



Ancient Order of
HIBERNIANS
Irish • Catholic • American



GENERAL MEAGHER'S DISPATCHES

September 2019

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President: Shawn Lenahan **Chaplain:** Father Jerry A. Wooton, **Vice President:** Dave McLaughlin, **Financial Secretary:** Bob Fitzgerald, **Treasurer:** Jeff Everett, **Recording Secretary:** Bill Vanderveer, **Standing Committee:** Jake Ruppert, **Marshal:** Dennis O'Leary **Sentinel:** Jack Grey, **Webmaster:** John Hogan, **Newsletter Editor:** Bill Halpin (sisconsulting@comcast.net)

If Not You, Who?

The Nominating Committee is seeking men who are ready, willing and able to fill key officer positions for the 2020-2021 Term. If you wish to be considered, email the position you hope to occupy to Bill Halpin (sisconsulting@comcast.net).

President's Corner

Brothers:

The Brexit situation continues to be a major cause for concern. This past week, the British Prime Minister obtained approval from the Queen to suspend Parliament. This move is a blatant attempt to circumvent those in Parliament who desire another extension in order to work out a deal and all but guarantees a no-deal Brexit on October 31st. The consequences of this action, of course, does not bode well for peace in Ireland.

Brothers, it is imperative that your elected representatives understand that a no-deal Brexit is unacceptable. Per Kevin Rooney, contributor to the Irish Central, "Pressure from the US is something the English fear. The role of each American who loves Ireland is to contact your representatives at the national level" (Irish Central, August 20, 2019). Familiarize yourself with the issues and make your voice heard.

Closer to home, and on a happier note, we have several fun events coming up. Our Halfway to St. Patrick's Day Party will take place at and in conjunction with the Colonial Tavern on Sunday, September 15th from 1pm to 5pm. All are welcome to attend. There will be vendors, live Irish music, Irish dancers and food specials. We will also hold the drawing for the raffle for the Trip to Ireland. This event takes place

of the typical Halfway Party we previously held at Lake of the Woods. I hope to see you all there!

On September 29th, the Washington Nationals will hold there Halfway to St. Patrick's Day event. This is a really fun time! Prior to the game, there is a tent with food from local Irish restaurants, shots of Irish whiskey, a band, dancers, special guests (last year Senator George Mitchell was in attendance) and, of course, baseball! Go to www.mlb.com/nationals/tickets/promotions/themes/halfway-st-patricks-day for more information and tickets. This will be my third year going. If you've not been before, this is a great time and I hope to see you there!

Please be on the lookout for opportunities to help out. The success of our Division is dependent upon you! We will need some volunteers for the Halfway Party. There are recruiting events coming up at St. Jude, St. Mary and St. Matthew Church. Consider spending a few minutes talking about the AOH after you attend mass. I will send out separate emails with more information.

As always, continue to pray for those on the sick list and each other.

In Our Motto,
Shawn Lenahan



Your Division Pro-Life Dollars at Work!



John Hogan @ Paul Stefan



Dave McLaughlin @
Mary's Shelter



Bill Halpin @ Birth Right

The Division donated a total of \$2000.00 to these three great organizations



Trip 4 Two Raffle Status

Ticket sales have been brisk, but there still more to be sold. If you haven't contributed some time and effort selling, please do so - only a few days remain. Follow the examples set by Jack Grey, Dan Mulhern and Halfway co-host, Deirdre Payne!



Deirdre selling & working hard @ the Colonel Tavern



Jack and Dan @ St Mary



A Helpful Hint (suggested by John Hogan after a frustrating day at DMV)

In all probability you'll be traveling by commercial air after 1 October 2020 or if you don't have a military ID and need access to a military installation, you must have a RealID. Apply now for a RealID at Virginia DMV and avoid the 2020 rush. Based on Brother Hogan's advice, Lisa and I visited the Culpeper DMV on 14 August. The line was long and I was surprised to learn most people in line were also applying for RealID. You should budget about two hours at the DMV. Expect the wait time to be increase in 2020. Here are the rules:

- You must apply in person.
- You'll need an identity document, e.g. an unexpired passport or U.S. birth certificate)

- You'll need an official document with your full social security number (SS card, W-2 form, etc.) I used a DOD firearms registration card issued to me decades ago.
- You'll need two proofs of residency, e.g. current driver's license *and* a recent utility bill, mortgage document, lease agreement, etc. (you can blackout sensitive data). Both must show your street address (no PO Boxes) and it must be a document mailed to your residence -- not something downloaded from the internet.

You'll receive your RealID (★ annotated drivers' license) about two weeks later



“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.”

“Troubles” May be Brewing

English PM Johnson simply doesn't care what happens on the Irish border. We do! Write or call your representatives in the House and Senate. Go to www.AOH.com and click on “Call to Action” for a “how to” tutorial.

DO IT NOW!





As Fredericksburg looks forward to its very own baseball team, this article may be of interest not only to baseball devotees, but also anyone interested in our Irish-American heritage.

Taming the Bambino: Managing Babe Ruth, winning multiple World Series, and the nonsense authority of **Bill “Rough” Carrigan**. *Irish America*, by Ray Cavanaugh (edited for space for Meagher’s Dispatches)



Left to right: Babe Ruth, Bill Carrigan, Jack Barry, and Vean Gregg of the Boston Red Sox. (The George Grantham Bain collection, Library of Congress / Wikimedia Commons)

To control a brash young Babe Ruth – who joined the Boston Red Sox at age 19, fresh out of an institution for troubled youths – a strong presence was needed.

