



NY State St. Brigid Connection

Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians

November 2017



President Message- Jackie Clute

Hello Sisters,

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the NYS Board meeting OR we had a great meeting and I truly enjoyed spending time with all of you!

On a serious note: I would like to thank all of my sisters across the state for the outpouring of love and understanding they have shown my family and myself with the passing of my mom. I am reminded of how special it is to be a lady Hibernian. We are truly sisters, we are there for one another when it is time to laugh and have fun and we are there when the grief is almost too terrible for a sister to bear. We lift each other up when we fall and times are hard and share the joys and happiness that life can bring with one another. Thank you so much for being part of my family.

Jackie

Vice President - Mary Beth Durkee

Sisters,

The Office of Vice President has been pretty quiet so far, I look forward to hearing from the Junior Coordinators on the activities of their girls. There is a space reserved on the NYS

website for Junior activities and news items, please feel free to use this area to promote your Juniors.

I will keep the Vice Presidents and Coordinators informed of any news items pertaining to the Juniors that comes to me from the National Vice President. In order to pass this information on I need a current list of Junior Coordinators (name, email address, phone numbers, etc.).

My email is mbdurk7@gmail.com and my phone is (518) 274-8448. Enjoy the Fall weather.

Mary Beth Durkee, NYS Vice President

Secretary- Aggie O'Leary

Just a quick note, hope all my sisters across the State are well, I'm busy preparing for my first Board meeting as your Secretary, and looking forward to seeing you all.

Please remember to send me any new or changed email addresses. For those of you who are unable to attend, have a safe winter and hoping you can join us, when we meet in the spring.

Aggie

Treasurer- Regina Begley

Dear Sisters,

I would like to start off by saying thank you for the honor to serve as your New York State Treasurer for the next 2 years. I look forward to this wonderful opportunity to work with all of you. As I write this, we are just days away from our November State Board meeting, so I am not going to repeat my report in this article. So, what shall I write about? Since I am the Treasurer, I decided to provide some insight on the evolution of Irish money. It does present as history, so I beg our Irish Historian's forgiveness.

(Fun??) Facts about Irish Currency

The history of Irish currency reflects Ireland's political development over the last 1000 years. What began with the Vikings, who hammered out the very first Irish coins in Dublin in the 10th century, has left us with a legacy that marks social changes, political propaganda and economic trends.

The very first Irish coins were struck by the Vikings in Dublin in about 997AD by order of their King Sihtric III, also known as Silkbeard. Until this time, a variety of coinage had circulated in Ireland, including Anglo-Saxon, western European and even Islamic from central Asia.

After the Battle of Clontarf (1014), the Irish coin reverted to an earlier design for more than a century. All the Irish coins produced had a one penny value, and were created (in theory) from a pennyweight of silver (one 240th of a pound weight). Over time, the quality and weight decreased, and the design became less and less legible.

The arrival of the Anglo-Normans (1169/1171) introduced dramatic changes not only to the

island and ceding of power to the English crown; Irish currency also reflects this shift.

Under King John, Irish coins were struck in Kilkenny, Limerick and Waterford and included silver halfpennies bearing a full frontal face.

Coins minted in Ireland were easily distinguishable from English equivalents. Their inscription was usually specific, and their weight and design were different, too. In the 13th century, a triangle (rather than a circle) enclosed the reigning monarch's head. This occurred only on Irish coins.

As the power of the Normans waned, Gaelic society reasserted itself. It did not, however, give any priority to a formal money system, and the minting of coins petered out. Between 1310 and 1460, hardly any Irish coins were minted.

A new era for Irish currency began in 1460 when a new coinage was struck. Rather than just the penny coin, there were now a range of denominations, the highest being the groat (value, fourpence). These coins were struck in Dublin and the main cities of Cork, Galway and Limerick.

When the English monarch Henry VIII declared himself King of Ireland in 1531, another new series of Irish coins was launched, this time with the Celtic harp making its first appearance on Irish currency (it still appears on Irish Euro coins).

The story of Irish currency over the next two and a half centuries is one that traces a period of political turmoil. During the Cromwellian wars, for example, coinage showed little artistry (any old bit of metal was stamped with a date and used to pay troops), while King James II issued a copper coinage made from melted down cannons and church bells.

