



Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians ~ Pennsylvania



Friendship, Unity & Christian Charity

Pennsylvania 2021 edition II

A Word from Mary Ann Amesbury, our President...



Dear Sisters,

It has been a pleasure serving as your State President for the past two years. As you know the 2021 Pennsylvania State Convention is being held in Trevoose, Pennsylvania on July 29th through the 31st. The Convention Committee has been working very hard to make this an enjoyable Convention for everyone.

Convention meeting will start on Thursday, July 29th at 1:00 p.m. sharp. We have several openings on the Pennsylvania State Board. If anyone is able to serve and is interested in running for an office, please let me know as soon as possible.

I would like to thank the Philadelphia Convention Committee for hosting this Convention and I look forward to seeing everyone at the 101st Pennsylvania State Convention.

*In our motto,
Mary Ann*

**We offer a prayer of Hope for
those affected by the Corona Virus and to protect us all**





Fast Facts about the 2021 Convention!

- **Check in: Thursday, 29-July 2021**
- **Check out: Sunday, 1-August 2021**
- **Group Name: 2021 Convention Committee**
- **Hotel Name: Radisson Hotel Philadelphia Northeast Trevose**
- **Hotel Address: 2400 Old Lincoln Highway, Trevose, PA, 19053**
- **Phone Number: 215-638-8300**
- **Room Costs \$109 per night plus taxes, free on-site parking**
- **Room Blocks Sunday, July 25, 2021 to Sunday, August 1, 2021.**
- **Free Wi-Fi in rooms**
- **Participants will be responsible for their own Registrations.**
- **Booking link, guests can start making reservations now through this link.**

<https://www.radissonhotels.com/en-us/hotels/radisson-trevose-sesame/deals/2021-convention-committee>

Other points of interest **Degree Ceremony**

The Philadelphia Tara Degree Team will be conferring the Major Degrees of the LAOH
on Saturday, July 31st

The Registration Table will open at 10 am~ Ceremony begins at 11 am.

The fee is \$25 for candidates & \$10 for observers.



Pre-Registration is required ~ Deadline is Wednesday, July 21st

Any questions Maureen Dougherty Brown ~ bmaureen51@gmail.com or 2515-495-3015

Pre-register for this Degree at [LAOH Degree Registration](#)



Active Fundraisers

The perfect CD for Irish music lovers!

This CD is a collection from **fifteen of our Local bands** with **eight tunes being original cuts** from our talented artist. CDS are \$15.00. Please click the link below to place your order.

Any questions please reach out to: Brian Coleman poncho2143@comcast.net

[CDs 20th Anniversary Up the Celts - various Irish bands \\$15 a CD](#)

Convention Golf Shirts

Short Sleeve Grey Polo Shirts

PRICE: \$30.00

Sizes: Medium, Large, X-Large, XX-Large,
XXX-Large and XXXX-Large

Size Guarantee must be Pre-Ordered by: June 29, 2021

If you do not order one,
there will be some extras that will be sold on a first come ,
first serve basis.

[CONVENTION POLO SHIRT.pdf](#)

Questions ~ gallagm913@gmail.com



News & Photos from Around the Commonwealth

We ask that all Counties & Divisions submit their Good News and Photos
for this portion of the Newsletter.

Don't forget to periodically check the Pennsylvania LAOH Website

<http://statepalaoh.com>

✚ The History of the LAOH

✚ The History of the Pennsylvania LAOH

✚ State Board Members Introduction Letters and means to contact

✚ The Anna C. Malia Ruddy Award winners

✚ Bylaws

✚ Newsletters

✚ Information from Degree Teams

✚ Photo Albums

✚ Important Dates

✚ Fundraising from the State and Divisions

✚ State Convention details already available!

