

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

2/1/2024

Brothers,

You may want to print out this newsletter (or at least the Upcoming Events page) and hang it on the fridge. There's a lot going on. January was a busy month at the Hall and February is looking to be even busier.

The season of Lent will also begin in February. It's a time for prayer, fasting, and almsgiving (not only through money - but time and talent). Please attend Mass regularly and remember to pray.

Our next meeting is this Friday, February 2nd at 7 PM. Come down early and have dinner – available from 4:30 to 6 PM and after the meeting. Please bring a few non-perishable food items with you to the meeting to support local food banks.

HIBERNIAN OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Brother Peter Lauzon our 2024 Hibernian of the Year! Peter's HOTY Dinner and celebration will be held at the Hall on Thursday, February 29th at 6 PM. Tickets are on sale at the Hall.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Brother Paul Saunders will be stepping down as our Treasurer. Thank you, Paul, for serving as our Treasurer since May 2023. The first round of nominations for the Treasurer's position will be accepted at our upcoming monthly meeting this Friday.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to our Vice President Austin Behan for being selected as a winner of the Irish Echo's Top 40 Under 40 Award! He will be presented with the award on Friday, February 23rd at The View at The Battery in New York.

PLEASE VOTE FOR AUSTIN IN THE IRISH ECHO PEOPLE'S CHOICE CATEGORY THROUGH THE FOLLOWING LINK:

<https://www.irishecho.com/vote-for-your-2024-people-s-choice-irish-echo-40-under-40-honorees>

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GIANT MEAT RAFFLE

Our Giant Meat Raffle, held this past Sunday, was an enormous success! It was great to see the Hall so packed! Thank you to Nikki Valcourt, all the volunteers, and everyone who supported it by buying tickets.

DUES

2024 dues of \$120 were due in January. We are not mailing paper invoices. Dues can be paid at the Hall by cash, or credit card, or check. They can also be paid by Venmo @AOHNEWPORTRI. If paying by check, please mail your check to the Hall – 2 Wellington Avenue Newport, RI 02840 – attention Dave Kane.

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 very much appreciated.

Capital Improvement Funds have recently purchased a new kegerator for the lounge that will be installed shortly.

VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER

Save the Date for our Valentine's Dinner on Friday, February 17th. This event will be the perfect romantic dinner before all of the upcoming festivities in March! The cost is \$100 per couple and tickets are available at the Hall.

LENT

February 14th is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten Season.

Brother TR McGrath will be selling fish and chips at the Hall on Ash Wednesday.

Chef Mark's fish and chips and other seafood items will be available at the Hall on Fridays through Lent.

PATRICK'S DAY NEWS

Green Eggs & Ham will be held at the Hall on Sunday, March 3rd. This is the first St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee event of the year.

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Congratulations to Our Chaplain, Father Francis O'Loughlin, who was selected as the Grand Marshal of the 2024 Newport St. Patrick's Day Parade! Father Frank's roast will be held on Saturday, March 9th at St. Augustine's.

Please consider becoming a patron of the parade booklet. By making a minimum pledge of ten (\$10) dollars, your name(s), or the name of a loved one will be included on the "Patron Pages" of the Irish Heritage Month. If you are interested in placing an advertisement or memorial in the booklet, please contact Dennis Sullivan at 401-413-9601 or dennis@newportirish.com.

Newport Irish tee-shirts are available for purchase online (see link below) until February 13th. Orders will be delivered right to your doorstep!

https://www.customink.com/fundraising/newport-saint-patricks-day-parade-2024?utm_campaign=desktop-campaign-page-share-v3&utm_content=newport-saint-patricks-day-parade-2024&utm_medium=messaging&utm_source=email

MUSIC AT THE HALL

There will be live music at the Hall coming up on Thursday, February 15th.

MONTHLY PITCH NIGHT

Brother Gary McCarthy's monthly Pitch Night at the Hall is on Sunday, February 18th from 4:30 to 7:30 PM. Please be ready to play by 4:30 PM. The event is limited to 16 players and the sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board at the Hall.

TRIVIA NIGHT

Trivia Night with Nikki and Tara will be held at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, February 21st. Come down and test your knowledge. It's a fun, free event with prizes. Come alone or with a group of 4. The kitchen will also be open.

The last Trivia Night of the season will be held on Wednesday, March 3rd.

