

The Order shows its strength at Louisville Convention

They came from the four corners of America, these men and women Hibernians, and descended on Louisville, Kentucky, for our 99th Biennial Convention, to conduct the business of this Nobel Order. When they returned home, it was with renewal and confidence in the future of our AOH and LAOH associations. We vowed to continue to live up to our reputation as being the "voice of Irish America."

The sold-out Galt House Hotel, proudly displaying the Tri-Colors along the entranceway, welcomed the largest Irish Catholic organization in the United States of America in grand style. From the welcoming view of the Ohio river to the closing banquet, the local committee and hotel staff displayed Louisville hospitality throughout the convention.

Our National Chaplain, Archbishop Thomas J. Rodi, opened the convention with a concelebrated mass, followed by a Kentucky Derby-themed Ice Breaker. The Opening Joint Session was called to

order with a Kentucky Derby Bugler followed by prayers from the archbishop. The joint session included presentations from the proposed 2022 convention sites: Denver, Pittsburgh and Reno; and brilliant remarks from Ireland's Ambassador to the U.S., Daniel Mulhall. From that point forward the work of the convention began.

Hibernians in attendance participated in everything from general reports to spirited debates on critical resolutions and constitutional amendments. Two major workshops focused on the progress of the Secretary and Treasurer offices, including taxes, led by National Secretary Jere Cole and Treasurer Sean Pender, and the work of the Marketing, Promotion and Advertising Committee, led by Scott Partika and Lee Paterson. The workshops set the stage for the breakout sessions to follow, setting the bar high for the work to be done that afternoon.

The resolutions brought forward from major committee breakouts were approved and focused on the major national issues of the AOH reaffirming our stance on the critical work of the Order. The resolutions can be found on the AOH website at <https://aoh.com/2018-resolutions/> and have been forwarded to state presidents for distribution as well. Resolutions included: a Pro-Life Resolution; a call for a

continued on page 23



The AOH National Board 2018-20, from left, front row, Secretary Jere Cole, President James McKay, Vice President Danny O'Connell, Treasurer Sean Pender; back row, Directors John Wilson, Bill Sullivan, Dennis Parks, Liam McNabb, newly-elected Ed Halligan and Dan Dennehy.

See Pages 6, 22-24 for convention photos

'Mr. Hibernian' Tom McNabb dies in Auburn



AOH National Secretary Emeritus Thomas McNabb went to his eternal reward on July 31, surrounded by family and listening to his favorite recording of Ave Maria, just a few days before his 81st birthday.

A member of the local Democratic Party, he served on the Auburn, New York, City Council for 16 years. Tom was also the quintessential Hibernian. For 63 years, he was responsible for anything and everything Irish in his

hometown of Auburn, from an annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon to Auburn's Irish Festival, and he was the force behind building the Auburn Hibernian Hall. He served in virtually every office in the Order at the Division, State and National levels. After being the youngest to hold the office of AOH NY State President in 1975 to the second youngest AOH National President in 1978, he settled into the office of AOH National Secretary in 1984. As Secretary, he guided and inspired the Order for 30 years until he put down his pen in 2014. The grateful Order then bestowed upon him the title Secretary Emeritus – the first time such status had ever been conferred in the history of the Order – since they could not imagine a functioning organization without him at least in the cadre of officers. He was a Hibernian's Hibernian with an

infallible memory of how the Order worked and had an Irish heart big enough to know how it should work.

Friend to all levels of political leaders and clergy, here and in Ireland, his service was even recognized on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives, and many tributes were paid by his brother Hibernians.

"I first met Tom at the 1972 National Convention in Dublin," said Past National President George Clough. "He was on his honeymoon with Bridget. In all our years in the Order, especially when I was National President, we worked closely together and he was a great assistance in helping me run the Order. He was Mister Hibernian, always ready to work for the benefit of the Order. I will miss my longtime friend."

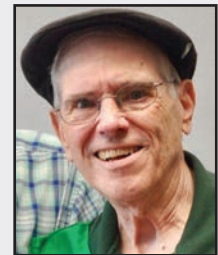
National Director Bill Sullivan, who knew Tom for 40 years, wrote: "No matter what AOH information you asked, Tom always gave you the correct answer or steered you in the right direction. I had the honor to second Tom's Nomination at two National Conventions back in the 1990's. It was a privilege to be asked to nominate someone who was truly a legend. That was more than 20 years ago and I still remember the honor."

"Tom McNabb was one of my mentors as I was going through the chairs on the [NY] State Board and as State President," said Peter Durkee. "He often mildly scolded me for not doing something, but it was like a father talking to his son, teaching him

continued on page 9

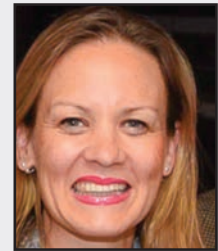
In This Issue...

25 Years



'Chip' Rogers
Ohio
Page 11

AOH Says 'Thank You'



Anna McGillicuddy
off to Dublin
Page 4

Elected



Ed Halligan
New National Director
Page 4

State News

Connecticut	12
Georgia	11
Illinois	13
Indiana	14
Kansas	18
Massachusetts	13
New Jersey	16
New York	12, 14, 18
Ohio	11
Oklahoma	11
Pennsylvania	15
Rhode Island	15
South Carolina	14
Tennessee	11
Virginia	17, 18
LAOH	19



Ancient Order of
HIBERNIANS
Irish • Catholic • American

NATIONAL BOARD OFFICERS

Archbishop Thomas J. Rodi – AL .. National Chaplain..... jpresley@mobarch.org
 Rev. Michael Healy – CA..... Deputy National Chaplain..... hibhealy@hotmail.com
 Rev. Patrick Collum – LA Deputy National Chaplain..... pcollum@arch-no.org
 James F. McKay III – LA National President..... jfmaoh@me.com
 Daniel O’Connell – OH National Vice President djoconnell@ysu.edu
 2018 National Convention Chairman, Louisville

Jere Cole – NJ National Secretary jcole4838@gmail.com
 Sean Pender – NJ National Treasurer paddyspeed@yahoo.com
 Dan Dennehy – NY Nat’l Director Immigration dandennehy@hotmail.com
 Chairman

Liam McNabb – NY Nat’l Director liammcnabb@hotmail.com
 Ed Halligan Nat’l Director emhalli2@comcast.net
 Dennis Parks - OH Natl. Director..... dparks121@yahoo.com
 William Sullivan – MA Nat’l Director williamjsullivan@verizon.net
 John Wilson – MO Nat’l Director johnj_wilson@yahoo.com
 James Kuhn – LA National Legal Counsel jkuhn7478@gmail.com
 Michael McCormack – NY Historian / Archivist..... aohbard@optonline.net
 Timothy McSweeney – NY Organizer Newjack12007@yahoo.com
 Keith Reynolds Deputy Organizer..... hiberniancop@gmail.com
 John O’Connell – NY Editor editorhiberniandigest@yahoo.com
 Martin Galvin FFAI Chairman..... mgalvinesq@aol.com
 Joseph Norton – GA..... Charities and Missions docsnorton2@gmail.com
 John Patrick Walsh – MD Pro-Life Chairman jaywarp1@gmail.com
 John Fitzmorris III – LA Catholic Action..... jdfitzmorris@yahoo.com
 Neil Cosgrove – NY Political Education Committee ncosgrov@optonline.com
 Anti Defamation / IAHM Chairman

James Green – PA Veterans Affairs seamus.green317@gmail.com
 Brendan Moore – NY Past National President brendanaoh@yahoo.com
 Oversight Committee

George Clough – MO..... Past National President..... BookODays@aol.com
 Oversight Committee

Nick Murphy – NY..... Past National President..... upkerry@optonline.net
 Oversight Committee

Joseph Roche – MD Past National President, jar32@aol.com
 Deputy Chairman Oversight Committee

J.J. Kelly – VA Ritual & Degree Chairman..... IrishKnight1@verizon.net
 Ned McGinley – PA Past National President, nedaoh1@aol.com
 Notre Dame Fund Chairman

Jeff Nisler – NY..... Webmaster..... Jeff.AOH@Nisler.com
 Vic Vogel Project St. Patrick victorjvogel@yahoo.com
 Greg Sean Canning – FL Irish Way and Study Abroad Program ... grioghar@mac.com
 Seamus Boyle - PA Past National President shay39@comcast.net
 Special Projects

Jack Meehan – MA..... Past National President..... meehanaoh1@aol.com
 Edward J. Wallace – NY Past National President..... ewallac2@twcny.rr.com
 Thomas J. McNabb, NY..... Past National President mcolemana@gmail.com
 Secretary Emeritus

The National
hibernian digest



"Ireland, One and Indivisible, Though the heavens Fall"

HIS EMINENCE, PATRICK CARDINAL O'DONNELL OF IRELAND

Subscription price of \$8.00 included in the organization's dues. Periodical postage paid at West Caldwell, NJ and additional mailing offices USPS 373340

A bi-monthly publication dedicated to Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity. The National Hibernian Digest is the complete chronicle of the ideals, hopes, and achievements of Hibernians everywhere. The National Hibernian Digest is printed and mailed out of Ronkonkoma, NY 11779-9998 and additional mailing offices in February, April, June, August, October and December. Office of publication is Ancient Order of Hibernians, West Caldwell, NJ

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to National Hibernian Digest, P.O. Box 539, West Caldwell, NJ 07007 The Hibernian Digest reserves the right to not include articles in this publication due to space limitations and editorial determination. The articles submitted to the Digest do not necessarily represent the views or opinions of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America, Inc., its Board of Directors, the Editor or its membership. The Hibernian Digest welcomes letters to the editor. Please send via e-mail to editor@hiberniandigest.com and include your letter in the body of the e-mail. DO NOT send as an attachment. Letters can be mailed (typed only) to AOH Editor, National Hibernian Digest, c/o John O’Connell, 87-30 256th St., Floral Park, NY 11001. ALL LETTERS ARE SUBJECT TO EDITING. Anonymous letters will not be considered. Please include contact phone numbers for follow up.



JOHN O’CONNELL National Editor/ Advertising..... (646) 436-0811 editorhiberniandigest@yahoo.com
SANDI RILEY SWIFT Assistant Editor webmaster@ladiesaoh.com
JEFF NISLER Online Editor editorhiberniandigest@yahoo.com



**AOH
LOAH
APPAREL**

MENS & LADIES



TO ORDER:
AOH2018.ITEMORDER.COM
 OR
CARRIGANAHOHCOLORADO.COM

A PORTION OF EVERY SALE BENEFITS OUR CHARITABLE WORKS



**ANCIENT ORDER
OF HIBERNIANS**



September 20-23
 1992 North Wildwood 2018
**27th Annual
Irish Fall Festival**



Thursday, September 20th

A.O.H. Golf Tournament – 12:30 PM

\$90.00 fee before 9/10 and \$100.00 on or after 9/10

Cape May National Golf Course, Route 9 and Fairway Drive, CMCH

Friday September 21st

VENDORS - 8 AM to 7 PM Olde New Jersey Avenue

LIVE IRISH ENTERTAINMENT - 12 PM to 8:30 PM Olde NJ Avenue

BEER GARDEN - 12 PM to ???? PM • Spruce and Olde New Jersey Avenue

Saturday September 22nd

5K Run- 8 AM SIGN-UP-\$20.00 fee Olde New Jersey Avenue (prizes awarded)

VENDORS - 8 AM to 7 PM Olde New Jersey Avenue

BRIAN RILEY PIPE EXHIBITION - 10 AM - Bill Henfey Park

Featuring some of the best pipe bands on the East Coast

IRISH DANCE LESSONS-FREE - 10 AM till 12 PM -Knights of Columbus

LIVE IRISH ENTERTAINMENT - 12 PM to 8:30 PM Olde NJ Avenue

BEER GARDEN - 12 PM to ???? PM • Spruce and Olde New Jersey Avenue

Sunday September 23rd

MASS - 10:30 AM Saint Ann’s R.C. Church Glenwood & Atlantic Avenue

PARADE - 12:30 PM - 20th & Surf to Spruce & Olde New Jersey Avenue

GRAND MARSHALL - To be Announced

VENDORS - 8 AM to 7 PM Olde New Jersey Avenue

BUS SERVICE AVAILABLE

Anglesea Fire Hall-2nd & Olde New Jersey Avenue

To North Wildwood, Wildwood and Wildwood Crest

For details call 609-884-5230 or visit www.gatrolley.com

1-800-IRISH-91 or www.cmcaoh.com



president's message

by Jim McKay III

Our National Convention in Louisville has come and gone and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the National Delegates for the confidence they showed when they re-elected me National President. The convention was a huge success and Louisville proved to be one of the great cities where our Order is present and vibrant.

I have contacted our recently elected and re-elected Directors and started to hand out assignments not only to them but the appointed members also. I have reappointed the Most Reverend Thomas J. Rodi, Archbishop of Mobile, Alabama, as our National Chaplain, and also reappointed Reverend Michael Healy, of California, and Father Patrick Collum, of Louisiana, as our Deputy Chaplains.

The business sessions of our convention went very well and quite a few resolutions came out of that body and have been sent to the Irish Government as well as the White House. Resolutions were a very useful tool for prior conventions, but have fallen into disuse in recent years. However, we will be resurrecting the concept as we find it is a useful vehicle to get our messages out to government and institutions when needed.

As usual, one of our main goals will be to address our membership problem in every state where we have a presence. We have members in 47 states in this country but currently only have Divisions in 38 states. Our goal is obviously is to have Divisions in all 50 states.

We will continue to send our monthly messages through our email list of 10,000 members. These messages will concentrate on current Irish-related issues, whether they be here or in Ireland, as well as spiritual messages reflecting our Catholic faith. I urge all Brothers to join that email blast list. I hope the next two years will be fruitful to our Order and that our National Board will continue working to make the AOH more vibrant and relevant in the 21st century.

God Bless.



vice president's report

by Danny O'Connell

Thank you for the privilege of representing you as your national vice president for another two years. It has been an honor for me to serve as an elected officer of the AOH for the last 10 years. I am excited by the challenges ahead and committed to continue the positive momentum we have built over the years. I believe the productivity of the board has improved and will continue to improve as we resume our efforts to embrace technology both new and old.

You will see more and more items online, both on our webpage and our Facebook page, you will see more consistency in our email blasts, and you will see our recruiting efforts continue to grow our Order throughout the country. Our success depends on you! Our membership participation in all of our efforts is what makes the AOH the leading Voice of Irish America. Share your voice by being part of our efforts.

What does this mean for you? We need you to join the AOH email blast so you can stay up to date with the latest Hibernian news. We need you to visit our website, WWW.AOH.COM, share the stories and articles that fit your Irish, Catholic, American interests. We need you to visit our Facebook page and again share the stories and articles that fit your Irish, Catholic, American interests. Being a Hibernian, we EMBRACE OUR IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE. One of the greatest things about being a Hibernian is that our umbrella of interests is so very large. The items we address on a daily basis are so broad-based that we have room for every Irish Catholic residing in the United States.

Our recently established Marketing, Promotion and Advertising committee is also re-organizing. If you have a background and talent in Marketing we are looking for assistance. We need help with design, video production, general artwork, building advertising campaigns, evaluating campaigns, and so much more. If you are the Hibernian we are looking for and willing to work, please contact me at Daniel.oconnell@aoh.com or 330-518-4450. I can tell you the last two years working with our committee have been most rewarding.

I know that we have laid out an aggressive agenda for the next two years. In order to fuel the engine, we have completed job descriptions for each of our national officers. The basics can be found in the constitution but pulling them out into a job description helps everyone understand what is expected. It also helps someone new to an office to hit the ground running. Two years ago, we implemented job descriptions for our National Directors and National Liaisons, which worked well for the Order. Over the last six months, I have worked with President McKay to develop job descriptions for appointed officers. In early August, we distributed draft copies to all constitutional appointments, soliciting input with the plan to finalize them within a week. By the end of August, we will have completed the same process for all presidential appointments.

In September, all state presidents will receive copies of the job descriptions to be distributed then to all officers of their states. We believe this can give every board a shell description that can be adjusted to fit your needs. They will also be posted on the AOH website in order to help every Hibernian learn more about what we do.

Tom McNabb

On July 31, we lost a brilliant Hibernian Leader who served the AOH on every level for his entire adult life. The key to Tom McNabb was SERVICE. His signature is on over one million membership cards that have become part of history. His signature is on every official document of the AOH for 32 years. His work and effort set the bar high for all Hibernians.

As for me, I lost a friend, I lost a mentor, and I lost someone who had become family in a very short time. Tom McNabb was a first-class Hibernian. When I ran for National Treasurer, Tom supported my opponent (who was a close friend and great Hibernian) but from the moment I was elected, Tom supported me. This is what it means to be a Hibernian. Tom took it upon himself to educate me as to the daily operations of the Order. What I did not know is that he was preparing me to lead the transition of the national office to his duly elected successor. During the two years I worked with Tom, he put service to the AOH above all.

