



Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc.
New York State
St. Brigid's Connection



Regina Begley - President

Happy News! The site of the 2025 LAOH/AOH Convention has been selected. We will be going to the Woodcliff Hotel and Spa in Fairport NY. The Ladies and Men's Divisions of Rochester will be the host Divisions. Once we sign the contract, details on Convention pricing and resort amenities will be distributed to all County and Division Presidents. The dates of the Convention will be July 16th – July 19th.

By now, I hope that everyone has read the proposed changes to our National Constitution. Please remember Ladies, these are proposed changes and as such, all changes will be voted on. Meetings are being planned to take place, via Zoom, in the weeks prior to the National Convention in Orlando. Proposed changes that receive a 51% acceptance will move forward to the Convention where they will be voted on again. Approval for passage at Convention is 67%. All members will be allowed to vote during the Zoom meetings. At Convention, only delegates will be voting.

Thank you to all who completed their year end reports on time. There were a few bumps along the way with both the Treasurer and Secretary reports, but that's all behind us now. Thanks for your dedication in completing these reports accurately.

On March 1st, I attended the Irish Unity Summit at Cooper Union in Manhattan. There were several LAOH and AOH members there from NY as well as across the country. This unity summit was sponsored by seven Irish American Groups, one of which is The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians. Our National President was a speaker at the summit. Mary Lou McDonald, President of Sinn Fein was the keynote speaker. The underlying theme throughout the summit was that all over Ireland conversations about Irish Unity are taking place. From community centers to college campuses, it is clear that the question of Unity is no longer one of 'if' but is now one of 'when'.

The marching season this year was spectacular. The 3 parades I marched in had beautiful weather and I enjoyed great Irish camaraderie following each parade. I marched in Mineola, NYC and Pearl River. Thank you, Joan (Moore), for the invitation to march in the Pearl River parade.

I hope everyone enjoyed the St. Patrick's season, enjoyed a blessed and happy Easter and is looking forward to a spectacular summer! Here's hoping that all this rain ends soon!

Yours in Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity,

Regina Begley
NYS President
LAOH Inc.

APRIL 26, 2024

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MESSAGE FROM NYS
PRESIDENT BEGLEY

STATE OFFICER REPORTS

COUNTIES

DIVISIONS

BOARD MEMBERS
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INFORMATION

NATIONAL CONVENTION
ORLANDO, FL

NYSLAOHSTBRIGIDCONN@GMAIL.COM

DEADLINE DATES IN
WEBMASTER REPORT

Board

Terese “Terry” Meyer – Vice President

Dear Sisters,

Happy Spring! I hope you all had a blessed Easter. Congratulations to all our sisters who were aides not only in NYC but also in all the local St. Patrick parades and the ones who were the Grand Marshals; you were undoubtedly excellent representatives of the LAOH.

Thank you to all the Degree Teams and Juniors divisions for your diligent work in completing and submitting your year-end reports on time. Your reports are crucial in helping us assess our progress and plan for the future. We currently have three state-degree teams. If you are looking to schedule a degree possibly in your area, please contact me.

Rockland County has one today, and Kings County plans to hold one in June. Further information will follow on that one.

Currently, we have 6 Junior divisions throughout the state. I am happy to announce that we have a new division, starting from Division 4 in Suffolk County; they are completing all the required filing and should be up and running soon. The Juniors are the future of the LAOH! If you are considering starting a Junior division, please contact me for information and any help starting it. I am here to help.

At the end of March, I sent the National Junior of the Year application information in PDF and Word format to all junior division coordinators and their Vice Presidents of Divisions, along with submission directions. Each member of the Junior Division may nominate a candidate for Junior Hibernian of the Year. Please use the Nomination Form to indicate your choice and list the reasons for your selection.

All nominations must be returned to the National Vice President by May 24, 2024. Email to laohnationalvicepresident@gmail.com or mail to Mary Ann Lubinsky, PO Box 186, Pottsville, PA 17901 -please

cc me also. The winner will be announced at the National Convention. The qualifications are;

- ❖ Membership in a Junior Division
- ❖ Leadership ability
- ❖ Participating in all phases of Junior activities
- ❖ Good manners, congeniality, wholesomeness

The winner will be awarded;

- ❖ Five Hundred Dollars and a Gold Charm to Junior Hibernian of the Year
- ❖ Fifty Dollars to the Division of the Junior Hibernian of the Year

They were also sent in the same email, Junior Scrapbook Contest Guidelines. The Scrapbook must be presented to the Scrapbook Committee at the National Convention in Orlando for judging.

In the last few months, I have been involved with our committee meetings and done site visits with the AOH regarding planning and agreement to work together for our 2025 Convention, which has been very productive. President Regina will discuss this with you at our spring meeting.

If anyone has questions about my report, please contact me directly, and I will gladly answer them or help in any way I can.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at our May Spring State meeting! Till then, I hope you and your families stay well and enjoy the sunshine through the raindrops!

God Bless

Yours in our motto of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity,

Terry Meyer

Therese (Terry) Meyer

NYS LAOH Vice President

nyslaohvicepresident.com

cell 914-443-0362

Jo-Ann Gundersun – Secretary

Dear Sisters, Spring has arrived at my home County of Kings. The trees and plants are starting to bloom with beautiful flowers. I am happy to say goodbye to the cold weather until next year.

The following is my Secretary's Report.

Annual (Year-End Reports): I would like to thank all the County and Division (Recording and Financial Secretaries) for submitting their 2023 Membership Reports and for working together in preparing these annual reports. I reviewed all the reports and forwarded them to LAOH National Secretary, Sandi Swift, before our March 31, 2024, deadline. (LAOH NYS for the year 2023 had a total of 3,469 Total Members, and 3,423 *Taxable Members). (*Note: Per Capita Tax and Assessments are not paid on National Life Members and Members who are listed as Religious on the Membership Reports).

