



# Hibernian News



Volume 6 Issue 10

An Irish Halloween – The Traditions Live On

October 2005

## 2005 Division 2 Officers

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**845-534-2528**

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Ever since the time of the Druids, many customs and traditions have evolved in celebration of Samhain, which is New Year's Day in the Celtic Calendar. When Christianity came to Ireland, the church took a dim view of Druidic festivals and created the vigil of All Soul's Evening, (or All Hallows Eve) on October 31st, the Feast of All Saints on November 1st, and All Souls Day on November 2nd.

All three days were regarded as one of the most important times of the year and were celebrated throughout Ireland with feasting, merrymaking and divination games on Halloween, the completion of farming activities by Samhain, and rituals out of respect and remembrance for departed kinfolk on All Souls Day.

In the old days, the ancients believed that on this night, hobgoblins, evil spirits and fairies traveled about the country in great numbers. For protection against fairy

mischief, holy water was sprinkled on animals, food offerings were left outside the house, oatmeal and salt were put on the heads of children, iron or a dead ember from the fire was put in an infant's cradle, and little ones were taught not to eat wild fruits on this night, or afterwards, because it was believed that the Puca, a particularly nasty spirit, went about spitting or urinating on them. It was also the custom to make a special cross called a Parshell. It was then hung over the door on the inside of the house to help protect the family from illness, bad luck and witchcraft until the next Halloween when a new cross would be made.

"Everyone has debts at Halloween" is an old Irish proverb and this was a time when people attempted to settle up. Workers were paid, as was the rent, and farm folk secured crops and livestock for the hard winter to come. While the adults were completing these chores, children visited relatives and

friends and were given gifts of apples and nuts. They also played lots of games.



Other activities included bobbing for apples which is still popular today, and snap apple which is trying to take a bite of an apple hanging on a string. For many centuries, Halloween was a day of abstinence, when no meat was eaten. But that doesn't mean Irish households didn't enjoy the best of other foods. Even in the poorest of homes, the wife would make every effort to prepare a special meal for the family, and more prosperous neighbors would be certain to help her achieve it with gifts of milk, butter, vegetables and other ingredients.



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

**October 9, 2005**

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.

(Next month's breakfast will be held on November 13<sup>th</sup>)

## A Message from the AOH Division 2 President

Dear Brothers and Friends,

October 2005

The Fall is off to a good start! Our first Autumn event, the Half-way to St. Patrick's Day Party was a huge success due in no small part to the hard work of members like you. Whether you helped clean the hall before or after, set up chairs and tables, cooked in the kitchen, donated food for an event or came down and bought a ticket or ten, you helped more than you know.

Watch the division event calendar for future upcoming events such as the Children's Halloween Party and the Adult Halloween Costume Party, both taking place on October 29th. The day's usual frightful hosts, Frank and Mabel McGowan's will be away in India on a business trip, but Colleen Morris, Tina Malone and Sioban Wynne (aka: Charlie's Angels) have agreed to run the events and promise a good time is in store for all!

Reminder...nominations for division office will be made at the November monthly meeting. If you are a member in good standing and have an interest in serving the division in this rewarding capacity, please see me after a monthly meeting or call me at 845-562-8651.

All the best!

Kevin Cummings,  
Division President



A **Holiday Themed Dinner** sponsored by the LAOH Division 2 will be held on Tuesday November 8, 2005, from 5:30 PM till..? - Division 2 Hibernian Hall. Holiday covered dish theme...turkey, ham, holiday breads, special vegetables, sauces, gravies and holiday desserts!  
Donation: \$10.00 per person.

**Gifts, Cash Bar, Lots of Fun!!!!**

All proceeds will go to **Make a Wish Foundation** and **The Special Olympics**.

