



Ancient Order of
HIBERNIANS
Irish • Catholic • American



GENERAL MEAGHER'S DISPATCHES

May 2018

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To all Hibernian wives: *Happy Mother's Day! (13 May)*
To our Veterans, Celebrate Armed Forces Day (19 May)
To all -- Celebrate Memorial Day (28 May)

President's Corner

Brothers:

Spring has finally sprung and the weather is getting nice and warm. Despite the tree pollen, I hope you have an opportunity to go out and enjoy it!

Thank you to everyone who helped with the golf tournament, both in planning, volunteering, and playing! The weather was perfect, we had lots of players and everyone to whom I've spoken had a great time. Congratulations to Pete Needham and his foursome for winning the day!

Remember, we are a charitable organization. All monies we raise go to support the ideals of our order. That being said, there are still lots of raffle tickets available for sale. If you are planning on attending an event with lots of people present, why not try and sell some tickets. Reach out to me and I can provide you with some. Keep an eye out for emails detailing when we will be selling at our parishes and help out after mass. On Saturday, May 19th, we will have a table at Adventure Brewing's Fourth Anniversary Party in Stafford. The time is noon to 10pm. If you haven't signed up already, please volunteer some of your time to help us out!

A bit of personal news, my youngest son, Adam, will be performing in the CYT production of Les Miserables June 15-24 at King George High School. Click

<https://www.cytfredericksburg.org/shows/> for more information. If you would like tickets, let me know as I can get a discount for you!

Please remember in your prayers those on our prayer list. Please also pray for all of your Hibernian Brothers. In a special way, please remember Eileen Link, Brother Andy Link's mother who recently passed away. Our Brother, John Tracy, is, for the time being, homebound and eager for visitors. Please call John at 540-972-0673 if you have some time to visit!

In Our Motto,

Shawn Lenahan



Irish Names

Irish surnames of Gaelic origin were commonly used until England laid claim to Ireland in the fifteenth century. Legislation under English rule led to the Anglicization of many Irish names and to the adoption of many English names. Many different forms of Irish surnames resulted. For example, the Irish surname Houlihan or O'Houlihan may have taken on the anglicized form Holland.

Surname variations also resulted from an Irish form of patronymics that used the prefixes "Mac, meaning son of, and "O," meaning grandson of. Many descendants of Anglo-Norman invaders, who became assimilated into the Irish culture, also used patronymics but substituted Fitz' (as in Fitzgerald) for the prefix "Mac."

English law, for a period of time, forbade the use of O' and Mac' in Irish surnames. Fitz was allowed. Not all members of Irish families chose to conform to English laws; hence several forms of a surname often emerged within a single family.

By the end of the nineteenth century, use of prefixes resumed. However, prefixes were added or dropped at will, again producing different surnames within the same

family. Irish who emigrated during the nineteenth century often dropped the prefixes in their new countries of residence.

Traditional naming pattern often used by Irish parents until the later 19th century:

First son usually named for the father's father

Second son usually named for the mother's father

Third son usually named for the father

Fourth son usually named for the father's eldest brother

Fifth son usually named for the mother's eldest brother

First daughter usually named for the mother's mother

Second daughter usually named for the father's mother

Third daughter usually named for the mother

Fourth daughter usually named for the mother's eldest sister

Fifth daughter usually named for the father's eldest sister.



“The Celt would forfeit his title to the respect of the civilized world, did he not fight with all his heart and all his soul and all his cunning against the empire which has despoiled him and murdered his kin, now with arms, now with artificial famine. There can be no peace between the two people until either Ireland is a desert or is free. It is war to the knife, and the knife to the hilt. There can be neither truce nor compromise.”

The changing demographics of Northern Ireland

Irish Echo May 2, 2018, by Father Sean McManus (Edited for space considerations)

We are in a period of important centennial commemorations: the 1916 Rising and the 1918 Irish election when the people of Ireland overwhelmingly voted for national independence and freedom from England.

Those seeking independence won 79 Seats out of 105 seats. England’s response, of course, was to partition Ireland by means of the “Government of Ireland Act,”

December 23, 1920. But the word “partition” doesn’t quite capture the reality, implying the country was divided into coequal parts: North and South. In reality, six counties in the northeast were torn away from Ireland. And torn, too, was the province of Ulster, which is composed of nine, not six, counties.

Why were counties Donegal, Cavan and Monaghan not included in “Northern Ireland”? The plain, historical truth is there would have been too many Catholics in the new, artificial state of Northern Ireland for the British government and the unionists to control in what was designed to be an anti-Catholic state.

What is the proof?

The Irish Census of 1911, the most recently available statistics for that time period, gave the total population of the Six Counties as 1,250,531.

