



# *Empire State Hibernian*

*Published Quarterly by the New York State  
Board Ancient Order of Hibernians In America*

*Organized in New York City – May 4, 1836*



*September 2019*

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

As I write this, I am sitting in El Cercado, in the San Juan province of the Dominican Republic, in the parish rectory of San Pedro, in the diocese of San Juan Bautista (St. John the Baptist). The reason for my being here is an attempt to improve my Spanish, so I can better serve the people of my parish.

A few days ago, the local pastor took me on a tourist day out, showing the local sites of his hometown and the surrounding areas. As we stopped at the very center of the island of Hispaniola, we encountered a stone, with faded carvings, set in place by natives before Columbus. I was reminded of the great stone monuments of our ancestors and the mathematics and engineering involved. Of course this stone was nowhere as large as those set up by the Celtic people, but there is a connection. Our stop at the cathedral revealed an even deeper connection to the people here.

As I approached the doors of the cathedral, to their left were the graves of the founding bishops of the diocese: Msgr. Thomas F. Reilly CSSR, and Msgr. Renaldo Connors CSSR. While I don't have the exact history of these two men, something tells me that they might have an Irish connection.

All of this reminds us of the great missionary work of our people and the universality of the Church they loved.

As a child, I remember watching my aunt's nieces and nephew doing jigs and reels in the garage at different parties. That was at a time that tradition had just about disappeared in Ireland, but having been preserved by the diaspora in America, it returned strong. During those same parties, and later at Hibernian functions and those of other Irish groups, the cause for Irish freedom was discussed. As a twelve year old I listened as Bobby Sands and the other nine were spoken of with a reverence and passion. As in the past, the cause of justice and freedom in Ireland found a home in America, where it could gain strength.

Today, there is a rejection of the Faith in Ireland. I will not say it is completely unjustified, as there are many failings on the part of men who led the Church. However, much of what occurred can be traced to the introduction of foreign elements into the Irish Catholic Church, as well as the sinister use of religion to control the population. The British government, unable to destroy the Irish people, or separate them from the Church founded by Christ, brought to Ireland by St. Patrick, and held onto in spite of death or exile, decided to use it to control the Irish. True Irish men and women, and true priests of Christ however continued to preach His Gospel. In the vacuum left by the British government in retreat, the Church stepped into positions it was needed, and even imperfectly attempted to Care for the people of Ireland.

Now with the heathen secularism of Europe, many in Ireland opt for a new idol. The psychological damage of the people of England's first and last colony, makes them yearn to be like their European counterparts; educated, af-

fluent and free of their past. But imitation of the rest of Europe and the abandonment of one's culture and faith is not the way to be. Again, we are the people who need to bring the Faith, as it truly is, back to Ireland. And how do we do this? By living out our Faith in our personal life, our families, our parishes, and as Hibernians. That means Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. Those rosary beads in your pocket can be taken out and prayed, even in the car or train. Most of all, don't be afraid of telling people, even your kids or grandkids, why you're a Catholic.



See everyone back in the States.

## **President Thomas A. Lambert**

Thank you to all who attended the NYS AOH/LAOH Convention this past July in Albany. Despite facing many obstacles presented by the hotel, the Albany Convention Committee did a fantastic job! Thank you to Liam McNabb and the entire Convention Committee for putting on the convention. Having been the Co-Chair of the Buffalo Convention two years ago, I know first-hand that there are some things like inadequate air conditioning and elevators not running that were out of the committee's control. Thank you again to the convention committee!

I would also like to thank my AOH Brothers for placing their trust in me by electing me President of the NYS AOH for the next two years. Please be advised that the entire NYS AOH Board, both elected and appointed, is already hard at work! Please feel free to reach out to me at [Tomlambert12@AOL.Com](mailto:Tomlambert12@AOL.Com) or 716-796-7687 with any questions or concerns.

My thanks also go out to immediate Past President Victor Vogel. Vic served the Order well during his time on the Board. His emphasis on promoting Irish language masses is reaping continuing benefits. Irish Language Masses are currently scheduled in Buffalo and The Bronx. It is also hoped that we can continue the tradition begun by Vic for another Mass Rock service next spring in East Durham.

Thank you to NY LAOH State President for her hard work in taking the lead in scheduling an AOH/LAOH weekend November 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> in Saratoga. Both the NYS AOH State Board meeting and the NYS LAOH State Board meeting will be held on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Locations for the meetings are still being determined at this time. More information will be made available soon. However, anyone who will be looking to stay in Saratoga for the weekend can contact the Hilton Garden Inn, 125 South Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. Reservations MUST be made by September 17, 2019 to qualify for the \$99.00 plus tax per night rate. For reservations please call (518) 587-1500. Please use group code LAOH. This special rate applies to reservations for Friday, Saturday and Sunday November 1<sup>st</sup>-November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Again, please note the early Reservation cut-off!

I look forward to seeing everyone in Saratoga!

## **Vice President John J. Manning**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my Brother Hibernians, from throughout New York State for electing me to be your Ancient Order of Hibernians New York State Vice President back on July 12, 2019. I'm very grateful for the opportunity you have given me. I promise to serve you all to the best of my ability, and to continue the course established by my predecessors.

I would also like to extend my sincerest gratitude to all of my Brother and Sister Hibernians from Albany, New York, for all of your hard work, dedication, preparing, and coordinating for the New York State Ancient Order of Hibernians Convention, that was recently held in Albany, NY, Job Well Done!!!!

The entire New York State Ancient Order of Hibernians Executive Board is working hard to meet the goals as set by our Worthy New York State President, Thomas Lambert. The officers are transitioning into our new roles. I am very much looking forward to the future, and working closely with my Brother Hibernians of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, across New York State. It's important that we all continue working together in our "Motto" toward improvement and growth throughout all of New York State.

With the summer of 2019 coming to an end, we have 3 Major Degree's being held in the month of September 2019 across our great State of New York.

