



# Empire State Hibernian

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## President's Message

John Hennessy

What a beautiful weekend up in East Durham. Congratulations to Tommy Thompson's foursome on winning the Ray Meehan Memorial Trophy. I want to thank all the participants in the Annual Jim Hayes Golf Tournament, remember the proceeds go to the Austin V. Carew Scholarship Fund. I also want to thank Joe O'Reilly and his committee for the great job, well done.

It was good to see everybody at the Board meeting. Past National President Ed Wallace gave a talk on Project St. Patrick. We did have a recipient of Project St. Patrick award, with us deacon Henry J. Reid State Deputy Chaplain who will be Ordained on June 10th, 2006. I am especially proud, as he is a member of my own Division.

The mass on Sunday was beautiful at Our Lady of Knock Shrine. I want to thank LAOH Division 32, Greene Co. and AOH Division 2, Greene Co. and AOH/LAOH Catholic Action chairpersons, Ed Carley and Mary Hogan.

The National Convention is just around the corner July 5th thru July 8th 2006 up in Boston. Just a Reminder if your Per-Capita is not paid you will not be able to

vote, per-capita will not be accepted at the Convention.

Remember we have three candidates for National Office, Tom McNabb for re-election to National Secretary, Brendan Moore for National Treasurer, and Martin Kelly for National Director. Let's remember in our prayers all our departed brother and sister Hibernians. See you in Boston. God Bless.

## Vice-President

Matt Nelligan

Having just returned from another productive and recharging state Board meeting in East Durham, I find myself with less than usual to report. None-the-less there are a couple of items that I would like to touch on.

First, I would like to thank the State Board for voting unanimously to support the statewide recruitment and retention program that I have been working on with our State organizer Jim Burke. The first phase will begin on June 1st when applications and guidelines are mailed to each jurisdiction in regard to our recruitment grants. The State has allocated \$3000 to support local initiatives aimed at raising the profile of our order and recruiting new members. This is the first grant of its kind that I am aware of anywhere in the country. I strongly encourage you to

apply for this grant. Time and time again people at the Division and County level ask, "What does the State do for us?". The truth is we have been listening and now we have responded. By applying for the grant you not only show your commitment to the expansion of our Order but also demonstrate your support of this innovative program.

The State Board also voted to create a committee made up of myself, State Organizer Jim Burke as well as Merc Morris, Dennis Browne and Jim McGinty. The purpose of this committee is to create a recruitment and retention handbook. We will meet over the summer and hope to have a draft to present at our State Board meeting on October 8th in Suffolk County.

Lastly, let me make one final appeal to everyone to bring your maximum allotment of delegates to our National convention in Boston this July. We have three candidates for National office: Martin Kelly for National Director, Brendan Moore for National Treasurer and Tom McNabb for National Secretary. I have heard some people say that our biggest issue at the National level is the need for consistent and vision driven leadership at the National level. I agree with this assessment. If we are to continue to

move forward and adapt to changing circumstances, we must have strong leadership at the National level. We are very fortunate of course to find so many leaders in our own state who exemplify good leadership. Electing each of our candidates to the posts that they are seeking is not only good for our state but it is in fact good for the Order as a whole. If we are united in accomplishing this purpose in Boston I know that we will not fail.

### Hibernian Calendars

Peter Durkee Brothers; As of May 1st we have sold 513 state calendars. That number is between the men and the ladies. To my way of thinking this is a disgrace for a state that boasts of a membership of around 17,400, that's counting the Ladies who are doing their share of selling calendars. Not even 25% of the County Boards and Divisions have purchased a calendar for their respected unit.

The only thing I can think of is that many of you don't have much pride in the AOH and the work your State officers are trying to accomplish.

I have about 90 calendars if any of you need some, please call me at 518-274-8448 or e-mail me [pdurkee1@nycap.rr.com](mailto:pdurkee1@nycap.rr.com). There is still seven months to win **DON'T LET A FEW DO ALL THE WORK, AND WIN ALL THE MONEY**. Buy a calendar for Mothers Day or Fathers Day. Remember this is your organization you took an oath to support it.

### District 1

Chris Kelly

It was a great spring in the Capital District which included the many March events surrounding our Irish heritage. All of the divisions in the district participated in the local parades and held celebrations at their halls featuring great Irish music and the ever present Hibernian hospitality. We also celebrated March with the annual Communion Breakfasts which were all well attended.

In April many of the District's members gathered at the state capital to join with the K of C in sponsoring a prayer rally to fight for the basic human rights for life. While it was a cold and rainy day the Hibernians had a very good turnout. Thanks to all of those who came and for the work that Liam McNabb did in organizing the Hibernian efforts to help out in this event. I think that the legislators found out that they can't ignore the agenda set forth by the Catholic Church.

In April we were also happy to host the state AOH bowling tournament. Once again the team from Schenectady came away as the best overall group of bowlers but we won't even get into Albany's showing here. Dave Cummings from Saratoga went home with three trophies for his individual efforts as high single and triple.

Coming up soon will be the Memorial Day parades and then the many summer picnics for each division.

Also coming up soon is the Irish2000 festival sponsored by the Albany AOH and run by a committee headed by State VP Matt Nelligan. The date this year is Saturday, September 16th. Information on the bands and vendors who will be here can be found at <http://www.irish2000fest.com>. The event regularly draws 20,000 fans of Irish music and products to the fairgrounds in Albany. Please feel free to join us in the fun.

Finally, if you will be in the Capital District area please check the local websites for events and addresses for the local community. Many have calendars or newsletters that will let you know what's happening when you visit.

### District 2

Tom O'Donnell

I attended the April meeting of Erie County Division One at the Buffalo Irish Center. It was a pleasure to witness seven new Brothers inducted into our Order and join in the fellowship after the meeting.

Several members from our District traveled to receive the Major Degree in Marcy and Oswego recently. I am hoping there is enough interest to be able to hold a Major Degree in the District in the coming year. This would be the first time since the 1997 State Convention in Niagara Falls.

Divisions having major St. Patrick's Day events included Niagara County Divisions 1 and 4 and Cattaraugus County Division 2.

Niagara County Division 4 is having their annual bus trip to a Cleveland Indians Game on July 9.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable summer.

