



Hibernian News



Volume 6 Issue 12

Christmas Eve 1601 ~ Battle of Kinsale

December 2005

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If any one single battle of Ireland's Nine Years War was pivotal in nature, it is the Battle of Kinsale.

Kinsale is a little port town in the southeastern Cork. Through tactical blunder, it became the focus of a battle that would permanently destroy Ireland's hopes for independence during this time period.

The Nine Years War was waged for a variety of reasons. The Irish wanted their independence from English rule and the English wished to further increase their lands and power in Ireland. Meanwhile, Europe was in the throes of the Protestant Reformation and a turf war emerged between the Catholics and Protestants. Since Ireland was predominantly Catholic, the Nine Years War was seen as an opportunity to undermine English hegemony by Catholic Spain and its supporters.

The hopes of the Irish rested mainly with Hugh O'Neill, Earl of Tyrone and Hugh O'Donnell, Earl of Tyrconnel. These two men were the last of the great Gaelic Chieftains and their strongholds were in Ulster. A series of revolts broke out here that started the war. Hugh O'Neill cast off his title of Earl of Tyrone and was accepted by the people as the O'Neill

(hereditary title of the King of Ireland). He led the Irish forces to quick victories and gathered great support. At the same time "Red" Hugh O'Donnell was terrorizing the English in the west, recapturing Sligo Castle.

For this Elizabeth I proclaimed both O'Neill and O'Donnell enemies and traitors and she recalled her forces from Belgium to restore order in Ireland. Ireland, in turn, appealed to Catholic Spain for help. When Spain finally came to the rescue, it was too little too late for the Irish. Phillip III of Spain sent a force of only 4,000 men who landed in Kinsale.

On Christmas Eve, 1601, the Irish and Spanish attacked and were soundly defeated. The Irish lost 2,000 and almost 1,000 Scots that had been sent to help in the rebellion. The Spanish were forced to surrender and sent home. Thus in one blow the hopes of Ireland were dashed after winning battle after battle early in the Nine Years War. O'Neill's reputation was tarnished and he could never again muster great support. O'Donnell went to Spain where an English agent later poisoned him. Any further hope of assistance from Spain was now also gone.

The decision to attack was a

costly one, as continued siege of the English would probably have resulted in victory. But the size and power of the English fleet was pivotal in this battle. It probably caused the Spanish landing here in the first place, after the defeat of their Armada scant few years ago. Their control of the seas would probably eventually bring reinforcements for the English also, which had to weigh heavily on O'Neill's mind. With a victory, the entire Irish population would have rallied to O'Neill's flag and the Spanish would have been encouraged to provide more support.

Many Irish gave up on their home after this loss to the English and migrated to the Americas. The power to resist the English was now broken and Catholic land ownership steadily declined for the next 200 years. The Plantations under the English and the Scots-Irish continued to develop and take over the land that had been held by the Irish peoples for thousands of years. Ulster itself, home of the modern day revolt in Northern Ireland, never recovered as its lands remain under English control to this day.



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

January 8, 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.

(Next month's breakfast will be held on February 12th)

A Message from the AOH Division 2 President

Dear Brothers and Friends,

December 2005

What a busy month it has been preparing the hall for all the Christmas and New Year holiday events! Those who were at our very successful Adult Christmas Party featuring Cahal Dunne would have to admit the hall looked great—only surpassed by the great crowd of people and a great feast of food to choose from—thanks to all those who attended and help made the night so enjoyable. Special thanks to Cahal Dunne who was in top form and to Tim Smith and Mark Adams for entertaining us all while we dined on the evening's fare. It was a night to remember!

Additional thanks to all those brave souls who returned early the next morning for the monthly Irish breakfast. Many remarked that they had a great time the evening before and having slept in late were happy to have a delicious breakfast waiting for them.

On another seasonal note...Ireland, like many countries, has a number of Christmas traditions that are all of its own. One of the best known is placing a vigil candle in the window of one's home. The placing of a lighted candle in the window on Christmas eve is still practiced today as a symbol of welcome to Mary and Joseph as they traveled looking for shelter. The candle also signaled a safe place for priests to perform mass during Penal Times in Ireland.

Here, in our own country driving through many neighborhoods during this holiday season, one will almost certainly come across a house with candles in the windows. Let us each light a candle this Christmas season for America's sons and daughters serving as soldiers, firemen and law enforcement officers, who each and every day put themselves in harm's way in order to protect us. May they find their way safely home.

Nollaig Shona Duit —Merry Christmas!