This latter coinage became known as 'gun money'; its face value had no connection to its

metal content and it was quickly removed from circulation after 1690.

In 1800 the Act of Union attached Ireland politically to the rest of Britain. In terms of the country's currency, no impact was felt until 1826 when Ireland's distinctive coins became valueless.

For the next century Ireland had to use standard British sterling, both in coins and banknotes (a late 18th century innovation). As the 20th Century dawned, and, following its separation from the UK, the Irish Free State issued a new coinage. Some of the designs were to last until the Euro was introduced in 2002. The new Irish coins were quite radical at the time. Other than the harp, there was no obvious symbolism, the coins bearing only images of certain indigenous flora and fauna.

The new Irish currency was pegged to sterling and was originally known as the Saorstát, or Free State, pound. After 1938, it became known simply as the Irish pound. In 1979, Ireland broke its link with Sterling and floated on the international money markets. To mark the arrival of this fresh dawn for Irish currency, a new range of notes was issued, each featuring a person from history or mythology. Inscriptions were carried in both English and Irish. The Queen Meabh £1 note was withdrawn in 1990 when the £1 coin was launched.

Lavery's notes (known as the A series) were issued on 10 September 1928 and, surviving decimalization on 15 February 1971, remained in circulation until 1975/1977 when the B series was launched.

This final series of Irish pound banknotes was to be quite short-lived. Introduced in 1992/96, it was replaced by the Euro on 1st January 1999. In September 1999 production of Irish euro coins began. Nine months later banknotes hit the presses.

By this time an intense period of education had begun to prepare the population for the final days of the Irish pound. Every household in Ireland was issued with an electronic converter and a Euro Handbook, and the final changeover to the new currency, on 1st January 2002, went surprisingly smoothly. An estimated 85% of all public cash dispensers were issuing Euro by the end of the first day and within a week, nearly 90% of cash transactions were being carried out in Euro.

Well, that's Irish currency in a nutshell. You could say it's just useless info that will clog your brain; but who knows. Maybe someday one of us will be on Jeopardy and the category for FINAL JEOPARDY will be Irish Currency!! Wishing everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving and a Blessed Christmas Season!

Regina

516-712-4177 laohregina@optonline.net

Irish Historian - Therese Meyer

Dear Sisters,

Hope you are all enjoying this Fall's interesting weather and are doing well. By now you have seen my officer's report for our upcoming State meeting and have gotten emails from me regarding the Irish Writing Contest so I am not going to repeat it all here but please contact me with any questions or concerns. It is indeed a writing Contest but if an essay was submitted due to error in the original National information, which I addressed and hopefully clarified a bit in my officers report for you, they should still be considered. I just ask that you continue to promote this within your local schools and adhere to the guidelines and deadlines I had sent out. Remember it is indeed

a writing contest and also it's open to all students and there is still time. I am looking forward to seeing your winning submissions as it's a great topic this year "Expressing Irish History through Music"

Soon the cold weather will be approaching, sorry to mention it as I personally don't like it any colder than 75* & to be on a beach if possible, it would be a nice time to curl up with a good book and here are a couple of older and a bit unknown Irish Women authors you might consider reading and a list of some of their works:

- Dorothy Macardle: "[The Uninvited](#)," "[Earth-Bound: Nine Stories of Ireland](#)"
- Molly Keane : "[Good Behaviour](#)," "[Devoted Ladies](#)," "[Time After Time](#)"
- Maeve Brennan: "[The Long-Winded Lady](#)," w/[Introduction by Belinda McKeon](#), "[The Springs of Affection: Stories of Dublin](#)," w/[Introduction by Anne Enright](#), "[The Rose Garden: Short Stories](#)"
- Norah Hoult: "[There Were No Windows](#)," "[Poor Women!](#)," "[When Miss Coles Made the Tea](#)," "[The Long Gaze Back: An Anthology of Irish Women Writers](#)," [edited by Sinéad Gleeson](#)

My best wishes to all of you for the upcoming Holidays. Of course I will continue to post any updates and pieces of information /articles that I hope might be of interest to you.

May Love and Laughter light your days and warm your heart and home.

May Good and Faithful friends be yours wherever you may roam.

May Peace and Plenty bless your world with joy that long endures.

