



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



New York State LAOH 63rd Biennial Convention
Rochester, NY July 13-15, 2023

President Agnes "Aggie" O'Leary
Opens 2023 Historic
LAOH New York State Convention



President O'Leary via Zoom

SEPTEMBER 1, 2023

SPECIAL EDITION

IN THIS ISSUE

HISTORIC LAOH 2023 NYS
CONVENTION

BOARD ELECTION

BOARD INTRODUCTION
LETTERS

DIVISION SUBMISSIONS

DUE DATES FOR
SUBMISSION





**Newly Elected
2023-2025
New York
State
President
Regina Begley**



2023-2025 New York State Board and Appointees

Maura McSweeney, Therese Meyer, Regina Begley, JoAnn Gundersen, Teresa Karens, Pat Moynihan, Kimberly Clancy, Mary Durkee, Joan Moore, Sheila Zeineth, Carolyn McGillicuddy, Jeannine Mannarino, Ann Pirok, Maureen Caffery

Not pictured: Agnes O'Leary, Sr. Virginia Lake, Christina Parisi

The 63rd LAOH Bi-Annual Convention was held in Rochester, NY, on July 13-14, 2023, at the RIT Inn and Conference Center.

The New York State LAOH meet for the 2023 Convention, without our brothers of the AOH in attendance. Their Convention was held at another location.

Our sisters from the Rochester Division took the reins and planned the Convention in just one year's time. The Convention Committee was led by Gail Shalvoy, Division President, and NYS Convention Chair Karen Keane. A special thanks to our Rochester AOH Brothers who showed their support by working with the LAOH.

All Committee meetings were held via zoom prior to the Convention, with the exception of Scrapbooks, held at the General Business Meeting.

A Golf Outing that had great attendance and support from the LAOH and AOH was held on Thursday. A fun day was had by all! That evening the New York State LAOH Candidates hosted an opening "hospitality" night at the hotel.

Work began early Friday morning at the General Business Meeting. Due to her travel restriction, the opening of the meeting with President Agnes "Aggie" O'Leary was held via zoom. It was great for all of us to see Aggie, albeit virtually. Vice President Regina Begley facilitated the meeting. The Order of Business included introductions, roll call, and committee reports, read and voted on and nominations were made for the elected offices. The meeting was adjourned for voting of one contested office. Friday night we gathered for music and friendship at the hotel. Sponsored by the Rochester Conenetion Committee.

Saturday morning the vote was held for the office of Catholic Action and Degrees were exemplified. The General Business session continued with the results of the voting. Saturday night we gathered for a lovely Mass with standing room only, the Installation of Officers and the Awards took place at the Hotel.

There was no site vote. More information will be forth coming after elected President Begley meets with the elected NYS AOH President. It is the hope of the LAOH that our next and all Conventions be held with the LAOH and AOH together.

Board Introductions

President – Regina Begley

Thank you, Ladies, for the opportunity to serve as your NYS LAOH President for the next 2 years. For those who don't know me, I have been a member of the NYS Board since 2013 serving in all offices with the exception of Missions and Charities. I have been a Hibernian since 1996 and I am a member of Division 15 in Nassau County. I have been blessed and extremely honored to have been the recipient of several awards from my Hibernian Sisters, the Nassau County Feis Corporation, the Irish American Society of Nassau, Suffolk & Queens and the Town of Hempstead, Nassau County. And nothing was more thrilling than to have been the Nassau County Aide to the Grand Marshal in the 2016 NYC St. Patrick's Day Parade. I retired in 2016 as a Corporate Vice President in the Information Technology Department of New York Life Insurance Company. I am honored to be your President for the next 2 years.

