



# ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS IN AMERICA

INCORPORATED  
Organized in New York City, May 4, 1836

## JOSEPH DUELK, JR. DIVISION NO. 1

P. O. Box 337, Monroe (Orange County), New York 10950

Vol. 31 No. 7 Newsletter [www.aohdiv1.org](http://www.aohdiv1.org) July 2011 email [aohdiv1@yahoo.com](mailto:aohdiv1@yahoo.com) Editor Neil O'Riordan 845-313-3644



### Next Meeting Friday, July 8th • 7:30 p.m.

Paddy Naughton Hall, 10 North Main Street, Monroe • (845) 783-0205

JOSEPH DUELK, JR. — Vietnam Memorial, Washington, D.C

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## DIVISION I CALENDAR

*Division Meeting* ----- *Friday July 8th 7:30 PM*

*NYS AOH Convention Pearl River July 13th — July 17th*

*Irish Famine Memorial* ————— *Thursday July 28th 9AM*

*Monroe Irish Open* ————— *August 13th 12PM*

*Division Picnic Saturday* ————— *August 20th*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy Independence Day to all. I hope everyone enjoyed the long weekend.

The first thing up on the calendar will be the NYS AOH Convention hosted by Rockland County AOH at the Pearl River Hilton. Details for events over the 5 days can be found at <http://rocklandcountyaoh.com>.

We are looking for representatives from the Division to go down to vote on Saturday July 16th. To be eligible to vote you must be registered for the convention. Registration is \$10.00 per person. If you are interested either stop by the Hall and drop off the money or e-mail your intent to [jogrady11@optimum.net](mailto:jogrady11@optimum.net). We will get all interested parties registered prior to July 16th. It would be great to show up in force on the morning of the election.

We will be once again hosting the Monroe Irish Open at the Monroe Country Club after a short hiatus from

the Divisions calendar. It will be on August 13th and registration and lunch will be at 12:00pm. This has been one of the highlights of our Divisional calendar for many years and I personally would like to see it continue for many more.

The golf is great and the after party has always been the highlight of the day for me. Nothing like relaxing with quality friends after a day on the course. All proceeds will go to Hibernian Charities which is what our organization is all about. Please support it and bring friends. It would be a great way to introduce them to our Division and the AOH as a whole.

If that weren't enough the following Saturday will be the Annual AOH Picnic at Craigsville Park in Goshen. This years theme will be a Country Hoe Down with an Irish flair, or as we are calling it an O-Down. The festivities are being organized by the

same gentlemen who brought us the Pig Roast/Luau last year so I am expected the same level of awesomeness and maybe it could surpass last year. Plan to be there to see. Your presence could be the tipping point on the scale so make plans to attend. The price will be the same as last year which means it will be a bargain.

We are in the planning stages for the 3rd Annual Half-way to St. Patrick's Day party in mid-September in conjunction with LAOH Division 5. Details to follow when we hash it all out.

Our next meeting will be on Friday July 8th at 7:30pm. Please remember to bring a non-perishable item for the Food Bank.

Yours in Friendship, Unity and  
Christian Charity,

John O'Grady,

A Presentation of Celtic Music for Your Pleasure

Jim Kelly, Bagpiper  
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CHRIS CONTE  
PROPRIETOR



The 9th annual memorial Mass and breakfast held on 6/11/11 at Sacred Heart's main church in Monroe and was said by the pastor Fr. Byrnes presented a brief eulogy, Brother John McCabe did the readings. It was a very nice Mass attended by 19 members (next year we hope for more) Mass was followed by breakfast at the hall. Thanks to Jon Cane, Emmett O'Grady, and Bill O'Donnell for a great job in the Kitchen. We went to Joe's grave at St. Mary's cemetery in Washingtonville where we held a prayer service, laid a wreath while Tom Fleming piped for us. Thank you to all who attended and to all who worked to make this possible.

### GOOD AND WELFARE

Brother Mike Cosgrove, whom we all now as a session player here on Sundays and now plays with Celtic Blend had his father pass away recently. A traditional music session was held at Logan's well in Florida in honor of his father where over 20 local music players came to show their support for Mike through this hard time. If you know of anyone who is sick or passes away please contact Bob Burns at 469-2026. Bob will have a mass said and inform the membership so we can keep them in our prayers. Please keep our deceased members and their families in your prayers.

### 2011 Membership Dues

Membership cards have been mailed, if you have not received your membership card please call our financial secretary Mike Carroll at 347-235-1687 with any questions.

JDJ Corp is looking for a few good men to bartend at the hall. Wednesday evenings are open as Mike Carey has gone on to pursue his medical career. Anyone interested in filling in from time to time and give the other volunteers a break. Please contact Neil O'Riordan. No one gets paid it's volunteer work.