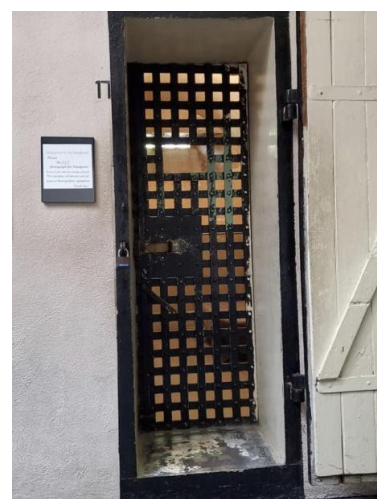
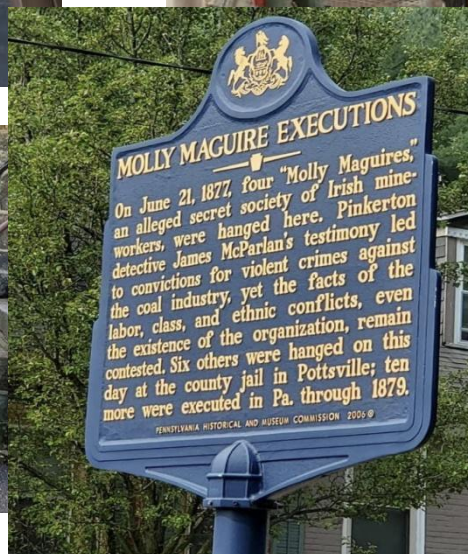


Rope Mass

Many Divisions of the LAOH and AOH came together at the Old Jail Museum in Jim Thorpe for the Day of the Rope Mass on June 19.

Together we prayed for and remembered the Molly Maguires ~ Alexander Campell, Michael Doyle, Edward Kelly, James Boyle, James Carrol, Thomas Duffy, Hugh McGehan, Thomas Munley, and James Roarity~ on the 144th Anniversary of their execution ~ June 21, 1877.

The Mass celebrated by Allentown Diocese's Reverend John Gibbons featuring the beautiful choir of Kathleen Crampsie and Dianne Mascari.





Congratulations

The newly elected Philadelphia LAOH County Board Officers for the 2021-23 term!





Congratulations

The newly elected Allegheny LAOH County Board Officers for the 2021-23 term!

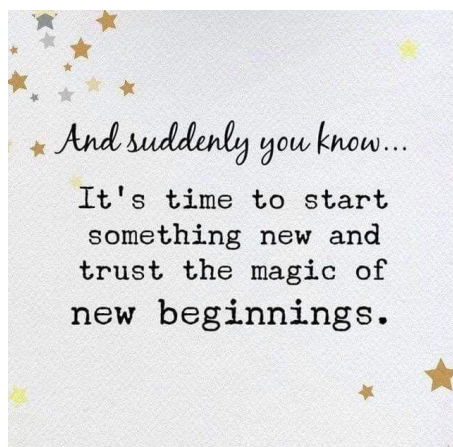


L-R Maureen Seuffert (Missions and Charities) Carmella Law (Mistress at Arms) Shirley Sestric (Treasurer) Mary Ellen Myers (Catholic Action) Nicky Skubal (Irish Historian) Eileen O'Malley (President) Kathleen Diulus (Immediate Past President) Patti Flaus (Secretary) Sr. Louise Grundish, SC (Chaplain) Kalyn Populo (Webmaster/Publicity) Sharon McGrath (Vice President) not pictured Darlene Schlanger (Sentinel) Suzanne Heller (Immigration and Legislation)

Follow LAOH Allegheny County's new Facebook page facebook.com/LAOH_AlleghenyCounty
@laohalleghenyco on Instagram and Twitter

LAOH Allegheny County will be sponsoring the Our Lady of Knock Mass Sunday, August 22, 2021, 11:30am at SS. Simon & Jude Church 1607 Greentree rd PGH PA 15220

All are welcome.





Division # 3 ~ Maire Drumm ~ Montgomery County

We are so happy to have held our first in-person meeting in over a year! Meeting on Zoom did not hold us back. We raised over \$4000 with our fundraising events and donated most of it to charities in our community!

In June, some of us attended the moving Rope Mass to honor the Molly Maguires at the Old Jail Museum in Jim Thorpe.

Sadly, we also said goodbye to one of our sisters who is retiring to Florida. Although we will miss her very much, we are all delighted for her to start her new adventure! We hope you all have a wonderful summer and a great time at the convention!



L-R Megan Bethel, Nancy DiFiore, Susan Demedio, Nanci Daneker, Peggy Senico, Sue Dunn, Eileen Hughes, Jo-Ellen Roberts, Diane Curry, Judy Meeks



L-R Shawn Marie Brown, Patti Fauls, Jayme DeMedio, Susan DeMedio, Megan Bethel, Peggy Senico



We were so happy to be able to march again! We loved participating in the Skippack Pa 4th of July Parade along with AOH Division 6 and Irish Thunder!

