

Lady Hibernian Herald

Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians - Irish · Catholic · American

July 2026

President's Letter

My dear LAOH Sisters, as I write this article it is my 679th day of being your National President. It has truly been a privilege and an honor serving as your President. I have been so fortunate these last two years to go places representing the LAOH that I have never been to before, such as the FFAI trip to Ireland, the White House, and the National Observatory residence of US Vice President J.D Vance for breakfast on St. Patrick's Day where Sean Pender and I were introduced as "special guests" by VP Vance. Attendees included Ambassador Geraldine Byrne Nason, Taoiseach Michael Martin and his wife, There is a video on YouTube, contact me and I will gladly send you the link.

I received an invitation and attended the diaspora roundtable at the brand-new Embassy of Ireland in Washington DC on May 14 hosted by Minister of State for International Development and Diaspora, Neale Richmond TD. It was also supposed to showcase the good work done by ESP supported organizations in the USA, but I did not get a chance to speak about that. I did mention that Marilyn was working on establishing a LAOH Division at St. Mary's in South Bend.

Another new place for me was Schenectady for the fantastic 125th Anniversary of the LAOH there, some special events at the Ambassador's Residence, including St. Patrick's Day 2025 and 2026, Bloomsday 2026. You can read all about Bloomsday here: <https://www.ireland.ie/en/irish-literature/bloomsday/what-is-bloomsday/> I attended the 2024 Bloomsday with Marilyn.

I would like to thank my entire National Board for your cooperation. I will never forget the great Interim Board Meeting back in September 2025 and the fantastic Logistics Committee putting together and hosting my testimonial dinner, It was a beautiful Mass with Chaplain Bishop Schlert, and a wonderful dinner. Thank you to all who attended. I have really enjoyed the State Presidents' Zoom Meetings, attending your State Conventions, installing your Officers, meeting so many of you in person, and chatting with you on the phone.

My next big trip is to Omaha for our Constitution Convention and National Convention, another new place for me and the birthplace of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians! This also means that on July 18, you will have a brand new LAOH National President. I hope to see many of you in Omaha! Love,

Mary Ann Lubinsky

2024-2026 LAOH National President

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National Vice President

Sandy Swift

As I finish my term as your Vice President, I want to take a minute to say thank you to all my sisters for your support and friendship over the last two years. At the end of my term, I get the best job of announcing our winners of the Junior Hibernian and the St Brigid of Ireland awards.

First up is the Junior Hibernian of the year. This award is given biannually to a member of a junior division who is dedicated to service and leadership in her division. It is my honor to announce that Isabella from Ohio is the winner. Through enthusiasm, hard work and devotion to faith, family and Irish heritage, Isabella exemplifies the spirit of the Junior Division and serves as an inspiration to other juniors. Congratulations on this well-deserved honor!

Secondly is the St Brigid of Ireland award. I am proud to announce that Kim DePeaux, from NY, is the winner. Through her work in her division, church and community, she truly embodies the spirit in which St Brigid is known for. Congratulations, Kim.



National Secretary

Cathy Turck

Ladies,

As I am preparing to submit my last article to The Lady Hibernian Herald as your National Secretary, I find myself reflecting on the past two years. I recall being told by more than one Past National President, and others, that the National Secretary is the hardest Office on the National Board. I wasn't sure what they meant at the time. So, two years later as I sit here preparing for the National Convention, I understand what they meant. Many hours have been spent...nights, weekends, holidays. Whatever it took to get the job done. I hope you feel I have served you well. I have not been perfect, but I have worked hard and always pushed for what I thought was the best for the Order. I have held myself to a higher standard as I believe all members of the National Board should. I have tried to answer your questions, your emails and assisted you with whatever issue you brought my way. If I didn't know the answer, I researched and found it out for you. I have tried to be approachable to all levels of the LAOH, and I hope you come up to me in Omaha and say hi and tell me who you are so I can put a name to a face. I'd like to thank my friends for helping me get through the past 2 years. You know who you are. There is nothing like the power of our sisterhood and the strength of our friendships.

Go raibh maith agat

Constitution Convention Reminders

The Constitution Convention convenes on Tuesday July 13th at the Marriott in the Capital 1 room, at 9am sharp. You must have your credentials to attend. Lunch will be provided at 12:30 pm on Tuesday. Wednesday, we will reconvene at 9am. Breakfast will be available at 8am. Please remember to bring a copy of any documents or have them downloaded, as they will not be provided.

Story continued on next page

Constitution Committee continued

Please bring a beverage and a sweater as the rooms are usually cool.

If you are staying at the Marriott, please see the information below.

Marriott Complimentary Shuttle Service.

Guests can call the front desk at **402-807 8000** when they are ready to be picked up. Priority shuttle service goes to guests arriving and departing the airport.

The shuttle is marked with the *Marriott* logo. The Marriott shuttle offers service within a 3-mile radius of the hotel 7 days a week within the following timeframes:

Weekdays: 6:00 am to midnight

Weekends: 8:00 am to midnight

Note 1: Due to ongoing Eppley airport construction, the airport drop off/pickup areas are subject to change. There is plenty of signage to direct guests to appropriate airport pickup/drop off location.

Note 2: If you require a more consistent mode of transportation, we recommend reaching out to other transportation services. E.g., Lyft, Uber, or private transportation services.

The Marriott has an attached parking garage.

The 12th Street parking garage is available with direct access to the Marriott hotel via a 4th floor sky bridge. Valet service is available from the 10th Street entrance.

Valet: Overnight | \$32

Self-Parking: Overnight | \$18

USGAA

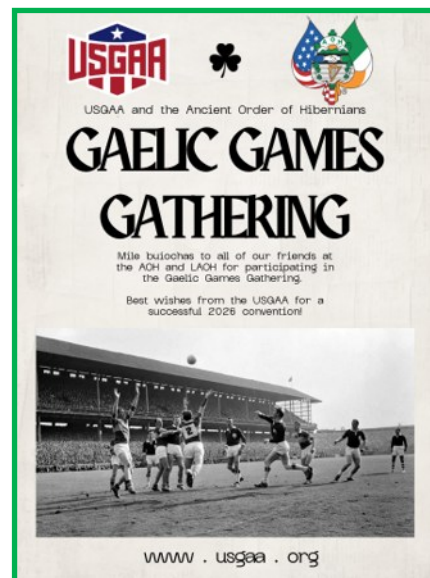
Since the start of the Gaelic football, hurling, and camogie season in the United States around St. Patrick's Day, things are well and truly underway for the U.S. Gaelic Athletic Association.

In 2026, there are a whopping 47 tournaments on the calendar around the country, where athletes from Junior D to Senior are taking to the field to celebrate Irish culture. These athletes have myriad ages, abilities, and cultural backgrounds, but are all

united by a love of the great Gaelic games.

While this is not the first year that the USGAA and the LAOH/AOH have had an active memorandum-of-understanding, the relationship between our organizations has reached new heights in 2026. Some Hibernian Herald readers may have had the chance to attend the Gaelic Games Gathering, a nationwide week and a half of shared sporting and cultural heritage.

The Gaelic Games Gathering took place across several cities in the U.S. last month, including Boston, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, and Raleigh, and saw AOH/LAOH members get the chance to build bridges between local chapters and the nearby USGAA clubs and have front-row access to thrilling football, hurling, and camogie fixtures.



