



Ancient Order of Hibernians

JOHN CARDINAL D'ALTON DIVISION 3

Pearl River, NY

May, 2013



Brother Hibernians, _____



Our next meeting will be held on Friday, May 31st at 8pm. Congratulations and many thanks to all those who worked so hard to make our Mass and Communion Breakfast such a success, especially the scholarship committee, chairmen Neil Cosgrove and Kevin McNulty, Ed O'Dea for the mass, and Phil Sheridan for the cooking. Remember that if you can't golf in our outing on May 16th, you can still make the dinner at Emmet's Castle that night, just call Sean Walsh at 845-201-8384. The County Convention will be held on Sunday June 9 at the Cultural Center in Blauvelt and we need all our delegates to attend. Many thanks to outgoing president Vince Tyer for his 6 years of leadership.

On Monday, May 27th, the Division will be marching in the Pearl River Memorial Day Parade. We will assemble at 9:45 in the Bank Parking lot across from the Bowling Alley. White Shirt and Dark slacks are suggested. Please come out and show your appreciation to those who gave all for our country.

Dan Callanan reports the following Good and Welfare News... Please say a prayer for the repose of the souls of Kevin Donohue's aunt Anita Colby, Scott Hanson's father George, Denis Troy's mom

Catherine, Bill Cosgrove's brother Michael, and Charlie Murphy's brother Tom. A couple of prayers are in order for John Draper, Sr. who is undergoing treatment for an infected colon and his bride Diane who received a few stitches as a result of a fall, Dermot Moore's mom Mary (*in Helen Hayes*) and Brendan Moore's wife Eileen (*at home*) are recovering well after hip replacements, and some really good news proving your prayers are working well is that Bob Farrelly has been declared c-free and has permanently relocated to Florida. Frank McDonagh reports that his bride Mary is doing quite well after her chemo and radiation treatments. We had a really nice response to our request last month for additional volunteers to help with Larry McKeever's rehab but we could use more volunteers to cover during the upcoming vacation season. The sessions begin at 9 am and last less than an hour and you choose your preferred day of the week. If you are able to help, please contact Dan Callanan at 845-735-6108.

As always, please remember in your prayers our wounded warriors and their families. Yours in Friendship, Unity & Christian Charity, Dermot O'Connor Moore, President.

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JOHN GANNON

CALENDAR _____

May 16	Golf Outing
May 19	Law Enforcement Memorial
May 23	Good Friday Agreement Symposium
May 31	Division Meeting
June 9	County Convention
July 10-13	NYS Convention Saratoga
July 11	McDermott Golf Outing
Aug 3	Saratoga Trip



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Ancient Order of Hibernians

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Thanks to some industrious minds, Mike and John, there are quite a few winners around The Pub last week as the "Derby" finished up. Ah! But still that one horse illusive again, maybe next year.

Could use some help with spring cleaning around the hall and yard. If you can spare some time next few Saturday mornings contact Frank McDonagh. Don't forget our service men, and say a prayer for our departed brothers.

Hibernian House Board

AOH Division 3 Golf Outing

Dedicated to: Joe McKiernan

Thursday May 16, 2013

Blue Hill Golf Course

12:00 pm Shotgun start

(10:30am Registration)

- Big Prize Putting Contest • Long Drive • Closest to the Pin
- Closest to the Line

Great Raffle Prizes and much more...
Sponsors Welcome

All proceeds to Benefit
Division Charities

Reception 5pm-8pm
at Emmett's Castle

\$140 per player

\$60 for dinner only

Contact: Sean Walsh for more info
at div3golfouting@optimum.net
or by phone at 845.201.8384.



