



# *Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Pennsylvania*



## *Friendship, Unity & Christian Charity*



2022 Edition IV

*A Word from Maria, our President...*

Hello Ladies,

*Time is flying for me. It is already October!!! Hard to believe.*

*I would like to start with a huge shout-out to the Allegheny County Divisions.*

*Last July, the team put together a fantastic AOH/LAOH National Convention at the Wyndham Grand Hotel in Pittsburgh. Your hard work sure paid off as I heard so many compliments about how wonderful everything was. Thank you so much to all.*

*I saw many beautiful pictures from the Our Lady of Knock Masses in August. I loved seeing them all. Divisions all seem to be back in the swing of fundraising and having events. Maura has been doing a great job putting them all together for us to see.*

*Keep doing what you are doing, Ladies. I'm so proud of our Pennsylvania Counties and Divisions! It shows in all the charity work you do for the less fortunate and in living our motto of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity.*

*The committee in Johnstown is working very hard to raise funds and plan events for our upcoming AOH/LAOH PA State Convention starting July 19 – July 22, 2023. Keep watching for more details.*

*I am always available for any questions you may have, so feel free to contact me.*

*Also, please keep our Sisters in your prayers since we have many dealing with the passing of loved ones and health issues.*

*In Our Motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity*

Respectfully submitted,  
Maria  
Maria Gallagher  
PA State President



# State Things to Know...

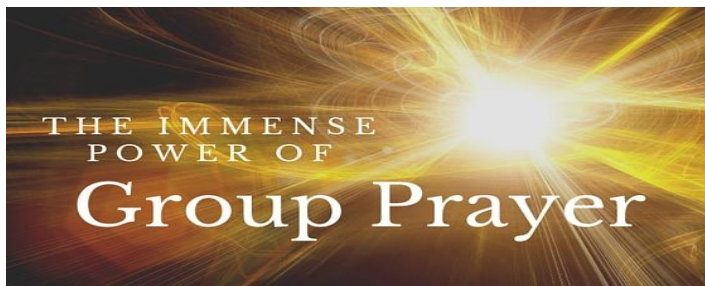
Don't forget to periodically check the our Website! ~ <http://statepalaoh.com>



- ✦ The History of the LAOH
- ✦ The History of the Pennsylvania LAOH
- ✦ State Board Members Introduction Letters and means to contact
- ✦ The Anna C. Malia Ruddy Award winners
- ✦ Bylaws
- ✦ Newsletters
- ✦ Information from Degree Teams
- ✦ Photo Albums
- ✦ Important Dates
- ✦ Fundraising from the State and Divisions
- ✦ State and National Convention details available!



Also check out our Facebook page at LAOH Pennsylvania State & Instagram page



The members of Bucks County Division 1~ MaryEllen Everett in Bristol welcomes you to join us every Tuesday at 8pm EST to say the Rosary via Zoom.

Please keep our Sisters and their families in your prayers. Also keep those who were impacted by Hurricane Ian, those who are suffering or died in Ukraine, and all those who can use our prayers.

If you have special intentions that you would like us to mention before we start the rosary, please email me at [brianna.m.curran@gmail.com](mailto:brianna.m.curran@gmail.com).

The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5420434510> and the Meeting ID: 542 043 4510.

You can also join by phone: +19294362866,5420434510#

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you, Brianna M. Curran ~ [Brianna.M.Curran@gmail.com](mailto:Brianna.M.Curran@gmail.com)



## *LAOH and our Military Connections*

If you or someone in your Division served in any branch of the US Armed Forces, please forward the following information to Maura Roszyk: [maurar1117@msn.com](mailto:maurar1117@msn.com).

Name, Division, County, Address, Phone number, Email, Branch, Rank, Years of Service, Dates of Service, and Combat Veteran? If yes, what war/conflict.

## *LAOH Blue & Gold Star Mothers of America*

To build yet another network of support for the proud Blue and Gold Star Mothers, the National Committee wishes for us to collect the names and information of those proud Moms.

We ask that all Division Presidents send in a list including name, phone, email, and name and service their children serve or have served. Please forward the listing to Maura Roszyk: [maurar1117@msn.com](mailto:maurar1117@msn.com)



## *LAOH's Embracing Our Heritage Program*

Please visit the National website~ [www.ladiesaoh.com](http://www.ladiesaoh.com) and the LAOH National YouTube channel for upcoming and past programs.



## *Ladies Just a Reminder!*

If you send a Sister an email, **please do not assume that she has received it.** If you do not get a response, please follow up with a phone call or reach out to someone else in the Division. With so many more people utilizing technology, emails are not always received, go to junk, or are missed by the receiver. Thank you!

## **2022 National Convention Recap**



Congratulations to LAOH President Marilyn Madigan and the newly installed Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians National Board.



Sitting LtoR: **Kathleen Diulus**~ Catholic Action, Peggy Cornish~ Irish Historian, Sandy Swift~ Secretary, Marilyn Madigan~ President, **MaryAnn Lubinsky**~ Vice President, Cathy Turk~Treasurer, Natalie Peterinelli~Missions and Charities  
Standing LtoR: Karen Keane~Immediate PastPresident,

Once again we wish to thank our generous Sponsors  
*whom without their support this event would not be possible. Please support them if possible!*



Call 844-236-3200 for more information



Additionally, we wish to Thank Nicky Skubal for obtaining the sponsor  
UnitedHealthcare a \$30,000 sponsor!

Way to Go!

Ladies, check out all of the sponsors, it's a great way to say Thank You!

# News & Photos from Around the Commonwealth



## Congratulations!

Ladies,

**A few weeks back, the Irish Edition interviewed our state President, Maria Gallagher, regarding the National Convention. We here in Pennsylvania are blessed to have a President that represents us in such a positive manner.**

### MARIA GALLAGHER PA LAOH STATE PRESIDENT

BY KATHARINE GILBERT



Icebreaker with food, drinks, music and time for catching up with other Hibernian friends from around the U.S.

These events could definitely be called our meet and greet networking gathering for the AOH and LAOH. All went off without a hitch with no surprises. Our Pittsburgh hosts did an amazing job with all events.

**2 For LAOH members, was there a separate program or do both...AOH and LAOH have the same program offerings at the Convention?**

The AOH and LAOH each have separate meetings. We come together only once for a brief joint meeting. The work of the order is similar but not everything we do is discussed outside our meetings and the same for the men.

**3 Did LAOH members participate in discussions regarding AOH women membership with AOH members or separately among LAOH members?**

The Ladies did not have any discussions pertaining to the vote that was to be taken by the AOH allowing women to join the men's organization. Since this was not part of our agenda and pertained to the men, there was no need for us to discuss.

**I Some Associations Conventions are meet and greet and network gatherings. Did the AOH / LAOH have a similar theme or were there some surprises?**

Our conventions are a little of both. For the ladies the convention starts at the beginning of the week for anyone who wants to come out and volunteer in the St. Brigid Charity Project which this year was to help two charities.

Center for Victims of Domestic Violence and/or The Red Door Kitchen for homeless women. Both with women supporting women. It was an eye opening experience for us.

The meeting started on Thursday with a full agenda that went through to Saturday.

In the evenings, events are planned for both men and women starting with the

**4 Is it too early to come to a consensus or organizational point of view regarding women joining AOH or has the LAOH taken a position?**

As I explained in our conversation before the convention, I did not feel it would be proper to discuss something that had not happened. I wanted to wait and see what the vote would be when it reached the floor, but I can tell you now what my feelings have been since this issue came up last year at the PA State Convention in Philadelphia.