25 or 50 Year Membership Certificates: I will be distributing Certificates at our General Membership Meeting on May 4, 2024. Congratulations to all the ladies who have achieved 25 or 50 Years as a LAOH NYS member.

Changes in Member Information: If a LAOH member makes any changes that may affect the Secretary's Master List (database), I ask for the County or Division Secretary to email me the changes, asap. (ex: name, address, phone, email, transfer out of *or* into another Division, etc.). In addition, if any County or Division has Elections, I ask that the Secretary send me the new information on the Officers/Appointees including their personal information and their 'new' Title.

Closing (Disbandment) of a Division: I am enclosing information on proper procedures for Disbandment of a Division as written in our LAOH Constitution. If a Division is planning to close, it is important to complete all procedures (see below) no later than June 30th of that year, or the Division will have to pay Per Capita Taxes for their members (excluding National Life Members and Members listed as Religious on their annual report). If you need any assistance, you can email me or contact

LAOH NYS President, Regina Begley at
nyslaohpresident@gmail.com

ARTICLE VIII DISBANDMENT OF DIVISION

Section 1. When a motion is made to disband a Division, a special mailing by the United States Postal Service (USPS) must be sent to all members in good standing, as well as the National President, State Board President and County Board President, advising that the motion to disband will be discussed and voted upon at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Section 2. Upon passing of the motion to disband, all members, as well as the National Board President, State Board President, and County Board President, shall be notified in writing that the motion has been passed.

Section 3. The notice of disbandment shall include instructions on how to pursue transfer to another Division. All transfers shall be completed within this ninety (90) day period.

Section 4. When a Division disbands, all property and funds shall be forwarded to the State Board Secretary or National Board Secretary. If this Division is part of a County Board consisting of three or more Division, all property, funds, books, and records will be forwarded to the County Board Secretary. The Charter is to be returned to the National Board Secretary. The Division President is required to advise the National Board President, Secretary and Treasurer and State Board President, Secretary and Treasurer; and County Board President, Secretary, and Treasurer that the Division has ceased to operate; that the bank account has been closed; and that the properties have been transferred. If this Division was a part of a County Board consisting of only two Divisions (itself and one other Division) the County Board ceases to exist within ninety (90) days.

Section 5. Before funds are disbursed, all per capita taxes, county assessments, and state assessments must be paid if the Division existed for 6 months in that year.

In closing, I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our LAOH NYS Spring State Board Meeting, Saturday, May 4, 2024, 10:00 AM, at Gavins Irish Country Inn, Cornwallville, NY.

Yours in our Motto,
JoAnn Gundersen
LAOH NYS Secretary
718.219.4378
Email: nyslaohsecretary1@gmail.com

Mary “Sissy” Durkee – Treasurer

Sisters,
I hope this report finds you well and enjoying the warm spring weather.
I am pleased to say that the New York State Financial Report was submitted on time along with all County and Division Reports. At the time of writing this report I am awaiting several reports to be accepted by our National Treasurer, but I am confident they will be accepted.
I want to thank all Division and County Treasurers for the wonderful work you did on the reports. The Financial Reports are no easy task, but you did an amazing job and understood all my questions and request for more information. As a State we paid \$17,115.00 in National Per Capita Tax and \$1,711.50 toward Appeals for Aid.
If anyone receives correspondence from the IRS, it is imperative that you contact LAOH National Treasurer Cathy Turck immediately as she is the only one to have contact with them on matters concerning the LAOH. Cathy’s information is as follows
laohnationaltreasurer@gmail.com.
Hope to see you all in East Durham.
Mary Durkee

Teresa Karens – Irish Historian

IRISH HISTORIAN’S REPORT- SPRING 2024

Hello Sisters,

The National Irish History Essay Contest has come to an end. The winners from New York State are as follows:

- Level 1:** 1st place – Preston Crockett-Queens County
2nd place – Finn Keane-Queens County
Level 2: 1st place – Catherine Ryan- Suffolk County
2nd place – Brigitte Castillo-Richmond County

On the National level, NYS did have a winner!!
CONGRATULATIONS to

Catherine Ryan – Suffolk County
Catherine won **FIRST PLACE** at Level 2!!!

I’d like to thank all Division and County Historians who promoted this contest. With the heavy work load that our children carry at school, it is a lot to ask them to take on another project. If anyone has suggestions for topics of future essay contests, please let me know. I will be attending the break-out session for Irish Historians at our National Convention in Orlando.

By our Spring Board meeting, the due date for the Year End History Reports for the year 2023 will have passed. ALL reports were due to me by April 30, 2024. There seemed to be some confusion about this report. I tried my best to answer all questions and help explain clearly how to fill out the Division and County forms. Only single Divisions were to submit the Division report form to me. (Due date March 31, 2024). Multiple Divisions within a County were due to your County Historian by March 31, 2024. All County’s were to condense their Division reports into one County form, (Due to me by April 30, 2024). I am now condensing all reports into one State report form that is due to National by May 31, 2024.

As per the National History Report of 2022, fines for non-compliance are as follows: **Division Level:** A fine of \$25 past due at first 7 days, and then another \$25 for the second 7 days. Suspension of Division at more than 3 weeks. **County Level:** (if applicable) A fine of \$50 past due at 7 days, and another \$50 for the second 7 days. Suspension of County at more than 3 weeks. Please be sure to observe the due dates in the future.

Wishing you all a beautiful and blessed Spring season!
As always in our Motto,

Teresa
Teresa B. Kearns NYS LAOH Irish Historian
42 Alexander St. Lockport, NY 14094
nyslaohhistorian@gmail.com
716-531-1431

Maura McSweeney – Mission and Charities

Dear Sisters,

I hope this report finds you well, and well recovered after a safe and happy Easter, Lenten Season, and St. Patrick's month of celebrating our Catholic religion and Irish culture with your families and friends. Congratulations to our Sisters across the state who were honored as Grand Marshals or Aides in their St. Patrick's Day Parades, and to our sisters, and Father Henry, who were selected as Aides to the Grand Marshal for the New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade. While I was unable to make it down this year to march (my own Albany parade was that same day), I was honored to march in Oswego's parade as well as in East Durham, to help them celebrate their first St. Patrick's Day Parade in over 30 years!

