

# The ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS

## THE KELLY NEWSLETTER

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VOLUME 6, ISSUE 2

MSGR. CHARLES A. KELLY, JR. DIV. 44PO 01



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**MATT DULLAGHAN**



Happy February! I know the sudden wintry weather has caught many of us off guard. I hope many more of you will be able to brave the chill and join us at our next monthly meeting on February 11th. We plan to contin-

ue with our Irish history highlights and look for a good audience for them. We will also have important proposals, including an updated annual budget.

#### **Think ticket sales!**

We're well into the season – by the time you're reading this, we will have been to several of the parishes, and can always use help on the remaining dates. Check the rest of the newsletter for more our committee's progress and plans for continued good sales.

Last month, several of us were able to take advantage of the exemplifi-

cation of the higher degrees offered following the State Board Meeting in Glen Allen. The details are, of course, a matter of strictest confidence, but I can I highly commend the experience to any brother who has not yet taken the opportunity.

Finally, the Church Hill Irish Festival ([www.churchhillirishfestival.com](http://www.churchhillirishfestival.com)) will be on us before you know it. March 19th is less than six weeks away. Until next we meet, Sláinte!

**NOTICE: 2016 annual dues (\$40.00, over 75?, it's \$20.00) are now payable. Please mail your check to our Financial Secretary, Conor Shiel, PO Box 3841, Chester, VA 23831. Please make checks payable to "AOH Msgr Kelly Div"**

Dues can also be paid at our monthly meetings.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL THOSE INVOLVED ON THE KELLY TEAM  
GREAT EFFORT!

### Upcoming Events

NEXT Business Meeting at St. Joseph Church on February 11th, 2016 at 7 PM.

**Regular Monthly Business Meetings are held at 7 PM on the 2nd Thursday of the month. No meetings are held during July and August.**



*More on the Easter rising of 1916 on [page 2](#).*

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## Division Activities



### Congratulations to our new 2016 Division Officers

From the left: Mike McGee-Vice-President; Mike Dougherty-Compassion&Standing Committees; John Frampton-Sentinel; Frank Flannagan-Marshall; Bill Murphy-Treasurer; Matt Dullaghan-President; Jim Calpin-Recording Secretary; Conor Shiel-Financial Sec. (not present).

## St. Patrick's Festival

The Festival will be held on March 19th and 20th, with setup on Friday afternoon, March 18th. A sign-up mailing will be sent early in March. Please set up some time to work at the booth and enjoy the day.



### Feast of St. Brigid

Imbolc, also known as the [Feast of Brigid](#), celebrates the arrival of longer, warmer days and the early signs of spring on February 1.

It is one of the four major "fire" festivals (quarter days, referred to in Irish mythology from medieval Irish texts).

The other three festivals on the old Irish calendar are Beltane, Lughnasadh, and [Samhain](#) (Halloween).

The word Imbolc means literally "in the belly" in the old Irish Neolithic language, referring to the pregnancy of ewes.

In ancient Irish mythology, Brigid was a fire goddess. Nowadays, her canonization is celebrated with a perpetual flame at her [shrine in Kildare](#).

**Continued at Irish Central.**

## Raffle Tickets

Tickets will be available or can be turned in at each Division meeting. Please remember that the income derived from these sales supports our Division expenses and our contributions to local parishes. The Committee thanks you for your participation.

## 1916-The Irish Rebellion

Liam Neeson will narrate "1916:The Irish Rebellion", a three-part documentary bringing the events to a world-wide audience. The documentary will be shown locally on local PBS station WCVE at a later date.

## History Month

Planning is underway for our next History presentation.

[Home](#)

## The 100th Anniversary of the Easter Rising

### EAMON DEVALERA: AN IRISH LEADER

Foreword: Eamon DeValera was one of the most important figures in the history of Ireland. His relationship with the people of the country was often strained and his attitude and motives have frequently puzzled historians throughout this century. He was born in New York on the 14th of October in 1882 to Catherine Coll (a young Irish immigrant from County Limerick) and Juan Vivion DeValera (an immigrant of Spanish origin).



Little is known of his early childhood except that his family moved from America in 1885 to Ireland where the young Eamon studied at Blackrock College in Dublin and was largely reared by his Grandmother. He studied languages and mathematics and was, like Michael Collins, a student of English Rule in Ireland. The early 1900s was a time of the great Gaelic cultural revival in Ireland as literature, drama, sport and the language of the Gaelic nation were all revived.