L-R Sue Dunn, Shawn Marie Brown, Mazie DeMedio, Susan DeMedio, Jayme DeMedio, Megan Bethel, Jo-Ellen Roberts

L-R Sue Dunn, Jo-Ellen Roberts, Mazie DeMedio, Jayme DeMedio, Susan DeMedio, Shawn Marie Brown, Megan Bethel



Division # 2 ~ Notre Dame ~ Montgomery County

Our Division has been very fortunate to fundraise a couple of times so far this year. Our Zep sale was very successful. For the St. Patrick's Day Dinner traditionally held at our Hall after the parade (alas, no parade this year), we had a combination of pre-orders for pick-up as well as limited hall service.

The menu was Shepherd's Pie and Ham & Cabbage cooked by our sisters. Very successful for the Division financially, which allowed us to donate to our charities as in past years. It is really rewarding to be working together as a Division again!



In May, we celebrated with a May Procession with Sister Kay Allerton serving as this year's May Queen with previous May Queen's surrounding her for the picture.



Division #39 ~ St. Brigid ~ Philadelphia

Congratulations on being a Hibernian Hunger Project Award Winner, In conjunction, with the AOH !

We started up our general meetings in February, and every month since then, our attendance at meetings has grown. We are so thrilled to be together and have a chance to chat with each other in person.

In May, our Division started an Irish book club that meets once a month.

So far, we have read Rose of Skibbereen (Vol. 1) by Joe McDonnell and Circle of Friends by Maeve Binchy. Our next meeting will be in September, where we will discuss our summer read, Captains and Kings, by Taylor Caldwell.

Eight sisters from Our Division will be serving as Delegates at the upcoming convention.

We are very much looking forward to seeing you all there!



Division #11 ~ Pittsburgh ~ Allegheny County

We are excited to be again planning our annual Masquerade Charity Ball, which is scheduled for Friday, October 15th, please join us if you can!



*Follow Division 11 on social media for the latest updates on the #MCB2021
We are looking forward to the State Convention in Philadelphia at the end of July.
You can follow division 11 on: Facebook www.facebook.com/LAOH-Div-11 @laoh_div11 on Instagram and Twitter.*



Division #1 ~ Chester

*On June 13th, we finally had an in-person meeting/ brunch at a member's home.
It was lovely weather, and we enjoyed the first half outside with appetizers, ice tea, and sangria, then went in for the meal.
All members contributed food to share, which meant we had enough food for many more.
Also, members brought personal items and food donations for the Day Room at St. Agnes food cupboard, which amounted to about 5 bags worth!*

We voted on giving smaller monetary donations to Mom's House, St. Mary's Shelter, and The Day Room this year. Without a major fundraiser, we couldn't be too generous, but we know every little bit helps. We are hoping that now that things are opening up, we can



do more as a group.

We are looking forward to our joint mass and picnic with the AOH of Chester Co. on July 18th. This event is always an enjoyable gathering of prayer, food, and conversation.



Division #3 ~ Mary E. Dowd ~ Carbondale ~ Lackawanna County

In April, we held our first in-person meeting since the start of the pandemic.

We were thrilled to install two new member. what a great way to start back!

Masks and social distancing were practiced ~ with exception during pictures. We have certainly missed meeting as a group, which can be attested to by the 29 LAOH Sisters in attendance.



Taking part in the Installation~

Lorraine Dougherty, New Member, Kathleen Connor, President, and Janice Joyce, New Member.



Lorraine Dougherty, Janice Joyce, Kathy Connor, Melissa Gillette, Patricia Clark, Ann Marie Carroll, and Rose Marie Coleman.



Peggy Carrighan, Ann (Dukie) Brunori, and Patricia Bianchi, Hostesses for the evening

Cindy Burke and Mary Fran Smith were also Hostesses, unfortunately they missed our picture.



Division # 5~ Saint Brigid of Kildare ~Bucks County

Due to the pandemic, we have not had as many activities as we would have liked. However, things are slowly returning to normal, and hopefully, so will our activities.

In March 2021, we hosted a successful fundraiser which also helped a local business. Members were able to order takeout meals at discounted prices, and the restaurant provided a window of opportunity for the members to pick up the meals. Everyone commented on the value and quality of the meals.

In May, our Division, along with the AOH, marched in the Langhorne Memorial Day parade. We proudly carried our new LAOH Division 5 Banner for its debut appearance!

It was a great day, lots of fun, and the children and grandchildren of our members also had fun handing candy to the youngsters along the parade route.

