

Lady Hibernian Herald

Ancient Order of Hibernians - Irish · Catholic · American

October 2020

President's Message

Has it only been six weeks?

Yes, and what an action packed six weeks it has been. The National Officers have been working hard to get adjusted to their new job duties and finish up their prior positions. The National Appointees are organizing their committees, creating mission statements, and showing, along with the National Officers, what an Irish American Catholic Woman can do. I could not be any prouder of this group of women. Please read their introduction letters and visit their Facebook pages and our website.

I am loving the Lady Hibernian Herald. I want to read about all of the great work done by our members from across the Country. If you don't submit your articles, we can't support you and know the good works you are performing. East coast, West coast, Gulf Coast, Canadian border. Share your news. We want to hear.

If you need anything from the National Board, please ask. While I am still working full-time, I can answer an email at almost any time. Please let us

hear from you.

Karen Keane
natlpresidentlaoh@gmail.com

Oh No We Can't Do That- Your Division and Political Things

For many years and for very good reasons, the LAOH Divisions have been advised, threatened, warned, and reminded that we can take no political action. While most of that is true, there are a few things your Division or State Board can do in this area. One of the main reasons all actions were banned was because we had no inhouse method for a quick turnaround on an approval process. Now we do. If your Division has something it is planning, please email all the information and a draft of what you are planning to publish, send, or do to laohcanidothis@gmail.com You should received a response within 18 hours, at the latest.

Here are some things we all MUST remember, especially in this politically charged time of the year:

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Can we do this– continued

Under NO circumstance can we endorse or appear to endorse a candidate; nor can we publish or say something against a political candidate. You should be especially conscious of this when posting on LAOH social media accounts.

We CAN write to or visit an elected official noting our agreement or disagreement with pending legislation that is part of our exempt purpose (Irish, Catholic, Immigration, and Catholic Social Justice issues)

You CAN wear a LAOH sash to a rosary rally, right to life gathering, or prayer vigil for a missing person or a social justice issue. No sign carrying is authorized, unless prior approval is granted.

You CANNOT wear a LAOH sash and protest, break windows, throw Molotov cocktails, carry vulgar signs, chat unkind words, and/or destroy property.

So, if you have question, please ask the email address wizard for an answer.

Along with being the Immediate Past National President I have the honor to serve the Order as the

Carol Sheyer– Immediate Past President and Organizer

National Organizer. As National Organizer, I am available to help organize Divisions in States where there are no LAOH, to assist States with organizing new Divisions and to help Ladies interested in joining to find a Division in close proximity.

Presently on the LAOH website there is some material, including a LAOH Membership Application, which can be helpful to increase membership. National President Karen Keane has appointed a Membership Committee, chaired by National Missions & Charities Officer Cathy Turk, to look into ways of growing our membership. The committee will also review the Membership application and work on marketing material. Much

more information will be forthcoming from the Membership Committee.

HIBERNIANS AT NOTRE DAME

Since 1978, the Ancient Order of Hibernians and Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians have held a special relationship with the University of Notre Dame. The Notre Dame Fund includes a Scholarship for our members, their children and grandchildren, an Endowment to the Cushwa Center for Hibernian Research Awards and the Annual Hibernian Lecture. In 2016, the National Boards donated to the Keough Naughton Center Institute for Irish Studies for the documentary “**The 1916 Irish Rebellion.**” Promotion of our Irish and Irish American History has always been a goal of our order and donating to both the Cushwa Center and the Keough Naughton Institute helps us achieve this goal.

I have been visiting the campus of Notre Dame most of my life but now I also have a special relationship with the University. I am honored and proud to serve our Order as the LAOH Hibernian Chair with AOH Past President Ned McGinley. During the past few years, I had the opportunity to meet with the Financial Office and the Cushwa Center along with other members of the AOH and LAOH National Boards to receive an annual update on our donations to the University. The University has been excellent stewards of our donations and many Hibernians have benefited from the Hibernian Scholarship. At last year’s meeting, Shane Ulbrich Assistant Director of the Cushwa Center made the announcement that the Hibernian Lecture would be held in Dublin, Ireland for the first time. What exciting news!! My time for serving as Chair could not have been better. I was going to Ireland for our Hibernian Lecture.

The Luck of the Irish was very questionable in March of 2020 with Covid 19. The Cushwa Center continued to plan for the Hibernian Lecture. This Lecture was going to be very special. Michael O’Higgins, the President of Ireland was planning on attending the Lecture given by Declan Kilberd. Our Luck ran out against the global pandemic and plans for hosting in Ireland ended. This was very disappointing but not unexpected. Would the Hibernian Lecture happen this year or would it be moved to 2021? Good news was received by Shane Ulbrich that the Hibernian Lecture would be held.

Story continued on next page

Hibernians at Notre Dame continued

Hibernian Lecture will be at **11:00 a.m. on Friday, October 9, 2020**. The lecture will be a Zoom webinar. Good thing we have practice from the Convention.

The Luck of the Irish is back with us. The Hibernian Lecture being held as a ZOOM Webinar will allow more of our members to participate. The topic of the Lecture is “The Idea of Greater Ireland” presented by Colin Barr of the University of Aberdeen. He is a fellow at the Keough-Naughton Institute this year. Attendance is free and open to the public. Registration will be required to receive the appropriate Zoom link. I will send out the information to State Presidents as soon as the details are available. Is this a flashback for me from the Convention??? I encourage everyone to attend if possible. Any questions, please feel free to contact me at laohnationalvicepresident@gmail.com Please check out the past 2 Lectures. I am including the title and links to view. 2019 was “A Century of Suffrage” by Tara McCarthy www.youtube.com/watch?v=1sT02FRBrqs

Division #4 Mon Valley, Washington County

The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Mary Ellen O'Neill Division #4, Mon Valley, Washington County is a Sisterhood of Irish and Irish American Catholic Women. The LAOH is a National Organization officially recognized in 1894 as the “Daughters of Erin” changed and incorporated to the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. in 2004. The Ladies hold true to the Motto of: Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity and are pledged to God and Country. The preamble of the LAOH constitution states that the intent and purpose of the LAOH is to promote the Motto among its members, assisting the people of Ireland, aiding the aged, sick, and infirm members and includes doing Mission Work and Catholic Action. The LAOH have actively participated in the in the Annual Irish History Writing Contests and have won Awards for their Division Newspapers. Our patron Saint is St. Brigid of Ireland. In 1980 both the Ladies and Men voted to fund a Hibernian Chair at the University of Notre Dame for the study of the history of the Catholic Church in the United States and the Irish contribution to that history. At each National Convention, the Order donates to the Columban Fathers and Sisters, the principal charities of the Order. A joint program of the AOH and LAOH “Project St. Patrick” works to assist religious vocations and provide financial support to

seminarians, religious men and women during their formation. This Project was to continue the vision of St. Patrick to bring the Gospel and the Eucharist to all people. Division #4 LAOH celebrated their 36th Anniversary of obtaining their Charter in September 1984. The Charter was blessed by the late Monsignor William J. Maher at the former St. Jerome Church, now St. Andrew the Apostle in Charleroi, Pa. Division #4 LAOH has been represented in Allegheny County, PA. activities, the Annual St. Patrick Day Communion Breakfast, served as Grand Marshall of the St. Patrick Day Parade in Pittsburgh, Pa., acknowledged Hibernian of the Year, attended Our Lady of Knock Masses, St. Brigid Communion Breakfasts and were represented in all State and National Conventions. Mary Ellen O'Neill, Division #4, supported their President, Dorothy Flaherty Weldon who also served as the State President of Pennsylvania and the National President as she signed a Contractual agreement with Boston College in her National President term 2006-2008 with the Burns Librarian, Dr. Robert K. O'Neill on November 1, 2006 that the Repository of John J. Burns Library, at Boston College will be the permanent receptacle for the archival materials for the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. The receptacle is crucial in the preservation of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Work for future generations as well as to provide guidance and perspective for scholars interested in researching the largest Irish Catholic organization of women in this country.



