



AOH Division 61 December Newsletter

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

DECEMBER 2013



Division 61 Officers:

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Sean Kearns **Vice President**,
John Joe Kelly **Financial Secretary**, Tom Campbell
Treasurer, Sean Campbell
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Prendergast **Assistant Steward**,
Bill Kuntz **Past President**, Chris Mullen,
Brian Kelly Jr., Marty Prendergast
Trustees,
Msr. Kevin Lawrence
Chaplain

Upcoming Events

Kathi McKenna Memorial Pegasus Riding Academy Fundraiser December 1st 2:00 PM
Phila AOH County Board Meeting December 5th @ Div. 39 7:00 PM
AOH 61 Monthly Meeting December 6th 8:00 PM
Christmas is for Giving Party December 14th
Christmas is for Giving Wrapping & Toy Distribution December 15th
AOH 61 Monthly Meeting January 3rd 8:00 PM

DIVISION 61 CLUB HOURS

Sunday Noon-10PM
Monday Noon-Midnight
Tuesday Noon-Midnight
Wednesday Noon-Midnight
Thursday Noon-Midnight
Friday Noon- 2AM
Saturday Noon-2AM

**“There are no strangers here;
only friends you haven’t met.”**
W.B Yeats

Ancient Order of Hibernians
PO Box 65576
Philadelphia, PA 19136

AOH DIVISION 61

President's Letter

Brothers

Each year our division provides food and toys to those in need in our community. Much of the corporate support we have relied on for years is just not there anymore. So, I'm asking each member to make a donation to our Christmas is for Giving effort. If you don't have time for shopping please consider a cash donation, again, every little bit helps. Donations can be dropped off at the club or at our December meeting. At the Division 61's Christmas Party (Scheduled for December 14th @ 3 pm) we ask each child to "give" Santa an unwrapped toy for those less fortunate than ourselves. On Sunday December 15th starting at 9:30 at St. Dominic's Marion Hall we also need volunteers to pack and distribute toys and food, this is a great opportunity to help our community and for anyone required to perform community service to pick up a few hours.

Hopefully, we will see each other at the next meeting on December 6th, as always; I may be reached at 215-920-0910 or jackfgill@msn.com with any questions or concerns.

Yours in our motto,
Jack

AOH 61 now has Wi-Fi at the bar. So feel free to bring your smart phone or tablet and connect to the Wi-Fi while you enjoy time out with some friends and get some work or internet browsing done. See you at the division.

AOH Division 61 College Bowl Pool

See if you have what it takes to pick every bowl game winner from the Dot.Com Bowl to the National Championship Game.

Entry fee is \$10 to pick ALL 35 games.

Half of each entry fee will go to the AOH Division 61 Scholarship Fund.

Bowl games run from December 21st - January 6th

For questions or to sign up please see
Sean Campbell
sean.campbell@temple.edu or
soupy07@comcast.net

CHRISTMAS IS FOR GIVING

Christmas is for Giving Party is Saturday December 14th 3:00 pm till 6:00pm. Cost is \$5.00 for adults and Children admission is an unwrapped new toy to give to Santa when he arrives at the club. Admission includes food for all, a craft for the kids and a candy cane from Santa. If you cannot make

the party and would like to donate a toy (s) please have them to the club by Saturday

Kathi McKenna Memorial Fundraiser for the Pegasus Therapeutic Riding Academy.

Sunday, December 1st from 2:00-6:00 p.m. AOH/ LAOH Division 61 will host the 6th annual Kathi McKenna Memorial Fundraiser for the Pegasus Therapeutic Riding Academy. As many of you know, our late LAOH sister and friend, Kathi McKenna, started this scholarship benefit in 2006. When Kathi approached several members of our division about hosting a benefit for a scholarship, we gladly accepted the challenge. This is our 7th year hosting this benefit.



