



Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States
General MacArthur Memorial Post 392
2408 Bowland Parkway
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454-5207
(757) 486-5875
www.vfw392.org

2017 Membership Goal: 2,025
Current Status: 1,990 Members

Non-Smoking Facility - Outside Smoking Accommodations Available

MARCH 2017 - VOLUME 28, NUMBER 9

2016 - 2017 OFFICERS

Post Commander.....	Steven E. Graves	VFW Auxiliary President.....	Jennifer A. Winn
Sr. Vice Commander.....	Mark K. Winn	VFW Aux. Sr. Vice President	Dinah V. Doyle
Jr. Vice Commander.....	Theresa J. DeChamplain	VFW Aux. Jr. Vice President....	Lorraine K. Crain
Quartermaster.....	John H. Phillips	VFW Aux. Treasurer.....	Ellen Stogsdill
Chaplain.....	William P. Moran	VFW Aux. Chaplain.....	Ingrid L. Epperson
House Committee Chairman.....	Duane E. Gordon	VFW Conductor	Robert DeChamplain
Service Officer.....	Joseph G. Brady	Canteen Manager	Tina Brown
Surgeon.....	Robert Cordona	M.O.C. Seam Squirrel.....	Peter A. Gebelein
Judge Advocate	David R. Goldstein	M.O.C.A. President.....	Colleen Lewis



COMMANDER'S CALL

COMRADES AND SISTERS

"Don't say you don't have enough time, you have exactly the same amount of hours per day that were given to Helen Keller, Pasteur, Michelangelo, Mother Teresa, Leonardo da Vinci, Thomas Jefferson, and Albert Einstein"

(Albert Brooks)

Comrades, we are in the final months of this year's work. We've had many ups and downs throughout the year. I thank those that have stepped up to the plate and gave their time and energy for the VFW. It is greatly appreciated! After all, we are about taking care of Veteran's and each other.

We currently need 331 members by the end of June to make 'our' goal of 2,025 members, and we need 262 members to reach the required 100% for the year.

We have a lot of work to do. We had a very successful recruiting effort at the gun show last month,

and we are looking for a few more venues to get out and recruit. So please, keep an eye out on the Post's web site and social media for upcoming events. I hope to see you there.

We have some good things coming up in the future. The Saint Patrick's Day Parade is March 18th, and our local VFW Posts we will be marching in it. We will have a trailer with seats on it for those who cannot walk the whole route. And we have two other vehicles in case it rains. This is a rain or shine event, so be prepared and come on down - join us for the festivities. It's an absolute blast!

We also have the Department Convention being held in Williamsburg from June 14th to the 18th at the Fort McGruder Hotel.

The National Convention is being held in New Orleans in July. We are currently trying to reserve a bus to take members to the

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

(see any Post Officer for details)

**WE HAVE BEEN HAVING A
SHORTAGE OF VOLUNTEERS.**

**PLEASE REVIEW ANY ITEM
BELOW AND TAKE ACTION!**

- **Post Meeting:** Mar 7 at 7 PM. All members may attend
- **Dist 2 Meeting:** Mar 11, Post 4411 (Franklin, VA). Lunch noon, meeting at 1 PM
- **St Patrick's Day Parade:** Mar 18, muster 9 AM, sign up sheets at the Post
- **Thursday Night Dinner:** every Thurs! We need cooks, cash register attendant, dish washers, servers
- **Campbell Soup Labels:** benefits National Home for Children, bring them to the Post
- **American Red Cross:** Urgently need blood donors, call 1-800-448-3543
- **Recruit Members:** applications at the Post, see any Post Officer

POST 392 - NEEDS YOU!

convention. It is a round trip, leaving the 20th of July and returning on the 27th. If you're interested, please see Fred or Judy Lupole for more information.

Our Memorial Day Buddy Poppies Drive is coming up in May, and we will be putting flags out at various cemeteries. Dates and more information still TBD.

