

Ryan Division Ramblings - December 2016

Hello Brothers,

I wish you and your family a Blessed, Joyous Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year. Remember Jesus is the reason for celebrating the CHRISTmas season as it often gets overshadowed by the rush of Christmas preparations.

Congratulations to the following elected officers to lead our Patrick Ryan Division next year:

President: Tim Higgins

Vice President: Joe Kelly

Financial Secretary: Ed Harkins

Treasurer: Rick St. Peter

Recording Secretary: Tom Kish

Chairman of the Standing Committee: Bill Brang

Marshal: Mark Gunn

Sentinel: Mike Murray

Thanks to the brothers volunteering for the following positions:

Membership: Tab Morin/Bob Yancey

Catholic Action: Denny McCann

Historian/PEC: John McInerney

Thanks to all officers for their service this past year. You were very important contributing to another successful year for our Division.

Thanks very much brothers for your support and confidence in me as your President this past year.

It has been a special honor for me to serve our great Division. It was a good year with the highlights including a significant amount of fundraising (\$11,200) for our charities and the addition of new members, Dan Kelly and Scott Grist, to help establish a positive future for our Division.

Please pay your annual dues to our Worthy Financial Secretary, Ed Harkins, if you haven't. There isn't much time before our per-capita taxes have to be paid based on our Division membership.

Our Christmas dinner held Dec 4th at Renaud was a great time with about 35 brothers and guests. Rose Catering provided a very good buffet with dessert.

Our next charity poker event at Doc's in Livonia is planned for June 14-17 (days). The funds raised will be directed to charities and other activities that we determine are appropriate.

It was decided at our last meeting to discontinue our support of the St. Patrick's Celebration at St. Thomas a Becket as we have for several years to raise funds for charities. The LAOH Elizabeth Fagan Division agreed with this approach.

Please continue recruiting good Irish Catholic men to join us and experience our motto.

I hope to see you at our December 13th meeting.

Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Mike Riley / AOH Patrick Ryan Division President

Come join the fun!!!

Come to AOH Ryan Hockey Nite

at

the USA Hockey Arena

(in Plymouth MI, on Beck Rd., just north of M14)

To See

Plymouth's own USA HOCKEY VS the Youngstown Phantoms



VS

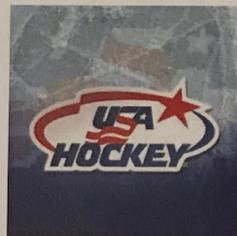


on

Saturday, January 7, 2017

Tickets are just \$8^{.00}

Join us for dinner at CJ's Brewing Company beforehand,
inside the arena!! Reservations are required.



Don't wait, contact Joe Kelly today for tickets & reservations
at;

JoeKelly849@gmail.com or 734.502.3059.

A great time will be had by all!

Time to pay your 2017 dues!

IMPORTANT NOTICE: 2017 membership dues should be paid by **December 31, 2016**. You may bring your dues with you to our Dec 13th meeting and save the division the expense of sending you an invoice. 2017 membership cards are now "in" too, so if you come to our December meeting you will receive your new card.

Otherwise, you can mail Financial Secretary, Ed Harkins, a check - (send to: 45072 Lothrop Ct. Canton, MI 48188). Make checks payable to **AOH Ryan Division**. Dues are \$40 (\$35 if you are retired). 2017 membership cards will be sent to you after you have paid.

Unless you are a priest, active duty military, an AOH Life member or an associate member, you must pay dues to remain active in our order. Thank you brothers!

2017 Officer Elections - Nov 8th meeting

A slate of new officers were elected at our November 8th meeting. Congratulations to all those newly elected or re-elected officers! Also, thanks to all retiring officers from the current year. A special "thank you" to **President Mike Riley** for serving again this past year as our division President. Mike did another outstanding job in leading our division in 2016 and we appreciate his fine efforts on our behalf! Our newly elected officers will assume their positions on January 1st.

