



# Erin's Echo

Maryland State Board  
Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc.

## President's Message

Friends and Fried Chicken

I was recently invited to a summer Chicken Fry by fellow LAOH division members.

I love fried chicken and it sounded like a fun day with fellow LAOH members. I happily rsvp'd and before I knew it the day had arrived and despite my love for fried chicken, I started doubting my decision. I began to list the many reasons not to attend- three hour drive up and back, a full day on the road, Bay Bridge traffic, cost of gas. I thought of the many reasons that could keep me on "my side of the bridge" but I knew they were just excuses. For all the excuses not to go, I had one big reason to go- *friendship*.

Driving through the narrow, winding country roads covered in cornfields for as far as my eyes could see, I reflected on my presidency. My thoughts were not on all the things I accomplished as president, but the friends I made along the way. As president, I have met such extraordinary women. People come into our lives at just the right time and then they move on. We exchange stories, advice, travel together, attend lectures, support each other's fundraisers and sometimes enjoy a summer picnic of fried chicken and good friends.

I am grateful to my fellow LAOH sisters for their support during my presidency and will cherish those memories.

**-Kathy Norris-**  
***Uachtarán (Maryland LAOH State President)***

**-LAOH Website**

Go to [www.marylandlaoh.org](http://www.marylandlaoh.org) for events, flyers and forms. There are links to items of interest in the local Irish Community as well as information on the national scene. You can also find us on <http://www.facebook.com/marylandlaoh>



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## Calendar

### **August**

**Aug. 17:** Our Lady of Knock Mass, St. Ignatius Catholic Community Chapel, 1:30, Lunch \$30, Mass \$15, Flyer

### **September**

**Sept. 6:** LAOH State Board, Location TBD

**Sept. 8:** Baltimore County, Div. 1, Genealogy Basket Drawing, Tickets attached

**Sept. 13:** LAOH Lifetime Member High Tea, St. John the Evangelist, Hydes, 2-4 PM, Flyer

### **October**

**Oct. 2-5:** MD AOH-LAOH State Convention, Ashore Hotel, Ocean City, MD,

**Oct. 18:** Harford County, Div. 1 Cash Bingo and Luncheon, St. Mark's Parish Hall, 12-4, \$30/\$32, Flyer

**Oct. 21:** Worcester County, Div. 1 Card Party, Flyer

### **November**

**Nov. 7-9:** Maryland Irish Festival, Timonium Fairgrounds, [Irishfestival.com](http://Irishfestival.com), \$

## Cultural Corner



THE PROPHET'S SONG by Paul Lynch  
THESE DAYS by Lucy Caldwell  
THE COAST ROAD by Alan Martin  
THE BOY FROM THE SEA by Garrett Carr

Next book club July 29 Bluestone 12:30  
THE SECRET PLACE by Tana French  
RSVP [miskellycox@verizon.net](mailto:miskellycox@verizon.net)

**-Joanna Cox**

## GATHERINGS

Fable: "Fox and Rabbit"

One crisp autumn morning, Fox noticed she had a problem. She toasted her bread to perfect crispness, slathered on unsalted Kerrygold butter, reached in the shelf (her spices were in labeled wooden vessels) and chose "Sugar 'n Spice" then sprinkled her toast.

Admiring the colorful leaves outside, she settled down with freshly brewed Irish Breakfast tea and toast. She sipped her tea, took a bite of toast and gagged. She reached the sink to rinse out crumbs. There was a knock on her door. She wiped her mouth and answered the door.

Rabbit opened her mouth to offer a cheery hello but hesitated when she saw Fox's face.

"Fox, are you unwell? Should I leave?" Rabbit stepped backward.

"Rabbit, something's wrong. My Sugar 'n Spice tastes spicy, fiery, awful! I gagged! I can't finish my tea."

"Did Skunk play a trick?"

"No, she's away visiting family."

"Should we take the container to police Officer Squirrel?"

"Who did this? My spices are in my cupboard. My door's locked."

"Let me play detective and examine the container."

Fox handed over the vessel.

"What'd you say this reads?"

"Sugar 'n Spice."

"It says 'Super Spice,'".

"I'm the culprit! I sprinkled Old Bay on my toast. My eyes are failing."

"You need glasses! Try these 'Cheaters.'"

Fox put them on, picked up the spice container, and smiled.

"I can see!"



Moral: As our autumn fades to winter, we need friends' help. Embrace blessings from companions on our journey.

**-Cheryl Nickle, Cecil County, Division 1-**

### Worcester County, Division 1

Our January meeting was held with our mass for St. Brigid's. The mass was scheduled by Joanne Kirby. Luncheon followed with 15 attending, wearing our black and whites. She did a great job last year and had our painting of St Brigid redone and it looks absolutely beautiful. Thank you for doing this for our sisterhood.