Here are the Unionist/Protestant percentages in the six counties in 1911:

Fermanagh: 43; Tyrone: 44.6; Derry: 54.2; Antrim 79.5; Down 68.4; and Armagh 54.7

The-Unionist/Protestant percentages in the three excluded Ulster counties were:

Cavan: 18.5; Donegal: 21.1; and Monaghan 25.3

On May 18, 1920, the Unionist/Protestant leader and founder of the state of Northern Ireland, Edward P. Carson (MP Westminster) bluntly stated in the British parliament: *“The figures will at once show where the difficulty comes in. We have to refer in these matters to Protestants and Catholics -- we should only be making the very greatest camouflage of argument if we did not treat them in that way --because these are really the burning question over there.*

The inclusion of these six counties would bring in under the jurisdiction of the north of Ireland parliament 820,000 Protestants out of 890,000 in the whole province [counting Donegal, Cavan, and Monaghan]. On the other hand, while you would leave out 70,000 who are in these three counties [Donegal, Cavan, and Monaghan], you would bring in from these three counties into the northern province, an additional 260,000 Roman Catholics.”

Carson and northern unionists felt free to set up their sectarian, anti-Catholic state because they knew the top British leaders were deeply and venomously anti-Catholic: Robert Cecil, “Bloody” Balfour, Asquith, Lloyd George, Churchill, and Bonar Law. Even worse, religious bigotry was enshrined in the top law of England: the Act of Settlement of 1701, the foundation stone of the royal family forbids a Catholic from inheriting the English throne.

So, ultimately, it is the unwritten non-codified British constitution that is to blame for religious bigotry in Northern Ireland. Orangemen were just being loyal to the anti-Catholic bigotry and sectarianism of the British unwritten and non-codified constitution.

But now, almost a hundred years later, there has been a dramatic change. According to the most recent Census of 2011 gives the population of the Six Counties of Northern Ireland as 1,810,863, the Unionist/Protestant percentages are: Fermanagh 37.78; Tyrone 32.57; Derry 36.44; Antrim 54.66; Down 63.06; and Armagh 36.16

Experts believe the census in 2021 will show an even greater percentage increase in the Catholic population. All of which teaches the obvious truth: gerrymandered, contrived and artificial states do not succeed in the end, especially if they were maintained through inequality, disrespect, and discrimination. This progression means the reunification of Ireland is inevitable. However, pending Ireland's reunification, the "Beloved Community" must be built up in Northern Ireland, based fully and generously on the Good Friday Agreement.

Second in the Two-Part Series on Irish Whiskeys

8 Irish whiskeys to try when you want to get serious

WAPO, by M. Carrie Allan, March 8 2018



Irish whiskeys from Teeling, Tyrconnell and Redbreast

Beyond Jameson, Tullamore D.E.W. and Bushmills are two hugely popular lighter Irish blends. But if you want to go a little deeper in your Irish whiskey explorations, try some of these:

Redbreast 12-Year-Old Single Pot Still (40 percent alcohol by volume, around \$60-\$70): The classic pot still Irish — a big, rich, spicy whiskey full of dried fruit notes, nuttiness and a sherry note from the Oloroso casks it's aged in.

Teeling Irish Single Grain (46% ABV, around \$60): Bourbon lovers might be particularly interested in trying this one, which has a 95 percent corn mashbill. Aged in ex-California Cabernet wine barrels, it has lovely vanilla, dried fruit, pepper and toffee notes.

Glendalough 13-Year-Old Mizunara Finish Single Malt Irish Whiskey (46%, around \$130): This whiskey spent most of its years in ex-bourbon barrels but was finished in rare Japanese Mizunara oak; the result is a long, nutty, almost chocolaty finish — just beautiful.

Tyrconnell 16-Year-Old single malt (40 ABV, \$100): Lovely almond and roasted pineapple notes. Tyrconnell whiskeys are known for green apple and citrus flavors, which come from the even climate and double distillation.

Green Spot Single Pot Still (40% ABV, around \$60): Spicy, honeyed, caramelly — another classic Irish pot still whiskey.

Knappogue Castle 12-Year Single Malt (40% ABV, around \$45): It's mellow and fruity with notes of vanilla-butter and a bit of clove and other spices.

Connemara Peated Single Malt (40% ABV, around \$50): The rare Irish whiskey that dries its barley using peat. It combines the honeyed, mellow spice character Irish whiskey is known for with a smoky peat note that it definitely isn't.

