



ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS IN AMERICA

INCORPORATED
Organized in New York City, May 4, 1836

JOSEPH DUELK, JR. DIVISION No. 1

P. O. Box 337, Monroe (Orange County), New York 10950

Vol. 39 No.11 Newsletter November 2017 Website: www.aohdiv1.org Email: recordingsecretary@aohdiv1.org
Visit us on Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/aoh.ny>



Next Meeting Friday November 10th 7:30 PM

Paddy Naughton Hall, 10 North Main Street, Monroe • (845) 783-0205

JOSEPH DUELK, JR. — Vietnam Memorial, Washington, D.C

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DIVISION I CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 10 Monthly meeting & Elections 7:30M

Sunday November 12 Communion Mass St. Anastasia Church 09:30 AM

Mid-Hudson St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshall installation December 3rd 2-5 PM

Sunday December 17th Christmas party and awards day.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I would like all member to please attempt to attend the Annual Communion Mass and Breakfast this Sunday, November 12, 2017.

We shall meet at St. Anastasia R.C Church Parish in Harriman, NY at 9:15 AM and proceed into the Church as a group for the 9:30 AM Mass. Fr. Michael Keane will be the celebrant for the Mass and then a Breakfast will be held at the Hall following. We have the breakfast being catered by Little Italy of Monroe, NY and our guest speaker will be our own Brother James Kelly.

This is one of the few times of the year that our obligation as a Roman Catholic Fraternal Organization is fulfilled and our presence in the community is seen. I am asking all member to make every effort to support this breakfast and show our support for Fr. Michael Keane our Chaplin in his Parish.

Our meeting will be held on Friday, November 10, 2017, at the Hall and nominations will be open for the coming 2018 Executive Board for the Joseph Duelk, Jr., Division I. This is a wonderful time to think about assisting your Division by taking an active role in the Administration of your Division. We will be collecting Dues for the coming year, please pay as soon as possible so that we can pay the County, State and National Responsibilities.

If you are aware of a member that is presently ill, or a resident of a Health Care Facility PLEASE make a Board member aware for we have a fund to help pay their dues for one year. Any member that is 2 years overdue in payment will be dropped from membership as of December 20, 2017.

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CHRIS CONTE
PROPRIETOR



Brother George Anderson has developed a Food Drive on November 17, 2017, Shop Rite of Monroe, NY. Shop Rite has agreed to allow us to gather food outside the location, attached to this newsletter is the handout that will be associated with this drive. The Irish Community has a History of supporting Food Banks which speaks for those that perished during the Great Famine, once again your assistance and support is needed to make this community based effort a success. The Food Pantries of Monroe, Our Father's Kitchen of Sacred Heart Church, the Monroe United Methodist Church and the First Presbyterian Church will be the distribution

facilitators of our efforts. We will be working with the Jr. Division on this community based program and need some our members to assist in this endeavor.

Ireland 32 Tickets will be available at the December 2017, meeting date of December 8, 2017, please see your Captain or Brother Neil O'Riordan for your tickets.

Please mark your calendar that our Division Christmas Party shall take place at the Hall on December 17, 2017, at 2:00 PM – please advise any member of the Executive Board of your intention on coming and if any of your children or grandchildren will also be attending. We will be awarding the Hibernian of the Year Award and the Hibernian Family of the Year Award at this event.

If any member needs a ride to any event or meeting, please contact Brother Tommy Flynn at 845-782-2345 or tommyflynn63@gmail.com for assistance. If you are aware of any individual that wishes to become a member, please bring to the next meeting or ask any Executive Board Member for an Application of Membership.

AOH DIVISION 1 ELECTIONS:

Our annual elections will be held Friday November 10th at 7:30 PM.

To run for office either be present to accept a nomination or send a letter of intent to Past President George Anderson for the position you wish to hold. Send your letter to AOH Division 1, 10 North Main Street Monroe NY 10950

Our annual Christmas Party will be held on Sunday 17th of December at our hall.

We will honor our Hibernian of the Year with the Jack Quinn Memorial Award and honor our Hibernian Family of the year. Santa told us he will stop by to visit so if you have a child buy an in expensive gift, wrap it and write your child's name very large on it.

Yearly membership dues :

It is that time again, Please mail your \$40 dues check to the hall our stop by and drop it in the lock box by the front door.

Irelands 32 tickets will be available at the December meeting .

The Saint Patrick's Battalion Part I

The St. Patrick's Battalion- known in Spanish as el Batallon de los San Patricios was a Mexican army unit comprised primarily of Irish Catholics who had defected from the invading US army during the Mexican-American War. The St Patrick's Battalion was an elite artillery unit which inflicted great damage on the Americans during the battles of Buena Vista and Churubusco. The unit was led by Irish defector John Riley.

After the Battle of Churubusco, most members of the battalion were killed or captured: most of those taken prisoner were hanged and the majority of the other were branded and whipped. After the war, the unit lasted for a short time before being disbanded.

The Mexican-American War

By 1846, tensions between the USA and Mexico had reached a critical point. Mexico was enraged by the American Annexation of Texas, and the USA had its eye on Mexico's sparsely populated western holdings, such as California, New Mexico, and Utah. Armies were sent to the border and it didn't take long for a series of skirmishes to flare into an all-out war. The Americans took the offensive, invading first from the north and later from the east after capturing the port of Veracruz. In September of 1847, the Americans would capture Mexico City, forcing Mexico to surrender.

Irish Catholics in the USA

Many Irish were immigrating to America at about the same time as the war, due to harsh conditions and famine in Ireland. Thousands of them joined the U.S. army in cities like New York and Boston, hoping for some pay and U.S. citizenship. Most of them were Catholic. The U.S. army (and U.S. society in general) was at that time very intolerant towards both Irish and Catholics. Irish were seen as lazy and ignorant, while Catholics were considered fools who were easily distracted by pageantry and led by a faraway pope. In the army, the Irish were considered inferior soldiers and given dirty jobs. Chances of promotion were virtually nil, and at the beginning of the war, there was no opportunity for them to attend Catholic services (by the end of the war, there were two Catholic priests serving in the army). Instead, they were forced to attend Protestant services during which Catholicism was often vilified. Punishments for infractions such as drinking or negligence of duty were often severe. Conditions were harsh for most of the soldiers, even the non-Irish. And thousands would desert during the course of the war.

Mexican Enticements

The prospect of fighting for Mexico instead of the USA had a certain attraction for some of the men. Mexican general learned of the plight of the Irish soldiers and actively encouraged defections. The Mexicans offered land and money for anyone who deserted and joined them and sent over fliers exhorting Irish Catholics to join them in Mexico. Irish defectors were treated as heroes and given the opportunity for promotion denied them in the American army. Many of them felt a greater connection to Mexico like Ireland; it was a poor Catholic nation.

The St. Patrick's Battalion

Some of the men, including Riley, defected before the actual declaration of war. These men were quickly integrated into the Mexican army, where they were assigned to the "legion of foreigners." After the Battle of Resaca de la Palma, they were organized into the St. Patrick's Battalion. The unit was made up of primarily Irish Catholic, with a fair number of German Catholics as well, plus a handful of other nationalities, including some foreigners who had been living in Mexico before war broke out. They made a banner for themselves: a bright green standard with an Irish harp, under which was "Erin go Bragh" and the Mexican coat of arms with the words "Libertad por la Republica Mexicana." On the flip side of the banner was an image of St. Patrick and the words "San Patricio."

The information was taken from an article by Christopher Minster and www.thoughtco.com part two will be next month's history piece.

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