



# *Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Pennsylvania*



*Friendship, Unity & Christian Charity*



**2023 Edition IV**

## *Introducing the 2023-2025 Pennsylvania State Board*



Pictured: 1<sup>st</sup> row L-R: Carolyn Killion, Kathleen Diulus, Patti Flaus  
Second Row: Carole Syzdek, Brianna Curran, MaryEllen Myers, Shirley Sestric

**Congratulations Ladies!**

**Kathleen Dilius ~ President**

**Carolyn Killion ~ Vice President**

**Patti Flaus ~ Secretary**

**Carole Cooney-Szydek ~ Treasurer**

**Brianna Curran ~ Historian**

**Shirley Sestric ~ Catholic Action**

**Mary Ellen Myers ~ Missions and Charity**

**Immediate Past President ~ Maria Gallagher**

**Additionally, Kathleen named the following Ladies as appointees.**

**Sister Kathleen Smith, RSM ~ Chaplin**

**FFAI and Immigration & Education ~ Kathy Varady**

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

**Veteran Affairs ~ Maureen Cooper**

**Webmaster ~ Kalyn Populo**

## *A Word from Kathleen, our President...*

*Greetings Ladies,*

*I hope everyone had a wonderful summer! As we return to our school and work routines, the new PA State Board is busy settling into our new roles.*

*Our new website launched in early September, the history contest is underway, and Project St. Patrick's applications are being accepted; there is lots to do and many ways to be involved. Fall is also a busy fundraising time for so many of our Divisions. Please share your fundraising details with our webmaster; they will be added to our calendar events. **If you are looking for something to do, check out the calendar** and support your fellow Sisters. Sisters supporting Sisters is a great way to live our motto!*

*As stated in July, I plan to visit many Divisions during my tenure and participate in as many fundraisers as possible.*

***Some exciting news to share:** Division 1 Bristol in Bucks County is looking to form a Junior Division. So, if you have a family member or friend with a child ages 6 to 18, with Irish ancestry by birth or descent, who is Catholic, please consider/encourage them to join. Please reach out to Jenn Crawford for additional information/details (Jenn's email: [genncraw93@icloud.com](mailto:genncraw93@icloud.com)).*

*I keep each of you in my daily prayers and hope to assist you in any way I can.*

*Please reach out at any time.*

*Wishing everyone a wonderful fall,*

*Kathleen*

*Kathleen Dilius  
PA State President  
National LAOH*



## State Things to Know...

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

The History of the LAOH ~ The History of the Pennsylvania LAOH

State Board Members Letters and means to contact

The Anna C. Malia Ruddy Award winners

Bylaws ~ Newsletters ~ Photo Albums

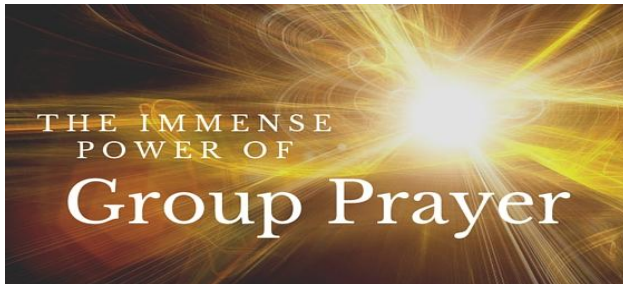
Information from Degree Teams ~ Important Dates

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 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 negative issues, those who are suffering medical issues, 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 [briana.m.curran@gmail.com](mailto:briana.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: [paLAOHmor@gmail.com](mailto:paLAOHmor@gmail.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: [paLAOHmor@gmail.com](mailto:paLAOHmor@gmail.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!



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

Like so many in the past, this year's Convention could only be described as a fantastic gathering filled with charity, inspiration, laughter, updates, excitement, hope, and good cheer.

The State Board was honored and thrilled that seven members of the National Board attended! Day One consisted of an early morning Mass with Father Tim, then off to Committee meetings, and then an afternoon of Committee and Officer Reports. Additionally, nominations were made and accepted. As all positions were uncontested, no elections were required.

