



**Col. John Fitzgerald Division #1  
Ancient Order of Hibernians  
5115 Little Falls Rd.  
Arlington, VA 22207**

**October, 2022**



## **President's Message**

**Michael Hines**

Brothers: Our next meeting is on **Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:30 PM**. I look forward to seeing you all then. At the meeting we will review our plans to support the Virginia AOH State Board quarterly meeting, which will be held on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at Saint Agnes Church in Arlington (downstairs beneath the main church). The meeting is scheduled to start at 9AM and will last to about noon. I am asking all division members to lend a hand in providing some limited administrative and logistic support to AOH and LAOH State and Division officers meeting that day. After our division meeting, please check your email boxes for additional details regarding the State Board meeting and our support of it.

Following conclusion of the State Board meeting, a Major Degrees Team will be offering the Major Degrees to AOH members still in need of the Degrees. I urge all our brothers to consider signing up for the Degrees. The Degree process takes a couple of hours (that afternoon) but it is well-worth your investment of time. More details to be disseminated later concerning this opportunity.

In other important Hibernian developments, some of you may have received an email from the National President asking that all Brothers send an email (in less than five minutes) to President Biden telling him to **fill the position of Northern Ireland Special Envoy now**. I am sharing the gist of his message. You can show your concern and interest by going to the web link <https://www.congressweb.com/AOH/1>, filling out the required information, and pressing Send. **Note:** According to our National President, the information asked for in the form is only being used to satisfy the requirements of the Federal email gateway to send the mail; the AOH will not use nor sell the information. The Northern Ireland Special Envoy post has been vacant since January 7, 2021. Since taking office, the current administration has appointed 28 Special Envoys (including creating four new positions) for other causes and concerns. The immediate appointment of a Northern Ireland Special Envoy is critical at this time given the cascading effects of BREXIT, an NI parliament that is in collapse as the DUP refuses to acknowledge the mandate of the recent election, and as Britain attempts to renounce its commitments under the international treaty to provide justice to the victims of

the legacy of the conflict in Northern Ireland.

Brothers, we also need to think about possible fund raising activities, to discuss raising division dues, and to determine how our limited division-level funds should be allotted towards Hibernian charities this year.

I received a new book recently. The book is entitled: George Washington and the Irish, Incredible Stories of the Irish Spies, Soldiers, and Workers Who Helped Free America. I look forward to reading this book and gleaning the important insights the author provides on the role of the Irish in support of the Patriot cause.



## October Events

October 2nd – Division Meeting  
1:30pm – EDW Old Home

October 15<sup>th</sup> – State Board Meeting  
8:00am – EDW Old Home  
<https://aohvirginia.org/>



## Dues are Due

Brothers, please remember to pay your 2022 dues. If you have not sent in your dues, if you haven't already; please send your \$35.00 (\$70 for two years, if you want to take care of 2023 at the same time) to:

Chris O'Connor  
5013 S 12<sup>th</sup> St  
Arlington, VA 22204



## Prayer Corner

Please continue to pray for a just peace in Ukraine, persecuted Christians around the world and an increase in vocations

If you know of anything that our members should pray for (in hope or thanksgiving) call Chris O'Connor (703) 283-5720 or send an email to [chris.oconnor@avendra.com](mailto:chris.oconnor@avendra.com)



## **Planning for the holidays and for spring**

As everyone knows we are working hard to make the division more relevant in the community and the lives of our members. Please come to the October and November meetings to help us sort out our charitable activities, the 2023 Gaelic Mass and what we can do to make Irish culture mean more than wearing green in March.



## **Maryland Irish Festival**

<https://irishfestival.com/>

Friday November 11th: 6pm – 11pm  
Saturday November 12<sup>th</sup>: Noon – 11pm  
Sunday November 13<sup>th</sup>: Noon – 6pm

A great time is guaranteed with over 30 musical groups, dance schools, pipe bands, craft and culture vendors and much, much more. A great event for the whole family.