## St. Brendan Division #1 - AOH, Berks County, PA Celebrating 40 years of community service February 19, 2019







Serving the Irish American Community for over a century INCORPORATED NOVEMBER 7, 1860 ---- RE-ORGANIZED FEBRUARY 16, 1979 Visit our Website www.berkscoaoh.com

Volume XXX11/Tóirt a Tríocha a Dó---Issue #4/Eagrán a Ceathair---Aibreán/Bealtine/Meitheamh---April/May/June 2022

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Beannachtaí Ná Cásca oraibh" "May the blessing of Easter be with you"

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Spring is around the corner, and things are looking up for a vibrant Spring and Easter Season. Our lives are coming back to normalcy from the restrictions of the Covid pandemic. The pandemic is passing us and opening up social gatherings and events, which we all missed last year. Hopefully, everyone remains

in good health, and good times are in order for you and your families.

The Division as a group, did not actively participate in any St. Patrick's Day celebrations and parades this year due to late notices of parades, and inabilities of membership to march in parades. However, I hope in some small manner, you had the opportunity to imbibe in a little Irish celebration! Our Division did participate in the recent Holy Name Breakfast held at St. Ignatius of Loyola Church.

With Lent coming to a close, I hope everyone is in preparation for the Easter holiday, participated in some soul-searching church activities, and volunteered or donated to a charitable cause. I want to wish everyone a Happy Easter holiday.

This year, we did not select and recognize the AOH Hibernian of the Year Award. There were no exceptional or noteworthy contributions to the Division to exemplify this honor due to limited meetings, community activities, or Division activities. Next year, we should be able to resume this annual recognition of a member's contribution to our Division.and/or Community.

We have discontinued monthly zoom meetings. We are now meeting at *St. Ignatius* of Loyola Church (School Building) on the second Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 pm. This upcoming quarter we will meet on April 13<sup>th</sup>, May 11<sup>th</sup>, and June 8<sup>th</sup>.

We are accepting applications for The Daniel Flannery Scholarship 2022 Award. These applications will be reviewed by the scholarship committee and a selection of this year's recipient will be made by next meeting. This award is given to a deserving student who has the best essay on "What It Means to be an Irish Catholic in Today's Society."

Lastly, we are concerned about our declining membership. We will be making concerted efforts over the next few months to recruit for new members. The infusion of new members will help our Division to continue our community charitable activities, and ensure a continuum of business operations!

> Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity, Kerry Williard, President

**MEETING NIGHT** Just a reminder that St. Brendan's Div.#1 has changed our meeting to the second Wednesday of each month. For the past 40 years we had been meeting on the second Friday, however due to a drop in membership attending meetings we decided that perhaps changing to Wednesday would be more acceptable and increase member participation. We encourage all members who may be interested to join us.

#### COMING EVENTS

04/10/22	Palm Sunday
04/13/22	General Membership Meeting
04/15/22	Good Friday
04/17/22	Easter Sunday
05/08/22	Mother's Day
05/11/22	General Membership Meeting
05/13/22	Our Lady of Fatima
05/26/22	Ascension of Our Lord
05/3022	Memorial Day
06/08/22	General Membership Meeting
06/14/22	Flag Day
06/19/22	Father's Day
07/04/22	Independence Day
07/13/22	General Membership Meeting

#### MEMBERSHIP

All members are reminded that membership fees for 2022 are now being accepted. Dues remain at \$25.00 per year. You can forward dues to:

> Joseph G. McCarthy, Financial Secretary St. Brendan's Division #1, 437 Elmer Circle Reading, Pa. 19605-9116

Please make all checks payable to AOH. Div. 1 Berks. For information on dues payments call Joe McCarthy at 610-927-5224. All inquiries will be held in strictest confidence. We ask you to please, check your membership card and notify me a.s.a.p. if changes are needed in address, phone numbers (land & cell) and email addresses. In addition, all members

who have served in the Military, if your card does not signify

that you are a veteran, please supply me with your branch of

service and dates of service and an updated card will be supplied.

As you may have noticed, the National Office is sending out direct e-mail notices concerning member participation in video conferencing and seminars of importance to the Irish American Community. In addition to mailing the Hibernian Digest every other month. So, it is very important we have updated information on hand.

