



# *Empire State Hibernian*

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## **State Chaplain Fr. Henry W. Reid**

It was good to see so many of you up in East Durham for the weekend events, centered around the State Board meeting. Of particular enjoyment was seeing many of the LAOH and AOH members joining together at the Mass Rock to celebrate our annual Mass for Life on Sunday, especially since this was my first opportunity to hold Mass there. Preparing for the Mass I wrote down some reflections, and even though most of it became my homily, there were a couple of things I didn't get to that I thought I would include.

For those who do not know what the Mass Rock is, in the days of the Penal Laws, when practicing the Catholic Faith was outlawed in Ireland and Britain, and priests were hunted down and killed for saying the Mass, the Irish would gather in hidden places to celebrate the Lord's Supper. In various places throughout Ireland, hidden by nature, were ready made altars, rocks flattened by glaciers in the last Ice Age, these would be used by those who valued their Faith above all else.

These Mass Rocks speak of the powerlessness of those who gathered around them in the past. A Mass Rock speaks of injustice, injustice done to a people by those who would deny them the rights that all men share, the right to worship as one sees fit. At the same time it speaks of a people convinced of Divine Justice. Those who came to these rocks to worship, to celebrate the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, were a people displaced from their homes and lands. A people who were denied, by Britain, the basic human dignities which we hold belong to every human being, because these rights originate from God and not the State.

Around these rocks gathered men and women, children and the elderly, laypeople and their priests, risking everything to participate in the Mystery.

Today, we gather around this Mass Rock, 3,000 miles from where those Irishmen and Irishwomen stood around their own Altar. We come to participate in the Eternal Mystery, which our ancestors sacrificed everything for, though we do not risk anything at this moment, other than some discomfort and wet. But here we stand witnessing to our Faith, to those who have held that Faith before us, and praying for those who will hold onto this Faith in the Future.

It is a Faith that speaks of the inherent dignity of every human life, from the moment of conception until the moment of natural death. A dignity born in the fact that we are created in the image and likeness of God Himself. A dignity fully revealed in the Incarnation of Jesus Christ, as He took on our flesh and redeemed us through the suffering of the Cross.

Several months ago, a violation of that human dignity occurred, as the government of the State of New York passed infanticide into law.

My initial reaction, and I believe that of everyone here, was revulsion. Something within my very being shrank back in horror from the Evil that was cheered, as Gov. Cuomo signed this Bill into Law. While the governor and those who identify themselves as “progressive” claim to protect and promote the dignity of one half of humanity, they have reduced the value of that same humanity. Saying that they value the dignity of women, they legalize the destruction of women in the womb, and now the woman who is born but inconvenient. It should come as no surprise that we have gotten to this point in the degradation of human life. Having witnessed the triumphs of secularism in the Nazi death camps and the experiments in Marxism, during the last century, we have failed as a society to learn from those lessons.

As European secularism spreads throughout Ireland and the United States, we experience a selfish, self-centered valuation of the person, inwardly focused, rather than on something or someone outside of ourselves. The value of a human person is no longer based on their being beloved children of God, made in His own image and likeness, or redeemed by the blood of Christ, who chose to share in that same human nature, but on the Self. A self that chooses to define oneself based upon delusional feeling, rather than on affectual reasoning; self-definitions and self-identities that are symptomatic of mental illness.

In the face of this illness we can get angry. But anger feeds the hate, and feeds more anger, becoming as evil as the cycle we claim to stand opposed to. Of course, we do whatever we can to reverse and change the direction which politics and selfishness have brought us to in this state, and whatever our party affiliation, or none, which we hold we stand up for Life.

Ultimately, we are called to come before this Altar, and feel powerless; just as those who gathered around such Mass Rocks did in the past felt. To come powerless before the Mystery. To long for and desire to be engulfed by the Mystery; to reach out in love and to be loved. Only in our being filled with the Love the Mystery, which is God, and living a witness to that love we receive, can we hope to transform the hearts of those we encounter.

Only in our own witness, that true human dignity comes from God, who created and redeemed us, can we truly hope to bring about the Culture of Life.

**President  
Vic Vogel**

I am very much impressed by the outstanding accomplishments achieved by the New York State Ancient Order of Hibernians since our last meeting. I am very impressed and inspired by the level of participation shown around the State of New York when the Good Work must be done. The key factor in all of these accomplishments has been that so many NYS Hibernians worked together to insure a successful outcome.

I would like to repeat an objective that I wrote in my last report. As New York State President, my goal is to encourage and support all Elected and Appointed Officers to perform their respective duties at the highest possible level. In order to advance the Good of the Order, I will use the authority granted to me by our Constitution, the traditions of our Order and good common sense to maximize your success. Please feel free to share with me any ideas you might have. Use this term of office to the best of your abilities. Your success is my goal!

I would like to thank our NYS Chaplain, Fr. Henry Reid, the many volunteers and all those who celebrated Mass at the Mass Rock in East Durham. It was a great success and your participation made it an event that will help to preserve our Irish Heritage and our Irish Culture. Thank you all!

**Vice President**  
**Thomas A. Lambert**

At the recently held Semi-Annual State Board meeting we did not exactly have Spring like weather, but we were able to enjoy the annual James F. Hayes Annual Golf Classic, our first Mass Rock celebration, and of course we shared the comradery of our Brotherhood. It is always a great weekend and this year was no exception!

The New York AOH State Convention is almost here! The 2019 NYS AOH/LAOH Biennial Convention will be held at the Hilton Albany from July 10, 2019 through July 13, 2019. Convention information is on our state website, including hotel reservations, as well as information on Packages. Plan early for what is sure to be another great Hibernian event! Having been the Co-Chair of the last NYS AOH Convention two years ago in Buffalo, I know the importance of making an early commitment to help support our Brother and Sister Hibernians in Albany who have been working very diligently to make this Convention a great success! Please lend your support by making plans to attend and follow through by registering.

It now appears that Malachy McAllister will get a six month stay and will not be deported on April 30th. This is great news and reflects a lot of work done by the AOH and many others in the Irish American community. As per our FFAI Chair, Martin Galvin "IT IS KEY TO REMEMBER THIS IS A 6 MONTH STAY-it delays and will not stop deportation unless we continue and get him the legalization he should have enjoyed years ago!!!" Let's keep up the pressure and make sure that our Brother Hibernian can stay in his adopted country on a permanent basis!

**Secretary**  
**John J. Manning**

It was so nice to see such an amazing turn out for this year's Annual James F. Hayes Golf Classic and the 2019 Bi-Annual New York State 2019 Spring Meeting in East Durham, NY, back on the first weekend of May. By the looks of everyone, it was a clear indication that everyone had an amazing weekend.

I am very happy to report that as of today, we have only 3 Divisions out of 76 in the State of New York that have not paid their per capita. I am currently in active communications with the leadership of these particular Divisions, and have been assured that they will be sending in their NYS Form 9 & 11 along with their per capita in the very near future.

At this current time I still have not received Form 9's from 25 Divisions within New York State. An updated Form 9 is important for keeping our contact information current and up to date. Please file an updated Form 9, even if the names of your officers have not changed. Our NYS AOH Web Masters Brother Lee Paterson and Brother Kevin Ellis have been doing an outstanding job with updating our electronic database for easy access to names, addresses, phone numbers and E-Mail addresses for all of our National, State, County, and Division Officers. Please check the NYS AOH Website at [www.nyaoh.com](http://www.nyaoh.com) for the current list, and if there are any errors, please contact me at your earliest convenience. I can be reached at [john@breezymanning.com](mailto:john@breezymanning.com) or Cell (917) 589-0047.

