



Ladies AOH

Division 5, "Mary of the Gael"

Division Happenings



Volume II, Issue 4, Division 5, Orange County, NY, Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians

June 2010

President

Gail Edmonds

Editor

Gail Cane

Photos

Gail Cane

June Events

*June 25 –
LAOH Meeting
8 pm*

*July 24, 7 pm-
Members' Mixer*

*LAOH Meeting
September 24
8 pm*

Upcoming Events

*August 21 – Our
Lady of Knock
Celebration*

Ongoing Events

*Traditional Irish
Seisun, every
Sunday, 1-5 pm,
Div. 1, AOH
Hall*

*Irish Set
Dancing Lessons
every Monday,
7-9 pm, Div. 1
AOH Hall
Will resume in
September*

A Message from the President...

Dear Sisters,

June is upon us this year flying by and the school year coming to an end. We all know what that means – summer vacation! This is our last meeting until September. We will have a Member's Mixer in July – this is a fun night together in a casual setting so we get to know each other a little better. Please attend the mixer for a guaranteed fun night!

Our Strike for Hunger Committee is gearing up, gathering details for the bowlathon to be held in January 2011. (committee meeting June 23, 1 pm at my house) Also, our Priest Dinner Committee (AOH 1 & LAOH 5) has been working to finalize our proposed date with Bishop Lagonegro. (committee meeting June 24, 7 pm at Flynn's), Details will be discussed at the meeting regarding both events.

A special thank you to all of our Fathers this month, who work so hard to support their families! Also, thank you to our Spiritual Fathers, our parish priests who guide all of their children! (us)

We just passed the Feast of the Sacred Heart last week, and at my parish, Sacred Heart here in Monroe, Fr. Chris talked about the Heart. Sacred Heart of Jesus, the heart of the matter, heart and soul – when we get to the heart, we are at the central location of things. With this in mind, I would like to remind all of our members, that YOU are the heart of this Division. Without great members working together, there would be no division. Please come to the meetings ready to discuss new ideas, new plans and things to make our division even better. Together, we are the heart. Also, at Mass, I was sitting with member Peggy Walsh, I looked around and saw quite a few members of our division - I truly felt a great peaceful feeling. To be at Mass with my sisters and my family. During the Mass, when we offer each other the sign of peace, again, what a great feeling. To truly reach out and shake the hand of a fellow member of your Parish does give you peace. You can see the smile on people's faces when we offer each other the sign of peace.

I would like to think that all of the members of our division are gently handing out these little signs or tokens of peace each day. A smile, a door held open, anything small to help one another can help. Blessed are the peacemakers. Do what it takes, whatever that is.

We must remember as Gerry Adams has said, **"Making peace, I have found, is much harder than making war."**

This past week, we have had an announcement regarding the Bloody Sunday Inquiry. I urge you all to read it – posted on www.reillysrocklandreport.com - Carmel Reilly's website – it is a great summary which we all should be familiar with.

Also, please let me know if anyone has any views on the use of technology including You Tube and Facebook within the LAOH. Our National webmaster has asked me for feedback in that area. I am sure we have some great ideas amongst us!

Have a great summer and let's all try to get together as friends over the summer.

Yours in our motto,

Gail Edmonds, President, Division 5, Mary of the Gael

LAOH DIVISION 5 Good and Welfare

~ Condolences to Lorraine O'Dowd on the passing of her sister, Caroline. May her soul be at rest in the hands of our Lord Jesus Christ.

~ A speedy recovery is wished for Patty Ryan and Erin Higgins, as they recuperate from recent surgery.

~ Congratulations to Maureen Gertzki, Elizabeth Curtin and Bridget Curtin who attended the Mid-Atlantic Region CCE Fleadh Cheoil held at the Pearl River Middle School on May 22 & 23.

Maureen and Elizabeth's ceili band placed 1st, and Bridget's ceili band placed 2nd, qualifying the girls to attend the All-Ireland Competition held in Cavan in August. The Pearl River School of Irish Music held a fund raiser at Rory Dolans on Sunday, June 20, to help send these bands over to Ireland to compete in this very prestigious competition. Good luck to all!

~ Noreen McGovern would like to share a video that her sister, Carmen, who is stationed in Afghanistan, made and narrates.

Go to www.dvidshub.net then search for Carmen Cheney, go to the first story- "Women's Day Rally" - very powerful, please watch!

Please keep Carmen, her troop, and all those who serve our country, in your prayers.

DIV. 5 YARD SALE

We were fortunate again this year....the rain held out and we had a successful yard sale on June 12!

Thanks to Margaret Barry, who generously donated her yard in front of Maggie's Celtic Cottage for the sale. Thanks to all members who donated items and their time to make this a successful day!

Make Me An Instrument of Your Peace



Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love,
Where there is injury, pardon
Where there is doubt, faith,
Where there is despair, hope,
Where there is darkness, light,
Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much

seek to be consoled as to console,
not so much to be understood as to understand,

not so much to be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
it is in dying that we awake to eternal life.