#### DIVISION OFFICER - 2022



(I-r) 1st row: Joseph P. George Secretary; John J. Dore Treasurer; Kerry Williard - President; Len Weckel Vice President
(I-r) second row: Bob McHale Trustee; John Mackey, Rob Katzenmoyer, Sentinel; Henry Mullen, Catholic Action Chairman; Christopher Costello, Marshal, Joseph McCarthy Financial Sec.y

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#### REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Prayers are requested for following persons who have requested to be listed in our prayer list. Included in the list are AOH members, family of members and members of the LAOH, Berks County: Joanne Marnell, wife of Brother Joe Marnell, Deacon John Murphy, Eleanor Trexler, Michael Riley, Henry Mullen, Kathleen Fink, Julie Miller, Mary Collins, Mary DeMarco, Charles Fritz, Leontine Williard, wife of President Kerry Williard, Dennis Mulligan, Doug Carlson, Carey Carlson, Teri Brennan Carlson, Terry Morrison, Betsy Paolini, Carolyn Healey, Shay Mulligan and all members in need of prayers.

Special prayers are asked for the following deceased members and their families: Rita Mullen, Henry Trexler, Joseph McGee, Dr. Richard Flannery, Kathleen Creed, Joseph P. Riley, Craig Wolfe, Clare Flannery and all the deceased members of the AOH-LAOH of Berks County.

#### NEWSLETTER

If we have learned anything from the recent pandemic, it is the necessity to keep the avenues of communication open when we lose our ability to meet regularly. This newsletter is our main source of communicating with you as well as the National Hibernian Digest mailed every other month, so it is of great importance that keep you informed as to what plans are being made with you, the member in mind.

As with all things the cost of putting our newsletter out quarterly keeps rising with no end in sight. We direct you to the list of supporters on the last page of our newsletter. Thanks to their support our newsletter is made possible. If you would like to join our list of supporters for the first time, our rates remain the same \$12 for patron ads, and \$50 for business card ads.

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

The names of members who are celebrating birthdays during the next three months are listed below. We have acquired the Information from our membership applications, so if there are any corrections or errors please advise.

#### APRIL

15<sup>th</sup> Thomas P. Healey 18<sup>th</sup> James J. Lowe 25<sup>th</sup> Joseph McCarthy 26<sup>th</sup> Deacon John Murphy <u>MAY</u> 5<sup>th</sup> James M. Scott 5<sup>th</sup> Dennis McDonough 12<sup>th</sup> Patrick McCauley 17<sup>th</sup> Shay Caherly 23<sup>rd</sup> John F. Gainey 29<sup>th</sup> Timothy P. Dore

#### JUNE

9<sup>th</sup> Gerard T. O'Neil 10<sup>th</sup> Rory J. Caherly 11<sup>th</sup> Robert J. Devlin 19<sup>th</sup> Ryan Katzenmoyer 19<sup>th</sup> Cormick Costello 21<sup>st</sup> Henry J. Mullen, JR 23<sup>rd</sup> Michael J. Leonard

#### SOCIAL MEDIA

Are you aware that St. Brendan's Division #1 is available on several social media platforms? Listed are the addresses where we can be found:

Facebook - <u>https://www.facebook.com/aoh.stbrendans</u> St Brendan's Website - <u>www.berkscoaoh.com</u> National AOH Website - <u>www.aoh.com</u>

#### MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

As with any organization, membership is the lifeblood of the organization. We at St. Brendan's Division #1 are no different. We are in dire need of new members. Over the past four years we have been lucky to maintain our members and replace some of the leaders who have passed away. But the time has come that we **must** increase our numbers if we are to continue our mission to keep our History, Culture and traditions alive in Berks County. We ask all members to Talk to neighbors, family members, or acquaintances who meet the qualifications for membership, about joining our ranks. Remember, to qualify for membership you must be Irish by Descent on either parent's side, at least sixteen years of age, and a practicing Roman Catholic. If you need assistance, please contact any officers or Brother Tom Healey who has accepted the role of organizer of our division.

#### MOTHER'S DAY MAY 9, 2021



#### FLAG DAY

Celebrated every June 14th in the USA, millions of Americans observe Flag Day by waving <u>Old Glory</u> outside their homes and businesses. Veteran's groups and sometimes whole communities also arrange civic functions and special ceremonies in honor of Flag Day.

This year, get ready to join millions of American coast to coast who will celebrate Flag Day on Saturday, June 14, 2013. As the legend goes, it was George Washington and two other members of the Continental Congress who asked <u>Betsy Ross</u> to sew the first American flag sometime in the late spring of 1776. The young widow was only in her early 20's when she completed the first flag with <u>thirteen stars arranged in a</u>

<u>circle</u>. A year later, the Continental Congress officially adopted the design for the national flag, and henceforward the Stars and Stripes symbolized the U.S. around the world.

