



THE KELLY NEWSLETTER

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

March, 2024 Edition Volume 14 Issue 3

President's Message March 2024

Dennis Mulligan



Worthy Brothers

President's Message
In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity:

Dennis Mulligan, President Kelly Division
mulligan.dennis@yahoo.com
March is Irish-American Heritage Month for all Irish and non-Irish people alike. President Biden and Governor Youngkin will continue the tradition of declaring March as Irish-American Heritage Month, which is also great time for Irish Catholic men to join our Division.

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"IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH"

Irish-American Heritage Month is a time to show your pride in being an Irish-American and a Hibernian. Here you will find resources to allow you and your Division to honor and celebrate the contributions that Irish-Americans have made throughout the history of our nation. We must remember that heritage is not a gift you receive, it is a gift you give and we have a duty to pass our heritage forward.

Resources to Support Your Irish American Heritage Month efforts

Sample Irish American Heritage Month Resolution. [Continued](#)



Brothers:
Make sure you check your email in-box for the Signup-Genius links for the St. Patrick's Dinner and the St. Patrick's Irish Festival Weekend.

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

2024 Business Meeting Schedule:

Our next regular Division Meeting is March 14, 2024

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

Dues Notice

2024 Dues are now payable. Dues remain at \$40 and, if 75 or older, dues are \$20.

Please pay at Division Meetings or mail check payable to:

MSGR KELLY DIV- AOH,

at:

Larry Kelly

120 Carriage Point Ln. Glen Allen Va.
23059

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Our annual St. Patrick's Dinner is scheduled for March 10, 2024 at

Toole's Restaurant 4800 Forest Hill Ave. Richmond, VA 23225 at 5:30PM. I hope to see you all there. Please sign in on the SignUpGenius form. If you have problems registering, call Dan Harrington at 804-938-8238 and he'll register you. At the dinner, you can also turn in your sold raffle tickets and money.

The Church Hill Irish Festival will be held on March 16 and 17, 2024. A second SignUpGenius is now available for volunteers to sign in for the Irish Festival. We will need help to run the booth, recruit new members and sell raffle tickets. Also, we will need help to set up the booth on Friday, March 15, 2024. Be there at 5PM with Larry Kelly, and on Sunday, March 17, to close down the booth with Larry. A special thanks to Brother Jack Simila, who has done a great job as Chairman of our annual raffle ticket sale.

Our next Division Meeting will be held on March 14 2024, at St Joseph's Church, 828 Buford Rd., Richmond 23235.

We will host the Virginia State Board Meeting on May 4, 2024 at St Joseph's Church from 9AM to Noon. The LAOH will be in a separate meeting room. After the meeting, lunch will be served.

Please click on [page 3](#) for additional info on ordering Irish attire similar to what I wear to Division meetings.. Website: [13Stitches](#)

Upcoming Events

- Kelly Division Meeting**-March 14th @ St. Josephs
- Division St. Patrick's Dinner** at O'Toole's March 10th
- Irish Festival**-March 15th to 17th @ Church Hill
- Kelly Division Meeting**-April 11th @ St. Josephs
- Host VA State Board Quarterly Mtg** - May 4th at St. Joseph's

The AOH-LAOH Biennial Convention

The convention will be held this year in Orlando, FL. Dates are Aug. 7th to the 11th.

Check the link below for the Convention details:

[AOH-LAOH Biennial Convention](#)

A Bit of Irish History

Modern Era of St. Patrick's Day

In 1903, Saint Patrick's Day became an official public holiday in Ireland due to the Bank Holiday (Ireland) Act 1903, an act of the United Kingdom parliament introduced by Irish MP James O'Mara.

The first Saint Patrick's Day parade in Ireland was held in Waterford in 1903, hundreds of years after the first parade in North America. The week of Saint Patrick's Day 1903 had been declared Irish Language Week by the Gaelic League and in Waterford they opted to have a procession on Sunday 15 March. The procession comprised the Mayor and members of Waterford Corporation, the Trades Hall, the various trade unions and bands who included the 'Barrack St Band' and the 'Thomas Francis Meagher Band'. The parade began at the premises of the Gaelic League in George's St and finished in the Peoples Park, where the public were addressed by the Mayor and other dignitaries. On Tuesday 17 March, most Waterford businesses—including public houses—were closed and marching bands paraded as they had two days previously.

On Saint Patrick's Day 1916, the Irish Volunteers—an Irish nationalist paramilitary organisation—held parades throughout Ireland. The authorities recorded 38 St Patrick's Day parades, involving 6,000 marchers, almost half of whom were reported to be armed. The following month, the Irish Volunteers launched the Easter Rising against British rule. This marked the beginning of the Irish revolutionary period and led to the Irish War of Independence and Civil War. During this time, Saint Patrick's Day celebrations in Ireland were muted, although the day was sometimes chosen

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(A Little bit of Irish History)

to hold large political rallies.

The celebrations remained low-key after the creation of the Irish Free State; the only state-organized observance was a military procession and trooping of the colors, and an Irish-language mass attended by government ministers. In 1927, the Irish Free State government banned the selling of alcohol on St Patrick's Day, although it remained legal in Northern Ireland. The ban was not repealed until 1961.

