

Ancient Order of Hibernians



Major Dooley Division Richmond, Virginia

The Dooley Dispatch

April 2018

Celebrating 39 years of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity

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Next Meeting – Tuesday April 10, 2018 7:00 p.m. St. Paul's Church

President's Message:



Brothers,

March is always a busy month for us and this year was no exception. We had a lot going on before our March meeting and had even more going on afterward.

What a great day we had on St. Patrick's Day. Because it fell on a Saturday this year, some of our members did not have pesky old work get in the way of starting our celebration at St. Patrick's church for our annual mass along with the JP Carrol Memorial Breakfast that followed. Thanks go to out to Big Dan, Mike Canning, Vince (for cantering mass), Mark Collins and others for their help with set up and clean up with the breakfast. And a special thanks to the LAOH for some delicious food that they brought. This lovely mass and gathering was followed by your President buying the first round of drinks at Rosie Connelly's. Those that weren't in the AOH at Rosie's sure wished they were then!

The following weekend included the much-anticipated Church Hill Irish Festival. We had great weather for the parade and two days of selling tickets before the non-Rossmore winner of the "Trip for Two to Ireland" raffle, Mark Patterson, was chosen. And a big thank you to Jim Woods for running another successful raffle. Thank you to the Kelly Division, LAOH and all the businesses that support us each year.

Even though March was packed with activities, we are not slowing down. In the next few months we are having a Golf Trip in Myrtle Beach hosted by Life Member Pat Naughton (April 27 – 30), a Fishing Trip to Chesapeake Bay (May 19 – 20), the Fourth of July Picnic and Ashland Parade and the family favorite Irish Night (July 17) at the Richmond Flying Squirrels game where we get to cheer on our very own St Patrick when he throws the first pitch.

I am sad to have to end my newsletter with the announcement of the passing of our oldest AOH Brother John Quinn. Funeral details will be disseminated as they become available.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at our April 10 meeting at St. Pauls.

In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Scott W. Nugent

Upcoming Events:

Business meetings second Tuesday of the month except July, August.

- **May 19 /20, 2018 Sat/Sun - Fishing Trip to Chesapeake Bay**, Spend Saturday afternoon/night in Sloop Creek Lodge, fish early Sunday morning (most of the day or until we catch our limit of stripers); attend Mass up there (around Reedville) Saturday night or be back in time for St. Michael's Sunday 5 pm Mass; Captain Crabbe fish charter. Contact Daniel Caffrey at 804-512-6288 or kkcaffrey@hotmail.com
- **4th of July Picnic (TBA)** at Columbian Center (Family Event) with the KOC 4th Degree Assembly. Ashland Parade.
- **July 11-14, 2018 - AOH National Convention in Louisville, KY**. Book your rooms now at www.aoh.com before the AOH Block of rooms is sold out. Registration information to be sent out as soon as available.
- **July 17, 2018, Tuesday at 6:35 pm (Irish Night)– Richmond Flying Squirrels Baseball Game Outing (Family)**, The Diamond, 3001 N. Boulevard, Richmond, VA 23230 - (Tim McDonnell - Chair) (ph 804-678-9764).
- **August 19, 2018, Sunday - Our Lady of Knock (8/21/1879) Mass** at 11 am at St. Paul's Church with Brunch to follow at Rare Olde Times.
- **September 17, 2018, Monday at 5 pm – Happy Hour - Halfway to St. Patrick's Day at Rare Olde Times.**
- **April 27-30, 2018 – Fri-Mon – Dooley Golf Trip to Myrtle Beach**. Hosted by Pat Naughton. Contact Daniel Caffrey at 804-512-6288 or kkcaffrey@hotmail.com if interested in attending.

Prayer for the Sick

(We removed some of the names which have been on the list for quite some time. If you would like them added back, please contact Steve McCann or Dan Caffrey)

From and since March meeting (new):

- **Fr. George Zahn** had back surgery recently and was at Our Lady of Hope. He'll hopefully be going back to St. Mary's Woods. He has Parkinson's Disease along with his Spinal Stenosis. He's in therapy. This year will be 50

years as a priest. Keep our Chaplain in your prayers. Please contact Steve McGann (email below) if you'd like his phone number.

