Maryland State Board
Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc.

Erin's Echo

Volume 54 No. 2 April, May, June 2019

President's Message

Greetings Sisters:

IS FÉIDIR! ALLELUIA! (HE IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!!)

I, along with members of the State Board, have been visiting the divisions to meet and greet our fellow sisters. I am overwhelmed at all the work our sisters do throughout their communities. We are alive and well here in Maryland and doing a fantastic job. We may be small, but we are mighty.

The 125th Gala celebration is progressing, and we have lots of wonderful memories to be shared at this event. The State Convention Committee has met and finalized the dates of our joint convention. The MD AOH/LAOH Convention will be held at Solomons Island – Holiday Inn. The dates will be October 24 through 27, 2019. I will be forwarding to the division presidents the code to use for making reservations. Shortly the convention package will be coming by mail to all our members.

The planning has begun for our Shucks and Shamrocks event which has been set for September 29, 2019 at Rosedale Gardens - it is the same venue as last year. However we have returned to having it on a Sunday.

As I sit here writing my message, the image of the Notre Dame Cathedral on fire has flashed across the screen. So much history is about to be lost as Holy Week begins.

May the Risen Lord fill your heart with love and give you the courage to continue his works!
Slainte
Kelly-

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

April

Apr. 27: Friends of St. Vincent Cemetery Spring Cleanup, Clifton Park, 9 AM-1 PM , rakeleafs@yahoo.com, 610 368 1910
Apr. 27: Team Trivia Luncheon, Harford 1, St. Mark's, Flyer
Apr. 29: Irish Book Club, 1 PM, Bluestone Restaurant, Say Nothing by Patrick Radden Keith

May

May 19: An Gorta Mor Commemoration, Sunday, Mass, 1 PM, St. Mary of the Assumption, Luncheon, $25, Flyer
May 24: Mission Festival Bingo, Friday, 6-10 PM, Immaculate Conception, Towson, $15, Flyer

June

June 1: State Board meeting, 10 AM, Immaculate Conception

Save the Date
Aug. 17: 125th LAOH Anniversary/Our Lady of Knock
Oct. 5: LAOH Retreat Day, Saturday, 1:15-3:45 (confession at 11:30, mass at 12, bag lunch at 12:55) $20, Flyer
Nov. 6: 25th Anniversary LAOH Worcester County, Division 1, Mass, Lunch, Flyer
Nov. 29: American Music Theater Christmas Show, Lancaster, PA, Carroll County, Division 1, 9:30 AM-7:15 PM, Bus, Lunch, Show, Snack, $80, Flyer

Cultural Corner

NORMAL PEOPLE by Sally Rooney
MURDER IN AN IRISH PUB by Charlene O'Connor
M FOR MAMMY by Eleanor O'Reilly
GIFT OF FRIENDS by Emma Hannigan
SAY NOTHING, A TRUE STORY OF MURDER AND MEMORY IN NORTHERN IRELAND by Patrick Radden Keefe

SAY NOTHING is the next book club selection. Meeting April 29, 1:00 pm at Bluestone's

-Joanna Cox-

Gatherings

Crown Her with Many Crowns

The Blessed Mother always had a presence in my home growing up. Statues adorned the shelves, pictures hung on the walls and around my mother's neck draped a beautiful milky white mother of pearl Miraculous Medal. But of all the memories, the one I recall most was the May Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

To my fellow Catholic sisters who sat cross-legged for hours in a field of clover making crowns for the Blessed Virgin, this poem is for you:

Honoring Our Blessed Mother

To Crown the Queen of May
We hunted through the mountains,
The meadows and the town
To find some shining jewels
To make our Queen a crown.
We dug the earth for diamonds
And polished them with care;
But vanquished was their luster
When laid within her hair.
The seven seas we sounded,
And strained the densest sands

To find a pearl to rival
The whiteness of her hands.
The glowing gold was blackened
When brought before her feet.
And silver in her shadow
Was sordid as the street.
The emeralds lost their greenness
Like plants who knew not rains.
And rubies paled like warriors
Who fall with bursting veins?
Twas then that we remembered
How men were once in awe
To see a Babe of beauty,
Whose jewels were some straw.
So we went and robbed a manger,
And crowned the Queen of May
With a wreath that we had woven
From homely strands of hay.