### District 3

Robert Jennings

I sincerely hope every one had a Happy and blessed Easter with families and friends.

The first quarter of the New Year brought about, as expected, a flurry of activity as the various divisions within the district held installation ceremonies for their officers for the coming year. I personally attended several installations, including Syracuse, Watertown, Auburn, and the joint installation of Fulton and Oswego. I have also been in contact with all the division presidents, either in person or over the telephone and am sure each will do their best for the betterment of the order. That said, I must report the resignation of Watertown President, Sean Hennessey, due to personal time constraints and the subsequent succession to the office of former V. President, James Currier. Also, the Treasurer of Oswego's Dean Michael Barry Division has resigned and has been replaced by Thomas Williez, who was appointed by County President James Goodall.

Saint Patrick's Season and the Day itself brought about its usual brand of hectic activity; I participated in the Syracuse Parade, marching with Hibernians from

Syracuse, Auburn and Fulton. This year's Parade saw the initiation of the "St. Patrick's Hunger Project" to help support the community network of hunger related agencies in Central New York. The project was initiated this year in order to help educate Central New Yorkers of "An Gorta Mor" in Ireland to help focus the efforts of the community on the need to fight hunger here all year-round. The initial effort was able to collect almost 6 TONS of food and donations in excess of \$5,000.

Speaking of charitable causes, the Dean Michael Barry Division in Oswego gave a \$2,000 donation to Trinity Catholic School in Oswego at Easter time and the Commodore John Barry Division of Syracuse raised almost \$10,000 for toys for the children of Central New York at Christmas.

The Schenectady Degree Team conferred the Major Degree of Our Order upon some 33 candidates in a district-sponsored Degree held in Oswego on April 2. Congratulations to all who received their degrees and my personal thanks to everyone who worked to make the event a success, especially Oswego County President Jim Goodall and County Treasurer Tom Turner. It was good to see many old friends and meet as many new ones at the New York State Board Meeting held in East Durham a few weeks ago. It's good to see that our Order in New York is flourishing and at the same time looking for new ways

to retain its existing membership and add new members. I will be in communication with all the divisions within the district as soon as I receive direction pertaining to retention.

In the meantime, I hope everyone has a great summer!

### District 4

James McGinty

#### NEW YORK COUNTY

As always the Home of Hibernianism was busy during the marching season representing the Order on Fifth Avenue on the 17th.

Division 9 held their Annual Francis P. Beime/Francis McGreal Memorial Golf Outing on Monday, May 15, 2006 at Van Cortlandt Park Golf Course.

Division 7 will hold their annual Kruise for Kids Benefit to support Project Children on Wednesday, June 14. Tickets are \$100, and include dinner, an open bar, and live music during the 3-hour cruise. Boarding starts at 6 p.m., and the boat leaves at 6:45 p.m., returning at 10 p.m. For information, call (212) 717-9955.

#### BRONX COUNTY

President Mike Flynn reports that the Bronx Hibernians were busy keeping the AOH banner high during the St. Patrick's season. The County Board was represented in the Throggs Neck, Yonkers, and New York City Parades. Division 3 member, Bob Nolan was the Grand Marshall for the Throggs Neck Parade.

The Annual Communion Breakfast on April 2 at St Barnabas was a great success. Irish Consul General Tim O'Connor was a brilliant speaker who had the assembled Hibernians in stitches with his sense of humor.

The County Mass for the Unborn was held on Sunday, May 21, in Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Valhalla.

The 100th Anniversary Dinner Dance will be held, Sunday, November 19, 2006 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in Rory Dolan's WESTCHESTER COUNTY

Division 1, Yonkers held its annual Communion Breakfast on Sunday, MARCH 26 IN Morley's Catering at the Dunwoodie Golf Course. The speaker was Fr. Shea, past Provincial of Maryknoll, who brought us up to date on work in the missionary field. Past President, Jim Walsh was honored as Hibernian of the year. The Annual Division One Charity Golf Outing will be held on Friday, June 2, 2006 at Dunwoodie.

Division 11, Tarrytown was involved running the very successful Sleepy Hollow St. Patrick's Parade and are planning a Field Day once again this summer.

Division 16, Mt. Kisco had a very successful raffle and fund raiser for Rosary Hill Cancer Home and the Hospice of Northern Westchester, ran a great St. Patrick's Parade, and is planning their Communion Breakfast for June.

Division 17, White Plains has added 10 new members and is busy reorganizing and planning new events.

Division 18, Peekskill represented our Order in both the Peekskill and Mahopac Parades. County President, Tom Kennedy has planned a County Field Day, August 6, 2006 in V.E. Macy Park, Ardsley. President Kennedy has also set up a round table discussion to meet in order to find ways to increase our membership, especially among younger men

#### District 7

Richard Morris

Very little to report on Cortland and Tioga County Divisions. In fact there is nothing to report from either of these divisions. I will continue to try and get some motivation from our brothers at these respective divisions for the next newsletter.

On a more positive note, Broome County/Binghamton Division has been quite busy in the community, with their Annual Irish Heritage Ball; Boscov's Irish Day Parade and St. Mary of the Assumption March.

Binghamton continues to increase its membership and I look forward to attending their meeting. I met with President Stu Fralick and Past District 7 Director, Leo Kane at the State Board meeting held in E. Durham. It was a pleasure renewing past friendships and acquaintances.

Chemung County/Elmira Divi-

sion is doing very well and is growing with initiations nearly every month to just under 400 members. It is anticipated the over 400 goal will be met and surpassed well before 2007. The next goal: 450 Brothers to stand with and do good works with. Most important the new member's are active in the Division, younger and older members alike. It is truly an extended family.

The Division has been busy with the Josh Palmer (a Division member) Coaches vs. Cancer Basketball Tourney. It was another success. The Elmira AOH is the major sponsor of this event. All proceeds go to help area family's affected by this disease. The annual Beef Raffle went well. Proceeds from this event go to sponsor youth activities in the community.