(Div #4 Officers pictured left to right: Dottie Taylor, Vice President; Dorothy Weldon, President; Carole Seader, Irish Historian & Financial Secretary; Kathleen Lynch, Secretary) Officers not pictured:

Ellen Lahey Cmar – Missions/Charities, Pat Loversidge – Freedom for All Ireland, Imm./Leg./ Helen June Bednarczyk, Trenna Loversidge, Gloria Tracey, Past President.

LAOH Select National Life Members at Virtual Convention

At the Virtual National Convention, held on July 25, 2020, the Ladies Ancient Orders of Hibernians, Inc selected two new members for National Life Membership. Patti Flaus from Pittsburgh Pennsylvania and Eloise Stalter from Akron, Ohio were selected to receive this high honor.

To become a National Life Member, one must have “performed Outstanding and Distinguished service to Hibernianism for at least 25 consecutive years”. Candidates proposed for this award must be approved by a 2/3 vote of their respective Division, County, State Boards prior to submitting to the LAOH National Board. The National Board can award up to 5 National Life Memberships at the Bi-annual Nation Convention and a 2/3 vote is necessary to be selected. No per capita or dues shall be required of National Life Members.

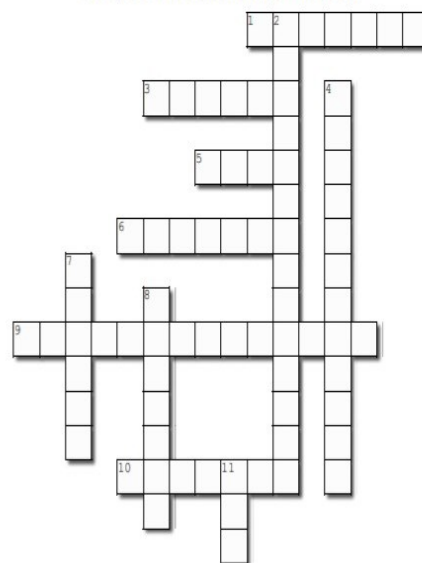
Patti Flaus is a member of Maud Gonne Division 32 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She has served in various Officer positions at the Division and County levels and has been an appointee to the State Board. In addition to elected offices held, Patti has served on various committees on the Division/County and State level as well as committees at the National Convention. Patti also helps our members reaffirm their dedication to our Order as a member of the local Degree Team since 1995. She has helped our membership maintain their dedication to the Catholic Church and Faith by organizing masses in honor of Saint Brigid and Our Lady of Knock, as well as spiritual retreats. Patti fosters friendship between the LAOH and AOH by representing her Division and the County Board at many social functions and fundraisers, working hand in hand with her AOH brothers. Since her initiation into our Order, Patti has generously given of her time and talents to carry out our motto of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity. Her dedication to the LAOH has been recognized by her Division and she was honored with the Hibernian of the Year Award.

Eloise Stalter is a member of the Margaret Judge Division 1 in Akron, Ohio. She has held many State Offices including President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, and Organizer. Eloise has also served in many Division Offices and on several committees for various functions including St. Patrick’s Day Parade and Luncheon, All Irish Day, Celtic festival, Irish Craft Faire, Shamrock Building Committee, Memorial Stone Committee, and 15 plus years as part of the Fish Fry Crew. She helped to mentor a new local LAOH Division and recruited many new members to the Order. Eloise was nominated Grand Marshal for the St. Patrick’s Day Parade and was named LAOH Hibernian of the Year. Eloise also volunteers at her church and with members of her division at the local Pregnancy Care Center in the community. Throughout the years, Eloise has demonstrated outstanding and distinguished service as a Hibernian. Her Division sisters say she is the epitome of what the LAOH stands for, Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity.

Congratulations ladies on receiving your Gold Cards!!

Irish Saints

Complete the crossword puzzle below



Created using the Crossword Mak

Across

1. Exiled to Iona
3. Patron: of Cork, Diocese of Cork
5. The founder of monasticism in Ireland.
6. wrote prophecies of the popes
9. Patron: of Peace and Reconciliation in Ireland
10. Drove the Snakes out of Ireland

Down

2. Queen of Ireland
4. November 1/ Holy Day of Obligation
7. Patroness of the LAOH
8. Navigator
11. Brigid of Munster

LAOH National Website

The LAOH National website (ladiesaoh.com) is full of information for you, your members and even the public to see what we are all about. As we try to continue to grow our order, one of the ways we can make sure the public can be directed appropriately, is through our website. We ask that each State, County, and Division log onto Ladiesaoh.com, (go to Membership tab, then Division contacts tab) to ensure that all contacts are current. If they are not current, please reach out to the webmaster at laohnationalwebmaster@gmail.com to make any corrections. This should also be done after elections are held so updates can be made. It is important that this information is current, so we do not lose any opportunity for contact of a prospective member to your division.

While you are on the National website, look around to see what information is available to you and your members. You can read past issues of the Lady Hibernian Herald, historic issues of the Hibernian Digest, get contacts for National Board members, read about the Irish History contest etc. I could go on and on. In addition, if your state or division puts out a newsletter, send it to the webmaster, and it will be posted as well.

If there is information you would like to see added to the site, please reach out with your suggestions.

THE MICHIGAN LAOH LOSES A PAST NATIONAL CHAPLAIN

The Catholic community is mourning the loss of Fr. Stephen Rooney, who passed away August 20th as a result of a tragic boating accident on the Detroit River.

