



THE BRIMMER



SPRING IS AROUND THE CORNER

FEBRUARY 2011

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Cairdeas, Aontacht Chríostaí agus Carthanachta!

Hello Brothers,

So much for the mild winter that was predicted last fall! I'm sure we are all sick and tired of this weather? Spring and St. Patrick's Day are right around the corner, hang in there guys.

I, along with the other elected officers of the division, were honored to attend the Installation Ceremony and Mass for all of the new officers in Philadelphia. The Mass was held at Father Judge's chapel and dedicated to St. Brigid. It was well attended and beautifully presented by Bishop Senior and Deacon Whartenby (no not Jimbo). The swearing in was held at St. Dominic's Hall and it was great to be with all of the AOH and LAOH officers. A couple of our officers were unable to attend so Chuck Walsh and Jerry Spoerl stood in for them — thank you Brothers for stepping up. Turns out our Jerry plays a pretty good Obie — ask him about it.

On Friday, February 18, we will be holding a benefit at Binlids for the Hibernian Hunger Project. HHP as most of us know is a national AOH charity that had its start right here at 87. We'll have some food and some music and all the tips from that night will go to HHP. Please come out and support this cause.

This year's St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held Sunday, March 13. The parade package is \$65 and includes jacket, hat and bus ride to and from. The After Parade Party is an additional \$25 and will be held at the Wissanoming Yacht Club. You can see Brother Mike McGovern about the jackets. Tickets for the party will be available at the club. Get them while they last — best day of the year! There are several fundraisers planned for the parade, keep your eye on our website for that information.

As most of you may know already from the news coverage, our Brother George Lees' car was stolen. This will really impact George as he suffers from cerebral palsy, is confined to a wheelchair and the car is his lifeline to the outside world. Please say a special prayer for the return of George's car.

Is mise inár Mana

Jim

Hibernian Hunger Project

Come out to Binlids, 2171 Wakeling St., on Friday, Feb. 18, to help out this very worthy cause.

Our very own President Jim Lockhart and LAOH Div. 87 President Eileen Smith will guest bartend. All tips will be donated to HHP, a national AOH program conceived by former Div. 87 and County Board President Bob Gessler in 1999.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

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TUG'S TALKIN' HERE

I hope that everyone is surviving this ugly weather. During a recent snowstorm, yours truly got shoveled out of my spot thanks to a few neighbors. After I got out, I began looking for a spot where I knew that I could get out in the a.m. for work, I ventured down to SugarHouse Casino and parked in their lot and walked home. Obviously, a brilliant move on my part!

Not!!!! The next morning at 4, I started walking six blocks to the casino to get my car. The walk was horrendous. Ice and snow everywhere. I get to Shackamaxon St. when I see a car coming. I climb up on a snow bank to let this car go by. When it gets closer, the "gentleman" driving the car rolls down the window and says, "Good Morning, Sir," and continues on.

I yell to him, so he backs up and I ask him where he's headed. He says the casino, so I ask him for a ride. His passenger moved to the back seat while I rode shotgun. As I settled into the seat they introduce themselves – "Jose" drove me to the casino and asked me if I was crazy to get into a car with two Puerto Ricans at 4:15 a.m. In short, I must be!

During another ice storm, Bobby Murphy took a header outside the Club. No, he did not mess up his hair, but he did do a little damage to his face. Tigger, who we all know "smoked" his way thru Drexel and would have been a doctor but instead chose a more lucrative career at getting plastered, I mean as a plasterer, he looks up at the aforementioned Murphy and says, "I think he is using Botox." Classic stuff, that can't be made up!

On Sunday, Jan. 16, our annual Beef and Beer was held at Finnigans. We drank a few beers, OK some of Us drank more than a few, had a few laughs and raised some much needed funds for the Division. My thanks go out to Jimmy, the manager at Finnigans and his staff. When you run something like this and don't get any complaints, we must be doing something right!

