JOE WALSH MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING FRIDAY MAY 12

Our annual charity golf outing will be held on Friday May 12, 2017 at 12:30 P.M., registration begins at 10:30 A.M., at Blue Hill Golf Course in Pearl River, New York. For all those who cannot make the golf day, come join us for a social evening of dinner, laughter, and camaraderie at The Castle at Blue Hill at 5:00 P.M. that evening. During this year's event we will honor the memory of our friend and fellow Hibernian, Joe Walsh. Joe passed away last year after a heroic battle with pancreatic cancer; however, his legacy lives on in the form of the numerous charitable organizations that he was instrumental in forming and

funding, including Project Children, an organization that brought 25,000 children to the United States from Northern Ireland for a four-week holiday. He and his family's tireless work with this organization contributed to the long awaited peace accord in Northern Ireland in 1998.

Following in the footsteps of Joe Walsh, the goal for this golf outing is to raise funds to support the many charitable activities that the AOH, Div. 3 sponsors throughout the year. The gratitude of our college scholarship recipients, the enjoyment of the senior citizens at our

holiday luncheons, and the happiness on the faces of the kids at our Christmas party for children with special needs are just a few examples of the priceless results made possible by your generous support. We hope that you will help us make this event a success by sponsoring the event or participating in the day's activities. If you can't join us please consider being a sponsor. We thank you in advance for your consideration in contributing to this organization. Your support truly makes a difference in the lives of so many! Please contact Sean Walsh at 845-300-1718 for more information.

DIVISION MASS & COMMUNION BREAKFAST

Sunday April 23 9:00 am Mass
at St. Margaret's Ministers & lector
needed-contact Eddie O'Dea at 917-974-9659 or odea@chapin.edu
Breakfast to follow immediately at
Hibernian House Presentation of 2017 Scholarships
Cost: Adults \$20, Children under 12 \$5
Please contact chuck.parnow@gmail.com
for reservations or to volunteer

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.

2017 FLEADH MAY 5-7

The 2017 Mid-Atlantic Fleadh will be held at the Hilton in Parsippany, NJ. More information and details are available at: NYfleadh.com. It's a great weekend of traditional Irish art – from age-group competitions in the various traditional instruments to set and ceili dance competitions to singing (Irish and English language). And as always, music sessions will be breaking out all over the hotel throughout the weekend. Spectators are welcome, and indeed encouraged. Come out to hear some great music, and meet famous and soon to be famous musicians.

MARTIN McGUINNESS MEMORIAL MASS

Monday, April 24th 6:30 pm at St. Patrick's Cathedral, NYC
RCAOH will be running a bus from the MTN parking lot at Rte. 304 and Washington Avenue
If interested please call Jim Russell at 845-300-2930

ED O'DEA TO BE HONORED BY THE IRISH ECHO

Community Champion Award-Friday May 5th 5:30 to 9:30pm
Rosie O'Grady's Manhattan Club
800 7th Ave, NYC
Tickets \$150 pp. Call 212-482-4818 for journal and ticket info.

History



One hundred and seventy years ago, Ireland was in the second year of the blight that destroyed the principle means of sustenance for the Irish people, the potato. The year 1847 was to go down in infamy as the worst year of the great hunger and earn the

title “Black ‘47”, Hundreds of emigrants arriving in the ports of the United States gave personal testimony of the horrors being experienced in Ireland that were often lacking in British newspapers and America was moved to act. The great orator Henry Clay stated before the U.S. Senate ‘No imagination can conceive —no tongue express—no brush paint—the horrors of the scenes which are daily exhibited in Ireland’. Yet, several attempts at passing a famine relief bill for Ireland failed. Ironically, Clay had lost the presidency to current President Polk who had been substantially supported by the New York Democratic machine turning out the vote amongst thousands of recently arrived Irish immigrants; yet Polk made it clear he would veto any Irish relief legislation that required an expenditure of U.S. funds for charity on the basis of constitutionality. Other opposition was less pedantic and was rooted in anti-Irish prejudice and fears of “embarrassing” England; better that the Irish should starve than Britain blush.

While the Congress and President Polk blocked the passage of a U.S. government relief bill, Senator John Fairfield of Maine arrived at a solution to break the impasse and provide some American relief to Ireland. The Senator proposed the “loan” of two Navy Frigates, the Jamestown and the Macedonia, for the use by private relief efforts. The ships would be commanded by two experienced merchant mariners, Robert Forbes of Boston and George DeKay of New Jersey. Since this only involved “the use” of government property it avoided any objections on constitutional grounds and was passed.

