



Shillelagh Sentinel



AOH, Thomas Francis Meagher Division, PO Box 1916, Helena, Montana 59624

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Feabhra

February 2020

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Message from the President

As we celebrate the feast day of Saint Brigid in the month of February and prepare for the month of Saint Patrick, I reflect on our 'Irishness'. It conjures up sixteen hundred years of what I know, don't know and what I have been taught to believe.

As the lives of Ireland's three greatest saints, Patrick, Brigid and Columba blend together, we are meshed into the fabric of our traditions and faith. They form the bonds of our brotherhood and link us to generations of our ancestors.

Born into slavery, Saint Brigid fed the poor and healed them. Her reputation for sanctity and her renown of unbounded charity drew multitudes of the poor to Kildare. She was the founder of the first Irish monastery in County Kildare. She is most known to us for a cross she fashioned from simple reeds for a dying pagan chieftain.

As each single reed Saint Brigid weaved into a cross was by itself weak, several woven together in the Cross created a much stronger bond. So too are we bound by the Cross, and by our tradition. We add our strands to the Cross, blend our work into the cloth and pass it to the next generation. It is in the spirit of Saint Brigid, through our Thanksgiving and Easter Blessings, we bring succor to those who struggle. James 2:14-26

As our bonds are born in the Faith and forever in our heritage, so too we must serve in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity.

Síocháin (Peace) Jim ♣

HIBERNIAN DATES TO REMEMBER

AOH MEETING

KC HALL

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2020

6:30 PM

Regular monthly meeting.

AOH PRE-LENTEN RETREAT

Saturday, February 15, 2020

Jack Ward's Mountain Retreat

AOH MEETING

KC HALL

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2020

6:30 PM

Regular monthly meeting.

ST PATRICK'S DAY FESTIVITIES

(SEE PAGE 4 FOR DETAILS)

This Month in Irish History

February 1st – St Brigid's Day - This is heralded as the first day of Spring (Imbolc). Similar to the United States groundhog tradition, if a hedgehog came out of his burrow on St. Brigid's Day.

February 1, 1796 - Theobald Wolf Tone, United Irish leader, arrives in France seeking assistance

February 2, 1880 - Charles S. Parnell addresses the U.S. Congress

February 2, 1882 – James Joyce, Irish author born.

February 4, 1868 - Birth of Irish patriot and revolutionary, Countess **Constance Markievicz, née Gore-Booth.** **Constance was the first woman to be elected to Westminster Parliament in London (where she refused to take her seat)**

February 4, 1775 –Robert Emmet, Irish patriot born.

February 6, 1685 – Coronation of King James II

February 6, 1877 – John O'Mahoney, Irish patriot, died in New York City

February 8, 1587 – Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots, executed by the English.



On a recent trip to Waterford Ireland Tom and Kathy Pahut had the pleasure of visiting with Ann Cusack, owner of the Granville Hotel. Birthplace of Thomas Francis Meagher. Ann has made several trips to the Capitol City, what a grand gracious lady. If your ever in Waterford this is a must stop.

February 12, 1848 - John Mitchel publishes first United Irishmen.

February 12, 1989– Partick Finucane, Irish attorney, murdered by assassins.

February 13, 1689 - William and Mary - daughter of James II - are proclaimed king and queen jointly.

February 23, 1965 - Roger Casement's body is returned from England to be re-interred at Glasnevin Cemetery in Dublin

February 24, 1692 - The Treaty of Limerick is ratified by William of Orange.

February 26, 1854 - William Smith O'Brien, leader of the 1848 rebellion, is pardoned.

February 28, 1884 - Seán MacDiarmada, revolutionary, is born in Kiltycolgher, Co. Leitrim

Don't Miss AOH Day of Celtic Spirituality



Once again, our members will be able to spend a day at our annual AOH Pre-Lenten retreat. So, set aside **SATURDAY, 15 FEBRUARY** for the nourishment of your IRISH SOUL in the solitude of Montana mountains.

The spiritual day will begin at 9:00 a.m., after coffee and bakery goodies. Led by our generous Brother Gabe Brennan, we will spend the winter day in prayer, song, scripture, and discussion of our Celtic spirituality.

This is one experience that should not be missed. It's a great opportunity to be with Hibernian brothers to think not only about our Christian faith, but to do it in connection with our Celtic heritage. It's the Celtic nature to see God in nature. What better way to spend the day in pray than to be surrounded by the peace and tranquility of the mountains. You can almost hear our Celtic ancestors speaking to us.

