

Ancient Order of Hibernians of Saratoga



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P.O. Box 205
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

www.saratogaaoh.com



Changing of the Guard

Brother Hibernians,

After many years of diligent service, Chris Kelly has relinquished editorial control of the newsletter to the recording secretary. As your officer, I will be taking the reigns for the foreseeable future. The first few newsletters will be a work in progress and I will appreciate all constructive criticism. If there are articles that interest you or topics that you would like to see

covered in more detail, do not hesitate to ask.

Email me at
przedr@alum.rpi.edu

I look forward to this challenge and hope to perform at the highest level for content and accuracy of information. Keep in mind that the newsletter can be a great communication tool for all of our membership and that I am not going to be authoring all of the

articles. Each of us have many gifts to share and I hope that this will serve as a new forum for our division to voice their opinions about a variety of issues and to learn about our division and each other. I thank you for this opportunity and I look forward to serving in this capacity.

Your recording Secretary,
Rob Przedwiecki

President's Corner

The Executive Board reviewed many items at the January 18th meeting. Central to all items was the importance of a membership that loops back on itself to promote and sustain those things we should, as Hibernians. Whether we demonstrate or feel our motto in action or thoughts, being a Hibernian separates us from other organizations in which we may be involved. But it takes dedicated work, by more than just the E-board to keep the Division moving forward. Maybe we struggle to attend the monthly meetings, but paying dues in a timely manner, or stepping up to

do Committee work, or marching in parades, or being at our Family Feis or golf tournament, or meeting at Mass, or taking the required Degreesor...or...or. There are many ways for each of us to support the Division and ultimately yourself in preserving our Irish culture and heritage. What will you commit to do in 2007?

Our short term goals are:
* **Recruit**, ideally so we can read an applicant's name on Feb 1, conduct an Order of Shamrock on March 1, fill our ranks at March events and increase participation in an April 15 Major Degree;

* **Recruit** at every opportunity in parish bulletins, at entertainment venues, in neighborhood chats;
* **Recruit** current and new members to Committees and accomplish specific tasks that close on the deal;
* **Recruit** (or research and develop) program presenters, so our meetings are fun, entertaining and not overcome by business minutiae.

The E-Board is committed to work with each of you to realize these short term goals and to set manageable long-term direction.

Your Chieftain



Satellite Image of Ireland
courtesy of NASA

Gaelic Lesson:

**'Sláinte go saol agat,
Bean ar do mhian agat.
Leanbh gach blian agat,
is solas na bhflaitheas tareis
antsail seo agat.'**

*Health for life to you,
A wife of your choice to you,
Land without rent to you,
A child every year to you,
And the light of heaven after
this world for you.*

Dues are Overdue

As a reminder, the Saratoga AOH Division has a membership dues policy in place to help secure its financial viability to sustain and grow. We pay the membership per capita tax to the State and National AOH even for those whose dues we have not received. We do this because we are close to 100 members and we attain certain benefits at the State and National level based the size of the division (ex. voting privileges at conventions). But this has a limit and could inhibit our ability to function as a division if not kept in proper check. In order to pay these per capita taxes it is necessary for us to process Terminations of

members whose dues are in arrears of 2 or more years. Please understand that this is just a formality and that there is a simple process for reinstatement. Annual dues for 2007 are \$30 and checks for dues made out to "Saratoga AOH" can be sent to the division PO Box #205. Reinstatement costs would cover the current year's dues plus the previous years (maximum of 2 years) per capita costs the division has incurred to maintain continued roster listings for members not having paid recent dues. Annual per capita costs per member are currently \$12. In February we will be sending dues invoices to members whose dues are

still outstanding. The invoices will also list assessments of an annual \$12 per capita tax for years '05 and '06 for members whose dues we did not receive for those years. Happily we see a continued interest from people who are following through with their decisions to become new members, as well as the continued membership of so many existing members! If you know of a member who has strayed from the division please let them know that they will always be welcomed back for reinstatement.