We enjoyed a fun-filled Ice Breaker~ a Night at the Races at the historic Cambria County War Memorial. The Convention Team put together a delicious Hometown Buffet, including several specialty drinks at the bar and a yummy Dessert Bar! The Races were much fun, whether you cheered on a horse you sponsored or just placed a few bets, but this Team knew how to end our evening. An Ice Cream Truck with an assortment of amazing treats waiting outside for the walk home to our hotel!

Day Two, Friday, began with an early morning Mass with Father Tim, then a joint session with the Men, and it was announced our next Convention would be in the super location of Scranton. Many of you may remember the fabulous job the Scranton Team did for the 2017 Convention, so we are most excited to see how they outdo themselves, and we know they will!

After the joint session, we completed the Committee and Officer Reports. National President Marilyn Madigan asked us to consider a donation to honor the life and passions of Sister Conchita McDonnell and assist the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary. Without hesitation, we collected \$1,650!

Friday evening was categorized as an Open Night of Johnstown Experiences!

The Team provided many options for Convention goers, from walking about town to see all Johnstown had to offer ~ including a pub-crawl or an evening at the State Theater of Johnstown featuring Michael James Facciani. Many enjoyed multiple experiences that filled their hearts and bellies!

On Saturday, the Allegheny Claddagh Degree Team presented a Degree Ceremony.

The Ceremony included several Sisters earning their Degrees and a packed crowd of observers ~ including National and State Board members. The Ceremony was performed beautifully, and that is all that can be said, other than Congratulations to the Team and the newly Degreed Sisters.

Late Saturday afternoon, we jumped on the bus and headed to Mass at the St. John Gualbert Cathedral, where we were honored to have Bishop Mark Bartchak celebrate our Mass.

At the end of Mass, the LAOH and AOH Officers were installed for the 2023-2025 term.

After Mass, we headed to the Johnstown Conference Center for our Final Banquet.

Once again, we were treated to delicious food and entertainment. The evening began with the Johnstown Symphony string quartet, and then we danced away the night to Jeff Webb and the Delectable Sounds.

On Sunday morning, as many of us prepared to leave, one could hear others commenting on how well this Convention turned out, how much fun they had, how many new friends were made, and that they are now excited for Scranton!

Stay tuned to see what else the LAOH Board did Sunday morning....

# *And yes, the planning has begun for 2025!*

*The wheels are in motion for the planning of the AOH/LAOH 2025 State Convention being held in Scranton PA. More than a dozen committees have been formed.*



*Left to right; Convention Co-chair, Lackawanna County LAOH President Dot Crowley, Convention Secretary Mike Dougherty, Convention Co-chair, PA AOH State Vice-President Thomas Gilbride.*



*"Alone we can do so little ; together we can do so much."  
LAOH/AOH Co-chairs of the 2025 PA State Convention at Scranton; Dorothea Crowley and Thomas Gilbride working diligently together to give us a memorable event.*

## **Let's kick off the excitement of Scranton with some Fast Facts!**

*Did you know?*

- *The original name of Scranton was Slocum Hollow.*
- *Scranton was one of the first cities in the country to use electricity.*
- *An "Irish War" between factions of Irish rail workers was fought near Clarks Summit in 1850.*
- *Though **The Office** was shot in California, footage of Scranton and references to actual sites and locations were used in the show.*
- *Incorporated on February 14, 1856, as a borough in Luzerne County and as a city on April 23, 1866.*
- *Present-day Scranton and its surrounding area had been long inhabited by the native Lenape tribe, from whose language "Lackawanna" (or lac-a-wa-na, meaning "stream that forks") is derived.*
- *The Houdini Museum is located in Scranton, Pennsylvania.*



# News & Photos from Around the Commonwealth

## Pennsylvania Proud!

SHIRLEY SESTRIC 2023 ANNA C. MALIA RUDDY AWARD



At every Convention, the State Board awards the Anna Malia Ruddy Award to one of our Pennsylvania Sisters. We recognize an outstanding Sister with the prestigious award due to her exceptional actions within the LAOH and her community.

### **Congratulations, Division 11 ~ Allegheny County's Shirley Sestic!**

Pennsylvania's Anna Malia Ruddy served as the first National President of the LAOH. She was a loving, caring daughter and wife, a devoted teacher and school administrator, and an active participant in her church and community.

