



AOH Division 61 Joseph Patrick Schickling

Monthly Newsletter

4131 Rhawn Street, Philadelphia, PA

Reach us via email at div61newsletter@comcast.net or 215-624-3007
Over 110 years of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity!

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 5

JANUARY 2010

Division 61 Officers:

Jack Gill **President**,
Chuck Payne **Vice President**, John Joe Kelly **Financial Secretary**, Jim Leonard **Treasurer**, Sean Campbell **Recording Secretary**, Jay Costello **Chmn. Stndg. Comm.**, Ed Rodriguez **Marshal**, Mike Kinney **Sentinel**, John Hagan **Organizer**, Joe Beggin **Historian**, Bob Cummings **Steward**, Bill Kuntz **Past President**, Chris Mullen, Mike McCrane, Colin Dempsey **Trustees**, Fr Al Masluk & Rev. Michael Heim **Chaplains**.
Dr. Brian Sickel, D.B.S.

Upcoming Events

AOH 61 Monthly Meeting January 8th 8:00 PM

Club Cleaning January 16th 9:00 AM

Shuffleboard Banquet January 16th 7:00 PM

Quiz-o Friday January 22nd 8:00 PM

Tir Na Nog January 24th 3:00 PM

County Board Fundraiser @ Div 61
January 31 2:00 PM

AOH 61 Monthly Meeting February 5th 8:00 PM

Super Bowl XLIV February 7th

February 17th Ash Wednesday

DIVISION 61 CLUB HOURS

Sunday Noon-10PM

Monday Noon-Midnight

Tuesday Noon-Midnight

Wednesday Noon-Midnight

Thursday Noon-Midnight

Friday Noon- 2AM

Saturday Noon-2AM

**“There are no strangers here;
only friends you haven’t met.”**
W.B Yeats

Ancient Order of Hibernians
PO Box 65576
Philadelphia, PA 19155

Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity!

AOH DIVISION 61 JOSEPH PATRICK SCHICKLING

President's Letter

Hopefully, everyone has had a Merry Christmas and has begun a Happy New Year. Starting at the January meeting we will be distributing St. Patrick's Day Basket of Cheer chances as well as collecting bottles for the Basket of Cheer. The proceeds from the Basket of Cheer go to underwrite expenses for the St. Patrick's Day Parade each year. So, please try to sell at least 15 chances.

As most of you know, our annual dues are \$45 per year, but unfortunately, we are still collecting dues for 2009 from too many of our members.

Out of the \$45 dues, \$15 is for the per capita fee paid to the County, State, and National AOH boards, \$5 for newsletter and other mailings, \$5 for other division expenses and the remainder to support our home. The per capita fees have already been paid for 2009 and will soon be paid for 2010. As you can see; when a member doesn't pay dues or doesn't drop his membership our division continues to incur expenses for that member. This also cuts into the amount of charity work we can do. Please remember, NO ONE, will be dropped because of the ability to pay.

Finally for anyone who hasn't been around the club over the holiday, we've been working on the hall renovation and are close to completion but can always use some help, so if you're in the area please stop by, all skill levels are needed.

Hopefully, we will see each other at the next meeting on January 8th, as always, I may be reached at 215-920-0910 or jgill@septa.org.

Yours in our motto,
Jack

Christmas is for Giving 2009 Recap

This year's Christmas is for Giving campaign was a great success. As everyone probably knows we had an enormous snow storm the evening of the party.

This did not keep the volunteers away. We had most if not all of the regulars from both the men's and the ladies division at St Dom's bright and early on Sunday. Due to the snow and the inability to access Pennypack Park, the race was canceled. The race normally accounts for 40%-50% of the gifts given. Because of some very generous members we were able to do some shopping both prior to and on the day of the event. Without this generosity we would have had trouble helping these families this year.

There were 75 families who received gifts, over 200 kids had something to open due to your generosity. We were also able to give a weeks worth of groceries to 25 of these families. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved. If you wrapped, shopped, delivered or donated toys and/or money your efforts were noticed and greatly appreciated. Again thanks to all who participated.

