



The Cunningham Chronicle

Ancient Order of Hibernians

Colonel Thomas J. Cunningham Jr. Division

Post Office Box 1486

Ashburn, Virginia 20146-1486

<http://cunninghamaoh.tripod.com/Index.html>

Volume V, No. 1

January 2002

Editor's Notes

With January's edition of the cunningham chronicle, you will see a new look, a new direction.

First: The Irish love trees! It is unacceptable in this day and age to print and mail over 100 copies of a 6 to 7 page newsletter.

Unfortunately, we have had some difficulty maintaining a current webpage, so beginning in February, the TJCC will be emailed to all members. Eventually, once it's up and running again, the TUCC will be posted on the website for easy access by all.

It is critical that we have your current email address. Please send your current address to:

Jim.sinnott@worldnet.att.net

With your cooperation we can be "green" in action as well as spirit!

Second: There is a new heading "On Eire", in which the news, events and happenings in Ireland will be highlighted. While many of you may see some of this material from various AOH chat groups, many may not.

It is the duty of every Irishman to do whatever he can for the continued good of his actual or ancestral homeland.

Third: Another new heading "Editorials", we welcome member input, opinions and ideas. Please send yours to me at the email above. I promise to remain unbiased (yea that'll ever happen!) in printing these interesting pieces?!

♣ OFFICERS ♣

Col. Cunningham Division, AOH

Bill Halpin, President	264-0567
Vince O'Rorke, Vice President	729-2878
Mike Hippchen, Recording Sec	737-0099
Jack Devins, Financial Sec	729-3256
Tim Kinsloe, Treasurer	729-2075
Tom Dillon, Marshall	404-5566
Dave Morgan, Sentinel	729-5476
Father Robert Brown, OSFS Chaplain	860-8510
Todd Morefield Chairman, Standing Cmte.	858-5001
Steve Hanley Immediate Past President	729-9126
Jim Burke	729-6633
Charter President	
Ned Woisard	724-0524
Division Founder	

♣ CHAIRMEN ♣

Membership	
Vince O'Rorke	729-2878
Charities and Missions	
T. "Pat" Blake	729-2512
Catholic Action	
Bob Anderson	858-7167
Historian	
Open	
Freedom for all Ireland	
Todd Morefield	858-5001
Sick	
Dave Morgan	729-5476
Irish History	
Bill Halpin	264-2567
Press	
Open	
Webmaster	
Open	
Finance	
Open	

All areas codes 703 unless noted

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President's Corner

Happy New Year to everyone!

We welcome Brother Todd Morefield to the cadre of elected officers. Todd's a committed Hibernian and we'll all benefit from his knowledge and enthusiasm. Every brother should know that we appreciate your trust and your confidence. We'll be working together and with all of you to make Cunningham Division even better for 2002.

Two thousand and two is beginning to take shape already. Here's a brief overview:

If the "creek don't rise" – in **February**, we'll confer the **Shamrock Degree** on brothers who have joined the TJC Division/AOH since March 1999.

We have the venue and entertainment for our **March 9th 2002 St Patrick's Day Party**. Again this year, we'll celebrate at the St. John Neumann parish hall in Reston with that phenomenal Irish band, **Celtic Thunder**. We'll also kick off the 2002 Trip for Two to Ireland raffle that evening.

We've been asked to assist at St. John Neumann's annual **St. Patrick's Day Mass & Luncheon for the Elderly**. The date is TBD, but I'm told it will be 11 or 15 March. I'm working with the **Irish Breakfast Band** for a return engagement – they were a big hit last year.

The Potomac Celtic Festival is scheduled for **8 and 9 June**. Last year (our first year) Cunningham Division made a lasting impression: Our division Color Guard was asked to be permanent Festival Color Guard and our display tent was as prizewinners.

We're continuing the **Guest Speaker Program** to assure there's more than

"business as usual" at our second Tuesday of each month meetings. Right now, we're working with Sinn Fein, the **Embassy of Ireland** and others. If you have ideas or preferences for this program, email me (HalpinBill@aol.com). Also, we'll be soliciting brothers to share their talents and knowledge again this year, so if the spirit moves you, please let me know!

Lots o' stuff coming up – everything needs committed volunteers. So please don't hesitate to jump in.

Again, **Happy New Year and Faugh-a-Ballagh** (clear the way)!

Bill

♣Please Remember in Your Prayers♣

Deaths

Paul Riley, Ned Woisard's nephew who was struck and killed while jogging near his home in Long Beach, CA. He leaves a loving wife and four grown children.

