

2025 Interim Board Meeting- 9/13/25- Secretary Report

Ladies,

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your LAOH National Secretary over the past year. I enjoyed meeting so many of you as I attended the State Conventions in Ohio, New York, and Virginia. I have also met many new faces during the Constitutional Convention Committee meetings as I am one of the two National Board representatives on the committee. I appreciate the dedication and commitment of our members to serve.

As I went back through the membership reports for the past 3 years, I discovered the LAOH has increased in size by almost 500 members. Our total membership numbers are as follows. 2022- 9,227 members with 9,045 taxable members, 2023- 9,439 members with 9,254 taxable members, and in 2024 - 9,681 with 9,411 taxable members. So, our membership has increased by over 200 ladies, each year, for the past 2 years. Excellent job ladies in growing the membership!

Our Emigrant Support Grant from the Irish Government has helped us reach out with our message in print advertising and social media. Our continued commitment to Notre Dame University through our donations to their scholarship and our attendance at the Hibernian Lecture Series every year, has elevated our profile in the communities where potential members reside. Our new collaboration with the GAA (Gaelic Athletic Association) allowed us to have a table at the GAA finals in Philadelphia in August. Read more about these initiatives in the Vice-President report and the report of the National Organizer.

These were all very valuable tools to reach out to potential new members. However, the most important asset that we must have to not only sustain our Order but to grow it in the future is you, the member. You are the most important piece of our puzzle. Our Sisterhood is not defined by uniformity but by unity in diversity. Each woman brings her own gifts, talents, and stories, and together we form a tapestry of strength, resilience, and grace. We support one another not only in times of joy and celebration but also in moments of hardship and sorrow. This is the heart of our Sisterhood—an enduring love and commitment that binds us together across generations and across this country. This is the experience that we have to offer new members.

When you joined the LAOH, you became part of a family rich in our Faith, our traditions and our Irish heritage and culture. Make it a goal to bring in one new member this year. Spend time with her and mentor this new member. Teach her about the importance of getting her Degrees. Invite her to be involved in your Division functions and charity events. Play a role in helping our membership continue to grow so we are around for another 130 years!!

Hoping to see many of you in Omaha, Nebraska in July 2026 for our National Convention.

In Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity, Cathy Turck, National Secretary