Although it was coming across as a MERGER, it was certainly not a MERGER. After reading information sent out to the men, it became apparent that what was being proposed was to change the AOH charter to allow women all rights and privileges of AOH men.

The comparison was being made to other organizations where men and women are equal members such as the Elks.

So let's step back for some history and I promise to keep it brief. The Ladies started out in 1894 as The Daughters of Erin and quickly grew along with a name change to the Ladies Auxiliary, Ancient Order of Hibernians (LAAOH), in 2004, the organization became INC hence why we are now the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Inc.

I say all this because there is over 125 years of history to our organization, so to suggest that by allowing women to join the men puts them in the same category as the Elks—I beg to differ and by allowing women to join the AOH it makes our history and years of good works seem minimal.

We are a strongly established women's organization of practicing Catholics who

are Irish or of Irish descent through either by parents or adoption or wife or mother of an AOH member, and/or mother of a Jr. Division member. To have a proposal drawn up to make changes to their charter from the 1800 — without giving more thought to the backlash or ramifications — seems like a big undertaking that would cause a separation among the groups of men and women Hibernians who work so well together.

After the vote was taken in Pittsburgh on Saturday, the consensus of the men in attendance was to leave things the way they are and not accept women.

I had no doubt that the men in our State, Counties and Divisions agreed to not accept the proposal and to continue to work with their counterparts in the LAOH.

We appreciate having that working relationship and personally I thank them all for not allowing this to pass at this time.

**5 Overall, were you pleased with the results of the Convention and on a final note, has LAOH been asked to participate in Irish Government plans to encourage Americans to retire in Ireland?**

I am truly pleased with the outcome of the National Convention held in Pennsylvania and for all the hard work of the members from Pittsburgh who hosted a fabulous convention at the Wyndham Grand Hotel. As for your last question, LAOH has not been involved up to this point. We hope to work closer with AOH on immigration issues in the future.

**Pennsylvania Proud!!!**



# *Congratulations!*

LAOH Division 25 on receiving the 2022 Commodore John Barry Award from the Delaware Valley Irish Hall of Fame for their continued outstanding charity work in the Irish Community.

This award is shared with the AOH of Division 25.

The award will be presented at the DelVal Irish Hall of Fame Dinner in November at the Irish Center.



*Cheers to State President Maria Gallagher and State Secretary Carolyn Killion for receiving a recognition honor from the Philadelphia Irish Festival For their outstanding dedication in the Irish community*



***Cheers to Liz Sees Division 17, Liz Kerr Division 25, Kathy Fanning Division 39 , Jean Hermley Division 39, Annie McCrane Division 61, Maria Gallagher Division 87 , Ann Marie Kuvik Division 87 Carolyn Killion Division 4 and Patty Loomer Division 4 for being selected as part of the 100 Most influential Irish Women in Philadelphia!***

*The Commodore John Barry Arts and Cultural Center reached out to 35 Irish Organizations. Our impressive Ladies have been chosen for their hard work and dedication for the good that they do.*

*Our amazing Ladies were celebrated at the Irish Center on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.*





## *Pennsylvania State Convention*

### **PA State Convention July 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> 2023 ~ Johnstown, PA**

The 2023 Johnstown Convention Committee is very happy to share with you the logo we have chosen for next year's convention. The major theme and overall focus of our work is providing "The Johnstown Experience" to all who visit us during the Convention.

With that in mind, the premier attraction in Johnstown is the Inclined Plane.

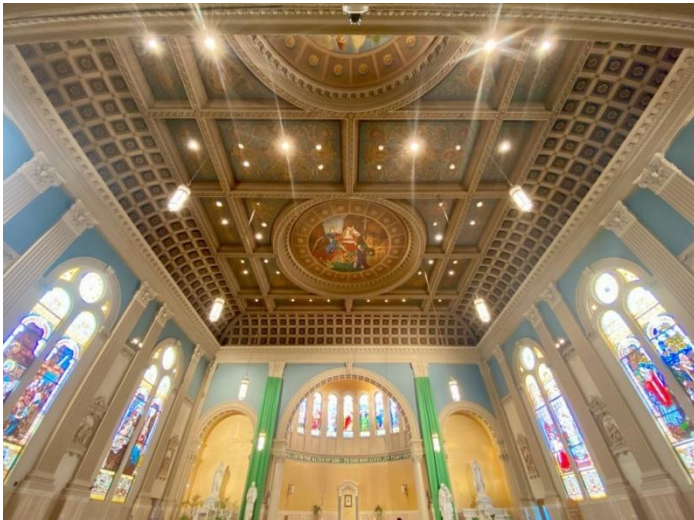
The world's steepest vehicular incline. To ride on it, and experience the views of the city and valley below as you "Rise Up" the mountainside, is breathtaking.

In August our local Division, held our annual Our Lady of Knock Mass at St John Gaulbert Cathedral. We wanted to share with you some of the pictures, given our Convention Mass and Installation will take place here.

To our delight, Fr. Matt surprised us with the beautiful green drapes framing the altar - an incredible sight.

The Cathedral looks stunning.

We cannot wait to fill the place next July - it will be glorious. But please note the church is MUCH more expansive than a couple of the long-view pictures indicate.



In September, we hosted our first official Convention fundraiser. A good time was had by all! We thank everyone for the support!



**We will let you know when the Website, Facebook and Registration pages begin soon!**

# *County and Division Updates*

## **Allegheny County**

Thank you to all our Sisters across the state that joined us for the National Convention here in Pittsburgh! A huge thank you and Congratulations to all our Allegheny Co. Sisters who helped make the National Convention a success! Cheers to our immediate past president Kathleen Diulus who was elected National Catholic Action officer at the Convention.

We shared our Annual Lady of Knock Mass in August with the Allegheny County men. At the Mass, we collected socks and underwear for The Red Door, a homeless shelter in downtown Pittsburgh. Since the Mass, thanks to the generosity of our members, we have collected over 500 pairs of socks, over 100 pairs of men's and women's underwear, deodorant and over \$300 in monetary donations. Thank you to everyone that donated!



## **Philadelphia County**

Happy Fall PA LAOH Sisters ~Philadelphia County is back after a hot summer.

We were blessed to celebrate our Lady of Knock on August 22nd at the Father Judge Chapel with the assistance of the Missionary Servants of the Most Blessed Trinity Mother House. AOH State President Ed Dougherty, Philadelphia AOH County Board President Brian Coleman as well as a few other AOH brothers joined us. We also cannot forget our phone photgrapher every year our AOH 61 Brother Tim McCrane!

**LAOH members filling out petition request prior to the mass that were put at the foot of the Blessed Mother Statue during mass.**



***Together in celebration the AOH and the LAOH***



***Praying the Our lady of Knock prayer after mass in front of the Blessed mother statue***

*In September, we all reconnected with our quarterly county meeting. Our Divisions are gearing up for a busy fall and winter with several fundraisers and charitable events! If you are in the area, please check out our Divisions Facebook pages; you might find something fun to join in with.*

*On October 2nd, several of our Philadelphia LAOH Sisters were welcomed to the Commodore Barry Center (Irish Center) and recognized as part of 100 influential Irish women in Philadelphia! Congratulations, Liz Sees Division 17, Liz Kerr Division 25, Kathy Fanning Division 39, Jean Hermley Division 39, Annie McCrane Division 61, Maria Gallagher Division 87, Ann Marie Kuvik Division 87, and*



our Delaware county sisters Carolyn Killion and Patty Loomer. We Philly girls, are so proud of these Ladies' dedication to the Order, as well as so many of their other charitable contributions, and so much more that others aren't even aware of.

