

Florida State Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians



October 2023
Issue 4

2021-2023 OFFICERS

Chaplain

Fr Marcos Zamora

President

Louise Sullivan

Vice President

Jennifer Glancy

Secretary

Charlene Hollars

Treasurer

Mary McNamee

Mission & Charities

Rita Billingsley

Catholic Action

Anna Neve

Irish Historian

Laura Vahey

Mistress-at-Arms

Vacant

Sentinel

Vacant



WELCOME BACK, fall is here and so are the Ladies of the Ancient Order of Hibernians! I hope everyone enjoyed their summer, returning to the order energized and ready to dive right in.

We have some events for the State coming up. **October 27 – 29th** our State Convention is being held in the Rosen Centre. It will be the first time we are honoring our Lady Hibernians of the Year. Each division was asked to submit their member selected by membership to be honored. We are so proud of our four sisters who have been voted by their divisions to be worthy of this award.

The State Board is busy working on the next State trip to Savannah, GA during the Spring of 2024. We had such a great time in St Augustine, FL in January that I'm hoping more ladies join us this time around. Details are still being worked out and will be released as soon as everything is in place.

I am so proud to announce that we have opened a new division, the St John's County LAOH Division 2 St Augustine. I wish to thank Maureen Leahy-Rice for her hard work in getting this division started. She is not one for public speaking, so we definitely took her out of her comfort zone with three weekends of recruitment.

It is with a heavy heart that we folded two divisions last year. The LAOH no longer has divisions in Hernando or Pinellas County. It takes work to keep a division going and part of that is always to be looking for new members. Yearly recruitment events are a good way to do this.

Please remember the State Board is here to serve you, so don't hesitate to communicate with us your division needs. We will do everything we can to help you.

Our National Convention will be here before we know it, August 7 -11th 2024. Soon we will be looking for committee members to help with various needs. So, think about your strong forte, maybe its decorating tables, creating spreadsheets, preparation of goody bags, etc. We have a need for everyone to give even a few hours of their time.

Did I overwhelm you all I hope not, I want this to be one of our best years ever in the LAOH Florida.

In Our Motto Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity

**Louise Sullivan
Florida State LAOH President**

- Dear LAOH Sisters

- What a great summer!!! My husband and I had the opportunity to travel around the country. We drove 9,234 miles and went through 21 states. Of course, some we just drove through getting to our destinations. We saw the most beautiful Redwoods in California, Death Valley, CA was 129 degrees (that was HOT), Canyons in Arizona, Utah, Colorado, the Loretto Chapel in Santa Fe, NM (truly is a miraculous staircase), the native dwellings in Mesa Verde, CO were amazing. Absolutely beautiful scenery all over the country. Talked to some awesome people and made lots of great memories. It was great traveling for a month but it was also great to get back home!

- Now it's time to get ready for the upcoming LAOH events. Our annual baby shower for Foundations for Life will be held in October, along with a Craft Fair at Prince of Peace Catholic Church, hosted by LAOH, we will be handing out pins to our veterans, our Annual Christmas Flower Fundraiser and more things to come in 2024.

- I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the LAOH State Convention in Orlando on October 27 - 29, 2023. This is a great time to get together, and meet our LAOH National President, Marilyn Madigan. If you haven't met her yet, you're missing out on getting to know one of the nicest ladies I've ever met.

- Charlene Hollars, President, Hillsborough County Div 1, St. Ita

- Meetings: 2nd Monday of the Month, 10:00, Prince of Peace Catholic Church, Sun City Center, FL 33573

- Visit our website: www.laohscc.square.site

- Email: laohscc@gmail.com



Greetings Dear Florida State Sisters,

Your State Historian, Laura L. Vahey here, writing to you from the Wild Atlantic Way, the North of Donegal and Glenveagh National Park, how blessed am I? It pays to have friends with houses in incredible places that is for sure! I hope to see many of you at the Florida LAOH/AOH State Convention in October.

Two main events I'd like to report on: The LAOH essay contest is underway since September 15, 2023 and continues to accept entries until November 15, 2023. We need excellent entries from Florida this year and the prizes are significant and generous amounts: \$250, \$500, \$1000 and \$2000! WWW.LADIESAOH.COM

See website for details

You are invited to participate in the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, National Irish History Contest for students Grades 6 through 12. TOPIC: 2023-2024 Irish History Contest, Level 1 & 2. The scintillating-thought provoking topic for this essay is:

Identify Women who became involved in the Irish Independence Movement and/or To Free the North from British Colonialism.

