



# Ladies AOH

## Division 5, "Mary of the Gael"

### Division Happenings



Volume II, Issue 3, Division 5, Orange County, NY, Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians

May 2010

#### President

Gail Edmonds

#### Editor

Gail Cane

## A Message from the President...

As March and marching season slowly fade away, some of us are thinking about and waiting for next March, while most of us are thinking about the start of summer with upcoming Memorial Day, the unofficial kick off to summer. As LAOH members, let us remember that this is the day we honor the memories of the armed forces members who never made it to veteran status because they lost their lives defending their country in wars, police actions, peace-keeping missions or terrorist attacks. Think about the friendship and unity along with the strength and courage it takes to be a soldier. My grandfather and his brothers all fought in WWII. My great-great uncle, who was born in Ireland, fought here in the Civil War. As Catholics, we respect and honor the dead- let us all remember this on Memorial Day. Let us respect and honor those who fought so bravely in so many wars here and abroad. I am sure we all have a connection to a soldier or a veteran, currently, or in our pasts. We have members with relatives currently in the armed services, please remember them in your prayers especially this month. I would like to ask if anyone would be interested to march in any Memorial Day parades this year in our area?

I just read in today's paper that there is a proposal to use \$1 billion over five years, to fight gangs in one of our local cities. That is \$200 mil per year. Imagine if all people lived in the Hibernian Motto- what that \$1 billion could do for our country. I would say we could use it for the Troops overseas, but maybe the Troops would not have to be overseas if our Motto was lived out there as well. Imagine how many hungry people \$1 billion could feed.

On a separate note I asked that we put the Parent's Prayer into this month's newsletter as we are between Mother's Day & Father's Day. I have carried this prayer in my purse since someone gave it to me in 2005. It is beat up and torn now, from me looking at it and praying; praying a lot some days! I really wanted to share it with Division 5, hoping it will inspire us all. With Mother's day behind us, thank you to all who supported and ran the First Annual Mother's Day Brunch. It was a beautiful day, and the Juniors will be making a generous donation to Our Mother's Cupboard, run by Our Father's Kitchen here in Monroe.

We have a lot of exciting events coming up – We will be going to a Renegades game on June 21, Eileen Gertzki will have details for us. Our dinner for the Priests of Orange County is in the planning stages; this should be a great night at a much needed time. Please join the planning committee if you can. We will hold our Member's Mixer in July - this is a fun night where we can get to know each other better in a casual setting. This is not a meeting and husbands or boyfriends are welcome. We have a Ladies Game night planned in Oct., on a more social note, this should be a great fun night for us all to share.

Invite a worthy candidate to join our great group so we can grow in our Motto! Thank you for all of your support this year.

In our motto, Gail

#### Upcoming Events

5/21 – LAOH  
Div. 5 Mtg,  
8 pm

5/30 –  
Fleming's  
Fling

6/12 – LAOH  
Div. 5  
Yard Sale

6/21 –  
Renegades  
Game

6/25 – LAOH  
Div. 5  
Mtg., 8 pm

7/3  
Members  
Mixer

#### Ongoing Events

Traditional Irish  
Seisun, every  
Sunday, 1-5 pm,  
Div. 1, AOH  
Hall

### Congratulations

Irish flute player Elizabeth Curtin, daughter of board member, Ann, and Irish fiddler Maureen Gertzis, daughter of board member Eileen, were proud to perform at the 2010 America Ireland Fund NYC Fundraiser held at Lincoln Center May 6. \$3 million dollars was raised that night in support of Music programs in Irish schools and the Forgotten Irish to support elderly Irish-American emigrants in New York. The girls and their bandmates met Bono from U2, heard his speech and that of former President Bill Clinton. For pictures go to [http://www.irlfunds.org/aif/new\\_york/events\\_5\\_10.asp](http://www.irlfunds.org/aif/new_york/events_5_10.asp)

### Memorial Day 2010

*"America, you are beautiful...and blessed... The ultimate test of your greatness is the way you treat every human being, but especially the weakest and most defenseless. If you want equal justice for all and true freedom and lasting peace, then America, defend life."*

*Pope John Paul II*



*Keep in your prayers all of our troops, especially Tim Jones, son-in-law of Gail Cane, and Carmen Canavan Cheney, sister of Noreen McGovern. May our blessed Mother keep them safe and bring them home safely to their loved ones.*

### Searching for Your Ancestors?

If you are interested in searching for your heritage, a great place to look is at this website: <http://ifhf.rootsireland.ie/map.php>. This site contains the largest collection of Parish records for the island of Ireland that are searchable online. The indexes, listing surname, first name, year and county of all records online is yours to search online for instant access at a cost of €5.00 per record. freely ([subject to our terms and conditions](#)). To view a detailed record you can [purchase credit](#).