We here in Philadelphia wish you all a crisp and blessed fall.

Happy Fall PA LAOH Sisters ~ Becky



### **Lackawanna County**



### **Lackawanna County AOH/LAOH**

*Celebrating and honoring "Our Lady of Knock" with a Mass at Mary, Mother of God Parish in Scranton, PA. After we share fellowship with a delicious brunch!*



### **Division # 32~Maud Gonne~ Allegheny County**



*Sisters of Division 32 and Division 7 working hard and having fun at the Convention Check-In*

*Nancy Simpson Bell-Remaley, Patti Flaus, Kathleen Bado, Suzanne Heller, and Kitty Lynn Kon*



## Division #4 ~ Delaware County

*For many years now, we have an informal barbecue in place of the July meeting. It is always a good time with good food and great people. Compliments to our chef Mo!*



*Some of the Division 4 Ladies in Delaware County visited the Miraculous Medal Shrine in the Germantown section of Philadelphia. It is the home of the upcoming Lady of Knock Shrine and Rosary Garden which is currently under construction. We attended Saturday noon Mass and were treated to a warm greeting by the priest and some souvenirs.*





## **Division # 1 ~ Chester**

*With a slow start to spring, we were happy to have a lovely June lunch meeting at Nancy's (our VP) house. It was a beautiful day and we met and ate on her patio. All members who were able to come provided the food for the lunch. We were having so much fun I forgot to take pictures, sorry.*

*At that meeting, we decided to make money donations to three charities: Mom's House, which provides day care for single parents going to school, as well as counseling, St. Mary's Family Shelter and The Day Room at St. Agnes, which provides hot meals and much more for those in need.*

*In July, we had our joint mass and picnic with the AOH at a lovely country church in Chester County.*

*St. Malichi was built in 1838 by Irish emigrants and with its country setting it makes you feel like you are in Ireland.*

*Fr. Papa celebrated mass and then we all went out to the church grounds to eat, talk and listen to live Irish music provided by Joe Mullin. We were very lucky that it was such a nice day, not too hot or sticky.*



*We are currently selling Boscov's Friends Helping Friends coupons as a fundraiser and waiting on a family assignment from Domestic Violence of Chester County to purchase Christmas gifts.*

## **Ireland Fast Fact!**

What is Ireland's top exports???

Surprisingly, it is not Guinness ~ but, Pharmaceuticals and organic chemicals  
Ireland's pharmaceutical industry started in 1959, when Leo Laboratories purchased an old tobacco factory in South Dublin.





### **Division #4 ~ Mary Ellen O'Neill~ Washington County**

On August 2, 1984, our Official Division Charter was signed by the National LAOH Board acknowledging the Mary Ellen O'Neill Division, Charleroi, Washington County, Pennsylvania, and Blessed by Revered William J. Maher, Pastor of St Jerome Parish at that time.

On August 10, 2022, we came together for an Invocation and dinner at the Speers Street Grille in Charleroi. We further enjoyed Irish Music while celebrating 38 years of our active Irish Organization.



*left to right: Pat Loversidge's daughter Jackie, Pat Loversidge, Ellen Cmar( Missions & Charities), Dorothy Flaherty Weldon(President and Past National President).*



### **Division #61 ~ St. Katharine Drexel ~ Philadelphia**

**Celebrating our 25th Anniversary**

LAOH division 61 has been really busy celebrating the last few weeks!

We started with one of our city's heroes and our sister Philadelphia Police Officer Jill Hegaery District 14! Jill has been recognized by the City of Philadelphia Police for her Community involvement! We are so very proud of Jill and thrilled to have her as one of Philadelphia's finest!

On October 19<sup>th</sup>, our Division will officially celebrate 25 years of friendship, unity, and Christian Charity!

We are also celebrating our Division President Annie McCrane!

On October 2<sup>nd</sup>, Annie was announced as one of the 100 most influential Irish women in Philadelphia!

We are all so very proud of Annie for going above and beyond her dedication to her job and to being a Hibernian.

We decided to start celebrating our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary a little early.

So on October 1<sup>st</sup>, we gathered for a wonderful evening at New Falls Manor with many of our Sisters and Division 61 brothers.

We were honored to have our LAOH National Vice President Maryann Lubiensky, National LAOH Webmaster and PA State Catholic Actions Brianna Curran, PA State LAOH President Maria Gallagher, PA State AOH President Ed Dougherty and our own AOH Division 61 President Sean Kearns in attendance.





It was a night of emotion, celebrating and dancing...lots of dancing !  
It will be a night to be remebered in the books !





Our Division is looking forward to our 17th golf outing coming this October. It's a exciting time with nominations and elections coming upon us as well. We we have a lot to look forward to with Thanksgiving food baskets, toy collection and whatever else is on our calander. We look forward to sharing all of it with you in the near future.

### **Ireland Fast Fact!**

Ireland's Samhain inspired Halloween.

Samhain is a Gaelic festival marking the end of the harvest season and the beginning of the winter. The Celebration begins on the evening of October 31st and lasts until the evening of November 1st. This is celebrated on these half days because it marks the halfway between the fall equinox and the winter solstice, and lasts an exact day according to the Gaelic traditions—a day begins and ends at sunset.



## Division #11 ~ Oakland ~ Pittsburgh ~ Allegheny County

We would like too again congratulate all involved in the National Convention, our members that attended had nothing but good things to say.

And, a huge congratulation to one of our own, Kathleen Diulus, the newly elected National Catholic Action officer.



We had a great time at our annual Masquerade Charity Ball on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, at The Craftonian Hall



THE CRAFTONIAN HALL - 48 DIVISION STREET, CRAFTON, PA 15205  
412-921-9330 - OPEN BAR - \$55 PER PERSON  
FOR MORE DETAILS, VISIT US AT [WWW.LAOHDIV11.COM](http://WWW.LAOHDIV11.COM),  
CONTACT MARIA IMMEKUS AT: 412.477.5363 - 420 JENNE DRIVE, PITTSBURGH, PA 15236  
TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED VIA VENMO OR A CHECK PAYABLE TO LAOH DIVISION 11.



If you have a sweet tooth ~ we got you covered!

Once again, we are hosting our annual Sarris Candies Fundraiser. You are just a few keystrokes away from chocolaty goodness.

<https://www.sarriscandiesfundraising.com/VIEWBYCATEGORY.aspx?id=VA>

Be sure to use division 11 ID when order 10-2957. SHIPPING IS FREE there is only a \$5.00 handling fee.

Be sure to follow Division 11 on

Facebook [www.facebook.com/LAOH-Div-11](http://www.facebook.com/LAOH-Div-11) @ laoh\_div11 on Instagram and twitter.



## Division #1 ~ Mary Ellen Everett ~ Bristol

We celebrated our annual Christmas in July party on Sunday, July 10th!



Everyone brought a wrapped gift for the White Elephant gift exchange!