Nominations for next year's Officers take place this month. The elections will be held during the April Post meeting. If you are thinking about running for Office, or would like to show support - please come to the meetings.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- 3/2 Battle of Bismarck (WW II) started in 1943
- 3/8 US Marines land at Da Nang, Vietnam in 1965
- 3/11 US Army Corps of Engineers established in 1779
- 3/14 US / UN forces recapture Seoul, Korea in 1951
- 3/16 Pres. Regan orders troops into Honduras in 1988
- 3/17 Civil War's Battle of Kelly's Ford in 1863
- 3/19 US and coalition forces initiate Iraq War in 2003
- 3/29 Last of US troops withdraw from Vietnam in 1973

NEW MEMBERS

I extend a warm welcome to the new members who were voted in at the last regular meeting:

New / Transfer/ Life

Installment / Life Members:

Patrick E. Coughlin, James F. Harris, Randy A. Smith, Joseph E. Wafford, Mark C. Eller, Daniel J. Glass, Jim Iman, Glen S. Sturtz, Dominic Tovas

New / Transfer/ Re-Instated

Annual Members:

David W. Carraway, Gage A.

Foreman, Cynthia A. Frye, William S. Gregg, Kenneth L. Hamilton, Michael Mateo, Frank J. Orsino, Like G. Sanford, Daniel N. Tabor III, Al Ventura, Jeffrey D. Wadkins

Thank you for your service and welcome aboard!

BIRTHDAYS

May I wish a "Happy Birthday" to John M. Heistand, Harry I. McBrien, William P. Morgan, Joseph C. Palmer Sr., Joseph S. Szczyradlowski, Benjamin L. Wright, Teresa V. Gaughan, Katherine E. Kennon, Melissa S. Larvick, Bryan D. Norton, Ruth H. Spencer, Betty L. Stephens, and 182 other fine Comrades and Sisters!

**Post Commander
Steven E. Graves**

commandervfw392@gmail.com



SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Comrades March is upon us and it's time to focus on **R E C R U I T I N G** and **RETENTION**. I'm looking for any one that would like to help call on pass Post members to see about renewing their membership. Please contact me if you have some free time to help with this.

The 2nd District meeting will be a Post 4411, 3385 Beaverdam Rd, Franklin Va. Lunch is at noon and meeting at 1 PM.

Also know that with it being March, we will be getting ready for the annual St. Patrick's Day parade. It is always a lot of fun and huge success! I want to thank all those who will participate.

Remember, Memorial Day is the 29th of May, and we will be doing colors at 0800 on 27 May. After

which we will be that we will be placing American flags out at the local cemeteries on Veteran's graves.

CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP

AWARDS

The following individuals have earned Continuous Membership Awards. If you are listed below, please attend the next Post Meeting to receive your lapel pin.

If you are unable to attend, contact any Post Officer. If your name has not been listed and you believe that an award is due, please contact the Quartermaster.

50 Years Continuous Service:

James J. Crossan

35 Years Continuous Service:

John R. Jenkins

30 Years Continuous Service:

Richard N. Tommaselli

25 Years Continuous Service:

Michael J. O'Tool

20 Years Continuous Service:

Mark A. Brekke, Clyde J. Greene, Daniel E. Mitchell Sr.

10 Years Continuous Service:

Leo J. Scott III

5 Years Continuous Service:

Ronlad L. Beltz, Mary E. Johnson, Zackary M. Maxey, Richard H. Poolos, Frank E. Rough, Steven H. Wilkins

Thank you for your service and congratulations!

SR. Vice Commander

Mark K. Winn

[srvice](mailto:commandervfw392@gmail.com)

commandervfw392@gmail.com



JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Comrades and Auxiliary, I would like to thank everyone who brought in a dish for Super Bowl

Sunday, and the volunteers who set the hall up and cleaned up afterwards. Congratulations to all our New England Patriots fans!

Casino Night at the Post was a blast, I had a great time, and I hope all who attended had a good time also. Once again, I had no idea how much time and effort it takes to make this event happen. A big THANK YOU to the MOC/MOCA and all the volunteers.

Once again, March is on the slow side, but if you just read this article the word Volunteer shows up often, and we as the Post cannot do without our volunteers!

Upcoming events:

- 11 March District 2 Meeting
VFW Post 4411 Franklin, Va.
Lunch: Noon
Meeting: 1:00 P.M.
- 18 March St Patrick's Day Parade. Sign up at the Post.

Until next month always remember our Veterans and God Bless America!

