



# Ancient Order of Hibernians

JOHN CARDINAL D'ALTON DIVISION 3

Pearl River, NY

October, 2014



## Brother Hibernians, \_\_\_\_\_



Our next meeting will be held on Friday, October 24th at 8pm. Many thanks go out to all the volunteers who worked so hard to make the John Kennedy fundraiser such an outstanding success. You all certainly exemplify our motto of Unity, Friendship, and Christian Charity Congratulations to Division 3 LAOH on a very successful Dancing Like the Stars fund raiser and many thanks to all the Division 3 men volunteers who worked on this busy night. Dr. Ruan O'Donnell from the University of Limerick gave an excellent lecture on the 1916 Rising to a packed audience in our hall. We are gearing up for the centenary of the Rebellion in 2016 and hope to organize many more movies, presentations, and celebrations as this important anniversary approaches. The county AOH has started a committee to plan for the centenary and had its first meeting last month. The next meeting will be held prior to the joint ladies and men county meeting on November 18. It is extremely important that we have all of our delegates as well as alternates present at the county meeting at 8pm on that night as it is the election for Grand Marshal of the Rockland St. Patrick's Day Parade as well as the I have already reached out to many of our

delegates but would appreciate the attendance of more as well as alternates in case a delegate can't make it. Please reach out to me at 845-735-8793 or praoh3@gmail.org if you can make it. As many of you know, we nominated Vince Tyer for Grand Marshal at our June meeting. Congratulations to our 2015 Rockland County Parade honorees Battalion Commander Mike Mulcahy and Aide to Grand Marshal on their richly deserved election at our September meeting. It was a rainy Saturday on October 11 and we had to compete with Pearl River Day but Brian Booth and Tim Donnelly did another fantastic job feting us at our family picnic. Many thanks go out to them as well as to all the volunteers who showed up early to help set up and stayed late to help clean up.

Please keep praying for the recovery of Mary McDonagh, John Kennedy, Sean King, Mike Smith, Bobby Farrelly, and Terry Greenan.

*Please remember to say an extra prayer for our wounded warriors and their families.*

Yours in Friendship, Unity & Christian Charity,  
Dermot O'Connor Moore, President.

## Pot of Gold!

See Inside



## ELECTED OFFICERS DIVISION \_\_\_\_\_

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**DERMOT O'CONNOR MOORE**

*Vice President*  
**VINCE TYER**

*Financial Secretary*  
**WILLIAM YOUNG**

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**FRANK McDONAGH**

*Vice President*  
**PETER DUNNE**

*Treasurer*  
**PHIL SHERIDAN**

*Recording Secretary*  
**JOHN GANNON**

## CALENDAR \_\_\_\_\_

- Oct. 21 County Meeting
- Oct. 24 Division Meeting
- Nov. 1 Lourdes Kids Golf Outing
- Nov. 2 LAOH Breakfast Buffet
- Nov. 9 1st Pot O Gold Drawing Party
- Nov. 18 Joint County Board Meeting

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Ancient Order of Hibernians



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## HIBERNIAN HOUSE

The annual picnic was a big success thanks to Brian Booth and Tim Donnelly. Great food and plenty of it. Rumor has it Kevin Donohue ate for five straight hours. Who were those two look a likes? Long lost cousins? Stay tuned.

If you like to fish contact John Boland at the club. He has a great charter boat connection near by. If you like to fish but don't want to get your hands all smelly this is the perfect spot. It's one of those you should have been here yesterday trips. But it is a lot of fun. Ask John Gannon who got his nose fried. Ever hear of suntan lotion ? DUH.

Putting in a new beer at the Pub, for Octoberfest. Hope to have it in by November. Have to get Tommy Farrelly to drink more Blue Moon. Still trying to explain the 'Free Beer Tomorrow' sign to several of our members.

Kennedy fund raiser was a great success, thanks to everyone who contributed. Watch for events being held upstairs for our members. Football Sundays and other stuff. Great day - free food, bring the family.

No truth to the rumor Joe Moran is going to open up a dance studio after his great performance at the 'Dancing like the Stars' event. Flipper would be proud.

Any one looking to get a free oil change with your haircut, contact our Sgt. at Arms, Kevin Donohue. Book is up, time to dust off the gurneys. See you at the Pub.

Pete Dunne



**"Long Lost – Recently Found!"**

## LAOH

The ladies of Division 3 would like thank everyone who came out and made 'Dancing Like the Stars' a great success! We would especially like to thank all the dancers for their hard work and dedication - they all did a fabulous job!

