

LAOH NYS 'General' Meeting ---FINAL
Saturday, November 4, 2023
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church Hall
90 Euclid Avenue, Middletown, NY 10940.

President Regina Begley called the General Membership meeting to order at 11:00 in Ritualistic Form. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all in attendance.

Welcome by President Begley who stated PSP Denise Sobus is 'excused' and is in possession of the Defibrillator. Delegates will be seated in a separate section of the meeting room; Observers will be seated separately and will not have a voice or vote.

Roll Call: by Secretary JoAnn Gundersen:

President Regina Begley

Vice President Therese Meyer

Secretary JoAnn Gundersen

Treasurer Mary Durkee

Irish Historian Teresa Kearns

Missions & Charities Maura McSweeney

Catholic Action Patricia Moynihan

Imm. Past President Agnes O'Leary

Chaplain Sr. Virginia Lake

Auditor Christina Parisi

Public Relations/Social Media Ann Pirock

Immigration and Education Maureen Caffrey

Freedom for All Ireland Joan Moore

Webmaster Kimberly Clancy

Scrapbook Chair Carolyn McGuillicudy

Fundraising Chair Sheila Zeineth

Military & Veterans Affairs Jeannine Mannarino

Past St. President Marybeth Durkee
Past St. President Jacqueline Clute
Past St. President Karen Keane
Past St. President Carol McTigue (excused)
Past St. President Denise Sobus (excused)
Past St. President Ann Marie Ferguson (excused)
Past St. President Margaret Redling (excused).
Past St. President Kathleen Conway (excused).
Past St. President Carol Ann Carley (excused).
Past St. President Rosalie Rairden (excused).
Past Nat'l President Mary Hogan
Past Nat'l President Margaret Hennessy
Past Nat'l President Mary T. Leathem (excused)

Dignitaries

Immediate Past National President Karen Keane
National Treasurer Cathy Turck

*Joan Moore made the motion to dispense with the reading of the previous minutes from May 2023 meeting, seconded by Agnes O’Leary - motion was passed.

Correspondence: JoAnn G. read an e-mail received from Christine O’Reilly (Albany County) - *Thank you so much for choosing me for Junior Hibernian of the Year in NY State. It is such an honor getting this award. I hope you had a great summer. Sincerely Kendall Hoefler, LAOH Secretary.*

Presentation of Bills: Mary Durkee stated she only has one bill from JoAnn Gundersen for mailing of LAOH NYS check book to her; \$39.15. Becci Enders made a motion to pay the bill; 2nd by Sharon Tate. Motion so carried.

Reports: All Officer and Appointee Reports were sent out to LAOH Presidents on October 25, 2023. The Call to Fall State Board Meeting and blank attendance form was sent out September 25, 2023.

Officer & Appointee Updates

President Regina: Regina stated her Report is on the website: www.laohnys.com . She notified everyone the End of Year Reports will be emailed once the National Board sends them to NYS Board in a few weeks. All Counties and Divisions must adhere to their deadlines. Regina requested for a Motion to once again pay the \$200.00 affiliation fee to NYC St. Patrick's Day parade on Saturday, March 16, 2024. Motion by Peggy Anderson, 2nd by Mary Hogan. Motion so carried. Regina stated Suffolk Division 11 is disbanding. Richmond Division 10 is opening.

Terry /Vice President: Terry stated her Report is on the website. Congratulations to Regina and the new Board, Terry requested from the meeting attendees who oversee the Juniors, to send her a current list of the name, address, email, and phone number of their Vice President and Junior Coordinator by November 30, 2023, so she can email out the End of Year reports when they are received from National VP Mary Ann Lubinsky. The Junior Handbook is on the National Website: www.ladiesaoh.com . Anyone working with the children must have the Protecting God's Children's Training. Terry needs from the Degree Team Secretaries a current list of Director, Guardian, Secretary and Treasurer; including their email and phone number. She needs this information by November 30, 2023, so she can send out the End of Year Reports once received from National Vice President. Terry thanked everyone on behalf of her Parish for attending and wished everyone a great holiday.

JoAnn/Secretary:

JoAnn stated her Report is on the website. She thanked everyone for attending today's meeting. She notified every one of the importance of e-mailing her any changes to their members' personal information (name, address, phone number, e-mail), including members who joined, transferred or passed away. This information is important to keep our 'master' membership records up to date. Also, if any of the County or Division Secretaries are not getting an email from me, let me know so I can update your email address.

Mary (Sissy) Treasurer: Mary stated her Treasurer's Report is on the website. A zoom meeting will be set up shortly with National Treasurer, Cathy Turck for Presidents and Treasurers to discuss 2023 End of Year Reports. Current bank account balances: Money Market \$10,492.43, Checking \$31,756.44 (outstanding checks \$1,082.94 from Scrapbook Winners). Mary asked for those Counties that had Scrapbook Winners to make sure the checks get into the bank, asap.

