



August 2009

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Next Division Meeting: 8/11/09

The next meeting of the John F. Kennedy Division #1, will take place on Tuesday, August 11th at 7:30 PM at the Gaelic American Club in Fairfield.

Note: Due to ongoing construction at the GAC, our meeting will be in the Carolan Room. We will be discussing the September 19th Fundraiser for the Curley-Flynn Scholarship.. Please make every effort to attend this meeting. Call a Brother and get him to come, too.

This will be our AUGUST meeting...in the language of our ancestors this month is:

Lúnasa (loo-nah-sah)

Annual Hibernian Picnic Sun 8/9

CANCELLED due to poor response.

Father Small

Our Division Chaplain, Fr. Small, is still up in the Jesuit facility in Weston, Mass. undergoing medical treatment. I trust that we will all keep Father Small in our prayers. Fr. Small is always praying for us . . . please return the favor.

Contact information: Rev. Edward Small, S.J., Campion Center, 319 Concord Rd., Weston, MA 02493-1398

JFK Division #1

Night Out at the Bridgeport Bluefish

We had a wonderful night out at Harbor Yard for Bluefish baseball with over 60 Hibernian brothers and friends. Great weather, great company, a great game . . . and half price beers.

We will definitely do this again next year!



CHERISH ALL LIFE

SAVE-the-DATE: Saturday 9/19 Milford Irish Festival

In lieu of our corn & ice booth at the Fairfield County Irish Festival, we will be running a one-day food booth at the Milford Irish Festival. This will be a major source of funding for the 2009 Curley-Flynn Scholarship.

Final details are being arranged...but PLEASE put this on your calendar.

We need volunteers---even just an hour or two---to help out for our Division's most important charitable cause.

Commodore Barry Day: Saturday 9/12 hosted by Fairfield County AOH

Commodore Barry Day will be celebrated on at 10 AM at Pequot Harbor in Southport section of Fairfield. Irish born John Barry was both the first flag officer of the U.S. Navy as well as one of the founders of the Navy. He sailed from this spot and fought the Royal Navy during the Revolutionary War. County will have a short celebration from 10 to 11 to honor him and a light meal to follow at the Gaelic American

Club. For further information, please contact
Fairfield County President Fred Cotter 378-2054.

2009 Dues

The Executive Board conducted an early July phone-a-thon calling Brothers who still have not paid their \$25 annual dues.

Thankfully, we can report that 80% of the Division is now paid-up. If you are part of the 20% in arrears please go to our Division website www.aohjfk.com and make a secure on-line payment, or send your check to:

Chris Boyle, Financial Secretary, 50 Peck Lane, Milford CT 06460

If you are unable to pay due to current financial difficulty, or know of a Brother in this situation, please let Chris Boyle know or call President Tom Keane (203-256-8033).

IRISH HISTORY - Important August Dates

August 1st is Lúghnasa; in the old days this was the Feast of the god Lúgh, a 30 day agrarian celebration with August 1 at the center. Also, the first day of Autumn in the Celtic Calendar.

1170 8/23 - Strongbow, henchman of Henry II, arrives in Waterford, at the behest of Diarmaid Mac Murchadha deposed King of Leinster who offers land and his daughter for help in reclaiming his throne. These events are described in the Annals of Ulster as "the beginning of the woes of Ireland." Anglo-Norman/English subjugation and occupation begins

1598 8/14 - Hugh O'Neill defeats the English at the Battle of Yellow Ford

1649 8/15 - Oliver Cromwell arrives in Ireland with an army of 20,000, a huge artillery train and a large navy

1652 8/12 - 'Act for the Settling of Ireland' allows for the transplantation to Clare or Connacht of Irish whose land is confiscated by Cromwell to meet promises to adventurers and soldiers; known as the "To Hell or Connacht" Act

1775 8/6 - Daniel O'Connell, Irish patriot, is born in Cahirciveen, County Kerry

1798 8/22 - "The Year of the French" - a French force of 1,019 men under General Humbert lands in Mayo.

1879 8/21 - A Vision of the Virgin Mary is witnessed by 15 villagers in Knock, Co. Mayo

1894 8/11 - Dan Breen, nationalist revolutionary and politician, is born near Soloheadbeg, Co. Tipperary

1915 8/1 - Nationalist Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa buried in Glasnevin cemetery, Dublin (famous Padraic Pearse oration cited by Dr. McGrath at the Communion Breakfast; see April issue of Bridgeport Hibernian).

1916 8/3 - Roger Casement, Irish patriot, is hanged by the English in Pentonville Prison, London. He was the last to be executed as a result of the Easter Rebellion

1919 8/20 - The Irish Republican Army is established by the Dail Eireann

1920 8/12 - Terence MacSwiney, Lord Mayor of Cork, arrested by British; he immediately goes on hunger strike

1922 8/22 - Michael Collins assassinated. His convoy was ambushed at a place known as Beal na mBláth - the mouth of flowers. Only one man--Collins-- was killed. It is thought that Irregulars did the shooting, but some say that it was his own men in collusion with the British. The controversy continues to this day.

1969 8/12 - U.K. troops deployed in Northern Ireland after riots in Derry and Belfast; "The Troubles" begin.

1971 8/10 - Soccer star Roy "Keano" Keane, the "human dynamo" born in Cork.

