



THE BRIMMER

AUTUMN IS HERE!

OCTOBER, 2010

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Brothers,

Summer is officially over and October welcomed us with wind and rain. But who cares, the Phillies are in the playoffs, high school, college and the Eagles football are all in full swing. I'm thankful that everyone survived Irish Weekend, although I hear several livers' are on red alert. October is the month of Our Lady, so remember your finger rosaries for our meeting on October 12th. The esteemed Mr. William Gibbons will be leading us in a decade that night.

Nominations for the Division board will be taken on the 12th as well so give some thought to the men that you want to represent you for the next two years.

Mike "Chewy" Kennedy's fund raiser was a HUGE success. Thank you to all who attended.

Congratulations to Bob McConomy on his selection as the Hibernian Man of the Year and Tim Murphy on his selection as the "Putso" Award winner. Both awards are well deserved as both Bob and Tim are good men and model Hibernians.

Be well,

Go Phillies, Go Eagles, Go Irish and Go Penn State.

Yours in our motto,

Tom

Home Association Election Notice

Nominations for Board Member elections for Division 87's Home Association were accepted during the September meeting. The following nominations were made, and accepted: **Chairman - Tom LaVelle, Financial Officer - Chuck Welsh, Secretary - Jim McGinley** Since no other nominations were offered, no election will be necessary.

Division 87 Officer Election Notice

Nominations for Board Member elections for Division 87's Executive Board will be accepted at the October general meeting, on October 12, 2010. The elections will be held at our November general meeting, on November 12, 2010.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

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TUG'S TALKIN' HERE

Well, we all survived Irish Weekend in North Wildwood. Some of the lowlights were that dancing machine, Gerry Sproehl, who danced anywhere there was music. It didn't have to be dance music either. He was dancing in Owen's with a young Lady, and always the smooth and debonair gentleman, he had a great line "how old do you think, I am?" Her response even surprised Mr. Sproehl, when she said "97". Great line, Gerry.

Speaking of dancing at the shore, Obie and Pat Dever did their tribute to Dancing with the Tarts when they danced together, (yes, you read that correctly, they were doing spins, bumps and grinds). Those of you that missed it, should be happy! While Sonny and Partly Cloudy were doing their thing, a Keenan's employee was sweeping away the water that was forming on the floor coming off of the tent. More like Dance River then Riverdance, for sure.

Congratulations to Bob McConomy who was selected as this year's Man of the Year, a richly deserved award, I might add. I always admired Bob's way of giving a report as the Historian. He would read the first line of a story and then say, "If you want to know the full version, there are copies on the table." Now, if we could only get Billy Gibbons to give his reports that way.....Congrats, again, Bob!

Tug

NONSENSE....

Reds Falcon

Tug McGraw: Matt, were you ever in the service?
Matt Edgar: Does Old Navy count?

Three vampires walk into Binlids.
Chewy asks them what they'll have.
The first vampire says, "I'll have a glass of O Positive."
The second vampire says, "I'll have a glass of AB Negative."
The third vampire says, "I'm the designated driver.
I'll just have a glass of plasma."
Chewy says OK two bloods and one blood lite!"

When is a retiree's bedtime?
Answer: Three hours after he falls asleep on the couch.

Where did Columbus first land in America?
On his feet!

This tombstone was spotted in St Anne's Cemetery: I didn't know pushing up daisies was this difficult.

Over heard at the Sugar House Casino: "I lose way less money when I get bad cards."

You only need two tools in life WD40 and Duct Tape. If it doesn't move and should, use WD40. If it shouldn't move and does, use the duct tape.

Tom Healey was talking about his early career in boxing. "I ruined my hands in the ring. The referee kept stepping on them."

Reds (Go Phillies)

SICK AND DECEASED**PLEASE OFFER YOUR PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND SOULS OF THE DECEASED LISTED BELOW**

Sick: Bob McClelland, Tommy Meehan, Ted Pusko, Jim Simpson, Mary Daily, Danny Carr, Gerry O'Hanlon, Jack Brown, Joe Ward, Fran McGovern, Frank Gallagher, Lisa Murphy, Bill Ferris, Charlie Mullen, George Lees Sr., Mike Wytczak, Mary Jane Kaiser, Patty Palowski, Lori McDonnell, Marty Joyce, Pat McGee, Bill Eder, Glen Miller, Baby Boyle, Erin Martin, Bill McQue, Dorothy Smith, Jack O'Neill, Bill Glenhill, John Scullin, Millie Hughes, Rich Hrap, Geraldine Garrigan, Marty Cosgrove. Tim Murphy, Josie Fenerty, Tom Wallace, Mrs. Dumcheck, Sharon McIntyre, Bob Palmer, Edna Savers, Chalie Fox, Mary Jane Kaiser, Ron Hunter, Mike Kennedy (Chewy), Joe Vasallo, Matt Thrasher, Bobby Connors, Joe Donahue, John Gerell, Vince Tartaglia, Marty Taylor, Mike Sweeney, Vince Targlia, Mike Curran, Cameron Hames, Jimmy Hanratty, James Nolan, Caitlin ring, Al McNamara, Ron Riley, Rita Farron, Michael Curran.