- 1) Sunday September 22, 2019 the Westchester County Board in conjunction with the Suffolk County Tara Court Degree Team will be hosting a Major Degree at Iona College. For more information please contact Brother Hibernian Jeff Nisler @ (631) 385-2425 or Past District #4 Director Brother Hibernian Aidan O'Kelly-Lynch @ (917) 468-9434.
- 2) Saturday September 28, 2019 New York State AOH District #3 will be sponsoring a Major Degree in conjunction with the Schenectady Major Degree Team that will be taking place at the "Irish Cultural Center of Utica", located at 623 Columbia Street, Utica, NY. Candidates are required to be on time by Noon, and all Observers are welcome starting at 12:30 PM. There will be dinner and a cash bar immediately following the Major Degree Ceremony. Please contact Brother Hibernian Owen Cole @ (518) 527-5069 or Past District #3 Director Brother Hibernian Nick Durr @ (315) 520-4714 if you are planning on attending this Major Degree.
- 3) Sunday September 29, 2019 the Thomas J. Clarke Division 8, Suffolk County in conjunction with the Suffolk County Tara Court Degree Team, will be hosting a Major Degree at Our Lady of Mount Carmel R.C. Church Parish Center, located at 495 N. Ocean Avenue, Patchogue, NY. For more information please contact Brother Hibernian Jeff Nisler @ (631) 385-2425.

If you're County or Division is interested in hosting a Major Degree of our Order, please contact any of the Major Degree Teams that are here in New York State.

- 1) "Cu Chulainn Celtic Warriors" Major Degree Team (Richmond County)  
Point of Contact: Brother Hibernian Jack King  
636 Rockaway Street  
Staten Island, NY 10307  
(718) 948-2555  
E-Mail: [jkcuchulainn@yahoo.com](mailto:jkcuchulainn@yahoo.com)
- 2) Schenectady Major Degree Team (Schenectady County)

- 3) Point of Contact: Brother Hibernian Owen Cole  
738 Swaggertown Road  
Scotia, NY 12302  
(518) 399-1269  
E-Mail: [omcole54@gmail.com](mailto:omcole54@gmail.com)
  
- 4) Tara Court Major Degree Team (Suffolk County)  
Point of Contact: Brother Hibernian Jeff Nisler  
33 Corlett Place  
Huntington Station, NY 11746  
(631) 385-2425  
E-Mail: [jeff.aoh@nisler.com](mailto:jeff.aoh@nisler.com)

Please don't hesitate to contact me at any time if there is anything you need or I can be assistance. I can be reached at [john@breezymanning.com](mailto:john@breezymanning.com), call or text (917) 589-0047. I'm looking forward to seeing you all in the near future.

**Secretary**  
**Thomas M. O'Donnell**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my Brother Hibernians, from throughout New York State for electing me to be your Ancient Order of Hibernians New York State Secretary. I'm very grateful for the opportunity you have given me. I promise to serve you all to the best of my ability, and to continue the course established by my predecessors.

I would also like to extend my sincerest gratitude to all of my Brother and Sister Hibernians from the Capital District for all of your hard work, preparing, and coordinating for the New York State Ancient Order of Hibernians Convention, that was recently held in Albany NY, Job Well Done!!

The entire New York State Ancient Order of Hibernians Executive Board is working hard to meet the goals as set by our Worthy New York State President, Thomas A. Lambert. The officers are transitioning into our new roles. In order to allow me to do so, if not already done, I'm asking all County Boards in New York State to please send me their fully completed Form 9's. I have been updating the list of officers, and all updated information is needed.

I'm looking forward to the future and working closely with my Brother Hibernians on the Ancient Order of Hibernians, New York State Executive Board. It's important that we all continue working together in our "Motto" toward improvement and growth throughout all of New York State.

Please don't hesitate to contact me at any time if there is anything you need or I can give assistance with. I'm looking forward to seeing you all in the near future.

**Treasurer**  
**Thomas Beirne**

Thank You to all the Hibernian Brothers that attended the NY State AOH Convention in Albany in July. The Albany host Committee did an excellent job organizing a successful Convention. It is exhilarating to get together with fellow Hibernians from across NY State at the Convention, get their input at the General Meetings and the

committee break-out meetings. The efforts put in at the Convention allow us to continue the charitable and noble works of our Order. It is enjoyable socializing and having dialogue with Hibernian Brothers, Sisters and their families.

Hard to believe that the summer is winding down, I hope the brothers had a chance to enjoy some time off and relax with their families and friends. As we move into September and the Fall Season, Hibernian meetings and activities will ramp up. I look forward to working with our President Tom Lambert, Vice President John Manning, Secretary Tom O'Donnell, District Directors, appointed Officers, and the Brothers across the State promoting our Irish Culture, Heritage, History and Catholic Faith.

I had the honor to serve on the State Board the past (4) years as NY State Catholic Action Chairman and as a Director. I would like to thank Past State President's Tim McSweeney and Vic Vogel for appointing me the Catholic Action Chairman during their administrations. The (4) years I served as NY State Catholic Action Chairman had many wonderful events but the highlights are: the September 2015 Papal Visit by Pope Francis to NY, the dedication of a monument to Archbishop "Dagger John" Hughes, Commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising, a Month's mind Mass for Martin McGuinness in St. Patrick's Cathedral in April of 2017, The reburial of Knock Visionary John Curry at the Basilica of St. Patrick's Old Cathedral, and attending the March for Life in Washington DC every January.

I encourage Hibernians to attend the NY State Board Fall Meeting in Saratoga in early November. More details will be made available on the meeting shortly.  
May Saint Patrick Bless and Protect You!

## **Immediate Past President**

### **Victor J. Vogel**

I am extremely grateful and proud to have been the New York State President of the Ancient Order of Hibernians for these past two years. I want to congratulate the Elected Officers of the New York State Board for maintaining the high standards that are expected of them in the performance of their duties. I want to thank the Appointed Officers for their many outstanding accomplishments and achievements in advancing the Irish Culture and preserving the Irish Heritage. I want to thank the many Counties and Divisions for their enthusiastic level of support and resounding dedication in developing the goals that were presented to them. Together, we have maintained the greatness that has always distinguished the Ancient Order of Hibernians in New York State. As I reflect on the last two years, I can only thank you all. Thank you for your commitment to Greatness!

## **District 1**

### **Kevin O'Reilly**

Let me begin by wishing the entire State Board well in their new offices and positions as the term gets under way. As to Himself, I am originally from Rochester, NY and have been in Albany since 1985. I retired last June and have mixed emotions about Retirement: Joy & Happiness!