Fr. Rooney was one of 15 children born in Belfast, Ireland in 1954. He is survived by 13 heartbroken brothers and sisters. He took his vows as a brother in the Redemptorist Order in 1975. However, in 1978 he entered the Cistercian Order and took his final vows while a member of that community in 1985. The following year he left for the United States to work as a priest in the diocese of Detroit. Dearly loved in every Parish he served, he was especially loved by the LAOH members of Michigan. When the Mary of the Gael Division was formed in Monroe, Maureen Shelton asked Fr. Rooney if we could meet at St. Michael the Archangel church where he was pastor

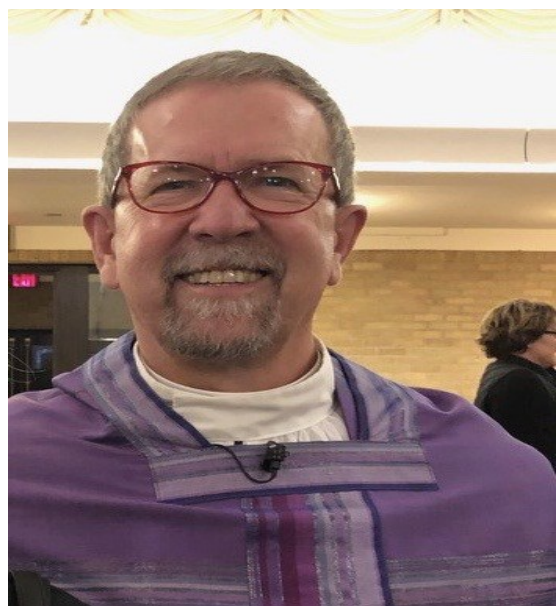
and he readily agreed. When Maureen ran for National President, she asked Fr. Rooney if he would be the National Chaplain if she should win. With his quick tongue and a great sense of humor he said he would say a novena that she wouldn't win as that wasn't his kind of thing. However, when Maureen became National President in 2012 Fr. Rooney agreed to be our National Chaplain. He said the Mass and gave a blessing at her Testimonial Dinner in November 2013.

After attending the 2014 National Convention in Louisville he jokingly said he would never complain about a Parish Council meeting again.

Coming from the north of Ireland where Catholics suffered discrimination at the hands of the state heightened his strong sense of social justice. That compassion and his Irish wit brought people to whatever parish he pastored. He had a rapport with all his congregation; from grieving families, to the school children, to a sweet lady of ninety-six years who he would banter with every Sunday.

His long and eloquent obituary included this paragraph: "There's a short blessing in Irish: "Is gaire cabhair De na an doras - God's help is closer than the door." It reflects the Celtic spirituality that God is with us in the every day and mundane."

Fr. Rooney lived his life that way. His homilies and Parish bulletin columns, called Rooney's Tunes shared his love of God and devotion to the Blessed Mother. He has left a void in many lives and will be greatly missed. Hopefully we can find some comfort in knowing that the Lord greeted him with open arms saying well done good and faithful servant.





Past Nebraska State President Catie McCarthy Niederee gave birth to her second daughter while we were finishing up our convention business. Congratulations Catie and family.

Meet our State Presidents



Kelly Hajek- Nebraska State President

Kelly is an 11-year member of the Mother McCauley Division in Omaha Nebraska. Founded in 1894, this is the first LAOH division in America.

Kelly was previously the Nebraska State Vice President and moved up to be the President after the current president moved out of state. She recently celebrated her 37th wedding anniversary and has 5 children and 5 grandchildren ranging in age from 8 month to 13 years old. Both Kelly and her husband are in education. She is an avid sports fan rooting for the Green Bay Packers, the Nebraska Cornhuskers, and the Kansas City Royals.

This is currently the only division in Nebraska, with 42 members, and Kelly is looking for ways to help grow their membership. Each year they kick off the St Patrick's Day season with a Hooley. Their members and committee volunteer to ensure the Irish culture is shared with everyone. Each December an Ethnic festival is held where they have a booth and a membership drive. Most recently they have placed an ad in the Arch Diocese Directory letting people know of their division.

JFK Division 1-Schenectady, New York

The ladies from JFK Division 1, held their annual baby shower for Birthright of Schenectady at their meeting on September 13, 2020. Catholic Action Officer, Brenda Adams, who organizes the baby shower and the accompanying potluck dinner, is pictured below (right) with Division President Kim DePeaux (left).

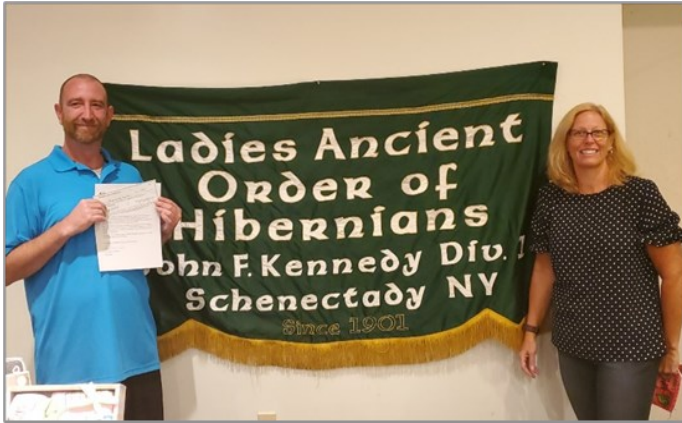


In addition to the many donations of baby clothes, diapers, bibs, washcloths, etc., the Division also made a cash donation to this worthy organization. Birthright is committed to providing confidential, non-judgmental support to any woman who is pregnant or thinks she might be pregnant, no matter her age, race, circumstances, religion, marital status or financial situation. The organization helps a woman with essentials such as pregnancy testing, medical, housing and counseling referrals as well as maternity and baby items. Through Birthright's strong support system, she can realize hope for her future.

Appeals for Aid recipient

JFK Division 1 President, Kim DePeaux, presents a check to Max Halabuda, Emergency Aid Coordinator, from **Things Of My Very Own**. The Division had submitted this organization for a one-time grant from the Appeals for Aid fund. This agency provides crisis intervention services and programs to children in crisis situations, specifically, those impacted by extensive abuse or neglect. At the LAOH Virtual National Convention held on July 25, 2020, the membership voted for **Things Of My Very Own** to be one of the 10 agencies receiving award money this year.

JFK 1- Schenectady NY, Continued



Mr. Halabuda (above left) attended the Division's September meeting to receive the award. Pictured above right is Division President, Kim DePeaux, presenting the check for over \$1600. Mr. Halabuda addressed the ladies in attendance and expressed his gratitude for the donation. As a 501(c) 3, this agency can purchase items at a discounted amount so monetary donations of this amount will go a long way in providing for needy children.

Missouri



On Saturday, September 12th, 2020, members of the newly formed LAOH division, St. Brendan the Navigator #4, gathered at Seamus McDaniel's Restaurant in Dogtown, a traditionally Irish region in the city of St. Louis, Missouri. Because the division is very young, this get-together served as a means whereby the members got to know each other. The photo shows several of the members of the recently formed division. -mkv/9/20



LADIES ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS, INC.
NATIONAL FUNDRAISING RAFFLE
2020-2021

30 Chances to Win!
If you Win, your ticket goes back in the bin!
6 months of winners!

\$100.00 Thanksgiving 2020, Early Bird Drawing
\$100.00 Christmas 2020, Early Bird Drawing
\$100.00 St Patrick's Day 2021
\$25.00 winners each week for 26 weeks
Every Monday (January 4th, 2021 thru June 28th, 2021)
\$1,000.00 GRAND PRIZE
4th of July, 2021

Tickets are \$20.00 each

Make checks payable to: **LAOH, Inc.**
C/o Maire Leffel, LAOH National Raffle Chair
17710 Flamingo Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44135

Need more tickets or have any questions, email me at:
nationallaohrafflechair@gmail.com

What a great stocking stuffer for Christmas!
Get your entries in early to be eligible for the 2020 Early Bird drawings!
Winners will be posted at ladiesaoh.com under Fundraising

I would like to thank you all for your support during our 2018-2020 National LAOH fundraising campaigns. So many Divisions, County, State and National Board members along with many individuals made both fundraising campaigns a success. Congratulations to all the winners, some more than once! I am very excited that our National President, Karen Keane, has re-appointed me as Fundraising Chair.