May all Life's passing seasons Bring the Best to you and yours.

God Bless Yours
In our motto,
Terry Meyer
NYS LAOH Irish Historian

Missions and Charities – Joanne Gunderson

Hello Sisters,

On Sunday, October 29, 2017, I attended the LAOH & AOH Kings County Annual Mass and Breakfast in Resurrection Parish, Brooklyn, NY. The guest speaker was Father John Boles who is an Irish Priest from the Missionary of Saint Columban. He was born November 23, 1953 (on the Feast of Saint Columban) in Manchester, England. His most recent assignment (1997–2017) was working as a Columban priest in Lima, Peru and Santiago, Chile, serving variously as parish priest and Rector of our Latin American Seminary. Also, in attendance at the Mass and Breakfast was Ms. Frans Lang, who is from the Development Department in St. Columbans, Nebraska. I had the opportunity to speak to Frans who stated the 100th Anniversary of the Missionary of Saint Columban will start internationally on Thursday, November 23, 2017. In February 2018, celebrations will begin in the United States and continue until November 22, 2018. I will forward all event information to NYS LAOH Officers, County Presidents and County Missions and Charities Officers, as soon as I receive the information. In closing, I want to wish everyone a wonderful Autumn season and enjoy the beautiful foliage and cool weather. Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity, JoAnn Gunderson, NYS LAOH Missions and Charity Officer, 718.219.4378



Catholic Action - Cathie Norton Doherty

Dear Sisters,

It was so wonderful to see so many of you at the fall state board meeting in Pearl River. From the bottom of my heart I thank all of who brought items to donate and also gave monetary donations for my Boots on the Ground NY Female veteran go-bag project. The support from all of you was amazing and those bags are so needed and appreciated. This is an ongoing project for us so if anyone would still like to help or donate please email me. We have female veterans living in their cars, the woods, shelters; who need these items and as long as they are out there we will be there to support them. If you would like to set up a day of service at your division to help your local veterans in need please feel free to email me for ideas and guidance.

The end of 2017 is almost upon us. I am asking for all counties and divisions to send in their Project Saint Patrick (PSP) and Support Our Aging Religious (SOAR) donations as soon as possible so you can receive credit for this year. All checks (with a completed donation form) are to be mailed to Colleen Bowers, National Catholic Action Officer, [1404 Swantek Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15204](mailto:1404SwantekStreet,Pittsburgh,PA15204). The donation form can be found on the LAOH National website: www.ladiesaoh.org. Click on the National Board and then scroll down and click on Catholic Action where you will find the donation form and other information related to Catholic Action, including the Annual Catholic Action report.

The Annual Catholic Action Report must be submitted from the "division" Catholic Action Officer to the "county" Catholic Action Officer no later than January 31st, 2018. If you need assistance please don't hesitate to contact me.

The 2018 March For Life in Washington DC is scheduled for Friday, January 19, 2018. More information can be found on their website: www.marchforlife.org.

I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas. I hope this holiday brings you all blessings of health and peace and time with the ones you love.

Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,
Cathie Norton Doherty, NYS Catholic Action
Officer

[631-905-9388](tel:631-905-9388), cathieedoherty@hotmail.com

Freedom for All Ireland- Dolores Desch

Many thanks to the NY Divisions and Counties who have contributed to last year's FFAI Christmas Appeal. For 2016-2017 they include: Division 1 Albany - Albany County, Division 19 Kings County, Division 3 St Ida, Pearl River - Rockland County, Nassau County Board, Division 1 Bay Shore - Suffolk County, Division 29 - NY County, Division 7 East Islip - Suffolk County, Division 14 - Nassau County, Division 2 Niagara County, Division 3 Watervliet - Albany County, Division 1 Lewiston - Niagara County, Division 1 - Schenectady County, Division 1 Camillus - Onondaga County and the NYS Board.

Congratulations to Albany JFK Division 1 for their 2016-2017 recognition award from the AOH National Board for contributions exceeding \$1,000.00 - their donation was \$3,535. Since Albany began participating in FFAI they have been at the forefront nationally contributing over \$10,000 since 2010. New York continues to lead by example and reinforce what many of us know, which is that the LAOH do indeed care about the future for the communities in the North of Ireland.