Special thanks to "Door" Matt Edgar also to my co-chair, Obie, who did his normal job, taste testing as many Coor Lights as possible! Also, thanks to the Paul Moore Band.

Last Saturday, we attended Tommy Healey's mom's surprise 80th birthday party. Mrs. Healey made a comment that if she knew about the surprise, she would have dressed better. And you wondered where Tommy gets his logic! Enjoy this wonderful weather, talk to you next month!

Tug

NONSENSE...

By Reds Falcon

• Quote: "This would be a great time in the world for some man to come along that knew something." - Will Rogers

• Quote: "24 hours in a day, 24 beers in a case. Coincidence?

I think not." - H. L Mencken

• The speed of light is 186,282 miles per second. OK, what is the speed of dark?

• The word "trousers" is an uncommon noun because it is singular at the top and plural at the bottom.

• Question: Why don't retirees mind being called seniors? Answer: The term comes with a 10 percent discount.

• Sign in a non-smoking area: "If we see smoke, we will assume you are on fire and take appropriate action."

• Did you know Tom Healey once worked as a lumberjack, but he couldn't hack it, so they gave him the ax.

• A "Charlie horse" got its name after Charles "Old Hoss" Radbourn an 1880s Hall of Fame pitcher. He was unable to pitch one day because of a muscle cramp in his arm.

• Amazing home remedy: If you can't fix it with a hammer, you've got an electrical problem.

• When Jim Fenerty was young they were so poor they slept four in a bed. When it got cold his mother threw on another brother.

• An Arctic seal walked into Binlids. "What can I get you?" asked Chewy. "Anything but a Canadian Club" said the seal.



REDS

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THE LEGACY OF JOSEPH MCGARRITY

Joseph McGarrity was born in Carrickmore, County Tyrone, Ireland, of farming stock with strong republican and nationalist leanings. The Ireland of McGarrity's youth was asserting its national aspirations in a number of ways including demands for agrarian reform, agitation for home rule and Fenian revolutionary fervor. In addition to these forces another sinister force that was working for the division of Ireland was taking shape in Ulster. All of these competing forces and the consequences for Irish unity and independence influenced his actions for the rest of his life.



He immigrated to the USA in 1892 at the age of sixteen and settled with relatives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He would later become a successful business man who dedicated much of his time and money towards the cause of Irish independence. He helped fund pro-independence movements back in Ireland including the Irish Republican Brotherhood and the Dungannon Clubs.

At age nineteen he joined Clan na Gael, where he remained a leading light in the organization until his death. He was involved in Clan activities that provided direct support for the 1916 rising via arms and funding for the Irish volunteers.

Worthy of special mention are the following historic events where his patriotism and money played a significant role;

- In response to a request by Padraic Pearse when he visited the United States in 1914, McGarrity provided financial support to the Irish volunteers. He also provided financial support to keep Pearse's St. Enda's School open.
- In the purchase and delivery of 1,500 Mauser rifles and 49,000 rounds of ammunition used by the Irish volunteers in the Easter 1916 uprising. *(The rifles and ammunition were brought into Howth Harbor in Dublin from Germany in July of 1914 by Erskine Childers and his wife aboard their yacht, Asgard)*
- In response to a request by Michael Collins in January of 1921 for 500 Thompson submachine guns, McGarrity arranged for the purchase and delivery of the guns, along with ammunition. *(Most of the guns were confiscated by U.S. agents in Hoboken. A few years later, the government returned the guns to Clan na Gael after payment of a fine. McGarrity arranged to have the guns shipped to the IRA in the 1930's).*

From 1918 through 1922, McGarrity published a newspaper called the Irish Press that supported the War of Independence. He counted among his close friends Sean MacDermott, John McBride, Michael Collins, Harry Boland, Sean T. O'Kelly, Sean Russell and many other leaders of the War of Independence. Padraig Pearse and Roger Casement stayed at his home while visiting Philadelphia and Eamonn De Valera stayed in close contact with him while on his tour of America.

