



Ancient Order of
HIBERNIANS
Irish • Catholic • American



GENERAL MEAGHER'S DISPATCHES

November 2018

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President's Corner:

Brothers:

I am truly thankful an organization such as ours exists in the Fredericksburg area. For the past 31 years we have spread Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity throughout the community. Your dedicated support and participation equals the success of the General Meagher Division!

Beyond what we do for the community, because we belong to a fraternal organization, I truly appreciate being able to call each of you brother. I hope you feel that connection to one another as well. In our membership oath we vow certain duties to our brothers. Including, "I will espouse his cause, give him earliest possible advice and aid him when in distress."

When a brother passes away he needs our support. Prayers for his soul to enter into the kingdom of heaven are the aid we must provide, and hope that they will pray for us as well. I wish to thank Fr. Wooton for celebrating the memorial mass on the 6th and the few brothers who participated. Our widows in attendance appreciated it greatly and so did our deceased brothers.

As November is the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed please remember our fallen brothers in prayer this month:

John A'Hearn

Jeff Fitzpatrick

Michael Lenihan

Rev Fr. John Munley

Lewis M.A. Barrett

William Fitzpatrick

Jim Mannion

Joseph O'Connor

Phil Booty	Richard Fleming	Francis Maxey	John O'Toole
David Coon	John A Glancy	Joseph McCardell	John F Parker
Ed Cranshaw	Donald A Hildebrand Sr	Bill McCarthy	Larry Pratt
Ronald Cullen	Thomas G Leahy	Neil Mulcahy	Earl Smith

John Cunningham

As always, thank you for all you do, God Bless you and I hope to see you all at our next business meeting. We will have a Shamrock Degree and several new men to join!

In Our Motto,

Shawn Lenahan



2018 Meagher Division Charities

In recent months the General Meagher Division distributed more than \$9,000 to our four parishes, local pro-life organizations, Catholic education, and approved AOH charities. See below!



at St Patrick Church



at St Matthew Church



at Birth Right of Fredericksburg

Other donations include, St Jude and St Mary of the Immaculate Conception Churches, the Paul-Stephan Foundation, Mary's Shelter, two scholastic awards for Catholic education, support to four parish work camps, a hole sponsorship for a parish golf tournament, and Project St Patrick.



“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.”

JACOBITE IRELAND

I was recently asked “*Who were the Jacobites in Ireland?*” John Dorney wrote an essay on the War between King James and King William which I’ve substantially edited for *Dispatches*.

The **War of the Two Kings** was the culmination of over a century of wars and strife in Ireland. By the early 17th century the English had beaten the independent Gaelic lords and established political control over the Kingdom of Ireland. Large colonies of English and Scottish, settlers were ‘planted’ in Ulster, Munster and Leinster on land confiscated from the Irish. The Protestant Anglican Church was made the established Church of Ireland and attendance at its services was mandatory. In 1641, Catholics rose in rebellion and triggering a ferocious eleven-year war. This ended in Oliver Cromwell’s destruction of the Catholic land-holding class.

When Catholic James II came to power in 1685, he appointed Richard Talbot, Earl of Tyrconnell as Lord Deputy of Ireland, effectively the governor of the country. Talbot emerged as the leader of the Catholic political interest. He placed Catholics in prominent government roles and re-admitted Catholics to the Army, including the officer corps.

Then, in 1687 James decreed that there would be “liberty of conscience” for all religions. This frightened the English. To prevent James from founding a Catholic dynasty, Parliament offered the throne of England to William of Orange, Stadtholder

(effectively President for life) of the Netherland. William invaded England and James fled to France. The Parliaments of England and Scotland judged James to have abdicated and declared William to be King and his wife, (James’ daughter Mary!) to be Queen.

In Ireland Catholic supporters of James -- **the Jacobites** -- controlled the Army. They occupied most of the fortified towns and cities in the country and declared that James was still the rightful King of Ireland. In Ireland Catholics and Protestants believed the future depended on having their coreligionist as King. William’s followers were *Williamites*.

Ireland became the battleground where the thrones of England, Ireland and Scotland would be fought over. After the siege of Derry, the Jacobites were driven from North West Ulster when they were defeated by Williamite militias. James II arrived in Ireland, along with French money and 6,000 troops, a first step to recover his throne. William sent General Schomberg, and a contingent of English and Dutch forces, to put down Jacobite resistance. He landed at Carrigfergus in August of 1689. After several months of inconclusive battles, William decided he’d have to finish the job

himself. He landed at Carrigfergus in June 1690.

James and the Irish Jacobites saw an opportunity to reverse more than a century of English domination. Outside formal Jacobite armies, marauding bands of guerrillas known as *rapparees*, claimed to be the rightful heirs of the old Gaelic lords harassed the Williamites. The turning point of the war came when William marched south on Dublin with an army of more than 36,000 men. James' forces were outnumbered by about 3-2 and defended at the river Boyne, just to the west of the town Drogheda. When the Williamites crossed the Boyne on July the Jacobite army retreated but was not pursued effectively due to Jacobite cavalry counterattacks. While the Battle of the Boyne was not militarily decisive, nonetheless James fled to France. The Jacobites abandoned Dublin without a fight and retreated west where the Army regrouped in/around Limerick.

William marched west to besiege Limerick. However, his artillery train was destroyed in a daring cavalry raid led by Jacobite leader Patrick Sarsfield. William brought more big guns to bear and breached Limerick's walls. In subsequent fierce fighting in the breach, the Williamites crack Dutch and Danish troops suffered up to 3,000 being killed and wounded.

William moved north and the Jacobites met him at the village of Aughrim July 12, 1691. There the main Jacobite field army was destroyed in perhaps the bloodiest fight in Irish history. Thousands of bodies lay unburied on the hillside at Aughrim for months afterwards. Weakened and with

shattered morale the remaining Jacobites retreated to Limerick. After enduring a siege for several months, Patrick Sarsfield negotiated surrender.

Sarsfield signed the Treaty of Limerick that guaranteed that no more Catholic owned land would be confiscated and no legislation discriminating against the Catholic religion. Soon after Sarsfield's Irish soldiers left for French service in Europe. Known as the "*Flight of the Earls*" known as the Wild Geese.

The ever-treacherous English trashed the Treaty of Limerick quickly confiscated land from former Jacobite supporters and beginning in 1695 began passing the Penal Laws.

The Lasting Legacy

On the **Jacobite side**, memory is complex. For Irish Catholics or 'Jacobites' the war was a great defeat leading to an era of broken Treaties, oppression, and religious persecution. '*Cuimhnigi Luimneach agus feall na Sassanaigh*' was a popular saying in 18th century Ireland ("remember Limerick and English treachery"). James II was mocked by Irish poets as '*Seamus a chaca*' (James the shit), the cowardly English King who had 'lost Ireland'. Today, Irish nationalists, particularly Republicans, tend to be uncomfortable with the Jacobites' loyalty to an English monarch.

On the **Williamite side**, the Orange Order annually commemorates William's 1690 victory at the Boyne on July 12. *Worthy of note*: Battle of the Boyne took place on July 1, 1690. It was the Battle of Aughrim that was fought on July 12, 1691



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//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**, 4 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>)
- **John Tracy**, confined to home with COPD
- **Pat Phillips**, wife of Brother Bill Phillips, recovering from surgery
- **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)



Upcoming Events



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!

November 20: Division meeting

December 7: Ground breaking for the new St Patrick Church

December 8: FFAI field trip to the Guinness Brewery and (maybe) the Irish Railroad Museum in Baltimore

December TBD: Division Christmas Party



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)

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

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. 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.

