The Mayo Peace Park and the American Legion invite you to observe Memorial Day 2013 with the grave re-dedications of Marin Davin and Patrick Scahill. These veterans were in the US Army and killed in action in 1918 during WW1 in France. Both men were buried in a US cemetery in France and brought back to Ireland in May 1922 at family request and buried with out a US grave side ceremony. After over 90 years, the American Legion will have the honor of acting as honor guards at grave side on Saturday, 25 May at Burriscarra and Mayo Abbey cemeteries. The grave markers will be unveiled; a US burial flag will be folded and presented to the families on behalf of the citizens of a grateful nation in America and a bugler will play that moving song called “The Last Call” or Taps.

Meet up at the Mayo Peace Park town centre Castlebar Co. Mayo at 11:30 to car pool at noon to Burriscarra cemetery for Pvt Scahill followed by a short trip to Mayo Abbey cemetery for Pvt Davins ceremony. Return to Mayo Peace Park for a wreath laying ceremony by visiting guests Commander Korean War veterans association LT Witmore and National Chaplin Leo Ruffing both from Florida, Department of France vice Commander Steve Ward from Germany and US Embassy Dublin Defence Attaché.

An International Choral festival is taking place in Castlebar over this weekend, two groups from University of New Hampshire weather permitting will come and sing for us during our wreath laying ceremony and any one on the guest list in uniform will be admitted free into the singing contests around town. The formal meal was cancelled due to no interest.

7 April Post meeting: Time In: 15:00 Time Out: 16:30, in attendance, Ron Howko, John Geraty, Mike Noone, Mike Slyman.

Department of France Convention: A motion was made to offer €300.00 for attendees to the Convention. I will be attending in Wustenrot Germany from 13-16 June. Thank you for the €300.00

Gorman’s research centre: A motion was made to send $100.00 to Gorman’s research for WW1 research and four US burial flag mailings.

Honor Guard Duties: No one put their name forward to take over as the Honor Guard Commander.

The National Day of Commemoration: will take place this year on Sunday 14 July at the Royal Hospital Kilmainham. Caps and medals are welcome on the day. Come early and reserve a row of seats for fellow Legionnaires.
Legionnaires from the US & Germany: I met up with a fellow Legionnaire from New York last week in Sligo, he would like to join our post after seeing our article in the March Legion magazine. That should make a total of four new members. Many thanks to the Commander and Chaplin of the Tidewater Flordia Chapter 191 Korean War Veterans Association who will be presenting awards and medals to two families at our Memorial Day ceremony in Castlebar this weekend. Department of France Vice Commander Steve Ward and his wife Annerose from Germany will be in attendance also.

George Ewart RIP: George Ewart a long time member of our post died on 6 March 2013 at his home. We were not contacted to attend his funeral and will perform his grave side ceremonies later in the year when his grave marker arrives.

Enjoy the summer and see you at our next Post meeting with elections in October.

Ronald M Howko
Commander