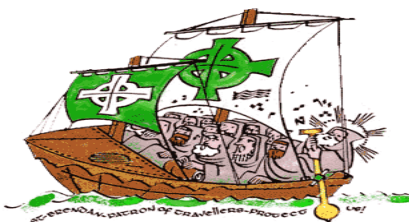


St. Brendan Division #1 - AOH, Berks County, PA
Celebrating 40 years of community service February 19, 2019



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 #2/Eagrán a Dó/Deireadh Fómhair/Sámhain/Mí na Nollaig-October/November/December 2022

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Open

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As the summer draws to an end, we divert our focus on the Fall and Holiday Season, and respective AOH activities. The three main focuses for the remaining months of 2022 will be increasing membership, the annual Christmas Toy Drive and FFA Christmas Fund, and officer elections.

At our last meeting, we had in attendance two district representatives who provided some insightful recommendations to attract new members. Recently, we advertised a member recruitment ad in the St. Ignatius of Loyola Church bulletin. We were successful in recruiting another member. Also, we held a recruitment effort at the West Reading Fall Festival, and distributed membership applications to interested people. We will be staging more recruitment efforts over the next months.

As the Christmas Season approaches, we are going to sponsor another Toy Drive or Adopt a Family in Need for the Holiday. The last three (3) years has been very successful for us to improve someone's life over the holidays with food donations and toy gifts. Donations are now being accepted for this annual event. If anyone wishes to contribute to the purchase of toys/gift cards, please send me a check for donation to me directly or give me your donations at the October-November AOH meetings. You can send your donations to my address at 814 Redwood Ave. Wyomissing, Pa. 19610. My email is shamokin71@aol.com. Also, monetary donations for the FFA Christmas Fund are being solicited too!

This Fall we will be electing new officers. All officers' positions are open for balloting. Please consider volunteering your time for an office. The Financial Secretary's position is in great need to have a new officer in place. Our current Financial Secretary officer needs to relinquish his duties this year. The respective offices do not require much time and effort but require someone in place to ensure our continue existence. Please consider coming to meetings, assuming an office, and help to continue our presence as an organization in our community! Our officers slate will be considered in October. Please send me an email or call me with your interest in an office.

If anyone knows of a brother in need or sick, please contact us. Also, please consider renewing your commitment to come to our monthly meetings at St. Ignatius of Loyola Church. The meetings are the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

As mentioned in the Presidents message the time has arrived when we need new members to step forward and assume leadership roles in our division. Many of your current officers have served in various offices for many years and frankly if we are to continue in the years ahead, we need officers who can offer new ideas and leadership.

It is sad to say, but for many age or physical impairments are playing major role in our decisions to no longer serve as officers. Speaking for myself, it is physically impossible for me to continue as your Financial Secretary and Newsletter editor. It is indeed hard for me to accept the fact that my body will no longer allow me to do activities that were once routine. My body reminds you daily of my limitations and the severe consequences for trying to extend those limitations.

I have served as an officer for just about 38 years. I served as Division President, Recording Secretary and Financial Secretary as well as various other committees over that time. In addition, I served as Newsletter editor for 32 years and Webmaster for 24 years. I also served as County President and County Secretary for ten years and served as A.O.H. State Historian in the 1990's. During that time, I had been blessed with decent health and so many friends who truly shared the enthusiasm of seeing our division grow and flourish. It has been my honor serving the members of St. Brendan's Division #1, but now it is time to step away from my duties as Financial Secretary newsletter editor and Webmaster due to my many health issues. I thank you for the cooperation you afforded me over the years

It is now time for someone else to step forward. Hopefully sooner rather than later.

MEMBERSHIP

All members are reminded that membership fees for 2022 and/or 2023 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.

As you by now know, as division Financial Secretary I am responsible for the direct input of membership information, updating address, phone numbers and e-mail addresses is required before they will issue membership cards for the coming year. The National Secretary has requested that all changes or corrections be completed no later than the middle of November each year.

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 issues of importance asking for your input. In addition to mailing the Hibernian Digest every other month. So, it is very important we have updated information on hand.

POST PANDEMIC NEWS

The way this Coronavirus and its variants is still infecting us, even those who are vaccinated and boosted, it pays to be safe. Continue to Mask-up and wash your hands regularly.