Officers elected for 2017 are as follows:

President - Tim Higgins
Vice President - Joe Kelly
Recording Secretary - Tom Kish
Financial Secretary - Ed Harkins
Treasurer - Rick St. Peter
Chairman of the Standing Committee - Bill Brang
Marshal - Mark Gunn
Sentinel - Mike Murray



We are proud to recognize a distinguished member of Patrick Ryan Division, who was also an early Chaplain of our division, appointed officially in November to the College of Cardinals by Pope Francis in Rome...our very own **Cardinal Joseph Tobin!** Cardinal Tobin, who has been leading the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, was also just reassigned to the archdiocese of Newark, New Jersey. **Congratulations, Cardinal Tobin!**

Patrick Ryan Division Christmas party - Dec 4, 2016

AOH Patrick Ryan Division held it's annual Christmas party for members and families on Sunday, December 4th. A wonderful time was had by all. Thanks to out going President, Mike Riley, for throwing a great party! The Ancient Order of Hibernians and Patrick Ryan Division would like to wish all of you...a very Merry Christmas!

Here are just a few pictures of the party. See more on our division website by clicking on the link below (or enter it into your internet browser).

<http://www.aoh-patrickryandivision.org/activitiesphoto-gallery.html>.





From the Desk of AOH National President James F. McKay...

Brothers,

Christmas is upon us and many divisions are in the process of installing new officers and hosting Christmas parties. We wish you all success as we move forward and continue to grow the premier Irish Catholic Organization in the USA. Once your installation is complete please send in an updated Form-9 so the National and State Boards know whom your new officers are. This should be completed every time there is any change in your officers at every level.

Today's e-mail features an article from Charities and Missions Chair Ted Sullivan. Missions and Charities are important every day of our lives. It is important we remember that donations to Hibernian Charities are tax deductible and donations to Hibernian Charities received by the end of the year will benefit you as a year end tax deduction.

The second feature is from Immigration Chairman Dan Dennehy. Our national constitution calls on us "to encourage an equitable U.S. immigration law for Ireland, and to cooperate with groups for a fair American Immigration Policy." Immigration is certainly critical work for the order and we are fortunate to have a strong group of Irish Immigration advocates among us. Our goal is to return to the day Ireland has a proper quota of immigrant visas annually.

The final item in today's e-mail is a reprint of the call for nomination letter for the Sean MacBride Humanitarian Award sent out by our AOH and LAOH National Vice Presidents. Nominations must be in by January 15, 2017 and can be made by 1) All Officers of the Ancient Order of Hibernians & Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc., National Boards, Elected and appointed, 2) All Officers of the Ancient Order of Hibernians & Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc., State Boards, elected and appointed, and 3) Divisions in meeting assembled. If you do have a nomination please be sure it is in on time.

In our Motto,

James F. McKay III

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***From Ted M. Sullivan, Chairman Missions and Charities...***

On behalf of the AOH and **Hibernian Charity** I would like to extend a Happy Christmas and New Year to you and your families.

As part of our Motto, Charity is the heart of our Faith and Organization. The Mission of the Hibernian Charity is to support the Constitutional Purpose of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America as they seek to, enhance, and protect our Catholic Church as well as Irish History, Culture, and aid our Membership when in distress.

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**What is Hibernian Charity?**

The Hibernian Charity a 501-3 charitable enterprise was created to work with the A.O.H. in America to create a foundation where we might request, tax deductible to the donor, donations for the charitable projects of the Order. Through the Charity we are able to solicit donations from foundations, corporations, and individuals which would then be tax deductible to them. This allows us to fulfill the promises written in Preamble of the Constitution of our Order more efficiently.

**What are examples of Charities Supported?**

Project St. Patrick which provides financial assistance to those who seek a religious vocation within the Catholic Church.  
 Hibernian Hunger Project that works with to help alleviate poverty and hunger in America while recognizing our ancestor's suffrage during An Gorta Mor.  
 Medal of Honor Grove Monument was donated in conjunction with the Irish Government and Hibernian Charities to recognized Medal of Honor recipients from Ireland as well as other nations, who died without establishing a residence in the United States.  
 Rosaries for the Troops: Created by the AOH Connecticut State Board to make sure that any soldier in the United States Military who would like a Rosary will be supplied with a Rosary at no cost.  
 Hurricane Katrina Disaster and Hurricane Sandy Relief Funds to assist many victims of these natural disasters to rebuild their lives.

