Erin's Echo

Maryland State Board
Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc.

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President's Message

Welcome to Fall,

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer staycationing or on a trip to some far-off destination. Whatever it was, I hope it made a wonderful memory for your journal.

I and four other Maryland LAOH Delegates had a wonderful trip to Orlando Florida attending the AOH/LAOH National Convention. I wish more could have attended; sometimes it is what happens outside the meetings that forms lasting relationships.

Maryland LAOH made donations to Nationals Humanitarian Fund to assist those affected by Hurricane's Helene and Milton. Maryland LAOH will continue monitoring the situation to see if further aid is needed.

Fall is upon us and the Sugar Maple trees are on fire with the colors of scarlet reds and goldenrod yellows bringing back wonderful memories of my childhood. Oh, what fun it would be to throw on a costume and go Trick or Treating this Halloween.

Maryland Irish Festival will celebrate their 50th year, with top entertainment and special activities in the cultural section. We hope you can attend. Maryland State Board will make one last ditch effort to sell fundraising tickets.

A few of our divisions are holding fundraisers so I hope you can attend; they need your support.

A *save the date* has been set for the State **AOH/LAOH Convention October 2nd -5th. In Ocean City, MD. At the ASHORE Hotel**. I will be stepping down after 6 years as your President and hope many of you will be in attendance to welcome the new slate of officers.

-Kathy Norris-
Uachtarán (Maryland LAOH State President)

Calendar

November
Nov. 8, 9, 10: Maryland Irish Festival, Timonium Fairgrounds, 50th Anniversary, https//irishfestival.com, $
Nov. 16: Anne Arundel County Div. 1, Bridgerton Themed Tea, Seelos Hall, St. John Neumann Church, Annapolis, $40, flier

December
Dec. 7: LAOH State Board, 10 AM, Location TBD
Dec. 8: LAOH Christmas Party, 11:30-2:30, Bluestone, Timonium, MD, $45, flier
Dec. 14: "Wreaths In" Arlington National Cemetery and local sites, www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/arling

January
Jan. 19: Harford County Div. 2, St. Ita Mass and crab cake dinner, St. Mark Church, Fallston

Cultural Corner

TIME OF THE CHILD by Niall Williams
THE DROWNED by John Banville
TRUST HER by Flynn Berry

-Joanna Cox

-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/marylandlaoh

Gatherings

Heavenly Father, I come before You today, seeking Your peace that surpasses all understanding. In the midst of the chaos and busyness of life, I long for Your calming presence to fill my heart and bring me inner peace.

Your Word assures me that You are the source of true peace,
and I cling to that promise.

Harford County, Division 2

Our division held its June meeting on June 18. The primary focus was to evaluate our May Crowning of Mary, held May 21, and to discuss fall plans. We discussed the Maryland LAOH 2024 Fundraiser as well. Two members attended the State Lady of Knock Mass in August.

Our September meeting was a working meeting in preparation for Rosary Night, to be held October 15 at 6 PM in the chapel at St. Mark Church in Fallston. Five $20 raffle tickets were purchased with money from our division treasury in support of the Maryland LAOH 2024 Fundraiser. Our members were also asked to purchase at least one ticket. All 50 tickets have been sold!

We are planning a bus trip to the Antietam Battlefield to view the luminaries on Saturday, December 7, 2024. The trip will include a guided tour of the battlefield, an early dinner at Captain Bender's Tavern, and a drive through the battlefield when illuminated with the luminaries. The cost is $130 for adults and $100 for children 12 and under. This has always been a very moving event.

Our division will be joining the St. John's 10th Ward Christmas Gala on Sunday, December 8 from 12-4 at St. Elizabeth School on Argonne Drive in Baltimore. Cost is $42.

Our St. Ita Mass and Crabcake Dinner will be held Sunday, January 19, at 2PM at St. Mark in Fallston.