Junior Division News

~ The Juniors will be celebrating their very successful first year with a pizza/pool party in June at the home of Gail Edmonds. High school graduate, Aisling Meyers, Junior Division treasurer, will be recognized and honored as she goes off to college in the fall. Also, Caitlin and Carissa Goff, Financial Secretary and Mistress-at-Arms, will be recognized for their contributions, as they prepare to move with their family to North Carolina this summer.

~ The juniors participated in the ladies Division 5 Yard Sale with a bake sale to keep all the shoppers well fed! Thanks to all who participated.

Member Mixer
July 23
7:00
Details to follow

NEW MEMBERS

.We welcome new members.

Division 5 is looking to set up a recruitment committee. If you are interested, please contact Gail Edmonds.

Help us make the biggest and best division in Orange County!

New members are welcome! If you know a worthy woman of Irish heritage or descent, who is a practicing Catholic, please contact Gail Edmonds at gailedmonds@frontiernet.net

FATHER'S DAY PRAYER

God Bless You this Father's Day

Dear Father in Heaven

*May we remember that children need:
Time and attention; Love and patience,
Discipline and guidance, caring and affection,
Trusting and security, laughter and play,*

*Like Joseph, Father of Jesus
May we also be a good role model
And set the best example for our children.
Amen.*

And may God grant eternal rest and peace to those fathers who have completed their work on this earth and have gone home to heaven.

AT LAST! A verdict of history!

'The new Prime Minister David Cameron apologizes for Bloody Sunday!'

British Prime Minister David Cameron has added an impressive beam to the strengthening structure of Northern Ireland peace. He did it by apologizing for the wanton slaughter of Bloody Sunday. "I am deeply sorry" Cameron said, words never uttered by a British leader to the Irish in eight embittered centuries of rule.

Simple, warranted, historic.

When Prime Minister Tony Blair ordered a reexamination of Bloody Sunday as a condition of

the 1998 peace agreement and the investigation became the most exacting study of any single incident in British history. Over the course of 12 years and at a cost of \$280 million a commission collected more than 30 million words of evidence, running to 160 volumes and produced a 5,000 page report. The document found that the shootings were both unjustified and unjustifiable and the troops acted wrongly ,Cameron concluded.

Some people seek a new body to establish the truth

of the hundreds of unresolved killings of 30 years of "troubles". The idea comes from South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission that brought closure to the apartheid era. Whether Northern Ireland takes that path or not, there has already been a great telling and acceptance of truth. And that can only make the peace abide

Bravo!

A Bit of Irish History...(in honor of Flag Day)

What's the Symbolism of the Irish Flag? **History and symbolism of the Irish tricolour**

By Borga Brunner

Rarely has a flag possessed such lasting relevance as that of the "Tricolour," the national flag of the [Republic of Ireland](#). Its three equal stripes illustrate the Irish political landscape as accurately today as in 1848, the year the flag was first unfurled.

- **orange** — standing for Irish Protestants
- **green** — signifying Irish Catholics and the republican cause
- **white** — representing the hope for peace between them



Why Orange?

The color orange is associated with Northern Irish Protestants because of [William of Orange](#) (William III), the King of England, Scotland, and Ireland who in 1690 defeated the deposed [King James II](#), a Roman Catholic, in the fateful [Battle of the Boyne](#) near Dublin. William III's victory secured Protestant dominance over the island, to the enormous benefit of the 17th-century colonizers of northern Ireland — the English (mainly Anglicans) and Scots (mostly Presbyterians). Sometimes called Orangemen, Protestants in Northern Ireland celebrate the anniversary of the battle each July 12th.



Green for the Emerald Isle?

Green as the color standing for the Irish Catholic nationalists of the south may have something to do with shamrocks and verdant landscapes, but more importantly, green symbolizes revolution. An earlier, unofficial Irish flag —the gold harp on a green background— served from 1798 until the early twentieth century as a symbol of nationalism. As the revolutionary [James Connolly](#) wrote, just weeks before he participated in the quixotic Easter Rebellion (1916) that led to his execution by firing squad:

For centuries the green flag of Ireland was a thing accurst and hated by the English garrison in Ireland, as it is still in their inmost hearts...

...the green flag of Ireland will be solemnly hoisted over Liberty Hall as a symbol of our faith in freedom, and as a token to all the world that the working class of Dublin stands for the cause of Ireland, and the cause of Ireland is the cause of a separate and distinct nationality.

—**Worker's Republic, April 8, 1916**

Lasting Truce between Orange and Green?

Although it was not adopted as the national flag of Ireland until independence from Britain on December 6, 1921, the Tricolour was first unfurled in public on March 7, 1848, by the militant nationalist [Thomas Francis Meagher](#)¹, (the stripes, however, were arranged differently at that time). Explaining the significance of the Tricolour, Meagher expressed a hope for his country that is unfortunately still unrealized today:

The white in the center signifies a lasting truce between the "Orange" and the "Green," and I trust that beneath its folds the hands of the Irish Protestant and the Irish Catholic may be clasped in generous and heroic brotherhood.