I will remember Tom every time I wear my AOH medallion and I will know that Tom McNabb has played a vital part in any future success I have as a Hibernian. Tom, you will be truly missed. Rest in Peace.



national secretary

by Jere Cole

New Procedures again!

Now as fall approaches it is time to once again focus on our year-end activities, including getting our rosters in order to receive our new membership cards for the coming year.

Last year we began making sweeping changes to streamline the entire process. This year promises to have more of the same. As such it will require electronic communication. That is to say each division will need an email address. At this writing 80 divisions from 20 states have financial secretaries that have no email address! Or at least we have no record of an address in the system.

Please act NOW to get an email if you do not have one. If your Financial Secretary is unwell or unable to have an email, please make arrangement for an alternate who does have the ability to receive emails.

This year we will begin a process that will permit you to make changes directly to your roster without submitting a Form 40. But this new procedure will definitely require you to have an email.

As you begin to prepare your computer, please be certain you have an up-to-date version of Acrobat Reader installed. Reader is available free from Adobe on the web and it is easy to obtain and install.

The plan now is to begin implementation of this new system on or about October 15, 2018. You will need to make sure your division rosters are accurate prior to the end of the year. On December 31, 2018, the number you have on your roster is the number you will need to pay per capita on for 2018.

As it was last year, your per capita is due to National BEFORE February 15, 2019. New 2019 Membership cards will begin being mailed the first week in January and will not be linked to receipt of a roster as it has been in the past because it is presumed you will have the roster complete.

Please use the National website — AOH.com — to obtain ALL forms (Form 9, Form 11, Form 12)

Remember the AOH in your will

Please consider the Order when writing or rewriting your will, and add a paragraph along the lines of: "I leave to The Ancient Order of Hibernians in America [X percent of my estate or a specific dollar amount] for its charitable works."





Treasurer's Report

by Sean Pender

Brothers, it has been an absolute honor to work for you as your national treasurer these past two years. It has not been easy, but it has been an honor. I sincerely thank you for re-electing me to once again serve as your National Treasurer, and pledge to continue to work hard for you, our members.

As we work to continue the efficiency of this office and ensure compliance with all tax responsibilities, starting with the submission of the 2018 Form 11 all subordinate boards and divisions will be required to submit proof of tax filing with their Form 9 or 11. Information and instructions on this process will be posted in the near future on the treasurer page of our national website.

Additionally, starting in 2019 with payment of 2018 per capita, divisions will cut only one check for the total amount of per capita, initiation and reinstatement fees. The Form 11 will have an area to break this information out; but only one check needs to be cut for the total amount. This will reduce the number of per capita checks cut, received, recorded and deposited by 40 percent. All the funds are deposited in the same account so there is no need to cut more than one check.

At the convention in Louisville an amendment to the constitution to increase per capita to \$16 per member was approved. If per capita is paid by February 15th there will be a \$4 discount, so all divisions who pay on time will not incur any increase. The impetus for this was that as an organization we needed to do a better job executing our financial and fiduciary responsibilities regarding the timely payment and submission of per capita. In 2017 only 64.7 percent of divisions paid per capita on time and that number reduced to 57.2 percent in 2018. Time and time again it had been explained that per capita is paid on the previous year's roster, which is why rosters are reviewed in the 4th quarter, therefore a portion of the dues collected for the previous year should be budgeted to pay the per capita the following year. A consistent problem that we encounter is that we have a lot of people who believe that because paying late is the way they have always done it they can continue to pay late. This new amendment, which will go into effect with per capita submitted in 2020, will reward those who pay on time.

Lastly it was also reviewed in Louisville that the target date for EIN compliance is November 1, 2018. There are still 138 divisions and boards that need to become compliant and we need to set a target date to end this project. Each non-compliant division or board will be assigned a National Director or other AOH officer who will work with them to submit all required paperwork and fines which will move them to compliance or present them the IRS tax requirements that a for profit organization must follow.

For those division and boards that have had their 501c8 revoked those EIN numbers are now considered as a corporate or for-profit entity in the eyes of the IRS and STATE revenue departments. If they do not follow the re-instatement process any income they receive may/will be taxed and they will be required to file a Form 1120.

Questions regarding this classification should be referred to www.irs.gov or call the for profit side of the IRS help desk at 800-829-4933 Monday-Friday 7a-7p local time; or visit www.irs.gov/forms-pubs/about-form-1120

It is important to note that based on our filing as the parent organization Ancient Order of Hibernians in America GEN 0832 all subordinates will have a June 30th fiscal year end. This will require all to file taxes by November 15th each year. IRS help desk for exempt organizations 877-829-5500.

Finally, I'd like to thank the Louisville convention committee for working so hard and hosting such a wonderful convention and the audit convention committee of John Tarpey, Patrick O'Brien, BJ Eckholdt and Steve Kurpiewski for dedicating their time and effort to perform the important work of this committee.

AOH honors Anna McGillicuddy



The AOH National Board presented Anna McGillicuddy, the Deputy Head of Mission at the Consulate General of Ireland, New York, with a certificate of merit and the Order's deep appreciation as her diplomatic career now brings her home to Dublin. From left, Past National President Brendan Moore, National Treasurer Sean Pender, Anna McGillicuddy, Hibernian Digest National Editor John O'Connell, National Secretary Jere Cole and Deputy National Secretary Joe Ryan.



Director's Report

by Bill Sullivan

First, I want to thank the delegates to our National Convention in Louisville for reelecting me as one of your six National Directors. I look forward to working together on your behalf with all members of the National Board over the next two years as a cohesive team to see that our Order continues to move in a strong positive direction to build upon the accomplishments of the past and become a vibrant and stronger 21st Century organization.

Our 2018 AOH/LAOH National Convention in Louisville is now history. For many of us, it was a time of renewed friendships, making new friends and meeting our brother and sister Hibernians from around the U.S. Our sincere thanks to the Louisville and Kentucky Hibernians for their fine hospitality shown to all of us. Our 2018 convention was a first-class event. Thanks to a great convention committee for your hard work, time and talents!

Hopefully over the course of the convention, many of you took the opportunity to attend many of the breakout sessions and workshops that were held. Your attendance at these sessions enhanced your knowledge of the AOH. Please take this information that you learned back to your Division and share it with your brother members. Your Division will be the better for it!

Several constitutional changes were enacted during our convention in Louisville. One of these constitutional changes dealt with the per capita assessment and will only affect those Divisions who are delinquent and pay their assessment after the due date of February 15. The purpose of this change is not to penalize a Division, but rather to encourage all Divisions to pay their assessments in a timely manner. Please see our National Officers columns in this and future Digests for more specific information on this subject.

One of the highlights for the New England delegation to the convention and to our brothers in Rhode Island was the presentation to Ken Dooley, a member of the Dennis E. Collins Division in Newport, of a Certificate of Merit from the AOH National Board Immigration Committee for his efforts in documenting and obtaining a long sought-after pardon for an Irish immigrant, John Gordon.

Ken Dooley, after researching Gordon's case, learned that the jury that sentenced Gordon to death included no Irish-Catholics, that all the evidence was circumstantial, and that the chief justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court instructed jurors to disregard the testimony of Irish witnesses over that of native-born Americans.

Mr. Dooley was convinced that Gordon was innocent and wrote and produced a play, "The Murder Trial of John Gordon," which was performed in January 2011. After much fanfare, hard work and with the help of many others, on June 29, 2011, Rhode Island Governor Lincoln Chafee granted a pardon to John Gordon. On May 5 of this year, Ken Dooley was inducted into the RI Heritage Hall of Fame. Congratulations Ken, on a job well done!

As we move into a new fall season of Hibernian activities, one item that most definitely stands before all of us is increasing our membership. What can you do at the Division level to help? Late summer and early fall are prime seasons for fairs and Irish festivals. Try to have a membership booth at these events and begin to plan your 2019 Membership Drive now. It is never too early to start planning!

Enjoy the last days of the summer of 2018, and please feel free to contact me at any time. My email address is: williamsullivan@verizon.net



Director's Report

by Ed Halligan

I would like to congratulate my AOH Brothers and LAOH Sisters on their election or re-election to their respective National Boards.

Thank you to the Brothers and Sisters in Pennsylvania for your support and to all of the Delegates from across the United States who have given me this chance to serve as the newest National Director. I appreciate the hospitality and congeniality of the States and Caucuses as I shared my thoughts and views with you on that Friday of our Convention. It was nice and a little intimidating to meet so many Hibernians in a semi-captive environment.

A special note of gratitude to our outgoing National Director, Tom O'Donnell, for the support and confidence you provided while I was considering this position.

I look forward to working with the National Board and especially the Directors, continuing the outstanding results that have been accomplished the past two years. I know there will be challenges, but I promise I will work hard for our Order.

Deadline for Oct-Nov issue

All articles and photos are due no later than

OCTOBER 1, 2018



Director's report

by John Wilson

Thank you, Louisville, for hosting the 2018 AOH/LAOH National Conventions — they were great! Every time I eat a donut or have a sip of bourbon I will have warm memories of Louisville.

Our 2018 JFK recipient, Denis Mulcahy, a bomb squad detective in New York and founder of Project Children, over the past 25 years has quietly masterminded summer vacations in America for more than 14,000 children from Northern Ireland. He has given these children – Protestant and Catholic – a much-needed break from the grim politics of their own country and an extraordinary chance to play together. Look for Denis Mulcahy's film, "How to Defuse a Bomb: The Project Children Story," which we had the honor of viewing at the convention.

I learned of the "Safe Water Now" project from Tommy Ennis of the Harp and Shamrock Div. 1 Greenville, SC. He presented the project in which a ceramic water filtration bucket can supply a family of six with safe water for five years for only \$40. Donating is easy: www.safewaternow.org. Please take a look at this website and consider making a donation.

The AOH in Louisville supports their local communities, those in need and the city in general. They honor those who rush in when others run away, those who step into chaos as others retreat, and those who save others without regard to anything other than service and honor. This Division proudly presents the Hibernian Hero Award yearly to the LMPD, Sheriff, LFD and EMS Person of the Year. We were honored to be introduced to these men and women from Louisville. They also work with the restaurant Mission BBQ, which was built around giving back to soldiers, firefighters, police officers and first responders. Mission BBQ is unique in the way they give back to the community.

It was a pleasure to meet Bishop Cullinan, from Holy Family Mission, in Waterford, Ireland. The Mission is a residential Catholic community and Retreat House, which draws from the traditions of our Catholic faith to form young people and families to live their Christian vocation as Disciples of Christ in the world. There are three Sisters from the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, from Hamden, CT, who are working as missionaries in Ireland "to give back" to the Church in Ireland, where so many Irish religious evangelized in the U.S.

At the closing Mass, Bishop Alphonsus "Phonsie" Cullinan told a story of a Rabbi, who every day was asked by a Russian soldier, "Who are you and why are you here?" The Rabbi answered the question each day, and one day said, "When you are no longer a soldier, can I pay you to stand outside my home and ask me these questions each day as I leave?" It was great learning of the many missions and accomplishments our Hibernian brothers have given both their time and talent. When God stands at the pearly gates there will be no question of who they are and why they are there!



catholic action

by John D. Fitzmorris III
Chairman

It can at times be very difficult for us Hibernians when it comes to the defense of the Catholic Church and the religious who serve it. Those who push for modernism and secularism often make strident arguments against our Church and attempt to highlight the fault lines and imperfections in this institution started two thousand years ago as their evidence. It becomes even more difficult when some of our own religious let us down by their human failings. The recent, unprecedented resignation of Cardinal Theodore McCarrick from the College of Cardinals, the renouncement of privileges of Cardinal Keith O'Brien from the College, and the release of the names of 71 priests accused of sexual misconduct and abuse in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, follow in the wake of terrible abuses and their attendant cover-ups here in the United States and elsewhere over the past several decades.

As Hibernians, our role is simple, although sometimes confusing. We are defenders of Our Holy Mother Church; that is, the Body of Christ. Thus, our mission is to stand beside the victims of these abuses and remember that they are the ones who suffered and continue to suffer. Christian Charity demands that we reach out to these people to alleviate their pain and help bring them justice. Secondly, we are to remember that Christ calls us to "render unto Caesar" when it comes to issues such as sexual abuse. These alleged crimes are accountable to the law of the land in addition to the law of God, so it is important that we Hibernians stand up for justice.

Finally, our role is also to stand beside and defend that majority of priests and religious men and women who lead holy lives and have dedicated themselves to God's service. The "one bad apple" theory particularly applies to the reputations and legacies of these righteous individuals, and there have been many more than just one bad apple. Such revelations could easily affect the decisions of many young men and women discerning a vocation. We must cultivate in these individuals the assurance that our Church is made up of sinners — where sometimes the sins are very grave — but that the body of Christ is on earth for just such issues.

We Hibernians, inheritors of an Irish-Catholic tradition that kept alive the flame of Christianity throughout the darkest of times, cannot avoid or hide from the terrible crimes and betrayal of trust that these individuals have perpetrated. We need to speak up for the victims, for the justice, and for the faith that those who are clean of heart will at last overcome the darkness of these times.



Director's report

by Dan Dennehy

I am honored to have received tremendous support in my reelection as AOH National Director. I am also honored that President McKay has appointed me to return as National Immigration Chair. I look forward to working with President McKay and his executive board, my fellow National Directors, the appointed National Officers and our fellow State, County and Division officers and members for the next two years.

Every caucus, breakout session and report at the Convention demonstrated the expertise and energy of each facet of the AOH and our desire to grow the Order. As all Hibernians mourn the passing of Tom McNabb, National Secretary Emeritus and father of my fellow National Director, Liam McNabb, we do our work in honor of his memory and that of many great men who held these positions before us. Here is a sample of my report to the Convention.

Promoting the AOH

I have taken every opportunity to share our efforts on radio shows, social media, television and newspaper articles and press releases. I touch base with as many our leaders to accurately promote the positive image, define policies of the AOH, and invite others to join our ranks or support our endeavors. Newspapers are starving for good-news stories, local communities and parishes depend on hearing from us, which promotes us in the balance. I was delighted along with President McKay to present an award to the Rhode Island AOH delegation for Newport member Ken Dooley. Brother Dooley created a play that ultimately vindicated an Irish immigrant who was the last person executed in R.I. The award was reported in both the Irish Echo and Irish Central immediately after the Convention.

Hibernians and the Emigrant Support Program

National Vice President Danny O'Connell, National Treasurer Sean Pender and I have submitted a grant request from the Emigrant Support Program of the Irish Abroad Unit of the Department of Foreign Affairs toward our nationwide efforts.

Installation of New Hibernian Divisions

For the first time in decades, a new Westchester County Division was organized. Choosing the inspiration of our AOH Immigration Pin, the Thomas Addis Emmet AOH Westchester Division 17 are mostly under the age of 24! Division 17 recruits Iona College students and faculty also many Irish-born members. Division 17 worked with Emmet's descendants to restore the family cemetery plot, including that of a Medal of Honor recipient Col. Robert Temple Emmet, U.S. Cavalry, Indian Wars, also a U.S. Admiral, a suffragette who raised money for the Easter Rising, and the founder of the G.O.P. Division 17 also formed a Rugby team, and host several benefits to assist community members and disaster relief.

In Queens, the installation of the new AOH Queens County Lieutenant Kevin C. Dowdell Memorial AOH Division 4 was a milestone. Breezy Point was devastated by Hurricane Sandy, to the AOH to return to Breezy Point and greet a new Division and see the restored community with my fellow officers was a great thrill.

McGuinness Principles and fighting BREXIT's assault of Irish Unity

I have participated in the American BREXIT Committee hosted by John Dearie and Mike Cummins with Brendan Moore, Ned McGinley, Sean Pender, Neil Cosgrove, AOH leaders from NY, including Martin Galvin, Tim Myles, Sean Hood and others. We have invited guests, including the UK and Irish Consul Generals, to discuss the various aspects and consequences of BREXIT. To mark the 20th Anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement and achieve its aims, Sean Pender, Neil Cosgrove and Past National President Brendan Moore and I drafted the McGuinness Principles to complete unfinished elements of the Good Friday Agreement to achieve Irish Unity with Peace and Justice for all. Our Call to Action and Information that will help you, your legislators and local organizations to get on board with the McGuinness Principles can be found at www.mcguinnessprinciples.com

Irish - American Cultural Exchange

As a parent, I try to keep my work in the AOH relevant to our own kids, and do my best to introduce fellow Hibernians to opportunities for cultural exchange in Ireland and at home for the young. Here are a few fine examples of opportunities for our young:

- The Washington Ireland Program for Service and Leadership www.wiprogram.org brings Ireland's best and brightest university students to valuable experience and live with host families in their new New York program.
- Gael Scoil, www.gaelcoil.us hosted by Joe Cahill AOH Division 10 in Hamilton, NJ, is an excellent children's program of a weekend full of emersion in Irish culture and history in a local Catholic high school.
- Celtic Irish American Academy www.celticirishamericanacademy.com is a transformational international summer school for American high school students in July based in Galway City.