We would like to congratulate our winners: Dennis Bergen and Noreen McKenna - they were absolutely amazing!

Katie Anne Basler

*President LAOH Div.3*

### POT OF GOLD

#### Robert McKiernan / Dennis McHugh Field Day

Once again our Annual Pot of Gold raffle has begun and we are seeking your support. Each year demand for these tickets increases and yet our space remains somewhat limited. It is for this reason that we ask, if you are considering attending our parties, please secure your tickets as soon as possible. This year we are once again keeping the cost for our tickets at 100.00. Not only will you be helping us to continue to support our numerous charitable endeavors, you and a guest will be entitled to attend both of our parties and also have an opportunity at winning numerous prizes. This year our 1st party (*drawing #1*) will be held on Sunday November 9th at the Hibernian House. The second party (*drawing #2*) will be held on Sunday December 21st also at the Hibernian House.

Tickets can be secured by contacting Bill Lee at [mr.williamplee@gmail.com](mailto:mr.williamplee@gmail.com) or by calling 845-558-4148.

Tickets can also be obtained at the Hibernian House, please ask the bartender on duty for the tickets.

## LOURDES KIDS GOLF OUTING

The Lourdes Kids of Rockland provides an annual Easter Week pilgrimage to Our Lady's Shrine at Lourdes, France for young people with special physical and developmental needs. This pilgrimage is funded at no cost to the young people or their families. This year, they are hosting their 1st Annual Lourdes Kids of Rockland Golf Outing. It will be held on:

**Saturday, November 1, 2014 at 2pm  
at Broadacres Golf Club  
2 Midrise Circle, Orangeburg, New York**

This nine (9) hole golf event is meant to be a day of fun and support. Lunch will be served beginning with registration at 12:30 pm then a shotgun start at 2pm. A buffet dinner will follow golfing. The cost is \$100.00 per person and there will be raffles and prizes.

The sole purpose of this outing is to raise funds to support the Lourdes Kids of Rockland, a 501(c)(3) registered organization.

All proceeds will directly go to the charity fund to offset and defray costs related to the pilgrimages. These costs include the child's travel expenses including airfare, room and board as well as expenses for the nurses and chaperones.

If you have any questions regarding hole sponsorship or registering as a golfer please contact Quinton Van Wynen at 914-391-3756 or Denis Troy at 845-548-4142.



## Thomas Clarke, the Soul of the 1916 Rising

Of the seven names signed on the proclamation of the Irish Republic, as read from the front of the General Post Office (GPO) in Dublin on 24 April 1916, only one name stands alone and above all the rest. Ironically, some of the best known figures of the Rising today are actually amongst the later signatories; despite being President of the Provisional Government, Padraig Pearse is the fourth signatory; James Connolly is relegated to the sixth position. The man accorded the honor of being the first to sign the document that ushered in a new era of freedom for Ireland is today probably one of the least well known; Thomas Clarke. Yet even a brief examination of his life reveals why he was held in such high esteem by men whose name is synonymous with Irish patriotism and why Clarke should be better known today.

Thomas Clarke's early life was an unlikely start for a future Irish rebel. He was born 11 March 1858 on the Isle of Wright to an Irish Protestant father from Leitrim who was a career British Soldier, and an Irish Catholic mother from Tipperary. The first seven years of young Tom's life were spent living in various garrison towns throughout the British Empire until in 1865 the senior Clarke was transferred to Dungannon, Co. Tyrone; a place Clarke would always regard as home.

While in Dungannon, Clarke became an ardent supporter of Irish independence and met John Daly, the local organizer for the Irish Republican Brotherhood (IRB), and was soon sworn into the IRB in 1878. On 15 August 1880 a riot broke out when members of the Orange Order attacked members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians who were parading to celebrate the feast of the Assumption. The Royal Irish Constabulary intervened by opening fire on the crowd, killing one of the Hibernians. The following night, Clarke and up to four other members of the IRB attempted a failed ambush on a group of RIC in retaliation. Facing imminent arrest, Clarke decided to immigrate to America.

