

Commodore John Barry Division # 1

Ancient Order of Hibernians of Saratoga

Brother Bill Carey

When we think of Leadership in our Division, we tend to think of the Executive Board and Committee/Event Chairs. However, in any outfit there are leaders beyond those elected and appointed members. Many have led organizations or work groups outside the AOH and they bring their expertise, experience and strengths to us.

One such member for me has been Brother William Carey. Some of you took special note of him when we marched in the 2005 Schuylerville Turning Point Parade; Bill was the Grand Marshal.

He was one of six Schuylerville Brothers who welcomed me to the AOH fold in 1983. Then, I thought he was just an older, fun-loving Irishman.

Now, I'll share a more accurate picture of our Division's oldest member. Bill was born in 1920. With a tragic work accident in the early 80's, he prematurely retired from the State Department of Transportation. Some say he kept a rather exciting



and colorful existence, even after following the somewhat Irish tradition of marrying late...at

age 51 to lovely Edna. Bill has given much leadership to the Schuylerville community. He has been a Commander of both the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and a Grand Knight of the K of C. Bill

was a founding member of and drummer in the Green Sabers, a much renowned marching band that participated in the Kennedy and Johnson inauguration parades.

Bill took his Major Degree in 1979. In AOH Charity, he has given us personal AOH artifacts and donated money and items to make our events successful. More importantly, he embodies Unity and Friendship and is truly ours and my Elder Statesman. Your Chieftain.

Upcoming AOH Events

On April 8th the NYSAOH Board will be hosts to the state bowling tournament. Bowling registration will be around noon and starting soon after at The Playdium Bowling Center which is right next to the Albany Hall on Ontario St. All members are welcome and the \$20 fee will get you dinner in the Hall afterwards and lots of good entertainment.

Please join us all.

April Division Meeting

A reminder that the April Division meeting will be on Thursday April 6th at 7PM at the K of C Hall in Saratoga Springs. Getting there promptly at 7 p.m. will ensure you share in some An Gorta Mor special soup, made by



your Hibernian brothers. This is the soup that was served to the poor in the first "soup kitchen" during The Great Hunger. It was truly a great act of Christian Charity.



Great Days in March

Thanks to everyone who participated in the many celebrations of our Irish heritage during the month of March.



Everything started with a good crowd at the Saratoga EOC Flag Raising and food drive as evidenced by this fine group of men representing our division. We more than met our goal of supplying a hearty soup but also making a financial contribution for St. Patrick's Day lunch. Much thanks to our Brothers Brunell and Maguire for organizing this effort. This was truly a response to our vow of Christian Charity. Further donations of food are always welcome at our meetings as there will always be those who need it.



St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's Day Parade Activities

After the Flag Raising we made the trek to Albany to participate in the annual St. Patrick's Day parade while joining our brothers from Watervliet who hosted us for a lunch before the parade. Many thanks go out to their hospitality as they have been kind to us over the years. As always, the Saratoga group made a splash with their presence and had more than one bonnie lass looking for more. Great times were had by all involved.



The Kilted Krew on Parade Day



Easter Monday Uprising

On Easter Monday, 24th April, 1916 the GPO was occupied by the revolutionary forces. Pearse read the Proclamation of the Republic to a bemused gathering:

POBLACHT NA H EIREANN
THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT
OF THE
IRISH REPUBLIC
TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND

IRISHMEN AND IRISHWOMEN: In the name of God and of the dead generations from which she receives her old tradition of nationhood, Ireland, through us, summons her children to her flag and strikes for her freedom.

Having organised and trained her manhood through her secret revolutionary organisation, the Irish Republican Brotherhood, and through her open military organisations, the Irish Volunteers and the Irish Citizen Army, having patiently perfected her discipline, having resolutely waited for the right moment to reveal itself, she now seizes that moment, and, supported by her exiled children in America and by gallant allies in Europe, but relying in the first on her own strength, she strikes in full confidence of victory.

