



Ancient Order of
HIBERNIANS
Irish • Catholic • American



GENERAL MEAGHER'S DISPATCHES

April 2021

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News Flash: Trip for Two Ticket Sales Opportunities -- See Upcoming Events

President's Corner

My Brothers,

Irish American Heritage Month was a very important time for us. In addition to honoring our patron saint, we kicked off a major annual fundraising program, the Trip for Two to Ireland raffle. All brothers owe our gratitude to *Brother Rusty O'Brien* for organizing a day at Maltese Brewing Company to socialize and sell raffle tickets and to *Brother Shawn Lenahan* for doing the same at Colonial Tavern, Home to the Irish Brigade. Likewise, I thank your *fellow brothers* who volunteered to help out at these events. All brothers will have the opportunity to buy tickets for their families and sell them to friends and associates. In addition, you can help at your parish when we sell tickets after Mass this summer. Watch for details to be announced.

This year, more so than I was aware of in the past, there was a plethora of IAHM-related celebrations, music, Masses, presentations, speakers and videos that were made

available to us throughout the month. Many of these are still available online. Start with our own website at <https://aohfredericksburg.org> By the way, *Brother John McGrogan* continues to work very hard to make these resources available to us and improve our website.

As restrictions continue to ease and vaccinations are more available, we should revel in spring's spirit of renewal. In our motto of *Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity*, I pray that you, your family and friends had a meaningful and inspiring Lent and Holy Week.

Brother Dave McLaughlin



The Meagher Division celebrated Irish American Heritage month with articles in local print media, with support from the Central Rappahannock Regional Library and at a small gathering at the Colonial Tavern – Home to the Irish Brigade. It was good to see Harry and Bobbie Crisp there. For the entire month of March the Colonial Tavern proudly displayed TFM division placards and posters used in past IAHM activities. They chronicled the history of Ireland, the social evolution of the Irish in America, and critical societal and political roles Irish/Irish-Americans occupied throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. Trish Little Taylor, an LAOH historian and professional genealogist was our guest speaker and provided hand-outs with 15 helpful websites for genealogical research.

BTW we obtained an IAHM proclamation from the Virginia governor:



March 2021 - IAHM
Proclamation.pdf



Here are more research hints I found in *Irish Lives Remembered* Spring 2021 edition

Reverse Genealogy: There were many different types of emigrants from Ireland, in family and peer groups. But the simple fact is that Irish emigrants didn't travel in isolation. They usually settled in communities where there was already a network of friends and family. If you are uncertain of your ancestors' place of origin (e.g., townland, village), look at the community in which they settled. Observe who were their closest friends and associates: ask yourself, "Who did they work for, or go into business with, or intermarry, or ask to stand in as godparents (for baptisms) or as best-man/bridesmaid (for marriages)?" By building up a profile of the immigrant family in their place of settlement, you will often find more evidence of them. You can then use this to extend your research into the Irish records and hopefully with better results.

Traditional Irish Naming Patterns: There was a very strong naming pattern among Irish families that was followed by people of all backgrounds and all religious faiths. The first-born boy was named after his paternal grandfather, the second boy after his ma-ternal grandfather, and the third boy (if the mother hadn't given up by then) after his father. An analogous pattern was also used for naming female infants. This naming pattern was some-times disrupted by the early death of infants. This is why in genealogy it is so important to gather, as part of your evidence, the names and dates of birth and birth order of all children in a family. Occasionally, when no other record survives, we can build a circumstantial case of the probable name(s) of an earlier generation based on what the children are called. For best results, you can corroborate this against the names of the children of adult siblings.





The Celt would forfeit his title to the respect of the civilized world, did he not fight with all his heart and all his soul and all his cunning against the empire which has despoiled him and murdered his kin, now with arms, now with artificial famine. There can be no peace between the two people until either Ireland is a desert or is free. There can be neither truce nor compromise.

Easter Monday, April 24, 1916

The Battle of Clontarf took place on April 23, 1014. Brian Boru and his men repelled an attack by Norse Vikings and prevented them from taking control of Ireland. More than 6,000 Vikings and 4,000 of Boru's men were killed in the battle, including Brian Boru. (Easter in 1014 was March 27th)

Following in the footsteps of Brian Boru, the United Irishmen, the Young Irelanders, and the Fenian Brotherhood Patrick Pearse and his men proclaimed the Irish Republic on April 24, 1916. About 1600 men and women fought against English control of Ireland, but within a week it was over and more than 2,000 people were dead or injured.

Amazingly, the Irish people blamed the rebels for the destruction and death caused by English artillery. The English arrested more than 3,000 people suspected of supporting the uprising, ordered mass arrests, and instituted martial law. Irish attitudes really shifted in May when 14 Irish Nationalist leaders were summarily executed in the Kilmainham prison yard. Fourteen are buried at Arbour Hill Barracks are P. Pearse, Clark, MacDonagh, Plunkett, Ceannt, MacDiarmada, Connolly, Daly, W. Pearse, O'Hanrahan, MacBride, Mallin, Colbert, and Heuston. The 15th, Thomas Kent, was executed by firing squad at Cork Jail on 9 May 1916 and was buried there. Roger Casement, the 16th, was hanged at Pentonville Prison in London on 3 August 1916.