Looking at your donations to the Columban Sisters and Columban Fathers, as well as toward the Mass Cards, since the beginning of 2024, I'm very impressed! Donations of over \$7,000 have been made in a mere 4 months. Great job, Ladies! Our Patricia Doyle Memorial Fund is also looking impressive, as Counties, Divisions, and individuals have been making donations toward that as well. Chris Brogan and her team are working hard on putting together a great golf outing to benefit the fund, and that will take place on July 8, at the West Sayville Golf Course on Long Island. The Pat Doyle fund is used for grants to local charities throughout NYS, and those are awarded during our State Convention every other year (the odd years). As this year is a National Convention, awards to deserving organizations throughout the nation are voted on at the Appeals for Aid committee meeting at Convention. The letter, process policy, and application from our National Missions and Charities Officer were sent out by our state secretary Jo-Ann Gunderson at the end of March, and can also be found on the National website (Missions & Charities | Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. (ladiesaoh.com)) if you need to access it again. The deadline for the application is June 23rd, 2024. Please read the application instructions carefully, as several attachments must be submitted with the app for it to be considered complete and eligible. I look forward to seeing what New York organizations you ladies will bring forth for consideration!

I'd like to thank you all again for your generous donations to our Winter Warm Wear drive at our Fall Board Meeting, and am very excited about our project for this Spring Board Meeting: Stuff the Bus!! You all received a letter and a flyer regarding the project, and I hope you've hyped it up to your Counties and Divisions! As a collaborative effort between the LAOH and our AOH brothers, Tim Tobin, the AOH Missions and Charities chair and I are working with the Cairo-Durham School District to support their Backpack Program. These programs provide food items to needy families over a weekend and during the summer when schools are not in session and the availability of food may be hard to come by for some families. The school district is providing a bus for us, and we know, we can just feel it, that your generosity is going to help us in our goal to STUFF! THE! BUS! Be sure to look for the bus and the banner as you drive into town for the meeting. With permission of John Quirk, owner and proprietor of the East Durham Hardware Store, it will be parked at their lot (on the opposite side of the Shamrock House, next to the café). Thank you in advance for your support. Through the power and generosity of our Brother and Sister Hibernians in New York State, we can truly fulfill our Motto of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity as we "Stuff the Bus"!

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first 10 months in this office, and I look forward to seeing many of you at the meeting in East Durham, as well as at the National Convention in Orlando in August. Stay safe, be happy, and safe travels to all.

In our Motto,

Maura McSweeney

NYS Office of Missions and Charities

Patricia Moynihan – Catholic Action

Dear Sisters,

Happy Spring! Hope this report finds you well and recovered from the busy month of March parades and dances celebrating with pride our Irish Heritage, Catholic Faith, and Women's History!

As your Catholic Action Officer, I would like to thank you for all the hard work you do in raising funds to support Project St. Patrick and SOAR! so generously! There were 32 PSP grants awarded. The 2023 Y/E

Donation Report lists NYS PSP donations as \$5,150; SOAR! \$2,750; Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary \$1,450 and National Humanitarian Fund \$5,000, for a total of \$14,350. Wow! This is the accounting that I have received from our National Catholic Action Officer; a copy of the Y/E summary and report for NY (sorted by County) are attached to this report. I expect an accounting of the 1st Quarter donations for 2024 soon and will share them when received.

The email from the National Catholic Action Officer Kathleen Diulus containing the link to the 2023 Catholic Action Report (to be completed by the 2023 County/Division CA officers) was forwarded by this office to the County/Division Presidents and Catholic Action Officers on February 3. As of March 30, approximately 25% of the reports were received from NYS. All Counties/Divisions should complete their report by June 30. Please let me know if you have any questions. You can access the link to the report on the Catholic Action page on the National website: <https://ladiesaoh.com/catholic-action/>

A Zoom meeting was hosted by the National CA Officer on February 10 to discuss the report and to answer any questions related to Catholic Action. In the next month or so, Kathleen will run out of the old PSP cards and will begin sending the new PSP cards out which do not have "In Honor of" or "In Memory of" printed on them as was voted on at the last National Convention. President Madigan asked that she use the existing cards until they were exhausted.

As a gentle reminder, when donating to Project St. Patrick or SOAR!, please remember that all checks should be made payable to LAOH, Inc. and in the memo line on the bottom left side of the check write PSP or SOAR! Checks should be mailed to the National Catholic Action Officer along with the donation form (PDF for printing or a PDF fillable for online completion), which can be found on our National website: <https://ladiesaoh.com/catholic-action/> Kathleen Diulus (until the August National Convention) LAOH National Catholic Action Officer, 117 Summit Drive, Sewickley, PA 15143

LAOHNationalCA@gmail.com

Counties and/or Divisions should retain a copy of the form submitted, and one copy should be emailed to me at nyslaohcatholicaction@gmail.com or mailed to me at:

Patricia Moynihan

LAOH NYS Catholic Action, 600 Pine Hollow Road, Apt. 11-8B, East Norwich, NY 11732

Please continue to pray for peace in the Middle East and the Ukraine and for our elected officials. I thank you for all the work you continue to do in support of Catholic Action. Please email me or call me at 631-848-4529 with any questions.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in East Durham!

Yours in Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity,

Pat Moynihan

LAOH NYS Catholic Action Officer

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT – Aggie O’Leary

Hello Sisters,

I hope my report finds you all well, this has been a crazy year my family and me!

As state organizer I have received no information regarding formation of any new divisions. I have received a number of applications for new members, thanks to our State Secretary, they have been sent to the appropriate Division/County.

Now to information of our Pat Doyle Grant. As you know the money collected for the Grants comes to worthy cause within our own State.

