



Ladies AOH

Division 5, "Mary of the Gael"

Division Happenings



Volume I, Issue 11 Division 5, Orange County, NY, Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians February 2010

Gail Edmonds - President

Gail Cane - Editor

Upcoming Events

Friday, February 26
LAOH Mtg, 8 pm

Saturday, February 27
U2 Nation "Kick Off to St.
Patrick's Day"
Monroe Irish Center
8 pm

Sunday, February 28
Junior Division 5
Installation

March 7 - Irish Day
American Legion Hall,
Greenwood Lake
12-6 pm

**March 14 - Mid Hudson
St. Patrick's Day Parade
Celebration**
9 am - Holy Mass (Our
Lady of Mt. Carmel,
Middletown
10:30 am - Grand
Marshall Breakfast -
Kuhls Highland House
2:00 pm - Parade, Goshen

**March 21 - Pearl River St.
Patrick's Day Parade**

Traditional Irish Music Seisiun

Monroe Irish Center
Sunday afternoon, 2- 5 pm
Irish Set Dancing
Monday nights, 7-9pm
Monroe Irish Center

A Message from the President...

As we approach the Lenten season, many of us try to think of something to give up. Is this a time to do penance? Well, partly – but not entirely. I received a hand out from Sr. Rose at Sacred Heart, and it discussed Lent as a time to put a change into our hearts. Is this an easy task? No.

In addition to certain "rules" we must follow during Lent, (abstinence, fasting...) there are duties we can observe and practice – duties that we can work into our every day lives, not just during Lent. Do our best, be more tolerant, accept our difficulties, be more patient, be more cheerful, be alert, do not measure others, do not gossip, make more time for our families. Why not?

We can also look at the Corporal works of Mercy and see how, as LAOHers, we can help others: feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit the imprisoned, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, bury the dead. We do not have to take these acts literally, even though we could – but we can help others with these acts in mind. Maybe we can all try this during Lent and see where it gets us.

Try to prepare simple meals at home, or maybe donate some extra change to our local food pantry, put an extra dollar in the jar at the hall, visit a nursing home. I asked Lorraine O'Dowd to organize a group to visit a nursing home every month. I know we have members with relatives in homes, at times we even have to make time to see our own relatives, never mind others. Try to attend Stations of the Cross during Lent, even if you never go, maybe just try to go once with your family. It is a very humbling experience.

Well, on a lighter note, we do have some Hibernian events coming up; Wii bowling tournament to support the Thomas Fleming Memorial Scholarship Fund. This should be a great way to spend time with the family & support a very worthy cause on Feb 20. U2 Nation is back to kick off St. Patrick's day on Feb 27 – to support AOH Division 1 and all of the Hibernian charities they contribute to. Don't miss this concert, you will not be disappointed. Then we have March.... Irish day – a good day with food, bands, friendship on March 7, our own Mid-Hudson Parade on the 14th, the 249th St. Patrick's day Parade in NYC on the 17th, the Pearl River Parade on the 21st. By participating in these events as LAOH members, we truly promote our culture and heritage, which we all vowed to do. Please try to attend these events, and march in the parades. Don't be afraid to show your pride!

When I sit down to write the March message, most of these fun March events will be over; I hope we all have a great time together and truly live our motto in the upcoming weeks.

Last but not least, Happy 1st year Anniversary to LAOH Division 5!!

*Ni heolas go haontios,
Beannacht Lá Fhéile Pádraig,*

Gail

GOODWILL & WELFARE

- *Condolences to Mary Luciana, on the passing of her mother-in-law, Lillian. May her soul rest in peace.*
- *Condolences to the family of our sister, Pat Brennan, Div. 4 LAOH. May she be resting peacefully with our Father in heaven. Our division will be making a contribution to her favorite charity, the food pantry at Our Lady of the Assumption Church in Bloomingburg, NY.*
- *Please continue to pray for Lorraine O'Dowd's sister, Caroline, in her battle with cancer.*
- *Congratulations to Gail Edmonds on the birth of her niece, Claire Maggie, born on February 2, 8 lbs. 12. oz.*

February Meeting

Don't forget to "get your act together" for the February meeting, when we will play the "Gong Show".

Dues

Membership dues are \$35; if you haven't paid them by now, please do so at the February meeting.

