



**ANCIENT ORDER  
OF  
HIBERNIANS  
IN AMERICA**

**APRIL 2011**

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# DIVISION NEWS

## DUTCHESS COUNTY MSGR. SHEAHAN DIVISION # 1

Gene Noone - Editor      jdrcks@optonline.net      (914) 469-6661

**Division Website:      www.dutchessaoh.com**

### PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



Brothers,

I would like to wish my entire brother Hibernians, and their families, a Happy and Holy Easter. Please make a note that the April meeting has been moved up one week to April 14th, due to Holy Thursday falling on the third Thursday. We will resume our regular monthly schedule in May.

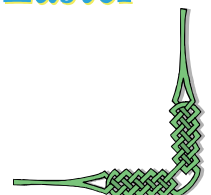
The Month of March is behind us and hopefully with it all the cold weather. It was, however, with the intercession of Saint Patrick that we enjoyed beautiful weather at the parades in Wappinger Falls and NYC. The Dutchess County Parade was again a great success and my congratulations to the Parade Committee, and especially to all of our Hibernian Brothers who work so hard to make it a success. Congratulations to Brothers Mike Quinn and Jack Fedigan on another win for our division, in the float competition. Even though we started the parade on three wheels we were never really deflated and we again captured first prize. I would like to thank all our brothers, their friends and families who showed up to march. It is critical that we get out in numbers for this very important day. Again, special congratulations to our Brother Matt Fitzgerald who led the parade with great pride while looking amazing.

The Saint Patrick's Castle Point Celebration, which is one of my favorite functions, was a tremendous success and we again had a full house of very appreciative veterans. I would like to express my sincere thanks to Jack Fedigan for chairing the event and also to Brendan Daly and The Dubliner for the Corned Beef, Cabbage, and fixings and also for coordinating the music and the dancers. The Dylan Foley band and The Kevin Broesler Irish Dancers were fantastic, as always. Again we had an abundance of brothers and family volunteering their time and I want to thank them all.

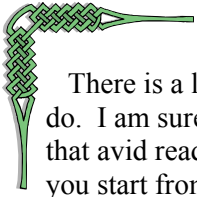
The Major Degree, which was tentatively scheduled for April 10th has been postponed. Brother Jack Fedigan & I will be closely watching for an alternative date as many of you have personally expressed an interest in taking the Lessons of the Order. I would like to thank Brother Keith Swingle who has graciously accepted to fill the open office of Recording Secretary. We will use the meetings of April & May to seriously explore new opportunities for both social and charitable functions. Please bring all ideas, big and small, to the meetings for discussion. The Dubliner hosts an Irish Music Seisiun the second and last Sunday of the Month from 5-8 PM. This is a great meeting opportunity for brothers to get together for some social time. Please check the schedule of upcoming events in this newsletter, our website, and on our facebook page. Also we are approaching the deadline for membership dues. If you are reading this newsletter and have not paid your dues, please do so as soon as possible. We need all of our brothers on board to steer the brotherhood forward and make it stronger.

God Bless,  
In Brotherhood & Motto,  
Gearoid McVicker, President

**Happy  
Easter**



May you have the hindsight to know where you've been  
the foresight to know where you're going  
and the insight to know when you're going too far.



There is a lot to Irish History, and having started late in life to become “involved”, I have so much catching up to do. I am sure that statement could be made about any activity in which a person involves himself. It’s much like that avid readers tee shirt with the inscription “So many books, so little time”. But, as is true in any such endeavor, you start from where you are and “...follow the yellow brick road”, or perhaps, in our case, the green road. The most important thing is to resolve to do it, whatever “it” happens to be. One day, perhaps this summer, I will sit down and map out a logical presentation sequence of history; but, then again, I may just continue on an “ad hoc” basis. Some things I would share with you at this time involve plans for this “Corner” and future plans in spreading information about Irish culture and history, mainly, but not exclusively, in the Mid-Hudson Valley.

I am currently involved in discussions with Dutchess Community College administrators to develop a non-credit Irish history course. You may recall that our late Brother Bill Campbell had presented such a course for several years at the college. In addition for the past several weeks I have been regularly meeting with some of my KBIC colleagues as we plan our own Club’s activities. That has led to tentative plans for presentations to the community at large concerning significant milestones of Irish history. Hopefully, next month’s newsletter will contain, or direct you to, an interesting reading and viewing list. Finally, you might want to view the National AOH website and read some of the archived articles contained therein.