I am member of Fr. Tansey Division 5 since 2003 and am a Past Division President. I am also a Past President of Albany County and most recently served in an appointed position on the State Board as Deputy Finance. You may have seen me around at State and National Conventions; I'm the Irish guy with white hair and a white mustache.

District 1 currently has six active Divisions: Albany, East Durham (Green Co), Saratoga, Schenectady, Troy and Watervliet.

Good and Welfare: Recently Schenectady had a very successful fund raiser for Jim Scott, Past President, who was in a bad accident when struck by an inattentive driver. On behalf of all involved in organizing and carrying out the

event, Thank You for participating in this most worthy cause. Sept 21st they are planning a Halfway to St Patrick's Day, details being worked out.

Albany Rebels, Albany's own GAA Team, recently ran its first Corn Hole Tournament to benefit St Anne's Institute in conjunction with Fr. Tansey Division and the Capital District Irish American Association. Very nice event and we hope to make it an annual event. Albany's Golf Tournament is coming up Sept 20th and they will also have some fun at its Picnic/Oktoberfest Sept 28th at their Hall.

Watervliet has their Golf Tournament October 5th at Frear Park. President Mark Scully hopes many can join them that day.

I am looking forward to helping all of us to have a great term and hope to see you all at the Fall State Board Meeting in Saratoga.

## **District 2**

### **Craig E. Speers**

As the newly minted NYS AOH District Two Director, having been elected at the NYS AOH Convention in Albany on July 13th, I just wanted to state how honored I am to be selected for this post.

As the son of a Hibernian, and a member of Buffalo Division No. 1 since 1980, I am proud to represent Western New York on the State Board, and to serve with all our statewide officers, including our former Division President and now New York State AOH President Tom Lambert. I want to also thank President Lambert, my predecessor District Two Director Barry Griffith, and NYS AOH Secretary Tom O'Donnell for their advice and counsel.

The AOH has strong meaning for me, and for my family, as my father Hap Speers served as a charter member and division treasurer of the reconstituted Division 1. Since 1980 I have served in a variety of roles including as division financial secretary, Freedom for All Ireland Chairman, division historian, division marshal, and Erie County Board President.

I take seriously the pledge we all take to defend our Roman Catholic faith and our Irish heritage, and have vigorously advocated in numerous forums for the sanctity of life - born and unborn, devotion to our faith, and to freedom and reunification for all Ireland.

In these troubled times when Catholics are being subjected to derision and ridicule from forces opposed to organized Christianity (including regrettably several presidential candidates) it is incumbent on all of us to act as defenders of the faith - in word and deed.

Having participated in several of the March for Life pilgrimages in Washington, D.C., I know that it is not easy to place yourself in the public square and advocate for our Catholic faith and values, and by extension subject yourself and or your family to scorn - but none the less we must speak and speak out to our fellow Catholics and to our elected representatives on the local, state and federal levels to make sure that they know of our deep concerns on the monumental issues of the day - the right to life for the unborn, and freedom to practice our religion free from overt governmental interference - being paramount.

Regrettably what we have recently seen in New York State is unprecedented attacks on the unborn via the infamous RHA legislation, which basically allows for infanticide, and for financial attacks on the very foundation of every Catholic diocese in the state via the CVA legislation. The CVA legislation will allow unlimited civil lawsuits against every diocese for the next year - regardless of the year of the allegation. Both of these unjustifiable and disgraceful pieces of legislation should be a call to action for every Hibernian, and every Catholic - to stand

and fight to defend our faith.

As part of the duties as District Two Directory I will be calling upon our divisions in Lockport, Niagara Falls, Rochester, Olean, Wellsville, Geneva and Buffalo to tell them of the need to educate our members and families to trials that lie ahead for our faith and movement, and to listen to their concerns and comments.

Having worked for the NYS Office of the State Comptroller, Division of Municipal Affairs in the field for four decades, in an area that comprised of all of Western New York I am intimately familiar with all these wonderful locations - my family hails from the Finger Lakes region - Geneva, Penn Yan, and Naples. I also graduated from Saint Bonaventure University (Franciscan OFM) in Allegany and from Canisius College (Jesuit) in Buffalo. So my travels will be happy ones - I so look forward to speaking with my brothers in my district and across this great state.

Before I conclude my report here, I just wanted to thank my late father Hap, for encouraging my interest in Irish history and culture, and for my wife Theresa Gillooly (from Ballymoe, County Galway, and Upper Ardboe, County Tyrone), and my children Brendan Patrick and Brian Edward (named in honor of St. Brendan the Navigator, and King Brian Boru - the last great high king) for their unwavering support, and my ancestors the Murphy and Pheland families of Drogheda, County Louth who came to this country with nothing but the clothes on their backs and forged a new life for themselves in Seneca Falls, New York, working in the iron foundries. God bless you all - keep and defend the faith.

### **District 3**

#### **Phil O'Neil**

Thanks to my Hibernian Brothers for electing me as District 3 Director at the State Convention in Albany. All division presidents have been contacted and I will be attending meetings at all divisions by the end of September.

The biggest event in District 3 was the opening of the Irish Cultural Center in Utica, NY. The dedication ceremony was held on Friday July 19, 2019. The event was attended by current and past State and National AOH officers. The John C. Devereux Div. 1, Oneida County, was critical to the success of the building of this facility. The Devereux Division was the host of the event.

The Irish Cultural Center will include an Irish history in NY and America museum and Five Points Public House. This is a fantastic facility that should be on every Hibernians list to visit when in the central NY and Utica area. Thanks to Brothers Nick Durr, Liam McNabb and Ed Wallace for introducing me to many AOH and LAOH members.

Syracuse – Commodore John Barry Division

- The Syracuse Division was a major contributor to a Coalition of Irish groups in Syracuse to sponsor the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Irish Freedom Week from April 21 to 27. Highlight events were raising the Irish flag over Syracuse City Hall and the Proclamation of the Irish Declaration of Independence by Syracuse Mayor Ben Walsh on 4/24 and the showing of the movie “The Wind That Shakes the Barley”, (chronicling the days leading up to and following the Easter Rising).

The movie was shown at the Marriott Syracuse Hotel and was very well attended. A discussion of the movie followed led by Brother Geordie Austin of the Commodore Barry Division. The week concluded with a brunch at the Marriott Syracuse Hotel, attended by approximately 60 people. Thanks to Brother Ed Riley (Hotel owner) and his staff for their hospitality.

