



ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS IN AMERICA

INCORPORATED



Organized in New York City, May 4, 1836

Monsignor Slocum Division #1 Waterbury, Connecticut

President's Letter

Brothers –

Another year has ended and the fresh pages of a new calendar are before us. Put away your crayons and try not to mess this one up. Coloring outside the lines is OK sometimes, but remember, we have to live with the decisions that we make. Wouldn't it be grand if we somehow managed to make it all the way through 2008 with a grade of "A" and a teacher's comment that we "get along well with others?"

This year is an important one for us. No, not because it is a Presidential Election year with all that that implies. Yes, we will see new leaders sent to Washington and Hartford to represent us. More importantly, 2008 means that we have a little more than one year to prepare for our Centennial Celebration. March 14, 2009 will mark the 100th anniversary of the Monsignor Slocum Division #1 Ancient Order of Hibernians. In order to ensure a proper celebration, I am asking for volunteers who want to roll up their sleeves to plan and put into place a year's worth of celebrations that would make our founders proud. There will be a Sign Up sheet at the Club for all those willing to spend a couple of hours a month working to make it happen. Please join with us as we begin the process.

A reminder to all members – the Monthly Meeting now convenes in Collins Hall at 7:00pm on the

(Please Turn to Page 2)

Saint Columba

There are several accounts of Columba's life, all attesting to the miraculous signs which preceded his birth at Gartan, Co. Donegal, in 521. An angel assured his mother that she would bear a son of great beauty who would be remembered among the Lord's prophets. Saint Buite, the dying abbot of Monasterboice in Co. Louth, is said to have foretold the birth of "a child illustrious before God and men". Columba was of royal blood. His father Phelim was of the Uí Néill clan and descended from the famous Niall of the Nine Hostages, while his mother Eithne was descended from a king of Leinster.

It was the custom for the children of ruling families to be fostered, but unusually Columba was put into the care of a priest. The boy's daily practice of reading the psalms led his young contemporaries to call him Columcille (Colum of the church) and he is more usually known by that name in Ireland. He went on to study under Saint Finnian of Moville, Co. Down, where his prayers are said to have turned spring water into communion wine. He later became a pupil of Saint Finnian of Clonard and was destined to become the most famous of the latter's "twelve apostles of Ireland". Columba also spent time with a Leinster bard named Gemman, in

(Please Turn to Page 2)

91 Golden Hill Street Waterbury, Connecticut 06706 203-757-1464

January 2008

President's Letter
(Cont'd from Page 1)

second Wednesday of the month. Please plan to be with us as we report on Club activities and take the steps necessary to make sure that the Club is one that we can all take great pride in.

The Installation of Officers will take place on Sunday, January 27 at 2:00pm in Collins Hall. Please be with us as we formally put the Club's new leadership in place. There is one vacancy to be filled. Unfortunately, the demands of business will not allow our Financial Secretary Dave Byrne to continue in that position. This is an important position for our Club. Among the duties of the Financial Secretary are ensuring that the membership records are accurate and that the Club dues are collected. If you are interested in serving in this important position, please call the Club at 757-1464 and let us know.

Remember, the success of the Club depends on you, our members. Please let us know if there are things that we should be doing, or if there are things that we no longer should be taking on as obligations. Bring your ideas and comments to the next meeting.

Best wishes to all for a successful 2008!

Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Bill

Danny Quinn

The LAOH is sponsoring a concert featuring *Danny Quinn and Elvis*.

The show will be presented at 7:00pm on Friday, April 25th. Tickets are \$15 dollars in advance and \$20 at the door. Tickets will be available at the Club.

Plan to come out to support the LAOH. Spend the evening with friends and some great entertainment. Call the Club at 203-757-1464 for additional information and tickets.

Saint Columba

(Cont'd from Page 1)

whose company he witnessed the murder of a young girl and vowed that as the girl's soul went to Heaven the murderer's soul would go to Hell. When the murderer immediately died, Columba's reputation spread rapidly.

Columba established his first monastery at Derry in 548. Others followed, notably Durrow in Co. Offaly, which became famous for the Celtic artistry of its illuminated manuscripts. In 563, Columba sailed with twelve followers to found a monastery on the Scottish island of Iona, which was part of the Scottish kingdom of Dalriada, ruled by his cousin Conaill.