Christina/Auditor: Christina stated her Report is on the website. September.30, 2023, balances are all in order, and everything matches what was reported. No issues

** A motion was made by Chris O'Reilly, 2nd by Joan Parisi to accept Treasurer and Audit reports; Motion carried.

Teresa/Irish Historian: Teresa stated her Report is on the website. She notified everyone of an upcoming deadline, November 15, 2023, for the end of the Irish History Contest.

Maura/Missions & Charities: Thank you card and letters were received from the following organizations who received grant money (\$875.00 each) from the Patricia Doyle Memorial Fund awarded in July 2023 at our NYS Convention in Rochester, NY: Delevan Community Food Pantry, Delevan NY; Albany Rebels Gaelic Athletic Association, Delmar NY; St. Lukes Roman Catholic Church (The Daily Bread Food Pantry) Schenectady NY; Blessed Sacrament School, Albany NY. Maura thanked everyone for their generosity for donating to her Winter Warm Wear project. Special thank you to Joan Moore, Rockland County for her Winter Warm Wear donations. Representatives from Orange, Sullivan and Ulster County – Catholic Charities, will pick up the clothing later in the day.

Patricia/Catholic Action: Patricia stated her Report is on the website. The Catholic Action report will be emailed out once it is received from National Catholic Action Officer.

Agnes O’Leary/Immediate Past President: Aggie thanks everyone for their support during the time she was recuperating from her illness. She asked, as the NYS Organizer, for her to be notified when a ‘new’ division is being formed. She will be holding a fundraiser in Spring 2024 for Patrician Doyle Memorial Fund. Chris Brogan will assist her with this fundraiser. She will have a (wrap up) final report for the May 2024 meeting, and it will be sent to all Divisions. Aggie requested Divisions who ‘did not’ respond to the Secretary (yes or no if they are attending this meeting), to be entered into the official meeting minutes.

- The following Divisions did not respond to NYS Secretary JoAnn Gundersen as to if they were or were not attending the November 4, 2023, meeting: Cattaraugus, Greene, Monroe, Oneida, Onondaga, and Oswego.

Sr. Virginia Lake/Chaplain: Sr. Virginia greeted everyone at the meeting. She is willing to help everyone. Her email is on our website www.laohnys.com.

Joan Moore/Freedom For All Ireland. Her report is on the website. Joan will have a ‘box’ fundraiser; donation \$20.00 per box. Members can contact Joan for more information. On Friday, November 17, 2023, LAOH National President, Marilyn Madigan will be the recipient of the Fr. Murphy award at the Albany Hibernian Hall; flyers for this event are available. In addition, Mark Thompson, CEO, Relatives for Justice, Belfast, will be the guest speaker. On Sunday, November 19th, Mark will also be the guest speaker at an AOH event in the Bronx.

Maureen Caffrey/Immigration and Education. Maureen stated her Report is on the website. She is still learning about her role as Immigration and Education Appointee. Maureen asked everyone to pray for World Peace.

Jeannine/Military and Veteran Affairs. Jeannine was unable to attend the meeting. Her Report is on the website with her email, if anyone has questions about her report.

Ann Pirock/Public Relations/Social Media. Ann stated her Report is on the website. She keeps our Facebook page up to date. If anyone is having a LAOH event, etc. let Ann know so she can post it on Facebook.

Kim/Webmaster: Kim posted all the Officer and Appointee Reports on our website. When you send information to Kim, it must be in Word document format. Deadline for the St.

Brigid Connection is January 12, 2024 (you are to include all 'LAOH activities from October, November and December 2023).

Sheila/Fundraiser: Sheila stated her Report is on the website. There will be a 50/50 raffle at this meeting, in the back of the room. Donation is \$20.00. There is also a Thanksgiving Football Raffle; Donation \$25.00. Sheila will also have the Denim shirts for purchase in a few months.

Carolyn/Scrapbook: Carolyn is excused due to death in family; her Report is on the website. She requested everyone to send her pictures for the scrapbook; all pictures must be sent to Carolyn before the Spring Board Meeting in May 2024.

Mary Beth Durkee/Past President NYS: 2024 Calendars are available for pickup at this meeting. Counties or Divisions who are not in attendance will receive their calendars via mail. Prayers are needed for Peter Durkee who is being treated for some medical issues. He is currently in a nursing home. Mary (Sissy) will email Peter's address.

Jacqueline Clute/Past President NYS:

Jacqueline said it was nice to see everyone at this meeting, and she looks forward to watching the amazing things this Board will do over the next two years.