Deceased: Father Scanlon, Tom & Chuck Hildebrand, John Fletcher, Ron Windham, Zach Cusack

DIV 87 CLERGY AND OFFICERS**Chaplains**

Rev Joseph Howarth
Resurrection of Our Lord
2000 Shelmire Ave
Philadelphia, PA 19152
215-745-3211

Rev Joseph F Okonski
Saint Athanasius Rectory
2050 Walnut Lane
Philadelphia, PA 19138
215-548-2700

President

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3320 Fordham Road
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HOME BOARD**Chairman**

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Richboro, PA 18954-1325
215-942-9745

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Recording Secretary

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Trustee

Ed "Mo" Moore, Jr.
3053 Belgrade St.
Philadelphia, PA 19134-5029
215-291-0453

Club Steward

Thomas Wenger
4050 E. Cheltenham Ave
Philadelphia, PA 19124
215-288-8140

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Before the Famine -The following was taken from the website, TheHistoryPlace.com.

In 1798, inspired by the American and French revolutions, the Irish staged a major rebellion against British rule. Widespread hangings and floggings soon followed as the rebellion was brutally squashed. The English Army in Ireland was also increased to nearly 100,000 men.

Two years later, the British Act of Union made Ireland a part of the United Kingdom. The Act abolished the 500-year-old independent Irish Parliament in Dublin and placed the country under the jurisdiction of Britain's Imperial Parliament at Westminster, England. Although Ireland was to be represented there by 100 members, Catholics were excluded.

Anti-Catholic prohibitions dated back to 1695 when the British began imposing a series of Penal Laws designed to punish the Irish for supporting the Catholic Stuart King, James II, in his battle to ascend the British throne in place of the Protestant, William of Orange. With an Irish Catholic army at his side, James II had been defeated at the Battle of the Boyne in July 1690. The resulting Penal Laws stripped Irish Catholics of their rights including; the ability to serve as an officer in the British Army or Navy, hold any government office, vote, buy land, practice law, attend school, serve an apprenticeship, possess weapons, and practice their religion. The Catholic Church was outlawed. The Gaelic language was banned. Export trade was forbidden as Irish commerce and industry were deliberately destroyed.

With 80 percent of Ireland being Catholic, the Penal Laws were intended to degrade the Irish so severely that they would never again be in a position to seriously threaten Protestant rule. In 1600, Protestants had owned just 10 percent of Ireland's land. By 1778, Protestants owned 95 percent of the land. When a Catholic landowner died, the estate was divided up equally among all of his sons, diluting the value. However, if any son renounced Catholicism and became a Protestant, he automatically inherited all of his father's property.

Various Penal Laws remained in effect for 140 years until Catholic Emancipation occurred in 1829, largely through the efforts of Daniel O'Connell, a brilliant Catholic lawyer from County Kerry. But by the time of Emancipation, Ireland had become a nation laid low.

The French sociologist, Gustave de Beaumont, visited Ireland in 1835 and wrote: "I have seen the Indian in his forests, and the Negro in his chains, and thought, as I contemplated their pitiable condition, that I saw the very extreme of human wretchedness; but I did not then know the condition of unfortunate Ireland...In all countries, more or less, paupers may be discovered; but an entire nation of paupers is what was never seen until it was shown in Ireland."

By the mid-1800s, many high-minded English politicians and social reformers began to think that Ireland was a nation in need of transformation, that its people now needed to be yanked into the modern world by tossing out the old Gaelic traditions. To the industrious, ambitious British, their rural Irish neighbors seemed to be an alien, rebellious, backward people, stuck in an ancient agrarian past. English reformers hoped to remake the Irish in their own image, thus ending Ireland's cycle of poverty and misfortune in an era when poverty was thought to be caused by bad moral character. The laid-back, communal lifestyle of Irish peasants with their long periods of idleness was also an affront to influential Protestants in England who believed idleness was the devil's work. They professed the virtues of hard work, thrift and self-reliance and regarded the Irish as totally lacking in these qualities, a point of view also shared by many British officials and politicians.

English reformers watched in dismay as Ireland's 'surplus' population doubled to over 8 million before the Famine. Bountiful harvests meant the people were generally well fed but there were very few employment opportunities. The Act of Union had resulted in Ireland's economy being absorbed by Britain. Although free trade now existed between the two countries, England generally used Ireland as a dumping ground for its surplus goods. Rapid industrialization in Britain also brought the collapse of the Irish linen and woolen industries in the countryside with their

less efficient handlooms. The British 'Poor Enquiry' survey conducted in 1835, revealed that 75 percent of Irish laborers were without any regular work and that begging was very common.

