

THE BRIDGEPORT HIBERNIAN



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March 2009

The Monthly Newsletter of the
Ancient Order of Hibernians
John F. Kennedy Division 1,
Bridgeport, Connecticut

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Pre-Communion Breakfast Meeting

The next meeting of the John F. Kennedy Division #1, AOH of Bridgeport will take place on Tuesday, March 10 at 7:30 p.m. at the Gaelic American Club in Fairfield.

The final details of our 59th Annual AOH Mass and Communion Breakfast in honor of Saint Patrick, Patron Saint of Ireland, our most important event of the year, will be the key subject of discussion at the meeting.

Please make every effort to attend this meeting to help ensure a smoothly run and memorable event.

Communion Breakfast - Fact Sheet

Here's a quick recap of what you need to know and do:

- Sunday March 15th: St. Jude's Church (707 Monroe Turnpike, Monroe).
- 7:00AM: Division assembles in the Social Hall directly beneath the church. Green carnations distributed here. Uniform of the day as always is a green necktie, suit or blazer and shined dress shoes.
- 7:20 - Division forms up and begins procession into the Church.
- 7:30 - Mass begins. Bishop Lori presiding.
- Breakfast immediately follows at the Holiday Inn in Bridgeport. Parking is free.
- Tickets are NOT available at the door.
- Breakfast speaker: Dr. John McGrath, Professor of Irish History, Mercy College in Dobbs Ferry, NY.
- You may order tickets and pay your '09 dues at the March 10th Meeting . . . OR . . . online at website <http://www.aohjfk.com>
- Both the annual dues (\$25) and the Communion Breakfast (\$20) prices are unchanged from last year.
- Also please help your Division by being a Patron for the Breakfast. Each \$10 patron receives a mention in the program . . . and our sincere thanks.

CHERISH ALL LIFE

Breakfast Speaker - Dr. John McGrath

- Post Doctorate from the University of Notre Dame; Ph.D. in Law and Criminal Justice from Fordham
- Doctoral Dissertation examined the Irish Republican Army (IRA) and Sinn Fein
- Professor of Irish History at Mercy College.
- Past President of Ancient Order of Hibernians in Stamford, CT.
- Member of Brehon Law Society, Irish Northern Aid and Clan na Gael

Saddle Up for the Parade on March 17

We will once again march proudly in the Greater Bridgeport St. Patrick's Day Parade. Please join your Brother and Sister Hibernians in marching behind our banners in the 27th Annual Parade. Assemble in the vicinity of the Harbor Yard Arena at noon. Brothers Dave Howe, Rich Owens, Bob O'Sullivan, Fred Cotter, Jack Caldwell, Ted Lovely, Bob Curwen, John Carolan, Fr. Small and Chairman Dave Ryan work throughout the year on the Parade Committee. . . be sure to tip your hat to them as you pass in the parade.

SPECIAL Concert Discount only for AOH Division #1

THE CELTIC TENORS bring their melding of Irish, classical, and folk to The Ridgefield Playhouse on Sunday, March 8 at 8p.m. We have negotiated a special 10% discount off all ticket prices for this event. The discount is available on purchases at the box office or by calling the Playhouse (203-438-5795). Be certain to mention the AOH discount.

Note: Our discount is not available for on-line purchases.

45th Annual St. Patrick's Scholarship Dinner

The annual St. Patrick's Scholarship Dinner will be held on Monday, March 16 in the Grand Ballroom of the Holiday Inn in Bridgeport. The cocktail hour @ 6 p.m., dinner @ 7 p.m., and entertainment beginning @ 8 p.m. Dress: formal attire. Tickets: \$125; available by calling Past President Dave Howe at 767-6519. Applications for the scholarship are available at the Merit Insurance office located at 1000 Lafayette Boulevard in Bridgeport.

Save the Date for State Past Presidents

April 26, 2009: Brunch honoring our Past State Presidents Dave Howe and Bill Scully as well as Past LAOH President Helen Collins. Noon to 4 PM at Sullivan's Restaurant (off Route 8) in Derby. For reservations & tickets (\$25) contact Ted Lovely (269-9657) or AOH State VP Bill Flannery at flannery@optonline.net or (203-968-8000).

March is Irish American Heritage Month

By Presidential Proclamation, March has been federally designated as Irish American Heritage Month.

Are your public library and your schools putting up displays and running special programs as they do for so many other such national months? Take the time to ask...or ask why not? As your Irish mother used to say, "It's the squeaky wheel that gets the grease."

Gaelic American Club



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