Please make the effort to attend, you'll not regret it. Ask anyone who has been there.

Rides are available We usually carpool so let Jack Ward, PJ McHugh, Tom Pahut know.♣

In Memoriam



January 17, 1934 – January 31, 2020

The Archdiocese of Seattle announced that Archbishop Brunett died in the peace of our Lord last week.

He was appointed bishop of Helena, Montana, by Pope John Paul II in 1994. He was appointed archbishop of Seattle on October 28, 1997 and installed December 18, 1997.

The Thomas Francis Meagher Division created an annual award that reflects the words of Jesus and their Irish culture. It is awarded to honor an individual in Montana who has done the most to eliminate injustice in the struggle for civil rights and human dignity. The honoree is awarded with the Alexander J. Brunett Medal for Social Justice each year at their Charter dinner. This award commenced in 1998 and is still awarded today.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord. And let the perpetual light shine upon him.

St. Patrick's Day Festivities

Saturday, March 14th

- ♣ **ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE**
12 noon ~ Downtown Helena

Tuesday, March 17th

- ♣ **ANNUAL IRISH FLAG RAISING**
8 am ~ Front of State Capitol
- ♣ **ANNUAL CAPITOL ROTUNDA CELEBRATION**
8:15 am ~ Capitol Rotunda
 - ♣ Official Proclamations
 - ♣ Irish Singing
 - ♣ Tiernan Irish Dancers
- ♣ **CATHOLIC MASS**
12:00 pm ~ Cathedral of St. Helena
Celebrant – Bishop Austin Vetter
- ♣ **ST PATRICK'S DAY DINNER**
Irish Stew - \$10 per person
Knights of Columbus Hall
(LIMITED SEATING COME EARLY)
4:30 pm ~ Doors Open 5:00 pm ~ Dinner
 - ♣ Tiernan Irish Dancers

All Events sponsored by the
Helena Ancient Order of Hibernians
And Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians

2020 Ancient Order of Hibernians 2020

Thomas Francis Meagher Division

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Calendar of Events

<p><i>January 14th</i> <i>Tuesday</i></p> <p>Regular Meeting</p>	<p><i>February 11th</i> <i>Tuesday</i></p> <p>Regular Meeting</p>	<p><i>February 15th</i> <i>Saturday</i></p> <p>AOH Retreat on the Mountain</p>	<p><i>March 10th</i> <i>Tuesday</i></p> <p>Regular Meeting</p>
	<p><i>March 14th</i> <i>Saturday</i></p> <p>St Patrick's Day Parade</p>	<p><i>March 17th Tuesday</i> <i>St Patrick's Day</i></p> <p>Flag Raising State Capitol Mass Cathedral AOH Dinner, KC Hall</p>	
<p><i>April</i></p> <p>Easter Blessing</p>	<p><i>April 12th</i> Easter</p> <p><i>Easter Egg Hunt</i></p>	<p><i>April 14th</i> <i>Tuesday</i></p> <p>Regular Meeting</p>	<p><i>May 12th</i> <i>Tuesday</i></p> <p>Regular Meeting <i>Send Brunett Award applications</i></p>
<p><i>May 25th</i> Memorial Day Parade East Helena 10:45 am</p>	<p><i>June 5th – 6th</i> Virginia City Irish Weekend</p>	<p><i>June 9th</i> <i>Tuesday</i> Regular Meeting Past Presidents Dinner KC Hall 6:00</p>	<p><i>August</i> Family Picnic</p>
<p><i>August 14th – 15th</i> An Ri Ra Butte Irish Festival</p>	<p><i>September 8th</i> <i>Tuesday</i> Regular Meeting Nomnations Officers</p>	<p><i>October</i> Charter Dinner Carroll Scholarships</p>	<p><i>October 13th</i> <i>Tuesday</i> Regular Meeting Election of Officers</p>
<p><i>November</i></p> <p>Thanksgiving Blessing</p>	<p><i>November 10th</i> <i>Tuesday</i> Regular Meeting</p>	<p><i>November 11th</i> Veteran's Day Parade East Helena</p>	<p><i>December 8th</i> <i>Tuesday</i> Regular Meeting</p>

Regular meeting *second* Tuesday of each moth- 6:30 PM KC Hall