Our LAOH Fundraising campaigns has helped defray the costs of our Administrative expenses and has helped promote special events such as our 125th Anniversary. We have many exciting things in which the LAOH is promoting, and I encourage everyone to visit the LAOH National website at, www.ladiesaoh.com to stay informed of events this campaign will contribute towards.

Tickets are \$20.00 each

Please make a **motion** to purchase the tickets to support the LAOH, Inc. Mailings will go out to the National, State, County, and Division Boards this month. Please look for your tickets in the mail.

You are the LAOH, and the LAOH needs your support, let's do this Ladies!

Story continued on next page

National Fundraiser continued

30 chances to win!
6 months of Winners!

Please refer to the flier and website for more detailed information, *AND* spread the word.

It's a great stocking stuffer for Christmas.

Need more tickets or have any questions, please e-mail:

nationallaohrafflechair@gmail.com

In our Motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Maire Leffel, LAOH National Raffle Chair
17710 Flamingo Ave.
Cleveland, Oh 44135

Office of National Irish Historian

The 2020-2021 National Irish History Contest documents have been sent to all State Irish Historians. The Topic for the present contest is “The Impact of the Irish Anglo Treaty of 1921.” Presently I am working with our National Webmaster - Beth Zuczek on updating the Irish Historian page on the National website <https://ladiesaoh.com/irish-history-contest/> with the new Irish History Contest documents and organizing pages in existence for an end user ease of use. I will be scheduling Quarterly Zoom meetings with all State Historians for the next two years.

Presently I am researching LAAOH/LAOH articles in any newspapers per state to build a history if available of the states in existence now and in the past. I have some articles mentioning the LAAOH as early as 1894.

Remember to help promote the National Irish History Contest this year. By now, all Historians should have received the information from your State Historians. In closing, as always if you have any questions please contact me at nationallaohhistorian@gmail.com or by phone at 412-498-3392.



Office of National Missions and Charities

Hello ladies. I wanted to check in as your new National Missions and Charities Officer and make sure you have my contact information in case you have any questions. Please send all checks and donation forms to my address: PO Box 170, Altamont, NY 12009. An updated donations form is available on the National LAOH web page under Missions and Charities. My email address is laohnationalmissions@gmail.com Please feel free to reach out to me.

By the time you read this I will have held the first Zoom meeting with the State Missions and Charities Officers. With the COVID-19 pandemic and so many people working from home or quarantining, Zoom meetings are becoming very popular. I want to share information and help our membership learn about our connection to the Columban Fathers and the Columban Sisters as our two primary missions. I am here for you, the members, and can be available to participate in virtual meetings on all levels (Division/County/State) to help explain the areas covered by my office. As we approach the end of the year, I encourage all Divisions, Counties, and States to consider donating to the Columban Sisters and Columban Fathers.

Coming up in the next newsletter, I will discuss our Appeals for Aid fund. Be well and stay safe. May God bless you all.

Cathy Turck

Massachusetts

On August 27th, LAOH Division 10 in Lynn, Massachusetts recently held a socially-distanced event where the sisters very generously donated enough school supplies to fill 72 backpacks for children in Department of Children and Families' care. We were very fortunate to have Deacon Dick Fields from St. Mary's/ Sacred Heart come to bless the members present, the backpacks, and all of the items that went inside them. The backpacks were delivered to the Lynn DCF office, and will go to local families in need.

Freedom For All Ireland

Dolores Desch

The 2019-2020 Christmas Appeal checks will be distributed this month. President Keane and I will be participating along with the AOH, in a Zoom event on Saturday September 19 at 2:30 pm EST with the Christmas Appeal recipients to hear from them on their recent projects. The Zoom meeting will be available on the AOH Facebook Page. This year's recipients include Relatives for Justice, Holy Cross Trust (Ardoyne), St. Patrick's Center (Downpatrick), Cairde (Strabane), Belfast National Graves, Down Patriot Graves, EALU (East Tyrone), New Lodge Commemoration Committee, Conway Mill Trust, Tyrone AOH, Bridges Beyond Boxing (Belfast), Green Cross, Omagh Basketball, Omagh Choir, Duchas-Oiriall (South Armagh), Ballymurphy Families Committee, Bloody Sunday Trust (Museum of Free Derry), Tyrone National Graves, The Witness Project - Sean Murray, The Pat Finucane Center. I am accepting donations for the 2020-2021 Christmas Appeal. Please send your FFAI donations to me at: 20 Arlene Ave. Albany, NY 12203. Please include the check payable to: LAOH, Inc., the full name of your State, County, Division making the donation and a contact name with email address. Also, you may designate the donation to any of the groups listed above. Please do not send donations directly to the AOH.

The issues faced by those living in the North of Ireland are evolving faster than we can imagine. Brexit is the main issue of the week as the British Government is pushing legislation which will greatly benefit their new post-Brexit economy yet have a devastating impact on the island of Ireland. Although admitting to violating international law and reneging on the Withdrawal agreement they are pursuing this effort. The Withdrawal agreement which came into effect in January, stipulated that the UK would adhere to some EU rules (food safety, regulations) after Brexit happens, preventing a hard border between the Republic of Ireland and the north of Ireland. This latest bill would be in opposition to that Withdrawal

agreement by allowing UK ministers to not apply the EU rules if no trade deal is made with the EU. With the EU regulations not being enforced, the threat of a hard border to protect the interests of the EU is now back in the forefront. Members of the US Congress have publicly opposed this new plan and have said that they will oppose any trade deal with the UK unless they adhere to the Withdrawal agreement.