With the help of Our Sister Chris Brogan we have the second annual Pat Doyle golf outing.

Aggie



Appointee

Freedom For All Ireland – Joan Moore

Dear Sisters,

I hope you all had a blessed and Happy Easter. Spring is right around the corner but enough of April Showers LOL! I wish to thank all of you who sent messages of sympathy on the loss of my sister and of Dermot's Brother. Your kind words helped us through this difficult time. Since the Legacy Bill passed there had been increased pressure on the Irish Government to file with the European Convention on Human Rights to protest this Bill, which they finally did. With just over a month to go before the British take away the rights to inquests and ombudsman reports from victims' relatives, the United Nations Committee on Human Rights called on the British to scrap or amend the bill. On April 16, 2024, Andree Murphy, Deputy Director of Relatives for Justice, will fly to New York to speak on behalf of Ireland's Future to the event sponsored by Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli's "For a Commemoration of the Good Friday Agreement". She will speak on behalf of Ireland's Future about the importance of a poll which would allow Irish reunification. We are also hoping, that with two weeks to go before the British take away the rights to inquests and ombudsman reports from victims' relatives (May 1), she will also get a chance to update us on the British legacy act. The Legacy Justice bill passed in September makes the impact on the groups programs we support through our FFAI Christmas fund even greater. The strain on mental health services, legal and justice groups and community support programs has increased because of this shameful legislation aimed at stopping the truth from coming out about collusion. With our donations, we are providing

justice groups with the support they need to take steps to have this legislation scrapped. Our contribution to community groups will help bring hope to underfunded areas through sports and mental health programs. Collectively these programs work to provide for a successful future that will inevitably result in the truth coming out and a United Ireland. The Appeal was closed as of March 1, 2024, for last year's Appeal but we are accepting donations all year long and they will be applied to the 2024-2025 Appeal. As always, the ladies of New York have been generous in their donations, and I hope to have the NY Breakdown at the May 4th State Board Meeting. Be sure to check our NYS Facebook page as well the National Freedom for All Ireland Facebook page to learn more about what is going on in Ireland and the important role America has and continues to play in the continued effort for a United Ireland. Thank you all once again for your support. I look forward to seeing many of you in East Durham. Stay safe.

Joan Moore

NYS FFAI Chair

nyslaohfreedomforallireland@gmail.com

Fundraising – Shelia Zenith

Hi Ladies,

The following fundraisers are underway:

- 1- LAOH NYS Denim long sleeve shirts
- 2- Laptop messenger bag

You should have received an email from your division president. All orders should be in by Monday May 6th.

We are still looking into the water bottle monogrammed with the LAOH logo.

Thank you to all who supported our Thanksgiving Day Football Raffle. Hopefully everyone had fun watching the games and keeping score while enjoying their turkey!

We will have a 50/50 raffle at the Spring Board meeting in East Durham.

Remember all our fundraising helps to send our ladies to the national conventions and supports our worthy charities.

UTILITY DENIM SHIRT - LADIES'
Imprint Area: 4" DIAM

Order# 22488983-4 To: Kate Edwards x8814
Date: 03-02-22 From:

Art Proof

imprint color(s):
BLACK
Robison-Anton 2210 Blue
Robison-Anton 2214 Green
Robison-Anton 2218 Orange
Robison-Anton 2378 Red
WHITE

25% ACTUAL SIZE



Item #132356

NEW YORK STATE LAOH DENIM SHIRT ORDER FORM

Division # _____ County _____ Check # _____

Contact Name _____
Email _____
Cell Phone _____
Ship to Address _____

Denim Shirts - \$45.00 each TOTAL \$ _____

SIZES

LADIES	MEN
SMALL _____	SMALL _____
MEDIUM _____	MEDIUM _____
LARGE _____	LARGE _____
1X _____	1X _____
2X _____	2X _____
3X _____	3X _____
4X _____	4X _____
	5X _____

NEW YORK STATE LAOH LAPTOP BAG ORDER FORM

Division # _____ County _____ Check # _____

Contact Name _____
Email _____
Cell Phone _____
Ship to Address _____

Laptop Bags - \$30.00 each TOTAL \$ _____

QUANTITY: _____



Immigration and Education – Maureen Caffrey

Dear Sisters,

Immigration, prior to the 1890's, was regulated by the individual states, rather than the Federal Government. New York has approximately 8 million immigrants pass through Castle Garden, from 1955 to 1990. (Castle Garden is now known as Castle Clinton. It is located in Battery Park in lower Manhattan.) Ellis Island was opened in 1890. Many of you know that Annie Moore from Ireland was the first immigrant to be processed through Ellis Island. If you have listened to the song "Isle of Hope, Isle of Tears", please do so.

The Ellis Island website has a feature where you can check the passenger records of some 65 million people. The Ellis Island Museum will be getting a \$100 million facelift.

According to the Irish Times, a major exhibition is being launched in Dublin on the history of the Irish in Britain. The exhibition at EPIC, the Irish Emigration Museum tells the stories of many of those who left Ireland for Britain from the early seventies onwards, often suffering from discrimination provoked by IRA attacks in Britain.

Last week, Oklahoma House Bill 4156 cleared the first hurdle. The Bill would create a new crime in Oklahoma called "impermissible occupation," which is aimed at addressing increased illegal immigration into the state. It has to go before the State Senate for a vote.

I look forward to seeing you all in Esat Durham.

Prayers for Peace for the U.S., Ireland and the whole world.

Yours in our Motto,

Maureen Caffrey

Immigration and Education Chair

Public Relations / Social Media – Ann Pirok

Dear Sisters,
Happy Spring!

It was a very busy St. Patrick' Day season. I hope everyone survived all the marching. ☐

Please continue sending Division, County and State information to me that you would like posted on the NYS LAOH Facebook page. This is a good way to share the works of your Divisions and Counties. My email is nyslaohpublicity@gmail.com. Please send documents as Word documents and send flyers as jpegs.