Respectfully submitted,

-Gleela Kolakowski-Reporter

Baltimore City, Division 1

Happy Autumn from the ladies of the Venerable Catherine McAuley Division of Baltimore City! We support Marian House, a holistic, healing community for women and their children who need housing and support services. We meet the 2nd Thursday of each month, 7PM, at Squire's restaurant. We invite you to join us in helping women in need in the City of Baltimore and celebrating our Irish history and culture.

-Dorothy Reed, Reporter

Cecil County, Division 1

LAOH Cecil County Division 1 gathered for the Our Lady of Knock Mass at Immaculate Conception Church in Elkton on Saturday, August 17, 2024. Following the Mass, the group enjoyed dinner at the home of Christine Hild. A new member, Elisa Hoover, was initiated and coupons for the upcoming Boscov's fundraiser were distributed.

The group resumed monthly meetings on Wednesday, September 4, 2024, at the Immaculate Conception Parish Center. President Christine Hild passed out agendas, minutes, rosters, sign-up sheets, and important flyers. Two new members: Paula Hoppel and Susan Andrews were accepted and initiated by the officers. Next, the ladies from Cecil County Division 1 provided and served refreshments at historic St. Patrick's Chapel, Conowingo, following the annual Mass on Saturday, September 7, 2024.

At the October 2nd meeting, plans were made to support the Maryland Irish Festival and Christmas Bazaars at both Immaculate Conception and Good Shepherd churches - all in November.

-JoAnne Bierly, Reporter

Howard County, Division 1

Our summer break has ended and there is an air of anticipation as our Division resumes meetings and begins planning for 2025. September was a time of remembrance as we gathered together to celebrate the lives of Past State President Stacie Guerin and our Division's Past President Patti Gifford. She was the wife of our Chaplain Deacon Paul and mother of our member, Honor Sanderford. We were honored that Fr. Frain and our MD LAOH Catholic Action Officer, Carole Iafrate, joined us at the viewing in prayer and thanksgiving for Patti's life.

We pray for all impacted by the devastation of Hurricanes Helene and Milton. Members have individually donated to hurricane relief and the Division will do so when we meet in October. We look forward to volunteering at the Maryland Irish Festival, engaging in other Division fundraisers and attending the Holiday party in December.

We hope that our search for a new meeting location and time will be finalized in the near future. Despite the challenges, we won't be deterred from gathering together and planning our future.

We pray that God's blessings fall upon you like the leaves of Autumn!

-Sharon Strobel, President-

Harford County, Division 1

At our first meeting in September, our division once again generously donated a car full of items to St. Mark's in Fallston's Outreach Center. They were thankful for the many items not covered by food stamps.

We were pleased to present Beth Lund with State Life membership at this meeting. Beth has given much to both the division and the state. She served many years as State Membership Chair and she is always ready to lend a helping hand and to support our division in any way she can. She demonstrates to others what it means to be an LAOH member and has enticed many to join the Order.

We have been working on our Bingo-Lunch fundraiser. To date response has been wonderful, and we look forward to a fun and profitable event.

Hope to see all at the 50th Irish Festival!

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- Laurie Hauser, Reporter

Carroll County , Division 1

. Happy Fall Y'all. Carroll County Division hopes all our sisters are enjoying this beautiful weather. September has been busy for us up in Carroll County. On Sept. 14 Kelly and Mary Beth attended the Memorial Service and Irish Wake for Stacie Guerin. You could feel Stacie's presence all around us that day. We will miss her terribly. Our Division also hosted the "Precious Heritage" band for a fundraiser to support the Fr. Michael Roach Educational Scholarship. We were able to raise $1439.00 for the scholarship fund.

October is moving along fast. Some of our members went to Ocean City to the Card Party held by OC LAOH Division. The food and fellowship were wonderful. A couple of us are looking forward to attending the Harford County Division #1 Bingo on Oct 19th. On Oct. 19-20th our Division will be holding our annual Bake Sale at St Barthlomew's Church. So, our ladies have been baking away.

November means Maryland Irish Festival. This is the 50th year. We are looking forward to volunteering and attending this event. November also means the start of the Holiday season. Many of our members are looking forward to the State Board Christmas Luncheon. Some are volunteering at Family Day and "Wreath's In" down at Arlington National Cemetery.