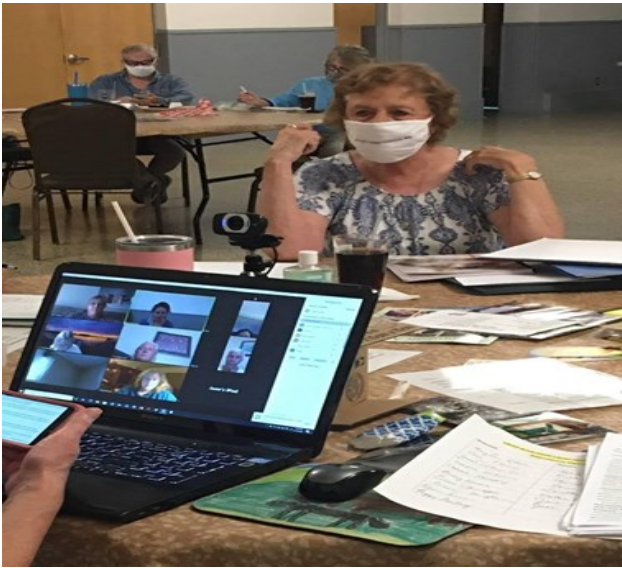
Our FFAI Committee met in September and discussed how we can improve and increase participation in the FFAI program. We agreed that knowledge and communication is key, and we encourage all of you to ensure that your division, county and state have an FFAI appointee. This appointee can work to provide the membership at each meeting with the knowledge of the issues and progress being made in helping those in the north of Ireland gain the justice, peace, equality and independence they are looking to achieve. I am working with our National Webmaster – Beth Zuczek on updating the FFAI Page <https://ladiesaoh.com/freedom-for-all-ireland/> with updated Christmas Appeal information as well as FFAI news. I will be scheduling the Quarterly meeting with all FFAI State Chairs and any other interested members very soon to hear from all of you and share information. Please send me your email address if you have not already and want to be included in that Zoom meeting. As always, if you have any questions or would like more information please contact me at laohnationalffai@gmail.com. Thank you for all of your support for Freedom For All Ireland. Please like and follow us on Facebook. Go raibh maith agat.

Indiana

The LAOH, Our Lady of Knock, Div. 1, Marion County, Indiana resumed their on site monthly meetings at the K of C in July, 2020. They used Zoom for their meetings in April, May, and June, then added Zoom to the on-site meetings to enable more members to attend. Thanks to our National LAOH for modeling the use of Zoom at our National Convention this year, and our continued Zoom meetings for Officers for as long as needed.



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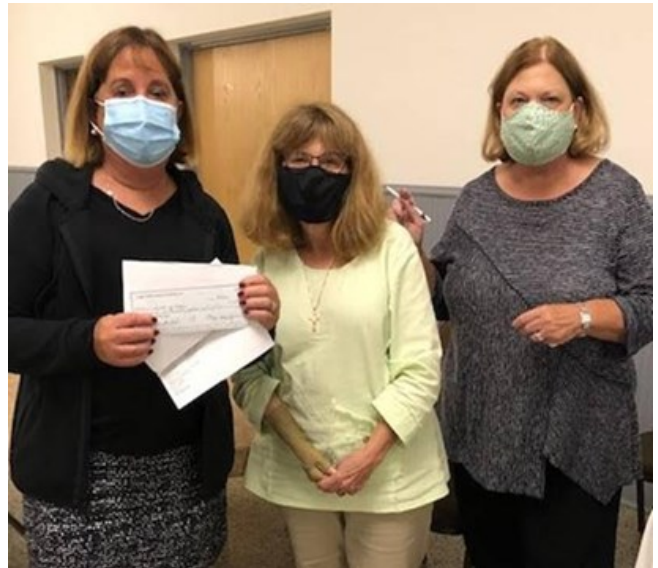


Meetings.....Attendance On Site and Zooming!

Several LAOH Members celebrated Mass together on August 17, 2020, the Feast of Our Lady of Knock, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Indianapolis, Indiana. Every year the LAOH, Our Lady of Knock, Div. 1, Marion County, Indiana celebrate a Memorial Mass for their deceased LAOH Members. This year was special with the Mass coinciding with the special Feast Day of Our Lady of Knock.



Our Lady of Knock Memorial Mass in Indiana



Appeals for Aide Recipient in Indiana

Kathy Flynn, (left) accepts the National Appeals for Aide Committee check for \$1,618.69 for Seeds of Hope, co-founded by her brother Father Glenn O'Connor in 1999. Seeds of Hope is a unique residential addiction recovery program for women over the age of 18. Father Glenn died in March of 2019, and since then, a second residential house is being built. This check will be used to defray the many expenses of such a worthy cause. (Colleen Simon (middle), Missions and Charity Officer and Joan Gutzwiller (right), President, Our Lady of Knock, Div. 1, Marion County, Indiana.

Texas



Recipe winner Bridget Cresto

Texas continued

This stew was made by our member Bridget Cresto who won the local AOH Stew contest in 2019 with this recipe.

Mary Ellen O'Malley's County Mayo Stew

(Mary Ellen O'Malley was my Great Grandmother. She was from County Mayo, but this is not really her recipe. I got the basic from Epicurious.com and made some substitutions)

5 pounds lamb cut in cubes
3 tablespoons olive oil
3 carrots quartered
3 celery ribs
2 medium onions
1 head garlic halved crosswise
3 tablespoons tomato paste
1/3 cup balsamic vinegar
2 cups Jameson
2 cups Guinness extra stout
2 bay leaves
2 thyme sprigs
3 cups beef broth
3 cups water
2 1/2 pounds peel on russet potatoes cubed
1 1/2 pounds carrots

Fresh green peas to garnish
Sprigs of mint to garnish

-Preheat oven to 350 with rack in the middle
-pat lamb dry and season with 2 1/2 teaspoons of salt and 1 teaspoon pepper
-heat oil in pot over medium high heat and brown lamb in batches. Remove to a platter
-reduce heat to medium and add carrots, celery, onions, and garlic. Stir until well browned (about 12 minutes)
-push vegetables to the side and add tomatoes paste stirring 2 minutes then stir into vegetables
-add vinegar and cook stirring for 2 minutes
-add broth, water, lamb, and any juice from lamb. Bring to a simmer, cover and braise in oven for about 2 1/2 hours
Set a large colander in a large bowl, pour stew in colander, return pieces of meat to the colander, discard remaining solids, let cooking liquid stand 10 minutes
-while beef braises cut carrots into slices and potatoes into wedges or cubes
-add potatoes and carrots until they are tender (about 40 minutes)

Maryland

The Maryland State Board held a special uncontested election and installation of the new Maryland State Vice President and State Secretary during their 3rd quarter State Board meeting. Congratulations to their new officers.

State President:	Kathleen Norris
State Vice President:	Sharon Strobel
State Secretary:	Christine Hild
State Treasurer:	Kelly Parks
Catholic Action:	Eileen Edwards
Missions & Charities:	Patricia Petti
Irish Historian:	Mary Ellen Fisher

Father Timothy Hirten Past LAOH National Chaplain 2004-2006

Father Timothy Hirten, a Brooklyn priest serving as a United States Air Force chaplain, died Aug. 15, 2020 in Texas. At the time of his death, he was assigned to Sheppard Air Force base in Texas and held the rank of Major. He was 66. Father Hirten was preceded in death by his parents, Robert F. and Gladys (Kelly) Hirten. is survived by his brothers Michael, Robert, and Terrence, and his sisters, Maureen Agostinacchio, and Nancy McAtasney, his siblings' spouses; 15 nieces and nephews, and 20 great-nieces and great-nephews. Born in Mercy Hospital, Rockville Centre, Father Hirten attended Holy Spirit School, New Hyde Park; Holy Name of Mary School, Valley Stream; St. Barnabas School, Bellmore; St. John the Baptist H.S., West Islip; Franciscan University, Steubenville, Pa.; North American College, and the Pontifical University of St. Thomas, both in Rome, Italy. He was ordained Oct. 9, 1993 by Bishop Thomas V. Daily at St. James Cathedral-Basilica, Downtown Brooklyn. Prior to entering the seminary, he was a professional basketball player, travelling the world with the Washington Generals, the opponents of the Harlem Globetrotters.

