



ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS

A O H

IN AMERICA ESTABLISHED NEW YORK 1838



St Brendan the Navigator Division Mecklenburg County Division # 2

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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME# 7

November 2015

Our next business meeting is on Tuesday, November 10th at 7:30 PM

**St. Mark's, Huntersville
Rooms 200 & 201**

2015 Officers

Chaplain	Father Paul McNulty
President	Dick Seymour
Vice President	Lee Madden
Secretary	Steve Witmer
Treasurer	Chris O'Keefe
Fin. Secretary	Ray FitzGerald
Standing Committee	Joe Dougherty
Marshall	Sean Regan
Sentinel	Ron Haley
Past President	Ray FitzGerald

www.aohmeck2.org

Irish Proverb:

"Meallan muilte dé go mall ach meallan siad go mion."
God's mill may grind slowly, but it grinds finely.



President's Message
St. Brendan the Navigator Pray for Us
St. Patrick Pray for Us
Erin go Baugh
Presidents Message
November, 2015

Brothers,

The holiday season is upon us with Thanksgiving at the end of Month and Christmas in December. Please remember that November is a month of thanks giving for all we have so let's make a special effort to be thankful and helpful and giving to all who need our help. Especially with the state of today's world.

It is with a deep heart that on November 27, I was informed that the Father in Law of Brother Billy Egan passed away in Ireland. In fact Billy is over there in Ireland right now.

Please keep Billy his wife and her family in your prayers.

The October social was held This past Thursday at Duckworth's and a good time was had by the 27 people that attended.

We ask your prayers for division members who are ill or recovering from ailments or medical procedures especially Fr Jones, Walter Martin, Ron Haley, Bob O'Brien, David Foley, Gene Mann and Doug Smith.

Brother Bill Murphy will be entering the hospital November 5th or 6th for his procedure. So let's say special prayers for him.

We also ask for prayers for James Pfaff (brother in law) of Dick Seymour and Joe Dougherty, who is going through serious radiation and chemical therapy for treatment of cancer.

We are planning a group outing to the Local Hockey team for opening night November 7, 2015 at the remodeled Bojangles Coliseum. Please see Brother Joseph Dougherty for more information.

The next social will be in November and will be a stag event. Date and time to come latter.

Please keep in mind that we will be announcing the slate of officers for 2016 at our next meeting with elections to be held at the December meeting on December 8, 2015.

We will have a Shamrock degree ceremony on December 8, 2015 for all members who have not yet taken degree. Once degree is taken, Brothers will be eligible to vote for our 2016 officers.

The annual Division Christmas party will be held December 14, 2015 at the Cork and Cask.

St Brendan the Navigator, pray for us!

Dick Seymour
President
St Brendan the Navigator Division
Ancient Order of Hibernian



November Birthdays

Richard Seymour Jr.	Son of Brother Dick	November 1st
Leah Greene	Daughter of Brother Zack	November 2nd
Scott Fisher Sr.	Division Brother	November 4th
Christopher Schilling	Son of Brother Larry	November 9th
Joe Dougherty	Division Brother	November 10th
Gina Vaccaro	Daughter of Brother Tom	November 10th
Suzanne FitzGerald	Daughter of Brother Ray	November 13th
Sarah Battle	Daughter of Brother Tom	November 14th
Larry Rosintoski	Division Brother	November 14th
Jim Kelly	Division Brother	November 18th
Brian Connolly	Division Brother	November 18th
Laurie Schilling	Daughter of Brother Larry	November 25th

If I missed anyone's birthday, please let me know.
Joe D



November Anniversaries

Debbie & Ray Smith	November 11th
Berni & Marty Fox	November 20th
Jane & Charlie Swengros	November 24th
Kathleen & Ron Haley	November 30th

If I missed anyone's anniversary, please
let me know. Joe D



**ASK A FRIEND or FAMILY
MEMBER TO JOIN YOUR
DIVISION**

**Division Calendar of Events
for
November 2015**

November 7th – Division Outing – Charlotte Checkers Hockey

November 10th – Division Business Meeting, St Mark's 7:30 PM

Irish History

The original rebels: Ireland's infamous Whiteboys



Whiteboy activism saw its first peak in County Limerick in 1761

The Whiteboys were a secret Irish agrarian organization in 18th-century Ireland which took vigilante action to defend tenants' land rights to subsistence farming.

The group earned the moniker 'Whiteboys' due to their custom of wearing white smocks during their nightly raids. Some Irish immigrants who settled in the rural United States carried their rebellious spirit with them across the Atlantic, as a result of which 'Whiteboy' became a generic term for 'rebel' outside the cities.

Back in Ireland, the Whiteboys usually referred to at the time as Levellers by the authorities, and by themselves as "Queen Sive Oultagh's children", "fairies", "followers of Johanna Meskill" or "Sheila Meskill", all symbolic figures supposed to lead the movement.

The Whiteboys sought to address rack-rents, tithe collection, excessive priests' dues, evictions, and other oppressive acts by landowners. Landlords and tithe collectors were their primary targets. The 'boys ran a slick operation, priding themselves on extensive forward-planning and regular assemblies. Absolute loyalty was mandatory, and the Whiteboys were the first organization to invest the custom of swearing oaths with tremendous practical and symbolic importance.