The 2019 New York State AOH/LAOH Convention that is happening in Albany, NY is quickly approaching. This convention is starting on Wednesday July 10 and going through Sunday July 14, 2019. I am very much looking forward to seeing all of our Brother and Sister Hibernians that will be traveling from throughout New York State. If you have any questions, or are interested in attending this year's Convention please visit the New York State AOH/LAOH Convention Web Site at <http://www.nyaoh.com/event/2019-biennial-hibernian-convention/>

I want to wish all of our Brother Hibernians and their Families a Safe and Enjoyable Summer

## **District 1**

### **Owen Cole**

On May 11th I was honored to Judge the NYS Right to Life Oratory Contest. It was also a great pleasure and distinct personal honor to deliver the NYS AOH donation check for Camp Esther Scholarships.

June 3rd is the NYS "March for Life". Please plan on sending a delegation from your division or district. Please make your plans to attend now. It is extremely important that we show our solidarity in this vital issue.

The NYS Right to Life intensive summer camp for life, Camp Esther, is altogether worthy of your support. Camp Scholarships are \$150.00 each. Please consider underwriting a child or two. The AOH NYS Board sponsors 5 youth annually, thank you brothers. These are our future, the future of our cause. Typically, Camp Esther hosts 30 high school aged youth for the 3 day training seminar. My vision is to make this a free event for the attendees. We have had great success in this regard. 30 youth at \$150.00 each comes to a total of \$4,500.00 to underwrite the event. District 1 has had 100% participation donating to this pro-life activity. I challenge all the districts in the state to make donations according to their ability.

#### **District News and Events:**

**Albany County** continues to work hard on preparations for the NYS Convention in July. Everyone should already have their room reservations and event packages. Plan your "free night" activity now.

**Albany Div. 5** Look for their annual "Wiffle Ball Tournament" in September. I'd like to thank them for their kind donation to the Camp Esther Scholarship Fund.

**Saratoga Div. 1** is hosting a Golf Outing on June 22. See their FB page for more details. As part of this event there will be a raffle and one lucky participant will win tickets to next year's Masters in Augusta. I'd also like to thank them for their kind donation to the Camp Esther Scholarship Fund.

**Schenectady Div. 1** will be holding their Golf Outing on Friday, June 7. See their FB page for more details. There is a \$25,000.00 hole-in-one prize. They recently held a fundraiser for Dr. Tom Catena. If you don't know him, he's a medical Dr. in the Nuba region of Sudan. I'd also like to thank them for their kind donation to the Camp Esther Scholarship Fund.

**Troy Div. 8:** I'd like to thank them for their kind donation to Camp Esther.

**Watervliet Div.1:** will be holding their annual golf outing on October 5. Please see their FB page for more information. I'd like to thank them for their kind donation to the Camp Esther Scholarship Fund.

**East Durham Div. 2:** It was a great idea to hold the annual pilgrimage Mass at the Mass Rock. Thank you Jim Cuffe. I'd also like to thank them for their kind donation to the Camp Esther Scholarship Fund.

## **District 2**

### **Barry Griffith**

In western New York we continue to follow our motto. Lots of activity by all divisions make it impossible to list them all. A few of the highlights are:

On Saturday April 27th, the Freedom for All Ireland (FFAI) committee of Monroe County New York's Colonel Patrick O'Rorke AOH Division 7, hosted a dinner event to commemoration the 103rd anniversary of the Irish Proclamation of the Republic (Republic Day). The evening centered around a panel discussion of the impact of

Brexit on Irish Unification. The speaker panel was made up of local scholars from SUNY Brockport and St John Fisher College, along with AOH National Treasurer, Sean Pender. Attendees were made up of AOH members from across New York, as well as a delegation from AOH divisions in Ohio, including AOH National Director, Dennis Parks. Proceeds from the evening will be directed towards FFAI approved organizations in Ireland and the Golisano Children's Hospital in Rochester, NY. The well attended event represented the core Hibernian values of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity.

Divisions from Erie and Niagara Counties (both AOH and LAOH) are joining for a fund raiser for the refurbishment of the USS The Sullivans (DD-537). This is a United States Navy ship named in honor of the five Sullivan brothers from Waterloo, Iowa (George, Francis, Joseph, Madison, and Albert) aged 20 to 27 who lost their lives when their ship, USS Juneau, was sunk by a Japanese submarine during the Naval Battle of Guadalcanal on 13 November 1942. This was the greatest military loss by any one American family during World War II. She was also the first ship commissioned in the Navy that honored more than one person. Now berthed at the Naval and Serviceman's Park in Buffalo, it is in dire need of refurbishment.

Allegany County Division 1 (Wellsville) is once again hosting their successful Irish Road Bowling on Saturday June 8th, 2019 at the Andover Rod and Gun Club 597 Kilbane Rd, Andover, New York 14806. There will be many different classes. A two person team takes turns hurling a 28oz. steel cannonball, called a bowl, down a 1.25 mile country road. The team that finishes with the fewest throws wins!! There will be refreshments available (donations please) and this is also a BYOB permitted event!! For more information, check out their Facebook page.

All Divisions continue to support their Churches, communities, and our heritage. Please remember to support your Brothers whenever you have the opportunity.

Bí sábháilte agus taitneamh a bhaint as an tsamhraidh — Be safe and enjoy the summer

## **District 5**

### **Marty Crimmins**

**Richmond County** — Greetings from District 5, thank God the High Holy days are over! Here on Staten Island, we had a successful Saint Patrick's Day Parade, despite all the negative press. We also had a successful Hibernian Ball with over 220 people attending and a nice Irish Breakfast the day before our Parade. After the Big Parade in Manhattan, Division 4 hosted a Dinner Dance at *Holy Rosary* parish honoring our Irishman of the Year, James Haynes IV and our Irishwoman of the Year, Marie Corbett. On April 7th just before the Easter Season started, we had our Annual Memorial Mass and breakfast at Mount Loretto which was well attended.

**Kings County** — From Jerry McCabe, President Kings County: Division 12 is having their 3rd Annual Boat Ride on Saturday August 24 from 1 pm to 5 pm boarding at 12:30 on the Pink Lady out of Sheepshead Bay. [\$85.00 per person includes DJ, Music, Food, Beer, Wine and Soda. Contact: Marc Reilly 646-773-3790]. Division 35 is teaming up with Knights of Columbus Council #126 and Good Shepherd Catholic Club to have a Catholic Night at the Cyclones Ball Park on Monday June 17 at 7 pm [ \$60 per person includes food: Contact Steve Kiernan @ 917-886-8677]. Steve Kiernan is hosting a Comedy Night on Friday June 28 at 7:30 pm at the Friends of Columbus Council at 3051 Nostrand Avenue. This is fundraiser for Steve who is running for District 5 Director [\$40 per person includes a deluxe buffet, Beer, Wine & Soda: Contact Steve @ 917-886-8677].

