

Ancient Order of Hibernians
Franklin County, Ohio Div. #1
274 E. Innis Ave
Columbus, Ohio 43207



January 7, 2011

Bother Hibernians,

As we leave behind another busy holiday season and make our way into the green season, may you and yours enjoy a marvelous 2011. This year Hibernians across the nation will be celebrating the 175th anniversary of the founding of our order on May 4, 1836. We should all regard this as an opportunity to reflect on the legacy of pride in our heritage, preservation of our culture and adherence to Christian values that has been passed down through those many years.

We have established a new committee this year that is being chaired by Mark Dougherty. The Veterans Affairs committee will report to the membership on national and state initiatives, programs, news and activities as well as those originating at the division level as determined by the committee. The chairman will also report on any other items of interest or importance to the membership pertaining to Veterans Affairs.

In March we will have been settled into our home at Tara Hall for two years. Those that have not been down in a while may be in for a pleasant surprise as a number of significant improvements were implemented during 2010 from the wall décor exhibiting our Irish heritage and history to the fully functional hearth. We owe a special thank you to the ladies that do such a fine job with the seasonal decorations. If you've never seen a "wine cork" wall, you can at Tara Hall, the only one in all of Franklin County. The monthly sessions and birthday parties will continue in 2011 and special events will fill the bill and be announced via e-mail and Facebook.

In conjunction with Tara Hall, we will open new initiatives at the division level with the goal of broadening the connection to our Irish heritage. A library is being established on the upper level of the hall. Donations are welcomed but must be limited to Irish literature, history or culture; items pertaining to the Ancient Order of Hibernians; or materials on Catholic literature, doctrine or theology, preferably bearing a Nihil Obstat and Imprimatur. While items such as American History certainly have their place, unless there is an Irish, Catholic or AOH connection, we would prefer that you donate them elsewhere. We also plan to launch an Irish Film Festival. The details are still in the works and will be announced as they develop.

As always, the special events planned for 2011 are guaranteed to provide a great time for all participants as we do our part to raise sustaining funds for the division. With the green season nearly upon us, we are looking forward to participation in proclamation day, the St. Patrick Day parade and the various activities planned at Tara Hall surrounding these events. The Hibernian Classic Golf Outing will again be at Splitrock down in Pickaway County on June 11th. This will be a great chance to enjoy the camaraderie of friends and family in the great outdoors while making an indispensable contribution to the division. Details are forthcoming. We will again be serving draught beer at the Dublin Irish Festival over the weekend of August 5th. A four-hour shift will fly by and get you into the festival free on each day that you volunteer. As we approach the end of the year, we'll again celebrate Celtic New Year in November and get together a month later for our annual Christmas party.

I am enthusiastically looking forward to working with our standing committees, special committees, general membership and the Tara Hall Board to make 2011 a great year for the division. Together we can succeed in keeping focused on our Irish and Catholic heritage as we strive to meet our charitable goals and pursue our social aims through involvement with and participation in our committees, special events and initiatives. Any new ideas on expanding this goal are welcomed.

Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,



Michael Coleman
President
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