If your actions create  
a legacy that inspires  
others to dream more,  
learn more, do more  
And become more,  
then, you are  
an excellent leader.

✕

DOLLY PARTON

## *Helping Hands*

### **Supply Drive for A women's Help Center**

In her last action as Catholic Action Officer, Brianna Curran challenged the Ladies across the Commonwealth to assist the incredible Johnston charity,

Women's Help Center. She challenged us to all help in memory of Melissa Bowers, daughter of Past PA State President Colleen Bowers. Melissa, a member of Division # 11 in Allegheny County for 18 years, fell victim to domestic violence 11.5 years ago.

And, of course, we came through with more than the Center ever anticipated ~ we were even taken aback!

In just two months, Brianna organized the drive and collected donations from Divisions and Counties across the Commonwealth. During the 2023 Pennsylvania AOH & LAOH State Convention, monetary contributions for a total of \$225.00 (used to purchase additional supplies in Johnstown) were received, as well as \$200.00 in Amazon Gift Cards, and \$1,700.00 in checks from the PA AOH and LAOH members!!





*"Kindness is Giving Hope to those who think They are all alone in this world" ~*

# One Last Thing...

**Technically, this could be under Division One Bristol Updates, however I felt it was so special, we wanted all Divisions and Counties to see!**

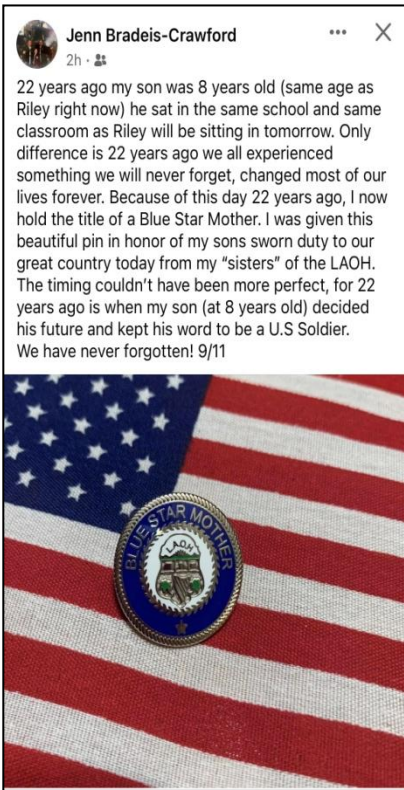
*During our September Membership Meeting, we were honored to present and surprise our Blue Star Mothers and Grandmothers with the LAOH Blue Star Mother pin.*

*We have four Blue Star Mothers and three Grandmothers; during the presentation of the pins, there was no dry eyes in the room. We cannot express enough gratitude for the sacrifice their children have made and/ or are making for our country. And we know their heartache and worry for their children while deployed or in active duty cannot be consoled until they return home.*

*The Maryellen Everett Division 1 would like to express their gratitude to the LAOH Pennsylvania State Board for providing these pins for our Division and the LAOH National Board for designing them.*

*Our Mothers and Grandmothers will wear these pins proudly.*

*And we ask you to keep their children and grandchildren in your prayers.*







*County and Division Updates  
Our Lady of Knock Mass and More!*  
**Allegheny County**

In June, the Allegheny County Board elected/appointed new officers.

Seated: Vice President Shirley Sestric, Board President Patti Flaus, Secretary Nicky Skubal,  
Standing 1<sup>st</sup> row: Treasurer Eileen O'Malley, Missions & Charities Mary Ellen Myers,  
Catholic Action Carmella Law,

Back Row: Irish Historian Maureen Seuffert, Sentinel Trish Conley, Publicity/Webmaster Kalyn Populo,  
Mistress at Arms Mary Rodgers Schubert, FFAL/Immigration & Legislation Suzanne Heller [not in pic],



The Ladies of Allegheny had a fabulous time at the State Convention in Johnstown!  
Congratulations to our Board members who were elected/appointed to the State Board!  
Kathleen Diulus, Patti Flaus, Mary Ellen Myers, Shirley Sestric, and Kalyn Populo.



Our County gathered to celebrate the Our Lady of Knock Mass, on Sunday, August 13th with the members of the AOH at Saints Simon and Jude.