We declare the right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland, and to the unfettered control of Irish destinies, to be sovereign and indefeasible. The long usurpation of that right by a foreign people and government has not extinguished the right, nor can it ever be extinguished except by the destruction of the Irish people. In every generation the Irish people have asserted their right to national freedom and sovereignty; six times during the last three hundred years they have asserted it to arms. Standing on that fundamental right and again asserting it in arms in the face of the world, we hereby proclaim the Irish Republic as a Sovereign Independent State, and we pledge our lives and the lives of our comrades-in-arms to the cause of its freedom, of its welfare, and of its exaltation among the nations.

The Irish Republic is entitled to, and hereby claims, the allegiance of every Irishman and Irishwoman. The Republic guarantees religious and civil liberty, equal rights and equal opportunities to all its citizens, and declares its resolve to pursue the happiness and prosperity of the whole nation and all of its parts, cherishing all of the children of the nation equally and oblivious of the differences carefully fostered by an alien government, which have divided a minority from the majority in the past.

Until our arms have brought the opportune moment for the establishment of a permanent National, representative of the whole people of Ireland and elected by the suffrages of all her men and women, the Provisional Government, hereby constituted, will administer the civil and military affairs of the Republic in trust for the people.

We place the cause of the Irish Republic under the protection of the Most High God. Whose blessing we invoke upon our arms, and we pray that no one who serves that cause will dishonour it by cowardice, in humanity, or rapine. In this supreme hour the Irish nation must, by its valour and discipline and by the readiness of its children to sacrifice themselves for the common good, prove itself worthy of the august destiny to which it is called.

Signed on Behalf of the Provisional Government.

Thomas J. Clarke, Sean Mac Diarmada, Thomas MacDonagh, P. H. Pearse, Eamonn Ceannt, James Connolly, Joseph Plunkett

Freedom For ALL Ireland

Communion Breakfast—3/19

The Division hosted our annual St. Patrick's Mass at Schuylerville's Notre Dame-Visitation Church. Father Chris Welch recognized our notable presence in the three right front rows, welcomed and blessed us, and did the same for the St. Anne's Rosary Society ladies in the front left. Someone said he had to recognize us as we had



Hibernian Brotherhood at the Communion Breakfast

more there in "skirts" than they did. The nineteen AOH'ers and twenty family members then enjoyed a "Communion" Breakfast, our first since 1986. The Schuylerville Lions Club prepared the fine, private

dining for us at the Dovegate Inn. Special thanks go out to our Cheiftain Dave who organized this event.

May you live as long as you want, and never want as long as you live.

St. Patrick's Day Family Festival

Our second annual Irish Family Festival was a great success, the division made over \$2,000. I would like to thank all of the members who helped in the run up to and the actual running of the Feis including Brothers Dick Nelson, Dick Sheldon, Benjamin Campney, Bob O'Rourke, Ed Connelly, Paul O'Donnell, Mick O'Dalaigh, our Chieftain, The Family Curran and long lost brother Mike Sherin for their assistance in running the festival. who ran out to BJ's to get the chips for us. I would especially like to thank brother Dick Nelson's lovely wife without whom our silent auction items would not have looked half as nice. Likewise, it is Eileen that we must thank for the great deserts at the festival so if anyone sees her, be sure to thank her. We had over thirty members and their family members attend and

enjoy the performances of the Wild Irish Acres School of Irish Dance lead by Terri Hughes. Included in the two performances by said group were several dances that included our chieftain. Brother's Bob O'Rourke and Rob Przedwiecki performed in the main room along with Maura MacNamara, who also danced, and the two Dave's. A thanks also goes out to the members of Fiddler's Tour and brother John Sesselman, the piper, who all performed in the Bar. We hope that all will attend our festival next year and make it even more of a success. Remember this is event for families so do bring them along. Slainte,
Chris Templin



Lenten Holy Week

Lent is a season of reflection and renewal in our lives. It is the most Holy season of the Liturgical year. Please take the time to respect the beliefs we hold as Catholics.