Working with our Officers and Members

I appreciate the support of President McKay, he makes it all look easy! Thank you for the many invitations to confer with fellow National Directors, the State, County and Division Presidents and many members. As a third generation Hibernian, I am proud to serve our Order at this exciting time in our history and thank you all for your support!





freedom for all ireland

by Martin Galvin
National Chairman

A chairde:

Last month in Tyrone, I met with Mark Thompson, of Relatives for Justice, a Christmas Appeal recipient. A dozen victims' families arrived. They wanted the AOH to know how much they appreciate our AOH donations, but also need American moral, political and public pressure on the British, to win justice. They are counting on the AOH, as the voice of the Irish in America, to rally that American pressure.

When appointed National FFAI Chairman, I was directed by our National President to work with you across the country in putting the British under American pressure, while maintaining contributions for our FFAI donations.

Legacy victims

During our National Convention there were important Resolutions and floor proposals providing strategies for the upcoming year. One key Resolution reiterated our continuing commitment to the families of legacy victims. Last January, Mark Thompson conducted a weeklong emergency American speaking tour that inspired a Congressional initiative, five public events and formal proclamations of support by the New York State Senate, Assembly and local governments. This tour, sponsored by New York State Hibernians, with great backing from our national leadership, was a strategy that can be repeated and expanded.

The Ballymurphy Massacre Inquest, scheduled to begin on September 11, should be one priority issue. Eleven people, including a Catholic priest and mother of eight children, were murdered as cover stories justified the murders. New York has already arranged a speaking tour at the halfway point in November. One of the Ballymurphy Massacre families, who has been fighting 47 years for justice, will give the AOH an up to the minute report on the inquest which will be making headlines. We can bring legacy victims' speakers to other areas.

Congressional Initiatives

Last April, 16 Members of Congress joined in a bipartisan letter sponsored by the AOH to the British Ambassador about the hundreds of families still waiting for legacy truth. The bipartisan Congressional initiative, suggested during Mark Thompson's tour, was given a

major boost by our National President's testimony before Congress. We got 16 signatures because AOH members called or visited local Congressional offices until they signed.

Both the British Ambassador and colonial British Secretary Karen Bradley had to reply. Our initiative was a major story in Ireland and the IRISH ECHO and VOICE. Working nationally, along with our PEC, we can build on that Congressional initiative and show the British that American Congressmen and Senators are watching.

Ireland's Declaration of Independence

Another key Resolution with FFAI implications recommended that we commemorate the centenary of Ireland's Declaration of Independence. On January 21, 1919, representatives elected in the 32 county election of 1918, assembled as a National Parliament, and voted Ireland's Declaration of Independence. Like the signers of America's Declaration of Independence, Irish patriots risked imprisonment or death at the hands of the colonial British government. We want to promote this proud event with state, city and local proclamations of Ireland's Independence Day. It is also a reminder that Unionists will celebrate the creation of an artificial six county state, carved out by the British in violation of an all-Ireland vote for 32 county freedom and a Declaration of Independence.

We will also be working with PEC on issues like a Special Envoy, and our National Treasurer Sean Pender, on the McGuinness Principles.

FFAI Monthly Bulletin

In response to requests for information and analysis, we began a monthly FFAI Bulletin. Past issues are available on the New York State AOH web site by clicking Reports and FFAI. It will now become a national bulletin. The aim is to give you monthly updates on a few key events in the north with short analysis and explanation.

Some events covered include: Tory-DUP Deal, breakdown of the Stormont talks, Brexit, Pardons proposal for British troopers, Catholic Families forced to flee their homes, Orange sectarian parades, the Ballymurphy Massacre Inquests, fight to carry Irish flags in St. Patrick's Day Parades, Pat Finucane Supreme Court Appeal, etc.

The Bulletin also contains information about AOH FFAI related events here. Some recent events include Tyrone AOH honoring Suffolk County for its Tom Clarke-Kathleen Daly Clark Monument; with the help of the AOH led by Seamus Boyle, ceremonies in Philadelphia for two Fenian heroes who escaped on the Catalpa; and last week's unveiling of a monument to Robert Emmet and members of the Emmet family in New Rochelle.

I need your help and information with these events. Please contact me at MGALVINESQ@AOL.COM

2018 AOH-LAOH National Convention - Louisville, KY

Photos by Digest Editor John O'Connell



The convention's opening mass was held at the Cathedral of the Assumption.



Director Bill Sullivan greets Archbishop Thomas J. Rodi.



The New York State Board and National Officers at the convention, from left, Tom O'Donnell, Liam McNabb, State President Vic Vogel, Fr. Henry Reid, Dan Dennehy, Denis Mulcahy, Karen Keene, Tim McSweeney, Tom Lambert and Tom Beirne



Past NY State LAOH President Carol McTigue, flanked by husband Ted McTigue, left, and Bronx AOH President Bob Nolan.



Irish American Heritage Month

by Neil Cosgrove
Chairman

We have received some great news courtesy of Brother John Schell that after more than 25 years since the first proclamation of Irish American Heritage (IAHM), the Library of Congress has finally recognized Irish American Heritage Month as a commemorative observance. This is a big break through and a large debt of thanks goes to Brother Schell and the Maryland brothers in bringing a spotlight to bear in the form of the Maryland Congressional delegation on the Libraries lack of recognition of IAHM. When an entity as prestigious as the Library of Congress acknowledged IAHM it becomes harder for other governmental and educational institutions to ignore it. It is also a vindication of persistence in the cause of right and a refutation to any among us who use "you will never win" as a reason for not even trying. This is indeed something to build on, and well done to Brother Schell and the Brothers of Maryland.

Brothers, it is important that we fight for our heritage; it is who we are and we have a right to be proud. Sadly, misguided-forces are trying to rewrite, if not explicitly erase, the Irish American experience and contribution to our American story. One such example is Fitzgerald Square in Alexandria, Virginia. Colonel John Fitzgerald was an Irish immigrant who served with distinction as General Washington's Aide de Camp in the American Revolution until wounded at the pivotal Battle of Monmouth. Even having returned to civilian life, when Alexandria seemed to be threatened by a British invasion fleet, Col. Fitzgerald was able to muster the city's civilian population to such effect that the English called off the operation. He developed Alexandria into a center of commerce; his original warehouse is one of the city's oldest buildings. He was elected mayor (quite an accomplishment for a Catholic in the 18th Century!) and founded the first Catholic Church in Virginia. Yet, when the park that bore his name became a part of an upscale urban revitalization project the City Council, without explanation, stripped his name from the park changing it to the "Waterfront at King Street." Full credit to the Brothers of Virginia, they are not letting this eradication of the contribution of a great Irish American go unchallenged. They have a Change.Org Petition and deserve our support.

Brothers, it is our duty and imperative to the future of our Order that we promote our heritage and the contributions of Irish American men and women. For years, Irish Americans were excluded from our histories because of prejudice, now they are being excluded and, as per Col. Fitzgerald, banished, because of misguided political correctness. To be frank, the story of the struggles and accomplishments of Irish Americans is an inconvenient truth for some agendas and academic narratives. Yet, the Brothers of Maryland show what is possible when the Hibernians take action. We are nearing "half way" to Irish American Heritage Month 2019. Let's make sure we do our part at every level of the Order to keep faith and honor the Irish contribution to America.



Notre Dame Fund

by Ned McGinley, PNP
Chairman

Come Celebrate 40 Years of the Hibernians at Notre Dame

On Friday, September 21, at 4 p.m., the Hibernian Lecture will be presented on the first floor of McKenna Hall (100-104 McKenna Hall), across the street from the Morris Inn on Notre Dame Avenue, hosted by the Cushwa Center for Catholic Studies. This is the latest chapter of The Hibernian Lecture Series at the University of Notre Dame. It is the 40th Anniversary of our AOH/LAOH Catholic Fraternal Societies Agreement with UND and this is our major annual event at the University.

It is also the 20th Anniversary of a landmark achievement, to which the Hibernians have made no small contribution, in the Six Counties of the North of Ireland known as the Good Friday Agreement, facilitated by the United States government. We would like to have a large AOH/LAOH crowd to illustrate our commitment to both these historic achievements.

This encouraged our Hibernian Fund Committee to confer with Cushwa on a speaker who might highlight these milestone years, and our recommendation to the Center was Professor Ruane O'Donnell, from the University of Limerick, a former fellow with Irish Studies at ND and a speaker at the AOH/LAOH Convention, as well as other events for our Orders. The professor is an expert on the influence of the Hibernians on the Easter Rising and until today the AOH/LAOH are crucial contributors to an Ireland United and Free from sea to sea as our 1836 Constitution requests of our societies' membership.

For 40 years the AOH and LAOH have had a beneficial presence at the Cushwa Center for Study of American Catholicism, located on the campus of Notre Dame. Our Orders and Cushwa have twin focus on preserving our Catholic Faith from all enemies by educating ourselves on its precepts and history as well as advancing Irish Culture. There will be a campus walking tour organized by the Cushwa Center on the morning of the lecture, which will feature the many religious symbols and artifacts on the Notre Dame Campus as well as other campus features. If there are any children or grandchildren who might wish to apply to Notre Dame in the future this might be a great opportunity. Please feel free to have them accompany you to the campus.

For those of us who truly love our Catholic Faith, that is so nobly represented by the University of Notre Dame, as well as Cushwa's mission, this is an opportunity to both participate and show our commitment to the AOH and LAOH.

Please contact me at nedaoh1@aol.com for more details and to let me know you will be there so that we can make plans and include you at the dinner following the Hibernian Lecture hosted at the Morris Inn. Let me know immediately if you are planning to attend.

Thank you to all the AOH/LAOH members who over the past 40 years have made these annual Hibernian events on the Notre Dame campus possible.



Organizer

by Tim McSweeney

It was great to see everyone at the convention. It was exciting to see a highly productive convention that definitely set a tone for the future of our organization. The theme of collaboration, progression and leadership resounded through the halls of the Gait House Hotel.

I thank National President McKay for reappointing me as your national Organizer. I look forward to assisting this organization to continue to grow while strengthening our existing membership.

Recruit - Orient - Engage - Retain

Four simple steps to remember for Divisions:

Recruit — Find the new member, by means of social media, web-based recruitment, community advertising, recruitment tables, etc.

Orient — Once they are made a member, give them the Who, What, When and Where of your division. Sit them down after they are sworn in and tell the in's and out's of your division.

Engage — Get to know them. Find out their likes and interests. Feel them out, see where they fit and give them a task to make them feel they are a part of our team. Engaging also includes offering programs and events that will make that new member come back.

Retain — Develop a plan to keep the member. If you don't see him for a while, contact him and reengage him. This holds true not only for the new member but for existing members we may have not have seen in a while.

Our Nationwide recruitment efforts are in full swing. On July 7, National Treasurer Sean Pender swore in the Davidson County "Sons of Erin" Division 1 in Nashville, Tennessee. Mark Austin, who was the driving force in bringing a division to Nashville, assumes the helm as Division President.

Phoenix, Arizona, will be up and running in September after a very successful meet-and-greet meeting in July. Boise, Idaho; Spokane, Washington; Fort Worth, Texas; Burlington, Vermont; and Gainesville, Florida, are coming along.



Veterans Affairs

by Jim Green, Chairman

The summer is flying by and a new AOH season is upon us. The 2018 National Convention is in the rear-view mirror, and I'd like to offer congratulations to all of our re-elected and newly elected officers. I was honored to be offered a re-appointment by our worthy National President, and I have gratefully accepted. Thank you, President McKay. I will do my best to live up to the faith you've again placed in me.

Communication is KEY! My primary objective for my second term is to improve communications and the flow of information amongst our Hibernian veterans. There are so many sources of great information out there that need to be shared more effectively, and I intend to put a plan into action - with the help of other Hibernian veterans - to do that.

With their help, we will:

- Communicate more news and information by email to all Hibernian veterans that are listed in our national database.
- Form a steering committee consisting of highly motivated Veterans Affairs chairmen at any and all levels of the Order.
- Quarterly conference calls will be scheduled to exchange ideas and information, which will then - if appropriate - be distributed to all veterans via email. We do not intend to create spam or a flurry of emails that you won't find useful.
- Continue to publish high-level information in Hibernian Digest articles, and if more information is needed about a subject, we will send the reader to the AOH website, or some other resource, for more details.
- Work with National Webmaster Jeff Nisler to update and upgrade the Veterans Affairs website. This was, regrettably, an area that I did not address in my prior term. In addition to pure information, this will be a great location for all of us to submit stories and pictures - in addition to the Digest - of events like Veterans Pin presentations.
- If requested by the National President, urgent or timely messages and information will be distributed as part of the occasional email blasts coming from the National Board.

I sincerely encourage all State Presidents to appoint and assign Veterans Affairs Chairmen if your State does not have one assigned. Again, effective communication is vital among ALL of us. I will reach out to all State Presidents in the fall to obtain their chairmen's contact information and am looking forward to establishing good communication with all of them.

At a National Convention session, I asked all of the veterans in the room to stand to be recognized and it seemed that half of the men in the room stood up. I could not have been more proud. In addition, many brothers at the convention purchased veterans pins for themselves and their brothers at home. Also, dozens of brother Hibernians attended a breakout session on Veterans Affairs and we exchanged great stories and information. The relevance and importance of the Veterans Affairs committee is apparent. We need the help of all of you to continue our progress and improve communications in the coming two years and beyond. Thank you for allowing me to serve you, the veteran brothers in your Divisions, and our noble Order.

Until next time, God bless all you do for the Order and for our veterans.



Historical Happenings

by Mike McCormack

Historian

I met many brothers interested in history at our great Louisville Convention and will be in touch with them soon via the e-mail addresses they gave me — though some were difficult to make out. If you gave me an email and didn't hear from me, contact me at aohbard@optonline.net.

Thanks to Kevin Carroll for donating an Edison record of "The AOHs of the USA," by Edward Meeker, recorded in 1915. We had the sound from the Internet, but now we have the original plastic in the Archives. And my thanks to Denis Moriarty who sent the minutes of the 1931, '33, '52, '64, '66, and '68 National Conventions to the Archives. I also had the opportunity to explain the story of Bloody Monday (see AOH.COM July Historical Happenings) to a Louisville Tour Guide who'd never heard of it. In addition, I alerted him that the Cave Hill Cemetery, where he pointed out that Muhammad Ali was buried, was in a former Irish neighborhood. He asked how I knew that and I asked, "Is there a cave or hill around here?" and he replied, No. Then I told him that Cave Hill was a historic site outside Belfast where the United Irishmen were founded in 1791 by Wolfe Tone, the father of Irish Republicanism, and it was also the cemetery wherein some of the victims of Bloody Monday were buried. It's enjoyable to be able to share our history and when people say, "I never knew that," it's all the payment we need.

Thank you to President McKay for bestowing on me the honor of National Historian for another term. Few know how much I love researching and sharing the story of our forefathers (and mothers). Perhaps we may someday realize the goal of Neil Cosgrove and me of seeing March permanently legislated as Irish Heritage Month rather than relying on an annual designation by whomever is in the White House. Library of congress recognition get us one step closer.

During my visit to Maryland for National History Day, brother Keith Carney showed me a 40-foot Celtic Cross erected in 1925 by the American Legion to 49 Maryland soldiers who died in World War I. A federal court ruled last October that the cross is unconstitutional, representing a government endorsement of Christianity, overturning a Richmond court decision two years earlier that the cross was not a religious symbol. The group demanding its removal is the American Humanist Association (AHA), and Monica Miller, senior counsel of the AHA, praised the court's decision. Constructed from suggestions by mothers of those fallen soldiers, some considered it an American tombstone for sons still buried in France. It is on the National Register of Historic Places and 100 U.S. senators have signed a petition to save it; the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission is also supporting it. The American Legion filed an Amicus Brief to the Supreme Court and Maryland Governor Larry Hogan said, "This is outrageous. The Peace Cross was built in 1925 by families who joined with the American Legion to honor their fallen from World War I. The idea that memorializing our soldiers killed in battle on foreign lands to make the world safe for democracy is somehow unconstitutional goes against everything we stand for as Americans. Special thanks to Gerry McGeough, president of the Tyrone AOH, who recognized the Tom Clarke Memorial in Suffolk County, NY, with a certificate of thanks. It was a two-year effort to locate the Clarke home-site and another year and a half of fundraising to finally erect the 2-ton obelisk that stands today as the focal point of an annual commemoration of the Clarkes and all who supported the fight for Irish independence. It is only right to remember my committee members: Mike McKenna and Bob Mahon, whose wife Carol found the deed; Charlie Haughey, who arranged for the creation of the monument in Ireland; the Irish labor leaders whose longshoremen unloaded it, teamsters who delivered it to the site and Jimmy Duffy's operating engineers who erected it. Though most of those involved are gone now, their deed was and still is remembered as creating a proud gem in the crown of Suffolk County's Hibernians and a tribute to their memory, as the committee men who continue the remembrance like Richie Cremmins and Jeff Nisler will testify.

