



ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS IN AMERICA

INCORPORATED

Organized in New York City, May 4, 1836

JOSEPH DUELK, JR. DIVISION NO. I

P. O. Box 337, Monroe (Orange County), New York 10950

NEXT MEETING: Friday, November 9, 2018 8 PM

Paddy Naughton Hall, 10 North Main Street, Monroe • (845) 783-0205

JOSEPH DUELK, JR. — Vietnam Memorial, Washington, D.C.
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Brothers,

Our County Board and Divisions held the Annual County Mass and Breakfast October 28 at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Although turnout was low, all in attendance had a good time. Thanks to Recording Secretary Anderson for serving as a reader at the Mass, and to Bobby Burns and Charlie Bohan who attended and represented our Division.

Dues for 2019

Please note that 2019 dues are now in order. The Division must pay its assessments to the National, State and County by February 1 in order to be in good standing and take advantage of some early payer discounts. Therefore, we need to collect the dues this year to ensure we have sufficient funds to remit the dues early in 2019. Waiting till January to pay your dues may require the Division to wait till past February, costing us additional money and leaving less to operate the Division, make charitable contributions, etc.

Please note as reported in our last meeting, the JDJ Board has notified the AOH that it will be officially leasing the 2nd Floor to the AOH. This will enable the floor to be leased with utilities included, which will save the Division the cost of the electric and heating bills for the year. This is a tremendous savings, however, anyone who can contribute to the Building Fund will be offsetting that increased cost to the JDJ Corporation.

Please send your dues as soon as possible, and by November 30 at the latest this year! Please check page 2 for further information on dues payment options.

Election Notice

Brothers, you are notified that nominations are still open for the AOH Board for 2019.

President, Vice President, and Recording Secretary ARE OPEN for nominations.

Please note that I have decided not to seek the office of President for the coming year, in order to focus on my duties with the JDJ Corporation. As well, the current Recording Secretary, George Anderson, has announced his intention NOT TO SEEK re-election to his office for 2019.

If you wish to seek to become a leader in our great Division, please send a letter of intent to me, as I will serve as Nominating and Election Committee Chair, as outlined on Page 2 of the Newsletter.

Food Drive

Please support Recording Secretary Anderson in our Food Drive November 17 and 18 at Shoprite, Monroe.

In our motto, Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Neil O'Riordan, President

Division 1

Calendar of Events

Friday, November 9

Monthly Meeting
8 PM

Saturday, November 17

Sunday, November 18
Food Drive
Shoprite, Monroe
9 AM to 2 PM

Food Drive

Brothers, please mark your calendars for Saturday and Sunday, November 17 and 18 this year.

Once again, the Junior Division and our members will man food collection stations outside Shoprite from 9 to 2 each day, to collect donations from shoppers of non-perishable food items, for donation to Our Father's Kitchen and other food pantries. Contact Recording Secretary George Anderson for details.



Division Notices

Dues for 2019

Please note that 2019 dues are now in order. You have four options for dues:

\$40--standard dues for 2019

\$65--\$40 for dues and \$25 for Fleming Scholarship Fund Contribution

\$100--JDJ Building Fund, plus your AOH dues are paid

\$125--the AOH Trifecta, your dues, a Building Fund contribution and a Fleming Scholarship Fund contribution.

Dues may be mailed to AOH Division 1, PO Box 337, Monroe, NY 10950, or dropped off at the Hall using the envelopes provided by the drop box and the envelop placed in the drop box. Do NOT leave dues payments with bartenders. For record keeping purposes, checks are encouraged, however, cash payments may be made using the envelope and drop box or paid directly to the Financial Secretary at our General Membership Meetings October 12 or November 9. Please make checks payable to AOH Division 1.

Election Notice

Brothers, you are notified that nominations are still open for the AOH Board for 2019. We will finalize the Board for 2019 at our November meeting. Letters of Intent are still being accepted.

Installation will take place at our December General Membership Meeting, December 14, 2018. The presiding officer will be our Worthy County President Edmund Burke. The Installation will be a Public Installation, and immediately following, we will have our AOH Christmas Party. Food and Soda provided by the Division, cash bar.