- Irish Night at Syracuse Mets game was held August 15<sup>th</sup>. This event brings the entire CNY Irish Community to-

gether. Syracuse AOH plays a prominent role in the evenings events. Mets management allows the Division to sell raffle tickets at the main gate for one of the major fund raising activities of the Division. This year a Buffalo Bills game package is the prize (Western NY Brothers feel free to contact Syracuse for a chance to win!!). Syracuse AOH was acknowledged on the main score board and during on field events before and during the game.

- Scottish Games – Syracuse Division runs a food pavilion at the Games in a very prominent location. The AOH leads the Gathering of the Clans parade / assembly – Chanting “Éirinn go Brách, Tíocfaidh ár lá” – Ireland Forever, Our Day Will Come

Oswego – Dean Michael Barry Division.

-The Oswego Division is a key and prominent institution in the Oswego community.

The Division hosts many community outreach and fund raisers at their hall, an example of this occurred on Sunday August 4<sup>th</sup>. On July 25<sup>th</sup> an 11 year old boy was struck by a truck while riding his bike. He died from his injuries.

The Oswego Division hosted an event to help the family in their time of need. This event was organized and publicized in a short time, with many AOH and LAOH Brothers and Sisters involved. The event was attended by over 500 people and raised a very substantial amount of money to help the family with funeral expenses, epitomizing our motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity.

- The Oswego Division participated in the vigil Mass for the Feast of the Assumption on August 14 at St. Mary’s, the traditional home church of the Irish in Oswego. AOH and LAOH members led the procession and presented the gifts at the Mass.

## **District 4**

### **Bob Nolan**

I would like to thank my Brother Hibernians for their personal and financial support of my candidacy for District #4 Director. I look forward to working with all NYS Officers during the next two years.

#### **A. New York County**

Dennis Grogan; President

- On June 12, 2019, Division 7 of New York County held its annual charity cruise – Celtic Cruise - to assist the Emerald Isle Immigration Center. The support was phenomenal and the EIIC was the beneficiary of \$50,000.00 in funds.
- On June 23, 2019, the New York County Board joined several parish organizations and the parishioners of the Basilica of St. Patrick’s Old Cathedral to bid a fond farewell to Msgr. Donald Sakano, Chaplain of NY County Board and Division 9. Msgr. Sakano oversaw the rehabilitation and renovations to the Old Cathedral, restoring it to its original splendor. The new Basilica became part of our AOH and Roman Catholic heritage when then Archbishop Hughes of New York called upon our Brothers in 1854 to defend St. Patrick’s (Old) Cathedral when it was threatened by Nativist bigots.
- On June 24, 2019, the Francis P. Beirne Division No. 9 - New York County AOH held its 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Francis P. Beirne & Francis McGreal Memorial Golf Outing. The event was well attended and the proceeds enable the Division to support its many charitable endeavors.

#### **Upcoming events**

- October 6, 2019 – NY County Board in conjunction with The Sisters of Life will come together at St. Patrick’s Cathedral, for the annual Respect Life Mass.

- October 19, 2018 – New York County hosts a Major Degrees of the Order – 25 AOH brothers join us to obtain their Major Degrees

**B. BRONX COUNTY**

Martin Galvin; President

**IRISH MASS/INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS**

- On Saturday, September 7, there will be a Mass in Irish said at St. Barnabas Church at 12 Noon. Installation of County Officers will occur in the Church and a celebration will follow in the school cafeteria on E. 241 St. Food and drink will be served. Contact Martin at 718-324-8726 or Bob at 347-880-1403.
- Bronx Division #3 will sponsor a halfway to St. Patrick's Day BBQ on September 17 starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Redwood Club on Schurz Ave. in Throgs Neck. Cost \$20, includes one free drink. There will be a drawing for a "Basket of Great Cheer." Contact Joe McManus at 718-644-1841 for more information.
- Bronx Division #5 will sponsor a Charity Golf Outing on Friday, September 20 at the Van Cortlandt Park Golf Course in The Bronx. Shotgun start at 12 Noon. For further information contact Pat Tunnock at 914-479-9415.
- The annual Bronx County dinner will be held on Sunday, November 24 at Rory Dolan's. Kitty Kelly Band will perform. Further information will be forwarded.

**C. Westchester County**

Brian Duffy; President

- On Saturday, September 14, from 5-8pm, Division 17-New Rochelle-will re-establish the New Rochelle Aeriocht Festival, a tribute to the Rebels of 1916, at the American Legion Post at 112 North Ave., New Rochelle. There will be live Irish music and Gaelic speakers.
- On Sunday, September 22 a Major Degree ceremony will be held at the American Legion Post at 112 North Ave., New Rochelle. Brothers in Westchester and The Bronx are urged to take the Major Degree. Candidates will assemble at 3 p.m. The Degree Ceremony will begin at 4 p.m. Cost for candidates will be \$30 while observers pay \$10. Call Aidan O'Kelly-Lynch at 917-468-9434 for more details.
- The McLean Ave. Fall Street Festival will be held on September 21 from 1-7 p.m. Myles Scully Division #1 Yonkers will participate.
- On Saturday, September 28, Division 18 AOH and LAOH will sponsor the 11th Hudson Valley Irish Festival at the Peekskill Riverfront Green. Contact Cathal McGreal at 914.804.0088.

**District 6**

**Sean O'Rourke**

Brothers, as we just returned from the AOH NYS convention up in Albany, I would like to thank Brother Liam McNabb and the rest of his committee for another successful convention. Congratulations to our new State President Tom Lambert and all the newly elected and appointed state officers; kudos to Nassau's Mike Byrne for a well fought and classy campaign for NYS Treasure. Mike was reappointed as NYS Sports Chairman. Also, congratulations to Nassau County Div. 20 Vice President Tom Scanlon for being honored at the Nassau County Irish Night at Eisenhower park this past August.

The brothers in Nassau and Suffolk have had a busy summer with Golf outings, picnics and other events. Upcoming events include:

Nassau County Feis and Irish Festival, Sunday September 15, 2019 at Nickerson Beach. Congratulations to Andrew Healy on being named Feis honoree. Please visit NassauAOHFeis.com for more details.