Legend has it that Columba's exile was an act of penance, and that he deliberately chose an island out of sight of his beloved Ireland. During a visit to Moville, Columba is said to have secretly copied a book of psalms. When Finnian discovered this, he insisted on having the copy. Columba refused to hand it over, and their dispute was referred to the high king, Diarmuid, who ruled: "To every cow her calf, and to every book its copy". Columba already resented Diarmuid for slaying a youth to whom the saint had given sanctuary and he persuaded his kinsmen to wage war. Diarmuid was defeated at Cuildreimhne, Co. Sligo and Columba was blamed for the hundreds of dead. When a synod called on him to make amends by converting an equal number of pagans, he opted to work among the Picts of Scotland.

The extent of Columba's missionary work has probably been exaggerated by his early biographers, but there is no doubting the profound influence of Iona on the Celtic Church as a whole, and on the spread of Christianity in Scotland and northern England. Columba was also a political figure of consequence. His early conversion of Brude, king of the Picts, reduced the threat of attacks on Christian Dalriada. In 575, returning to Ulster for a convention held at Drum Ceatt, he negotiated the Scottish kingdom's independence from the Irish Dalriada. At the same convention, he persuaded King Aedh to preserve the bards of Ireland, whose satires had made them unpopular.

Columba died on Iona in 597. Chronicles of his life appeared in the following century, most notably from Saint Adomnán, who attributed to him many prophecies, visions and miracles, not least of which was warding off the Loch Ness monster with the sign of the cross.

From the Appletree Press title: *A Little Book of Celtic Saints*.

Wings Challenge

How hot do you like 'em? You prefer sweet to heat? There's sure to be a taste to please you at the Club's Annual Wings Challenge.

Entries are due at the Club on Sunday, January 20 at 1:00pm. Judging will begin promptly at 2:00. Put your talents to the test and find out if your wings are really as good as you think.

Volunteers are needed to serve as judges. Unbiased members with discerning palates are urged to come to the Club on the 20th at 2:00 to prepare to choose which cook has the "Wickedest Wings in Waterbury."

“

As you slide down the banister of

life, may the splinters never point the

”

wrong way.

Reminder

The Monthly AOH Meeting is now held on the Second Wednesday of the Month at 7:00pm.

We meet in Collins Hall. Why not join us?



Installation of Officers Set

On Sunday, January 27 at 2:00pm, the Installation of the AOH and LAOH Officers for 2008 will be held in Collins Hall at the Club.

AOH Officers to be installed include:

President	Bill Moore
Vice President	Emmett McSweeney
Recording Secretary	Mike Cass
Marshal	Shaun Regan
Treasurer	Brian Johnston
Financial Secretary	Open
Sentinel	Dave Kennedy
Standing Committee Chair	Matt McManamee
Chaplain	Msgr. James Colman

Join with us as we welcome the new leadership teams and celebrate their commitment to our Clubs.

A light reception will follow the Installation Ceremony. Plan to be with us for these important ceremonies.

Seamus Kennedy to Play at the Club

On Friday April 11, renowned Irish Balladeer Seamus Kennedy will perform in Collins Hall. What a great opportunity for sharing some fun and friendship while listening to one of the great performers of Irish music.

The show begins at 6:30pm and ends when you've had your fill.

Seamus has performed for audiences as diverse as Pope John Paul II, President Regan and bartenders, bricklayers college students and kindergartners (or so his brochure claims!). One thing is sure, you'll find that "his rapport with the crowd provides entertainment above and beyond that of a normal singer," according to *The Irish Insider*.

Tickets for Seamus Kennedy are available at the Club and going fast. At \$25 per ticket, they won't last long.

Join with us as we celebrate our Irish Heritage with this great balladeer. Call the Club at 757-1464 for more information.



91 Golden Hill Street
 Waterbury, Connecticut 06706

Club Officers

Przsidznt	Bill Moore
Vicz Przsidznt	Emmzt McSwzenny
Rzcording Szcrztary	Mike Cass
Marshall	Shaun Regan
Trzasurzr	Brian Johnston
Financial Szcrztary	Opzn
Szntinzl	Davz Kennzdy
Standing Committzr Chair	Matt McManamzr
Chaplain	Msgr. Jamz Colman

Ancient Order Of Hibernians
 Monsignor Sloeum Division #1
 91 Golden Hill Street Waterbury, Connecticut 06706
 203-737-1464

Upcoming Events



January 2	LAOH Monthly Meeting
January 9 7:00pm	AOH Monthly Meeting
January 20 2:00pm	Wings Contest
January 27 2:00pm	Installation of Officers AOH and LAOH
February 6	LAOH Monthly Meeting
February 13 7:00pm	AOH Monthly Meeting