Whiteboy activism saw its first peak in County Limerick in 1761, quickly spreading to Tipperary, Cork, and Waterford. Initially activities focused only on specific grievances, and action was limited to leveling ditches that closed off common grazing land, and digging up ley lands and orchards.

As their numbers increased, so did the pace and severity of Whiteboy activity. Clandestine proclamations were posted under names like "Captain Moonlight", and the group sent threatening letters to debt collectors, landlords, and occupants of land gained from eviction, demanding that they give up their farms.

In 1762 the Whiteboys marched to "disaffected and treasonable tunes" about the countryside, entering towns at night to fire guns and taunt garrisoned troops. The boys posted notices announcing activities, and demanding that the townspeople illuminate their houses and provide their horses, ready saddled, for their use. More militant activities often followed such processions, such as attacks on unlit houses, and the forced release of prisoners from jail.

On 2 April 1761 a force of 50 militia men and 40 soldiers under the Marquis of Drogheda set out for Tallow and arrested eleven Levellers. Other raids took 17 Whiteboys in County Limerick and by late April at least 150 Whiteboys had been arrested.

Clogheen in County Tipperary bore the initial brunt of this assault as the local parish priest, Fr. Nicholas Sheehy, had earlier spoken out against tithes and collected funds for the defense of parishioners charged with rioting. An unknown numbers of "insurgents" were reported killed in the "pacification exercise" and Fr. Sheehy was unsuccessfully indicted for sedition several times before eventually being found guilty of a fabricated charge of murder, and hanged, drawn and quartered in Clonmel in March 1766.

In the cities, suspected Whiteboy sympathizers were arrested and in Cork loyal citizens formed an association of about 2,000 strong which offered rewards for capture of the chief Whiteboys and often accompanied the military on their rampages.

Though Whiteboy activism in Ireland was suppressed more effectively towards the end of the decade, their earlier activity served as a model for rebellion on an organizational scale never before seen in agrarian Ireland. Their use of the oath as a means of binding members, and their spirited objection to low wages and the conditions of the rural poor, saw their influence spread across the Atlantic, and their name adopted by rebellious group across the US.

News from Ireland

Happy All Saints Day - A guide to Ireland's holy days and holidays



St. Patrick's Day is one of the most widely celebrated Irish Holy Days.

Today is All Saints Day, otherwise known as All Hallows Day, a Catholic holy day of obligation in honor of all the saints, known and unknown. All Saints Day is believed to have been celebrated in Ireland since the 8th century to coincide or replace the ancient Celtic festival, Samhain, a festival of the dead and a predecessor to Halloween.

Aside from the common American holidays, Ireland has a few special holidays of its own. Some of them stem from the Catholic tradition, while some were implemented to keep up with the rest of Europe and commemorate the working people. Holidays in Ireland provide time to remember, time to celebrate and time to relax.

Here's run down on the other holidays observed in Ireland:

New Year's Day - January 1

Ring in the New Year and hopefully ring out the hangover. This holiday wasn't included in the original Irish Holidays (Employees) Act of 1939, but it was later added in by Statutory Instrument in 1974.

St Brigid's Day - February 1

This coincides with the beginning of Celtic spring in Ireland. St. Brigid is known as Ireland's foremost female saint, as well as Mary of the Gaels. As patron saint of cattle and dairy, many farmers ask for her blessing on February 1. Tradition shows that many Irish bake oatcakes to welcome St. Brigid on her feast day.

St. Patrick's Day - March 17

After all, St. Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland. What better way to celebrate Ireland's favorite saint than to close work and indulge in a little revelry? St. Patrick's Day was first introduced as an official holiday in Ireland in 1903 under the Bank (Holiday) Act of 1903 which was initiated by Irish MP James O'Hara in UK Parliament.

The Easter Weekend

Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday and Easter Monday

These are, of course, the highest of holy days in the Catholic religion. Easter Monday extends the weekend, and all schools remained closed for the week. Without a doubt, this is a busy time for travel in Ireland. Good Friday is not technically a public holiday, but all state schools and most businesses close.

Labor Day - First Monday in May (commonly known as the May Bank Holiday)

Commonly known as Labor Day or May Day, this holiday was penciled in in 1993 and first observed in 1994.

Bank Holidays -First Mondays in June and August, and last in October

These public holidays were added to the calendar after a series of Acts beginning in 1871.

Christmas - December 25

This day honors the birth of Christ in the Catholic religion. Observance includes festive decorations of lights and trees, attending Mass and family gatherings and meals. And, of course, a visit from Santa Claus is in order for the well-behaved children.

St. Stephen's Day - December 26

This day, following the celebrations of Christmas, is to celebrate the first Christian martyr St. Stephen, who was stoned to death shortly after the Crucifixion. However, the Irish celebrations on this day have little to do with the Saint himself. Historically, this day was also about "Going on the Wren" or "Hunting the Wren" as ancient Celtic mythology remembers the days following Christmas as when the robin, representative of the new year, killed the wren, representative of the old year.



