



**GENERAL THOMAS F. MEAGHER DIVISION  
SPOTSÝLVANIA DIVISION NO. 1  
AUGUST 2011 HIGHLIGHTS**

Our new Division Chaplain, Father Ed Bresnahan, attended our August meeting (along with eleven brothers)! It is absolutely terrific that we have an active Chaplain. Special thanks to Father Bresnahan for his commitment to AOH!

We welcomed Brother Joe Daily, who is transferring from Father Kelley Division (Manassas). Brother Bob Errickson has completed his move to Sellersville, PA and will be transferring into Bucks County Division 2 (Doylestown). I spoke with Bob today (17 Aug) and he asked me to pass along his warm wishes and his heart-felt thank you to all division brothers for our prayers, generosity, and friendship.

**Raffle Tickets update:**

To be redundant -- we really need a full court press on ticket sales. We haven't broken the \$2000.00 mark yet, and we're obligated for a maximum pay-out of \$3400.00 to the winner. We only have one month remaining. I've mailed 24 raffle tickets to seven brothers who cannot attend regular meetings and asked them to return stubs, unsold tickets, and funds by Sept 1<sup>st</sup>. With minimum effort this may net 160 or more ticket sales!

**After Mass Sales (*we'll need volunteers at all Parishes!*):**

- Father Zeigler, St Patrick Parish, approved our request to sell tickets after Masses on 17 & 18 September. We will advertise in the parish bulletin a week prior and Father will permit alter announcements at each Mass on 17/18 Sep.
- We'll also have opportunity to sell tickets at **St Jude**'s annual picnic on 18 September.
- **St Mary** after Mass sales are 10 & 11 September.

### **For Golfers:**

- The Division voted to sponsor a hole at the Jacob Michael Storck Charity Golf Tournament to be held September 30<sup>th</sup> at Cannon Ridge CC. Proceeds benefit Holy Cross Academy playground maintenance. For brothers who would like to make an independent TAX DEDUCTABLE donation see [Golfing4Jake.com](http://Golfing4Jake.com)
- The Division probably will sponsor our own AOH golf tournament in March 2012 at Lake of the Woods CC. I ask brothers who enjoy connections with major vendors (Air Lingus, Guinness, Pepsi Cola, etc.) to contact them now for merchandise donations suitable for prizes and/or a raffle at the tourney.

**Birthright:** Last month I mentioned our high interest in how Birthright plans use our suggestions on revenue generation, overhead expense reduction, and a more efficient organization. Birthright responded on August 10th:

- First, On 1 November Birthright will move to new, less expensive office space (Paul's Bakery Office Park). **They are looking for help with the move during the last week of October.**
- Second, Birthright contacted the K of C Grand Knight and a mid-wife asking for board member recommendations. They will be soliciting others from different professions and hope to include a corporate financial executive, a lawyer, and a physician on the Board.
- Per Birthright USA Director, Birthright does not solicit contributions from pharmaceutical companies.
- Birthright is raising awareness through local Churches, their newsletter, notices in the bulletins, and a new fundraiser: selling discount cards for a special Macy's shopping Day.
- The note closed with a thank you for our suggestions and a hope that we'll become a "patron". Birthright considers AOH to be a friend.

**New AOH Application Form:** We received a revised AOH application (Form 41) that became effective July 7, 2011. The division discussed two elements of the revision:

**First** is the addition of "Irish by Adoption." Concern was expressed that National AOH is diluting membership requirements (no longer requiring "at least one drop of Irish blood") to mitigate dwindling membership. The sensing in Meagher Division is that

change as radical as this one should be brought to the floor of the 2012 National Convention for discussion and vote and not simply imposed on AOH in America.

**Second** is the addition of “Other Catholic Rites Recognized by the Pope.” Father Bresnahan gave assurance that Rites recognized by the Pope should not be a concern. (I’ve identified 21 Rites recognized by the Pope.)

**Washington, DC Rose:** Okay, we didn’t have a Rose of Tralee competitor this year (I’m working on one for next year – a LOW resident and junior at Ave Maria University), but you can follow the DC area winner:

Watch RoseTV as it follows the daily excursions of the 32 Roses! Check out the home page of the Rose of Tralee International Festival: <http://roseoftralee.ie/v5/> (direct link to RoseTV YouTube channel:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/roseoftraleetv>)

Also, check out the RTE article: <http://www.rte.ie/ten/2011/0816/roseoftralee.html>, with a picture of the Washington, DC Rose, Dorothy Henggeler with the American Roses and Dáithí Ó Sé!!

Stay tuned for updates on when the Washington, DC Rose, Dott Henggeler will be live on TV! The two TV nights are Monday August 22nd and Tuesday August 23rd.

Streaming will be available on <http://www.rte.ie/live/>

Also check out the Rose of Tralee International Festival's Facebook page, updated daily with new pictures and information! <https://www.facebook.com/roseoftraleefestival>

### **Division Attire:**

- Men’s Wearhouse (1210 Carl D. Silver Parkway in Central Park) offers Hibernians a \$390 green sports jacket for \$89.00. Typically, the AOH “uniform” for parades and other semi-formal occasions is green sport coat, white shirt with Irish theme tie, and black trousers. Our point of contact is the Assistant Manager, Ms. Bushra Elmalki (540.785.2449).
- Although the July order has arrived and proper notifications made, I’ll continue to take orders for Meagher Division polo (long or short sleeve), sweat shirts, and ball caps. I’ll need your size (S, M, L, XL, etc.).
- Several brothers asked about plastic AOH name tags. I’ll order these if you’ll send me the name you’d like to see on the name tag (e.g. Bill vs. William)

### **TFM Off Campus:**

A few enjoyed *Irish Appreciation Night* at the Richmond Diamond on August 17<sup>th</sup>. It was an exciting baseball game between the Richmond Squirrels and the Bowie Baysox (AA ball) -- a few long balls, a manager ejected, and a home team win.



Pictured are brothers John Hogan; the Shane Quinlans (Shane, Melinda, Seamus, Abigail, & Katrina); Jeff Fitzpatrick with his boys, Luke & Nathaniel, and Bill & Lisa Halpin

**Prayer List:** Please pray for the repose of the souls of Past State President (PSP) Roger Fury, PSP John O'Neill, and Past President Father Lynch Division, Ray Donnelly, and for a speedy recovery for our Brothers Bob Erickson (Bob begins chemo next week) and Bill Callahan.

Our next meeting is 20 September.

In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Bill