



Ladies AOH

Division 5, "Mary of the Gael"

Division Happenings



Volume II, Issue 7, Division 5, Orange County, NY, Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians October 2010

President

Gail Edmonds

Editor

Gail Cane

Upcoming Events

Friday, Oct. 22–
LAOH Mtg., 8 pm

Saturday, Oct. 30 – Halloween
Party, 6 pm
(children & adults)

Monday, Nov. 1 –
All Saints' Day

Tuesday, Nov. 2 –
All Soul's Day

Friday, November 5
Healing Mass, 5 pm
St. John's, Goshen

November 6
St. Brendan's Dinner Dance

Sunday, Nov. 14
LAOH Div. 5 Meeting, 2 pm
(Special Meeting Date/Time)

December 9
LAOH Div. 5
Christmas Gathering
Save the Date

Ongoing Events

**Traditional Irish
Music Seisiun**
Every Sunday afternoon,
2-5

Irish Set Dancing Lessons
Every Monday, 7 pm

A Message from the President...

Members,

I firmly believe there are times in your life when even though you don't want to face something, you have to. This is one of those times. This is why we have faith. As usual, thinking about what to write this month has left me in a quandary. Then, this morning, it all hit me at once. Here is my message, from a day just two short weeks ago:

I have just attended a Mass at Sacred Heart with the men of Division 1 on behalf of their Division, and then went to a beautiful breakfast with Denis Mulcahy as the guest speaker – a truly remarkable man. Denis asks us, at the end of his speech, to pray for the young Marine just killed in Afghanistan – he was from Greenwood Lake, and married the day before he went off to war. How sad.

I leave the hall and head to see a very sick friend. So sick with a cancer that is not able to be cured. I am honored to call her my friend. She has taught me a lot about faith and love and I will always remember this day. I pull in to the driveway. I step out of the car. A leaf flutters by in the soft, cool, yet warm, breeze. It is glorious day; it is 10-10-10, a perfect 10 of a day. Or is it? I go to the back door and quietly walk into my friend's house. The TV is on as it usually is. I call her name. Are you sleeping? No, comes the answer. I walk into the living room and give her a hug. She tells me she is sorry, she can't get up now. The pain is too bad. The nausea is unbearable. I sit on the couch and hold her. A wave of sorrow falls over me.

She asks me, how are you, Gail? How am I? I can't bear it. Tears come to my eyes, and I say great. I lie. I am just great. She tells me – everything will be alright. I look into the eyes of a woman who is dying and she is telling me that everything will be alright. I am thinking, no, my friend, you are dying and it is NOT alright. We are holding hands and I ask her can I get you anything? No, nothing. I am sorry, she says again, I cannot talk for a long time. She tells me she loves me and I choke back the tears and tell her I love her too. I say I have to get going because I see she wants to sleep. A lie again, because I want to sit there all day and hold her hand.

I walk out into the breeze again and thank God for my friend and ask him to please not let her suffer. At Mass today I read the prayer for the suffering for her a few times. Tomorrow I am going to see my mother-in-law and bring Fr. George to give her last rites. Again. more suffering.

As death surrounds us, we realize that we have been given the precious gift of life – and have to think, am I valuing this gift enough? It is times like these that envelope our souls and make us stronger.

I hope this message doesn't make anyone sad, but maybe makes you stronger. Take the time to enjoy God's beauty and enjoy your life. Take the time to stop and tell a dying friend that you love her.

Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Gail

Good and Welfare

~ Please keep in your prayers our sister Hibernian Peggy Walsh.

~ Congratulations to new Grandma Gail Cane, as her daughter Melissa (former member) and Tim welcome Melinda Erin Jones into the world. Daddy arrived home from Afghanistan the day after his daughter was born. Gail and Jon are forever grateful for all the prayers offered for Tim's safe arrival home!

Congratulations to Maureen Gertzki, Elizabeth & Bridget Curtin who played at the All Ireland Competition in Cavan this past summer.



JUNIOR DIVISION NEWS
SUPPORT THE TROOPS!

In honor of Veteran's Day, the juniors will be writing cards and sponsoring a collection of items to send to our military overseas.

Please consider a donation the next time you come to the Hall. Acceptable items are:

Toiletries: band aids, chap stick, deodorant, eye drops, foot powder, Motrin & Tylenol, nail clippers, q-tips, razors, shaving cream, shampoo & conditioner, wipes, travel size tissue, toilet paper, tooth brushes & paste, Vaseline Intensive Care lotion.

Food: (snack size) – beef jerky, cereal, protein bars, chewing gum, cookies, Pringle potato chips, pretzels, hot chocolate mix, coffee/tea bags, Tang, powdered Gatorade, mixed candy, dried fruit, nuts, pop tarts, sunflower seeds.

Misc: Ziploc plastic bags, magazines, batteries (AA, AAA & C), pens, envelopes, small writing pads, playing cards, small size board games, such as chess/checkers.