In other exciting news, the AOH is continuing their fiscal sponsorship of the USGAA Men's Junior All-Ireland Gaelic Football team, who are returning to Ireland next month for a semi-final match. This team is a first-of-its-kind all-star selection that competes on the same level as the likes of London, New York, and Kilkenny for intercounty football glory. The players are all homegrown, American-born talent who represent the unshakeable connection between the sporting culture of Ireland

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USGAA Continued

and the drive to excellence inherent to Irish America.



These talented young men and their management team will be wearing the AOH logo proudly on their uniforms in recognition of the generous support that is vital to their sporting journey across the Atlantic.

Between the Men's Junior All-Ireland team, the inaugural Gaelic Games Gathering, and the USGAA Finals set for August 14-16 in Boston, this year is

proving to be one of the busiest ever for Gaelic games in America. The USGAA is grateful to have organizations like the LAOH/AOH and their members by our side as we continue to share our love for Irish sports and culture.

FFAI

Hello Sisters!

I was asked by a few sisters if I could provide a list of the FFAI recipients. I mailed the list out and then thought, this is something that the whole order should see. This past year we had a donation earmarked to a group that is not currently on our list. There is an application process that each group goes through so when deciding who you want your donation to go through please use the list. If there is a group you would like the chair to send an application to please do so before the end of the year. Here is our current list with a brief description, more information can be found on the web or that particular group's website.

- Bloody Sunday Trust-Operates the Museum of Free Derry and aids Bloody Sunday campaign.
- Bogside Artists-do political murals in Derry's Bogside, "the People's Gallery." This year they refused funds as they knew they wouldn't be able for health reasons to restore any murals. Previously they had restored 2 murals a year.
- Ballymurphy Massacre Campaign- campaigns for justice for the victims of the Ballymurphy Massacre.
- After their verdict came back that all family members were innocent they are now raising funds for a memorial garden.
- Duchas Oriall- Armagh/Dundalk-Promoting cross-border and heritage projects in South Armagh-North Louth.-Holy Cross Ardoyne Trust in North Belfast: Cross-community Centre on Crumlin Road. Support enables the group to continue the essential cross-community work, reconciliation and the

Story continued on next page

FFAI Continued

improvement of community relations within North Belfast through the Houben Centre Development Project.

-National Graves Association in Belfast: Support for the upkeep of Belfast republican graves and memorials.

-EALU -East Tyrone: Republican Ex-Prisoners group assisting in the needs of ex-prisoners and their families.

-Relatives for Justice in Belfast: Supports victims of State violence and collusion within a safe environment. Engage courts, request investigation, create awareness and provide information. They lobby Congress with AOH support.

-St. Patrick Centre: Located in County Down, near Saint Patrick's final resting place, this cross-community center is the only permanent exhibition in the world celebrating the life and relevance today of Ireland's Patron Saint.

-Green Cross in Belfast: Provides financial help and material assistance to bereaved families of the troubles.

-Greater New Lodge Republican Commemoration Committee: Provides support for republican ex-prisoners and maintains memorials in the New Lodge area of Belfast.

-Bridges Beyond Boxing: Cross-community boxing club in Belfast.

-Tyrone National Graves: Maintains republican memorials and patriot graves in Tyrone.

-Witness Project: Film project to research, document, and preserve personal narratives of events during the Troubles.

-Ardoyne Youth Club: offers targeted youth facilities and programs benefitting the young people in the Ardoyne community.

-O'Neill & Allsopp Memorial Flute Band: from Greater New Lodge Belfast, teaching young people Republican history through the playing and learning of music.

-Martin McGuinness Foundation: preserving legacy of Martin McGuinness Ireland's Future: working to achieve a successful vote for the reunification of Ireland.

-Eileen Hickey Irish Republican Museum: Located in Conway Mill the museum preserves and promote the history of the Republican Struggle for Irish Freedom.

-The Men's Shed: A place for women to meet and hold workshops in Derry.

-Ireland's Future; working to achieve a successful vote for the reunification of Ireland under terms of the Good Friday Agreement.

-Glor na Mona; Irish language school and workshops in Belfast.

-Survivors of Trauma; Operates Classes and workshops in Belfast helping those who have suffered from the Troubles.

In Motto,

Rita O'Hara

Natl FFAI Deputy Chair

Missions and Charities

Mary McNamee

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Missions & Charities and Appeals for Aid pre-convention meetings. Both meetings were successful and well attended. Thank you, Brianna, for being the secretary. Reports have been submitted to National Secretary Cathy Turck.

Fr Al from the Columban Fathers will be our guest speaker at general session on Friday. Fr Al along with Sister Corona will be our honored guests on Friday at the Irish Night dinner.

A welcome packet has been created for our Missions & Charities officers. It has been shared with our State M&C officers as well as State Presidents. This packet will also be shared in the national Website. Hopefully it will be a useful tool for our officers, helping them understand the position and having a successful term.

Thank you to everyone for your support over the last "two" years during my term. The donations you have made truly show how committed you all are to our national M&C charities. Thank you for all you do.

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NATIONAL CONVENTION

Kathie Linton

Let the countdown begin! The 103rd Biennial Convention will be here in just a few short weeks. The National Convention will be held at the Hilton Omaha, 1001 Cass Street, Omaha, Nebraska. Information regarding registration, hotel reservations, Degrees, journal ads, vendors, merchandise, scooter rentals, transportation needs, things to do, etc. can be found on the convention website: omahairish2026. If flying to Omaha, you will arrive at Eppley Airport. Exit the lower level of the airport and walk to the sidewalk located in the middle of the street. A Hilton Hotel round trip shuttle bus will pick you up there and take you the short distance to the hotel. The shuttle runs every half hour.

All LAOH meetings will be held in the Hilton Hotel. This is not to be confused with the National Constitution Convention that will be held in the Marriott Hotel that is located one block away from the Hilton in the Capital District on July 14 and 15. All AOH meetings will be held in the CHI Health Convention Center that is located across the street from the Hilton Omaha. The opening and closing Mass, Joint AOH/ LAOH meeting, Icebreaker, Irish Night and the Banquet will be held in the convention center. The LAOH meetings, registration, Degrees, Voting, daily Mass and Vendors will be located on the second floor of the hotel. Take the elevator to the second floor, turn right when exiting and then turn right again into the main corridor. Walk down the corridor and you will come upon the convention registration table. Walk a few steps further and you will come upon the Blackstone Ballroom, St. Nicholas room, breakout rooms, etc.

National Secretary, Cathy Turck will be a busy lady. As secretary, Cathy will have all the credential cards for distribution to the State Presidents. You will need a credential card for both the Constitution Convention and the National Convention. Cathy will make herself

available prior to the Constitution Convention for distribution and at the Hilton in the Prague Room at times to be determined by Cathy. Cathy is also in charge of the Traveling Degree team. The Degrees will be exemplified on Thursday morning at 11:00 a.m. in the St. Nicholas A and B rooms following the Joint AOH/LAOH meeting. Registration for the degrees will be held outside the St. Nicholas room at 10:30. Space is limited so if you are planning on receiving your Degrees or being an observer, it is imperative that you are pre-registered. The LAOH will have its official opening at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday in the Blackstone Ballroom.