**Queens County** — From Walter Cooper, President Queens County: Division 4 will hold its Second Annual Corn Hole Tournament on June 30th at Breezy Point. Division 9 will conduct its Annual Blood Drive at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish on Sunday July 7th from 8 am to 2 pm. Division 21 will hold its Annual Irish Festival in

Rockaway on the weekend of June 1st and 2nd at Saint Camillus Church. Division 14 will co-sponsor (along with the Morris Park Knights of Columbus) its Annual Summer Kickoff BBQ Fundraiser for the Holy Child Jesus Catholic Academy Technology Fund on Sunday June 9th at HCJ parish in Richmond Hill. Division 15 is running its Annual 50/50 fundraiser raffle. The drawing will be held on Tuesday June 18th

## **District 7**

### **Mark E. Kadlecik**

I hope this report finds all of you well and enjoying the wet spring weather. Looking forward to warmer dry weather soon to get the lawn in shape and the garden planted. Let's keep all the men and women in the armed forces in our prayers and be thankful for what they do for our freedoms. If you happen to be in the Binghamton or Elmira area and have the time stop for a pint or two, you'll be more than welcomed by your Brother Hibernians at their respective halls.

**The Broome County Chapter of the AOH**, Monsignor Lawrence E. Giblin Division 1 is located in Binghamton, NY. President: John Walker

WOW! March Madness is once again behind us. Starting Mid-February through March we are extremely busy providing our community with events surrounding St. Patrick's Day, and our Irish Heritage. Starting with the Irish Heritage Ball in Mid-February, followed by Irish Days a week later, to our annual St. Patrick's Mass, parade and after parade party that was held the first weekend in March. The following week we held our annual Pancake Breakfast and finally our St. Patrick's Day celebration. Because St. Patrick's Day was Sunday this year, we had Music, Food and socialization both Saturday and Sunday.

Our annual mass collection brought in almost \$1,500.00 that was donated to the St. John of God Brothers; Designated as the National Charity of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. Last month, we had one of the largest inductions we have had in a while bringing in 7 new members. We hope to have another induction in June with the same number if not more. Our next fund raiser will be our annual golf tournament which is held the first Saturday in August.

If you're in our area, please stop by our hall and say hello. The hall is opened Tuesdays through Saturdays at 2pm, located at 148 Main Street, Binghamton NY.

**The Chemung County Chapter of the AOH**, Monsignor John J. Lee Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians is located in Elmira, NY. President: Mike Duffy

In March, we held our annual Corporate Communion at St. Peter and Paul's Church. We gathered as a division at Elmira City Hall at 8:00 am and marched as a group to celebrate Mass together as Irish Catholics. Our chaplain, Father Brown, said the Mass. After Mass, we held our Corporate Breakfast, followed by a return to the Hibernian Center for an afternoon of friendship, euchre, and storytelling. We participated in the 16th annual Horseheads St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 10. Our division President, Mike Duffy, served as Grand Marshall.

We will soon be awarding our first recipient of the Father Raymond Hourihan scholarship. This is an annual, \$2,000 a year, scholarship awarded to a child or grandchild of a member in good standing of the Men's Division. Father Ray served in various offices in our division including that of Division President; before entering the priesthood. After entering the Priesthood, he served as division chaplain.

We also have come to the assistance of our own members facing difficult times. We have a member with young

children who lost his spouse. We staged an event to support this family and raised in excess of \$7,500. In the upcoming weeks, we are staging another fundraiser for a brother who is battling brain cancer. His treatments are going well, and the prognosis is good. We anticipate reaching our goal of \$8,000 to assist our brother and his family.

We host traditional Irish Music on the third Sunday every month. This has proven quite popular among members and musicians. It has started to expand into other Sundays as well. We will be participating in the Elmira Memorial Day Parade.

For the fall, we will be hosting a series of annual events. Our Irish Festival is on Saturday, September 14, from 2-10pm. We hold a flag raising ceremony as part of the festivities. All are invited to attend this day of Irish culture and Friendship. As part of the festivities, we have Irish music in the club on the Friday before of the festival.

In October, we will be sponsoring the Annual Josh Palmer Golf Tournament to support local cancer patients. This event typically brings in over \$12,000 that goes to assist others in our community. In November, we will be holding our fourth annual Clergy Dinner.

**The Steuben County Chapter of the AOH**, Sons of Ireland, of the Ancient Order of Hibernians is located in Hornell, NY. President: Larry Vetter

The Sons of Ireland Division began the year with installation of Officers, changes to the Slate of Officers included Larry Vetter as the Division President and Ed Hanbach as Vice President. The remaining Officers were unchanged. The Division's monthly meetings will be on the first Tuesday of each month at the Hornell American Legion beginning at 7:00pm.

In March the Division held a Special Meeting in lieu of our regularly scheduled meeting to Initiate 2 new members, and receive a City of Hornell Common Council Proclamation dedicating, the week of March 10th thru 16th as "Irish Cultural Week in Hornell" from Brother Hibernian and Mayor of the City, John Buckley. The presentation was made at the completion of our meeting and was attended by The LAOH Hornell Division as well.

Irish Cultural week included Ceili Dancing by Pat Kane on Tuesday night Mar. 12, Irish Literature Reading, and Historical Information on Thursday evening Mar. 14, and The Donlon Brothers performing on Friday evening March 15th. All events took place at the Hornell Arts Council Center. The Division and LAOH held Corporate Communion jointly on Saturday morning March 16th, with Mass at St. Ann's Church at 8:00am followed by Breakfast at Paddy's Pub. Father Stan Kacprzak, Pastor of St. Ann's, addressed the members and thanked them for all they do for the parish and Community. The week ended with the Division and the LAOH marching in the Annual Hornell St. Patrick's Day Parade at 11:00.

The Division is planning for their Annual Irish Festival the third weekend of August and the Irish Open Golf Tournament in September. The Division will continue its participation in the maintenance of St. Ann's Cemetery over the spring and summer Months. As always, the Division continues to support activities of our neighboring Divisions especially Wellsville, Elmira and Rochester.

## **District 8**

### **Kevin Moore**

It was a pleasure meeting brothers around the District while attending meetings and swearing in their new board officers.

**Dutchess County- Division 1:** On Friday March 15th, Msgr. Sheahan Division of Dutchess County teamed with Mahoney's Irish Pub to host a St. Patrick's Day fundraiser. All proceeds went directly to the Vet2Vet Services.

Over \$1,500 was raised and presented to the Vet2Vet by CJ Tomaskovic, Division President. They hosted a presentation by Ryan Mahoney, the Director of Ireland's Great Hunger Museum @ Quinnipiac University.

**Orange County-** Orange County will hold its Annual Fundraiser, a raffle for two season tickets to Army football games \$10per raffle ticket. **Division 1:** They held a food drive at Shoprite Monroe and raised over \$330 in donations and delivered two carloads of non-perishable foods to Our Father's Kitchen and the Washingtonville Food Pantry. **Division 2:** Held their Annual Children's Easter party. The children had a great time. Their \$100.00 raffle has started up with the drawing being held June 16th at the hall. For tickets see Bill Kirnan.

**Rockland County- Division 1:** The Division held their annual St. Patrick's Day party for the NYS Veterans Home in Montrose. Division members served Irish soda bread and refreshments. On April 28th, they hosted their annual Communion Mass & Breakfast honoring Jim Normoyle founding member of Division 1. **Division 3:** The Division hosted a Wren Night Fundraiser for Lourdes Kids of Rockland. On 3/9 they had their St. Patrick's Senior Citizen luncheon. On April 28th, they hosted their annual Communion Mass & Breakfast. There was a presentation of 10 Scholarship along with guest speaker Ciaran Green. Their annual Joe Walsh Memorial Golf Outing was held at the Blue Hill Golf Course on May 10th. On June 2nd they will host an ALS Benefit for Noel O'Connell. Email praoh3@gmail.com if interested in purchasing raffles.