The main spearhead of the revival was The Gaelic League which he joined in 1908. He was greatly influenced by the League and learned the Irish language whilst immersing himself in the Gaelic culture. The Gaelic League was an obvious recruiting ground for

the various revolutionary organisations of the time and it was not long before DeValera became a member of the Irish Republican Brotherhood. DeValera was second in command to Thomas MacDonagh of the Dublin Brigade during the Easter Rising of 1916.

The Rising failed and the seven leaders, MacDonagh and Pearse among

them, were executed, along with 9 other rebels. DeValera was also sentenced to death as an organiser of the revolt but was to escape the firing squad because of the confusion surrounding his ancestry (the English authorities did not want to risk the execution of an American citizen).

DeValera was elected as the leader of Sinn Féin upon his release and set about the formation of an Irish parliament (the Dáil). DeValera was Taoiseach of Ireland for much of the fifties and on 25 June, 1959 he was inaugurated as President of Ireland, a position he held for 14 years. He retired in 1973 and died shortly afterwards, on 29th August 1975 at the age of 92.

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*More Easter Rising events to follow in subsequent issues of the Newsletter*

## A Bit of Irish History

### Grace O'Malley-Pirate Queen

In the early 14th century, the **Clan O'Malley**, a great seafaring family, rose to power in Mayo. They ruled the southern shore of Clew Bay and most of the barony of Mur-risk for over 300 years. They were ruthless pirates and terrorised the ships to and from Galway town, taxing all those who fished off their coasts. They traded with some coastal areas of France and Spain and built a row of castles facing the sea to protect their territory. Their coat of arm bore the Latin Motto "**Terra Marique Putens**" (*Valiant by sea and land*).



The most famous O'Malley was Grainne or Grace O'Malley. She was born around 1530 at Belcare Castle near Westport. She was the only daughter of Eoghan Dubhdara (Black Oak) O'Malley and Margaret or Maeve Ní Mháille. She is commonly known by her Irish nickname Granuaile, or Gráinne ni Mhaille, a name reputed to come from the Irish for bald (Mhaol). According to legend, Grannie, as a young girl, wanted to join her father on the sea and travel with him to Spain. Her mother disagreed, saying she was a girl and not a sailor. Grainne shaved off her hair to disguise herself as a boy. Her father gave in, and so Grainne got on board and became Grainne Mhaol.

When her father died, Granule inherited his large shipping and 'trading business' and became

Queen of Umail, chieftain of the Ó Máille clan.

In 1546, Grainne, who was then 15 years old, married Donal O'Flaherty, son of the Clan O'Flaherty chieftain in Connemara and ally of the O'Malleys. They lived at Bunowen castle on the coast near Ballyconneely, County Galway. In his company, she learned and polished the art of boarding ships. She bore him three children: Owen (Eoghan), Margaret (Méadhbh) and Murrough (Murchadh). When her husband was killed fighting ashore, Granuaile, aged 23, took over his castle and fighting ships. Then she returned to Mayo with many followers.

In 1566, she married politically again, this time to Richard Iron Dick of the Burke or Lower MacWilliam family, another land fighter. According to tradition, the couple married under early Irish law 'for one year certain.' With this marriage Granuaile gained control of Rockfleet, near Newport. She divorced him after one year, calling out a window to Iron Dick: "Richard Burke, I dismiss you," but in English documents they remained married. They had one son, Tiobóid na Long, "Toby of the Ships," born around 1567.

She gave birth to Tiobóid at sea, and within an hour, when her galley was boarded by Algerian pirates, she, wrapped in a blanket, appeared on deck leading her ships into battle, and so her crew, rallied again, captured the pirate vessel.

She had control of several castles, including Rockfleet in Clew Bay, Doona on Blacksod, Kildavnet on Achill Island, and the O'Malley Castle on Clare Island.

It was there Granuaile lived in summer. Clare Island was her strong-

hold, a place she loved so much and, above all, strategically placed at the centre of her sea kingdom. It is said she used to tie the mooring ropes of her galley to her bed through her bedroom window, ready to board quickly.

From Knockmore, she could send or receive messages and repeat them on other towers on Inishturk, Achill or Doona, using smoke columns or flags of different colours.

In 1580, after 15 years of battles and negotiations, Iron Dick Burke, Granuaile's husband, was granted a knighthood by the English governor of Connacht, Sir Nicholas Malby. He was also given the highest title in Connacht, the McWilliam title. When the two men died, the new governor, Sir Richard Bingham, and his men again persecuted Granuaile and her followers. She made a historic journey sailing up the Thames wishing an audience with Queen Elizabeth I. It is said, when they met at Greenwich Palace, Granuaile refused to bow before Queen Elizabeth because she was herself a Queen, and not a subject of the Queen of England. The two women spoke in Latin and came to an agreement. Queen Elisabeth I released her sons Tibbot Burke and Murrough O'Flaherty, and her half-brother, Dónal na Piopa, while Granuaile put an end to piracy against England.