**How can I help and submit tax-deductible donation?**

Make checks payable to "Hibernian Charity" and mailed to the following address:  
 Hibernian Charity, PO Box 19325, New Orleans, LA 70179  
 Online: <http://www.hiberniancharity.org> with your credit card or banking information under the contact tab



***From Dan Dennehy, Immigration Chairman...***

Irish immigrants, after centuries of British religious, economic and political oppression, contributed to the creation of this great nation. General George Washington recognized this on March 16, 1780, by declaring St. Patrick's Day a holiday for all his troops in gratitude for the courage of the Irish in his command. In 1812, we again defended America from attacks by the British. Later, our Catholic immigrants founded the AOH in America to fight discrimination, prejudice and attacks on our families, churches and religious leaders by nativists and Know-Nothings.

The Medal Of Honor, presented by the President of the United States on behalf of Congress is the highest recognition of valor in combat. It has been awarded to more Irish-born fighting heroes than all other countries combined. Many AOH Divisions across the US are named for our Medal of Honor recipients. Our culture and heritage as Irish Catholic Americans greatly depend on a flow of Irish immigrants coming to the US legally.

When the quota for Ireland was taken away, replaced by family preference and work related visas by the Immigration Act of 1965, we lost nearly 18,000 annual immigrant visas. Our Order and other Irish American activists opposed the move. US Legislators emphatically assured Irish Americans that we would not be adversely affected.

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The change meant that cumulatively 860,000 immigrant visas had been lost by the Irish in 2017, the 52nd year. In recent years, Ireland has received just 15,000 of the c. 10. 5 million US permanent resident visas issued globally. That is 0.001% of the total involved. We now feel that the time has come to fix this injustice.

The 2016 elections were the most turbulent US elections of our lifetime. 2017 will usher in change at every level: Congress, the Judiciary, and Executive Branches. AOH members are rightfully concerned as to how these changes will affect Irish immigrants, legal and undocumented. They truly desire to regularize their immigration situation and to continue to contribute as best they can to US society, as previous generations of Irish migrants have likewise done. Hibernians know our unique role as leaders in our communities. We are well respected by our legislators, and we can help.

Remember, Brothers, the Irish Republican Deportees who fought for Peace and Justice and the approximately 50,000 undocumented Irish are already upstanding members of our communities, paying taxes and making social security contributions. They face deportation, separation from their US-born families and need our help.

Also, Irish people weighing the option of coming to the US are alarmed by campaign promises eliminating legal work visa programs (J1 Summer and 12-month visa program and H1B visas) and the already measly Irish allotment of Diversity Visa. ( Approx. 117 Irish visas out of 50,000 total last year) Without visas, they will not come and join our Irish American community.

At this time, we strongly advise that Irish immigrants be wary of scam websites, and con artists that would prey on them at this time. Please direct anyone seeking advice to contact an Irish Immigrant Center (A list of Centers is found at [www.ciic-usa.org](http://www.ciic-usa.org)) or the regional Irish Consulate. Irish Immigration Centers are now receiving increased demands on staff and volunteers due to urgent queries since the election. They need our Hibernian help, both supporting their fundraisers and through your volunteerism. Together we can help our most vulnerable community members.

The Preamble to our National Constitution tells us we must encourage an equitable U.S. immigration law for Ireland, and to cooperate with groups for a fair American Immigration Policy. Immigrants, along with our children, remain the future of Irish America and the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America.

If your Division doesn't have an Immigration Chair currently, I would ask that you consider volunteering for this important job or please send me your email address for updates. The AOH Immigration Chairs and I work with Irish Immigration Centers, local legislators, and the Irish Consulates to help those in need of advice. We depend on your continued support of favorable measures on Irish Immigration. You can advocate for an allotment of 18,000 renewable Immigrant visas to Ireland, ending the plight of the undocumented and finally a Peace Process dividend for the Irish Republican deportees.

