



**General Thomas Meagher Division
Fredericksburg, Virginia**

FredericksburgAOH.org

October 2009

Fredericksburg, Virginia

Instituted: November 11, 1987

Meeting Time: 3rd Tuesday, 7:30PM Membership: 30

Meeting Location: Fredericksburg Knights of Columbus Council Home, 4724 Harrison Road,
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

PRESIDENT

Bruce A. Denault

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Jeff Fitzpatrick

RECORDING SECRETARY

Robert J. Sullivan

VICE-PRESIDENT

Robert E. Ghormley

TREASURER

William Halpin

ORGANIZER

Vacant



President's Report

Continue to check out our new website: **FredericksburgAOH.org** to keep up-to-date on all our Division activities. Please, contact Jeff Fitzpatrick, our Webmaster, if you have any comments or information to be posted.

Welcome aboard Robert Simmons who joined our ranks during the October business meeting. We shall schedule a Shamrock Degree for him, Shane Quinlan and James Hanson before the end of this calendar year.

Congratulations to Bob Ghormley, Bill Halpin and Bob Sullivan. All were recognized by our State President, Rick Aleksey, for their outstanding dedication, and hard work in support of the very successful 2009 AOH/LAOH State Convention. Additionally, Fr. DeMartino of St William of York Parish was presented a check for \$500 for hosting the event.

The Nominations committee as submitted the following slate for our 2010 Officers:

President: Bill Halpin

Vice President: Bob Ghormley

Recording Secretary: VACANT

Financial Secretary: Jeff Fitzpatrick

Treasurer: Shane Quinlan

Chair Standing Cmt: Hugh O'Brien

Elections will take place during our November business meeting. We will accept nominations from the floor.

We will **NOT** march in this years Fredericksburg Christmas Parade. I will not embarrass this Division with a poor showing and not enough interest has been shown to make it a viable event. I believe 'awareness' is key to our recruiting, and we are missing an opportunity by not showing Fredericksburg who we are.

Please send me your current e-mail address. I try to keep everyone in the Division informed through e-mail and send out our Membership rosters and Newsletters through e-mail as well.



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If anyone has an article for the Newsletter, please, get it to me before October 17th. Your article will appear in the November edition.

Membership

Membership is the life blood of any organization. Presently, we have only 30 members. **We need to actively recruit!!** We need to revitalize our Division and take advantage of every possible opportunity to make every Irish-Catholic man aware of us, what we do, and how to join!!

Tower Degree

Fifty per cent of our Division has not taken the Tower Degree. I encourage any member who has not yet taken it to consider it as a part of your growth as a Hibernian.

The Brian Boru Degree Team will not conduct a degree for less than 20 applicants. They may schedule a Major Degree in Bowie, Maryland sometime in early 2010 if the interest is there. As I get details, I will pass it on. In the interim, the information is available on the State AOH website.

Trip for Two to Ireland Raffle



Congratulations to Dan D'Agostino, winner of our `Trip for Two_ to Ireland. He opted for the \$2500. `Well done_ to Bill Halpin for spearheading our first raffle. Needless to say, we have many `lessons learned_ and should do even better next year. Again, thank you, Bill.

Rose of Tralee

[The Rose of Tralee Festival](#) celebrates Irish culture and spirit while strengthening the connections between Irish communities around the world. The final competition in Tralee, Ireland is open to young women of Irish descent from around the world. As Aoife Kelly, a recent Rose said, in a Washington Post article, `They (judges) look at your education, values and beliefs, your capacity for community service, and your communication skills._ Each Rose, therefore, should possess an inner beauty, character, confidence and charisma that reflect the qualities of today's modern women of Irish descent.

This is an exciting time for the Irish-American community in Fredericksburg since the winner of the Fredericksburg Rose of Tralee selection will be sponsored by the Meagher AOH (Accommodations and \$500 contest application) to compete in the Washington D.C. selection. **The winner of the Washington D.C. Rose of Tralee competition will receive an all expense paid trip to enter in the 50th International Rose of Tralee Festival later this summer in County Kerry, Ireland.**



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We need to start recruiting for our applicant **NOW!** Place articles on your Church bulletins; speak with the local Councils of the Knights of Columbus; advertise wherever and when ever we can.

Upcoming Events

Election of Officers

On November 17th as part of our regular business meeting we will elect our Division Officers for the next calendar year.

Sgt Kirkland Memorial

A memorial service will be held at 2PM on Sunday, December 13th for the participants of the Battle of Fredericksburg at the Sgt Kirkland monument at 1013 Lafayette Blvd in Fredericksburg. Our division will present a wreath in honor of General Meagher and his Irish Brigade. An informal reception will follow at the Blarney Stone in Old Town Fredericksburg.

Installation of Officers

On December 15th during our regular business meeting we will install our newly elected Officers for calendar year 2010.

Unfinished Business

Honor/Color Guard.

In the past, there had been an expressed interest in our Division to start an honor/color guard for participation in parades. If that interest still exists, please contact Bruce Denault at 540-446-9123, bdenault2002@yahoo.com

Division Hats and Shirts.

Those interested in purchasing shirts, hats, jackets or any other Division-specific clothing, please contact Bill Halpin at 540-972-5903 or sisconsulting@comcast.net.

A Little Irish Trivia

1. In what year was the Irish Free State declared a Republic?

- a) 1948
- b) 1937
- c) 1922

2. According to legend, which Irish saint founded the German wine industry?

- a) St. Fiacre
- b) St. Disibode
- c) St. Finbar

3. The potato is a perennial of which plant family?

- a) Amaranth
- b) Allium
- c) Nightshades

4. Which poet died with conspicuous gallantry in the attack on Ginchy at the battle of the Somme?

- a) Thomas Michael Kettle
- b) Francis Ledwidge
- c) Patrick MacGill

5. The great monastery at Clonmacnois was founded by which saint?

- a) St. Kevin
- b) St. Columba
- c) St. Kieran



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6. Where was the legendary tenor John McCormack born?

- a) Cork
- b) Dublin
- c) Athlone

7. Who is said to have introduced the term boycotting?

- a) Charles Stewart Parnell
- b) Captain Charles Boycott
- c) Michael Davitt

8. which Irish poet was born on September 24, 1944?

- a) Eamon Grennan
- b) Paul Muldoon
- c) Eavan Boland

9. What significant event gave Michelmas an important place in the Irish calendar?

- a) The adoption of the Gregorian Calendar
- b) The defeat of the Spanish Armada
- c) The coming of the Anglo-Normans

10. When is the traditional beginning of Ireland's Oyster season?

- a) September 1st
- b) September 15th
- c) September 30th.

Answers: 1)a, 2)b, 3) c, 4) a, 5)c, 6)c, 7)a, 8)c, 9)c, 10)a

OUR NEXT MEETING IS 7:30 PM TUESDAY NOVEMBER 17TH
