

IN FRIENDSHIP, UNITY AND CHRISTIAN CHARITY



GENERAL MEAGHER'S DISPATCHES

November 2014

Volume 2/Number 10

President: Bill McCarthy **Chaplain:** Father Kevin Fimian **Vice President:** Patrick Fogarty
Financial Secretary: Bill Gilhooly **Treasurer:** Bud Logan **Recording Secretary:** Dennis Ryan
Standing Committee: Jim McMorrow **Marshal:** Bill Phillips **Sentinel:** John Hogan
Organizer: Bill Halpin

NEWS FLASH! Visit the **new, improved Division website!** Significant work has been accomplished and while it is still a work in progress, we believe you'll be impressed. There is a member's only area; the password will be distributed at meetings.

<http://www.aohvirginia.org/FredericksburgDiv1>

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Brothers,

November is upon us and the fraternal year is drawing to a close. We have a great deal to be thankful for and top among them is the wonderful fact that we share the Holy Roman Catholic Faith with so many good men and their families. Our focus on charity is the cornerstone not only of our Faith but of our relationship with one another.

We celebrate many things, the most joyous for our Division of course is the arrival of future Hibernian Nolan Banks to proud parents, Christina and Jeff! Everything is on course in their household --- which can mean any number of things, I suppose.

Not to be overlooked is the impending arrival on St Patrick's Day of a baby girl to Kim and Pat Fogarty. Please pray that her birth is without difficulty.

There are many of us who shall be on the road this holiday --- some far from home and family. Take a moment to remember them in your prayers and ask that they return to us safely. Not to be overlooked are our continuing need for prayers on behalf of our Brothers --- Brothers Jim O'Donnell; Joe O'Connor; Larry Pratt and Pete Needham come to mind.

I hope that you have the opportunity, wherever you may be, to thank Almighty God for all that He has given you. I know that with respect to my own situation, I cannot express how deeply I appreciate the countless prayers, cards, Masses, Novenas, Rosaries, good wishes and genuine concern that you, my Brothers, have expressed on my behalf. They are carrying me through each and every day and for them I not only thank you but I promise you my eternal gratitude.

Joan and I pray that God will grant each of you and your family a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving!

Respectfully,

Bill

[Pray the Rosary!](#)



2015 DIVISION OFFICER NOMINEES ARE:

President:	Jim O'Donnell
Vice President:	Bob Stevens
Financial Secretary:	Bill Gilhooly
Recording Secretary:	Kevin Doyle
Treasurer:	Dick Dowd
Standing Committee:	Jim McMorrow
Marshal:	Neal Mulcahy
Sentinel:	Rusty O'Brien

We all look forward to an even greater 2015!

GRAND HIBERNIAN WELCOME!

To our new Brothers who received the Order's Shamrock Degree in October:



(L to R) Dennis O'Leary, Shawn Lenahan, President Bill McCarthy, Bob Doan, Bill Elliott



ST JUDE FUND RAISER

February 7, 2015 -- Seamus Kennedy in Fredericksburg



Irish American News says: *‘The hardest working superstar in the whole business is the irrepressible Seamus Kennedy, who seems to have the energy of ten men. The craic has never been better and it is in the good hands of Seamus Kennedy.’* Seamus Kennedy is a world-class performer who has supported AOH celebrations in Northern Virginia for many years. In the traditional Hibernian Spirit and good fun, all brothers are encouraged to support this effort to raise funds for the building a new St Jude church!

Please note - tickets **must** be purchased in advance! For details contact Brother Hugh O’Brien or click on this icon:

KoC_Irish_Night001.
pdf



Genealogist’s Visit: Ms. Shannon Bennett will speak at a meeting in the first quarter of the New Year. More information on Ms. Bennett can be found at (tntfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/)



Molly Maguires: We Can Honor Their Extraordinary History

In Pennsylvania in the 1870s, tens of thousands of Irish Catholic men gathered together as members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. These Irishmen tried to create stability in an uncertain world. Many favored political reform that reflected their order’s motto: ‘Friendship, unity, and true Christian charity.’

