



Hibernian News



Volume 7 Issue 11

The Firbolg of Ancient Ireland

November 2006

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The Firbolg were an ancient race of people that ruled Ireland before the Tuatha de Danaan and the Melesians. The origin of the name of these peoples is still subject to conjecture with 'men of spear', 'men of the bag' and 'men of boats' being suggested translations.

Legend has it that the Firbolg were enslaved by the Greeks. For three centuries their persecution continued before they eventually stole some Greek ships and set sail for Ireland. The leaders of the escape were five brothers, Slainge, Rudraige, Genann, Gann, and Sengann. The 5000-strong tribe headed to the west coast of Ireland but were soon scattered by the rough seas and had to land at different bays. They reformed at the Hill of Tara where the country was divided into 5 Provinces. These boundaries substantially survived into

modern times and became four Provinces, with two of The original Five being merged.

A Firbolg King

Ireland prospered under the Firbolg. They had a political structure, administration and a kingdom. They brought bronze-age technology to Ireland. They fought off persistent raids by the Fomorians, who they united with on several occasions to ward off would-be invaders. For 37 years there were 7 successive Firbolg kings who ruled over a thriving land. A new wave of invaders were on the way however, the Tuatha de Danaan.

Despite negotiations and time-stalling tactics by the Firbolg, defeat to the

technically superior Tuatha de Danaan was inevitable. Despite staring defeat in the face the Firbolg petitioned the Tuatha de Danaan for once last chance of victory: a battle between equal forces.

Bravery was not enough though. The Firbolg were finally defeated at the Battle of Moytura but not before they impressed the new rulers of Ireland with their fierce courage and honor. The country was divided again with the western part of the country, Connaught Province, being assigned to the Firbolg.

From this time on the power of the Firbolg waned. They continued to live in the West of Ireland and, together with the Tuatha de Danaan and the Milesians, are regarded as one of the great tribes of Ireland.



"Let Us Do the Cooking" Authentic Irish Breakfast

November 12, 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 December 10th)



A Message from the AOH Division 2 President

Dear Brothers and Friends,

November 2006

"Hem your blessings with thankfulness so they don't unravel" (Anonymous). Good words for the month of November and also every day of the year. Sometimes life moves quickly and we forget to be thankful. Maybe everyday should be Thanksgiving to remind us to be grateful for our blessings (although I don't think we could eat like that everyday). Let's not forget to keep the less fortunate and ones away from home in our prayers also.

As usual, this month is full of Irish history. On November 22, 1963, President John F. Kennedy was assassinated. JFK was one the most influential contributions to American history by the Irish. Nov. 5, 1878 brought about the formation of the NY Gaelic Society. The Catholic University was opened in Dublin on Nov. 3, 1854. Nov. 1, 1798, Sir Benjamin Guinness was born in Dublin (a date dear to our hearts, since he started his brewery in 1855).

The children's Halloween party was wonderful and everyone left a little fuller and happier then when they arrived. I never saw so many kids dressed up as "the mummy". The adult's party was enjoyed by all who attended. Friday nights are becoming greater every week and Saturday football has been enhanced by our new 101 inch projector TV. The TV, the parties, and everything else were brought about by the hard work of members and friends. Thanks to all! Our new addition is coming along well and a parking is starting to emerge from the hill that was once there.

This month, I would to thank an extraordinary behind-the-scenes group of people. The wives of our members have sacrificed a great amount so that we can work and get things done around here. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts ladies!

See you at the monthly meeting on Nov. 15th

Abair ach beagan agus abair gu mathe. Say but little, and say it well!

Happy Thanksgiving and God bless all,
Michael Shannon, President,
AOH Div 2

Upcoming Events

(subject to change)

- | | |
|--------|--|
| Nov 12 | Irish Breakfast - 9:30 AM-12:30 PM ~ Div 2 Hall |
| Nov 14 | Irish Set Dancing Lessons - Hall—7 PM. Open to all. Call 562-8651 for more info. |
| Nov 15 | Monthly Meeting - Hall: 7 pm.—Nomination of candidates for division office |
| Nov 17 | The Great Irish American Pub Quiz—7:30 PM. |
| Nov 21 | Irish Set Dancing Lessons - Hall—7 PM. Open to all. Call 562-8651 for more info. |
| Dec 9 | Children's Christmas Party 12 Noon—3 PM. Div 2 Hall |
| Dec 10 | Irish Breakfast - 9:30 AM-12:30 PM ~ Div 2 Hall |
| Dec 17 | Adult's Christmas Party 2—6 PM. Div 2 Hall |
| Dec 20 | Monthly Meeting - Hall: 7 pm.—Election of 2007 division officers |

November 11th is Veteran's Day and while many have seen this before it is worth repeating...

