

Erin's Echo



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Feb., Mar., Apr., 2017

President's Message

Dear Sisters,

The LAOH looks forward to a happy and blessed New Year. We are excited about our two new Divisions in Frederick and Cecil Counties and our continued growth in membership. We are truly state-wide and growing all the time.

We begin this year with "Congratulations" to our two 2017 St. Patrick's Parade Deputy Marshals, Kathy Norris from Annapolis and Eileen Edwards from Baltimore Division 14. The dedication and service of Kathy and Eileen over the years has substantially contributed to the growth of the LAOH.

Our history is rooted in dedication and service by our members. Members willingly share their time and talents in their divisions, on the Ways and Means, Missions and Charities, Archives, and Spirituality Committees. You will always find a dedicated member working quietly and with great dedication on our Elder Care Program, our Prayer Trees, our Fundraisers, our Membership Drives and wherever they are humbly making a huge "difference in our world."

We have much to be grateful for. We thank all who have helped in the past, all who are helping right now and all who will help in the future. If you imagine all the hours of dedicated service they have given to the LAOH, it becomes easy to see why the LAOH is so special.

Best wishes for a very Happy 2017!

-Cyrile-



LAOH Website

Go to www.marylandlaoh.org for events, flyers and forms. There are links to items of interest in the local Irish Community as well as information on the national scene.

You can also find us on <http://www.facebook.com>

Calendar

February

Feb. 12 LAOH Parade Fundraiser, James Joyce 3 PM

Feb. 19 St. Brigid Mass, St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Pasadena, 1:30 PM

Feb 26 Installation of Parade Marshals Mass, Basilica, 1:30 PM. Pub fundraiser at Tir na Nog following Mass

March

Mar. 4 State Board Meeting, the Villa, 10 AM

Mar. 5 St. Patrick's Day Parade, Annapolis

Mar. 12 St. Patrick's Day Parade, Baltimore

Mar. 17 Harford County Division 1 St. Patrick's Day Luncheon, Flyer

Mar. 25 Police Emerald Society Parade Fundraiser, Breakfast, MDTA FOP Lodge 34, 730 Wampler road, Middle River, MD

April

Apr. 1 Peace and Justice Forum: Immigration and the Women of Ayslee

Apr. 14 Way of the Cross, Manresa, Annapolis, 11:40; Lunch following at Severn Inn, Flyer

Cultural Corner



MUSIC

Celtic Celebration March 17, 18, 19

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra 410 783 8000

Celtic Woman March 24 7:30 PM

Hippodrome Performing Arts Center

BOOKS TO LOOK FOR IN 2017

A Line Made by Walking by Sara Baume

Smile by Roddy Doyle

When Light is Like Water by Molly McCluskey

The Coroner's Daughter by Andrew Hughes

Prague Nights by Benjamin Black

-Joanna Cox-

Harford County, Division 1

We were very busy during the Holiday Season. In the spirit of Christian Charity, our members donated non-perishable food items to the St. Mark's Food Pantry for the Thanksgiving food drive. Through our fund raising efforts we were able to make donations to the following charities: The Gabriel Network, the Empty Stocking Fund in Bel Air, Boy Scout Troop #4513 (a special needs troop), Harford Family House Shelter, Anna's House, and St. Mark's poor box. We also remembered the less fortunate by filling Christmas stockings with personal items for the residents of SARC (Harford County's Sexual Assault/Spouse Abuse Resource Center).

We donated to Wreath's Across America for veterans' graves at Aberdeen Proving Ground and Edgewood Arsenal in Harford County and several members volunteered to place the wreaths both locally and at Arlington National Cemetery. Our division again sold home-made apple pies for the benefit of historic St. Patrick's Chapel in Cecil County.

We hope you will celebrate St. Patrick' Day by attending our 31st annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon on Friday, March 17th at Parker's Restaurant. Space is limited, so make your reservations early.

Our Spring Fundraiser is set for Preakness Day, Saturday, May 20th. We are having a Luncheon, Fashion Show and Boutique at St. Mark's Parish Center from 12-3 pm. Be sure to wear a hat! Prizes will be awarded for the most original, the prettiest, and funniest! Join in the fun. See the latest fashions from J. Jill, and get some great bargains at The Fancy Filly Boutique.

-Kathy Lay, President-

Baltimore City, Division 1

The ladies of the Venerable Catherine McAuley division had a wonderful time at the LAOH Bull & Oyster Roast helping out with the raffle & plant wheels while enjoying the food, fun, & fellowship.