As announced at our Convention in July, the 2023-2025 Board Appointees are:

Chaplain - Sr. Virginia Lake – Kings County
Associate Chaplain-Fr. Henry Reid – Suffolk County
Freedom for All Ireland-Joan Moore–Rockland County
Immigration & Education-Maureen Caffrey– Nassau County
Military & Veteran Affairs-Jeanine Mannarino – Schenectady County
Webmaster - Kimberly Clancy – Albany County
Auditor - Christina Parisi – Kings County
Publicity - Ann Pirock – Orange County
Fundraising - Sheila Zeineth – Nassau County
Scrapbook - Carolyn McGillicuddy – Nassau County

I ask that you all give these Appointees your utmost cooperation and support.

Since June, I have been meeting with AOH President Tom O'Donnell regarding the 2025 Convention and since our elections we have been joined by VP Terry Meyer and Treasurer JoAnn Gundersen as well as AOH Past NYS President Tom Lambert and AOH National Secretary Liam McNabb. I am happy to report that there is an overwhelming desire to bring both Organizations back together for our biennial Conventions. Our discussions to date have been at a high level and as

September 2023

we move forward with more detailed topics (i.e., number of days, number of dinners, dinner pricing, financial oversight, Convention site location, etc.) representation for the Ladies will likely change and I will let you all know when that decision has been made. Of course, one obstacle that we will have to tackle is to find a location. I will be reaching out to the County/Division Presidents asking them to seriously consider hosting the 2025 Convention.

Our Fall Board meeting will be held on Saturday, November 4th. Hotel and meeting location will be finalized shortly.

Vice President Terry Meyer and I will be attending the LAOH National Board Meeting and Testimonial Dinner for LAOH National President Marilyn Madigan November 10th - 12th in Ohio. If you would like to join us, give me a call.

Thank you to Macanta Business Services & Kerry Professional Driving School for their sponsorship of our Convention this past July. From the bottom of our hearts, we are so appreciative of your generous sponsorship to our NYS Convention. We cannot express enough gratitude for your generosity! Your corporate sponsorship was an incredible benefit to our Organization and we are so grateful for your support. Our appreciation for your belief and trust in us is immeasurable.

It's hard to say goodbye to the warm summer months (well, it is for this beach bunny!), but I do look forward to the vibrant colors and cooler days of the Fall Season. Looking forward to seeing everyone in November!

Yours In Our Motto,
Regina Begley
LAOH NYS President
516-712-4177

Terese “Terry” Meyer – Vice President

Dear Sisters,

Thank you all for your faith in me to become your NYS Vice President- I greatly appreciate your support, and I will do my best to perform the duties of this position. It is my great honor and privilege to serve you. I will be available for all questions or concerns in the scope of duties of my office.

I was born in Ireland, so I am a Kerry girl. I have been married to my husband, Ken, for 40 years. I have two daughters Meghan & her husband Vern, who blessed me with a beautiful, sassy granddaughter Annalise and our other daughter

Taylor Kathleen who now lives in Georgia outside of Atlanta. I spent over 34+ years as an HR officer handling staff in 7 states and currently own and operate 2 businesses plus sub-contracting for NYS Justice Dept & FBI doing background checks and fingerprinting for New York State.

ALS, and along with my husband, have been top fundraisers for St. Jude's Children's Hospital- - I was raised to always give back by volunteering where needed and have passed that onto my children. Thereby staying true to our LAOH motto.

It has been my honor to serve on the NYS Board for the last eight years, and for those who may not be familiar with me, I have been an LAOH member since 1995. I have served every position on the division level. I have also been a founding member and served on every position of the Orange County Board for the last 27 years, including President for 2-4-year terms. For the last six years, I have also had the honor of being a State Representative for the Hudson Valley, and President Begley has honored me by asking me to continue to do that. Basically, I am here to help in these counties with any questions or concerns and help in any way I can.

