

ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS
NEWSLETTER
Dennis E. Collins Division 1 –Newport, RI
Organized & Established January 11, 1869

Dear Brothers,

It's time to kick off our busy Irish Heritage Month. As proud Hibernians, we look forward to the month of March all year, a time when we publicly celebrate our heritage with events and parades. However, we also need to remember that the season of Lent has begun. A time for prayer, fasting, and almsgiving (not only through money - but also by donating our time and talents). Please attend Mass regularly and remember to pray.

FEBRUARY RECAP

- Our Valentine's Dinner was held on February 10th. The food and music were top-notch, and everyone enjoyed the evening. A special thank you to Austin Behan and Hayley for decorating the Hall so perfectly, Julie and the My Kitchen Companion Team, and all who supported this fun and successful event.
- Thank you, Bob Norbury, for giving our lounge area a fresh coat of paint. It looks great and is ready for March!
- Liam Doyle's Irish History on Saint Brigid at the monthly meeting was especially memorable. Thank you, Liam!
- Thanks to Dave Kerins, for organizing another entertaining 3rd Thursday Music at the Hall night. Please note that there will be no 3rd Thursday Music Night in March, but the monthly event will return in April.
- It was an honor to be part of the many Brothers that supported the Kirwin Family at Brother Gary Kirwin's Celebration of Life. The tremendous turnout made it evident how many lives were touched by Gary, and he will be truly missed by so many.

DUES

- If you haven't paid your 2023 dues of \$120, **they are now past due**. We are not mailing paper invoices. Dues can be paid by cash, check, credit card, or Venmo @AOH Newport. If paying by check, please mail your check to the Hall – 2 Wellington Avenue Newport, RI 02840 – attention Dave Kane. If your dues are currently up to date, thank you!
- While updating your dues please consider donating to the **Capital Improvement Fund**. This fund allows us to make enhancements to our hall without raising dues or using the line of credit. Any additional donation amount is welcome and appreciated.

LENT

- Brother TR McGrath has started serving his Amazing Fish & Chips at the Hall during Lenten Fridays starting at 4 PM. The cost per order is \$17. Future dates are March 3rd (Meeting Night), March 24th, March 31st, and April 7th.

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IN MEMORIUM

- Brother Sammy Lauzon passed away on February 16th. A Celebration of Life will be held on a future date. Please keep Sammy and the Lauzon family, all our deceased brethren, their families, and all who are ill in your daily prayers.

MARCH

- **Volunteers are still needed at the Hall.** Please contact Bill Barrett at wsbarrett1952@netscape.net
 - Thursday 3/9 – Mid-morning to break down the Hall for Pre-Parade Party
 - Saturday 3/11 – 2 or 3-hour shifts at the Hall throughout the day - security, emptying trash, mopping floors, restocking restrooms.
 - Sunday 3/12 - AM Hall Cleanup
- The **Hibernian of the Year Dinner** and Celebration for Mark Woods will be held at the Hall on Wednesday, **March 1st**. Tickets will not be available after Monday, February 27th.
- The **Grand Marshal Roast** honoring Brother Harp Donnelly IV will be held at St Augustin's Church Hall on Saturday, March 4th beginning at 5:30 PM. Tickets are \$30. For advanced tickets, call Dennis at 401-846-5081 or purchase at the Hall.
- The **Pre-Parade Party** will be held at the Hall on Friday, March 10th, from 6 to 10 PM. This is a no-cover charge event. Entertainment will include bagpipe bands and DJ Murph.
- **Parade Day- Saturday, March 11th**
 - **Please wear your #1 Kits. Let's look sharp, Brothers!**
 - Volunteers are needed for parade marshals. Please contact Dennis Sullivan at (401) 413-9601 or dennis@newportirish.com.
 - 9 AM Mass, in Honor of St. Patrick, at St Joseph's Church
 - 11 AM Start at City Hall
 - A shuttle will run on the morning of the parade. The first shuttle will pick up outside of the Hall at 8:30 AM. The last shuttle will leave promptly at 10:30 AM. The shuttle runs roughly every 20 mins and will drop off by the start of the parade.
 - The Post Parade Party at the Hall is a ticketed event. Doors open at 12 Noon. Tickets are \$25 and are available at the Hall.
 - **Clocks move forward by an hour on Saturday night. Don't be late for Mass in the morning!!**
- **Mass for the Deceased AOH and LAOH Members** will be held at St. Mary's Church on Sunday, March 12th at 11 AM. Please make every effort to attend this Mass. Flagbearers are needed to carry County Flags. Please see Brother Dennis Reddy. There is also a sign-up sheet in the Hall.
- **AOH Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner** - with music by Rhode to Dublin. March 17th at 6 PM. Tickets are \$20 and available at the Hall.
- **AOH Shirts** will be available after Parade Day, thanks to Robbie Lehane. All sizes are available at a cost of \$30 per shirt.

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Looking forward to seeing you all at our next meeting on Friday, March 3rd. Come early. Fish and Chips will be available beginning at 4 PM. **Please bring a non-perishable food item to support local food pantries.**

In Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity,

Bill Cardinal

AOH Upcoming Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Event</u>
March 1st	Wednesday	HOTY Dinner – Mark Woods
March 3rd	Friday	Monthly Meeting / Fish Fry by TR McGrath
March 4th	Saturday	Parade Marshall Roast – Harp Donnelly
March 10th	Friday	Pre-Parade Party
March 11th	Saturday	Mass Honoring St Patrick - St Joseph's Church 9 AM
March 11th	Saturday	Newport St. Patrick's Day Parade
March 12th	Sunday	Mass for Deceased AOH & LAOH Members
March 17th	Friday	AOH Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner
March 24th	Friday	Fish Fry by TR McGrath
March 25th	Saturday	LAOH "Grab and Go" Corned Beef Dinner (pre-order only)
March 31st	Friday	Fish Fry by TR McGrath
April 7th	Friday	Good Friday – Fish Fry by TR McGrath
April 9th	Sunday	Easter Sunday
April 14th	Friday	Monthly Meeting
April 15th	Saturday	Country Night
April 20th	Thursday	3rd Thursday Music Night at the Hall
May 5th	Friday	Monthly Meeting
May 18th	Thursday	3rd Thursday Music Night at the Hall
May 6th	Saturday	Kentucky Derby at the AOH
June 2nd	Friday	Monthly Meeting
June 12th	Monday	AOH Gary Loftus Memorial Golf Tournament