August 21 is a special day for it was the first day of the Great Hunger (1845). It was also the day 34 years later (1879) that our Blessed Mother appeared in silent prayer for the victims of that tragedy and the day 150 years later (1995) that National Presidents Ed Wallace and Kathy Linton unveiled the first monument in Ireland to their memory.

Remember the day, remember the deeds and remember the dead!



Hibernian Hunger Project

by Paul Gowdy
Chairman

Back in 1991, I was President of the Father Solanus Casey Division in Macomb County, Michigan. Membership in the division had been dwindling and attendance at our monthly meetings was averaging around 15 members. After the May meeting, I asked the other officers to stay behind for a private session. I stressed to them the need for a serious membership drive to recruit new members and an incentive to get non-attending members to come back to the meetings. I asked for ideas. The late Bill Byrne, the founder of the division, mentioned that he had an idea of a fundraiser for the Detroit Capuchin Soup Kitchen by making and serving soup and a bread roll and charging \$5 per head. Use the Fr. Sons of St. Patrick Hall. Pat Mack suggested serving the soup in give-away cups. Dan Mullan chirped in, "Instead, give them bowls with the image of Fr. Solanus Casey in the bowl; I can take care of that." I added that I could get local Irish entertainers and dancers to donate their time and perform for us. Mullan suggested that we name the party, The Fr. Solanus Casey 'Souperbowl' Party. The suggestions kept coming. "If we get the response we want, this hall will be too small, I own the Allard Hall you can have the event there. Also, I belong to a chef group I can get each of them to donate 5 to 10 gallons of different soups." "I can get prizes donated for raffles." "I can get bakeries to donate

Echo from Irish History

By Mike McCormack, National Historian

Here we go again! We've been watching a five-part PBS series entitled "Civil War, The Untold Story," in the hope that they would mention the untold contribution of the Irish Brigade, which so many others have not. Only one episode to go and so far, no mention of the Brigade that author Joseph Bilby mentioned in his book: "Remember Fontenoy." Bilby shared the opinions of other historians when he wrote: "It was, many said, the best brigade in the Army of the Potomac. Some said it was the best brigade in the whole Union army and perhaps the best infantry brigade on either side in the American Civil War. Others, with the perspective of history, have come to believe it may have been the best infantry brigade there ever was."

However in the fourth part, they do mention the Irish. In covering the Draft Riots in New York City, narrator Elizabeth McGovern said: "Laborers reacted with violence and many of the protestors were immigrants from Ireland." I'll bet her ancestors are proud. Can we ever put that fallacy to bed? True historians, refusing to use the biased anti-Irish reports of the day as source data, have revealed several alternate truths about those riots.

According to newsinhistory.com, "Italian, German and Irish immigrants banded together to march in a protest that turned violent." The Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation (gvshp.org) also recorded: "German-speaking artisans, Native-born Protestant journeymen, and working-class Irish laborers attacked and burned the Provost Marshal's office on 46th Street and 3rd Avenue." It was also noted that many Irish served in the Metropolitan Police force that helped to stop the protest and Police Supervisor John Kennedy was one of those killed by the mob; further, the 11th Regiment State Guard, called in to assist, was led by Col. H.T. O'Brien. Yet, the biased media of the day claimed that the Irish were inherently disloyal despite the fact that in that same month of July 1863, many of New York's Irish immigrants died on the battlefield of Gettysburg as others had done at Fredericksberg, Antietam and other battles defending the Union.

Reportedly fearing that freed blacks would take their jobs, blacks became a target of the protesters and the media invented an Irish vs. black prejudice, despite the fact that they lived so peacefully together in the Five Points that they jointly invented tap dancing. However, in August 1863, even the nativist Harper's Weekly uncharacteristically had to admit: "It must be remembered that in many of the wards of the City during the late riot, the Irish were the primary, and often only, friends of law and order. That it was the Irish that risked their lives at 43rd street and 5th avenue at the Colored Orphan Asylum to save the little children from certain death at the hands of the mob. That many of the police officers injured during riot were Irish. And it must also be noted that Police Officer Paddy McCafferty put his body between the mob and 20 colored children and brought them to the safety of the 35th precinct at great peril to his own life. Further, that to a man, the Catholic Priesthood which is almost entirely Irish in our city used their influence on the side of law and order."

In a similar situation during the Detroit Draft Riots (yes, it happened there and in Boston and Chicago, too) a notice was unanimously passed and published in the Detroit Tribune to honor: "the brave and humane act of officer (Dennis) Sullivan who, with undaunted courage and energy, stood in front of the reckless rioters and prevented them from applying the torch to the A.M.E. Church and in rescuing several colored men from the hands of the mob." That mob had been led by Thomas Faulkner and after one black man accused a German in the mob of attacking him with a shovel, Officer Sullivan arrested the German named Griffer. The Germans were by no means the only perpetrators of the violence, but neither were the Irish in New York, as incompetent historians claim in unverified documentaries in modern media. For God's sake, let's get it right!

The Hibernian Digest's latest edition and archives can now be found on our webpage, www.aoh.com.

bread." "We will need a lot of volunteers on the day to make this event a success." That year was the first event. We had to turn people away as the hall was not large enough for the crowd that came. We almost ran out of soup and bread. We ran out of Guinness, and just about made it through with liquor and beer. We were able to donate \$6,000 that year to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. The next years saw us move to bigger establishments to cater for the crowd. Because of that party, we started to recruit new blood into the division and old members returned to meetings. We also approached the Ethel Kennedy Division of the Macomb County LAOH to co-chair the event with us. Thanks to their invaluable assistance we can cover 140 shifts over a 7-hour period (noon to 7 p.m.) and ensure a successful event. This year on October 14, will be our 27th annual 'Souperbowl' fundraiser. To date we have donated a total of over \$317,000 to the Detroit Capuchin Soup Kitchen. It is amazing what a good group of AOH and LAOH members can accomplish for the poor and hungry when they put their heads together and give it their all

The Detroit Capuchin Soup Kitchen got its official start during the Great Depression of 1929, a period of devastating national poverty that caused the poor of this Detroit community to knock on the monastery's back door asking for bread. "They are hungry; get them some soup and sandwiches," Fr. Solanus was known to say to the friars. In time the lines grew to more than 2,000 people waiting for their single meal of the day. The friars knew they had to do more. In response to the time's overwhelming social needs, the friars turned to the men and women of the Secular Franciscans and joined together with them to collect food from farms, make soup, bake bread and serve meals in the hall next to the monastery. From these beginnings grew the Detroit Capuchin Soup Kitchen of today.



what Hibernianism is all about. Tom knew more about Hibernianism than anybody I have ever met... I know I'm a better person because I knew him."

Former National Director Frank Kearney, wrote: "I first knew of Tom from conversations with my father from his years as an AOH National Director, and first met him at an AOH dinner in Long Island. He was every bit the easy going and enjoyable gentleman he was reported to be. I got to know him better when he and Bridget were guests at my home Division in Meriden, Connecticut, when we hosted State Conventions there. We worked together during my years as Connecticut AOH State President and later as AOH National Director and Secretary of Hibernian Charity. Whenever I needed anything, he was never more than a phone call away (except before 9 a.m. on Saturday mornings. Bridget did not want to hear the phone ring that early). His depth of knowledge of anything Hibernian was only exceeded by his love and commitment to the Order and his family. Mentors like Tom come along once in a lifetime. It was an honor to work with him and a privilege to call him a friend."

Mourning by his wife, Bridget; his children, Tommy, Liam, Bridget, Colleen and Aileen; 10 grandchildren; sister Ann; and hundreds of friends, a Mass of Christian burial was celebrated at Holy Family Church in Auburn, NY, where he had been Head Usher for 35 years and acted as pallbearer for so many of his friends and neighbors.

"It has been said that we are known by the friends we choose and more so by the friends who choose us," said AOH National and NY State Historian Michael McCormack. "With that in mind, one of our greatest accomplishments is to be able to say that Tom McNabb was my friend."



Tomhas na Teanga

by Jim Norton
Le Séamas Ó Neachtáin

Bíonn sé deacair go leor brabús a dhéanamh as foilseachán ar bith, ach tá margadh na Gaeilge beag go leor go mbíonn sé an-deacair ar fad. *It's hard enough to make a profit publishing anything, but the Irish language market is small enough that it's really really hard.* Braitheann na comhlachtaí a dhéanann a leithéid in Éirinn ar dheontais ón rialtas, ó Fhoras na Gaeilge go háirithe na laethanta seo. *The companies that do this in Ireland depend on funding from the government, from FúG particularly these days.* Agus mar is ionduíl, bíonn giorrúcháin ar an airgead seo i gcónaí. And as usual, they're always cutting back this money. Is olc an scéal é, le fírinne, stair fhoilsitheoireacht na Gaeilge in Éirinn. *It's bad, really, the history of IL publishing in Ireland.*

Cé gur fhoilsíodh mórán leabhar thar na blianta, is minic nár fhan siad i gcló. *Although lots of books have been published through the years, often they didn't stay in print [examples follow – including the Bible and other important books].* Sna nóchaidí, sílim, bhí an Bíobla Naofa féin as cló! Faoi láthair, tá an chéad úrscéal nua-aimseartha as Gaeilge, *Deoraíocht* le Pádraic Ó Conaire, as cló. Tamall de bhlianta ó shin, bhí an t-úrscéal cáiliúil tábhachta *Cré na Cille* le Máirtín Ó Cadhain as cló. Tá an Foclóir Póca / Foclóir scoile, leabhar an-úsáideach, as cló.

Bhíodh nuachtáin as Gaeilge in Éirinn, ach chaill siadsan a maoiniú agus tá siad imithe anois – ach bíonn *Foinse* ann istigh an *Irish Independent*. *There used to be newspapers in Irish in Ireland, but they lost their funding and are gone – but Foinse is inside the II.* Tá cúpla irisleabhar ann fós, *Comhar*, *Feasta*, srl. (a bhíonn i mbaol a mbás i gcónaí). *There are still a couple of magazines (who are always in danger).* Tá ceann againne sna Stáit a dhéantar gan mhaoiniú ar bith ach ó chairde na hirise, *An Gael*, a fhoilsím féin. *We have one in the States, done without any funding except from friends of the publication...which I publish.* Bhíodh iris idirlíne ann, *Beo*, a chaill a mhaoiniú agus atá imithe, agus *Gaelscéal*, atá imithe ó 2013 chomh maith, as an gcúis chéanna. *There used to be an online magazine... which lost funding and is gone, another...gone for the same reasons.* Bíonn iarrachtaí eile dá leithéid ann. *There are always other such attempts.*

Tháinig scéal amach le déanaí go mbeidh ceann de na cúpla foilsitheoirí leabhar Gaeilge as gnó ag deireadh na bliana seo chugainn – Cois Life. *News recently came out that one of the few book publishers is going out of business by end of next year.*

Níl an liosta thuas cuimsitheach. *The above list is not complete.* Tá rudaí eile ag tarlú. *Other things are happening.* Ach is léir go mbíonn sé fíor-dheacair aon rud a fhoilsiú as Gaeilge. *But it's clear that it's truly hard to publish anything in Irish.* Ceannaí fóilseacháin Ghaeilge mar sin, le bhur dtoil! *Please buy Irish language publications, therefore!*



pro-life

by John Patrick Walsh
Chairman

It is an honor to be reappointed your National Pro-Life Chairman, and I thank President McKay and the National Board for the opportunity to serve. I also appreciate all the brothers and sisters who took the time to speak with me at convention; you provided a much needed shot of encouragement and enthusiasm for the work left unfinished.

Will You Take Another Step With Me?

Many who spoke with me at convention relayed the daily challenge of promoting and protecting our pro-life message, whether that be with local governments, politicians or even fellow Irish American Catholics. A few were even brave enough to tell me that while they had reservations about self-identifying as pro-life, they found encouragement in our consistent and all-encompassing message. The response I gave to both statements was the same, "Don't be discouraged, being truly pro-life is a journey you make one step at a time."

Imagine how small our church would be if it only catered to the saints, if perfection was required to approach the altar. Living our faith is a journey that requires many steps to complete and often finds two people at different stages along the way. So whether I'm speaking with a fellow Hibernian or a local official, I ask them the same question, "Will you take another step with me?"

This step can take many forms and you should start small with common goals. Don't expect a "Saul-to-Paul" conversion. Meet a hesitant brother who's unsure about our pro-life advocacy? Find common ground in our support for mothers in crisis, invite him to help sponsor a collection drive to gift that mother and child with the necessary supplies she needs to choose life. Know a local member of Congress who revels in being front-and-center on St. Patrick's Day, but who supports a "right to choose" and taxpayer-funding of Planned Parenthood? Start by agreeing that abortion should be an option of last resort and rare, then ask them to instead support local health clinics that offer all the same services as Planned Parenthood, but one. If that's a step too far for them, don't be discouraged, politely ask for their support of an awareness campaign for those same clinics.

By now you know our advocacy for life doesn't end at birth and neither should your ideas for pro-life outreach. Host a pasta dinner in support of your local food bank, volunteer with a crisis hotline, organize a coat drive for the homeless, or rally in support of access to low-cost/affordable healthcare. Respect the journey of others, meet them where they are, find common ground, and then invite them to take another step with you.

Local Highlight: The Golden Arrow (Louisville)



I'd barely checked in before running into the wonderful LAOH sisters behind The Golden Arrow, a non-profit outreach ministry providing assistance to expectant mothers and their children. Posted behind their donation table, our sisters were collecting much needed baby items and financial contributions as they sought to make the life option viable for Louisville families. From birth to five years, The Golden Arrow helps feed, clothe, furnish and assist local children, while offering parents referrals to various free or low-cost support services. I congratulate our Kentucky Hibernians on supporting such a great cause and was happy to donate to your fundraising efforts.



project st. patrick

by Vic Vogel
Chairman

I want to thank Judge McKay and the National Board for appointing me Chairman of Project St. Patrick. It is an honor I will respect. I would also like to thank the outgoing PSP Chairman, Tom O'Donnell, for helping to acquaint me with my new responsibilities. His direction has been invaluable. I hope to maintain the level of excellence developed by Ed Wallace when he created Project St. Patrick in 1995. I look forward to shared responsibilities with the Ladies AOH on PSP, and to working with so many Brothers throughout the United States.

By way of introduction, I am the current New York State AOH President, and a member of Division 7, Our Lady of Knock, in East Islip, Suffolk County. It was the bagpipes that brought me to the Ancient Order of Hibernians nearly 40 years ago, but it was the charitable work that sustained my activism, and that is why I am so proud and humbled to be the new chairman of our Project St. Patrick.

In Memoriam

George "Bill" Byrne, 81, a former resident of Warren, Michigan, passed away May 7, 2018 at the Pines of Clarkston Assisted Living, Michigan. Born in Dublin, Ireland, in 1937, immigrated to the United States in 1948 with his family. He was a proud U.S. Navy veteran, serving from 1955-1959.

Bill was a very active AOH brother during his 55 years of membership. He joined the Stephen J. Walsh Division of Detroit in 1961, and served as Vice President, Recording Secretary, Building Corporation Treasurer and Chairman of a clothing drive for brothers in Co. Derry. On November 1, 1977, Bill founded the Fr. Solanus Casey Division in Warren, MI, and served nine terms as President. He named the division after the beloved Capuchin monk of Irish heritage who founded the soup kitchen in the inner city of Detroit during the Great Depression. Bill devoted many hours supporting the candidacy for sainthood of Fr. Solanus. At the 1988 AOH National Convention in Buffalo, NY, he presented a resolution, seeking the AOH to support the sainthood endeavor. The motion was passed unanimously by the membership. In 1991 Bill was a key figure in starting the Annual AOH "Souperbowl" benefit for the Detroit Capuchin Soup Kitchen. This is the 27th year for the benefit and this year Bill will be especially honored for all his efforts over the years to assist the Soup Kitchen to continue its daily endeavor to feed the Detroit homeless. To date the division, along with the Ethel Kennedy Div. LAOH, have donated over \$317,000 to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen.

From 2004 through 2008, Bill was elected to the post of AOH National Director and appointed to oversee the AOH Mid-West and Western States. During that period, he assisted in re-establishing two divisions in Kentucky. He formed two new divisions in Michigan, and assisted in the formation and performed the installation of officers of a new division in Dubuque County, Iowa.