The NYS LAOH Facebook page is LAOH NYS. Please like our page. I try to share information from other states. This is a good way to see what our Sisters are doing across the country.

If you have any questions, please contact me at nyslaohpublicity@gmail.com.

In our Motto,
Ann Pirok
Public Relations/
Social Media

Scrapbook – Carolyn McGillicuddy

NYS Scrapbook Officers Report for May 2024
Submitted by Carolyn McGillicuddy

I'm looking forward to putting together the New York State Scrapbook. We do some amazing things in the NYS LAOH. I am grateful for the numerous pictures I've been sent, however I still need more. The categories are: Promotion of Irish Heritage, Religious Activities, Social Activities, Catholic Action Projects, and Community Involvement.

Hard copy photos can be forwarded to me at 77 The Promenade, Glen Head, NY 11545. Digital photos can be forwarded to nyslaohscrapbook@gmail.com. Remember to include details of the event.

To be included in our NY State Scrapbook at the convention in Orlando, please send me your pictures by July 25.

Thank you for helping to make the 2024 NYS Scrapbook amazing.

Sincerely in our Motto,
Carolyn McGillicuddy

Webmaster / Publisher St. Brigid Connection – Kimbelry Clancy

SEE YOU IN EAST DURHAM

The State's Website is (laohnys.com). I encourage you to send me information about upcoming events, articles, In Memoriam including a link to the Obituary (please get the families permission to post), and pictures. Everyone is eager to learn about your success as members of the Order. I can be reached by email at (laohnysweb@gmail.com).

The page (LAOH Documents) is password protected – the password is (sister1) all lower case. The documents you will find there are Officers Reports, Convention Proceedings, Board Meeting Minutes, National Constitution, NYS By-Laws, etc.

The St. Brigid's Connection, our newsletter is published four times a year. The newsletter will be emailed and posted on our website on the "Members" page "Newsletters". Please send your submission to (laohnysaintbrigidconn@gmail.com).

All submission must be in a word document. No pictures with alcohol are allowed.

Deadline Date	Include Months	Publish
1/12/2024	*Oct, Nov, Dec 2023	January 2024
4/12/2024	Jan, Feb, Mar 2024	April 2024
7/12/2024	April, May, June 2024	July 2024
10/11/2024	July, Aug, Sept 2024	October 2024
1/10/2025	Oct, Nov, Dec 2024	January 2025

*For the first edition, from this Board, it is acceptable to include any items for January edition i.e.: convention, etc.

Please contact me if I can be of any assistance.

In Our Motto,
Kimberly A Clancy
Webmaster/Publisher St. Brigid Connection 2023-2025
Albany County

Albany Division #1

Albany LAOH JFK Division 1 – January – March 2024

The Ladies of the Albany JFK Division 1 began 2024 with prayers for peace in this world, from struggles here in the US to those in plight across the globe, especially in the Ukraine and the Middle East. Our thoughts and prayers especially extend to the women, children, and elderly people in those war-torn lands.

On February 4th, our division hosted a beautiful St. Brigid's Brunch in honor of our patron saint. A special thanks to our Catholic Charities chair Ginny Daley for organizing such a beautiful and well-attended event.



Memorial Statue and Event Program



Attendees of the Albany LAOH 2024 St. Brigid's Brunch
On Sunday, March 3rd, our division joined our Albany AOH Father Tansey Division 5 members at their annual Communion Mass and Breakfast. Our Juniors were on

hand to help serve breakfast at this annual tradition where we all gather to celebrate our faith together.



Albany LAOH Division 1 Juniors serving food at the annual AOH Communion Breakfast

On Saturday, March 16th, our division stepped out on the avenue for our annual Albany St. Patrick's Day Parade. The day began with a celebratory mass where our Junior members joined us, and ended with a grand celebration at our division hall. A grand time was had by all.



Albany LAOH Junior Members handing out programs at the 2024 St. Patrick's Day Mass



2024 St. Patrick's Day Parade – Albany Ladies with Albany County Sheriff Apple

Watervliet Division #3



Monroe County

Rochester Divisions # 1 & #4

We celebrated the Feast Day of our Patroness, St Brigid, with a Mass on February 4th at St John the Evangelist Church in Rochester. Ten members attended. Thank you, Colleen Reagan and Anne Brennan for coordinating. Following the Mass we enjoyed brunch at Black Button Distillery located in the city as well. Two of our AOH

brothers joined us. Thank you, Jordan Fritz for arranging that.

The process of selecting the Ambassador to Waterford Scholarship recipient began in January and culminated with the winner marching in the Saint Patrick's Day parade. Our committee received eight essay which were read and scored. The top three were then asked in for a personal interview and questions regarding their Irish knowledge. The winner, Hailey Wardell, was quite impressive and a good representative of the award. Thank you, committee members Gayle Shalvoy, Kelly O'Brien, Colleen Reagan, Sandy Foley and Ellen Hallahan for all of your work on this.

March was declared Irish American Heritage Month at a press conference at the County Office building on March 8th. The proclamation was read by Monroe County Executive, Adam Bello and seconded by The Mayor of the City of Rochester, Malik Evans. The assembly included an Irish Dance performance, Local Pipers and was attendee by this year's parade honorees as well as local Irish leaders including our President Kelly O'Brien.

The Saint Patrick's Day parade was blessed with excellent weather this year! The parade is a highlight of our area's events and festivals. The Saint Patrick's Day parade is the biggest single day event in the city of Rochester. Parade Day was Saturday March 16th. In commemoration of the loss of Eileen Fee, Anne Kelly and Francis O'Brien, the ladies wore black arm bands. Our Division proudly won Second Place in the Non-Commercial Float Division! Thank you, Deb Rossi for coordinating this massive effort. We began our day with Mass at Saint Mary's Church downtown. We sponsor this Mass every year. Many of our AOH brothers joined us. Thank you, Kelly O'Brien for coordinating. After Mass we enjoyed a breakfast organized by our AOH brothers at Filgers downtown. Following the parade we celebrated at Montage Music Hall along with the AOH. The after party included Irish dancers, several bands, and lots of craic. TOPS Friendly Markets generously donated 73 loaves of their homemade Irish Soda Bread to the LAOH which we sold as a fundraiser. All of the proceeds went to the Joe Dady Scholarship Fund. Joe Dady was a well-known Irish Musician and personality who died all too young.