The first official, state-sponsored Saint Patrick's Day parade in Dublin took place in 1931. Public St Patrick's Day festivities in Ireland have been cancelled three times, all for public health reasons. In 2001, celebrations were postponed to May due to the foot-and-mouth outbreak, while in 2020 and 2021 they were cancelled outright due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In Northern Ireland, the celebration of Saint Patrick's Day was affected by sectarian divisions. A majority of the population were Protestant Ulster unionists who saw themselves primarily as British, while a substantial minority were Catholic Irish nationalists who saw themselves primarily as Irish. Although it was a public holiday, Northern Ireland's unionist government did not officially observe St Patrick's Day. During the conflict known as the Troubles (late 1960s-late 1990s), public St Patrick's Day celebrations were rare and tended to be associated with the Catholic community. In 1976, loyalists detonated a car bomb outside a pub crowded with Catholics celebrating St Patrick's Day in Dungannon; four civilians were killed and many injured. However, some Protestant unionists attempted to 're-claim' the festival, and in 1985 the Orange Order held its own Saint Patrick's Day parade. Since the end of the conflict in 1998 there have been cross-community St Patrick's Day parades in towns throughout Northern Ireland, which have attracted thousands of spectators.

In the mid-1990s the government of the Republic of Ireland began a campaign to use Saint Patrick's Day to showcase Ireland and its culture. The government set up a group called St Patrick's Festival, with the aims of creating a world-class national festival and "to project,

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Remember to mention Dennis Mulligan's name when you want to get information or to place an order!

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internationally, an accurate image of Ireland as a creative, professional and sophisticated country with wide appeal". The first Saint Patrick's Festival was held on 17 March 1996. In 1997, it became a three-day event, and by 2006, the festival was five days long. More than 675,000 people attended the 2009 parade, and that year's festival saw almost 1 million visitors, who took part in festivities that included concerts, outdoor theatre performances, and fireworks. From 2006 to 2012 the Skyfest formed the centrepiece of the Saint Patrick's Festival.

The week around Saint Patrick's Day is *Seachtain na Gaeilge* ("Irish Language Week"), when more Irish language events are held and there is more effort to use the language.

Christian leaders in Ireland have expressed concern about the secularisation of Saint Patrick's Day. In *The Word* magazine's March 2007 issue, Fr. Vincent Twomey wrote, "It is time to reclaim St Patrick's Day as a church festival". He questioned the need for "mindless alcohol-fuelled revelry" and con-



**A tough day selling those raffle tickets.
Time to relax!**

Recent In Memorium

Christine Norton Spouse of Mike Norton

Helen Brennan Spouse of Rick Brennan

Brother Charles Mulherin

Prayer List

Brother Dan Harrington: Being treated monthly for Lukemia, CKD, etc. Dan's brother, **Kevin**, has contracted an infection during wiring of a broken jawbone.

Dan's Nephew - Michael Manning: Enduring colon cancer and recently underwent a second surgery to stop infection. Still in hospital due to continued problems.

Brother Frank King: moved to Bickford Assisted Living and is on dialysis three times a week

Brother Rick Brennan: Has undergone successful bypass surgery and is recovering.

Brother Ray Olson and wife Loraine

Brother Mike McGee's son-in-law: Undergoing surgery this month for advanced bladder cancer.

Brother Jim Dunn: Jim is doing well and is recovering nicely.

Sonny Dorich: Leg Surgery

Div. Prez Dennis Mulligan: Recovering from shingles.

Scott Nugent: PP Dooley Div. Suffered seizure and had tumor in brain removed.

IN MEMORIUM

JOYCE, SPOUSE OF BROTHER DANIEL HARRINGTON
IRENE, SPOUSE OF BROTHER MICHAEL MCGEE
BROTHER JAMES CALPIN
GLENDA, SPOUSE OF BROTHER FRANK KING
BROTHER WILLIAM MURPHY
BROTHER GEORGE AND SPOUSE GEORGE RODENBERG
BROTHER MICHEAL DOUGHERTY
BROTHER ROBERT CAVANAUGH
CHRISTINE, SPOUSE OF MIKE NORTON
HELEN, SPOUSE OF BROTHER RICK BRENNAN
BROTHER CHARLES MULHERIN



Ancient Order of
HIBERNIANS
Irish • Catholic • American



2024 Division Officers

President-*Dennis Mulligan*
mullighan.dennis@yahoo.com

Vice President- Daniel Harrington
joydan1073@verizon.net

Treasurer-*John Frampton*
firemedic45@comcast.net

Recording Secretary-*Mike Norton*
mnortonstn@aol.com

Financial Secretary-*Larry Kelly*
jlkelly1@verizon.net

Standing/Compassion Comm.-*Sonny Dorish*
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Marshal-*Sonny Dorish*
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[Sentinel-*Jim Dunn*](#)

Webmaster-*Dan Harrington*
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 Powhatan, VA 23139

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Website:

www.aohkelly.org

Our Division History

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.

Past Presidents

YEAR	NAME
2010	Mike McGee
2011	Mike McGee
2012	Mike McGee
2013	Frank King
2014	Larry Kelly
2015	Conor Shiel
2016	Matthew Dullaghan
2017	Matthew Dullaghan
2018	Matthew Dullaghan
2019	Jack Simila
2020	Jack Simila
2021	Jack Simila
2022	Matthew Dullaghan
2023	Dennis Mulligan
2024	Dennis Mulligan