



Ancient Order of
HIBERNIANS
Irish • Catholic • American



THE KELLY NEWSLETTER

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

January, 2024 Edition Volume 14 Issue 1

2024
Division President's Message

Dennis Mulligan



Worthy Brothers

.President's Message-January 2024

Worthy Hibernian Brothers

I hope each of you had both a wonderful and a joyful Christmas and New Year 2024 holiday with your family. I would be remiss if I did not take a moment to thank you for voting in our strong slate of Officers, and voting me in for a second term as President. Our new Officers will be formally installed on January 11, 2024, and I would hope to see all of our brothers at this important meeting for the Division. The core of our Division is always our members, where we have the oppor-

State Board Quarterly Meeting Jan. 27, 2024

Our next State Quarterly meeting will be hosted by the Father Edwin Kelley Division in Manassas, VA on January 27, 2024

A Major Degree of the Order is scheduled on that Saturday after the conclusion of the Virginia State Board Meeting. Additional details will follow.

Please save the date and encourage all members in need of the Major Degree to be There.

tunity to talk about recruiting new Hibernians and the means to invite them to join us. We will also quickly cover updates to our Website.

Raffle ticket sales are officially underway. See or call Past President Jack Simila to order raffle tickets. Jack will also be bring us up to date on sales at the meeting. The Church Hill Irish Festival is scheduled for March 15, set up day, and March 16 and 17. We will discuss this in a little more detail at the meeting. Like past years, we will need lots of help for this event.

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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.

Meetings are held at:
St. Joseph's Church
828 Buford Road
Richmond, VA 23235

2024 Business Meeting Schedule:

Our next regular Division Meeting is January 11, 2024

Socials at O'Toole's Restaurant & Pub, 13919 Midlothian Turnpike, Midlothian, VA 23114 on the fourth Thursday of each month starting at 5PM.

Dues Notice

2024 Dues are now payable. Dues remain at \$40 and, if 75 or older, dues are \$20.

Please pay at Division Meetings or mail check payable to:

**AOH Msgr. Kelly
Division**

at:

Larry Kelly
120 Carriage Point Ln. Glen Allen
Va. 23059

In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity

Please click on [page 3](#) for additional info on ordering Irish attire similar to what I wear to Division meetings..

Website: [13Stitches](#)

Thank You, Brothers
President, Dennis J. Mulligan
Msgr. Charles A Kelly Jr.
Division No. 44P001
 Mulligan.dennis@yahoo.com

Trials and Transportation

Removal of Irish Convicts

Throughout the years of the Great Famine, hunger, disease, and the Workhouse were not the only threats faced by the people of Ireland. There was also rampant crime, as desperate people were forced to beg, borrow, and steal what they could in order to survive. These minor offences often resulted in a sentence of Penal Transportation.

The sentence of Penal Transportation was carried out in Ireland from 1791 to 1853. This form of punishment involved the removal of convicted criminals from the land of their birth and relocating them elsewhere, most commonly to Australia. Many people in Australia who have a claim to Irish ancestry can trace their roots back to a person who was sent to a far away land as punishment for their crimes. These infractions vary in severity from armed robbery to the theft of barely enough bread to survive the day. Penal Transportation was put in place as a way of punishing minor crimes without having to resort to the barbarism of capital punishment, as the public feeling towards hanging became increasingly negative.

Yet a sentence of Penal Transportation did not necessarily mean that you would never see your family again. Female convicts were often permitted to bring their children with them. The wives and families of male convicts could also petition to follow them as free immigrants to Australia. Children themselves were also subject to the threat of Penal Transportation as the records show that the sentence was given to children as young as 12 years old. At a time when the country was struggling to feed its population, and the Union Workhouses were far beyond maximum capacity, it is hardly surprising that the magistrates took the opportunity to send as many hungry mouths away as possible.

Kitty McHugo

Kitty McHugo from East County Galway was tried at Portumna Court on the 27th of December 1848. She and her two brothers, as well as another woman, were convicted of theft, having stolen two sheep from a local farmer. Kitty and her associates were sentenced to Penal Transportation. She was sent to Hobart in Tasmania, where a number of "female factories" existed. These were manufacturing sites where specifically women were put to work, often making textiles or other such gendered roles. Once women had served their sentences, they were eligible to be hired for paid work, and so with the cost of a return journey, and the lack of opportunity in Ireland, it is unlikely that Kitty, or those like her, would have made the voyage home.

Michael Seery

Michael Seery of Castletowndelvin, County Westmeath, was convicted of armed burglary on the 10th of March 1832. He was sentenced to Penal Transportation and left for New South Wales on board a ship called the Roslin Castle on the 8th of October of that same year. His wife, Bridget, applied to the courts to join her husband, along with their young daughter Winifred. Her request was granted

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(A Little bit of Irish History)

and the pair arrived in Australia two and a half years after Michael left. The family then settled in New South Wales. They went on to have a further seven children, including a set of twins. Micheal received his ticket of leave which would have allowed him to work for himself, but a re-offence meant that the ticket was cancelled. In 1849 he received a Conditional Pardon, which meant that his life sentence was removed, but he was not permitted to return to Britain or Ireland. He purchased 30 acres of land and died a respected member of the community.

