

April, 2014

Issue 5

# Hibernian News

*Publication of Bishop Norbert Dorsey Division, AOH Division One Hernando County*

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**Meeting Night****3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday****St. Theresa Church Hall****6:00 PM**

## Major Degrees of the Order

The Major Degrees of the Order will be exemplified on Saturday May 17 in Savannah, GA at 2 PM. Registration will begin at 1 PM. A van will be leaving St. Theresa parking lot in Spring Hill at 7 AM. The Degree will cost \$50 per Candidate + \$25 for gas & van rental. We need Degreed members if we are going to have a Major Degree Team.

The Major Degrees of the Order if exemplified correctly are both educational and memorable. If you have an interest in participating in this project please contact Jim Cahill 352-593-4325

## Update

So far the only members who have committed to go to Savannah for the Degree on May 17 are: Dr. Michael Higgins, Lewis Hartman, Robert Criste, Michael Owens and Joseph Purcell. If you plan to attend and need transportation and Lodging please contact Jim Cahill at the above number.

## AOH/LAOH Picnic

We are in the planning stages for an AOH/LAOH Picnic. It will be held at the Picnic pavillion at the Slavic-American Hall on County Line Road. Date and specifics will be discussed at the April Meeting. Any ideas will be greatly appreciated.

## AOH Shirts and Patches

AOH shirts and patches will be available at the meeting on April 17. Shirts and patches are \$25 for M to XL \$27 for 2X \$30 for 3 and 4X Patches are to be ironed on or sewed on the pocket.

Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> Monthly Meeting Saint Theresa Church Hall 6:00 PM.

Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday

Thursday May 15<sup>th</sup> Monthly Meeting Saint Theresa Church Hall 6:00 PM.

Saturday May 17<sup>th</sup> Exemplification of the Major Degrees of the Order (Savannah GA)

by South Carolina Major Degree Team.

## LAOH NEWS

Many nice prizes for the auction in October have been coming in and remind all my sisters to continue with their donations. October seems like a long time off but with the summer recess, time goes by rapidly. Please continue to bring whatever you have to the meetings.

I wish all my sisters and their family, a very holy and Happy Easter.

Nancy Fay

Now Taking orders AOH Blazers

Hunter Green Blazers with Logo \$89.00 to \$109.00, Depending on size.



Hernando County  
Division one

The Logo would look something like this

With each Division adding their own info.

If interested Call Jim Cahill 352-593-4325

So far we have orders for 5 Blazers we need 12 to complete the order.

## Death of a Member

Brother Al Mishley passed away at 4:59 AM Palm Sunday morning, at home with his loving family. A Funeral Mass will be held Wednesday at 1 PM at Saint Theresa Church, Commercial Way, Spring Hill.

## 2014 National Convention Information

The 2014 National Convention will take place in St. Louis, Mo. All information will be on the website [www.AOH2014STL.com](http://www.AOH2014STL.com).

**JULY 30 – AUGUST 3, 2014**

**Location:**

All registration, events and convention sessions will take place at:

[Renaissance St Louis Grand Hotel](#)

800 Washington Ave  
St. Louis, MO 63101

The limited special rate of \$120 a night plus taxes (King or 2 Double). This special rate will apply until the cut-off date or when the room block is filled; at that point other rates may apply

## Presidents Message

Greetings Brothers!

I hope this message finds you all healthy and getting ready to celebrate Easter with family and friends. The Lenten season has reminded us of the sacrifice Jesus made for us, let us keep this in our hearts and make daily sacrifices in his name. Please get in touch with Brother James Cahill..we need to know who is going to the major degree May 17,2014 in Georgia and also Jacket sizes for our AOH jacket. Bring money to the meeting for our lotto tickets,who knows,right! This months meeting will be quick,as father wants us at 7pm mass.And finally, Brother Al Mishley passed away Palm Sunday morning, His wake is Wednesday at 1pm at St Therasas.I will preside for the AOH Ritual at Wake. How blessed we were to share a meal with him at our Anniversary Brunch and to see him win the basket! God's plan...my friends. Slainte'

