



**Major Dooley Division
Richmond, Virginia**

The Dooley Dispatch

May 2017

Celebrating 38 years of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity

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Webpage <http://aohrichmond.org> Check out the web page for better pictures, events, green pages, various reports

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Next Meeting – Tuesday May 9, 2017 7:00 p.m. St. Paul's Church



President's Message:

Hello Brothers,

It is with great sadness that we attended the funerals of two fallen brothers in April. Bob Strutton, a four time Dooley Division President, set a good example for all of us. Michael Gawkins, was a part of the 1916 presentation and always had a story to tell. In the words of his wife Fran, Mike Gawkins was "an Irish American who wanted to go to heaven." Well both lads are there now, and we will greatly miss them.

Jim Woods advised that we were up approximately 150 raffle tickets from last year. Thank you, Jim, for all your hard work and I also want to thank those of you who helped with raffle sales.

Unfortunately, the AOH fishing trip scheduled for May 12/13 is cancelled. Captain Crabbe said the rockfish aren't running so he recommended that we cancel the trip. We are looking to reschedule the fishing trip on Sunday, June 18 or Sunday, June 25. Please let Dan Caffrey know your availability.

Looking ahead, Saturday, June 10, at 10am is the AOH State Quarterly Meeting at St. Joseph Church (828 Buford Road, Richmond, VA 23235). Lunch will be served at 12 pm and the Major degree ceremony will follow at 12:30 pm. There are approximately 400 Virginia Hibernians who have not attained the Major Degree of the Order. Regardless of how long a member has held a membership card, he cannot be counted as a true Hibernian without attainment of the Major Degrees. All members made a promise to attain the Major Degree when they pledged the Shamrock Degree. June 10th is a great opportunity to take the degree since the team will be in our neighborhood.

There is a new date and time for one of our popular annual family events. We will attend the Richmond Flying Squirrels Baseball Game on Friday, June 23 at 7:05pm. Since that night is Irish Heritage Night the first 1000 people will receive a free t-shirt. And to top off the event, Vince Eikmeier will sing the Irish National Anthem. Lastly, please plan on attending the June 13 meeting for Dr. Bayliss' book talk and signing.

Slán go fóill.
(goodbye for now)

In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,
Brian P. Hegarty Jr.

Upcoming Events:

The fishing trip scheduled for May 12/13 has been cancelled due to the Rock Fish not biting. It has been tentatively rescheduled for Sunday June 18 or 25. Call Dan Caffrey (804-512-6288) for your preference and reservation.

- Business meetings second Tuesday of the month except July, August.
- **May 12/13, 2017 Fri/Sat - Fishing Trip to Chesapeake Bay, Postponed** till June 18th, Sunday (Father's Day) or June 25th, Sunday. Contact Kingfish Dan Caffrey for your preference and reservation. 804-512-6288
- **June 10, 2017, Saturday (JUST ADDED) – Major Degree Offered & AOH State Quarterly Meeting** at St. Joseph Church, 828 Buford Rd, Richmond, VA 23235. (Details TBA). Meeting is usually at 10 am with lunch at 12 pm and Degree at 12:30 pm. If interested in receiving the Degree please contact Daniel Caffrey 804-512-6288 or kkcaffrey@hotmail.com.
- **June 23, 2017, Friday at 7:05 pm (NEW DATE & TIME)– Richmond Flying Squirrels Baseball Game** Outing (Family), Irish Heritage Night (free Irish shirt to first 1,000). Vince Eikmeier to sing the Irish National Anthem. The Diamond, 3001 N. Boulevard, Richmond, VA 23230 - (Tim McDonnell - Chair) (ph 804-678-9764).
- **4th of July Picnic (TBA)** at Columbian Center (Family Event) with the KOC 4th Degree Assembly.

Prayer List – Please Pray for the following:

- **Lexi Shumway**, 25-year old daughter of friend & co-worker of Tim McDonald, diagnosed with thyroid cancer.
- **LAOH Mary Ryan President (and wife of Dooley Brother Tom Forbes) Lori Forbes** has been ICU for several days after a bit of complication from an atrial fibrillation procedure.
- **Patricia Dore and Andrea Dworkin, 1st cousins of Steve McGann**, undergoing chemo and radiation treatments for cancer
- **Ann Gillikin wife of Brother Ed Gillikin, Sr.;** complications after recent back surgery. Currently laid up at home and Ed is taking care of her.
- **Brother John McCann** who is undergoing chemotherapy treatment for metastatic prostate cancer.