Enter **Red Sox** player-manager Bill “Rough” Carrigan, who, despite his average size, was a notorious brawler, viewed by many as the fiercest man in a league that included characters like Ty Cobb. Aside from being feared, Carrigan was the only Sox manager to win consecutive World Series titles. He was also respected and Ruth described him as the best manager he ever had.

Carrigan was born in Lewiston, Maine, the youngest of three children. His parents, John and Annie Carrigan, were Irish-Catholic immigrants (Mark Armour’s book *Deadball Stars of the American League*). Carrigan excelled as an athlete at Lewiston High School and later attended the College of the Holy Cross where his baseball coach converted him from infielder to catcher. After two years at Holy Cross he signed a contract with Boston (then called the Boston Americans). His first game was on July 7, 1906.

Nicknamed “Rough” by the press, he used to exchange taunts with the pugnacious Ty Cobb and once “took the ball and slammed it into Cobb’s mouth,” (Derek Gentile’s book *The Complete Boston Red Sox*). Rough was also in fights with Cobb’s teammates, including George Moriarty, with whom he engaged in a notorious slugfest following a collision at home plate. With Carrigan catching, home plate was contentious causing White Sox manager Nixey Callahan to say: “You might as well try to move a stone wall.” Carrigan was also known as a superb game-caller. His .257 batting average was decent, but he wasn’t a power hitter (six homers in 10 seasons. In the “Dead-Ball Era” home runs were a rare event).

In mid-season 1913 Carrigan was selected replace outgoing Sox manager, Jake Stahl. He wasn’t eager to manage older and better-qualified veterans. Although reluctant, he wasn’t hesitant. He even fined a pitcher for failing to make a batter “hit the dirt” when the pitcher was ordered to throw inside.

The Sox needed Rough’s stern authority as team chemistry was lousy. The roster was divided, to a large extent, along Protestant and Catholic lines. Among the Catholic players who drew Protestant disapproval was rookie pitcher Babe Ruth. Carrigan was behind the plate to catch Ruth for his major league debut on July 11, 1914. And, when Ruth began to misbehave, Carrigan made Ruth his roommate to better mentor him.

Carrigan managed the Sox to a second-place finish in 1914 and to World Series titles in 1915 and 1916. Then, at the top of the baseball world, he walked away from the game to spend more time with his family. He returned Lewiston and made significant profits in real estate. Whether he was running businesses or players, he had a knack for success.

Every year some Major League club attempted to draw him out of retirement. Finally, Carrigan rejoined the Sox as manager. The team finished last in the next three years. Rough felt the players were not focused enough on baseball; they were too concerned with “golf, stocks and where they were going after the game.”

In 1946 he was named to baseball’s “Honor Roll,” described by the *New York Times* as “an adjunct of the Hall of Fame”. When Ruth died he bequeathed his former manager a silver bowl trophy. Back in Lewiston he raised his three children with wife Beulah and rose to be President of Peoples Savings Bank. He died at age 85 on July 8, 1969.

This article was originally printed in the October / November 2016 issue of Irish America



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**, son of former FS Jeff Banks. Nolan is recovering from soft tissue sarcoma (RMS). *Pray for the intercession of Father Augustus Tolton*, a candidate for canonization (the prayer: <http://www.toltoncanonization.org/prayer/canonizationprayer.html>)
- **John Tracy**, COPD
- **Joe Daley**, COPD complicated by pneumonia
- **John Hogan**, vascular irregularities
- **Bill Phillips**, undiagnosed right leg issue
- **Brian Kiernan**, VAAOH Vice President, lymphedemic edema
- **Jake Ruppert's** mother, cancer -- recovering from surgery
- **John O'Brien** Hugh O'Brien's brother-- recovering from stroke
- **Jerry O'Brien**, Paul O'Brien's brother – cancer
- **Ruth Pettinger**, Shawn Lenahan's aunt (a Vietnam Vet) diagnosed with inoperable brain tumor.
- **Donna Maffeo**, Joe Monaghan's sister-in-law and his father Joseph Sr. care giver for his mother and uncle (dementia/Alzheimer)
- **Patricia Stephen**, mother of Rusty O'Brien's friend Ann-Marie Sharratt -- 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!

September 15: Halfway to St Patrick Day Party @ the Colonial Tavern (1-5PM)

September 17: Division Meeting: Nominating Committee is seeking men who are ready, willing and able to fill Standing Committee Chair, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary ***or*** Treasurer, and Vice President positions for the 2020-2021 Term. If you wish to be considered, send Bill Halpin (sisconsulting@comcast.net) your name and the position you hope to occupy.



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 waistline).

Tri-color AOH sashes are available from:

- LAOH Sister Patricia Ankrom produces a 7.5-foot sash; satisfaction guaranteed. Send a personal check for \$60. Turnaround time is about 10 days. The sash will be sent to you via Fed Ex or UPS -- signature required. Her address: Patricia Ankrom, 7400 Airport Dr., Quinton, Va. 23141-2400. Email traceysbydesign@aol.com
- Gettysburg Flag offers tri-color sashes and offers “special prices” for larger orders. <http://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.