In the foreword to his book, “The Story of The Irish Race”, [1921] Seumus MacManus highlights the problem of “the woeful lack of knowledge on the subject which he found in the four corners of America, among all classes of people alike [,] the intelligent and the ordinary. With the vast majority of America’s intellectual ones he found Ireland’s past as obscure as the past of Borneo.” MacManus continues saying that, to a large extent, the blame for American ignorance of Ireland’s story rests upon the ignorance of our own exiles, and the children of those exiles. Although there are understandable reasons for that situation, it doesn’t seem that much has changed in 90 or so years since he made that observation. A similar thing might be said about the current situation in the American educational system regarding knowledge of our own history, the subject that once was called “Civics”, and the U.S. Constitution; not to mention our Catholic religion.

It was in the MacManus book cited above that I first became aware of the ancient history of the Celts and their wanderings in Egypt and other parts of Asia Minor, and later into Crete and Spain. While in Egypt, the young and remote ancestor of the Gaels [the Gaedhal], Gaodhal Glas, was bitten by a serpent and was cured by Moses, who then promised, “...that no serpent or poisonous thing should infest the happy western island that his far posterity would one day inhabit.” [St. Patrick and those who are proponents of the ice age theory might not like MacManus’ rendition of the “no snakes in Ireland” theory.]

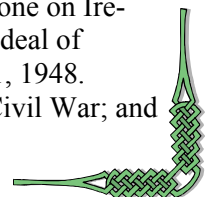
Like all of us I have regularly listened, somewhat intently, to the scriptural readings at Mass. I am sure that we all have a passing knowledge of the title of one of St. Paul’s epistles --- The Letter to the Galatians. I recently paid more attention to that passage and discovered that the Galatians were most likely the descendants of Celts who had invaded western and central Asia Minor in the latter part of the third century B.C. They settled in the then know area of Ancyra, which is modern day Ankara, Turkey. At the time, Galatia was a Roman province. It’s interesting that there is some controversy which presents a Northern theory and a Southern theory concerning the time sequence and whether this epistle was directed to the churches in the north or the south. I refer you to follow-up reading in the New Testament; it is really interesting.

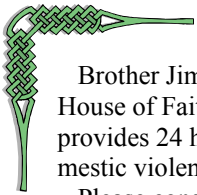
Later this week I will start reading two related books: “Who Were The Celts?” and “Caesar And The Celts”. As I said above: “So many books, so little time”.

At our next general meeting [April] limited copies of the AOH developed DVD “An Gorta Mor:” will be available for circulation. It is a very well done piece, which can also be viewed via the National AOH website. In addition to the visual, the web site presents discussion and “testing” materials. In a future article I hope to have more information as to how The Great Hunger [erroneously referred to as the Potato Famine] is dealt with in the New York State curriculum requirements.

A final thought for this article deals with how the novice sojourner could approach the study of history; in this case, Irish history. One of the things I have done is to read well written historical novels, which give a general idea of the time[s], then follow that up with a more academic approach. Just think how much you can garner by reading [or re-reading] Leon Uris’ Trinity followed up by an actual history book. Trinity was followed much later by “Remembrances”. So, for all intents and purposes, Uris is limited in the number of works he has done on Ireland. Now, on the other hand, Morgan Llewellyn is prolific in her dealings with the history. A good deal of knowledge can be gained by using as your guide the following works by Llewellyn: Bard, 1916, 1921, 1948. These four books deal with the Celtic migration from northwestern Spain to Ireland; the Rising; the Civil War; and the establishment of The Irish Republic.

Good reading on you!!!





# AOH DIVISION 1 EVENTS

Brother Jim Sweeney has reached out to the Greater Southern Dutchess Chamber of Commerce (GSDCC) who supports the House of Faith/House of Hope. This facility is a domestic violence shelter with 14 beds in Southern Dutchess New York and provides 24 hour assistance, counseling and crisis intervention. The mission of the facility is to eliminate sexual assault and domestic violence through sensitive prevention, intervention, and treatment. We believe "There is Hope" for every person.

Please consider bringing an item listed below to any meeting and Jim will drop it off on behalf of the AOH. These are some of the items that would be most greatly appreciated to be received by the House of Faith/House of Hope.

