



Ancient Order of
HIBERNIANS
Irish • Catholic • American



GENERAL MEAGHER'S DISPATCHES

December 2021

Volume 9/No12

President: Dave McLaughlin; **Chaplain:** Deacon Aaron Zaccagnino; **Vice President:** Dennis O'Leary; **Financial Secretary** Edwin Hanson; **Treasurer:** Jeff Everett; **Recording Secretary:** Bill Halpin; **Standing Committee:** Vacant; **Marshal:** Chuck Gleason; **Sentinel:** James Lenahan; **Webmaster:** John McGrogan; **Organizer:** Membership: <https://aohfredericksburg.org/membership/> **Newsletter Editor:** Bill Halpin (sisconsulting@comcast.net).

Pray to Mary Immaculate Patroness of the United States for the strength of mind and heart to defend our religious freedoms, for national moral guidance, and that our country will always be “one nation under God”. This is critically important in this time of contrary moral agendas and the threats from patently evil elements.



President's Corner:

My Brothers,

The next meeting on December 14th will be very important! Our worthy state president will join us and will preside over our Officer Installation. Please save this date and plan on attending.

We all should give thanks for our brothers who have stepped up to serve as our division officers for the next two years but, in addition and in gratitude for *their* commitment, the *rest of us* now need to commit as well. Commit to attend more meetings and to more actively participate in our division activities throughout the coming year.

The December meeting will also be an opportunity for all of us to say Merry Christmas and wish each other a Blessed New Year.

Slainte, and in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Brother Dave McLaughlin



Meet our 2022-2023 Elected Officers

President: Bob Fitzgerald
Vice President: Shawn Lenahan
Financial Secretary: Jeff Everitt
Recording Secretary: Bill Halpin

Treasurer: Dave McLaughlin
Standing Committee: Bobby Murphy
Marshal: Chuck Gleason
Sentinel: Jack Kelly



After a one year hiatus, the General Meagher Division renewed the traditional Mass in memory of our deceased brothers. Mass was celebrated at St. Patrick Church by Father John Ziegler. President McLaughlin recited the 23 names of our fallen brothers in alphabetical order. PDP Shawn Lenahan did the readings and Division VP Dennis O’Leary served as canter leading the division in spiritual songs.



Remembering

John A'Hearn
Phil Booty
Ronald Cullen
John Cunningham
David Coon
Ed Crenshaw
Jeff Fitzpatrick
William Fitzpatrick
Richard Fleming

John A. Glancy
Thomas G. Leahy
Mick Lenihan
Jim Mannion
Francis Maxey
Joseph McCardell
Bill McCarthy
Neil Mulcahy
Rev. Fr. John Munley

Joe O'Connor
John O'Toole
John L. Parker
Larry Pratt
John Tracy

Our 2022 Memorial Mass will be celebrated on 22 Nov. at St. Jude Parish



Knights of Columbus Recognizes Brother John Hogan

John Hogan Battlefield Council's Longest Serving Knight

John is the Battlefield Council's most senior member. He became a Knight in May 1958 and joined the Battlefield Knights in 2000, he served as Treasurer for six years. . John and his wife Lynne have been married for 54 years and are the grandparents of eight grandchildren. Six of their grandchildren are the children of Brother Alan and Maura Harrison. He is a Vietnam vet and a retired Air Force Colonel. Notably his last posting was as Deputy Commander- Maintenance with responsibility for the 37 aircraft (including Air Force One) of the "Special Air Mission" at Andrews AFB. Keep John and Lynne in your prayers as he is recovering from treatments for cancer.





According to the US Census Bureau, 790,000 (nearly 10%) Virginians claim Irish Heritage. In nearby counties the raw number are:

Stafford:	16,384	Madison:	1,755
Spotsy:	14,421	Rappahannock:	1,214
Fauquier:	10,160	Fredericksburg City (est. 290)	
Culpeper:	5,800		
Orange:	4,625		
Green	2,673		



And for those who are looking for the perfect Christmas gift, I offer you this Irish enthusiast video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dMmXh6l-Qi4>



ZORRO



There have been many Irish expatriates, fighting the ‘good fight’, defending the oppressed in various parts of the world. So it is not surprising that one of them was a special hero, a new Robin Hood, who would be transformed into a legendary figure by modern writers and film makers.

This story was hidden for centuries in the Mexican Inquisition’s archives and rediscovered only in the last quarter of the last century. However, the few historians who were interested in him weren’t familiar with seventeenth-century Irish and European history and couldn’t fully understand who he was.

The real-life Zorro was William Lambert, born in Wexford, Ireland in 1611. His life as a soldier, pirate and spy became the inspiration for the character Zorro.

He was the youngest of the four children in noble Catholic family, who originally came to Ireland with Strongbow in the twelfth century and built a castle at Rosslare, a seaport about 90 miles south of Dublin. Lamport was educated by the Augustinians and Franciscans in Wexford and by the Jesuits in Dublin. In 1628 he joined a gang of pirates. In 1630 he jumped ship and fled to Spain, where he resumed his studies at St Patrick College and Hispanicized his name to ‘Guillén Lombardo’. Subsequently, as a captain in the Spanish army, he fought bravely in key battles in the Thirty Years’ War at Nördlingen (1634) and Fuenterrabía (1638) against Swedish, German, and French troops. Back in Madrid, in 1639 he supported Richard Nugent’s secret mission to get money and soldiers for an Irish rebellion.