I am also honored to chair the National Mother & Baby Committee regarding these homes in Ireland as I have a very personal history with them, having spent the first 4 ½ years of my life in Bessboro, and we have many LAOH members nationwide who were Mothers in those homes or babies that were adopted. I will continue fighting for all of us to get the information we all deserve, a basic human right. I have monthly meetings with Minister O'Gorman and Tulsa in Ireland, fighting for the right to get our information and birth records from these homes, which are only starting to be permitted to survivors. The scars of these horrible homes run deep for many of us, and I am making sure to put a face to the names with him, not just emails; they need to know who we are and why we are fighting for accountability for what was also done to innocent babies for example in Bessboro alone there are 908 babies approximately unaccounted for. I could go on forever about this, but you can contact me to ask questions privately. I would strongly suggest if you have never heard of these, there are many articles on it

You can always contact me via email, text, or phone to help you in any way I can. Again thank you for your trust in me.

Yours in our motto,

September 2023

As an LAOH member, I prioritize promoting our Irish Heritage and the LAOH. My passion is to always give back by being on the Board of the American Cancer Society, training groups on how to run successful Relays for Life and Bark for Life, participating in various walks for charity, especially

Terry

Therese (Terry) Meyer

NYS LAOH Vice President

nyslaohvicepresident@gmail.com

Cell #914-443-0362

159 Mud Mills Rd. Middletown, NY 10940

JoAnn Gundersen – Secretary

Hello Sisters, I want to begin by thanking everyone for electing me your LAOH NYS Secretary for the next two years, 2023-2024. I had an enjoyable time at our Convention on July 19-20, 2023, at the R.I.T. Inn and Convention Center in Henrietta, NY. I was able to spend time with LAOH members who reside in the Western part of New York State. I live in Kings County in the Eastern part of the state.

I included some information below regarding Membership Information, Reports, Zoom Meeting and Fillable Transfer Card. I will be sending out more information over the next few months, or as needed.

Changes in Membership Information:

I am asking all Division Secretaries to e-mail me any changes regarding your members since August 1, 2023, and going forward. *Example of Changes: Name, Address, Home or Cell Number, E-Mail address, New Members added to your Division, Transfers, New Degree Dates, etc.* This information is needed to keep our LAOH NYS records accurate, and to share information with all NYS members.

Membership Reports:

Once I receive the 2023 Membership Reports from Sandi Swift, LAOH National Secretary, in October or November, I will review the reports and e-mail them out to County and Single Division Secretaries with Instructions. *If you have any questions regarding Membership Reports, etc., I ask that everyone contact me first at the E-mail address or Cell number listed below*.

Zoom Meetings:

I plan to hold a Zoom Meeting with County and Division Secretaries in early December, after I distribute the Membership Reports.

Fillable Transfer Card:

If any Division has a member transferring ‘in or out’ of their division, there is a ‘fillable’ Transfer Card on the LAOH National Website where you can fill in the information and print the form. Go to www.ladiesaoh.com and click on National Officers 2022, and Secretary; there you can access this form.

In closing, I wish everyone a healthy and safe Autumn season, and I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our Fall State Board Meeting. Details to follow.

In Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity,
JoAnn Gundersen, LAOH NYS Secretary
Cell: (718) 219-4378
E-mail: nyslaohsecretary1@gmail.com

Mary “Sissy” Durkee – Treasurer

Sisters,

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the convention. I hope you enjoyed yourselves.

At this time, I would like to introduce myself, my name is Mary Durkee, although most of you may know me as “Sissy”. I am the newly elected State Treasurer in addition to being the Albany County President and Watervliet Division #3 President. As a member of the Capital District Trinity Degree Team, I serve as the team’s Treasurer and Music Director.

Outside my Hibernian life I am a Teacher at Viking Child Care Center at Hudson Valley Community College. I have been a teacher for 32+ years spending most of that time with Toddlers (18–36-month-olds). I come a rather large family with 6 brothers and sisters, 13 nieces and nephews, 1 great niece and a great nephew due in November. Growing up most of my siblings and I were members of the Junior Divisions of the AOH and LAOH in Troy so you can say the LAOH is in my blood.

I look forward to working with the State Board and all of you. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at nyslaohsecretary1@gmail.com or at (518) 258-7501.

