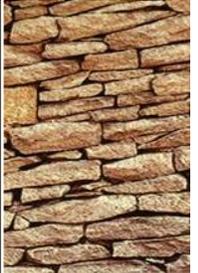


- Message from the President
- New Division Website
- Division news
- Raffle Winners!



A periodic insight into the Montgomery County, Division 1, Notre Dame

AOH Div. 1



June 2021

2021-22 Division Officers

President, Eddie Mongan
Vice-President, Ron Trask
Chaplain, Fr. Bill Grogan
Recording Secretary, Kevin Willson
Financial Secretary, Ed Costello
Treasurer, Tom Nolan
Standing Committee Chair, Jack Rodenbaugh
Marshall, Hugh Quinn
Sentinel, John Nolan Sr.
Sentinel, Joe Daywalt
Missions and Charities, Glenn McNulty
Trustee, Sean Messenger
Irish History, Mark Ryan
Veteran Affairs, Bobby Whitmore
Current Parade Grand Marshal, Bobby Whitmore

2021 Membership Dues

Please note that our new Financial Secretary is Brother Ed Costello, dues can now be paid via Venmo at [@Ed-Costello-7](#). Dues are **\$35.00**. You can still drop off your dues at a membership meeting or at the Pub. Payments can be mailed to:

135 Scarlet Drive, Conshohocken, PA. 19428



Left: Bridget Willson was awarded the 2021 Notre Dame, Div. 1 James Cahill Scholarship at the June 24th division meeting. Bridget graduated from Cherokee High School and will be attending Drew University majoring in Chemistry. Pictured with Bridget from left to right is her father Kevin Willson, Missions and Charities Officer, Glen McNulty and Div. President, Eddie Mongan.

**Next Membership Meeting-
Thursday, July 29 at 7:30**

April Pub Draw Winners!

\$200 #68 AOH Charities
\$300 #90 Dispaldo/Modica
\$500 #22 Eddie Mongan

Right: 2021 Notre Home Association Scholarship awarded to Wyatt Pfiel who attended Corpus Christi school in Lansdale and will attend Pope John Paul High School. Wyatt was recognized for his academic achievements and service to the community. Pictured with Wyatt are Financial Secretary, Ed Costello and Div President, Eddie Mongan



Welcome to the Order! Ryan Powers

From the President...

Brothers,

Welcome Summer! What a great Summer we are anticipating this year. It is time to dust off the BBQ grill crack some cold ones! In between cook-outs and pool parties, don't forget about the **AOH Pub**. Our highly trained bartenders are slinging the coldest beer in town! There will also be several opportunities to get out and watch your favorite Pipe Band back in action.

Please join me in congratulating Brother **Glenn McNulty** and his wife, **Meredithe** on the arrival of their son **Finnian Richard McNulty**. Finn was born on Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021. God Bless.

The **Notre Dame, Division 1 Annual Scholarship** has been designated to honor the memory of **James Cahill**. James was a Notre Dame. Division 1 Charter member and the first Division President. James held that office for 10 years.

Red Cross Blood Drives- Both July drives have been postponed. No new dates as of yet.

The **Home Association** is constantly creating innovative ways to navigate any challenges in their path and to keep day-to-day life at the club as enjoyable as can be. **The Directors** are planning several events that are sure to live up to past events. Look for these events in upcoming newsletters and on our website.

Be on the lookout for email notifications about upcoming work parties. These work parties are imperative to keeping our Headquarters in optimum condition, indoors and out. We have a list of tasks to be done ranging in all levels of physical requirements. It is usually a fun time with plenty of laughs.

I would like to thank our **Division 1. Officers** for their commitment to maintaining our reputable Club and the efforts put forth to improve upon our already impressive organization.

There is currently an open position to Chair the **FFAI** (Freedom For All Ireland) Comminttee. Any member in good standing who is interested, please contact me.

In our motto,

Eddie Mongan
Division 1 President

Irish Weekend is on for 2021!

The 2021 North Wildwood Irish Festival has been confirmed! September 24, 25 and 26th are the scheduled dates for this years event. You might want to start looking for a place to stay now as people are going to be extremely excited about resuming the famous festivities that "Irish Weekend" has to offer. Hope to see everyone down there at the Elks or cheering on Irish Thunder

Irish Thunder Pipes and Drums

June 2021

Pipe Band Report:

Irish Thunder finally has a schedule for 2021! Events include the annual **Oreland 4 th of July Parade** (July 5), and two performances in July and August at **St. Thomas Church** in Whitemarsh (July 23) and at the **Valley Forge Chapel** (Aug 18).

Irish Weekend 2021 is on! September 24, 25 and 26. The Pipe Band Exhibition that usually takes place on Saturday has not been confirmed as of yet but the Parade will occur on Sunday the 26th. The event is listed on the Cape May County Division 1 website. <https://www.cmcaoh.com>

Irish Thunder merchandise is still available. Irish Thunder's first CD includes local Irish singers, including **Paul Moore, Sarah Agnew,** and **Tom McHugh,** and other area instrumentalists playing the violin and guitar. The CD is sure to be a great addition to your collection! The band is still selling their new 25 th anniversary t-shirts. The shirts are black in color, with silver color in many of the titles, and are in both mens' & womens' sizes. Please see a band member for a CD, shirt, magnet or pint glass. Band CD's are priced for \$10, pint glasses and magnets for \$5 and shirts for \$15. To purchase a Band CD contact Eddie Mongan

The band is currently accepting interested gentlemen & ladies to join the band as a piper or drummer to improve the band's sound. Please see a band member if you're interested.