The British government, under pressure from English reformers to relieve the situation, enacted the Poor Law Act of 1838, modeled on the English workhouse system. Under this relief plan, Ireland was divided into 130 separate administrative areas, called unions, since they united several church parishes together. Each union had its own workhouse and a local Board of Guardians elected by taxpaying landowners and farmers. The chairman of the Board was usually the biggest proprietor or landlord in the area. Each Board was responsible for setting local tax rates and for collecting the funds necessary to maintain the workhouse. Inside each workhouse lived a resident Master and Matron, who were also supervised by the Board. The entire system was supervised by a Poor Law Commissioner stationed in Dublin.

Upon arrival at a workhouse, the head of a pauper family would be harshly questioned to prove his family had no other way of surviving. Once admitted, families were immediately split up, had their old clothes removed, were washed down, then given workhouse uniforms. Men and women, boys and girls had their own living quarters and were permanently segregated. Workhouse residents were forbidden to leave the building. The ten-hour workday involved breaking of stones for men and knitting for the women. Little children were drilled in their daily school lessons while older children received factory-style industrial training. A bell tolled throughout the day signaling the start or end of various activities. Strict rules included no use of bad language, no disobedience, no laziness, no talking during mealtime and prohibited any family reunions, except during Sunday church.

The 130 pre-famine workhouses throughout Ireland could hold a total of about 100,000 persons. Everyone knew that entering a workhouse meant the complete loss of dignity and freedom, thus poor people avoided them. Before the Famine, workhouses generally remained three-quarters empty despite the fact there were an estimated 2.4 million Irish living in a state of poverty.

Early Emigrants

Many adventurous, unemployed young Irishmen sought their fortunes in America and boarded ships heading for Boston, New York and Philadelphia. Emigrants during the 1700s were mostly Presbyterians from the north of Ireland, the so-called "Scotch-Irish." Some agreed to work as indentured servants without pay up to five years in return for free passage. By 1776, nearly 250,000 Irish Protestants had emigrated to North America.

Between 1815 and 1845, nearly a million Irish, including a large number of unemployed Catholics, came to the United States. The men went to work providing the backbreaking labor needed to build canals, roads and railways in the rapidly expanding country. Irish pick-and-shovel workers proved to be very hard-working and were in great demand. American contractors often placed advertisements in newspapers in Dublin, Cork and Belfast before beginning big construction projects. The massive Erie Canal project, for example, was built by scores of Irishmen working from dawn till dusk for a dollar-a-day, hand-digging their way westward through the rugged wilderness of up-state New York. The 363 mile-long canal became the main east-west commerce route and spurred America's early economic growth by drastically lowering the costs of getting goods to market.

Back home in Ireland, on the eve of the Famine, the spirit of rebellion had once again arisen. Led by the brilliant orator, Daniel O'Connell, growing numbers of Irish were demanding self-government for Ireland through repeal of the Act of Union. The Repeal Movement featured mass rallies filled with O'Connell's fiery oratory. At one such rally in County Meath, nearly 750,000 persons came together on the Hill of Tara, a former place of Irish kings.

The movement peaked in October 1843 as O'Connell and half-a-million supporters attempted to gather near Dublin for another 'monster' rally, but this time encountered British cannons, warships and troops ready for a violent confrontation. To avoid a potential massacre, O'Connell ordered his people to disperse. The British then arrested the 68-year-old O'Connell. While in prison his health broke and his Repeal Movement faded. He died just a few years later, leaving Ireland leaderless and without a charismatic voice during its darkest period.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Inaugural Gene Spoerl Golf Tournament

This event benefits Holy Innocents Parish and the AOH Home Fund

Date: Saturday, October 23, 2010

Time: 8:30am tee off

Location: Juniata Golf Course

Format: Best Ball - Shotgun start

Cost: \$80/golfer.

Includes greens fees, cart and barbeque at Division 87

Contacts:

Kieran McGovern 267-249-7632

Pat Dever 609-760-4899

The AOH/LAOH Division 87 Hibernian Ball

Saturday, November 13, 2010

7:00PM Mass at Holy Innocents Church
(L st & Hunting Park Ave)

Ball to immediately follow mass at 8:00PM
Romano's Caterers
(1523 E. Wingohocking St)

Come out and celebrate another year for AOH/LAOH - Division 87

Congratulations to the 2010 Award Winners

2010 Hibernian Man of the Year

Bob McConomy

2010 "Putso" Award Winner

Tim Murphy

MAJOR DEGREES THIS MONTH

The Ancient Order of Hibernian
Firefighter John J. Redmond
Philadelphia Division 22
In Association with
The Isle of Erin Major Degree Team
Invite you to the Presentation of the Major Degree Ceremony
With approval of Philadelphia county board.