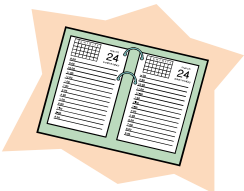
- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Coffee, regular and decaf                                 | Tea Bags                        |
| Powerdered coffee creamer                                 | Canned soup (all varieties)     |
| Cans of fruit (small 1 serving, or multiple serving cans) | Juice Boxes (individual sizes)  |
| Sugar ( 5lb. bags)  | Granola Bars (variety of types) |
| Hand soaps  | Dish detergent                  |
| Clothes detergent   | Kleenex                         |
| Diapers (any variety)                                     | Baby wipes                      |
| Neosporin ointment  | Benadryl cream                  |
| Children's vitamins                                       | Jelly beans                     |
| Chocolate Easter eggs                                     |                                 |

I shop at BJ's monthly for items needed. Any member who would like to make a donation (any amount) can send me a check in my name or money to my home address: 16 Dara Lane, Wappinger Falls, NY 12590.

Jim

As promised the Calendar of Events for the year are as follows:

<u>January</u> Monthly Meeting Installation of Officers	<u>February</u> Monthly Meeting Emerald Ball	<u>March</u> Monthly Meeting D.C. St. Patrick's Parade C.P. Vet's St. Pat's Celebration Hibernian Hunger Project	<u>April</u> Monthly Meeting
<u>May</u> Monthly Meeting	<u>June</u> Monthly Meeting Jets Ticket Raffle Kick-off Shamrock Degree Ceremony C.P. Veteran's Picnic	<u>July &amp; August</u> Summer Break NO ACTIVITES	<u>September</u> Monthly Meeting Good Council Baby Shower
<u>October</u> Monthly Meeting Hibernian Hunger Project Charity Dinner - Dance	<u>November</u> Monthly Meeting Msgr. Sheahan Commemorative Mass Nomination of Officers	<u>December</u> Christmas Party Meeting Election of Officers	



There is always room for new ideas and events, if you know of or wish to start one, please bring your ideas to the membership at any meeting.



## FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S CORNER

Brothers,

Thank you to all members who have paid their dues.

If you have not paid your dues it's not too late, call me at 845-226-1254 or email [bill.leo@live.com](mailto:bill.leo@live.com) to make arrangements. If you have not paid you are no longer in good standing with the order.

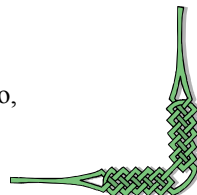


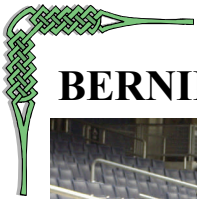
Brothers,

We are scheduled to begin our obligation to the NYSDOT to keep our free sign on Route 9D advertising our order. Highway Clean-up of Route 9D to be held on April 23rd. We will meet at Lily Logan's at 8:30am.

Please check-out our website at [www.dutchessaoh.com](http://www.dutchessaoh.com) or our join our facebook page at dutchessaoh.

In Brotherhood and Motto,  
Bill Leo  
Financial Secretary





*IRISH COMMUNITY*

**BERNIE WILLIAMS**

**Saturday, May 14, 2011**

**8PM at the Bardavon**



**A benefit concert for Good Counsel**

Tickets: **\$30-\$75** (based on location)      **\$200** (For the Bernie Williams meet and greet experience. Includes a great seat and a tax deductible contribution! Contact Good Counsel at 845.486.4143 or email: vipgreeting@gmail.com.)

Members on sale April 1 at 11AM

General public on sale April 6 at 11AM

In his 16 year career patrolling centerfield for the New York Yankees, Bernie Williams was a four-time World Series Champion and a five-time All Star. Throughout Williams' years with The Yankees, his passion for music never waned. His second album debuted as Billboard's #2 Contemporary Jazz album and spawned two consecutive Billboard #1 singles and was nominated for a Latin Grammy Award for Best Instrumental Album.

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*NATIONAL NEWS*

**Hibernians To Celebrate 175th Anniversary at Basilica of Old St. Patrick's Cathedral**

At a February 23rd meeting at Old St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City, chaired by General Chairman Past National President Ed Wallace with co-chair Tom Beirne, NY County President, Msgr. Sakano, National President Seamus Boyle and many 175th committee members, final plans were made for the parade, Mass and reception on May 21st, 2011 commemorating the 175th anniversary of the AOH.

This site and date in May 2011 were chosen to recognize the founding of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America at nearby St. James Church (now closed) 175 years ago on May 4, 1836 by a "handful of Irishmen." A letter dated 5/4/1836 "From the Brethren in Ireland and Great Britain to the Brethren in New York." read:

"Brothers, greeting: Be it known to you and to all it may concern that we send to our few brothers in New York full instructions with our authority to establish branches of our society in America." The letter goes on to explain qualifications for membership, use of the motto Friendship, Unity and true Christian Charity, and what is expected of the new branches and its members.