**Jr. Vice Commander
T.J. DeChamplain**

jrvicemcommandervfw392@gmail.com



QUARTER-MASTER

2017 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Annual dues are \$40.00. Annual Members can pay their dues at Post 392, online at vfw.org, or by mail directly to:

VFW National Headquarters

Third Floor, Room 316

406 West 34th St.

Kansas City, MO 64111

(please include your membership #)

Consider changing your Annual Membership to a Life Membership and make a life long commitment to serving your fellow service

members and Veterans. Life Installment plan is available as an option to the one time payment for Life Membership.

E-NEWSLETTER

The Post Newsletter and Calendar are available online for free! To view them, go to vfw392.org and click on the links along the left side of the page.

On the Newsletter page, you can sign up to receive the monthly notification about the Newsletter, Calendar of Events, and other Post related communications by clicking on the "Subscribe to the VFW Post 392 Mailing List" link.

Ensure that you add the domain "vfw392.org" to your address book, it'll prevent the Post emails from going to your SPAM folder!

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Members, we all need to maintain a current address with the VFW. So when your mailing address changes, be sure to fill out an address change form, and mail it in, or drop it off at the Post.

The best method would be to email it to the Post. If you drop it off or email it, please remember to include your telephone number and email address!

Quartermaster

John H. Phillips

vfwpost392@gmail.com



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

I would like to apologize for not submitting my inputs to the newsletter recently. I have no excuse, just busy.

I would like to ask that you keep in your prayers the families of our recently departed Comrades

Arthur Ratte, Edwin Scheon, James Puckett, Robert Foley, Win Johnson, and Rodney Spencer. Their comradeship will be missed.

Drop me a line at chaplain@vfw392.hrcoxmail.com or leave a note at the Post for me should you have any questions or concerns.

I feel it is important to remind everyone that the purpose of our organization is the welfare of our Veterans and their families. Especially the widows and orphans of our falling comrades.

So with that in mind, may God Bless our Troops, our Veterans, and their families.

HELP US TAKE CARE OF EACH OTHER

When you or a family member falls ill, are injured, hospitalized, or experience the loss of a loved one - *please* contact us *ASAP*! It is important that we extend our hand in anyway possible to aid and comfort our fellow Comrades and family in their time of need.

ILLNESS / INJURIES

Please read the Post's Bulletin Board for up-dates of Members on the Illness / Injury List.

The following members have serious, long term illness, or injury, requiring continuous care:

- **Rudy Boesch**
(Bayside RTH Rm 222)
- **Leon A. Hickey**
(Farmville)
- **Joseph C. Palmer Sr.**
(Sentara Nursing Home, Room 211)
- **Betty L. Stephens**
(PA)

TAPS

The following list honors and

remembers our Post Veteran members in their recent passing:

- **Robert D. Foley, Sr.**
US Navy (Retired)
WWII & Korean War Veteran
Passed: 24 January 2017
- **James R. Puckett**
US Navy (Retired)
Passed: 26 January 2017
- **Win C. Johnson**
Korean & Vietnam Veteran
Passed: 27 January 2017
- **Rodney C. Spencer**
Passed: 8 February 2017
- **Regina "Jeannie" Geis**
Passed: 12 February 2017
- **Richard H. Poolos**
US Army
WW II
Passed: 18 February 2017

At our monthly meeting, Draping of the Charter is conducted, and a prayer of solemn tribute is given on behalf of our departed Comrades. For they are now in the hands of our Heavenly Father.

Post Chaplain
William P. Moran
chaplainvfw392@gmail.com



AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Sisters & Brothers, Well as you all may know Mr. Groundhog saw his shadow and the weather is teasing us with that it's time for spring to start arriving. Spring brings our busy time.

We are in need of a Third-Year Trustee. If you are interested, please attend the March meeting. We will be holding an election for Third-Year Trustee only at the March meeting.

In April we will hold are regular elections for all Officers, Delegates, and Alternates. Please plan on attending both meetings if

you are interested in anything, and please see Dinah Doyle or myself to let us know.

National President Colette Bishop will be coming to Richmond, Virginia on Wednesday, March 8th through Friday the 10th. They have activities planned for the 8th & 9th. If you are interested in attending anything, please contact Dana Rivera at (804) 337-3487.

Please bring it in your Campbell Soup labels for the VFW National Home for Children they are accepting the labels until July 2017.

VOLUNTEERS are always needed, appreciated, and wanted. If you have a little spare time and would like to help, please come out! There is always a sign up sheet on the double doors.