**Sullivan County-** They hosted a very successful St. Patrick's Day Parade. The division has been growing its membership.

**Ulster County-** They hosted a very successful although misty St. Patrick's Day Parade. Planning is underway for the Annual Hooley on the Hudson in Kingston on September 1st. Please visit their website for dates and times of Gaelic Language Classes and Trad Music Sessions.

## **Freedom for All Ireland Martin Galvin**

If anyone wonders whether what we do in New York FFAI matters they should ask one of the New York Hibernians who attended the FFAI tour in February. Key figures in Belfast, Derry, Tyrone and Dublin met us. They count on us to pressure the British, to highlight injustice and for our donations to key groups. The reception we received is a credit to each member of the AOH who works on FFAI or contributed to the Christmas Appeal. FFAI matters and New York is a driving force for FFAI nationally.

### **MARK THOMPSON-MARK McGOVERN BOOK LAUNCH TOUR**

Mark Thompson and Professor Mark McGovern are launching a new book *COLLUSION- COUNTERINSURGENCY in NORTHERN IRELAND* in May and are planning to do an American launch from June 1st to June 10th.

This groundbreaking book will put the lie to the claim that Britain forces were responsible for only about only 10% of the north's killings and expose how they armed, directed, paid and protected their loyalist agents to carry out hundreds of killings.

I have a personal interest in the book because my close friend Liam Ryan, who lived near me in the Bronx and was murdered at the Battery Bar in Ardboe, is one of the cases of collusion included in the book.

I am asking for ideas and help to set up the most effective schedule for them including book launch venues-political support-colleges-embassy receptions etc along with events where we can bring in people and help defer expenses. We will include at least two New York State events and want your Congressman or staff at an event in Washington on June 5th.

This tour, now a national tour follows the successful New York State tour, authorized by our State President Vic Vogel in January 2018 and the five state Ballymurphy Massacre tour last November.

## **BALLYMURPHY TOUR**

Following our November meeting, an Irish Embassy reception, key members of Congress, and major AOH public events in Albany, Cleveland, Philadelphia, the Bronx, New Jersey, Manhattan and Long Island heard Carmel Quinn's call to "stand with us" in the fight for Ballymurphy justice.

She met Senator Schumer, Congressman Eliot Engel, Chairman of the House Foreign Relations Committee; Congressman Richard Neal a leader and Co-chair of the Friends of Ireland Congressional Committee; and Congressmen Mike Doyle, also of the Congressional Friends of Ireland. The Ballymurphy representative briefed aides for Congressmen Chris Smith, Brendan Boyle, Peter King, and Conor Lamb in Washington. She met outgoing Congressman Joseph Crowley and again with Congressman Eliot Engel again in the Bronx.

Congressmen Engel, Neal, King and Boyle wrote to the British Ambassador expressing concern with British claims in Westminster about British troops being "scapegoated", "witch hunts", and "subjected to ridiculous investigations."

These meetings and letters resulted from your calls to your Congressmen. Ballymurphy Massacre campaign Chair John Teggart, Carmel Quinn and all the families believe these Congressional letters and AOH publicity are tremendous boosts to their campaign and boost the AOH.

## **CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

New York State contributed \$27,966 to the AOH Christmas Appeal. We equaled the combined total of the next 4 highest states.

The following groups received donations from your contributions to the Christmas Appeal. These groups and amounts were based on written applications and recommendations from the National FFAI Committee, which includes Brendan Moore. Final determinations were made by our National officers.

Every designated donation to approved groups was honored and groups named for designated donations got additional monies because we wanted contributions to reflect your feelings.

1-Relatives for Justice-supports the relatives of those killed or injured in the conflict-fights for legacy justice-provides counseling and support services with offices in Belfast and Dungannon-involved with campaigns like Ballymurphy inquest-, headed by Mark Thompson, and Carmel Quinn is one of the trustees.

2-Pat Finucane Centre-Human Rights Advocacy group-based in Derry named after slain civil rights lawyer Pat Finucane- headed by Paul O'Connor, and connected to campaigns like Bloody Sunday.

3-Holy Cross Ardoyne-headed by Fr. Gary Donegan, is actually the Houben Centre dedicated to peace with justice in the sectarian flashpoint of Ardoyne.

4- EALU-(means Escape in Irish) is a center for Republican ex-political prisoners located in Dungannon, East Tyrone, we visited their offices and they provide an array of services including job training, counseling for ex-prisoners and families, legacy issues, education classes in Irish culture, language and history.

5-Greater New Lodge Commemoration Committee -maintains a memorial garden and commemorations for IRA Volunteers and Republicans who were killed by the British in the New Lodge area of Belfast.

6-Conway Mill Trust-located in Pittsburgh funds 8 community based organizations in the north including one in the Garvaghy Road, four in Belfast and three in Derry.

7-Tyrone AOH- foster Irish history ,culture, language and issues in an area of Tyrone where all things Irish were suppressed-they hold a special memorial for a local Hibernian killed in 1916,campaign against the environmental

destruction of the Mass Rock and Sperrins area and also assist on legacy issues and other issues.

8- Cairde Strabane-serves Republican ex-political prisoners in West Tyrone which provides job training, education, counseling, and a historical museum.

9-St. Patrick Centre-cross community charity and exhibition, and cultural centre about St. Patrick in Downpatrick.

10- Duchas Oiriall-South Armagh organization promoting and studying the unique culture and history of South Armagh.

11- Bridges beyond Boxing-cross-community boxing club based in Belfast.

12-Down Patriot Graves-maintains graves and organizes commemorations and promotes history of Irish patriots in South Down.

13-Green Cross-provides money and help to the families who lost loved ones during the conflict.

14- Belfast National Graves-to commemorate and maintain the graves of those who gave their lives for Irish freedom.

15- Omagh Basketball-cross-community basketball team in Omagh.

16-Omagh Choir-cross-community choir

These donations were presented during the tour which meant that a number of AOH members handed out checks and showed that these contributions represent funds raised by a national organization. The reception we received is a credit to each member of the AOH-LAOH who works on FFAI or contributed to the Christmas Appeal

### **IRELAND'S DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE**

Ireland's Declaration of Independence took center stage in Albany last January, as Hibernians led by State Presidents Vic Vogel and Jacqueline Clute, watched state resolutions voted in the Assembly and introduced for Senate passage, before celebrating Governor Cuomo's Proclamation of "Ireland's Declaration of Independence Day" at the Hibernian Hall. Both the Governor's Proclamation and legislative resolutions compared America's Declaration of Independence to Ireland's, recounted Ireland's right to freedom from a colonial British government, and memorialized the historic part played within New York State to make Irish independence possible.

Approximately 50 Hibernians were in the Assembly gallery for the vote. Assemblyman Michael Cusick, who sponsored the Assembly Resolution, brought a few of the AOH and LAOH members to the floor for a pre-vote photograph. Other Assembly members, including Jeffrey Dinowitz, Adam Hevisi, Patricia Fahy, Sandy Galef and Nathalia Fernandez came back to greet the Hibernians and show support.

Speaker Carl Heastie welcomed the AOH. Assembly Sponsor Cusick acknowledged the State Presidents, Vic Vogel and Jacqueline Clute, then read the Resolution which was applauded and passed with overwhelming support.

Hibernians then went to the Senate chamber where Senator Timothy Kennedy sponsored the measure with bipartisan support from Senator Boyle. Senator Kennedy met the delegation outside the chamber before introducing the measure on the Senate floor. Senator Alessandra Biaggi, granddaughter of the late Irish Congressional champion Mario Biaggi, had her first vote on an Irish issue and issued a press statement that she voted to honor her grandfather.