In recognition of his importance to the AOH and Irish community in Michigan, Bill was awarded the Patrick J. Killeen Bi-Annual Memorial Award from the AOH Michigan State Board. He was also elected by the United Irish Societies of Detroit to serve as the 2003 Grand Marshal of the Detroit St. Patrick's Day Parade. He was also a member of the Irish Cultural Institute, the Irish American Unity Conference and the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick.

We will miss his jovial personality, his store of funny jokes and most of all his singing voice entertaining us with Irish songs, especially of his hometown of Dublin. Until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of his hands.
—Paul Goudy

John "Jack" R. Gilchrist, Jr., Lt Colonel USAF (Retired), of Mauldin, SC passed away on May 23, 2018. Jack left behind his beloved wife, Bonnie Kuhn Gilchrist, formerly of Denver, CO. Jack was preceded in death by his parents Major General John R. Gilchrist, USAF (Retired) and Mrs. Mabel Moran Gilchrist, both originally of Woonsocket, RI.

Born in Washington, DC in 1939, Jack enlisted in the Colorado Air National Guard in August 1956, entered active Air Force service in late 1959 as an Aviation Cadet and earned his commission and navigator wings in the summer of 1961. He served his country in Vietnam 1965-1966 where he earned the Distinguished Flying Cross and Bronze Star, Germany 1969-1973, and Saudi Arabia 1976.

Jack attended Archbishop John Carroll High School, Washington, DC and graduated from Cathedral High School in Denver. He graduated summa cum laude graduate from Golden Gate University, attended the United States Air Forces Command and Staff College, and received an MBA degree from Auburn University.

On retiring from military service in 1982, Jack worked for the Arkansas Department of Human Services from which he retired as the Deputy Director of Management Services in 1994. He then became the business manager of Our Lady of the Holy Souls Catholic Parish, Diocese of Little Rock. His other affiliations included the American Legion - Post 3 SC, Catholic War Veterans, Knights of Columbus - Fourth Degree Assembly 10819, and AOH - Harp and Shamrock Division, Greenville, SC.

Jack was an active parishioner of St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church, Simpsonville, SC since 2002, where his funeral Mass of the Resurrection was celebrated on June 1, 2018. His interment was held June 5, 2018 at Fort Logan National Cemetery in Denver.

James "Jim" Edward Sullivan, 76, passed away peacefully at home in Greenville, SC on May 9, 2018. He was survived by his wife Mary Ellen Sibila Sullivan. A Memorial Mass and interment were held on Tuesday, May 22, 2018 at the Poor Clare Monastery.

Born in Cleveland, OH, Jim was the son of the late Edward Francis and Catherine Ross Sullivan. He graduated from Archbishop Hoban High School, Akron, OH; St. Mary's University, Emmetsburg, MD; and the University of Akron with a MBA Degree. He began his career in 1964 with the BF Goodrich Tire Company. He retired from Michelin North America in 2002.

He was an avid wood carver, active member of the Piedmont Wood Carvers Club, and enjoyed the weekly carving and lunch group, even during his long-term hospice treatment. Jim was Past Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus Msgr. Baum Council 13112. He volunteered with the Homeworks of America and was also an active member and past President of the Ancient Order of Hibernians Harp and Shamrock Division 1.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let the perpetual light shine upon them. And may the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

To the Editor...

Denis Mulcahy and Project Children

Dear Digest Editor:

In the Summer of 1991, my family hosted Barry Burns, from West Belfast, as part of Project Children. It was a great experience and we are very grateful to have been able to participate. We are still in contact with the Burns Family and visit them on a regular basis. Denis Mulcahy is amazing! He remembers the large number of children hosted by Suffolk County and my division. He remembers the picnics and the fishing trips. Most unique to Denis, however, is he remembers the names of so many Hibernians who helped organize the annual event. He is a well-deserved recipient of the John F. Kennedy Award.

Vic Vogel

New York State AOH President



JFK Award recipient Denis Mulcahy and NYS AOH President Vic Vogel.

Colorado



SPREADING THE HIBERNIAN WORD

Fr. Joseph P. Carrigan Division members attended the Colorado Irish Festival, in Littleton, on July 14. At their booth, they had a great time spreading the history of the AOH in Colorado, and its current presence, to the tens of thousands of guests at the popular festival. (L-R): Tim Tullar, Kevin Croghan, Sean Hudson, John Aylward and Jim Chappell.



On June 26 Colorado's Fr. Joseph P. Carrigan Division served the women's evening meal at Samaritan House Homeless Shelter in Denver. Brother Devin Siems thrilled the residents and his AOH brothers when he showed up and gave a free concert with his bagpipes.

Ohio

Hibernians honor quarter of a century member, Charles "Chip" Rogers

At its monthly division meeting, the Washington County Division 1, recognized "Chip" Rogers, of Athens, for 25 years of service to the organization.

In his 25 years Rogers has held various appointive positions in the organization, including Historian, Organizer (increasing the Division membership by 50 percent) and master of ceremonies for a number of years at the Annual Irish Gathering. He's been recognized for his dedication with the prestigious Commodore Barry Award as well as by Ohio AOH Historian, J. Michael Finn, for his daily "Today and Yesterday in Ireland," outreach. Rogers is a self professed Seanchai [Irish Story teller], who keeps an "Irish Hearth and Home," that is given to warm hospitality and good humor.

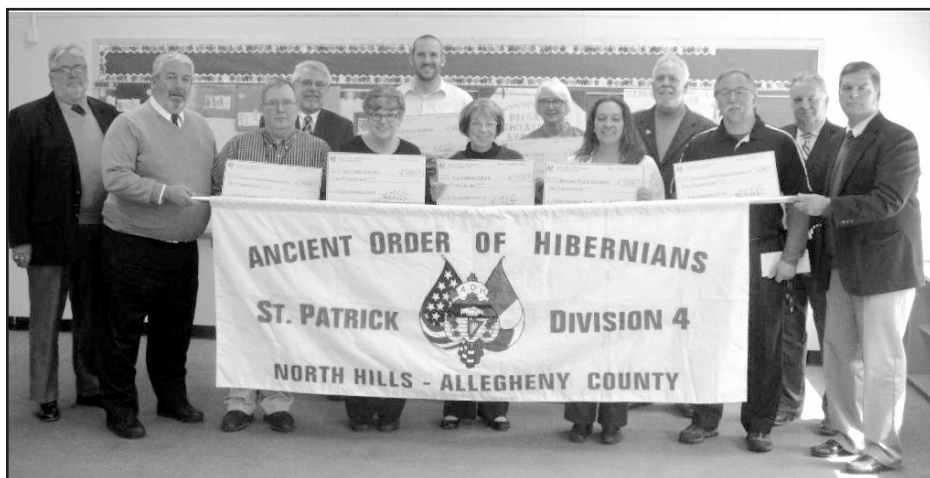
In presenting the award, Division President Thomas Binegar noted, "Chip exemplifies the core values of the Hibernian Motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity." He continued, "Your leadership in the Ancient Order of Hibernians has not gone unnoticed." Former Division President Thomas Moran noted, with the awarding of the Commodore Barry Award a few years ago, "The foundation of any organization is in its membership. It is impossible to have credibility unless you have substance. Chip has shown exceptional innovation and leadership in those key areas."



Division President Tom Binegar, left, with Chip Rogers.

St. Patrick Division donates to Pittsburgh Catholic Schools

The Tuition Assistance Fund Committee of Allegheny County St. Patrick Division 4 recently donated \$1,000 checks to the Angel Funds of the seven Catholic elementary schools in the North Side / North Hills of Pittsburgh. For the past 10 years, Division 4 has held their Irish Heritage Golf Classic in September to raise funds to schools to assist with tuition assistance. Due to realignments and mergers, the number of schools has decreased over the years but our commitment to assist families and their children remain strong. Division 4 has raised and donated over \$31,000 for the schools. This year's event will be held on September 24 at the Diamond Run Golf Club in Ohio Township with a shotgun start at 9:30 a.m. More information can be found at aohdiv4.org



At the check presentation were, front row, AOH State Vice President Pat O'Brien of Division 4, President Rick Duffy of Division 4, Bob Reese (Blessed Francis Seelos Academy), Roseanne Kwiatkowski (Northside Catholic), Mary Ann Miller (Assumption), Jessica Rock (Blessed Trinity Academy), Mark Grgurich (Christ the Divine Teacher Catholic Academy) and Vice President Bob Parry of Division 4. Back row, Regional Administrator Mike Killmeyer, John Benzing (Holy Cross Academy), Sr. Christy Hill, C.S.J. (St. James), Larry Tielsch and John Tubridy of Division 4.

Oklahoma



TULSA HIBERNIANS CELEBRATE

The Bobby Sands Division, from Tulsa, Oklahoma, celebrated with The Irish Club and Scottish Club at J. Farley's Irish Pub in Claremore on July 14. The first annual Irish bash is dedicated to the firefighters who paid the ultimate sacrifice to their community.

Georgia

AOH Savannah Awards Catholic Education Scholarships

The Monsignor Daniel J. Bourke Division 1 in Savannah, Georgia, announced its 2017-2018 academic scholarship awards. These three \$500 scholarships are designed to support excellent young Catholic men and women who are enrolled in Catholic high schools in Savannah. This year's scholars are Will Ducey and Justin LeLoup, from Benedictine Military Academy, and Genevieve Lynch, from St. Vincent's Academy. Founded in 1902, Benedictine Military School is a Catholic, Benedictine, college preparatory high school that forms and educates young men. St. Vincent's Academy was founded by the Sisters of Mercy and has been educating young women in that tradition since in 1845.



From left, Will Lynch (AOH member), Genevieve Lynch (St. Vincent's Academy), Will Ducey (Benedictine Military Academy), Justin LeLoup (Benedictine Military Academy) and Fr. Frank Ziemkiewicz, O.S.B. (Headmaster, Benedictine Military Academy).

Tennessee



THE MUSIC CITY HIBERNIANS

Davidson County's Son of Erin Division 1 was sworn in by National Treasurer Sean Pender on July 7, assisted by New Jersey State Secretary Mike Rhodes. The Division is led by President Mark Austin. This marks the return of the AOH to Tennessee. National Organizer Tim McSweeney worked with President Austin to form this motivated group of 22 new brothers.

Connecticut



ALL ABOARD!
Connecticut AOH Vice President Brendan Walsh and Connecticut LAOH President Kathy Hannigan enjoyed the boat ride at the Louisville Convention with the large delegation they led from Danbury!

By Phil Gallagher

On October 13, the Hartford AOH will hold a major fundraiser for Hibernian charities at the Irish Home in Glastonbury. The event will feature music by Irish DJ Marc Gallagher, Step Dancing and home cooking. For info call Jim Mulcahy at 860 250 1525.

The 8th annual Connecticut AOH softball bash was hosted by Danbury on August 25. This event, co-chaired by Jay King and Jim Murray, has raised thousands of dollars for charity over the years. This year's beneficiary is "Mathew's Hearts of Hope."

Bridgeport will hold a major cornhole tournament at Imports in Trumbull on September 22. For info call Mark Ryan at 203-258-9846.

The New London AOH had a busy summer after sponsoring AOH information booths at the Norwich Rose Festival and the New London Curragh Regatta as well as celebrating our Lady of Knock at St. Mary's on August 17.

The Fairfield County Board will hold the annual the annual Commodore Barry



CONNECTICUT IN THE HOUSE!
Connecticut State President Tom McDonough is flanked on the left by Dave Albright, President of Division 3, Danbury, and Past National Director Phil Gallagher at the National Convention Banquet in Louisville.

Celebration on September 8, in Southport, Connecticut.

The monthly Sunday Seisun held in Danbury and chaired by John Feeney of the AOH is one of best kept secrets in Connecticut. This lively event is well worth attending and is held the first Sunday evening of each month at the Irish Center on Lake Avenue.

All Hibernians were saddened to hear of the passing of Tom McNabb who devoted his life to the advancement of the AOH. I can remember as a young delegate from Connecticut seeing Tom installed as National President at the concluding Convention Banquet in Killarney in 1978. It was at this banquet the late Pat O'Brien was awarded the Kennedy Medal and entertained the attendees with his famous Knute Rockne soliloquy.

The passing of Tom McNabb leaves a wide gap in the ranks of our Order. May he rest in peace!

For news or info contact me at: jpgallagherct@sbcglobal.net

New York



IN APPRECIATION — At the Suffolk County Board meeting on July 18, Martin Galvin, N.Y. State FFAI Chairman, delivered Certificates which read: "From Tyrone AOH to Suffolk County N.Y. in appreciation of Thomas J. Clarke - Kathleen Daly Clarke Monument, Manorville N.Y." Among many in the photo are Rich Cremmins (Thomas J. Clarke Division 8 Past President, Thomas J Clarke Memorial co-chair), Victor J Vogel (N.Y. State President), Martin Galvin (NY State FFAI Chairman), Jerry Belmont (Suffolk County President) and Jeff Nisler (Suffolk County FFAI Chair, Thomas J Clarke Memorial co-chair). Standing second row center is Mike McCormack, Chairman of the original committee that raised the memorial.



'Why I'm a Hibernian' Help us recruit new members



Why are you a Hibernian? What are the benefits of being a Hibernian? What's your favorite thing about the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America and what's the best activity your division does and the Order does?

As part of our new Marketing, Promotion and Advertising Committee, we are gathering content to help attract and recruit new Irish Catholics to join our Order. We'd like you to join in that effort by thinking about these questions and send your responses in writing to the National Board.

So we'd like you, in less than 100 words, respond to the statement: "Why

I'm a Hibernian," and send it to committee member John O'Connell at his Digest editor email: EditorHibernianDigest@yahoo.com.

We intend to use the best responses in various social media campaigns, on our national and state websites, and in other media.

We're also planning to encourage Hibernians to make brief, informal videos that will enable brothers to tell potential membership candidates "in person" why they are Hibernians and why other Irish-American Catholics should join, and how.

Massachusetts

By Charlie Sinclair

Hope everybody is having (or had, depending on when you're reading this) a great and safe summer and staying cool. The next meeting of the Massachusetts AOH State Board will be held on September 22, at the home of Lowell Division 19.

Here is a sampling of AOH events and activities that are taking place across the Bay State.

Division 8 Lawrence: On August 22, a Celebration/Thank You Party was scheduled to be held at the Claddagh Restaurant and Pub, hosted by Division 8, in honor of Bill Sullivan's reelection as an AOH National Director. Hibernians from across New England are expected to attend.

Division 8 annual Irish outing will be held on Sept. 15, on the grounds of the Greater Lawrence Boating Program. The Rt. Reverend John Delaney, Division 8 Chaplain, will celebrate Mass at the end of the event.

Division 11 Peabody: On June 25, Peabody Division 11 hosted this year's AOH State Golf Tournament. Division 11 was this year's tournament winner. The winning team members were Chuck Odette, Tracey Cronin, Bobby Brown and Jim Tracey.

For the past 25 years, Division 11 Peabody has been volunteering at the annual Peabody Council on Aging Barbeque Cookout. Over the years, Division members who had volunteered were Ed Moran, Paul Peterson, Gene Connors, Jack Connors, Frank Connors, Tom Mulherin, Bill Mahoney, Bill Toomey and Jack Lawless.

Division 14 Watertown: Tomas Cardinal O'Fiaich Division 14 participated in the Watertown Memorial Day Parade. The NH AOH Pipes and Drums Band along with a float from Holyoke Division joined Division 14 along the route of march.

At the end of the parade, all Hibernian Marchers returned to the home of Division 14 for a Cookout and Open House. At this year's event, a special pinning ceremony for Division 14 members in recognition of their service to our country was held. Joe McCusker of Division 14 read each member's name and Branch of Service as Watertown's Veterans Service officer Mark R. Comeiro, USN Ret., formally presented the pins to Division 14 veterans. In all, 32 Veteran Members were honored. At the end of the ceremony the NH AOH Pipes and Drums performed a military set as each Veteran stood and saluted the hymn of their respective Branch of Service.

Division 18 Salem: Division 14 recognized their members who are veterans, with the new AOH commemorative Veteran's pin. The following members were recognized:



On Memorial Day, members of Division 14 in Watertown, Massachusetts, marched in Watertown's Annual Memorial Day Parade. Following the parade, Division marchers returned to their Division home. Pictured here are many of the marchers, many of whom are U.S. Veterans and Division members.

Jerry Martin, USMC/Army; Matt Plecinoga, Army; Charlie Armstrong, Navy; Tony, Air Force; Paul Butler, Navy; Butch Cokoragionis, Army; William Barber, Army; George Williams, Army; George Sands, Army; Willy Zendarski, Army; Ron Michaud, Coast Guard; and Lou Schildner, Navy. The Salem AOH and members thank all for your service.