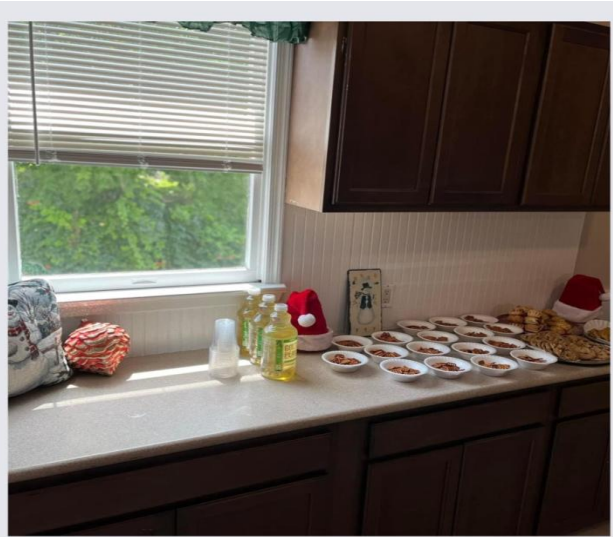
The gifts included home decor, wine, kitchen items, relaxation kit, and more!!

We had a wonderful afternoon filled with laughs and snacks as the selected and/ or stole the gift they took home.

The Christmas in July party is an event that everyone looks forward to every year!







*We celebrated the Our Lady of Knock Mass on Saturday, August 20th at Saint Mark in Bristol Borough. We processed in as an organization, sat together, and were joined by four of our Little Ladies.*



*Our Little Ladies of the Bucks County Division 1 LAOH is run by Vice President, Jenn Crawford. We are so proud our young Ladies interest in their heritage and helping those in need.*



*It is never too young to start teaching them! In June, they made pipe cleaner rosaries. In addition, they all contributed towards the Diaper Drive for Catholic Social Services!*



*In July, they learned how to make butter in honor of Saint Brigid.*

*In August, the Little Ladies joined the LAOH members for the Our Lady of Knock Mass.*

*For the month of October, they are collecting for the local High School's food pantry and learning about the Irish folk story of the Jack O'Lantern.*

*They start each meeting off with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance.*

*They are learning what it means to be a Hibernian and we could not be prouder of the wonderful work these young Ladies are doing!*





*We had an extremely productive October Membership Meeting!*

*We swore in six new members, who are all very eager to make new friends and assist our division in our*



*local volunteer work! We had 33 members in attendance. During our meeting, we approved our End of Year Giving, which included donations to FFAI Christmas Appeal, Columban Fathers, SOAR, NOVA (Network of Victim Assistance), St. Mark Parish, AOH Bucks County Division 1 Hibernian Hunger Project Fund, Project St. Patrick, Saint Margaret of Castello Maternity Home, and A Women's Place.*

*After our meeting, the members spent the afternoon creating fall centerpiece. It was a great afternoon of embracing our motto of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity!*





**Division #2 ~ John F. Kennedy ~ Pottsville, Schuylkill County  
Celebrating our 50th year!**

On Thursday, September 29, 2022, we had our first in-person meeting since our Christmas party in January, 2022!

At this meeting, we were thrilled to celebrate our very own Division President's, Mary Ann Lubinsky, newly elected position as LAOH National Vice-President.

We are so thrilled to be getting back together that we will be hosting a Paint and Sip in the near future.

Please continue to look for updates on our Facebook page.



**Division # 3~ Maire Drumm ~ Montgomery County**

We celebrated their 14<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on October 5<sup>th</sup>!

We continue to help our community while having fun. We are very proud to note that six (6) of our original founding members are still involved at the officer level in our Division and three (3) of our members serve on the Montgomery County Board!



**Original Founding members:  
L-R Shawn Marie Brown, Diane Curry, Peggy Senico, Megan Bethel, Jeanine Snyder**



L-R Nanci Daneker, Tina Marcinek, Linda Guzzardo, Jeanine Snyder, Susan DeMedio, Nancy DiFiore, Shawn Marie Brown, Peggy Senico, Diane Curry, Jayme DeMedio



L-R Tina Marcinek, Jayme DeMedio, Nanci Daneker, Linda Guzzardo, Nancy DiFiore, Shawn Marie Brown, Diane Curry, Peggy Senico, Susan DeMedio, Megan Bethel, Jeanine Snyder



**Division #2 ~ Berks County**

We are busy with our apple dumpling fundraiser and basket party for October.  
 Wishing everyone has a safe and healthy Fall.  
 Prayers for our sisters in Florida and all their families and friends.



**Our Lady of Knock Celebration ~ We were honored that Brianna Curran joined us**



**Division #39 ~ St. Brigid ~ Philadelphia County**

*We had a wonderful time celebrating our 40 year Anniversary with a beautiful Mass then a fantastic evening of fun and friendship!*





**Division #1 ~ Tir Na'N Og'~ Lehigh Valley**  
**Celebrating our 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

*We had a good showing of Ladies at the Our Lady of Knock Mass. We were honored to be joined by State Historian Carole Cooney Syzdek. The parish was thrilled with the amount of food that we collected in their name for the Food Bank.*



*In September, we were thrilled to initiate another new Sister. Much fun was enjoyed at the AOH/Allentown St. Patrick's Day Parade Halfway to St. Patrick's Day Party. The event raised funds for the Parade and to order kilts for the Mackay Pipe Band. In fact, one of the big Raffles was for a Corn Hole game, and our very own MaryEileen Rommeney won! Our Division participated in the selling of passes for the Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Shopping Day to continue our fundraising efforts to assist community charities and our Purse Project. We also hosted our Annual Pizza & Pumpkin Party at the Cay Galgon Life House. Each year we bring several pies and pumpkins for the guests and their children to enjoy some yummy pizza and paint pumpkins for Samhain. We look forward to holding our first All Souls Day ceremony, honoring those Sisters we have lost in the last few years. This ceremony was inspired by reading about the Ceremonies of other PA Divisions. Thank you!!*



*As we bring 2022 to a close, we look forward to celebrating our 35th Anniversary with Lunch and a Christmas Play at the Pines Theatre in Allentown.*



*In addition, we will volunteer as wreath layers on December 17th for Wreaths Across America and gather for our Annual Christmas Gathering.*

*As we end 2022, it is an exciting time with nominations and elections for our Division. We wish to Thank all of our Division Officers for their time, talent, and dedication to our Division. We look forward to the installation of the 2023-2025 Board.*

*We are wishing everyone across the State a fantastic fall season!*

**Do you have a fresh and fun idea for the Newsletter?  
 Please reach out.**

**We are all members of the PA State Newsletter team!**

# *News & Updates from the State Board* *In this edition, the State Board was asked to* *reflect upon the National Convention.*

**Chaplain** ~ Sister Lisa Breslin SSJ.

*Around us we witness the changing of the seasons from the heat and shades of green to the quiet turning of colors of the leaves to the radiant array of color. In its beauty, fall offers us a gentle transition to the frost of winter. During autumn we are reminded of the final preparations prior to the cold months of winter. As birds prepare to migrate south, squirrels prepare their winter hideouts with nuts, and leaves dance as they fall gracefully, we are invited to enjoy the beauty of the season and not rush in anticipation of the hibernation of winter. This time is one of completion, from the harvest that is picked from the womb of the earth to the dance of falling leaves that rot and become compost.*

*Let us take time to reflect on the season of autumn. Take some time to walk on this brisk autumn day, listen to God speaking through the crushing of the leaves under your feet, migrating birds or the music of the wind. ~ Joyce Rupp*

*Every autumn I am struck by the colors of this season and by the irony implicit in it.*

*The vibrant colors ARE GENERATED BY THE DYING PROCESS. How can dying be so beautiful? The beauty is not in the dying but in the letting go. What is God asking you to let go of? Expectations, preconceived notions, hopes, and dreams never realized, old hurts and losses? Anger? Take some time and let this colorful season speak to your heart!*

*In our motto, Sister Lisa Breslin, SSJ State Chaplain*



**Vice President** ~ Kathleen Diulus

It was an exciting and busy time at the National Convention in July. It was great seeing everyone and I wish I wasn't so busy working that I could have had more fellowship with those able to attend. I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and is now reenergized to return to the work of the Order.