Our meetings continued on Zoom during the pandemic, with our first in-person meeting was in June. It was fantastic to see our Sisters after so many months. We continued our support of collecting supplies for the Blessed Mother of Castello Home for Crisis Pregnancies during the pandemic.

In September, we will join with the staff of the Home and celebrate the Canonization of Mother Castello to Saint Margaret of Castello.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the Convention!



Division #87 - Our Lady of Knock~ Philadelphia (Port Richmond)

Congratulations are in order!

Lisa Breslin SSJ was inducted into the St. Hubert's Hall of Fame.

Sr. Lisa is our LAOH DIVISION 87 Chaplin, Friend and most importantly she is Family!



Division #4 ~ Mary Ellen O'Neill ~ Washington County

We will acknowledge our Charter, which was issued by the National LAOH Board on August 2, 1984 -37 years ago. The Division has promoted Irish, Irish American and Catholic History as well has a special relationship with various Catholic organizations.

We have participated in Irish History Writing Contests and have had winners!

We have donated to Food Banks, Parish Festivals, and assisted in a particular need of 7 Parishes represented such as designing and sewing an altar cloth and making Vestments for a newly ordained priest. We have joined in the Annual St. Patrick Day Breakfast and marched in the Annual St. Patrick Day Parade in Pittsburgh, PA as well as attended State and National Conventions.

Our Legacy will also include that we, Division #4 supported Dorothy Weldon, our President, as she signed an agreement with Boston College that every State, County, and Division can send their Documents to the John

J.Burns Library of Boston College, to be housed in an air-conditioned library, cataloged and available for future generations interested in their Irish Heritage.

Our membership has declined for numerous reasons and although we have attempted to promote the LAOH in various venues, the result is status quo.

“Make us O God, Spirit-filled women, women of Prayer, Women of Vitality, Women of Vision, Women of Courage, Risk taking Women. Make us, O God, Spirit filled Irish women, trusting You and one another as we move into the 21st Century.”

~Sr. Peggy Flaherty CDP, Late PA. State Chaplain - LAOH



Division # 32 ~ Maud Gonne ~ Carnegie ~ Allegheny County



We celebrated our 30th Anniversary at our May Meeting!

We were thrilled by the response to our July 4th Raffle.



All proceeds will go to the charitable organizations LAOH Division 32 support include the Sisters of St. Joseph Retirement Fund, Project St. Patrick, The Columban Fathers and Sisters, Echoes of Erin Radio Show, Veterans White Socks Campaign, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Food Bank, our own Adopt-A-Family, and many local families in need.



Patsy Joyce turned 101 in March

Patsy is one of the oldest members of the LAOH!!
Sitting with her Charter given to her from LAOH National President Karen Keane



Division # 2 ~ St. Columcille ~Berks

Our Division along with Fr Martin Kern celebrated our 30th Anniversary and St Columcille's parish's 100th Anniversary!



We are excited that we will complete our parish celebration with a 10-day trip to Ireland. The trip will be the middle of June 2022, and the package price will include all hotels, meals, and tours. Airfare price will be announced later. The Ireland trip is open to all interested. Emails from anyone expressing interest can be sent to kvarady2@gmail.com

Looking forward to seeing you at the Convention!



**Division #2 ~ John F. Kennedy ~ Pottsville, Schuylkill County
Celebrating our 50th year!**



Very excited that we will be celebrating our 50 year anniversary in August!

We have gotten through the Pandemic with Zoom meetings that have worked out well. Even though we were not able to parade, we still attended Mass with our AOH at St. Patrick's Church in Pottsville to honor our Great and Glorious St. Patrick on March 13. The celebrant of the Mass was Rev. Barnabas Shayo, A.J.



The LAOH members able to attend included Mary Wheeler, Ann Marie Cielinski, Jill Sligh, Jody Hafer, Rose Ann Petrusky, Betty Murphy, and Mary Ann Lubinsky. Maria Dalton was a guest.

We did wear masks and only removed them for a few seconds for the photo.

The AOH was represented by Dan Koury, Bob Laughlin, Paul Gill, Jeremy Jefferson, Dr. David Moylan, Bill DeWald, John Dalton.

*On a sad note, we just lost our Division Sister and friend,
Lois Weiser.*

Those of us who were able to attend her Funeral Mass this past Wednesday formed an Honor Guard for her. She joined our order in 1994 and received her Degrees in 1997. Some of you may remember Lois from our State Conventions. She usually sold the Proceedings in the back of the room. We are really going to miss her. This is a photo from the 2017 State Convention.