Yours in Friendship, Unity,
and Christian Charity, - Your
division Financial Secretary

Charities

The Division's Charities and Missions Committee will finalize information about the 2006 recipients at our February meeting. We have been somewhat remiss on submitting a formal report to the National and State levels in our first several

years. However, this year we will have a full report, as we can include hours served by members and items donated to recipients, as well as the return of ten percent of our end-of year treasury to bonafied organizations.

Ladies AOH Information

The Division provided a dozen names of interested women to Maura McSweeney and Cecile Leonard to start a Saratoga County Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians(LAOH). Maura and Cecile are from the Albany LAOH.

They tell us that all women who are practicing Roman Catholics and who are Irish by birth or descent, or who are the wife of an AOH member, or the mother of a Junior member are eligible for membership. The LAOH is a separate organization

from the men's AOH. They, too, foster loyalty and perpetuate the history and traditions of the Irish People and their culture.

Contact:
Maura at 893-7353 or
Cecile at 482-9309.

Calendar of Events

February 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				General Meeting (KofC) 7pm 1	FEAST: Presentation of the Lord 2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day	E-Board Meeting (VFW) 7pm 15	16	17
18	19 President's Day	20	21 ASH Wednesday	FEAST: Chair of St. Peter 22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

Looking Ahead → St. Patrick's Week

The E-board and the Feis Committee locked in many details for the sacred week and your family planning. The week will start with **Mass** at 8:30 a.m., March 11th, at the Notre Dame-Visitation Church in Schuylerville. A catered **Communion Breakfast** option will follow.

Negotiations are underway to get a larger venue in Schuylerville to accommodate more Brothers and their families. The Schuylerville Lions' Club will coordinate and serve the +/- \$10 meal. This meal will include French toast, eggs, bacon and morning drinks. Children under five might enjoy the free breakfast.

Our 3rd annual **Family Feis** will be at the Saratoga Springs VFW on Friday evening, March 16th. Most of the family-pleasing entertainment and the caterer have been locked in. With our families, we can sing and learn Irish Dance, while enjoying the lighter fare, the silent auction, and raffle opportunities. The E-board agreed that each member would be assessed for two \$5 adult admission tickets to be purchased, sold, given to neighbors, friends, and/or prospective members. The Committee is looking to the full membership to donate quality items for the

silent auction and raffles. Chair Chris Templin will also be looking for AOH volunteers to secure sponsorship funds and items and to manage the admissions and raffles. A shuttle service to increase parking for non-AOH guests, and other tasks still need to be finalized.

Saturday, March 17th is the **Albany St. Patrick's Day Parade**. The Division is still considering if we will march as a group (the E-Board would like to, but we may have to pay an entry fee). We will not be hiring a bus or limousine to transport us to and from the Capital District.

Presentation of the Lord
Occurs forty days after the Birth of Jesus (Aka. Candlemas Day)
The mass features the blessing and procession of candles

Previously known as the "Purification of Mary"



www.catholicculture.org

Saratoga Ancient Order of Hibernians

**Commodore John
Barry Division #1**

P.O. Box 205
Saratoga Springs, NY
12866

WEBSITE:
www.saratogaaoh.com

EMAIL:
przedr@alum.rpi.edu

For the Good of the Order

This section will feature announcements and other pertinent information about our brother Hibernians and their families. If you wish to add a piece of news for the newsletter, please email Rob Przedwiecki at przedr@alum.rpi.edu

EXAMPLES

Prayer Requests:

Birthdays:

Engagements

Community Events:

Awards/Accolades:

Prospective Members:

Etc.

Prospective Members:

Dan Quinn

John Ryan

Ancient Order of Hibernians in America

The Ancient Order of Hibernians is a fraternal order of men of the Catholic Faith and born in Ireland or of Irish descent who are residents of the United States.

The Saratoga division meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7 pm. at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Pine Avenue in Saratoga Springs, NY.

Information about the Order and our Division can be found at our website. Feel free to contact us about membership or for more information.

**SARATOGA AOH
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