



ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS IN AMERICA

INCORPORATED
Organized in New York City, May 4, 1836

JOSEPH DUELK, JR. DIVISION NO. 1

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

Vol.31 No.12 Newsletter www.aohdiv1.org December 2011 email aohdiv1@yahoo.com Editor Neil O'Riordan 845-313-3644



Next Meeting Friday, December 9th • 7:30 PM

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

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



DIVISION CALENDAR

Division Meeting -----Friday December 9th 7:30 PM

Comedy Night----- Saturday December 10th 8:30PM

Grand Marshall Installation — Sunday December 11th 4PM

Andy Cooney's Christmas Show —Friday December 16th

Adult Christmas Party -----Saturday January 7th 8PM

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well here it is, the last President's message of my term. I would like to thank all the brothers who have assisted me over the past 2 years.

It has been a privilege to serve as President of Division One, Monroe. It is an honor to be chosen to lead the Division and I hope I did a good job for us. We have a new Board coming in and we need to support them and keep the Division moving forward.

I would like to mention the two gentlemen who have served with me for the last few years but will not be on the Board this year. Ed Dennehy has served as the Financial Secretary and most recently the Treasurer. I thank him for his service to the Division on my Board. He has been a big asset to me.

Neil O'Riordan will also not be staying on in his current position. He has taken the reins of the JDJ and he needs to concentrate on that important job. He has been a huge part of the Division the last few years and will continue to be for many more years to come. He will be replaced as Recording

Secretary by John O'Brien who will do an outstanding job in filling some big shoes.

Please make every effort to be at the December meeting. The new Board will be sworn in. Good Luck to President Keith Reynolds and his Vice-President George Anderson. Mike Carroll stays on as Financial Secretary with Bill O'Donnell stepping into the Treasurer Chair .

Sadly, I must report that Brother Leo O'Grady passed away and we honored him as a Division with an impressive turnout. He was a true gentleman and a driving force for Hibernianism and the Irish community in Orange County for many years. He will be missed by all. We will be draping the Division Charter at the December meeting in his honor.

The Mid Hudson Parade Committee will be installing Bill Boss as their Grand Marshall for the 2012 Parade at AOH division Sunday December 11th at 4PM. Please make every effort to attend. Refreshments will be served.

The Mid Hudson St. Patrick's Parade which is held in Goshen every year is experiencing financial hardship. Due to the recession the village of Goshen now requires them to pay all cost associated with parade. This includes overtime for DPW and police. The Mid Hudson Parade Committee will be having a fundraiser Friday December 16th, 8 PM at the Paramount Theatre in Middletown to raise money to cover these additional expense now associated with the parade. Andy Cooney's A Traditional Irish Christmas show will be their fundraiser. Please mark the date on your calendar and make every effort to support this cause.

Children's Christmas Party and Ireland's 32 Early Bird on Sunday Dec. 18th.

Please remember to bring a non-perishable food item to the hall for the food bank to our next meeting.

Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

John O'Grady, President

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**CHRIS CONTE
PROPRIETOR**



• Bill Boss

The Mid Hudson St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee invites everyone to meet our 2012 Grand Marshall, Bill Boss on Sunday December 11th at 3:30 PM at AOH Division 1. Refreshments will be served.

Stop by the Celtic Lounge We have Tim Curtin bartending Mondays, football, darts and good friendship.

Wednesday night Pipe Band Practice has a new bartender Jimmy McLaughlin. If your free stop up and have pint. You don't have to be in the band but I am sure they would love some new members. Stop by see what it's all about.

Thursday Bill O'Donnell and Irish Step Dancing. Fridays Mike Carroll and Sundays Christy Kelly. Traditional Irish music session 1st Sunday of the month.

Contact Neil O'Riordan at 845-313-3644 for more information.

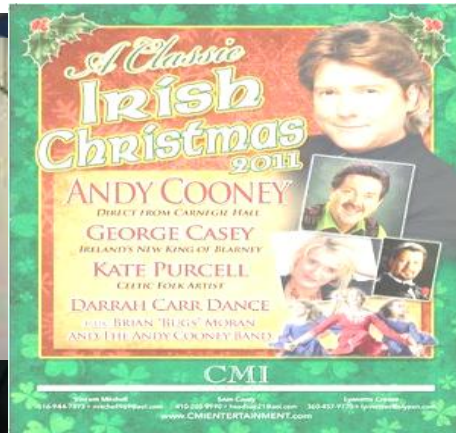
Ireland's 32 Tickets are now available contact your captain or Bill O'Donnell.

Get them in early as their will be an early bird drawing December 18th at the hall during our annual Children's Christmas Party

The feast of the Epiphany is celebrated on January 6th. That is when the Three Kings visited the Baby Jesus. They brought him gifts of Frankincense, Gold and Myrrh.

If you are attending the Children or Adult Christmas parties this year, please remember to bring a non-perishable food item.