From 1877 to 1879, twenty-one of these Hibernians were railroaded to the gallows as ‘Molly Maguires.’ The Kehoe Foundation seeks to honor the courage of these Hibernians. Their ethic of hard work and community and political leadership left an enduring mark on American culture. Their tragic struggle deserves a place in that long arc of historic battles that represents the ongoing march for human rights.

The Kehoe Foundation, a Maryland corporation pending 501c3 approval, has launched a new website. The foundation seeks to encourage inquiry into, and understanding of, Pennsylvania's Molly Maguire conflict. Visit www.KehoeFoundation.org.

IRISH AMERICAN HERO: HERCULES MULLIGAN (1740-1825)



Hercules Mulligan was born in Co. Antrim, Ireland in 1740 to Hugh and Sarah Mulligan. At that time the Irish people were victims of the Penal Laws that restricted their right to education, to hold office, to vote, to possess arms and to own property of any monetary value. This was the Ireland that the Mulligan family left in 1746 to come to the American colonies in search of a better life. They settled in New York City where the family prospered and went on to own and operate their own accounting business.

After graduating from King's College (now Columbia University), Hercules worked in his father accounting business as a clerk. Being an ambitious young man he went on to open his own custom tailoring and haberdashery business that catered to wealthy clients including British Crown officers stationed in the city. He married Elizabeth Sanders, daughter of John Sanders of NY and niece of Admiral Sanders of the British Navy.

Alexander Hamilton was born in the West Indies in 1757 and arrived in Boston in October 1772. As planned, he immediately travelled on to New York City. As instructed, he went to the waterfront offices of the export firm of Kortright & Co. where Hugh Mulligan was a principal of the firm. Hugh brought the young man back home with him and introduced him to his brother Hercules. What followed was the beginning of a special friendship between these young men. He befriended Alexander Hamilton (who would go on to become a soldier, lawyer, statesman and founding father) Hamilton's took up lodgings in the Mulligan household while attending King's College. During this period Hercules was influential in convincing Hamilton that the cause of the American colonists was just, not that of the British government whom Hamilton tended to side with.

Hercules was an active member of the Sons of Liberty, the Committee of Correspondence Observation and other Revolutionary Committees. In July of 1776, Hercules together with William Mooney, Isaac Sears and other patriots toppled the statue of King George II that stood on Bowling Green, then, proceeded to break it into pieces, melt it and turn it into bullets for the Continental Army.

In March of 1777, after Alexander Hamilton was appointed Washington's aide-de-camp he recommended to Washington that his old friend Mulligan be appointed Washington's confidential correspondent in the City of New York. From past experience, Washington understood that reliable intelligence was critical if they had any chance of winning the war. In this regard Mulligan proved to be an extremely valuable intelligence asset. He took full advantage of his access to British officers in his capacity as a tailor and to officers billeted in his house by cajoling them with guile and whiskey to loosen their lips and reveal tidbits of information that proved invaluable to Washington and the war effort.

Amongst the best known items of intelligence passed on to Washington by Hercules and his network was Howe's planned expedition to Pennsylvania in April of 1777. Also passed along was 1) critical intelligence that foiled the planned capture of Washington by the British and 2) intelligence that foiled a planned attempt to assassinate Washington by Loyalists.

The Mulligan network included his brother, Hugh, a banker and importer, who did business with the British commissariat in New York. Hugh provided Washington with vital information of British supplies and shipping schedules. Another member of the Mulligan network was a Polish born Jew named Haym Solomon who spoke a number of languages including German. He had access to vital British military intelligence in his role as an interpreter for the British and their Hessian soldiers of fortune. Another very important member of the network was Cato, Mulligan's African-American servant who rowed across the Hudson, who in today's parlance, to make the dead drops.