Division Events

AOH Pipes and Drums Wins NYC St. Patrick's Day Parade Best Organization Marching Pipes and Drums!

Pictured below, County President Ed Burke presents plaque to Bandmaster Mike Tully with AOH Division 1 President and members of the Old Brigade in attendance.



Some pictures from our Annual County Mass and Breakfast, at OLMC, Middletown. Thanks to Division 4, a great time was had by all!



Visit our Website at aohdiv1.org. Newsletter submissions may be mailed to
recordingsecretary@aohdiv1.org

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A Moment in Irish History

A Brief History of The AOH in Orange County

Today, the Orange County Irish have a great reputation, our clubs are known all over New York State, and in the case of the Gaelic Cultural Society of my hometown, Greenwood Lake, all over the USA and the world. But it wasn't always the case.

AOH Historian extraordinaire Jim Kelly did a history of the AOH in Orange County in the Division One 25th Anniversary Journal in 1994. In that piece, Jimmy traced the history of the AOH and found at the turn of the century, there were AOH Divisions in Monroe, Middletown, Highland Falls, Port Jervis, and Newburgh. In the aftermath of WW 1 & 2, these Divisions faded away. I grew up in the 60's and 70's and for most of my early years in Orange County, there was a lack of any Irish presence. But the winds of change soon were on the horizon. A generation of first- and second-generation Irish were, as Jimmy put it, packing up their tea kettles and looking north to Orange County. The family of Joseph Duelk, Jr. was one of the many who settled here, in the neighborhood known as Worley Heights. Other families settled in Chester, Monroe, Warwick, Greenwood Lake, Washingtonville, etc., villages that have quick access to New York City, where many earned their living as members of the NYPD, FDNY, MTA, et al.

The year was 1968, the Vietnam War was raging. Military Service was mandatory. Many in our country refused to serve and took to protest and burning their draft cards or fled to Canada to avoid Nam, but young Joe Duelk was not one of them, and he signed up for the Army. Sadly, Joe lost his life after being in Vietnam only two months after he arrived, in June, 1968. Joe's mom, Helen, was the first in a line of Irish who served as Supervisor of Blooming Grove.

To honor the memory of Joe, a group of men who had migrated from New York City to Orange County, founded Division One in 1969. By this action, a positive wave was started. The death of Joe was the catalyst for the rebirth of the Irish Community here. By the late 70's, four Irish clubs had been formed and were flourishing. Along with Division One, there was the Middletown Irish (1973), the Gaelic Cultural Society (1975), and The Friendly Sons & Daughters of Goshen (which was founded in the home of the late Paul O'Dwyer.) All these clubs started having all kinds of events to honor our Irish Heritage, such as the annual St. Patrick's Dances, Bagpipe lessons, and Irish Step Dancing. The year following the American Bi-Centennial in 1976, there was a movement started by the Middletown Irish American Society to start an annual parade to honor St. Patrick, our patron saint as well as the patron saint of our Archdiocese of New York. By tradition, all Archbishops of NY have been of Irish descent.

Once the wave started, there was no holding back. Today we have dances, the Mid-Hudson St. Patrick's Parade (now in the 43rd year), two vibrant step dancing groups, festivals, concerts, several Men's and Ladies' AOH Divisions, and a Gaelic Football Club (St. Brendan's). A program started by the Greenwood Lake Gaelic Cultural Society in 1975, by our Brother Denis Mulcahy, Project Children, brought Catholic and Protestant children to America for a respite from the Troubles in Northern Ireland. Ironically, the Troubles in the North reignedited in 1969. In my personal opinion, there would not have been a Good Friday Agreement in 1998, if it was not for Project Children. In recognition of his work as Chairman, Denis Mulcahy was awarded the highest national AOH Honor, the JFK Award at the recent National AOH Convention this past year.

Yes, there is much to celebrate today here in Orange County. Again, my personal opinion is the tragic loss of Joe Duelk, and the foundation of Division One to honor Joe's sacrifice, are the reasons we are where we are today.

Submitted by Brother Jack Graham