



Ancient Order of  
**HIBERNIANS**  
IRISH • CATHOLIC • AMERICAN

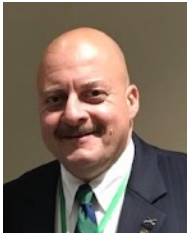
*Ohio State Board*

*Newsletter*

*August 2020*

*Volume 2 Issue 8*

## President's Message



Brothers All,

August greetings to you all! Hope you're having a great summer, and I hope that you and yours are healthy and well.

As you all know, the Orlando National Convention was cancelled, and in its place a "virtual" National Convention was held, with the top officers conducting business and ceremonies from Youngstown. Great credit goes to Ohio's own Danny O and Denny Parks, as well as Chris Cooke from North Carolina, for their hard work and creativity in making this virtual convention a huge success, despite so many obstacles.

Congratulations to our newly elected and installed National Board, especially our own Danny O'Connell, as he begins the next four years of a hugely successful and transformative term. Congratulations and great thanks to our Worthy State Vice President Denny Parks, who finished his term as National Director, doing great work and bringing great credit to himself and our great state.

Looking forward, please be looking for a meeting notice for our next upcoming virtual State Board meeting, which we'll hold in early September via Zoom. Also, as circumstances allow, we're planning for an in-person State Board meeting in late October or November, and again, circumstances permitting, we'd like to also host Exemplification of the Major Degrees that day. This should make for a fun and informative Hibernian weekend.

As always, thank you for your commitment, passion, and leadership. God Bless you all, God Bless Ireland, and God Bless our great Nation.

Slan,

Bob

## Chaplain's's Comments



Ballinasmalla Abbey, County Mayo

On both of my visits to Ireland, in April 2013 and September 2018, I had the opportunity to visit the "family cemetery", located among the ruins of the Saint Mary Abbey, known as Ballinasmalla, just outside of Claremorris in County Mayo.

Founded in 1288 members of the Prendergast family, who were prominent in the Counties of Mayo and Galway but especially in and around Claremorris. They bequeathed the land for the abbey to the Carmelite Order, (The Brothers of Our Lady of Mount Carmel), who remained present at the abbey in one form or another until 1870.

The abbey consisted of several stone buildings, some of which are still standing, including a church, cloister, living quarters for the brothers, and several chapels.



*(interior of church)*

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### Chaplain's's Comments, cont.

While the monastery was suppressed by Queen Elizabeth I in 1585 and partially destroyed by the Parliamentary Forces by order of Oliver Cromwell after he had invaded Ireland in 1649, the Carmelite Brothers somehow managed to maintain a presence in this rural outpost in the west of Ireland for nearly six hundred years, until approximately 1870.



*(altar and window in what was the Lady Chapel).*

In the ensuing years, families—my own included—brought the bodies of their deceased loved ones to bury them among the beautiful ruins on this ground hallowed by centuries of prayer and sacrifice.

On a blustery evening in April of 2013, my cousin Christine and I came upon the cemetery and abbey ruins by accident. We had just visited our great grandmother's hometown of Claremorris and were on our way back to Knock, where we were staying, when the cemetery suddenly seemed to appear out of no where. We stayed only a few minutes, as a storm was about to hit. But we visited the next day and quickly found the large stone high cross grave marker of our great great grandparents, John and Mary Dillon Navin, who died in 1875 and 1924, respectively.



Just behind it was yet another high cross of similar fashion, but we were unable to read the names because a large holly bush had grown into it. When I returned with friends in September of 2018, the holly bush had been removed and I could see that the cross marked the grave of my great great great grandparents, James and Catherine Cribben Dillon. Several other relatives—aunts, uncles, and cousins, are buried nearby.

I have no idea how it came that my ancestors came to be buried in this beautiful ruin, considered to be one of the finest historical sites in the area, nor how their descendants had been able to afford these beautiful monuments to them, since they were so poor. But I am edified by the fact that these monuments stand here, marking not only the location of my ancestors' mortal remains but also testifying to their faith in the resurrection and the immortality promised to them and to all of us by Jesus.