The British evidently never learned that Alexander Hamilton, Washington's aide-de-camp, had once lived in the Mulligan home and had recruited Mulligan to spy for the American colonists. Mulligan had a number of close calls during his career as a patriot and spy. He was arrested by the British in September of 1776, during General Howe's cleanup of New York Patriots. Mulligan was released after a month's imprisonment. After Benedict Arnold, the traitor, came to New York in 1780; he had Mulligan arrested as a spy but was unable to convict him.

After the American victory those who had remained loyal to the British were attacked and their homes and had their businesses burned. Because of Mulligan's close contact with the British, albeit as a spy, he became suspect and was in danger of being killed and/or having his property destroyed.

His old friend Alexander Hamilton came to his rescue by inviting General George Washington to have breakfast with the Mulligan family. On Evacuation Day (November 25, 1783) General George Washington and Governor George Clinton led a grand parade down Manhattan. After Washington reviewed the victorious American troops and the final exchange of flags he turned his mount and rode to 23 Queen Street, (now 218 Pearl Street), where Washington conducted his first official business under the American flag: he had breakfast with "Rebel" Mulligan. After that word got around about Mulligan's role in America's fight for freedom.

Hercules Mulligan was a highly successful agent for the Revolutionary Army in New York City who reported on the British from 1776 when they captured the City until they left in 1783 seven years later.

Hercules died in March of 1825 and, according to an account by his son William, was buried in the Sanders tomb located behind Trinity Church. Later, when the church was enlarged some vaults, including Saunders, were covered over. Today, there is a tombstone located in the southwest quadrant of the churchyard bearing his name.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

Dan Butler
Dennis Killen
Gene McKenna

Jim McMorrow
Dan Mulhern
Jim O'Donnell

Dennis Ryan
Mike Yearsley

The 239th Birthday of the United States Marine Corps was celebrated November 8th. Here's some Irish/USMC history for you



Sergeant Major Daniel Joseph Daly was born 11 November, 1873 in Glen Cove, New York to Daniel John Daly and Ellen Donovan -- presumably both were born somewhere in Ireland

Daly was twice awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. He received his first Medal of Honor during the Boxer Rebellion for his actions in the battle of Peking, China on Aug. 14, 1900. His second award came on Oct. 24, 1915 he was fighting with US forces supporting the government in Haiti against rebels. On that night, he was part of a group of 35 Marines who were ambushed by a force of approximately 400 *Cacos* (Haitian insurgents). He led one of the three groups of men during the fight to reach a nearby fort, and was awarded the medal for his conspicuous actions. His other awards: Distinguished Service Cross; three Letters of Commendation; Good Conduct Medal with two bronze stars; China Relief Expedition Medal; Philippine Campaign Medal; Expeditionary Medal with one bronze star; Mexican Service Medal; Haitian Campaign Medal; World War I Victory Medal with Aisne, St. Mihiel, Meuse-Argonne, and Defensive-Sector clasps and Citation Star; Médaille militaire (*photo above*); Croix de Guerre with Palm; and the Fourragère, the last three awards are from the French government. He also received the Navy Cross and the Distinguished Service Cross for his actions of "repeated deeds of heroism and great service" during the Battle of Belleau Wood during World War I. Daly is popularly attributed in Marine Corps lore as yelling, "Come on, you sons of bitches, do you want to live forever?" during the Battle of Belleau Wood.

A Fletcher-class destroyer USS Daly (DD-519) was named in honor of Daly and was commissioned on 10 March 1943. On November 10, 2005, the United States Postal Service issued its *Distinguished Marines* stamps in which Daly was honored. Joseph Daly died on April 27, 1937.



THE CELTIC CROSS

There are many variations of interpretations and legends about the original meaning of the Celtic Cross. The Presbyterian and Catholic are often startled to learn that the other considers this symbol their own. In our modern multicultural world the ringed cross is as much a symbol of ethnic heritage as it is of faith and it is often used as an emblem of one's Irish, Scottish or Welsh identity.

