

March 2021 NEWS LETTER

Brothers,

We begin **Irish Heritage Month** by congratulating **Jim Mahoney** for being selected as the **2021 Hibernian of the Year**.

Jim has promoted Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity throughout the community for over 50 years as a Hibernian. This is a well deserved tribute and hopefully we will be able to have a dinner honoring Jim later this year.

Our division Chaplain **Father Frank O'Loughlin** will be celebrating a mass at **St. Joseph's Church** on **Saturday, March 13th at 9:00 a.m.** This mass is in honor of **St. Patrick** and is in memory of the deceased members of the **AOH** and **LAOH**. This will be the first mass in over a year that we remember our departed brethren. I am looking forward to a large turnout.

Later that day our hall will be open at 12:00 p.m. **servicing corn beef dinners**. *More details to follow.*

Last Friday we held our **first fish fry**. A big thank you to **TR McGrath, Bill and Karen Cardinal, Bill Barret,** and his staff for a successful day. We will continue serving fish fry dinners for takeout or sit in dining on Fridays from 12:00 p.m. to - 7:30 p.m. during the Lenten season.

Brother **Steve Jameson** recently donated an **American Flag** and certificate to our hall. The flag was flown over Camp Milliken, Mogadishu, East Africa from 1 November to 14 November 2018 in support of Counterterrorism Operations.

Steve was featured in a Veterans Affairs article in the **Hibernian Digest** a few years ago with an AOH flag flying at his camp. Many thanks to Steve for the gift and his service to our country. We will proudly display the flag at our hall.

The **Finance, Capital Improvements, House** and **Screenings Committees** have been appointed and are beginning to meet in preparation for this year. Division Secretary Austin Behan will be posting a full list of committee chairs and members shortly.

The **Screening Committee** will begin posting the names of candidates and starting the vetting process. The procedure will be as follows:

- Applicants and Sponsors names will be posted and emailed to membership.
- If no objections within 5 days the candidates will be referred to the Screening Committee.
- After assessing the committee will make recommendations to the Board.
- If accepted the candidates will be sworn in at a closed meeting. They will be asked to attend the next regular meeting to be recognized by the full membership.

After Covid restrictions are lifted we will return to the normal screening process.

If you would like to sponsor an individual applications are available at the hall and on our website at this link: [application](#).

Thanks to **Ed Coleman** and **Pat McGrath** for their snow removal efforts this February. They were very busy with the many storms that occurred.

Several brothers and their families own and operate many businesses in the community that have supported our division over the years. If you are able please support these brothers as they try to recover from a very difficult year.

Web Master Bob Novick is creating a **business directory** on our website, ahnewport.org for Hibernian owned businesses. If you are interested in adding your business contact Bob for details.

With Covid restrictions beginning to lift remember that we continue to follow protocol at our hall. Let's continue to respect these guidelines and each other.

That being said, face masks made by Colleen McCarthy and **Anna Duffy** are for sale at the hall. The cost is \$10 each. All proceeds from the sales of the masks before March 17th will be donated to our Capital Improvement Fund in honor of Gary Loftus. Thank you to both Colleen and Anna for their generosity.

The **AOH Scholarship Committee** is accepting 2021 scholarship applications. Deadline for applicants is May 1st 2021. [Click here](#) to see and print the application on the division website. Any questions can be directed to Scholarship Committee Chairman **David Kerins** @ dpksen@aol.com.

Annual Dues Letters have been sent out. If you choose to donate to the **Capital Improvement Fund** while paying your dues your donation can be included with your payment. The funds will be deposited in the appropriate accounts. Our mailing address is - AOH, 2 Wellington Ave, Newport, RI 02840.

As a reminder the **AOH National Constitution** states that all members receive Holy Communion during the Easter season.

Please keep recently deceased brothers: [Michael J. Sullivan](#) , [Paul Gagne](#) and **Joe O'Hanley** along with all our departed brethren in your prayers.

Stay safe and healthy,
In Unity, Kevin