- It is the VETERAN, not the preacher, who has given us freedom of religion.
- It is the VETERAN, not the reporter, who has given us freedom of the press.
- It is the VETERAN, not the poet, who has given us freedom of speech.
- It is the VETERAN, not the campus organizer, who has given us freedom to assemble.
- It is the VETERAN, not the lawyer, who has given us the right to a fair trial.
- It is the VETERAN, not the politician, who has given us the right to vote.

How do you thank a Veteran? Here are some ways...try leaving a thank-you card on the desk of a fellow employee who serves in the National Guard or Reserves. Maybe place a note of thanks on the windshield of a car with a POW or Purple Heart license plate. Say thanks to a friend, relative or neighbor who has served. Post a thanks on your local VFW or American Legion Bulletin Board. When you enter a military installation, such as West Point, thank the MPs at the gate—tell them you appreciate all they do. Visit a VA hospital and place notes of thanks on the meal trays before they are served. Attend a local Veterans' Day parade and thank the retired vets in uniform. Finally, teach your children or grandchildren to appreciate all the sacrifices made by our men in uniform.

Thanks and More Thanks!

Thanks to Gil Griffin for the \$100 donation to support the kids Halloween Party. **More Thanks** to Sioban, Tina and Colleen for hosting the kids party. The kids had a blast!!! **Additional Thanks** to Mike Shannon, John Greehy and John Walsh for setting up the hall. **Special Thanks** to Pat Healey, Dennis Malone and Kevin Cummings for installing the new projector TV and new stereo distribution system. It sounds and looks great!!! **Again Thanks** to Mike Shannon for donating the stereo system. **Much Thanks** to the Friday Night cooks: Maryellen & Dennis Malone, Ann & Don McClellan, John & Anne Greehy. **Special Shout-out** to Don & Ann McClellan for agreeing to be the AOH liaisons to the local area food pantries and soup kitchens. With some help from Dennis Malone they will transport food and other items donated at the hall to where it is most needed so that many will have a great Thanksgiving! **Thanks** to the cooks Pat Finn and John Walsh—good job to all!

Children's Christmas Party with Santa



**Saturday,
December 9, 2006
12:00 PM—3:00 PM**

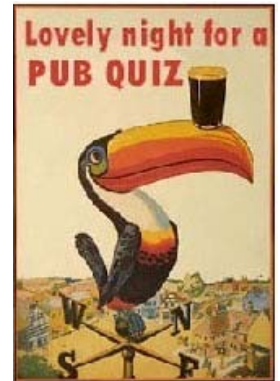


Santa arrives on a fire engine!!!
Please bring a wrapped and clearly labeled gift for Santa to give to your child.

Your hosts for the day are Sioban, Tina & Colleen.
The kids love it! Don't let them miss out on all the fun.
Admission—please bring one can or non-perishable item which will be donated to the food pantry.
Monetary donations also accepted.
Piñata ~ Games ~ Prizes ~ Snacks

The Great Irish American Pub Quiz

You and your friends are invited to a traditional pub quiz on **Friday, November 17, 2006** starting at 7:30 pm. Teams of four compete for bragging rights!!! Entry fee is \$5 per team—winning team takes all.
General Trivia ~ Irish Trivia ~ Historical Trivia ~ Movie Trivia ~ Music Trivia ~ Sports Trivia ~ Something for Everyone!!! Come on Down for some fun, snacks and your favorite bar beverage!



Division 2 Ancient Order of Hibernians

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Annual St. Patrick's Dinner Dance

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Saturday, March 10, 2007

8:00 PM – Midnight

Menu du jour

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No Tickets Sold At Door ~ For additional information and tickets call 845-534-2528

Adult Christmas Party and Dinner



**Sunday,
December 17, 2006
2:00 PM—6:00 PM**



**Pot Luck Dinner
Bring out your best!**

Music by Smith and Adams

We are trying something new this year. In an attempt to keep costs low during this expensive season we are doing a pot-luck dinner. There will be a sign-up sheet at the bar for those who will be bringing something for the sharing table. Money donations accepted in place of food donations.

Dancing ~ Good Times ~ Drink Specials

Irish Set Dancing for Couples & Singles

Lessons are on Tuesdays at 7—9pm. For more information call Kevin at 562-8651 or John at 534-9315. Lessons are \$10.00 per person. Come on down—it's fun!!!

Remember in Your Prayers

Please keep in your prayers our long-time member, Barney McKiernan who past away last month. + RIP +



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