AOH PIPES & DRUMS

The AOH Pipes and Drums will be holding two fundraisers to help support their trip to Kinsale.

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The first fundraiser is tomorrow night - Thursday, February 1st at Cappy's Hillside Cafe at 6 PM

The second fundraiser is on Sunday, February 25th at the Hall – 3 to 6 PM - David McGrath and Ireland the Band will make their Newport debut. There will be Prizes, Gift Baskets, & Raffles.

You can also help support the band by purchasing a tee-shirt. These tee-shirts will only be available for a limited time - get them while you can! Link to purchase tee-shirts below:

https://www.customink.com/fundraising/newport-aoh-pds-road-trip-to-kinsale-the-25th-twinning-anniversary-tour-2024?utm_campaign=mobile-campaign-page-share-v3

MAJOR DEGREE

If anyone would like to attend the MAJOR DEGREE CEREMONY in Albany NY THIS Saturday, February 3rd,

Our Recording Secretary, Brian Doyle, and State President, Patrick McGrath, will be making the trip. They have room for 2 more! The Albany Hall expects 40+ Brothers to make their Degree and there will be food and drinks afterward in their Pub. Albany is a great host and it's always fun to visit other Hibernian Halls.

The plan is to leave Newport at 8 AM with a stop along Rt 4 for folks on that side of the bay. We will return around 9:30 PM. Please contact Brian Doyle at 401-215-6206 or Patrick McGrath at 401-640-1766 if interested.

Taking the Major Degree is part of the pledge you made when you joined the organization - it is the next step in becoming a full-fledged Brother of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. You won't regret this memorable experience completing of your oath!

DINNER AT THE HALL

Dinner service at the Hall is available on Thursdays & Fridays from 4:30 to 8 PM. Check your email for any changes in service dates and times. On meeting nights, dinner will be available from 4:30 to 6 PM and again after the meeting.

BLOOD DRIVE

On Thursday, February 1st from 2 to 7 PM, The RI Blood Center will be holding a Blood Drive, organized by our Past President Robbie Lehane, at the Middletown Knights of Columbus on Valley Road.

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IN MEMORIAM

Sadly, Brother Bernard “Bernie” Crowley passed away on January 4th. Please keep the Crowley family, all our deceased brethren, their families, and all who are ill in your daily prayers.

Please contact me at wcardinal@cox.net or VP Austin Behan at abehan19@gmail.com, via email, to inform of a Brother’s passing for ritual arrangements to be made.

Looking forward to seeing you all at our meeting this Friday, February 2nd, **at 7 PM**. Please bring a few non-perishable food items with you to the meeting to support local food banks.

In Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity,

Bill Cardinal

Upcoming Events:

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AOH Upcoming Events

January 1st	Thursday	Blood Drive at Knights of Columbus
February 2nd	Friday	Monthly Meeting – 7 PM
<i>February 14th</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Ash Wednesday</i> (Fish Fry with TR McGrath)
February 15th	Thursday	Live Music Night at the Hall
February 16th	Friday	Fish Fry at the Hall
February 17th	Saturday	Valentine’s Dinner at the Hall
February 21st	Wednesday	Trivia Night at the Hall
February 23rd	Friday	Fish Fry at the Hall
February 24th	Saturday	LAOH Mass in Honor of St. Brigid
February 25th	Sunday	AOH Pipes & Drums Fundraiser at the Hall
February 29th	Thursday	Hibernian of the Year Dinner
March 1st	Friday	Monthly Meeting – 7 PM (Fish Fry at the Hall)
March 2nd	Saturday	LAOH Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner
March 3rd	Sunday	Green Eggs & Ham
March 6th	Wednesday	Trivia Night at the Hall
March 8th	Friday	Fish Fry at the Hall
March 9th	Saturday	Parade Marshall Roast – Fr. Frank O’Loughlin
March 15th	Friday	Pre-Parade Party
March 16th	Saturday	Newport St Patrick’s Day Parade
March 17th	Sunday	Mass for Deceased AOH & LAOH Members at St Mary’s
March 22nd	Friday	Fish Fry at the Hall
<i>March 24th</i>	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Palm Sunday</i>
<i>March 29th</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Good Friday</i> (Fish Fry at the Hall)
<i>March 31st</i>	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Easter Sunday</i>
April 5th	Friday	Monthly Meeting – 7 PM
June 3rd	Monday	AOH Gary Loftus Memorial Golf Tournament