- **Chad Costello's** daughter, Jocelyn, was in concussion protocol from soccer. Mother in physical therapy after hip replacement.
- **Kevin Kitrick**, AOH Brother, recovering from a motorcycle accident. Had shoulder surgery, still recovering from head injuries.
- **Tom Forbes'** brother-in-law, Dan Cummings, passed away March 9th after stroke. **Tom Forbes** had heart procedure (cardiac catheter) to prevent further strokes.
- **Hugh Naughton's** wife, Jessie, has lower back issues, Rosie Ramocki broke hand, Friend Dick Brennan – cancer.
- **John Quinn**, Passed away 04-06-2018

From Prior Meetings:

- **Tracey**, friend of **Jim Woods**, pulmonary hypertension age 40, with a 7-year-old.
- **Tom Edwards**, brother-in-law of **Jim Donahue**, has Cancer of the Esophagus.
- **Michael Naughton**, father of **Pat Naughton** is suffering from the effects of Alzheimer's and is under hospice care.
- **Jerry Gorman Jr.** has been seriously ill, perhaps being discharged from St. Mary's ICU unit today.
- **Laura Fredenburg**, friend of **John Mulligan and Godmother to his daughter Katie**, is undergoing surgery for breast cancer.
- **Jim Woods' sister-in-law, Wendy**, diagnosed with breast cancer and has 2 young children-chemo therapy – 8-week process. Dad, blockage in carotid artery – procedure.
- **Johnny Cates**, brother **Tim**, 16 months of hell – PLS (cousin of ALS), prognosis not great.
- **Sue Gerloff**, mom of **Fred**, recovering from stroke.
- **Bill Hutchins**, friend of **Jim Whelen**, for recovery from major stroke.

Contact Steve McGann, Chair of AOH Dooley Division Sick

St. Patrick Irish Festival

Despite the unusually cold weather for the end of March in Richmond, the Irish Festival in Church Hill turned out to be a huge success with large crowds and a sun-filled sky. This year's winner of the raffle was Mark Paterson of Midlothian who purchased his ticket the day of the drawing.



Paul McFadden, Mike Sweeney, Scott Nugent,
Mike Canning



Father Rossi and Ireland Bishop St. Patrick (Brian
Hegarty)



LAOH Mary Ryan Division selling their raffle
tickets

To order green jackets, click on the picture:



To order sashes, click on the picture:

Contributed by Historian Brian P. Hegarty

Famous Pirate: Grace O'Malley



Irish chieftain Grace O'Malley is today remembered not only as one of the most important persons during one of its most turbulent times of Irish history but also as a fierce pirate who used her large naval fleet to protect Irish to secure large wealth.

Grace O'Malley was one of the best remembered and influential chieftains of the Ó Máille clan in the west Ireland. She was born as a royalty and was a competent leader of her land, but because of her fascination with the sea and warfare, she fought with all her available means to ensure the independence of her lands against spreading the influence of England. Even though she was a woman and a royal who managed during her life to form notable political connections with neighboring nations, she became a pirate leader whose exploits at sea enabled her to gather significant wealth. Her unorthodox life and years of sailing the sea as a pirate leader have built Grace O'Malley into one of the most important figures from Irish history and also a significant character in the Irish folklore where she is sometimes called "The Sea Queen of Connacht".

Grace O'Malley was born under the name of Gráinne Ní Mháille in Ireland around 1530, as a daughter of the wealthy nobleman and sea trader Owen O'Malley (Eoghan Dubhdara Ó Máille). Contemporary historical records have many other spellings of her name, including Gráinne O'Maly, Graney O'Mally, Grainne Ní Maille, Grayn Ny Mayle, Granny ni Maille, Grany O'Mally, Grane ne Male, Grainy O'Maly, and Granee O'Maillie. During her youth the Ireland was provisionally under English control, who was ruled by the Henry VIII was King of England. However, in those years Tudor conquest of Ireland gathered pace and Irish nation became under attack and forced slowly to give up their independence. This did not sit well with the O'Malley clan which was one of the several clans who defied the will of England. Grace was brought up in the family residences of Belclare and Clare Island as a daughter of the chieftain whose legacy went all the way back to the Maille mac Conall, grandson of the king Ui Maill who ruled in Ireland Middle Ages. She was formally educated and learned to speak Latin. Even though there are no historical records of it, it is also highly possible that during her youth she was also fostered in another family for several years of her life, which was in line with the tradition among Irish nobility of that time.

