



Ancient Order of Hibernians

JOHN CARDINAL D'ALTON DIVISION 3

Pearl River, NY

May, 2015



Brother Hibernians, _____



Our next meeting will be held on Friday, May 29th. Welcome aboard to Dan Sammon. Many thanks to Ed O'Dea and all our mass volunteers, to Communion Breakfast chairmen Brian Booth and Tim Donnelly and their volunteers, and to Scholarship Committee chairmen Neil Cosgrove and Kevin McNulty as well as the entire committee for doing a fantastic job. Congratulations again to our winners and thanks to all the applicants. Many thanks to all who supported the Sullivan and Gill fundraisers as well as to those who attended the Bobby Sands memorial mass and social. Dennis Madigan ran a successful bus trip to D.C. and is planning more trips in the future.

Our state convention in Nassau County is fast approaching. We are the largest division in the country and it's very important that we get all our delegates to the vote on July 11. The county is working on arranging a bus for those who cannot stay at the hotel but can make the vote. It will also be a great opportunity to take your major degree as you agreed to at initiation and remember that the degree is mandatory for state scholarships and counts for 5 points in our scholarship program.

Dan Callanan reports the following Good and Welfare news...Please say a prayer for the repose of the souls of Bobby Farrelly, gentleman John King, Bill Cosgrove's dad Bill, Mike Hieb's father-in-law Pat McKenna, and Jack Cunningham's sister Florence. More prayers are in order for Jim Finn and Rich Reidy as they recover from surgery, Paddy Kelly as he recovers from a fall, Brendan Malley's wife Maureen as she recovers at home, Tommy Cunningham as he recovers from a serious heart attack, and Jim Coen, Sr. as he recovers at Woodcliff Lake from a serious bout with shingles. John Crilley has dropped 80 pounds after his elective surgery and has 20 pounds to go. He is now being stalked by GQ magazine for an interview. Welcome home to John Leddy who has returned from his 8000 mile trip to visit old classmates and Heights and Jarhead buddies.

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 _____

May 15	Golf Outing
May 25	Memorial Day Parade
May 30	O'Hara Golf Outing
June 7	County Convention
June 27	RCAOH PB Fund Raiser
July 8-11	NYS AOH Convention
July 9	McDermott Golf

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MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Formation for the Pearl River Memorial Day will be at 9:45 am on Monday, May 25 at the parking lot of the First Niagara Bank on North Middletown Road and Braunsdorf Avenue. Step-off is at 10:15. Please join as we honor our war dead.

LARRY McKEEVER MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING

We couldn't have asked for a better day for our golf outing. Many thanks go out to the McKeever family and the entire golf committee, to Joan Moore and all the LAOH volunteers, to Emmett Woods and all the Emmett's Castle staff, and of course to all our sponsors. The sponsors are listed on the back of this newsletter's history insert. Please support them as they have continuously supported us and while you're at it please mention that you are a Hibernian and thank them for the support.

Committee Chairs Tom Lynch and Sean Walsh



MICHAEL McDERMOTT 13th ANNUAL MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING

THURSDAY, JULY 9, 2015

BLUE HILL GOLF COURSE

Shot gun start at 12:30pm.

BBQ lunch and Dinner will be held at

Emmett's Castle at the course!!

Contact Kathy, Dan and Ryan

(845) 623-6367



LAOH

The Ladies of Div 3 will be celebrating Ascension Thursday with our annual Mass at Saint Aedan's followed by dinner at Slattery's. This year we will be honoring Kay Hogan! Kay is a long time member of Division 3 and is always willing to volunteer and help out! It is a very well deserved honor and promises to be a great evening!

Katie Anne Basler

President, LAOH Div.3



1916 RISING CENTENNIAL

April 24, 2016 marks the 100th Anniversary of The Rising. In addition to planning a fitting ceremony on the date, we are planning historical and educational events for the months leading up the centennial. As you can see by this month's history insert, our lessons this year will focus on the rising (scholarship applicants take note!).

The RCAOH Pipe band has been invited to represent the AOH by marching in Dublin and Belfast on Easter weekend. They are asking for support to help finance the trip. The first fundraiser will be held at JP Doyle's in Sleepy Hollow on June 27 and features Shilelagh Law. Please see Dermot Moore and Vince Tyer for raffle tickets that will be drawn on that date.

FIRST ANNUAL JOHN O'HARA MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING

Saturday, May 30 at Broadacres Golf Club

Light lunch at 1pm, Tee-off at 2pm

\$100 pp, \$45 for dinner only

Tee sponsor-\$100, Lunch Sponsor-\$250,
Dinner sponsor-\$500

Contact Chris Cawley at 845-222-8658

History

Major John McBride; Accidental Rebel, Committed Patriot



Since the time of the Greeks, the myths and legends of heroes have followed a consistent pattern. The hero enjoys initial success and is catapulted to fame to only just as quickly have everything taken away from him and to fall from grace; then in the time of dire need the hero reemerges and asserts his nobility of character often by his personal sacrifice in the face of hopeless odds. Such is the story of Major John McBride.