Thursday night dinners are going extremely well! I'd like to thank everyone that has volunteered their time and those of you that have come out to enjoy the Marvelous dinners!

If you find yourself or any Post member in need of anything, please don't hesitate to contact the Chaplain Ingrid Epperson or myself for assistance.

You the Auxiliary members & Comrades of Post 392, you make a difference in the lives of our Veteran's and their Families with all the work you do each and every day. I extend a big thank you and may God bless you all.

Please feel free to contact me if you need anything I can be reached at (757) 721-0002 or at the email below. I wish you all a Happy Saint Patrick's Day!

VFW Auxiliary President
Jennifer Winn
jen-laux@cox.net



AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP

2017 ANNUAL DUES

Now is the time you can help our VETERANS by paying your 2017 dues. By remaining a member of this great organization you help our Veterans through our legislation. Our membership numbers count with our Representatives in Washington. Thank you for helping a Veteran by paying your dues today.

Send to: Ellen Stogsdill,
Treasurer, 2408 Bowland Parkway
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454

Just a reminder... if you're not a Life Member of Auxiliary now's the time to consider becoming one. Life Membership will increase by 15% on January 1.

Please see myself or any Officer for the cost of becoming a Life member of our great organization.

Tina Brown
Ellen Stogsdill

CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP

AWARDS

The Sisters listed below are requested to attend the next regularly scheduled meeting of the VFW Auxiliary. Our Auxiliary President stands ready to decorate you with the awards indicated:

10 Years Continuous Service:
Rhonda R. Richardson

5 Years Continuous Service:
Dinad V. Doyle, Patricia B. Johnson, Sandra D. Walker

Thank you for your service and congratulations!

VFW Auxiliary Treasurer
Ellen Stogsdill
ellenstogsdill@cox.net

CANTEEN

CANTEEN HOURS

Monday-Thursday.... 1100-2200

Friday..... 1100-0000

Saturday-Sunday1100-2200

*On Cootie Breakfast Sunday's the
Canteen opens at 1000*

NEW KITCHEN HOURS

(EFFECTIVE 11FEB2017)

Monday-Wednesday... 1100-1400

Thursday..... 1100-1400

..... 1700-1900

Friday 1100-1400

..... 1800-2000

Saturday Closed

Sunday Closed

** Hot Dogs and Chili will be
available on Saturdays and Sundays
as available*

** regular menu items not available
during any holiday or event dinner
specials (unless specified)*

WEEKENDS AT THE VFW

Start the weekend with Friday's
Social Hour Prices from 4-6 PM!
The kitchen's open 6 to 8 PM with
all of our menu items!

The Canteen opens at 11:00 AM
on Saturdays and Sundays (10:00
AM on Sundays when Cootie
Breakfast is being served). The
kitchen is closed, however we do
have Hotdogs and Chili available
Saturdays and Sundays!

Come out and enjoy a cold beer
or beverage and enjoy the sports
on multiple big screen TV's. Bring
the family - the Canteen is smoke
free and Wi-Fi is readily
accessible.

THURSDAY NIGHT DINNER

New Hours / New Menu

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

**Dinners are just \$7.50 and
include salad and dessert, except**

for prime rib which is \$14.00.

Below is the dinner menu
available for this month:

Mar 2nd

Braised Pork
Shoulder

mashed potatoes,
gravy, braised red
cabbage, mixed
vegetables

Chef Denice Moran

\$7.50

Mar 9th

Split Roasted
Cornish Hens

roasted potatoes,
and green beans

*Chef Volunteer
AUX Members*

\$7.50

Mar 16th

St. Patrick's
Day Corned

Beef and
Cabbage

*Chef Don Brown
Chef Scott DeVost*

\$7.50

Mar 23rd

Italian Feast

meatballs and
baked ziti

*Chef MaryAnn
Chef Joe Brady*

\$7.50

Mar 30th

Prime Rib

baked potato with all the trimmings
Chef Don Brown

\$14.00

Special Note: We'd like to make
all of our Thursday Night Dinners
an **all volunteer staff**. So if you'd
like to help with serving, cleanup,
or dishwashing - please contact the
Canteen Manager Tina Brown or
Denice Moran at (757) 971-8666.

Also, if you'd like to guest Chef
in the upcoming months, please
just let Tina or Denice know!

FRIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

The entertainment for this month
for Fridays from 7:00 to 10:00 PM
is to be determined.

CANTEEN SPECIALS

Friday: Social Hour

4 - 6 PM

Come in and enjoy our Social
Hour Prices to start your weekend!

Friday: Shrimp Special

6 - 8 PM

EZ Peel Shrimp are back & larger!
1/2 lb for \$6.00 or 1 lb for \$12.00

If you have any comments or
suggestions for our Canteen,
please let us know! And thank you
for your service!

Chairperson

Duane Gordon

Manager

Tina Brown

canteenmanager392@gmail.com



POST ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

**All ads are paid advertisements,
and are not endorsed by the
Veterans of Foreign Wars**

The Veterans of Foreign Wars
Post 392 is offering advertising
space for our newsletter. We have
a monthly circulation of over
2100. All ads must be submitted
and approved by the Post prior to
the 15th of each month.

If you are interested please
contact John Phillips, Post 392
Quartermaster, for pricing and
availability at (757) 486-5875.

VETERANS CRISIS LINE

VA offers a network of support
for all our Nation's Veterans and
their families. Veterans in
emotional crisis and their loved
ones can call the free and
confidential Veterans Crisis Line
to connect with a qualified crisis
counselor who can help.

Anyone who is concerned about
a Veteran can also go to
veteranscrisisline.net to access the
confidential, anonymous online
chat to connect with a responder
and get support.

The Veterans Crisis Line, online

chat, and text are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to all Veterans and their families, even if they are not registered with VA or enrolled in VA health care.

Phone: 1-800-273-8255

Web: veteranscrisisline.net

Text Message: 838255

STATE OF VIRGINIA **VETERANS AFFAIRS** **REPRESENTATIVE**

Please welcome **Virginia Pauley** as our new local Veterans Claims Representative!

We look forward to working with her concerning our VA questions and interests. She is available weekdays at her Virginia Beach office:

Pembroke Office Park
287 Independence Blvd.
Pembroke Two, Suite 130
Virginia Beach, VA 23462
Office: (757) 552-1884
Fax: (757) 552-1882

virginia.pauley@dvs.virginia.gov

AMERICAN RED CROSS

Donors Needed

American Red Cross's Mid-Atlantic Blood Services Region serving southeastern Virginia has issued an urgent request for blood. All blood types are needed.

If you are able to donate, please do so and let MOCA Hospital Chairman, Gail Payne, know at: gail101@cox.net. Recording the number of donors reflects in our community services.

www.redcrossblood.org/midatlantic
1-800-RED-CROSS
(1-800-733-2767)

NOTARY PUBLIC

The following Post members are commissioned as Notary Public's

in the Commonwealth of Virginia:

- Bob Duvall
- Joseph G. Brady

They are authorized to legally notarize documents such as Power of Attorney, Bill of Sale, Will, Living Will, etc. Please check with the Post for an appointment.

Be aware that under VA code the notary must acknowledge:

- Signer must personally appear before the notary
- Signer is positively identified
- Signer must affirm under oath the accuracy of the document.

Acceptable Forms of Identification:

To be acceptable, the ID must be one of the following and current:

- Driver's license or State issued ID card
- U.S. Passport
- Foreign Passport (INS validated)
- Driver's license issued in Mexico or Canada
- U.S. Military ID Card.

We do not rely on Social Security cards or photo ID cards issued by non government entities. Under the law the notary has the right to refuse, if he /she suspects anything may be false or wrong.

COOTIE BREAKFAST

Breakfast every Sunday

8:30 - 11:00 AM

Where else can you have a fantastic breakfast with family and friends ... and know that all the proceeds go directly to support our local hospitalized Veterans? Please mark your calendars for Sundays to come and join us for a wide variety of breakfast foods, meats, eggs, fruit, and more. There's always coffee, or maybe have something a stronger if you wish. You won't be disappointed!

\$8.00 per Adult, **\$3.00** per children ages 6-12, it's **free** for ages 1-5 and for WWII Vets!

Volunteers Needed

We could still use volunteers, and you don't have to be a Cootie to volunteer. We're all working for a worthy cause. Every penny we make goes to our hospitalized Veterans. In addition to the work, we have a lot of fun. If anyone is willing to help us, please contact Cooties or any Post Officer.

