



GENERAL THOMAS F. MEAGHER DIVISION
SPOTSYLVANIA DIVISION NO. 1

June 2013 Highlights

*In Our Third Decade of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity
in the greater Fredericksburg area!*

Special Notice: Our next Division meeting is August 20th!

The Division met as scheduled on June 18th with 23 brothers in attendance. The degree team of Jim O'Donnell, Bill Phillips, Shane Quinlan, John Hogan, Bud Logan and Bill Halpin administered the Lessons of our Motto (Shamrock Degree) to Dan Butler, Dick Dowd, Ken Malley, Dennis Ryan, and Neal Mulcahy.

We recently learned that our division Chaplain, Father Ed Bresnahan, will transfer to Bishop Ireton High School and Father Jerry Wooten will be posted in the Holy Land, where he plans to join the Franciscan Order. We are all saddened to see these two Hibernian brothers leave our division and pray *the road rises up to meet them, that the wind be ever at their backs. May the sun shine warm upon their faces and the rain fall softly on their fields. And until we meet again, may God hold you both in the hollow of his hand.*

Trip for Two to Ireland: **Please do not forget your raffle tickets.** Sometimes they get left on top of dressers and forgotten. Carry them everywhere -- on your person and in your car -- and sell them as opportunities pop-up. Or, as Chuck Payne suggests, email friends and relatives explaining what we do and soliciting their support. Drawing date is 21 September.

Brother John Hogan volunteered to lead ticket sales at the **Lake of the Woods Fourth of July celebration**. This far, Jim McMorrow, Gene McKenna and Bud Logan have volunteered to help at this event. As always, the more the merrier, so if you have the time and inclination you can contact John at jhogan1212@aol.com or call him at 540-972-6243.

Halfway to St Patrick Day Celebration: We have 250 tickets printed, so... save the date!

- ð 7 PM–Midnight, October 12 at the Hospitality House, Central Park
- ð Traditional Irish dinner; *Full* `AOH` Pint Glass for every guest; Great Door Prizes!
- ð Music by Fredericksburg's Celtic band `Moch Pryderi`
- ð Irish Dance Performance and Céili lessons by the Muggivan School of Irish Dance
- ð Call 540-785-8371 or 540-972-5903 or <http://www.aohvirginia.org/FredericksburgDiv1>

Help and Hope for Meaningful Employment Project: Project leader, Brother Chuck Payne, asks that all Division brothers assist in the networking segment of our approach. At our June seminars, our guest speaker was Deacon John Hubbarth (St Matthew Parish). He provided important interview tips and handouts.

Charities: Our worthy Treasurer, Shane Quinn has distributed approved funds to three area parishes supporting the Arlington Diocese Work Camp Program and to St Michael the Archangel and Pope John Paul the Great High Schools in support of our annual Scholars Award. The awards were presented at the school graduation exercises by Brothers Patrick Fogarty at Holy Cross Academy and Bill Halpin at St Patrick Elementary.

AOH Degrees: `You're not a true Hibernian until you've received the Major Degree.` The next opportunity to receive the Major Degree is Sunday, July 21st from 12:00-2:00 PM. Candidates assemble in the Madison Room of the Fredericksburg Hospitality House (Central Park). Candidate fee \$25.

Our Website: Brothers Mike Yearsley and Tom Evans have made significant upgrades to our website. This enables us to get division public information broadcasted to the widest possible audiences. Please visit the new website to see these improvements. The new website is: <http://www.aohvirginia.org/FredericksburgDiv1>

Viet Nam Memorial in Ennis, Ireland: A link to the memorial initiative in Ennis (County Clair) is on the state website. It contains information on how to support this important project that will honor Irish men and women who served and died in Allied service in South East Asia during the period 1959-75. The formal dedication has been delayed until the International Remembrance Day, November 11, 2014. The estimated cost is \$275K; individual donations can be made using links on the project website: (www.TheIrishVietNamVeteranMemorialProject.org).

Coming Events:

- ✓ **July 19-21:** The Biennial State Convention will be at the Fredericksburg Hospitality House. You've all received the information packet by snail mail or email.
- ✓ **September 21:** Trip for Two to Ireland raffle drawing

- ✓ **October 4:** 4-7:30PM Annual St Mary Fall Festival
- ✓ **October 12:** Second Annual Meagher Division Halfway to St Patrick Day Celebration at the Fredericksburg Hospitality House.
- ✓ **September:** I'll be appointing a nominating committee. The committee will solicit Brothers to determine interest in our eight elected positions. All positions are open for nomination; none are pre-ordained. Only the division president is required to have the Order's Major (Tower) Degree. So, give this some private thought through the next few months. It would be beneficial to the division to see some of our newer Brothers step up to the responsibility. We elect our officers in November and install our officers in December.
- ✓ **The Gathering Ireland 2013:** Check out <http://www.thegatheringdublin.com/>

Prayer List: Please keep Brothers Joe O'Connor, Joe Daley and Dennis Ryan, and Pat Phillips in your prayers.