JUNIOR DIVISION NEWS

Congratulations to the Junior Division, who will conduct their installation on February 28 at the Monroe Irish Center. The advisors are Peggy Walsh, Coordinator, and Gail Cane, Asst. Coordinator. Please contact Peggy or Gail if you have a daughter, or if you know of a worthy candidate, a practicing Catholic, of Irish birth or descent, who would be interested. The juniors' first charitable act will be collecting at the Feb. 28 meeting new or "gently used" (laundered) stuffed animals for the children of Haiti who will be placed with families in the Rockland County area. If you wish to donate, please drop off your contribution to the Hall on the weekend of Feb. 28. Also, look for the juniors' first fundraiser; to jump start spring, they will be taking orders for spring/summer flowers. Orders will be due by April 11, so don't miss this great chance to order your flowers for your summer gardens and support the junior division.

Parade Season

Get your marching shoes ready! Division 5 LAOH will be marching in the Mid-Hudson St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 14 in Goshen; we will meet at the County Center at 1 pm, step-off is 2 pm. The Pearl River Parade, will be held on Sunday, March 21. We will meet at the parking lot at Wyeth Pharmaceuticals; time to be announced. Dancers are also needed for the Pearl River Parade. Marching and dancing attire will be Aran sweaters, black pants and shoes, tri-color sashes if you have them. Join together with your sister Hibernians as we proudly march and celebrate our heritage.

Member Recruitment Drive

January and February will be our membership drive. We are actively seeking new members. Please ask your parish office to put in a "blurb" in the church bulletin if it hasn't been done so already.

"LAOH Division 5, Mary of the Gael, is seeking new members to join our division. If you are a practicing Catholic, of Irish descent, and would like to join our group, please contact Erin Higgins by email at dehiggs@optonline.net for information concerning membership."

Irish Rose Contest

The Mid-Hudson St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee will be sponsoring the Irish Rose contest. This year, Div. 5 member Donna Goff is chairing this event. Interviews will be held February 27/snow date, February 28, at the Monroe Irish Center. The crowning will be held on Sunday, March 7 at Irish Day, which will be held at the Greenwood Lake American Legion Hall.



A Bit of Irish History....submitted by Patty Ryan

(A Perfect Poem that represents "Mary of the Gael")

"The Giveaway"

(THE LOVE LETTERS OF PHYLLIS MCGINLEY, New York, Viking Press, 1957)

Saint Bridget was
a problem child.
Although a lass
demure and mild,
And one who strove
to please her dad,
Saint Bridget drove
the family mad.
For here's the fault in
Bridget lay:
She **WOULD** give
everything away.

To any soul
whose luck was out,
she'd give her bowl
of stirabout;
She'd give her shawl,
divide her purse
with one or all.
And what was worse,
when she ran out of
things to give,
she'd borrow from a
relative.

Her father's gold,
Her grandsire's dinner,
She'd hand to cold
and hungry sinner;

Give wine, give meat,

No matter whose;
Take from her feet
the very shoes,
And when her shoes had
gone to others,
Fetch forth her sister's
and her mother's.

She could not quit.
She had to share;
gave bit by bit
the silverware,
the barnyard geese,
the parlor rug,
her little niece's
christening mug,
Even her bed to those in
want,
And then the mattress of
her aunt.

An easy touch for poor
and lowly,
She gave so much
and grew so holy,
that when she died
of years and fame,
the countryside
put on her name,

And still the Isles of
Erin fidget
With generous girls
named Bride or Bridget.

Well, one must love her.
Nonetheless,
In thinking of her
givingness,
There's no denial
She must have been
a sort of trial
Unto her kin.
The moral, too, seems
rather quaint.
WHO had the patience
of a saint,
From evidence
presented here?
Saint Bridget?
Or her near and dear?



The Prayer of St. Patrick



I arise today
Through the strength of
heaven;
Light of the sun,
Radiance of the moon.
Splendor of fire,
Speed of lightning,
Swiftness of the wind,
Depth of the sea,
Stability of the earth,
Firmness of the rock.

I arise today
Through God's strength to
pilot me;
God's might to uphold me,
God's wisdom to guide me,
God's eye to look before me,
God's ear to hear me,
God's word to speak for me,

God's hand to guard me,
God's way to lie before me,
God's shield to protect me,
God's hosts to save me
From the snares of the devil,
From everyone who desires
me ill
Afar and anear,
Alone or in a multitude.

Christ shield me today
Against wounding
Christ with me, Christ
before me, Christ behind me,
Christ in me, Christ beneath
me, Christ above me,
Christ on my right, Christ on
my left,
Christ when I lie down,
Christ when I sit down,
Christ in the heart of
everyone who thinks of me,

Christ in the mouth of
everyone who speaks of me,
Christ in the eye that sees
me,
Christ in the ear that hears
me.

I arise today
Through the mighty
strength
Of the Lord of creation.

Submitted by Gail Edmonds: "One
of my favorite prayers."

