



Hibernian News



Volume 7 Issue 8

Michael Collins and Beal na mBlath

August 2006

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Michael Collins was born in October 1890 in County Cork. He was the third son and the youngest of eight children. His father, also called Michael Collins, was 75 years of age when Michael junior was born. On his deathbed the father pointed to his youngest child and urged his grieving family to mind Michael because, 'One day he'll be a great man. He'll do great work for Ireland.' Michael was 6 years of age at the time. When he was 15, Collins emigrated to London. He worked as a clerk for the Post Office and he lived within the large Irish community in London. This community was never absorbed into London's society itself and many in the Irish community felt ostracized. While in London, Collins joined Sinn Fein and the Gaelic League and in 1909, he became a member of the Irish Republican Brotherhood. In 1916, Collins returned to Ireland to take part in the Uprising in Dublin. Collins was imprisoned in Richmond Barracks and then

in Frongoch internment camp in Wales. He was released in December 1916 and immediately went back to Ireland. His goal now was to revitalize the campaign to get independence for Ireland. Collins was elected to the executive committee of Sinn Fein and he led a violent campaign against anything that represented British authority in Ireland. The notorious Black and Tans and the 'Auxies' were used by the British Army to spread fear throughout Ireland.

Eamonn de Valera, considered to be the leading republican politician in Ireland, sent Collins to London in October 1921 to negotiate a treaty. It was generally recognized by both sides that the situation as it stood in Ireland could not be allowed to continue. The negotiations took three months before the treaty was signed by Collins and Arthur Griffiths. In December 1921, it was agreed that Ireland should have dominion status within the British Empire. The six



Michael Collins

northern counties were allowed to contract out of the treaty and remain part of the United Kingdom. To Collins, the treaty was simply the start of a process that, in his eyes, would lead to full independence for what was now the Irish Free State.

Collins is said to have commented when he signed the treaty that: "I tell you, I have signed my death warrant" There were many in the south who believed that Collins had betrayed the republican movement.

Continued on Pg. 2



"Let Us Do the Cooking" **Authentic Irish Breakfast**

September 10, 2006

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!

9:30 AM-12:30 pm

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.
(The next Irish Breakfast will be held on October 8th)



A Message from the AOH Division 2 President

Dear brothers and friends,

August 2006

"Real vision is the ability to see the invisible." (Jonathan Swift). Whether fighting for independence, or coming to America, the Irish have shown that they possess true vision. In August, we mark the anniversary of Michael Collins death. A man of true vision, Michael was a key figure in obtaining freedom for Ireland. When he was shot and killed by former comrades on Aug. 22, 1922, Ireland lost one of its most dedicated and talented leaders in its history. He was only 31 when he died, but Michael Collins found the invisible.

The idea of true vision is evident every day when I look at our club and property. Our addition and parking lot are no longer invisible. The workers at AOH Division 2 have created this dream and continue to build on it every day. Again, Irish people with true vision.

Even with this work going on, real vision is never ended. Our dream of a strong and proud club needs to be nurtured by new members. By bringing them in, we can thrive and keep our club growing. Bring a friend or relative to join us and keep our numbers rising.

Friday nights continue to get better. The feeling of friendship, conversation, and singing makes me remember why I enjoy being a member of AOH Division 2!

God bless all,
Michael Shannon
President

AOH Division 2 Orange County

Is ann an ceann bliadhna a dh'inneas iasgair a thuiteamas! It is at the year's end that the fisher can tell his luck!

Upcoming Events

(subject to change)

- | | |
|------------|---|
| Aug 16 | Monthly Meeting - Hall: 7 pm |
| Aug 20 | Int'l Celtic Festival—Hunter Mtn. Bus Trip \$35 p/p |
| Sept 10 | Irish Breakfast - 9:30 AM-12:30 PM ~ Div 2 Hall |
| Sept 14 | Irish Set Dancing Lessons - 7 PM ~ Div 2 Hall |
| Sept 16-17 | 13 Annual Irish Heritage Festival—OC Park Montgomery |
| Sept 20 | Monthly Meeting - Hall: 7 pm |
| Sept 23 | Half-way to St. Patrick's Day Party—more info to follow |
| Oct 9 | Irish Breakfast - 9:30 AM-12:30 PM ~ Div 2 Hall |
| Oct 18 | Monthly Meeting - Hall: 7 pm |

Michael Collins and Beal na mBlath

Continued from Pg. 1

These people, including Eamonn de Valera, wanted an independent and united Ireland. Some believed that Collins had sold out to the British government.

Those who did not support the treaty fell back on violence and a civil war took place in Ireland from April 1922 to May 1923. The IRA split into the 'Regulars' (those who supported the treaty) and the 'Irregulars' (those who did not). On August 22nd, 1922, Collins journeyed to County Cork. He was due to meet troops of the new Irish Army. His car was ambushed at a place called Beal na mBlath and Collins was shot dead. To this day, no one is completely sure what happened or who killed him. No one else was killed in the ambush. Collins' body lay in state in Dublin for three days and thousands paid their respects. Thousands also lined the streets for his funeral procession his grave being one of the most visited in Glasnevin Cemetery just outside of Dublin.

13th IRISH HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Orange County Park
Town of Hamptonburgh
Montgomery, NY

September 16th and 17th, 2006



Scheduled to appear:

The Wolftones' Derek Warfield, Irish Step Dancers
Bagpipers, Black 47, Andy Cooney
Macaroni the Clown
Irish-ware vendors, authentic food and drink

Tickets are Adults \$10—Seniors \$8—2 day Pass \$15

A great time for the whole family!!!

For more information call: 1-845-343-5736

Notice about Annual Dues

Dues in the amount of \$50 for calendar year 2006 are now due. Please remit your payment to Dennis Malone, Division 2 Financial Secretary. Members who have not paid their 2005 dues have been dropped from the roster. Avoid being dropped...stop by and pay your dues today!

Irish Set Dancing for Couples & Singles



Learn how to "dance at the cross roads"—impress your friends at the next division dinner dance or family wedding! Just a few of the Set and Ceili dances you will learn include the: Clare Lancers; Connemara; Corofin Plain; Fermanagh; West Kerry and Williamstown sets. Learn

to dance Jigs, Reels, Hornpipes. Do the Stack of Barley, Siege of Ennis, Walls of Limerick. Lessons are on Tuesdays **beginning Sept. 12th** at 7—9pm. For more information call Kevin at 562-8651 or John at 534-9315. Lessons are \$10.00 per person. Come out—it's fun!!!

Keep in touch—Keep informed!



We are still in the process of collecting emails from all members and friends who wish to be notified of upcoming events and in case of an emergency. Please send an email to: Kevin Cummings at kcummings@hvc.rr.com or Mike Shannon at mds9918@aol.com or visit the "Member's Update" page at: <http://www.div2aoh.org/index3.htm> Thanks!

Friday Nite/Family Nite BBQ is Back!

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!

Thanks and More Thanks

Thanks and More Thanks—To all those who have helped with the hall extension. The work is moving along but others are needed. If you have construction skills useful in helping with this extension, please call the hall and leave a message for Bill Kirnan or Mike Shannon. Any help would be welcomed & appreciated. Thanks to our Friday nite cooks!

Please Keep in Your Prayers

Please keep in your prayers the wife of Division 1 President John Brophy—Marge Brophy, Division 4's Pat Lahiff's granddaughter, Siobhan and our own, Joe Thomson who will undergo orthopedic surgery soon. Pray God, all get well soon!

Annual Bus Trip to International Celtic Festival Hunter Mountain

Sunday, August 20, 2006



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