Karen Keane/2023 Convention Chairperson: We made a profit at our Convention due to the generous donations from Kathryn Keane, EA (Macanta Corporation, \$5,000.00), and Terry Meyer (Kerry Professional Driving School, \$2,500.00). Thank you to President Agnes O'Leary for appointing Karen the 2023 Convention Chairperson. We need to pray for our strength as Mothers, Sisters and Daughters during these difficult times of the year. Happy Birthday, Christina Parisi.

Margaret Hennessy/Past National President: Margaret stated she is happy to attend our Fall Meeting and thanked everyone for doing a great job.

Mary Hogan/Past National President: Mary thanked everyone for their cards, etc, during the

loss of her Brother-in-Law Brian (husband of National Irish Historian, Peggy Cornish). She was unable to attend the 2023 Convention.

Mary Hogan/NYC St. Patrick's Parade – LAOH Representative: The 2024 NYC St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held on Saturday, March 16th. The parade is held on March 16th when March 17th falls on a Sunday. All members can march under the LAOH NYS banner and bring their family and friends; there is a strict dress code for this parade. Mary attended the first Parade Delegates meeting and awards were given out to the LAOH Best Marching Group: 1st Place - Suffolk County, 2nd Place – Orange County and 3rd Place Nassau County. There will be another delegate meeting in December where the Aides to the Grand Marshall will be announced. The Grand Marshall of 2024 parade is Maggie Timony, CEO of Heineken. She is from County Mayo and lives in the United States. Maggie is the first female CEO at a major U.S. beer company. (If you are a County or Division that affiliates with the parade, you must pay your affiliation fee by December 15, 2023, or there will be a \$50.00 late fee. If you have not received any 'affiliation' information, contact the Parade Committee. The Grand Marshall's Reception will be held in February 2024.

Karen Keane made a motion to accept the Reports, 2nd by Sue Messina.

Regina/President: On November 1, 2023, at the Officer's Meeting there was a discussion to send a donation to the Hawaii Fund. A donation was already made to Hawaii Fund, so the Board decided to investigate sending a donation to Israel & Palestine via Catholic Charities. Patricia Moynihan sent a letter to LAOH National Board and is waiting for an answer to her letter.

Regina/President: 2025 Convention: Regina stated at the close of Convention (2023), a motion was made to set up a committee to discuss with the AOH how to go back and have a joint convention. Regina stated she did get a committee together in the time allotted, however, we were meeting via Zoom (Regina Begley, Therese Meyer, JoAnn Gundersen, Tom O'Donnell, Tom Lambert and Liam McNabb). Regina sent a letter to all NYS Presidents. Rochester and Syracuse said, yes. Utica – we are still waiting for an answer. Rockland is still deciding. The AOH & LAOH Committee agreed to have the convention Thursday, Friday and Saturday; with only one banquet. Once the venue is selected, Regina will need 1-2 people to work on the Committee. Lillian Murphy, Rockland County has agreed to be on the committee. The committee was discussing an open bar; Regina felt it was too expensive. This will be discussed at a later date. The AOH & LAOH committee agreed there will be a wrap up meeting no later than 3 months after the close of 2025 convention, and we will get 50% of the profits. Alice Koraca, Westchester, asked why we don't have in person committee meetings at convention. Karen Keane stated, this makes the convention longer and some of the members cannot afford to attend a longer convention. Many more

members can attend the zoom committee meetings. Agnes O'Leary stated the zoom committee reports should be sent to all committee members before convention, and then sent to the entire delegation. Some of the members also addressed their concerns regarding zoom committee meetings. Most agreed to keep zoom committee meeting for everyone to attend and this will also support the shortening of future conventions. Karen Keane made a motion to shorten the 2025 convention and future conventions. 2nd by Sue Messina. Motion carried.

Terry/Vice President: Terry stated, during the committee meetings for 2025 Convention, all of PNP/PSP Karen Kean's suggestions were discussed. AOH committee is past agreeable to work with us. There will be full accountability, no kickbacks, access on both sides every month to view checking account; the temporary date July 10, 2025 for 2025 Convention.

Good and Welfare: President Regina presented Agnes O'Leary with her Past Presidents Sash. Karen Keane made a motion to donate \$100.00 to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church for the use of the room for this meeting. 2nd by Joan Moore. Motion carried.

Karen Keane put forward the name of Cathy Turck for the National Office of Secretary. 2nd by Kim Depeaux. Motion carried. Anne Marie Mulholland spoke of Unateresa Gormley being selected as 2024 Grand Marshall of Hudson, NY - St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Regina/President closed the meeting in Ritualistic Form asking for prayers for members who had surgery and those who lost family members.

Respectfully submitted by JoAnn Gundersen, LAOH NYS Secretary (2023-2025).

