In February, we held the installation of four new members; a lovely ceremony with scones, sweets, decorations and bagels supplied by our dessert team which was headed by Mary Jean. Everyone enjoys their touch to our meetings. Toni is so talented. Next on the agenda is the, St Patrick's Day Parade in Ocean City, Md. Ten sisters are walking and two husbands are

carrying the banner. Next year we will have a larger attendance. Anne Dolan's husband is going to lend us his flatbed trailer. Our Pot of Gold tickets were given out at this meeting. Kitty and Dottie will be selling them during the parade. Cathy Bocci will sell them at the Knights of Columbus Hall. I will not be attending; I am having a reversed shoulder replacement. I'll be there in spirit. We went over our expenses. Jackie Choate and Peggy Bennet have secured the Ocean Pines Library for our meetings with kitchen for no charge. We were paying \$900/year at the Knights of Columbus. We are also working on other reductions.

During March, for the Parade...wonderful weather, Great Day for the Irish!!! Peggy Bennett won the \$500 pot of gold.

**- Ann Cottingham, President-**

### Harford County, Division 1

We finished our year with a fun pot luck luncheon on Sunday June 8<sup>th</sup>. We had a wonderful array of food, some fun games, a brief meeting and a great time just relaxing and visiting with each other.

Our Pot of Gold 50/50 Raffle winner was also drawn at our meeting. The lucky winner of \$405 was Ceil Terry! Congratulations Ceil! We thank all who donated to our fundraiser.

To date we have at least 7 members looking forward to attending the State Convention in October.

Later this summer we will be working on more details for our Bingo-luncheon fundraiser to be held on October 18th! Get your dabbers ready and mark your calendars!



**- Laurie Hauser, Reporter-**

### Baltimore City, Division 1

Happy Summer from the ladies of the Venerable Catherine McAuley Division of Baltimore City! We support Marian House, a holistic, healing community for women and their children who need housing and support services.

We meet the 2nd Thursday of each month, 7pm, at the Greene Turtle in Canton Crossing. We invite you to join us in helping women in need in the City of Baltimore and celebrating our Irish history and culture.

*-Dorothy Reed, Reporter*

### Harford County, Division 2

On March 16th, after attending mass at the Basilica, our division President, Mary Asaki, marched in the St. Patrick's Day parade as a deputy parade marshal. On March 23rd our division attended the St. John's 10th Ward St. Patrick's Day Party.

In April President Mary Asaki vacationed with her family in Istanbul and Ephesus, Turkey followed by a photo safari in South Africa.

Our May Crowning event was held on May 4th at St. Mark Church in Fallston. A chicken wire backdrop was set up behind Mary's statue in the grotto into which flowers were inserted after the devotion and crowning. During the Memorial Day weekend masses our division sold poppy pins in remembrance of those lost in service to our country. The poppy pins were attached to USA flag pins and the classic "In Flanders Fields"



poem written on small parchment. We sold out of the pins and were able to donate the \$610 proceeds to Angels Supporting Your Troops, a non-profit that sends care packages to our service

men and women overseas. Our monetary donation will cover postage for these packages. On May 30th, our division participated in the memorial service for former member Rachel Hairsine, a beloved friend.

We held a brief business meeting at our June luncheon on June 17th. Our division does not formally meet in July and August. The next event on our calendar will be our Rosary Night in October.

Respectfully submitted,

*-Gleela Kolakowski-Reporter*

### Howard County, Division 1

On June 21, we kicked off our summer meeting hiatus with a wonderful brunch at Margaret Schaefer's home. During the weekend of July 12-13, our Division sponsored our annual baby shower benefiting the Columbia Pregnancy Center. We collected items before and after all Masses at both the Wilde Lake and Oakland Mills



Interfaith Center in Columbia. The parishioner generously donated new and gently used baby clothing, diapers, baby wipes, formula, a new breast pump, assorted baby care items, 4 portable high chairs, a changing table, 2 pack-and-plays, a baby carrier, boxes of toys, books and a cash donation. We suspect the items will be well-received.

We are looking forward to the pre-Convention Committee meetings, Our Lady of Knock Mass, and getting together socially before we resume meetings in September and prepare for October's Convention.

Life is like a cup of tea; it's all in how you make it!

*-Sharon Strobel, President-*

### Baltimore County, Division 14

Hello Summer!

It seems that just a few months ago we never thought we would feel warm again, and here we are in our wonderful Maryland Summer weather!

In May we held a Spring luncheon and tied in our Baby Shower for the Mercy NICU. We had 15 guests and enjoyed wonderful fellowship.



Alisa, an RN from the NICU, met us to accept the gifts. This was her first time being there when the gifts arrived. She was very thankful for our generosity.







We are looking forward to the convention and Irish Festival in the fall.