For the past 32 years on the Saturday before St. Patrick's Day, the AOH Division has put on an Irish Road Show for the folks at the Chemung County Nursing Facility. This year's event was the best I have attended. Thanks to all who participated. Brother Fran Whitford did a great job coordinating this event. I was proud to have Vice President Matt Nelligan attend some of the proceedings of this event. Matt was the guest speaker for the divisions Corporate Communion March and Mass. The Sunday before St. Patrick's Day is Corporate Communion Sunday. All members, except those excused for reason, meet early Sunday morning at Elmira city hall, pay

dues and march some four blocks to ST. Peter and Paul's Church to attend Mass. It is a very powerful sight to witness over 300 men, their sons and the Dan McCarthy Junior Boys Division walk into church together to celebrate Mass. So impressed was Bishop Matthew Clark (in Elmira and at the church on other business) that he will be doing the Mass next year. Also in attendance at Corporate Communion march, mass and breakfast was State Treasurer, Mike McNabb. Both Mike and Matt met with us at the club after breakfast at the Holiday Inn. Guest Speaker, Matt Nelligan was very well received and gave an informative update about the State Board becoming more involved with the recruitment and retention of members.

I would like to close with congratulations to AOH member, Robert Kelly and his Elmira Notre Dame Girls, Basketball Team for winning the New York State Championship!! and for Bob Kelly being named, New York State, Coach of the Year!

## District 8

Dennis P. Browne

I am happy to report the business of our Order in District Eight continues in a productive and successful manner. While my business takes me far a field, it is always a pleasure to meet with our brothers at the Division and County levels.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the brothers who invited me to attend their many

functions throughout the District during our celebration of our patron saint, St. Patrick. It would have been my greatest desire to attend all the functions, however, I am afraid that would have been difficult, but I thank all the brothers for their generous offers.

Perhaps one of the greatest honors a person of Irish heritage could hope for is to be chosen Grand Marshal of the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Well, I was so honored this year in Orange County. The festive day was enhanced by the presence of our worthy State President, John Hennessy, Brian Nelligan, New York State Board and Timothy McSweeney, AOH County Vice President, Albany County. Thank you gentlemen.

In addition to the Orange County Parade, I joined Rockland County in their Parade and of course the grand daddy of them all, New York City.

My visits have taken me to Greene County, Dutchess County, Rockland County and of course my own County, Orange, to include the County Board. It is very encouraging to see the efforts that are being applied to expand the membership in our organization. While executing the latter, and under the leadership of the Division and County Executive Boards, the needs in and outside our family are also being addressed. Fund raisers have been conducted in Division 1, Orange County, Division 3, Rockland County and Division

1, Dutchess County.

Under the leadership of Michael Shannon, President, Division 2, Orange County, an aggressive campaign to save St. Mary's church in Newburgh from closure was commenced on Saturday, May 6, 2006. The Division supported an Appeal March and Rally at Delano Hitch Recreation Center, in Newburgh. The men of Division 2, Orange County should be commended for taking on such a monumental task. All our prayers and best wishes for success are with them.

In this day and age all members of our society are required to be politically correct. A major infraction relative to that requirement occurred during the St. Patrick's Day celebrations. The violator in this case was "Outriggers Apparel", who decided to debase the Irish people with a crude and disgusting logo on their product. Again, Hibernians "got their dander up" taking to the airwaves, TV and radio, expressing their distaste for this action. George Leahy, President, Rockland County Board led the charge in this instance, great job George.

## Deputy Chaplain

Rev. Henry W. Reid

Brothers, my apologies for being so brief this time, but I am now four weeks away from Ordination to the Priesthood. Things have been extremely busy, and I must apologize for not putting more time into this column.

It was a pleasure to get to the State Board meeting in May, and have the opportunity of seeing

friends of mine (the Nelligan Brothers) who I have not seen in a number of years, as well as spending a brief bit of time with other friends who it seems I do not see near enough. Unfortunately I was not able to stay until Sunday for the Mass at Our Lady of Knock Shrine, as I had to assist at the early Mass in Valley Stream. It was great seeing so many Hibernians in East Durham, however, there was also a bit of sadness thinking that maybe we will not have that great town much longer.

Like many of you I have spent many great days and nights in that oasis in the Catskills, the music and craic shared among friends are some of my greatest memories. It is a part of our cultural heritage, a heritage that should be preserved for future generations. Yet many of the houses are closing, or falling into the hands of those who do not understand the Irish or our ways, or promote our culture. The Melkite Catholic Patriarch of Antioch said a few years ago that if the Holy Land were deprived of its Christians (as has been happening) then it would be nothing but a museum, instead of a living Church. While I am not equating East Durham with the Holy Land (that would be a big stretch), I am saying that our culture needs to be preserved in this spot. So much has been invested in it by those who have gone before us, the Cultural Center, Museum, all the houses that celebrate Irish culture, and most precious of all, the Shrine dedicated to Our Lady.

If it has been a while since you were there, go back. If you have never been, go. While I do not want to sound like an advertisement for the town, I would like to know that it will be around for my nephews and their children, as well as for your children and grandchildren. If it is not what we want it to be, then we should look to make it better. But if we only let it die, that is one less piece of New York Irish culture that exists.

God Bless all of you,  
I am yours in Christ,  
Rev. Henry W. Reid

Edward M. Carley

#### Catholic Action

Recruitment and Retention in the Parish as well as the AOH.

Hibernian efforts would fail if not for the volunteers and hard working members of our Order. We are the image that the public sees and it all starts with the Pastors/Presidents and their perspective staff members and officers. It is essential that we have strong leaders as President who can delegate duties and influence the membership and guide then in all activities that we have involved ourselves.

The President and committee chairpersons must be personable and be able to recruit members in a one-to-one contact basis. They should try to zero in on the traits, talents or interest that the individual might have that would lend it to accomplishing the goals of our Order.

The President and Officers

should be sensitive to others and be able to accept no for an answer when someone is not quite ready to accept a long-range commitment. The member might be willing to accept some other duty less demanding.

The President and Officers should be creative and personable. They should recruit members who might have marketing skills they could share. How often are our newsletters dull and uninspiring? Our announcements need to be inviting, promotional and attractive to the reader. These individuals might be happy to help out. .

It is important to be honest with people and not demand unrealistic completion dates on projects. Our members need complete and essential information in order for them to be of benefit to us and to be able to do their job.