Father Al of the Columban Fathers will be a keynote speaker at the LAOH meeting on Friday, July 17 at 4:00 p.m. If time permits, there will be a Workshop on Freedom for All Ireland and on Immigration and Social Justice. There will be other highlights at this convention. The Spirit of St. Brigid is partnering with an organization that is held near and dear to those in Omaha, Mater Filius Nebraska. This organization works with mothers who decide to keep their babies and need support. An Amazon baby account and a website for the purchase of t-shirts have been established. If you have not contributed yet, please consider doing so.

Happy 250th Birthday/Anniversary America! There will be a display located in the CHI Health Convention Center outside the Icebreaker, Irish Night and Banquet area celebrating the Irish contribution to America.

There will be a Basket Raffle fundraiser. All states are to bring their baskets to the Blackstone Ballroom for display and raffle ticket sales. Display tables will be set up along the perimeter of the room

If you are looking for something to do on Thursday, your free night, you may want to go on the excursion to the historic Boys Town. It is the home of Father Flanagan's legacy. The registration fee is \$50 per person. This price includes

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National Convention continued

transportation aboard an air-conditioned motor coach and admission to a guided tour. Space is limited and registration is required. For further details, see the convention website. Please keep in mind that both the Omaha Hilton and the Marriott Capital District and the Historic Old Market District are in the heart of downtown Omaha's entertainment, restaurant, and shops district. Lots to see and do!

Congratulation to Kim DePeaux, the recipient of the St. Brigid Humanitarian Award!
Congratulations to Isabella from Ohio, the Junior Hibernian of the Year! These ladies will be honored on Irish Night.

Just a couple of pointers. The Hilton Omaha is a cashless hotel. There is no exchange of money. You must use a credit card or debit card. If you do not have a credit card, you can pre-load credit to a card. The Hilton has a machine, something like an ATM machine, but instead of withdrawing money, you are inserting money and you will receive a card with credit. If you don't use all the money you put on the card, you can use this card anywhere. My famous last words. Ladies, bring a sweater. The meeting rooms may be a bit on the cool side for some of you!

Safe travel! See you all in beautiful Omaha!



The Spirit of Saint Brigid 2026 Update! A huge "THANK YOU!" to everyone who has made a purchased an item from the Amazon Baby Registry, a LAOH or AOH t-shirt, and/or a monetary donation for Mater Filius of Nebraska! We have received 503 shirts ordered, which

totals a donation of \$5,030.00 so far! You have until July 20th to place an order. We have also received 189 items on our list of 236 items. We are so close to having everything Mater Filius requested, please share both fundraising opportunities with your Division, County, State, family, and friends!

Just in case this is the first you are hearing about the Spirit of Saint Brigid Fundraiser. It is the National LAOH's biannual fundraiser where we show our support for the community who is hosting the National Convention. The local convention committee recommended Mater Filius and the National LAOH Board agreed they were a worthy organization! Mater Filius of Nebraska is a nonprofit, Catholic apostolate located in Omaha, NE committed to helping women facing an unexpected pregnancy who find themselves without housing or emotional support. They offer a tranquil home, assistance with healthcare appointments, transportation, spiritual care, nutritious, self-prepared meals, access to child enrichment and a path to independence. They acknowledge that families do better when they stay together! At Mater Filius of Nebraska, they Defend Life with Love!™

We will have two opportunities to support the Spirit of Saint Brigid this year. We are organizing a "Baby Shower" for the mothers and their children in need. The items will be shipped directly to the organization. By using the link, we will be able to record and share our impact for this amazing nonprofit! The link is: <https://www.amazon.com/baby-reg/laohspiritofstbrigid-formaterfilius-july-2026-omaha>

We will also have a T-shirt available for sale. Each shirt will be \$20 each. At this time, we only have the **Delivery** option available. If you order 5 or more shirts then shipping will be free! We will have \$10 of every shirt donated to Mater Filius.

Story continued on next page

Ordering link: https://go.fieldsprintwear.com/national_laoh_fundraiser/shop/home

If you have any questions, please email Brianna Curran at: LaohNationalCA@gmail.com

In Our Motto- Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity, Brianna Curran Catholic Action

Catholic Action Brianna Curran

Project Saint Patrick (PSP) is a national vocational grant program sponsored jointly by the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America, Inc. & Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Inc. We received 48 responses from PSP Grant Recipients. Their feedback was very helpful in understanding their needs and also remembering the importance of supporting the PSP Fund. A few of the repossess were:

“This grant will help to cover costs associated with ordination and first Mass.”;

“For me, one of the big purchases this grant will help me with is my alb. As you probably know, this is the white robe-like garment the priest puts on for mass underneath his stole and chasuble.”;

“Receiving the Project Saint Patrick Grant allows me to focus more deeply on my seminary formation than my financial situation. Now, I do not need to worry about having enough financial provisions”;

“The money that has been given to me through this award will be used to cover the textbook expenses for this coming semester.”;

“I will be using the grant to pay for my car expenses related to my deacon synthesis assignment.”;

“This is my first year in seminary, and have come straight from High School, so I am

living and praying at the seminary(above), while taking classes at Providence College near by. I would not be able to continue this journey without scholarships and financial aid, and am very grateful for your help in my discernment.”

You can make a donation to the PSP Fund by submitting a check to the National LAOH Catholic Action Officer. The check should be made out to the LAOH, Inc with PSP Donation in the memo. You can also raise funds by requesting PSP Cards. We mail packs of 5 or 10 cards at no cost to the membership. We ask your division to submit a \$10.00 donation for each card that is used. If you have any questions, please email Brianna Curran at LAOHnationalCA@gmail.com.

Past National President Carol Sheyer

The Young Ambassador Program is run by the Saint Patrick Centre in County Down to create a network of informed and influential young individuals throughout States with specialist knowledge and links to the northern part of Ireland.

The LAOH are fortunate to be able to partner with the Saint Patrick Centre to develop our own Young Ambassadors through this program who will gain a love and knowledge of Ireland and bring it back to help grow our organization – particularly amongst young members – and develop future LAOH leaders. Northern Ireland provides an incredibly diverse platform to learn about many social and cultural aspects of contemporary and historical life in Ireland.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity open to any LAOH member in good standing, ages 19 to 25, who wish to deepen their understanding in Irish history, culture and heritage while proudly representing the LAOH. The program takes place the first two weeks of June. This year, 2026, the

Story continued on next page

Young Ambassador continued

LAOH were able to sponsor two members, Shannon Dillion, from New York and Molly McKenna, from Pennsylvania.

Applications for the 2027 Young Ambassador Program will be accepted from December, 2026 to March 17, 2027. Once the applications period opens, the State Presidents will be notified so they can forward the information to the membership in their State.

State News

Missouri

The LAOH St. Patrick's Division of St. Charles, MO attended Ash Wednesday Services at St. Patrick's Church in Wentzville, MO.

A photo with St. Patrick himself!



Left to Right-Kathy Harkins, Lindsey Gintz, Stacy Burton, Mary Clarkson

A photo in the grotto honoring The Blessed Mother



The St. Patrick's LAOH division of St. Charles, Missouri and National Vice President Sandi Swift attended a mass for St. Patrick at the St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church and Division President Stacy Burton was asked to post the Irish flag.



Left to right: Division President Stacy Burton, Vice President Susan Breth, Historian Lindsey Gintz, National Vice President Sandi Swift, Missions and Charities Mary Clarkson, Treasurer Donna Tevlin.