Next year is the centenary of Terence MacSwiney's death on hunger strike, among many other events that were critical to Irish independence. Irish Central did a piece asking if Irish Americans were forgetting their history. We were able to point out that across New York, people hear about and learn about events like the Declaration of Independence because of the AOH. We now have Senators and Assembly members asking to sponsor our resolutions!

### **MALACHY McALLISTER AND DEPORTEES**

Malachy McAllister and other Irish political deportee cases involve FFAI and Immigration issues and I have worked on these cases jointly with Immigration Chair Dan Dennehy. Only 48 hours before his scheduled deporta-

tion, Senators and Congressmen were told that Acting Secretary of Homeland Security Kevin McAleenan would grant a six month stay. Before that Belfast born Hibernian and key member of the AOH National FFAI Committee Malachy McAllister was scheduled to be deported on April 30th, after 23 years, in America. He is eligible for only one more 90 day extension. Other Deportees including AOH members meet delays in work permits, travel permission etc.

### **EASTER LILLIES AND ENGLAND GET OUT OF IRELAND BANNERS**

Unionists this year again attacked "England out of Ireland" banners in St. Patrick's Day and other parades. My op/ed piece in the IRISH ECHO was published in response. The main inspiration, according to Michael Flannery, who helped compose the wording, was Wolfe Tone's aim "to break the connection with England" by means of "uniting Protestant, Catholic and Dissenter." Rather than attacking unionists it invites them to take equal citizenship in a united nation serving all Irish people, instead of giving allegiance to British hegemony based on sectarian privilege.

The banner always gets a great response alongside organization banners. I encourage everyone to wear Easter Lilly pins or carry banners which remind everyone that the AOH remembers those still denied freedom in Ireland.

### **FFAI MONTHLY BULLETINS**

In response to requests for information and analysis, I began a monthly FFAI Bulletin. All issues are available on the state web site by clicking Reports and FFAI. We are now carried on the National AOH site.(thanks to Brothers O'Connell, Nisler and Cosgrove). The aim is to give you monthly updates on a few key events in the north with short analysis and explanations.

A few of the key events already covered include:

Tory-DUP Deal, new Stormont talks, Brexit, Pardons proposals for British troopers, Malachy McAllister, Orange sectarian parades, the Ballymurphy Massacre Inquest, fight to carry Irish flags in St. Patrick's Day Parades etc.

### **Organizer**

#### **Kevin Cummings**

I'm happy to report that I have received sixty-four (64) membership applications derived from online sources such as NYAOH.com and AOH.com. The applications were sent to the appropriate division officer nearest to the applicant's home. Thanks to the many county and division officers who assisted in bringing the new members onboard. A reminder to officers who receive these online applications to provide feedback on the success of initiating these new members into the Order. It is critical to make contact quickly while the applicant is enthusiastic about joining. Often a second or third attempt to contact a prospective member is needed.

A formation meeting is planned for mid-May led by Brian McCabe and Eddie Boles who are in the beginning stage of forming a new division in Warwick, Orange County. They have been provided an Organizer's packet and recruiting information and are hopeful the new division will form shortly. Myself, National Organizer Tim McSweeney, National Director Dan Dennehy and State Secretary John Manning have been actively involved in this exciting endeavor.

Over the past few months I have had the opportunity to attend events, officer installations and visit divisions and county boards in Rockland, Orange, Westchester, Dutchess and Sullivan counties. Many are offering exciting activities and unique events that have spurred a surge in new applications. Unfortunately, our overall numbers are somewhat flat due to attrition and lack of retention. Keeping your members interested is key to growing the Order.

A reminder that if your county or division is hosting an event and wishes to set up a membership recruiting tent please contact me to request one. Dates are booking quickly for the early summer months. Recruitment materials are available on the NYAOH and National websites. Now every member can customize a poster for their division and place it in a suitable public venue, such as a community center, social halls, a college or at your local parish church. Be an ambassador for the Order and make the AOH presence known wherever you go. Please make member recruitment and member retention a priority at your division. This will ensure that your children and their children will have an Ancient Order of Hibernians to help keep the traditions alive. Let's strengthen our numbers and keep our Order strong.

## **Veterans Affairs**

### **John Ryan, VSO**

#### VA HEALTH BENEFITS

##### Home Health Care

Home Health Care includes VA's Skilled Home Health Care Services and Homemaker and Home Health Aid Services.

**Skilled Home Health Care Services:** These services are in-home services provided by specially trained personnel, including nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, and social workers. Care includes: clinical assessments, treatment planning, treatment provision, health status monitoring, patient and family education, reassessment, referral, and follow up.

**Homemaker/Home Health Aide Services:** These services are personal care and related support services that enable frail and disabled Veterans to live at home.

**Family Caregivers Program:** This program provides support and assistance to caregivers of Post 9/11 Veterans and Service Members being medically discharged. Eligible Family Caregivers can receive a stipend, training, mental health services, travel and lodging reimbursement, and access to health insurance if they are not already under a health care plan. For more information, contact [www.caregiver.va.gov](http://www.caregiver.va.gov) or call 1-877-222-8387.

## **Editor**

### **Tom McKenna**

The deadline for the September 2019 issue of The Empire State Hibernian is August 15, 2019. Please submit all information through the appropriate officer, chairman or director.

## **Pro Life**

### **Jack O'Brien**

Alabama's female Governor Kay Ivey, has just signed the most restrictive abortion law in the nation. Alabama now forbids abortions unless the mother's life is at stake. Keeping our Pro Life culture alive is a constant battle against the myriad of Pro-Choice cases and legislation. There are hundreds of Anti-Life bills in the works at any given time. One person cannot keep up with all of them and I don't expose you to all the legislation working against us in this report. A few devoted Pro Lifers seem to be alert and take action, but not nearly enough. Legislation contrary to life are consistently creeping into our legal systems and your schools. Be aware that plans are always being made to support Abortion & Assisted Suicide.

In the news there have been 37 failed requests for a House vote on [HR.962/S.311](#), the [Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act](#), and two failed tries in the Senate. The Discharge Petition, to force a vote on **HR.962**, despite

Speaker Pelosi's objection, still needs 19 more signatories to pass. Please push for this vote to take place.

A 9-year-old boy, with help from his Dad, has launched *ConvertCuomo.com* to pray and fast for the Governor's reform. I agree the Governor needs prayers, **Remember to PRAY for THEM - DO NOT VOTE FOR THEM.**

**Take Action Now:**

**Doctor-Assisted Suicide:** [A02694](#) / [S03947](#) as of this writing are currently in the Assembly and Senate Health Committees. This legislation is a lethal threat to the terminally ill, elderly, and the disabled.

**It is in your power to Help stop physician-assisted suicide - [Click here NOW](#)** Proponents of doctor-assisted suicide are pushing their agenda in states across the country, and New York is in their sights. Send an email message to your elected officials today by clicking this [link](#)!

Legislation is important, but bringing America Back to Life" needs a more multifaceted approach, using more Education, taking more Action and making better Legislation.

**Education** This should be your primary task for Pro Life officers. Too many people are not trained in pro life teaching techniques. For the un-initiated pro lifer it is easy to go off topic. Be able to speak about pro life solutions to current issues, and expose the falsehoods presented by abortionists and those on the fence. If you cannot convince your friend, spouse, and children how can you convince a non-believer?

