

Erin's Echo

Maryland State Board
Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc.



Volume 52 No. 4

Nov., Dec 2017 Jan. 2018

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

President's Message

Dear Sisters:

I would like to thank everyone for all the support and help I have received during my four years as President of the Maryland State Board. In many instances, I could not "have done it without you." Your steady support and help has enabled me and the entire State Board to succeed at many different ventures and activities.

Soon the 2017 Convention will be behind us and new State Board Officers will be installed. I wish each new officer success throughout their term of office and offer my assistance wherever it may be needed. Congratulations to those newly elected to the State Board. You can look forward to two wonderful years of service to the LAOH.

In Ecclesiastes 3, we are told that there is a time for everything, a time to begin and a time to end. All good things come to us in time and through the will of God. I look forward now to a new chapter in my life filled with "ups and downs" and all that comes to us through our greatest gift, the gift of life itself. I wish the best for each of you and hope that your new chapters in life will be as blessed as possible, that your road may be easy and your times happy.

Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

-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.

Calendar

October

Oct. 27-29: 2017 State Convention, Holiday Inn, Ocean City, MD

November

Nov. 4: State History Day-Tour of Railroad Museum/Lemon Street Shrine

Nov. 10-12: ICM Irish Festival, Timonium Fairgrounds

Nov. 18-19: Tinsel Tea Weekend, Anne Arundel County, St. John Neumann Church

Nov. 19: LAOH-AOH Memorial Mass, St. Charles Borromeo Church, 1 PM

Nov. 26: Harford County, Division 1 Celtic Christmas Concert, St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church, 4 PM

December

Dec. 2: State Board Meeting, the Villa, 10 AM

Dec. 3: Christmas Brunch, the Hopkins Club, 11:30 AM

Dec. 9: "Celtic Advent" Aisling House Retreat, Manchester, MD, 9 AM-3 PM

SAVE THE DATE

SPRING 2018: LAOH TRIP TO IRELAND

Cultural Corner

THE NINTH HOUR by Alice McDermott

THERE YOUR HEART LIES by Mary Gordon



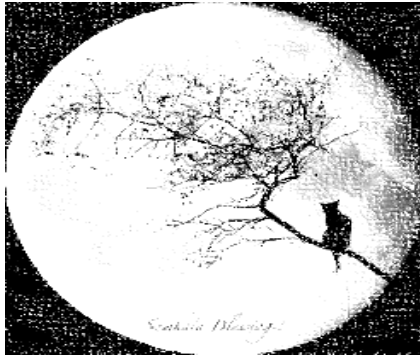
THE TROUT by Peter Cunningham

-Joanna Cox-

Gatherings

Samhain

Remembering Halloween as a child brings happy memories to the surface. Like many of my generation, I lived on a street of what seemed endless houses and children. Hurrying out the door with pillow case in hand, dressed as a hobo, witch or, if lucky, a costume from McCrory's "be careful" mom yells as we race into the cool autumn's night air. Excitement and mischief written on our faces, will it be a night of tricks or treats?



Dating back over 2,000 years in Ireland's ancient Celtic world, the Festival of Samhain, pronounced sow—en, the end of summer and beginning of winter, a time of cold nights and long wintry days. It was when these two periods crossed that the dead visited the living. Bon fires were lit; costumes and masks were worn to ward off the evil spirits. Specialty foods were prepared for the living and to honor the dead.

It was not until Christianity set November the 1st as All Saints Day in the 8th century that the Celts gave up Samhain for All Hallows Eve and it later became known as Halloween.

As the Irish immigrated to America, so did Halloween. Sadly over the years, gone are the songs, foods and games that once made this celebration so unique. This year, help bring back those traditions- bake a Barmbrack Cake, play a game of Ivy Fly, take



Anti Fairy Measures and most importantly grab a pillow case and head out into the autumn night.

-Kathleen Norris-

Baltimore City, Division 1

After our quiet summer, the ladies of the Venerable Catherine McAuley Division in Baltimore City are enjoying a busy and productive autumn. Our recent Lady of Knock Mass organized by our division sister, Irene Dunphy, was a beautiful and spiritually uplifting experience which we deeply appreciated.

