

MARY ANN LUBINSKY - NATIONAL PRESIDENT
2025 LAOH INTERIM BOARD MEETING REPORT

Dear Sisters,

On August 10, it was one year ago that I was sworn in as the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians National President. As I was that day, I am still honored and proud to be your leader. Many of us belong to other organizations but there is none that compares with our LAOH. We are mostly Irish or the wife of an AOH member or mother of a Junior LAOH or AOH. Most important of all is we are Catholic.

We have a wonderful 131-year history that also had some challenges along the way including life-changing COVID.

My term started off a little rocky with an issue that took a few months to work out, but it did. There was also another issue which eventually worked out.

Just as Marilyn Madigan was given a To-Do List in 2022 from then outgoing President Karen Keane, Marilyn gave a list to me. I am happy to say that they were completed, some by me, some by other officers and appointees of the National Board and some continue today.

I have been quite busy since the beginning of this year:

I was a guest at the Little Christmas celebration of Berks County Division 1.

In February I represented the LAOH at the National Catholic Prayer Breakfast in Washington where Vice President Vance was the speaker.

On March 12, I attended the Washington Ireland Program Breakfast with Keith Carney for the announcement of the WIP Class of 2025.

Later that same day, I attended the St. Patrick's Day event at the White House with AOH National President, Sean Pender. We also received an invitation from the Taoiseach for a private event at the Blair House following the White House visit. Her Excellency, Geraldine Byrne Nason, Ambassador of Ireland, was also in attendance.

On March 13, I attended the Northern Ireland Bureau Breakfast. There were other invitations during that same period which I had to decline.

I was most fortunate to be part of the 2025 FFAI trip to Ireland from March 22 to April 3 to present the checks to so many worthy groups. It was first time there and it was a wonderful experience!

I was also very fortunate to attend some State Conventions including New Jersey, Massachusetts, Ohio, and my own Pennsylvania. At each one, the LAOH and AOH rolled out the red carpet for me and treated me like royalty.

For those of you who may not know, SOAR, Support Our Aging Religious, is honoring the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians on November 7 at their Washington DC Awards Gala with the Saint Katharine Drexel Award at the Italian Embassy. I think it is wonderful that our award is named after Philadelphia's own Katharine Drexel. I will be accepting the award on behalf of each and every one of you, my Sisters.

In addition to the LAOH, other honorees are Robert Cardinal McElroy, Archbishop of Washington, who will be receiving the Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Award and Dennis J. Dee who will be receiving the 2025 Father Bob Brown, OSFS Good Samaritan Award.

I have more great news to share! We have been approved for another Emigrant Support Programme Grant from the Irish Government for \$8,700. This will allow us to continue with our Marketing and Advertising/Print and Online Advertising for the year 2025-2026! Marilyn has done such a great job with this during her term, and we can continue.

I thank you, my Sisters, for giving me the opportunity to be your National President these past 12 months. I am asking for your prayers for me for these next 12 months.

Always in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Mary Ann Lubinsky
2024-2026 LAOH National President