**Action: We need to remain Alert and Active.** You need to be seen by others "Witnessing for Life". Every chance you get, speak about Respect Life. As I wrote in my NY State report, many people feel alone on this. They will not come forward on their own. They need to see other people, from all walks of life, whether secular and religious, from all races Standing Up For Life, All Life, All Stages, including End of Life.

**Legislation** We need to be aware of legislation on all fronts- National, State and Local and what our candidates stand for. Please take a good look at your School boards candidates as well. Last year in Albany, Planned Parenthood actually came in to teach the Health Class in public schools.

It was the complacency of the public that made these anti-life bills become law. The bill signed by the Governor in January, 2019 was already the existing law in New York (since 1973). The Governor merely codified the federal rulings for New York State.

This codification started 17 years ago, but was held at bay by as little as one vote in Albany. In fact, there were about 2,000 late term abortions reported in New York for 2018 alone, before the bill was presented and signed.

For the past 16 years, Pro-Lifers in New York State have been staving off similar legislation that was signed by the Governor in January. People are now finally realizing how bad things really are. However, if they had been this involved in taking a Pro Life stance previously, both in public and at the polls, we would certainly be living in a much more positive culture now.

As Hibernians, remember you must VOTE PRO LIFE in November and for the department of education. It will take at least 2 election cycles to get pro-life back in control in Albany.

**For all the Pro Life Chairmen:** You may not see any fruits of your pro-life efforts or be thanked, but don't ever think that you have not made an impression. Your presence makes a difference and the information and suggestion you may have provided may have warmed some hearts. We need all the support we can get and I thank you for Doing Good Anyway! Kudos for taking the road less travelled.



## HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

**Forgotten Fathers:** Men affected by Abortion think about the abortion years after it's over. Most men do not share the pain with a clergyman, minister or a friend. It stays with him for a long time. Let these men know they are not alone. Get out there and let them see you. If there are 60 million aborted babies, there are 60 million Fathers that had no legal say in the matter. For more on abortion, healing, visit the **Hope After Abortion** [website](#) for resources.

**PLEASE ATTEND - Monday June 3rd** is the New York State "MARCH FOR LIFE NY" in Albany. I hope to see more Hibernians there even if you are stopping by only during lunchtime. The Capitol District has many Hibernians, Catholics, and respect life groups; we should help make an impact for this event.

**Sunday October 6th** is Respect Life Sunday. There is the NATIONAL LIFE CHAIN. In Buffalo the Chain is miles long. Life Chain is a great way to witness how Abortion has affected everyone, and changed our culture.



## Immigration & National Director Daniel Dennehy

**It is time for a permanent resolution of legal immigrant status for Irish Political Deportees, and urgent action is required for Malachy McAllister and his family.**

The Irish Peace Process is now 21 years old. Yet, for these participants in the conflict, although their issues were identified in the 1998 Good Friday Agreement, the dividends of Peace remain elusive. It is increasingly difficult for all of them, and for Malachy McAllister, imminent deportation and separation from his young family are a reality. It is time Ireland's Peace Process, which is a model for many other nations, be recognized by the Department of Homeland Security by adding the Irish to the exemption list. Many countries and organizations have received exemptions from DHS, yet Ireland has not.

The AOH encourage the Department of Homeland Security issues a Terrorism-Related Inadmissibility Grounds Exemption for the participants and groups that have honored the Good Friday Agreement. A DHS TRIG Exemption will allow our Brother members Matt Morrison, Malachy McAllister and others to live here without the threat of deportation or any work and travel restrictions. This exemption will end visa denial for ex-prisoner Irish Republicans and Ulster Loyalists alike, who are now viable members of their communities, committed to peace, no longer recognized as terrorist by England or Ireland and may travel freely, yet are barred from ever visiting the USA.

The AOH National Immigration Committee working with National President Jim McKay, National Treasurer Sean Pender, National FFAI Chair Martin Galvin, the Irish America Unity Conference. US legislators, the Irish Embassy, the US State Dept, and the agencies of DHS to end the cycle of delays and denials our Brother members and their families face with increasing difficulty.

**E3 Visas for Irish Revisited-** House and Ways Committee Chairman US Rep. Richie Neal recently reintroduced the E3 Visas for Ireland Bill. This Bill, which would allocate the remainder of Australia's 10,500 E3 visas for Irish applicants. Last passed unanimously in the House but narrowly missed in the US Senate. On the eve of the Government Shutdown, despite yeoman's efforts by Hibernians in several states, one hold remained as the government ultimately shut down. This time, it is hoped that the obstacles which slowed and stopped passage last year, will not be an issue. Please pay attention to Calls to Action on this legislation, should they arise.

**The National Immigration Committee** has members across the US. We convene by teleconference regularly. Our calls focus on legislative updates and current issues affecting Irish Immigrants. We are often joined by guest speakers on important issues. On a recent call, Committee, National FFAI Chairman Martin Galvin discussed our mutual work on Malachy McAllister's behalf, as detailed above. I thank this dedicated committee and our National Board, State President, Immigration Chairs at every level, and all members across the US for your resourcefulness and connectivity. The issues of immigration are complicated. The AOH focus on how these laws affect the Irish, and what we, and legislators from all parties, can do to help. We can reach many legislators across the US which can help with other issues of great interest to us, and them.

## **AOH National Directors Report**

Watch Irish History online for free!

The Irish Independence Film Collection is just one of the many collections of film that have been beautifully restored by the Irish Film Institute. The IFI has secured all the British Pathe Films for all the footage from the Rising through Independence and the Civil War. As this is the Easter Rising Anniversary season, please visit:

[https:// ifiplayer.ie](https://ifiplayer.ie) The Irish Independence Film Collection

All aboard the Celtic Cruise!

Wednesday 12 June 2019, AOH Div. 7 New York County Presents The Celtic Cruise, Music, Dancing, Great Food and Fun Aboard the Spirit of New York to Benefit the Emerald Isle Immigration Center. Full Buffet Dinner — Premium Open Bar — Dessert Entertainment by Celtic Cross, Cunningham Brothers Band ,Shay Mac Band General Admission: \$125 in advance/\$135 at dock VIP Table: Reserved table of (10) on dance floor: \$1,250 Purchase tickets on-line at <http://s400954914.onlinehome.us/tickets>

AOH leaders at Irish Government meetings during National FFAI Tour

FFAI Chairman Martin Galvin ran an excellent 2019 FFAI Tour of Ireland. Sean Pender assisted Martin Galvin in planning this trip, and I organized Dublin, with a walking tour with author Lorcan Collins, a talk at Padraig Pearse birthplace by Ruan O'Donnell, government meetings; and in Belfast, a lunch with Ireland's Department of Foreign Affairs Belfast representative, Kevin Comney. National President James McKay, National Treasurer Sean Pender and I traveled from Belfast to Dublin and were given a warm welcome to Leinster House from Senator Billy Lawless, a member of the Oireachtas Committee and the wonderful Tracy Young, the Senators Personal Assistant

The Oireachtas committee includes members of all parties from both houses of Irish Parliament; Dail Eireann and Seanad Eireann. The conference also included TD John Deasy, Taoiseach Varadkar's representative in the recent Irish E3 effort. President McKay, Sean and I detailed AOH work on Immigration. We met families of Irish immigrants who cannot return for family events. We also met Tanaiste Simon. Coveney, Peadar Tobin- Ind. TD, Martin Ferris- Sinn Fein TD and our old friends Senator Niall O Donnghaile and former Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams TD. President McKay, Sean Pender and I met with Taoiseach Leo Varadkar joined by Senator Billy Lawless on many issues The Taoiseach thanked the AOH for its work, and opened a conversation with Judge McKay on ways to demonstrate Ireland's recognition and the many contributions of the Hibernians in America.