In Our Motto,
Mary “Sissy” Durkee
Treasurer
312 4th Street
Troy, NY 12180

Maura McSweeney – Mission and Charities

To my sisters of the NYS LAOH,

September 2023

It was great to see so many of you in Rochester in July! I am beyond honored and proud that I will have the opportunity to serve as your State Missions and Charities Officer for the next two years.

I would like to thank the Convention committee for all your hard work at the Convention this year. It’s not an easy undertaking, and you had several challenges to deal with, but you rose to the occasion and put on a wonderful week for all of us.

I’ve been a proud member of the JFK Division 1 in Albany for 32 years and have served as an officer on both the Division and County levels for most of those years. I’ve held almost every office on both levels, some more than once. If you don’t recognize my name, you might recognize my face at our next State Board meeting, as I’ve attended almost every State Convention since 1999, have often served as a committee chair or secretary, and am not usually one of the quiet ones.

In addition to supporting our Columban Sisters and Columban Fathers, we also administer the Appeals for Aid under our Patricia Doyle Memorial Grant, which disseminates funds to selected charities at each State Convention. Thanks to your unending generosity, we were able to award grants to several entities at this year’s convention. I look forward to seeing who we can donate to in two years’ time, so think about who you’d like the grant funds to!

Speaking of unending generosity, one of my favorite aspects of the office of Missions and Charities is when we come together at our Board Meetings and Conventions and donate items of need to local charitable organizations. From gathering and/or assembling baby diapers to personal care items to peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, we truly fulfil all facets of our motto of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity. It’s always a fun challenge to see how much we can get into the vehicle of the current Missions and Charities officer, or how many more vehicles it takes to get all our donations to their new home. It’s a challenge I willingly accept!!

I hope to see, speak to, or correspond with many of you many times over the next two years. Don’t hesitate to reach out to me at any time with questions, concerns, or ideas.

In our Motto of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity,

Maura

Maura McSweeney
NYS Office of Missions and Charities 2023 – 2025

1A LaCosta Drive
Clifton Park, NY 12065

Teresa Kearns – Irish Historian

Hello Sisters,

I am Teresa Kearns and I am your new Historian for the next two years. I want to thank you for putting your trust in me and I hope to do an excellent job for you.

Here is a little bit about me. I have been on the NYS Board for the past 8 years. This will be the beginning of my 9th year with the board. I am from Niagara County, in WNY. Many of you visited my city of Lockport during the 2017 State convention. My husband Joe and I have been married 32 years. We attend All Saints parish in Lockport where I serve as a greeter and sacristy volunteer. I have been a Certified Dental Assistant since 1979.

One very important note to make is that my state email has changed. You can now connect with me at nyslaohhistorian@gmail.com I have already sent out to the County/Division Presidents the information regarding the Irish History Essay contest. If you have not received this information, please contact me so that I may forward it to you. This information can also be found on our web site and on the National web. This year's topic is: IDENTIFY WOMEN WHO BECAME INVOLVED IN THE IRISH INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT AND/OR TO FREE THE NORTH FROM BRITISH COLONIALISM. Submissions are due to me no later than January 15, 2024.

I am looking forward to holding this office and hope to share Irish history with all of you! Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions. I will do my best to find the right answers for you. Our new officers are excited and full of energy to serve this great state!

As always in our motto,

Teresa

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

Patricia Moynihan – Catholic Action

Dear Sisters,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your NYS Catholic Action officer over the next two September 2023

years! It was such a pleasure to be together with so many of you at our convention in Rochester in July. Thank you to the organizers, committee members and all who played in a role in putting together a successful and seamless convention!

In 2011, I became a charter member of Division 4 in Huntington serving as Recording Secretary and later transferred to Division 3, Smithtown where I served as Catholic Action Officer, Vice President and President. I volunteered to serve as the FFAI chair on the Suffolk County Board and held all elected offices on the board, except Irish History, and am currently the County President. I am also a member of the Celtic Degree Team. Since becoming a member, I have attended most conventions (State and National), Spring State Board Meetings and some Fall State Board Meetings. I was also fortunate to be able to attend the 125th Anniversary Celebration in Detroit. I am very grateful for the terrific support that I have received along the way from many of my sisters who are well-versed in “Hibernianism” which has allowed me to be a more effective, contributing member of our order. On a personal note, I am a proud mom and mother-in-law to Kelly (Joseph) and Matt (Lindsay) and a first-time “Nana” to 15-month-old Everett Moynihan!

