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Please Support Our Patrons

**To be Irish is a Blessing,
To be a Hibernian is an Honor.**



On St. Patrick's day everyone pretends to be Irish; just like at Christmas everyone pretends to be good.

"Some cause happiness wherever they go; others whenever they go." -Oscar Wilde

ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS NEWSLETTER WILLIAM J. RYAN DIVISION 4 PO BOX 532, LOCKPORT, NY 14095 March 2017

FRIENDSHIP, UNITY & CHRISTIAN CHARITY



Next Meeting is Thursday, March 2nd, 2017 , 7 pm at Legion

Coming Events

8 March 2017 — Decorating for the St. Patrick's party. 7 pm All Saints Parish Hall

10 March 2017 — Division St. Patrick's Party is now at the All Saints Parish Hall. From 6 to 11 pm. Irish Dancers, Live Band, Corned Beef & potatoes. Refreshments Available. Help Needed

17 March 2017 - Guard the Church at 11:30 am. Noon Mass at St. Patrick's Church (we will sit as a Division with our sashes), March to Monument for the Irish of the Erie Canal, Heritage celebration at American Legion. All Hibernians should attend the Mass!!!!

17 March 2017 — New York City Parade (if interested, contact Ed Tracy)

19 March 2017 — Buffalo St. Patrick's Day Parade

21 March 2017 — State Convention Meeting, 6:30 pm, Buffalo Irish Center

President's Message

Here we are again in the beautiful month of March. We have an entire month to celebrate our Irish heritage. Let's celebrate with our motto Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity. Let's enjoy each other's company, work to attract new members who meet our requirements and always work to care for those less fortunate than us.

Let's ensure we host programs and activities that include everyone, giving particular attention to our own children and grand-children that they may live to know the history, customs, and contributions of those Irish and Irish-Americans who went before us.

Let's be on the look-out to fight those stereo-types which depict the Irish in a negative way.

Let's look out for each other's safety and well being, particularly those who are sick, injured or down on their luck. At this time of happiness be extra mindful of those who are mourning the loss of family and friends.

And let's do this each and every month of the year!

It's Time to Pay Your Dues

If you haven't paid your 2017 dues, please do so now! Please send your dues to:

WILLIAM J. RYAN DIV 4, PO BOX 532, LOCKPORT, NY 14095

Please write "2017 DUES" in the memo line of the check. Dues are \$30.00 for the year and include State and National assessments and your State and National publications.

Please pay now!

"Ireland Unfree Shall Never be at Peace"



Chaplain

Fr. Walter J. Szczesny
716-433-3707

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All Division mail can be sent to:

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PRAYER REQUESTS

Send your requests to me and I will add them. This month pray for all departed Hibernians, family members and friends. Pray for all of our Irish ancestors who struggled both in Ireland and around the world. Pray that persecuted Christians may be supported by the prayers and material help of the whole Church.

March is the month to celebrate our rich Irish heritage. Remember Ireland is not only the land of Guinness and Jameson; but also the land of poets, Saints, authors, and Brave Freedom Fighters.

Dear St. Patrick,

In your humility you called yourself a sinner,
but you became a most successful missionary
and prompted countless pagans to follow the Savior.

Many of their descendants in turn spread the Good News in numerous foreign lands.
Through your powerful intercession with God,
obtain the missionaries we need to continue the work you began.
Amen.

2017 New York State AOH Convention

The next NY State AOH convention will be held the Adam's Mark in Buffalo from 12 through 15 July 2017. We will need help to ensure this is a well-run, enjoyable convention for all attendees. Good news is that they will be offering the AOH Major Degree at the convention. **The degree will be around noon on the 15th of July 2017 — MARK YOUR CALANDARS!.** If you haven't received the Major Degree plan on attending. If you have received the degree, this will be a great chance to observe and participate in the ceremony (I'm sure you don't remember everything which occurred). The Western New York Committee has been meeting to make this convention happen. All are welcome. The next committee meeting is March 21, 2017, 6:30 pm at the Buffalo Irish Center, 245 Abbott Rd, Buffalo. If you are interested in helping with the convention, or attending this meeting, please let me know.



SALVATION ARMY

Please remember that our Division has made a commitment to serving lunch at the Salvation Army Lunchroom on the **3rd Thursday of every month.** Lately, the participation has been slipping. Please mark your calendars and help out with this very worthwhile activity. Just show up at the Salvation Army on Cottage Street at 10:30 am on each 3rd Thursday. It only takes 3 hours, and you'll be done by 1:30 pm.

NEW YORK CITY TRIP TO MARCH IN THE NYC ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Don't miss this great opportunity to march in the St. Patrick's Day parade in New York City. Our itinerary:

Thursday, March 16 - Amtrak to New York. After checking in (probably the Hilton Garden on 34th Street, we will travel to McSorley's - the oldest pub in New York.

Friday, March 17 - we will meet our host division (Manhattan #7) in a pub for a few libations. Then we will line up and march with them.

(Commemorative sashes will be available to purchase.

Saturday March 18. Return

Estimated cost \$250. Train is \$104; hotel \$140.

A \$100 deposit is needed to hold your place. Mail deposit to Ed Tracy, 321 East Avenue, Lockport NY 14094.

Deadline: March 2 meeting.



The Great Guinness Toast Raffle

I wrote this newsletter early because of a vacation. The raffle hasn't been conducted yet but will be before the March meeting. Dave Miller has graciously agreed to help in my absence, along with Bill Costello and Rose Lutz who always help out.

Thanks to all who sold tickets. Thanks to everyone who donated prizes. I will endeavor to ensure all is done and ready for a report at the March meeting. A list of all of the winners will be in the April newsletter.

Question: does March 17th commemorate St Patrick's birth or his death, clue the Irish love their wakes. Answer, St Patrick died on March 17th 461 AD. Incidentally, the first celebration of St Patrick's day in America was 1737 in Boston.