Exactness is important. Shabby details will not work. Identify who will benefit from their work, for how long and give them an understanding of what will be needed to finish the job.

Perhaps the most important phase of retaining volunteers or members on committees is the follow-up. How often do we hear "I offered to help but nobody called me"? If we allow a lot of time to pass between sign-up and follow-up we are apt to lose the interest of the members. A simple call or postcard thanking the person for their commitment is an ideal way to follow through quickly, easily and effi-

ciently.

Information is also important. The member needs to know the sequence of events. Upcoming events, place and times of meetings, where and how to obtain resources, name and addresses of co-workers.

In order to keep your members working you might consider letting your members know the value of their achievements. We should all make the work challenging for them. We risk losing them if the work is too easy or we keep them on the fringe and not in the network.

Some things that will not work are the following: Begging someone to help, this is never an option. Guilt trips - those who volunteer because they feel guilty will never be motivated and often may make half-hearted promises.

Look for people who:

- Like a challenge and work well under pressure
- Are organized motivated and methodical
- Are skilled with numbers
- Like working with others and finding solutions to problems
- Are comfortable speaking in front of others.
- Have compassion for the sick and the elderly
- Can sing or play an instrument
- Are skilled in art, writing or graphic arts
- Enjoy working with Children
- Are happy with steady, predictable routines
- Work well with different personalities

•Are proficient on the computer and know how to program a web-site.

Finally consider all possible ways a member can be assigned to a committee and match the talents with the individual. Your Division or County may have some unique ways a member can be utilized. Talk with other Divisions/Counties or possibly other states that have similar needs. The National Convention in Boston would be a good place for exchanging ideas. That is why we have committees; chances are your jurisdiction is not alone in its need or in its deficiencies.

\*Much of this report is based upon articles in the September 2005 issue of the "Catholic Digest", "The Secret for Great Volunteers" by Kathy Hendricks and "Match Your Talents" by Julie L. Rattey.

## Charities & Missions

Arnold J. Nagelhout "2004 - 2006 National Charities and Missions Awards" will be presented at the National AOH Convention in Boston, Mass. The "K Club Award" is presented to jurisdictions that have donated a minimum of \$1,000 to an AOH National Board program. The "Community Service Award" will be presented to jurisdictions that have given \$5,000 to one specific charity during the 2004-2006 reporting period. National AOH Charities and Missions Award certificates based on reports in various membership size categories are

also presented. The deadline for submission of your charitable works and man hours to John Kane, National Chairman, is June 15, 2006. Report forms are available on the National web site.

The report for Project St. Patrick is that some \$125,000 has been presented since the program was initiated by the National Board. The joint AOH/LAOH committee received applications from 75 seminarians and 5 novices during 2005. There were 40 grants of \$500 each awarded for a total of \$20,000 in 2005. In New York state 5 seminarians and 5 Sister of Mercy novices were among the recipients.

Donations for Hibernian Charity "HDRE" are still needed to assist those in our Order that were effected by the hurricane season last year. Please consider holding a fund raiser during our summer break for their benefit.

7 more divisions have joined the ranks of New York State Charities and Missions Reports submitted since our 2005 convention. Congratulations on your good work and Thank You.

McGuinness-Fitzsimon Div. 14, Nassau Co. reports 15 members ran a Pub Social that resulted in raising \$1,000 for Concern Worldwide and 600 lbs. of food for Mary Brennan Soup Kitchen.

Patrick J. Curran Div. 9, Queens Co. reports donations of \$450. Benefiting were St. Andrew Avelino School, Cystic Fibrous

Foundation and Freedom for All Ireland Christmas Appeal.

Binghamton Div. 1, Broome Co. submitted a 2005 report that totaled \$6,92.31 in donations. Beneficiaries were St. Mary's Soup Kitchen, Stacy William (Medical Expenses), Kelly O'Day Fund, Hibernian Charity "HDRE", Freedom for All Ireland Christmas Appeal, Community Hunger Outreach Warehouse, BHS Senior Nite 2005, BT BOCES (Special Olympics), Mom's House, Project St. Patrick, S. Carle Irish Dance, YMCA and St. John of God.

Division 14, Queens Co. has reported a donation made to Blessed Sacrament Parish for \$325.

John C. Deveroux Div. 1, Oneida Co. reports donations totaling \$2,355 were given to IPPCH, Girl Scouts of America, Project Children, Project St. Patrick and Hibernian Charity HDRE.

Joseph Duellk Jr. Div. 1, Orange Co. reports 2006 donation totals to date are \$26,610 and 90 man hours. Recipients of their work are Mid Hudson St. Patrick's Day Committee, St. Mary's Food Bank, Catholic League, Eileen O'Connell Benefit, Ronnie Murphy and Eddie Ryan Fund.

Frank Fox Div. 16, Westchester Co. reports \$11,616 and 240 man hours for 2005. Benefitting were Visiting Nurse Assoc., Rosary Hill Cancer Center, St. Francis of Assisi Church, Knights of Columbus, Boys and Girls Club, Italian American Club, Irish

American Social Club and Westchester/Putnam Gaels. In 2006 40 man hours and \$200 worth of food went to The Community Center and St. Francis of Assisi Food Pantry.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer recess and look forward to receiving many of your Charities and Missions Reports upon our return to work in September.

### Scholarship

Tom Conway

Once again, it is my pleasure to let New York members know about our Scholarship. The New York State Board sponsors the Austin V. Carew State Scholarship which is awarded to a deserving student whose parents/guardians are active members who have taken their Major Degree. Applications and requirements have been distributed to the Presidents and were sent out with the March issue of the Empire Hibernian. At present Nicholas Rooney, Janet Miller, Jennifer O'Rourke and Kacey O'Herron are the present recipients of the scholarship. Several applications have been received this Spring and we will announce the latest winner shortly.

The scholarship is sustained by the James F. Hayes Memorial Golf Tournament which was held the first weekend in May in East Durham, the same weekend as the New York State Board meeting. This year, the Tournament was once again a resounding success thanks to the contri-

butions of the membership and our many generous sponsors. So many Hibernians work to ensure the continuity of this worthy endeavor. Also, a big thank you to all of the members and friends who played a great round of golf on a magnificent day and enjoyed the post tournament festivities at the Shamrock House.