Illness

Myles Ambrose's wife, Lorraine
Jim Burke's Brother, John Joseph
Ned Woisard's Mother-In-Law
Ned Woisard's Sister

Special Intentions

The Repose of the Souls in Purgatory
The Intentions of our Holy Father
The Peaceful Re-Unification of Ireland
Vocations to the Religious Life
Guidance for our Spiritual, Elected and Appointed Leaders

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"On Eire"

IRA New Year Message 2002

The leadership of Oglagh na hEireann sends New Year greetings to our Volunteers, imprisoned comrades and supporter at home and abroad.

At this time our thoughts are with the families of our dead comrades and we extend solidarity to them.

The IRA leadership thanks them all for their continued support.

We remain committed to our republican objectives and to the creation of an Irish Republic based on justice and equality.

The reunification of Ireland and the unity of its people are the cornerstones on which a durable peace will be established.

Since 1994, the IRA leadership has taken a number of initiatives to enhance the potential of the peace process.

2001 has been a difficult year. Those within sections of unionism and the British establishment who are opposed to change brought the peace process to the point of collapse.

On August 6 the IRA leadership agreed a scheme with the IICD. On October 23 we implemented it. We took this unprecedented step to save the peace process.

While our initiative undoubtedly saved the peace process, we understand and appreciate the great anxiety it has caused to Volunteers and our support base. Over the years we have faced

many difficult challenges together, but through our commitment to republican objectives we have remained united and have grown in strength.

Making peace is a collective responsibility. At all times, the IRA leadership has acted in good faith. We have honoured any commitments that we have entered into. For our part, the leadership of Oglagh na hEireann remains committed to the continuing search for a durable peace in Ireland. Others must do likewise.

A genuine peace process must deal with the causes of conflict and must be based on justice and equality for everyone.

The past year has seen the remilitarisation of nationalist and republican areas. There has also been a sustained pogrom against nationalist areas in the Six Counties and especially in North Belfast. The refusal of the British government to confront this loyalist violence, their refusal to bring about a new beginning to policing and their unwillingness to fulfil obligations entered into are the stark reminders of the tasks ahead.

These issues must be faced by the British government. It also must take the necessary steps to deliver real and meaningful change."

P O'Neill

Irish Republican Publicity Bureau, Dublin

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"One of Us"

Brother Thomas A. "Pat" Blake

Pat Blake is a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps – Korean War

After completing his enlistment in 1955, he accepted an appointment to the Arlington Virginia Police Department. During more than 23 years of service, he served in every major division within the department and at the time of his retirement in 1978 was a Sergeant in the Special Operations Division.

Upon his retirement, he was selected by HAK Consulting to become a Special Assistant for Security to Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, former Secretary of State. In that capacity, he was commissioned a Special Deputy United States Marshal, providing executive protection and advance security arrangements for Dr. and Mrs. Kissinger's travels, both foreign and domestic.

In 1981, he accepted a position as a senior agent with an international security-consulting firm, providing consulting services, advance security logistics, and executive protection to Fortune 500 clients, and a variety of foreign entities, including the royal families of several Middle East governments. In 1983 he accepted a government position as a Special Agent at the Federal Reserve Board in Washington, D.C., and was assigned to the protection detail of Chairman Paul A. Volcker. He was later promoted to Deputy Chief of Security, at the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. In 1987, Pat was offered an opportunity to start a security department for an international manufacturing company with

headquarters in Ohio. He retired in January 1999 as the Director of Security for all operations, domestic and international.

Pat has traveled extensively throughout the United States, Europe, the Middle East, South East Asia, the Pacific Rim, Central Asia, and Russia providing advance security logistics, executive protection, and consulting services in a wide variety of venues.

He attended the American University in Washington, D.C., and numerous law enforcement and private sector security seminars. He has instructed senior level managers in the prevention of workplace violence, personal protection, and crisis management.

He authored the Federal Reserve Task Force Report on "Executive Protection and Traveling Protection Details – Advance Preparations", and "Prevention of Workplace Violence" – a seminar program for senior executives and managers.

Pat is a Past President of the Arlington Police Association (life member); currently Secretary of the Arlington County Retired Employees Association (ACREA); Past Vice-President of the International Conference of Police Associations (ICPA), former member of the International Security Managers Association (ISMA), and currently a member of The American Society for Industrial Security (ASIS), and the U.S. Department of State Overseas Security Advisory Council (USDS-OSAC).

