

The following corrections and inadvertently omitted items should be added to your copy of the "Celebrating Our History, Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc., 125th History" Volume released last fall.

pg. 17 - PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENT MAUREEN SHELTON, should read MICHIGAN (2012-2014)

pg. 176 - MICHIGAN, should read LENAWEE COUNTY, OUR LADY OF KNOCK

pg. 180 - MICHIGAN, should read MACOMB COUNTY, ETHEL KENNEDY

pg. 279 - MICHIGAN DEGREE TEAM, should also read ST. BRIGID DEGREE TEAM

and names of members are:

Front Row: Pam Conway-Teunis, Doris McCarville, Mary Ann Knight, Shirley O'Kelly, Agnes Gowdy, Stacey Blair.

Back Row: Helen Gallagher, Kathy Wade, Helen Barron, Monica O'Brien, Mary Ochab, Maureen Shelton, Julie Lewis, Cindy Lloyd, Mary O'Connell

Histories of MICHIGAN STATE BOARD,

MICHIGAN, MONROE COUNTY, MARY OF THE GAEL DIVISION, and

MICHIGAN, KENT COUNTY, SISTER ANNETTE MARIE BYRNE DIVISION, are on subsequent pages.

MICHIGAN STATE BOARD of the LADIES ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS, Inc.

In the Detroit City Directory of 1897, under the heading "Secret Societies" are entries for the first State Board of the L.A.A.O.H. The entries include the name and city and address of State President Mary E. Halloran from Detroit and State Secretary Hannah M. Lewis of Grand Rapids.

The current Michigan State Board was established in 1969, a year after our oldest division, Rose Kennedy Division, Wayne County #1 in 1968. At that time, Michigan had only two divisions, Rose Kennedy of Wayne County and Ethel Kennedy of Macomb County. The State Board was responsible for these divisions and 41 members. Since then we have grown beyond the original two divisions to nine divisions across the state.

Our first officers were:

President	Margaret Murphy	(Wayne)
Vice President	Mary Ellen Walker	(Macomb)
Secretary	Wilma Byrne	(Macomb)
Treasurer	Nancy McCauley	(Macomb)
Historian	Eileen Martin	(Macomb)
Missions	Rose Steele	(Macomb)
Catholic Action	Joan Wisely	(Wayne)

Michigan also has a Degree Team. The Degree Team was established in 1984 under the direction of our first State President, Margaret Murphy. The Degree Team conferred their first Degree ceremony in 1985. Since then, they have conferred Degrees at several National conventions as well as in our own state. As well as conferring Degrees, the team also participates in other events such as the Detroit St. Patrick's Parade and Mass, the Ste. Anne de Detroit Novena Mass for the Irish, Memorial Masses, State Board Installations, and other events in Michigan.

Our current divisions are:

Rose Kennedy	Wayne County #1	1968
Ethel Kennedy	Macomb County	1969
Our Lady of Knock	Lenawee County	1991
Catherine McAuley	Oakland County	1992
Our Lady of Limerick	Genesee County	2002
St. Brigid 'O the Bay	Bay County	2002
Elizabeth Fagan	Wayne County #2	2005
Mary of the Gael	Monroe County	2006
Sarah Regan	Livingston County	2006
Sr. Annette Marie Byrne	Kent County	2008

This year (2019) the Michigan State Board will be celebrating our 50th anniversary with Mass and a dinner in April. The Michigan State Board plans on continuing to support and guide the LAOH Michigan Divisions in our motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity.



**Mary of the Gael Division
Monroe, Michigan**



Our division started in March 2006, by some women who were members of the Rose Kennedy Division but felt a need to establish a division in Monroe, closer to where we lived.