Despite her life full of adventures, Granuaile lived to an old age. She died in 1603 at Rockfleet Castle and was buried in the Cistercian Abbey on Clare Island.

After her death, she became an Irish folk hero of almost legendary status.

*With permission:*

**Brian Hoban**

[www.thewildgeese.irish](http://www.thewildgeese.irish)

## OTHER

# St. Patrick's Day will be here soon!



## Prayer List

**Sherry Glover**-Wife of Jim Glover

**Matt McGuire's** father, Edward, diagnosed with Alzheimer's

**Mike McHugh's** son, Patrick, doing well after his recent hospitalization.

**Kevin Hogan's** mother, Louise, on the passing of his father; also his sister who is recovering from surgery

**Mike Dougherty** and also his wife, Diana, who is recovering from the shingles; Mike's daughter-in-law Gale, who is recovering from

heart bypass surgery and has kidney failure; also Mike's brother-in-law James Cramsie

**Brian McLaughlin's** parents Martin and Maryann.

**Rick Brennan's** wife.

**Greg Riley's** wife Sandra, recovering from surgery

**Frank King's** mother, Emma, having health issues

## In Memorium

**Bonnie Walsh**-mother of Kevin Walsh

**Irene McGee**-Wife of Past President Michael McGee

**Yolanda Savelli**-Sister of Diana Dougherty

**Kathleen Rodenburg**-Wife of Brother George Rodenburg

**Patrick Hogan**-Kevin Hogan's father

**Elwanda Cart**-Glenda King's mother

**Ray Olson's** sister

**God grant them eternal rest**



## CLOSING THOUGHT/PRAYER

Hail glorious Saint Patrick,  
we honor thy name

Tho' Erin may claim thee, the  
world knows thy fame

The faith of our fathers is our  
treasure too

How holy that faith that they  
learned from you

Through crosses and trials its

fires burn bright

It shows us the way, the truth  
and the light

Great Saint intercede, that we  
always may be

Devoted and loyal true chil-  
dren of our heavenly father

And the Blessed Mother and  
thee

Our faith and devotion be  
ever like thine

Our thoughts be of Jesus,  
Our hearts, minds and souls  
be his shrine

And when to the end of life's  
path we have trod

Be near and intercede for us  
great bishop of God



## 2016 Division Officers

President-Matthew Dullaghan  
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Vice President-Mike McGee  
[Mike.andirene@verizon.net](mailto:Mike.andirene@verizon.net)

Treasurer-Bill Murphy  
[wpmurphy5671@aol.com](mailto:wpmurphy5671@aol.com)

Recording Secretary-James Calpin  
[jcalpin@verizon.net](mailto:jcalpin@verizon.net)

Financial Sec.-Conor Shiel  
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Standing Committee-Mike Dougherty  
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Marshall-Frank Flannagan  
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Sentinel-John Frampton  
[firemedic45@comcast.net](mailto:firemedic45@comcast.net)

Compassion Committee-Mike Dougherty  
[dianadougherty46@yahoo.com](mailto:dianadougherty46@yahoo.com)

The Msgr. Charles Kelly, Jr. Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians was formed in December, 2009 and conducted it's first meeting on January 21, 2010 at St. John Neumann Church, Powhatan, Virginia. The next few meetings were taken up with election of officers and the many procedural items needed to get our group started.

Since that time we continue to grow, adding new members and supporting and donating to Catholic schools and Churches in the area, in line with our commitment to Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity.

For Further Information:

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

[WWW.AOHKELLY.ORG](http://WWW.AOHKELLY.ORG)

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## THE IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER

Take into consideration all those on our prayer list as well as those among the faithful departed. We are supporting the Knights of Columbus at St. John Neumann parish with their rosary tabulation ( one million rosaries is the K of C goal). As our past state president used to encour-

age us, "Pray the Rosary." We have a LOT to pray for and pray about. In addition to those mentioned above we have **a lot at stake in this upcoming election in November**. I hope the US Constitution and the part about religious freedom still applies.



## Links

[AOH National](#)

[Irish Museum-DC](#)

Ancient Order of Hibernians

[AOH Virginia](#)

[The Wild Geese](#)

Msgr Charles A. Kelly, Jr. Division

[AOH Kelly](#)

[Irish Times](#)

2480 Batterson Road

[AOH Dooley](#)

[Irish Echo](#)

Powhatan, VA 23139

[Irish Culture and Customs](#)

[Sew Fabulous Embroidery](#)

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