



THE KELLY NEWSLETTER

Msgr. Charles A. Kelly, Jr. Division 44PO010007

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2022
Division President's Message

Matt Dullaghan



Brothers:

For many years, we would now be in the thick of planning for the Central Virginia Celtic Festival & Highland Games, but after a couple of couple of years of COVID cancellations, this year fell victim to problems with re-establishing the venue. The event, of course, has traditionally served as the kick-off for ticket sales for the Trip-to-Ireland Raffle. We hope to have more details about the start of sales soon.

Our worthy State President, Brian Kiernan, has advised

that the State Board meeting will be hosted by the Colonel John Fitzgerald Division, at the meeting space beneath the Sanctuary of St. Agnes Catholic Church, 1910 North Randolph Street, in Arlington, Virginia, beginning at 9:00 AM. The Brian Boru Team had planned to be available to exemplify the Major Degree following the meeting, but the illness of two of the team has prevented that.

Dr. John Countryman will return to speak on Spike Island in Cork Harbour. Spike was originally a monastic settlement but was most prominently a garrison and prison during the Irish War of Independence. We are planning to return to an in-person presentation this year, and are working on dates and locations, perhaps at a branch of the Chesterfield County Library, with refreshments and discussion to follow. We will need to get the word out for a successful turnout, and we will need volunteers to organize some soft refreshments and for room setup.

Finally, as we come down to the end of the year, our nominating committee needs your help to plan for next year's officers. Please think prayerfully about taking on a new office or other ways you can contribute to help the division grow stronger.

As ever, we need to keep on the lookout for opportunities to invite new members. Many good Irishmen need only an invitation to join us. I know you will be welcoming to all the future members we will meet.

Business Meetings

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

Meetings are held at:
St. Joseph's Church
828 Buford Road
Richmond, VA 23235

2022 Business Meeting Schedule:

Our next regular Division Meeting is October 13, 2022

Socials at O'Toole's Restaurant & Pub, 13919 Midlothian Turnpike, Midlothian, VA 23114 on the fourth Thursday of each month starting at 5PM.

Retire in Ireland?

Leo Varadkar to tell Ancient Order of Hibernians measures would help make case for US immigration reform to benefit Irish people.

Mr Varadkar recently met president of the Ancient Order of Hibernians Danny O'Connell in Dublin about the proposed programme.

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Retire in Ireland?

“Work is already progressing on how the details of the scheme will work,” the Tánaiste will tell the Pittsburgh gathering of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, one of the oldest Irish-American organizations.

Emphasizing the importance of the ties between the US and Ireland, especially set against a backdrop of the United Kingdom’s exit from the European Union, Mr Varadkar will say: “This vital relationship needs to remain strong. Our friends and allies in Washington have stood behind us and have not faltered when it comes to protecting the Northern Ireland protocol and the Good Friday agreement.”

Meanwhile, Mr O’Connell told The Irish Times that his organization had originally proposed the retire-in-Ireland measures “because they make economic sense” and would “keep ties vibrant”.

“Irish people know how vital support from Irish American politicians has been on issues like the NI protocol and the Good Friday Agreement. Implementing these measures helps us keep those support levels high in Washington,” he said.

Further info at: The Irish Times.



News For the Division

At this time, the Central Virginia Celtic Festival has been cancelled.



Ancient Order of HIBERNIANS Official Apparel

All items brought to you by the AOH's official partner, Keltex Imprinted Apparel

Keltex is happy to announce our partnership with the AOH National Board to provide quality merchandise to members throughout the country.

Celebrate Your Brotherhood!
We offer custom quantity discounts for your division!

Visit aohapparel.com

President’s Message:

I hope to see many of you at our next monthly meeting on October 13th.

Until we meet again, **Slainte mhaith agat!**

Upcoming events:

October 13 Monthly membership meeting, St. Joseph’s, 828 Buford Road, Richmond, VA 23235

October 15 AOH State Board Meeting, hosted by the Colonel John Fitzgerald Division at the Sanctuary of St. Agnes Catholic Church, 1910 N Randolph Street, Arlington, VA 22207

October 27 Fourth Thursday, O’Toole’s Restaurant, 13919 Midlothian Turnpike, Midlothian, VA 23114

Div. No. 44P001
1911 Carbon Hill Drive
Midlothian, VA 23113
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A Bit of Irish History

The **Battle of Tara** was fought between the Gaelic Irish of Meath, led by Máel Sechnaill mac Domnaill, and the Norse Vikings of Dublin, led by Amlaíb Cuarán. It took place near the Hill of Tara in Ireland in the year 980. This location was an ancient ceremonial burial site and the location of the Lia Fáil (Stone of Destiny) which was a place of inauguration and the seat of power for the High Kings of Ireland. It is assumed by historians that the defence of this sacred site, which also appears in Irish mythology, against the foreign Norse Vikings would have been a rallying point for many local Irishmen.

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In Memorium



Brother Mike Dougherty passed away on August 6th. Mike was the Compassion Committee and Standing Committee Chairman of the AOH Kelly Division for many years.

Diana says, “*He was a Wonderful Husband*” and she misses him dearly! Diana wanted all of us to know how much our Prayers and contributions meant to her.

Sick List

New update from Jack Simila about his wife Carol’s condition:

Good news, Carol’s drain tube was removed Monday. She has been in the neuroscience ICU now for 18 days and this is a big step forward in her recovery. Not sure how many more days she will be in ICU, and she still has the step down unit and then in house rehab. Carol still has a long way to go but we are moving in the right direction. Thanks everyone for your prayers and well wishes. Please keep them coming.

Dan Harrington-Being treated for Lukemia

2022 Division Officers

President-*Matt Dullaghan*
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Vice President- *Dennis Mulligan*
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Treasurer-*John Frampton*
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Recording Secretary-*Mike Norton*
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Financial Secretary-*Larry Kelly*
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Marshal-*Bob Cavanaugh*
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Sentinel-*Jim Dunn*
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The Battle of Tara

On one side there was a Norse army from the Kingdom of Dublin supported by troops from the Hebrides, which was commanded by a son of Olaf Cuaran named Ragnall. The other side was led by Máel Sechnaill macDomnaill, who had recently come to power as head of the southern Uí Néill. The latter's force consisted of troops from his home province of Mide (the Kingdom of Meath), probably with strong support from troops from Leinster and Ulster.

The battle ended in a devastating defeat for the Norse of Dublin. Olaf abdicated and died in religious retirement in Iona. Dublin was besieged by the victorious Máel Sechnaill, who forced it to surrender slaves and valuables, as well as give up all its prior claims to Uí Néill-held territory. In the following decade, Dublin was more or less under the control of Máel Sechnaill and the Southern Uí Néill. The Battle of Tara is regarded as a far more decisive defeat for the Norse of Dublin than the later, and much more famous, Battle of Clontarf. Olaf Cuaran was the last of the great Norse kings in Ireland, and following him the status of the Kingdom of Dublin was never the same again.

Our Division History

The Msgr. Charles Kelly, Jr. Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians was formed in December, 2009 and conducted its 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.