If you haven't been infected yet, believe me when I say take this virus very seriously. I, and other members who were recently among the infected, have a new sense of awareness of the long-term effects of this virus. My doctor has informed me it will take 90 days before I begin to feel normal again. They tell me I had a mild case because of the vaccinations I had. If this is so, I do not want anything to do with the full infection!

As mentioned in our President's message beginning in October, we will have a more permanent meeting place at St. Ignatius Loyola Parish School. The meeting room reserved is in the school building across from the church. The parking lots are between the school and church. The meetings will continue to meet the **second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm**, and the dates for the remaining year are **10/12, 11/09, and 12/14/22**.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Prayers are requested for following person 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, Michael Riley, Henry Mullen, Kathleen Fink, Julie Miller, Mary Collins, John Mackey, Mary DeMarco, Charles Fritz, Dennis Mulligan, Doug Carlson, Carey

Carlson, Teri Brennan Carlson, Terry Morrison, Carolyn Healey, Shay Mulligan, and all members in need of prayers.

Special prayers are asked for the following deceased members and their families: Dr. Richard Flannery, Kathleen Creed, Joseph P. Riley, Craig Wolfe, Clare Flannery, Rita Mullen, Fr. William Campion, our first Chaplain and all the deceased members of the AOH-LAOH of Berks County.

COMING EVENTS

10/12/22	General Membership Meeting
11/09/22	General Membership Meeting
11/11/22	Veteran's Day
11/24/22	Thanksgiving Day
12/14/22	General Membership Meeting
12/25/22	Christmas Day
01/11/23	General Membership Meeting
02/08/23	General Membership Meeting
02/22/23	Ash Wednesday - Lent begins
03/08/23	General Membership Meeting
03/17/23	St. Patrick's Day
04/07/23	Good Friday
04/12/23	General Membership Meeting
04/16/23	Easter Sunday

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.

We direct you to the list of supporters on the last page of our newsletter. Thanks to their support our newsletter is made possible.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

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

OCTOBER

6th Joseph P. George
18th James C. Burns
30th Leonard J. Weckel

NOVEMBER

5th Patrick T. Barrett
12th Msgr. Francis Schoenauer
27th Robert J. Houlihan

DECEMBER

3rd Timothy Antosy
6th Henry J. Mullen
7th Joseph M.P. Marnell
8th Michael T. McFadden
13th Patrick H. Donahue
16th William J. Carroll
19th James E. Miller, JR
20th Kerry Willard
28th John J. Connors

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 - <https://www.facebook.com/aoh.stbrendans>

St Brendan's Website - www.berkscoaoh.com

National AOH Website - www.aoh.com

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Have you ever considered running for an office in St. Brendan's? If so, now is the time to give it some serious thought. We are urging our members to give the idea some serious thought!

We need an infusion of new officers if we are to survive. Not that the current officers are doing something wrong, it is just that new ideas, and new faces helps breathe new life and many of our officers have been around a long time and for health reasons some of us would welcome the opportunity to see our division explore new horizons. At the same time our experience would provide assistance to our replacements as our division progresses into the future.

Come October we will be opening nominations for the following offices: President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Standing Committee Chair, Marshal and Sentinel. There are also several officers that are appointed by the President. So, if interested, please contact any officer re. questions and duties of officers. It can prove to be a very rewarding experience!

IN MEMORIUM

Please remember **Rev. William Campion** in your prayers. Fr. Campion passed away on September 4, 2022. Fr. served as our first Chaplain when our division re-organized back in 1979 when he was in residence at Sacred Heart Parish in West Reading.

*Tá sé ar shlí na tíríne, Go ndeanáí Dia trocaire ar a anam,
agus ar dheis De go riabh se!*

(He is gone to his eternal reward may God have mercy on his soul,
and may he be at the right hand of God!)

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

All members are reminded that applications for our Daniel J. Flannery College scholarship Award(s) will be accepted for the school year 2021 beginning January through March. Applications can be requested in writing from our Division President. Please mail requests to:

Ancient Order of Hibernians
Attn: Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 14961
Reading, PA 19612-4961

The Scholarship is open to all children and/or grandchildren of members in good standing for students who will enter their freshmen year of college in August/September 2021. To be eligible,

candidates must be enrolled in a college or University whose curriculum is not in conflict with the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church and the A.O.H. in America. Applications will be accepted through St. Patrick's Day 3/17/21 and must include a brief essay on "What it means to be an Irish Catholic in today's society!"

