



APRIL 2008

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

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Next meeting set for April 8

The next monthly membership meeting of the John F. Kennedy Division #1, AOH is scheduled for Tuesday, April 8 at 7:30 p.m. at the Gaelic-American Club, Beach Road, Fairfield.

Among agenda topics are the results of our 58th Annual Mass and Communion Breakfast; the 26th Annual Greater Bridgeport Saint Patrick's Day Parade, and

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Kearney bids for reelection to National AOH Board

Meriden AOH Bro. Frank Kearney Jr. has announced he will seek a second term as National Director at the upcoming July, 2008 AOH/LAOH Biennial National Convention in New Orleans.

A 30-year member of the Order, Kearney has served in every major office on the Division, County and State levels. During his tenure as State President, Frank served as Chairman of the AOH Host Committee for the 2002 Biennial National Convention at Foxwoods

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Thank you, Bishop Lori

Our sincerest appreciation is extended to His Excellency, Bishop William E. Lori, STD, AOH National President Jack Meehan, the pastor and parishioners of Saint Ann Parish, the Bridgeport Holiday Inn, AOH Bro. Ray Baldwin and the municipal leaders in attendance at our 58th Annual AOH Mass and Communion breakfast March 9.

"...and that Christ died for all, in order that they who are alive may live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them."

2 Corinthians 5:15

Irish Festival set for 2008 Father's Day Weekend

The 21st Annual Fairfield County Irish Festival returns to Indian Ledge Park, Trumbull during Father's Day weekend, June 13-15. It features quality entertainment in its main tent, pub tent and Moran cultural pavillion, and over 20 premium Irish vendors, food and drink, and, of course, Micalizzi Italian ice and fresh corn on the cob presented by Bridgeport's John F. Kennedy AOH Division #1 and Mae King LAOH Division #65.

This year, the festival committee announces the return of The Elders and Pogey, as well as the Barra McNeils, Kevin Burke and Cal Scott, the Highland Rovers, Lenihan School of Dance, Keltic Kick, Once Removed, Liz McNichol, a Saturday Night Ceili, the ever-popular Irish Jeopardy, the 4th Annual Donnelly Cup tournament (Gaelic football) and much, much more.

None of the above would be possible without the tireless efforts of hundreds of

(Continued on page 2)

Mass for hunger strikers

The Third Annual Mass honoring the memory of the H-block hunger strikers of 1981 as well as those who sacrificed

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CHERISH ALL LIFE

Kearney bids re-election...

Resort – the success of which led National President Ned McGinley to appoint Frank as National Chairman of the 2006 Convention in Boston, where Frank was elected National Director. Frank served as a member of the National Treasurer's Budget Committee, the National Board's Grievance Tribunal and was appointed Chairman of the National Secretary's Technology Committee.

Locally, Frank has served as State Organizer, editor of the Connecticut news column in the *National Hibernian Digest*, Chairman of the Connecticut AOH's Irish Way Scholarship Committee, and the Meriden AOH's and LAOH's "Rosaries for Troops" project. Currently, Frank serves on the board of directors of the National Board's Hibernian Charity Fund. During our March Division meeting, we overwhelmingly approved a motion to endorse Bro. Kearney's re-election bid.

Upcoming fundraisers are planned for April 13 and May 18 to cover the expenses of the Connecticut/Rhode Island Hospitality Suites at the Convention.

Kearney for Re-Election to National Director Fundraiser

Sunday, April 13

4-7 p.m. at Meriden AOH Hall

Buffet/Raffle/Cash Bar

Irish Entertainment

\$15 per person

(For directions, call Past State President Dave Howe
at (203) 767-6519

Congratulations to:

- The Fairfield Gaelic Pipe Band deservedly awarded "best pipe band" in both the Greater New Haven and Bridgeport St. Patrick's Day parades. Many members are brothers and sisters of the Bridgeport AOH and LAOH.
- The Greater Bridgeport St. Patrick's Day Celebration Committee for staging a magnificent St. Patrick's Day Parade (its 26th!) through the streets of Downtown Bridgeport, led by AOH Bro. Bob Curwen who served as 2008 Parade Grand Marshal. LAOH Sr. Alana Kabel and AOH Bro. Ray Baldwin served as aides to the Grand Marshal.

Irish Festival June 13-15...

volunteers. Festival Chair Maura O'Donnell requests that this year's Festival volunteers contact the committee earlier than later through this website: www.irishfestival.org or by calling (203) 333-7714.

The Festival's Annual Journal, which will be inserted in local newspapers on Sunday, June 8, is seeking advertisements, personal messages or memorials by contacting Frances O'Neill at (203) 874-5550 or this web site: www.foneill9@gmail.com. A one-line "shout-out" with your message or greeting costs only \$20. Additional ad sizes and rates are also available by making the above contacts, with a deadline of May 16, 2008.

Feile, Inc., which presents the annual festival, is a federally-recognized charitable organization class 501C3. Contributions may be tax-deductible as charitable contributions under federal law.

Mass for Hunger Strikers...

their lives during the 1916 Easter Uprising will take place on Sunday, April 13 at 3 p.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Boston Post Road in Fairfield Center with our Chaplain, the Rev. Edward J. Small, S.J., officiating as Principal Celebrant and Homilist. A reception follows at the Gaelic American Club. The Mass and Reception are a presentation by the GAC, GBSPDCC and the AOH and LAOH of Bridgeport.

Next meeting April 8...

looking forward, our participation in the 21st Annual Fairfield County Irish Festival. Proceeds from this activity will benefit our Rev. Michael J. Flynn, C.S. S/Robert W. Curley Scholarship Fund.

There's plenty going on...why not be a part of it. See you on the 8th!

Connecticut/Rhode Island 2008 National AOH/LAOH Convention Hospitality Suite and Delegates Calendar Raffle Fundraiser

sponsored by the Rhode Island
Connecticut AOH and LAOH

- A daily cash raffle taking place May 1 to 31
- Cash amounts vary daily
- Calendar raffle sheets available from
Past State Pres. Dave Howe, (203) 767-6519
- \$10 per calendar



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