

NATIONAL BOARD



OFFICE OF THE  
NATIONAL  
FFAI

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# ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS IN AMERICA

INCORPORATED

Organized in New York City, May 4, 1836

## Freedom For All Ireland Christmas Appeal 2009 – 2010 Mailing Contents:

**Christmas Appeal Letter**

**\$1000 Pledge form for Republican Art**

**The FFAI \$10 club**

**\$10 club sign up**

**Bloody Sunday Tour information**

*"Ireland Unfree Shall Never Be At Peace."*

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This letter kicks off the 2009 AOH/LAOH Christmas appeal. As the political and social landscape of the North of Ireland has changed over the years so has our appeal. Our order can be proud that we have always been there to support not only with our voices but with our funds those who fought for and sacrificed so much for a united Ireland. In the last several years our focus and support has become more focused on truth and justice initiatives. To further clarify our role, President Boyle appointed a committee chaired by Vice President Moore that included the late Dave Burke, NJ State President Jere Cole, AOH director Danny O'Connell and myself. Earlier this year we met and discussed the appeal and made our recommendations. To a man we all agreed that the fact of the matter is that the Christmas Appeal is not just another request for donations coming from the National Board, instead, it is part of OUR direct pursuit of this organization's longstanding commitment to a united 32 County Ireland. Along those lines in addition to supporting long standing Republican groups the appeal will provide support for charities/agencies that promote truth and justice initiatives, cross-community opportunities, reconciliation efforts, and attempts to regularize the U.S. status of all former Irish Republicans.

In 2009 among those that we supported were: Pat Finucane Center-Derry and Newry, Holy Cross Ardoyne Trust-North Belfast, Coiste na n Iarchimi-Belfast, Relatives for Justice-Belfast and Dungannon, St Patrick's Centre-Downpatrick, Omagh Basketball Club, Cairde – Tyrone, The Bloody Sunday Families and the David Ervine Trust Belfast. All of the work that these groups do falls well within the guidelines the committee set.

### Truth and Justice Initiatives:

The Bloody Sunday families, Relatives for Justice (RFJ) and the Pat Finucane Center (PFC) constantly are seeking justice for the families, victims and survivors of British state violence and collusion during the troubles. Remarkably the families of

*"Ireland Unfree Shall Never Be At Peace."*

Bloody Sunday are now 38 years from justice. While theirs may be one of the best known stories of the troubles there are hundreds more. RFJ and PFC both work tirelessly on behalf of those that were lost, injured or wronged. The commitment of the staff and members of these organizations is remarkable as is the dignity of the people they work for.

Cross Community and reconciliation efforts:

The Omagh basketball team is a cross community basketball league that Pennsylvania AOH member Eamonn Daly has been instrumental in running. In Belfast the Holy Cross Trust and David Ervine Trust represent both sides of the community looking to build on reconciliation efforts and a better future for all the citizens of the North.

Attempts to regularize the U.S. status of all former Irish Republicans.

We have had discussions with Thar Saile the US group whose mission is to achieve a permanent solution to the immigration issues facing the former Irish Republican Political Prisoners residing within the United States. These men have faced deportation and extradition from the U.S. and the goal of Thar Saile is to obtain a collective resolution for all of their cases. The McAllister Family justice campaign also continues to seek a successful conclusion for their struggle to stay in our country,

For those that have so consistently supported the Appeal thank you for your long time backing, we hope we can once again count on your support. For those that have not a \$100 donation by each division would make for a very successful Appeal. Again this year all boards or divisions that support the fund by making a donation of \$1000 or more will receive a personalized Irish hurling stick with the name of their division or board. Once again we request not only the support of divisions and boards but that individual's join the \$10 club by making a \$10 donation to their FFAI chairman. Details included in this packet.

Christmas Appeal "One Island, One Ireland" shirts are available at [www.aoh.com](http://www.aoh.com) All proceeds will go to appeal.

Raffle tickets for the Gerry Adams autographed hurling stick also still available, proceeds to be donated to Twinbrook Belfast Irish speaking school in memory of Dave Burke. Tickets are \$5; drawing October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Finally the date for this years Bloody Sunday remembrance march has been set for Sunday January 31<sup>st</sup>. This year we will be sponsoring a week long trip thru the North for the week of Bloody Sunday from Friday January 29<sup>th</sup> thru Friday February 5<sup>th</sup> details included. Limited availability.

Christmas Appeal donations and Bloody Sunday trip down payments should be sent to Sean Pender 13 Scullin Dr. Yardville NJ 08620. I can also be reached at [paddyspeed@yahoo.com](mailto:paddyspeed@yahoo.com) or by calling 609 462 7056

*All the best  
Sean*

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# ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS IN AMERICA

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## *\$1000 Pledge Form Customized Irish Hurling Stick*

Division # \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Division President \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Division Address (where art will be sent)

Attn: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of division board as it should appear on hurling stick:

Our division pledges a minimum of \$1,000 for the FFAI Christmas Appeal. We will forward that amount by January 15<sup>th</sup> 2009.

President's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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## *The FFAI \$10 Club*

### What is it?

Members make voluntary donations in the amount of \$10 each to support the Freedom for All Ireland Christmas Appeal. Donations are separate from Division contributions.

### Why should I do it?

The preamble to the constitution of our organization lists as the third purpose of our order: "To aid and advance by all legitimate means the aspirations and endeavors of the Irish people for complete and absolute independence, promoting peace and unity for all Ireland." While having a stable government of and by the people of the North of Ireland is a very significant event it is not our end goal. The organizations that we support and that have been highlighted in the Hibernian Digest still need our support to help ensure we reach our goal of 32 county united Ireland that promotes peace and justice for all its people.