As a brief background, Pegasus was incorporated in 1982 with the purpose of providing disabled individuals with therapeutic activity and exercise in various forms, while concentrating on ability rather than disability. It is the only fully certified medically approved riding therapy program in the City of Philadelphia. Cost \$20 Contact Patti Vogler at 215 -338-1607 or Pat McKenna at 267-593-8164 for more information. Come and have fun with us as we support a great program for children and adults with disabilities.

The Steward's message:

Gentlemen,

One of the most important dates in our Catholic faith is here and with it is a time to celebrate with family and friends. Please remember your friends at the AOH Division 61 and participate in the various events at the hall, maybe the Christmas Is For Giving party or the race that follows. We have plenty of opportunities to stop by with your out of town guests as well. Between the Flyers and Eagles as well as our Irish music guest this month, Raymond Coleman, there is plenty of fun to celebrate the Holiday season. See you at the Division.

Michael Kinney

December Irish Music

December brings for our Monthly Irish music. **Every month on the fourth Wednesday @ 7 pm,** the

Division will be presenting the best in local Irish Music in our bar area.

This month's performer is:

Raymond Coleman



Welcome

On behalf of AOH Division 61, we extend a warm welcome to the newest member of our family:

No New Members

We hope you enjoy everything this organization has to offer and that you continue to live in *Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity.*

DUES

2013 dues are now past due! Dues are now \$55 and may be paid at meetings, dropped off to the club in an envelope with your name and the amount or mailed to AOH Division 61 4131 Rhawn Street, Philadelphia, PA 19136.

AOH DIVISION 61

As the leaves begin to change colors means we have reached the quarter pole of the NFL season and the start of the hockey season. For any Eagles and Flyers game here are the following drink specials:

**\$10 domestic draft beer
\$10 for domestic draft beer
and
\$15 for 5 domestic bottle beers**

**AOH Hoodies
We have
AOH Division 61
Hoodies available there
only \$25
Contact Jay Ems at
215-806-9377**

Irish Celtic Traditions

No Irish home would be complete without the holly. Holly with its glossy green leaves and festive red berries are perfect for holiday decorating. At Christmas in Ireland, holly was used to decorate the entire house. A spray was placed over the door as well as on the mantle, around picture frames, among the plates on the cupboard, as candle rings and in other areas of the home. Gifts of holly boughs were also given to neighbors. One charming folklore superstition was that the fairy folk would come in out of the cold to find shelter in the holly branches.

To the Celts holly represented both life and rebirth, the evergreen leaves symbolized life during a time when all else was bare and the red berries represented the coming of Spring. With the coming of Christianity to Ireland the berries took on a new meaning, new life in Christ.

Irish Food

The Christmas cooking would start early with the making of the plum pudding, breads and spiced beef. A traditional Irish Christmas meal might consist of roasted goose, potatoes, cranberry sauce, vegetables, sausages, and puddings. Spiced beef is often eaten sliced cold with fresh bread in the days after the main feast.

Irish Hospitality

Hospitality is abundant in Ireland and it is reflected in many holiday customs. A lighted candle would be placed in the window as a welcome beacon for both traveler and wandering priest. The candle is placed in the window on Christmas eve to signify the welcome the Holy family looking for shelter. Another aspect of Irish hospitality is seen after the Christmas meal. The doors are left unlocked and the table is set with bread and milk for travelers who might come in the night after seeing the welcome of the lighted candle in the window.

The 12 Days of Christmas

The twelve days of Christmas are celebrated between the birth of Christ, December 26 and the Epiphany, (coming of the Magi) January 6. A small gift would be given on each day during this time. The 12 days of Christmas included many festivities including parties and the visiting of friends, family and neighbors. Twelfth night would be the end of the celebrations and the day that holiday decorations were taken down.

Please remember to support our Patrons. Thank You!



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 Division 61

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 For more info. contact Jack Gill at 215-920-0910

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In Memory of

**Kevin Pierce
(1955-2002)**

**Past President and
Steward
Of**

**Division 61
Loving Husband, Father
and Friend**

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