T. H. Cosgrove

-Kathleen Norris-

Baltimore County, Division 4

Greetings Sisters:
Spring is finally here- alleluia! The days of one digit temperatures are gone. Those of you who went to, or participated in the St. Patrick's Day Parade saw our own Jerri Ragan honored to be selected as one of the Deputy Marshals. Thanks to all who cheered her on as she passed along the parade route!

Our annual gift card basket raffle is in full swing. Chances are available now from Pat Zaccari. They are $2 a piece or 3 for $5. You can reach Pat by email vangoghatphoenix@aol.com or 14100 Blenheim Rd N. Phoenix, MD 21131. The drawing will be held at our Christmas Party in December.
We will be holding our annual Baby Shower for those women who are expecting and receive help from the Center for Pregnancy Concerns. The date and more information will follow.

A great big thank you to Pat Zaccari, Jerri Ragan and all the members of Division 4 who arranged such a great celebration in honor of our 120th Anniversary on April 13th. It was wonderful to see so many sisters from other areas share the happiness and pride of Division 4's 120th Anniversary. Thank you to all who attended for your support!
There will be a Memorial Mass at 12:00 noon on May 5th at St. Joseph Cockeysville for Rosemarie Weaver. Everyone is invited to attend. Please pass the information to those who knew Rosemarie . We will be toasting Rosemarie at a local restaurant announced after mass.

God Bless,

-Mary Helene Miller, Reporter-

Baltimore City, Division 1

2019 is off to a great start for the ladies of the Venerable Catherine McAuley Division in Baltimore City. We are in discussion with a west-side parish about our division affiliating with them. Stay tuned for further details. Many of us marched in the St. Patrick's Day parade and participated in the parade fundraisers. We always enjoy being greeters at the LAOH Parade Pub fundraiser and sharing in fellowship with our Irish community..

We invite you to join us in helping those in need and celebrating our Irish history and culture. We meet the third Tuesday of the month at 7 PM at Kibby's Restaurant in west Baltimore. Join us for dinner and a meeting.

In friendship, unity, & Christian charity,

-Dorothy Reed, President-

Harford County, Division 2

On January 15th, St. Ita's Feast Day, we held our annual St. Ita Mass with Father Ron Zoubeck as the celebrant. Donations were collected for the St. Gabriel Network and

Angels Supporting Your Troops. A reception followed in the White Hall.

At our February meeting the LAOH State Board's Bingo Fundraiser was announced. The event will be held at Immaculate Conception Church on May 24th. Tickets will be $15.00 per person. We also discussed having a couple of speakers after our monthly meeting. One speaker would be from the National Federation of the Blind. Another speaker would be a pharmacist talking about over the counter medications. These ideas are still in the consideration phase.

In March, four of our Division 2 sisters lost loved ones. Mass cards from the Columbian Fathers were sent to each sister in memory of their loved one along with other appropriate donations.

In May we will be celebrating the May Crowning of the Blessed Mother, with donations to a baby shower for the St. Gabriel Network along with donations to Angels Supporting Your Troops for the Memorial Day remembrance.

Peace,

-Gleela Kolakowski, Reporter-

Anne Arundel County

Our St. Patrick's Day mass at St. Mary's was followed by a tasty brunch at the Carroll House with Chef Jane Bannon doing most of the work. She had help, of course, and the AOH joined us for the feast. We even held a brief meeting in a side room and initiated one of our new members.

Since January we have welcomed four new sisters to the Annapolis fold---Welcome to Shannon La Riviere, Denise McCarthy, Barbara Halliwell and Halli Woo. We are so pleased to have you!

Kathy Norris hosted the "Three Irish Ladies: A Day of Irish Story Telling" and we heard many nice comments from the many sisters who travelled here to share in the tales and munch on the Irish goodies.

Our February social event was a happy hour dinner at Carrol's Creek Restaurant in Eastport. In May Ann has organized a behind-the-scenes tour, lunch and photo at the Laurel Race Track early on Kentucky Derby Day We will be looking forward to the state functions ahead--- the An Gorta Mor Commemoration on May 19 and the Bingo on May 24. Our June meeting will once again be at the Molly Maguire Pub in Helen Seerey's son's house on the Severn River.

Peace

-Jane Lunney, Reporter-

Worcester County, Division 1

As we approach the glorious feast of Easter there are many events that the Ocean City Division is looking forward to. During the week after Easter some of our sisters will deliver over 200 boxes of cereal to the Seton Center in Princess Anne, Md. We will also give them a monetary donation to help those families in need in the Princess Anne area.

