



ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS IN AMERICA

INCORPORATED

Organized in New York City, May 4, 1836



Monsignor Slocum Division #1 Waterbury, Connecticut

President's Letter

Brothzrs –

Thanksgiving is upon us and that can mean only one thing . . . St. Patrick's Day is less than four months away. What better way to start preparing for the big day than to spend some time at the Club and take part in the many activities going on to help to get you in the proper frame of mind? Elsewhere in the newsletter are announcements about upcoming events during the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years' Seasons.

While on the topic of thanks, I want to thank everyone who has worked so very hard during the year to make the Club the great place that it is. Brian Johnston and the folks behind the bar David, Jeff, Ryan, Hank, Eric, Chris and Melissa. Franny Phalen and Artie Lanese who have provided the sumptuous repasts enjoyed in Collins Hall. Where would we be without Pup Doolan working his magic around the hallowed halls? My very special thanks to Brothers Matt Macnamee, Tim Cavanaugh, Pat Murphy, Bill McCarthy, Jeff Keeley, Steve Rossi, Jacky Cole, Brian Houlihan and Brian Johnston who spent March 18th returning the Club to its proper state following another successful St. Patrick's Day celebration. Thank you to Brothers Bill McCarthy, Dave Fitzgerald, Sean Byrne, John Cavanaugh, Jim Gorman, John Cullen, Sean Casey and Chris Casey who broke more than a sweat during the spring clean-up. The Annual Saratoga Trip and Turkey Shoot

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Patrick Pearse

Patrick Henry Pearse [Padraig MacPiarais] (1879-1916) was born in Dublin on November 10, 1879. Though best known as a primary organizer of the 1916 Easter uprising and co-author of the proclamation for the Provisional Government of the Republic of Ireland which he read from the steps of the General Post Office, Pearse was also the preeminent champion of his day for the restoration of the Gaelic language and its rich cultural history.

Padraig Pearse's father James was an Englishman from Devonshire and was a skilled stone carver. James worked in Dublin where he met and married Margaret Brady originally from Co. Meath. Padraig was the second of their four children.

Pearse grew up in Dublin where he was schooled at the Christian Brothers School, Westland Row. It was here that he had his first formal instruction in the Gaelic language that would forever more be the passion of his life. Pearse went on to earn a BA in modern languages at University College in Dublin and a Law degree from Royal Univ. He never really

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

November 2007

President's Letter

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would not happen without the dedication of Brother Bob Batters. Brothers Shaun Byrne and Frank Hartnett once again presented a great Golf Outing for all to enjoy. We all get a tremendous amount of help and advice from the members of the LAOH. Their dedication to the success of the Club is extremely important. We couldn't do it without them.

I particularly want to thank our Club Vice President, Chris Casey, for all of the extra effort he put into assisting me.

I appreciate all of the advice give to me throughout the year on how the Club should operate. The advice, most of it solicited, has helped to keep me focused on the things that are important. Some of the best advice that I have received has come from some of our Past Presidents including Jack McCarthy, Rick Dalton, Bill Scully, Dan Ryan, Pup Doolan and his eminence, Connie Collins. Thank you all for helping me to keep on the straight and narrow.

Thanks to our team of Club Officers, Vice President Chris Casey, Recording Secretary Mike Cass, Marshall Shaun Regan, Treasurer Brian Johnston, Financial Secretary Dave Byrne, Sentinel Shaun Byrne and Standing Committee Chair Bill McCarthy.

Most of all. I want to thank you, our members, for the trust that you have placed in me. Thank you for your contributions to the Club. Thank you for the support that you provide throughout the year, not only at the Club, but also throughout the community. Thank you all for the effort that you contribute to the success of the Club.

As we enter into the Holiday Season (with no apologies to those who feel the need to wish us all "Happy Holidays"), I wish you all the best for a very satisfying Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

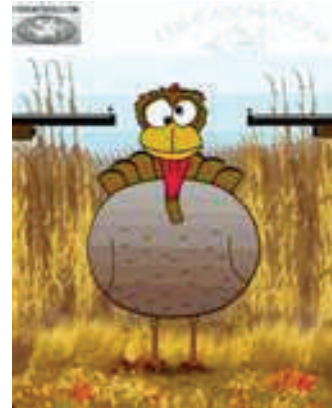
Yours in Friendship. Unity, and Christian Charity,

Annual Turkey Shoot

Drop by the Club now and join in the Annual Turkey Shoot. Coordinated by Brother Bob Batters, this annual event is always a popular one among the members.

Proceeds from the Annual Turkey Shoot benefit the Club's Scholarship Fund.

Come on out and give it a shot!



He's Back!

Is it possible that it's already time for the Jolly Old Elf's annual visit? You bet your bippy it is.

Join the LAOH for their annual **Breakfast with Santa**. Sunday December 9 is the date, 10am to Noon is the time, and Collins Hall is the place to meet with old friends and true believers as Santa returns to spread joy to all.

Reservations are required. The \$5.00 fee for adults is more than worth the price of admission to see the awe and wonder in the children as they visit with Santa and hope that their secret wishes come true. The event is really for the kids, but come on, everyone loves Santa! Children from infants to eight years old are invited to attend, but an adult must accompany them.

Additional information is available by contacting Mary Ann Flaherty at 203-753-9519.

practiced law though his one case involved the defense of the use of Irish language advertisements on horsedrawn carts.