The Claddagh Degree team exemplified degrees at the Convention to approximately 100 of our LAOH Sisters. It was a bittersweet ceremony as two of the degree teams founding members, participated in their last ceremony, Martina Allison and Maggie Cloonan. Martina and Maggie, you made my experience as a degree team member so wonderful and I will truly miss you!

The Tara Degree team is busy getting ready to exemplify degrees in November ---what a wonderful opportunity for new and existing members to participate in deepening their understanding of our Order and Heritage. I encourage you to sign-up to become a degree member or participate as an observer.

Bucks County Division 1 has been busy with their Little Ladies of LAOH group learning and living our motto. These young future members have been doing charitable activities and learning Irish history with a sprinkle of fun mixed in! If you have a young daughter or granddaughter, please reach out to Brianna Curran or Jean Bradeis-Crawford at Bucks 1 for more information.

The Allegheny County Juniors were busy helping at the National Convention this year and are planning this activity schedule as well. In November, they will be accompanying LAOH 23 to work at a local food pantry. If you have a daughter or granddaughter in the Allegheny County area, please reach out if you are interested in joining.



Lastly, I can not thank you enough for your support as I sought the Office of National Catholic Action. Your support, well wishes and voting allowed me to continue to serve the Order but now on a different level.

Hoping to see you over the next few months and next July in Johnstown as we gather for our State Convention. If there is anything I can do to help you, please reach out!

In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity, Kathleen



### *Secretary ~ Carolyn Killion*

Greetings Sisters,

I always love the beginning of Autumn when the days are still warm, and there is just a slight chill in the night air. Can you believe that summer and the Convention are behind us, and the new school year brings endless possibilities – even for those who have no one actually going back to school. So now is the time that we all must jump into those put-off projects, so they will be done before the holidays sneak up on us again.

And it is usually the time of year I try to think of new ideas for the LAOH.

It will be no time before the National Secretary sends me the membership reports that I will, in turn, send to each Division and County Board. I know they are a bit of a nuisance, but it is essential that we have accurate names and e-mails to communicate effectively. Your membership report determines the amount of assessments due from your Division to the State and National Boards. Once the reports go out, I will set up a couple of Zoom meeting opportunities similar to a teacher's office hours – you only need to join in if you have any questions or concerns.

Helpful suggestions would also be welcome.

I look forward to working with you Ladies and wish you all a blessed and fruitful Fall season. ~Carolyn



### *Treasurer ~ Patti Flaus*

*I wanted to thank everyone that attended the National Convention in Pittsburgh.*

*It was great to see my Hibernian Sisters & Brothers from across the Commonwealth and the country!*

*All the planning and hard work over the past two years was worth it when I saw the smiles and heard the laughter!*

*The Annual Financial Reports will be coming your way by the end of October. I will be scheduling a Zoom call for all treasurers once they've been distributed. Whether this is your first time completing the report, or you're a veteran, please attend the meeting. We'll be talking about any changes in the form as well as sharing best practices. If you haven't received an email from me lately, please contact me at [pfpalaoh@gmail.com](mailto:pfpalaoh@gmail.com) with a good email address. You won't want to miss out on this!*

*~ Patti Flaus*



### *Irish Historian ~ Carole Cooney Syzdek*

*I hope you all had an enjoyable and safe summer and look forward to a colorful autumn and Blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas season as do I.*

*On, Tuesday, August 23, 2022, I provided all PA Irish Historians, State Board, Division Presidents, and Past Presidents with the 2022-2023 Irish History Contest information for distribution.*

*The deadline for receiving student submissions is November 15, 2022, and must be submitted to the local LAOH Division. Please review and follow the attached calendar for this Irish History Contest so that your submission deadlines are not missed.*

*On August 20th, I represented our LAOH, JFK Division #2, Pottsville, when I attended, with Lehigh Valley Division, at their Our Lady of Knock Mass at St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Orefield. What I received from my attendance of our AOH/LAOH National Convention, Pittsburgh,*

in July, was the camaraderie among our Brothers and Sisters. I, again, congratulate all newly elected national officers, beginning with Marilyn Madigan, President, and Mary Ann Lubinsky, Vice-President.

In closing, let us also not forget the following:

All Saints Day, Tuesday, November 1, 2022 - the day created by Pope Boniface IV in May, 609 (610) A.D., to celebrate the Virgin Mary and all martyrs. Pope Gregory III moved this date to November 1 to exalt the apostles, saints, martyrs and all the just made perfect who are at rest throughout the world. By the way, Happy All Hallow's Eve, October 31, a/k/a "Happy Halloween"

All Souls Day, Wednesday, November 2 - the day for commemoration of all the baptized, faithfully departed.  
In Our Motto, Carole Cooney-Syzdek

Calendar for forwarding student submissions electronically is as follows:

1. Maximum of seven (7) Student submissions from Division Level to County Board, if applicable, no later than December 15, 2022. If no County Board Level, student submissions are to be submitted to the State Board Level no later than December 15, 2022.
2. Maximum of seven (7) Student submissions from County Board Level, if applicable, to the State Board Level no later than January 15, 2023.
3. Maximum of seven (7) student submissions are to be judged by the National Board's selected judges with Award Winners for 1<sup>st</sup> Place and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in Level 1 and Level 2 to be announced no later than March 31, 2023. The National Board's monetary awards are as follows:

Level 1: Grades 6-8 – 1<sup>st</sup> Place \$500 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place \$250

Level 2: Grades 9-12 – 1<sup>st</sup> Place \$1,000 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place \$500

## *Missions & Charities* ~ Sister Kathleen Smith RSM.

The Ceremonies, Liturgies, Music, and Breakout sessions were the most inspirational and educational takeaways from the Convention. I hope all future Conventions have breakout Sessions.

Two sessions, in particular, were eye-openers: Immigration and Political Education.

Immigration confirmed for me that our USA system is beyond "broken."

It is most embarrassing. I learned of and met an Irishman who, in recent months, after living and working here for years, lost his Social Security benefits, including health care that he really relied on, and his Driver's License. At the same time, he received permission from a different Immigration Office to travel to Ireland. He would be homeless and destitute if it were not for the Hibernians who actively advocated for him in deep friendship, unity, and Christian charity.

The Political Education breakout session excited me and affirmed my interest in educating our members on the issues that plague our country at this time. At the breakout session, we prepared some resolutions that were confirmed by all voting members at the General Session of the Convention. I was ever so interested in joining them in this aspect of service for our organization and members. I have signed up to assist and will be able to share more as the months unfold.

I was very grateful for the location, as we all could drive to Pittsburgh.

The view from my hotel window was postcard perfect.

I am forever grateful for the social times too, as I had some excellent conversations

with extraordinarily committed and active members.

