

# HIBERNIAN NEWSLETTER

AOH SOMERSET COUNTY, NJ  
ST. PATRICK DIVISION 1  
December 2021



Ancient Order of  
**HIBERNIANS**  
Irish • Catholic • American

## Regular AOH Meeting

Our next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>. We will have a brief business



meeting followed by some friendship and cheer with your fellow Hibernians. As usual we will have beer, wine, and soda available after the meeting.

Knights of Columbus Hall  
495 E. Main Street  
Somerville, NJ

For those who choose not to attend in person, you can attend virtually using a Zoom meeting invitation that we sent out in advance of the meeting.

## Thanksgiving Dinner Project

Each Thanksgiving, the Ancient Order of Hibernians, St. Patrick's Division 1 - Somerset NJ and the Knights of Columbus - Somerville Council #1432 assemble turkey dinner packages with all the fixings for groups, food banks and families in need throughout Hunterdon, Somerset and Middlesex counties.

This year we are grateful to our generous sponsors the Colalillo Shop Rite of Flemington NJ and the parent company Albertson's to King's Market of Whitehouse Station NJ.

We are also so very grateful to the generosity of the members, friends and families of our AOH Division and our Knights of Columbus Council. Thanks to the collective financial generosity, as well as folks time, sweat and heavy lifting, we were able to distribute a total of **120 Thanksgiving Turkey Dinners with all the fixings. This will feed over 500 of our neighbors in need. We have also delivered over 1,000 lbs. in food items to our two local food banks and distributed \$825 in Shop Rite food cards.**

Organizations receiving our turkey dinners this year include our partner the Samaritan Homeless Interim Program (SHIP), The Food Bank Network of Somerset County, Anderson House/Turning Point, Binnacle House, Elijah's Promise, Agape House, Visions and Pathways, Centerbridge Senior Apartments, Immaculate Conception Church - Somerville, St. John's Episcopal Church - Somerville, Mary Mother of God - Hillsborough, The Center for Great Expectations and numerous families in need identified by local churches and civic organizations.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians Saint Patrick Division 1 and the Local Council of the Knights of Columbus wants to thank everyone for their support with this year's 2021 Thanksgiving Dinner Project and wish all a Happy and Healthy Thanksgiving and Holiday Season.

### **Food Drive Committee**

Tom Burns

Pat Mannion

Dan Esposito – Co Chairman

Tom Lenahan – Co Chairman

## President's Message

Brothers,

On behalf of my family and I, we wish you a festive Christmas season and peaceful New Year! May the Christmas spirit fill every corner of your home, shine in your heart and light your path. Keeping you and your families in our thoughts and prayers as we look toward the promise of the new year.

Ryan Green

President

Somerset Division 1 Ancient Order of Hibernians

## NJAOH President Message

Richard S. O'Brien, State President shares his 2021 review and plans for 2022.

“This past year we have been focused on digital management tools for New Jersey and the entire AOH nationwide. This new website and social media channel will be a top-down presentation, which will improve communications to all Hibernians and supporters regarding our charitable works, social activities and Irish history. Back in November, we hosted our Major Degree ritual produced by the Tara Court Degree Team – Suffolk County, New York. This event had over 60 brothers who were either candidates or observes. Many in attendance commented on the excellent production and meaningful take away they experienced. We are pleased to report re-energized Divisions in Somerset and Morris County that has refocused membership and interest in these important Irish strongholds in New Jersey. In addition, we are forming a new Union County Division that will re-vitalize another Irish stronghold that once had two powerful and longstanding Divisions.

Lastly, we held a mass to commemorate the lives of all members of the AOH and LAOH who perished at the World Trade Center on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001. There were nine members from the New Jersey Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH). During the mass, a plaque that honors all who passed away that day was blessed.

For 2022, my focus and direction will be on membership growth. I directed my Board to focus on assigned Divisions to help them grow. I plan to report next year significant growth in membership. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!”

## Mission & Charities

At our November meeting, Our meeting raffle to raise money for SHIP in Somerville who are in desperate need after the impact of Tropical Storm Ida on their operations. We raffled away several nice prizes. On-line participants were able to buy tickets via Venmo. Thanks to Mike Donnellan and Marty Collins for their dedication to running this event !

## Welfare of the Division

We ask that you continue to remember all our sick, deceased members, their families, and our friends in your prayers. We are also eager to share joyous news such as weddings, births, college graduations and other accomplishments of our members families.

Please contact our Welfare Chairman, **Tom Lenahan** @ 908-217-3001 or email him at [tbl63@optonline.net](mailto:tbl63@optonline.net) so that a card or other suitable acknowledgement can be sent.

## 2022 Dues

In December, we will be mailing out 2022 dues notices. Our dues remain @ **\$50**. Please keep an eye out and pay your dues promptly to be included in our raffle for a year's free dues.

If you have questions regarding your dues, please contact Bob McCann at (908) 433-1524 or email him at [bobmick28@gmail.com](mailto:bobmick28@gmail.com).



## Irish on the Radio

The Voice of Ireland radio program is on the air every Sunday from 5 to 7 pm at WRSU 88.7 FM. Brothers **Tommy Burns** and **Jack McCullagh** and their friends look forward to you joining them for an hour of Irish music, chat, announcements and occasional ticket giveaways. You can also tune in on the Internet at [www.wrsu.org](http://www.wrsu.org) from anywhere in the world. Join their group on Facebook as well.



## Thank You

- To our Division's Executive Board for all their efforts on our behalf throughout the year.
- To the Knights of Columbus for the use of their Hall for our regular monthly meetings,
- To the Chairmen of our Thanksgiving Dinner Project for their hard work in making it a success year after year.
- To all those who donated food or financial support to our Thanksgiving Dinner Project.

## Division Officers

President	Ryan Green
Vice-President	Ryan McInerney
Financial Secretary	Bob McCann
Treasurer	Neil Mahoney
Recording Secretary	Tom Lardner
Marshal	John Kelly IV
Chairman of Standing Committee	Tom Lenahan
Sentinel	Barry Kirby

Submissions or feedback on the newsletter can be sent to [tommyb\\_67@yahoo.com](mailto:tommyb_67@yahoo.com)

## December Birthdays

Thomas Nee  
 John Brogan  
 Frank Loftus  
 James Hannan  
 Robert Coffey David Schuh  
 Hugh McAleavy  
 Ryan Green  
 Noel Brennan  
 Matthew Thiel





*Our Thanksgiving Dinner volunteers.*



*A Christmas tree in memory of all our deceased members at Immaculate Conception*



*Rich O'Brien (NJOH President) and Ted Devin recording our Storytellers event.*



*Our Irish Seisiun - November 21, 2021*