### Good and Welfare

*Please keep in your prayers:*

- *Brendan O'Dowd and Patty Ryan, who will be undergoing surgery this week.*
- *Betsy Johnston, of Sacred Heart's "Our Father's Kitchen"; pray for her son who is very sick.*
- *The soup kitchen is in desperate need of baby food. Please bring a jar of food or box of baby cereal to our next meeting.*
- *Congratulations to Declan Debold on his First Holy Communion, and to all the children of members of Division 5 who received this sacrament; may their lives be touched by Jesus as they grow in His love each and every day.*



### Junior Division News "1<sup>st</sup> Annual Mother's Day Brunch"

*Our first public event was a huge success. Over 100 guests enjoyed a full Irish breakfast, prepared by Dennis Browne, Jon Cane and Glenn Edmonds, while being entertained by the Monroe Traditional Irish Seisiun band and the lovely young step dancers of Junior Division 5. Siobhán Higgins donated her homemade Irish scones, enough to feed an army! The 50-50 raffle was won by our own Peggy Walsh, with half the proceeds being donated to the "Mother's Cupboard" at Sacred Heart. The mother's relaxation gift basket was won by Dennis Browne, for his wonderful wife Kathy. A huge thanks to all who supported this endeavor.*

*The Plant Sale was also one of the Juniors' first fundraisers and a successful one as well! Thanks to everyone who purchased flowers for their gardens!*

## May Spotlight on...Bridget Kelly, LAOH Division 5 Member

My name is Bridget Ann Kelly, nee Murphy, and I was born July 28, 1937, and raised in Rathmore, County Kerry, Ireland. I was the fifth child and third daughter in a family of seven children born to Daniel and Julian Ann Murphy. My homeland, set in a rural area of the country dominated by farmlands, is located twelve miles northeast of Killarney. My education as a young child revolved around basic subjects, mathematics, Gaelic, reading, writing, history and religion. The one room schoolhouse concept was the vogue of the day. After the school day, my education continued in the household, assisting my mother. When I was eight years of age my father passed away. Life was not easy for the family however, everyone who could, pitched in and life went on. My upbringing in the Catholic religion, like many families in Ireland, was the gel that held the family together. While today the church is experiencing negative publicity, I continue to support the church and my belief's have not waned. As a young women growing up in Ireland, employment was a priority, but difficult to obtain. Emigration was the only salvation and I took that route. I left home and went to London, England. Following a few years in London I decided to emigrate again, this time to New York. I arrived in New York, October 1957. My first job in New York was with Basil Rathbone's family as a domestic. A better job came my way with Stouffer's as a hostess.

I was married in St. Joseph's Church, Astoria, New York, October 3, 1964. My husband, Jim Kelly, is a Division 1, AOH member. We have two great children, our son, Bill (Division 1 AOH member), and our daughter Maria, (LAOH Division 5 member). Being around the Hibernian family for many years, I decided to become part of that prestigious group, especially Division 5, LAOH. My decision to join was entirely my own. I am also a member of the Chester Red Hats, a group of ladies who enjoy lunches, plays and musical presentations together. However, my grandchildren, two teenagers in college and two very young lads, are my pride and joy. My life has come full circle, my family, my religion, my home.



---

### The Parent's Prayer *In honor of Mother's and Father's Day*

O Heavenly Father, make me a better parent. Teach me to understand my children, to listen patiently to what they have to say, and to answer all their questions kindly. Keep me from interrupting them or contradicting them. Make me as courteous to them as I would have them be to me. Forbid that I should ever laugh at their mistakes or resort to shame or ridicule when they displease me. May I never punish them for my own selfish satisfaction or to show my power. Let me not tempt my children to lie or steal. And guide me hour by hour, that I may demonstrate all that I say and do that honesty produces happiness. Reduce I pray, the meanness in me. When I'm out of sorts, help me O Lord, to hold my tongue. May I ever be mindful that my children are children and I should not expect of them the judgment of adults. Let me not rob them of the opportunity to wait on themselves and to make decisions. Bless me with the bigness to grant them all their reasonable requests and the courage to deny them privileges I know will do them harm. Make me fair and just and kind and fit, O Lord, to be loved and respected and imitated by my children. *Amen*