In my responsibilities as Catholic Action officer, I will encourage your continued support of SOAR!, Project St. Patrick and the Hibernian Humanitarian Fund; promote all forms of Christian Charity, including volunteering and food, toiletry and clothing drives; support the defense of our Catholic beliefs, such as Right to Life, and ask that you be alert to anything demeaning to the Irish or to our Catholic faith.

I look forward to working with the wonderful, accomplished ladies serving on the board and getting to know many of you across the state as we continue to lead the LAOH through your generosity in support of SOAR! (Support Our Aging Religious) and Project St. Patrick.

If you have any questions or I can be of assistance in any way, please feel free to contact me.

In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Pat Moynihan

nyslaohcatholicaction@gmail.com
631-848-4529
600 Pine Hollow Road, Apt. 11-8B
East Norwich, NY 11732

Appointee Introductions

Appointee Introduction Letter were not required per President Begley. Although some have submitted.

Chplain – Sister Virginia Lake

Auditor – Christina Parisi

Good afternoon Sisters,

I would like to introduce myself as the Auditor for this term of the office for the NYS Board LAOH. I would be remiss if I don't thank our NY State President, Regina Begley for this appointment.

I have worked closely with our state treasurers for the past 6 years and have conducted a minimum of two audits each year for each of our accounts.

My job as auditor is to audit each of the bank accounts of the NYS Board not just to make sure the accounting balances, but to make sure that each expense is reasonable and within our exempt purpose.

If you have any questions about your current or previous year's tax returns or about any correspondence you may receive from the IRS, please feel free to contact me at the below numbers. I have worked in a tax office for many years and have worked on the tax filings and reinstatement process for all LAOH entities, so I am able to help you with any questions and/or issues you may have with regard to the IRS.

If you have any need to reach out to me, please feel free to contact me, and if I am not available, I will get back to you as soon as possible. I can be reached by phone from 8AM to 9:30 PM @ 347-461-4985 or by email at nyslaohauditor@gmail.com. Please be aware, that all of the tax records are maintained at the office, I do not keep them at home as there are security protocols required by the IRS that I do not have at home. If you have a tax or IRS related questions, please call me between 10 AM and 5 PM any Monday through Thursday.

Yours in Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity,
Christina Parisi
Auditor, LAOH NY State Board
2453 65th St
Brooklyn NY 11204

Freedom For All Ireland – Joan Moore

September 2023

Dear Sisters,

I am honored to have been reappointed by our State President, Regina Begley, to be your representative for Freedom for All Ireland for 2023-2025. This is my third term on the State Board, and I am looking forward to working with Regina and her board as well as many of you to keep you informed about what is happening in Ireland and the importance of Freedom for All Ireland. I would like to thank Aggie for appointing me to this position for the past 2 years. It has been a pleasure working with her and her board and wish her luck in her new role as Immediate Past President. Please check out the National LAOH web page for FFAI as there is a multitude of information and links to various educational and informational sites to learn more (www.ladiesaoh.com).

Although we have not been able to meet in person the LAOH and AOH have sponsored many webinars to help understand the importance of the FFAI fundraising and involvement in promoting a lasting peace in Northern Ireland.