Dr. Mike

# Easter Rising- April 1916

## *The Significance of 1916*

*The 1916 Rising was a seminal event in the history of 20th-Century Ireland. It was regarded by republicans, then and since, as a glorious fight for freedom, a major step on the road to independence. It was seen by unionists as a 'stab in the back', at a time when Britain was at war. Defended by George Bernard Shaw as "a fair fight in everything except the enormous odds my countrymen had to face", it was condemned by the Irish Times as "rapine and bloodshed". It has been analysed by academics and military historians, commemorated in song and ballad, revered and reviled. While there has been disagreement regarding its effects and results, there can be no doubt about its central place in the history of modern Ireland.*

## *The Background to the Rising*

*Upon the outbreak of war, the IRB set about planning a rebellion. Contact was made with Germany, control over the Irish Volunteers was tightened and relations with the Citizen Army were improved. A promise of German arms was received, and in January 1916, the Supreme Council of the IRB fixed April 23rd as the date of the rising. This was later changed to the 24th, and plans were made to take delivery of the arms from Germany. When the Volunteer chairman, Eoin MacNeill, discovered that rebellion was planned, he countermanded the mobilisation orders, changed his mind when told of the German arms, and changed it again when he heard of their capture. The Military Council of the IRB decided, however, to go ahead with the rebellion on Easter Monday, 24th April.*

## *Outbreak of Rebellion*

*Following the capture of the German ammunition ship, the 'Aud', and MacNeill's countermanding order, Volunteer mobilisation was incomplete and there was little activity outside Dublin. In Dublin, on 24th April, a force of 1,200 Volunteer and Citizen Army members took over the centre of the city. At the GPO, the Proclamation of the Republic was read and an Irish Republic declared, with P. H. Pearse as President. The Proclamation was signed by Pearse and six others: Thomas Clarke, Seán MacDiarmada, James Connolly, Thomas MacDonagh, Eamonn Ceannt and Joseph Plunkett. Garrisons were set up at the Four Courts, Boland's Mills, Jacob's Factory, the South Dublin Union, the College of Surgeons and other strategic points, but the insurgents failed to capture Dublin Castle, which was a serious blow to their plans.*

## *Easter Week*

*The declaration of independence on Easter Monday was followed by five days of fierce street fighting as British forces, aided by artillery brought from Athlone and a gunboat, the 'Helga', on the Liffey, slowly encircled and isolated the various garrisons. Some of the heaviest fighting took place around Mount Street Bridge as British reinforcements, advancing from Dún Laoghaire, met fierce opposition. Heavy hand-to-hand fighting also took place around the Four Courts and other posts. The failure of the insurgents to capture Trinity College or Dublin Castle allowed the British to drive a wedge between posts north and south of the Liffey and bring artillery to bear on the GPO. Finally, on Saturday 29th, with the GPO in flames and the city centre in ruins, Pearse gave the order to surrender.*

## *Executions*

On 28th April, General Maxwell arrived in Dublin to take control of the British forces. Following the surrender, the survivors were rounded up, as were thousands of Volunteers and sympathisers throughout the country. The leaders were promptly court-martialled and over 90 death sentences were passed. On 3rd May, the executions began when Patrick Pearse, Thomas MacDonagh and Thomas Clarke were shot by firing squad in Kilmainham Jail. Over the next eight days, a further 12 executions were carried out, despite growing protests in Ireland, Britain and America. Those executed included the seven signatories of the Proclamation, together with Con Colbert, Sean Heuston, Michael Mallin, Michael O'Hanrahan, William Pearse, Sean MacBride, Edward Daly and, in Cork, Thomas Kent.

## *Internment, 1919 - 21*

Of those arrested after the Rising, most were interned in various British prisons – Knutsford, Lewes, Wandsworth, Wakefield, Stafford, Glasgow and Perth. Later, about 1,800 were transferred to an internment camp at Frongoch in Wales. Here, they elected their own leaders, studied Irish language and history and generally maintained their own organisation. The majority of these were released in August, the remainder in December. The convicted prisoners were freed in June 1917. As the War of Independence intensified, the existing prisons were unable to cope with the huge flood of prisoners and a number of internment camps were set up, such as Spike Island, Co. Cork and Ballykinlar, Co. Down. Ballykinlar held over 2,000 prisoners, who organised their own theatre companies, classes, societies and craft groups and even issued their own token coinage. The camp was referred to by its inmates as "the university".