Sincerely,

Sean Murray
President/Band Manager,
Irish Thunder Pipe & Drum Band
www.irishthunder.org

Brother Gerry Corrigan Passes

Gerald Francis Corrigan Jr., "Gerry", died from cancer on June 3, 2021 at the age of 81. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 54 years, Muriel. He served his country honorably in the United States Marine Corps as a Lieutenant and was a proud veteran. Proud of his Irish heritage, Gerry was a very involved Hibernian. A member of the Isle of Erin Major Degree team, founding member of Irish Thunder, and was the Grand marshall of the 2003 Norristown St. Patrick's Day Parade. Rest in peace, Brother.



2021 Lady of Knock Mass

August 22, 12:00

The 2021 Lady of Knock Mass will take place at 12 noon on Sunday, August 22. This beautiful service organized by our sisters of the Montgomery County, Division 2 LAOH as always, will be hosted by St. Patrick's Church.

Please note that the Mass will be conducted in the Basement Hall beneath the Church. Due to construction work taking place inside the church itself, it is not currently safe for services, so all masses are currently being held in the Hall.

All AOH and LAOH members, along with family and friends, are encouraged to attend this beautiful event. AOH/LAOH seating is reserved in the front pews. St. Patrick's Church has a wonderful and talented choir and Father Gus is always a pleasure to see and to hear. Irish Thunder proudly leads the procession and pipes everyone out of the Mass.

There will not be a festival at St. Patrick's Hall like many years before but after Mass.

All attendees and their guests are invited back to the Division 1 Hall for Brunch and entertainment, immediately following the Mass. Tom McHugh and Fintan Malone will be performing.

More details to come in the next newsletter...

Medal of Honor Grove Honors Korean War Recipients



On June 19th, The Freedoms Foundation, Medal of Honor Grove paid tribute to the 146 Medal of Honor (MOH) recipients from the Korean War (KW). An American flag was placed beside each of these soldiers name plaque located at the monument dedicated to their State of origin. Division brothers Mark Ryan, Pete Hand and myself worked with a few West Chester AOH brothers to find each Korean War recipient's plaque and place their flag.

The first State assigned to me was Texas. I was given a stack of 13 index cards, each having a KW/MOH recipient's name who was from the great State of Texas. As I read literally, every name on every plaque for Texas while searching for the 13 on my list, I thought of each one and their selflessness for our benefit. I decided to to hold on to all 34 index cards that I eventually addressed. The other States I covered were Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and Maine.

My intention was to research these brave people and gain perspective on their lives. I cannot write about all of them at this time so I decided the fairest way to select one was to start at the top of my pile. My very first soldier to find was **Air Force Maj. George A. Davis Jr.** The following is his story...



United States Air Force Maj. George A. Davis Jr.
December 1, 1920 – February 10, 1952

Davis was born Dec. 1, 1920, in the central Texas town of Dublin, but he grew up with his parents and eight siblings in Morton in the northwestern part of the state. Davis went to Harding College in Arkansas and then returned home. He worked there briefly before joining the Army Air Corps as an aviation cadet on March 21, 1942. About a year later, he finished his flight training and was commissioned as a second lieutenant.

Davis was shipped off to the Pacific during World War II where he became an ace in a P-47 Thunderbolt, shooting down seven enemy aircraft during 266 combat missions in 19 months.

After the war, Davis stayed in the service as it transitioned to the Air Force. He continued to fly fighter jets and served as a flight commander and air inspector at various military bases. He was also a member of the Sabre Dancers demonstration team in California — the forerunner to the famed Thunderbirds.

Davis was promoted to major in February 1951, a few months before he was sent to Korea. There, Davis was named the commander of the 334th Squadron, 4th Fighter Interceptor Group. Within a few months, he became the leading ace of the Korean War.

On Feb. 10, 1952, Davis was leading four F-86 Sabre jets on a patrol mission near the Manchurian border. One of the jets was forced to back off because it ran out of oxygen. The remaining Sabres continued, and Davis and wingman 1st Lt. William Littlefield noticed 12 MiG-15s — Soviet fighter jets — speeding toward some allied fighter-bombers doing low-level operations.

Even though his team was outnumbered, Davis quickly dove toward the enemy jets. He flew into the back of their formation and shot down one of them. Despite taking enemy fire, he kept attacking, shooting down a second enemy fighter.

From there, Davis could have sped up to get away from the enemy that was firing on him. But, instead, he chose to reduce his speed so he could try to shoot down a third MiG. While pursuing that fighter, his aircraft suffered a direct hit.

Davis' plane spiraled out of control and crashed into a mountain about 30 miles south of the Yalu River, Littlefield reported. The 31-year-old's body was never recovered.

Thanks to his bravery, the friendly fighter-bombers were able to succeed in their operation. Davis' final combat mission was his 60th in Korea, and it marked his 14th enemy downing of the war.

In 1953, Davis was posthumously promoted to lieutenant colonel. His wife, Doris, received the Medal of Honor on his behalf at a ceremony at Reese Air Force Base, Texas, on May 14, 1954. His parents and three children — one of whom he had never met — also attended.

During both wars, Davis racked up an impressive number of decorations, including four Distinguished Flying Crosses, 10 Air Medals, three Silver Stars and the Distinguished Service Cross.

Davis' contributions to air attacks in both wars will always be remembered. A veterans memorial was dedicated to him in Lubbock, Texas, in 1990. His name is also inscribed on the Wall of the Missing at the National Memorial of the Pacific in Honolulu.





U.S.A.F Maj. George A. Davis Jr. 12/01/1920 – 02/10/1953

To be a flying "ace," you have to be credited with shooting down several enemy aircraft during combat. It didn't happen often in the 20th century, and it rarely happens now. Air Force Maj. George A. Davis Jr., a Medal of Honor recipient, is one of only a handful of U.S. military pilots to hold the distinction of being an ace in two wars.