Saratoga Races Bus Trip

This year's Saratoga bus trip will take place on Saturday, August 3, 2013. A coach bus will leave the Hibernian House @ 8 am sharp & will return after the last race. The cost again this year is \$60 per person, which includes beer, wine, soda, sandwiches. The sign-up sheet will go up behind the Hibernian House bar on June 1, 2010. You must leave payment (*cash/checks*) with the bartender when you sign up (*Attention: Chris Gallagher*). This trip is always a sell-out, so make sure you sign up and pay early to reserve your spot. Contact Chris Gallagher with any questions @ (845) 548-2573 or cpg12866@yahoo.com.

Law Enforcement Memorial

There will be a ceremony at the Rockland County Court House at 11 am on Sunday, May 19th honoring Police Officers who have been killed in the line of duty.

LAOH

The busy season of First Communions and Graduations is here. Congratulations to all of you who have someone involved. I want to wish each and every one of you a Happy Mother's Day. I hope you all enjoyed it.

We still have a lot to do before our summer break. The state board meeting went well- thanks to Bernadette Hartnett and Pat Brady for representing Rockland. Thanks to May Krieder, Ronnie Moroney and Pat Mc Andrews for running our Ascension Thursday dinner. Our Division 3 meeting will be on Tuesday May 14 at 7:30 in the Hibernian House (*don't forget we are doing a cookie exchange*).

On May 27th we will be marching in the Pearl River Memorial Day Parade (*line up at the Bowling Alley*) at 9:45. Dress for the day is White Shirt, Black Pants and shoes. We will do a presentation at the memorial service immediately following. Please try to come out in support of all our military personnel both past and present. It is a small way to honor those who gave so much to protect our freedoms.

Elections for the County Board will be held at the next County meeting on May 28th at 8pm in the Hibernian House. On June 2nd we are having a Mass and Communion Breakfast where we will award our Essay Contest and Scholarship Winners. Congratulations to Kevin Dickey and Kiera McGeever respectively. Division 4 is holding their 2nd annual fundraiser at Torne Valley Vineyard on June 22 at 4 pm. This was a huge success and a pleasant day for all last year. Tickets are available by mailing payment to P.O. Box 84, Suffern, NY 10901 or for more information contact via email: suffernlaoh@gmail.com. A sincere thank you to all the Ladies that have given of their time over the past year at all our events. Without your help and generosity we could not continue. Remember we are always looking for new and interesting things to participate in so don't hesitate to bring your ideas to the meetings.

Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,
Joan Moore, *President*

845-735-8793 (*h*) • 845-536-2742 (*Cell*)
or email: joan55mmoore@msn.com

Michael McDermott 11th Annual Memorial Golf Outing

Thursday, July 11, 2013

BLUE HILL GOLF COURSE

Contact Kathy, Dan or Ryan

845.623.6367

Good Friday Agreement Symposium

There will be a 15th anniversary symposium on May 23rd between 6 and 9 pm at the Great Hall in Cooper Union in NYC. Tickets are complimentary but required and can be obtained at www.njaoh.com/gfa. For more info contact Sean Pender at paddyspeed@yahoo.com or call 212-248-3232.

Lest We Forget



Corporal Patrick Sheahan

The conflict in Korea has been called “The Forgotten War.” The conflict lies buried in the shadows of the global magnitude and populism of World War II and the media scrutiny and violent class of ideologies that defined Vietnam. Even the then Commander-in-Chief President Truman appeared to trivialize the conflict by referring to it as a “*policing action*”, yet to those Americans actually called to serve it was one of the most brutal wars fought in one of the most inhospitable environments known to man. It is tragically too often a passing footnote in history courses and forgotten by most Americans.

That the sacrifices of the Korean War are too often overlooked is a grave disservice to all the brave Americans who answered when their country called. However, if there can be a greater injustice it would have to be among “*the forgotten soldiers of the forgotten war*.” That was the case of 28 Irish American immigrants who fought and died defending their adopted country.