After Mass, we presented 11 of our members with a Golden Rose Pin, recognizing their 20 years as members of our order.



Following the Mass, we presented 11 Members with their Golden Rose, Congratulations for 20 years in the order!



*Lynne O'Brien, Anne Moore, Colleen Bowers, Melissa Rossiter, Pam Stewart, June Coyne, Colleen DeFilippo, Tashia Gray, Sister Flo Lynch, Mary Turak, Shannon Younger*

*We also carried out a charity project to honor Our Lady, "Crayons for Kids."*

*We asked those attending the Mass to bring a box of crayons or other art supplies to benefit the Center for Victims who provides shelter and services to victims of domestic abuse, both moms and children. We collected over \$1000.00 worth of art supplies for the Center for Victims.*

*We are always amazed at the generosity of our members. We collected crayons, markers, pencils, scissors, glue sticks, pencil cases, sketchbooks, notebooks, construction paper, and activity books.*



September 17<sup>th</sup> marks the 161<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the [Allegheny Arsenal Explosion](#) that claimed 78 lives, mostly young Irish women and girls.

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You are invited to join LAOH Division #23 as we remember and honor these women with a Prayer and Wreath Laying Service on Sunday, September 17, 2023, at 2:00pm at Arsenal Park, 276 39<sup>th</sup> Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15201.

Parking is limited on 40<sup>th</sup> Street to only downhill from Penn Avenue to Butler Street but is accessible on both sides of 39<sup>th</sup> Street. The service will take place at the pond. Please bring a chair and an umbrella if the weather is inclement.



## Lackawanna County

Members of the LAOH and AOH of Lackawanna County PA celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of Knock, Sunday August 13th, at Mary Mother of God Parish at Holy Rosary Church Scranton.

Father Martin Gaiardo and Deacon Joseph Marcellus were Celebrants.



The LAOH President of the PA Lackawanna County Board is Dorothea Crowley and the AOH President of the PA County Board is Thomas Gilbride .

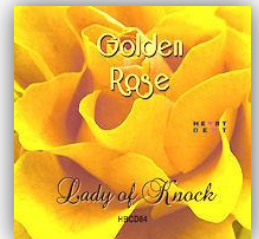


LAOH Eucharistic Minister, Alice McDermott, brings the Gift of Life, Compassion, and Faith to others.

Presentation of flowers to the Holy Family, Dorothea Crowley, Lackawanna County Board LAOH President.



Liturgy of the Word, Readings presented by Kathy Connor LAOH and Luke Walsh AOH members.



*Lackawanna County Scranton PA LAOH and AOH enjoyed a glorious brunch after Our Lady of Knock Mass at the Lace Works Pub Scranton.*

*"There are good ships and there are wood ships, ships that sail the sea, but the best ships are the friendships may they always be." Lackawanna County LAOH and AOH working together in Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity.*



*Sister Kathleen Smith & Dorothea Crowley lead us in prayer.*



*SEATED, Mary Anne McAndrew, Genette Rotherforth, Ellen Perry, Kathy McDonnell STANDING: Nancy Yavoroski and Carolyn Wahl*



*AOH Harry Smith, Tom Gilbride, and Luke Walsh*



*Sister Teresa Marques, Fran Kingsley, Sister Kathleen Smith, and Bob Kingsley*



*Linda Walsh, Dave Walsh, and Joe Walsh*

*Maureen Wallace and Michelle McDade*



*Patty Jones and  
Alice McDermott*



*Chuck and Kate Schneider*



*Mary Ann Boylan, Mary Kay  
Sears, Jeff Sears,  
Dot Crowley and John  
Michaely*



*Mary Joan Burns, Mary Ann Cron, and Jeanie Seymour are seated with their Sisters of Division 2*



### **Division #4 ~ Scranton ~Lackawanna County**

*In July, we volunteered and contributed at the 26th Annual St Joseph's Center Festival. This event raises money to aid adults and children with intellectual disabilities.*



*From left to right Division Vice-president; Mary Anne McAndrew, Division President; Nancy McAndrew Yavoroski and Division member; Kathleen McAndrew Rude.*



*Members proudly stand with Sister Maryalice Jacquinot, IHM President and CEO of Saint Joseph's Center Summer Festival at Marywood University. Spirit, compassion and dedication is the cornerstone of the centers mission.*