St. Patrick's LAOH division of St. Charles, Missouri President Stacy Burton posts the Irish Flag

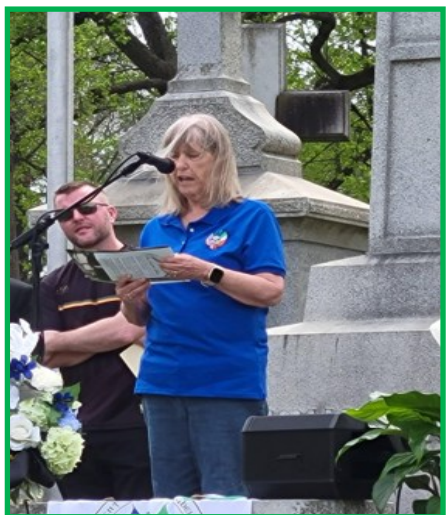
The Easter Uprising was an armed insurrection launched by Irish republicans in Dublin during Easter week of 1916, aiming to end British rule in Ireland and establish an Irish republic. It began on Easter Monday April 24, 1916 and lasted for six days, ending on April 29, 1916. While the rebellion was swiftly suppressed by the British army, it's remembered as a pivotal event in the struggle for the Irish independence.

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State News continued– Missouri



On 04/12/2016 at Calvary Cemetery & Mausoleum
5239 W Florissant Ave, St. Louis, MO 63115
LAOH State of Missouri Board Members-Irish Historian Stacy Burton and Catholic Action Donna Tevlin presented biographies of Women in the Uprising.



St. Charles Missouri-St. Patrick's Division 1 at Missouri River Irish Fest

State of Missouri Irish State Historian Stacy Burton gives a speech on "Bad Bridgets-Irish Immigrant Female Criminals" for Irish Culture, greets the Inishowen An Garda Siochana and hangs out with the Irish Wolfhounds!



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State News Continued– Missouri

Mary Clarkson, Catholic Action Officer coordinated a wonderful performance by the Clarkson School of Dance!



Jones, Mary Kate Werner, Lynn Walsh, Ellen Perry, Mary Kay Sears, Danielle Ketch. Kathy Rude, Alice McDermott, Sara McCormack, Nancy Butler, Kristin Keenan Krowiak, Dorothea Crowley and Anne McTavish.



2026 Scranton Parade Day

The Ladies of Lackawanna County Scranton PA proudly marched in the 64th annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade held Saturday March 14th.



Pennsylvania

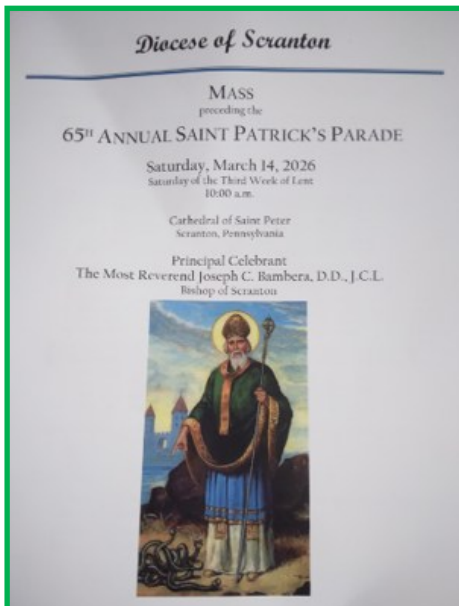
March 1st was a great day for the LAOH of Lackawanna County. Sisters proudly gathered for the annual raising of the Irish flag at Courthouse Square in Scranton PA. Those members in attendance were Nancy McAndrew Yavoroski, Gennette Rotherforth, Mary Anne McAndrew, Patty

Story continued on next page

State News Continued– Pennsylvania



The LAOH Sisters of Lackawanna County pose for a photo before processing into the Cathedral of Saint Peter for Mass prior to marching in the 65th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in Scranton.



Lackawanna County, Scranton, PA – Alice McDermott, LAOH County Board President, led a community outreach initiative to collect backpacks, duffle bags, luggage, and other essentials for the

Catherine McCauley Center in Scranton. These items will be provided to children entering foster care, offering them a sense of dignity by allowing them to carry their belongings in proper bags instead of garbage bags.



Pictured front and center Alice McDermott.

LAOH Sister's standing left to right; Kris Krowiak, Kate Schneider, Danielle Ketch, Doreen Gilbride and Nancy Yavoroski.

The Philadelphia Tara Degree Team conferred the Major Degrees of the LAOH on July 19, 2025, in Scranton, Pennsylvania. The candidates who participated in the ceremony were Danielle Ketch, Margaret Hynosky, Mary Ellen Richard, Erin Kologe, Barbara Sweeney, Cathy Dougher, and Maggie Tucker.



Story continued on next page

State News continued– Pennsylvania

Division 4, Lackawanna County, Scranton PA started off their day attending Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter, followed by marching in the 65th annual St Patrick's Day Parade.



Kentucky

The St. Patrick's Day season in the Cincinnati area began with the Annual AOH/LAOH Memorial Mass, the Stealing of the Statue, and a mini parade on February 15, 2026, at the Church of the Immaculata. Division President Natalie Peterinelli, along with Hamilton County Division #1 AOH Vice President John St. George, read the names of our dearly departed Brother and Sister Hibernians.

The following Sunday, February 22, 2026, the Division Officers were installed by Past National President Carol Sheyer. This installation was rescheduled from January due to inclement weather.

March kicked off with the Cincinnati Area LAOH/AOH Joint Meeting at the Irish Heritage Center of Greater Cincinnati. The meeting was lively and concluded with the Center's weekly Pub Night.

On March 12, 2026, the LAOH attended the Annual St. Patrick's Day Mass held at the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, which was attended by members of other Irish organizations in the Cincinnati area.

At noon on March 14, the Cincinnati St. Patrick's Day parade commenced on Mehring Way. Many ladies and friends of the LAOH either walked or rode along the parade route.

The final event on the division's schedule took place on March 17. Members of the LAOH and AOH attended the 12:05 PM Mass at Mother of God Church, with the intention of the Mass being for the deceased members of the LAOH. Following Mass, members gathered for a luncheon at the Greyhound Tavern.

It was a joyful season shared among the membership, and now it's time to start planning for next year!



Story continued on next page

State News Continued– Kentucky



President Peterinelli read the names of the deceased LAOH members.



Members of the Boone County Division #1 with members of the Hamilton County Division #1 AOH enjoying the Annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon following mass.



The newly installed Division Officers with Past National President Carol Sheyer.



Members and friends of the Boone Division #1 posed for a photo ahead of the Cincinnati St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 14.



Beth Favier (KY LAOH State Irish Historian) and husband, John (AOH Division President) celebrating at the Wearing of the Green.

The Thursday before parade day, the Blessing and Tapping of the Keg takes place at sponsors: Goodwood Brewery and O'Shea's Irish Pub. Goodwood ages its very own special beer in a

Story continued on next page

State News Continued– Kentucky

bourbon barrel for a year. AOH and LAOH Chaplain, Fr. Gary Padgett blesses all present for a safe and joyous St. Patrick's Day celebration and blesses the beer made from the hands of master distillers. The annual St. Patrick's Day Parade began with 12:00 mass at St. Brigid Parish, Awards, followed by the parade at 3:00, March 14, 2026. Below are members of LAOH and AOH after mass.