Each year Siamsa ("mirth and music of the land") are held at several county libraries in celebration of Irish

American Month. Member Sandy Foley participated in the event by doing an Irish Soda Bread Baking demonstration. Sandy has done this for the last four years including one on Zoom during Covid. Thank you, Sandy! In addition to the bread demonstration, each Siamsa had performances by Irish Dancers, Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann and a speaker on a topic about Irish history or culture. Member Gayle Shalvoy gave a presentation on Colonel Patrick O'Rorke, a native of County Cavan who moved to Rochester as a child. O'Rorke was a Civil War hero and is buried in Rochester. Thank you, Gayle for presenting. The Siamsa are always very well attended.

As social as we are and as dedicated to service and charitable works, we also take every opportunity that we can to embrace and expand on our Irish roots. Luckily for us, our Irish Historian, Amy Maher, always has a fun or interesting topic to fill that need. From the origins of the Shillelagh to traditional Irish Easter activities, Amy makes sure that we continue to learn about and appreciate our heritage. Thank you, Amy.

Rochester
Division 1 and 4
St Brigid
1911
Laohrochester.com
President@laohrochester.com





Niagara County

In October we joined the Niagara Falls ladies for High Tea, on October 15th, in memory of one of their sisters who passed away. We also held our annual pumpkin carving on October 26th. We collected the need for the month which was baby sleepers' sizes 0-3 months. On December 1st, we donated our time with the Salvation Army Bell Ringing. Each year we stand at various locations ringing bells to help the Salvation Army reach their goal. We chose our Shamrock Award recipient, Debra Ellis. Debbie sings with the All Saints church choir, is a member of the parish council, she heads up the greeting team at All Saints and she teaches First Grade Church school. She's been a member of the St Vincent DePaul Society for 14 years and 14 years with the LAOH Degree in 2012. Debbie has been married 42 years, has 2 children, DeAnna Pump and Erik Ellis along with 4 beautiful grandchildren.

We had a quiet January. Our need of the month was canned fruit for St. Helen's Pantry. February started off with our annual St. Brigid mass at All Saints Parish on February 3rd. Music was sung in honor of our patron Saint Brigid. On February 16th was The Great Guinness Toast Raffle. The raffle was a huge success. Then on February 22 at 7pm, we had a craft night making Stained Glass Shamrocks. We all had a lot of fun learning how to make stain glass and all the shamrocks turned out unique. In March, on Saturday, March 9th, was our holiday party. We enjoyed Irish music, Corned Beef and Cabbage, Shepherd's Pie, Rubens, potatoes. We all ate a lot of food and enjoyed everyone's company. On Sunday March 17th St. Patrick's Day, we all went to mass at All Saints Parish, formally, St. Patrick's Church. When mass was concluded we marched down to the Big Bridge were the Irish monument stands and had a brief ceremony. We then drove to Gothic Hill to catch a bus to and from the Buffalo St Patrick's Day Parade. Upon our return we had an afterglow with our fellow Hibernians from Niagara Falls with music and more Irish food. On March 23rd, we concluded March with our annual West End Hooley. We sell Whiskey Cakes from 11am until 1pm to establishments that are participating. There was music and fun for all attending. Need for the month was laundry and dish soap.



Steuben County

Daughters of Erin Hornell NY

The Ladies of the Daughters of Erin kicked off 2024 with the installation of new officers in January as well as the initiation of one new member!

One of the students, who was awarded our graduating high school senior scholarship, was able to attend the January meeting and receive her check. The stipulation for the scholarship states that the student must complete the first semester of college and be enrolled in the second semester before receiving the money.

January 28th saw our Sunday Meals committee prepare 120 pork dinners for local individuals/families who had previously reserved the free meal. The LAOH is one of many church and community groups that provide this much needed program for the Hornell area. The next meal that the LAOH will prepare is October 27th.

Plans were being made for the Hornell Irish Heritage week in February. Irish Heritage week was held March 10th through Saturday the 16th. The LAOH kicked off the week on Sunday by sponsoring the movie The Miracle Club, admission was a donation of nonperishable food for the local food pantry. The event was a success! Tuesday of Heritage week, the LAOH and AOH held a joint meeting. Wednesday and Thursday saw different Irish dancer school organizations as well as a fiddlers group performing. Friday, many members of the Hornell AOH and LAOH traveled to Wellsville NY to participate in the Allegany County AOH sponsored world's shortest St. Patrick's parade, all of 12 feet! Saturday, the Corporate Communion, Irish Folk Mass was held at St. Ann's Church, followed by breakfast, then participation in the Hornell St. Patrick's Parade.

Plans are now being made for the Chapter's 10th anniversary of formation celebration in November, as well as many other fun and fundraising events between now and November.

Thank you,
Peggy Lynch

Suffolk County

Division #3

Ladies Ready To March

Pic of Day: Happy Saint Patrick's Day. These smartly turned out members of the Suffolk County Ladies

Ancient Order of Hibernians are readying to march in the 263rd New York St. Patrick's Day Parade. "Irish Echo" photo.

NYC is awash in green: Llers head to city to mark the feast of St. Patrick

By Matthew Chayes

matthew.chayes@newsday.com

It's been years since Plainview-Old Bethpage school administrator Joyce Barry has been able to march in the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Weekdays, when the parade is typically held, she has to be at school. But this year, Barry was marching up Fifth Avenue clad in an Aran sweater, shamrock scarf and green nail polish, part of the Suffolk County Ancient Order of Hibernians delegation.