## The War of Independence, 1919 - 21

The guerrilla warfare that developed in Ireland from 1919 was largely unplanned. It was influenced more by local developments and personalities than by any central direction and varied in intensity from region to region. Described as 'part-time and episodic', it was fought with greatest intensity in Dublin city and Munster, while other parts of the country saw very little conflict. As the IRA and the British army changed and developed their military tactics, amid a growing level of ambushes, raids, atrocities and reprisals, it gradually became apparent that outright victory for either side was unattainable. Initially the war took the form of raids for arms, the first being at Soloheadbeg, Co. Tipperary, in January 1919. As the year wore on, attacks on police barracks intensified, the regular British Army was increasingly brought into use, and by the end of the year there were 40,000 troops in the country. The fighting intensified in 1920 as ambushes and military sweeps became commonplace. The IRA perfected a type of guerrilla warfare, based upon flying columns and active service units, which was very difficult to combat. By 1921, the war had reached a new level of ferocity, as IRA attacks on barracks and convoys were followed by British reprisals, official and unofficial. Finally, with the military conflict in stalemate, a truce was agreed on 9th July 1921, and came into effect on 11th July.

### From Truce to Treaty

When the Truce came into effect, British and Irish representatives commenced peace negotiations. The exclusion of a portion of Ulster, the status of the new state and the nature of the relationship with Britain, led to virtual deadlock between the Irish and British, and disagreement among the Irish themselves. Finally, a Treaty was signed on 6th December 1921. After a long and angry debate in the Dáil, it was ratified in January 1922 by 64 votes to 57. Evacuation of British regular troops, Auxiliaries and Black and Tans commenced immediately and the R.I.C. was disbanded. Beggar's Bush Barracks was occupied as the headquarters of the new Free State army, and by the end of May the British had evacuated most of the barracks and military installations.

### Free State or Republic?

The ratification of the Treaty in January 1922 was followed by a bitter struggle between those in favour of and those against its implementation. Ideological differences, local rivalries and personal animosities all played a part. The issue of partition, the complicated allegiances of the IRA and IRB, and uncertainty over the status of the Dáil and the new Provisional Government, all added to the confusion. As soldiers loyal to one side or the other began to occupy barracks and vantage points there were numerous attempts at reconciliation as the country slid towards civil war. Serious conflict broke out at the end of June when the pro-Treaty forces shelled the Four Courts in Dublin and forced the surrender of its Republican garrison. The Republican forces were strongest in the south and west but the early capture of Cork, Waterford, Limerick and Castlebar by Free State troops brought conventional warfare to an end by the autumn of 1922. In the meantime the deaths of Arthur Griffith and Michael Collins removed two of the most influential figures in Irish politics.

### The End of the Civil War

As the conflict switched to guerrilla warfare, it became increasingly vicious and chaotic. Each camp waged bitter propaganda wars against the other and provided comprehensive reports of the atrocities of the other side. Shooting of prisoners, mistreatment of detainees, the burning of pro-Unionist houses, the destruction of railways and bridges and the use of prisoners to clear mines, all led to revenge and reprisal. In early December, Seán Hales, a pro-Treaty TD, was shot dead by Republicans. As a reprisal, four Republican prisoners, Rory O'Connor, Joseph McKelvey, Liam Mellows and Dick Barrett, were executed by the Free State. By the end of the conflict, in May 1923, the number of executions was to stand at 77. Disunity in the Republican ranks and especially between the military and political leaders, made continued resistance against the better-armed and organised Free State forces more and more difficult. Finally, in May 1923, the order was given to cease hostilities and dump arms. This brought to an end a conflict that was to leave a legacy of bitterness and influence the shape of Irish politics for many decades.

### Interpreting 1916

Different generations have commemorated 1916 in different ways. Academics and commentators have disagreed in their interpretation of its significance, their opinions sometimes influenced as much by their own political leanings as by knowledge of the subject. Regardless of how one interprets its impact, however, there can be no doubt that a knowledge of 1916 and the events that followed is crucial to our understanding of the history and political development of modern Ireland.



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Vivat Jesu  
Rev Fr. Cornelius Dougherty  
Assembly 1721  
K of C  
10470 Spring Hill Drive  
Spring Hill, FL 34608

Meeting Each 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday  
7:30 PM

## Downing Funeral Home and Cremation Services



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