I would like to sincerely thank Dolores Desch the National FFAI Chairperson. She is deeply involved in this issue concerning Ireland and I encourage all of you to read her report on the Facebook page LAOH Freedom for All Ireland ([20+](#)) [laoh freedom for all ireland - Search Results | Facebook](#) She has a lot of information as to the various groups that benefit from our donations and the importance of continued support for FFAI with links to webinars that have been presented over the past year regarding the families that are fighting for truth and justice for their loved ones. The British Government is proposing an end to Legacy Killing Investigations in opposition to the Stormont House agreement. I will continue in her lead to keep you informed about this and other issues of the North and Ireland overall. We need to continue to support the people in the North. I encourage all of you to check our website <http://www.loahnys.com/ffai.html> for presentation by Divisions or Counties. I would like to remind you all that the FFAI Appeal is ongoing for the 2023 year and donations are to be sent to: Dolores Desch 20 Arlene Ave Albany, NY 12203. A COPY of the check and donation information should also be sent to me at Joan Moore, 155 Hunt Ave, Pearl River, NY 10965.

I have updated my distribution list for FFAI reps. If you are not the FFAI Person, please contact me at nyslaohfreedomforallireland@gmail.com so I can

update the list. We still have several Divisions that do not have a FFAI Chairperson, and I encourage them to have someone fill that position so they can be informed and help disseminate important information to their members. I did a short presentation at the State Convention and would be willing to come your division meeting to share it with your members.

In our Motto,

Joan Moore

LAOH State FFAI Chairperson,

155 Hunt Ave., Pearl River, NY 10965

nyslaohfreedomforallireland@gmail.com

Fundraiser / Sports – Sheila Zeineth

Immigration and Education – Maureen Caffery

Dear Sisters:

I would like to introduce myself to you as the newly appointed Immigration and Education Chair. First, let me thank our newly elected President, Regina Begley, for appointing me to this position.

I have been a member of Division 15, Massapequa Park, Nassau County since 1987. My mother Alice, a longtime member, was my sponsor, and my father John was a National Life Member. I have served in several positions on the Division level. I was President from 1999-2000. I am currently serving as Financial Secretary. I have been on the County Board for 16 years. I am currently the Immediate Past President.

I am an original member of the Tara Pipes and Drums. I have been playing my bagpipes with them for 47 years. I have been involved with the Nassau County AOH Feis for many, many years.

Almost five years ago I joined the Suffolk County Celtic Degree Team.

I am a parishioner of St. Rose of Lima in Massapequa. I have worked at Ropes & Gray LLP for the last 39 years. I have been on the Zoning Board for the Village of Massapequa Park since 2005.

I am looking forward to bringing you information about Irish immigration as well as news and happenings here in the U.S. Immigration is constantly in the news these days, and unfortunately, it's not always in a positive light. I will share as much as I can.

I look forward to working with the State Board and all of my Sisters of New York. Please feel free to contact me with any suggestions.

Yours in our motto,

Maureen Caffrey

178 Hawthorn Street

Massapequa Park, NY 11762

(516) 524-9024

Military & Veterans Affairs

Dear Ladies,

My name is Jeannine M. Mannarino, I serve as an appointee for the NYS President of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Military and Veteran Affairs committee.

We have a planning committee that are assisting me in setting up two symposiums. One on Long Island and another in upstate New York, possibly Cohoes Elks, in Cohoes, NY.

Over the past year and a half our committee were able to host three events. The first two events were symposiums discussing the mental health and wellness of our Military and the next symposium discussing the PACT Legislation on the toxic exposure that is plaguing our military.

It is my commitment to keep on collaborating and partnering with our military and veteran service organizations provide education, resources, and opportunities for the standing up for our Veteran's health and wellness.

Personally, I served in the New York Army National Guard for over 24 years and the rest of my time 41 years of service to the Federal Government as a program manager of the Government Purchase Card program.

I am very blessed to have 3 children, 3 grandbabies and an amazing husband of almost 36 years.

I would like to add if you know a Veteran or Military member that could use some help, please reach out to me at jeanninem72@gmail.com or nyslaohmilitaryveteranaffairs@gmail.com

Very Respectfully,

Jeannine M. Mannarino

NYS LAOH Military and Veteran Affairs

62 Cincy Crest Drive

Schenectady, NY 12306

Public Relations / Social Media – Ann Pirok

Scrapbook – Carolyn McGillicuddy

Webmaster / Publisher St. Brigid Connection – Kimbelry Clancy

Hello Sisters:

I'm back 😊 Thank you to President Regina Begley for the appointment of Webmaster and Publisher of the *St. Brigid's Connection*. Thank you, Madam President, for the confidence you have entrusted in me to perform the duties of my office(s).