240th Philadelphia St. Patrick's Day Parade

The 240th Philadelphia St. Patrick's Day Parade is Sunday March 14th. This year AOH National President Seamus Boyle will be the Grand Marshal. At this point we don't know if the AOH will march as individual Divisions or as a single unit. Either way each division will decide its own parade dress. During the January meeting we'll discuss the parade and what we'll be wearing.

Again this year, the post parade party is being held at AOH 61 following the parade. As you know, each year every group marching in the parade must pay a fee and purchase parade ribbons for each person marching in the parade. Our division doesn't charge anyone to march in the parade, but we still need to raise money to cover parade expenses.

Each year we ask members to donate liquor and wine for our St. Patrick's Day basket of cheer and sell basket of cheer chances. These chances help defray the cost of the parade. If anyone needs tickets or wants to donate a bottle please see Mike McCrane or any bartender.

Quiz-0, Quiz-0, Quiz-0

Quiz-0 will be the last Friday of every month and there will be Prizes for winners and runners-up. Quiz-0 will continue on the Fourth Friday of each month beginning at 8 PM. Win prizes or prove to your friends you're not as dumb as they think you are!

Quiz-o will be held on Friday, January 22nd at 8 PM

Come out and try to stump our own quizmaster Colin "I'm the smartest guy in the Division" Dempsey.

Tir Na Nog

This years Christmas Party was held on December 19th at the club. We had good attendance considering the weather. The kids were able to give their unwrapped toys to our very own Santa who was delivered, in the snow, on a fire engine. Steven Clause..strike that...I mean Santa Clause took pictures with all the kids All the kids were able to make Christmas Frames for their photo. A great big thanks go out to Jim Wick and Elizabeth Orr for all their hard work in making this party a reality.

The next Tir Na Nog meeting has been moved back a week and will be held on Jan 24th at 3pm. We hope to have our very own Wii up and running by then.

Welcome

On behalf of AOH Division 61, we extend a warm welcome to the newest member of our family:

Mathew Gorman & Christopher Dirscherl

We hope you enjoy everything this organization has to offer and that you continue to live in *Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity.*

EAGLES, EAGLES, EAGLES

For all Eagles games Division 61 will have drink specials of \$15 for domestic draft from whistle to whistle. So come on by and cheer the Birds to Super Bowl XLIV in Miami.

It may have only seemed that the Bowl Season is just wrapping up but March Madness will be here before you know it and so will be

AOH 61 **March Madness Pool**. Entry fee will be the same as last year of \$10. With half of each entry fee going to the Harry B. Rutter Scholarship Fund. Brackets will be accepted by paper at the bar or online through CBS Sports. More information will be in next month's newsletter about online submission. See Sean Campbell for more details or questions.

AOH Camping Trip

Each year Division 61 runs a Father / Child camping trip and has held it for years at Elk Neck State Park in Maryland. Unfortunately, The State of Maryland has put severe restrictions on activities allowed in the park. Presently we are looking for a new camping location in the area (public or private). If anyone has a good lead please contact Chuck Payne at chuck.payne@mail.tju.edu or 215-380-6809

DUES

2010 dues are now being collected. Dues are \$45 per year and may be paid at meetings, dropped off to the club in an envelope with your name and the amount or mailed to AOH Division 61 4131 Rhawn Street, Philadelphia, PA 19136.

AOH DIVISION 61 JOSEPH PATRICK SCHICKLING

Last Clancy brother Liam is buried, but clan leaves impression on Irish music

Mary Clancy's e-mail said a rainbow arced over the graveyard as her brother-in-law Liam Clancy was buried in Ring, County Waterford, Ireland, a fortnight ago.

Makes sense.

For the Clancy's were a crock of Irish gold.

Liam was the last of the famous Irish singing group known as The Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem, who in the early 1960s resurrected Irish traditional music from the foggy dew, purging Tin Pan Alley dreck like "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling," and sharing with the world great ballads of Ireland like "The Rising of the Moon," "Nancy Whiskey" and "Isn't It Grand, Boys."

That last song is one we should all play top volume in memory of the Clancy Brothers, for rather than a weepy lament, the refrain gives us forever four defiant young men cursing into the dark face of death: "Isn't it grand, boys/ To be bloody well dead/ Let's not have a whimper/ Let's have a bloody good cry/ And always remember/ The longer you live/ The sooner you bloody well die. ..."