We also had a great time at the Shucks & Shamrocks Beef, Oyster, and Shrimp Roast, our state Ways and Means fundraiser, where our division sold raffle tickets, ran the prize wheels, and enjoyed excellent food & fellowship.

We're looking forward to the Maryland Irish Festival, Nov. 10 - 12 at the Maryland State Fair Grounds in Timonium. Stop by and visit us at the dessert table as we celebrate our Catholic faith and our Irish heritage, while raising money for our ongoing charitable activities.

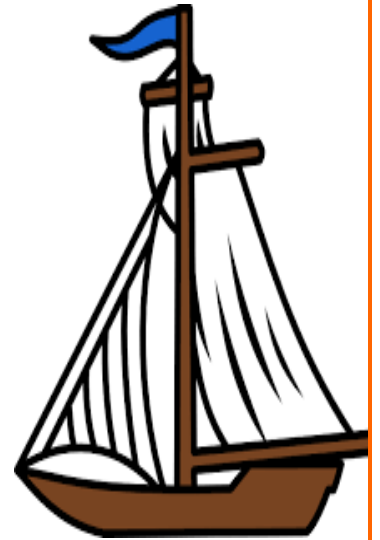
We invite you to join us in helping those in need and sharing our Irish history and culture. We meet the third Tuesday of the month at 7 pm at the Life of Reilly pub in east Baltimore. Join us for dinner and a meeting.

-Dorothy Reed, President-

Anne Arundel County

The annual boat shows are over so our town is settling down again. We did leave Annapolis to join in the Hibernian Café and to celebrate the Our Lady of Knock Mass.

Back in town we set up a membership table at St. Mary's Parish Picnic which was held in the Carroll Gardens. The next weekend we joined the AOH to celebrate together at the Commodore Barry Mass at St. Mary's followed by brunch at Fado's.



We are collecting our book donations and fixing up our costumes for the convention in Ocean City. Ahoy Mateys! Then we'll return and dig out the mixers and bake up some great goodies for the Irish Festival.

It's all hands on deck for our big Tinsel Tea weekend on November 18-19. We'll be using our families' china and silver as well as treasured recipes to treat our guests. We've found some great silent auction items too! Our religious goods vendor will set up as soon as the tea is cleared away and will return on

Sunday. We appreciate the support of so many sisters from other divisions who have already purchased tickets.

-Jane Lunney, President-

Harford County, Division 2

Our slate of officers for the upcoming 2018-2020 term was finalized at our October meeting. The New Officers' Election will be held at our November meeting. Our sisters will have the opportunity to attend the beautiful Memorial Mass, November 14th at St. Charles Borromeo, at 1:00 PM.



Our Christmas Party will be held at Libertore's on Thursday, December 19th at 6:30 PM. The menu and our agenda were finalized at our October meeting.

Our yearly St Ita Mass is scheduled for Tuesday, January 16th at St. Mark Chapel at 6:00 PM. Donations for Angels Supporting Your Troops and the Project Gabriel Network will be presented at the Mass. After Mass, a reception will be held at the St. Mark White Hall. Our new officers for 2018-2020 will be installed. All are invited to attend our St. Ita Mass and reception.

Peace,

-Gleela Kolakowski, Reporter-

Worcester County, Division 1

October has been and will continue to be a busy month for our division. We started the month with our Annual Card Party. We welcomed nearly 175 people including some sisters from across the bridge. The profit from this event will allow us to continue helping the many groups we assist each year. Thanks for all who contributed to the success of this event.

Mary Ann Welsh, our Mission and Charity Chair, was able to arrange a visit from Father John Boles, a Columban Missionary. As well as speaking at our meeting, Father concelebrated Mass at St. Luke's in Ocean City. This made for a very special meeting. We are preparing to host the Ice Breaker at the upcoming AOH/LAOH State convention and hope everyone has a wonderful time.

In November our division will have the election of officers for the 2018-2019 time frame. A list of our officers will be given in the next issue of the Erin's Echo.

December will see us celebrating at our Christmas Luncheon along with the Installation of our new officers. Final details concerning the luncheon will be forwarded to the state as soon as they are finalized.