The Jamestown’s captain Robert Forbes was one of the most successful mariners in Boston; he had gone to sea at the age of 13 and made a fortune in the China trade. Forbes quickly embraced the mission of Irish relief with the same zeal; he recalled the relief that Ireland had sent the Massachusetts colony shortly after the devastation wrought by King Phillip’s War in 1676. Forbes wrote “The amount of the contributions of Irishmen in 1676, if calculated at compound interest, would amount to a sum so large that I dare not say how much we should still be indebted... we have “cast our bread upon the waters” partly for the payment of an old debt and partly to plant in Irish hearts a debt which will, in future days, come back to us bearing fruit crowned with peace and good will”

Appropriately, on March 17th 1847 the process of loading the Jamestown, her guns now removed, began. Over the course of only three weeks, a relief committee chaired by Boston Mayor Josiah Quincy raised more than \$150,000 from donors stretching from Arkansas to Maine including \$170 from the Choctaw Indian nation. The government suspended tolls for any aid transport and the railroads shipped relief supplies marked IRELAND for free. Dozens of seamen volunteered for service in response to ads that

were run complimentary by newspapers. On March 28th, the Jamestown left Boston harbor on its mission of mercy with more than 8,000 barrels of bread, beans, pork, peas, corn, flour, rice, beef, potatoes and other supplies.

Under Forbes command, the Jamestown made swift passage to Ireland, taking only 15 days to reach Cobh harbor where it was greeted with cheering crowds and a band playing “Yankee Doodle”. Work quickly began on distribution the Jamestown’s cargo to 150 relief locations throughout Cork. Sadly, Cork’s gentry readily demonstrated how disconnected they and their government were from the plight of the Irish people by throwing banquets for Forbes and his crew where toasts to the Royal Family were frequent. However, Fr. Theobald Matthew, who would gain acclaim for his temperance movement, ensured that Captain Forbes would see and take back to America the true picture of Ireland’s plight. Fr. Matthew took Forbes on a tour of the city just a short distance from the grand homes of the ascendancy. Forbes describe what he saw as “The valley of death and pestilence itself ... I saw enough in five minutes to horrify me.”

Forbes sailed for Boston and returned the Jamestown to the U.S. after its brief, but successful 49 day voyage. Progress on the relief ship Macedonia in New York had not gone as smoothly. New York of the 1840’s was the center of the anti-Irish nativist movement who worked to blocked the humanitarian mission of the Macedonia at every opportunity. Forbes would bring his dedication and energy to the assistance of Captain DeKay and the Macedonia finally departed New York with its much-needed cargo of food, though Captain DeKay would later be financially ruined because of the large sums of money he personally put forward to see the noble mission of the voyage through.

As successful as one of America’s first international relief effort was, it could only put a small dent in the unimaginable suffering of the Great Hunger in Ireland that resulted in over one million deaths in a country of eight million. While America and other nations were sending food to Ireland, British policy was still exporting local produce away from starving Ireland. In the same year of 1847 that the U.S. Jamestown and Macedonia were delivering aid, Guinness exported nearly 300,000 gallons of stout to Britain using locally produced grain that could have helped feed the starving of Ireland. The capacity for self-deception to justify British irresponsibility for the starvation in Ireland is typified by a London Times editorial reacting to the Jamestown relief effort “We will confess to a passing sensation of wounded pride when we hear of our fellow subjects (the Irish) becoming objects of republican (U.S.) benevolence, and our social sores being exposed in the cities of New England. But if we are unable to rescue Ireland from the grasp of famine, as confessedly we are, it does not become us to resent the assistance of a generous kinsman and friend. Whoever is to blame, most true it is that Ireland does not prosper in our hands.” Like many in London, the Times was more concerned with English pride than Irish lives. One hundred and seventy years on, it is still “most true it is that Ireland does not prosper in (British) hands”. The British government continues to stall on the pursuit of justice for the victims of legacy issue and the recent British decision on Brexit threatens the very foundations of the Good Friday agreement. If a lasting peace is to be achieved in Ireland, then the U.S. must channel the spirit of the Jamestown and Macedonia relief missions and reengage in Northern Ireland to demand the promises of the Good Friday Agreement it help negotiate be fulfilled.

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