Obituary continued on next page

Obituary Continued

Father Hirten also served as National Chaplain for the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians (2004- 2006), for LAOH Division 15, and for the Knights of Columbus. He was the founder of the Catholic Sports Camp, a member of the Jones Beach Lifeguard Corps, and a lead dancer in the Hirten Family Irish Step Dancers Troupe. Fr. Tim was appointed LAOH National Chaplain in November 2004 upon the death of LAOH Natl Chaplain Msgr. Kieran J. Martin by then National President Mary Leathem; Mary said she was sorry to hear of his death, he was a wonderful Priest, great to talk to, he always made time to talk to any member that needed to talk. He served as an assistant at St. Joan of Arc, Jackson Heights, 1993-97, and Sacred Heart, Bayside, before entering the Air Force. He served in Europe and was activated following the Sept. 11 attacks on America. In 2006, he was assigned to McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey. He did several tours in the Mideast while assigned to bases in Oklahoma and Delaware. He also held a degree in social work from Fordham University, specializing in alcohol abuse prevention. "It is hard for me to imagine that this usually exuberant, gregarious man and former professional basketball player is no longer with us. Father Hirten will be sorely missed by me and by many," said Father Steven A. Schaick, Maj. Gen., Chief of Chaplains. Father Patrick Longalong, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes parish, Queens Village, who was born in the Philippines, recalls, "Father Hirten was a professional player for the Philippine Basketball Association. "He was one of the imports in the first Tanduary Basketball Team (1976). When I was in the seminary, he organized basketball games and created a team called the 'Running Revs.' " "He will always be remembered as a good priest and a good athlete," A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Wednesday, Aug. 26, at St. Barnabas Church, Bellmore. Auxiliary Bishop Raymond Chappetto was the principal celebrant. Msgr. James Pareda preached the homily. Burial was in Long Island National Cemetery.

Condolences may be sent to : Hirten Family c/o Maureen Hirten Agostinacchio, 2628 Doria Lane South, Bellmore, NY 11710

Ohio

Ohio State Board Vice-President Teresa Harris conducted a Spring Raffle for a 14-inch Irish Garden Gnome. The gnome was a yard sale find by a friend of Teresa's. It was very faded and weather worn. Teresa brought life back to the gnome and turned him into an Irish Gnome with a fresh coat of paint. Tickets were mailed to the Division Presidents in early March with the drawing to be held at the State Board meeting on April 18. Then COVID-19 hit and shut down the State and the raffle. The raffle resumed in July with the drawing to be held on the Feast of Our Lady of Knock on August 21. Then the post office got in the way with slow delivery of the tickets and funds raised. The drawing was finally held on Saturday, September 5 with the winning ticket being drawn at the Franklin County, Countess de Markievicz, Derby Day festivities, by AOH State Treasurer, Greg Brown. The winner of the Irish Garden Gnome was Past State President and current Lucas County, Mother McAuley President, Ann Dollman.

Ann celebrated her birthday on September 8, so the Irish Gnome, which was delivered to Ann on Saturday, September 12, was able to help her celebrate.



Ohio continued





New York

NYS LAOH & AOH Presidents
will be honored at October Testimonial Dinner

Both NYS Presidents, MaryBeth Durkee and Tom Lambert will be honored at a testimonial dinner on October 31, 2020 in Catskills, NY. Everyone is hoping that some additional pandemic restrictions will be lifted by then. The president's agreed to combine their dinners and have one event in the Catskill Mountains to support local businesses that have lost so much due to shutdowns caused by the pandemic. MaryBeth and Tom are looking forward to a fun filled event. MaryBeth said I think at this point every one needs a little fun.

Both NYS Boards usually have a spring State Board meeting in East Durham, NY but since the pandemic canceled the meeting they felt strongly about returning and supporting the local Irish communities. October 31st is the Celtic New Year, so maybe this will be the start of a better year for all of us. Check the LAOH NYS website for further updates. Hope to see everyone.

**N.Y.S. Ancient Order of Hibernians
Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians
President's Testimonial Journal**


 

ALSO
Burns Hayes Award Recipient, Past National AOH President
Brendan J. Moore

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2020 Hibernian Lecture

Colin Barr on "The Idea of Greater Ireland"

Please share the word and join us on **Friday, October 9, at 11:00 a.m. (EDT)** for the 2020 Hibernian Lecture by Colin Barr (University of Aberdeen).



With an appointment as the Herbert Allen and Donald R. Keough Visiting Faculty Fellow, Barr is visiting Notre Dame's Keough-Naughton Institute for Irish Studies this academic year from the University of Aberdeen, where he is senior lecturer in modern Irish history. Barr is author of *Ireland's Empire: The Roman Catholic Church in the English-Speaking World, 1829-1914* (Cambridge University Press, 2020). This year's Hibernian Lecture is cosponsored by the Keough-Naughton Institute.

This virtual event is free and open to all, but **registration** is required to participate. Registrants will receive a Zoom link in advance of the event.

President's Testimonial Journal

Also Honoring
Burns Hayes Award Recipient, Past National AOH President
Brendan J. Moore

Journal dimensions are: Full page 8 1/2" X 11" Half page 8 1/2" X 5 1/2"

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Message from The LAOH NYS President, MaryBeth Durkee

CONGRATULATIONS to Karen Keane, our new LAOH National President and Cathy Turck, our new LAOH National Missions and Charities Officer. We are proud of you both and look forward to serving with you. One of President Keane's first duties was to make her National Board Appointees, many are from our great state. See below for complete list of new LAOH National Board 2020-2022. ***Congratulations to all.***

To Register visit this address <https://cushwa.nd.edu/> The Hibernian Lecture Information and Registration is under Upcoming Events.



New York Continued

New York LAOH is very proud that two of our NYS Sisters were chosen to receive the LAOH St. Brigid of Ireland Humanitarian Award. I was told that it was a dead heat between **Delores Fitzgerald of Oswego (our NYS Mother Therese Award winner in July 2019)** and **Cecilia Leonard of Albany Div.1**. This is the first time that there was a tie in the balloting and the Award is being given to two recipients both well deserving.
CONGRATULATIONS!

The **Fall LAOH NYS Board meeting will be held in East Durham the weekend of October 30--Nov.1., 2020**. Both myself and the AOH NYS President Tom Lambert agreed to hold the meeting in East Durham since we had to cancel our spring State Board meetings due to COVID19 Virus, we felt that we should support these businesses in East Durham; they have been very good to us in the past. Reservations are being taken at Gavin's and Shamrock House at this time. In conjunction with the meeting, we are planning to hold the joint Presidents' Testimonial dinner. Preliminary plans have been made with Anthony's Banquet House in Leeds, N.Y. for the dinner and dancing. The only thing holding up our plans is the present limit of 50 persons in the dining room under the COVID-19 guidelines. Please pray that the limit is lifted SOON.