LAOH Division Catholic Action Officer, Theresa McClinton received 2026 Spirit of St. Brigid award. She has been a long-time member who has taught children in the catholic school system for over 40 years, contributes extensively to LAOH and truly lives by our motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity. Congratulations Theresa!



LAOH and AOH stand together on the steps of St. Brigid Parish after mass on March 14, 2026

Division President, Megan Bennett introduces the Parade Day Hibernian Princesses: Junior Division members and future LAOH members assist with programs at the mass, celebrate mass with the

Hibernians and enjoy the parade with LAOH. Division President, Megan Bennett introduces the 2026 Hibernian Princesses.



Members of the LAOH prepare to step off at 3:00 p.m., March 14th for the Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. Louisville welcomed over 100,000 attendees as we celebrated our Irish Heritage and enjoyed a beautiful day with the community.



Mother Catherine McAuley Division, Louisville, KY prepares seasonal baskets and treats for the residents of Fr. Maloney's Boys and Girl's Haven, one of its local charities. LAOH prepared over 40 Easter baskets for the children who are residents.

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State News continued– Kentucky



Photographed are from left to right: Megan Bennett (Division President), Granddaughter of Mary Ann Fages, Mary Ann Fages (State LAOH Treasurer and Division Financial Secretary), Tricia Noll (Division Member).



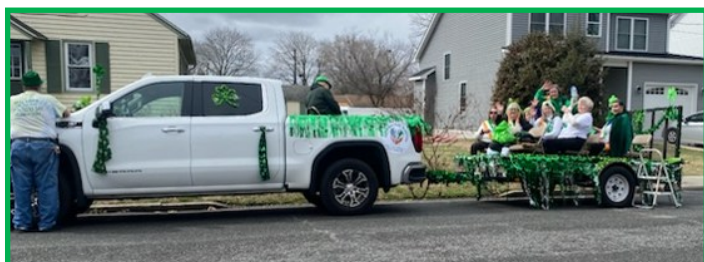
Teri Reilly, President of LAOH, Mary Cappelli Past President, Kim Kelly State Officer, Maryann Wasserman, Kevin Cunnigan, Tom Firestone our own leprechaun.

Delaware

Here are new Photos from our Division
Sussex County Div 1. St. Patrick's Day Party
and Parade, Milton, Delaware.



Kimberly Kelly our very own mascot

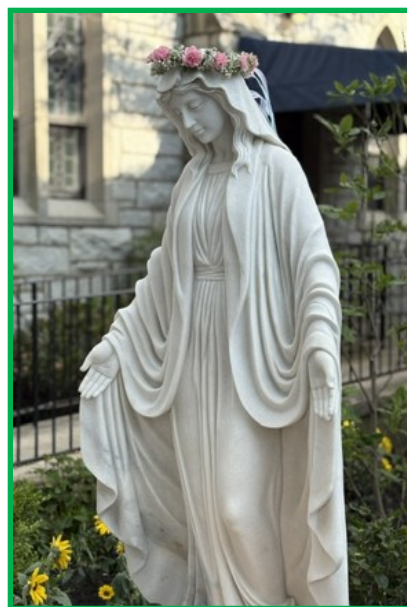


Story continued on next page

State News Continued– Delaware

Pictures from our Mary Crowning at St. Edmond's Catholic Church Grotto, Rehoboth Beach, DE. Denise Boswell, our first President, crowned Mary with 33 members in attendance. We sang, said the rosary, and burned our prayer intentions. Fr. Emmanuel, our associate pastor, is from Ghana and in his country they burn incense when they have prayer intentions.

It was a beautiful evening. It was followed by dinner to begin our summer recess.



Story continued on next page

State News Continued– Delaware

Robert Tierney, Head of Operations and Games Development USGAA recently sent out a communication regarding the formalized partnership through Memorandums of Understanding between LAOH and AOH. He encouraged these organizations to connect with local GAA clubs and participate in these events.

Looking to meet this challenge, LAOH DE State President Stella Carrigan is pleased to announce that LAOH DE State Vice-President Kathi Twohig Hamelin was appointed the LAOH DE State -GAA Liaison. Kathi has shown commitment and dedication both by her role in establishing the Wilmington Fenians and promoting GAA activities in Delaware and the surrounding area. She is honored and proud to bring the Gaelic Athletic Association to Delaware's Irish population and the community at large. Kathi's enthusiasm is contagious.

When asked what inspired her connection to GAA, Kathi replied: "What draws me to the GAA? Integrity and commitment. The athletes are not paid; they play for the pride of their counties. Players aspire to be the best so they can compete in All-Ireland matches, not to earn millions. GAA clubs are the cultural heartbeat of Ireland. More than just sporting organizations, they are volunteer-driven community pillars that bind parishes and towns together, preserving native heritage, language, and national identity. Gaelic football has ancient roots, having been played for decades. During the most difficult times in its history, GAA clubs serve as a beacon of light and hope for the historically mistreated Nationalist community."

Kathi goes on to state: "In full disclosure, I am the least athletic person I know. I do not like sports at all. But Irish Football/Hurling/Camogie is a different story. I simply cannot get enough of it! Every year for about 6 years I would call around to the local Irish pubs to see if they would be streaming the All-Ireland Final match which takes place at Croke Park in Dublin in August. No pubs in DE knew what I was talking about. For 2 years I

drove to Philadelphia to watch the matches at Paddy Rooney's or Tír na nÓg. Finally I purchased an annual subscription to GAA+ and can now watch it from home."

Philadelphia hosted a Gaelic Games Gathering on Sunday, June 7, 2026 in Pottstown, PA. Members of Tri-State AOH and LAOH attended.



Members of Gaelic4Mothers&Others with DE LAOH State Vice-President Kathi Twohig Hamelin, PA LAOH Immigration and Education, DE State President Stella Carrigan



L->R: Members of AOH and LAOH at the Gaelic Games Gathering

Front Row Pat Heron, AOH Div 5. Back Row Liz Kerr, Pearse Kerr, Gerry McHale, Kathi Twohig Hamelin, Stella Carrigan, Deirdre O'Connell, Maureen Cooper

Story continued on next page

State News Continued– Delaware

The Wilmington Fenians Story

In 2023, the Irish Culture Club of Delaware (ICCD) sponsored its very first Gaelic Football Tournament. It was held on Sunday March 25th, 2023, a few weeks prior to Easter. Kathi Twohig Hamelin was the LAOH DE State President at the time but also a board member of the Irish Culture Club of Delaware (ICCD) very excitedly raised my hand to assist in organizing and running the event. In 2024, the ICCD sponsored its second Gaelic Football Tournament, and the idea of creating a Gaelic Football team in Delaware was born.

She became immediately and intimately involved with the formation of the team. From forming the corporation, applying for the tax ID number, to filing for the 501(C)(3) status, Kathi worked to birth the club into existence. From there it was all about sharing, educating and inviting people to be a part of the first Gaelic Football team in the First State.