Blessings to all ~ Sister Kathleen



*Catholic Action* ~ Brianna Curran

*As the Pennsylvania State Catholic Action Officer, I thought it would be nice to attend as many Our Lady of Knock Masses as I could for 2022!*

*I would like to sincerely express my gratitude to the amazing Ladies of Montgomery County, Berks County Division One & Division Two, Bucks County Division One, and Hamilton County for your hospitality!*



*To me this is what being a Hibernian is all about! It was great seeing my LAOH Sister and AOH Brothers for Our Lady of Knock masses! I could see their attention to detail and organization for their masses, along with friendship, kindness, sharing their history and memories!!*



*I feel very fortunate to have made so many wonderful friends over the years through Conventions that made visiting these Divisions possible!*

*My goal as I continue to serve as a state officer is to visit as many Divisions as I can, whether for Hibernian masses, festivals, fundraisers, or fun events!!*

*I am so grateful to call each of you my sister!*

*Additionally, I would like to thank the Pittsburgh Convention Committee for their hard work, time, and dedication in hosting the 2022 National Convention!*

*It was so lovely seeing so many Pennsylvania sisters. We took up about one-third of the room, and you could absolutely feel our presence!!*

*For those of you who have never attended a National Convention, I would highly recommend it!! There is an energy level that I have only experienced during a National Convention! During our business sessions and in the hospitality rooms, we had lively and passionate conversations about our organization as a whole, the great work happening at the division level, and what more we can do to help!!*

*One message resounding through the Convention is that "The National Board works for you." They thanked individuals, states, and Divisions for their hard work, dedication, and Hibernian passion for helping those in need. At the Division level, we truly make a difference in our communities and state! I am incredibly proud to serve as a state officer of Pennsylvania!*

*On Tuesday, July 12th, I joined a group of sisters who volunteered at The Red Door.*



*We sorted donations and put together items requested from individuals in need.*

*The Red Door serves three meals daily, five days a week, including weekend lunch. Lunches include a snack bag, juice, water, and a sandwich. Dinner is either a hot meal made from donations, a hot meal that others bring from home, or they do lunch Round two for dinner!*

*They also provide clothing, blankets, tents, personal hygiene products, etc., to those in need. They have a women's day shelter where they provide safety, love, and protection as well as the necessities to their women. The most recent addition to the women's center has been providing laundry and showers! Their work is impacting so many individuals in need. It was a perfect selection for our LAOH Spirit of St. Brigid Charity Project. I look forward to the next event where we can come together to help another worthy cause!*

*Lastly, I hope you will join me in saying "THANK YOU!" to Kerry Bradeis from Bucks County, Division One! Kerry volunteers every Tuesday night and leads our weekly prayer group.*

*We are thrilled that the week of October 11th, marked our second full year of saying the Rosary as a group!! We have had many intentions for LAOH Sisters and AOH Brothers, tragedies, natural disasters, and war, and we also pray for successful doctors' appointments, pregnancies, job applications, and more! We have welcomed women from Florida, Massachusetts, D.C., Ohio, New York, Missouri, and all over Pennsylvania!! We welcome all to join us on Tuesdays at 8 pm EST.*

## *Past Presidents*

***We here in the Commonwealth are so genuinely blessed to have so many active Past Presidents, so we reserve this section of the Newsletter for them to add some of their knowledge, wisdom, and inspiration.***

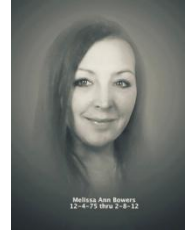
### *Colleen Bowers*

To All My LAOH Sisters,

I am proud that our State Board supported me by taking the lead as a women's fraternal organization to submit a Resolution, which passed at OUR National convention.

"Therefore, be it resolved that We, the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc., call for the immediate end of all domestic violence, abuse; resolve to pray for all these victims, advocate for domestic violence awareness inclusive of their rights; support local shelters for all victims of domestic violence; provide support for our Sisters that find themselves in these relationships; and assist all domestic violence victims to the best of our abilities."

In addition, our Brother Hibernians have supported a request from me. I am very proud of our Brother Hibernians of PA Allegheny County AOH, who took the lead by taking the Men's Challenge in support and in memory of their Sister Hibernian Melissa Bowers, my daughter, who was murdered by Domestic Violence. This movement, The Men's Challenge Pledge, supports Domestic Violence Awareness.



From there, the PA AOH State Board met for their state board meeting on May 14, 2022. All in attendance, including National AOH President Danny O'Connell, took the Men's Challenge Pledge.



I could not be prouder of my Brother Hibernians who took the Pledge at the National Convention in Pittsburgh. I hope all AOH brother Hibernians throughout the country will take the Pledge. It felt very fitting that the place our Brother Hibernians from across the country took their Pledge was here in Pittsburgh, where my Melissa was murdered.

In addition, at the National Convention, the Brothers passed a Resolution that takes a stand against Domestic Violence.

You are the start of my movement  
"YOU ARE NOT ALONE."



The Center for Victims "Men's Challenge" asks for all men to take the Pledge to speak up and not be silent when aware of Domestic Violence incidents. You could be part of the solution to end this horrendous crime against humanity.

I received this message from one of my PA Allegheny County Brothers Hibernian, Dan Divinney, and could not have described my feelings any better:

*"Men have a very important role to play in eradicating domestic violence. I was taught by my father and have passed on to my male children that "it is not much of a man that makes a woman cry." Men and women are responsible for teaching their children that violence has no place in the*

*home or anywhere else. In particular, men are responsible for teaching their male children how to treat women with dignity and respect. I have always felt that the best way to teach this is through your actions. If you do not back up what you say with your actions, your words become meaningless."*

We all have a role, not just men. Therefore, I pray that everyone takes this Pledge back to their states and continue to have their membership take a stand and take the Pledge.

The Pledge was created in Pittsburgh with the Center of Victims who works with all victims of violence. I know the focus of this issue is women, but this to happen to men too. Follow this link to hear more details about the Pledge and if you know any Brother Hibernian, organization, or business that can help to promote the Pledge online. <https://www.centerforvictims.org/make-a-difference-today/men-challenge/>. I just ask that you reference my beautiful daughter in memory of Melissa Bowers.

### **The Pledge:**

I pledge not to participate in, approve of, or remain silent about violence. I pledge to be an active bystander who will speak out about violence against women and girls. I will encourage all men to work together with Center for Victims and use our collective voices and resources to end all forms of violence

I thank all of my Brothers and Sisters in this campaign "YOU ARE NOT ALONE."  
I am especially PROUD & Humble of the support in PA taking the lead!

### *Bonnie Collins*

*Very, Very Past President*

*Since 2008, my primary focus has been the Mentoring Program. Currently I serve as mentor of five Divisions: Berks Divisions 1 and 2, Carbon Division 1, Chester Division 1, and Lehigh Division 1. My job is not supervisory, but rather supportive. My goal is to keep them well informed about activities and programs throughout the state and country. During Covid, many Divisions found it difficult to meet. In September, I reached out to my Divisions in hopes of receiving updates of their division activities. Since that time, I have heard from of these Divisions. I am confident that Berks 1, Chester 1, and Lehigh 1 are doing well, and look forward to hearing from the other two.*

*I was most excited to attend the National Convention in Pittsburgh, but about a week before I came down with Vertigo!! I was not able to attend the Convention and was most disappointed until my roommate and several friends called me when then returned to inform me they had Covid!! God saved me again!*

#### **Samhain Fast Fact!**

One fun game ~ a ring is hidden in the "[Barmbrack](#)," the person who gets the ring in their slice – if they didn't swallow it – would have a happy marriage ahead.

