Shillelagh Sentinel

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Thomas Francis Meagher Division
Ancient Order of Hibernians
P.O. Box1916

Helena, Montana 59624



President- Jim Hammill 443 852
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UTRIST BE OBRIGHT IN THIS DARK WORLD

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This monthly newsletter is the official publication of the Thomas Francis Meagher Division, Ancient Order of Hibernians. Its purpose is to inform members of all activities of the Division.

REGULAR DECEMBER MEETING
NEXT TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11TH 7:00
KC HALL. PLEASE COME

VENITE ADORAMUS DOMINUM

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Our new Division officers for 2008 were installed in a quite dignified ceremony at the November meeting. So now we have our new leadership and must pay tribute to outgoing President, Mike Murphy for doing an outstanding job for the past two years. Thanks, Mike, from all of us.

Our new President, Jim Hammill, will provide us with fine guidance, having been an outstanding Vice President. And Neil Connole, the new VP is fit to stand by Caesar and give direction. All other truly dedicated officers names are in the Masthead.

Let's support these fine lads now for the ensuing year.

THANKSGIVING MIRACLE

Once more our Division has risen to the occasion and provided local families with the wherewithal for a joyous Thanksgiving celebration. Of the four households, with all parents and a total of nine kids, these thankful, worthy Helenans were the recipients of Hibernian and Van's Thriftway generosity. This is something we all enjoy doing for our brothers and sisters. Thanks, fellas for doing what what comes naturally.

CARROLL SCHOLARSHIPS

Another of our fine acts of altruism will take place shortly since the two winners of our scholarships to Carroll will be granted \$1000 each to help further their education. Our committee of Joe Calnan, Joe Weber, and Neil Sullivan will study the applications and find the most worthy. Look for their announcements in the January Shillelagh Sentinel.

NOLLAIG SHONA AGUS BLIAIN NUA GANSMAL

HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING

So it came to pass that Christmas is the time and place to celebrate the birth of the Christ child. As Christians we find it to be the most sacred day of the year and a chance to honor and revere the Saviour who came among men to enlighten humanity and offer great solice in this troublesome world. Christ donned manhood to teach us to love, something the world then and now needs more than any other virtue. Let's use this Christmas celebration to renew our calling as Christians to serve all mankind in this chaotic and cruel world.

BIG MAILING IN DECEMBER

Our Officers will be doing a major chore soon by mailing to each member in the December Shillelagh Sentinel a note announcing the increase in annual dues from the present \$30 to \$40 along with a self addressed envelope for sending in a check for the small sum to our Treasurer, Dan Gruber. In addition, each member will be getting a copy of a letter regarding the Ireland trip as well as a sightseeing questionnaire. Now for those on our e-mail list you'll find the above as an electronic message. It's time now for those members and others to let us know if they really want to go to Ireland in

September of 2008, and what they would like to visit or see on the tour. Please, please do your duty and help the committee out by responding. And if you want some encouragement, think about maybe, on the outside, a trip of 14 days from Helena and back for somewhere in the \$2000 range.

Could be less but hopefully not more.

JANUARY INITIATION

President Jim Hammill has sent out a call for new members for our Division. It's time for a healthy initiation, and we all know that some good prospects are out there. As a tribute to our new officers, let's look upon a January initiation as a challenge. It's a good bet that all active Hibernians know a solid young Irishman who'd fit in with our Brother Hibernians, but we've got to sell the idea if we want a strong organization. Please, make the effort to identify and encourage some new members who will stay with us. And be sure to tell them why they should join.

A GRAND IRISH ENTERTAINMENT

Plans are developing rapidly for a true Irish variety musical show, as a fund raiser. The date is Saturday, March 8th, 2008 at the Shriners Auditorium on Jackson. The grand entertainment will be all local talent, and the Carroll College Drama Department will aid us in many ways, especially on the technical end. We would like members to recommend any and all talented Irish entertainers available in the area. We'll have singing and dancing, piping and story telling, traditional and classical Irish music. It'll surely be an evening to remember for families in Helena.

BIG SALE FOR CHRISTMAS

For all you Hibernians who've wanted one of our fine Morgan prints of the Leprechaun, now's your chance because they're going on sale for Christmas. Tell you wife that one can be purchased now for only \$100. Call Hank at 442 3903 and he'll deliver. Tell your friends too about this hot deal.

HELENA HIBERNIANS PO BOX 1016 HELENA MT 59624

"POOR MAN'S SUPPER"

That's the theme chosen for a fund raiser by our Division to aid The Good Samaritan Ministeries. After meeting with our extraordinary Bishop George Thomas, a committee composed of Tom Huddleston, Mike Murphy, Pat Connors, Neil Connole, and Hank Burgess, are busy working up the details of this event to be held next spring. The Bishop graciously agreed to fully support us in our endeavor. A meal of "hobo stew", along with bread, coffee, water, or koolaid and pudding. will be prepared by our fine cooks and served to local parishioners with an eye toward establishing the right atmosphere at the Brondel Center. We'll have some prayer, music, exhortation, and a whole lot of fun. Look for more details later.

IMPORTANT DATES, EVENTS Regular Monthly Meeting December 11th, Tuesday, 7 PM, KC Hall

Newly installed Division President, Jim Hammill, promises some changes in our meetings, with shorter, action packed business discussions, a novel table arrangement, maybe even a touch of deoch-an-doris and more time for good old Irish crack. Come to this month's meeting for a change in tempo to visit with your Brother Hibernians.

> **Christmas Day** December 25th