Brother Joe McDonald is chairing the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Long Island Irish Music Festival which will take place on Sunday August 9, 2020 at Plattduetsche Park in Franklin Square NY. Details to follow.

Suffolk County Div. 8 will be hosting the following events:

Suffolk County Major Degree on Sunday, Sept.29th at 12pm at Our Lady of Mt Carmel in North Patchogue. Div. 8 Annual Hibernian of the Year Fall Dance is on October 19th, this year we are honoring Ken Gutmann and Cathy Bienieck.

I hope you and your families enjoy the rest of your summer. Till next time, stay well.

## **District 7**

### **Timothy J. Tobin**

Greetings all, I would like to take a moment to introduce myself as the new District 7 Director. First, I must thank and applaud our Past District Director, Mark Kadlecik, for his four years' of service as District Director. I am honored and humbled to be following Mark in this position. He has done an outstanding job in this capacity and has been a good friend and support person to me as I step into this office.

I am a member of the Monsignor John J. Lee Division, Chemung County #1, in Elmira. I have served as Division President as well as in other positions in the Division and have served on our building corporation. I also work on, or chair, a few events in our Division including our annual AOH Blood Drive, Irish Festival, Clergy Dinner, and the Toys for Tots drive. It is my pleasure and honor to serve as District 7 Director. May we all keep those who protect us and our nation, as well as those who face struggles in life, and those who have gone before us, in our prayers. May we live our daily lives in the motto of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity.

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

The Ancient Order of Hibernians, Monsignor Lawrence E. Giblin Division One, Broome County has been busy this past month. On July 21 we held our annual picnic for both AOH and LAOH and their families at the Zoo at Ross Park in Binghamton. Several Members attended the State Convention held in July in Albany. The first weekend in August, we held our annual AOH Golf Tournament at Ely Park Golf Course. Nineteen teams participated and helped to support our Division. With sad news, we lost one of our brothers the last week of July. Brother Leo Kane died. Leo was a former President of our division and was a NYS Director for several years. We held a prayer service at the Funeral home and an AOH Honor Guard for his funeral mass. For those who knew Leo, he was what the AOH stands for Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity. Leo held fast to his Irish heritage.

**Chemung County Chapter of the AOH**, Monsignor John J. Lee Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians is located in Elmira, New York. President Mike Duffy. Division Meetings are the Second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. Hibernian Center, 701 Kinyon St., Elmira, New York.

In June, we awarded our first Father Raymond Hourihan scholarship. 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. The scholarship was awarded to Kendyl Murray, the daughter and granddaughter of members of the division. Kendyl was chosen on the basis of her academic accomplishments, community activities, and her essay on how the principles of Faith, Unity, and Christian Charity will be incorporated into her future goals in life.

In August, we held our third annual AOH-American Red Cross Blood Drive. We are proud to report we met and exceeded our donation goal. For the fall, we will be hosting a series of annual events. Our annual Irish Festival is on Saturday, September 14, from 1-10 pm. We hold a flag raising ceremony as part of the festivities, and this year will be honoring the men and women who serve and protect us in law enforcement. All are invited to attend. 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, as well as our annual Beef Raffle; proceeds go to support youth sports in the community.

We host traditional Irish Music on the third Sunday of every month. This has proven quite popular among members and musicians. We are also offering Irish music lessons in traditional Irish instruments. We invite all Hibernians to stop in and visit us at our Kinyon Street home

**The Steuben County Chapter of the AOH**, Sons of Ireland, of the Ancient Order of Hibernians is located in Hornell, New York. President: Larry Vetter. Division Meetings are the First Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. American Legion, 72 Seneca St. Hornell, NY

The Division sponsored, along with our LAOH Sisters, Dr. Donncha MacGabhan, a Celtic Artist from Ireland to the International Artists' Conference, Andover New York. The Conference was organized by the Allegheny Artisans group led by Stephen Walker, a Celtic artist, jeweler and metal smith. Dr. Gabhan and Mr. Walker addressed the group at our June meeting detailing the conference and the traditional Irish Celtic Style, associated with the 8th Century Book of Kells. From June 7-9, artists, craftsman and Celtic Art Scholars convened to study and discuss the mysterious and beautiful artistic tradition.

We hosted our Irish Festival on August 16th and 17<sup>th</sup>, at St. Ann Parish Parking lot, corner of Center Street and Erie Avenue. We will also host our Annual Irish Open Golf Outing at the Twin Hickory Golf Club on September 17.

The Division continues to volunteer, each week, with a member spending one hour at Our Lady of the Valley Parish's (St. Ann's Church) Perpetual Adoration Chapel.

## **District 8**

### **Jim Russell**

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Jim Russell and I am the new District Director for District # 8. I have been a member of the AOH for the past 20 years and have served on the Division level as President, Vice President and Recording Secretary and served on the county level as Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President and County President. I am the immediate past President of Rockland County from 2013-2017.

I have also served on the State level and served on the national level as part of the 1916 committee.

I would like to thank previous district director, Kevin Moore for all of his hard work these past two years.

I look forward to working with President Tom Lambert and his board for the next two years.

District 8 encompasses the counties of Dutchess, Orange, Rockland, Sullivan and Ulster Counties.

### **Dutchess County:**

Dutchess County, Msgr. Sheahan Division # 1 will be meeting on the following dates from September-November:

September 19<sup>th</sup>

October 17<sup>th</sup>

November 21<sup>st</sup>

The meetings will be held at the Knights of Columbus in Wappingers Falls, N.Y. at the Knights of Columbus Hall.

### **Orange County:**

The Orange County board is well underway with activities for the fall. The board held its annual fundraiser. It was a raffle for a package of six ARMY football home games for 2019 at Michie Stadium.

Division 1, Orange County is planning its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary for Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup> from 1-5 p.m. at the Otterkill Country Club in Campbell Hall, N.Y. The cost will be \$80 per person, which features a cocktail hour, passed Hors d'oeuvre's, open bar and a sit down dinner. Music is by the Chris Turpin Band. In addition, they are planning a communion breakfast with a date to be determined.

Division 4, Orange County is held their golf outing on Friday, August 16, 2019 at the Monroe Country Club. .

### **Rockland County:**

The Rockland County AOH held its Ceol Mor Bagpipe Competition and Festival at the Rockland GAA fields on Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The next county board meeting will be on Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at Hibernian House beginning at 8:00 p.m.

