



Ancient Order of  
**HIBERNIANS**  
Irish • Catholic • American



## **GENERAL MEAGHER'S DISPATCHES**

September 2022

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**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 our 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.



**GET YOUR IRISH ON - IT'S HALFWAY TO ST. PATRICK DAY!**  
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH, 11:30AM TO 5PM**  
**COLONIAL TAVERN – HOME TO THE IRISH BRIGADE**

The General T. F. Meagher Division, Ancient Order of Hibernians in America and the Colonial Tavern invite you to an afternoon of Great Irish Music, Irish Dancers, Great Food, Great Beverages AND the long anticipated drawing for *14<sup>th</sup> Trip for Two to Ireland raffle winner*.

Live music provided by DragonFyre and Sibling Rivalry, Irish dancers from the Muggivan School of Irish Dance will perform, Irish food specials will be half price, a limited number of commemorative mugs filled with an Irish beverage will be available for purchase, and there's no admission charge!

After the two year pandemic hiatus, the Hibernians/Colonial Tavern are at full speed for the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Halfway to St. Patrick Day Celebration. *All Hibernians should be at the Tavern on the 17<sup>th</sup>!*





### President's Corner:

Brothers,

With Labor Day approaching and summer over, there are three near-term events in September that I want to make sure you are aware of so you can arrange your calendars as needed. The first event is the Eucharistic Procession and Adoration at University of Mary Washington in the evening of Monday, 05 Sep, starting at 8:30 pm. For more details, go to <https://www.umwcatholic.org/eucharistic-procession-and-adoration>.

Next, we are quickly approaching the Halfway to St. Patrick's Day event at the Colonial Tavern in Fredericksburg on 17 Sep starting around noon. This is a family event so bring your family and friends down to enjoy good food and drink, Irish music, and traditional Irish dancers. We will also be drawing the winning ticket in our annual Trip for Two to Ireland raffle in the afternoon so keep your phone handy as you may get a phone call with some good news! Please note that we have sold all of the raffle tickets we have on hand, but you may have some tickets still unsold as yet. If you still have some tickets available to sell, please let me know as soon as possible so we can get them back from you to sell them at the Halfway to St. Patrick's Day event.

And third, there is a Shamrock Degree scheduled for our business meeting on Tuesday night, 20 Sep, and I need to get the names for those brothers who will be attending the meeting and receiving the degree that night so we can make the appropriate plans. Please email ([3slashbob@gmail.com](mailto:3slashbob@gmail.com)) or call (540-834-6843) to let me know if you will be attending and getting the degree that night.

Sláinte to all!

In our motto of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity,

Bob Fitzgerald



**Poll Shows Growing Support for Irish Unity (Adapted from *Irish Echo*, August 26, 2022)**

A LucidTalk poll for the *Belfast Telegraph* shows 41% of people living in Northern Ireland want to see reunification of Ireland. The poll of more than 3,000 people indicates that 57% of respondents between the ages of 18-24 and 48% of those between the ages of 25-44 would vote for unity with the Republic.



Every Hibernian must be alert to disparaging tee shirts, etc. and adopt the “if you see something, do something” and challenge store managers to remove the articles. From our pledge:

*“I will not countenance by my presence or support any performance that may reasonably be interpreted as caricaturing or debasing the Irish people, whether in public or in private in song, recitation or story, on the stage or on the screen”*

In Ireland, the Irish Emigration Museum is challenging the negative stereotypes attached to Ireland and its people. Museum researchers uncovered predictive search data (Google, etc.) that shows incorrect and misleading perceptions of the Irish. The most searches link the Irish to fighting, drinking, potatoes and holding grudges. We need to do the same! (Adapted from *Irish Post*, August 16, 2022)



**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** Hibernians at the AOH National Convention in July voted to increase the annual per capita tax by \$4.00/year. The division must follow suit. At our August meeting the division unanimously voted to increase division dues beginning in Fraternal year 2023:

- Brothers who have not yet reached their 75<sup>th</sup> birthday will pay \$35/year.
- Brothers who have passed their 75<sup>th</sup> birthday will pay \$15/year.



*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. There can be neither truce nor compromise.*



## Rose of Tralee 2022

Thirty-three International Roses represented the Irish diaspora including contestants from Ireland, Britain, United States, Canada, Australia and the Middle East.