IRISH HISTORY

December is a memorable month for the Irish for it marks the celebration of the birth of Christ. Yet, there are other dates in December that are also significant. For example, it was on **December 24**, 1601, that the most significant battle in Irish history was joined. It was the Battle of Kinsale. It put an end to Ireland's hopes for independence at the time and destroyed Gaelic aristocracy forever. And it was all due to a tactical blunder.

The conflict known as the Nine Years War was waged for a variety of reasons. The Irish wanted independence from English rule, the English wished to further increase their lands in Ireland and the Crown had been attempting the suppression of Roman Catholicism since Henry VIII broke with Rome in **December 1538**. In 1587, Spain threatened to invade England and Elizabeth knew she could not muster her full forces against the Spanish while the threat of rebellion existed in Ireland. She controlled much of the south, but the major clans of the north remained uncertain. The largest of those clans were the O'Neills whom it was hoped were loyal since their leader, Hugh, had been raised by the Crown, schooled in English values, and returned as Earl of Tyrone. The next largest were the O'Donnells of Donegal and to ensure their behavior, 15-year-old Red Hugh - heir to its Chieftaincy, was kidnapped and held hostage in Dublin Castle. The third largest clan were The Maguires, and a force would be sent against their clan seat at Enniskillen. What the English didn't realize was that O'Neill's English training had taught him English duplicity and treachery and he had been building alliances throughout the land to ensure his security.

On **December 25**, 1591, Red Hugh O'Donnell escaped from Dublin Castle and early in the new year he was brought to O'Neill who escorted him to Hugh Maguire, and safe passage home to Donegal and a clan now anxious for revenge. In May 1593, standing on the Rock of Doone, the inaugural stone of the Clan O'Donnell, he received a title higher than any foreigner could give - the ancient title of The O'Donnell, Chief of Donegal. The Maguire, Chief of Fermanagh was the first of the northern chieftains to take up arms when the English captured Enniskillen, his fort at the Gap of the North - the main access to Ulster.

O'Donnell answered Maguire's call for aid, and the two Hughs swept across Ulster driving the English before them; they broke through the Gap of the North and recaptured Enniskillen. They next moved on Fort Monaghan, and the English sent reinforcements. They met at the Battle of Clontibert, where the English saw, for the first time, the Red Hand of O'Neill among the clan standards. Hugh O'Neill

had cast off the title, Earl of Tyrone, and took the ancient title of The O'Neill, Chief of Tir Owen; the northern alliance of the three Hughs was complete with England's trusted Earl of Tyrone at their head. The last remaining Irish War Chieftains were now a national force with O'Neill commanding 1,000 horse-soldiers and 7,000 foot-soldiers at a time when the entire English force in Ireland was less than 2,000. In 1596, O'Neill swept through the north and each blow was echoed by O'Donnell and Maguire in the west.

In 1598, a reinforced English army of 4000 foot and 300 horse met the combined Irish forces at the Yellow Ford on the Callan River in Armagh. What happened next had never happened before in Ireland. On August 14, the English were outmaneuvered, outgunned, outfought, and out-generated. It was not the undisciplined hit and run style of the Irish and the recognition of Irish supremacy caused panic among the English troops. The Battle of Yellow Ford resulted in 3,000 English casualties and the loss of all arms and supplies. More than a victory, it was a national triumph. The Queen's army had been destroyed, the north was O'Neill's, and all Ireland awaited his army of liberation. As Berlith wrote in *The Twilight Lords, the defeat was the greatest military disaster of Elizabeth's reign. She was not on the brink of losing Ireland after Yellow Ford; she had lost it and would now spend a fortune to regain it.* In 1599, Elizabeth sent Lord Essex with 16,000 troops to destroy O'Neil. In Louth, the armies met, and O'Neill called for a parlay. The two leaders met and, though what was said will never be known, when it was over Essex and his army returned to Dublin. In defiance of Elizabeth, he had granted a truce! She accused him of cowardice, as Essex returned to England to lead a rebellion against her. Had O'Neill proposed such a plan to avoid conflict with Elizabeth, who was now an old woman? He had already negotiated with her successor, James Stuart of Scotland, and may have offered Essex a position in the new reign in return for a truce until Elizabeth's death.