We are now into the 2017-2018 FFAI Christmas Appeal season and we need your support. If

your division has not donated previously, please consider doing so. These programs that are making strides in communities in Belfast, Derry, Omagh and other areas and rely on your support both economically and fraternally. If every Division sends in at least \$100.00 we would be sending a clear message that the LAOH support these programs and we support the peace in the North. For more information please contact me at laohdolores@yahoo.com.

Wishing you a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving.

Immigration and Legislation – Teresa Kearns

Hello!

I am Teresa Kearns and I am your newly appointed Chairman of Immigration & Legislation. I'd like to thank President Clute for this honor. I am from WNY (Lockport in Niagara County) home of this past summer's NYS Convention.

There is so much happening daily in the field of immigration. I will try and share as much new information with you. I am also working with Terry Meyers, (Irish Historian chair), on a "New Member Handbook". If your division has a hand-out that you present to your new members and would like to share it with us, please do so. Every new member deserves some guidance into our organization.

If you are having a problem or have a question, please feel free to contact me at: Irishsmiles17@verizon.net or 716-531-1431 and I will do my best to get you answers. Cheers!

Webmaster/Information Technology- Colleen O'Reilly

Greetings Sisters,
I want to give a shout out all the Divisions and Counties with active social media accounts. By

posting about your events and charity works you are not only sharing your stories with fellow Hibernians but you are also helping to raise the public profile of the LAOH, educating the public on our culture and social causes, and potentially inspiring others to get involved.

Surprising as it may seem the internet is where a lot of people go to experience their heritage these days. In a recent survey reported on by Irish Central, "A whopping 98% of respondents stated that Facebook had made a major difference in how they interact with their Irish heritage." So keep posting and if you've haven't been, start. One picture, one paragraph is all you need. Post them to your social media accounts and websites, and share them with us as well. Let's motivate the people out from behind the glare of their electronic devices and help them to experience the joys of being an Irish-American in real life. Check out the Resources page of www.laohnys.com for information and tips on social media accounts and websites.

In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,
Colleen O'Reilly Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. NYS Information Technology
518-892-3175 laohnysweb@gmail.com

Fundraiser- Rose Coulson

The fundraiser project is doing well. We have collected \$660.00 from divisions for our raffle. At the Fall meeting I will be selling raffles and trying to shake our members down to raise money for NYS.

In our Motto,
Rose Coulson, Fundraiser

Immediate Past President – Karen Keane

Sisters,

Happy Autumn. I bet there is no one more excited about our State Board Meeting than me.

I have nothing to worry about. I just present my organizer's report and I can sit back. What a feeling! I know I shouldn't feel was excited, but after ears of worrying, about this and that, it is great.

I will have new color membership forms for you to take. I will also be handing out some information sheets that you can use for prospective members and sharing ideas on membership.

Hope to see you all in Pearl River. I ask that you keep our Worthy President, Jackie Clute in your prayers as she prepares for this meeting.

Karen Keane

Immediate Past State President

Chaplain- Margaret Anderton

Greetings Sisters,

It is an honor to serve as your Chaplain - please know you are in my prayers. Thank you to our Webmaster Colleen for adding *The Chaplain's Corner* to the website! You will find prayers, reflections, bereavement and other resources that I hope you will find helpful. I will work with Colleen to update the content periodically.

May this prayer from St. Teresa of Avila comfort and inspire you:

"May today there be peace within.

May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be.

May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith.

May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you.

May you be content knowing you are a child of God.

Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love.

It is there for each and every one of us."

In the Peace of Christ,
Peg Anderton, MDiv, DMin, Chaplain

Greene County

Samhain is upon us, the end of the celtic year, and now the days will be growing shorter and darker, as clocks go back this coming weekend and the months of darkness arrive.

We've had a busy few months including the Annual Mayo Society Mass at the Shrine of Our Lady of Knock, here in East Durham. We're always glad to welcome them and provide hospitality before and after the Mass. It's a long trip for some of them by bus from the City.



Our Annual Tea Party and collective Birthday Party for our members, was a success as usual, with a lovely luncheon and 2 beautiful cakes. This is our most relaxing event as it's "members only", with funny, frilly or silly hats. One of our members provides some of her lovely tea pot collection to line the tables, and we all enjoy admiring them as well as the tea cups/saucers we each brought along to the party.