I wish you and your family enjoy a Happy, Blessed Christmas and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year. Please pray and remember the Irish undocumented immigrants, who cannot join loved ones in Ireland during this festive and Holy Season.

Yours in our Motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,  
Dan Dennehy



Patrick Ryan Division green coats (\$330), blue jackets (\$75), sashes (\$60), and blue shirts (\$25/\$30) are available to all members.

Please contact Ed Harkins for your clothing items!



If you are receiving this newsletter by snail mail, it means I don't have an active email address for you. If you have one, please email and let me know at [edward.harkins@gmail.com](mailto:edward.harkins@gmail.com). Thanks!

Ed Harkins, Newsletter Editor

# AOH

## Patrick Ryan Division Officers

Chaplain: Fr. Patrick Casey  
[frppkc@hotmail.com](mailto:frppkc@hotmail.com)

President: Mike Riley  
[mriley44@yahoo.com](mailto:mriley44@yahoo.com)

Vice President: Bill Brang  
[havewandwilltravel2002@yahoo.com](mailto:havewandwilltravel2002@yahoo.com)

Financial Secretary: Ed Harkins  
[edward.harkins@gmail.com](mailto:edward.harkins@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Rick St. Peter  
[rfstpeter62@gmail.com](mailto:rfstpeter62@gmail.com)

Recording Secretary: Tom Kish  
[tom.kish@comcast.net](mailto:tom.kish@comcast.net)

Chairman of the Standing  
 Committee: Duke Hynek  
[duke\\_stl@yahoo.com](mailto:duke_stl@yahoo.com)

Marshal: Mark Gunn  
[m.gunn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:m.gunn@sbcglobal.net)

Sentinel: Mike Murray  
[shamrock2010@hotmail.com](mailto:shamrock2010@hotmail.com)

Past Presidents:  
 Sean Nichols, [sean@seanjnichols.com](mailto:sean@seanjnichols.com)  
 Dennis Inman, [teton1134@gmail.com](mailto:teton1134@gmail.com)  
 Tim Higgins, [irishtim80@aol.com](mailto:irishtim80@aol.com)  
 Dan Riley, [danieljohnriley@gmail.com](mailto:danieljohnriley@gmail.com)

Please pray for all division members  
 or family sick or in distress.

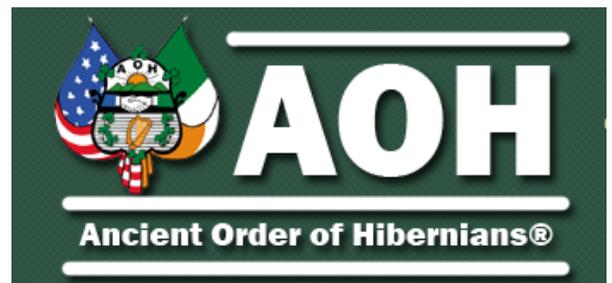


**Don't forget our next  
 meeting - Tuesday, Dec 13th**

Be there and help to welcome any  
 new members initiated that night!

Pizza and 50/50 drawing after the  
 meeting!

Must be present to eat and win!!!



Calendar of upcoming events:

**Dec 13, 2016**

**Ryan Division meeting, 7:30 pm, Renaud Council K of C**

**Dec 25, 2016**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

**Jan 1, 2017**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**Jan 7, 2017**

**AOH Ryan Division Hockey Night! 7:30 pm, Plymouth**

**Jan 10, 2017**

**Ryan Division meeting, 7:30 pm, Renaud Council K of C**



Remember our motto:  
Friendship, Unity, and True Christian Charity!

Next Meeting - 7:30 pm Tues.  
December 13th, 2016  
Renaud Council K of C Hall  
Fair & Mill Streets  
Plymouth, MI

AOH Patrick Ryan Division  
c/o Newsletter Editor  
45072 Lothrop Ct.  
Canton, MI 48188