<u>The first Flag Day</u> was celebrated in 1877 - the flag's centennial. In 1916, a grass roots movement resulted in President Woodrow Wilson issuing a proclamation that called for a nationwide observance of Flag Day on June 14. Although still not an official holiday, Flag Day was made a permanent observance in America in 1949 by Congress who resolved "That the 14th day of June of each year is hereby designated as Flag Day."

Happy Flag Day! If you're wondering what June 14th has to do with the Stars and Stripes, why the flag looks the way it does, who came up with it, who paid for it, what you can and can't do with it, and how those flags on the moon are holding up...we salute you!

#### <u>1. The first flag was commissioned with a payment of</u> <u>"three strings of wampum."</u>

By 1777, the U.S. was still waffling on the exact look of its flag. This was a cause for concern for Thomas Green, an American Indian who wanted the protection of an official flag while traveling through treacherous territory to Philadelphia. Thomas asked for help from Congress, throwing in the aforementioned payment to sweeten the deal. Within 10 days, a resolution was passed, finalizing the flag as a creation with 13 stars and 13 stripes. The date: June 14th, 1777.

#### The flag has 13 stripes...except when it didn't.

Upon welcoming Vermont and Kentucky—states 14 and 15 into the union, a new version of the flag was created that had 15 stars and 15 stripes. As the U.S. continued to add new states, there was concern about having to continually add additional stripes. The solution: revert to 13 to represent the original 13 colonies, and let the stars do the heavy lifting.

#### Welcome to Dakota!

There have been 27 official versions of the US flag, each with a different amount of stars. A 39-star version is not among them, but that didn't stop some enterprising flag manufacturers from producing one for the marketplace. The reason for the miscalculation: some thought North Dakota and South Dakota were going to be admitted as one state.

# <u>6. The 50-star pattern was created by a high school student.</u>

When Alaska and Hawaii became states 49 and 50, President Eisenhower received thousands of ideas for an updated flag. Almost all of them were of a 50-star flag, including one from Robert G. Heft, a 17-year-old student at Lancaster (Ohio) High, who created the design for a class project. He was one of three to submit the version that was accepted and remains in use today. Robert got a B- on his project.

#### FOURTH OF JULY

Variously known as the Fourth of July and Independence Day, July 4th has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution (1775-83). In June 1776, representatives of the 13 colonies then fighting in the revolutionary struggle weighed a resolution that would declare their independence from Great Britain. On July 2nd, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later its delegates adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 until the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with typical festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.

#### The Birth of American Independence

When the initial battles in the Revolutionary War broke out in April 1775, few colonists desired complete independence from Great Britain, and those who did were considered radical. By the middle of the following year, however, many more colonists had come to favor independence, thanks to growing hostility against Britain and the spread of revolutionary sentiments such as those expressed in Thomas Paine's best selling pamphlet "Common Sense," published in early 1776. On June 7, when the Continental Congress met at the Pennsylvania State House (later Independence Hall) in Philadelphia, the Virginia delegate Richard Henry Lee introduced a motion calling for the colonies' independence. Amid heated debate, Congress postponed the vote on Lee's resolution, but appointed a five-man committee-including Thomas Jefferson of Virginia, John Adams of Massachusetts, Roger Sherman of Connecticut, Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania and Robert R. Livingston of New York-to draft a formal statement justifying the break with Great Britain.

#### Did You Know?

John Adams believed that July 2nd was the correct date on which to celebrate the birth of American independence, and would reportedly turn down invitations to appear at July 4th events in protest. Adams and Thomas Jefferson both died on July 4, 1826--the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence.

On July 2nd, the Continental Congress voted in favor of Lee's resolution for independence in a near-unanimous vote (the <u>New York</u> delegation abstained, but later voted affirmatively). On that day, John Adams wrote to his wife Abigail that July 2 "will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival" and that the celebration should include "Pomp and Parade...Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other." On July 4th, the Congress formally adopted the Declaration of Independence, which had been

written largely by Jefferson. Though the vote for actual independence took place on July 2nd, from then on the 4th became the day that was celebrated as the birth of American independence.