Pat has been married to the former Mary Watts for over 46 years. They are the parents of seven children (5 boys and 2 girls)...and the grandparents to 21 (10 boys and 11 girls).

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He continues to consult on a part-time basis for several international security firms.

(Editor's note: This guy's done more since "retiring" than anyone I've ever known!)

Mike Hippchen would like to add this addendum to Bill's Gettysburg historical piece:

Many of the units that fought on the 3rd Day of the Battle of Gettysburg in Pickett's Charge, were the EXACT same units that fought each other head to head at the Battle of Ball's Bluff in Leesburg, VA on October 21, 1861. The 15th Massachusetts, 20th Massachusetts, 42nd New York and 71st Pennsylvania withstood the onslaught of the 8th Virginia, 13th, 17th and 18th Mississippi on July 3, 1863 and emerged victorious.

Looking at William Howard's book on the "The Leesburg Affair, or the Battle of Ball's Bluff", many of the Union regiments were composed of significant numbers of Irish soldiers. A listing of the Union casualties from Ball's Bluff shows an overwhelming amount of Union soldiers of Irish descent or recent immigration that were listed as killed, wounded, captured or missing in action due to a combination of inept officers, inferior weapons, insufficient training and just plain bad luck.

Southern units at the Battle of Ball's Bluff also contained a significant amount of soldiers with Irish surnames, but not to the extent of Northern forces. While the South emerged victorious at Ball's Bluff, what can not be argued at Ball's Bluff is the extent to

which both sides fought with ferocity on that fateful day in 1861.

These units that initially met at Ball's Bluff (or the Battle of Leesburg in Southern vernacular) continued to directly square off at each other throughout the American Civil War at 2nd Battle of Bull Run, Antietam, 1st Battle of Fredericksburg and finally on the third day of the Battle of Gettysburg during Pickett's Charge.

Please note that our Division has spearheaded the commemoration ceremonies of the 139th AND 140th Anniversary of the Battle of Ball's Bluff!!

Finished Business

The St. Theresa/Heritage Hall Annual Christmas party sponsored by TJC was a great success. Thanks to Pay and Mary, Vince, and Jim and Mary representing TJC. Our seniors truly appreciate everyone's effort to make their season brighter.

Pat, Jack, Jim and Mike joined the parishioners of St. Francis De Sales recently to help clear the area surrounding the "People's Cross" sculpture recently highlighted in the Arlington Catholic Herald. This beautiful sculpture will once again be visible from route 7 on the way to and from Purcellville.

"What really counts"

contributed by Mike Hippchen

Take this quiz, it takes about 30 seconds:

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners.

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3. Name the last five winners of the Miss America contest.
4. Name ten people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer prize.
5. Name the last half dozen Academy Awards winners for best actor and actress.
6. Name the last decade's worth of World Series winners.
How did you do?

The point is, none of us remember the headliners of yesterday. These are no second-rate achievers. They are the best in their fields. But the applause dies. Awards tarnish. Achievements are forgotten. Accolade and certificates are buried with their owners.

Here's another quiz.

See how you do on this one:

1. List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
 2. Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.
 3. Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
 4. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.
 5. Name half a dozen heroes whose stories have inspired you.
- Easier? The lesson?

The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money, or the most awards. They are the ones that care. Pass this on to those people who have made a difference in your life

And don't worry about the world coming to an end today.
It's already tomorrow in Australia.

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Editorials

Tonight, sit down and review your day, your week, your month. Then review your commitment to your brother TJCers. Why? Because with few exceptions whenever a new idea, need or opportunity arises which requires our time, our hands, our Irish spirit, it generally falls on the same few men to always come forward.

We are all busy, gentlemen, but some always find the time. Remember:

"Whatsoever you do to the least of my brethren, this you do unto me." He had time! He still does! Do you?

Reston Interfaith Relief Organization is looking for volunteers to help refurbish homes for people in need. This could be more in line with our Hibernian ways. Reston IRO is directly linked to the Catholic Church (the director and deputy are parishioners at SJN) as well as other churches...

just a thought, but the needs is here, now in our own neighborhood!

It's a hoot!

Check out this short video!

<http://www.actforchange.com/liberty/flash.html>

The times are a'changin'

Mandelson says Provisional IRA are freedom fighters ...

of course he's backtracked a bit, but every once in awhile the truth slips out!



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And last but certainly not least, Bill
received the following for our \$500
donation:

"December 11,
Thank you for your support and generosity in supporting
a Brother Hibernian, Brad White. Your love and caring
will not be forgotten.
Jack Southard
Father Kelly Division"

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