*+Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.*

Fr. John Keehner, State Chaplain

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**Newsletter News**

Just a reminder. If you have information for our monthly newsletter, please send it as a Word attachment to an e-mail to Editor, Jim Casey at

[jjcasey973@gmail.com](mailto:jjcasey973@gmail.com)

The **deadline** for articles is the **24th of the month.**

## 2020 AOH National Convention

Congratulations to the newly elected National Directors and officers of the AOH for the next two years. Good Luck God Bless and Stay Safe

### Directors

Tim McSweeney NY  
Ray Lynch Fl  
Ed Halligan Pa  
Sean O'Dowd Il  
Dick Thompson MA  
Bob Meherns Montana

### Executive Board Officers

President Danny O'Connell  
Vice Pres. Sean Pender  
Secretary Jere Cole  
Treasurer Liam McNabb

## State FFAI Chairman's Report

### IN REMEMBRANCE



The image of a schoolboy donning a gas mask with a petrol bomb in his hands, the midst of a bustling riot serving as the backdrop, is forever emblazoned in the minds of the Irish. It was 1969 when the photo was taken on the streets of Derry, but the emotions it evoked would endure. We would later find out that the boy's name was Paddy Coyle. He was just 13 years old when a photographer captured the image that would later serve as an iconic reminder of the Battle of Bogside.

One can only imagine what ran through the boy's mind as his town was under siege on that mid- August day. Coyle wasn't keen on talking about the image or the circumstances it depicted, as it understandably evoked negative emotions. Despite many offers from documentary makers and newspapers over the years, Coyle refrained from telling his story. According to family members, he lived a life devoted to peace and reconciliation, feeling no need to exploit the famed photo. Nevertheless, it remained a prominent symbol, which would later be immortalized by a Bogside Artists mural on Rossville Street in Derry.

On July 20, 2020, it was revealed that Paddy Coyle had passed away following a brief illness. Nearly 51 years after the catalyst of the Troubles, his youthful image remains relevant. Please join me in paying homage to the man behind the icon.

Patrick Williams, State Director

Ancient Order of the Hibernians  
Freedom For All Ireland State Chairman

## State Historian's Report

By: J. Michael Finn, State Historian

### **Michael Stanton, State Delegate and State President**

(1884-1888 and 1896-1898)

Michael Stanton was born on September 16, 1843 in the town of Ballinrobe in County Mayo, Ireland. His father was John Stanton and his mother was Catharine O'Reilley. The family immigrated to the United States in 1848, and located at Junior Furnace, Ohio where they remained about a year, and then moved to Springfield, Ohio, where John Stanton worked on the railroad. Soon after, they moved to Jackson County, Ohio where Michael attended school until he was fifteen years of age.

Michael spent his early years digging ore and coal and running on the river boats. In 1862, soon after the start of the Civil War, Stanton joined the Union Army as a government messenger and was part of a Veterans Reserve Corps unit headed by General Winfield Scott Hancock that fought up and down the Shenandoah Valley. In 1865, he served as a Private in Company B, 196th Ohio Volunteer Infantry and was mustered out May 12, 1865 at Cumberland, Maryland.

In 1866, he and his brother John operated a general store at Berlin Cross Roads in Jackson County, Ohio. In 1870 he relocated to Portsmouth, Ohio, which remained his home.

Michael Stanton and James Bagby bought the wholesale grocery and liquor house of Stricklett and Bagby in Portsmouth, Ohio on October 21, 1871, which they then operated as Stanton and Bagby. Eighteen months later, Stanton entered the liquor distilling business by partnering with the firm of G. W. Brown & Company. It is reported that the town of Portsmouth had over 55 saloons, so his liquor business prospered. In 1874, this became the firm of Stanton Brothers in 1874. In 1877 the firm became Stanton & Balmert and enjoyed great success.

In 1888, his business was turned over to a corporation, known as the Spring Lane Distilling Company, in which he was a large stockholder. From 1908 until 1912 the business was known as the M. Stanton Company (in the Great Ohio Flood of 1913, Portsmouth's main streets were inundated in nine feet of water. Many businesses were destroyed. Stanton's company on Front Street was among the destroyed businesses and never recovered).

Stanton married Mary Jane Livingston, a native of Jackson County, Ohio, on November 14, 1876. They had seven children; however, only three of them survived: Margaret, Michael and Edward.

On October 15, 1888 Stanton was severely injured in a railroad accident while travelling from Cincinnati to Pittsburgh. The train derailed near Washington, Pennsylvania. In his \$50,000 lawsuit against the B&O Railroad, Stanton claimed that his left shoulder had been crushed; both arms were broken; his right leg broken; and his side, back, spine and limbs injured. He also reported that he suffered permanent injury as a result the accident.

Stanton was a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians Division in Portsmouth, Ohio. It appears that the division may have started as early as 1878 to 1880. It is not known when Stanton joined the Order. Stanton attended Holy Redeemer Church in Portsmouth. The pastor of Holy Redeemer, Father John E. McGuirk served as chaplain of the AOH Division for many years (he served the parish for over 44 years until his death in 1933).

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## State Historian's Report, cont.

Stanton served two consecutive two-year terms as State Delegate, being elected in 1884 at the State Convention in Dayton and again in 1886 at the State Convention in Cincinnati. He later served an additional term as State President in 1896 being elected at the State Convention in Newark. In his 1896 term, Stanton became the first elected officer in Ohio to have the title of State President.