Finally I would like to express my thanks to Tim Daly, Joe O'Reilly, Mike McNabb and John Hennessey who stepped up to make sure the Golf Tournament would once again prove to be an enjoyable event.

Also "THE DAY AT THE BALLPARK RAFFLE" was a resounding success, adding to the coffers of our scholarship fund. The members really stepped up to the plate and supported this raffle and I personally thank all who participated in it. The winning ticket was purchased by the Suffolk County Board.

Again, I thank you for your help and giving me the opportunity to serve the Order in this capacity. I welcome your suggestions.

### Commodore Barry

Mike Kearney

Now that we have accomplished enshrining Commodore John Barry into **Public Law 109-142** of the United States in the passage of House Joint Resolution #38 and Senate Joint Resolution #21 recognizing Commodore John Barry as the First Flag Officer of the United States Navy and signed by President Bush on

December 22, 2005, there are other tasks ahead for the AOH (and others who care).

One of these tasks is to get Commodore Barry properly recognized in the U.S. Naval Academy.

For example, a Jewish chapel and center was built with nearly 2 million dollars of federal funds at the U.S. Naval Academy. From September 16-18, 2005 several events took place at the Naval Academy celebrating the opening of the Commodore Uriah P. Levy Center and Jewish Chapel. Formal dedication took place on the last day.

Another interesting development - The Washington Times devoted a page on Oct. 13, 2005 to the fact that Navy Historians are joining with a Mr. Reaveley, who was born in England, "to try to find Revolutionary War Hero John Paul Jones' ship, the Bonhomme Richard, which sank in the North Sea in 1779." They are hoping to retrieve one of the 42 guns from the ship that could be placed alongside Jones' Memorial at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis. This expedition is scheduled to get underway this summer. Also collaborating in the search are researchers from the University of New Hampshire and English Heritage, the organization responsible for historic preservation projects in the United Kingdom.

To my knowledge, there is no Memorial to Commodore John Barry at the Naval Academy in Annapolis. It is long past time

that Irish Americans secure Commodore John Barry's rightful place in American history and in the U.S. Naval Academy. For too long his contributions to the founding the US Navy have been ignored by current historians and academia.

Other tasks ahead for the AOH include getting the book *Gallant John Barry* back into print, and distributed to schools and libraries. This would include a major marketing effort through the AOH to get individuals and divisions to subscribe to buy copies of the re-printed book, which should include a copy of Public Law 109-142. Other organizations might want to assist in this. Also the book should include copies of songs and/or poems written about John Barry.

That brings us to another item. The most effective way that a man's story remains in the popular or folk memory is to do so in song. Kevin Barry would be no more than a footnote in a history of the Black and Tan War was it not for a brilliant song, which we all learned as children. The good news here is that we have both Dan Milner (South Street Seaport) and Derek Warfield (of The Wolfe Tones) who will be recording separately songs re John Barry that they found in the course of their research.

We should also look to see if there are any appropriate articles about John Barry in the journal of the American Irish Historical Society, the Irish Sword, or elsewhere, which should become

appendices of an expanded *Gallant John Barry*. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Historian

Mike McCormack

IT HAPPENED IN JULY

Many things happened in the month of July which have a significant meaning to those of Irish descent. Among the many are the Irish and Irish Americans who contributed to the American Revolution that created this great nation and those who subsequently defended it. Among the latter are many familiar names, but there are also some who are not that familiar, but should be. One example of the latter is Patrick Henry O'Rorke. Who? Exactly!

Patrick Henry O'Rorke was born in County Cavan on March 28, 1836. His parents brought him to America as a child and settled in the Little Dublin section of Rochester, NY. After High School, despite winning 3 scholarships, young Patrick went to work to help support his family. His scholarship was remembered however, and he was offered an appointment to West Point. On July 1, 1857 he became the oldest plebe in his class and one of the first Irish to attend that citadel of military might. When the Civil War broke out, he graduated 1<sup>st</sup> in his class and was assigned to Washington DC. He saw action at Manassas and Bull Run before being assigned to the Corps of Engineers to design and construct defenses for the Capital. On July 9, 1862, he returned to Rochester and married his childhood sweetheart,

Clara Bishop.

Meanwhile, Lincoln's call for more troops was answered by the formation of two regiments from Rochester and Monroe County, and O'Rorke was asked to lead the new 140<sup>th</sup> NY, assigned to the Army of the Potomac's V Corps.

Colonel O'Rorke led the 140<sup>th</sup> NY in action at Fredericksburg and gained a promotion to Major for gallant and meritorious service. After Fredericksburg, he became acting Brigade Commander at Chancellorsville, and later, he and 140<sup>th</sup> NY found themselves at a small Pennsylvania town called Gettysburg as part of one of the war's most crucial confrontations.

During the battle, on July 2, 1863, a crisis arose on the Union left as Confederate troops broke through the right flank of the Federal forces on a hill known as Little Round Top. The 140<sup>th</sup> was ordered to their relief. As O'Rorke reached the crest of the hill, he saw rebels swarming up the wooded incline. With no time to deploy his men, O'Rorke jumped from his horse, drew his sword and shouted "*Down this way, boys*" and led his men down the slope toward the enemy. After fierce fighting, the rebels were driven back, the breach was sealed, and the Union forces were saved from an outflanking maneuver that would have cost them the battle. Sadly, during the charge, O'Rorke was shot through the neck and fell dead among the rocks of Little

Round Top. He was only 27 years old, and just 7 days short of his first wedding anniversary. His wife never remarried, but instead entered a religious order.

In 1889, the Veterans of the 140<sup>th</sup> NY dedicated a stone marker with a bronze likeness of their fallen colonel on Little Round Top, and in April, 2000, the City of Rochester dedicated the new Colonel Patrick O'Rorke Memorial Bridge in his honor. As for remembering this Irish immigrant who contributed so much to the greatness of America in the month of July, well, that is the month in which he entered West Point, married his sweetheart, and went home to his God.