I have been a member of the Albany JFK, Division #1 since 2003. I have served the Order on all levels: Division, County, State and National. I have served on Division and County levels here in Albany. I served the State in appointments and many Committee Secretaries, also, Convention Secretary twice. On the National level, I have served as Registration Chair at the 2012 Convention. I have also served as Committee Chairs and Committee Secretaries. Presently I am the Albany County Secretary. I learned a great deal from all my sisters from locally and around the Country. These positions afforded me to meet many of my sisters from around our great country. Many of these Sisters I count as close friends. Isn't that what our motto is all about? Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity! Enough about me, let me tell you what I am here to do for you!

As Webmaster, it is my responsibility to keep the State's Website (laohnys.com) current with all the great things we are doing. The new Board information has been updated on the "NYS Board" page, it includes emails. To that end, 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).

As Publisher of the St. Brigid's Connection, it is my responsibility to produce our newsletter four times a year. The schedule will be published soon, that way we all know when the deadlines are and the publication dates. The newsletter will be emailed and posted on our website on the "Members" page "Newsletters". This information will be sent out shortly. Keep an eye out. You will send your submission to (laohnyssaintbrigidconn@gmail.com)

or you can use the submission page on our website (laohnys.com), under the "contact us" page.

On the "Members" Page of the website you can find, Website/Social Media Tips and a bounty of helpful information on Resources & Links. 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.

Please contact me if I can be of any assistance. You can also contact me on my cell (518) 426-5108. I'm here for you Sisters, use me.

In Our Motto,

Kim

Kimberly A. Clancy,
New York State Webmaster 2023-2025
518-426-5108
498 Delaware Avenue
Albany, NY 12209

Division Submissions

Although submissions were not formally requested for this Publication, these were received since the Convention. The decision was made to include them at this time.

Albany County

Albany JFK Division #1

The Ladies Albany JFK Division 1 has been very busy this Spring carrying out our mission to serve our community in the Capital District of New York State.

On April 29th we hosted a celebration dinner to commemorate the 110th Anniversary of Albany JFK Division 1. Our beloved sister Kathleen Quinlan was named the 2023 Ladies Hibernian of the Year, and member Maureen Jeffers was presented with a Certificate recognizing her 72 years of membership from our National President. Maggie Gilroy was unable to make the dinner and was presented at her home with a Certificate from our National President for her 62 years of membership in our division. We honor these dynamic ladies who have devoted their time and energy to our division for many decades.



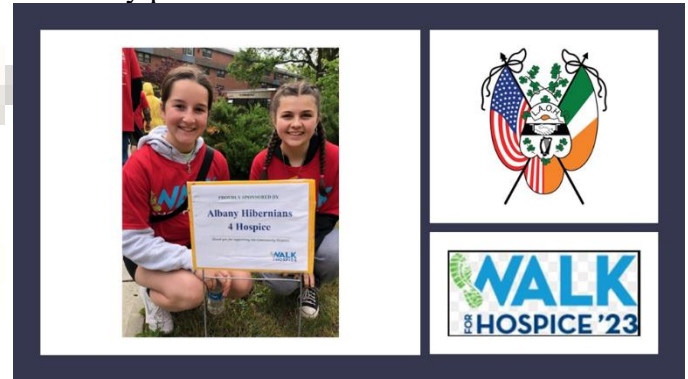
Members of the Ladies Albany JFK Division 1 with our Division Chaplain Father O'Connor at our 110th Anniversary Dinner, April 29, 2023

On April 16th our division hosted a Baby Shower to support the work of the Albany Catholic Diocese Community Maternity Services program. This annual tradition allows us to fulfill our mission by serving young mothers and babies in our community. As a special treat, our Junior Division girls assisted with the decorations and gifts at the shower. Job well done, ladies!