Please keep our Chaplain Fr. Collin in your prayers; he has had to have two surgeries on his right eye. Pray to St Lucy, patron Saint for eye issues.Respectfully Submitted

-Mary Beth Connolly, President

Baltimore County, Division 14

I hope everyone had their batteries recharged with a relaxing summer.

The Oblate Sisters of Providence were grateful for our donations that help with their women's prison ministry. We are all gearing up for the Irish Festival, then turning around to decorate a tree for the Kennedy Krieger Festival of Trees.

The theme of this year's tree is "Kiss Me, I'm Irish." Festival of Trees will return to the Maryland State Fairgrounds during Thanksgiving weekend, November 29 through December 1, 2024!

We are also looking forward to the State Christmas party to see who is the lucky winner of the raffle.

Happy Autumn!!

Respectfully submitted,

-Katie McCune, President-

Baltimore County, Division 1

The National Convention in Orlando was positive and we enjoyed catching up with our sisters and AOH members from around the country,

Our Lady of Knock mass was held at St. Agnes Church on this side of town but most of the ladies in our division were not able to attend due to vacations and previous engagements. They missed a beautiful mass and a great lunch at the Catonsville Gourmet. I was Sorry to have missed the Carroll County division Irish Band concert as I'm sure it was a great affair.

We welcome Janet Miller from another Baltimore County division who has moved to Charlestown and will be joining our division after the paper work goes thru.

We're looking forward to the Irish Festival coming up in November and hope for a good turn out as you know it's so much fun and this year is the 50th anniversary. We are also excited the Annapolis Division is having their Afternoon Tea that's always outstanding! St Benedicts is having a Bull & Shrimp Roast on October 20th with gift card and cake wheel along with a fun DJ with music for dancing.

We wish everyone a Happy Samhain and a beautiful All Saints Day!

-Maureen Shettle, President-

Anne Arundel County, Division 1

After a quiet, hopefully, restful summer, the ladies of Anne Arundel County are in "all hands on deck" mode for our big fundraiser in November.

After a 1-year hiatus, we are bringing back our always-popular tea! The committee has been hard at work creating a beautiful vision for our Bridgerton-themed Afternoon Tea. For those not familiar with the TV show Bridgerton, it is a fictional family drama series set in early 1800s high-society London. The sets and costuming are stunning and we are hoping to bring a little bit of that to Annapolis on November 16th.

Join in the fun and come dressed for the times. Tickets are now available and will sell out fast! Please reach out to Kate Carr kate.rose.carr@gmail.com for tickets or more information.

In our motto,

-Dee McCarthy, President-

Worcester County, Division 1

Ocean City had a hot and dry summer and it went by too fast. In September we had our first meeting of the year and welcomed back our sisters. We were joined by a new member, Ann Dolan. Our new business was the card party which is our biggest fundraiser. Annette Hogan volunteered to manage the kitchen along with Kathy Norris. We had several sisters sign up to help. We raised the cost of a ticket to $30 due to the cost of supplies. Maureen O'Brien is in charge of ticket sales and seating. Baskets for the Chinese Auction value must be $50. The baskets will be assembled at my house in 2 weeks. We closed with prayers and adjoined for lunch.

October is here and we had our fundraiser. 103 tickets were sold. Annette did a wonderful job with the food. We had much praise from our guests. It was a long day but we all had fun and our charities were the winners. In attendance were members from Baltimore, Delaware and State Board of Maryland. We appreciate all their support. Prayers were said for all the states affected by the hurricanes. We voted to make a donation to St. Vincent de Paul Society; they are collecting at our church.

Enjoy the leaves and their beautiful colors.

- Ann Cottingham, President-

Baltimore County, Division 4

NO REPORT

-Pat Zaccari, President-

In Memorium-

Patti Gifford, Howard County, Division 1
Stacie Guerin, Baltimore City, Division 1

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.