God Bless and Merry Christmas
Marty Hogan (Food Bank Chairman)



Andy Cooney December 16th 8PM

The magic and meaning of Christmas comes alive with Andy Cooney's "A Classic Irish Christmas". Andy Cooney, star of The Magic of Christmas at Carnegie Hall, with his outstanding voice and dynamic stage presence has always been a favorite among American and Irish audiences everywhere. His talent and versatility provide the ability to deliver a song directly to the hearts Join Andy and his guests to celebrate A Classic Irish Christmas. You will truly be entertained and your hearts will be filled with gladness and great joy that will be remembered the year round.

Sponsored by the Mid-Hudson St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee.

Tickets: \$25 General Admission
Can be purchased online from the Paramount <http://www.middletonparamount.com/>

SAVE THE PARADE

This fundraiser is necessary to cover the cost of the parade due to police and DPW overtime as the Village of Goshen and all municipalities struggle to control costs.

Comedy at the Celtic Lounge
Saturday December 10th 8PM
15 up and coming comedians practice their acts in the Celtic Lounge. Stop by the next show Saturday December 10th and show your support.

Cost is FREE. FREE!!!!!!

Join us on facebook Aoh Monroe Ny



GOOD AND WELFARE

Leo M. O'Grady 74, a longtime resident of Chester, NY passed away in the presence of his loving family on November 17, 2011. Leo was born in Manhattan, NY, the youngest son of late Eileen and Leo O'Grady, Sr. Leo is survived by his wife of 51 years, Kathleen (née Maguire); his sons Kenneth and wife Christine of Chester, NY; Brendan and wife Gretchen of Marblehead, MA; Dennis of Milford, CT, and Charles of San Francisco, CA. Leo was also blessed with 9 grandchildren, Connor, Morgan, Hannah, Spencer, Ian, Reilly, Caitlin, Brianna and Sean. He is also survived by his sister Eileen, widow of Joseph McClain of Denville, NJ and their 6 children, 16 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren as well as his sister-in-law Alice, widow of Thomas O'Grady of Aquebogue, NY, their 4 children, 14 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren. Leo will be remembered for his many years of dedicated service to the AOH Division #1, Monroe, NY. During his presidency he initiated an Irish Mass for Peace in Northern Ireland and the organization's Bag Pipe Band came into existence. Leo was co-founder and Chairman of the Mid-Hudson St. Patrick's Parade, which he chaired for 14 years and was named Grand Marshall in 1984. He was also appointed an Aide to the Grand Marshall of the New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade in 1987. Leo was also a member of the Knights of Columbus Our Lady of Lourdes Council 5890, Washingtonville, .

HISTORY

Marty Hogan

History by Martin Hogan

IRISH CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

Ireland, like most countries, has a number of Christmas traditions that are all of its own. Many of these customs have their roots in the time when the Gaelic culture and religion of the country were being suppressed and it is perhaps because of that they survived into modern times.

THE CANDLE IN THE WINDOW: The placing of a lighted candle in the window of a house on Christmas Eve is still practiced today. It has a number of purposes but primarily it was a symbol of welcome to Mary and Joseph as they travelled looking for shelter.

The candle also indicated a safe place for priests to perform mass as during Penal Times this was not allowed.

A further element of the tradition is that the candle should be lit by the youngest member of the household and only be extinguished by a girl bearing the name "Mary".

THE LADEN TABLE: After evening meal on Christmas Eve the kitchen table was again set and on it were placed a loaf of bread filled with caraway seeds and raisins, a pitcher of milk and large lit candle. The door to the house was left unlatched so that Mary and Joseph, or any wandering traveler, could avail of the welcome.

THE WREN BOY PROCESSION: During Penal times there was once a plot in a village against the local soldiers. They were surrounded and were about to be ambushed when a group of wrens pecked on their drums and awakened the soldiers. The plot failed and the wren became known as the "The Devil's Bird".

On St. Stephens day a procession takes place where a pole with a holly bush is carried from house to house and families dress up in old clothes and with blackened faces. In olden times an actual wren would be killed and placed on top of the pole.

The custom has to a large degree disappeared but the tradition of visiting from house to house on St. Stephens Day has survived and is very much a part of Christmas.

DECORATIONS: The placing of a ring of holly on doors originated in Ireland as holly was one of the main plants that flourished at Christmas time and which gave the poor ample means with which to decorate their dwellings.

All decorations are traditionally taken down on Little Christmas (January 6th) and it is considered to be bad luck to take them down before.

CHRISTMAS MASS: Christmas in Ireland is more of a religious holiday than in North America and Midnight Mass is a popular choice. It is also a time to remember deceased members of the family with holly or ivy placed on gravesites.

The Gaelic greeting for "Merry Christmas" is 'Noliaig Shone Duit" (Happy Christmas)

Santa Claus is Daidi na Nollag – (Daddy of Christmas).

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