Division 1, North Rockland will be holding its annual scholarship dinner dance on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at Lynch's Restaurant in Stony Point, N.Y. Music will be by the Kitty Kelly Band. The cost is TBD. The honoree is your humbled District 8 Director, Jim Russell.

Division 3, Pearl River initiated 7 new members since the last NYS Hibernian newsletter. On June 10<sup>th</sup>, the division hosed Alan Brecknell from Relatives for Justice who presented the documentary, *Unquiet Graves, the Untold Story of the Glenanne Gang* to a packed house.

Division 5, Blauvelt will be holding a Night at the Races on Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at the Hibernian House in Pearl River. Further information to follow.

### **Ulster County:**

The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Hooley on the Hudson, a day celebrating Irish culture will be held on the Kingston waterfront on Sunday, September 1<sup>st</sup> from 11:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. The Hooley has attracted upwards of 20,000 people. For further information, please contact Bill Kearney, county VP at 845-338-6622.

## **Freedom for All Ireland**

### **Martin Galvin**

Our Worthy National President often reminds us the AOH should be the "voice of the Irish in America". There is no issue for where Ireland needs America's voice more than freedom for all Ireland. In the past two years New York State played a leading role in national and state speaking tours on the Ballymurphy Massacre, the denial of legacy justice, and British complicity in collusion. These tours became major stories in the IRISH ECHO and IRISH VOICE. We obtained Congressional letters on FFAI issues which put British officials on notice they were under American Congressional scrutiny. We got formal State recognition for Ireland's Declaration of Independence and 1918 vote for freedom. We have worked together with our Immigration Committee to support Malachy McAllister, the Irish political deportees and other FFAI related immigration issues. AOH representatives attended the Ballymurphy Inquest, met leaders of other justice campaigns and expressed our concerns to Irish government officials. New York led the way on Christmas Appeal donations and many of our suggestions to improve the Christmas Appeal were accepted by our national officers. Anyone wondering whether what we do in New York FFAI matters should ask one of the New York Hibernians who attended the FFAI tour in February. Ireland counts 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 AOH member who works on FFAI or contributed to the Christmas Appeal. FFAI matters to people in Ireland, and New York is a driving force for FFAI nationally.

### **NATIONAL AND STATE SPEAKING TOURS**

Professor Mark McGovern, joined by Mark Thompson of Relatives for Justice, conducted a seven state American launch of *COUNTERINSURGENCY and COLLUSION in NORTHERN IRELAND* organized by the Ancient Order of Hibernians. The importance to people in Ireland was underlined by a special appeal by Tyrone victims' families to relatives and friends in America to attend.

The tour included New York City, Philadelphia, Washington DC, Rutherford New Jersey, Boston, Newport, Rhode Island, Fairfield, Connecticut and Albany. The IRISH ECHO ran a full page story headed "McGovern book tour draws the crowds".

Highlights included Congressional meetings, a reception at the National Press Club and briefings at the Irish Embassy.

In November 2018, an Irish Embassy reception, 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. It was a major morale and publicity boost for the campaign.

Mark Thompson conducted a weeklong New York state emergency American tour in January 2018, which generated a new Congressional initiative, five public events and formal proclamations of support by the New York State Senate, Assembly and local governments. Sponsored by the New York State Board, the emergency tour included Babylon, New York City, Pearl River, Albany and Peekskill.

### **NEW YORK HONORS IRELAND'S DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE**

Ireland's Declaration of Independence took center stage in Albany last January, as Hibernians led by then 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.

On April 24, 2018 "IRELAND'S 1918 FREEDOM MANDATE" ceremony in Albany, honored the centenary of the 1918 democratic election which ratified the April 24, 1916 Easter Proclamation and created the free Irish Parliament, Dail Eireann."

By our successful campaigns and turnout, the AOH have shown our state officials that the AOH wants Irish issues and history treated with the same attention that other ethnic groups get for their issues and history.

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!

## **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.

Recipients included -Relatives for Justice, Pat Finucane Centre, Holy Cross Ardoyne, EALU-(means Escape in Irish) is a center for Republican ex-political prisoners, New Lodge Commemoration Committee, Conway Mill Trust, Tyrone AOH, Cairde Strabane, St. Patrick Centre, Downpatrick, Duchas Oiriall-South Armagh, Bridges beyond Boxing, Belfast, Down Patriot Graves, Green Cross, Belfast National Graves, Omagh Basketball and Omagh 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.

## **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 deportation, Senators and Congressmen were told that Acting Secretary of Homeland Security Kevin McAleenan would grant Malachy 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 Irish Political Deportees including AOH members whose cases were settled in 1997, meet delays in work permits, travel permission etc.

Within the last month I was contacted by ex-prisoners who say their children and grandchildren have been denied visa waivers or visas to visit the United States. I referred this to Dan Dennehy, who has taken the lead on this issue.

## **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:

May resignation and battle to replace her, new Stormont talks, Brexit, Pardons proposals for British troopers, Malachy McAllister, Orange bonfires and parades, the Ballymurphy Massacre Inquest, fight to carry Irish flags in St. Patrick's Day Parades etc.

### **Editor**

**Tom McKenna**

Deadlines for The Empire State Hibernian are:

November 15 for December 2019 issue

February 15 for the March 2020 issue

May 15 for the June 2020 issue

Please submit all information through the appropriate officer, chairman or director.

### **Pro Life**

**Jack O'Brien**

I hope you had a wonderful summer. Now, it is back to the work of the Order.

I want to congratulate and welcome all of our Elected Officers and Chairpersons to their new positions.

It has been both an honor and a privilege to serve on the New York State Board as your Pro Life Chairman for the past years. At our State Convention in Albany, President Lambert asked if I would stay on as State Pro Life Chairman. I, of course, accepted because I believe that there is no greater cause than Respect Life.

At the convention, I again realized how important it is to disseminate proper Pro Life information to all Hibernians. We need to be focused, united in the effort, and be on the *same* page. This will make us more effective. Please remember to not be waylaid by false pro life opinions, whether tweeted or from main-stream media. Taking positive action such as: the "National March for Life", the "March for Life New York"(Albany), standing witness with your local Respect Life group, or taking part in the national "LIFE CHAIN" on October 6th, are all very powerful and convincing methods of getting the word out in a positive manner.