*Seen here are Kathleen Rude, Nancy Yavoroski, Sister Mary Alice and Mary Anne McAndrew.*

*In September, we collected food for Catholic Social Services critically low food pantry. Nancy Yavoroski and Kathy Rude delivered the generous donation.*



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

*We shared a great night out on the feast day of Our Lady of Knock and to celebrate our sister Jayme DeMedio-Gonzalez as she awaits our future lil' hibernian!! ❤️🍀👍*







## **Division #2 ~ JFK ~ Pottsville**

Our Lady of Knock Mass was offered on Sunday, August 20, 2023, St. Ann's Church, Frackville,  
by Father Giuseppe Esposito.

Attendees also included AOH and LAOH members of Division #18, Girardville.



After the Mass, several of us enjoyed lunch at the Dutch Kitchen, Frackville.





## Division #3 ~ Lackawanna County

At our August meeting, we celebrated the Feast Day of Our Lady of Knock with a Program presented by Sister Kathleen Smith, RSM, and Sister Therese Marques, RSM.



Hostesses for the evening were Mary Fran Smith, Janice Joyce, and Susan Rushen.



## Division # 1 ~ Carbon County Laoh ~Molly Maguires

*We celebrated a lovely Our Lady of Knock Mass together*





## **Division #11 ~ Allegheny County**

*The Ladies who attended the State Convention in Johnstown had a fabulous time!!*





*Congratulations to our Division 11 members who were elected/appointed to the State Board Mary Ellen Myers, Shirley Sestric, and Kalyn Populo.*



*We are so genuinely proud of our Sister Shirley Sestric who received the Anna Malia Ruddy Award at the State Convention, she is truly a Sister to emulate.*

Congratulations also to our Sisters who received their Golden Rose at this year's Our Lady of Knock Mass ~ Colleen Bowers, Pam Stewart, and Melissa Rossiter.

Again, this year Division 11 will offer an online Sarris Candy Fundraiser.  
The sale runs from September 15 until December 15.  
This will include candy for Halloween,  
Thanksgiving and Christmas!

Orders may be placed at <https://www.sarriscandiesfundraising.com/VIEWBYCATEGORY.aspx?id=VA>  
You must use our Group ID#10-2957 for Division 11 to receive the credit.

Again, this year, Sarris will only charge \$5 for handling/packing, no additional delivery fee.  
All the chocolate you could ever want!

After several successful years our fall fundraiser - The Masquerade Charity Ball has morphed into a Monte Carlo night. Which we hope will be a great success, like our masquerade ball.

Reservations. Are limited in selling fast, which we are very pleased about. Our members and guest are looking forward to this great event!

A green-themed poster for "Monte Carlo Night". The title "MONTE CARLO" is in large, bold, black letters, with "Night" in a white cursive font below it. The central image shows a dartboard with three darts, a stack of playing cards (Ace of Spades, Ace of Clubs, Ace of Hearts, Ace of Diamonds), and several gold and black casino chips. The event details are listed at the bottom: "SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2023", "DOORS OPEN AT 6 P.M.", "Salvatore's Event Center | 5001 Curry Road | Pittsburgh, PA 15236". A QR code is provided for ticket purchase. The ticket price is \$60, which includes dinner, buffet, open bar, and casino games. Contact information for Shirley Sestric is provided: 412-370-4127 or shirleysestric@gmail.com. Payment methods accepted are cash, check, and Venmo. A grand prize of \$1,000 is mentioned, along with a logo for the Ladies of Knock Division 11.

**MONTE CARLO**  
*Night*

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2023**  
DOORS OPEN AT 6 P.M.

Salvatore's Event Center | 5001 Curry Road | Pittsburgh, PA 15236

**TICKET \$60** (includes dinner buffet, open bar, and casino games)  
CONTACT Shirley Sestric | 412-370-4127 | shirleysestric@gmail.com  
WE ACCEPT cash, check (MAIL TO: 311 Kearsarge Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15211)  
or Venmo (@Shirley-Sestric).

TRY YOUR LUCK WITH THE LADIES OF KNOCK DIVISION 11!