Then the Maryland Irish Festival kept us busy. In addition to donating baked goods and staffing the LAOH bake table, many of our members volunteered in the children's and cultural halls of which our vice-president is chair. We ran the hot dog stand, the whiskey tasting, and supervised the children's activities. Whew! What a weekend.

We wrapped up the year with a Christmas dinner at Amicci's in Little Italy. We look forward to our first meeting of 2017 and planning a new year of service and friendship. We meet the third Tuesday of every month, 7:00 PM, at Life of Reilly Pub in Baltimore for dinner and our meeting. We invite you to come and see what we're all about. Join us!

In friendship, unity, & Christian charity,

-Dorothy Reed, President-

Carroll County, Division 1

In November some of our ladies worked the Irish Festival manning the Bake Table, Front Door, Ticket Booth and made baked goods. All had a great time. During our December meeting, we had a Christmas Party and brought our gifts in for the family we adopted.

Some of us also participated in Wreaths Across America-laying wreaths on the graves of our fallen heroes. It was a very humbling experience. In January some of our ladies attended the Little Christmas lunch. Wishing everyone a healthy and happy New Year

Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

-Chris Parks, Reporter-

Anne Arundel County

At the State Board Meeting the Bannons received daughter Kelly's Second Place Junior Hibernian Certificate. St. Mary's Parish asked us to sponsor (buy/prepare/serve) snacks for 250-300 attendees after one of the evening Mission sessions in December. Several sisters baked and worked at the Maryland Irish Festival Cake Table.

Our Christmas Bazaar chaired by Betty Eger earned us \$4700 for our charity projects. We are grateful to her and to all our sisters for their efforts. Packages of diapers were collected at the Christmas Party hosted by Kathy Norris and Annette.

Snacks were collected and food gift cards were readied for the Winter Relief Program coming up in early February. We are happy to welcome Patti Petti as a new member. You can meet her if you join us for the Annapolis St. Patrick's Parade on March 5!

The Way of the Cross is a bit late this year on April 15 so the weather should be great. Betty will be handling reservations for the Severn Inn as usual.

We are asking prayers for the Catholic Church and schools in Ireland which are becoming very secular. We are hoping for a good response from the local schools regarding the LAOH Irish

History Contest. We are looking forward to when the Philadelphia Degree Team comes in 2017 so our newer sisters can receive degrees. We are proud of our own Kathy Norris as a Deputy Marshal-Congratulations!

-Joanne Wasson, Reporter-



Harford County, Division 2

With the opening of 2017, our division is evaluating new fundraising sources to support our various charities. Panera Bread coupons continue to be a good fundraiser for us.

St. Francis of Assisi parish will be having their Oyster Roast on March 19, 2017 from 1-5 pm. Several of our members will be joining our sister, Barbara Jo Weust, a parishioner of St. Francis of Assisi. The cost is \$45.00 and more information is available from Barbara Jo at her e-mail: barbarajo.wuest1@aol.com.

Thelma Graziano and her cousin, Jackie Waletmeyer were cited in the January 2017 issue of Baltimore Magazine after attending the presentation on Irish Wakes at the restored Irish home on Lemmon Street in Baltimore. Congratulations Thelma and Jackie - well done.

We welcome new members Kathleen Lawe, Jackie Waletmeyer, and Mary Gallup. Best wishes and blessings for 2017.

Peace,

-Gleela Kolakowski, Reporter-

Worcester County, Division 1

On St. Brigid's feast day, February 1, 2017, our division will celebrate with a special Mass at 9:00 AM at St. Luke's in Ocean City. All are welcome to join us both at the Mass and also at breakfast after Mass at the Bethany Diner, 792 Garfield Parkway, Bethany Beach, DE.

On Saturday, March 11, 2017, our division will take part in the Ocean City St. Patrick's Day Parade. This is always a great day. On March 17, 2017, the Ocean City AOH Division has invited us to their annual St. Patrick's Day Mass and breakfast. Mass will be at St. Luke's at 9:00 AM.

Easter will be upon us before we know it and again our division will make up a number of Easter Baskets to be given to Worcester GOLD (Giving Others Lives Dignity). The baskets will be distributed to those who otherwise may do without this treat.

At the end of April we will hold our 9th Annual Tea. The Tea will be held, as it has been every year, at the Enchanted Tea Room on Main Street in Berlin.

-Mary Rosenhagen, Reporter-

Baltimore County, Division 14

Happy Hibernian New Year Sisters!

It's time to prepare for the whirlwind of LAOH events that always happen in the beginning of the year. We are especially proud of our esteemed member, Eileen Edwards, who will be

one of the Parade Marshals for this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade. We have relied on Eileen for many years to perform the duties of Recording Secretary in our Division, but she can also be seen contributing to, working on and attending the many events of our order.