The Blockade of The Neptune

The people of Australia were becoming increasingly disgruntled with the continued use of their new country as a penal colony. Yet when attempts were made at alternative routes, there was often a serious backlash, as in the case of The Neptune. In 1849, a ship called The Neptune set sail for South Africa. The ship carried almost 300 prisoners. It was intended that they be put to work on a number of essential construction projects in Cape Town. However, the locals had other ideas. Not wanting to become another penal colony like New South Wales, they protested the arrival of the prisoners, and even went so far as to blockade the ship that carried them so that it could not enter the harbour. Not only were they keeping the prisoners at bay, many of whom, it bears mentioning, would have been on board the ship for very minor crimes, but they were also denying the 55 crew members access to adequate supplies and fresh water. The blockade went on for five long months during which time the people on board the ship received little sympathy or aid from the people of Cape Town. One man who did try to help them was Mayo native Robert Stanford who sent supplies to the ship, but his charitable nature was met with disdain in the community and his entire family was shunned, though Queen Victoria commended his kindness and granted him a knighthood.

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Office: (804)739-8982

Cell: (804)402-9246

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thirteenstitches@outlook.com

Remember to mention Dennis Mulligan's name when you want to get information or place an order!

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The crew of The Neptune eventually realised that the people of Cape Town were not going to relent. So they changed course for Tasmania where the prisoners were put to work and carried out their sentences.

Journey's End

As the population of free immigrants in Australia grew, so too did a distaste for the use of the country as a Penal colony, and it was due to the protestations of these locals that Penal Transportation was largely stopped in 1853, with a few exceptions in later years such as the sentencing of those involved in Fenian activities. The sharp rise in popularity of Penal Transportation had served its purpose by easing the burden on the Poor Law Unions and removing many families from a country that was struggling to keep its children fed. By the time that Penal Transportation was halted, entire communities had been established in Australia by the families and descendants of convicts. Many of these strong Irish communities still exist in Australia today, and it is with open arms that we welcome the descendants of the transported to their ancestral home to commemorate our shared history.



Recent In Memorium

Christine Norton Spouse of Mike Norton

Helen Brennan Spouse of Rick Brennan

Prayer List

Brother Dan Harrington: Being treated monthly for Lukemia, CKD, etc. Dan's brother, **Kevin**, has contracted an infection during wiring of a broken jawbone.

Dan's Nephew Michael Manning— Enduring colon cancer and recently underwent a second surgery to stop infection. Surgery a success-going home.

Brother Chuck Mulhern: in nursing home and is bedridden

Brother Frank King: moved to Bickford Assisted Living and is on dialysis three times a week

Brother Rick Brennan: Has undergone successful bypass surgery and is recovering.

Brother Ray Olson and wife Loraine:

Brother Mike McGee's son-in-law: Undergoing surgery this month for advanced bladder cancer.

Brother Jim Dunn—Jim suffered a stroke and, fortunately, is home recovering. He expects to be unavailable for a few months.

Sonny Dorich—Leg Surgery

In Memorium

Deceased Brothers and Spouses

Joyce, Spouse of Brother Daniel Harrington

Irene, Spouse of Brother Mike McGee

Brother James Calpin

Glenda, Spouse of Brother Frank King

Brother William Murphy

Brother George and Spouse Kathleen Rodenberg

Brother Micheal Dougherty

Brother Robert Cavanaugh

Christine, Spouse of Brother Mike Norton

Helen, Spouse of Brother Rick Brennan



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2024 Division Officers

President-*Dennis Mulligan*
mullighan.dennis@yahoo.com

Vice President- Daniel Harrington
joydan1073@verizon.net

Treasurer-*John Frampton*
firemedic45@comcast.net

Recording Secretary-*Mike Norton*
mnortonstn@aol.com

Financial Secretary-*Larry Kelly*
jlkelly1@verizon.net

Standing/Compassion Comm.-*Sonny Dorish*
fmdorish@yahoo.com

Marshal-*Sonny Dorish*
fmdorish@yahoo.com

[Sentinel-Jim Dunn](#)

Webmaster-*Dan Harrington*
joydan1073@verizon.net

Contact us at:

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 Powhatan, VA 23139

Email:

tizhmslf@gmail.com

Website:

www.aohkelly.org

Our Division History

The Msgr. Charles Kelly, Jr. Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians was formed in December, 2009 and conducted it's 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.

Past Presidents

YEAR	NAME
2010	Mike McGee
2011	
2012	
2013	Frank King
2014	Larry Kelly
2015	
2016	Matthew Dullaghan
2017	Matthew Dullaghan
2018	Matthew Dullaghan
2019	Jack Simila
2020	Jack Simila
2021	Jack Simila
2022	Matthew Dullaghan
2023	Dennis Mulligan
2024	Dennis Mulligan