



# Ladies AOH

## Division 5, "Mary of the Gael"

### Division Happenings



Volume II, Issue 11 Division 5, Orange County, NY, Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians March 2011

Gail Cane -  
President & Editor



#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

#### Upcoming Events

Friday, March 25  
LAOH Mtg, 7:30 pm

Friday, April 1  
"Bunco Night"

Sunday, April 24  
Easter Sunday

Friday, April 29  
LAOH Mtg., 7:30 pm

Sunday, May 8  
Jr. Div. 5  
Mother's Day Brunch  
Monroe Irish Center

Friday, May 20  
LAOH Mtg., 7:30 pm

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**Traditional Irish  
Music Seisiun**  
Monroe Irish Center  
Sunday, 2- 5 pm  
(Call ahead)

**Irish Set Dancing**  
Monday nights, 7-9pm  
Monroe Irish Center  
(Call ahead)

Dear Sisters,

The month of March has been a whirlwind of activities; we kicked it off with Irish Day in Greenwood Lake. Thanks to all who supported this event, which raises money for the Mid-Hudson St. Patrick's Day Parade. Ladies Div. 5 helped sell raffles, answered the "SOS" for soda breads and scones, and the juniors were very much involved as they helped serve food all day! Thanks to Mary Luciana for putting together the Division 5 baskets for the raffles. What a great example of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity by all members of the Ladies and Juniors!

Then the big day arrived! Sunday, March 13 began with Holy Mass at the Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, followed by the Grand Marshal's Breakfast in honor of Ron Heppes. It was humbling to hear the tributes to Ron, a most deserving Grand Marshall. He truly exemplifies what a fine Hibernian gentleman is. Then as the clouds broke up and the sun began to shine, it was off to Goshen for this year's 35<sup>th</sup> Mid-Hudson St. Patrick's Day Parade. Our junior girls, as well as the ladies of Div. 5, made a fine group of Irish lasses! A special thank you to Patty Ryan, our second Aide to the Grand Marshal. Also, thanks to the ladies who worked **tirelessly** for the Parade Committee, especially Gail Edmonds, Patty Ryan and Mary Luciana.

What an honor it was for some of our ladies to march in New York City's 250<sup>th</sup> St Patrick's Day Parade. It was a glorious spring day and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue was bursting with spectators! We were invited to march with the United Irish Counties Association, which a few of us did; and one member marched with the Irish Heritage Festival Committee. We hope next year more of you will march in whatever organization you choose to celebrate and represent your Irish heritage! It is an experience like nothing else!

So as we wind down from our month of revelry, let us not forget the season of Lent as we prepare for His glorious resurrection. The message I heard this week at Mass is that we are disciples of Jesus. It is up to us spread His word by example. This, as Lady Hibernians, is what we do, as we live our motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity.

We are blessed in so many ways. May you and your family receive all of our Lord's grace this Easter season!

Yours truly in our motto,

Gail

**GOODWILL & WELFARE**

~Please keep in your prayers Div. 5 member Mary Widmayer (sister of Barbara Slifkin) who is in Mt. Sinai Medical Center; she is awaiting possible surgery at this time.

~Please keep in your prayers Cpl. Tim Jones, USMC, son-in-law of Gail Cane; his unit was recalled for duty a few weeks ago, and he is again deployed overseas.

**Mother's Cupboard, Sacred Heart Church**

If you can bring a jar or more of baby food (fruits & vegetables) to our next meeting, the Cupboard is in great need of these items. Thank you.

**Membership Dues**

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

**BUNCO NIGHT IS BACK!**

Please join us as LAOH Div.5 hosts Game Night at the Monroe Irish Center, on **Friday, April 1**. Doors open at 7 pm; games begin at 7:30 pm. "Bunco" and "Left, Right, Center" will be played, along with raffles and door prizes. Bring some friends. Ladies and gentlemen welcome! The cost to play is \$20, which will include light fare.. All proceeds will benefit LAOH charities. Don't miss a great night of fun and games. Contact Kathleen Metcalf at 914-262-7531, or Barbara Slifkin at 914-318-1508

**Chocolate Easter Houses**

Carrie Ann Mullahy, Div. 5 Treasurer, is taking orders for chocolate Easter houses. They are priced at \$12 and \$15, and are on display at the Hall. Please contact Carrie Ann to place your order at: [camullahy@hotmail.com](mailto:camullahy@hotmail.com).