*This was one of the rare times we were able to get a photo of Lois.
She is front row, right. Now. Rest in peace, Lois.*



Division #1 ~ Mary Ellen Everett ~Bristol ~ Bucks County

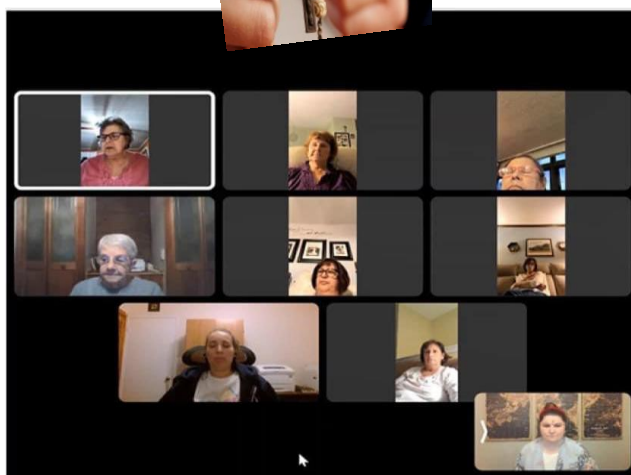
We enjoyed their annual Christmas in July party on Sunday, July 18th.

Together we feasted on light snacks of cookies and soft pretzels. During the event, eighteen members participated in a game of White Elephant.

Many awesome gifts were brought, such as home signage, baking and kitchen items, relaxing bath items, and of course wine!

There were a few gifts stolen that kept the game interesting and lots of laughs were shared!

The Christmas in July party is one of the favorite annual events for the Ladies of Mary Ellen Everett!



Additionally, we host a weekly prayer group every Tuesday at 8pm EST.

We welcome all members and nonmembers to join us. To be a part meet us in a Facebook Room, the address is shared on the LAOH PA State Facebook page on Tuesday afternoons.



Division #1 ~ Tir Na'N Og'~ Lehigh Valley

Life in the Valley has slowly begun to become somewhat normal again.

We are meeting in-person, still collecting for and assembling purses and products for our Purse Project, and looking forward to hosting our Our Lady of Knock Mass in August.

We recently expanded our Purse Project to include purses to some local nursing homes for women with dementia. The handbags have some personal items that are safe and some other items that will challenge their motor skills.

As we head into the end of the summer, we will be collecting school supplies to assist some of the Catholic elementary schools in our area that need a bit of a helping hand.

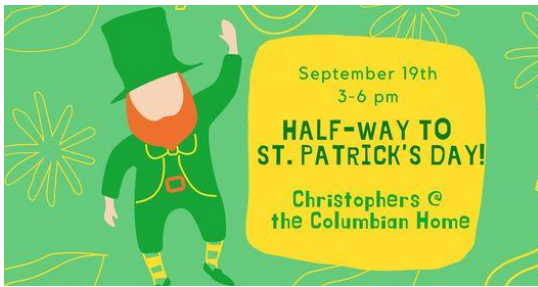


Our Division is blessed to have some former Queens of our Allentown St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Now, one of those Queens also serves as the President of the Parade Committee.

We are looking forward to supporting their Halfway to St. Patrick's Day Party in September.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at the Convention ~
Safe journey!



News & Updates from the State Board

This portion of the Newsletter, we wish to inform of happenings and reminders at both the state and national levels.

Vice President ~ Maria Gallagher

Ladies,

As of today, we are down to just days until Convention.

If you are going~ be sure to sign up for the events, they are sure to be a great time.

We will be raffling off a beautiful handmade blanket lovingly created by an LAOH member from Luzerne County.

You can get your tickets in the Convention meeting room.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and hope to see many of you in Philadelphia.

Maria

Secretary ~ Kathleen Diulus

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your State Secretary over the last two years.

I appreciate everyone's diligence in responding to and completing our annual membership reports and delegate forms for both the National and State conventions.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our Convention!

Kathleen

Treasurer ~ Carolyn Killion

Greetings Sisters,

I am happy to report that Pennsylvania is officially complete at the National level for Financial Reporting! Once again, it is amazing to see the generosity and good works of our Sisters throughout the Commonwealth.

And once more, thank you to all Division and County Treasurers for their hard work and dedication to our Order. So much time and effort are given outside of meetings, and your diligence is greatly appreciated. It has truly been my privilege meeting/talking to so many of you, and I look forward to hopefully seeing most of you at the Convention.