### *Catching up with other Committees:*

#### *Freedom for All Ireland ~ Kathleen Varady*

*I loved how Pittsburgh - Allegheny County ran the National Convention this year.*

*The shortness of the business sessions was a real plus, and the trip planned to St. Patrick's was wonderful. I saw so much Sisterhood that came together at this convention.*

*There are times when the enormity of a National Convention takes away the bonds we all have as Sisters of the LAOH, but that was not the case this past July. The sessions were terrific, and the National Board did a great job of keeping everything flowing and in order. Of course, I was very interested in the FFAI aspect of the convention and was so happy to hear that they were able to travel to Ireland to meet with our recipients to distribute our checks. The people's gratitude in Ireland*

*should inspire everyone to contribute, no matter how small to our FFAI Christmas Appeal, which is collected all year and not just at Christmas.*

Just a reminder as we live in a political climate, The LAOH is a 501 (C) 3 and the IRS watches our activities closely. The LAOH members cannot write letters to our Representatives on our letterhead, mention in the letter they are a member of the LAOH or sign the letter as being a LAOH member. Our members are welcome to send letters to their Representatives expressing their concerns as an Irish American citizen. Encourage them to keep supporting the Good Friday Agreement and let Prime Minister Boris Johnson know that America does not support the UK leaving the EU without a deal or without the "backstop". If Mr. Johnson leaves the EU without a deal it could mean chaos in Ireland and could very well mean a hard border between N. and S. Ireland.

### *Publicity ~ Maura O'Donnell-Roszyk*

Can you believe we are already in October?

It feels like just a short time ago, many of us were together in Pittsburgh for an extraordinarily well-organized National Convention. Thank you to everyone that worked on and at the Convention. It was terrific.

I really enjoyed the breakout sessions, just like Sister Kathleen.

I, of course, attended everything related to Publicity. Still, I also enjoyed a variety of other sessions to see how I could help expand the doings of my Division and incorporate other areas into publicity moments.

My key Publicity takeaway is that everyone must make sure they have permission from everyone photographed and published, specifically any children. My own Division checks with all members every year at Dues time to ensure they are still publishable.

Another takeaway includes utilizing a general email, which can help prevent your personal email from being impacted by bad actors. I took this to heart, and now you can reach me at [palaohmor@gmail.com](mailto:palaohmor@gmail.com). Lastly, I would like for all County and Divisions to inform me if they have a website and its address, do you have a Facebook page and its address, and last do you have an Instagram page and its address. I intend on compiling this information and making it available on our State website so that we can all find access to each other. Cheers!

Happy Fall Ladies! Maura



### *Hibernian Hunger Project*

*Philadelphia County AOH and LAOH marched in North Wildwood Fall Festival Irish Parade. Donations were collected to benefit our Christmas Food Drive.*



*~Let your Good Deeds be like rain, Drop a little everywhere!*

## *Degree Team Information*

### ALLEGHENY COUNTY CLADDAGH DEGREE TEAM

We hope everyone enjoyed the Degree ceremony at the Convention.  
Working hard on our next Ceremony



### PHILADELPHIA COUNTY TARA DEGREE TEAM

#### *LAOH PHILADELPHIA COUNTY TARA DEGREE TEAM*

#### *Registration for Degrees Exemplification*



Greetings Sisters! The Philadelphia Tara Degree Team will be conferring the Major Degrees of the LAOH on Sunday, November 20, 2022 at Roman Catholic High School (address below). We offer off-street free parking and elevators in the building.

The registration table will be open at 12:00PM and the Ceremony will begin at 1:00PM.

The fee is \$25.00 for candidates and \$10.00 for observers. To be an observer you must have already received your Degree. Pre-registration is required, please register ASAP! **Deadline for registration is Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. Our policy is that there will be NO WALK INS accepted at the door.** Also, please note on this form if you have any special needs. (e.g. difficulty standing/walking). We will adhere to all COVID protocols.

If you have any questions pertaining to the Degree or to registration you can also contact me (Director) Maureen Dougherty Brown [bmaureen51@gmail.com](mailto:bmaureen51@gmail.com) /215-495-3015. Thank you.

There are a few ways that you can register and pay for the Degree Exemplification.

1. Scan/Email/Fax the registration form and Venmo the fee.  
(due to concerns about the USPS, this is the preferred method)

Scan/Email to Maureen Dougherty Brown [bmaureen51@gmail.com](mailto:bmaureen51@gmail.com) /Fax - 215- 627-4979  
Venmo@TaraDegreeTeam

2. Snail mail your registration form and payment. In this event, please send to  
Maureen Dougherty Brown  
c/o Roman Catholic High School  
301 N. Broad Street  
Phila., PA 19107

Please make checks payable to "LAOH Philadelphia Tara Degree Team"

3. Drop it off at my house! I'll put the kettle on.







**Registration Form for Degree Ceremony  
(one form for each candidate or observer)**

I wish to receive/observe the Major Degrees of the LAOH

Candidate (\$25.00)                       Observer (\$10.00)

**Deadline for Registration is Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>.  
Again, we ask that you respect our NO WALK INS Policy.  
Thank you for your understanding.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address for confirmation of registration

\_\_\_\_\_  
Special Needs

Division Name/Number \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

LAOH Membership Date \_\_\_\_\_

**For Observers: Please be ready to present your Degree Card at the registration table**

Please list the date you made your Degree \_\_\_\_\_

Degree Team that performed the Exemplification \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

***The Philadelphia Tara Degree Team is looking for members to join our Team!  
Please feel free to contact a member of the Membership Committee for further information***

***Maureen Dougherty Brown***

***Mary Anne Dooley***

***Ellen McCrane***

***Marie Nealis***

***Colleen Riccardo***

***[bmaureen51@gmail.com](mailto:bmaureen51@gmail.com)***

***[biged3030@aol.com](mailto:biged3030@aol.com)***

***[e.mcrane@comcast.net](mailto:e.mcrane@comcast.net)***

***[nealipa39@gmail.com](mailto:nealipa39@gmail.com)***

***[gram1940@gmail.com](mailto:gram1940@gmail.com)***



*A Submission from the National Webmaster, our very own Brianna Curran*

Hello Sisters,

Please email [lahnationalwebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:lahnationalwebmaster@gmail.com) with the following information:

- Contact Information
  - If your Division is not listed on the National Website, <https://ladiesaoh.com/state-contacts/>, then please provide the following information if available: Division's Namesake, website, generic email address (no personal email addresses will be posted on the website), and social media pages such as Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter.
- Newsletter
  - If your Division shares a newsletter and you would like to post it on the National, please submit a copy and provide your Namesake, County, State, and time period for the newsletter.
- Division Photos
  - Please share the fun you are having as an organization! Please note the photos cannot have any alcoholic beverages. We do not want to perpetuate a negative stereotype about the Irish. No captions are required.

Thank you for your help!  
Brianna M. Curran



**The Blessing of God on you ~ Bail ó Dhia ort**  
**Let's us remember the Souls of the recently departed**  
**Eternal rest grant unto our Dearly Departed Sisters**

*Anne Mary Laie, Division 2, Notre Dame, Montgomery*  
*Mary "Mamie" Charmaine (Franklin) McGuffey, Division 11*  
*Patricia (Pat) McLaughlin, Division One, Bristol*  
*Rose Helen Beshel, Division One, Bristol*  
*Noireen Petrone, Division 39, Philadelphia*  
*Jeanette Denton, Division One, Lehigh Valley*



**Additionally, we remember former State and National President Dorothy Weldon's husband, John Francis Weldon.**

John Francis Weldon, M.D., died on Monday, September 19, 2022, at his home surrounded by his loving family. Dr. Weldon was born August 19, 1931, in Charleroi, the son of the late Owen Patrick and Anne O'Toole Weldon; brother of the late Thomas, (Mary), Owen (Patricia) and the late James Weldon (Patricia).