Past NYS LAOH President Jackie Clute and AOH Vice President John Manning are co-chairing the Journal [see attached journal letter]. In the event that COVID-19 puts a crimp in our plans, we intend to carry the dinner plans over to the Spring. Arrangements to reimburse or carry forward any receipts will be honored as well.

The State Presidents /Testimonials will also be held on that Saturday night, October 31, 2020 in the Catskills. Plans are in the works and more info will be coming shortly. I remain sincerely in Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity,
Mary Beth Durkee - LAOH New York State President. (518) 274-8448, 9:A.M.—9:P.M. email mbdurk7@gmail.com.



Greetings from LAOH Buffalo!

Hello, and sending all our best from Buffalo LAOH. After our annual Fall fundraiser, we were fortunate to have shared our good fortune in February 2020. Our active group has a good majority with compromised health and lack of Zoom technology, so we have been on hiatus since then, together in prayer and good wishes only.

Buffalo and the Western New York area are blessed with a wide variety of faith-based nonprofits, each staffed by remarkable men and women who serve the face of Jesus every day, and we are proud to support them through Catholic Action.

This year Buffalo LAOH was able to help fund the Genesis Center, Response to Love, and Cheektowaga Outreach, totaling \$500. The Genesis Center, a service of St. Simon's Ministry in South Buffalo, received a donation of \$200. This will help them to continue offering food, a clothing pantry, access to basic medical services, literacy training and resume writing. With the pandemic, they have added two more zip codes to the areas they service. Response to Love was also sent a donation of \$200. Even in these difficult times, they are still able to serve to-go meals and pantry bags, incorporating the required social distancing. The final \$100 was given to Cheektowaga Outreach, which offers free counseling services.

We wish all our sisters and brothers good health and the ability to still be of service to others. Please continue your prayers and keep the faith. Remember Christ's words in Matthew 17:20: "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you." Together, let's move mountains.



CONGRATULATIONS TO BRENDAN WILKOWSKI, the grandson Div. 6 member Alice Sullivan and nephew of Div. 6 member Mary Cunningham-Markunas on winning the NYC St. Patrick's Day Parade Scholarship. Brendan was accepted and is zooming classes at Yale University.

Sharon Tate is this year's recipient of LAOH Nassau County, Division 15's Woman of the Year, recipient of our St. Brigid's Award. Sharon has been an active member of the Division since 2014. She has served as Recording Secretary since 2019 is also serving as the Immigration and Education Officer. Sharon has chaired and organized fundraisers in support of the Division and is a worthy recipient of the award. Unfortunately, due to the coronavirus, our St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance was cancelled but Sharon will receive the award at a future date.



Members of LAOH Suffolk County NY visit their self-quarantined sisters bearing gifts.

KITTY GEISSLER DIV. 11

President Alice Geissler Koraca has successfully held division zoom meetings and several officers and members were able to join in on the recent virtual NYS Board meeting .

This year the Marion Smith award of \$200 went to Mary Kate Callanan. This fund was established several years ago by Marion's family to celebrate her life and dedication to the Order, Div. 11, of which Marion was a longtime member was asked to administer it. The award is to recognize a Transfiguration School graduate who participates to the best of his/her ability, but not necessarily the brightest, or best athlete in the class.

The Kitty Geissler Award: each year the division also provides \$50 and a medal to a graduating student who most exemplifies our motto: Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity."

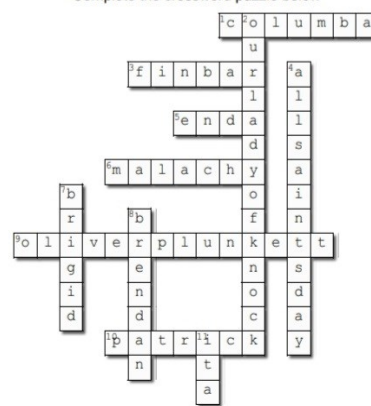
At the NYS Board meeting our longtime member, Joan Lyons Ceconi, was unanimously approved to be a candidate for National Life Member.



During the pandemic, Division 8 from Nassau County New York held outdoor meetings in June and August.

Irish Saints

Complete the crossword puzzle below



Across

- Exiled to Iona (columba)
- Patron of Cork, Diocese of Cork (finbar)
- The founder of monasticism in Ireland (enda)
- wrote prophecies of the popes (malachy)
- Patron of Peace and Reconciliation in Ireland (oiverplunkett)
- Drove the Snakes out of Ireland (patrick)

Down

- Queen of Ireland (ourladyofknock)
- November 1/ Holy Day of Obligation (allsaintsday)
- Patroness of the LAOH (brigid)
- Navigator (brendan)
- Brigid of Munster (ita)

Created using the Crossword Maker on TheT

New York continued

Our joint Holiday and Installation Dinner, held with the AOH, was on January 11th at St Anne's in Rochester. We all went to Mass and then convened in the beautiful hall that the church has for the party. The event was catered.

Our annual Christmas brunch was held on January 12th at Joey B's in Brighton. We found that if we hold the event after the hustle and bustle of the holidays it is better attended and more relaxing. It was both!

A truly special event took place at St John Fisher College in Pittsford. Tragedy and Triumph: Art Illuminates the Great Hunger is a traveling display of some of the collection of Ireland's Great Hunger Museum at Quinnipiac University. The show ran from January 20-March 20 with an opening reception on January 24th. The LAOH played a special role in the show on February 16th. We sponsored a Mass at the college and ran a food drive for students at the college who find themselves food insecure.

The arrival of COVID19 completely turned March upside down! What is, for all of us, a very full, fun, meaningful month, became something very different as I am sure it did for everyone, of Irish descent or not. We had two big, annual fundraisers that had to be cancelled. Our Siamsa were cancelled as well. The parade and all that goes with that (!) was cancelled. One tradition that was not cancelled was the selection of the Ambassador to Waterford honoree and scholarship winner. Applicants sent essays to the selection committee who then, as a group, read and rate them. From the essays offered, two candidates were selected and interviewed. The 2020 winner of the Ambassador to Waterford Scholarship was Patrick Michael Murphy. Even though he was unable to lead the parade due to its cancellation or receive his check at the Friendly Sons and Daughters of Ireland dinner due to cancellation, he did get the check. He plans to put it towards college expenses this coming fall.

The NYS Pause has made for a quiet spring. We did decorate our respective front doors for Palm Sunday. Many of us participated in mask making projects and food drives within our communities as well. We have kept in touch with phone calls and emails. Our in-person meetings are now Zoom meetings. We have prayed for all of the front line and essential workers who kept us (and continue to keep us) safe, healthy and supplied during this unprecedented time. And, of course, life has gone on as we have virtually attended graduations, bridal and baby showers and waited for the birth of

grandchildren! God is always with us and we will get through this, after all, we are Irish and American. We are, as were our people before us, survivors.

Ellen Hallahan

Monroe County, New York

Division 1 and 4

Irish Language Mass By: Karen Keane

I had the privilege of being invited to the AOH National Board's Irish Language Mass held on Sunday, September 12, 2020 at St. Barnabas in the Bronx, New York. Thank you AOH National President Danny O'Connell and AOH National Freedom for All Ireland Chair, Martin Galvin, for the invitation. I was joined by LAOH National FFAI Chair, Dolores Desch, and NYS FFAI Chair, Joan Moore.