The Annual Yard Sale was a great success and lots of fun as well. So many of our members volunteer to help out from setting up to cleaning up, but the best part is meeting so many people who come to shop and find that special item they've always wanted. As a personal finale, we treated ourselves to a delicious pizza party - mangia!

Now we're getting ready for several events in December - first is our LAOH Div. 32 Christmas Dinner at the Shamrock House, East Durham on December 3rd. They've offered us a lovely menu with several choices, and we're all looking forward to enjoying it. Spouses, friends, neighbors - all are welcome to come and celebrate.

December 8th, after the Mass for the Immaculate Conception, we will light our Annual Memorial Angel Christmas Tree. Our Immediate Past President, Pat Steinhauer puts her heart into this each year preparing the numerous angels for the tree, which will be blessed following the Mass and then lit for the season through January 6th, 2018.

Our final *event* of the year will be our Installation of 2018 Officers on December 12th, at our December meeting. Looking forward to a wonderful Hibernian year ahead, full of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity for all.

There are still 5 spaces open on the Mass Rock Memorial - please contact Pat Steinhauer 518-622-8219 for a form if interested.

Patricia Kiernan Cullie
President, Div. 32/Greene County

Kings County

"Walk A Mile in Their Shoes"

The LAOH Div. 6, Greenpoint Brooklyn sponsored a charity walk to benefit Pieta House USA. The "Walk A Mile In Their Shoes" event was held on Sept 10th, 2017 National Suicide Prevention and Awareness Day in the USA in McCarren Park, Brooklyn. This Walk sponsored by the LAOH was a huge success. Volunteers from the LAOH and walkers from all over including Msgr McClancy HS Girls BasketBall Team helped raise over two thousand dollars for

Pieta House USA. Pieta House is a Suicide Prevention and Awareness Center located in the NY Irish Center in Long Island City, NY. The Center provides free counseling sessions to anyone in need.

Photo: LAOH Div 6, Greenpoint Volunteers:

Bridie Mitchell, Jessica Darragh, Kathy Ferguson, Gina Sheehan, Mary Hogan, Sr. Miriam Daniels, Bridie Buckley, Tara Atson, Aileen Cahill, Claire Hulton.



Great Irish Fair

Mary Hogan (LAOH Past National President) was the 2017 recipient of the "Round Tower Award" at the Great Irish Fair (GIF.) The Round Towers of Ireland stand out in the countryside like the Gothic Cathedrals of Europe. They represent the spiritual aspirations of Irish monks and their defense of the Faith against centuries of persecution. THE ROUND TOWER AWARD is presented to honor a person who exemplifies the strength, courage and the missionary spirit of the Irish monks who built the Round Towers. GIF Chairperson Marty Cottingham spoke of Mary "You are most deserving of this distinction because of who you are and what you do for the community." Mary was selected for this honor for her work with the LAOH and as Chairperson of the Brooklyn St. Patrick's Parade and for her many years of volunteering at the GIF and many other charitable causes. The Brooklyn Hibernians for decades have participated in this Fair; the Fair raises money for Catholic Schools in the Brooklyn Diocese. It is also a great opportunity to recruit new members.



Joint LAOH/AOH membership Booth at Great Irish Fair (GIF), Coney Island, Brooklyn.
Sitting-Chaplain, Sr. Virginia Lake, CSJ; Arlene Miranda

Standing: Rose Coulson; Mary Hogan (Honoree & Natl Organizer); Nicole Malliotakis; Cathy Doherty.

Background- Danny Chiarantano, Joe Glynn

On Sunday October 29, 2017 Kings County held our Communion Mass and Remembrance Breakfast for the departed members of the LAOH & AOH of Kings County New York. Fr. John Boles and Frans Lang from the Columban Missions joined us. Fr. John gave a wonderful and humorous talk about his journey and what it means to be a missionary. He and Frans Lang also spoke about the 100th Anniversary year of the Columban Missions and their special relationship with the LAOH since 1935. The Centennial Year will start this Nov 2017 thru November 2018; there will celebrations throughout the world.