Division 19 Lowell and LAOH Division 1 Lowell will present Cahal Dunne in concert on September 29 at 7 p.m. at the Billerica Lodge of Elks, 14 Web Brook Rd, Billerica. Tickets are \$20 per person and are available by calling 978 866-0819. Proceeds from this event will benefit the Divisions AOH/LAOH Scholarship Fund.

Worcester: Sheila Veideman and Chris Berdini organized the Division's Annual Golf Tournament once again at Blackstone Valley Golf Course.

We are happy to report that our very own Paul Berdini will be the Grand Marshal for this year's Columbus Day Parade. Hopefully, many of our members will join Paul in the line of march. Our celebration dinner in honor of Commodore John Barry will take place on October 13.

And that is the way we see it in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. God Bless!

Illinois

Division 32 works the Motto

At this best-ball scramble of Division 32's annual golf outing in Illinois, funds were raised to support the division's charity account, which recently made donations to Little City, Palatine IL - The Young Irish Fellowship Club - and a woman battling cancer, after a help request came in from a member. Sponsors of the golf outing include The Blarney Stone Pub near Wrigley Field, McGonigal's, D4, Fado, Galway Arms, Gerald Krystoff, Peggy Kinane's, Hickey Family, Mickey Finn's, John Molloy, Murphy's Bleachers, The Kerryman, Irish Times, Slane Irish Whiskey, Jamie Trapp, and the many brothers who donated as tee hole sponsors memorializing deceased family members. Special kudos to brother Jack Morrissey for procuring numerous sponsors.

The annual Division 32 picnic will be held Saturday, August 25, at Bunker Hill Grove 7 in Niles, and scholarships will be awarded this day to Catholic school students who participated in Division 32 service projects, such as Our Lady of Lourdes soup kitchens and Misericordia candy day collections.

And the Ken Sullivan Man of the Year is none other than Patrick Flaherty, who also serves as Division Financial Secretary. Pat will be honored on August 25 right after the 11 a.m. mass celebrated by Division Chaplain Father Dan McCarthy to commence the picnic. For additional details on all Division 32 activities please check Facebook AOHAOH.



Golfer Conor McHale, center, shot a hole-in-one on the 14th hole at Division 32's annual golf outing, June 8, at the Edgebrook Golf Club. Standing with Conor are golf event chair Mike O'Malley, left, and Division President Kevin O'Malley. The B J Mattingly Fab Four won the event with a -12 score.



FIFTY YEARS AS A HIBERNIAN! St. Clair County Division 1 President Mike Tiernan, left, presented a 50-year membership pin to Paul Brummer at the Division's March meeting.



SUCCESSFUL GOLF OUTING Members of St. Clair County, IL, Division 1, welcomed golfers to the Annual Foz Ryan Memorial Irish Open. From left, Division Brother Richard Dillon, Illinois State President and tournament organizer Robert Simpson, and Division Treasurer Robert Dixon. The event was very successful with a full field of happy golfers. — Mike Tiernan, President.

Indiana

Hibernian turns 100

On Saturday, August 4, a large group of admirers composed of friends, parish members, neighbors and AOH members gathered in downtown Indianapolis to celebrate John Reimer and his 100th birthday.

A long-time active member of Kevin Barry Division AOH, he has served in several officer positions, including President in 2004. He was presented with our President's Award for his outstanding service to AOH in 2013.

John was born August 2, 1918, on the south side of Indianapolis into Sacred Heart Parish. His father was German Lutheran and his mother was Irish Catholic from County Mayo, Ireland. Her maiden name was Hefron; the Hefrons escaped Ireland's potato famine by immigrating to Pennsylvania and then on to Indiana.

John grew up on the south side of Indianapolis in a heavily German area, but his mother made sure he was well aware of his Irish heritage. John's connection with AOH began in his early childhood when his mother would take him and his sister to the annual AOH St. Patrick's Day Breakfast. John still attends our annual event.

He graduated from Sacred Heart Grade School and High School. He served as a WWII Army medic and, after the war, worked as a pharmaceutical salesman.

A confirmed bachelor, he has lived most of his life dedicated to and serving his neighborhood parish, Sacred Heart Catholic Church. It was only fitting that his 100-year reception be only a few short blocks from that church. Happy Birthday, John!

— Jim Lynch



John Reimer, surrounded by Hibernians.

The Hibernian Digest's latest edition and archives can now be found on our webpage, www.aoh.com.

New York



SHOWING RESPECT

Rev. Michael McHale Division, in Geneva, NY, has for the past few years, placed flags on veterans' graves for Memorial Day. We would like to thank St. Francis St. Stephen School's 7th & 8th graders, and their families and staff, for helping the AOH putting over 375 veterans' flags at St. Mary's Cemetery. AOH member Terry Scherer, who has been the chairperson, also plays the bagpipes at the cemetery. Photo and article submitted by John Oughterson, AOH member.

South Carolina

Working on behalf of Project St. Patrick

Once again, the Project St. Patrick begging in Beaufort County, South Carolina, was a success. The Bishop Patrick Lynch AOH Division and the St. Ciara LAOH Division joined forces on the weekends of June 9 and June 23 to conduct personal appeals at St. Gregory the Great and Holy Family — two of the local parishes in Bluffton and Hilton Head Island. This year, \$8,100 was raised, an increase of 14 percent over 2017, to help support our South Carolina seminarians and those studying for the permanent diaconate. Kudos to Brother Richard (Smitty) Smith, who continues to chair this project for the state, as well as to the members of these two divisions who assisted him on these two weekends. Submitted by Vince Colgan.



Brother Jim Coyne begs on behalf of Project St. Patrick at Saint Gregory the Great in Bluffton while standing beside a recruiting poster.

Essay winner welcomed before Division meeting

Ashlyn Durel, a local student from the Bluffton, SC, area, is the 2017-'18 state winner of the high school division of the LAOH Irish History Essay Contest on Expressing Irish History Through Music. Ashlyn, who is entering her senior year at John Paul II, our local Catholic high school, was enthusiastically received at a recent meeting of the Bishop Patrick Lynch Division of the AOH to read her prize-winning essay. Congratulations, Ashlyn!



Division President Tim O'Connor thanks Ashlyn for sharing her winning essay.

Rhode Island

Justice finally prevails

Members of the Rhode Island AOH (Newport, Division 1) proudly accepted a certificate from the AOH National Board at the National Convention, on behalf of their member, Ken Dooley. Dooley wrote and produced "The Murder Trial of John Gordon," a stage play about the last man executed by the State of Rhode Island.

Gordon, a young Irish Catholic immigrant, was hanged in 1845 by the State of Rhode Island during a trial that was heavily prejudiced against Catholics. Research from the trial found that Catholics were banned from the jury, and that jurors were instructed that the testimonies of Irish-Catholics were not to be given the same weight as native-born Americans.

Growing up, Ken would hear of a little ditty about "Poor Johnny Gordon" sang by his grandmother. When Ken returned to Rhode Island later in life, he began to focus on Gordon and his story. The stage play, which was performed at the Park Theatre in Cranston in January 2011, was the impetus that convinced then State Rep. Peter Martin, a member of Newport's Division 1, that Gordon was the victim of a prejudiced trial against Catholics.

Martin submitted a resolution requesting that then Governor Lincoln Chafee grant a pardon to Gordon. The resolution was heard by the RI House Judiciary Committee, which supported and passed the resolution on to the RI House of Representatives, where it was passed unanimously.

On June 29, 2011, Governor Chafee granted the pardon to Gordon, in the same courtroom in which he had been tried and found guilty. The Rhode Island AOH is



extremely proud of the work done by both Ken Dooley and Peter Martin in pardoning John Gordon, proving that justice has no statute of limitations.

Pennsylvania



MURPHY, BRYSON HONORED

Division 3 honored Pete Murphy Sr. and Bill Bryson with their inaugural Hibernian of the Year Award for their years of service to the Division and our community. — Joe Herrity, President, Bucks County Division 3.



DIVISION HELPS FOOD PANTRIES

Bucks County Division 3 brothers distributed food to three local food pantries. Funds raised by Division 3 are used to help feed needy families in our area. We choose the times of the year when the pantries need our help the most.



BUCKS DIVISION 2 AWARDS \$11,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS — Division 2, located in Newtown, recently awarded 11 tuition scholarships of \$1,000 each to deserving Irish-American students who will be attending Catholic high schools this fall. Division 2 sponsors an annual Irish Fall Festival to support the Joe McGinnis Scholarship Fund, named for the late Irish American who made many contributions to the Irish community in Bucks County. Division 2 has awarded over \$30,000 in scholarships over the last several years to students who wrote essays about a designated topic in Irish history. Pictured along with members of Division 2 are, from left, Abigail Moyer (Archbishop Wood HS), Haley Stefanik (Mt. St. Joseph Academy), Morgan Murphy (Villa Joseph Marie HS), Molly McAtee (Villa Joseph Marie HS), Allyson Byrne (St. Basil Academy), Michael Nipper (Holy Ghost Prep HS), Olivia Tingley-Kelley (Merion Mercy Academy), Emily Montemuro (Villa Joseph Marie HS), Mary Katherine Barnes (Conwell Egan HS), Jake Zook (LaSalle College HS), and Siana Falkenstein (Notre Dame HS). Division members pictured are, from left, John Lenihan, Larry Byrne, Art Reinholt, Joe McAtee and Mike Shields. For more information on AOH Division 2, visit their website @ www.aohnewtownpa.com.

New Jersey

AOH 27th Annual Irish Fall Festival

NORTH WILDWOOD — The largest Irish festival on the east coast begins on Thursday, September 20 and concludes on Sunday, September 23, 2018. This festive four day event is sponsored by James J. Reilly, Division 1, Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH). The AOH is an organization which fosters and preserves Irish culture and heritage.

The success of this festival has been overwhelming, and continues to draw more and more people each year. With over one hundred vendors and sixteen food vendors, this gathering will definitely be the place where you want to be!

The activities begin on Thursday, September 20th, at 1 PM with a round of GOLF at the Cape May National Golf Course, Route 9 and Fairway Drive, Cape May Court House (2 miles south of Route 47). The fee is \$90.00 on or before September 6th and \$100.00 after September 6th and includes green fee and cart, light lunch, dinner buffet, beer and many prizes. Space is limited and reservations are suggested. For additional information, please contact the AOH.

On Friday, Saturday and Sunday the FESTIVITIES will take place on Olde New Jersey Avenue. Here the street vendors will display their Irish memorabilia, and the food vendors will offer a variety of Irish and non-Irish treats. This activity begins at 8 AM each morning and continues until 7 PM. On Friday and Saturday there will be free LIVE ENTERTAINMENT continuously from 12 PM until 8:30 PM. The AOH is proud to announce the return of the BEER GARDEN located on the Municipal parking lot at Spruce and Olde New Jersey Avenues.

Saturday begins with a 5K RUN. If you are interested, you can sign up at 8AM at the AOH tent (between 1st and 2nd Avenues) on Olde New Jersey Avenue. Cash prizes will be awarded. For additional information on the run visit TheIrishJog.com.

Saturday at 10AM the BRIAN RILEY PIPE EXHIBITION will take place at Bill Henfey Park located at 8th and Central Avenues, North Wildwood. This event attracts thousands of spectators every year. Come see and hear some of the best pipe bands in the East!

Also on Saturday, the AOH will host free IRISH DANCE LESSONS at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 206 North New Jersey Avenue, located in the festival district at 2nd and Olde New Jersey Avenues from 10 AM until noon. Parking is available.

On Friday and Saturday there will be free LIVE ENTERTAINMENT continuously from 10:30 AM until 10 PM. The National Anthem will be sung at noon. Featured performers include: Shenanigans, Broken Shillelaghs, Birmingham 6, Timmy Kelly, Shanties, and Ballina. In addition, Irish Schools of Dance will perform throughout both days.

On Sunday, everyone is welcome to celebrate our faith and heritage at Saint Anne's Roman Catholic Church in the Notre Dame de la Mer Parish, Glenwood and Atlantic Avenues, for 10:30 AM MASS. There will be a procession starting at the main entrance to the altar by the Protectors of the Faith Guards, the Cape May County Emerald Society Honor Guard and a liturgical bag piper soloist.

Sunday at 12:30 PM, the PARADE begins at 20th and Surf Avenues and will continue to Spruce and Olde New Jersey Avenues. Once again, we are honored to have Seamus Boyle, Past National President of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, as a special guest. The parade also will feature Miss North Wildwood, Annika Marks, many fraternal organizations, bag pipe bands, Irish dance groups and much, much more. All AOH organizations are welcome to be a part of this celebration of Irish history and heritage.

Irish food and entertainment will be available at most of the clubs and pubs in North Wildwood all weekend long.

As always, bus service will be available from the Anglesea Fire Hall – 2nd and Olde New Jersey Avenue along Surf Avenue to 26th Street. Additional bus service will be available through Wildwood and Wildwood Crest. **For detailed information, please call 609-884-5230 or visit gatrolley.com.**

As a result of this extremely successful annual fund raising event, the AOH achieves significant charitable accomplishments. These contributions reflect the loyalty and ideals which have helped to strengthen our families, community, and national character.

This festival is sponsored, in part, by Budweiser, the Greater Wildwood Tourism Improvement and Development Authority and the City of North Wildwood.

The AOH would like to acknowledge and thank Mayor Patrick Rosenello, City Council and the City of North Wildwood for their annual support of this event!

For additional information contact the AOH at 1-800-IRISH-91 or www.cmcaoh.com.

Division's 2's tournament helps All Saints Regional

The Fr. Duffy Division 2, Ocean County's golf tournament, supporting All Saints Regional Catholic School, was a great success. In fact, we had to turn away golfers and dinner guests. The response we received from the local merchants and sponsors was outstanding; after all the bills were paid we were able to donate to the school a nice chunk of change, which they certainly need.

It was a wonderful day weather wise, the course was perfect, the food was grand and the beverages were cold; a fun day was had by all! We plan on doing this again next year and will get the word out to the brothers when we have set a firm date, time and place.

God Bless the Irish!

— Bob Goodwin, Division President



ATLANTIC COUNTY DIVISION HOLDS FUNDRAISER

The Officer Thomas McMeekin Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund is one of AOH Atlantic County Division 1's missions. It was held at Maynard's Cafe, Margate, NJ, on June 1. It honors the memory of Thomas McMeekin Jr., an Atlantic City Police Officer who was killed in the line of duty in 2005, when he was hit by a vehicle as he directed traffic at the scene of an accident. He was a local Irish Catholic man who we work to memorialize. The fund was created to benefit graduating eighth grade elementary students from Catholic schools who will attend Catholic High Schools in the area. Division President Kevin Jackson, left, and Thomas McMeekin Sr. at the event.

Photo by President Kevin Jackson.

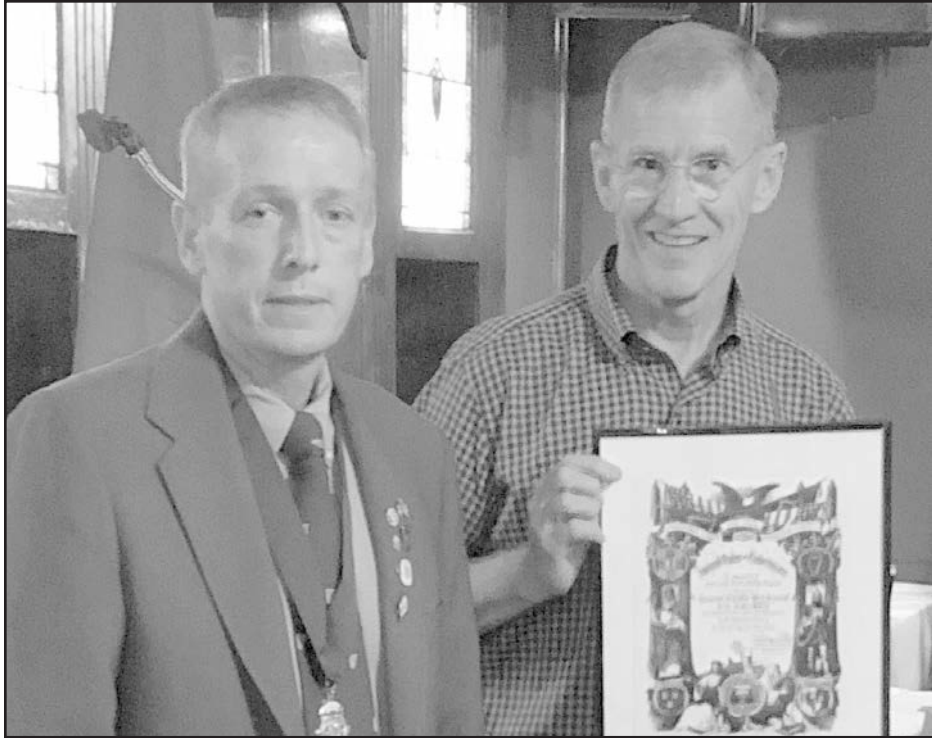


FATHER JUDGE DIVISION HOLDS DAY AT THE RACES

On June 16, Division 1, Hudson County, NJ, held its annual Day at the Races fundraiser at Monmouth Park Racetrack in Oceanport. It was an absolutely amazing day. More than 200 members, family and friends attended. Congratulations and a thank you to Brother Paul Crowley Jr. and the Race Track Committee. Photo by Hibernian George Stampoulos.

