



NEWSLETTER

MAY 2009

Lehigh County DIVISION I

“ FRIENDSHIP , UNITY , AND CHRISTIAN CHARITY ”

IRISH - AMERICAN NYPD HISTORY

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST :

- Irish-American NYPD History
- Iron Pigs Celtic Night
- Trip to Ireland Raffle Tickets
- Nanna Sweeney's Broonie
- Spotlight on a Brother

The 1908 Summer Olympics were held in London, England were extremely controversial. Many of the medals were won by Irish and Irish-American athletes who were not only members of the Irish American Athletic Club of Celtic Park in Sunnyside, Queens, but also members of the New York City Police Department.

Ian McGowan, Archivist for CUNY's Institute for Irish-American Studies is currently creating an exhibit of the Club's trophies, photographs, and other ephemera, including vintage trading cards celebrating the feats of athletes such as John Flanagan, Johnny Hayes, Pat McDonald, Martin Sheridan and Matt McGrath, collectively known as "The Irish Whales."

During the "Parade of Nations," it was a customary for teams to dip their nation's flags as a show of respect for the ruling monarch of the host country. Martin J. Sheridan, a Discus thrower, born in 1881 in County Mayo, Ireland was part of the American Olympic team. Sheridan immigrated to New York in 1901 and joined the NYPD in 1906. Patrolman Sheridan held a grudge against the English because he believed that they helped make the Irish potato famine so bad.

Members of the Olympic committee knowing his dislike for the English replaced Sheridan - who was scheduled to carry the American flag - with Ralph Rose as bearer of the flag. Sheridan as most Irish-Americans had a strong sense of patriotic pride to their newfound country.

NYPD Patrolman Mathew McGrath at 6'2", 245 pounds was a hammer thrower and native of County Tipperary, born in 1878. As the Americans approached the Royal Box, McGrath broke ranks and stepped up to the American flag bearer - Rose - and said, "Dip our flag and you will be in a hospital tonight." The flag was not dipped which caused an international incident.

During a news conference, Sheridan spoke for the entire Olympic team; he pointed to the American flag and said, "This flag dips to no earthly king."

That precedent was set which is still followed today during the Olympic Games.

The American Flag has never been dipped to anyone since that day in 1908. In fact, the United States Flag Code was officially changed to read, "No disrespect should be shown to the flag of the United States of America; the flag should not be dipped to any person or thing."

In 1924 Olympics McGrath earned the silver medal...at the age of 45. During his police career McGrath attained the rank of Inspector, and was awarded the NYPD's Medal of Valor twice. Inspector McGrath died in January of 1941. Martin Sheridan attained first place on the eligibility list for the NYPD and was appointed to the 'Finest' in 1906. He helped organize the Police Carnival and Games for the benefit of the welfare fund of the Department which, for many years, was an outstanding athletic event in New York. To perpetuate his name for the future generations the Martin J. Sheridan Award for Valour was established, and given each year to a member of the Police Department for bravery above and beyond the call of duty. Sheridan, a First Grade Detective died of pneumonia in 1918 while working a double shift for a sick NYPD colleague on March 25 at the age of thirty-seven and is buried in Calvary Cemetery, Woodside, Queens.

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IRON PIGS CELTIC NIGHT JULY 30, 2009

"CELTIC" NIGHT WITH SOUVENIR COLLECTOR'S CUP

Join your AOH brothers and their families at the Iron Pigs Celtic Night on July 30th.

Brother Ken Walsh has 25 tickets available for \$28 each which includes the PPL BBQ for 2 hours. \$3 from each ticket sold will be donated to charity

For more information or to purchase your tickets, contact Brother Ken Walsh by May 28th at 610-261-9031

IRELAND TRIP RAFFLE TICKETS

We need your help to make this our best year ever and to reach our goal of a complete sell out of 2000 tickets.

If you need additional tickets or have questions or concerns please call Lou James at: 610-866-9099 or his cell phone at: 610-442-0583 or email him at LJFD1997@aol.com. The drawing will be held on Sunday, July 26, 2009 at the Columbian Home of Allentown. Please send your sold tickets to Lou at 1420 Stoke Park Rd, Bethlehem, PA 18017 or bring them to the monthly general meeting. **Make checks payable to: AOH, Lehigh County Div 1**

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

Donegal Square - 534 Main Street Bethlehem, PA
www.donegal.com

Corporate Environments - 605 East Broad Street
Bethlehem, PA www.ceg-pa.com

SUPPORT YOUR AOH BROTHERS

Do you have a project or service that you need help with? Contact an AOH brother for help!

Santa A. Claus - America's #1 Santa, 570-465-2206

Bro. Michael J. Toth - Rare books & book searches,
610-346-7737

Bro. Dan Bonner - Dapper Dan the Clown, 610-253-6761

Bro. Scott Rosati - S. Rosati Electric, 610-703-1677

Bro. John Chaya - Jack Callaghan's Ale House,
2027 Tilghman St.