Sr. Miriam Daniels, Sr. Virginia Lake, Cathy Murphy, Claire Hulton, Regina Begley, Kathy Ferguson, Rose Coulson, Mary Mudgett, Eileen

Byrnes, Fr. John Boles, AnneMarie Bendell, Cathy Doherty, Pat Maxwell, Barbara Wasserman, Joann Gundersen, (Bottom) Joan Walsh, Bridie Buckley, Margaret McEneaney, Kathy Killen, Gina Sheehan, Mary Hogan, Frans Lang.

On Sunday November 12, 2017, the Bay Ridge St Patrick's Day Parade Committee officially sashed our 2018 honorees. Pictured below with a special visit from NYS Senator Marty Golden. Congratulations to all of them! Our milestone 25th Anniversary Parade is Sunday March 25, 2018. All AOH & LAOH members are invited to participate! The Bay Ridge St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee is made up of members of LAOH Division 22 and AOH Division 12 Bay Ridge.



The 2018 Parade Honorees are:

Grand Marshal - Martin J. Cottingham
Deputy Marshals: Stephen G. Gorton, Bro. Campion Lally, Greg McGuinness, Brendan Moloney, Connor P. O'Mara, Mary M. Koren Deirdre Cronin-Butler, Angela Connolly-Coyle Liza Schneider-Loyd, Mary Manning

Any questions or for more info, please don't hesitate to email our Parade President, Linda Gallagher-Lomanto (linda@brparade) of Division 22 in Kings County, NY

Monroe County

Our annual picnic was held at Anne Brennan's house on June 26th. Thanks to Anne for her continued generosity in offering her house every year for this event. Thanks also to Deirdre Hickey for always lending her big tent. We always look forward to this opportunity to socialize and, of course, enjoy delicious food.

Once again we contributed cookies to the Mary Cariolla Center for their graduations. The Mary Cariolla Center serves special needs students from pre-school through post high school from all over the greater Rochester area. This is one of our favorite annual events.

In July we lost long time member Betty Anne Johnson. We attended her wake and prayed as a group.

Several of our members joined with sisters from all over our great state for the 2017 NYS LAOH Convention hosted by the Buffalo Region in July. It is an opportunity to meet with sisters from all over and to participate in meetings and information gathering. Our thanks to Karen Keane for her service to the whole state during her tenure as president and a warm welcome to our new president, Jackie Clute.

Also in July Anne Kelly, a long -time member, celebrated a very special, milestone birthday! We won't reveal the number but we will say that she is an inspiration to all of us with her tireless spirit and busy calendar!

The Rochester Celtic Festival takes place on September 8th and 9th in downtown Rochester at the Martin Luther King Park. It is a celebration of all things Celtic through food, music, dance and crafts. It is also where we sell Irish soda bread donated to us from TOPS Friendly Markets. It is a great fundraiser for us.

On September 23rd the Irish Children's Program will hold its 2nd annual Golf Tournament at Timber Ridge Golf Course. Several members

volunteered for this event last fall and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The money raised from the event is used for air fare for children from Northern and The Republic of Ireland, both Catholic and Protestant, to come to Rochester. Once here they are placed with host families for a few weeks in the summer. They enjoy time with an American family and a child of another faith from Ireland whom they would not otherwise ever know.

The Mary Cariolla Center is holding a 5k race on September 24th at the Veterans Memorial Park in Penfield. Our ladies will assist by working the registration table. The Center is in the midst of a capital campaign and the money raised at the race will go towards their efforts.

Nassau County

Greetings from Nassau County! The Nassau County LAOH/AOH had its 45th Annual Nassau County AOH Feis on September 17, 2017. It was an amazing day filled with Irish Step dance and Bagpipe Band competitions and an assortment of activities.

We are proud to announce the recipient of the 2017 Nassau County Woman of the Year is Marianne Fleischer! We will be celebrating this event on November 19, 2017. Division 17 had its annual Irish Day Parade & Festival on October 7, 2017. Division 15 had a day of charity October 13, 2017 for the Peanut Butter and Jelly Gang at St. James Church in Seaford, NY making sandwiches to be given to those in need.



October 22, 2017 Division 15 had its annual Communion Mass and breakfast.

We have numerous members that will be attending the State Board Meeting on November 4, 2017. We are all looking forward to seeing our sisters.