This May our division will take part in a fundraiser sponsored by Women Supporting Women. This groups mission statement is to provide awareness, education and support to all those who are affected by breast cancer on Delmarva. The project is "Bras for a Cause " and includes decorating a bra, giving it a title (Erin go BRAgh) and submitting it. The entries are displayed from May 1st through May 21st at the Centre at Salisbury where people can vote for their favorite bra at the cost of $1.00 per vote. It's a fun project and we hope to raise some funds for this worthy cause.

Our May meeting has always included a baby shower for Worcester GOLD (Giving Others Lives Dignity). Baby and toddler supplies are collected to stock their baby closet for their clients in need. They are always amazed at the number of items we supply them with each year.

We are also in the process of selecting our scholarship winners from the senior class of Stephen Decatur High School in Berlin, MD. Each year we give two $1,000.00 awards to deserving students. The awards are presented at the school awards night in late May.

Respectfully Submitted,

-Mary Rosenhagen, President-

Harford County, Division 1

We are most pleased to have obligated 4 new members. Mother-Daughter Teams: Anita and Aliana Doughtery and Jeanne and Jamie Colopietro. Welcome, Sisters!

We had a grand time at our Division's 33rd annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon. Good food, Great fellowship, singing and dancing; It was a wonderful celebration! Many thanks to Chris Brown*, our party planner extraordinaire,* for planning the day.

We look forward to seeing many of you at our Lunch and Trivia Party on Saturday, April 27th at 1:00 p.m. at St. Marks, Fallston. No worries, you can join a team when you arrive. Enjoy a delicious lunch for $25 and play along. It is all in good fun- no Einsteins expected! Reservations: 410-459-4304

Slainte,

- Kathy Lay, President-

Baltimore County, Division 14

Spring is finally here!
Thanks to the generosity of our members who have allowed us to continue to carry out our mission of charity, we will be deciding on our annual charities at our upcoming April meeting.

At our May meeting, we will be holding our annual division Baby Shower to benefit the newborns and preemies of Mercy Hospital. We all enjoy shopping for baby items to help welcome these precious children into our world. All members, please join us for this fun meeting, and get to know your fellow sisters!

At the end of this summer, the LAOH will be celebrating our 125th Anniversary. The planning committee has asked each division to put together a display poster for their division. If anyone has anything they want included in our board, please let us know!

We wish every success to the State Board LAOH Mission Festival Bingo, and hope you will all be attending and/or supporting this important event.

-Ashley Knapik, President-

Baltimore County, Division 1

Welcome Spring!

Many of us attended the St Brigid Mass and luncheon. The State Board attended our February meeting.

We are very proud of Marge Mulcare as she was Deputy Marshall for Northern Irish Aid in the Parade. The following week she made her Lifetime Commitment as an Associate to the Congregation of the Sisters of Bon Secours. On top of that she and Kathy Kissel cooked the best Irish supper for our March meeting at their church in Relay. Kathy provided the music with a bagpiper and an Irish band. Kathy played her Bodhran with them.
Our Rebecca Quinn made her Formation to the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites. We are very happy for her but will miss her when she moves.

We enjoyed '3 Irish Ladies' in Annapolis coordinated by Kathy Norris our State Historian and I can't leave out the bakers Patti, Helen and Ann who made the desserts that were out of this world.

A number of us joined the 120th Anniversary celebration of the 1st LAOH Division in Maryland - Division 4. We congratulate them and thank them for the wonderful party. Everything was planned flawlessly and the speakers were the perfect touch to our Irish women's heritage, enforcing what women can do when we work together holding our faith up high and helping others.

We welcome Lenora Urie who transferred from Ocean City. We will obligate a new member at our April meeting.
Wish everyone a blessed Easter and May our risen Lord be with you at all times!