In honor of the 25th Anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement, our President Dolores Desch traveled to Ireland for a series of events with National LAOH President Marilyn Madigan and LAOH members from across the country supporting Freedom for All Ireland and Relatives for Justice efforts. These included the launch of the *Trasna na dTonnta* (Across the Waves) Women's Reflections on the Good Friday Agreement publication, the Queen's University Belfast Agreement Twenty-Five events, and the Irish Foreign Ministry's Global Irish Civic Forum.

We would be remiss to not include prayers for our ill and departed members and their families, including our shared loss of James Kelly Sr., husband of member Anne Kelly, father of member Anna Mary Kelly, brother-in-law to member Cecelia Leonard, and uncle to member Kitty Kelly. Jimmy was the longest-serving member of Albany's AOH Father Henry Tansey Division 5 and was a fixture of our Irish American community. It is times like these that remind us of the binds that tie us to our Faith, and our collective bond of friendship, unity, and Christian Charity. God bless our LAOH Sisters.

We organized a group to march in the 2023 Hospice Walk, where our "Albany Hibernians for Hospice" team raised \$1,870 towards supporting the important work they provide to families.



Two of our Junior Division members at "2023 Walk for Hospice" supporting our "Albany Hibernians 4 Hospice" Team

Many of our members attended the State Convention in Rochester, where our sister Maura McSweeney was sworn into the Office of Missions and Charities, our immediate past Jr. President received the Hibernian of the Year Award, and our sister Kimberly Clancy was appointed as State Webmaster. Job well done, ladies!



Albany LAOH Division and Junior Members were in attendance at the NYS LAOH Convention in July in Rochester, NY to celebrate all of the accomplishments that our order contributed this year. Pictured from left to right: Ginny Daley, Cecelia Leonard, Karen Keane, Kathleen Stevens, Dolores Desch, Christine O'Reilly, Maura McSweeney, Jennifer Hoefler, 3 Junior Members, and Kimberley Clancy.



Immediate past Albany Jr. Division President, Kendall H. was honored with the NYS Hibernian of the Year award from the newly sworn-in State President. This is a well-deserved honor for Kendall, and we're so proud of her good work and dedication over this past year!



Peter Lounsbury, AOH Veterans Affairs Appointee, and Rosalyn Adair, LAOH Veterans Affairs Appointee, presenting a check to Lee Vartigan (center), Director of Veterans Services at the Albany Housing Coalition.



Maggie Gilroy, July 30, 1933 - July 18, 2023

September 2023

It is with heavy hearts that we said goodbye to our dedicated and long-time division member Maggie Gilroy this July. Maggie was a member of the LAOH Albany division for over 62 years and she devoted much of her time and energy to the LAOH and to our division hall. She will be missed by all, and we continue to send condolences and prayers to her family.

Westchester County

Along with Westchester County President Cathy Hogan delegates from Div. 11 Tarrytown were President Alice Koraca and Mary Brady Catholic Action who attended the NYS Board 63 rd Biennial Convention in Henrietta, NY.



Left to right, Cathy Hogan, Westchester County President, Alice Koraca, Kitty Geissler Division 11 President and Mary Brady, Kitty Geissler Division 11 Catholic Action officer.

The Kitty Geissler Division was able to provide a generous donation to The RSHM Life Center in Sleepy Hollow through the NYS LAOH Patricia Doyle Memorial Fund. The LIFE Center was founded in 1995 by The Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary, an international congregation who has served in the Sleepy Hollow/Tarrytown area for over 100 years. Their mission of the LIFE Center is to welcome the needy, especially women and children, and to create with them a culture which nurtures their human development. The Center serves individuals of all faiths and cultural traditions. The grant will be used for the Parents & Tots Program.

Submission Deadlines

St. Brigid Connection is published four times a year.
The schedule for deadlines is as follows:

Submission Deadline	Include Months	Publish Date
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.*

Note: If a deadline is missed your submission will be included in the next issue.