



Hibernian News



Volume 6 Issue 4

Fateful Voyage of Lusitania—May 1915

May 2005

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In February, 1915, the German government announced an unrestricted warfare campaign. This meant that any ship taking goods to Allied countries was in danger of being attacked. This broke international agreements that stated commanders who suspected that a non-military vessel was carrying war materials, had to stop and search it, rather than do anything that would endanger the lives of the occupants.

The Lusitania, was at 32,000 tons, the largest passenger vessel on transatlantic service, left New York harbor for Liverpool on 1st May, 1915. It was 750ft long. On this journey the ship carried 1,257 passengers and 650 crew. There was some concern on board as a few days previously the German Embassy had published a statement that warned: "Travelers intending to embark for an Atlantic voyage are reminded that a state of war exists between Germany and her allies and Great Britain and her allies; that the zone of war includes the

waters adjacent to the British Isles, vessels flying the flag of Great Britain or any of her allies are liable to destruction in those waters; and that travelers sailing in the war zone in ships of Great Britain or her allies do so at their own risk."

At 1.20pm on 7th May 1915, the U-20, only ten miles off the coast of Old Head, Kinsale, Ireland, surfaced to recharge her batteries. Soon afterwards Capt. Schwieger, the commander of the U-Boat, observed the Lusitania in the distance. Schwieger gave the order to advance on the liner. The U20 had been at sea for seven days and had already sunk two liners and only had two torpedoes left. He fired the first one from a distance of 700 meters. Watching through his periscope it soon became clear that the Lusitania was going down and so he decided against using his second torpedo.

After a second, larger explosion, the Lusitania rolled over and sank in eighteen minutes. A total of 1,198 people died (785 passengers and 413 crew). Those killed

included 128 US citizens.

The sinking of the Lusitania had a profound impact on public opinion in the United States. The German government apologized for the incident, but claimed its U-boat only fired one torpedo and the second explosion was a result of a secret cargo of heavy munitions on the ship. If this true, Britain was guilty of breaking the rules of warfare by using a civilian ship to carry ammunition. British authorities rejected this charge and claimed that the second explosion was caused by coal dust igniting in the ship's almost empty bunkers.

Of the nearly 2,000 passengers less than 800 survived and most of these were brought by rescue craft to Cobh, Ireland. The victims were also landed here and many are interred in the Old Church graveyard near Cobh town. A monument commemorates those who died in the tragedy, it depicts two fisherman who went to the rescue of the ill fated liner.



Mother's Day Irish Breakfast **(complimentary flowers for all Mothers!)**

May 8, 2005
9: 30 am -12:30 pm



An authentic, delicious Irish breakfast is now being served every second Sunday of the month at an unbelievable price of only \$7.00 p/p!

Something for the whole family!!!

The traditional breakfast consists of Eggs, Irish Bacon, Irish Sausages, Home-fried Potatoes, Black & White Puddings and the Grilled Tomato...a must! Children's Breakfasts of Pancakes & Sausage are only \$3.00 each. Juice, coffee and tea included.



A Message from the AOH Division 2 President

Dear Brothers and Friends,

May 2005

With the conclusion of the Orange County AOH Board elections this past Saturday, I would be remiss in not thanking outgoing County President Jim Kelly for three great years as head of the Orange County AOH. Jim did a fantastic job as president—always professional, well-organized and extremely knowledgeable in all things relating to the Order. Jim did much to bring together all of the county divisions and for that; we are truly grateful. Jim, we wish you luck in your “retirement” - *Ní bheidh a léithéid arís ann.*

On a similar note, congratulations to Mike Garay of Division 4, who was elected as incoming Orange County President. Mike who has served on the County Board for many years is well prepared to assume his new responsibilities. We wish Mike and all of his fellow officers good luck and success during their tenure.

The warm weather is here and so are the good times! Friday Night BBQ is back with gourmet specials and kids meals. Come on down for a pint or two and enjoy some good music, good times and some good friends. As a reminder, we are always looking for cooks with a specialty they would like to share. If you have such a talent, call the hall and put your name down on the calendar for a Friday night. We are not looking for a long-term commitment, just an hour or two whenever you can spare it. Try it...you'll have fun. All the best!