#1 - Timmy McCarthy and William Hammond in session at the Galway International Set Dancing Festival, Salthill, Co Galway, March 1998

#2 - Mick Mulkerrin and Mairead Casey dancing a few steps in a session at Vaughan's, Kilfenora, Co Clare, April 1998

#3 - Session with Cath Taylor, Jimmy Noctor and Mick Mulkerrin at Vaughan's, Kilfenora, Co Clare, April 1998

“Cuimhnigi ar na daoine ar thainig sibh”
“Remember the people from whom you came

Cities & Towns of Ireland



Market Square, Boyle

Boyle (/ˈbɔɪl/; Irish: Mainistir na Búille) is a town in County Roscommon, Ireland. It is located at the foot of the Curlew Mountains near Lough Key in the north of the county. Carrowkeel Megalithic Cemetery, the Drumanone Dolmen and the popular fishing lakes of Lough Arrow and Lough Gara are also close by. The population of the town was 3,000 in 2010 and 5,110 in 2011 including a rural area. Boyle, County Roscommon. On 15 August 1599, the Battle of Curlew Pass between English and Irish forces was fought in the Curlew mountains during the Nine Years' War, between an English force under Sir Conyers Clifford and a native Irish force led by Aodh Rua Ó Dónaill. The English were ambushed and routed while marching through a pass in the Curlew Mountains, The English forces suffered heavy casualties. Losses by allied Irish forces were not recorded but were probably minimal. The Queen's principal secretary, Sir Robert Cecil, rated this defeat (and the simultaneous defeat of Harrington in Wicklow) as the two heaviest blows ever suffered by the English in Ireland.

Boyle suffered considerable hardship during the famine years (1847–49). The following quote from the novel Woodbrook is one example: A retired herd, Mick Maxwell, speaking to Thompson about his grandfather during the famine, related the following: 'when his grandfather, the only man strong enough, brought fifty and sixty corpses on a barrow, one by one, two miles from Cootehall near his home to the graveyard at Ardcarne.

By 1881 Slater's directory reported the town had a dispensary, three banks, three hotels and two newspapers, Boyle also had a post office, 40 grocery shops, 25 pubs (sixteen of which were also groceries), 12 bakeries and an assortment of businesses including fire insurance companies, booksellers, ironmongers and hardware stores, butchers, an auctioneer and churches for both Protestants and Catholics.

In 1917, Sinn Féin won their first ever seat in parliament for the constituency of Roscommon North, centred on Boyle, with the election of George Noble Plunkett. Plunkett's son, Joseph Mary Plunkett, had been executed by the British in May 1916 for his part in the 1916 Rising. Michael Collins campaigned on the candidate's behalf, as did Michael O'Flanagan, later to become President of Sinn Féin. A plaque on the Courthouse, on The Crescent in Boyle, commemorates this occasion. This was the first by-election following the Easter Rising of 1916 and it was crucial that the democratic mandate be obtained by Sinn Féin. The election was held during a period of inclement January weather but sufficient supporters turned out to deliver the party a breakthrough into parliamentary politics. King House is a Georgian mansion located in the centre of Boyle and was restored in 1989 after years of neglect. The house was built for Sir Henry King MP between 1720 and 1740, whose family were one of the most powerful and wealthy in Ireland. It was subsequently home to Edward King MP (1726–97), first earl of Kingston. The design is attributed to William Halfpenny (d. 1755).[7] Since 1788, when the King Family moved to Rockingham, the house has been used as a military barracks. Throughout the nineteenth century it was the home of the Connaught Rangers, adapted as a barracks for twelve officers and 260 soldiers. On the foundation of the Irish Free State in 1922, the newly formed Irish National Army took possession of the house and it was renamed Dockery Barracks in honour of a commanding officer killed in Boyle during the Civil War.

Roscommon County Council, recognising the historical, architectural and cultural importance of King House, began a restoration project in 1989 following years of neglect. Using skilled artisans and local craftsmen employing traditional techniques and materials, all three floors and the basement have been restored. Of particular note are the main entrance gallery with its tripartite windows and original fireplace, the extensive vaulted ceilings on all floors and the main salon which is in use once again as a venue for recitals and banquets. The other rooms in the house are used for temporary exhibitions and these are open to visitors. In The Kings of Connaught exhibition visitors are led through a series of tableaux and encouraged, with interactive pieces, to experience life as it was in the house and in the locality. The displays, ranging all over the floors, cover four main themes: The Kingdom of Connaught - from the earliest recorded times showing the importance of the clans and their kings; The King Family - meet the families who lived in the house from Sir John King who came to Boyle in 1603 to the fascinating accounts of life, both for the family and the staff, at Rockingham Estate (now Lough Key Forest Park); The Restoration - a room left partially restored so that visitors can see the fabric of the house and, with the aid of photographs and models, see the skill and craft employed in the building and restoration; The Military Usage - from 1788 to recent times.

ONE ISLAND, ONE PEOPLE, ONE IRELAND