In response to newspaper reports in 1921 in which he was named a plotter in a British government "white paper," McGarrity issued the following statement;

"I have not read this latest English 'white book' and do not know its contents, but if the newspapers state that I plotted or attempted to secure aid for Ireland to drive out England's army of occupation, I assure you I would consider it an honor to be of the slightest service in securing such aid, and I would gladly accept it from Germany or any other power."

(Continued on page 5)

THE LEGACY OF JOSEPH MCGARRITY

(Continued from page 4)

He opposed the Anglo-Irish Treaty of 1921, which among other concessions facilitated the partition of Ireland. He traveled to Dublin in 1922 to assist in mediating a pact involving Collins and De Valera to prevent war. Despite his best efforts at mediation the negotiations failed signaling the onset of the war between pro-treaty and anti-treaty forces.

Following the victory of the British-supported pro-treaty forces and the subsequent partition of Ireland, McGarrity continued the struggle for a free and united 32-county Irish Republic. Again, he used his own money and his newspaper, the *Irish Press* in his campaign to achieve the Irish Republic that so many of his friends died for.

He did not support the founding of Fianna Fáil in 1926 and opposed the party's entry into the Dáil in 1927. And though having christened his child De Valera McGarrity, he irrevocably broke with De Valera in 1936.



In 1939, McGarrity supported the demand from Sean Russell for a bombing campaign in Britain. The Irish Republican Army declared war on England and launched what became known as the Sabotage Campaign, bombing targets throughout the country. The declaration, posted throughout Ireland, reportedly was written by Joseph McGarrity.

The flag given by Captain George S. Anthony of the Catalpa to John Devoy of the Clan na Geal in 1896 at a gathering of 10,000 people in Rising Sun Park in Philadelphia was later given to Joseph McGarrity by John Devoy. The flag was kept at the Irish-American Club at 1428 N. Broad St. Later on it was moved to the MacSwiney Club, 510 Greenwood Avenue, Jenkintown, PA. The flag was donated by the Clan na Geal to the National Museum of Ireland in 1992.

Upon his death on August 5, 1940 in Philadelphia, a mass was held in the pro-cathedral in Dublin. McGarrity remained an unrepentant physical force republican all his life.

McGarrity is buried at Holy Cross Cemetery, 626 Bailey Road, Yeadon, PA

(Courtesy of National Graves Association)

SICK AND DECEASED

**PLEASE OFFER YOUR PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND SOULS OF THE DECEASED LISTED BELOW
(IF THE STATUS OF A PERSON LISTED CHANGES, PLEASE NOTIFY JIM LOCKHART OR BILL KENNY SO
THAT WE MAY KEEP AN ACCURATE AND MANAGEABLE LIST. THANK YOU.)**

Committee for the sick: Bob McClelland, Tommy Meehan, Ted Pusko, Jim Simpson, Mary Daily, Danny Carr, Gerry O'Hanlon, Jack Brown, Joe Ward, Fran McGovern, Frank Gallagher, Lisa Murphy, Bill Ferris, Charlie Mullen, Mike Wytczak, Mary Jane Kaiser, Patty Palowski, Lori McDonnell, Marty Joyce, Pat McGee, Bill Eder, Glen Miller, Baby Boyle, Erin Martin, Dorothy Smith, Jack O'Neill, Bill Glenhill, John Scullin, Millie Hughes, Rich Hrap, Geraldine Garrigan, Joe Fenerty, Tim Murphy, Josie Fenerty, Tom Wallace, Mrs. Dumcheck, Sharon McIntyre, Bob Palmer, Edna Savers, Charlie Fox, Ron Hunter, Mike Kennedy (Chewy), Mike Sweeney, Vince Targlia, Cameron Hames, Jimmy Hanratty, James Nolan, Caitlin Ring, Al McNamara, Ron Riley, John Holmes, Nick Muzekazi, Linda Foley, Nick Gibbons, Chaley Thompson, Eric Murray, William "Moose" Mason, Edna Saver, Kim Bremmer, Francis White, Marie Dougherty, Carol Kowalko, Mr. Winning, Joe McGarrity, Mary O'Donnell, Janice Rafferty, David Rile, Terry Orr, Mrs. Shiepe, Emma Connors.