- **Brother/Past President Chad Costello** – was in hospital for shortness of breath. Found blood clots in lungs and legs. Was in hospital for a while and just released (1/23/17). Has oxygen with him at home and is on blood thinner. Please pray for a speedy recovery.
- **Brother Chad's parent-in-laws** – MRI on father-in-law (Jim) for bulge on aorta. Mother-in-law (Sally) has irregular heartbeat.
- **Bishop Francis Xavier DiLorenzo** recently had stents put in.
- **Mark Collins' wife Nita.**
- **Brother Kevin McGranahan** – recent visit to hospital for low blood sugar. Pray for complete recovery and good health.
- **Fr. Zahn for spinal stenosis, back spasms.**
- **Deacon Wayne Snellings** – inoperable cancer.
- **Fr. Jim Arsenault's mother Patricia Arsenault** - She's had some complications recovering from hip surgery.
- **Rich Aleksy, Past State Pres.** - Rich had surgery to remove the lower node of his left lung and several lymph nodes which will be sent out for biopsy.
- **Hugh Naughton's wife Jessie is in pain again** – scheduled for surgery on October 17th with a high success rate to relieve the pain; brother John is recovering from stroke, progress is slow; sister – knee replacement; brother Mike – diagnosed with Parkinson's or MSA; brother Bob broke leg.
- **Johnny Cates** – son's fiancé stage 1 cancer, shrunk tumor 50% (Hayden).
- **Sean and Matt Costello's sister Maura**, had hysterectomy and is in chemo for cancer treatment.
- **Jim Woods** – mom is had 3rd knee replacement, going to PT, doing great.
- **Bill McKay** who continues to struggle with back pain
- **Patrick McGowan's uncle, Jerry Meranda**, is having dementia problems
Craig Holtz's aunt, Katherine Holdoff, is elderly and fading;

Contact Steve McGann, Chair of AOH Dooley Division Sick

Local history of the Irish and the Richmond Diocese

Contributed by John Costello



Fr. James B. O'Reilly

The Diocese of Richmond was established in 1820 and encompassed the entire state of Virginia, including what is now West Virginia. Its first Bishop was Father Patrick Kelly, then president of St. John's Seminary, Birchfield, County Kilkenny, Ireland (known today as St. Kieran's College). He was consecrated bishop in St. James Chapel, Dublin. He returned to Ireland in 1822 never having set foot in Richmond. The next Bishop was not named until 1841: Father Richard Vincent Whelan. The next three Bishops of Richmond: McGill, Gibbons & Keane continued the tradition of Irish connection.

The Diocese of Richmond made financial contributions to All Hallows University in Dublin, which had been founded in 1842. As a consequence, several graduates of its seminary came to serve in the Diocese of Richmond. One was the Rev. Father James B. O'Reilly. His parents, Simon O'Reilly and Catherine Ballasty of Kilcogy, a small village in the parish of Mullahoran in south-western County Cavan, Ireland, raised him and his 12 siblings. Father O'Reilly was born in 1853. After his ordination in 1878, he arrived New York and was dispatched to Richmond. He spent two years at St. Joseph's Church in Martinsburg, W. Va., and two years as pastor of St. Peter's Church, Harper's Ferry, before becoming pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Winchester. In 1891 he began his long service in Richmond. He became pastor of the old Sacred Heart Church. When the new cathedral was dedicated on November 28, 1906, Father O'Reilly was chosen pastor.

According to "Celebrating 100 Years, A Journey of Faith, Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, 1906-2006," Father O'Reilly was highly successful in his work with the youth, with fund raising events, with the initiation of church programs, with ministries, and with the formation of member groups. According to the Richmond (Va) Times Dispatch (July 17, 1913), he was a member of Richmond Council No. 395, Knights of Columbus, and various other Catholic organizations of the city. Posted in the Columbian Center on Pump Road in Henrico County, you will find 395's Council Charter dated February 26, 1899, and that of the McGill Catholic Union dated February 21, 1898, both listing Father O'Reilly as a founding member. Although the Dooley Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) was not established until 1979, Division records reveal that the AOH had a presence in Richmond as early as 1872. The 1903-1904 National Directory, which can be found on the aoh.org website, lists AOH organizations in Alexandria, Henrico, Norfolk, Roanoke and Warwick Counties, a total of six divisions, two in Henrico. The Rev. J. B. O'Reilly is listed Henrico County Chaplain and State Chaplain. Thus, there is every reason to suggest that Father O'Reilly was likely acquainted with Major James H. Dooley (1841-1922), our Division's namesake, who was a leading citizen of the city during that era.

Father O'Reilly died in 1913 while away on a trip to Wytheville. When his body arrived at the Byrd Street Station, it was met by a committee of seventy-five from various Catholic organizations of the city. The body was escorted to the Sacred Heart Cathedral, where it was placed to lie in state until the funeral. Throughout the night hours a guard of honor recruited from the six Catholic parishes of the city remained by the bier. During the funeral, the Cathedral was filled to capacity and police were stationed by the doors to prevent a crush. The celebrant for the Requiem Mass was Bishop Dennis O'Connell. When the casket was carried out of the church, it was preceded by fifty-four honorary pallbearers, twenty-four priests and a number of choir boys carrying lighted candles. Immediately following the body was Governor William Hodges Mann. Father O'Reilly is buried in the clergy section of Mount Calvary Cemetery, where his name can be found listed as a Trustee on a plaque near the entrance. His popularity can be recognized by the huge ornate mausoleum erected for him bearing the inscription "A mark of devotion by his friends."

To order green jackets, click on the picture:



To order sashes, click on the picture:

Ancient Order of Hibernians
Dooley Division
Patrick Shea
3312 Hard Rock Court
Henrico, VA 23230-1945



«First_Name» «Last_Name»
«Street»
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