Dr. Weldon is survived by his wife, Dorothy Flaherty Weldon; children, Dr. John P. Weldon (Lynn), Dr. Maureen W. Kamons (Larry), Dr. Patrick O. Weldon (Alexis), Dr. Sean F. Weldon (Anne); and 13 adoring grandchildren.

Dr. Weldon received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1957, graduated from the University Of Pittsburgh School Of Medicine, and completed his internship at St. Joseph's Hospital in Pittsburgh. He joined the Medical Staff at the former Charleroi Monessen Hospital in 1958 as a family practice physician and that same year began a private practice in Charleroi.



In 1966, Dr. Weldon began a two-year residency in anesthesiology at Mercy Hospital in Pittsburgh, then returned to the area as Director of Anesthesiology at the former Monongahela Memorial Hospital, and served in that capacity for the Charleroi Monessen facility. In 1972, he became a member of the medical staff of Monongahela Valley Hospital upon the consolidation of the two former hospital facilities. In addition to serving as Director of Anesthesiology, Dr. Weldon served for more than 20 years as Director of Pulmonary Medicine.

Dr. Weldon is the founder of the Mon Valley Anesthesia, PC, which has provided anesthesia services at the Hospital and its predecessor hospitals for more than two decades.

During his career at the hospital, Dr. Weldon was very active with the Medical Staff. He is a former president of the Medical Staff at the Monongahela Division, served as Vice-President and as a member of the Executive Committee, Secretary-Treasurer of the Monongahela Valley Hospital from 1980-1986.

Board certified by the American Board of Anesthesiology and Fellow of the American College of Anesthesiology. Dr. Weldon served several terms as president of the Washington County Medical Society and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Medical Society. In addition, he was a Washington County Delegate to the Pennsylvania Medical Society for some 20 years. In 1983, he received the Diamond Award for 25 years of service.

Throughout his numerous years as a physician, Dr. Weldon demonstrated untiring commitment to his family, the healthcare system and to his medical profession.

Friends will be received in the Marshal Marra Funeral Home, 216 Chess Street, Monongahela, 724-258-6767, from 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday. Blessing prayers will begin in the funeral home at 9:45 a.m. on Friday, September 23th, followed by a 10:30 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial in St. Andrew the Apostle Parish, 624 Washington Avenue, Charleroi.

At the family's request, interment will be private, and held in Calvary Cemetery, Hazelwood.



Compassionate and Gracious God, we come to you today to thank you for giving us a chance to live with our loved ones who recently left this world to come into your presence. Lord God Almighty, we know that they were not perfect, but they did love you with all their heart and truly repented for their sins. May they find love and peace in your presence. Do not let our loved one to be parted from you, let your faithful servant enjoy your glory forever. In Jesus' powerful name, I believe and pray. Amen.



*The Power of Prayer is so very mighty therefore, we ask you to include the following Special people in yours.*



Ellen McCrane, PA Past State President, Maria Gallagher, current PA State President, PA State Vice President Kathleen Diulus, and all of our Sisters who are battling Breast Cancer or are survivors. St. Peregrine and St. Agatha, pray for them.



Jenn Majka of Division 39~ St. Brigid ~ Philadelphia ~ son in law, Josh as he deals with medical issues.



Nancy Cullen of Division 39~ grandson, Ronan as he recovers from his surgery.



Our newly elected National Secretary Sandy Swift's husband Matt, as he deals with medical issues.



MaryEllen O'Donnell of Division One~ Lehigh Valley ~ as she faces medical issues.



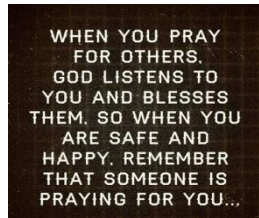
We pray for peace and civility in our home country, America and our motherland, Ireland.



Those impacted by the horrific situation in the Ukraine.



A special prayer for everyone's Special Intentions.



Additionally, we ask for prayers of strength and courage to all of those ailing & their caregivers  
Also, to all the Sisters, Priests, and others without loved ones to pray for their soul.  
And, a prayer for us all as each one of us faces our daily struggles, fears, and pains.



## *Be safe ~ BÍ curamach*

*Lastly...Please send in your Good News, Committee Updates,  
or Prayer Requests so together,  
we can celebrate & support each other.*

*Please email them to Maura O'Donnell-Roszyk at [maurar1117@msn.com](mailto:maurar1117@msn.com)  
To be sure, I received ~ please message me if I do not send you a RECEIVED response.*

### **A WOMAN'S PRAYER ~ SR. PEGGY FLAHERTY, CDP**

*Make us, O God, spirit-filled women...women of prayer...women of vitality...women of vision..  
women of courage...risk-taking women.*

*Fill us with your love...a love, which affirms...a love, which calls forth...a love, which challenges...a love, which  
frees.*

*Grant us your gift of Godliness... a reverence for you. Instill in our hearts the spirit of holy Joy...the joy that  
sanctifies...the joy that gives...the joy of one who loves... the joy that imparts to others the spirit born of self-  
control.*

*Make us Peace-seeking women...instruments of your peace...directed by your Wisdom,  
bridge builders...working with others for justice to bring about true peace.*

*Give us Patience...a strong patience which enables us to trust and to keep heart in the face of disappointments,  
frustrations, and failures.*

*Plant deep within our attitudes your kindness...make us women who are open and friendly...women of  
hospitality...women who image our people friendly God. Impart to us your spirit of Goodness...Make us women  
who believe in the good of the other...who speak the good to each other and about each other...who do good for one  
another...Bestow on us your gift of knowledge that we may know you who are the source of all good.*

*Root us in your Fidelity...a fidelity that keeps us true to you...walking in integrity in your presence...*

*Mold us into faithful women...women who are true to ourselves...true to others... true to life and all creation.*

*Form us into women who follow your Counsel in all things, who uphold true values and the rights of all people.  
Make us, O God, Spirit filled Irish women, trusting you and one another as we move into this 21<sup>st</sup> Century.*

*Our Late Pennsylvania State Chaplain, Sister Peggy Flaherty, also Dorothy Weldon's sister, wrote this beautiful & inspirational prayer.*

*Sister Peggy was a member of the Sisters of Divine Providence in Pittsburgh, PA. She was the youngest member of the Order to become a Principal of St. Peter and Paul School in Beaver County, PA until her death.*

*Sister was also the Chaplain of the LAOH, Allegheny County and loved by all. She was elected State Chair of Catholic Action before her untimely death and served us well.*

*She was truly loved by everyone, always available to assist and a genuine Irish Catholic Woman as her Father, Martin Flaherty was born in County Galway, Ireland, and Mother, Mary McElligott Flaherty, born in County Kerry, Ireland.*

## One last quick thought...

It's not too early to start thinking about the next set of holidays. The Lehigh Valley Division will follow this Advent Calendar suggestion throughout November so that we can be sure to get all the items to our chosen charities before Christmas. Maybe your Division might like to do this one too!

**REVERSE  
ADVENT CALENDAR**

**EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.  
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A  
FOOD BANK.**

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans

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