**GRAND PRIZE OF \$1,000!**



## **Division #2 ~ Notre Dame ~ Montgomery County**

*We celebrated the Our Lady of Knock Mass at St. Patrick Roman Catholic Church in Norristown with a beautiful service presided by Pastor Manuel Flores.*



*Every woman in attendance presented a yellow rose to the altar.*



We were honored with some special guests, PA State President Kathleen Diulus, PA State Vice President Carolyn Killion, PA Historian Brianna Curran, and members of the Berks County and Delaware County Division. We were honored to have these incredible women in our company, and we thank them tremendously for making the journey to be with us on such a lovely occasion. They also joined us for brunch at our AOH hall.



Additionally, we collected diapers and wipes collection for The Patrician Society.

Our new website is up and running, feel free to check it out!

<https://laohnotredamedivision2.weebly.com/?fbclid=IwAR2MxNQVRxHNTnq3WnjIvo4GZyiiPqH1ANSpRr-gr2P2T9h5IVkD4zgC-yE>





## **Division #21 ~ Castle Shannon**

*We gathered for our annual picnic meeting on August 8<sup>th</sup> at the home of member Eileen O'Malley, who graciously hosts the annual get together.*

*Members bring dishes to share and celebrate their sisterhood.*



*Seated left to right: Norma Dawson, Eileen Sheridan and Helen Rafferty. Standing left to right Mary Ann Raymer, Rebecca Ricci, Judy Tredway, Eileen O'Malley, Noreen Herward, Peggy Bond, Trish Conley and Darlene Vietmeier.*

*Darlene Vietmeier was honored with the Manifesting the Kingdom Award from the Diocese of Pittsburgh. The award recognizes the idea that our lives as Catholic Christians are about manifesting Christ. The diocese noted that in God's place, each of us is an adopted child of God with power through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit to work with Christ in bringing about a world of peace, kindness, truth, and love.*



*Two members of Division 21, President Trish Conley and Eileen O'Malley, were installed on the Allegheny County Board. Trish was installed as Sentinel and Eileen, outgoing president of the county board, was installed as Treasurer.*



*(Left to right: Trish Conley, Mary Schubert, Maureen Siefert, Eileen O'Malley, Nicki Skubul, Carmella Law, Shirley Sestric, Patti Flaus.*



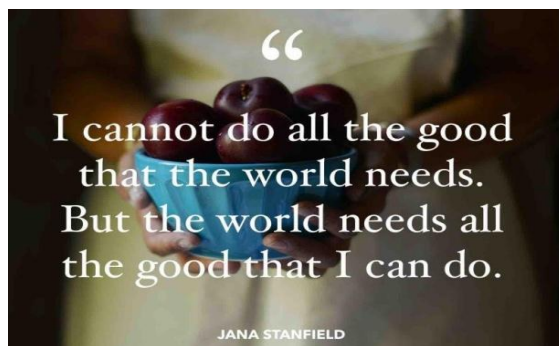
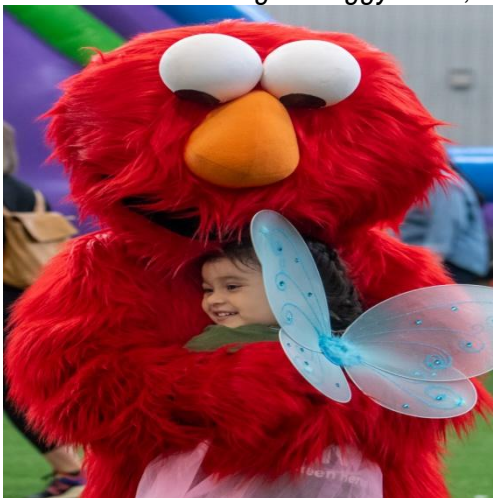


*Eileen O'Malley, outgoing county board president, and Patti Flaus, incoming president.*

*Several Division members volunteered at the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Jessie Games held Aug. 12 at the Cool Springs Sports Complex. The event, which was created by the family of Division 21 member Clare Ansberry Smith in memory of their daughter, Jessie, raises money for children and family programs provided by Catholic Charities of Pittsburgh. Division 21, its members, and the National LAOH have supported the games. This years' event raised about \$35,000 and was attended by about 350 people, including children, parents, and volunteers. Division 21 members Mary Anne Raymer, Ann Duffy and Virginia Gates provided and staffed a popular racing pig and doggie game and Peggy Bond worked at the T-shirt table. The 10-year logo incorporated the Celtic knot.*