NEXT MEETING: Sat., Nov. 6, 1 pm
Elections will take place for open positions.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

LADIES GAME NIGHT

Our first Game Night proved to be a great success with a nice turnout of ladies for a fun night of games! Bunco and Left, Right, Center were enjoyed by all! Many thanks to Kathleen Metcalf and Barbara Slifkin for organizing the first Ladies Game Night ; we look forward to holding these games quarterly, if interest exists.

***National LAOH Irish
History Writing Contest
2010-2011***

Contest open to all children, grades 6-12, monetary prizes given.

The contest already began in September 2010. The deadline for entries from the Division to the county is January 10, 2011.

This year's topics are:

Level 1: (Elementary Grades)

– “The History of the Seannachie (Shanachie) - Traveling Story Tellers”

Level 2: (High School)

“The Fighting 69th – Then and Now”

Please see the National LAOH's website for further details:

<http://www.ladiesaoh.com/historycontest.html>

Hopefully our Ladies and Junior Divisions will be well represented this year.

SAVE THE DATE!
***Division 5
Christmas Party***

Thursday, December 9, LAOH Division 5 will hold their Christmas gathering this year at Logan's Well in Florida. Don't miss this night to join together as a division to celebrate Christmas!

**Parade Committee News**

The announcement for the 2011 Orange County St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshal will be made in November. We look forward to this event, as it “kicks off” the countdown to all the events in March. Irish Day will again be held at the American Legion Hall in Greenwood Lake. Stay tuned for more details.

UPCOMING DIVISION ELECTIONS

Nominations for vacant offices will be accepted at the October meeting; elections will be held at our November meeting, which is on a special date and time, **Sunday, November 14, 2 pm.** Please consider running for office; contact the Nominating Committee if you are interested. This division exists with the support and dedication of its officers and members! Help us to continue to carry on our charitable works in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity.

"First Annual Irish Stew/Soda Bread Cook-off"

Thank you to everyone who participated in our 1st annual Irish Stew / Soda Bread cook-off! Special thanks to our judge, Executive Chef Doug Mulholland, who had an absolutely tough choice on all accounts. Winners were Gail Edmonds, for her stew , and Eileen Walsh for her soda bread. Next year should be even bigger and better!

HEALING MASS

Dear LAOH members from every division.

For many of us, this past year has been particularly difficult: Family crisis, financial woes, serious or terminal illnesses, and operations. And as it is an ongoing struggle for our individual members, our Hibernian community is also hurting. Therefore, as a community we are asked to pray together for all our needs, both temporal and spiritual. For this reason a very special Mass has been arranged.

On Friday November 5th, the 5PM Mass at St. John the Evangelist in Goshen has been reserved specifically for the intentions of all the LAOH, and AOH members. Please come and pray as a community- November 5th is World Community Day. Bring written intentions for all your beloved; a basket will be available inside the church, and St. John's will dispose of them appropriately.

God Bless to all LAOH and AOH members,

Lorraine O'Dowd-- Catholic Action





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

LOVE, FRIENDSHIP AND LOYALTY

When I see a claddagh ring on the finger of a close friend I think of how proud that friend must be to be Irish. It is one of the main symbols associated with being Irish. Our history here at the LAOH started with friendship, a group of women that enjoyed being together and felt that we could make a difference. We continue to make a difference. I have seen such loyalty among our group of women. We are there for each other...true friendship and love.

The original claddagh ring can be traced back to Richard Joyce around 1700. Richard was from Claddagh, a small fishing village near Galway. He was captured by pirates and sold to a Moorish goldsmith. Richard worked and learned how to fashion gold, but he longed to be with his true love back home in Ireland. The Moorish goldsmith offered him half his wealth if he would marry his daughter. Richard knew he could not marry any other than his true love. While in captivity, Richard made a beautiful ring of gold. The ring has two hands that signified friendship, a crown that showed loyalty and a heart held by the two hands, which shows love. Richard Joyce was lucky because he eventually got back to his little fishing village near Galway and found his one true love had never married and gave her this ring. She wore the ring on her left hand and turned the crown toward her heart to show that her heart was taken.

The rings were kept as heirlooms and passed down from mother to daughter. The mass exodus of the famine helped spread the beautiful claddagh ring around the world. The ring has become a true symbol of love, friendship and loyalty.

Monroe Irish Center Updates

Did you know that there are two new big screen TV's at the Hall? The new TV's were recently installed over the bar area so there would be better viewing of all the latest sports events. So come on down on a Sunday afternoon to get together with friends to watch the games, listen to traditional Irish music or just enjoy good conversation! It's a great way to spend a Sunday afternoon!

DO YOU HAVE UNWANTED GOLD JEWELRY?

Need extra money for Christmas shopping this year? Gold is at the highest price in history! Jon Cane, Gail's husband, is in the jewelry business and can get you top dollar for your gold. Please contact him at canelog@optonline.net if you are interested in selling your gold jewelry or purchasing new jewelry.



**DON'T FORGET YOUR
DONATION TO THE
JUNIOR DIV. "SUPPORT
THE TROOPS" BASKET
WHEN YOU COME TO THE
NEXT MEETING**



New Members

New members are welcome! If you know a worthy candidate, please contact Gail Edmonds at gailedmonds@frontiernet.net for information on membership