This commitment has proven worthwhile. The inaugural year for the Wilmington Fenians Gaelic Athletic Club (GAC) was 2025. In 2025 the WF had their first player, an 8-year-old boy from Wilmington. He is fondly called the “Original Fenian.” He loved the game and was absolutely thrilled to join. Due to the fact Wilmington did not have an official team, this athlete was invited to play with already established Gaelic clubs in Delaware County, PA. This year, 2026, there are 10 Fenians, ranging in age from 6 through 12, both boys and girls. The Wilmington Fenians fielded their first team of under 10 years of age (u10) players at the 3rd Philadelphia Youth League Tournament on Saturday June 13, 2026!



Wilmington Fenians

South Carolina

"A spirit of renewal and tradition came together in Columbia as the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians (LAOH) of South Carolina welcomed the formation of a new division.

Inspired by the sentiment, “And suddenly you know it’s time to start something new and trust in the magic of new beginnings,” a group of Irish Catholic women in the Columbia area has established LAOH Division 1, St. Moninne. The new division reflects both commitment to heritage and a dedication to service within the community.

The new Division was instituted and installed its officers May 2 at Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Church in Columbia. The ceremony was presided over by the state president, with members from the Myrtle Beach Division and the president of the Bluffton Division in attendance to offer their support and encouragement.

The organization continues to uphold its longstanding motto: Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity."



Story continued on next page

State News Continued

Massachusetts

Congratulations to Division 36 member Beth Keenan on winning their Quiet Hero Award

Congratulations to Debby Heglund on winning Division 36's Judy Wilkerson Award. Debby Heglund has been an active member of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians since January 1995. She serves on the Worcester Hibernian Cultural Center Board, Special Events Committee (SEC), which raises funds to support the organization and make contributions to community groups. In addition, Debby is an Events Coordinator at the Worcester Hibernian Cultural Center, where she works closely with guests to plan and reserve one of the Center's three event spaces for their special occasions.

Division 10's own Kathleen Savage joined her LAOH sisters and AOH brothers on their recent trip to Northern Ireland.



Division 8 Lawrence LAOH presented their highest owner of Irish Woman of the Year to Ellen McGuigan, a most deserving member. Here she is getting ready to walk in the St. Patrick's Day Parade with her husband, Dave, son, Sean and grandson, Ethan.



LAOH Anne-Marie Nyhan Doherty, AOH Brother Billy Sullivan and Lawrence Mayor Brian DePena

Rhode Island

We began the month of February by joining the Newport Ladies in celebrating Mass in honor of St. Brigid's Day. Following the Mass, we enjoyed a lovely dinner filled with laughter and fellowship. Sister Kathy Greenwell led a class on making St.

Story continued on next page

State News Continued– Rhode Island

Brigid's crosses, with members of the Ceilidhe Club of RI joining us for the crafting.

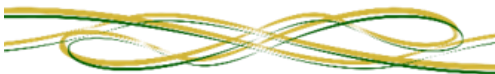
Before long, St. Patrick's season was upon us. On a brisk March 15, the Benz Ladies joined Newport to attend Mass and march in their historic parade. Several of our members spent March 17 volunteering at the Ceilidhe Club, making for a truly fun-filled day. On March 21, our LAOH was out in full force for the Providence St. Patrick's Day Parade, joined by Ellen Ryan Jolly's granddaughter, Jacqueline.

Mary Scannell, LAOH Treasurer, and Marie Magee, FFAI Chair, traveled to Mystic, Connecticut on March 22 to participate in local events. Sister Kathy and Marie also presented their interpretation of Grace Gifford Plunkett to the Westerly Irish Coastal Club. We are deeply grateful to the club for their generous donations to support the homeless and formerly homeless in Rhode Island.

On April 19, we gathered in the Benz Ladies' basement to organize another substantial donation for the homeless in Rhode Island—an effort that was greatly appreciated. Our Membership Appreciation Dinner was held at the Ceilidhe Club, where a wonderful time was had by all. We are pleased to share that Sara Benz continues in her role as Recording Secretary.

We are now all lending a hand in preparation for the Ceilidhe Club's 70th Anniversary Celebration on June 27, featuring music from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. This special event will serve as a fundraiser to help offset significant expenses.

Finally, we ask for prayers for our sister, Ann McCarthy, who is recovering at home from a sprained wrist, with her beloved kitty, Henry, by her side.



Clare Barrett, Sara Benz, Eileen Benz, Maureen Benz, Marie Magee



Sister Kathy Greenwell led a class on making St. Brigid's crosses, with members of the Ceilidhe Club of RI joining us for the crafting.



March 21 Providence St. Patrick's Parade

Story continued on next page

State News Continued– Rhode Island



March 21 Providence St. Patrick's Parade with Jacqueline



March 22 Mary Scannell, LAOH Treasurer, and Marie Magee, FFAI Chair, traveled to Mystic, Connecticut and participated in that parade



Ann and Henry

On Saturday, June 27, sisters from the Providence and Newport Divisions of the Rhode Island Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians gathered to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the Irish Ceilidhe Club. The day was a joyful expression of our shared Irish heritage, filled with traditional music, lively dancing, delicious food, and the warm fellowship that lies at the heart of Hibernian life. The RI Division's organized two successful fundraisers this spring to cover the costs for Rhode Island State President, Maureen Benz and State Historian, Sara Benz as they represent Rhode Island at the upcoming LAOH National Convention in July. The winners were announced today.

The first fundraiser featured a gift card basket made possible through the generosity of our members and local businesses. Providence sister Kathleen Greenwell was the fortunate winner of the raffle.

The second fundraiser showcased a beautiful handmade quilt, lovingly donated by another Providence member. What began as a silent auction soon blossomed into lively and spirited bidding, generating funds beyond the original goal. The successful bidders, Jeanette and Jim Clark, were delighted with their winning bid and pleased to support the celebration.

The Newport Division joined wholeheartedly in the anniversary festivities, demonstrating once again the enduring bonds of sisterhood that unite Hibernians across Rhode Island. Together, we continue to preserve and celebrate our Irish culture while supporting one another through service and fellowship.

Jenny,
Eileen Benz,
Sara Benz



Story continued on next page

State News Continued– Rhode Island



Left to right: LAOH member Denise Mitchell, with winners, Jeanette and Jim Clarke. Maureen Benz and Eileen Benz



Kathy Greenwell, gift basket winner and organizing committee member

Louisiana

Happy Birthday to the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Margaret Haughery Division, New Orleans, Louisiana. Members gathered on Sunday, May 24, 2026, at the home of our President, Liz Rafferty, for our regular meeting and to celebrate 35 years of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity.

Our Charter was issued on May 21, 1991, and after 35 years, we are happy to say we are still going strong!

We currently have four (4) active members who have been with us since 1991. One (1) of these members, Ms. Nora Lambert, has her name on the original Charter as a Division Officer and still proudly serves as our Irish Historian. We are proud of these ladies who have been with us all these years.

After our business meeting concluded, we enjoyed a Pot Luck Lunch with a beautiful Birthday Cake for dessert. Congratulations to the Margaret Haughery Division!!!



Michigan

With flowers blooming and shamrocks nodding the **McAuley Division** has been busy with celebrating the LAOH motto of Friendship, Unity and True Christian Charity in all we do.

On March 15th our Division proudly Marched in the 68th Detroit St. Patrick's Parade. "Celebrating Irish Culture and Traditions".

On St. Patrick's Day we gathered for Mass at the A.O. H. Hall. Followed by a daylong celebration of St. Patrick.

