



Shillelagh Sentinel



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

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Message from the President

Brothers,

Well, summer went by fast enough and it is time to start our normal activities again! How we define normal seems to be up to us, so let's just get going. (I am not sure that I could convince enough of you of my version of normal...so...)

Officer's Meetings will be the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 at the KC Hall and everyone is invited, Officer or not, come and let us know how you feel. Regular meetings will remain on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 at the KC Hall, please come and participate, it makes the meetings much more FUN!

The National Convention was interesting, however, without continued support for those events, our impact on National will wane. Montana is one of the few, if only group in the west that has any say in what we do on the national level. The primary issue that we were supporting failed because of a fundamental lack of understanding of the future. I will not dwell on this for now, but I feel that the AOH has made a mistake that will be with us for the long term.

I am hoping for a great year and for a lot of ideas and functions on the fundraising side of the house so we will need a lot of help and participation. We expended a lot of money on the recent National Convention with decent if not perfect results and we need to be prepared for the next convention and the necessity of doing the same and sending enough Delegates to make a difference. Mike O'C, Tom Pahut and others will bring the info for all of us.

Hope to see you all soon.

In our Motto,
Patrick♣

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HIBERNIAN DATES TO REMEMBER

AOH MEETING

KC HALL

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

6:30 PM, REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

AOH MEETING

KC HALL

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2022

6:30 PM, REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

This Month in Irish History

September 1, 1864 - Roger Casement, British consular official and Irish nationalist, is born in Sandycove, Co. Dublin

September 2, 1752 - The Gregorian calendar is adopted in Ireland and Britain, 170 years after mainland Europe: 2 September is followed by 14 September

September 3, 1658 – Oliver Cromwell, the most hated man in Irish history died this day. He died after complications following contracting malaria in Cork.

September 4, 1844 - Conspiracy judgment against Daniel O'Connell is reversed by House of Lords

September 4th In the liturgical calendar, it is the feast day of St. MacNisse, baptized by St. Patrick, and considered the founder of Kells Monastery.

September 5, 1771 - Benjamin Franklin's visit to Ireland begins

September 7, 1695 - Penal Laws are passed which restrict the rights of Catholics to have an education, to bear arms, or to possess a horse worth more than five pounds

September 8, 1908 - Poet, educator and eventual Easter Rising rebel Patrick Pearse opens St. Edna's school for boys (Scoil Eanna), combining new European theories of education with a focus on the glory of the Gaelic past

September 9, 872 - Earliest verifiable date of a Viking invasion of Ireland in Dunrally

September 13, 1885 –Montana - Anaconda Division No 1 forms with Thomas Daly as its first President.



The General Meagher Division President Bob Fitzgerald of the Ancient Order of Hibernians submitted “Shamrocks are clovers, but not all clovers are shamrocks”

The word "shamrock" comes from the Gaelic word *Seamrog*, meaning “little clover”¹. As you all know, one of the traditional Irish symbols is a shamrock, and a shamrock appears on the flag of Erin Go Bragh, meaning “Ireland Forever”, and Saint Patrick used the shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity with the three leaves representing the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. A shamrock can be found on the uniforms of Irish sports teams and on the tail of the national airline, Aer Lingus.

The use of the shamrock as Ireland's national symbol dates back thousands of years, but there appears to be confusion in today's world about what constitutes a traditional shamrock. By definition, a shamrock is a clover that specifically has three leaves, no more and no less. Do not confuse a shamrock with a four-leafed clover, which is NOT a shamrock. Some researchers note that the Druids (priests of the ancient Celts) claimed that a four-leafed clover was a good luck charm against evil spirits. These days, most people have forgotten about the “evil spirits” part and just remember that they are supposed to be good luck, and perhaps somehow confused that with the "luck of the Irish". You may find four-leaf, five-leaf, or even six-leaf clovers as a result of a genetic abnormality...but none of these abnormal clovers are shamrocks.

Slainte Agus Paidreach

We got word that our Brother Joe Calnan had an accident and broke his leg. Please remember Joe in your prayers.

AOH Members that are Veterans

Look for an email to update you about all things you need to know if you are a Veteran.

The Irish in Montana

Granite, Montana

The history of Montana is filled with Irish and Irish Americans who made a difference in the development of this state. Have you ever heard of the town of Granite, Montana. It is a ghost town today but in the late 1800's it was a bustling town. It is a few miles from Philipsburg. As you may have imagined Granite, Montana was a mining town. It had a population in 1890 of 3,000. The mine was a silver mine, and it was called Granite Mountain Mine. Granite, Montana was 7,500 feet above sea level.

You guessed it. There was an Ancient Order of Hibernians Division in Granite, Montana in 1890. You can take the Irish out of Ireland, but you can't take Ireland out of the Irish. Many came to Montana for a job. Mining employed many of the Irish. At the time and current today is the purpose of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. That is to promote Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity. Also, to promote Irish culture, to foster the ideas and perpetuate the history and traditions of the Irish people. The Ancient Order of Hibernians was a perfect organization to belong to for the Irish and Irish Americans. They wanted to remember the history of Ireland and keep the Irish culture that they had to leave behind when they came to America.