Deceased: Jack Conner, Charlie O'Brien, Angie Spitzer, Jerry Brennan, Mike Curran, Mr. Joseph Oliver, Jack McGovern, Michaela Harte, Frank Critchlow, Bob Palmer, Danny Kerrigan, Terry Tobin.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Div. 87's Ed Blaney Guiding Star Benefit

The Rolling Tones will headline Ed Blaney's annual fundraiser for Guiding Star, a program that helps women who have decided NOT to have abortions.

When: Saturday, Feb. 26, 7:30 to 11:30 p.m.

Where: Pilsudski Fraternal Organization, Belgrade and Ontario Streets (215-634-8903)

Tickets: \$35 donation includes buffet and open bar

Help Ed raised money for a well-deserving cause while enjoying the music made famous by "The World's Greatest Rock 'n' Roll Band."

St. Patrick's Day Parade Package

Brother Mike McGovern will be at Binlids on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays for the next couple of weeks to accept orders for our new Parade Jackets. He will also accept orders at the Feb. 8 Division 87 meeting. The total parade package costs \$65 and includes a jacket, cap, parade pin/ribbon and transportation to and from the event. The parade is March 13, so Mike needs payments right away.

The post-parade banquet will once again be held at the Wissinoming Yacht Club, 5100 Devereaux St. Tickets cost an additional \$25 and include a four-hour buffet and draft beer. Only a limited number of tickets are being sold. They're also available at Binlids.

AOH Retreat Group

Fr. Dennis O'Donnell of St. Joseph's Hall and Fr. Joseph McCloskey, SJ, of Our Lady's Hall host the 6th annual AOH St. Patrick Retreat Group.

When: Friday to Sunday, Feb. 11-13

Where: Malvern Retreat House

Reservations: \$185 donation is requested. Special arrangements can be made upon request.

Call: Bob Haley, Div. 22, 215-620-9588

Winter Coat Drive

Having served honorably in the U.S. Armed Forces should entitle a veteran to many things. But many of our nation's hero veterans don't even have proper winter coats.

The Philadelphia Multi-Service and Education Center is trying to change that.

State Rep. John Taylor is now sponsoring a coat drive for the Center with the goal of providing coats, hats, gloves and scarves for local veterans in need.

Items should be new or gently used and can be delivered to one of several drop-off points:

2901 E. Thompson St.; 1039 E. Hunting Park Ave.;
4725 Richmond St.

MORE EVENTS

COUNTY BOARD MEETINGS

AOH 87 - Thurs, 3/3/2011 at 7:30PM
 (Let's show a great turnout as meeting hosts.)
 AOH 61 - Thurs 6/2/2011 at 7:30PM
 (June is County Board Officers Election meeting.)

NEXT DIVISION 87 MEETING

Tuesday, February 8, 2010
 7:30 p.m. sharp
 Donnelly Hall
 2171 Wakeling St
 Philadelphia, PA 19124

Major Degrees of the Order

The exemplification of the Major Degree Ceremony is open to all formally sworn in members of the AOH, who are in good standing in their Division.

Any officers including, newly elected and from newly sworn in Divisions are required to be degree members. All degreed AOH members are welcome and urged to join in and help us in welcoming our newly degreed members to the Order.

Dress code is business casual. No T-shirts, shorts or sneakers. Comfortable shoes are highly recommended.

Following the excemplification ceremonies, there will be a social gathering for several hours.

When: Sunday, April 3, Noon-3 p.m.