Who were the individual Women? What part did they play? Why was their involvement critical?

What was the outcome of their participation?

WIN CASH PRIZES!!!

For contest rules and entry details contact NAME: Laura L Vahey

Local Contact Email: vaheylaura@gmail.com

DEADLINE FOR ENTRY NOV 15, 2023

The other exciting event that I'd like to bring to your attention is The 2nd Annual LAOH Florida State trip. Louise Sullivan, our President and I are planning a 3 night soiree to Historic Savannah, Georgia, to take place during the first week of April (dates to be confirmed at the State Convention). Our mode of transportation will be via Amtrak train at a greatly discounted group rate from Palatka, FL to Savannah, GA, how much fun will that be? We hope to stay in a Historic Inn in the Downtown area or a medium priced hotel such as the Embassy Suites, I have already received group rates from a few of the above, but I need to know how many of you would like to go on this wonderful trip? We had such a fabulous time in St. Augustine last year getting to know our coast to coast sisters that I was asked to plan a longer trip this year. So come on Gals, get that true Irish spirit going and treat yourself to a fabulous time, or better yet, if your family members don't know what to get you for your birthday, Christmas, anniversary etc, this would be a gift you will always remember.

Additionally, Louise has been in touch with our Georgia LAOH sisters and those who live close to Savannah hope to be meeting up with us for dinner and camaraderie. CARPE DIEM LADIES!!!! THE CRAIC WILL BE MIGHTY! Just shoot me an email or call me if you are interested or have any questions and I will get back to you. Phone: 813-775-5620, vaheylaura@gmail.com.

Slainte, Laura



The beach at Gortahork, Donegal.



Ferry to Tory Island from Gortahork, Donegal.

Donegal, Mount Errigle, Glenveagh National Park



Laura Vahey acts as Ireland Tour Guide for Theresa Wynne, a Hillsborough Member.



What a wonderful way
To see Ireland!!!!

DEATH's



Glenda Burgess – Hillsborough

PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS & BROTHERS

Pray for all our sisters and their families as we travel through this life.

ACTIVITIES

LECTURE EVENT:
'MISLIKE ME NOT FOR MY COMPLEXION':
THREE BLACK ARTISTS IN IRELAND, 1829
TO 1860

Christine Kinealy, Quinnipiac University

Thursday October 26th, 2023

Reception 1:00/Lecture 2:00

University of South Florida, St. Petersburg Campus
Free and Open to the Public

Dr. Kinealy is the founding Director of Ireland's Great Hunger Institute at Quinnipiac University and a preeminent scholar of the Great Famine in Ireland. Her recent research on the Irish abolition movement, which will form the focus of her presentation, also resulted in the 2018 publication *Frederick Douglass and Ireland: In his own words*, and in 2020, *Black Abolitionists in Ireland*, and the creation of the Frederick Douglass Walking Trails in Belfast, Cork and Dublin. This lecture event is sponsored by the USF Humanities Institute, and will be included in the events of the ACIS Southern Regional Conference as well as being free and open to the public.

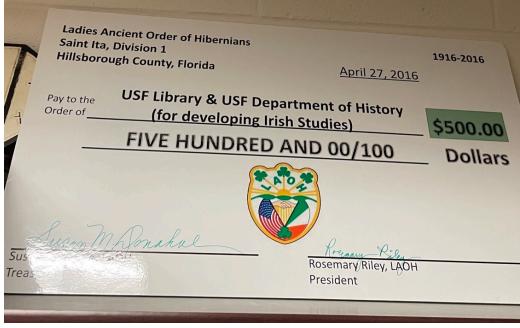


Contact:
IrishStudies@usf.edu



Ira Aldridge as Othello
Image credit: National Portrait Gallery

LAOH and AOH members visit USF Irish Studies



Copy of the first LAOH Check given to USF Irish Studies Program (Hanging in the Library)

Congratulations!



Brevard celebrates
their 40th
Anniversary!!!!