When: Sunday October 31, 2010
Where: Philadelphia. Fire Fighters Union Hall

5th and Willow St, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Time: 10:30AM (Sign In)
 12:00PM Shamrock Degree
 Major Degree Ceremony to immediately follow

Cost; Observers \$20.00 only if you wish to stay after degree for refreshment and food.
 To sit in on the degree ceremony totally FREE. .
 Candidates \$25.00 + \$5 For Degree Pin
 Travel cards are required by all for admittance

PLEASE DIRECT ALL QUESTIONS, REPLIES AND HEADCOUNTS TO:
 Dan Cline-Vice President
 Division 22
 (610)420-5973
 Mulcleen619@Comcast.net

<p>County Board Meetings for 2010/2011</p> <p>AOH 39 - Thurs 12/2/2010 at 7:30PM (Christmas party after December meeting) AOH 87 - Thurs, 3/3/2011 at 7:30PM AOH 61 - Thurs 6/2/2011at 7:30PM (June is County Board Officers Election meeting)</p>	<p>NEXT DIVISION 87 MEETING</p> <p>Tuesday, October 12, 2010 7:30PM sharp Donnelly Hall 2171 Wakeling St Philadelphia, PA 19124</p>
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Help Wanted

The Brimmer will need a new editor in 2011. Mike Ferris will be retiring from the newsletter business after the December issue. If you have the desire to help Division 87, and the skills to put together a monthly newsletter, please contact Mike Ferris (ferrism@comcast.net) or Tom Healey.

The Brimmer is a monthly publication, and can be published with any software (Publisher, MS-Word, etc). It is due 8-10 days prior to each monthly meeting.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS & DUES SUBMITTAL FORM

AOH Division 87

Port Richmond, Philadelphia

Member ID#, 36PH87_____

Name_____

New Address_____

City_____

State_____ Zip_____

Home Phone_____

Email_____

Amount Paid (\$30/year)_____

Check ___ Cash ___ Date_____

This form must be submitted to the Financial Secretary when you change your address.

George J. Lees Jr
Financial Secretary
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Philadelphia, PA 19134
215-427-2834

Dues: \$30 per Year!

CLUB RENTALS

Hall Rental : 4 Hours

- \$225 for non-members
- \$200 for members
- \$175 for Brick Members
- \$35 for bartender
- \$20 cleanup

Overtime on rentals is available for an additional \$50, with a 1-hour limit. Weekday funeral luncheons are available @ \$175 for non-members; \$50 for mem-

- Beer (per 1/2 barrel)..... *
- Liquor (per liter)..... *
- Premium Liqour (per liter)..... *
- Wine (1/2 gallon)..... *
- Soda (case)..... *
- Orange Juice (1/2 gallon)..... *
- Table Covers (each)..... *
- Wine Coolers (case)..... *
- Non-alcoholic Beer (O'Doul's) case... *
- Ice (40lbs)..... *

To arrange for rental of the hall, contact Jim Dougherty at 215-335-4470
* - Call for prices

Ads Needed

The cost (printing and postage) of publishing the Brimmer each month costs the Division several hundred dollars. This cost is offset by advertisements placed in this publication. Without these ads, the division must make up the difference, which means less money for our charitable endeavors. Every member of Division 87 can help. Ask your insurance agent, your mechanic, or your local stores where you shop. This is a good way for your local merchant to help the AOH, while at the same time, gaining additional exposure, as the Brimmer is mailed or emailed to 400 members every month.

If you know of anyone who would like to purchase an advertisement for the Brimmer, see Mike Nolan.

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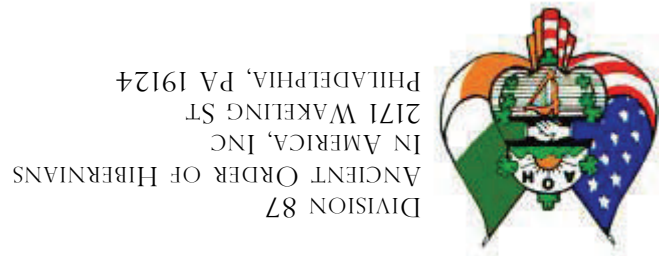
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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.AOH87.COM

The Ancient Order of Hibernians is a Catholic, Irish American Fraternal Organization, whose members strive to live by our motto of Friendship, Unity and True Christian Charity. If you are interested in joining our organization, you must be of Irish decent and a practicing Catholic. Go to <http://www.AOH87.com> for more information on joining Division 87—Port Richmond.

FRIENDSHIP, UNITY AND CHRISTIAN
CHARITY