"It's on a Saturday, so I'm able to march today," she said. Barry was among thousands marching in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Manhattan, which dates to 1762. This year, it's being held a day before March 17, because that day falls on a Sunday, so by tradition, the parade is moved in order for the Catholic Sabbath to be kept...Lenore Garrett, an optician from East Islip, was with the Suffolk Ancient Order of Hibernians wearing an Aran sweater with a special meaning to her family - it was her dad's. Garrett always takes the day off. "I've never gone to school or work on St. Paddy's - always come to the parade," she said.

On Wednesday, March 27, The Suffolk County Legislature highlighted some of our finest at the well-attended 2nd Annual Irish American Heritage Celebration at the H. Lee Dennison Building. District 13 Legislator Robert Trotta recognized Margie Connick, Kevin Barry Division 3, and District 10 Legislator Trish Bergin recognized Elizabeth (Betty) Kreamer, Our Lady of Knock Division 7. Both ladies received Proclamations. Kiera McCourt, Vice President Mary Robinson Division 4, and Kristen Martino, Our Lady of Knock Division 7, received Certificates in recognition of their awards from the Irish Echo 40 Under 40. Patricia Moynihan, Suffolk County President, offered closing remarks to a wonderful ceremony filled with Irish pride. Patricia and William Corrigan, AOH Suffolk County President, accepted Proclamations on behalf of the LAOH and AOH from


County Executive Edward Romaine. Several of our AOH brothers also received Proclamations.

Division #7

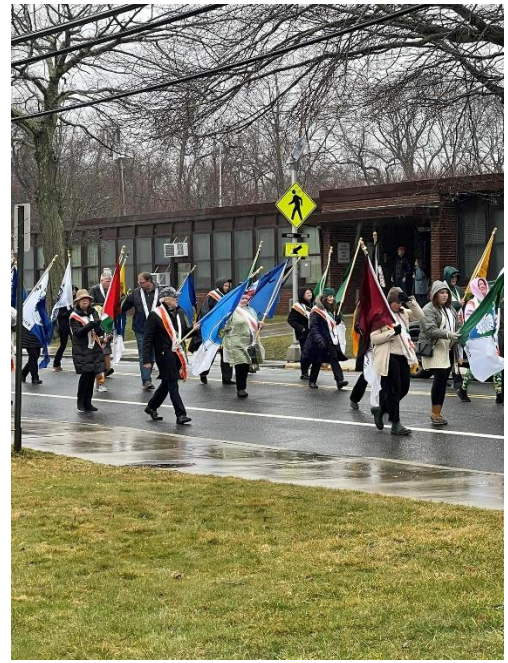
On Saturday, March 11, Kevin Barry Division 3 Ladies & Men came together to honor St. Patrick and our amazing 2024 Hibernian of the Year, Tina Kistner! Despite the pouring rain, a full house packed Travis Hall to celebrate Tina, enjoy delicious corned beef & cabbage and fish & chips from Andersen's Deli and dance the night away to the music of the Good Clean Fun Band!

Our wonderful Ron Murphy Honor Guard paid tribute to Tina, escorting her into the hall where she was introduced by LAOH President Anna Gallagher. Who better to speak about Tina's amazing accomplishments as an LAOH member, a mom, a wife, a grandmother, and contributing community member than her son Stephen, a CT AOH member. Stephen had the room in stitches and tears sharing warm memories of Tina's life starting in Tuam, Co. Galway and growing up in Ballyhaunis, Co. Mayo. Along with Stephen, Tina's husband Charlie, her son Andrew, her daughters-in-law Rianne and Marissa and her "little man" grandson Aidan were filled with pride as Anna Gallagher and AOH President Brian Clancy presented Tina with a Commodore John Barry medal and a gift from the membership.

LAOH Chaplain Msgr. Patrick Whitney paid tribute to Tina and offered a Benediction before the meal. Congratulations to Tina! It was an amazing evening filled with good craic and bright spirits!

While there was a little bit more than a soft rain falling, it did not keep our intrepid Ladies & Men from flying the flags of the Irish Counties and marching in the 2024 Kings Park St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 2 led by our own Grand Marshal Margie Nichols Connick! Irish eyes were smiling!  IEIE





Division #7 - East Islip

In January, we held our installation and installed our officers for the 2024-2026 Term. We also celebrated our sister, Maureen Connors, as our Walking in the Footsteps of St. Brigid honoree.



February brought us many reasons to celebrate! Our sister, Kristen Martino was honored as one of the Irish Echo's 40 Under 40 honorees! We celebrated our Ladies Aide to the Grand Marshal of the East Islip



St. Patrick's Day Parade, Mary Phalen, at our annual Grand Marshal's Ball. Several Division 7 ladies also traveled to Queens Village to celebrate the Aides to the Grand Marshal of the NYC Parade!



In March, we participated in the John P. Reilly East Islip St. Patrick's Day parade. New for this year, we had a trolley for our Golden Members who wanted to join in the fun!





Sadly, the division attended the wakes of Michael Kraft, son of member Peggy Kraft, Peg Mahoney, longtime member and secretary of the division and Grace Murphy, past president of Division 16, Mount Kisco, NY.

Happily, at the March meeting the division welcomed a new member upon the installation of Nuala O'Connor.

Westchester County

Tarrytown

The Kitty Geissler Division 11, Tarrytown, NY honored the patron saint of New York with a month long list of scheduled activities and celebrations. Several members attended the installation of the Grand Marshal and Aides to the NYC St. Patrick's parade at Antun's in Queens, NY. They also proudly marched with the NYS LAOH Board on March 16th.



LAOH Kitty Geissler Div. 11, Sleepy Hollow St. Patrick's Parade

The installation of Grand Marshal Walter "Packy" Murray and Aides for the Sleepy Hollow parade took place at The Westchester Manor, Hastings, NY on February 23rd. Several of the ladies from Division 11 are active members of the parade committee which has brought this outstanding event to the river towns for twenty-eight consecutive years. President Alice Geissler Koraca serves as parade coordinator. The parade took place on Sunday, March 10th after Mass and a reception hosted by Division 11 at Transfiguration Church in Tarrytown.