Spanish rule was being challenged in Mexico. In 1640, Lamport was sent to Mexico to spy on the new viceroy, the Marquis of Villena, suspected of sympathy towards Portugal’s rebellion. In Mexico City Lamport led a double life. He was engaged to a rich heiress, Antonia Turcios, and moved in the highest social circles, all the time collecting evidence against Villena and transmitting it to Juan Palafox, new bishop of Puebla.

On 9 June 1642 Palafox had Villena arrested and replaced him as viceroy for a few months. During this period of unrest, Lamport conspired to overthrow Spanish rule and on 26 October 1642, the Inquisition arrested him. They accused him of

conspiring against Spain to liberate Indians and black slaves and being associated with Indian witch doctors and dabbling in astrology. Further, they accused him of attempting to set himself up as king of an independent Mexico. Lamport spent seven years in prison and became a leader among the prisoners. Aided Palafox supporters, he managed to escape from prison on 26 December 1650. He remained in Mexico City and plastered the city walls at night with posters denouncing the crimes of the Inquisitors. Captured again he spent another nine years in jail where he continued to write pamphlets attacking the Inquisition. He also wrote about one thousand psalms in Latin. Condemned to burn at the stake on 19 November 1659, he managed to strangle himself with the rope used to tie him to the stake before the flames were lighted.

His deeds in support of the Indians and the underprivileged made him a hero in their eyes and of the Franciscan community of friars. In the people's imagination he became the hero who struck in the darkness, challenged and ridiculed the Inquisition and wanted to proclaim himself king to free the Indians and black slaves. In his last will and testament Lamport proclaimed the hope that the time of God's judgment would soon come and the certainty that the archbishop of Mexico City would be engulfed by the fires of hell.



BoJo's plan to circumvent the Irish Protocol flops

Irish Post by Connell McHugh, November 26, 2021

Boris Johnson proposed a land route between Scotland and Northern Ireland. The study looked into the possibility of a bridge or tunnel, but costs are estimated to be too great for the project to proceed. Chairman of Network Rail Peter Henry, who led the report, found that a bridge would cost an estimated €396 billion and a tunnel would be around €247 billion. The report found that while both a tunnel and bridge are "technically feasible to construct," they would be the longest undersea tunnel or the longest spanning bridge in history. It also looked to recent major UK construction projects and estimated it would be unlikely the project could begin before 2031, followed by at least 17 years of design, construction and commissioning.



Upcoming Division Events



December 12: Battle of Fredericksburg/Irish Brigade commemoration 1PM at the City Dock followed by a social hour at the Colonial Tavern

December 14: Division meeting – Installation of Division officers for the 2022-2023 term. This important meeting may be a hybrid meeting so stay tuned! The Virginian AOH President Brian Kiernan will officiate at the Installation Ceremony.

December 25: Our Savior is born in Bethlehem!

January 1: New division officers begin the 2022-2023 two year term



Our Division Prayers



Prayer requests should be submitted not later than the Wednesday prior to the business meeting.

Keep in your prayers our brothers, family members and friends:

- **John Hogan:** pulmonary fibrosis; treatment for Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma chemotherapy completed
- **Peter Carroll:** completed treatments; cysts no longer visible

- **Jack Grey:** diagnosed with a serious, but unspecified blood disorder and an allergy to copper
- **Joe Daley:** COPD
- **Jack Grey, Jr.:** Jack Grey's son – cancer
- **Russell McLaughlin:** Dave McLaughlin's brother - frontotemporal dementia (FTD)
- **Loretta Larzelere:** Bob Fitzgerald's sister-in-law suffering from seizures and Alzheimer's
- **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)
- **Brian Kiernan:** VAAOH President, lymphedemic edema
- **Nolan Banks:** Former FS Jeff Banks' son (chemo-compromised immune system) *Pray for the intercession of Venerable Father Augustine Tolton:* <http://www.toltoncanonization.org/prayer/canonizationprayer.html>
- **Mary Lou and Keith Bowers:** St Jude parishioners/friends of Deacon Aaron

Pray for the repose of the souls of all deceased Hibernian Brothers and family members

- **Lois M Hanson:** mother of FS Edwin Hanson who died peacefully on 18 November 2021
- **Mary O'Brien Gardner:** mother of Jill Lenahan, mother-in-law of PDP Shawn Lenahan who died on 12 November 2021
- **Angelo Jr Zaccagnino:** father of Deacon Zaccagnino who died 19 August
- **Chris Link:** brother of PDP Andy Link who died on 11 June 2021
- **Dick Link:** father of PDP Andy Link who died on 28 December 2020



General Meagher Division Attire

Every brother should have these articles of clothing:

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.

A second source recommended by Major Dooley Division:

<https://www.uniformsinstock.com/collections/blazers/products/executive-apparel-winston-mens-kelly-green-blazer>

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 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.