## Immigration

Edward Rice

On a clear early spring evening multitudes of Irish people and their friends descended on the church hall of St. Barnabas in the northern Bronx. Undoubtedly, some wanted to get a glimpse of U.S. Senator John McCain. Kelly Finchum, the Chairperson of the Irish Lobby for Immigration Reform, opened up the meeting. One could not help but feel a sense of hope for those living and working in the shadows of a truly legal status longed for by all immigrants to this country. One of the attendees, Elliot Engel, U.S. Congressman, proudly stated that he voted against the draconian House immigration bill. When Senator McCain walked into Msgr. Barry's hall, it rocked with shouts of "ole, ole, ole, o-le, ooo-

le" and strains of "fields of Athenry". It was truly a hero's welcome. Senator McCain framed the importance of the new immigration legislation he is co-sponsoring by emphasizing the contributions the Irish have made to our country.

This event marked the culmination of the latest effort on the part of an Irish immigrant organization set up to lobby the Federal government on behalf of the 40,000 plus Irish undocumented to legalize their status. Unfortunately, much needs to be done. The organization trying to get this done is the I.L.I.R. which stands for Irish Lobby for Immigration Reform. You can visit their web-site at: [www.irishlobbyusa.org](http://www.irishlobbyusa.org). We, in the A.O.H., are totally behind them, and President Hennessy and I, as your worthy chairman, are supportive of their efforts. While they recognize the need for tighter security in this post 9/11 world, they see the presence of so many undocumented Irish working as construction workers, nannies, and waitresses as not posing a threat to the homeland security of the U.S.

The current bill that the I.L.I.R. is asking us to get behind is the SECURE AMERICA AND ORDERLY IMMIGRATION ACT (S.1033) which would allow the undocumented to change their status in the U.S., and which would provide a path to a green card, and eventually, citizenship. It is being co-sponsored by Senators John McCann and Edward Kennedy. What they

recommend is to thank the senators who have proven to be friends of the Irish immigrants such as Senator Charles Schumer. Also, they are urging us to call on our representatives in Congress to get the word out for a fairer immigration law for the undocumented Irish. They need to counteract the various anti-immigration groups that have been very vocal and who would criminalize the undocumented Irish already here.

Personally, I would be remiss if I did not thank President Hennessy for his attendance at two town hall meetings and his participation in the Lobby Day in Washington, D.C.

Now, in the midst of commemorations for the Easter Rising and the Hunger Strikers, the Irish immigrants received two setbacks going into the second week of April. In the first came the news in Congress that they were shelving the discussion on the immigration question for a latter date. It seems that a compromise on what portion of the 11 million undocumented immigrants that could be allowed to stay in the U.S. pending the legalization of their status could not be worked out to the satisfaction of all concerned. Yet, despite this logjam, seasoned politicians and immigration experts know that the immigration question will have to be resolved before the mid-November elections of this year. In the meantime, the I.L.I.R. will continue in its activist efforts right up until the Irish immigrants get a fair shake from the Federal government which

we Hibernians all want.

The second setback affects one family, the McAllisters, in particular, but, its ramifications show how this country's tradition of welcoming "tired, starving, huddled masses" from abroad is being threatened in the aftermath of September 11, 2001. I am referring to the lost appeal on the part of Malachy McAllister to get a modicum of relief from deportation to the occupied north of Ireland. When this decision came down on April 10, 2006, a 45-day time clock started ticking, at the end of which the Federal government will be empowered to deport Malachy and his two children, Nicole and Sean. In the meantime, we are trying to get the Office of Homeland Security to put into effect a "deferred action" that would give Malachy enough time to get a private bill passed through Congress to forestall his deportation. He needs more than just a hand shake and "good luck", but for each of us to pick our phones to call our representatives to ask them to appeal to Homeland Secretary Michael Chertoff for "deferred action" in the matter of Malachy McAllister and his family.

#### **ACTION ALERT**

Ask for "Deferred Action Status" for the McAllisters

Call the White House at (202) 456-1414 and/or fax letter at (202) 456-2461.

Call Senator Charles Schumer at (202) 224-6542.

Call and write to your local representative.

## **Right to Life**

**Michael Murphy**

I must apologize for not getting a report in the last Empire State Hibernian.

In two earlier issues I requested that all County Presidents submit the names and phone numbers of their county Right to Life Chairmen. To date I've only received one, that was from Niagara County. I had intended to have a discussion on this matter at the recent State Board meeting, but unfortunately I was unable to attend. However, I would like to get these names and numbers as soon as possible. Call me at 631-924-4853, if I am not at home, please leave a message.

On April 4th, together with NYS President Hennessy, I attended the Prayer Rally in Albany to make known to all lawmakers that there is a Catholic constituency in this state.

The rally was well attended but due to the severe cold, a lot of people left before the speeches were finished. We will be looking forward to another rally next year. Local Right to Life rallies are advertised in church bulletins and all Right to Life publications, please make every effort to attend them, most are held on Saturday mornings.

## **Sports**

**Joe O'Reilly**

The bowling tournament on April 8 2006 was a big success. Everyone in Albany had a great time.

As you read this, the James P. Hayes Golf Classic and Raymond J. Meehan Memorial Tro-

phy will be over. A great time was had by all our Brothers throughout New York State. Let's keep the spirit of the sport into the Jack Burns Memorial Golf Tournament, which is hosted by the John F. Kennedy Division # 1 in Auburn, N.Y. on August 19, 2006, price is \$75.00, \$300.00 for a foursome. Contact himself Michael J. McNabb, telephone # (315)253-2638 or e-mail him at aohhagb7@juno.com.

Another sport we don't hear much about is dart tournaments, which could bring in new members to our order. So, let me know your feelings on this and I will make contacts for you.

### Project Saint Patrick

Edward J. Wallace  
Project Saint Patrick is a joint Catholic Action program of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians and friends, created to support Priests, Seminarians and Religious, spiritually, emotionally and financially. Contributions to this project will go into an endowment fund. Interest from the endowment will be given to seminarians, priests and religious in the form of scholarships and grants for continuing education and retreats.