As a Pro Life Chairman, there are numerous duties, but they all lead back to increasing a Respect for Life. I applaud the positive aspects of what pro life supporters do, but see the need to raise awareness of the things that are detrimental to the Pro Life cause. I also see the need to enlighten and motivate the membership and others to be more effective and instrumental as we go forward.

With more than 45 years since the Roe vs. Wade ruling and 60 million babies lost, I know we sometimes feel discouraged. Don't be! Those who Respect Life *need* to work to counteract the effects of suicide, gang violence, criminal activity, etc. They are all escalating. This is largely due to the lack of respect for others and the loss of respect for one's self. This lack of morality stems from abortion. As Mother Theresa said, "And if we can accept that a mother can kill her own child, how can we tell other people not to kill one another?"

Can we be against violence and killing and accept abortion? Are we afraid to challenge women who believe that abortion is a woman's right? In today's Culture of Death, it is not easy to convince liberal minded individuals that abortion is profoundly anti-women. But as Mother Theresa noted quite eloquently, "Three quarters of its victims are women: Half the babies and all the mothers."

As we speak about Respect Life issues to the uninitiated, and especially when it includes the media, do not get caught up in the propaganda. The tweets and headline news all have their own slant on what you should believe. I advise you to always apply what you learn in Church. Do not single out one politician as the problem, such as blaming the current Governor. We all know that abortion existed in NYS long before these people took office. These laws are passed because Pro-Choice advocates have been speaking louder than us.

STOP thinking that abortion/Assisted Suicide are someone else's job to fight! As the Culture of Death creeps into more and more aspects of our society, can you afford to not get involved? Many people, even Hibernian men and women, do not get involved. But, those of us who are passionate need to continue the struggle, to do what we can to change minds and hearts, one at a time.

**Doctor-Assisted Suicide** - This legislation will return and is a lethal threat to the terminally ill, the elderly, and the disabled. **It is in our 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](#)!

You *must* realize this does affect us all! The next 2 election cycles are critical! Remember ...

**PRAY for THEM - DO NOT VOTE FOR THEM. THE LIFE YOU SAVE MAY BE YOUR OWN!**

**National Life Chain** - STAND UP FOR LIFE on Respect Life Sunday, October 6th, there will be more than 1,550 chains formed across North America. You can write me at AOH11@Live.Com for the locations.

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

## Scholarship

### 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 set up a one stop shop on our state website. Kevin Cummings developed an application that could be complet-



ed online and made it easy for me to 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 recommended 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.

We met our goal of getting the scholarship out early and awarded it at the May State Board meeting. Congratulations to the 2019 recipient of the Austin V. Carew Scholarship, Peter Doran of Yonkers Division 1.

## **Catholic Action**

### **James Hamilton**

I would like to thank State President Tom Lambert for the distinct honor of appointing me to serve as the New York State Catholic Action Chairman. I would like to thank my good friend and the newly elected NY State Treasurer Thomas Beirne for his steadfast leadership as Catholic Action Chairman these past four years. Upon learning of my appointment, Thomas warned me that I had some big shoes to fill since he was able to secure a visit by Pope Francis to New York in his first three months in office!

I certainly have some big shoes to fill and I look forward to working with all of my Hibernian brothers and sisters to promote our Catholic faith in action.

I encourage each Division and county Board to appoint a Chairman for Catholic Action and discern the best course of action for the Hibernians to promote our faith in your parishes and communities. There are several programs to consider which can promote visibility, inspire other men and women to join the Hibernians and breathe new life into your Division and County Board.

Consider organizing a communion breakfast and invite an engaging speaker to speak on topics related to the faith; organize a faith in films series at your parish as a way to bring people together and be inspired by the rich stories of faith in cinema; organize a service day for your Division to prepare food at a local soup kitchen, distribute toys at a children's hospital or sing Christmas Carols at a nursing home; organize a collection drive for baby items or new or lightly used maternity clothes, strollers or car seats for a crisis pregnancy center; or organize a Corporate Communion for the entire Division or County Board attends Mass together and goes out for a breakfast.

These are just some ideas to plant in your minds as you consider ways to bring your faith to life in your Division and in your parishes. Let the Hibernians continue to serve as beacons of our faith in our parishes and communities.

### **Save the Date**

On **Sunday, October 6, 2019**, the Hibernians will join the Sisters of Life for our **Annual Right to Life Mass** at the **10:15 a.m. Mass** at St. Patrick's Cathedral on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The Sisters of Life is an order of nuns founded by the late John Cardinal O'Connor. We invite all Hibernians to meet at the North Chapel entrance on 51<sup>st</sup> Street at

9:45 a.m. to organize our procession into the Cathedral.

The annual **March for Life in Washington, D.C.** will take place on **Friday, January 24, 2020**. All New York State Hibernians are encouraged to attend. Please start making plans to attend and reserving your buses and hotels!

## **Commodore Barry Kevin M. Lafferty**

I would first like to thank Worthy President Tom Lambert and all the newly elected officers of the State Board for my appointment to the State Board as the Commodore Barry Chairman. For those who do not know me, I serve as the President of the James W. Carroll Division # 1 in Erie County. I have also served as the registrar of the 2017 NYS AOH/LAOH Convention held in downtown Buffalo. I look forward in continuing to serve you in this new role.

As we all know, Commodore John Barry Day is fast approaching. The nation will celebrate Commodore Barry and his service to this nation on September 13. Upon the formal proclamation of Commodore John Barry Day on August 20, 1981, President Ronald Reagan placed “special trust and confidence in Barry’s patriotism, valor, fidelity, and abilities.” I hope that your divisions will keep in mind the spirit of President Reagan proclamation as you celebrate Commodore Barry this fall. If you are not having a public celebration in your counties, organize one. If you have a Barry expert or enthusiast among your ranks, invite them to lead a discussion. Commodore Barry represents the best of the AOH and we should keep his spirit and memory alive throughout the year, not only in September. Take the time to incorporate Commodore Barry and the words of President Reagan in to your meetings and gatherings.

I would like you to share your celebrations with the State Board and me. If you are planning to have Barry Day celebrations, please email the details of your event and I will share them with the brothers around the state. Please email me all scheduled Barry events to [kevin.m.lafferty@gmail.com](mailto:kevin.m.lafferty@gmail.com). I will do my best to promote your event. Also, send me any photos or recaps at the completion of your celebration.

