



Hibernian News



Volume 10 Issue 5

Presley Neville O'Bannon, Irish-American Marine Corps Officer

May 2009

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Presley Neville O'Bannon is mostly remembered for being the first man to plant the American Flag on a foreign soil, which he did on April 27, 1805 while fighting pirates during the Barbary Wars.

Born in Fauquier County, Virginia, he was named for his cousin, who had been an American officer in the Revolutionary War, served as the aide-de-camp to General Marquis de Lafayette and married to the daughter of General Daniel Morgan.

In 1805, Tripoli (now Libya) and the Barbary Coast "pirates" had raided shipping in the Mediterranean Seas for years, exacting tribute in return for not attacking ships of a given nation, or seizing ships and sailors and selling them into slavery. Before American Independence, American ships had enjoyed the protection of the British Navy, but after independence, America was forced to pay tribute to avoid pirates (it was determined that it was less costly to pay the tribute then to respond with military action).

In 1801, the Pasha of Tripoli, Yusat Karamanli, demanded additional tribute, and when refused, he declared war against the United States. The United States proposed to depose Yusat, replacing him with his brother, Hamet. Lieutenant Presley O'Bannon, a Marine officer assigned to the "USS Argus", took seven marines and marched with Hamet

and 500 of his men from Alexandria, Egypt to Derna, Tripoli—a distance of over 600 miles, arriving on April 25, 1805. When O'Bannon demanded Yusat to surrender, Yusat replied "My head or yours." O'Bannon led a daring frontal assault on the harbor fort, raising the American Flag over the fort after two hours of hard fighting. This was the first time the Stars and Stripes had been raised on foreign soil. The fall of the fort disenchanted Yusat's soldiers and they fled Derna, only to return shortly in a fierce counter-attack, which O'Bannon and his men successfully fought off.

After his fame was known far and wide, O'Bannon continued to serve in the Marine Corps, being promoted to Captain. He eventually resigned on March 6, 1807 and moved to Kentucky, where he later served in the Kentucky State Legislature.

Today, O'Bannon is credited with the words "to the shores of Tripoli" as being a part of the Marine Corps Official Song, and his Mameluke sword, presented to him by Hamet, has become a standard for all Marine Corp officers since 1825. The United States Navy has honored Presley Neville O'Bannon over time by naming three destroyers after him.

"Let Us Do the Cooking"

Mother's Day Irish Breakfast

With complementary flowers for all the Mothers!!!

May 10, 2009

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.



A Message from the AOH Division 2 President

Dear Brothers and friends,

May 2009

It appears that winter and the cold have left us and I for one won't miss them

Friday night barbeques on the deck are starting again. There is a tremendous shortage of volunteers to cook. Come on over and give a hand. Everything you need will be there.

Our state and county conventions are quickly approaching. We will need at least 15 members to make up our voting block at the county convention in June. It appears that the standing board members are the only candidates. It is not too late to put your hat in the ring.

The new archbishop will possibly be presiding at Mass in Newburgh. Date and time are still a mystery, but all will be notified (phone or email). If we can, a show of green would be great.

On May 10th 'MOTHERS DAY' our Irish breakfast will honor those ladies who shaped our lives or continue to keep us on the straight and narrow. Come to the club and share the day with us.

Reminder: The \$100 Raffle early bird draw is May 10th. Get your tickets in.

God bless and stay well.

John Greehy

Division 2 President

Upcoming Events

(subject to change)

- May 8** Whacky Friday Nite BBQ continues. Family fun! 6-9 pm
- May 10** Mother's Day Irish Breakfast—Div 2 Hall. 9:30-12:30. \$7 per adult. \$3 for children. Flowers for all Moms
- May 10** Building Raffle Tickets due in for Early Bird Drawing.
- May 20** Monthly Meeting - Hall: 7 pm. Members are encouraged to attend.
- May 30** Harp & Whistle Pub American Cancer Society Fundraiser Car wash 10-6. \$5 per car.
- Jun 7** Orange County AOH Convention—12:30 Div 1, Monroe



An AOH Factoid

The Ancient Order of Hibernians was formed on May 4th, 1836 at St. James Church in NYC.

2009 Building Fund Raffle

Tickets for the **2009 Building Fund Raffle** are available! Don't hesitate—contact John Greehy, Ticket Chairman immediately to get your tickets—please mention this fundraiser to other members and friends. This year the drawing and celebration will be held at the Division 2 Hall and surrounding the grounds on **Saturday, June 20, 2009**. Donation is \$100 for a chance to win one of 33 great cash prizes. Call John for tickets and details at 845-534-9315. Don't forget about the Building Fund Raffle's **Early Bird Drawing** to take place after the **Mother's Day Irish Breakfast** on **May 10, 2009**. Those who have turned in their paid tickets in will be in the running to win one of 3 additional \$500 prizes. The seller of each winning early bird ticket will win \$100. Hurry, don't miss out—get your tickets now!