**SHIRTS, SHIRTS, SHIRTS!!!**

There are still shirts available. If you haven't yet purchased a LAOH Div. 5 shirt, please see Kathleen Metcalf. She has a few left.

**JUNIOR DIVISION NEWS****Monroe Photo News, March 19, 2011**

The luck of the Irish is headed to soldiers overseas through these handmade shamrocks created by the young girls of the Junior LAOH Division 5 in Monroe. More than 100 shamrocks were personalized by each girl and were sent to a contact through AOH Division 1 member John O'Brien. The girls are now beginning another collection for troops as well as a project for veterans based at the Castle Point Veterans Hospital. Showing off some of their lucky charms are, in the front row and from the left: Grace Edmonds, Bridget Higgins, Caitlyn Higgins, Saoirse Moloney, Brianne Fallon, Megan Peterson and Tara Moloney. Back row: Siobhan Higgins, Abby Slifkin, Christine Scully, Megan Scully, Jessica Fallon and Emma Moloney.

**ANNUAL PLANT SALE**

If you plan on purchasing summer annual flowers for your gardens this year, why not support the Juniors who will again sponsor their annual plant sale. Orders are due no later than April 10. Order forms have been emailed to all Hibernian organizations so don't miss this great opportunity to support the girls while getting your summer annuals at a great price!

**Mother's Day – Sunday, May 8**

The Junior Division will be sponsoring their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Mother's Day Brunch on Sunday, May 8, at the Monroe Irish Center. Why go to expensive, crowded restaurants when you can be pampered on your special day by some of our fine young ladies. Last year's breakfast was a huge success so reserve your seats early. Please contact Gail Edmonds at [gailedmonds@frontiernet.net](mailto:gailedmonds@frontiernet.net) for reservations.



*MARCH MADNESS - A STORY IN PHOTOS*

*Division 2 Dinner Dance*



*Irish Day*



Grand Marshal Breakfast



Mid Hudson St. Patrick's Day Parade



New York City



## *A Bit of Irish History....."Tammany Hall"*

**Submitted by Kate Moloney, Irish Historian**

It seems that New York's Tammany Hall has always been synonymous with Irish political power. Tammany societies were created in New York, Philadelphia and other cities in and around the late 1780's. Tammany was seen as a working man's alternative to aristocratic clubs. Not surprisingly, Tammany members were more comfortable with the Jeffersonian political party than the comparatively upper-class Federalists, who had supported the infamous Alien and Sedition Acts in the 1790's. The most prominent citizen affiliated with Tammany's early days was a man named Aaron Burr, who organized Tammany support to become Jefferson's Vice President in 1800. By the 1820's, Tammany was a loyal ally of the Democratic Party, since Irish immigrants and other members of the lower classes were generally rejected by other political organizations, farsighted Tammany leaders recruited them to increase Tammany's power. Tammany members fought to abolish laws that allowed only affluent landowners to vote. They also opposed jail time for debtors and in 1828, supported Andrew Jackson for president. Jackson was seen as a hero to the common man. The fact that he was the son of Irish immigrants only made Tammany's appeal to the Irish, who could now vote, that much more apparent. When Tammany headquarters moved into a grand building on 14th street in Manhattan, the building became known as Tammany Hall.

The 1830's brought an increase in the Irish Catholic immigration with as many as 200,000 Irish entering New York City. Many immigrants went straight from the ship to a Tammany court with notes reading, "Please naturalize the bearer". As predominantly Irish wards were formed, Tammany spawned a broader social network. Saloons became important meeting places and volunteer firehouses established close ties to the organization. They served as places where ambitious urban men could prove themselves and perhaps even become political candidates. Meanwhile, Police Officers were appointed as Tammany officials. It would not be long before Irishmen dominated the NYPD.

Of course there was a downside to the Irish-Tammany alliance. The Irish often suffered because of widespread fraud and corruption. "Vote early and often" became a slogan affiliated with Tammany politics. Meanwhile the Democratic Party was the dominant party in the slave-holding South creating tensions between Irish immigrants and Black Americans.

For all of these problems, however, Tammany's appeal to a poor Irish immigrant was clear. It offered jobs, shelter, coal, and even food. These were deeply anti-Irish times, with nativism rampant in many parts of New York City. (In 1844 a member of the anti-immigrant American party was elected to Mayor). Tammany offered Irish Immigrants protection as well as a chance to survive and perhaps even advance in a strange and often hostile land.

