



# ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS IN AMERICA

INCORPORATED  
Organized in New York City, May 4, 1836

## JOSEPH DUELK, JR. DIVISION NO. I

P. O. Box 337, Monroe (Orange County), New York 10950

Vol. 32 No. 3 Newsletter [www.aohdiv1.org](http://www.aohdiv1.org) March2012 email [jobrien@aohdiv1.org](mailto:jobrien@aohdiv1.org) Editor John O'Brien 845-341-7050



### Next Meeting Friday, February 10th 7:30 P.M.

Paddy Naughton Hall, 10 North Main Street, Monroe • (845) 783-0205

JOSEPH DUELK, JR. – Vietnam Memorial, Washington, D.C

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### DIVISION I CALENDAR

*Next Division Meeting Fri, April 4th @ 8:00 PM*

**Bill O'Donnell Fund Raiser @ 3:00 4/14/2012**

**West Point Tattoo Sunday 4/22/2012**

**Joseph Duelk, Jr. Memorial Mass 6/9/2012**

## President's Message

Brothers,

I apologize for the tardiness of the March newsletter. The computer problems that caused the delay have been rectified and I do not anticipate any future delays. The Anton's Grand Marshal's Dinner in N.Y. City was well attended by Division I members Treasurer Bill O'Donnell, Denis Mulcahy, Jim Kelly and myself were there in support of the Grand Marshal and Orange County Aide John Greehy. At the same time we were attending the Grand Marshal's Dinner, Brother Neil O'Riordan ran a very successful fund raiser back at the hall for the Mid-Hudson St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee. The band Jameson's Revenge entertained the large crowd in attendance, and the event was a huge success, well done Neil. Looking forward to a good turnout for the upcoming parades.

Slán go Fóill

Yours in our motto,

Keith Reynolds

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## Political Education

by Charles Bohan

Brother Hibernians: Picking up where we left off in the Feb. news letter John Kerry had asked Hillary Clinton to intervene and ask Brit. P.M. David Cameron to rescind the request for the subpoenas made by his Government to Attorney Gen. Holder for transcripts of oral history interviews conducted by Boston College. Presently the Irish American Republican lobby in Wash. D.C. has fired off a statement calling for the Obama/Holder subpoenas to be quashed in the Irish Archives-Boston College case. Basically they claim that the Obama/Holder subpoenas would take private property and invade the private research archives of an American University and turn them over to a foreign intelligence service. In addition to these efforts, Congressman Joe Crowley of Bronx and Queens fame has joined Sen. Kerry in asking Sec. of State Clinton to use her good offices to remind the U.K. that the "Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty" specifically states that it is not intended to reopen issues addressed in the Belfast agreement or to impede further efforts to resolve the conflict in Northern Ireland. While this highly political drama continues to play out we should keep in mind that our National Board along with the Irish American Unity Conference and the Brehon Law Society are calling the shots in challenging this attempted betrayal of our

Constitution and Bill of Rights by our President and our Attorney General. More on this next time.

## Attention:

Brother Bill O'Donnell has fallen on hard times due to health problems as well as the recent house fire he suffered. A fundraiser will be held from 3 P.M. to 9 P.M. at on 4/14/2012. The price of admission is \$20.00 per person. Bill is a staple at the hall and always willing to give a helping hand to anyone in need. If you can't make the even but would still like to contribute please reach out to brother Dennis Brown.



# HISTORY

History by Martin Hogan

History by Martin Hogan

## The Fenian Navy

FENIAN RAM was a submarine designed by John Philip Holland for use by the Fenian Brotherhood, the American counterpart to the Irish Republican Brotherhood against the British. The Ram's construction and launching in 1881 by the Delamater Iron company in New York was funded by the Fenian Skirmishing Fund.

The Fenian Ram's design was partly modeled on the Whitehead torpedo, and like it had cruciform control fins near the tail. The boat did not simply take on ballast until she sank like other contemporary submarines, she maintained slightly positive buoyancy, and simply tilted her horizontal planes so that her forward motion forced her under.

The Ram was armed with a nine-inch pneumatic gun some eleven feet long, mounted along the boat's centerline and firing forward out of her bow. It operated like modern submarine torpedo tubes: a watertight bow cap was normally kept shut, allowing the six foot long projectiles to be loaded into the tube from the interior of the submarine. The inner door was then shut and outer door opened by a remote mechanism. Finally air was used to shoot the projectile out of the tube. To reload, the outer door was again shut and the water in the tube was blown into the surrounding ballast tank by more compressed air. It was powered by a 15 hp Brayton piston engine.

During extensive trials, Holland made numerous dives and test-fired the gun using dummy projectiles. However, due to funding disputes within the Brotherhood and disagreement over payments from the IRB to Holland, the Fenian Brotherhood stole the Fenian Ram and the Holland 3 prototype in November of 1883. They took the submarine to New Haven, Connecticut, but discovered that no one knew how to operate it. Holland refused to help. Unable to use or sell the boat, the Brotherhood had the Ram hauled into a shed on the Mill River. The Holland 3 sank near White-stone, Queens and still has not been found to date despite several attempts to find it. In 1916, the Fenian Ram was exhibited in Madison Square Garden to raise funds for the victims of the Easter Rising. Afterwards she was moved to the New York State Marine School. In 1927, Edward Browne purchased her and moved her to Paterson, New Jersey, where she can still be seen at the Paterson Museum.

Her General Characteristics are displacement 19 tons, length 31 feet, diameter 5.9 feet, test depth 59 feet, complement 3 men; operator, engineer, and gunner, armament 230mm 9 inch pneumatic gun.

Wikipedia was used for research of this article



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