Update!!! — If any one is in need of additional tickets, please contact John Greehy. Remember, the early bird drawing will be held on May 10th for any tickets that are sold by that date.

IMPORTANT

If you have tickets that you are not able to sell, please, please return them by May 8th so others may get in on the early bird drawing.

Orange County AOH Convention

The biennial Orange County AOH Convention will be held on Sunday, June 7, 2009 at 12:30 in Division 1 Hall in Monroe. We need approximately 15 members to act as division delegates and to support the Division 2 candidates for county office. If you are able to attend please contact John Greehy. For those who need a ride there will be transportation from Division 2 hall.

Hibernian Membership Drive

Brothers—we are actively seeking new members to our Order. We urge all members to please recruit a family member or friend. We need the efforts of all members to increase the size of our order and our Division. For an application please call the Hibernian Hall at 534-2528.

Hibernian Hall Rental

Hibernian Hall Rental - Do not forget the great benefit of belonging to Division 2—namely our Hibernian Hall. The hall, grounds and facilities make the Hibernian Hall perfect for all your party needs—christenings, communions, confirmation graduations, birthdays parties, family reunions and retirement parties. The calendar is filling quickly for 2009 so call the hall at 534-2528—leave a message for Kevin Moore.

Thanks and More Thanks!

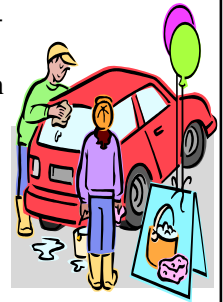
Thanks to Ron Bashista for putting together a very moving Easter Uprising—Irish Proclamation Commemoration Ceremony and to Joe Ryan for reading the proclamation. **Additional thanks** to the bagpipers—Jim, Jimmy and Kevin and to all the members who helped. **Special Thanks** to Sioban Wynne and Tina Malone for running the Children's Easter Egg Hunt. **More Thanks** to all those who helped out at our two Lenten Fish & Chips Dinners—Kevin Moore, Kevin Cummings, Pat Finn, Matt Flanagan, John Greehy, Bob Morgan, Dennis Malone, Pat Healey, Jim Kane, Karen Dorry, Anne Greehy, Rose Cummings, Ron and Liam Bashista. **Thanks Again** to our Friday Nite BBQ and Irish Breakfast cooks and to our bartenders, Mike Shannon, Kevin Moore, Pat Healey, John Greehy and Kevin Cummings. And for all of you who do the small things that nobody ever sees, things for the hall, the division, and for the community—thanks, thanks and more thanks!!! Your hard work does not go unnoticed.

Relay for Life Fundraiser

We are participating again in the Annual Relay For Life Cancer Walk being held on **June 13 - 14, 2009** from 3pm until 9am in Cronomer Park in Newburgh. A commitment of 2-3 hours would be helpful. Additional information will be available at the club—sign-up sheets/sponsor sheets will also be available. "Luminaria" (illuminated bags) for memorial candles are also available. 9 PM on Saturday evening is one of the most moving parts of the event when all the lights are turned off and only the luminaria lights are aglow. The combination of lighting and bagpipes can not be missed! Join us for a short time or a long evening. Tents, tables (bring your own chair), food and liquids to keep one warm will be available. Jim and Margaret Kiernan will again be this year's committee co-chairs.

American Cancer Society Fundraiser

Chris Stevens, our good friend and part-owner of the Harp & Whistle is running a Car Wash Against Cancer fundraiser in memory of his daughter, Ciara on **Saturday, May 30, 2009** from 10 am till 6 pm. Bring in any car and Chris' team of volunteers will have it sparkling clean for a \$5 donation. All proceeds go to the American Cancer Society.



Please come out and show your support for our friend or just stop by and make a donation to a good cause—better yet have your car washed while having lunch or dinner!

Relay for Life Fundraiser Dinner

Save the Date!!!! - Friday, June 12, 2009

Something good is cooking at the hall and it is all in the name of charity!!! The cooks are still debating what will bring in the crowds so check back in June newsletter to find out what's cooking!! All of the night's profits will be donated to the American Cancer Society—Relay for Life campaign. Please come out and support a good cause.

2009 Annual Dues are Past Due!

In a effort to help members remember that the **\$50.00** dues for 2009 are due in January, we are including this notice.

If you should change your address, phone number, or e-mail; please let me know by writing to:

AOH Division 2

Attn: Dennis Malone

PO Box 206

Cornwall N.Y. 12518

by phoning 845-534-2097 Visit: www.div2aoh.org/update.htm to update your information

Every member is important to us, so please do not fall through the cracks. Please contact Dennis Malone, Financial Secretary, Division 2



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