By 1600, O'Neill had won Ireland back, though there was still a small English presence; the only obstacle between him and independence was an old woman who would not die. As Essex was sent the Tower, Elizabeth poured men and money into Ireland until she found the leader she sought. He was Lord Mountjoy, a commander whose campaign has never been forgotten as all things Irish - crops, homes, and cattle - were wantonly destroyed. In September 1601, the long-awaited Spanish aid O'Neill had requested arrived, but they were too few and landed at the wrong place: Kinsale in Co. Cork. Mountjoy bottled them up and O'Neill raced his tired forces south to relieve them. The Spanish Commander unwisely attacked on **December 24**, drawing O'Neill into the battle prematurely. The mistake cost Ireland the victory which would have left her independent. The Maguire was killed, The O'Neill had suffered his first defeat and the new Irish nation was dealt a mortal blow in its infancy. Red Hugh went to Spain to seek more aid and O'Neill kept up guerilla

raids hoping to outlive the aging Elizabeth. Offers of leniency were refused by O'Neill, but when he learned that O'Donnell had been poisoned in Spain, the greatest Irish Chieftain of his age came to Mellifont Abbey on March 30, 1603, and surrendered to Lord Mountjoy. He pledged obedience on April 3 and after the ceremony of submission was told Elizabeth of England had died on March 24! Catholic James Stuart of Scotland was now James I of England. O'Neill had won and never knew it. He had outlasted the Queen only to be tricked into submission by Lord Mountjoy before agreements with James could be ratified. Had the **December** Battle of Kinsale been won,

Ireland would have been free. Instead, the only thing in her immediate future was the Flight of the Earls and the destruction of Ireland's Gaelic system of sovereignty - but that's another story!

NEW MEMBER

Cead Mile Failte welcome our newest member Mr. Mark McDevitt. Mark is a parishioner of St. Ignatius Loyola Parish

CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE

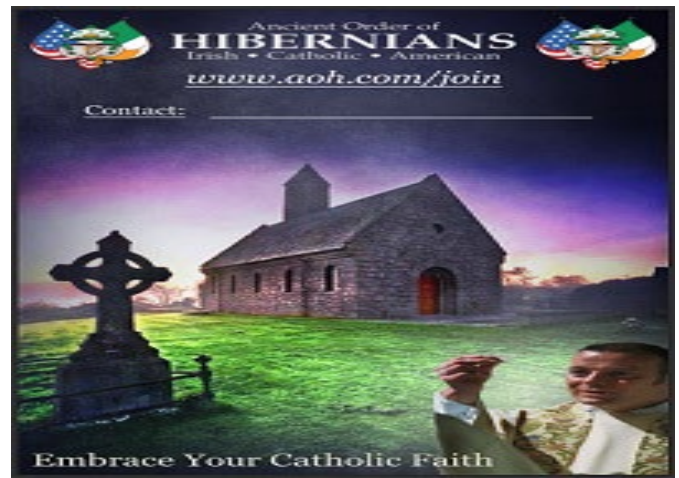
As successful as last year's Toy Drive was, St. Brendan's Division #1 has decided to continue our efforts again this year. Our President Kerry Williard reported that the Toy drive was really appreciated by the recipients of the gifts donated and well received by the schools and families benefited.

In the future, anyone wanting to donate a gift or monetary donation can do so at our meetings during October and November. We realize that there are many other Toy drives, however please remember, these gifts go to Catholic schools and parishes in our area only.

For questions re. donations and how the gifts are donated please contact President Kerry Williard at the following address shamokin71@aol.com.

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 have 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.



AOH CHRISTMAS APPEAL & "10" CLUB AOH

Each year we participate in the Annual "10 Club" sponsored by the Freedom for All Ireland Committee of the AOH in America. Our chairperson, the National Director for the Freedom for All Ireland Campaign asks each member to donate \$10, which is used to support the families and activities in the North of Ireland. Naturally the monies are used to make Christmas a little brighter for needy families, as well as charitable giving to various organizations in Northern Ireland who are working to maintain peace and stability in that part of Ireland. Please consider sharing with us this year when asked! Remember the third principle of our preamble in the Constitution & By Laws state the purpose of our organization is "to aid and advance by all legitimate means the aspirations and endeavors of the Irish People for complete and absolute independence, promoting peace with justice and unity for all Ireland."