We met at St. Michael's Rectory while Fr. Stephen Rooney was Pastor. We then moved our monthly meetings to the private room at Panera Bread, having holiday and June meetings at member's homes. Sister Ann Currier, a member of the IHM's here in Monroe was our Chaplain. Sr. Ann led us in the rosary each month and shared what became known as Sister Ann's words of wisdom. These little gems helped us in our prayer life, and guided us to a closer relationship with our Heavenly Father. She was a true advocate for the disenfranchised and those on the fringes of society. She worked tirelessly for them in both Detroit and Monroe. For all her efforts she received the Saint Brigid Humanitarian Award which was presented to her at the AOH/LOAH National Convention in 2014.

A driving force to form this new division was Maureen Shelton. She held many offices including President of the Rose Kennedy and Mary of the Gael Divisions. Maureen also served on the Michigan State Board including State President. She was elected to the National Board and after holding many offices, she became the only Michigan Hibernian to be the LAOH National President from 2012-2014.

Our division sponsored the annual Michigan LAOH An Gorta Mor Famine Walk on September 30, 2006. We had a young bagpiper and Sister Ann led us in the rosary as we walked the IHM grounds.

He had history essay winners from middle school and high school levels go on to the State and National levels. Kathie Falls, one of our members who is a well known photographer and artist, donated two of her works of art to be raffled. Between the proceeds of that, garage sales to benefit our charities, and the generosity of our members, we donated items to various local groups each month. Some of these recipients included: two crisis pregnancy centers; Fairview, a transitional shelter for disabled men and women who have substance abuse issues; donated children's books to a homeless shelter, as well as socks and gloves; Christmas presents for residents of a senior living center, food items and paper products to various food pantries and soup kitchens; underwear and socks for kids starting school in September. We also helped pay the rent for a young family who fell on hard times. We financially helped two of our sisters who were dealing with serious illness. For a number of years we supported



stockings for our soldiers overseas. More recently, we have helped local veterans and their families at the holidays and made a donation to a new free health clinic starting in Monroe.

Sadly, we lost one of our members, Karen Mayes to cancer in September 2018. Karen served as both our Vice President and President. We miss her quiet demeanor and lovely smile.

Despite our small size we like to think we helped many individuals and groups and hopefully lived our motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity.

Sister Annette Marie Byrne Division

Twenty five ladies were installed on September 7, 2008 as the Sister Annette Marie Byrne Division of Kent County, Michigan.

Sr. Annette Marie Byrne was a Mercy Sister who was from our West Michigan community. She was a fun, caring and wonderful woman. She loved her Irish heritage, loved music, loved her life of ministering to and joyfully helping people. She served many people, and always with a happy heart, and we strive for our group to do the same. Stories of Sister Annette are shared in the division's quarterly newsletter which helps to keep her generous and joyful spirit alive in the hearts and minds of current and new members.

Soon after being installed as a Division we finished making our banner and sashes which we proudly wore in the Grand Rapids St. Patrick's Day Parade. We enjoyed the day and were delighted to show our city that the LAOH is back in town!



We are happy to now have 37 members helping us support community outreach to several organizations including: the Santa Claus Girls, the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans, and the Columban Fathers.

The Division holds an annual dinner concert featuring the popular Michigan band, Blackthorn. In addition to the wonderful Irish

entertainment we also have an auction. Proceeds benefit local programs: "HELP" Crisis Pregnancy Center, Catholic Charities of West Michigan God's Baby Pantry, and Family Promise. We are grateful that the event draws attendees from all over Michigan including many of our LAOH sisters. We also collect items for military members through Blue Star Mothers, and collected canned goods which were donated to North Kent Community Services in conjunction with the LAOH Michigan State An Gorta Mor Memorial. We celebrate the feasts of St. Brigid and Our Lady of Knock with Masses here in West Michigan. We gather for the feast of the Holy Innocents in December and pray the rosary together and socialize. Most importantly, we assist our sisters with calls and visits, meals and many prayers.

Our division, our division founder, Dianne Mankel and the history of the LAOH were featured in an article in the Diocese of Grand Rapids "Faith" magazine in March of 2018.

All of our members would like to thank the Michigan State Board for all their help and encouragement!
We also send congratulations to all of our sisters across the country on the celebration of our 125th
Anniversary!