All the best!

Kevin Cummings,
Division President

Upcoming Events

(subject to change)

- Dec 17** **Children's Christmas Party**
Div 2 Hall. 12 Noon – 3 PM
- Dec 21** **Monthly Meeting - 7 PM—**
Div 2 Hall. All members
encouraged to attend.
Election of 2006 Officers
- Dec 31** **An Evening with Friends—**
TBA. A casual get-together
to ring in the new year. More
info to follow.
- Jan 8** **Irish Breakfast—Division 2**
Hall - 9:30-12:30 PM
- Jan 18** **Monthly Meeting - 7 PM—**
All members encouraged to
attend ~ Div 2 Hall.
Installation of 2006 Officers
- Feb 12** **County AOH Meeting –2**
pm. All division members
encouraged to attend ~ Div 2
Hall.



Please pray for our
Brothers who are ill
and for those serving in
our country's military

Division 2 ~ Ancient Order of Hibernian

Invites You To Attend Our

St. Patrick's Dance

Meadow Brook Lodge

Route 94, New Windsor, NY

Saturday, March 4, 2006

8:00 PM. – Midnight

Traditional Dinner, Open Top-Shelf Bar

Music by the Chris Turpin Band
Bagpipers, Irish Step & Set Dancers

Donation \$50.00 Per Person

No Tickets Sold At Door - For information and tickets call:

John Greehy: 534-9315 - Mike Shannon: 389-3148 - Kevin Cummings: 562-8651





Children's Christmas Party

Saturday, December 17, 2005
12:00 Noon—3:00 PM



**Santa will arrive on
a fire truck to distribute presents!**

(Parents, please bring a gift with your child's name clearly printed on it.)



Fun for the whole family! Get a picture taken with Santa!
Games ~ Prizes ~ Candy ~ Piñata
Snacks and Soda

Call the Division Hall at 534-2528 for more information

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

~ NOTICE ~

The election of Division Officers for 2006 will be held during the December monthly meeting. Please make an effort to attend this meeting to show your support for the new division board. The Installation of Division Officers will take place at the January monthly meeting.

- **President** - Michael Shannon
- **Vice President** - Raymond Fitzgerald
- **Recording Sec.** - Patrick Finn
- **Financial Sec.** - Dennis Malone
- **Treasurer** - Patrick Healey
- **Marshall** - James Kiernan
- **Sentinel** - Donald McClellan
- **Standing Committee** - open

Giant Basket of Cheer—A \$1 ticket (6 for \$10) gives you a chance at winning a basket filled with top-shelf liquors including Grand Marnier, Jameson, Bailey Irish Cream, Celtic Crossing, Irish Mist, Boru Vodka, Bunratty Meade, Paddy Whiskey, Tullamore Dew, and Dewars Scotch. Hurry don't miss your chance to win this great assortment. Drawing to be held at the Division Dance on March 4th. Tickets at the hall.

Thanks and More Thanks—to Helen and Pat Finn, Sioban Wynne and Kevin Cummings for decorating the hall with all the Christmas decorations. **More Thanks** to Bill Kirnan, John Greehy, Jim Ryan, Jack Mullarkey, Bob Morgan, Mike Shannon and Kevin Cummings for getting the hall ready for the Cahal Dunne performance (the hall looked great!). **Special Thanks** to the cooks of the night—Jim Ryan, Kevin Cummings and John Greehy. **Extra Special Thanks** to Jim and Margaret Kiernan for the great bread pudding and whiskey sauce! Ann Simoni for her tricolored cake! Soda bread bakers Helen Finn, Ann Greehy and Ethel O'Brien and all the evening cooks, helpers and cleaners. **A Very Special Thanks** to Bob Morgan, Pat Finn, Red Parker, Mike Shannon, Bill Kirnan and Kevin Cummings for doing it all over again early the next morning by cooking and helping with the December Irish Breakfast...because of all the help from people like you, we can be proud of all of our holiday celebrations.

Friendly Reminder - Dues in the amount of \$50 for calendar year 2006 are now due. Please remit your payment to Dennis Malone, Division Financial Secretary.

Super Bowl Sunday

Join us at the hall on February 5, 2006
for a *super* Super Bowl Party!

Starting at 12 noon with social card games ending with the final seconds...a great time is guaranteed. Food, beer, drink specials.

See Mike Shannon or Jim Ryan to get in on the Super Bowl Pool—50 points per box.

Watch for more information in the next newsletter.



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do so much around the hall. Your work does
not go unnoticed!!**

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