Maureen Shettle, President-

Carroll County, Division 1

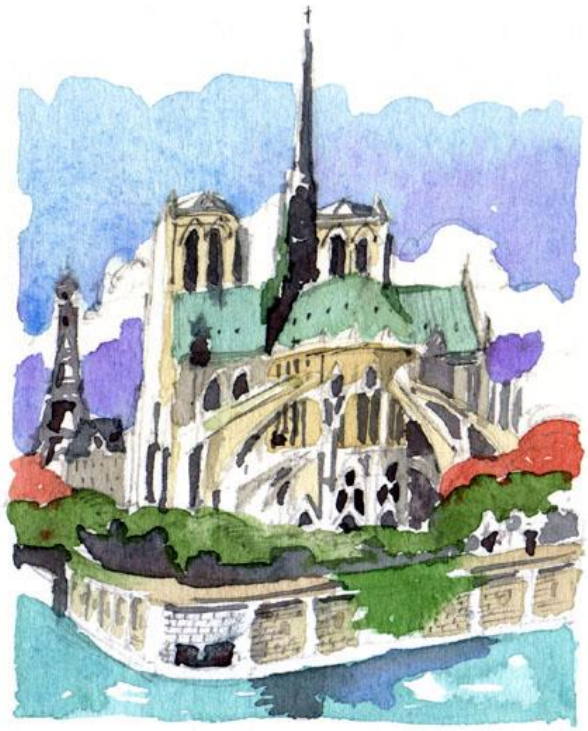
On Sunday February 24, some of our members attended the Installation Mass at the Basilica and the Fundraiser afterwards. In March we attended the Fundraiser at James Joyce, walked in the St. Patrick's Parade and went to dinner afterwards at Basta Pasta. –A good time was had by all!

Our Division had a Bake Sale on St. Patrick's Day at St. Bart's. We participated in the Celtic Cantor in Westminster. Saturday April 13th some of our members attended the 120th Anniversary of Baltimore Division 4.

On Good Friday some of our members will be attending the Cross Walk and the luncheon afterwards at the Severn Inn
Have a Happy Easter!

Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

-Christina Parks, Reporter-



Howard County, Division 1

Although the new year started out frigid, our members who attended the Women's Little Christmas celebration were fortunate to be surrounded by the warm hearts and friendly

faces of our LAOH Sisters. As winter waned and spring has come and gone on a daily basis, some of our snow birds have begun to return to the roost for the summer.

In February, our Division was represented at the St. Brigid's Mass and then partnered with the St. John the Evangelist Knights of Columbus Council for their charity wine tasting in support of the Tanzanian Children's Project. It was a fun evening and an unanticipated fundraiser for our Division.

In March, members attended fundraisers in support of and marched in the St. Patrick's Parade. We attended the annual St. Patrick's Day dinner sponsored by St. John's Knights of Columbus where our Division provided and served the dessert. Along with Irish Charities of Maryland, we were presented a plaque recognizing our years of support of the Tanzanian Children's Project which provides healthcare, education and fresh water to the children there. Some of our members enjoyed the story-telling at the Three Irish Ladies program and joined in the celebration for Baltimore County Division 4's 120th anniversary.

We were sorry to lose a member to the sun and sands of Florida but were fortunate to receive three new member applications; a new member was welcomed and installed in April. Our Division is involved in the planning of the MD LAOH 125th Anniversary Celebration and we are looking forward to all the upcoming remembrances and celebrations during the summer and the Convention in the fall.

"Athbhliain Faoi Mhaise Daoibh"

-Sharon Strobel-

Cecil County, Division 1

After a cold, dreary winter, it is wonderful to see the beautiful colors of Spring!! Even with the cold weather, Cecil County Division 1 kept warm with friendships, socials and gathering in our shared faith.

In February we held our St. Brigid mass at Good Shepard Church in Perryville, MD. with Fr. Jay McKee. Following the mass several of our members went to the Casino night to help support the parish's school fundraiser.

Our division helped out as co-chairs of the Immaculate Conception parish St Patrick's dinner dance for the third year. We escorted the bagpiper in to get the festivities going. The sisters sure gave Betty Crocker a run for her money with plenty of good desserts for the sold-out event. It was truly a night to celebrate our Irish heritage, dancing the night away to the sounds of "The Severn Rings."

On Ash Wednesday, we welcomed members from the State Board to our meeting. Members were able to go to the chapel to a prayer service and receive ashes from our Chaplin, Fr. Jim Yeakel. Following the distribution of ashes, we had our monthly meeting and lunch was served. It was wonderful to share the day with fellow sisters.

Throughout the last few months, members kept busy making and distributing lovely floral arrangements to local nursing homes.

The next few weeks we will be looking forward to gathering items for our "Baby Shower" in May. We will also be attending an "Irish Tea" to celebrate our third year anniversary.

-Janice White, 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.