O'Malleys managed to establish themselves as one of the rare seafaring clans of Irish people, managing not only to find fortune in trade and naval warfare but also fortifying their lands with Coast castles that protected them from invaders. Because of this long history of naval life, Grace O'Malley was fascinated by the sea her entire youth, and she ignored the influences of her entire family that wanted to steer her to the life at land. As the legend says, at the young age she cut her hair and dressed as a boy in an attempt an to become a sailor on her father's ship. Upon discovering her efforts, her entire family laughed and gave her the nickname "Grainne Mhaol" by whom she is known even today. If the legends can be trusted, she even survived a pirate attack by saving the life of his father during a battle on deck, managing to change the tide of the battle. Although she spent much of her youth and young adulthood on the ship, she received formal education and learned to speak foreign languages.

When she was around 17 years of age in 1546, O'Malley married to the Dónal a Chogaidh Ó Flaithbheartaigh also known as "Donal of the Battle", heir of the O'Flaherty clan and holder of large land in Iar Connacht. She had three children with him - two sons (Owen and Murrough) and daughter Margaret. In 1566 O'Malley married again, this time for Ríseárd an Iarainn Bourke, also known as "Iron Richard". The marriage was a political one and was performed not only so that O'Malley family could enlarge their lands, but also so that they could grow their naval fleet and take advantage from many ports Bourke controlled. The political nature of this marriage showed itself clearly one year after the wedding when O'Malley divorced Burke and took with her the castle of Rockfleet which was protecting the harbor of very strong significance to O'Malley fleet. She bore one son for

Bourke named Tiobóid, who would eventually reach the title of 1st Viscount Mayo in 1626 by Charles I of England.



As her influence rose as an international trader, owner of large land in Ireland and a pirate who harassed English holdings and trade, she became involved in several political struggles with surrounding nations. Grace did not hold much love towards the English crown (who in the previous year's took more and more Irish lands under their rule), and in the following years, she entered into open rebelling against the England. She several times offered her fighting men to the Lord Deputy of Ireland who protected Irish and Scottish interests against England.

Her exploits at sea created several folk tales and legendary exploits that are still told today in Ireland. In 1576 O'Malley sailed to Howth Castle to visit Lord Howth, only to find that the Lord was away and the gates of the castle are closed to her or any other visitor. Feeling insulted, she kidnapped the Lord Howth's grandson and heir, Christopher St Lawrence, 10th Baron Howth. He was eventually released under the promise that Howth Castle doors will always remain opened to unexpected visitors, with a place for them ready at the table. Lord Howth promised to uphold this agreement that is honored even to this day by his descendants.

By 1593 Grace O'Malley was in conflict not only with England but also with Kingdom of Ireland, who she believed was trying to limit her influence over the large land she owned. She was even attacked several times by her fellow Irishmen from other clans, but all those attacks were swatted away on the walls of her strong castles. During that same year, English governor of Connacht, Sir Richard Bingham, managed to capture her two sons Tibbot Burke and Murrough O'Flaherty and her half-brother Dónal na Píopa. O'Malley promptly sailed for London to personally speak to Elizabeth I, Queen of England and secure their release. It was reported that she appeared in front of the queen in a fine gown, did not bow to her because she felt that she was not a rightful ruler of Ireland, and talked with her with Latin. Some stories tell that guards searched O'Malley in front of the Queen and found a hidden dagger, but such rumors were never confirmed. After the long talk had been finished, the Queen and O'Malley came to the agreement in which English would remove Sir Richard Bingham from Ireland, while O'Malley would stop supporting Irish lords who fought for the independence of their lands. Upon returning to Ireland, Grace O'Malley saw not all demands met (Bingham was gone, but the castles and lands he took from O'Malley family remained still in English hands), so he continued backing Irish independence during entirety of the bloody Nine Years' War between 1594 to 1603, the largest open conflict against the English rule in Ireland during Elizabethan era.

During the entire 70 years of her life, Grace O'Malley managed to retain the reputation of fierce leader and smart politician. She successfully protected the independence of her lands during the time when much of Ireland fell under the English rule. She finally died in Rockfleet Castle in 1603, the same year as the Queen of England, Elizabeth I. To this day, Grace O'Malley is used as a personification of Ireland and an inspiration for many modern songs, theater productions, books, and a name for a wide variety of sea vessels and public objects and places.

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