Kevin Cummings,
Division President

Upcoming Events

(subject to change)

- May 7** Building and Grounds
Spring clean-up - 8:30 am
- May 8** Mother's Day Irish
Breakfast -Hall: 9:30 - 12:30
- May 18** Monthly Meeting - Hall: 7
pm
- May 20** Great Irish-American Pub
Quiz - Hall: 7 pm
- May 28** East Durham Irish
- 30 Festival—all day
- June 4** Hawaiian Luau—7 pm -
Midnight -Hawaiian
theme...hula skirts, coconuts,
tropical shirts. \$10 p/p
- June 12** Irish Breakfast -Hall: 9:30
am - 12:30 pm
- June 15** Monthly Meeting - Hall: 7
PM
- June 18** Ireland 32 Raffle Drawing 2-
5 pm—Laborer's Hall
- July 6** New Windsor Concert-7 pm-
Cahal Dunne
- July 27** New Windsor Concert-7 pm-
HVR Police Pipes & Drums



Pray for all our deceased brothers
May they rest in peace +

Pray for those who are sick

Please pray for all our Brothers and their family members who are ill.



**Rock-Around-The-Clock
Wacky Hawaiian Luau
Saturday, June 4, 2005
7 - 12 Midnight
Table Snacks, Coffee & Cake
\$10 p/p Admission**



**Hula/Hawaiian style dress code suggested ~ DJ with Karaoke ~
Prize for the best costume ~ Limbo, Hoola Hoop and Twist
contests!!**

**Hosted by Kathleen Demar & Mabel McGowan
For more information call**

Kathleen Demar at 845-568-0535 or

Jim Ryan at the AOH Hall at 845-534-2528

As always, SafeRider will be available for those patrons who require a ride home

New Windsor Summer Concert Series

Free concerts will be held on Wednesday evenings at 7 P.M. in the Bandstand at Town Hall Complex. Please bring a chair or blanket! For more information, call the New Windsor Recreation Department at 565-7750. Come see friends of AOH Division 2 perform:

- **July 6** - Cahal Dunne - Traditional /Irish Music
- **July 27** - Hudson Valley Regional Police Pipes and Drums - Irish/patriotic favorites

Division 2 Embroidered Clothing is available for purchase. Each item proudly displays the A.O.H emblem and the words "Division 2". A uniform package deal is available and includes a jacket, hat and white gloves for \$70. Division golf shirts are \$22 (\$24 FOR XXL). A list is posted in the hall and the order will be placed in June. All orders must be prepaid.

Thanks and More Thanks: Thanks to John Greehy, Kevin Moore, Pat Healey, Bob Morgan, Don McClellan, Pat Finn, Mike Shannon, Jerry Quill, Rich Maloney, John Masterson, Vince Wood, John Heaney and Kevin Cummings for participating in the Orange County AOH Board Election. **Congratulations** to Kevin Moore, Financial Secretary and Kevin Cummings, Treasurer—on their election to the Orange County AOH Board.

Annual Building Fundraiser Ireland's 26+6=1 Raffle

Saturday, June 18, 2005-2-5 pm—Laborers Local #17 Hall



Little Britain Rd., Newburgh

First Prize: \$15,000.

Second-Seventh Prize: \$1000.

Plus 26 additional prizes of \$500.

Donation: \$100 ticket

Food and refreshments on the day of the drawing.

Call John at 845-534-9315 or the hall 845-534-2528 for tickets.



Friendly Reminder - Dues in the amount of \$50 for calendar year 2005 are now past due. In order to remain a member in good standing, you must pay your dues immediately. Please make your check payable to AOH Div. 2 and get it to Pat Healey, Division 2 Financial Secretary either by mail or drop it off at the hall.

Keep in Touch -We are in the process of collecting emails from all members and friends who wish to be notified of upcoming events and to stay in touch in case of an emergency. Please send an email to: Kevin Cummings at: kcummings@hvc.rr.com or John Greehy at johnbfg@aol.com or visit "Member's Update" at: <http://www.div2aoh.org/index3.htm> - Thanks!

Hunter Mtn. International Celtic Festival Bus Trip



Sunday, August 21, 2005

\$35.00 per person-prepaid

Price includes bus trip, onboard beer, soda, sandwich and festival admission.

Bus leaves Destinta Theater Parking lot at 10 am.



Sign-up sheet at the hall.

List will be opened to the public June 1, 2005—sign up soon! Don't be disappointed. A great time is guaranteed!



Irish Set Dancing - First, second and fourth Wednesdays (and third Tuesday) of each month. Open to the public. Lessons are \$10 per person. Come on down for a great aerobic exercise and a lot of fun. Beginners are always welcomed. Call Kevin (845-562-8651) or John (845-534-9315) for more information.

We Need Your Help!

Hibernian Hall and Grounds ~ Spring Clean Up

Here is your chance to volunteer some time to the Division.



May 7, 2005

8:30—11 am Rain or Shine



Bring rakes, brooms, paintbrushes, pails, rags, buckets and other useful, cleanup tools and items



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