



Ancient Order of
HIBERNIANS
Irish • Catholic • American



THE KELLY NEWSLETTER

Msgr. Charles A. Kelly, Jr. Division 44PO010007

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Jack Simila *Division President's Message*

Worthy Brothers,

Now that the hot summer months are behind us and cool fall weather has arrived, we would generally be preparing for the Celtic Festival and Highland games. As you know, this festival is the kick-off for our annual fundraising. Unfortunately, this festival initially scheduled for the end of October is again postponed. Hopefully, ticket sales will still occur, and we can still accomplish some fundraising throughout the year. I think this will be an excellent opportunity to purchase raffle tickets to use as Christmas Gifts, a win-win for our Division. I hope to have more information at our monthly business meeting.

As you know, the months leading up to December are a busy time for us. We have a lot to discuss before the end of the year. Ticket sales are a big issue. We are still working on a slate of officers for 2022, we will need to approve a budget for our upcoming fiscal year, and of course, we have our annual Christmas dinner to plan. Please join us this Thursday, October 14, 2021, at 7 pm for our monthly meeting at St. Joseph's to discuss these and other items on the agenda.

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Business Meetings

Regular Monthly Business Meetings are held at 7 PM on the 2nd Thursday of the month. No meetings are held during July and August.

2021 Business Meeting Schedule:

St. Joseph's, Bon Air, on October 14, 2021 at 7 PM.

St. Joseph's, Bon Air, on November 11, 2021 at 7 PM.

December to be determined.

A social meeting is held on the fourth Thursday of each month at O'Toole's Pub on Midlothian Turnpike at 5PM. All Brothers are invited for a little craic.

President's Message (Continued from page 1)

As I close this letter, I want to ask each of you to consider helping out by holding an officer position in our Division this upcoming year. It's an excellent opportunity to give back to our order and help out your brothers in the Kelly Division. Come to our meeting or call me with any questions.



Also, let's welcome our newest member, David Simcox, who was initiated at our September meeting.

IOM
Jack Simila President
919-730-7394

A Bit of Irish History

The Ambush of Michael Collins

The ambush by Anti-Anglo-Irish Treaty (Anti-Treatyites) members took place at Béal na mBláth (between Macroom Crookstown, about ten miles short of Bandon) just before sunset on August 22, 1922, at 7.30 pm. When the first shots were fired, Dalton ordered: "Drive like hell." Collins countermanded the order just as he had predicted and yelled: "Stop, we'll fight them."

Then, Collins ran about fifteen yards up the road, dropped into a prone firing position, and continued shooting at the IRA/anti-Treatyites on the hill.

Dalton said then he heard the faint cry "Emmet, I'm hit." Dalton

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News from the Division

If any of our members are unaware, the Central Virginia Celtic Festival has been postponed. We will keep you updated with any new information.

We are working to set a date for our Annual Division Christmas Dinner at O'Toole's. Members will be notified as soon as the date is firmed up.

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and Commandant Seán O’Connell ran over to where Collins was lying face-down on the road and found a “fearful gaping wound at the base of his skull behind the right ear. We immediately saw that General Collins was almost beyond human aid. He could not speak to us. ...O’Connell now knelt beside the dying, but still conscious, Collins. Later Dalton said: “it was a very large wound, an open wound in the back of the head ...and it was difficult for me to get a First-Field-Aid bandage to cover it, you know when I was binding it up. It was quite obvious to me, with the experience I had of a ricochet bullet, it could only have been a ricochet or a dum-dum.”

The ambush was over in approximately thirty minutes, and before it ended, darkness had fallen so it was impossible to get off an aimed shot. No one in the anti-Treatyite party fully knew that Collins had been shot or that the convoy suffered any casualty. It was only when Shawno Galvin came back to Béal na mBláth that they got the first report of any casualties.

Collins’s body was first placed into the armored car, then transferred to the touring car for the sad trip back to Cork

City. On the way into Cork City, Dalton stopped the convoy at a church in Cloughduv. Dalton asked where was the priest’s house? Getting directions there, they knocked on the door and the curate, Fr. Timothy Murphy, came to the railing. Seeing Collins was beyond hope, he turned to get the sacred oils, but Cmdt. O’Connell misunderstood this

to be a refusal of his ministry. O’Connell pointed a pistol at

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News from the National AOH

Claims of Notre Dame Leprechaun Offensiveness is Media Malarkey

Per The National AOH:

It is with a mixture of disbelief and despondency that the Hibernians read today headlines “Notre Dame leprechaun considered offensive, according to survey” in multiple newspapers and media outlets. This media-manufactured controversy stems from a poll conducted by a T-Shirt printing company that allegedly concluded that the Notre Dame Leprechaun logo and the nickname of “Fighting Irish” are offensive.

Ref: [AOH National](#)

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him, but Dalton knocked it away.

Then the convoy headed back to the Imperial Hotel, where Dalton, Cmdt. O’Connell, Sgt. Cooney and Lt. Gough went into the Hotel to inform Maj. Gen. Dr. Leo Ahern and asked him to take charge of the body.

Dr. Ahern first examined Collins’s body when it was brought to the Imperial Hotel, and then at Shanakiel Hospital. He was the first doctor to examine the body and pronounced Collins dead. His examination found a large, gaping wound “to the right of the poll. There was no other wound. There was definitely no wound in the forehead.”

The Funeral of Michael Collins

On the morning of August 23, Richard Mulcahy, as Free State Army Chief of Staff, issued the following message to the Army:

“Stand calmly by your posts. Bend bravely and undaunted to your task. Let no cruel act of reprisal blemish your bright honor. Every dark hour that Collins met since 1916 seemed but to steel that bright strength of his and temper his brave gaiety You are left as inheritors of that strength and bravery. To each of you falls his unfinished work. No darkness in the hour: loss of comrades will daunt you in it. Ireland! The Army serves—strengthened by its sorrow.”

Prayer List

Brother Dan Harrington: Being treated for Lukemia on a monthly basis.

Brother Jim Dunn: Recovering from knee replacement surgery.

Michael Manning: Nephew of Dan Harrington who was just released from hospital after 21 days recovery from intestinal surgery. Diagnosed with Stage 3 colon cancer.

Jim Calpin, Diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis and now resting at Brookdale.

-**Mike Dougherty** being treated for Crohn’s disease; also his wife, Diana, who is being treated for spinal stenosis; Mike’s brother-in-law James Cramsie with incurable leg infection

2021 Division Officers

President-*Jack Simila*
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Vice President- Open

Treasurer-*John Frampton*
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Recording Secretary-*Mike Norton*
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Our Division History

The Msgr. Charles Kelly, Jr. Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians was formed in December, 2009 and conducted its first meeting on January 21, 2010 at St. John Neumann Church, Powhatan, Virginia. The next few meetings were taken up with election of officers and the many procedural items needed to get our group started.

Since that time we continue to grow, adding new members and supporting and donating to Catholic schools and Churches in the area, in line with our commitment to Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity.



The Road to Kinnegoe Beach, Donegal

LINKS

[AOH National](#)

[Irish Museum-DC](#)

[AOH Virginia](#)

[The Wild Geese](#)

[AOH Kelly](#)

[Irish Times](#)

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[Irish Culture and Customs](#)