A contribution in memory of your Loved One enables the vision of St. Patrick to continue: to bring the Gospel and the Eucharist to all people. Memorial cards may be obtained from:  
Thomas J. McNabb  
AOH National Secretary

31 Logan Street  
Auburn, NY 13021

### Secretary Chip McLean

As of the date of this report only 36 Divisions in N.Y. State have filed there Form 9's. That means that nearly 60 % of our Divisions have chosen to keep there Officers and in turn there Members out of touch with our Order. It is imperative that each jurisdiction keep a current Form 9 on file with each of the superior jurisdictions so as to allow for an effective and efficient flow of information and ideas. I strongly encourage each of the jurisdictions to bring the filing of a current Form 9 up to date as soon as possible. The Form 9 remains as one of the forms that are available on our State Website ([www.nyaoh.com](http://www.nyaoh.com)).

There are 58 Divisions in N.Y. State that have paid there Per Capita assessment as of the date of this article. It is hoped that this number will reach the 100% mark very quickly so that we can have a full compliment of Delegates as we go into the National convention. With three candidates running for National office it is absolutely imperative that we secure every possible Delegate that our great State deserves.

### FFAI Brian J. Nelligan

Over the last 7 months many events have happened in the North of Ireland, and through out New York State as well. First I want to congratulate Albany Di-

vision 5 for leading the donations to the Christmas appeal, but I also want to thank all divisions, counties and members who donated to this worthy cause. National FF AI Chair Brendan Moore reported in the digest that the donations were up this year and in this time where everyone is stretching their dollars I think this shows the generosity of our members and its goal of True Christian Charity.

In April more encouraging news came out regarding the IRA stepping down and helping in clamping down on criminal activity performed by members. Also the International Monitoring Commission (IMC) stated that the IRA was committed to the peace process and has halted all "terrorist" activity. Although this is encouraging we need to contact our government officials to start and put pressure on the White House to support the re-creation of the North joint government. We cannot let this opportunity go to the way side. Everything we can do to help in the eventual goal of an united Ireland will not be in vain

Lastly I want us all to remember that it is the 25th Anniversary of the Hunger Strikers when 10 men died for their rights to be treated as political prisoners. These men gave their lives and helped create Sinn Fein as a political force that directly resulted in the Good Friday Agreement. Without the sacrifice of these men, it could be argued that we would not have much progress in the North today.



**BRENDAN MOORE**

**FOR NATIONAL TREASURER**

- ✓ Serving two terms as National Director
- ✓ Chairing our National Board's Ad Hoc Anti-Extradition Committee
- ✓ Aiding in prisoner re-adjustment and job training
- ✓ Raising record-breaking Christmas Appeal donations over 14 years
- ✓ Leading AOH efforts to achieve peace with justice in a united Ireland
- ✓ Representing the AOH in Washington, Belfast, Dublin, and Derry

**I HOPE I CAN COUNT ON YOUR SUPPORT!!!**

## BRENDAN MOORE

A proud member of AOH Division #2, Suffolk County, New York, Brendan Moore has served as National Board Freedom For All Ireland Chairman for thirteen years. He also served in that capacity for eighteen years on the New York State Board and for twelve years on the Suffolk County Board. During that period, he raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the support of the dependents of Irish Republican prisoners incarcerated in British jails, while also seeking to educate Americans regarding the broad range of injustices resulting from British occupation of the Six Counties. With the signing of the Good Friday Agreement and the release of most of the prisoners, Moore's fundraising efforts have been directed toward counseling and vocational training programs to assist ex-prisoners, as well as justice initiatives in the north of Ireland. In 2002 and 2004, AOH convention delegates elected him to the post of National Director. In 2003, AOH National President Ned McGinley named him National Board Ad Hoc Committee Chairman to oppose Senate passage of the proposed U.S.-U.K. Extradition Treaty.

Having retired after thirty-four years as a high school English teacher, Brendan Moore is currently a Senior Lecturer at St. Joseph's College and supervises the preparation of student teachers. A graduate of La Salle Academy, Manhattan, he earned his bachelor's degree in English Literature from Washington, D.C.'s Catholic University. He received his master's degree in English Literature from New York University, and an additional master's degree in Public Administration from the City University of New York's Baruch College.

Brendan's father, the late John Moore, immigrated to New York from Ferbane, County Offaly, and his mother, the late Bridget Murphy Moore, hailed from Warrenpoint, County Down. He is married to the former Eileen McNulty, a member of LAOH Division #7. The proud parents of two sons, Brian, a teacher at Pearl River High School, and Sean, a physical therapist, the Moores consider themselves doubly blest with the addition of two wonderful daughters-in-law, Deirdre and Lauren.

***ELECT***  
**Martin Kelly**  
**for AOH National Director**

***LEADERSHIP AND EXPERIENCE:***

♣ Martin was elected and has proudly served the New York State Board as: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Director of District #5

***ALSO SERVED AS:***

- ♣ NYS Chair of Commodore Barry Committee and NYS Political Education Chair.
- ♣ Kings County Board President and all other offices.
- ♣ Division President and all other chairs. ♣ St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee.
- ♣ *Unanimously endorsed by the New York State Board.*

***Vote for Martin Kelly- a TRUE HIBERNIAN  
with Experience and Leadership who will work for you!***



***RE-ELECT***  
**Tom McNabb**  
**for AOH National Secretary**

- ♣ Past National President ♣ National Secretary since 1984
- ♣ Past New York State President ♣ Past Division President, eight terms
- ♣ *Unanimously endorsed by the New York State Board.*

***Re-Elect Tom McNabb and Keep Experience Working for You!***

## Martin Kelly

Martin Kelly was born in Castlambert, Athenry, Co. Galway and emigrated to America in 1964. His family has long been prominent in the Irish nationalist movement. His father was a member of the Old I.R.A. and was imprisoned by the British in Frongoch Camp in Wales following the 1916 Rising, the same prison camp which held leading members of the nationalist movement including Michael Collins and Eamon DeValera. Martin first resided in the Bronx after coming from Ireland. But after his marriage to the lovely Anna Marie Gallagher of Frosses, Co. Donegal he was persuaded to move to Brooklyn. He and Anna Marie have four children, Bernadette, Margaret, Martin, Sean and a granddaughter Caitlin.