-Hoping that everyone enjoys the upcoming blessed season and has a wonderful New Year. *Nollaig Shona Dhuit!*

-Mary Rosenhagen, Reporter-

Harford County, Division 1

We were pleased to welcome Madeleine Murphy into our division at the October meeting. Madeleine, who is the mother of Madeleine Hyde, submitted her application after attending our Preakness Party in May. We now have five mother-daughter pairs in the group! We are also delighted that Mary Fran Swan has recently returned to our division.

Eleven members will be attending the LAOH State Convention in Ocean City.

The nominating committee has presented a slate of officers, and elections will occur at the November division meeting. November, 2017 is a very busy a month - almost as busy as the month of March! We will be well represented at all of the scheduled functions, and we are excited to be sponsoring a Celtic Christmas Concert with the Irishman's Chorale on November 26th at St. Francis de Sales Church, Abingdon. Proceeds from the concert will be donated to the Welcome One Homeless Shelter in Harford County.



*May Peace be your Gift at Christmas
and your Blessing all year through!*



-Kathy Lay, President-

Carroll County, Division 1

In August our members attended The Lady of Knock Mass at St. Bartholomew Catholic Church. We had a luncheon following at Greenmount Station. On September 16 and 17 we held a *Halfway to St. Patrick's Day Bake Sale* at St. Bart's. Thanks go to Mary O'Brien & Diane Zellwiger for chairing the event and to the parishioners for making it a successful one.

Some of us attended the Bull & Oyster Roast and had a great time. We are looking forward to attending the State Convention in Ocean City. During November we will be busy working at the Irish Festival.

Yours in Unity, Friendship and Christian Charity,

-Christina Parks, Reporter-

**Special Notes: for the Irish Festival
Volunteers and Bakers**

*We need as many homemade baked goods as possible- Irish Soda Bread, cookies, candies, brownies, cake slices- or any treat you know will sell at our bake table



*There will be no "Volunteer" table to pick up tickets. I will distribute the tickets to the Division Presidents. Division Presidents will hand out the tickets to each lady who volunteers to work at the bake table or who will be scanning tickets at the door

*Each volunteer must present their volunteer ticket at the door to get a wrist band to enter free of charge and must keep the wrist band on while at the festival

Maureen Shettle

Baltimore County, Division 14

Greetings Hibernian Sisters,

After a lovely summer we are looking forward to a whirlwind of activities for Fall. First off, let's get our baking supplies together and prepare for baking up a storm of Irish goodies for the Irish Festival. Donations can be dropped at the cashier booth or door, if you cannot attend.

While this month at our LAOH State Convention we will be voting in new officers for our State Board, our Division will have its own

elections at the November 26 meeting. Joanna Cox and crew are preparing a slate of proposed candidates, so please plan on attending the meeting and voting...plus we'd like to see you!

This year we are planning for a December division social, where we will be bringing gifts for those in need. December 10 is the tentative date....

The Irish History contest has started and has a due date of November 15. Know any young writers who like Irish Music? They should like the contest theme this year. See the email that contained the details.

I hope many of our division will attend the Memorial Mass this year (November 19) where we will be praying for all past deceased members. If you cannot attend, at least join us in prayer on that day. Our deceased members remain in our prayers as faithful sisters who are missed.

May the blessings of today, be sent to others along the way, through you.

-Margie Hayes, President-

Baltimore County, Division 1

Returning after our summer recess in July and August we had our first meeting in September when we drew the winner of our 50/50 Raffle. Thanks to all you sisters in other divisions who bought chances for our raffle. Honestly- it wasn't fixed but one of our members, Kathy Kissel, who sold the most tickets, was the winner! She turned her winnings back into our treasury. Our charities will be happy to receive the extra donations this year.

Several of us attended the Lady of Knock Mass in August. We also enjoyed Irish Day at the Races.

Needless to say, Shucks & Shamrocks was a hit this year. We're excited about attending the State Convention at the end of the month in Ocean City.

May God grant you many years to live,
For sure he must be knowing.
The earth has angels all too few.
And heaven is overflowing.

-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.