Stanton attended the 1892 National Convention in New Orleans as a delegate (reportedly, he traveled by riverboat down the Ohio River to the Mississippi then south to New Orleans).

As out-going State President, at the April 1898 State Convention held in Columbus, Ohio, Stanton received the following resolution: "This convention gives its sincere thanks to Hon. Michael Stanton, the outgoing State President, for his many years of efficient service, and wishes him many years of pleasant associations with our society in the future."

Stanton was a Democrat in his political views and was active in the party. For twenty years, he was a member of the Portsmouth City Council, being first elected in 1875. He always took a great interest in municipal affairs and stood for public improvements.

Serving as Chairman of the Finance Committee on City Council, in an effort to spur recovery during poor economic times, Stanton used his own credit among other resources to raise the money for municipal works projects. These efforts by Stanton, the Portsmouth Times asserted, "Assisted hundreds of the needy and unfortunate" in Portsmouth.

Stanton would never accept any office which would interfere with his liquor business. He said after retiring from City Council, "I have always tried to do my duty. I regret that my business interest compels me to retire, but you can assure my friends that I am still a good Democrat and will ever be ready to get out and hustle for the cause."

In 1890 and 1891, Stanton was a member of the Board of State Penitentiary Managers, appointed by Ohio Governor James E. Campbell. This is the only office he ever held outside of the City Council of Portsmouth. From 1894 to 1896, he was president of the Farmers National Bank of Portsmouth, Ohio.

It was written of Stanton, "Stanton made up his mind quickly and acted at once. His executive ability enabled him to achieve great success in business. He favored public improvement and advancement. In his business career in Portsmouth, he largely contributed to the material advancement of the city of Portsmouth."

After a period of slow decline, Michael Stanton spent his final weeks in a Civil War veteran's hospital in Athens, Ohio, where he died on May 6, 1909. His funeral was held at Holy Redeemer Church in Portsmouth. The Mass was celebrated by the pastor, Father John E. McGuirk. The newspaper obituary said that Stanton was, "...The staunchest and most masterful advocate Portsmouth ever had..." It added that he was "a man to be admired and loved."

Michael Stanton is buried in the Holy Redeemer section of Greenlawn Cemetery, Portsmouth, Ohio with a military headstone that marks his Civil War enlistment in Company B, 196th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Based on current research, Stanton seems to have been the only State Delegate or State President to have been a Civil War veteran.

## **Catholic Action**

The month of August falls entirely within the cycle of Ordinary Time. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, August 15, is a holy day of obligation.

### **OUR LADY OF KNOCK**

On the evening of August 21, 1879, in the village of Knock, County Mayo, the housekeeper of the local parish church saw the south outside wall of the church bathed in a light of unknown origin. Going to fetch a friend, she and her companion came back to witness an apparition of the Virgin Mary, with two others figures, who were understood to be St. Joseph and John the Evangelist. In addition, there was an altar, with a cross and a lamb on it. Others gathered and likewise saw the figures. A notable feature of this Marian apparition is that Mary was silent. Acceptance of authenticity was slow--some local ecclesiastical authorities suspected a hoax by the local Protestant constable! Today Knock is the site of a large basilica and a dedicated place of pilgrimage. Once celebrated on August 21 in the Roman calendar, the feast has been moved to August 13 to make way for Pope St. Pius X.

### **NEWS OF INTEREST**

The incidents are growing too numerous to detail here: part of the current wave of lawlessness and mob actions seems directed at Catholic churches and images, with reports of arson, vandalism, and assault coming from around the nation.

Ohio's oldest abortion clinic, opened in 1973, has closed. Currently, there are 8 remaining abortion facilities in Ohio. Over the last ten years, about half of the state's abortion clinics have closed.

Ohio Right to Life has posted its endorsements for the November election. Visit [www.ohiovotesforlife.org](http://www.ohiovotesforlife.org) and click on "Endorsements."

Do you have local news? Please send for inclusion in this report.

Fraternally,

Patrick J. Lally

330-792-7135

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## Division News

### Irish Brigade Div. #1 Medina Co.

In spite of the Covid 19 virus and early rain our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual AOH Charity Beer Run was a financial success. Because of the numerous date changes 22 people were forced to cancel. However; 12 cancelations donated their ticket money to the event including brothers, Joe Casey, Pete Chrystal and Pat Powers. As a result we ended the day with lots of sunshine as well as clearing \$1496.65 for our charties!

