



Congratulations to the winners of our May 17th Division Golf outing!!! (Left to right: Matt Ryan, Tom Ryan, Harry Robinson, Bob Sherlock). See more pictures on our website.

#### Member Birthdays (do we have yours?)

##### **July:**

- 1, Joe Templin
- 2, Kevin Hughes and John Meekins
- 7, Don McHenry, Gabe Natarelli, John Nelson
- 9, Kurt Mausert
- 13, Mike Cahill
- 16, Mike Meslar
- 19, Steve Curran
- 21, Mick O'Dalaigh
- 24, Brian Murphy and Jamie Walsh
- 26, Mike Pidgeon
- 27, Don Hughes

##### **August:**

- 3, Fred Bergman
- 4, Dick Nelson
- 5, Jack Curran
- 7, Dick Sheldon
- 13, Niall Roche
- 15, Brian Gibney
- 20, Mike Curran and Ed Reardon
- 25, Paul O'Donnell

##### **September:**

- 8, Pete Farley
- 10, Wally Gailor
- 13, Chris Millis and Cmdr John Barry
- 21, Jonathan Quinn
- 24, Bernie McCue
- 26, Rick Burke



Thanks to those who joined us to march in the Flag Day Parade!! Above: AOH Honor Guard leading our Division members and their families.

## Saratoga AOH

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#### Ancient Order of Hibernians Commodore John Barry Division 1



At this time of Memorial Day and D-Day reminiscing, I am given to reflections. In my thirty years as a Hibernian, I have had a lot of fun and met many new brethren and their families. I think I have evolved, like our Commodore John Barry Division #1, into a leader of the Saratoga Irish-American Community. I want you to reflect on your involvement with the AOH and answer for yourself, "Why" you became an Hibernian and "Why" you have continued your affiliation. Together, we have seen births, deaths, tragedies and life-changing events in our membership. Together, we have seen some very positive things in the last fifteen years. You should add your own reflections, but I reflect that the Division has:

- stabilized about 100 strong in members
- instituted annual events like the Family Feis, a golf outing, the Murphy monument dedication
- found ways to generate a treasury through these events and the Irish2K parking
- continued to provide Charitable hours and financial help to our Community, the State, and the Nation
- encouraged half of our membership to make their full Degree commitment
- **hosted** a New York State Hibernian convention
- issued an annual calendar to help you and your family participate in events
- participated in local, statewide and national parades and conventions and made our mark!

There are more things we can do. For example, we can push harder on State and National policies; hold Communion breakfasts; gain more members; do more public relations to ensure the Community knows we despise deprecating stereotypes of the Irish. But if we do, you first need to ask yourself, "Why" you are a member.....and have you helped promote our Division?

Chieftain Dave

The dozen Saratoga AOH brothers who met their commitment of completing Major degree requirements asserted that, "Now, they know why they became Hibernians...." President Dave was honored to be the Master of Ceremonies for the Exemplification ceremony held at the Elks' Lodge on June 13, 2014. We had nine members act as observers to the Schenectady Degree Team's memorable performance. We offer special congratulations to Brothers Joe Brady, Jim Breen, Rick Burke, Enda Cormican, Gerry Fiesinger, Jr., Jim Hayes, Ted Lafforthun, Jim Leary, John Meekins, Mark Osborne, Mike Veitch, and Jamie Walsh. We have over three dozen Brothers who have yet to fulfill their Degree commitment, but the newly anointed dozen have offered to set up a Degree Study Team. The next Degree will be conducted on September 28, at the Orange County AOH Hall. The Schenectady Degree Team will offer space on their buses for Saratoga candidates.

## Go online to pay your 2014 Division Dues:

Go to [www.saratogaaoh.com](http://www.saratogaaoh.com) and click on the online dues link at the top of the page.



### Restocking supplies from the Quartermaster.

We will be purchasing 100 shirts, like the 2013 State Convention white polo shirts. "Saratoga Ancient Order of Hibernians" is bannered above and below our logo; the dates of "1889 and 2014" are on opposing sides of the logo, to commemorate our 125 years; and "Commodore John Barry, Division # 1, Saratoga" is on the left sleeve, as it was much cheaper to put it there, than on the left breast area. The cost will be about \$ 35.

We are purchasing 50 AOH buckles that could be worn with kilts or pants.

We are ordering more of the famous Saratoga AOH Horseshoe pins.

### Upcoming Events:

**July 12th**, 12 Noon starts the Summer Picnic at the Navy's Morale, Welfare and Recreation Fields. 3569 Galway Road, Ballston Spa. Bring food for your family. There are grills on site. Bring a volleyball, kites, kickballs, etc. Great appreciation to SFC Rich Gorman for reserving this great site. The pavilions are on the far side of the field. We are **reserved for noon til sunset**. We are responsible for taking our trash out to the dumpster when we leave. There is a beach volleyball net there and a **kids playground** right next to the pavilion. There may not be power at the pavilions, FYI.

### Upcoming Events, continued:

**July 25-27th**, The Great American Irish Festival ([www.gaif.us](http://www.gaif.us)). A few members will be camping out for this festival. There are great advanced deals on their website for 3-day passes and it is inexpensive to camp. Say you are with the Saratoga Hibernians and we will be grouped together to camp.

**August 3rd**, Turning Point Parade, 11:30 Schuylerville. ALL family members again invited. We will have the Honor Guard leading the section.

**August 7th**, Saratoga Race Track Backstretch Covered Dish at Noon. Limited space available. Contact Dave Cummings as he will need attendee names in advance.

**September 12-13th**, Irish 2000 Music and Arts Festival. Our Division will be running the parking lots once again. We will need volunteers for 4 hour shifts. Volunteers will receive free tickets for admission to the event.

**October 12th**, The Board announces a full, glorious recognition of our Division's 125<sup>th</sup> Birthday for our entire family. On Sunday October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014, we will start the day with a Mass at 10 a.m. at St. Peter's. Following that, we will conduct the Murphy Monument dedication at the Saratoga National Historical Park at noon. And to finish the day, we will have an afternoon at the Elks' Lodge, featuring free admission, the Forthlin Road band and dancing by the Wild Irish Acres Dancers. Mark your family calendars now!