Liam's death was the closing of an era.

But the doors the Clancy's kicked open in 1961 with their first Ed Sullivan TV show appearance spelled the American way for most of the great Irish bands that followed, including the Furey Brothers, The Dubliners, The Chieftains, The Pogues and even U2.

"It all started with the Clancy's," Eddie Furey once told me in a Dublin pub named O'Donoghue's. "Without them making Irish traditional music popular again, the rest of us would never have had the success we've had."

Like the hair of a dog curing the imperial British hangover that dazed Ireland after it was partitioned in 1921, The Clancy's and Tommy Makem donned Irish Aran sweaters knitted by a woman named Betty Duggan in their hometown of Carrik-on-Suir, County Tipperary, and proudly took to the world stage in venues like Carnegie Hall to sing songs of revolution, famine, love and death and "Eileen Aroon," a song they could have been singing of themselves: "Youth will in time decay, Eileen Aroon/ Beauty must fade away, Eileen Aroon/ Castles are sacked in war, chieftains are scattered far/ Truth is a fixed star, Eileen Aroon. ..."

Songs like these influenced other serious young musicians, like "Bobby Dylan" playing the same venues, like Gerde's Folk City in Greenwich Village, at the apex of the 1960s folk boom.

Offstage, the Clancy's did most of their New York drinking in the Lion's Head, a storied literary Greenwich Village saloon that attracted what one bartender once referred to as "drinkers with writing problems."

The Clancy's would sing around the big back-room table where the late great Newsday columnist Dennis Duggan knew the first line only of every great Irish ballad ever written, which the Clancy's would loudly complete for him. There, my big brother Pete befriended Paddy, Tom and Liam Clancy, and Tommy Makem.

And when I found myself lost in a 16-year-old purple haze of the 1960s, Pete asked Paddy Clancy if he could rehab me Irish-style on his farm in Tipperary. Soon I was milking cows, reaping barley, baling hay. At the farmhouse table, Paddy's kind but no-nonsense wife, Mary, would feed us steaming pots of tea, brown bread and eggs fresh from the hens as visitors like Frank McCourt told hilarious tales that would eventually become "Angela's Ashes."

I was a Dylan freak, and Liam Clancy would tell me stories about this mythical '60s troubadour that made him seem more like a regular fella. Stories that Liam would later share in Martin Scorsese's Dylan documentary.

I arrived on the Clancy farm a desiccated hippie kid and returned home a 170-pound farm boy.

That summer changed my life. The Clancy's helped save me from myself. Some memories are indelible.

I met many Irish "tinkers" - now called travelers - on those rugged Irish country roads. They were the ultimate nonconformist hippies, and my encounters with them stayed with me until I finally worked them into a novel called "Fork in the Road," about an Irish-American guy from Bayside who travels to Ireland and winds up conceiving a baby with a beautiful Irish gypsy who comes home with him to Queens with disastrous results.

Alexander Payne, who directed "Sideways," has bought the film rights. That too grew from the Clancy farm, where Mary still lives and keeps in touch by e-mail, like her latest one about Liam Clancy's funeral. "Over the burial in Ring last Monday there was the most magnificent rainbow I have ever seen, high and clear and crisp, every colour absolutely outstanding. ... I bet there was some hooley somewhere when the boys all got together."

And I bet they were singing, "Isn't It Grand, Boys".

St. Francis Inn

Don't forget when cleaning out your closets for the winter season to bring all coats and blankets (in good shape)

LAOH Division 61

St. Bridget Mass to held Jan. 30th at Fr. Judge Chapel. 6:00 pm
There is no Officer Installation this year but the LAOH County Board will still be hosting Mass. We hope that all members will attend.

Reminder to our advertisers your 2010 advertising renewals are due. Anyone interested in advertising in the newsletter contact Jack Gill or Sean Campbell. We greatly appreciate our current advertisers and welcome any new advertisements.

Division 61 has Phillies World Series plaques (\$10) and window stickers (\$4) for sale. We also have 2009 NL Champions window sticker. So stop in and see your bartender for more details.

On two separate occasions, Gandhi broke his fast with tacos.

Please remember to support our Patrons. Thank You!

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