These young men had come to America as had previous generations of Irish Americans in search of freedom and opportunity, and like previous Irish immigrants when America called them to serve they answered unhesitatingly. Yet, their devotion did not influence the immigration process; when they returned from defending the United States they still had to wait the mandated five years before becoming eligible to apply for citizenship. As one surviving Irish American Korean

War veteran noted he had been given an Army commendation for capturing an enemy spy in Korea, but on his return to America he could not get a job at the Post Office. The irony of someone serving the United States loyally in the military and still not being able to claim citizenship was addressed by Congress in 1953 after the war ended, but the law was not retroactive leaving hundreds of returning foreign born veterans of the Korean War still waiting to apply for citizenship, but worse still leaving 28 Irish Americans who had been killed during the war in the paradox of not being recognized as citizens of the country they had died fighting for.

Among them was Corporal Patrick Sheahan of County Kerry. On the 8th of June, 1951, his unit was advancing up Hill 786 when they came under heavy machine gun fire. Seeing two men fall wounded Sheahan, without regard to his own safety, carried them one at a time under enemy fire to a place of cover. Sheahan stayed with the wounded men while another soldier went to locate aid. At this point a large group of enemy soldiers assaulted his position, but Sheahan stayed with his wounded comrades and held off the enemy until the rest of his platoon could break through. For this action Sheahan was awarded the Bronze Star. Four Months later, while attacking another hill, Sheahan’s unit would once again be pinned by enemy machine gun fire and once again Corporal Sheahan would risk all for his fellow soldiers. Crawling forward under heavy machine gun fire, Sheahan reached the gun emplacement and silenced it with grenades. Unsure whether all the enemy had been eliminated Sheahan rushed forward to the trench where he deliberately exposed himself to enemy fire so that he could fire a long burst into the trench and ensure the enemy was eliminated. It was at this time that Sheehan was killed by a second and previously unknown enemy gun position. For his heroism and supreme sacrifice Sheahan was awarded the Silver Star, but still was not recognized as an American.

There are other stories of Irish immigrants that are equally as heroic. Private John Corcoran of County Cork was killed when he shielded with his own body a previously wounded comrade when his unit came under attack by enemy mortars. Private William Murphy, also of Cork, was captured by the Chinese and suffered a long

and brutal march to internment in North Korea. In order to survive, Pvt. Murphy would offer to trade his wrist watch wrapped in a cloth to local villagers for food. Apparently Murphy was skilled at sleight of hand for after Murphy and the other prisoners were marched off, the profiteering villager would unwrap the cloth to find not a watch but a rock. Using this trick Murphy kept himself and his fellow soldiers alive along the pitiless march to the prisoner of war camp where he would later die in the subhuman conditions. One of the soldiers who had benefited from Murphy’s conjuring trick was able to hide the watch that had kept them alive before the guards could steal it. It would take that soldier fifty years, but he eventually found Pvt. Murphy’s family in Ireland and returned the watch to them.

For fifty years the memory of these faithful 28 Irish immigrants was lost in a maze of contradictions. They had worn the uniform of the United States honorably and often heroically, but they were not recognized as Americans. They had earned our nation’s highest awards, but could not earn citizenship. Not everyone had forgotten them and their sacrifice. After a long struggle led by John Leahy, himself an Irish immigrant Korean War veteran, and supported by The Ancient Order of Hibernians, these 28 Irish immigrants were awarded posthumous citizenship and a memorial dedicated to their memory and service at Green-Wood Cemetery on the 14th of October, 2003.

While justice was delayed, let it never be denied, and may we as Irish Americans never forget.

Note: In a sad footnote, there is an ongoing effort to have Corporal Patrick Sheahan’s heroism and sacrifice recognized by being Awarded the Medal of Honor. Many feel he would have received it upon review if it had not been for his Irish Immigrant status. Unfortunately, the bureaucracy is making Corporal Sheahan wait again, the National Archives claiming they have lost his records. Let us pray it won’t be too long before another recipient of our Nation’s highest honor who listed his birthplace as “Ireland” is added to the 253 already there.

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