Bro. Roger Brock - Financial Consultant KNBT Securities,
610-882-5304

Bro. Bob Carlin - Certified Public Accountant, 610-798-7220

Bro. Chris Cowen - Somakhn Athletic Training Center,
15th & Chew St. 610-351-1747

Bro. Joseph Kloss - Accounting & tax services for small
businesses, 610-435-6681, JoeCFO@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

100 Members on Roll | 99 Members Paid

New Applicants for Membership:

Mr. Kevin Ryan

Mr. Sean Stetter - Immaculate Conception Parish

Invitees for Initiations:

Mr. James McPhillips—St Anne's, Emmaus

Mr. James Flaherty—St Joseph's, Limeport

Mr. John O'Connell Jr.—St Mary's, Catasauqua

Mr. Joseph Mascari Jr.—St Elizabeth's, Whitehall

Mr. Kenneth Glenville Jr.—St. Joseph's, Berwick

If any member knows why any applicant should not be admitted into our division, contact President Ed Barry and explain reason

NANNA SWEENEY'S BROONIE IRISH GINGERBREAD (FROM JEAN GALLAGHER)

2 cups flour
1 1/2 tsp baking soda
1 tsp cinnamon
1 tsp ginger
3/4 tsp salt
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup softened butter
1 egg
2 yolks
1 cup molasses
1 cup oatmeal
1 cup hot water

Mix dry ingredients except for the oatmeal. Set aside. Combine butter and sugar. Add eggs. Beat until fluffy. Stir in molasses. Add oatmeal and hot water and dry ingredients. Mix well. Bake at 350 for 55 minutes in a greased 13x9 pan. Serve warm with fresh whipped cream.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 2009

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20* | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |

June 2009

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17* | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |

* General membership meetings are held every third Wednesday of the month at the Allentown Knights of Columbus House in the Hibernian room starting at 7:30pm. All members are encouraged and welcome to attend.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 5/17—Hell or high water Kilted sponsored walk
- 5/20—General Members Meeting*
- 5/30—Kelly Ann Chaya-Rooney Memorial Golf Tournament
- 6/3—Officers Meeting
- 6/17—General Members Meeting*
- 6/28—PA Renaissance Fair Celtic Fling

REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Kelly Chaya
 Brother Ed Jordan's wife Kelly
 Brother Brian Foy's sister Kellie and
 Brother-in-law Adam
 Brother Bob Higgins
 Please remember all other brothers who need our prayers as well as our deceased brothers.

HIBERNIAN ROOM USAGE

If you wish to use the Hibernian room for meetings or get togethers, please make prior arrangements with the Columbian Home President, Gene Flanley. The information can be left at the Columbian Home by phoning 610-432-6333 or by stopping in during hours of operations.

IRISH WEBSITES TO REMEMBER

- www.aoh.com
- www.paaoh.org
- www.allentownaoh.com
- www.irishphiladelphia.com
- www.pahurling.com

2009 DIVISION I OFFICERS

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Chaplain | Fr. Martin F. Kern | | |
| President | Ed Barry | edbarryaoh@aol.com | 610-417-1474 |
| Vice President | Ken Walsh | bigirish44@aol.com | 610-462-9963 |
| Financial Secretary | Ed Jordan | ecj212@aol.com | 610-439-5149 |
| Treasurer | Mark Greenawalt | tripleb68@netzero.net | 610-533-0568 |
| Recording Secretary | Scott Rosati | s.rosati@verizon.net | 610-703-1677 |
| Standing Committee | Jim Spang | lleoa@ptd.net | 610-442-4889 |
| Marshal | Robert Doggett | rdoggettspgs@yahoo.com | 610-451-5170 |
| Sentinel | Andy Carr | ajcarr@dejazzd.com | 610-845-8674 |
| Special Committees | Pat Gavigan | pgavigan@rcn.net | 610-435-1356 |

.: Looking to include something in the monthly newsletter? Contact Brian McGonigle at b_mcgonigle@hotmail.com .:

SPOTLIGHT ON A BROTHER

BY CLANCY O'SHAUGHNESSY



PLEASE INTRODUCE YOURSELF.

Tim Butler, AOH member of Lehigh Co. Div. 1 for about 19 years.

WHERE DO YOU TRACE YOUR IRISH HERITAGE BACK TO?

County Antrim. My Great Grandfather arrived with his family thru Ellis Island, and settled in a little town in Westmoreland County, PA. with a wife & 9 children. My Grandfather was then born shortly after their arrival.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR FAMILY, CAREER, AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

I grew up in Irwin, Westmoreland County, PA.-Attended Norwin High School - Studied a while at Penn State University, Spent time in the Air Force & Viet Nam, Met Joan in 1970. Joan & I have been married for 37 years now. We both grew up in the Pittsburgh area, moving to Schnecksville, PA in 1985. I have two children, Craig 35, and Keri 31. I worked as a production supervisor for 15 years at Carrier Corp., then 18years at Precision Roll Grinders in Allentown for 18 years as a supervisor. I am now currently self employed with a small commercial cleaning business.

WHAT ARE YOU INTERESTED IN?

I am currently still active in the AOH, I am on the Board at The Knights of Columbus, I run our yearly Joe's Kids toy drive at Christmas time, I am a member of the St. Patrick's Parade Committee, and am on the committee for our Yearly AOH Charitable Contributions.

DO YOU HAVE ANY HOBBIES?

I enjoy fishing of all types. I fly fish (tying my own flies), I bass fish, and I enjoy Ice Fishing. I have recently started doing a bite of woodworking, with a goal of building my own kitchen cabinets.

AS A AOH BROTHER CAN YOU TELL US HOW YOU FOUND OUT ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?

I was approached by Mike McBride, Joe Foley, & Mike Corcoran about hosting a child thru Project Children. When they discovered I was Catholic, and of Irish Heritage, they introduced me to the AOH. I have since held many office positions for the Division, and have been the Project Children Coordinator for many years.

IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE WOULD LIKE TO MENTION?

Yes. I think that the reason many of our Brothers in the AOH joined & stayed on as members of this Division is because of all the charitable things we do for children in this communities. I just hope that we as a Division do not lose sight of that vision statement in the future. This is even more important to our community in these current economic times.

**Look for more Spotlights on Brothers By Clancy O'Shaughnessy
in upcoming Newsletters!**