On our last tour day, the entire delegation were guests at lunch at the Dail dining room with Senator Lawless and his Oireachtas Committee colleagues. Everyone enjoyed round table discussions of issues and each other's company! Tracy Young led us on a tour of the historic building. We were honored at a session of the Seanad and invited into the famous Dail bar where we met many other legislators and toasted our hosts, Billy Lawless and Tracy! That evening, we were guests at Iveagh House, the opulent former Guinness family home. Iveagh House, located at 80 St. Stephen's Green is headquarters of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFA). A meeting between Carol Sheyer, Marilyn Madigan, Delores Desch (NYS LAOH FFAI), Sean Pender, Martin Galvin, Denny Parks and I and Fergal Mythen, Director General, Ireland, UK and Americas Division, recent NY Deputy Consul Anna McGillicuddy, and others was held. We then joined the entire delegation at a lively reception which featured American BBQ delicacies, and hosted by another old friend, DFA Secretary General Niall Burgess, recipient of the

2017 AOH LAOH National Sean MacBride Humanitarian Award. What a great trip, I recommend it to every Hibernian!

## **Scholarship/Special Projects**

### **Dermot O'Connor Moore**

In 2018, 4 students applied for our state scholarship and only 3 actually completed the process. Our worthy president felt that was unacceptable and tasked me with overhauling the process.

We made a one stop shop on our state website. Kevin Cummings developed an application that could be completed online and made it easier for me remove the names of the applicants before sending the applications to the judges. The applicants were encouraged to provide AOH family participation as well as any other information that they felt made them deserving of this scholarship. This included but was not limited to academic/sports scores and honors as well as Irish cultural, community service, church, and other extracurricular activities.

We created a database of AOH, Irish, Catholic, American and Gaelic study materials that I emailed to the applicants even though these materials were also available on the website. Every one of the multiple choice questions was taken from these materials. The test was worth 60%, the judges' scores were worth 30%, and the major degree was worth 10%.

This year we had 18 applicants, 17 of whom completed the process. It was no easy task to rank so many outstanding young adults and for that I extend my heartfelt thanks to committee members Tim McSweeney, Kevin Cummings, and Neil Cosgrove.

The committee respectfully recommends that the \$3000 award be given as a lump sum and that additional smaller scholarships be awarded if the Audit Committee feels that there are sufficient funds to do so. Maybe the bylaws can be changed to read that **“up to three scholarships may be awarded at the discretion of the committee based on application ranking, exam scoring and available funding...”** We met our goal of getting the scholarship awarded early and before the fall term. Congratulations to the 2019 recipient of the Austin V. Carew Scholarship, Peter Doran of Yonkers Division 1.

## **Charities & Missions**

### **Matt Buckley**

Since the change in our bylaws stating that the Charities and Missions Report is due with the Form 9 and Form 11 on an annual basis by no later than Feb 15<sup>th</sup> of the year. In accordance with our bylaws, the following AOH County/Divisions have submitted their reports on time for the year of 2018

**Suffolk** Co-Div 9, **Broome** Co-Div 1, **Rensselaer** Co-Div 8, **Queens** Co-Div 14, **Westchester** Co-Div 1, **New York** Co-Div 7, **Nassau** Co-Div 14, **New York** Co-Div 2, **Suffolk** Co-Div 2, **Orange** Co-Div 1, **Nassau** Co-Div 17, **Cattaraugus** Co-Div 2, **Suffolk** Co-Div 5, **Orange** Co-Div 4, **Nassau** Co-Div 11, **Suffolk** Co-Div 8, **Erie** Co-Div 1, **Saratoga** Co-Div 1, **Rockland** Co-Div 1, **Suffolk** Co-Div 4, **Monroe** Co-Div 7, **Suffolk** Co Brd.

I am pleased to announce that these few divisions have single handedly reported to me a total of \$527,434 of charitable work in some way or fashion. Moving forward please keep in mind with your Charities and Missions reports that in addition to the monetary donations to keep track of the man hours accumulated. **Each person is billable at \$15.00 per hour during the course of the charitable event.** Please see letter from Bro Jim Norton, National Charities and Missions Ch. This adds up to be a significant amount and is very valuable for the AOH. On behalf of the NYS Board, thank you for your hard work and dedication to the Order. Unfortunately, if you don't see your Division or County Office listed, then it was not submitted. I'd also like to take this time to remind you that by not submitting a report not only are you not in compliance with the NYS Bylaws, but even worse you are doing more harm than good for the AOH

as a whole. Please take this time to reassess our mission as Hibernians and report your work. Your brothers have spoken; we want to know what you are doing while representing the AOH. Ask your C/M Chairman where the submittals are. If you don't have a C/M Chair, have one appointed. The equation is simple, if you are a current President of either a Division or County board; you are ultimately responsible for these reports. Contact me directly, and let's see how we can everything back in order, for the Order.

Finally, remember the Arnold J. Nagelhout NYS Charities and Missions Award. At this time please submit to me any Division/County you would like to nominate for this award. It is not necessarily about money, but more about the spirit of C/M. It will be awarded at the NYS Convention this July in Albany.

## **Catholic Action**

### **Thomas Beirne**

**March For Life - Friday January 18, 2019** - The March for Life 2019 had the slogan "Unique from Day One" and drew a large, enthusiastic, peaceful, and mostly young crowd. Unfortunately, the largest civil rights rally in the world gets very little media coverage. The biggest story in the media in the days afterwards was the video allegedly depicting Covington Catholic H.S. students harassing Native Americans. The High School students were proven to have done nothing wrong, and were the victims of harassment from a radical group "The Black Israelites". The Native American Drummer approached the Catholic HS students and started beating his drum in front of their faces. Once again, Hibernians from all across the United States were well represented in Washington DC for the March. National, State, County, and Division Officers and Members were present and this year we were led by Hibernian brothers with bagpipes. NY State Hibernians were well represented and marched behind our Banner and tall wind sails. NY State AOH Chaplain Fr. Henry Reid celebrated Mass in St. Mary's Church.

**Hibernians will join again this year with The Sister's of Life in St. Patrick's Cathedral for the Annual Right to Life Mass, 10:15 AM on Sunday, October 6th, 2019.** The Sister's of Life is an order of nuns founded by Cardinal John O'Connor. **Next year's March for Life in Washington DC will be on Friday, January 24, 2020.** All NY State Hibernians are encouraged to attend, and jurisdictions should start making plans for busses, etc.

**Attacks on Catholics, Christians, Churches and our Religion** - Our Catholic faith is under direct physical attack by radical Muslims around the world and by secularists in the United States and Europe. Catholics are attacked and executed in many countries on a daily basis. The horrible Easter Sunday bombings at Catholic Churches and Hotels in Sri Lanka killed over 300 people and wounded over 500. In Nigeria, more than 2 million people (mostly Christian) are being driven from their homes by Islamists in the group, Boko Haram. Catholic School girls have been kidnapped, clergy tortured and executed. During the first half of 2018, 6,000 Christians were killed in Nigeria; mostly women, children, and the elderly. According to Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN News), so far this year there have been over 1,000 attacks on French Christian Churches and symbols, most of them Catholic. Many believe the Easter week fire at Notre Dame in Paris was not an accident but a deliberate attack.