#### IRISH TRIVIA ANSWERS

- 1.. Who has the claim of bringing St. Patrick to Ireland?
  B--Niall of the Nine Hostages
- 2. What Irish island is named St. Patrick's Purgatory?
  - A--Lough Derg
- 3. Who was Ireland's first canonized saint?
  - A--St. Lawrence O'Toole
- 4. Who is said to have discovered America in 545 AD?
  - A--St. Brendan
- 5. What is the name of the legendary Atlantic island that is visible only every 7 years?
  - D--Hy Brasil

6. Who is the Irish hero whose name originated in his boyhood murder of a hound?

- A--Cuchulainn
- 7. Which of the following did not invade Ireland?
  - B--Romans
- 8. Where was the seat of the High Kings of Ireland?
  - A--Tara
- 9. The Irish word for parliament, Dail, derives from the word for what?
  - B--Tribe or land inhabited by a tribe
- 10. What are pampooties?
  - D--Footwear
- 11. Where is the Books of Kells displayed?
  - D—Trinity College

#### FATHER'S DAY JUNE 20, 2021

Father's Day, contrary to popular misconception, was not established as a holiday in-order-to help greeting card manufacturers sell more cards. In fact, when a "Father's Day" was first proposed there were no Father's Day cards!

Mrs. John B. Dodd, of Washington, first proposed the idea of a "Father's Day" in 1909. Mrs. Dodd wanted a special day to honor her father, William Smart. William Smart, a Civil War veteran, was widowed when his wife (Mrs. Dodd's mother) died in childbirth with their sixth child. Mr. Smart was left to raise the newborn, and his other five children by himself, on a rural farm in eastern Washington State. It was after Mrs. Dodd became an adult that she realized the strength and selflessness her father had shown in raising his children as a single parent.

The first Father's Day was observed on June 19, 1910 in Spokane Washington. In 1924 President Calvin Coolidge supported the idea of a national Father's Day. Finally, in 1966 President Lyndon Johnson signed a presidential proclamation declaring the 3rd Sunday of June as Father's Day. Father's Day has become a day to not only honor your father, but all men who act as a father figure. Stepfathers, uncles, grandfathers, and adult male friends are all honored on Father's Day.

#### What Makes a Dad?

God took the strength of a mountain, The majesty of a tree, The warmth of a summer sun, The calm of a quiet sea, The generous soul of nature, The comforting arm of night, The wisdom of the ages, The power of the eagle's flight, The joy of a morning in spring, The faith of a mustard seed, The patience of eternity, The depth of a family need, Then God combined these qualities, When there was nothing more to add, He knew His masterpiece was complete, And so, He called it ... Dad

#### IRISH HISTORY

Who, What, and why are the most asked questions you receive when trying to recruit our friends, neighbors as potential members. With that in mind we are repeating an article we had in our archives which you may find useful in the recruitment process. We hope you find this helpful! The Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) is the oldest Catholic lay organization in America. Officially formed in New York in 1836, it was born in anger centuries earlier in Ireland, after successive invasions by those who tried to master the Irish, and alter their Gaelic life style. Inflexible opponents like the Vikings were fought until their power was broken; others, like the Normans, were absorbed until they became as Irish as the Irish themselves. Through it all, the Irish maintained their language, traditions, and religion. But in the Sixteenth century, a concentrated attack, unswervingly focused on the most precious part of their heritage - their religion - and proved to be their greatest challenge.

Since the time of St. Patrick, the Irish had become such devoted followers, and dedicated champions of Christianity, that Ireland became known as the Isle of Saints and Scholars, sending missionary monks to the far corners of the world. In contrast, the Church on the continent became more materialistic, and protests against abuses of power by some clergy, led to attempts by others to reform the Church. A period of Protestant Reformation swept Europe in the 1500s, marked by Royal intrigues over control of the Church's wealth. Conflicts over which religion could be practiced led to violence in many countries. In England, the Reformation made inroads from the reigns of Henry VIII to Elizabeth I, who finally declared the Church of England (Anglican) as the State religion. At the time of this declaration, Elizabeth considered Ireland part of her state, and even though the Irish didn't agree with that assessment, the Roman Catholic religion, which St. Patrick had brought them, and to which they had been faithful , was proscribed and its clergy outlawed.

The Papacy launched a counter-reformation, and Ireland became a battlefield between the two forces as the Irish, who had embraced the Roman Church, became the target of a campaign to reduce the power of Rome by converting the masses to Protestantism. Anglo Lords in Ireland provided a base from which assaults on Irish religion were launched, and in the conflict, great tracts of land were confiscated and given to Crown supporters who professed the State' religion. They became the landlords who governed the future of the native population. The Irish fought the theft of their lands, and the persistence with which they clung to their religion drove the English to extremes in repression. Penal laws disenfranchised Irish Catholics from the political, social, and economic life of their own country; with their religion outlawed and their clergy on the run, they became an underground society practicing their faith in secret. Not surprisingly, secret societies were formed to protect the values under attack. In various locales, groups with names like Whiteboys, Ribbonmen, and Defenders were identified with attacks on landlords, but each included in its avowed purpose the protection of the Roman Catholic Church and its clergy. As time passed and governments prevailed, some societies were suppressed, but most immediately reorganized under a new name for the same purpose: defense of faith and homeland.