The Dead Rabbit Irish whiskey (44% ABV, around \$40): Produced in partnership with Sean Muldoon and Jack McGarry, the founders of New York City's much-loved Irish bar, this is a nice blend of Irish single malt and grain whiskeys, with a good hit of vanilla and spice. (**Note:** In the mid-1800s, the Five Points of lower Manhattan was most squalid area in NYC. This slum was home to notorious gangs. The Dead Rabbits was the Irish immigrant gang whose sworn enemies were the nativist anti-immigrant Bowery Boys. Their antagonism came to a head in an 1857 riot that raged for days. (See "[Gangs of New York](#)"). The leader of the Dead Rabbits was John Morrissey, who would later go on to become a Democratic congressman and senator.)



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### Our DIVISION Prayers



**Jack Grey, Committee of the Sick Chairman.** Prayer requests should be sent to Jack not later than the Wednesday prior to the business meeting ([RHGrey@cox.net](mailto:RHGrey@cox.net)//540-373-4496).

Pray for the repose of the souls of all deceased Hibernian Brothers.

Keep in your prayers our family members and friends:

- **Nolan Banks**, 3 year old son of our former FS Jeff Banks. Nolan has soft tissue sarcoma (RMS). Essentially, Nolan needs a miracle. **Pray for the intercession of Father Augustus Tolton**, a candidate for future canonization (for the actual prayer visit: <http://www.toltoncanonization.org/prayer/canonizationprayer.html>)
- **Eileen Christina Anderson Link**, Andy Link's mother who passed away May 2, 2018
- **Lynne Hogan**, John Hogan's wife (hip injury)
- **Donna Maffeo**, Joe Monaghan's sister-in-law, and his father Joseph Sr. care giver for his mother and uncle (dementia/Alzheimer);
- **John O'Brien** Hugh O'Brien's brother (recovering from stroke);
- **Patricia Stephen**, mother of Rusty O'Brien's friend Ann-Marie Sharratt, diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia
- **Amy Whittaker** (cancer)



### ***Mark Your Calendars!***

***Bingo!*** Every Thursday and Saturday evening 6:30PM at St Michael the Archangel High School, 6301 Campus Drive, Fredericksburg. Bring the family!

***May 15:*** Division Meeting

***Date is TBD*** for the FFAI field trip to the new Guinness Brewery and Irish Railroad Museum in Baltimore

***June 2:*** ***VAAOH Quarterly State Meeting*** hosted by Father Edwin Kelley Division in Manassas

***July 11-14:*** AOH/LAOH National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky Check [www.louisvilleirish2018.com](http://www.louisvilleirish2018.com) for details

***September 22:*** ***VAAOH Quarterly State Meeting*** hosted by Father Corby Division - St. Mary of Sorrows (Farrell Hall), 5222 Sideburn Road, Fairfax VA. Major Degrees will follow the meeting (details forthcoming).



### General Meagher Division Attire

#### **In a perfect world every brother would have these articles of clothing:**

- For **semi-formal/formal occasions**, the AOH “uniform” is green sport coat, tri-color sash, white shirt, Irish theme tie, black trousers and optional ball cap. These occasions include AOH State and National conventions, Masses, funerals, AOH dinners, parades, and other public events.
- At **informal events** (i.e. Division outings (ball games, picnics, meetings, etc.) the division logo polo or sweatshirts (optional ball cap) are appropriate.

#### **Division Logo Items: The Point of Contact for Division logo polo shirts, sweatshirts and ball caps is Shawn Lenahan ([s\\_lenahan@verizon.net](mailto:s_lenahan@verizon.net))**

**Green Jacket:** Brothers procure their own green jackets. One source:

[http://blazerdepot.com/pages/mens\\_blazer/augustagreenblazer.html](http://blazerdepot.com/pages/mens_blazer/augustagreenblazer.html). Visit the website; call the 800 number. Tell them you’re with AOH and the \$5.00 small order fee can be waived. Kelly green is the color.

**AOH Sash:** Brothers procure their own sashes. The AOH tri-color sash represents the national colors of Ireland and should be worn over the right shoulder (green closest to neck/collar) crossing to the left hip. Measure from right shoulder to left hip in inches; keep in mind the sash will normally be worn over a jacket, possibly a raincoat/overcoat (and maybe a growing waist line).

Tri-color AOH sashes are available from:

- LAOH Sister Patricia Ankrom. Email Patricia at [traceysbydesign@aol.com](mailto:traceysbydesign@aol.com). She produces 7.5ft long sashes costing \$ 40.00 and guarantees satisfaction: if you’re not satisfied send it back for a full refund.
- Gettysburg Flag offers tri-color sashes and offers “special prices” for larger orders. <https://www.gettysburgflag.com/custom/irish-parade-sash>

**This newsletter is an unofficial publication providing information to members of the Gen Thomas F Meagher Division and others who may have interest in division activities. It is published by Bill Halpin and unless shown otherwise, he is the author of the contents.**