Niagara County

Lockport Ladies Division II had a busy year. Back in March, we joined our fellow Hibernians in attending Mass at All Saints Parish at St. Patrick's Church in Lockport, NY with Father Walter Szczesny presiding. Bagpipes played as we all marched in procession into church while three of our sisters lead the music throughout the mass. The following night was our annual St. Patrick's Day party. Many enjoyed food and drink and were entertained with live music and Irish Dancers. On Sunday we all marched in the St. Patrick's Parade. Ladies marched proudly with their fellow brothers and sisters braving the cold weather.



Our need for the month was to collect cans of coffee for Lockport Cares an Emergency homeless shelter.

In April, our own Chris Speck was recognized in our local paper for all her contributions, time and effort to the Equi*Star Program. The

Equi*Star program enriches the lives of people with disabilities through equine-related activities, serving children and adults with varying conditions, such as cerebral palsy, developmental delays, autistic spectrum disorders, Trisomy 21, anxiety and more. Research shows that people who participate in therapeutic riding can experience physical, emotional and mental improvements. Well done Chris.

We held a raffle for several months for a quilt for the State Convention. It was a huge success. The handmade quilt was made by one of our members and the winner was drawn in May and was won by Sue Messina in Broom County. Congratulations, Sue.



Sisters joined together in Walking for a Cure for Breast Cancer in the annual Mother's Day walk along the Erie Canal. Women and men gather at Wide Waters Marina for this annual event. Our ladies look forward to it each year.



Ladies met for their annual golf outing at Gothic Hill Golf Course. Our own Father Walt even got in on the action. Our own Janet "Mom" Taylor was our Champion for the event, way to go "Mom". Ladies marched in the Memorial Day Parade.



It was a beautiful day and many ladies came out to show support for those who fought for our freedom. Our need for the month of May was for women's hygiene products, shampoo/deodorant and razors, for the St. John's Outreach Center.

In June, we celebrated Grace O'Malley day with sisters from Niagara Falls. It was said that Grace would never bow to Queen Elizabeth and that they would only speak to each other in Latin. It was also told that Grace as a young child wished to go on a trade mission with her father. Her father would not allow it as she had long hair and he feared it would get tangled in the ropes. So she cut most of her hair off to embarrass her father into taking her. This earned her the nickname "Gráinne Mhaol" (from 'maol' meaning bald or having cropped hair), usually anglicised as Granuaile. Granuaile lived to an old age. She died of natural causes in 1603 at Rockfleet Castle and was 72 or 73 at the time of her passing. Ladies also volunteered to help with another year of Challenger baseball. Ladies always have so much fun with this event and always come away getting more out of this event than they put into it. It is always so rewarding to see all the participants smile and having such a great time. Our need for the

month was wrapped snacks like cookies/crackers for the Lockport Cares Homeless Shelter.

July, Ladies were busy as the State Convention was held in our area. Mass was proclaimed by our very own Father Walt at the Adams Mark Hotel. The Mother Teresa Award was given to Susanne LaGasse. Many events were held including Irish Night on the Erie Barge Canal, which of course was built by Irish immigrants. Everyone worked so hard to make this year convention a huge success. Well done everyone!

In August ladies were just enjoying their summer. September however, several ladies participated in an Out of Darkness walk for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention organization. AFSP funds research aimed at improving our understanding of suicide and ways to prevent it as well as educational programs to increase awareness about prevention, warning signs and the psychiatric illnesses that can lead to suicide. It is estimated that an attempt is made every minute, with close to one million people attempting suicide annually. Suicide is the fourth leading cause of death in the U.S. among adults 18-65, the second leading cause of death among teens and young adults, and individuals ages 65 and older account for 16 percent of all suicide deaths. What horrible and sad statistics. Also in September, we have our annual Niagara Celtic Festival. It's our biggest fundraiser of the year. This year was another huge success and it could never be done without the help of all our sisters working together.

Siúracha nach bhfuil ag fuil ach de rogha

(Sisters, not by blood but by choice!)

Orange County

Division 2 celebrated their 30th Anniversary on Saturday, October 21, 2017. The evening started with a Mass at St. Thomas/St. Joseph's Church in Cornwall NY followed by a reception

at the AOH Division 2 Hall. A good time was had by all.

Pictured (left to right) are three of the founding members, Anne Keegan, Jane Harkinson and Kay Halpin cutting the cake. Second picture is the anniversary cake.