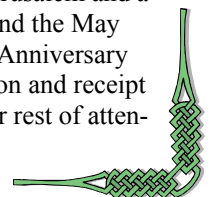
It was at Old St. Patrick's that the call went out to the Hibernian brotherhood by Archbishop John "Dagger" Hughes to save the church from the Know Nothings in the mid 1800's when those bigots were burning catholic churches. The AOH surrounded and saved the Cathedral and later built the wall around it.

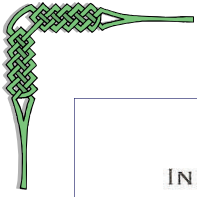
To note the founding of our Order, Hibernian members wearing sashes, and guests are asked to assemble on Mulberry Street near Precious Blood Church just north of Canal St. at 9:00 am on May 21, 2011. The parade will step off at 9:30 am and go north on Mulberry St. to Prince St., right on Prince St., left on Mott St. to the Basilica of St. Patrick's Old Cathedral. This route retraces a similar route, depicted in the famous lithograph, of the 69th Regiment in April 1861 on their way to the Civil War parading to St. Patrick's Old Cathedral and past the then AOH headquarters at 41 Prince Street. The 175th parade will be led by AOH color guard, clergy, AOH National Board, first two divisions organized in 1800's, LAOH Nat'l Board, pipe bands and state, county and division officers and members with their flags and banners. Representatives of the Fighting 69th will also be part of the march to the Cathedral.

An anniversary Mass to be celebrated by the AOH National Chaplain Father Thomas O'Donnell of Pittsburgh and celebrated by the pastor Msgr. Sakano, AOH State, County and Division Chaplains bishops and priests will take place at 11:00 am in the Old Cathedral. The Mass will be sung by the Hibernian Festival Choir under the direction of Maura Allen. This choir has sung at the White House and at many venues in Ireland, N. Ireland, Canada and the U.S. and have always added to the solemnity of the liturgy. AOH members will act as ushers and altar servers under guidance of a committee headed by Past National Director Martin Kelly of Brooklyn.

Following the Mass, a reception will be held in the Youth Center across from the Cathedral. Catered food and refreshments and entertainment will be offered starting at approximately 12:30 pm. A short program and introduction of visiting dignitaries will take place during the reception.

The reception will be chaired by Sir Patrick Allen, a member of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem and a brother Hibernian. A fee of \$20.00 per person will cover cost of reception and day's activities. All who plan to attend the May 21st celebration is urged to respond by April 30, 2011 with number attending and check made out to: AOH 175th Anniversary and send to: AOH 175th Anniversary % Mr. Patrick Allen 1713 Summit Avenue Union City, NJ 07087. Registration and receipt of wrist band of all pre-paid responders will take place at parade assemble area prior to start of parade and again for rest of attendees immediately following the Mass. All are urged to respond by the deadline.





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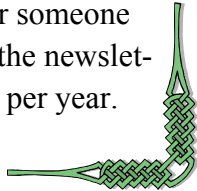
Mon-Fri 9am-5:45pm  
Saturday 8am-4:30pm

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Attention, all AOH members, your help is needed. This newsletter needs sponsors, for a small yearly fee we will print a business card sized ad monthly. This newsletter goes out to all our membership and to several other Irish organizations. If you or someone you do business with wants to advertise with us, just get a business card to the newsletter editor. And the money to our Financial Secretary the cost is just \$25.00 per year.





IMPORTANT DATES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• April 14 - Regular Business Meeting</li> <li>• April 24 - HAPPY EASTER</li> <li>• May 19 - Regular Business Meeting</li> </ul>

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK	
Deacon Bob Horton	Dan Lalor
Noel Morris	Dave Ryan
Bill Schimpf	

<p>On the Radio 91.3 FM:</p> <p><i>"A Little Bit of Ireland"</i></p> <p>Hosted by our own Brendan Daly and</p>
--

<p>‡ IN MEMORIAM ‡</p>
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**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**DATE CHANGE**

The April meeting has been rescheduled from April 21st (Holy Thursday) to Thursday April 14th at the Knights of Columbus.



**ANCIENT ORDER**  
OF  
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IN AMERICA  
Dutchess County

101 Brothers Road, Stormville, NY 12582