Negative stereotypes of Catholics are often portrayed in the media, the entertainment industry, and in our society in general. Similar slights on other religions or ethnic groups are never acceptable, but are tolerated against Catholics and the Irish. The Ancient Order of Hibernians was founded in 1836 to protect Catholics, the Clergy and the Church from attack. Our Hibernian predecessors fought the discrimination against Irish and Catholics that was prevalent throughout the 1800's with Nativists and the "Know Nothings". Hibernians today must continue the fight against attacks on Catholics and our beliefs.

Judicial appointments and appointees to Public Office have been challenged on the sole basis of the individual being Catholic and their beliefs. Similar challenges to candidates of other religions do not occur. As Hibernians we must continue to support our Clergy, pray for vocations, and fight instances of anti-Catholic & anti-Irish discrimination.

New York State A.O.H. Officers and Chairmen,

Chaplain	Rev. Henry	Reid	495 North Ocean Avenue	Patchogue	NY	11772	h Reid@drvc.org	631-475-4739
Deputy Chaplain	Rev. Daniel	Quinn	346 W. Main Street	Hancock	NY	13783	daniel.quinn@rcda.org	518-774-0226
Honorary Chaplain	Rev. Richard	Gibbons	Our LadyOf Knock Shrine	Knock, Mayo	IRE	12Y226	frgibbons@knock-shrine.ie	(94) 93 88100
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Fundraising Calendar	Peter P.	Durkee	452 Monroe Street	Troy	NY	12180	pdurkee1@nycap.rr.com	518-274-8448
Buy Irish	Brian P.	Clancy	168 Avenue B	Kings Park	NY	11754	bmcnd78@gmail.com	631-663-3044
Commodore John Barry	Brian P.	Kelly	175 Tate Avenue	Buchanan	NY	10511	brianp.kelly@gmail.com	914-384-1343
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Deputy Finance	Ken	Ferguson	376 Roosevelt Avenue	Massapequa Park	NY	11762	Kjferg47@gmail.com	516-6391751
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## Save the Date

### 2019 NYSAOH & LAOH Convention Hilton Albany

**Wednesday, July 10<sup>th</sup> – Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup>**  
**\$149 / night plus taxes**  
**(AOH rate is available from 7/7/19 through 7/16/19)**  
**Free Wi-fi access**  
**Self-parking in garage \$7 / day**

Convention will be Wednesday, July 10, 2019 through Saturday,  
July 13, 2019.

Albany Hilton (formerly the Crowne Plaza) on State and Chapel  
Streets in Downtown Albany.

Room rate:

\$149.00/night plus taxes; Available July 7 - 16, 2019

Free Wi-Fi access (general area)

Self-Parking:

Discounted to \$7.00/day

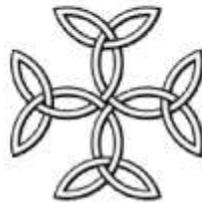


## Event Dinners



### Wednesday, Ice Breaker

"Luau" theme with dinner buffet featuring **Big Fez and the Surfomatics**; A four-man group with roots in rock, country, bluegrass, and Celtic music, performing classic surf and beach music from the 1960's and beyond.



### Friday, Irish & Awards Night

Plated dinner that includes salad, choice of entrée, dessert, coffee and tea. Entrée options:

- Slow Braised Short Ribs
- Seared Chicken Piccata
- Asparagus & Pea Risotto

Ticket includes three-hour open bar of beer, wine and soda. Entertainment by **Kitty Kelly**

**Band.**



### Saturday, Banquet Dinner

Plated dinner that includes salad, choice of entrée, dessert, coffee and tea. Entrée options:

- Grilled NY Strip Steak
- Seared Halibut with Lemon Thyme Cream
- Seasonal Ravioli with Sage Butter

Ticket includes three-hour open bar of beer, wine and soda. Entertainment by **Kitty Kelly**

**Band.**

## Thursday, Open Night



### Convention Cruise Aboard the Dutch Apple

Tickets may be purchased at [www.2019nyshibernianconvention.com/events.html](http://www.2019nyshibernianconvention.com/events.html)

Enjoy a sunset cruise of the beautiful Hudson River

6pm - Buses board at the Hilton

7pm - Sail Time

\$50 per person

Includes transportation to/from hotel, light fare, cash bar and entertainment



### A Night at the Albany Hall

Join us at the Hall and help break in our new deck.

There will be live music, food trucks with food for purchase, and lots of fun.

More details to come.

Starting at 6 pm



2019 New York State Hibernian Convention  
Albany Hilton, Albany NY 12207  
Wed., July 10th - Sat., July 13th 2019  
**Event and Registration Information**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 10TH - ICEBREAKER "LUAU"**

Luau Event includes a dinner buffet and will feature **"Big Fez and the Surfomatics"**; A four-man group with roots in rock, country, bluegrass, and Celtic music, performing classic surf and beach music from the 1960's and beyond.

À la carte ticket price: \$65

**FRIDAY, JULY 12TH - IRISH AND AWARDS NIGHT**

Plated dinner that includes salad, choice of entrée, dessert, coffee and tea.

Entrée options:

- Slow Braised Short Ribs
- Seared Chicken Piccata
- Asparagus & Pea Risotto

Ticket includes three-hour open bar of beer, wine and soda. Entertainment by **"Kitty Kelly Band"**.

À la carte ticket price: \$95

**SATURDAY, JULY 13TH - BANQUET NIGHT**

Plated dinner that includes salad, choice of entrée, dessert, coffee and tea.

Entrée options:

- Grilled NY Strip Steak
- Seared Halibut with Lemon Thyme Cream
- Seasonal Ravioli with Sage Butter

Ticket includes three-hour open bar of beer, wine and soda. Entertainment by **"Kitty Kelly Band"**.

À la carte ticket price: \$100

**REGISTRATION FEE** - one-time fee of \$20 is included in the full package price but must be added to à la carte tickets. The registration fee offsets convention administrative costs and includes a name tag **which is necessary to gain access to hospitality suites**.

**FULL PACKAGE** price for all three events, including registration fee: \$235

Registration with dinner(s) must be received by **July 3, 2019**.



2019 New York State Hibernian Convention  
 Albany Hilton, Albany NY 12207  
 Wed., July 10th - Sat., July 13th 2019  
**Convention Registration Form**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

AOH Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Guest of AOH Member: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (provide id # from traveling card)

LAOH Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Guest of LAOH Member: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ Division: \_\_\_\_\_

Highest Current Elected or Appointed Position: \_\_\_\_\_

		<b>Meal Choice</b> (circle selection if attending Friday and/or Saturday)	<b>Preferred Seating</b> (with county, division, or no preference)
<b>Full Package</b> (includes all three events and registration fee)	\$235.00	Fri.: Ribs   Chicken   Risotto Sat.: Steak   Halibut   Ravioli	Fri.: Sat.:
<b>À La Carte</b> (registration fee required)			
Registration Fee		n/a	n/a
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$20.00		
Wednesday, Ice Breaker		n/a	n/a
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$65.00		
Friday, Irish and Awards Night		Ribs   Chicken   Risotto	
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$95.00		
Saturday, Banquet Night		Steak   Halibut   Ravioli	
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$100.00		

Registration with dinner(s) must be received by **July 3, 2019.**

Make checks payable to Albany AOH Division 5; note 'Registration' in the memo.

Mail with form to:

Tim Weklar

3431 NY-43, Averill Park NY 12018