For more information call: Eileen Marsh-Ternay at 845-562-2234

## Upcoming Events

(subject to change)

- Oct 9 Irish Breakfast - 9:30 AM-12:30 PM ~ Div 2 Hall**  
\$7 for adults, \$3 for kids.
- Oct 11 Irish Set Dancing Lessons. Hall—7 PM. Open to all.**  
Call 562-8651 for more information.
- Oct 19 Monthly Meeting - Hall 7 PM.**
- Oct 29 Children's Halloween Party & Haunted House—Hall 12— 3 PM.**
- Oct 29 Adult Halloween Costume Party—Hall 7:00-11:00 PM. \$15 prepaid.**
- Nov 11 Great Irish American Pub Quiz – Hall 7:30-9:00 PM.**
- Nov 13 Irish Breakfast - 9:30 AM-12:30 PM ~ Div 2 Hall**
- Nov 16 Monthly Meeting - Hall 7 PM—Nominations for Division Officers**



**Please pray for  
all our deceased  
Brothers**

## Adult Halloween Costume Party

**Saturday, October 29, 2005**

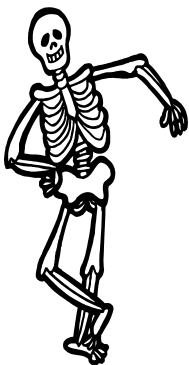
**7:00 PM—11:00 PM**

**Music, Door Prizes, Best Costume Prizes  
Hot Food, Snacks Ghoulish Drinks,  
Cash Bar & 50/50 Raffle**

(proceeds will go to the Safe-Rider Program)

**Advance Tickets: \$15.00**

**At the Door: \$20.00**



**For more info or for tickets see Jim Ryan at the bar or call 845-534-2528 or call your evening hosts:**

**Colleen Morris (845-534-8265), Tina Malone (845-534-5631), or Sioban Wynne (845-534-8604)**

## Children's Haunted House and Halloween Party



**Saturday, October 29, 2005  
12:00 PM—3:00 PM**



**Piñata ~ Games ~ Prizes ~ Snacks  
Haunted House & Horror Show**



**Frightful Hosts for the Day are Tina Malone,  
Sioban Wynne and Colleen Morris  
The kids love it! Don't let them miss all the  
fun.**

**Free Admission ~ Donations Accepted**

## Shamrock Memorial Wall Fundraiser



**Purchase a 3"X3" bronze  
shamrock in memory of a loved  
one. For a \$44 donation your  
shamrock will be expertly  
engraved with the names of  
parents or other beloved departed  
and be permanently mounted on  
the Hibernian Hall Memorial  
Wall.**

**For additional information or to  
order a Shamrock Memorial  
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**John Greehy at 845-534-9315**

**Thanks and More Thanks!** Thanks to Billy Kirnan, Kevin Cummings and Pat Finn for helping with September's Irish Breakfast. **More Thanks** to Jim Ryan and Bob Morgan for cooking the Irish Breakfast. **Special Thanks** to Kathleen and Dirk Demar (the hall looked great!), Ethel and Tom O'Brien, Ann Simoni (great Guinness cake!) Mike Shannon, The Chris Turpin Band, John & Ann Greehy, The "cake & bread" bakers and Kevin and Logan Cummings for all their help, before, during and after the Half-way to St. Patrick's Day Party. **A Very Special Thanks** to Jim Ryan...chef extraordinaire (!) for the dinner. The Half-way party, the Irish Breakfast and our other events are successes because of all the help from people like you.

**Calling all Friday Nite Cooks** - Summer is winding down but we are always looking for a few good cooks to show off their special talents. Autumn is a great time to show off your *"world famous"* soups, chowders, stews, pot roasts and chili. Sign-up and leave a list of what extras you need and we will do the rest.

**Friendly Reminder** - Dues in the amount of \$50 for calendar year 2005 are now very past due. Final letters will be mailed out shortly. Avoid being dropped from the membership roster. Please make your check payable to AOH Div. 2 and get it to Dennis Malone, Division 2 Financial Secretary either by mail or drop it off at the hall. The 2006 dues are due in January.



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