More than 1800 suspected rebels, including Michael Collins, were sent to the Frongoch prison camp in Wales without trial. Frongoch was described as “ugly and unsanitary”. Unlike their 18th and 19th century Irish heroes who the English treated as criminals, these rebels were treated as prisoners of war. Collins was released in December 1916. In the Irish War of Independence he led a small force and used intelligence and guerrilla tactics to force the English to the negotiating table. Later he was the leader of the Irish Free State until his assassination in August 1922. He is considered the Father of Irish Defense Force Military Intelligence.

Worthy of Note: One of the rebels, Eamon de Valera, was among the last to surrender and was sentenced to death. However, he was the only commandant not executed. It is said that the U.S Consulate, Dublin, intervened for this American citizen causing his death sentence to be commuted. de Valera served a prison term and went on to become one of Ireland’s leading political figures, with a career spanning half a century.



Upcoming Division Events

Government restrictions make everything tentative!

Bingo! Every Thursday and Saturday evening 6:30PM at St Michael the Archangel High School, 6301 Campus Drive, Fredericksburg. Bring the family!

April 17&18: T4T raffle ticket sales at St Jude Parish. Contact Shawn Lenahan to help.

April 20: Division **monthly meeting** begins at 7:30PM

June 13th: T4T raffle ticket sales at St Patrick Parish. Contact Bob Fitzgerald to help

June: Virginia AOH State Meeting (date & venue TBD (**Election of State Board officers for the 2021-2023 term**))

July 11th: T4T ticket sales at St Patrick Parish – contact Bob Fitzgerald

August 8th: T4T ticket sales at St Patrick Parish – contact Bob Fitzgerald

August 20-23: Virginia AOH State Convention in Richmond

September 12th: T4T ticket sales at St Patrick Parish – contact Bob Fitzgerald

September 13: Shamrock Charity Golf Classic (venue TBD)

**September 18: Halfway to St Patrick Day/T4T drawing @ Colonel Tavern
11:30AM-5PM**



Our DIVISION Prayers



Jack Grey chairs the Division Committee of the Sick: Prayer requests should be sent to Jack not later than the Wednesday prior to the business meeting (RHGrey@yahoo.com//540-373-4496).

Pray for the repose of the souls of all deceased Hibernian Brothers. Keep in your prayers our family members and friends:

- **John Hogan:** pulmonary fibrosis and Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma; John is undergoing chemotherapy.
- **Peter Carroll:** pancreatic cancer, undergoing chemotherapy
- **Jack Grey:** diagnosed with a protein related blood disorder (not cancer)
- **Rusty O'Brien:** completed radiation for prostate cancer, remains under observation.
- **Joe Daley:** COPD
- **Gene McKenna:** recovering from by-pass surgery in Dec 2019.
- **Brian Kiernan:** VAAOH Vice President, lymphedemic edema
- **Norman Turley:** father of Dave Turley, died on 15 February
- **Dick Link:** father of PDP Andy Link who died 29 February
- **Loretta Larzelere:** Bob Fitzgerald's sister-in-law suffering seizures and Alzheimer's
- **Norma Cristiano:** Rose of the Soul Dan Mulhern's mother-in-law who died in February.
- **John O'Brien:** Hugh O'Brien's brother-- recovering from stroke.

- **Jerry O'Brien:** Paul O'Brien's brother – cancer
- **Ruth Pettinger:** Shawn Lenahan's aunt (Vietnam Vet) inoperable brain tumor.
- **Donna Maffeo:** Joe Monaghan's sister-in-law and his father Joseph Sr. care giver for his mother and uncle (dementia/Alzheimer)
- **Nolan Banks:** Former FS Jeff Banks' son (chemo-compromised immune system) *Pray for the intercession of Venerable Father Augustus Tolton:* <http://www.toltoncanonization.org/prayer/canonizationprayer.html>



General Meagher Division Attire

Every brother should have these articles of clothing:

Semi-formal/formal occasions: The AOH “uniform” is green sport coat, tri-color sash, white shirt, Irish theme tie, black trousers and optional ball cap. These occasions include AOH Masses, funerals, dinners, parades, State and National conventions, and other public events.

Informal events (i.e. Division outings (ball games, picnics, meetings, etc.) the division logo polo or sweatshirts (optional ball cap) are appropriate.

Division Logo Items: Point of Contact for Division logo polo shirts, sweatshirts and ball caps is Shawn Lenahan (s_lenahan@verizon.net)

Green Jacket: Brothers procure their own green jackets. One source: http://blazerdepot.com/pages/mens_blazer/augustagreenblazer.html. Visit the website; call the 800 number; tell them you're with AOH and the \$5.00 small order fee can be waived. Kelly green is the color.

AOH Sash: Brothers procure their own sashes. The AOH tri-color sash represents the national colors of Ireland and should be worn over the right shoulder (green closest to neck/collar) crossing to the left hip. Measure from right shoulder to left hip in inches; keep in mind the sash will normally be worn over a jacket, possibly a raincoat/overcoat (and maybe a growing waistline).

Sashes are available from:

LAOH Sister Patricia Ankrom produces a 7.5-foot sash; Send a personal check for \$60. Turnaround time is about 10 days. The sash will be sent to you via Fed Ex or UPS -- signature required. Her address: Patricia Ankrom, 7400 Airport Dr., Quinton, Va. 23141-2400. Email traceysbydesign@aol.com

Gettysburg Flag offers tri-color sashes and “special prices” for larger orders. <https://www.gettysburgflag.com/custom/irish-parade-sash>

This newsletter is an unofficial publication providing information to members of the Gen Thomas F Meagher Division and others who may have interest in division activities. It is published by Bill Halpin and unless shown otherwise, he is the author of the contents.