All donations are greatly appreciated and should be mailed to Joe McCarthy 437 Elmer Circle, Reading, PA 19605 please make all checks payable to AOH Div. #1 Berks.

VETERAN'S DAY



Please remember that Veteran's Day is just around the corner. If it wasn't for their sacrifices, we couldn't enjoy the freedoms we so freely take for granted. Please pray for those who never returned and lie in foreign lands.

This year, more than ever, with the withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan, our nation is remembering the nearly 2,600 troops who paid the full sacrifice, as well as the nearly 60,000 wounded veterans of that conflict.

As a proud member of the American Legion much is owed to the men and women who sacrificed everything to defeat evil and should never be forgotten. Strengthened by their courage, heartened by their valor, and borne by their memory, let us stand for the ideals for which they lived and died.

What began as a proud force of 16 million American volunteer citizens who heroically defended our nation against the greatest threat to freedom the world has ever known, has now dwindled to a little more than 400,000. When we awake tomorrow, another 372 of our surviving WW11 veterans will join their brethren who have perished on the battlefield or in our own communities. It is feared that in ten short years they will all be gone. It is the mission of the American Legion that they will not be forgotten.

What is a veteran? Some veterans bear visible signs of their service: a missing limb, a jagged scar, a certain look in the eye. Others may carry the evidence inside them: a pin holding a bone together, a piece of shrapnel in the leg, or perhaps another sort of inner steel: the soul's ally forged in the refinery of adversity. Except in parades, however, the men and women who have kept America safe wear no badges or emblem. You can't tell a vet just by looking.

Who is a vet? He/she is the cop on the beat who spent six months in Saudi Arabia, sweating two gallons a day making sure the armored personnel carriers didn't run out of fuel. He could be the barroom loudmouth, dumber than five wooden planks, but whose overgrown frat-boy behavior is outweighed a hundred times in the cosmic scales by four hours of exquisite bravery near the 38th parallel.

So, remember, each time you see someone who has served our country, just lean over and say, "Thank You." That's all most people need, and in most cases, it will mean more than any medals they could have been awarded or were awarded. Two little words that mean so much, "Thank You".

AN ECHO OF IRISH HISTORY

History is written by the victors and is not always as portrayed; one example of that is Thanksgiving. According to the story that surrounds it, heroic Christian pilgrims arrived in America and shared what little they had with their poor Indian neighbors in thanksgiving for their successful arrival. The truth of the matter is that the Indians weren't poor, and if they hadn't shared their bounty with the pilgrims, the pilgrims might not have survived. After all, yams, corn, and the rest were all Indian dietary staples, and the turkey was an American bird. It was Chief Massasoit and the Wampanoag tribe of Native Americans who taught the newcomers how to plant, grow, and harvest the strange foods they hadn't seen before. As for the feast, it was nothing new; it was in thanks for a bountiful harvest and

harvest festivals had been celebrated in many lands for centuries before the pilgrims ever buttered their first corn on the cob. Who were these pilgrims and why do they get the credit for the "first" thanksgiving?

The American Heritage Dictionary defines pilgrim as one who makes a journey for a religious purpose. The religious purpose of these pilgrims was to escape persecution, for they were English Protestants who advocated a strict discipline according to their own interpretation of the bible. Their aim was to reconstruct and purify the church. They were tolerated for their anti-Catholic bias, but when they demanded reforms to purify the Church of England as well, they were hunted out of the country!

We use the term Pilgrims (with a capital "P") to identify the group who arrived at Plymouth in 1620 on the Mayflower, and Puritans to define the larger group, led by John Winthrop, who arrived ten years later and started the Massachusetts Bay Colony. Both were related by the same convictions to purify the church, yet they differed among themselves about the degree of changes. Some who stayed in England became Presbyterian, already strong in Scotland. Those who came to Plymouth considered the congregation the ultimate authority while those who came to Massachusetts considered the hierarchy elected by the congregation, as the ultimate authority. Despite these minor differences they all had one thing in common: they were among the most unreasonable and bigoted groups in history. In 1649 - less than 30 years later - the Puritans who remained in England successfully fomented a civil-war under Oliver Cromwell, beheaded King Charles, and then turned their army of zealots toward Ireland and the suppression of Irish Catholics.