Respectfully submitted,  
**-Katie McCune, President-**

### Carroll County, Division 1

Happy Summer everyone! We hope all our sisters are enjoying this beautiful summer. Carroll County held our annual Patriotic Wagon/Picnic raffle in May. We would like to thank all our Hibernian sisters who purchased tickets from us. The winner was Elaine Madden a parishioner at St. Bartholomew's. We are looking forward to our next big fundraiser, the Halfway to St Patrick's Day bake sale at St Bartholomew's Church.

In June we had our annual division retreat at Aisling House followed by a wonderful lunch provided by the Sisters at Aisling House. It was an exceptionally beautiful retreat.

This past Sunday on July 13<sup>th</sup> Mary O'Brien hosted a summer get together. Our division enjoyed the time to get together and just have some fun with our sisters and our families. Some of our members attended St. Bart's parish picnic/80<sup>th</sup> birthday party for Fr. Roach. Everything falls on the same day. We are setting up a table at the big flea market on July 19<sup>th</sup> at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. We have cleaned out stuff from our houses to



sell and raise money for our division.

We are looking forward to the State Convention in October. Enjoy the rest of your summer.

**-Mary Beth Connolly, President**

### Anne Arundel County, Division 1

The ladies of Anne Arundel County have been enjoying a quiet summer. After installing our newest member, Kathleen Kelly, at our April meeting, things have slowed down.

When September rolls around, we will finalize plans for our annual fundraiser and look forward to the State Convention in October. We will also welcome another "new" member who is transferring from Prince William County, Virginia.

Happy summer to all!

**-Dee McCarthy, President-**

### Cecil County, Division 1

Cecil County Division 1 proudly announces the adoption of St. Attracta as our division's patron saint. In 1864 Pope Pius IX reintroduced the special Mass to St. Attracta on her feast day, August 11<sup>th</sup>. She is best known for her hospitality and her charity to travelers and homeless. Also, our division now has a granite bench engraved with our division and the LAOH emblem in front of Immaculate Conception Church.



Our Lenten Diaper Drive netted 7583 diapers and 10,198 wipes and divided them between both the Cecil County and the Heritage Pregnancy Centers, delivered by a small crew.

Twenty-six members of our division met in May at St. Jude's Mission in North East, Maryland for our annual "Baby Shower" and to honor LAOH member and founder of the Cecil County Pregnancy Center, Bette Green. Cheryl Nickle and her helpers presented Bette with poetic floral tributes and a plaque installed in the little office where the pregnancy center for Cecil County was first contemplated.

Although we are on "summer break" during June, July, and August, our book club met last week for lunch and shared their favorite works of Irish poets. On June 14, Christine and Mary Anne attended the annual St. Kevin's Mass at St. Patrick's Chapel, and they brought and carried up the gifts. In July we meet for lunch to honor Dotty Fritz as she retires from the ICC Outreach. In August we will have our Lady of Knock Mass and

dinner.



-JoAnne Bierly, Reporter

#### Baltimore County, Division 1

Happy Summer! Hope everyone has a place to keep cool to beat the heat. The outdoor Stations of the Cross at Manresa was spiritual as always and it always fun to catch up with our sisters at Severn Inn for lunch.



The May crowning of Blessed Mother held by Harford Co. Div 2 was beautiful even with the rain, Tish Akin was all ready to attend but wasn't up to it when the day arrived, however her daughter Natalie still attended and we had a great time and she took Tish's crab cake dinner home to her.

I went to the Catholic Heart Youth Fundraiser at Brian Boru which was promoted by Howard County division. When we arrived the parking lot was almost empty and I thought maybe it was the wrong date. It turns out it was just a lag and started to fill up when we were finished our wonderful meal. I hope it was successful for the youth group.

We're holding our fundraiser during the summer and hope everyone wants to take a chance or two to trace their roots or add to the existing research on their ancestry. Send to Maureen Shettle, 10530 Cross Fox Lane, Columbia, MD 21044. The flier and chances are attached and I'll bring extra tickets to Our Lady of Knock mass in August. Hope to see you there!

"Like the warmth of the sun and the light of the day: May the luck of the Irish shine bright on your way"

-Maureen Shettle, President--

#### Baltimore County, Division 4

We are looking forward to the State Convention and getting together with all our sisters.

We continue to look for new members, if you know of anyone who would love to join our division please provide me with contact information.

Our 2024-2025 fund is a collection of gift cards is continuing. The drawing will be at the 2025 Christmas party. The chances remain the same at \$2.00 a chance or six chances for \$5.00. You can send your request for chances to Pat Zaccari at 14100 Blenheim Rd North Phoenix, Md 21131 or email Pat at [vangoghatphoenix@aol.com](mailto:vangoghatphoenix@aol.com).

Please keeps us in your prayers.

-Pat Zaccari, President-

## In Memorium-

### *Let Us Pray*

*Let us remember in prayer our Sisters who are sick and suffering, especially those in nursing homes and hospitals, as well as our deceased sisters, that they may rest in God's eternal embrace.*