Irish display - Warner Library, Tarrytown, NY

Division 11 was again responsible for the Irish display in the lobby of the Warner Library. This annual tradition marks it thirty-ninth year!

President Koraca attended the raising of the Irish flag over Westchester County in honor of Irish History month.



Raising the Irish Flag Westchester County Irish History Month



NYS LAOH Board - NYC St. Patrick's Parade

NEW YORK STAE BOARD CONTACTS

POSITION	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	BOARD EMAIL
President	Regina	Begley	nyslaohpresident@gmail.com
Vice President	Therse	Meyer	nyslaohvicepresident@gmail.com
Secretary	JoAnn	Gundersen	nyslaohsecretary1@gmail.com
Treasurer	Mary	Durkee	nyslaohtreasurer@gmail.com
Irish History	Teresa	Kearns	nyslaohhistorian@gmail.com
Missions & Charities	Maura	McSweeny	nyslaohmissionscharities@gmail.com
Catholic Action	Patricia	Moynihan	nyslaohcatholicaction@gmail.com
IPP / Organizer	Agnes	Oleary	nyslaohpastpresident@gmail.com
Chaplain	Sister Virginia	Lake	nyslaohchaplain@gmail.com
Auditor	Christina	Parisi	nyslaohauditot@gmail.com
Freedom For All Ireland	Joan	Moore	nyslaohfreedomforallireland@gmail.com
Military & Veterans Affairs	Jeannine	Mannarino	nyslaohmilitaryveteransaffairs@gmail.com
Fundraiser / Sports	Shelia	Zeineth	nyslaohfundraising@gmail.com
Immigration & Education	Maureen	Caffrey	nyslaohimmigrationeducation@gmail.com
Publicity	Ann	Sheerin Pirok	nyslaohpublicity@gmail.com
Scrapbook	Carolyn	McGillicuddy	nyslaohscrapbook@gmail.com
Webmaster / Publisher	Kimbelry	Clancy	nyslaohweb@gmail.com

National Convention



Registration / Package

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Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc



Organized in 1894

NATIONAL CHAPLAIN
Rev Fr. Ryan Duns, SJ

NATIONAL PRESIDENT
Marilyn Madigan
4375 West 182
Cleveland, Ohio 44135
natlpresidentlaoh@gmail.com

NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT
Mary Ann Lubinsky
P.O. Box 186
Pottsville, PA 17901
laohnationalvicepresident@gmail.com

NATIONAL SECRETARY
Sandi Swift
2901 Orton Street
St. Charles, MO 63301
natlsecretarylaoh@gmail.com

NATIONAL TREASURER
Cathy Turck
108 West Creek Lane
Altamont, NY 12009
laohnationaltreasurer@gmail.com

NATIONAL IRISH HISTORIAN
Margaret Cornish
141 N. Kinsella Avenue
Covina, CA 91724
laohnationalhistorian@gmail.com

NATIONAL MISSIONS & CHARITIES
Natalie Peterinelli
4350 Regency Ridge Ct #204
Cincinnati, Ohio 45248
laohnationalmissions@gmail.com

NATIONAL OFFICE OF CATHOLIC ACTION
Kathleen Diulus
117 Summit Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
LaohNationalCA@gmail.com

IMMEDIATE PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENT & ORGANIZER
Karen Keane
2 Mill Hill Court Apt 314
Slingerlands, New York 12159
natlorganizerlaoh@gmail.com

APPOINTEES

Auditor-Christina Parisi
Convention Chair- Kathie Linton, PNP
Freedom for All Ireland-Dolores Desch
Fundraiser-Maire Leffel
Immigration -Siobhan Dennehy
Legal Counsel- Ann Durkin Fisher, JD
National News-Kim Depeaux
Political Education-Gail Dapaolito
Public Relations-Patricia Lavelle
Social Media & Web- Brianna Curran
Supplies- Mary Jo Rawlins
Tax Expert-Kathryn Keane, EA
Veterans Affairs-Cathie Norton Doherty

2024 Tentative Convention Schedule

Tuesday August 6, 2024

- TBD Credentials
- 6:00pm National Board Gathering

Wednesday August 7, 2024

- 9:00am-10:00am Audit
- 9:00am-10:00am Credentials
- 9:00am-10:00am Rituals
- 9:00am-10:00am Rules of Order
- 10:00am-2:00pm Constitution
- 2:00pm-5:00pm Credentials
- 1:00pm-4:00pm Degree Practice

Opening Mass and Ice Breaker

Thursday August 8, 2024

- 8:00am-8:45am LAOH General Session
- 9:00am-10:00am Joint AOH/LAOH Meeting and Site Presentation
- 10:30am-11:00am Degree Registration
- 11:00am-1:00pm Degrees
- 2:00pm-3:00pm LAOH General Session
- 3:15pm-4:00pm Nominations for National Office
- 4:15pm-5:00pm Committee Meetings: FFAL, Missions, Juniors, Catholic Action
- Committee Meetings: Immigration, Resolutions, Fundraising, Veterans

Open Night- LAOH Event TBA

Friday August 9, 2024

- 8:00am-8:45am Committee Meetings: Social Media and Website, Press, Supplies, Appeals for Aid, Grievance
- 9:00am-9:45am Committee Meetings: History, Catholic Social, Elections, Scrapbook
- 10:00am-10:45am Free time to Prepare Committee Reports
- 10:45am-11:45am Lunch
- 12:00 pm-4:00pm General Sessions

Awards Night/Irish

Saturday August 10, 2024

- 6:30am-9:00am Voting
- 9:15am-4:00pm General Session

Closing Mass, Installation and Banquet

Sunday August 11, 2024

- TBD LAOH Board Meeting

www.ladiesaoh.com

