

## October 2015 Division Newsletter



# Ancient Order of Hibernians Msgr. Charles A. Kelly Division

## President's Message



**Conor Shiel  
Division President**

of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity.

The busy season is again upon us! Until the end of the year, our division will be discussing, proposing and implementing ideas for fundraising, division activities and election of new officers. We look for fresh ideas from you to continue our goals

**Our next Division meeting is scheduled for October 8th at 7 PM at St. Joseph's Church.**

Did you go anywhere interesting this past year? Maybe Ireland? Let us know and we'll post it to the Kelly Division Newsletter!

## 2015 Division Officers

### **President**

-Conor Shiel  
*catholicconor@aol.com*

### **Vice-President**

-Jack Simila  
*jacksimila@gmail.com*

### **Financial Secretary**

-Matt Dullaghan  
*mdullaghan@comcast.net*

### **Treasurer**

-Bill Murphy  
*wpmurphy5671@aol.com*

### **Recording Secretary**

-Jim Calpin

## Upcoming Events

### **Central Virginia Celtic Festival and Highland Games**

Get ready for the [Celtic Festival](#)! The dates are; setup on the afternoon of the 23rd and the Festival on

October 24th & 25th at the Richmond Raceway Complex. Please set aside some time to help out at the booth to make it another success!

You should have received another reminder before the October meeting.

**We need more helpers on Sunday, October 25th, too!**

***Remember, we'll be starting our 2015-16 Raffle Ticket sales that weekend, too!***

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### **Raffle Ticket Season**

Plans are underway for the 2015-16 "Trip to Ireland" raffle ticket sales. Thanks to all brothers for your sales efforts for 2014-15, which was our most successful effort to date. Let's make this ticket season even better!

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### **Officer Elections for 2016**

Please consider how you can serve the division as an elected officer next year. A nominating committee is being planned and will be discussed at the October Meeting.

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### **Sick List and In Memorium**

Please let our Newsletter editor know of any additions and deletions to the proper list.

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## [Recent Events](#)

### **The 1916 Rising in Pictures**

The Digital Repository of Ireland has launched the Royal Irish Academy collection of photographs of

*jcalpin@verizon.net*

### **Compassion & Standing Committee Chairman**

-Mike Dougherty  
*dianadougherty46@yahoo.com*

### **Sentinel**

-Bob Donovan  
*startrue33@yahoo.com*

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### **Prayer List**

**Sherry Glover**, wife of our newest member, Jim Glover, diagnosed with cancer.

**Matt McGuire's** father, Edward, who is diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease

**Michael McHugh's** son, Patrick who is hospitalized.

**Kevin Hogan's** mother, Louise, is in need of our prayers as Kevin's father has recently passed away.

Also, Kevin's 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.

**Sonny Dorish's** wife, Cheryl, recovering from illness.

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***Please notify Mike Dougherty of those in need of our prayers or to update a listing***

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Dublin City Center shortly after the 1916 Rebellion.  
You can view the pictures and accompanying text at [IrishCentral](#).

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## Ongoing Events

### Ancestral Maps



Ancestral Maps of Ireland are now available for purchase by Division members. The cost, for members only, is \$13.00 per map. We will be selling these maps at all of our events this year. Please contact Dan Harrington at **804-938-8238** to reserve you copy.

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### Ladies AOH Sashes and Membership

AOH sashes can be ordered from the The Ladies AOH-Adele Clark Division. Contacts are: Patricia Ankrom-President (804-932-3331 or email: [traceybydesign@aol.com](mailto:traceybydesign@aol.com)) or Lucy Strutton-VP (804-326-6543 or email: [lulub62764@aol.com](mailto:lulub62764@aol.com)). Individual sashes are \$60 each. For a minimum order of ten (10) the price is \$40 each.

Also, Patricia has four used sashes available for \$40 each. You can contact her for details.

The Adel Clark LAOH meets at O'Toole's at 10:00 AM on the first Saturday of the month. If your spouse is interested in joining, please have her call Patricia at the contact number above.

**And they don't have to be Irish!!!**

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### Green Blazers

### 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

**Michael Kelly**-James Dunn's brother-in-law

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

**Ray Olson's** sister

*God grant them eternal rest*



Visit Deirdre Noonan at **Sew Fabulous Embroidery** on the link above to order AOH and other Irish apparel. She has a wide selection to choose from that can be embroidered with the Kelly Division AOH logo and your name.

***Don't forget that the Division receives a portion your Sew Fabulous Embroidery purchases!!!***

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### **Irish History for 2015**

Visit [Irish History](#) by the month.

See notable events that occurred from January 1710 to now.

Blazers (Augusta Green) can be ordered through "Men's Warehouse", located at 11500 Midlothian Turnpike, adjacent to Chesterfield Towne Center - (804)794-9321. Single jacket purchase is \$179.00. An order of four or more costs \$79.00 each. Delivery is 6-8 weeks.

Brought to you by ["Irish Culture and Customs"](#)



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## [A Little Irish History](#)

### **The Shillelagh**

What has been mistakenly called a shillelagh all these years was once a very popular weapon in 19th-century London. Very handy to have - but not something the Irish would have used at that time, or earlier. Their weapon of choice would have been a cane made from oak, blackthorn, ash or holly.

Known by many names, including *bata* in Gaelic - which means, fighting stick - the original cane gets its name from the Shillelagh Forest in County Wicklow. The forest was once famous for its massive stands of fine oaks. Sadly, most of them were cut down and exported and, when you see how few trees remain in Ireland, there's little comfort in knowing that many famous buildings in Western Europe were built with Irish imported oak.



In his wonderful book on Irish folklore, Padraic Colum quotes John Banim in this description of a mansion from his novel *The Croppy*: "solidly wainscoted with Shillelagh oak against which (as is said of the woodwork of Westminster Hall, also reputed Irish) the venomous spider of England durst not affix his web."

Curiously, it was from the pen of an English writer who, on seeing an oak cane and knowing where it came from, coined the term Shillelagh. Eventually, it became synonymous for any Irish walking stick.

Sometimes, the knob on the end was hollowed out and filled with molten lead; this was known as a "loaded stick." However, in sticks made of blackthorn, the knob was actually the root and it would not have been necessary to "load" it because it could pack a significant whack!

The bark is left on for added toughness and often a metal ferrule is secured at the end opposite of the knob. To keep the wood from splitting during the drying process, sticks were often buried in a manure pile, or smeared with butter and placed in the chimney to cure.

Folklorist Padraic Colum says the shillelagh should not be considered a symbol of Ireland but a badge of honor for those who carried it. When they were very young, Irish boys were exposed to the traditions of the bata, and when they came of age, to carry a stick was viewed as a passage into manhood.



From Irish [Culture and Customs](#).

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