### FAMINE MEMORIAL TRIP

We are co-coordinating with Ladies AOH Jr. Division 5 a trip to the Irish Hunger Memorial in Battery Park City open for anyone to attend. We may also take the ferry out to the statue of Liberty. Approximate cost \$45 for adults, which includes bus transportation and a 2 hr. lite fare/open bar at O'Hara's downtown Manhattan from 3-5 pm. Children cost \$25. Not bad for a day in Manhattan with your transportation and lunch included. Approx leave time 9 am, return time 6:30PM. The juniors will be making a donation to the Memorial. We trying to get interest in order to book the bus. This is scheduled for Thursday July 28. Please contact Gail Edmonds, Kathleen Curnyn or email aohdiv1@yahoo.com

### NYS Board Elections

The New York State Convention will be hosted by Rockland County AOH from July 13 through July 17th at the Pearl River Hilton. The festivities will start with a golf outing on Wed. July 13th and culminate with an Installation Ball on Sat. July 16th. For more information and full details of all the events go to the Rockland AOH's website at <http://rocklandcountyao.com>.

Registration to get in to the convention is only \$10. You must register to VOTE.

### Monroe Irish Open

For the benefit of Hibernian Charities  
At Monroe Country Club

**Saturday August 13<sup>th</sup> 2011**

**Cost \$100.00**

**12:00 PM Registration:**

At Monroe Country Club, 63 Still Road  
Monroe NY 10950

Lunch provided at registration by Birchwood Caterers includes BBQ Chicken, Hot and Sweet Italian Sausage & Peppers, Baked Ziti Parmigiana, 1/4 hamburgers, Cheeseburgers, hot dogs and assorted salads. Coffee, tea, soda and beer.

2 PM : Shot Gun Start

Best Ball Play, Raffles, Mulligan's: Longest Drive, Closet to the Pin, Prizes.

**Buffet Dinner included back at**

**the Monroe Irish Center  
10 North Main Street Monroe**

**NY 10950.**

**Cost for dinner only \$20.00**

**Please contact Dennis Browne  
at [dbrowne@kl2mcsd.net](mailto:dbrowne@kl2mcsd.net) cell**

**845-774-9436**

**Neil O'Riordan**

**at [aohdiv1@yahoo.com](mailto:aohdiv1@yahoo.com)**

**cell 845-313-3644**

**We picked a Saturday this year in the hope of having a large turnout. This was great fun in the past, we hope it will become an annual event, sign up sheet will be posted at the hall.**

Facebook Aoh Monroe Ny

# HISTORY

By Marty Hogan

## THE MAYOMAN WHO HALTED OPERATION OVERLORD (From an article in the Irish Times Monday June 6, 1994)

When Ted Sweeney filed his hourly weather reports to London from Blacksod Point Co Mayo, on June 4<sup>th</sup> 1944, he was blissfully unaware of the dramatic role he was playing in world history.

Within hours Operation Overlord the biggest combined land, sea and air operation of all time, was sensationally halted for 24 hours. The D-Day Normandy landings, scheduled for June 5<sup>th</sup> were delayed until the following day. Ted Sweeney, a native of Mayo, now in his 80's recalls with great clarity the events of June 4<sup>th</sup> 1944. He was on duty as usual while his wife Maureen was running the Post Office and also helping with some of the weather reports. They were in the old coastguard station in Blacksod, strategically located at the edge of Europe where the first indications of changing weather patterns could be gauged and relayed to the central co-ordinating offices. "I was sending an hourly report for the 24 hours day and night. It had to be phoned in to London. We got a query back. They asked for a check "Please check and repeat the whole report" I went to the office and checked the report and repeated it again. "I just wondered what was wrong. I thought I had made some error or something like that. "They sent a second message to me about an hour after to please check and repeat again I thought this was a bit strange so I checked and repeated again".

The weather report indicated that a cold front had crossed the north-west coast of Ireland. Forecasters in London, who were in close contact with the military planning operations, sounded a warning that this front would be over the English Channel at the planned time of the Normandy invasion on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

Intense coded communications were set in place as Operation Overlord was put "on hold" for 24 hours. Heavy rain and force 7 winds affected the English Channel on June 5<sup>th</sup> and could have proved disastrous for the entire operation. But a "break" came in the weather on June 6<sup>th</sup>, as indicated by the Blacksod report, and the conditions were far more suitable for "Overlord" to proceed.

But on that day, at a point in remote Mayo that juts out beyond Belmullet and whose neighboring parish to the west is somewhere in North America, life was little different from any other time. The talk was of fishing and farming and the War.

Ted Sweeney only found out about the significance of his weather reports and the reason for the phone calls from London at a much later date. " Months afterwards, perhaps even a few years, I was told by one of the Met office crowd that the reason they took heed of that particular report for Blacksod Point was the I was the first indication they got of a major change in the weather. " It never dawned on me that this was the weather for invading or anything like that. When I checked the report, I said "Thanks be to God I was not at fault anyway". I had done my job and sent over a correct reading to London.



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