Rachel Duffy age 24 was crowned the 2022 Rose of Tralee. She is from the small village of Rosemount in Co. Westmeath. Rachel graduated from NUI Galway with an undergraduate degree in drama, theatre and performance studies, and Spanish last year. She also studied at UNC Chapel Hill. She is currently working in a traditional Irish Bar in Moate (Westmeath) and plays Ladies Gaelic Football! She'll return to NUI Galway for her master's degree in Spanish.



## *Little Known Irish Inventions/Inventors!*

### **Sean O'Reilly: Quick Tattoos**

The first patent for a tattoo machine was filed by Irish immigrant Sean O'Reilly, in New York in 1891. O'Reilly was an established tattoo artist and did the artwork adorning some of the most well-known carnival ladies including Emma De Burgh and Annie Howard. Tattooed ladies were big business providing a popular freakshow attraction.

He gained recognition for faster and cleaner work thanks to his electronic machine. O'Reilly died in 1908 and his apprentice Charlie Wagner continued to work until his death in 1953.

### **Samuel Haughton: Humane Hanging**

Samuel Haughton, a doctor and ordained priest, was born in Carlow and worked as a professor of geology at Trinity College. In 1896, he devised the precise mathematical equation that enabled hanging to be used as a humane method of execution. He found that by using the correct length of rope you could almost ensure the human neck would snap, causing paralysis and unconsciousness. This would avoid the grim spectacle of watching the convict strangling to death. It's a system that became known as the standard drop, most famous executing condemned Nazis after the Nuremberg Trials.

### **James Martin: The Ejection Seat**

James Martin was born in Crossgar, Co. Down. In 1934, Martin together with Valentine Baker formed an aircraft-engineering firm. During the testing Baker was killed when the plane's engine seized and he crashed. After witnessing his friend's death, Martin was fixated on safety, especially a means to assist a pilot's escape. He tinkered with the idea of a forced ejection seat with its occupant still seated by an explosive charge located under the seat. Naturally, a parachute was also required.

### **Robert Boyle: Chemistry**

It's widely accepted in scientific circles that Boyle was the creator of chemistry. Boyle was born in 1627 in Waterford. He was educated at Eton and eventually settled in Dorset where he built a

laboratory. He was the first to perform controlled experiments before documenting and publishing his procedures and findings. His most famous discovery “Boyle’s Law” held that if the volume of a gas is decreased the pressure will increase. As well as this, he introduced the litmus test to tell acids from bases and many other standard chemical tests still used today.

### **Robert Mallet: Seismograph**

DUBLINER Robert Mallet’s was born in Dublin in 1810, the son of a factory owner. He studied at Trinity College, graduating with degrees in science and mathematics and joined his father’s iron foundry works. The firm was one of the most important engineering businesses in Ireland. They supplied iron for the railways, the swing bridge over the River Shannon at Athlone and the famous railings that surround Trinity College.

At the age of 22, he presented a paper titled *On the Dynamics of Earthquakes* at Royal Irish Academy. The paper included the first recorded use of the words *seismology* and *epicenter*. Through controlled experiments on a Wicklow beach, he set off underground explosions to prove that energy moved through sand and rocks in waves. From this he created a series of seismic readings.

These readings are what today’s seismologists use to predict the destructive power of earthquakes and arrange emergency evacuations.

### **Ernest Walton: Splitting the Atom**

Walton was born in Co. Waterford in 1903, the son of a Methodist minister. He was sent to boarding school in Belfast and later won a scholarship to Dublin’s Trinity College where he earned a bachelor’s and master’s degrees.

Following graduation he was awarded a research fellowship at Cambridge. He met John Cockcroft and they collaborated on experiments with a goal of understanding and altering the atomic structure. It was this research that resulted in what is commonly known as the “splitting of the atom”. Their discovery won them the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1951.

### **Boycotts**

Boycotts, the withdrawal of commercial support as a form of protest, is the result of one man’s misguided feud with the Irish Land League in Irish land wars of 1800s. The Irish Land League hoped to abolish the status quo of land ownership by rich British lords who extorted money from Irish tenant farmers.

Captain Charles Boycott was in charge of collecting rent from tenant farmers near the Lough Mask, Co. Mayo. The farmers demanded a reduction in rent and when many refused to pay, Boycott evicted them. The Irish Land League encouraged farmers to unite and refuse to co-operate. Soon Boycott was left with acres of land without the workforce. The Irish Land League succeeded in turning Boycott’s name into shorthand for their new form of protest.