I cannot believe two years have gone by so quickly, but I imagine they are ones we will talk about for the rest of our lives. While we have done our best to keep our Order's principles

going, it has been difficult not seeing everyone in person for so much of the time.
I sincerely hope that the next two years bring many blessings and opportunities for growth and renewal – and, of course, even greater Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity.

Carolyn

Historian ~ Maura O'Donnell- Roszyk

As this month ends, so will my term serving as your State Historian.

This honor was unexpected, but incredibly wonderful. I wish to thank our President, MaryAnn Amesbury, and Vice President, Maria Gallagher, along with the Board, who felt that I could fill the very big shoes of Sharon McGrath.

Thank you to all of the Division and County Irish Historians for their patience with my emails and my lost emails, for gathering information for our Yearly Reports, and putting out the opportunity for middle and high school students to participate in our National Irish History Contest. Additionally, I thank my Division, the Lehigh Valley, for their support.

Lastly, I hope you have enjoyed reading bits of history and traditions from our State Facebook page. I hope that you all will continue to discover more. I have always subscribed to the Winston Churchill quote, "Those who fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it." Thus, I encourage everyone to keep learning and do your part to make our world a better place.

May God Bless you and yours,

Maura



Missions & Charities ~ Bobbie Thompson

Greetings Ladies,

On the State level - I have been finalizing the 2nd quarter M&C donations report and will distribute. I am cleaning up my files and getting ready for the transition to the incoming officer.

On the County level - As the Treasurer, I was happy to prepare and place our ad in the PA State Convention Ad Book.

As we head into the Convention, I thank everyone for their confidence and support throughout my term. I hope I have provided useful and timely information to all.

Wishing all the best to the next Board, you will all have my support.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at the Convention,

Bobbie

Catholic Action ~ Carole Syzdek

"JULY, OTHER THAN THE 4TH"

The best part of July is the 4th, a United States of America holiday that takes pride in the Declaration of Independence, 1776, when the original colonies were freed from British Rule.

However.....July has many other attributes; here are just a few:

- ✚ July is the seventh month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian Calendars and one of seven months with thirty-one days.
- ✚ It was named by the Roman Senate in honor of General Julius Caesar as it was the month of his birthday.
- ✚ July is also noted for the month of the violent beginning of the second Revolution of France, in Paris, 1830.
- ✚ Prior to being called July, it was called Quintilis, meaning the fifth month of the ten-month calendar.

- ✚ It is, on average, the warmest month, second month of summer, in most of the Northern Hemisphere and the coldest month, second month of winter, in much of the Southern Hemisphere.
- ✚ The second half of the year begins in July. In the Northern Hemisphere, "Dog Days of Summer" begins in early July, when the sweltering weather of summer usually starts. In the Southern Hemisphere, July is equivalent to January in the Northern Hemisphere.
- ✚ During normal, not leap, years, no other month ends on the same day as July. During a leap year, July ends on the same day of the week as January.
- ✚ The birthstone for July is a ruby, from the Latin word, "ruber", meaning "red" – the color of love and passion.
- ✚ Jesus Unconditionally Loves You = JULY



May you have a Blessed, safe and fun-filled July!
In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,
Carole



Past Presidents

Our state is most blessed to have so many past Presidents to lend their assistance to our state.
Below is a few words of encouragement from one!

Colleen Bowers

Sisters,

It has been a while since I have addressed my Sisters across this great Commonwealth.

I wanted to share what I have been doing these past months.

In January, I resigned from my elected position on the National Board as Irish Historian. Reasons were included in my resignation letter and sent to all national Board/State Presidents/Irish Historians.

I am pleased with my decision for my well-being.

Since then, I have continued working with Advocacy for Domestic Violence Awareness.

Many of you know I have been on a mission to turn a negative into a positive. If one victim listens to my message and does not end up a statistic as my daughter did on February 8, 2012, when she was murdered by this senseless act, I will be thrilled. I have been raising funds for The Center for Victims to pay it forward and advocating for women to start having this difficult conversation.

I reached out to the New York State Board and our Pennsylvania State Board to consider adopting a resolution supporting Domestic Violence Awareness as a Women's organization.

New York State Board adopted this resolution earlier this month at their State Convention. I hope we will pass the same resolution at our Convention on July 29.