History provides us with the names of many of these organizations, and even limited details of some. We know, for example, that the motto of the Defenders in 1565 was Friendship, Unity, and True Christian Charity, but the secret manner in which these societies operated left few records for modern analysts. As a result, a true history of their times may never be written. Today's AOH with its motto "Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity" is the most recent link in the evolution of these ancient societies. Organized in Ireland for the purpose of defending Gaelic values, and protecting Church and clergy, it is the successor to the secret societies of old. Although the name AOH can only be traced back to 1641, the organization can claim continuity of purpose and motto unbroken back to the Defenders of 1565. The extension of that organization to America came in much the same manner as its birth in Ireland. The rise of the Native American Party, or Know Nothings as they were called, ushered in an era of unparalleled bigotry in 19th Century America. Not only were "No Irish Need Apply" signs evident in major American cities, but legislation, reminiscent of the penal laws was sought against the immigrant

population who, it was stated, diluted American principles, and professed loyalty to a foreign prince - the Pope. The massive influx of Irish, fleeing starvation and disease in their native land, and professing the Roman faith, focused Know Nothing bigotry on that unfortunate group.

After several attacks on Irish and Church property, the Irish immigrant resorted to a familiar tactic. Those, who had been members of the AOH in Ireland, banded together in this new land, and in 1836, formed an American branch of their Order. True to their purpose, they stood guard to defend Church property, and though actual attacks were few and far between, the long, cold, and lonely nights of vigil were many. The early AOH in America remained a secret society, and little is known of its activities except that it provided a monetary stipend to immigrants who arrived as members in good standing from the Irish Order, and they assisted Irish immigrants in obtaining jobs and social services. Quite naturally, the early AOH Divisions were nurseries for the preservation of Irish culture and traditions in America.

In large measure due to the significant contributions of the Irish in defending the Union during America's Civil War, it became unfashionable to be anti-Irish, and the bigoted Know Nothings faded away, taking their No Irish Need Apply signs with them. The AOH, on the other hand, grew stronger, following Irish immigrants as they worked their way across the country. As the need for militant support of their Church dwindled, the AOH shifted its purpose to charitable activities in support of the Church's missions, community service, and the promotion and preservation of their Irish cultural heritage in America. Today they stand, not only as the oldest Catholic Lay organization in America, but as the largest Irish society in the world with Divisions in Ireland, and 49 of the United States.

The AOH in America is partitioned into Divisions, County Boards, and State Boards, and is governed by a National Board elected every two years. The Division is the basic unit in the Order, and membership in a Division is membership in the Order. Even County, State, and National Officers, maintain membership in a local Division. Annual dances, concerts, and parades sponsored by all levels of the Order raise millions for charity, while providing a showcase for the positive contributions of the Irish to every walk of American life. Divisions usually support local charities within their geographic areas, while sending a portion of their monies to higher levels for support of state, national, and international charities. Subcommittees are often established to perform specific functions such as the administration of an annual Feis or Festival, the raising of a historic memorial, or providing instructions in such Irish subjects as history, bagpiping, dancing, and language.

The many Divisions and Hibernian Halls across the country have also traditionally provided a welcome for new immigrants. Here, the unique art, dance, music, and other interests of the Irish are fostered and preserved, making the AOH Hall a home away from home for many. Together, they are at the forefront of support for issues concerning the Irish, such as Emigration Reform, MacBride Legislation, and the Right to Life. They never forget their ancestral homeland either, and can always be found actively lobbying for, praying for, and working for the total independence of a united 32-county Ireland, as their constitution avows: "by all means constitutional and lawful."

The United States-based AOH was founded in New York City in 1836 and traces its roots to Ireland's AOH, which was founded over 300 years ago. The AOH's initial goal, both in Ireland and in the United States, was to protect the Church and clergy from anti-Catholic sentiment. In the 1830's, anti-Irish/anti-Catholic sentiment was extremely prevalent. AOH members guarded the Churches and nearby communities from attack by bigoted organizations such as the "Know-Nothings".

