



Hibernian News



Volume 8 Issue 12

A Different Kind of Christmas Poem

December 2007

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The embers glowed softly, and in their dim light,
I gazed round the room and I cherished the sight.
My wife was asleep, her head on my chest,
My daughter beside me, angelic in rest.

Outside the snow fell, a blanket of white,
Transforming the yard to a winter delight.
The sparkling lights in the tree I believe,
Completed the magic that was Christmas Eve.

My eyelids were heavy,
my breathing was deep,
Secure and surrounded by love
I would sleep.

In perfect contentment,
or so it would seem,
So I slumbered, perhaps
I started to dream.

The sound wasn't loud,
and it wasn't too near,
But I opened my eyes when it tickled my ear.
Perhaps just a cough, I didn't quite know,

Then the sure sound of footsteps outside in the snow.

My soul gave a tremble,
I struggled to hear,
And I crept to the door just to see who was

near.

Standing out in the cold
and the dark of the night,
A lone figure stood,
his face weary and tight.

A soldier, I puzzled, some twenty years old,
Perhaps a Marine, huddled here in the cold.

Alone in the dark, he looked up and smiled,
Standing watch over me, and my wife and my child.

What are you doing?
I asked without fear,
Come in this moment,
It's freezing out here!

Put down your pack,
brush the snow from your sleeve,
You should be at home on a
cold Christmas Eve!

For barely a moment I saw his eyes shift,
Away from the cold and the snow blown in drifts..

To the window that danced with a warm
fire's light

Then he sighed and he said Its really all
right, (cont'd pg 2)

"Let Us Do the Cooking" Authentic Irish Breakfast

Veteran's Day—January 13, 2008

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 February 10th)



A Message from the AOH Division 2 President

Dear Brothers and friends, December 2007

Welcome to December! This is the month we celebrate our Savior's birth. There will be no history nor business reported here.

The light of the Christmas Star to you,
The warmth of the hearth to you,
The cheer and good will of friends to you,
The hope of a child like heart to you,
The love of the Son and God's Peace to you.
[Irish Christmas Blessing]

Spread the holly around your home! Bring your children and grandchildren to enjoy our youngsters Christmas party on December 15th. Come to the adults' party on December 16th! (Details in this bulletin). But most of all have a blessed and safe Christmas season!

NOLLAIG SHONA—CHRISTMAS GREETINGS!

God bless all,
Michael Shannon,
Division President



Upcoming Events

(subject to change)

- Dec 9** Irish Breakfast - 9:30 AM-12:30 PM ~ Div 2 Hall
- Dec 15** Children's Christmas Party 12 Noon—3 PM. Div 2 Hall
- Dec 16** Adult Christmas Party—2 PM. Div 2 Hall.
- Dec 18** Adult Irish Set Dancing—Hall: Tuesdays at 7 pm.
- Dec 19** Monthly Meeting - Hall: 7 PM—Election of officers
- Dec 25** **Merry Christmas!!**
- Dec 30** AOH-DJW Corp. Quarterly Meeting —All members encouraged to attend ~ Div 2 Hall.
- Jan 1** **Happy New Year!!**
- Jan 13** Irish Breakfast - 9:30 AM-12:30 PM ~ Div 2 Hall
- Jan 16** Monthly Meeting - Hall: 7 PM—Installation of officers

A Different Christmas Poem (Cont'd from Pg. 1)

I'm out here by choice. I'm here every night.
It's my duty to stand at the front of the line,
That separates you from the darkest of times.
No one had to ask or beg or implore me,

I'm proud to stand here like my fathers before me. My Gramps died at Pearl on a day in December, Then he sighed, That's a Christmas Gram always remembers.

My dad stood his watch in the jungles of Nam,
And now it is my turn and so, here I am.
I've not seen my own son in more than a while,
But my wife sends me pictures, he s sure got her
smile.

Then he bent and he carefully pulled from his bag,
The red, white, and blue...an American flag.
I can live through the cold and the being alone,
Away from my family, my house and my home.

I can stand at my post through the rain and the sleet,
I can sleep in a foxhole with little to eat.
I can carry the weight of killing another,
Or lay down my life with my sister and brother.

Who stand at the front against any and all,
To ensure for all time that this flag will not fall.
So go back inside, he said, harbor no fright,
Your family is waiting and I'll be all right.

But isn't there something I can do, at the least,
Give you money, I asked, or prepare you a feast?
It seems all too little for all that you've done,
For being away from your wife and your son.

Then his eye welled a tear that held no regret,
Just tell us you love us, and never forget.
To fight for our rights back at home while we're gone,
To stand your own watch, no matter how long.

For when we come home, either standing or dead,
To know you remember we fought and we bled.
Is payment enough, and with that we will trust,
That we mattered to you as you mattered to us.



A very Merry Christmas to all the men and women serving in our nation's armed forces. May you have a Happy, Healthy and Safe New Year! God's speed!

Save-the-Date!!

Division 2 Ancient Order of Hibernians

invites you to attend our

Annual St. Patrick's Dinner Dance

Anthony's Pier 9
Route 9W, New Windsor, NY



Saturday, March 15, 2008
8:00 PM – Midnight



Music by The Wild Rovers
HVR Police Pipes & Drums, Irish Step & Set Dancers

Saturday, March 15, 2008

8:00 PM – Midnight



Watch your newsletters for additional information

AOH-DJW Corp. Quarterly Meeting

There will be an AOH-DJW Corp. Quarterly Meeting —held on **December 30, 2007** at 2:00 pm—Div 2 Hall. All members encouraged to attend and participate in plans for the future of the building.

Nomination & Election—Division Officers

Nominations for 2008—2009 division office will be accepted from the floor at the December 19th meeting. Elections for division office will take place at the December 19th meeting.

Children's Christmas Party with Santa



Saturday,
December 15, 2007
12:00 PM—3:00 PM



Come on time because 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 Wynne & Tina Malone.

The kids love it! Don't let them miss out on all the fun.
Admission—Please bring one can or non-perishable food item appropriate for the Christmas Baskets that we distribute through out the area.

Monetary donations also accepted.

Piñata ~ Games ~ Prizes ~ Snacks

Adult Christmas Party and Dinner



Sunday,
December 16, 2007
2:00 PM—6:00 PM



Pot Luck Dinner
Bring out your best!

Music by the Wild Rovers

Good Food & Good Friends

Suggested donation is \$15.00
per person and will go towards
the cost of the musical entertainment

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.

Please bring one can or non-perishable food item appropriate for the Christmas Baskets that we distribute through out the surrounding communities



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