

Shillelagh Sentinel

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

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Message from the President

Happy New Year to one and all!

I hope that all of you and your families have a Happy and Safe 2024. I know it seems too soon for this to be here, but, well, it is! We had a busy year last year and this year is shaping up the same way, so let's get into some of the details.

St. Patrick's Day is coming up and since it is on a Sunday, that presents us with some opportunities as well as some challenges. We are already deep in the planning, and we need your help. We are hoping to really make the whole weekend, not just one day, a celebration of St. Patrick and our Heritage. As of now, we are planning on the Flag Raising and Opening Festivities at the Capitol on Friday at 8:00 am, the Parade on Saturday at 12:00 pm with muster at the Cathedral at 11:30 am, and Mass at the Cathedral on Sunday at 11:00 am. We will need some help with some of these events so that they run smoothly. In the interest of tying these three events together in a St. Patrick's Day weekend, I encourage you to think of ideas for smaller events to put on in between to help keep the interest going all weekend. So, please attend the upcoming meetings and find your niche in our events.

Fundraising is another issue that we need to take more notice of as we proceed. Many of the missions and events that we perform cost money, so we need to have money to spend on those things. The Easter and Thanksgiving Blessings, Project St. Patrick, the Carroll Scholarships can be expensive, especially with inflation the way it is going, so we need help. Last Year, through

President's message continued on page 2

Brother Pat McKelvey's tireless efforts, we were able to get "No Coward's Epitath" at the Myrna Loy and raised a goodly amount of money for the AOH and the LAOH. We have another opportunity to do something very similar this year, but we need your help, not only in purchasing tickets (and Thank You to all of you who did), but in selling tickets and getting the word out in the community. We also need your advice on the timing of this event and on any other potential fundraisers that could be beneficial to the AOH.

One other major event that is coming up is our National Convention in August in Orlando, Florida. We have the potential to greatly affect the future of the AOH. Montana has over 20 Delegate Seats at the Convention and this gives Montana a noticeable and valuable voting bloc. In the Virtual Convention in 2020, Montana made waves with the power that we were able to project and we got Bobby Meherns of Anaconda elected as a Director. Bobby is now running for Treasurer and if he wins and moves up the seats in the "Top Four", he will be President in 2036, which also happens to be the 200th Anniversary of the AOH in America. I think that you can all see how important this can be for Montana and the changes that we will be able to affect for the future. I challenge all of you to think about attending and helping to forge those changes.

To tie it back to the fundraising aspect, when I went to the National Convention in 2022, I received "scholarships" from the Division and the State to help defray the costs. If we can continue to raise funds, we can do that again and make sure that we have all of the Delegate Seats filled. It is also a great chance to meet and get to know your brothers and sisters from around the country and make lifelong friendships.

Wow, this one got long, sorry (NOT). Hope to see you all at the next few meetings.

Slan - Patrick ♣

St Patrick's Celebrations 2024

The Thomas Francis Meagher Division will go forward and plan for St Patrick's Celebrations this year.

As of today, the St Patrick's Parade is planned for Saturday, March 16, 2024.

Also, we will not be able to get together after the parade at Bert & Ernies. If you haven't herd Toby has sold Bert & Ernies.

We will again raise the Irish Flag on our State Capitol at 8:00 am on Friday, March 15, 2024.

Our St Patrick's Day Mass will be at the Cathedral of St Helena at 11:00 am Sunday, St Patrick's Day.

We have decided not to have our St Patrick's Day dinner this year.



St. Patrick's Day Festivities 2024

Friday, March 15th

♣ ANNUAL IRISH FLAG RAISING
8 am ~ Front of State Capital

♣ ANNUAL CAPITOL ROTUNDA CELEBRATION
8:15 am ~ Capitol Rotunda

- ♣ Official Proclamations
- ♣ Tiernan Irish Dancers

♣ The Pipes and Drums of the Black Devils

Saturday, March 16th

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

Sunday, March 17th

♣ CATHOLIC MASS

11:00 am ~ Cathedral of St. Helena

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

HIBERNIAN DATES TO REMEMBER

AOH MEETING

KC HALL

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024

6:30 PM - REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING.