Story continued on next page

State News Continued– Michigan

We all became artist at one of our popular events “Paint & Pizza” party & luncheon. Tricia Coughlin and Margaret Wright did an excellent job in organizing this sold out event.

We are having our “May Crowning” at our meeting. Thanks to Mary Quinley and Peggy Gray for chairing.

Also, at our May meeting we will be having a “Baby Shower” to benefit the Guadalupe Center for Mothers. Patrick Cummings, One of the Center’s directors will be speaking to our ladies. Our ladies will be bringing diapers, wipes and other baby items for Patrick to take to the Guadalupe Center. We will be enjoying a Baby Shower cake.

With the Motor City Irish Festival coming up soon the McAuley sisters are very busy with volunteering. Peggy Gray is the Director of the “Children’s Tent”. She staffs the tent and creates a wonderful atmosphere for the children to learn of the Irish heritage. Crafts, dance lessons, magicians are just a few of the activities provided.

McAuley Division is hosting the “Tea Room” at the St Patrick’s Senior Center festival. Chaired by Anne Doulette, the McAuley sisters donated and sold baked goods, coffee, tea and hot chocolate in the “Tea Room”. A wonderful opportunity to help St. Patrick’s Senior Center in Detroit.

Our Division is looking forward to enjoying summer with festivals and picnics!



In November, the **Ethel Kennedy Division** helped organize and worked at the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick’s 85th Anniversary Luncheon. As you can see, our division also helps and works with other organizations in their charitable endeavors.

Our division meet at a K of C hall, and their men had a coat drive for needy children. They asked us if we could donate hats to go with the coats, and they were able to procure several hundred coats. We surprised them by not only donating hats but also gloves to go with the hats.

We held our Christmas Lunch on December 6th at the Gazebo Banquet Center. I was presented with a beautiful Celtic necklace, and a piece of Belleek of the Giant’s Causeway, a favorite place of mine in Antrim, Northern Ireland. We also had door prizes and a small gift for everyone. Good food, good friends, what else would you want?



Due to so many families in need and finding it difficult to feed their families, one of our sisters suggested that we do a food drive at our Christmas Lunch, and this was very short notice. My sisters did not hesitate, they outdid themselves with their donations, and we donated all the food to the food pantry at a local church, St. Mary’s, Our Lady Queen of Families, in Center Line.

Story continued on next page

State News Continued– Michigan

We at **Sr Annette Byrne** division began our year with our Inaugural "Maiden of Ireland" Contest. A lovely girl was chosen - **Adelyn McNamara** from Rockford, who will represent our Division at different events throughout the year. Such as the St. Patrick's Day Parade, Memorial Day Mass and Brunch, and Our Lady of Knock Mass and Celebration.



In March, we had our Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. We collaborated with the Men's AOH Division and ended the parade at our first Children's Tent! We hosted activities for kids in coordination with the Grand Rapids Children's Museum. We also invited an Irish Sessions Band and Irish Step Dancers in the tent, as well as a young lady who sang the Irish National Anthem! A grand time was had by all!



This Spring at a local restaurant chain, we hosted one of our fundraisers for St. Gianna's Baby Boutique, a "no cost" baby pantry. We raised over \$725.00. We have another one planned for the fall. Our Irish Historian has put together a beautiful photo directory of The Ladies of Sr. Annette Byrne Division of LAOH. She has compiled a photo, address, email, and phone number of each member for easy access to those you may wish to contact from our group easily. A Scrapbook Committee was also formed to update our LAOH photo albums during the summer. At our April meeting we went over our budget and expenses, so we are all aware of where our money comes from and how it is spent. We voted to add a regular monthly meeting in August, as we usually have the summer months off from regular meetings. Fall will be busy for us so we thought we should get a jump start to our Fall events. We are planning our annual Memorial Mass and Brunch for the last Sunday in May. It is a beautiful way to pray and honor our members who have passed and connect and enjoy the company of our LAOH friends.

Story continued on next page

State News Continued– Michigan

Fun was had by all in the **Sarah Regan Division** at the Pinckney St. Patrick's Day Parade, Mary Killeen & myself (Ann Lezotte) represented our Division in great spirit! Nice turnout for a cold day. Looking forward to summer activities, Irish Festivals and fellowship.



Club and the GAA we hosted Guest Speaker Andree Murphy from Ireland's Future and Relatives For Justice.



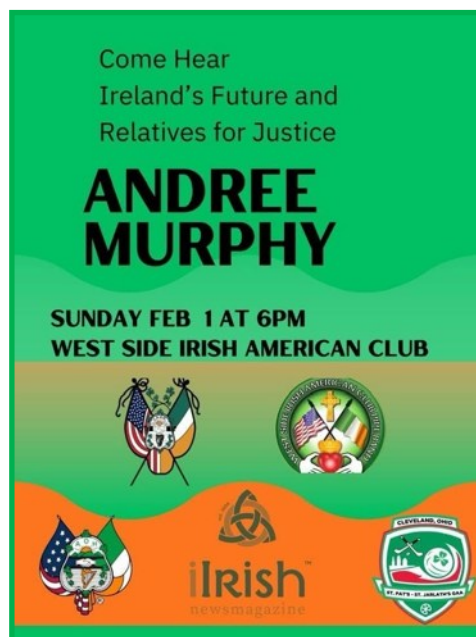
Ohio

The Ladies of Ancient Order of Hibernians, Our Lady of the Rosary 5 & 10 celebrated Christmas with Mass and the Swearing in of our Officers followed by dinner and our annual White Elephant gift exchange, we were blessed to have our Ohio State President, Cindee Case join us. On January 11th a group of the Ladies were on the Gerry Quinn Irish Radio Program promoting our upcoming St. Brigid & St. Patrick Event. On January 31st along with the AOH Boland Berry Brothers we kicked off the Irish Season as we celebrated St. Brigid and St. Patrick and the Honorees of the St. Patrick's Day Parade including The Hibernian of the year Maire Manning (Our Lady of the Rosary 5&10), Grand Marshal Tom Mackin, Mother of the Year Midge Gannon, Inside Co Chair Donna Leary (Our Lady of the Rosary 5&10) and Outside Co Chair Bob Crawford. On Feb 1st along with the Westside Irish American



Story continued on next page

State News Continued– Ohio



Story continued on next page

State News Continued– Ohio

Ohio LAOH opened our spring board meeting celebrating April showers. The April shower took the form of a baby shower supporting families in the Akron, Ohio area. The donation table overflowed with generous supplies and monetary contributions. A raffle for a diaper cake was held; the winner donated the prize to the Highland's new mom-to-be. There were pink and blue decorations adorning the meeting hall and a luncheon was held with the baby shower theme in mind.



“Let the Shenanigans Begin!” diaper cake surrounded by donated items for baby shower.

As the meeting progressed, Ohio Historian Colleen Griffin announced the Ohio Essay winners for the state of Ohio. Division Historians and Division Presidents submitted nine essays to the national contest. State winners L1 (middle school) 1st place Emma B, Margaret Judge division, 2nd place Liam H, Countess de Markievicz division, and 3rd place Rylee H, Countess de Markievicz division. L2 (high school) 1st place Isabella I, Margaret Judge division, 2nd place Maeve L, Daughters of the Rosary division, 3rd place Savannah G, Countess de Markievicz division. Judges were Marilyn Madigan (Ladies of the Rosary division), Nona McGuire (Countess de Markievicz division), and Clayton White (OSU History BA from Columbus, Ohio). Colleen Griffin communicated the results of the National History contest to the Ohio participants, Division Historians, and Division Presidents.