One great bit of news is I have reached out to the Pennsylvania AOH to adopt a resolution of Men against Domestic Violence hopefully. The Massachusetts AOH has adopted this resolution Opposing Domestic Violence. I applaud the Massachusetts AOH for being the first to step up to my call to Action.

In addition, I have made a difference with internal disability paid leave within Amazon North America. I am considered an Amazonian Champion due to raising funds etc.!

I have never quit the mission since my daughter's murder.

I wish for everyone to have this conversation about Domestic Violence Awareness, you would be surprised how close to home this may be happening.

A great example is one Sister from New York who listened and told me I gave her strength to start that conversation with her Division sisters. We as women must not forget to support and learn how to communicate, and not shut the door on Sisters in need.

I am also in the process of acquiring resolutions from the legislative body from the local, state, and federal officials.

I thank you for all the support for all the years I have served this Great & Noble order in all the elected or appointed positions I have held.

*I will continue to do this by mentoring or stepping up for any duties needed.
We are all Sisters in the end, no matter what differences we come across.
Always live the Motto in its truest form,
Colleen*

Bonnie Collins

Reflections of a Past President

I love summer! Not only long sunny days and warm weather, but time spent outside playing tennis or golf, picnics, and the LAOH Conventions!

As we approach the 2021 PA AOH-LAOH Convention, I look back on past Conventions, and there have been many for me. My life as a Hibernian began in 1989, when my Division, Berks 1, was founded with the help of Alice Henry and the late Claire Karpovich. I really knew very little about the organization except that it was for Roman Catholic women of Irish descent. Slowly our small group of women began to find fundraising projects to support local charities and support the national organization.

Still, something was missing! I just couldn't put the pieces together to make a complete picture of the LAOH. It was 1991, and someone suggested I attend the PA Convention in Scranton. It was exciting seeing several hundred Hibernians together in one place. I was beginning to understand Catholic Action and Missions and Charities! Success! It was a Convention where I learned so much about our organization. Committees were informative, speakers inspiring, Masses uplifting, and the socialization fantastic. I made many friends that first year and continue to make friends each year. Travel was an added bonus. I don't think I ever would have gone to Minnesota except to attend an LAOH convention. I could write volumes about my Hibernian experiences.

The more Conventions I attended, the more I learned. My new friend and Past President, Alice Henry, encouraged me to seek state office. In 1997, I was elected to the Office of Missions and Charities. Several years later, I was elected your PA State President.

Through those years, it was awesome to be Irish and learn about our heritage. In addition to the Conventions, there were festivals, Masses, dinners, parades, and concerts galore. It was fun, and I was proud to be a Hibernian. Then times gradually changed. Some people began losing interest in their heritage. Attendance at parades, festivals, parties, and conventions began to decline slowly. People, even Hibernians, became busy doing other things. To make matters worse, we suffered through Covid, which sickened many and kept us all from being together, from being Hibernians.

So here we are approaching the 2021 PA LAOH Convention. I hope and pray that this year is a Convention of rebirth, to build a stronger order, to make new friends, to rededicate ourselves to the principles of this noble order. For me, it has been a wonderful ride that continues as I renew friendships and make new ones. I'm still proud to be a Hibernian!

The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians belongs to us all. So let this be the year of rededication, a year of commitment, a year of involvement. Remember: the future of the LAOH will be what WE ALL make it. See you at the convention!

*Yours in friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity,
Bonnie*

Ellen McCrane

I have been keeping very busy as I was appointed to the role of treasurer for the upcoming convention.

I hope that many of you will attend and network with your sisters from across the state.

Lastly, I ask that you please pray for our recently departed Claire Karpowich, a Past State President of Pennsylvania. I will miss her at this convention.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Convention!

Ellen



Committees

Freedom for All Ireland ~ Kathleen Varady



Thank you Ladies !

I have enjoyed being your FFAI State Board Chair these past 2 years.

I look forward to the Convention and seeing many of you there.

In our motto,

Kathleen

Publicity – Newsletter ~ Maura O'Donnell-Roszyk

It has been an honor serving as your Pennsylvania State

Publicity Chair this historical term.

I hope you have enjoyed the Newsletter and Hibernian Digest

Submissions that we have been able to publish and be included in.

Thank you to everyone who has sent something in, and to all the Publicity

Ladies who post which allows us to spread our good news & celebrate each other.

Blessing to all,

Maura



Thank You



Stay connected with the PA LAOH via Facebook ~ **LAOH Pennsylvania State**

And our Website statepalaoh.com

Join the Facebook group to stay informed, learn new things, and keep connected with your Sisters throughout the Commonwealth.