Schenectady County

The JFK Division 1 ladies returned from the summer with their annual pot luck baby shower for Birthright of Schenectady. Every year the ladies gather after their summer break to share a meal and collect baby items for Birthright.



Installation of Division Officers occurred on November 18, 2017. The following members were installed by the LAOH NYS President and Division member, Jackie Clute with assistance from NYS Past President Karen Keane:

President- Cathy Turck, Vice- President Betsy Henderson, Secretary – Kim DePeaux, Treasurer- Jackie Clute, Financial Secretary- Marcella Dietz, Irish Historian- Linda Wolfe, Missions and Charities- Ellen Stafford, Catholic Action- Leah Darcy, Sentinel- Brenda Adams, Mistress at Arms- Jennifer Langlais, Grievance Committee- Mary Sieder and Marty Juhren.

The Ladies from Division 1 are gearing up for a busy Holiday Season with our Annual Breakfast with Santa for the Children of Schenectady on December 9th. Our cookie exchange to pack the cookie tins for our shut insisters will take place immediately following our meeting on December 10th. On December 15th we will have our Christmas Party at the Hall- featuring the Music of Steve Grey from Who's Your Paddy.

We wish everyone a Blessed Holiday Season full of Peace and Love. Merry Christmas!!

Suffolk County

Suffolk County AOH and LAOH Kevin Barry Division 3 of Smithtown held a Fall Dance on October 21st. Music was provided by the Boston Burglers, and a good time was had by all.

Pictured are Brian Clancy (AOH Div 3), Rich Cremmins (AOH Div 8), Kateri Lucarelli (LAOH Div 3 Pres.) Pat Cremmins (Suffolk County LAOH Pres), Tom Lambert (AOH NYS Vice Pres), Karalyn O'Brien (LAOH Div 8/9 Pres), Tom Macenna (AOH NYS Editor), John Manning (AOH NYS Secretary), and Terry Roche (AOH Div 3 Pres)



Suffolk County AOH Division 8 and LAOH Division 8/9 of Selden celebrated their 50th Anniversary with a dance on September 30th at the Elks Lodge in Centerreach. Ladies who were 25 and 50 year members were presented with certificates commemorating their years of membership. Pictured are Carol Rappolt (25 years), Bridie Glynn (50 years), Marilyn Mallon (50 years), Karilyn O'Brien (President LAOH Div 8/9), and Mary Keane (50 years).



On October 13th, AOH and LAOH Kevin Barry Division 3 of Smithtown and the Kings Park Heritage Museum sponsored the annual Kings Park Irish Night. Always a success, the event showcased singers, step dancers and other performances, as well as exhibits displaying items of Irish culture. Refreshments were provided by the members of the Division 3.

AOH and LAOH Division 3 of Smithtown participated in the Kings Park "Hurricane Relief in Texas" efforts. In addition to donations made by individual members, AOH and LAOH Division 3 donated \$500 to purchase cases of water, mops, cleaning products, personal hygiene items and other supplies. A truck and driver was donated by Plycon Trucking of Kings Park, and was filled with items supplied by the AOH and LAOH, the Knights of Columbus, the VFW, as well as other local organizations. The loaded truck departed Kings Park for Texas on September 30th. Pictured is a small part of the donations that were sent.

On Saturday Nov4th, the Kings Park LAOH Division 3 held their Fall Cleaning Clothing Drive fundraiser in conjunction with the Commack, NY Big Brothers/Big Sisters Savers Donation Center. Savers Donation Centers re-sell gently used items with the profit going to the Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization. LAOH members collected over 1,200 pounds of clothing, plus household goods and books. Coordinator Mary Herbert and her crew brought it all to Savers to be weighed and purchased by Savers at a pre-arranged drop off time, and raised over \$300.00 for Division 3.

Elizabeth Allen, Suffolk County Sentinel and Past President of Division 1, Bay Shore, was awarded National Lifetime Membership in the LAOH. Elizabeth is shown here flanked by Division 1 President Josephine Cahill and Suffolk County President Pat Cremmins. Also in the photo is NYS LAOH Secretary Aggie O'Leary and the Ladies of Division 1.



The second photo is of Elizabeth with her husband Ron Allen of AOH Division 1.