The AOH in America grew quickly during the 1840's as a result of massive Irish immigration occurring at that time. The immigration was driven mainly by Ireland's terrible "Great Famine".

Today, the AOH serves the Irish and Irish American communities through charitable and community service works. The St. Brendan Division helps support charitable organizations in the Berks County area and throughout the world. We foster and promote Irish culture including music, dance, sports, history, and language. Currently, the St. Brendan Division has approximately 125 members.

As always, the AOH is at the forefront of many Irishrelated issues such as immigration and the MacBride Legislation. The AOH's Freedom for All Ireland Committee works for a peaceful and just resolution to the issues that divide Ireland today.

The finest, brightest, and biggest Irish-based organization in the United States welcomes all who are Irish-born or are of Irish descent on either the Father or Mother's lineage!

#### IRISH TRIVIA

1. Who has the claim of bringing St. Patrick to Ireland?

- A--St. Brigid
- B--Niall of the Nine Hostages
- C--Bord Failte
- D--The Vikings

- 2. What Irish island is named St. Patrick's Purgatory?
  - A--Lough Derg
  - B--Inismore
  - C--Clare Island
  - D--Tory Island

3. Who was Ireland's first canonized saint?

- A--St. Lawrence O'Toole
- B--St. Oliver Plunkett
- C--St. Matthew Talbot
- D--St. Patrick

4. Who is said to have discovered America in 545 AD?

- A--St. Brendan
- B--St Kevin
- C--Irish sailors

• D--The Irish monk who sailed with Leif Eriksson 5. What is the name of the legendary Atlantic island that is visible only every 7 years?

- A--Southern Ireland
- B--Inismore
- C--Glengariff
- D--Hy Brasil

6. Who is the Irish hero whose name originated in his boyhood murder of a hound?

- A--Cuchulainn
- B--Oisin
- C--Patrick
- D--Kevin

7. Which of the following did not invade Ireland?

- A--Vikings
- B--Romans
- C--Normans
- D--English

8. Where was the seat of the High Kings of Ireland?

- A--Tara
- B--Dublin
- C--Armagh
- D--Galway

9. The Irish word for parliament, Dail, derives from the word for what?

- A--Conversation
- B--Tribe or land inhabited by a tribe
- C--Election
- D--Politics
- 10. What are pampooties?
  - A--Dances
  - B--An Irish dish
  - C--Gloves
  - D--Footwear

11. Where is the Books of Kells displayed?

- \* A--National Museum
- \* B--National Gallery
- C--Dublin Castle

\* D--Trinity College Library

Answers found in the newsletter - page 5

### SUPPORTERS OF ST. BRENDAN'S NEWSLETTER

Thanks to the support of the following patrons and advertisers, our newsletter is possible. Your continued support of our advertisers will be greatly appreciated

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\_09/22

Happy Easter from the officers and members of St. Brendan's Division #1, AOH Berks County, PA





<u>Am the Flag of the Of America</u> My name is Old Glory. I fly atop the world's tallest buildings. I stand watch in America's halls of justice. I fly majestically over institutions of learning. I stand guard with power in the world. Look up and see me. I stand for peace, honor, truth, and justice. I stand for freedom. I am confident. I am arrogant. I am proud.

When I am flown with my fellow banners, My head is a little higher, my colors a little truer. I bow to no one! I am recognized all over the world. I am worshipped, I am saluted. I am loved, I am revered. I am respected, And I am feared.

I have fought in every battle of every war For more than 200 years. I was flown at Valley Forge, Gettysburg, Shiloh, and Appomattox. I was there at San Juan Hill, the trenches of France, In the Argonne Forest, Anzio, Rome And the beaches of Normandy, Guam, Okinawa, Korea and Khe San, Saigon, Vietnam know me. I was there. I have led my troops, I was dirty, battle worn and tired, But my soldiers cheered me, and I was proud.

I have been burned, torn, and trampled On the streets of countries, I have helped set free. It does not hurt for I am invincible. I have been soiled upon, burned, torn, and trampled In the streets of my country. And, when those whom I have served in battle do it -It hurts. But I shall overcome for I am strong.

I have slipped the bonds of Earth And stood watch over the uncharted frontiers of space From my vantage point on the moon I have borne silent witness to all of America's finest hours. But my finest hours are yet to come. When I am torn into strips and used as bandages For my wounded comrades on the battlefield When I am flown at half-mast to honor my soldier, Or when I lie in the trembling arms of a grieving parent at the grave of their fallen son or daughter, I am proud.