VFW PURPOSE

Sec 230102 of the Congressional Charter

The purposes of the corporation are fraternal, patriotic, historical, charitable, and educational, and are as follows:

1. to preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members;
2. to assist worthy comrades;
3. to perpetuate the memory and history of our dead, and to assist their widows and orphans;
4. to maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States of America, and fidelity to its constitution and laws;
5. to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom;
6. to preserve and defend the United States from all enemies

VA HOSPITAL PROGRAM

Volunteers Needed

Just about every month we visit the Veterans at the VA Hospital. We're providing them camaraderie, some fun, and a break from their everyday life at the hospital.

These events are supported by volunteers. If you would like to participate, please contact any of the Officers at the Post.

Please, we could seriously use the help, and I promise you will have a great time! The Vets enjoy our visits, and it's just as fun for us as it is for them!

POST 392 WEB SITE

The VFW Post 392 website (vfw392.org) has been reformatted and updated with a cleaner, smoother look, and a new feature designed to allow us to disseminate Post information and activities in a timely manner.

To that end, VFW Post 392 can now be found on Twitter at: twitter.com/VFWPost392. You can also find us directly by searching on Twitter for the name @VFWPost392. This account will be utilized to publish updates and information in real time, to ensure that our members and followers can have the best information available on our activities.

If you don't subscribe to Twitter, the account feed has been added to the Post 392 website Calendar page, vfw392.org/calendar/calendar.htm. You can follow the feed there.

Adjutant & Webmaster
Michael T. Marushia

MEMBERSHIP

Volunteers Needed

There are still many memberships whose dues have expired / will expire soon.

These are significant numbers that, with some focus on retention, we can use toward our membership goals, and potentially enable us for 'All State' and 'All American' awards.

We could use volunteers to assist in these efforts. Take pride in your Post, and lend a hand in reaching Post 392's membership goals!

Contact any Post Officer if you would like to volunteer.

CORRECTIONS

We welcome any comments, suggestions, or complaints about errors that warrant correction.

They can be directed to any of the Post 392 Officers, or email them directly to the Newsletter Chairman at mcullen4@live.com, or to the Webmaster at webmaster@VFW392.org

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY

Leprechauns, three leaf clovers, pots of gold, blarney stones, and green beer. Is that what St. Patrick's Day is all about, a celebration of all things Irish? Not exactly. But it is all in the spirit of celebration of a single man and his mission to bring Christianity to the great country of Ireland.

St. Patrick is known as the Patron Saint of Ireland. True, he was not a born Irish. But he has become an integral part of the Irish heritage, mostly through his service across Ireland of the 5th century.

There are differing views about the exact year and place of birth, even his real name is unclear. Patricius was his Romanized name, hence he later came to be familiar as Patrick.

As a child, Patrick was kidnapped by a band of pirates that landed in south Wales and kidnapped him along with many others. They sold him into slavery in Ireland. He was imprisoned there for 6 years, when one day he dreamed of having seen God. Legend says, he was dictated by God to escape with a ship.

His escape led him to Britain, and then to France. There he joined a monastery and spent the next 12 years in training. When he

became a bishop he dreamed that the Irish were calling him back to Ireland to teach them about God.

With the Pope's blessing, he set out to Ireland. There he converted, baptized, and confirmed Irishmen all across his travels. With diplomatic fashion he brought gifts to kinglets and lawgivers, but never accepted gifts in return.

He even made important converts among the royal families. And this fact upset the Celtic Druids. Patrick was arrested several times, but escaped each time. For 20 years he had traveled throughout Ireland, establishing monasteries across the country. He also set up schools and churches which would aid him in his conversion. He developed a native clergy, established dioceses, and held church councils.

By the end of the 7th century Patrick had become a renowned figure. There are many legends associated with St Patrick. And after some 1500 years, these legends have been inseparably combined with the facts. And together they have helped us know much about the Saint and the spirit behind celebration of the day.

Patrick's mission in Ireland lasted for over 20 years. He died on March 17, AD 461. That day has been commemorated as St. Patrick's Day ever since.

"Lá fhéile Pádraig sona dhuit!" Is how you would say 'Happy St Patrick's Day' in Gaelic. Pronounced: "lah leh PAH-drig SUN-uh gwitch"



