

A Cairde

The new Executive Board would like to wish all of you a Happy, Peaceful and Prosperous New Year. Thank you for electing us, and we would like to assure you that we will strive to uphold the long and valued history of Hibernianism at Division 1.

Thank you to New York State Board officer Dennis Browne, for performing the installation ceremony. A special 'go raibh maith agat' to outgoing board members, President John Brophy, Recording Secretary Burt Pratt and Standing Committee Chairman John Mollahan for all the work they have put in over the last year.

All of us here at Division 1 were saddened at the passing of Brother Jack Quinn in December. Jack, a long time member of the Executive Board, epitomized what it takes to be a great Hibernian. He gave of himself unselfishly to promote the values and ideals of the Order. We extend to all the Quinn family our heartfelt sympathy, and we pray that Jack's soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Despite terrible weather conditions the Children's Christmas Party went ahead on December 16th. Santa did not come down the chimney this year; he merely stepped in through the second floor window. Keith Reynolds (all 6ft 8in of him) did a fantastic job as the 'big guy.' He was ably assisted by his head elf 'Jingles' aka Don Higgins.

Dennis Browne had prepared a wonderful feast for the children and their parents who braved the elements, and a great time was had by all.

We are going to have a division 'Hibernian of the Year Award' in 2008.

This award will be presented to the division member who exemplifies everything a good Hibernian should be, and who has helped to promote and support the division throughout the year. The plaque will be named in honor of the late Jack Quinn.

This will be a wonderful award to have hanging in your office or den.

GREAT is a word that would describe the Division Christmas Party on December 28th. The music was great ... thanks to Driscoll and Smith; The food was great ... thanks to Dennis. The libations were great and inexpensive ... thanks to Bill and Dennis. The dancing was great ... thanks to Ernie Flynn.

Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity have long been the fulcrum around which the Irish communities have grown and prospered in this great country. To that end, it is incumbent on all of us to be members in good standing and to support the events and charitable fundraisers at Division 1.

Enclosed with this newsletter you will find a membership application. I would ask every member to

make it their goal to try, over the next 12 months, to get at least one worthy Irish Catholic gentleman of birth or descent to join our noble order.

In order for us to have an updated email list, please email me at [HYPERLINK](mailto:knockawn@yahoo.com)
"mailto:knockawn@yahoo.com" knockawn@yahoo.com

In that way I will be able to send you all reminders of events, illnesses, deaths, etc.

Remember, if you know of a worthy Irish Catholic gentleman who would like to join our order, please have him fill out an application for membership.

Go mbeannaí Dia thú,
Brendan O'Dowd, President