### **Hans Sloane: Chocolate Milk**

Sloane was born in a thatched house on Frederick Street in Killyleagh, Co. Down, close to Killyleagh Castle. At the age of 19 he moved to London to study medicine. A successful physician,

he counted the Royal Family among his patients and grew himself a pretty substantial fortune. He became president of the Royal College of Physicians, succeeding Isaac Newton. His collection of books and manuscripts became the basis of The British Library.

It was during a trip to Jamaica when the locals introduced him to a local delicacy known as cocoa. Sloane found that by mixing it with milk, it became a more enjoyable drink. He brought the recipe home to London with him where it was sold in apothecaries as a medicine. Eventually a certain Mr. Cadbury noticed the recipe, and the rest is history — delicious, delicious history.



### *Upcoming Division Events*



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

- **5 Sep:** Eucharistic Procession at UMW 8:45PM – meet at Catholic Campus Ministry, 1614 College Avenue
- **10-11 Sep:** T4T raffle ticket sales at St. Patrick (**Cancelled/No tickets available!**)
- **17 Sep:** Halfway Celebration at Colonial Tavern/T4T drawing 11:30 to 5PM
- **20 Sep:** Shamrock Degree Ceremony at the division meeting 7:30 PM, K of C Hall, 4724 Harrison Road
- **24 Sep:** St Jude Oktoberfest -- Our brothers will manage the beer concession
- **1 Oct:** St Patrick Parish festival
- **22 Nov:** Annual TFM Division memorial Mass, 7:30PM at St Jude
- **11 Dec:** Wreath presentation at Irish Bde memorial
- **12 Dec:** 35th Anniversary of the Division Charter
- **18 Dec:** Adoration at St Jude 3-4 PM



### *Our Division Prayers*



**Keep our brothers, family members and friends in your prayers**

- Jerry Timmons upcoming surgery
- Dan Mulhern upcoming surgery



- Cecilia Murphy, daughter of Booby Murphy recovery from a skull fracture
- Joe Daly, COPD
- Russell McLaughlin: Dave McLaughlin's brother - frontotemporal dementia
- Loretta Larzelere: Bob Fitzgerald's sister-in-law suffering from seizures and Alzheimer's
- Jerry O'Brien: Paul O'Brien's brother – cancer
- Ruth Pettinger: Shawn Lenahan's aunt (Vietnam Vet) 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)
- Brian Kiernan: VAAOH President, lymphedemic edema
- Nolan Banks: Former FS Jeff Banks' son (chemo-compromised immune system) *Pray for the intercession of Venerable Father Augustine Tolton:*  
<http://www.toltoncanonization.org/prayer/canonizationprayer.html>)
- Mary Lou and Keith Bowers: St Jude parishioners/friends of Deacon Aaron
- Alice Wilkowski (stroke) associate of PDP Shawn Lenahan

***Pray for the repose of the souls of deceased Brothers and family members***

- John Hogan: Gen. Meagher Division 2015 Hibernian of the Year, died 14 Feb 2022
- Christopher Grey: son of Brother Jack Grey, died 15 February 2022
- Dawn Forest: Wife of Brother Dean Forest, suddenly on 13 January 2022.
- Bob Phillips: Brother of Bill Phillips died on 30 January 2022
- Lois M. Hanson: mother of Edwin Hanson who died peacefully on 18 November 2021
- Mary O'Brien Gardner: mother of Jill Lenahan, mother-in-law of PDP Shawn Lenahan who died on 12 November 2021

***Send notifications to Committee of the Sick Chair Bobby Murphy ([smurphy823@gmail.com](mailto:smurphy823@gmail.com))***

***Send requests for inclusion in our newsletter to [billhalpin@irishcultureva.org](mailto:billhalpin@irishcultureva.org)***



**General Meagher Division Attire**

***Every brother should have these articles of clothing***

***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 Masses, funerals, dinners, parades, State and National conventions, and other public events.

***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:*** 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. A second source recommended by Major James Dooley Division:  
<https://www.uniformsinstock.com/collections/blazers/products/executive-apparel-winston-mens-kelly-green-blazer>

***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 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, a raincoat/overcoat (and a growing waistline). Sashes are available from:

D. & E. Morrissey (954-426-3514/ <http://www.hibernians-shamrock.com>). The National Hibernian usually has an ad for D & E Morrissey.

Gettysburg Flag offers tri-color sashes and "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.**