General Meagher Division Attire: As in most organizations, we have AOH specific 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 ball cap. These include AOH Masses, funerals, AOH dinners, State and National conventions, all parades, and other public events. Brothers procure their own green jackets and sashes.

Green Jacket: Several brothers are pleased with this product, so check it out. Call ((888) 322-7469) ask for Rivkah; tell her you're with AOH and she'll waive the \$5.00 small order fee. Imported blazers size 48 and smaller are \$59.00 plus \$12.50 shipping/handling. Prices increase with size. Their website is:
http://blazerdepot.com/pages/mens_blazer/augustagreenblazer.html

AOH Sash: Tri-color AOH sashes are available from:

LAOH Sister Patricia Ankrom. For more information, email Patricia at traceysbydesign@aol.com

Ancient Order of Hibernians -- Trumbull County, Ohio <http://trumbull.aoh-laoh.com/STORE.html>

D. & E. Morrissey. 1978 S.W. 17th Dr. Deerfield Beach, FL 33442. 954-426-3514.
<http://www.hibernians-shamrock.com/donations.html> (**note:** several brothers are pleased with this vender)

At informal events (i.e. Division outings (ball games, picnics, meetings, etc.) the division logo polo or sweatshirts (optional ball cap) are appropriate. Many have already ordered the division

polo and sweat shirts and the ball cap. I'll take orders for Division logo polo shirts, sweatshirts and ball caps.

- ☐ Long sleeve polo: \$22.75
- ☐ Short sleeve polo: \$19.75
- ☐ Sweat shirt: \$21.25
- ☐ Ball Cap: \$14.00

In the Did You Know Category:

Researching your Irish roots online - a guide to some of the best genealogy sites

By KATE HICKEY & JORDANA KOZUPSKY, IrishCentral.com Staff Writers, June 3, 2013

[The 1901 and 1911 censuses](#) are now online and provide a wealth of information for Irish Americans and Irish Diaspora all over the world.

The Internet has shown itself to be a massive asset when it comes to doing preliminary research on your Irish roots. Last August an Irish Voice story showed us just how useful the Internet can be as a professional genealogist traced, Margaret Kelly, the oldest Irish woman in America's, past back to her birth in Clare, in 1922, in just a couple of hours online.

With over 70 million people around the world claiming Irish ancestry, there's a chance that you have some Irish roots. Why not take look? Your Irish roots are only a click away.

We've put together a list of some online genealogy sites that we thought might help you connect with your Irish roots. Here's our list:

[Ireland's National Archives](#)

This site is most certainly one of the most valuable genealogy assets to have emerged in recent years. Here you can look back at the Census of Ireland from 1901 and 1911 and find your ancestors. The censuses also provide information on religion, occupation, relationship to head of family, literacy status, county or country of origin, Irish language proficiency, illness and child survival information.

You can also view business records and national education records.

[Ancestry.com](#)

This site is truly incredible and really needs no introduction. This site can allow you access to records from all over the world. You can search for details on certificates, military records and a myriad of other details on your ancestors.

[Irish Genealogy](#)

This site allows access to the records of the Catholic dioceses of Ireland, and Church of Ireland in certain counties, providing details on baptisms, marriages, and burials. This site also gives you tips on how to start your search and plan a visit to Ireland to search for more details.

[General Register Office of Ireland](#)

This is where birth adoptions, stillbirth, marriage and death certificates in Ireland live. Through this site you can get access to any of these certificates for the price of B10.

[General Register Office of Northern Ireland](#)

Similarly this site gives you access to certificate records in Northern Ireland from 1864 on.

[Ellis Island records](#)

The famous port of Ellis Island has a fantastic collection of records. It allows you to view the passenger manifest, ship manifest and even an image of the ship your ancestor arrived to the United States in. It also has a huge collection of histories, images and other fascinating information.

[Ancestry Ireland](#)

This site provides a service by which their experts will carry out the research into your ancestors and roots on your behalf. This site established by the Ulster Historical Foundation also allows you to do the research yourself they can give you access to birth, marriage and death certificates, gravestone inscriptions, and street directories. They also have detailed town land maps.

[Internment.net](#)

This website is used by genealogists and local historians to help them locate burials. You can track down where family members were buried and learn about the cemeteries.

[Irish Canadian Emigration Records, 1823-1849](#)

This site does exactly what it says on the tin. You can search for your ancestors by name or by specific dates.

[Clare Library](#)

If your families roots are in County Clare then you're in luck. This library website is a wealth of information on genealogy in the area, from list of tithe payments to group memberships and school registrations.

[Belfast Families](#)

This site contains records of 276,000 families in Belfast, apart from the east.

[Immigrantships.net](#)

Here you can search arrival zones boat by boat to find information on ancestors who emigrated from Ireland to the US, Argentina and several other locations.

[RootsIreland.ie](#)

Here you can carry out a free search for birth, baptismal, marriage, burial, death, census, and gravestone inscription records

[Landed Estates](#)

This website allows you to search for information on historic houses in the regions of Connacht and Munster.

In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Bill Halpin, President, General Thomas F. Meagher Division
Ancient Order of Hibernians in America