It is amazing to me to hear Mass celebrated in different languages. I'm not exactly sure why, as I am old enough to remember the High Mass in Latin at noon in my original parish, Holy Name of Jesus, in Brooklyn, NY. With today's technology, we are able to join in celebrating Mass via Facebook and the web from around the world. Before COVID-19, I never had thought it significant enough to attend Mass on my computer. While Mass was always televised, I never really thought it counted if you were able bodied. Times have changed. Now I attend Mass via Facebook or Zoom, or must sign up to attend Mass at my parish the Friday before, using the same application on my phone that I use for dinner reservations at an area restaurant. If I have a change of plans, I can't change my Mass plans, but I can go on Facebook or the web and find Mass being held somewhere.

Back to the point of the article. Hearing Mass celebrated in Irish was uplifting and made me reflect on my great grandparents and grandparents and all the Keanes, Dineens, Beatties before me. Thinking how, in their own country, they were forced to hide and celebrate Mass at an area rock. Now we can celebrate Mass in the open in our native language of Irish across the ocean here in New York.

The best part of the Mass was hearing the beautiful and angelic voices of the young singers from the Dawn Doherty Academy of Irish Music and Singing. They performed the best rendition of Golden

Irish Language Mass Continued

Rose, Queen of Ireland, I ever heard. The young lady who sang our national anthem was truly talented and amazing.

With all my rambling, I think it would be good if we could have Irish language Masses said across the country. It is hard, as the number of Irish speaking priests is limited. One day maybe.

For now, I will keep working on saying the Hail Mary in Irish. I'm learning from a video on YouTube.

Pennsylvania

Congratulation Patti Flaus – Lifetime Membership Awardee

The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians in America, Inc. has prospered for 125 years due to the dedication of its membership to the motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity. Our mission is fulfilled by the leadership of sisters who inspire and encourage the membership to follow their examples. We would like to introduce you a member who lives the motto and mission of our great Order.

Our sister has been a member of the LAOH since 1991 which is also the charter year for her Division. From the start, she has been an active member and asset to her Division, County and State Organizations. She has held the following offices: Division Historian (1991) and President (1993-1995 and 2010-2020); County Board Office of Missions and Charities (1994 – 1999), Office of Catholic Action (1999), Treasurer (1999 – 2001 and 2016-2019), Secretary (2019 – present), Vice President (2001-2005) and President (2005-2009); As a State Board appointee, she was the Communications Chair (2009-2011 and 2017-2019) and Freedom For All Ireland chair (2009-2011). She has tirelessly stepped up to service her sisters when needed, as shown by her return to Division and County Offices that she had previously held in prior years.

In addition to elected offices held, she has also served on various committees at the Division and County level such as fundraising and by-laws. She has served as her Division/County Board as a delegate to State and National conventions. While attending conventions, she has served on various committees including multiple times on the National Ritual Revision Committee.

She also helps our members to reaffirm their dedication to our Order as a member of the local Degree Team since 1995. She has represented her Degree Team at National Conventions.

Another way that she has worked to foster the work of

our Order is her work on various convention committees. She chaired the welcome package committee when our County hosted the National AOH/LAOH convention. She served as the co-chair of state convention in 2009 and as the co-chair of the ice breaker committee for our state convention in 2013.

She has helped our membership to maintain their dedication to the Catholic Church and Faith by organizing masses in honor of Saint Brigid and Our Lady of Knock, and spiritual retreats.

Her dedication to the LAOH has been recognized by her Division who honored her as Hibernian of the Year in 2000. Also, her talents were recognized by the National Board when she was chosen to participate in the 125th Anniversary celebration presentation.

She fosters friendship between the AOH and LAOH by representing her Division and the County Board at many social functions and fundraisers, working hand in hand with her AOH brothers.

She has represented the LAOH as a volunteer with other Irish organizations as a member of the Irish American Unity Conference and as chair of the awards committee for our Saint Patrick's Day Parade Committee since 1995. She was instrumental in the successful commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Easter Rising, serving as committee secretary and chair of the kick-off event.

Since her initiation into our great Order, our sister has generously given of her time and talents to carry out our motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity. It is with great honor that we nominate our sister for Life Membership and thank you for your consideration.

Patti's Thank You:

I am so honored to be awarded a Lifetime Membership in the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians. I didn't grow up with the LAOH. In fact, I am an Irish American who celebrated her "Irish-ness" once a year. Then, in 1991, all that changed. My life had taken an unexpected turn and I was looking for "something new." There was a new LAOH division forming in Carnegie, PA – Maud Gonne Division 32. I didn't know much about the LAOH, but I had made friends with people that were forming the division, so I joined. I can honestly say that was one of the best decisions I've made. Not only have I learned about my Irish history and heritage, but I have made friends for life. I grew up with 3 brothers, but now I have hundreds of Sisters and Brothers from all walks of life. I hesitate to start naming them because I know I will miss someone. Let me just say ... you know who you are.

Thank you to the National Board for selecting me as a

Pennsylvania continued

Lifetime Member, but a huge thank you to everyone that had a part of my being here today. I may not have been blessed by a blood sister, but I have been blessed with having so many Hibernian Sisters. I love each of you! 🍀 ❤️ 🍀 ❤️

Illinois

Donna Howe - President, Division #1, Cook County, Illinois

As an introduction, we are Division #1, Cook County, Illinois based on the Northside of Chicago. Like many of our sisters, the COVID - 19 virus has changed some of our monthly meetings from in person to virtual via Zoom. In August, we were able to meet in person, socially distanced and masked, but still it was great to be out with friends!

The virus has also challenged our mission/charity work and has changed our direction for those in need in our community. We would like to share with National sisters some of our mission/charity efforts since Spring. In April and May, member and President Donna H., sewed and donated face masks to help meet the demand of the community Alderman's office for mask distribution to schools, hospitals and retirement centers. Also in May, our Division #1 donated funds to the local Irish American Heritage Center, an important establishment for the Northside Irish Community, as they raised funds to cover financial losses due to cancelled events from COVID-19. In June, we showed support and appreciation for our Chicago Police Officers in dealing with protests and violence in our city. In just **3 days** our Division #1 ladies collected/donated enough bottled water and snacks to drop off to **3** local Police Stations and an Area Detective Station. *Amazing!* At the end of August, a local pantry ran a school supply drive for the increased number of families in need of new items for the upcoming school year. Our Division ladies stepped up again! The supplies we donated made a large dent in the Common Pantry's needed distribution to 200+ children. This past weekend we joined our AOH Division #32 brothers in supporting their annual (social-distanced) picnic with donations and food items. Onto the fall! Our Mission is to continue supporting our community during this unique time. Stay safe Sisters!



Donna Howe (President) and Marijo Ward (Missions/Charities) with the Director of Common Pantry accepting donations



Marijo Ward (Missions/Charities) with her nephew at local police station accepting donations of bottled water and snacks



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