In Ireland, the Puritan Army began its campaign at Drogheda where they cut down its 3000 defenders to a man. What followed was to become the trademark of Cromwell's victories across Ireland. These God-fearing Christians indiscriminately slaughtered the defenseless civilian population - for five days men, women, and children were hunted down and butchered. He recorded that "The enemy were about 3,000 strong in the town. I believe we have put to the sword the whole number . . . In this very place (Saint Peter's Church) a thousand of them were put to the sword, fleeing thither for safety". On October 2nd, 1649, Cromwell declared a "National Day of Thanksgiving" in celebration of the deed at Drogheda - a depraved application of the term.

In America in 1675, the sons of the Pilgrims who dined with the Wampanoag tribe that harvest day in 1621, defeated them in a war over land. Meanwhile, Ann Glover who had fled the turmoil in Ireland to reside in the Puritan colony in Massachusetts was overheard saying her evening prayers in her native Gaelic. Accused by Cotton Mather of conversing

with the devil, she confessed to being an Irish Catholic. She was told to denounce her religion, refused, and was hanged as a witch. The year was 1688 - 39 years after the thanksgiving at Drogheda, and 68 years after the Puritan's thanksgiving in America. The idea of giving thanks to God remains a fundamental duty, be it for a bountiful harvest or a blessing bestowed, but the cruel, uncompromising, witch-burning Puritans of the 1600s are hardly the example to hold up to our children as role models.

Let us instead look to America's first official National Day of Thanksgiving proclaimed by the Continental Congress on December 18, 1777, "as a day of solemn thanksgiving and praise" for the "signal success" of our forces at the Battle of Saratoga - a turning point in the struggle for independence. And the turning point in that battle, by the way, was the killing of General Frazier by Irish marksman, Timothy Murphy of General Charles (Co. Meath) Thompson's Pennsylvania Rifle Battalion.

In 1846 annual days of thanksgiving were being celebrated in at least 14 states when author Sarah Hale began a campaign to make the last Thursday in November a National Day of Thanksgiving. In the 1860s, she wrote to every state and territorial governor urging the idea as one of national unity in a country torn by civil war. On October 3, 1863, President Lincoln finally declared the last Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day bringing together all the past elements of the harvest festival, national patriotism, and religious observance.

This is the real story behind Thanksgiving Day and the message it should convey is one of thanks for all our blessings, both civil and religious. This year, instead of just food and football, let us remember to give thanks to the Almighty for the blessings bestowed on our families and on this great nation . . . and forget the guys in the funny hats with buckles on their shoes!

Happy Thanksgiving to all!

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
 - St. Patrick
2. What Irish Island is named St. Patrick's Purgatory?
 - A--Lough Derg
 - B--Inishmore
 - 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--Inishmore
 - 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. What are pampooties?
 - A--Dances
 - B--An Irish dish
 - C--Gloves
 - D--Footwear
10. What is a crios?
 - A--Belt or girdle
 - B--Musical instrument
 - C--Footwear
 - D--A ballad

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. B - 2A - 3A - 4A - 5D - 6A - 7B - 8A - 9D - 10A

PENNSYLVANIA STATE BOARD CALENDARS

We have been advised that State Board Calendars are once again available. After a two-year hiatus, we sold the calendars last year and it proved to be a very rewarding fundraiser in 2021. We started late and still sold 25 calendars during the month of December.

The calendars sell for \$40, with \$5. Commission earned for the division. If there is enough interest from you the members, we will contact the state and ask for a supply of calendars. However, it is up to you. To reserve a calendar please contact me with your payment and I will have the calendar shipped to you. Contact me at jgmccjr@comcast.net or call 610- 927-5224. If you have a specific number request, I will try to get it for you.