Virginia

The May 21 meeting of the Herbert-Cady Division was a special event as Virginia State Veterans Affairs Chairman Major Brendan Cooney, United States Army Reserved (Retired) arranged for a special guest speaker: General Stanley McChrystal (Retired). The division heard about McChrystal's service, his Irish connections, and his friendship with the late AOH Life Member Pat Troy. A 1972 West Point graduate, Gen McChrystal dedicated his career to the Special Operations Forces community. Early in his career, he commanded the 2nd Ranger Battalion – the same unit that scaled Pointe du Hoc on 6 June 1944, clearing the way for D-Day's success. During the Global War on Terrorism he commanded the Joint Special Operations Command and later was appointed Commander of American forces in Afghanistan. After his talk, the McChrystal remained on station for a pint and pictures. Several Hibernians brought their own copies of his book *Team of Teams* which he autographed.



Division President Terry Riley, left, presents a certificate of appreciation to General McChrystal.



General McChrystal, left, with Virginia State Veterans Affairs Chairman Brendan Cooney.



Graves with Division placed flags at Saint Mary of Sorrows Historic Church Cemetery.

Remembering Civil War Fallen

Each Memorial Day weekend, the Father William Corby Division in Fairfax Station places American flags and where appropriate Irish flags, on all of the graves in the Saint Mary of Sorrows Historic Church Cemetery. This Virginia State Historical Site is where Clara Barton helped care for the wounded soldiers returning from the Second Battle of Manassas (Second Battle of Bull Run) in early September 1862. On Memorial Day, the Division sponsors a Mass of remembrance, which is followed by the priests and deacons of St Mary of Sorrows parish processing through and blessing the graves in the Cemetery. Accompanying the priests and deacons are a Division Color Guard, a bagpiper, other Hibernians, and parishioners.



CHEERING THE AOH

The Major James H. Dooley Division, accompanied by LAOH Mary Ryan Division, from Richmond, participated in the Ashland 4th of July parade. AOH was the largest participating organization in the parade. This Independence Day has been a fixture for more than 100 years and this year more than 20,000 spectators lined the parade route, many of whom cheered when they saw the Dooley Division banner.



VIRGINIA IN KENTUCKY

Virginia turned out in force for the 99th Biennial National Convention with 27 of 29 possible delegates attending. Photo by Harry Flynn.

New York

Staten Island Hibernians welcome four new brothers

Four new members were initiated into the Order at the June 11 meeting of St. Columcille Division 4, Richmond County, by President Thomas F. Gray, and witnessed by Brother Martin Crimmins, New York District 5 Director.

The Division bid a hearty cead mile failte to new Brothers Martin Fleishman, Wayne Sommers, Michael King and John McDonald. Each newly-initiated Brother was presented with copies of a short history of the AOH, a lapel pin of the Emblem of the Order, and a document describing the meaning of the AOH Emblem by Brother Denis P. McGowan, Richmond County Board Recording Secretary.

The June Division meeting was well attended by more than 40 Brothers, and we were delighted to have Br. Michael Hannon, CFC, Assistant Chaplain and faculty member of Msgr. Farrell High School, who led us in the Division's opening and closing prayers.

The Division received a lecture on Irish history on the Molly Maguires of Pennsylvania from Brother McGowan, and the fight against injustice, brutal working conditions and their framing by a Pinkerton detective who was an agent provocateur or agitator. The Pinkerton detective led these Irish Catholic men to become victims of brutal retaliation from the rich mine owners' private police force and the corrupt county prosecutor. Innocent Brother Hibernians were wrongfully convicted and hanged because of the false testimony of the Pinkerton detective. More than a century later, the Governor of the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania pardoned all of these Irishmen, recognizing their innocence and the travesty of justice that had occurred.

St. Columcille Division 4 meets every second Monday at the Staten Island Elks Lodge No. 841 at 8 p.m. The Division was established on April 3, 1970, by Brother Philip McCusker and Brother William J. Barnett, and currently has over 196 members. Several Division 4 Brothers also serve on the Richmond County Board as officers. The Division is very involved with the Staten Island Saint Patrick's Day Parade, the Staten Ireland Irish Fair, the Columcille Irish Cultural Center and the AOH CuChulainn Celtic Warrior Major Degree Team.



New brother Hibernians, from left, Martin Fleishman, Wayne Sommers, Michael King and John McDonald. Photo by Brother Denis P. McGowan



GOLF FUNDRAISER IN ONEIDA
As a charities fundraiser of the Oneida County John C. Devereux Division, the AOH Irish Scramble Golf Tournament was held on June 22 at the Hidden Valley Golf Course in Whitesboro. From left, Bill and Mike Kelly, Craig and (not shown) Dustin Pritchard won.

Virginia



SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

The Gen. T.F. Meagher Division President Shawn Lenahan presented the 2018 scholastic award to Natalie and Cassandra Wujick at the St Patrick Elementary School commencement. Each year the division presents selected Catholic elementary school graduates with monetary awards to help defray the expense of attending Catholic High Schools. Since 2012, the division has awarded more than \$21,000 in scholastic awards. Recipients are selected by the elementary schools' faculties based on criteria provided by the Meagher Division.

Kansas

Hibernian Hogs head to Louisville

Thirteen Hibernian brothers from the Father Donnelly Division of Kansas organized a motorcycle ride from Kansas City to Louisville for the national AOH convention. The contingent included five riders from the Donnelly Division (Pat Quinn, Liam Riggs, Pat Cassidy, Chet Cordell and Denny Dennihan), Donny O'Connor from Denver and Mike Wear with the AOH State Board in Nebraska. The riders were supported by a "sag" truck/trailer driven by Kansas AOH brothers Jake Grohmann and Tom Kane, with tools, fuel and a trailer should one of the bikes break down.

The group selected roads that offered beautiful scenery, historical towns and famous eateries along the way. Starting out from KC on July 11, the highwaymen travelled east on Highway 50, cutting across central Missouri through rolling hills, climbing through the hardwood forests of the Ozark uplands and past several historic river towns along the banks of the Missouri River. Reaching St. Louis, the riders enjoyed famous McGurk's Irish Pub, a city Irish landmark with live Irish music. Departing St. Louis the next morning, the cyclists travelled south along the National Scenic Byway along the Great River Road along the Mississippi River with incredible views and again plenty of hills and turns. After lunching at the famous Hawg & Sauce BBQ joint in Mt. Vernon, Indiana, the journeymen headed east and connected with the Ohio River Scenic Byway along Indiana Highway 60.

Views improved even more as the group turned onto Indiana Highway 66 through the Hoosier National Forest. An enjoyable hour and a half of steep hills, hairpin turns, rapid accelerations with equally rapid decelerations concluded with a timely arrival in Louisville for the convention. Choosing the more expedient interstate route back to KC, the tired riders arrived back in KC with our Colorado and Nebraska brothers continuing onward home. For all, it was a memorable trip and one the boys hope to repeat for the next convention.

Should any other AOH brothers want to convene a motorcycle trip to the next convention, these western riders would love to meet up with you along the way and share the fun.



Ladies hibernian news

Ladies AOH National Board

Msgr. Jason A. Gray	Chaplain	msgrgray@stthomas-church.net
Carol Sheyer	President	csheyer@fuse.net
Karen Keane	Vice President	laohkaren@live.com
Marilyn Madigan	Secretary	memadigan@gmail.com
Mary Ann Lubinsky	Treasurer/Asst. Webmaster	maryannlubinsky@gmail.com
Sandi Swift	Irish Historian/Webmaster	sandiswift@ladiesaoh.com
Colleen Bowers	Missions & Charities	colleenbowers@ladiesaoh.com
Cathy Turck	Catholic Action	laohcathyt@gmail.com
Patricia A. O'Connell	Organizer	oconnellp407@comcast.net
Shannon Lehn	Asst. Editor Hibernian Digest	shannonclehn@gmail.com
Agnes Gowdy	Freedom For All Ireland	sengarose@gmail.com
Maire Leffel	Fundraiser	maireleffel@aol.com
Ann-Marie Nyhan-Doherty	Immigration/Education	dancingds@comcast.net
Mary Hogan	Program Chair	laohbklyn@aol.com
Maureen Shelton	Degree Team Liaison	mtshelton@live.com
Mary Conlon	Supplies	mandjconlon@atmc.net
Margaret Hennessy	Auditor	mhtax@optonline.net
Kathie Linton	National Convention Chair	kathielin10@gmail.com
Maureen Shelton	Degree Team Liaison	mtshelton@live.com
Maureen Shelton	125th Anniversary Chair	mtshelton@live.com

PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENTS

Patricia A. O'Connell	Illinois	oconnellp407@comcast.net
Mary Hogan	New York	laohbklyn@aol.com
Maureen Shelton	Michigan	mtshelton@live.com
Margaret Hennessy	New York	mhtax@optonline.net
Mary Ryan	Massachusetts	
Dorothy Weldon	Pennsylvania	dorothyweldon@comcast.net
Mary T. Leathem	New York	mtleathem@aol.com
Mary B. Dolan	Massachusetts	bridgie136@gmail.com
Peggy Cooney	Pennsylvania	peggy.cooney@ymail.com
Mary Paglione	Florida	marypaglione@comcast.net
Kathie Linton	Ohio	kathielin10@gmail.com

President's Message...

by Carol Sheyer



Thank you for the confidence you have placed in me to serve as your National President of this great order for the next two years. It is such an honor and a privilege.

Before we left Louisville I had asked Past National President Maureen Shelton to chair the 125th Anniversary Event in 2019. After much thought I have decided to combine the Interim Board Meeting and our 125th Anniversary Event and make it a long weekend celebration. I feel so honored to be able to hold the Testimonial and the 125th Anniversary celebration at the same time.

The date for 125th Anniversary Celebration will begin on Thursday, October 10, 2019 to the dinner on Saturday, October 12, 2019. The location for the Celebration will be the Dearborn Inn, 20301 Oakwood, Dearborn, MI 48124. The Interim Board Meeting will be scheduled for Saturday, October 12, 2019.

Currently committees are working on tours and many other fun events. More details will follow as the plans go forward. Please mark your calendar so you will be able to join in the celebration.

All members on the National Board are aware there is a communication problem between the National Board and our sisters throughout the States. One of my goals is to have an electronic newsletter with contributions from the National Board and all the States. Hopefully this will be a way the States will be able to share ideas.

Shortly you will be receiving material concerning the National Board's fundraiser. I ask for your assistance in making the fundraiser a success.

I want to thank Pat O'Connell and her Board for their two years of dedication and congratulations to the newly elected AOH and LAOH officers.

Thank you to the Kentucky Convention Committee for all their hard work and dedication in planning a successful Convention.

Also want to thank my Ohio sisters, the sisters of my Division (Margaret Judge Division 1 of Summit County) and the Kentucky sisters for all their encouragement, support and help. And a big thank you to the Ohio Degree Team for helping with the installation on Saturday evening.



2018-2020 Elected Board and Past National Presidents. Front: Secretary Marilyn Madigan, Vice President Karen Keane, President Carol Sheyer, Treasurer Mary Ann Lubinsky. Back: PNP Mary Ryan, PNP Kathleen Linton, PNP Mary Dolan, Immediate PNP Patricia O'Connell, Missions and Charities Colleen Bowers, Catholic Action Cathy Turck, Historian Sandi Swift, PNP Mary Hogan. Photo by Digest Editor John O'Connell

National Vice-President

Karen Keane

I want to thank each of you for your vote of confidence in electing me as the National Vice-President of the largest organization of Irish-Catholic Woman in the world. I promise to fulfill all the duties of my office to the best of my abilities.

The major areas of responsibility for the Vice-President are the growth of our Junior Divisions and Degree Teams. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns in either area. Also, you will be hearing from me over the next two years about the Trinity Washington University Lilian A. Fay Scholarship and the Hibernian Scholarship at Notre Dame, as well value of our endowments with the Cushwa Center.

As the term goes on, you will hear from me about the two joint awards we give out with the National Board of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America, Inc.; the Sean McBride Humanitarian Award and the John F. Kennedy Memorial Medal Award.

Towards the end of my term, you will receive information about our St. Brigid of Ireland Humanitarian Award.

This is an exciting time for us, as we will be celebrating our 125th Anniversary in 2019 and I know our National President, Carol Sheyer, is already forming committees and making plans for this truly historic time of all of our Members.

But first, we will have our Hibernian Lecture at the University of Notre Dame on Friday, September 21, 2018. This will mark the 40th anniversary of the Hibernian relationship with the Cushwa Center. This year's lecture "America and the Irish Revolution 1916-1922," will be presented by Ruan O'Donnell at 4:30p.m. in McKenna Hall Rooms 100-104. If you are planning to attend the lecture, please contact me by email or telephone noted on the left. There is a dinner for any Hibernian who attends the lecture, if you let me know in advance. If you are planning to stay in the South Bend Area, a block of rooms have been reserved at the Inn at St. Mary's, (574) 232-4000, please ask for the Ladies Hibernian rate.

In closing, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I am excited to serve as your National Vice-President and know that we will grow our Order over the next two years.

National Secretary

Marilyn Madigan

Thank you for giving me the privilege of serving our Order as National Secretary. Communication is key for any organization. I look forward to communicating with the State Presidents, State Secretaries and through you to the entire membership. The National Board needs to hear from our membership, please feel free to share information. You can contact me at laohsecretary@gmail.com or on my cell at 216-470-3773.

The Office of National Secretary is responsible for maintaining a list of the current officers and membership. Please send me any officer changes as soon as possible. Current information on our state, county and division officers helps us all to keep informed. As I stated before communication is very important and is the main goal during this term.

In the fall, I will be sending out the Annual Membership Reports. If you do not receive the forms by November 15, please contact me as soon as possible. We want this to be a smooth reporting period for everyone.

In conclusion, I would like to share this quote from Dinesh Paliwal "Collaboration is a key part of the success of any organization, executed through a clearly defined vision and mission and based on transparency and constant communication." As your National Secretary, I will collaborate and communicate with our membership.

National Missions & Charities

Colleen Bowers

I would like to introduce myself as your newly elected 2018-2020 National LAOH Missions & Charities Officer. It is an honor to serve this great noble order in this capacity and I thank the sisters across this nation.

Right now I am finalizing my previous office as your National LAOH Catholic Action Officer and transitioning to my newly elected office. It is important to stress that the main charities for this office are the Columban Fathers & Columban Sisters.

The Columban Fathers and Sisters are celebrating their 100th Anniversary all over which I will be sharing more information in a few weeks.

If you need to reach me concerning anything about this office please email me at colleenbowers@ladiesaoh.com or call 412-498-3392. I serve this you and this noble order and I am always here to answer any questions you may have. As a member you are the foundation of this order and make it the success it is today.

There will be some changes on our national website under Missions & Charities in the near future. Your forms for reporting will be updated etc. In addition PLEASE REMEMBER all checks for the Missions & Charities are \$10 minimum and are made out to the LAOH, Inc.; MAILED TO ME not my predecessor. The address has been sent to all State Presidents and Missions & Charities Officers.

National Treasurer

Mary Ann Lubinsky

At the National Convention in Louisville KY last week, I was elected your new LAOH National Treasurer. Thank you for entrusting me with this office. I am looking forward to working with all of you the next two years!

I am using the latest contact information that I have for emailing this letter. If you are no longer the Treasurer or President, please forward this email to the new officer and copy me on the forward so that I can update my records.

I have been a member of LAOH John F. Kennedy Division 2, Schuylkill County, Pottsville PA since 1994 currently serving as Division President since 2003. I was PA State President, 2007-2009; National Catholic Action Officer, 2014-2016; and National Missions & Charities Officer, 2016-2018. I cannot stress enough the importance of communication with your National counterpart and the sharing of communications from National with your divisions and counties. To ensure this happens, I need each one of you to reply to maryannlubinsky@gmail.com indicating that you have received this email and that I have your correct contact information. If anything changes over the next two years, please keep me informed.

I will have the Annual Reports to you as soon as possible so you can disseminate them to the County Boards, if applicable, and the Divisions. I have a suggestion from previous Treasurers on how to make our lives easier: Ensure that your Divisions, County Boards, and your State Board are tracking spending and income throughout the year. This will assist in transferring such information to the prescribed reports. When we utilize the reports available to us, it makes the year-end reporting process easier.