Baltimore County, Division 4

September was a great month for us seafood lovers. The AOH held its annual crab feast. All who attended got their fill of their favorite sea creatures-steamed crabs. A week later the LAOH held a bull/oyster/shrimp event. Everyone was very well satiated after these two events.

On October 8th, our final meeting at College Manor, we held our annual Baby Shower. Some of the residents of the Manor joined us to admire the gifts and have some refreshments. The gifts, as well as a \$330 donation, will be delivered to the Greater Baltimore Center for Pregnancy Concerns. Thank you to everyone who participated.

After much research, we established that our chapter was founded in 1899. Pat Zaccari and Jerri Ragan had the charter beautifully framed. It will be on display at the convention. Tickets for our bucket of gift cards will be sold at the convention and are still available. The drawing will be held on December 3rd.

A heartfelt thank you is extended to those officers who will step down and congratulations to those filling their shoes. Please remember all members in need of prayers, for whatever the reason.

Stay warm and have a blessed winter.

-Mary Helene Miller, Reporter-

Cecil County, Division 1

Happy Fall Sisters!

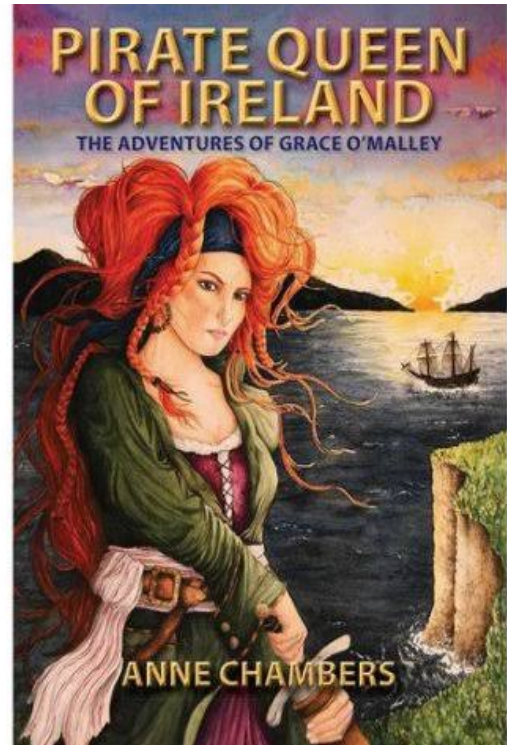
Cecil County Division 1 is anxious about starting our second year as a division. We are off to a good start as we held our first fundraiser in September at Friendly's. Now to gear up for our second fundraiser at Boscov's with the "Friends Helping Friends" event in Delaware. We enjoy working but we always need some time for fellowship and fun, so we will be attending *Painting with a Twist* later in October.

Patricia Taylor stepped down from her office as Vice President over the summer. Many thanks go out to her for all her help and dedication to the division. She will continue to be a member and we are most happy about that. Rita McCarthy has stepped up and has taken the office of Vice President. Congratulations Rita!

Fellow sister Bette Green and I will be attending the convention in Ocean City and are looking forward to seeing everyone from the many divisions. Best wishes to our Sisters for a wonderful convention!!!

-Janice White, President-

The following is reprinted from the 2015 Erin's Echo to celebrate the Pirate theme of our convention icebreaker: wear a costume! See you there!



Do you know about The Irish Pirate and Chieftain Grace O'Malley?

Irish tomboy, **Grace O'Malley** - *Queen of Umail, Chieftain of the Ó Máille Clan and Pirate* was the infamous pirate queen.

This notorious lady boasts of having commanded 3 galleys, 20 ships and over 200 men. She was born in the 1530's in County Mayo, Ireland. She was a feared sea pirate, a shrewd trader and a knowledgeable Chieftain.

Her crew respected her. This twice-widowed and twice-imprisoned woman was also a mother. She won many battles against the British. Yet Queen Elizabeth I pardoned her death. It is the stuff of legends--- She went alone to visit the British Queen and not only, got herself pardoned, but also, earned in her a good friend and ally.

Even today, Ireland has many a song on her life.

This famous Irish woman was definitely the stuff for legends. She proved that women cannot be freed; they can and must, free themselves.

-Mary Ellen Fisher, 2015 Gatherings Writer-