Where: ND Div. 1, 342 Jefferson St. Swedesburg, PA (Norrstown area)

Cost: \$20 + \$5 for degree pin (\$10 for observers)

Division 51

Pre-St. Patrick's Day Party

When: Saturday, Feb. 26

Where: Holy Name Parish Hall

Gaul and Berks Streets

Who: Irish music by

Jamie and the Quiet Men

Tickets: \$30 includes buffet by Liberties, draft beer, wine and soda

Contact: Bill Francisco

215-370-2745

HELP THE BRIMMER

We can only maintain an entertaining and informative newsletter with the support of the whole division. Please contact the editor with any announcements, corrections or contributions. His number is on Page 3.

As always, the editor will make every effort to put this together, get it printed and bring the copies to Donnelly Hall on the Thursday evening immediately prior to each monthly meeting (**March 3 next month**) for folding, stapling and posting. Volunteers are welcome and needed.

Boyle Scholarship

Our Brothers at AOH Div. 88 will hold their annual beef 'n' beer for the Ofc. Danny Boyle Scholarship Fund, which helps pay the tuition of worthy Archbishop Ryan students.

When: Sun. Feb. 20, 3 to 7 p.m.

Where: Finnigans Wake, 3rd and Spring Garden

Admission: \$35 per person

CHANGE OF ADDRESS & DUES SUBMITTAL FORM

AOH Division 87

Port Richmond, Philadelphia

Member ID#, 36PH87 _____
Name _____
New Address _____
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Check ___ Cash ___ Date _____

This form must be submitted to the Financial Secretary when you change your address.

Moises Chris Asinos
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Dues: \$30 per Year!

CLUB RENTALS

Hall Rental : 4 Hours

\$225 for non-members
\$200 for members
\$175 for Brick Members
\$35 for bartender
\$20 cleanup

Overtime on rentals is available for an additional \$50, with a 1-hour limit. Weekday funeral luncheons are available @ \$175 for non-members; \$50 for members

- Beer (per 1/2 barrel)..... *
- Liquor (per liter)..... *
- Premium Liqour (per liter)..... *
- Wine (1/2 gallon)..... *
- Soda (case)..... *
- Orange Juice (1/2 gallon)..... *
- Table Covers (each)..... *
- Wine Coolers (case)..... *
- Non-alcoholic Beer (O'Doul's) case... *
- Ice (40lbs)..... *

To arrange for rental of the hall, contact Jim McGinley at 267-671-7513

(Leave a message if no answer)

* Call for prices. Leave a

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Ads Needed

Publishing *The Brimmer* each month costs the Division hundreds of dollars. This cost is offset by advertisements placed in this publication. Without these ads, the division must make up the difference, which means less money for our charitable endeavors. Every member of Division 87 can help. Ask your insurance agent, your mechanic, or your local stores where you shop. This is a good way for your local merchant to help the AOH, while at the same time, gaining additional exposure, as the *Brimmer* is mailed or emailed to 400 members every month. If you know of anyone who would like to purchase an advertisement for the *Brimmer*, see Mike Nolan or Bill Kenny.

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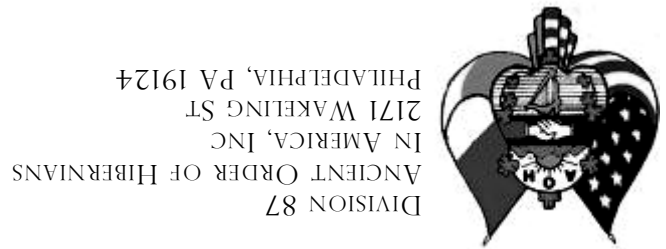
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The Ancient Order of Hibernians is a Catholic, Irish American Fraternal Organization, whose members strive to live by our motto of Friendship, Unity and True Christian Charity. If you are interested in joining our organization, you must be of Irish decent and a practicing Catholic. Go to www.AOH87.com for more information on joining Division 87—Port Richmond.

WE'RE BACK ONLINE!

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