AOH MEETING

KC HALL

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2024

6:30 PM - REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

THIS MONTH IN IRISH HISTORY

JANUARY 1, 1892 - ELLIS ISLAND BECOMES RECEPTION CENTER FOR NEW IMMIGRANTS. THE FIRST IMMIGRANT THROUGH THE GATES IS ANNIE MOORE, 15, OF CO. CORK. JUST 15 YEARS OLD AND TRAVELLING WITH HER TWO BROTHERS, ANTHONY (11) AND PHILIP (7), ANNIE DEPARTED FROM QUEENSTOWN (NOW COBH COUNTY CORK, IRELAND) ON DECEMBER 20, 1891 ABOARD THE SS NEVADA, ONE OF THE 148 STEERAGE PASSENGERS. THE TRIO WOULD SPEND 12 DAYS AT SEA (INCLUDING CHRISTMAS DAY), ARRIVING IN NEW YORK ON THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 31. THEY WERE PROCESSED THROUGH ELLIS ISLAND THE FOLLOWING MORNING, NEW YEAR'S DAY. ALL THREE CHILDREN WERE SOON REUNITED WITH THEIR PARENTS WHO WERE ALREADY LIVING IN NEW YORK. ANNIE MOORE IS BURIED IN CALVARY CEMETERY, QUEENS (APRIL 24, 1874- DEC 6, 1924)

JANUARY 1, 1602 -- HUGH O'NEILL DEFEATED AT KINSALE, IRELAND, END OF OLD GAELIC ORDER.

JANUARY 1, 1863 - LINCOLN, AWARE OF THE PUBLIC'S GROWING SUPPORT OF ABOLITION, ISSUED THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION ON JANUARY 1, 1863, DECLARING THAT ALL SLAVES IN AREAS STILL IN REBELLION WERE, IN THE EYES OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, FREE.

JANUARY 7, 1922 - DÁIL ÉIREANN VOTES 64 TO 57 TO ACCEPT THE ANGLO-IRISH TREATY, CREATING THE IRISH FREE STATE.

JANUARY 11, 1921 - THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES THAT ANY UNAUTHORIZED PERSON FOUND IN POSSESSION OF ARMS, AMMUNITION OR EXPLOSIVES IS LIABLE TO BE EXECUTED

JANUARY 10, 1922 - ARTHUR GRIFFITH IS ELECTED SECOND PRESIDENT OF THE IRISH FREE STATE BY DÁIL ÉIREANN

**Your AOH Dues
of \$50 is Due
P.O. Box 1916
Helena, MT 59624**

THIS MONTH IN IRISH HISTORY

JANUARY 12, 2000 – LIMERICK PEOPLE TURNOUT IN HUGE NUMBERS TO ATTEND THE SELL-OUT FILM PREMIERE OF ANGELA'S ASHES.

JANUARY 12, 1885 - THOMAS ASHE, PATRIOT AND NATIONALIST REVOLUTIONARY, IS BORN IN LISPOLE, CO. KERRY

JANUARY 13, 1800 - DANIEL O'CONNELL MAKES HIS FIRST PUBLIC SPEECH, OPPOSING UNION WITH ENGLAND

JANUARY 13, 1941– JAMES JOYCE, IRISH WRITER DIES IN ZURICH

JANUARY 15, 1861- YOUNG IRELANDER TERENCE MACMANUS DIES IN SAN FRANCISCO, CA

January 18, 1885 – Miles City, Montana - AOH Division #1 Custer County formed.

January 20, 1897 – Joint Installation of Officers for the Anaconda AOH and the Anaconda Daughters of Erin

January 20, 1902 - Kevin Barry, medical student and nationalist revolutionary, is born in Dublin.

January 23, 1890 – Hibernian Hall, Butte Montana dedicated.

January 27, 1908 – D.J. Hennessy –past AOH National Director dies in Butte Montana.

January 29, 1794 - Archibald Hamilton Rowan, United Irishman, tried on charge of distributing seditious paper.

January 30, 1972 - In what is to become known as Bloody Sunday, the British Army kills 14 civil rights demonstrators in the Bogside district of Derry. A 14th marcher later dies of his injuries