Ohio State President Cindee Case, National Level 1 third place winner Emma B, National Level 2 first place winner, Isabella I., Ohio State Historian Colleen Griffin and Summit #1 Division Historian Erin Sudomir pose after presenting awards from division, state and national levels of the Essay Contest.

Ohio LAOH is looking forward to the National convention in Omaha!



Story continued on next page

State News Continued– Ohio



Akron Camogie Team sponsored by the Ohio State Board



Lucas County Division #1 LAOH baby shower for Heart Beat.

Lucas County Celebrated Sr. Ann McManus' 70th Jubilee Anniversary! Sr. Ann is the Chaplain for the Mother McAuley Division in Lucas County and a charter member of our division!



Savanah with her parents on each side, and Mary Driscoll, President of Countess de Markievicz Division



1st row – Sr. Ann McManus, 2nd row, Linda Reitzel, Ann Dollman, Mary Pat Riker, Tricia Cassidy, Matt Cassidy, 3rd row Patty Carmean, Eileen Durham

On the Northwest side of the state Ohio, the Lucas County ladies were inspired to hold a baby shower for Heart Beat of Northwest Ohio.

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State News Continued– Ohio



Toledo, Lucas County is bringing back the summer event celebrating our heritage!

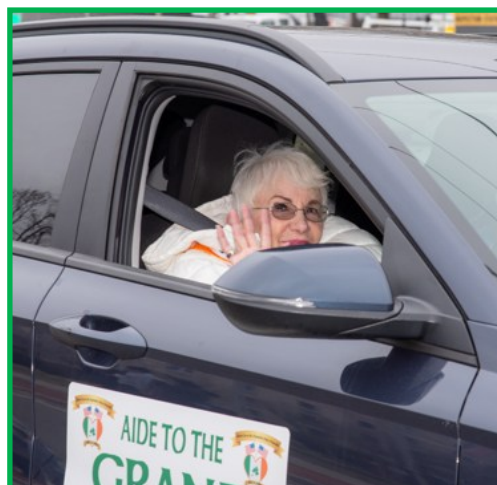
Summer Irish Festivals are in full swing across the state of Ohio! We love sharing and celebrating our heritage!



Lynette Mullin treasurer and Past President Nicky Parks-Norris processing in at the Riverfront Irish Festival

New York

LAOH Division 8 in the Hibernian St. Patrick's Parade on March 22 in Glen Cove, Nassau County, Long Island. Two of the Aides to John Cronin, the Grand Marshal, are LAOH members: Eileen Flanagan Petrucci and Marianne Fleischer.



Marianne Fleischer



Eileen Flanagan Petrucci

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State News Continued– New York

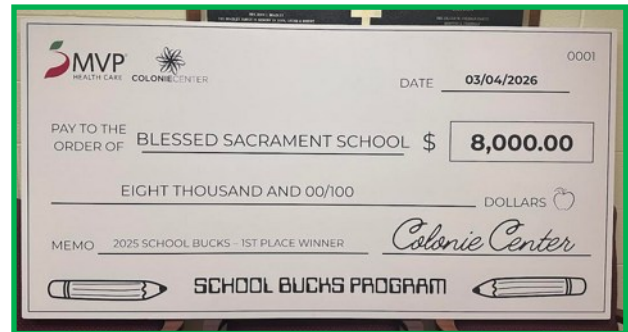


The Ladies of the Albany JFK Division 1 began 2026 with prayers for peace in this world. In February, we held our annual St. Brigid's Mass and Brunch with a great turnout from our AOH brothers, family, and friends.



Albany AOH President Joe Kennedy, Albany Junior LAOH President Nina, and Albany LAOH President Karen Keane at the Albany 2026 St. Brigid's Brunch

Our Missions and Charities Chair Ann Marie Calabrese was hard at work collecting receipts to support our local Blessed Sacrament Catholic School in a program led by a local mall. Due in part to our efforts, the school won the contest and was awarded \$8,000 for the second year in a row.



The Albany LAOH Junior Division are working hard and successfully participated in meaningful volunteer events so far this year. They participated in a community activity with the Women's Club of Albany, making Valentines Day cards for residents of Shaker Place Nursing Home and Damien House. Great job girls!

March was full of St. Patrick's Day celebrations in Albany. Our members kicked off our parade day with a morning mass, followed by a march down the Avenue and celebrations at our local hall.



Albany LAOH Division 1 Members at the 2026 Albany St. Patrick's Day Parade

Story continued on next page

State News Continued– New York

On April 25th the Albany Division celebrated our 113th Anniversary with a Dinner Celebration. Our sisters Denise Prinzo and Sheila Ellis were named name “Lady Hibernians of the Year” (HOTYs) and several Sisters were recognized for their years of membership and charitable service.



Denise Prinzo and Sheila Ellis – 2026 Ladies Hibernians of the Year

At our May Division meeting, several sisters were acknowledged with Silver Certificates for their 25 years of membership: Ginny Daley, Chris Coonrad, Christine Leonard, Ellen Brown, and Eileen Batholomew.



Virginia “Ginny” Daley



Chris Coonrad

Also in May, LAOH Sisters and Junior Division members joined our Albany AOH brothers to volunteer at the Regional Food Bank.



Albany LOAH, Junior LAOH, and AOH Members Volunteer at Regional Food Bank

The Schenectady LAOH and AOH members attended a mass at St. Luke’s Church for the Feast of St. Brigid and then shared a lunch back at the Hibernian Hall.



Story continued on next page

State News continued– New York

St. Patrick's Day was celebrated at the Schenectady Hibernian Hall with family fun. Entertainment by Sean Quinn in the Pub, Erin's Tide band, Capital District United Pipe Band, and the Farrell School of Irish Dance performed in the main hall.

There were also many raffle baskets and a bake sale. This day would not have happened without our dedicated volunteers prepping and working for St. Patrick's day to be a fun-filled day for all.



The 2025 Irish History Writing Contest was completed in October 2025. The Schenectady LAOH received over 25 entries from Notre Dame Bishop Gibbons School in Schenectady. This year's topic was "How the Irish affected the outcome of the American Revolution."

From those entries, three winners were selected.

Kailey, grade 11, First Place

Irene, grade 10, Second Place

Karsten, grade 10, Third Place

The winners and their families were invited to the LAOH meeting on Friday, February 13, 2026, to read their essays and accept their cash prizes.

The Schenectady LAOH JFK Division celebrated their 125th anniversary with an Emerald Gala featuring many distinguished guests. The day started with mass presided over by the Bishop of Albany Mark O'Connell. These guests included National LAOH President Mary Ann Lubinsky, National AOH Vice President Liam McNabb, Her Excellency, the Irish Ambassador, Geraldine Byrne Nason, many NYS and Schenectady politicians as well as the NYS LAOH and AOH presidents. The evening started with a welcome reception complete with harp music, then the division past presidents were piped in, and step dancers entertained the guests. As the keynote speaker, the Ambassador spoke on the past, present and future relationship between Ireland and America, touching on how the women were and continue to be at the forefront of writing their own history for the next generation. The city made sure we were honored by lighting up the town hall green. The division was also honored with many proclamations and the key to the city.