John McBride was born in Westport, County Mayo on 8 May 1868. John was educated by the Christian Brothers and later attended St. Malachy's college in Belfast. McBride then worked for some time as a draper and then subsequently found employment working for Hugh Moore and Company, a wholesale druggist and grocers in Dublin.

The quiet, uneventful life of a shop clerk was not for McBride however. He had seen the reawakening of the call for Irish self-determination in the Land League movement in the late 1870s's as his neighbors in Mayo fought to wrest control of Irish land from absentee Landlords and restore it to Irish tenant farmers. McBride is also believed to have attended a 'monster' meeting in his hometown of Westport that was organized by the famous champion of Irish rights Charles Stewart Parnell. These events had a tremendous influence on McBride who, at the age of 15, joined the Irish Republican Brotherhood; writing of the event later "I took an oath to do my best to establish a free and independent Irish Nation". In 1891, McBride as a member of the GAA was a

member of the Honor Guard at Parnell's funeral holding Hurleys draped in black cloth. As a member of the Irish Republican Brotherhood, McBride traveled to Chicago to attend the Irish National Alliance convention. On his return he joked that he was "the most protected man in Ireland", as British Detectives from the Intelligence branch tracked his every move.

McBride would soon be swept up in international events that would bring him to worldwide attention. In 1895, at the direction of the machiavellian British industrialist Cecil Rhodes, Dr Leander Starr Jameson led a raid by a group of 800 self described "policemen" (actually mercenaries hired by Rhodes) into the Transvaal area of south Africa allegedly to protect British interests from a nonexistent uprising; the real goal was to annex the newly discovered rich gold fields for Britain. The raid was a disaster when it was repulsed by the Boers (descendants of Dutch colonists who had occupied the land for nearly two centuries) leading to the Boer War. The outbreak of the war prompted McBride to go to south Africa to organize the many Irish immigrants who were currently working in the gold fields to "strike a blow at England's power abroad when we could not do so at home". McBride organized an Irish Brigade to fight with the Boers and was given the rank of Major. McBride and his brigade soon won a reputation for bravery and international fame. Supporters in Dublin sent McBride's Brigade a green flag with a gold harp which McBride treasured till his death; while fighting the British he was put up as a candidate for Parliament representing South Mayo (he lost).

However, the Boers could not indefinitely resist the full might of the British; and after a series of defeats their eventual surrender became inevitable. In an act of gratitude, the Boer government chartered a ship to transport the remaining members of the Irish Brigade, including McBride, back to Europe. McBride went to Paris; a celebrity but penniless. He soon became a member of the Irish cultural circle that frequented the city of lights including Yeats, Arthur Griffith and, most significantly, the legendary beauty, actress and committed Irish nationalist Maud Gonne. In need of Income, McBride set out on a speaking tour of America. Not being a naturally gifted speaker he invited Gonne to accompany him and coach him on speaking to large audiences.

The speaking tour was a success and McBride married Gonne. The marriage would produce a son, Sean McBride who would later go on to win the Nobel Peace Prize. However, their shared love of Ireland was not enough to

span the differences between the aristocratic and bohemian Gonne and the working class world worn McBride. What followed was a nasty and bitter divorce in conjunction with a smear campaign orchestrated by W.B. Yates who was obsessed with Gonne and hated McBride for succeeding in marrying her while she had rejected several proposals from him. His reputation damaged, McBride returned to Dublin where he was reduced to taking a job as a water bailiff enforcing fishing regulations. While still passionate about nationalist causes, his notoriety with British authorities and the scandal of his divorce kept him an outsider in nationalist leadership.

On Monday, April 24, 1916 John McBride was dressed in his best suit to meet his brother who was coming to Dublin to be married when he encountered a column of Irish Volunteers commanded by Thomas MacDonagh marching to occupy Jacob's Biscuit Factory as part of the Easter Rising. Hearing that the Irish Republic had been proclaimed, the old soldier immediately forgot about old slights and the wedding and asked to join the column as he felt it was his duty. MacDonagh not only accepted but immediately appointed McBride second in command. While no doubt a curious sight as he marched with the uniformed volunteers in his blue formal suit with a walking stick and cigar; McBride would prove invaluable over the next few days with his military knowledge and in steadying the men by his personal example. His leadership was particularly valuable when it came to the time of the surrender, many of MacDonagh's men wanted to fight to the last, but McBride stepped forward and asked them did they think he would surrender if there was anything fighting could achieve? McBride's statement had the desired effect and the men accepted surrender saving needless further loss of life.

McBride was tried by British court martial and sentenced to death despite government instructions that only the signers of the Proclamation and principle Commanders were to be executed. While it was clear that McBride was not in command at Jacob's Biscuit Factory (they had already shot MacDonagh as the commander), both the Military Governor and President of the Court Martial were Boer War veterans who had battled McBride's Irish Brigade in Africa and this may have played in their decision.

McBride was taken to the yard at Kilmainham Gaol on 5 May 1916 to be executed by firing squad. His last request was that he not be blindfolded, "You know I have looked down your rifles before, I am not afraid." Perhaps the firing party was afraid to look him in the eye as the request was refused. John McBride went to his death as only a hero could.

2015 Larry McKeever Golf Outing

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