1971 8/9 - Internment without charge or trial introduced in Northern Ireland. First arrests, based largely on incorrect/outdated info causes massive nationalist resentment; 17 people are killed in the rioting that follows

1981 8/1 - After 71 days on hunger strike, Kevin Lynch dies at Long Kesh Prison in Belfast

1981 8/2 - Death of Kieran Doherty, TD for Monaghan-Cavan, on the 73rd day of his hunger strike

1981 8/8 - Thomas McElwee, Irish political prisoner, dies on the 62nd day of his hunger strike in Long Kesh.

1981 8/20 - Michael "Mickey" Devine, 27, from Derry dies after 60 day hunger strike. He was the last of the H-Block hunger strikers to give their lives in order to retain their status as political prisoners.

2000 8/27 - A former member of British military intelligence reveals that they had provided the weapons used by loyalist gangs who rampaged through Belfast's Shankill district ---as part of a plan to defeat the IRA

2002 8/7 - Irish government prohibits U.S. from using Irish airspace or airports during any attack on Iraq. 7/29/ 1848 - **Young Ireland** rising is crushed. William Smith O'Brien, Thomas Francis Meagher and other leaders are arrested, convicted of high treason and sentenced to death. Sentences are commuted to transportation to penal colony at Van Diemen's Land

7/31/ 1893 - **The Gaelic League** founded in order to revive the use of the Irish language and foster appreciation of Ireland's Celtic heritage

Gaelic American Club

74 Beach Road, Fairfield, CT
Manager's Office 254-0673
www.gaconline.org

Pat O'Connell
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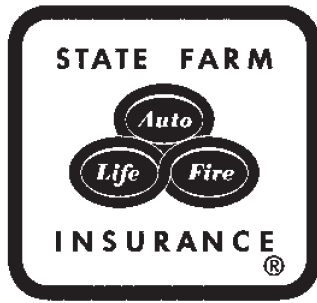
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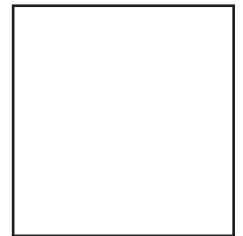
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Mae King Division #65 Bridgeport, Connecticut

AUGUST 2009 *Lunasa (loo-nah-sah)*
1st St. Alphonsus; 4th St. John Vianney; 9th St. Felim; 10th St. Lawrence;
14th St. Maximilian Kolbe; 15th Assumption of BVM; 21st O. L. of Knock;
22nd Queenship of Mary; 23rd Sts. Eugene & Rose of Lima;
28th St. Augustine; 30th St. Fiachra

*****NEXT MEETING, TUESDAY, AUGUST 18TH*****

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Shelia O'Brien
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Greetings, Sisters. We hope you all are enjoying the summer- which seems to be going all too quickly!
Again, we will be holding our August meeting at Holy Family Convent (where we met for Bible study) in Fairfield. If anyone needs directions please don't hesitate to call Helen Collins at 374-5916.

***CANCELLED* Annual AOH/LAOH Picnic** – We're sorry to say that the August 9th Picnic has been cancelled. Only a very few people have called to say that they were coming and we cannot plan for food, soda, etc. not knowing how many people to expect. Any ideas or suggestions would be most welcome!!!

FATHER SMALL is recuperating after recent surgery please keep him in your prayers. His address:
Fr. Edward Small, SJ, Campion Center, 319 Concord Road, Weston, MA 02493-1398

Food Pantry – Blessed Sacrament Food Pantry is our ongoing local food donation center. Non-perishables such as cereal, canned fruits and vegetables, soups, tuna fish, Spaghetti O's, spam, peanut butter, jelly, along with flour, rice, sugar, coffee, tea, artificial sweeteners, powdered milk, etc., (any non-perishables) as well as personal hygiene products would be appreciated. They also can use baby items such as diapers, wipes, clothing, etc., as well as summer clothing for adults and children. Any bedding (excluding furniture) you no longer need will also be accepted. Any other items can be dropped off Mon. thru Fri. between 9 – 1 pm.

Book Swap - anyone who may have books they've already read and would like to pass on please bring them to our next meeting. We are hoping to have this as an ongoing activity at each meeting. This way someone else can enjoy books we have already read. They can be returned to you after making the rounds or donated if you no longer want them.

The annual **John Barry Commemoration** Ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, September 12th at Southport Harbor. Please look for more details in next month's bulletin.

The **Parade Committee** is seeking nominations for the **2010 Grand Marshal**. If there is a member of our Irish community you feel deserves this honor please take the time to write a letter and send it to Ms. Katrina Shea, 351 Edison Rd., Trumbull 06611 **by September 7th**.

Milestones - Very **Happy Birthday** wishes are being sent to Debbie Owens on the 15th and Robin Burke-Healy on the 27th. **Congratulations** to Rita (O'Sullivan) and Steve Troutman who welcomed baby no. 2, **Margaret Elizabeth, on July 18th**. Also, **Good Luck** to **Bobby Curley**, Beverly's son, who will be participating in a 100 Mile Bike Ride with Lance Armstrong to raise much needed money for Cancer research. **Bobby is a breast cancer prevention and treatment researcher at Ohio State U.** and is responsible for the discovery of many of the cancer drugs being used today. **Thanks Bob!**

Please remember in your prayers Patrick McShea, a newborn with severe health issues, our Chaplain, Father Small who is recovering after surgery, and Kay Egan, State FFAI Ch., who will be undergoing surgery shortly. Also, please pray for all our Armed Forces, present and past, living and deceased – Freedom Is Not Free! As always, let us know of anyone you know who may need our prayers.