Please remember Facebook is for fun,

Please watch content as some of our information should remain private.

Webmaster ~ Mary Ann Lubinsky

I thank you again for allowing me to serve the great state of Pennsylvania as your Webmaster. Moving forward, I encourage everyone to continue sending information into the website so that we can keep informing the Ladies across the State.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at the Convention,

Mary Ann



Prayer Requests



*The Power of Prayer is so very mighty
therefore, we ask you to include the following
Special people in yours.*

With great sadness, we inform you that Past State President and Sister Claire Karpowich passed away unexpectedly on Friday, May 28th.

She was a scholar, a teacher, and a role model to all she encountered.

Claire was a kind and funny friend who added a bit of zip with her wit, sarcasm, and sense of humor!

A special tribute...

I shall miss my Dear Hibernian Sister, Claire for many reasons.

Claire was the queen of witty banter. She brought her humor to the conversation at just the right time always! She would start out with a serious stern look as she began and it wasn't long before I would realize what she was saying wasn't serious at all but funny, hilarious, a joke. Then I would start to laugh and then she would break out in that big warm smile and giggle. Priceless memories!

Claire was an epic listener. She was the sort of person who when you spoke to her you knew she was giving you her full and undivided attention. When I joined the PA State Board Claire was there to give me, "the other Claire" as she affectionately referred to me, lots of words of encouragement and great advice on more than one occasion. One of her sage advice that has stuck with me through all these years as a Hibernian and Life in General is "don't sweat the small stuff and have fun!"

As I embark on another Pennsylvania State convention, it will be hard to believe that Claire is not there with us, grinning her welcoming grin, or telling a funny story or offering useful advice but I truly believe that she will certainly be there in Spirit with Us for sure! May God Bless and Keep Claire until we meet again in the Land of the Ever Living, Tir Na mBeo may she rest easy!



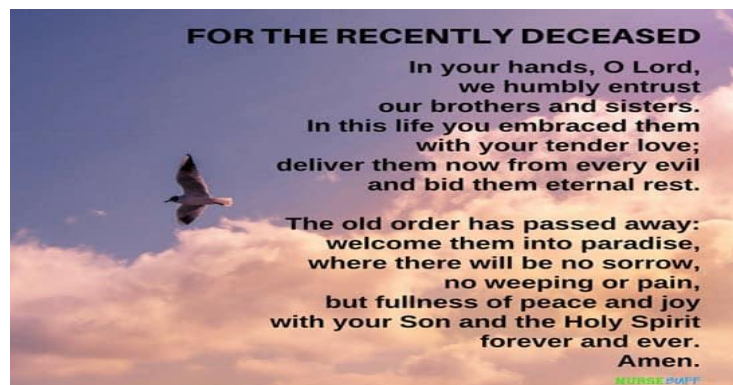
Love Always,
the Other Clare (McManus Fulginitti)



Additional passings include:

**Barbara Wagner Gordon from LAOH Division # 3 ~
Carbondale on April 28th, just 140 days after her beloved husband
of almost 64 years.**

**Mary Byrne Phenicie from LAOH Division #11 ~ Pittsburgh on May 6th.
Lois Weiser from LAOH Division # 2 ~ JFK ~ Pottsville, Schuylkill County on July 8th.**



Please pray for...



Sharon McGrath, who faces medical issues.



Ellen McCrane, PA Past State President, Maria Gallagher, PA State Vice-President, PA State Secretary Kathleen Diulus, and all of our Sisters who are battling Breast Cancer or are survivors. St. Peregrine and St. Agatha, pray for them.



Division Eleven, Oakland requests prayer for Sarah McCalla, Maggie Cloonan, Kathy Horgan, and Pamela Stewart as they recover from injury and ailments.



Division One, Lehigh Valley requests prayers for Dorothy Coughlin, Jeanette Denton, Juliann Donohue, Mary Denise Schneider, and Darlene Wentzel as they battle medical issues and recovery from injury and ailments.



A special prayer for everyone's Special Intentions.



Additionally, we ask for prayers of strength and courage to all of those ailing & their caregivers. In addition, to all the Sisters, Priests, and others without loved ones to pray for their soul.

Lastly, a prayer for us all as each one of us faces our daily struggles, fears, and pains

Be safe ~ Bí curamach



Thank you ~ It has been a pleasure! ~ Maura