### Who is responsible?

All Division, County and State Freedom for all Ireland are responsible for gathering funds and submitting

"Everyone, Republican or otherwise, has their own particular part to play. No part is too great or too small; no one is too old or too young to do something."

Bobby Sands –

Contributing to the \$10 club - the small part you play each year.

*"Ireland Unfree Shall Never Be At Peace."*

## *Freedom For All Ireland \$10 Club*

*Please Remit to:*

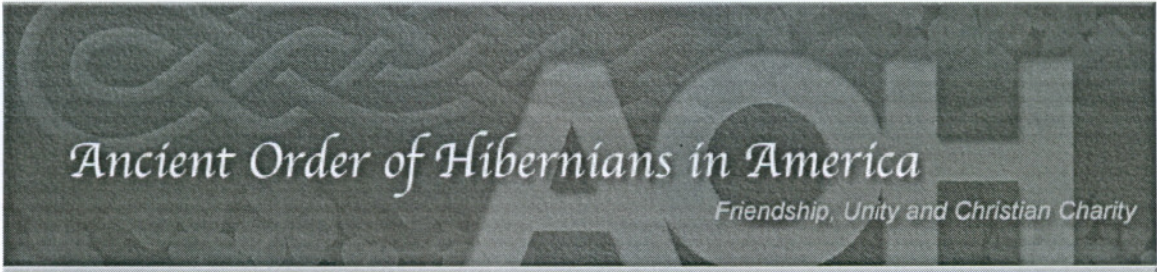
*Sean Pender FFAI Chairman 13 Scullin Drive Yardville, NJ 08620*

Name (Please Print)

email

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2010 AOH National Board Sponsored Bloody Sunday Trip  
Friday January 29, 2010 thru Friday February 5, 2010  
Costs: Double Occupancy \$950

Costs include all ground transportation while in the North\*, lodging, tours\*, seven breakfasts, six dinners and four lunches.

Air transportation is responsibility of traveler.  
Itinerary attached.

Payment schedule: \$250 non refundable Deposit required by November 15, 2009; Balance due January 5, 2010. Limited availability.

Make Checks payable to AOH – FFAI 2009 Tour

Mail to: Sean Pender AOH FFAI Chair  
13 Scullin Drive  
Yardville NJ 08620

Phone: 609 462 7056 email: [paddyspeed@yahoo.com](mailto:paddyspeed@yahoo.com)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of deposit(s) enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Single or double occupancy \_\_\_\_\_

Address (street): \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Double occupancy request to room with \_\_\_\_\_

Flight arrival info (if known) flight, time, airport

Flight departure info (if known) flight, time, airport

# 2010 AOH Bloody Sunday Tour Information and Itinerary

## Bloody Sunday 2010.

We have made arrangements with Coiste in Belfast for the 2010 AOH Bloody Sunday tour. The trip will start in Belfast and include transportation, lodging and most meals in the North. Air fare would be up to the individuals. Space is limited so space will only be held based on receipt of non refundable deposits.

Hotel Information: Balmoral <http://www.balmoralhotelbelfast.co.uk/>  
Blacks Road; Dunmurry, Belfast BT10 0NF

Tower Hotel [www.towerhotelderry.com/](http://www.towerhotelderry.com/)  
Butcher Street, Derry, BT48 6HL, Northern Ireland

Tí Chulainn Cultural Activity Centre <http://www.tichulainn.com/>  
An Mullach Bán County Armagh

This trip is open to all AOH and LAOH members and guests. Availability is limited to first 50 paid travelers. Itinerary below may be updated depending on availability

Airport Transfers\*\*\*: If arriving in Belfast Friday January 29<sup>th</sup> please provide flight information and Coiste will provide pick up. If you are arriving in Dublin or arriving prior to January 29<sup>th</sup> it will be up to the traveler to make check in at Balmoral. Those departing out of Belfast February 5<sup>th</sup> will receive transport to airport.

Costs\* are inclusive of all tours and meals listed below there will be no refunds for tours or meals not taken by traveler.

Any questions email Sean Pender [paddyspeed@yahoo.com](mailto:paddyspeed@yahoo.com)

### Trip Itinerary

- 29-Jan-10 Friday Pick-up Airport  
Check-in Balmoral Hotel, West Belfast (one night)  
Reception by Scoil Na Fuisseoige, presentation of donation in memory of Dave Burke  
Dinner @ Balmoral  
Free time/Open evening Belfast
- 30-Jan-10 Saturday St. Patrick's Centre, Downpatrick  
Check-in Tower Hotel Derry City for two nights  
Dinner  
Evening Mass & Program at AOH Hall, Foyle Street
- 31-Jan-10 Bloody Sunday commemoration march
- 1-Feb-10 Monday Depart for Tyrone, RFJ Tour  
Check-in Tí Chulainn South Armagh for two nights  
Social Evening at on site pub at Tí Chulainn with local entertainment
- 2-Feb-10 Tuesday Morning Guest Speaker – Pat Finucane Center  
Afternoon Bus Tour of Local Area  
Social Evening South Armagh Traditional Irish music pub the Welcome Inn
- 3-Feb-10 Wednesday  
Depart for Belfast  
Stormont Tour, meeting politicians etc.  
Lunch  
Depart for Balmoral Hotel, check-in  
Dinner  
Freetime/open evening in Belfast
- 4-Feb-10 Thursday Tour of North Belfast, visit to Holy Cross  
Lunch  
Tour of West Belfast  
Dinner  
A Night at the Felons Club
- 5-Feb-10 Friday Breakfast & check-out  
Depart for the Airport