*FLORIDA HAS A NEW DIVISION
WELCOME
St. John's County, Div 2
St. Augustine*



Chaplain: Fr. Timothy Linderfeiser
President: Dorothyann Connallon
Vice President: Maureen Leahy-Rice
Recording Secretary: Mary Ellen Large
Treasurer: Margie Borowiec
Financial Secretary: Kathleen Meehan
Irish Historian: Rosemary Travis
Catholic Action: Jean Kopsky
Mistress at Arms: Ann O'Sullivan
Sentinel: Peggie Dennis
Webmaster: Stephanie Leahy

Charlene Hollars, Pat Sherman and Marlene McGrath-Otis have stuffed SUV's ready for delivery to Foundations of Life – Annual Baby Shower



Marilyn Goodwin (2nd from the left) delivers a trunk full of handmade baby items for the Baby Shower



Above, LAOH sponsors a Craft Fair at Prince of Peace. Left – items raffled with proceeds going to local charities



PRAYER FOR IRISH UNITY

Heavenly Father, as we gather here today, Ireland's exiled children in America, we pray for Irish Unity. Though Ireland, the land of saints and scholars, has suffered 800 years of oppression, her people have endured because of their faith and the strength of their spirit. We celebrate the natural beauty of our homeland from the rolling hills of Connemara to the rugged Cliffs of Moher to the streets Dublin and we pray that this beauty will one day be a symbol of our unity.

We ask that you bless the efforts of those who seek to unite Ireland. Strengthen the resolve of those who fight for justice and open the hearts and minds of those who impede it. Through your grace and mercy may Ireland be transformed into a land of peace, justice and equality, a nation once again.

We ask this through our savior Jesus Christ.
Amen



SPOOKY AND NOT SO SPOOKY FOLKLORE

FULL HOUSE

Leap Castle in County Offaly is reported to house more haunts than any other castle in Ireland, with 24 ghosts rattling through its ancient halls

GRAVE MATTERS

According to Irish superstition, if a tombstone is not placed on a grave within a year, the next of kin will die.

FAIRY PLACES

Irish fields have been plowed and replanted for thousands of years. The rocks have been removed, usually by hand, and now form the hundreds of stone fences that wall off even the smallest property. Yet in many of those fields, one may see a small mound of brush, hawthorn, and stone rising defiantly amid the carefully tended furrows.

These ancient stone circles are the "fairy rings" still respected by farmers as part of a different world. For while cows and sheep may graze on the gorse and hawthorn, no plow or tractor will disturb these magical spots. It wouldn't pay to bother the spirits at their rest. And at night, who knows what a mischief and angry fairy can cause.



OCTOBER COBBLER

A seasonal pudding using your favorite autumn fruit

1 lb autumn fruit mixture (apples, blackberries, pears, plums, damsons, elderberries)

4 T sugar

1 ¼ T lemon juice

1 ¼ stick butter

1 ½ C self-rising white flour

1 T superfine sugar

4 T milk

Clean the fruit and cut it up if necessary. Put fruit in a casserole dish. Cover with sugar and squeeze over the lemon juice. Dot with ¼ stick of the butter.

Rub the remaining butter into the flour. Add the superfine sugar and mix in the milk until the sides of the bowl are clean.

Quickly make an elastic dough. Roll it out carefully to about ½” and place over the fruit. Tidy the edges and prick the pastry well.

Brush with milk and bake at 400 degrees F for about 40 minutes, or until golden brown.

Sprinkle the cobbler with superfine sugar and serve with cream.



THE UNITY PRAYER

My Adorable Jesus,
May our feet journey together.
May our hands gather in unity.
May our hearts beat in unison.
May our souls be in harmony.
May our thought be as one.
May our ears listen to
The silence together.
May our glances
Profoundly
Penetrate each other.
May our lips pray together to
gain mercy from the Eternal
Father.
Amen

O BLESSED LADY,
SPREAD THE EFFECT OF GRACE OF
THY
FLAME OF LOVE OVER ALL OF
HUMANITY

WEBSITE UPDATE

Our National LAOH website is ladiesaoh.com

Please take a moment and visit this website as the information is important.

AOH/LAOH STATE MEETING

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW TO ATTEND THE UPCOMING
AOH/LAOH STATE MEETING – October 27 – 29, 2023 At the Rosen Centre in
Orlando.

AOH /LAOH NATIONAL CONVENTION

LAOH/AOH NATIONAL CONVENTION on August 7 – 11, 2024 in Orlando
at the Rosen Centre.