Dave Manley at 330-273-3118

### Patrick Pearse Div. #1 Franklin Co.

274 E. Innis, Columbus, OH 43207

Governor DeWine has issued an order to temporarily shut down all bars and restaurants in the State of Ohio as we prepare to face the spread of the Coronavirus in the US. Tara Hall will be closed for business until further notice.

### Joseph T. Nally, Sr. Div #6, Mahoning Co.

5110 Southern Blvd., Youngstown, OH 44512

The Major Degrees scheduled for April 25, 2020 have been postponed and will be held at a later date.

### Msgr. Donal O'Carroll, Div. #1 Washington Co.

c/o Pat Kelly, 104 Iroquois Drive, Marietta, OH 45750-1219

I have recently received a letter from Brother Bob Harper, President of the Ohio A.O.H. Brother Harper has noted that a key focus area is retention and recruiting. I have set clear goals: a base goal of 5% net growth over 2019 and a stretch goal of 10%. It requires one in twenty of our current active members to recruit a new member, assuming that we are successful in retention.

Brother Harper goes on to say. With that in mind, and with Washington County's current membership roster of 32 Brothers, I'll ask that you commit to a net gain of 2 members by the end of this calendar year. While this won't be easy, given all the surrounding uncertainties, I believe this is still quite doable.

Brother Patrick Kelly is our Division Organizer and since his installation, we have added two new members this year. Given Brother Kelly's determination, our active recruitment will continue. We have also, given the present circumstances, done a decent job of retention. We are in step and in agreement with Bro. Harper's call for retention as well as recruitment.

Tom Binegar, President

Send your Division information to Editor Jim Casey

[jjcasey973@gmail.com](mailto:jjcasey973@gmail.com)



## Mark Your Calendars

### 2021 State Convention

Cleveland OH, OH

### 2022 AOH National Convention

Pittsburgh PA

### 2024 AOH National Convention

Orlando FL

## Commodore Barry Medal

The AOH Ohio State Board is pleased to offer the Commodore John Barry medal to AOH Divisions for \$25. This medal is intended to be awarded to members for outstanding service or achievement. Each medal comes individually packaged in an attractive display case with a printed history of Commodore Barry.

Yours in our Motto,

*Mike McKenzie , Ohio State Board*

Mike McKenzie at: (330) 329 2652, [tmmckenzie31@gmail.com](mailto:tmmckenzie31@gmail.com)



## Ireland 2021

I am setting up a trip to Ireland in August 2021. If you are interested, contact me at [tmmckenzie31@gmail.com](mailto:tmmckenzie31@gmail.com). If you want to see something in particular, let me know. The Ten day trip is limited to no more than twelve people.

Mike McKenzie

***To the Editor...***

Editor:

I must express my complete disapproval and utter disappointment with our National Board for their recent selection of Pennsylvania Congressman Brendan Boyle's selection for the 2020 JFK Memorial Medal. Congressman Boyle's perfect record for support of all Pro-Choice legislation as is clearly shown by his unflinching support for Planned Parenthood and 100% approval rating from NARAL.

It appears that the work and commitment of the AOH' National, State and Local Pro Life groups to the sanctity of life from birth to natural death is being interpreted differently by our national officers.

Congressman Boyle's support for fair immigration, expanded health and childcare is most commendable should you be able to survive Planned Parenthood or NARAL. Without life there is no need to expand health or childcare!

I am tired of the self righteous platitudes being expressed to defend the selection of Congressman Boyle's selection. Including being told not to judge or to condemn the congressman's Pro Choice politics or motives. I am not, only God will judge.

What I am questioning is, the National Board's logic, that knowing Congressman Boyle's long Pro Choice, they made this decision.

David Manley, State Pro Life Chairman

***The following is reprinted from the July-August Hibernian Digest***

**Opposed to JFK Medal recipient**

Dear Editor:

"Disappointed" cannot capture my reaction when reading that Rep. Brendan Boyle was selected for the John F. Kennedy Medal. "Shock and horror would better express it.

Brendan Boyle has a 100 percent approval rating from NARAL, the leading pro-abortion advocates in the U.S. and beyond. He has voted for every pro-abortion measure in Congress, including the "Enforcing the Refusal of Care Rule" to kill born children by neglect, and against every measure to in any way limit the killing of children in the womb. If Brendan Boyle is the exemplary Hibernian then I want no part of the AOH.

Charities, political education, history etc. are all important efforts of the AOH but there are no worthy efforts for those who are killed in the womb. There are no rights without the right to life.

From initial on we are told that a Hibernian is a Catholic organization and that we are to be practicing Catholics. Brendan Boyle is not a practicing Catholic; he should not be a member of the AOH let alone be honored by it. This is a black time for the AOH>

Fr. W. Patrick Resen

Tennessee