



Commodore John Barry Division #1

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President's Message

Ta suil agam go bhfuil tu i mbarr na slainte. It seems that it is snowing again, what a winter we are having. Don't let the white fool you we are still only less than 60 days from St. Patrick's Day. This coming year looks like it will be a very good one for the Division. We are planning a few more events than in the past. I know that you will all enjoy at least some part of the coming year for we have something for everyone. I would like to thank the members of the executive board from last year who helped make 2008 so successful. The new board will have big shoes to fill but I am sure they are capable. Thanks to Brian Murphy for heading up a fine Installation dinner and as always being the best dressed. I would like to say to you all just sit back and enjoy the coming year but that can't happen. We need you to help make 2009 great. I know there a lot of old adages like many hands make light work but you all know that, I am not asking for you to give your life to the Division, just a little time. The more volunteers we have the less work and time each member will have to do. So let's all work together and have some fun. Go mbeannaí Dia duit.

Installation of Officers

The Installation of Officers for 2009 was held on Thursday January 8th at the Saratoga/Wilton Elk's Club. The hall was filled with member's guests and friends. Many Hibernians from around the region attended including NY State President Matt Nelligan, who officiated the ceremony. NY State Organizer Liam McNabb, District 1 Director Bob Flaherty, Albany County President Tim McSweeney attended along with Division Presidents from Albany, Kevin O'Reilly, Schenectady, Owen Cole and our good friend from Troy, Dick Boland. Albany County LAOH President Maura McSweeney was also in attendance. Our guest of honor for the night was Lieutenant Colonel John Andonie, commander of the "Fighting 69th". The Colonel was made an honorary member of our Division. The other two awards given out at the dinner were, The President's Award, given to Dick Nelson in appreciation for all of his work for the Division and Commodore of the Year, awarded to Brian Murphy. The following brothers were sworn in as your executive board for 2009: President, Steve Curran, Vice President, Greg Gallagher, Treasurer, Paul O'Donnell, Recording Secretary, Chris Templin, Financial Secretary, Chris Bergman, Chairman of the Standing Committee, Dick Sheldon, Marshall, Kevin Quinn and Sentinel, Don McHenry.



NYS President Nelligan, Colonel Andonie, Division President Curran

Online or in hand?

We have posed this question over and over. Do you want the newsletter as an online item or a hard copy mailed to you. An online version would include color photos and be available to download from the website. A hard copy mailed to you is a reminder of meetings and events. Since this, like many other ideas the Division tosses around never truly gets settled, I'm taking a stand. The newsletter will be posted on the website each month. An email will be sent to each member advising him that the newsletter is up. A postcard will be mailed to each member to alert them of meetings and events. This will be a 25% savings for the Division each month on postage alone. For this to work each member will have to give an e-mail address to our Financial Secretary, if you are unable to receive e-mails than you must give this information also to the Financial Secretary and we will send you a hard copy.

Upcoming Events and News

- January 24** NYS Freedom for all Ireland Fundraising Concert
Featuring Black 47 @ the Albany Hibernian Center
Tickets \$20
- February 5** Saratoga AOH Division meeting 7pm Saratoga/Wilton
Elks Club
- February 6** Hair of the Dog Concert 8:30 Albany Hall to support
Albany AOH candidates for statewide office \$20
- March 5** Saratoga AOH Division meeting 7pm Saratoga/Wilton
Elks Club
- March 14** Albany St. Patrick's Day Parade
- March 15** Saratoga AOH Family St. Patrick's Day Party
- July 8-12** NYS AOH/LAOH convention Albany NY

Trip to Ireland

The Division plans to raffle off a trip to Ireland. To enter you must pay your 2009 dues (\$30) before the February meeting. All members with paid dues are eligible to purchase a raffle ticket for \$25. The drawing will be before St' Patrick's Day. The Division will pay airfare for two anytime during 2009 except June 15-Sept. 15. You are responsible for housing, meals and transportation while in Ireland. You must also spend a couple of days in Fethard and give a report when you return.



back row; S. Curran, D. Boland, O.Cole, M. Nelligan, K. O'Reilly, L. McNabb
front row HOTY's B.Murphy, B. Flaherty, T. McSweeney, T. Alberts