Arriving in New York, Clarke took a job as a porter at a Hotel in Brooklyn and seemed well on his way to success in his new Country; eventually being promoted to manager. However, Clarke's heart remained firmly in Ireland and devoted to Irish independence. Shortly after his arrival, he had made contact with the Irish American organization Clan na Gael which, under the leadership of the consummate Fenian John Devoy, worked in conjunction with the Irish IRB for the cause of Irish freedom. Clarke was ordered by Devoy to engage in a secret mission to England. Unfortunately, what neither Clarke

nor Devoy knew was that Clan na Gael and the IRB had been effectively infiltrated by British intelligence and was riddled with informers and agent provocateurs who were actually coordinating Clan na Gael missions with the goal of entrapping its members and discrediting the cause of Irish nationalism. Tom Clarke, traveling under the alias of Henry Wilson, was soon captured, found guilty of treason and sentenced to life in prison.

Even by the cruel standards of the dark demonic world of a British Victorian prison, Irish prisoners such as Clarke were singled out for particularly harsh treatment; they were kept in isolation except for an exercise period and were forbidden to speak to anyone at any time. Their isolation from the general prison population allowed the guards to engage in systematic abuse of the prisoners ranging from severe beatings to sleep deprivation. Many, including two of Clarke's comrades, were broken and went insane. For 15 years Clarke endured until his parole in 1898. While the strains of his confinement had prematurely aged him, he retained his sharp mind while developing, if possible, into an even greater foe of the British government. The esteem felt for Clarke in Nationalist circles was unequaled because of his suffering for the cause.

Clarke returned to America and married Kathleen Daly (*who would become a formidable Irish patriot in her own right*), the niece of John Daly, who initiated him into the IRB, and was 21 years his younger. Again Tom seemed well on his way to the American dream, in a few short years he was able to purchase a 60 acre farm in Mannerville, NY. However, to Clarke, his personal prosperity was secondary to his devotion to Ireland and her people. He returned to Dublin in 1907, many believe at the request of John Devoy, with the goal of reviving the IRB and the cause of Irish Nationalism, both of which were flagging. He purchased a Tobacconist Shop, ironically located at 75a Great Britain Street, which soon became the hub of Irish separatist activity.

While Clarke was extremely disappointed in the IRB leadership he found on his arrival, he took great hope in the new wave of Irish patriots who were coming from the traditions of the GAA and Gaelic League. Clark observed that they were "*a splendid set of young fellows . . . who believe in doing things, not gabbing about them only. I'm in great heart with this young, thinking generation. They are men; they'll give a good account of themselves*". Clarke soon identified great talent in these young men such as Sean MacDiarmada

and a schoolteacher famed for his oratory named Padraig Pearse who, among others, would go on to fame in 1916. Ironically, while looking like a grandfather himself, Clarke systematically succeeded in removing the older complacent generation of the IRB and replaced them with his younger passionate protégés.

The creation of the Irish Volunteers as a countermeasure to the UVF in 1913 and the outbreak of WW I in August 1914 presented Clarke with the opportunity he had worked all his life for. "*England's adversity would be Ireland's opportunity*" and on 9 September 1914 at the library of the Gaelic league in a meeting chaired by Clarke, it was decided to stage a rebellion in an effort to gain Ireland's independence while England was preoccupied with the war on the continent.

The rebellion was scheduled for Easter week 1916. At 59 years of age Clarke was the oldest of the signatories; yet during the ensuing fighting at the GPO, Clarke seemed to be everywhere, impressing all with his cool demeanor and inspiring men a third of his age, a living symbol of the ideal they were fighting for. When after defying the British Empire the decision was made by Padraig Pearse to surrender rather than face increasing civilian casualties, Clarke broke down and wept.

Clarke had no delusions as to the fate that lay in store for him from a vengeful Britain. When the surrendering rebels were assembled, the British Officer commanding struck him across the face saying "This Old Bastard has been at it before" and then proceeded to attempt to humiliate him by publicly stripping him. Realizing that his court martial was a pro forma performance, Clarke made no defense and was sentenced to be shot by firing squad. While many saw the Easter Rising as a failure, ironically Clarke, who had sacrificed so much of his life in the cause of Irish nationalism and could be forgiven for being bitterly disappointed that the Rising had not achieved an Irish Republic, remained confident. Tom Clarke, who learned the virtues of patience and persistence while in a British prison, saw the Rising in its true and bigger context. Among his last words he noted: "I and my fellow signatories believe we have struck the first successful blow for Irish freedom. The next blow, which we have no doubt Ireland will strike, will win through. In this belief, we die happy."

Clarke's vision was prophetic, Ireland did strike "a next blow" and it partially "won through"; it is up to us today to see that Clarke's vision is fully realized.



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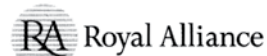
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