If you spend much time rooting around in the history of the Celtic lands you are sure to have many explanations and historical anecdotes offered to you in forms ranging from casual explanations from individuals to historical markers, tour guide banter, grandmother's family lore and souvenir shop hang tags. The Irish Catholic priest will have no hesitation telling you that the circle of the Celtic Cross is a symbol of eternity that emphasizes the endlessness of God's love as shown through Christ's sacrifice on the cross. He may go on to explain that the crucifixion is important not just as an event at a certain point in time but, as the circle symbolizes, as the unending mystery of how through the crucifixion and resurrection Christ continues to offer the hope of salvation to the faithful throughout all time.

There is a legend of how St. Patrick when preaching to some soon-to-be converted heathens was shown a sacred standing stone that was marked with a circle that was symbolic of the moon goddess. Patrick made the mark of a Latin cross through the circle and blessed the stone making the first Celtic Cross. This legend implies that the Saint was willing to make ideas and practices that were formerly Druid into Christian ideas and practices. This is consistent with the belief that he converted and ordained many Druids to lives as Christian priests. (Adapted from a story by *Stephen Walker*)

WALMART'S CATHOLIC PROBLEM

(Thanks to Joe Daley for bringing this to my attention)

Bill Donohue comments on the way Walmart is responding to complaints about its Halloween wear. "Fat Girl Costumes" sold by Walmart were the subject of a deep apology and a pledge to rid the store's inventory of such demeaning garb. Here is what Walmart said about its "Fat Girl Costumes" -- "This never should have been on our site. It is unacceptable, and we apologize. We are working to remove it as soon as possible and ensure this never happens again."

When Catholics complained to Walmart about three offensive Catholic costumes' a Virgin Mary with blood dripping from her eyes, a nun outfit with a skeleton head, and a costume that mocks the confessional - they got a different response. "We apologize if we offended you. Because we have multiple buyers of customers, we try to provide them with plenty of options.

However, we have documented your concern in order to improve our inventory at Walmart.com and in stores."

In other words, when plus-size women are offended, it demands an unequivocal response and the offensive item is withdrawn. When Catholics are offended, the apology extends only to the complainant and nothing is done about it. That's because Walmart wants to give its "multiple buyers" the "option" of purchasing a grotesque costume that demeans Jesus' mother.

With the busiest shopping days of the year upon us, we hope Catholics look elsewhere this Christmas season.



Please keep in your prayers Brothers Bill McCarthy, Jim O'Donnell, Joe O'Connor, Pete Needham, Mike Lenihan, David Lee Chichester, Larry Pratt, and spouses Joan McCarthy and Patty O'Brien. Also, Matthew Carroll, the inspiration behind the Irish Viet Nam Veterans Memorial Project, will need surgery to remove a tumor affecting his vision.

Pray to Mary Immaculate Patroness of the United States for the strength of mind and heart to defend our religious freedoms, for national moral guidance, and that this country will always be `one nation, under God_. This is critically important in this time of contrary moral agendas and the threats from patently evil elements.



November 27: Thanksgiving Day (*Lá Altaithe*)

December 13: Christmas Party at Hospitality House, Fredericksburg. Tickets are \$45/person and the buffet will include steak, chicken and fish. Please bring an unwrapped child's gift (toy, doll, etc.) *Ned's Oldies but Goodies* will provide the music.

December 14: Annual wreath laying in conjunction with the National Park Service at the Kirkland Memorial (Marye's Heights) and ICW the 28th Mass Infantry Regiment at Irish Brigade Monument (City Dock) (*Normally* Noon at City Dock and 2PM at Kirkland)

December 16: Division Meeting and 2015 officer installation

December 25: Christmas Day (*Lá Nollag*)

January 11: Fredericksburg Religious Freedom March

February 7: *Seamus Kennedy* at the Fredericksburg Square (St Jude Parish Fund Raiser)

TBD March: Annual Gaelic Mass (9th?)

March 12: Annual St Patrick Dinner at Holy Cross Academy

March 14: Twelfth Annual St Patrick Day Parade /Trip for Two kick-off

March 15: Annual Irish Breakfast in St Mary Parish Life Center

Bill Halpin, Editor