

# SHILLELAGH SENTINEL

AOH, Thomas Francis Meagher Division, PO Box 1916, Helena, Montana 59624

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## 2024 Division Officers

Patrick Flaherty	President
Mike O'Connor	Vice President
Dan Gruber	Treasurer
PJ McHugh	Financial Secretary
Jason Magera	Recording Secretary
Patrick Carey	Marshall
Patrick McKelvey	Sentinel
Tom Pahut	Chrmn Stndg Com <b>Publisher/Editor</b>
Mike O'Connor	



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## Presidents Message

Greetings,

Saturday is Veterans Day, a day to thank all of the Veterans that sacrificed so much for our communities and our Country as a whole. Various events will be occurring throughout the day, but we will be concentrating on two of the events. At 8:00 am, we will be raising the Flag over Resurrection Cemetery and at 11:00 am (the 11<sup>th</sup> hour of the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month) the VFW will be hosting the Parade in East Helena. I am hoping that many of you can join us at these events to show the support that our Veterans richly deserve. Another item that is happening is that the AOH is recognizing a Veteran each day of November on the AOH Facebook page, the link is: <https://www.facebook.com/aoh.in.americ> a take a look and see how many of the Veterans you know. They are short, but they are fascinating documentaries of our brothers.

Our recent Charter Dinner was a success, we actually made some money this year! Not sure how it happened, but it did. The Winner of the Archbishop Alexander J. Brunnett Medal for Social Justice, Kathy Surbrugg and her husband Ed

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*(President's message Continued from page 1)*

were in attendance as were the co-nominators, Monsignor Kevin O'Neill and Brother Pat McKelvey. Kathy was surprised by the Award and very humble in her acceptance.

National Director Bob Mehrens and I recently attended the National President's Testimonial Dinner in Youngstown, Ohio, to honor the work of our outgoing National President, Danny O'Connell. Also in attendance was Bertie Ahern the former Taoiseach of Ireland. In recognition of his work for Peace in Ireland, Bob and I presented the former Taoiseach with a bust of Thomas Francis Meagher from the State Board of Montana.

Likewise, for all the work that Danny O'Connell has done for the Order and especially Montana, the State Board also presented him a Bust of Meagher. Danny O had been a supporter of Montana for a long time, helping Bob become a National Director and encouraging and assisting us in forming the Copper Kings Major Degree Team. He also recently appointed me as the National Veterans Affairs Committee Chair which has given Montana another voice at the National level.

In upcoming events, Christmas is right around the corner and the Annual FFAI Christmas Appeal is about to begin, so be prepared. Additionally, the National Convention is coming up in Orlando, Florida from 7 – 11 August 2024. There will be a lot more about the National Convention in the near future, so watch your emails.

*(President's message Continued)*

*(President's message Continued)*

Talking about emails, at our recent National Board/State Presidents meeting, it was brought up by National that less than 50% of all Division, County and State Officers have current/correct emails on file with the National Secretary. I found this number to be appalling, so I asked our Financial Secretary how we were doing on emails. As an example, of the six people on the first page of our roster, we only had one email. This is not good. We also know that there are some email addresses that are incorrect, through not fault, just bad typing, bad reading, or a change that was not updated. So, I am asking all of you to check with PJ McHugh or me and make sure that your email address is correct in the system. This will ensure that you get information in a timely fashion.

Wow, this went on longer than I thought. I will close this one out by saying, Thank a Veteran, think about going to Orlando and check your email addresses.

**Slan'**  
**Patrick†**

## LAOH to offer appetizers

The Ladies will be offering appetizers before the meetings on Tuesday. The time will be at 6:00 pm Tuesday at the KC Hall. Yes, they have invited the AOH to have appetizers.

## HIBERNIAN DATES TO REMEMBER

### VETERANS' DAY

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2023

#### FLAG RAISING – RESURRECTION CEMETERY

8:00 AM

#### EAST HELENA CELEBRATION

10:45 AM ANNUAL VETERANS' DAY CELEBRATION IN EAST HELENA.

### AOH MEETING

KC HALL

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2023

6:30 PM

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

### AOH MEETING

KC HALL

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2023

6:30 PM

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

## This Month in Irish History

November 2, 1950 - Death of George Bernard Shaw

November 5, 1688 - William of Orange arrives in England with 15,000 men.

November 6, 1649 - Owen Roe O'Neill - Catholic military leader against Cromwell – dies.

November 10, 1798 - Theobald Wolfe Tone tried and convicted of treason

November 10, 1879 - Pádraig Pearse Irish revolutionary, born

November 11, 1918 - World War I ends

November 12, 1954 - Ellis Island closes. From 1892 - 1954, over two million Irish immigrants entered the U.S. through Ellis Island. The first recorded immigrant was 14 year old Annie Moor from Co. Cork.

November 14, 1669 - St. Oliver Plunkett becomes Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland

November 15, 1900 -Funeral of Marcus Daily held at St Patrick's Cathedral, New York, Right Rev Bishop Brondel of Helena was the celebrant. Interment was in Greenwood cemetery.

# VETERANS DAY Wednesday

**JOIN US TO HONOR OUR  
VETERANS**

This Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> is of course Veterans Day and as usual our Hibernians **will raise the flag at our flagpole at Resurrection Cemetery at 8:00 AM, then we will join the East Helena observance at 10:45 AM.**

Let's remember, we've done this ever since we formed in 1984, and the East Helena people respect and appreciate us for it.

Please make the effort to join us and honor those you have served our county. ♣

## This Month in Irish History

November 22, 1869 - Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa, Fenian, contests and wins a Tipperary by-election in abstentia, but is declared ineligible as a convicted felon.

November 26, 1791 - First convicts from Ireland arrive in New South Wales, Australia

November 30, 1864 - Cork-born Confederate General Patrick Cleburne is killed in command of his division at a battle in Franklin, Tennessee.

# **DIVISION ANNOUNCES 2023 RECIPIENT OF THE ALEXANDER BRUNETT MEDAL FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE**



**This medal is awarded to a Montana Irish Catholic who has demonstrated a commitment to their community in any area of social justice.**

**The award is named in honor of Archbishop Brunett who was formerly the Bishop of the Diocese of Helena.**

**The committee again this year had very qualified candidates to choose from. Anyone of the candidates would be a great selection.**

**The committee has chosen Kathy Surbrugg of Helena to receive this year's edition of the Alexander Brunett Medal for Social Justice! In the photo is (L to R) Brother Pat McKelvey, co-nominator, Ed Surbrugg, Kathy Surbrugg, Division President Patrick Flaherty and Monsignor Kevin O'Neill, co-nominator.**

**The presentation of the Alexander Brunett Medal was at the Thomas Francis Meagher Division's Charter Dinner♣**