I look forward to serving you in the future. If there is anything I can do to help you, please do not hesitate to let me know. Have a great remainder of 2019!

## **Webmasters Lee Patterson & Kevin Ellis**

Brothers we hope you and your family are enjoying the warm days of summer. We would like to congratulate Worthy President Tom Lambert and the rest of elected officers on a successful election. Congrats, to my fellow appointed officers and Bail ó Dhia is Mhuire duit on your term Brothers. Brother Ellis and I would also like to thank Worthy President on appointing us Co-Webmasters. We look forward to serving the NYS AOH and are extremely thankful for the opportunity.

Brothers after a successful 2019 convention in Albany; we would also like to thank Brother Liam McNabb and the convention committee for all their hard work and dedication. Our breakout session had five in attendance. I ran a presentation on creating a website from scratch to finish and then Brother Ellis finished up on social media. The presentation will be emailed to the attendees and available online later this month. If you would like a copy of it, please email us and we will send it over.

As we prepare to get back into the swing of things, we plan to revamp and redesign the NYAOH website. I will be forming a team for input and suggestions. We are looking for graphic designers and web designers. If you or you know of someone to include please feel to email us. This is a great chance to assist the NYAOH and your fellow brothers.

## **Events Calendar:**

Please send us content! More posts, information, links increase our traffic. Please include any event flyers as well as specific information, including time, location and especially contact information (phone number and email address).

## **Social Media:**

Our current social media accounts have been very active and are providing new information about AOH and Irish cultural events around New York State on a near daily basis.

- ❖ In the past month, The AOH NYS Facebook Page reached 3,225 in posts, engaged 1,459 in post engagements with 16 new page likes. We currently have an audience of 1659 followers.
- ❖ The AOH New York State Twitter Feed has 1,034 followers, with 11 new followers.

If you use social media, please follow and like our Facebook and Twitter page. This will only increase our digital footprint, traffic to the website, and letting people know all the good work we are doing. **If you view our posts please SHARE.** This allows us to reach and grow our digital footprint expediently

## **Miscellaneous Information:**

Please review the website's Division Directory and Hibernian Hall Directory for any inaccuracies in their meeting locations and times. Please send any necessary updates to our attention. Again, please send us more content and photos; this is one of the most challenging things as a webmaster. Thank you

## **Liaison Jack Ryan**

I thought it would be interesting and important for you to know the circumstances surrounding the origin of the St. Michael Prayer and to realize the importance of saying this Prayer as directed by Pope Leo XIII during every Holy Mass.

I will have these prayer cards available for any Division or County interested in offering these cards to their local parishes. Estimated Cost is about \$250.00/ per 1000 cards.

In closing, I send my Congratulations to all the New Officers and Chairmen, of the AOH NYS Board, Good Luck and God Bless.

### **Pope St. Leo XIII's Vision**

According to tradition, exactly 33 years (span of our Lord's life) to the day prior to the great Miracle of the Sun in Fatima, that is, on October 13, 1884, Pope Leo XIII had a remarkable vision. When the aged Pontiff had finished celebrating Mass in his private Vatican Chapel, attended by a few Cardinals and members of the Vatican staff, he suddenly stopped at the foot of the altar. He stood there for about 10 minutes, as if in a trance, his face ashen white. Then, going immediately from the Chapel to his office, he composed the prayer to St. Michael, with instructions it be said after all Low Masses everywhere. When asked what had happened, he explained that, as he was about to leave the foot of the altar, he suddenly heard voices - two voices, one kind and gentle, the other guttural and harsh. They seemed to come from near the tabernacle. As he listened, he heard the following conversation:

The guttural voice, the voice of Satan in his pride, boasted to Our Lord: “I can destroy your Church.”

The gentle voice of Our Lord: “You can? Then go ahead and do so.” Satan: “To do so, I need more time and more power.”

Our Lord: “How much time? How much power?”

Satan: “75 to 100 years, and a greater power over those who will give themselves over to my service.”

Our Lord: “You will have time, you will have power.

Do with them what you will.”

33 Years Later: On October 13, 1917,

Our Blessed Mother appeared to the three Fatima children for the final time, and presented the “Miracle of the Sun” to an estimated 70,000 people who made the pilgrimage, as a sign of her divine presents.

Pray the Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel  
and the Holy Rosary Daily!  
AOH and LAOH NYS BOARD



## **Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel**

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle;

be our defense against the wickedness and snares of  
the devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray;

and do you, O prince of the heavenly host,

by the power of God,

thrust into hell Satan and the other evil spirits

who prowl about the world for the ruin of souls.

Amen.

New York State A.O.H. Officers and Chairmen, September 2019

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Buy Irish	Brian P.	Clancy	168 Avenue B	Kings Park	NY	11754	bmcnd78@gmail.com	631-663-3044
Commodore John Barry	Kevin M	Lafferty	273 Okell Street	Buffalo	NY	14220	kevinmlafferty@gmail.com	716-913-7441
Sports	Michael	Byrne	46 Briarfield Lane	Huntington	NY	11743	mikenyaohsports@gmail.com	516-782-4762
Catholic Action	Jamie	Hamilton	583 West 205th Street	New York	NY	10034	jhtmln17@aol.com	646-406-5804
Pro Life	John	O'Brien	43 Hidden Lane	Westbury	NY	11590	AOH11@Live.com	516-724-6821
Liaison	Jack	Ryan	PO Box 480	Centerport	NY	11721	AOH.stewardship@gmail.com	631-774-2799
Historian/Archivist	Michael	McCormack	37 Harrison Avenue	Centereach	NY	11720	aohbard@optonline.net	631- 732-1390
Finance	Mike	McNabb	9 Throop Avenue	Auburn	NY	13021	mikeaohny@aol.com	315-406-3744
Deputy Finance	Brian P.	Kelly	175 Tate Avenue	Buchanan	NY	10511	brianp.kelly@gmail.com	914-384-1343
Deputy Finance	Barry	Griffith	4808B Cambridge Dr	Lockport	NY	14094	bear5770@aol.com	716-812-2487
Charity & Missions	Matthew	Buckley	3 Harvest Lane	West Islip	NY	11795	matthew@buckleyny.com	646- 529-0144