Employed by Verizon for the past thirty years, Martin currently holds the positions of manager of the Special Services Department in Manhattan. He has constantly been recognized by Verizon for his leadership skills, in 2002 and 2003 was awarded the esteemed "Leader in Excellence" award. Martin and his department were recognized by the New York Stock Exchange for their outstanding work in rebuilding the stock exchange in only four days after the disastrous events of September 11. In fact, Verizon employees, including Martin & his team, were given the prestigious honor of ringing the closing bell of the New York Stock Exchange on January 7th 2002.

Martin Kelly has devoted himself to the advancement of the Ancient Order of Hibernians for over twenty-five years. He has held every office at the division, county and state level. In addition to extremely successful terms as New York State President, he served a term on the state board as State Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chairman of the Commodore Barry Committee, Political Education Chairman and was past Director of District No.5 comprising the counties of Staten Island, Queens, and Kings.

Shortly after being elected State President, America suffered the dreadful terrorist attacks of 9/11/2001. Martin was very instrumental in organizing a committee for a disaster relief fund that rose over \$120,000 and provided families of eighteen members of the A.O.H. with at least \$6,000 each. Martin is also a member of another relief committee, as Past State President, to distribute over \$1.2 million to needy families of the 9/11 disaster. He served as host to the contingent of Hibernians who traveled from Ohio to NYC to present a check in memory of Fr. Michael Judge who was killed on 9/11. He also organized and helped raise over \$35,000.00 for the Special Olympics held in Ireland in 2003.

In addition to his philanthropy as a Hibernian, Martin is also very active as a volunteer and committeeman for both the New York and Brooklyn St. Patrick's Day Parades. He is vice-president of Hibernians of Flatbush, Inc., a member of Rosary for Life, Inc., an active member of the Commodore Barry Club of Brooklyn, The Cathedral Club of Brooklyn, The Saint Patrick's Society of Brooklyn, The Good Shepherd Catholic Club of Brooklyn, The Galway Society of New York and the Knights of Columbus Council #126. Martin has served on the Pastoral Council of his parish Good Shepherd, where he is an usher, Eucharistic Minister and member of the choir.



**NEW YORK STATE ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS  
10th ANNUAL  
JACK BURNS MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT  
HOSTED BY  
JOHN F. KENNEDY DIVISION # 1 AUBURN, N.Y.**

**DATE:** August 19, 2006  
**TIME:** 1:00pm - Shotgun start  
**PRICE:** \$75.00/ Golfer - \$300.00/ Foursome  
**INCLUDES:** greens fee, cart, food on course, beer on course, dinner, prizes.  
**DINNER MENU :** Tossed salad, steak, baked potato, vegetable, dessert and coffee.  
**PRIZES AWARDED TO:** First, Second and Last place teams.  
Also 2 longest drives and 2 closest to the pin.  
**FORMAT:** As in the past this will be a Captain & Crew 4 person scramble

**PLACE:** Dutch Hollow Country Club

**CHECK IN:** Noon - 12:45 pm

**DINNER:** Auburn AOH Club Rooms

**\*\*\* SKINS GAME WILL BE AVAILABLE AND IS OPTIONAL \*\*\***

Dutch Hollow Country Club is located at 1839 Benson Road, Owasco, N.Y.  
There are a limited number of tee times available on Friday after 3:00pm.  
To reserve a tee time please call the Country Club at ( 315 ) 784-5052.

**\*\*\*\*\*GOLF REGISTRATION DEADLINE: AUGUST 4, 2006\*\*\*\*\***

**MOTEL/HOTEL RESERVATIONS**

SUPER 8: 19 McMaster St. (315) 253-8886

HOLIDAY INN: 75 North St. (315) 253-4531

INN of the FINGER LAKES: 12 Seminary Ave. (315) 253-5000

Would you or your Division like to Sponsor a Hole? **Hole Sponsorship is only \$50.00**  
The deadline for Sponsoring a Hole is **AUGUST 4, 2006.**

**\* Please make checks payable to: Jack Burns Memorial Fund\***

If you have any questions please contact: Michael J. McNabb  
9 Throop Ave.  
Auburn, New York 13021-5007  
( 315 ) 253-2638  
e-mail: aohhag67@juno.com



NEW YORK STATE ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS  
10th ANNUAL  
JACK BURNS MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT  
HOSTED BY  
JOHN F. KENNEDY DIVISION # 1 AUBURN, N.Y.

Registration: \$75.00 per golfer / \$300.00 per foursome  
Registration Deadline is **August 4, 2006**

**GOLF REGISTRATION FORM**

**\*\* PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION \*\***

**CAPTAIN**

Golfer #1

Golfer #2

Golfer #3

Golfer #4

Team captains home or e-mail address where information can be sent.

**HOLE SPONSOR / COST \$50.00**

**\*\*PLEASE PRINT YOUR MESSAGE\*\***

**\* Please make checks payable to: Jack Burns Memorial Fund \***

Please return completed forms & payment to: Jack Burns Memorial  
9 Throop Ave.  
Auburn, NY 13021-5007

# The Irish Lobby for Immigration reform

*A Voice for Change*

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## **ILIR three step action plan**

- 1) Contact both Senator Schumer's offices**
  - 2) Contact both Senator Clinton's offices**
  - 3) Contact your House Representative**
- CALL/FAX/EMAIL YOUR SENATORS**
- 

*Irish America supports McCain|Kennedy*

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What you can say:

*"I would like to leave a message for the senator. I'm calling from the Irish Lobby for Immigration reform. I am an Irish American resident of New York. I support McCain|Kennedy on immigration. I want the senator to support McCain|Kennedy."*

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### **Contact Charles Schumer**

DC Office Tel: 202 224 6542 Fax: 202 228 3027  
Local Office: Tel: 914-285-9741 Fax: 845-758-1043  
[www.schumer.senate.gov](http://www.schumer.senate.gov)

### **Contact Hillary Clinton**

DC Office Tel: 202 224 4451 Fax: 202 228 0282  
Local Office 914 725-9294 Fax: (914) 472-5073  
[www.clinton.senate.gov](http://www.clinton.senate.gov)

Call U. S. Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121 to get the details of your local House Representative or search our website at [www.irishlobbyusa.org](http://www.irishlobbyusa.org)

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### **Pass it on**

Tell your friends and family to contact their state senators.

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### **Contact ILIR**

[www.irishlobbyusa.org](http://www.irishlobbyusa.org) 718 598 7530