We have high hopes of many sisters being involved in the 2017 events including the St. Brigid Mass, the Parade events and the Missions Festival Bingo. We also always look forward to deciding on which charities we will contribute to this year. Our ladies have been generous, so we like to pass it on to worthy charities that can use our assistance. And finally we will continue to collect donations for Viva House and the Missions.

Luckily, we have a couple of new applicants which I will hopefully be able to disclose in our next edition.

May we all continue to grow together in humility, charity and service, whether we participate in the activities of the order, or simply pray for our order and the success of the work we have to do. We appreciate all our members!

-Margie Hayes, President-



Cecil County, Division 1

Happy New Year Sisters!

Cecil County Division 1 ended 2016 on a high note. In early December we celebrated our first Christmas luncheon. A great way to relax and share fellowship before the holiday rush. At the luncheon we were proud to present our first donations to Outreach of Cecil County, Immaculate Conception parish, Elkton, MD and to our Chaplin Fr. Jim Yeakel, OSFS, for all the support he has given us.

Several of our members assisted in filling food baskets for both Thanksgiving and Christmas and with the donated gifts for the angel tree for local families for Outreach of Cecil County.

We adopted two Irish sisters from our local nursing home. Fellow sister Jane Leitner, Catholic Action Officer, crocheted beautiful Irish lap afghans to donate to these women to keep them warm on these cold winter days. We also donated gift bags of personal need items. The division plans to expand on this ministry in 2017 by adding more residents to our list and to set up more visits to these residents.

Looking ahead we will celebrate Woman's Little Christmas, St. Brigid Mass and dinner in February and participate in the Chesapeake City St. Patrick's Day parade. Sisters will fill "Blessing Bags", hold a baby shower for the Pregnancy Center in May and set up three fundraisers and our retreat in the fall. Wishing each Division and State board a very healthy, blessed and Happy New Year. In our Motto,

-Janice White, President-

Frederick County, Division 1

Frederick County Division 1 continues their efforts to increase membership, gathering in December for an "information session" with prospective members.

We anticipate increasing our members by two by the end of February.

With much joy and many blessings, our Division has submitted paperwork to officially apply for our charter. We are off to a wonderful new year!

Bless you for the wonderful work you do!

Peace in Our Motto,

-Danielle Adams, President-



Baltimore County, Division 4

As the New Year begins and life once again offers us the joy of possibilities, may we all take full advantage. Happy New Year!

Division 4 is continuing to search for new members while brainstorming fundraising ideas and continuing all our committee work. We also attended en masse, the Hopkins Brunch and Little Women's Christmas, having a delightful time at each.

With the New Year comes our new gift card basket fundraiser. Chances for the basket of cards are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. If you have any questions, contact Jerri Ragan at 410-343-1136. We are looking for support, please!

Additionally, we are planning a luncheon discussion program sometime in April. Details are not finalized, but stay tuned.

Division 4's dues of \$25.00 plus \$5.00 to defray the cost of printing and mailing Erin's Echo, are being requested once again. Please bring to a meeting or forward to our financial secretary. Thank you!

In Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

-Jeraldine Ragan, President-

Baltimore County, Division 1

Many of our ladies enjoyed the Irish Festival, the Christmas brunch at Hopkins Club, the Our Lady of Knock Mass and remembered our sisters in heaven at the Memorial Mass. Our division Christmas dinner was delightful. Tim Harvey stopped in buying cocktails and appetizers for us to thank us for the great times his mother Louise enjoyed with us.

Our charity contribution this year is to the Oblate Sisters and we are raffling off a beautiful throw crocheted by one of our ladies. It's warm, white and washable! I will have a picture and tickets with me at all times so everyone can see what they're taking a chance on to help out with our fundraiser. Hope everyone will buy at least a \$1.00 ticket!

Remember the Sally Murphy Educational Assistance program is underway. The winner receives \$1,000 towards their education. The award is for elementary, middle, high school or college. The application is on the LAOH Maryland website and all applications must be postmarked by March 17th.

We're looking forward to all of the St Patrick's Day Parade fundraisers. The first one is the Irish Railroad Museum on February 24th. Great food, music, company and raffles.

May the leprechauns be near you,
To spread luck along your way.
And may all the Irish angels,
Smile upon you on St. Patrick's Day.

-Maureen Shettle, President-



LET US PRAY

Let us remember in prayer our Sisters who are sick and suffering, especially those in nursing homes and hospitals as well as our deceased Sisters that they may rest in God's eternal embrace.