*Left to Right: Peggy Bond, Mary Anne Raymer, Clare Ansberry Smith, Virginia Gates.*



JANA STANFIELD



## **Division# 1 ~ Berks**

*We celebrated Our Lady of Knock Mass at Sacred Heart Chapel with Fr. Robert P. Bowman and some AOH members.*



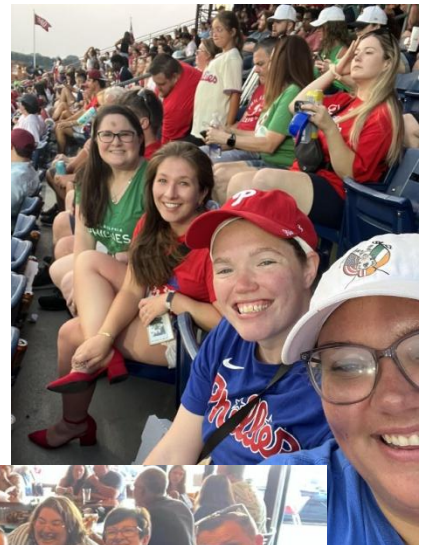
*from left are: Bryn Weckel, Maureen Caherly, Mary Pearsall, Peg Devine, Bonnie Collins, and President Maryanne Welch.*



## **Division #1 ~ Mary Ellen Everett ~ Bristol**

On July 19<sup>th</sup>, we had 26 members attend the Philadelphia Phillies game on Celtic Night!

We were thrilled that Laura Moyer and Julie Florek, earned their Degrees at the State Convention.  
All had a great time!



Along with our Little Ladies, we celebrated the Our Lady of Knock Mass at our local parish St.Marks.



This year we decided that we were going to host “Crash Events” at all the local business that helped us with our Irish Potatoes sale back in February and March to show our appreciation, these companies stocked, sold and advertised our sale and we could not have done it without them. On August 26th, we hosted another “Crash” event at The Pines Tavern.



## ***Division #1 ~ Tir Na’N Og’~ Lehigh Valley***

It was a long, hot summer, but our Ladies stayed busy with our Purse Project! Not only did we fill 75 bags, but also Mary Marshall and Laura Weidman prepped for winter, knitting hats, mittens, and scarves. We are ready to start preparing “winter bags,” including socks.

Jane Rosati and Darlene Wentzel joined Maura Roszyk at the Convention, taking in some sights and enjoying Hibernian fun!



We celebrated a beautiful Our Lady of Knock Mass at one of our local parishes. We collected many bags of non-perishable items to donate to the Food Bank of the parish's choosing.

We look forward to a busy fall and wish everyone a great one!



## *Degree Team Information*

### **ALLEGHENY COUNTY CLADDAGH DEGREE TEAM**

The Degree team amazed all in attendance with the beautiful and solemn Ceremony they did at the Convention. The Team included several new team members, and except for a technical glitch with the music, all was perfect.

Thank you to the Team, Great Job!



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

*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*

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

*Mary Anne Dooley*

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

*Ellen McCrane*

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

*Marie Nealis*

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

*Colleen Riccardo*

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



***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***



***Patricia O'Bara ~ Division 1, Bristol***

***Anne K. Albert ~ Division 87, Port Richmond***



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.

 *Prayer Requests*

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



Sister Veronica Murray, former State Chaplin, as she recovers.



Janet Connors of Division 39 as she recovers from a fall.



Nancy Cullen of Division 39~ grandson, Ronan as he faces his medical issues.



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.



Kathleen Varady's grandson, as he deals with several obstacles thrown in his life path.



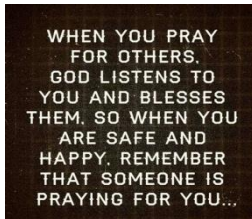
Sammi Smith & MaryEllen O'Donnell of Division One~ Lehigh Valley ~ as they face medical issues.



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



*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 [palaohpublicity@gmail.com](mailto:palaohpublicity@gmail.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.