



Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc.

New York State Board

STATE OFFICERS

President

KAREN KEANE

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July 27, 2015

Dear Sisters,

Vice President

JACQUELINE CLUTE

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I would like to start off by saying thank you for the honor to serve as your New York State Irish Historian for the next 2 years. For those of you who do not know me, my name is Regina Begley and I have been a member of the LAOH since 1996. I am currently serving as Nassau County President and I have just completed my first term on the LAOH NYS Board as Catholic Action Officer. I look forward to this wonderful opportunity as NYS Irish Historian and working with all of you.

Secretary

MARY BETH DURKEE

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The primary function of the Irish Historian Officer is to promote our Irish Heritage mainly through our annual Irish History writing contest. In addition, it is the duty of every Irish Historian to promote proper recognition of the study of Irish history in Catholic, public and private schools, home schools, colleges and all other educational institutions.

Treasurer

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In April of 2016, we will be commemorating the Centennial Year of the Easter Rising, a very significant event in Irish History. As announced earlier in the year, the topic for the 2015 - 2016 Irish History Writing Contest is "The Involvement of Women in the Easter Rising". At the 2015 May State Board meeting in East Durham, my predecessor, Pat Rattigan, encouraged all Division & County Irish Historians to begin promoting the History Writing contest using the information on our National website, www.ladiesaoh.com. (click 'Irish History Contest' on the left hand menu.) Within the first 2 weeks of September, I will email all the necessary information to officially kick off the contest, but I encourage every Irish Historian to continue promoting this contest now as much as possible.

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I would also like to ask each Irish Historian to encourage their Divisions and Counties to put up displays at their local library and/or community centers and even their Division/County meeting venue highlighting the Centennial Year of the Easter Rising and the role of women during this important part of Irish history. Our National Irish Historian, Marilyn Madigan, has designed several posters depicting the work and accomplishments of the Cumann na mBan. They can be found on the National website. Several of the posters, as well as my own posters, were on display in the General Meeting room at the recent AOH/LAOH NYS Convention. I spoke with several Sisters who expressed interest in getting copies of the posters; all are welcome to download them from the National website. Please let me know if you need any help.

Past President & Organizer

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REV. DANIEL QUINN,
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In addition to designing the posters, our National Irish Historian has also begun an Irish History Newsletter. Periodically, I will remind you to check the National website for the newest edition of the newsletter. Three issues have already been published. If you have not read them yet, I encourage you to do so. They would also make a wonderful presentation at your Division and/or County meeting.

Information Technology

COLLEEN O'REILLY

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LAOH NYS President Karen Keane, has asked me to Chair the NYS LAOH Easter Rising Centennial Committee. Along with Cathy Turck (NYS Public Relations) and Dolores Desch (NYS FFAI), we will be working with the AOH State and National Boards, as well as the LAOH National Committee on a series of events commemorating this historic event and honoring the men and women who took part in it. Our goal is to make this series of events successful and enjoyable. The first event is planned for Saturday, April 23, 2016 at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. We will send 'save the date' announcements and keep you updated on all events through the LAOH NYS Public Relations Office.

Lastly, I would be remiss if I did not at least mention the annual year end history report. Yes, Sisters, even with the many upcoming events for the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Easter Rising and our Cumanna mBan poster displays, the year end report must still be submitted. It is not too early to start pulling together the required information. If you are new to the role of Irish Historian, please touch base with your predecessor to familiarize yourself with the annual report. There will be more to come on this. This is a very unique time in Irish history and I am very excited to be a part of it. I look forward to working with all of you and hearing about your efforts in promoting our heritage and educating everyone on the role of women in the Easter Rising.

Please do not hesitate to call or email me with any questions you have or help you might need. My contact information is below.

Enjoy the rest of the summer!

Yours in Friendship, Unity & Christian Charity,

Regina Begley

Regina Begley

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cc: LAOH NYS Board Officers
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