There are remarkable similarities between American patriot Patrick Henry and Irish patriot Padraig "Henry" Pearse beyond the obvious shared names. Both men were gifted authors and orators influencing their countrymen to put their lives on the line for the sake of freedom and self-governance. As a teenager, Pearse joined the Gaelic League (the original Irish society) to fuel his love of the Gaelic tongue. He journeyed to western Ireland to master the Connacht dialect of Gaelic. The people in the west spoke Gaelic exclusively and hadn't been overtaken by English oppression. The academic community of the time viewed the Gaelic speaking peoples as uneducated and worthy of scorn. Nevertheless, Pearse viewed them as an untainted cultural treasure from which he could grasp the fullness of Gaelic literature and history.

By 1903, Pearse was contributing articles to the League's journal "The Sword of Light" (An Claidheamh Soluis). His mastery of the language became so complete that he could write anonymous articles in Gaelic that were acceptable to those raised on the language. He became editor of the journal in 1906. Now in his mid 20's, Pearse began to yearn for all Irish children to learn the Gaelic language and gain proper exposure to their rightful heritage. To that end, he founded St. Enda's School in 1908. The school not only required instruction of the Gaelic language, but strove to instill "chivalry and self-sacrifice," "charity towards all," "a love of inanimate nature," and not only patriotism but also "a sense of civic social duty." This was how it was put in school promotional materials.

Curriculum in schools of the time did not mandate Gaelic instruction. Pearse felt this was a grave mistake. He was a constant voice in the ear of administrators to correct this error, though he wasn't particularly successful. He wrote "The Murder Machine", a pamphlet condemning the repressive educational approaches of the era. Pearse began to expand his activities to the political arena. He supported an Irish Home Rule Bill floated by English Parliament in 1912. The bill meant the inclusion of Ireland within the framework of the British Empire. It offered local control in many areas, but left major economic and governmental power in the hands of the crown. Many Irish separatists including Sinn Fein diverged from Pearse's position and felt anything less than full independence was unacceptable. Pearse viewed Home Rule as the removal of one "manacle" of English oppression.

There were great social upheavals throughout Ireland in 1913. Pearse distinguished himself from other intellectuals by siding with workers in their quest for fairer wages and working conditions. He saw social justice as integral to Irish independence. He did not share the common belief of class structure. This helped endear him to many common folk.

That same year, Pearse joined the outlawed Irish Republican Brotherhood (IRB). In 1914, he co-founded the Irish Volunteers that acted as the public side of the IRB. He journeyed to New York to pitch for funds and other support for an Irish free state. Many were skeptical or indifferent to Pearse's message, which they'd heard from others for decades. Still, he was able to sway enough to raise funds for IRB efforts, the Gaelic League and St. Enda's. This illustrates Pearse's conviction that in order for an Irish Republic to emerge, Irish people needed to embrace the Gaelic language to regain their cultural autonomy and subsequently self rule. His intellectual fusion of the two was complete.

World War I offered opportunity for Irish separatists. England was preoccupied with war efforts on the European Continent. Pearse and others began to plot rebellion. The Easter Uprising of 1916 was hatched. Though in fighting and a lack of resolve by many of the people caused the Uprising to fizzle and fail, the heroism of the participants and the ideas they espoused lived on to inspire others.

Pearse wasn't much of a military tactician, this is true. As a scholar, visionary, author, poet, organizer and orator, Pearse takes his place as a major Irish historical figure. His brilliance shone through the use of language to inspire a fierce resolve for Irish independence. His words live on.

At four minutes past noon on Easter Monday, April 24th, 1916, a sudden hush fell over the O'Connell Street. From the steps of the General Post Office Patrick Pearse read the Proclamation of the Republic.

Taken from the *Detroit Padraig Pearse Gaelic Football Club* website, <http://detroit-pearse.com/welcome.html>.

Just How Hot Is It?

December 9 is the date for you to "Show Us What You Got" with the Club's Annual Chili Contest. Think you're good enough to beat last year's winner Brian Houlihan? Prove it.

The Chili cook-off will be held in the afternoon at the club so get ready to serve it up.

Bring your offering to the Club at 1:00. Volunteer judges are needed for the taste testing. Hardy lads are asked to be at the Club no later than 2:00.

Tums and Roloids will be provided. BYOZ—Bring Your Own Zantac.

Christmas at the Club

Join us on Saturday December 22 for our Annual Christmas Party. Festivities start at noon and will end when Rudolph shows up to escort us all home. Traditional food and beverages will be served.

Wassail along with fellow members and share in the Christmas spirit.

The event is for AOH and LAOH members only.



91 Golden Hill Street
 Waterbury, Connecticut 06706

Club Officers

Présidnt	Bill Moore
Viez Présidnt	Chris Caszy
Rcording Sçrztary	Mikz Cass
Marshall	Shaun Rçgan
Trçsurçr	Brian Johnston
Financial Sçrztary	Dave Byrne
Sçntinçl	Shaun Byrne
Standing Committçz Chair	Bill McCarthy

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Upcoming Events



November 7	LAOH Monthly Meeting
November 14	AOH Monthly Meeting
November 22	THANKSGIVING
December 5	LAOH Monthly Meeting
December 9	Breakfast with Santa 10am
	Chili Cook-Off 2:00pm
December 12	AOH Monthly Meeting
December 22	Annual Christmas Party 12:00pm
December 24	Christmas Eve
December 25	Christmas Day
December 31	New Year's Eve
January 1	New Year's Day