In addition to the reports, I am here to assist any Division, County or State Board with opening a bank account by providing the bank with the required documentation, [i.e., Articles of Incorporation: Letter of Authority; EIN (Federal Identification Number)], and any other documentation the bank may require from the National Board. So that I can provide the necessary information to the bank for a new account or to apply for an EIN, please have the entity follow the appropriate attached procedure. These procedures have been established by the National Board and must be followed by each State, County, and Division. If you need either attachment in Word format, let me know.

Once again, I look forward to working with you. If you have any questions or need any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail at maryannlubinsky@gmail.com or by telephone at 570-617-7961. I may not be able to answer your call at work during the day; but if you leave a message, I will return your call as soon as possible.

National Historian

Sandi Riley Swift

I want to thank you for your confidence in me and let you know I am excited to serve as your National Historian. I have served the order the last two terms as your Webmaster, a job I am still retaining, and the past term as Hibernian Digest Editor.

Next year we will be celebrating our 125th Anniversary. We have come a long way from our beginnings as an Auxiliary. It is important, at this time that you look at the history of your Division/County/State. Keeping copies of your end of the year history reports in a binder will give you a quick overview of your history. Photo albums will also be beneficial and help to preserve the memories. This is also a point where you locate your Charter and put it on display. If you have lost, or cannot remember who is in possession of the Charter, you can contact our National Secretary, Marilyn Madigan for a replacement. They can be done in different sizes too.

At the convention in Louisville there were several items addressed during the Irish History Committee meeting. It was decided in the membership meeting that we would not do away with the recommendation of discontinuing the Annual Irish Historian Reports. These reports are basically a "snap shot" or quick view of your annual history. Yes, some of the information is taken from membership reports; however, keeping these reports in a binder you can have an easy access to information throughout the years. It was decided to evaluate the current report.

There was a discussion on National History Day, and I have attached the report from the meeting. National History Day is a great opportunity for students to earn award monies from the AOH and the LAOH. The topics are different than the writing contest we sponsor.

The Committee Chair, Dee Wallace, reminded members of the upcoming topic for the 2018-2019 writing contest. Members also selected the topics for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021. The topics are as follows:

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 2018-2019 | Heroes and Heroines in Celtic Mythology and Celebrations |
| 2019-2020 | History of the LAOH in the USA (honoring the 125th Anniversary) |
| 2020-2021 | The Impact of the Irish Anglo Treaty of 1921 |

I am working on updating the Irish History Writing Contest Brochure, which will be on the website and emailed to State Presidents and State Historians.

Our National President, Carol Sheyer, has decided to combine the Interim Board meeting and our 125th Anniversary event and make it a long weekend celebration. President Sheyer wants to make this as cost effective as possible for all our members.

SAVE THE DATE: the date for the Interim Board meeting and 125th Anniversary celebration will be October 10-12, 2019. This event will be hosted at the Dearborn Inn, 20301 Oakwood, Dearborn, MI 48124. They are working on a tour for Thursday with an event in the evening. The Interim Board meeting will be on Saturday the 12th with the banquet that evening. More information will be sent later. We are also working on commemorative items for the 125th Anniversary.

I am looking forward to an exciting term and learning new histories of our organization. Please contact me anytime by email: sandiswift@ladiesaoh.com.

National Catholic Action

Cathy Turck

I am writing this to introduce myself to you as your new National Catholic Action Officer. It is an honor and a privilege to serve the membership as the newest officer on your National Board and I will try to assist you any way I can. You may reach me by email at: laohcathyt@gmail.com or call me at 518-369-2813, up until 9pm on weekdays.

So who am I and what am I doing here today? I am a member of JFK Division 1 in Schenectady, NY and currently serve as the Division President. Our Division started in 1901, is very involved in the community and participates in many charity events. I have served on the New York State Board for several years as Publicity chair and I have actively participated in many state and national conventions. I am the Director of the Trinity Degree Team. Above all else, I am a member just like you. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with questions or concerns you may have regarding the Office of Catholic Action. I am here for you.

The Catholic Action Officer oversees Project St. Patrick and SOAR (Support Our Aging Religious). Over the next two years, I will be working with Catholic Action Officers throughout the country to continue these two very important initiatives. In addition to this, I would like our Catholic Action Officers to consider hosting a Blue Mass in your parishes. A Blue mass is held to honor members of the Police Department, Fire Department, EMT's and all first responders. I attended a Blue Mass recently that was hosted by a local LAOH and AOH Division and I was moved by the support the community gave to this cause. If this is something you are interested in, please reach out to me and I can share some ideas with you.

I look forward to working with you. I'll leave you with this: She, who loses money, loses a lot; she, who loses a friend, loses more; she who loses faith, loses all.

Immediate Past National LAOH President

Patricia A. O'Connell

Let me take this opportunity to CONGRATULATE our recently elected National Board Officers who are responsible along with the Past National Presidents and the National Board Appointees for the governing of our membership for the 2018-2020 Term of Office. I ask that you show your respect to the Office that each of these women have agreed to hold and thereby to serve you. As we say in our solemn obligation, "I will render obedience to my lawfully elected officers, ...I will be faithful to the members of the Order, ...I will not wrong a sister, ... I will not permit one to be wronged, ...I will uphold the interest of the Order."

On behalf of the LAOH National Board who served you during the 2016-2018 Term of Office, I say thank you to the LOAH membership who were able to participate in the 99th Biennial AOH-LAOH National Convention held in Louisville KY. Twenty-two (22) of our thirty (30) states had membership representation at the National Convention. Let me encourage you to mark your calendar and start your financial planning for the 2020 National Convention which is scheduled to be held July 22-25, 2020 in Orlando FL.

Currently, our appointed Convention Secretary, former 2016-2018 National Secretary, and I are finalizing the accumulation of the Convention Reports and preparing the notifications that follow with the approval of the Convention Reports. I give my special thanks to the 2016-2018 National Board Members who each chaired a Convention Committee Meeting and to those members who "stepped-up" to serve as Secretary for each of the Committees.

I look forward to continuing to serve you, the LAOH membership, in my new duties as your Immediate Past National LAOH President. Most of my "hands-on" work during this 2018-2020 Term of Office will be with State Presidents and other designated individuals where we may be able to institute new Divisions. Be assured that I remain passionate in being a member of the LAOH who can "walk-the-talk." As I have stated in the past, I am committed to serve, to focus on the needs of the Order, to grow our membership, to sustain our membership, and to explore how we, as Irish Catholic women, can be effective and equitable in carrying out our duties in a respectful manner as we serve our Roman Catholic Church, our Country, our Irish history, culture, traditions, and one another.

LAOH RESOLUTIONS APPROVED 2018 NATIONAL CONVENTION, LOUISVILLE KY

The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Inc passed the following Resolutions during the 2018 Biennial National AOH-LAOH Convention held July 11-14, 2018 in Louisville KY.

Be it resolved that the first and foremost, we renew our pledge of loyalty to our Holy Father and all the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church without exception.

Be it resolved that, we continue to work for the growth of our Noble Order throughout the United States, as well as empowering all the membership to combat anti-Irish and anti-Catholic images in our culture.

Be it resolved that, we support diplomatic intervention in the peace process in Northern Ireland in accordance with the Good Friday Agreement. Furthermore, we continue to support the MacBride Principles, fight for the reinstatements of the civil rights of the political ex-prisoners in Northern Ireland and assist to bring lasting and equitable peace in a unified Ireland.

2018 St. Brigid of Ireland Humanitarian Award

The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Inc National Board recognizes one of its members in recognition of her generous and extraordinary humanitarian works within the Order and in her community. The 2018 St. Brigid of Ireland Humanitarian Award was presented to KATHLEEN M. SAVAGE, a member of Division #10, Lynn, Massachusetts. Kathleen has been an active LAOH member for 35 years serving in many offices in her Division and County levels. Currently she is the Massachusetts Chairwoman for Freedom for All Ireland. She has also been the FFAI Chair at the Division, County and National levels. FFAI is a real passion of hers and she works tirelessly for the FFAI Christmas Appeal.

Kathleen started her relationship with FFAI in 1985 after joining Irish Northern Aid. She subsequently went on four fact-finding tours of the Six Counties, staying in the homes of local families and witnessing first-hand the discrimination the Catholic families were going through during the Troubles. Kathleen wrote birthday and Christmas cards to the Irish political prisoners and enlisted many of her LAOH sister to join in this endeavor.

She was asked by many Irish political prisoners to visit them in prison and she did visit Long Kesh Prison, Magheberry, Crumlin Road Jail in the North and Portlaoise Prison in the South. She became pen pals with several of the prisoners and also became friends with the prisoners' families. Many of these friends and relationships continue to this day. She has been a guest in the homes of many of these families, and Kathleen considers them members of her extended family. She has traveled with members of the AOH and LAOH on several trips to the North of Ireland where the name Kathleen Savage is well known.

Among her recent honors, Kathleen was selected to be the recipient of the Fr. John Murphy Award from Division #5, Albany, New York. She was the first woman and first non-New Yorker to receive this award. As a testament to her devotion to FFAI, numerous members of the AOH and LAOH traveled to Albany to see Kathleen receive her award. Representatives from the AOH National Board, Irish Northern Aid and the Sinn Fein party were also in attendance.

Kathleen is a member of Sacred Heart Church, Lynn, MA where she serves as a Eucharistic Minister, is a member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and the St. Francis Franciscan Secular Order of Lynn. She has made many pilgrimages to the Holy Land and Marian Shrines throughout Europe and Canada.

She is devoted to her family, whether related by blood or not and is always willing to help others in their time of need. Kathleen is a woman of deep faith, strong character and a giver of her time and talent. She is a caring, non-judgmental and loving woman and the best friend any one can have. Kathleen lives the LAOH Motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity in her daily life. CONGRATULATIONS, KATHLEEN SAVAGE.



Immediate Past National President, Patricia O'Connell, Kathleen Savage St. Brigid Award Winner, President Carol Sheyer, AOH President Jim McKay.

Degree Liaison

Maureen Shelton

I am honored to serve our Order as the Degree Liaison for the 2018-2020 term of Office. Elections took place at the Degree Team meeting at our National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Eight Degree Teams were represented. There were three changes to our by-laws. We discussed several topics and agreed we need more time for our discussions in the future.

I presented the binder with some history from each Team for everyone to look at. It will be an ongoing project to piece together the history of our Teams. With your help we can put together a look back at the LAOH Degree Teams.

I look forward to working with you once again. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is anything I can do to help your Team.

2018 AOH-LAOH National Convention - Louisville, KY

Photos by Digest Editor John O'Connell



Past National President installing new Officers, Carol Sheyer, President and Karen Keane Vice President



Past National President Patricia O'Connell with her family.



National LAOH Board waiting for the start of the opening Mass.



2018-2020 President Carol Sheyer.



Past National President Maureen Shelton and Michigan Delegation.

CONVENTION continued from page 1

U.S. Ambassador to Ireland; a call for a U.S. Envoy to Northern Ireland; a support for the McGuinness Principles; A Legacy Victims Resolution; a 1919 Declaration of Ireland Independence Resolution and a Fitzgerald Square Resolution. John Fitzmorris, resolution committee chair, is to be commended for his great work in putting these forward and most importantly following up with proper distribution. The Pro-Life Committee and Freedom For All Ireland committee should also be recognized for their work on these critical resolutions.

The national convention also approved five amendments to the constitution. These amendments will be added into the constitution by Secretary Jere Cole and distributed electronically to the state presidents. Amendments included: a clarification and guidelines for at-large membership; the assignment of tax reporting to treasurers; adjustments to the junior membership policy to put us in compliance with state and diocesan rules and regulations; a per capita adjustment adding an increase in per capita with a discount if paid, as required, by February 15th annually; and some general adjustments to the rituals section of the Order.

The highlights of the banquets included two guest speakers from Ireland and our JFK award presentation. On Irish Night, our featured speaker was Irish Senator Billy Lawless, who is senator for the Diaspora. Senator Lawless also serves on the Hibernian Charity Board. During the installation banquet we heard

from the Honorable Michael Loneran, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Ireland to the United States, addressing many issues, including Brexit, the border, and the future. The highlight of the event was the presentation of the prestigious John F. Kennedy award to AOH Brother Denis Mulcahy, co-founder of Project Children. Denis arrived early in order to share the movie, "How to Defuse a Bomb, The Project Children Story." Denis shared words on his key role in helping to defuse the decades old "Troubles" in the North of Ireland through an incredible cross community project.

Judge James F. McKay was re-elected as National President and has hit the ground running. Job descriptions have been created and distributed for every constitution appointment as well as the presidential appointments. These descriptions will be distributed throughout the Order to help give a better understanding of responsibilities and for use in some form at every level of the Order. President McKay has made a strong commitment to the AOH and looks toward continued improvement in communications as well as growth of the Order. Together, we can continue to grow as the voice of Irish America.

Also elected were Danny O'Connell, Vice President; Jere Cole, Secretary; Sean Pender, Treasurer; and Directors: Liam McNabb, Dan Dennehy, Bill Sullivan, Denny Parks, Ed Halligan and John Wilson. This team of brothers is committed to the work necessary for continued success of the Order.

The 2020 convention will be in Orlando, Florida, at the Rosen Center Hotel.

Photos by Digest Editor John O'Connell



The convention's opening mass was held at the Cathedral of the Assumption.



Denis Mulcahy, center, co-founder of Project Children, was awarded the Hibernians' prestigious John F. Kennedy Medal by Carol Sheyer and Daniel O'Connell.



After the award ceremonies and excellent speeches, AOH President James McKay posed with JFK Award recipient Denis Mulcahy, left, and Michael Loneran, Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of Ireland the United States.



The Hibernians were honored to have one of the official Kentucky Derby buglers and the Louisville Police Pipe & Drum band announce the beginning of our dinner.



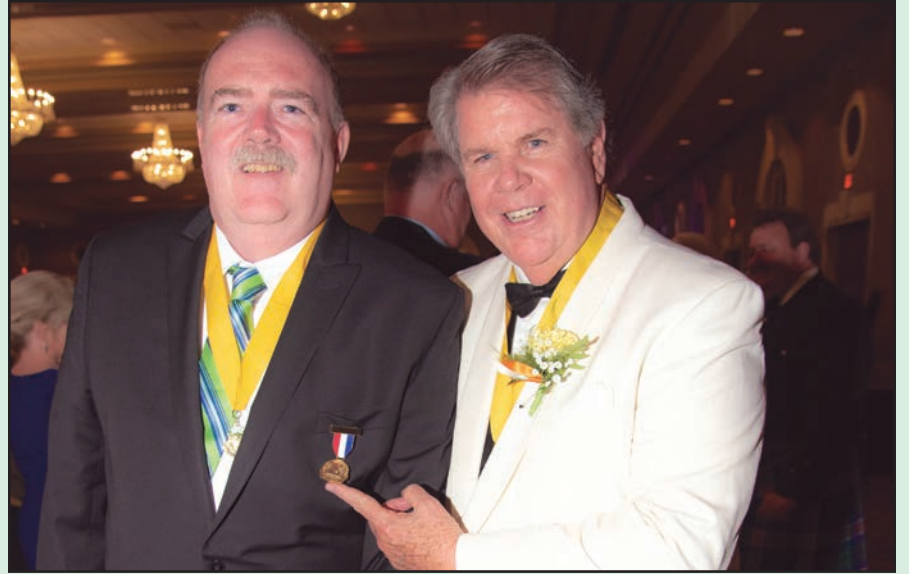
Irish Senator for the Diaspora, Billy Lawless, was the keynote speaker at the convention.

2018 AOH-LAOH National Convention - Louisville, KY

Photos by Digest Editor John O'Connell



Jere Cole and his family, from left, Jere's wife Margie, his grandson Cole Schmittler, and his daughter, Dawn Cole.



President Jim McKay, right, presented National Board member Neil Cosgrove with the Commodore John Barry Medal, a high commendation of the AOH, for Neil's great service to the Order.



JJ Kelly tripped the light fantastic with Maggie Magoo, of Virginia.



National Director Liam McNabb served as the master of ceremonies at the convention dinner Friday evening.



Past National President George Clough presided over the installation of the new national AOH board.



Part of the Louisiana delegation at the convention dinner.



Michael Lonergan, Deputy Chief of Mission at the Irish Embassy, was well received as he spoke to the assembled Hibernians about many of issues of concern in Ireland today.



LEFT: Hibernian Denis Mulcahy gave a moving address to the large audience of LAOH and AOH members after receiving the John F. Kennedy Award.

RIGHT: Ireland's 18th Ambassador to the U.S., Daniel Mulhall, gave a lively and erudite address to the convention attendees.