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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Fr. William Campion 04/23 (St. Brendan's 1st Chaplain)
James Caherly /23
Shay Caherly 01/23
Rory Caherly 01/23
J. Phillip Gallagher, Div.#3, Danbury CT. 08/23
Alice Henry-L.A.O.H. PA. Past President 12/22
Joseph & Bernice McCarthy 12/22
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Henry Mullen Jr. 09/22
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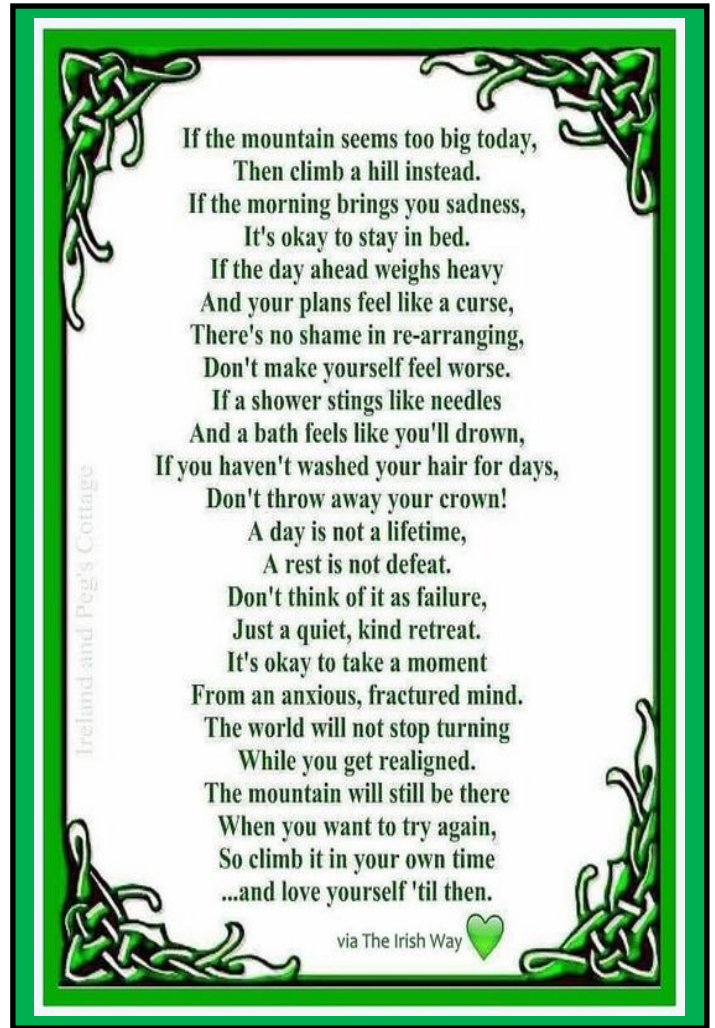
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09/22



HAPPY HALLOWEEN



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FROM THE Officers and members of
St. BRENDAN'S DIV. #1
BERKS COUNTY, PA

ST BRENDAN'S DIVISION #1
ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS
437 Elmer Circle
READING, PA. 19605

FRIENDSHIP, UNITY & TRUE CHRISTIAN CHARITY



IRELAND UNFREE, SHALL NEVER BE AT PEACE

REMEMBER VETERAN'S DAY - NOVEMBER 11, 2021



The Vietnam Wall - "Carved on these walls is the story of America, of a continuing quest to preserve both democracy and decency, and to protect a national treasure that we call the American dream. "Something to think about: Most of the surviving parents of the dead are now deceased themselves. There are 58,267 names now listed on that polished black wall, including those added in 2010.

The names are arranged in the order in which they were taken from us by date and within each date the names are alphabetized. It is hard to believe it is 36 years since the last casualties. The first known casualty was Richard B. Fitzgibbon, of North Weymouth, Mass., listed by the U.S. Department of Defense as having been killed on June 8, 1956. His name is listed on the Wall with that of his son, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Richard B. Fitzgibbon III, who was killed on Sept. 7, 1965.

There are three sets of fathers and sons on the Wall. 39,996 on the Wall were just 22 or younger. The largest age group, 8,283 were just 19 years old 33,103 were 18 years old. 12 soldiers on the Wall were 17 years old. 5 soldiers on the Wall were 16 years old. One soldier, PFC Dan Bullock was 15 years old. 997 soldiers were killed on their first day in Vietnam. 1,448 soldiers were killed on their last scheduled day in Vietnam. 31 sets of brothers are on the Wall. Thirty-one sets of parents lost two of their sons. 54 soldiers on the Wall attended Thomas Edison High School in Philadelphia.... wonder why so many from one school? 8 Women are on the Wall -- nursing the wounded. 244 soldiers were awarded the Medal of Honor during the Vietnam War; 153 of them are on the Wall. Beallsville, Ohio with a population of 475 lost 6 of her sons West Virginia had the highest casualty rate per capita in the nation. There are 711 West Virginians on the Wall. The most casualty deaths for a single day was on January 31, 1968 ~ 245 deaths. The most casualty deaths for a single month was May 1968 ~ 2,415 casualties were incurred.