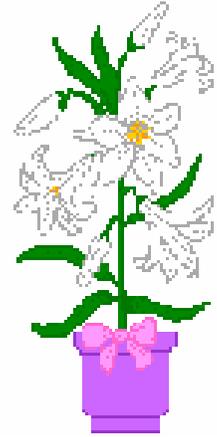
Make sure to attend Mass on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday this year. Palm Sunday is the 9th of April

and Easter Sunday is the 16th of April.

Most churches will have services for Holy Thursday and Good Friday also. These are the days leading up to the Resurrection that help us understand the true reason that Christ was born to lead us to His Father.

If you can, please observe the traditional fast and abstinence on Good Friday. It's a time that helps to purify our bodies and prepare for the joy of Easter Sunday.

Enjoy the day with your families while we look at all of the great things we have in our lives.



E-Mail Problems and Website Newsletter

We are sending out a hard copy of the newsletter this month to make sure we are reaching all of our brotherhood with this newsletter. Recently we switched to sending newsletters by e-mail and then posting it on the website. Apparently some members are not get-

ting the e-mail version even though we have valid addresses. This may be due to people using Spam blockers or other filters. When any division wide announcement goes out by e-mail it is sent to about 60 people. Some filters may decide that this looks like

Spam and not pass it through. If this may be the case with you please e-mail ckelly2@nycap.rr.com or at least put that address in your "safe" list. We need to use this tool to maintain as much communication as we can.

Also, the newsletter is al-

ways available at www.saratogaao.com

It generally goes up the weekend before the next monthly meeting.

Thanks in advance for solving any communication glitches. It's very important that we can all stay in touch—Chris

Dues Update

One Third of the membership still owes dues. Dues amount is \$28 this year. Checks payable to "Saratoga AOH" and send to PO Box 205 Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. Dues Per Capita taxes were sent to the

State and National AOH organizations this week. This represents payment for almost 100 members in our division. When we "carry" a non paying member for a year it means that the division has paid out \$12 per man

to state and national and not generated income for our treasury locally. Please try to stay current with 2006 dues.

Thanks to all members who are paid in full.

*May the saddest
day of your future
be no worse*

*Than the happiest
day of your past.*

P.O. Box 205
Saratoga Springs, New York 12866

Phone: 518-438-6853
Email: ckelly2@nycap.rr.com



WWW.SARATOGAAOH.COM

The Ancient Order of Hibernians is a fraternal order of men of the Catholic faith and born in Ireland or of Irish heritage who are residents of the US. The Saratoga Division meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7 PM at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Pine Ave in Saratoga Springs, NY. Information about the Order and our division can be found at our website at www.saratogaaoh.com. Please feel free to contact us regarding membership.

Odds and Ends

Exec Board Meetings

The Exec Board meets monthly to discuss division issues so that meetings don't have to be bogged down. Everyone is welcome to come to these meetings and we will try to make sure that every member is informed about them. There are no secrets here, just trying to make the regular division meetings easier. If you need to know the date, time and location please e-mail or call Chris Kelly or Dave Cummings

NYSAOH State Board Calendars, STILL AVAILABLE

We still have some calendars that support the state board of the AOH. They are \$25 each and come with an individual 3 digit number. The numbers are tied into the nightly NYS

Daily Numbers drawing so if your number comes up you can get your \$25 back. If it comes up again in the year, then you're ahead of the game. It's an inexpensive way to support the AOH throughout the state. See Chris Kelly at the meeting if you would like one.

Please Note:

Sick and Infirm

Please continue to pray for our sick and infirmed as well as the repose of the souls of members passed. We have had several members lately who have benefited from the power of prayer and we need to continue this support.

Golf Outing

The golf outing this year is scheduled for June 6th. Details are being

worked out but there is also a need for people on the committee to help Paul Maguire in a number of areas. This event has been a generous fundraiser for the division as well as a good time for all. We didn't even get rained on a couple of times. Please see Paul at the April meeting to help out. Sponsors are always needed and donations to the raffles are always welcome.

Communications

Meetings are the best way to be in touch with all division business as well as having a good time with friends and neighbors. Please try to leave time in your schedule to join our brotherhood on the first Thursday of each month at 7PM. Thanks

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