



Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Orange County, New York *"County News"*



County Officers

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Eileen Marsh Ternay**

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Mary Wingenter**

**Treasurer ~
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President ~
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Appointed Positions

**Chaplin ~
Father Robert Sweeny**

**Freedom for all
Ireland ~
Mary Pat Schwartz**

**Immigration ~
Gail Edmonds**

**Newsletter Editor ~
Gail Cane**

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Winter 2010



A Message from the County President...

As I sit and write my New Year's message to you, we have approximately 200 members in Orange County LAOH. As most of you know, we have a new Division 6 that was sworn in December 5, 2009. This is a great bunch of women, some with young families and some who are empty nesters. We were privileged to have Helen Murphy, Catholic Action, NYS LAOH to come and swear in Division 6. We all had a great opportunity to meet with her and to get to know her.

Mary of the Gael Junior Division 5 had their first meeting in January; for sure we will hear from them. Great news for the Pearl River Parade... the new Junior Division will be marching with Orange County LAOH, and hopefully Irish Step Dancers from Ladies Division 5 will join us as they dance in full costume at Pearl River.

I am getting around the county to swear in the different divisions, and I have had an opportunity to meet everybody. It is great to be able to put a face with a name. My message to you this New Year is, "Get your marching shoes ready." We have a lot of parades coming up. Pearl River Parade will be a big show this year for LAOH. With your participation in celebrating St. Patrick's Day, you will truly be celebrating our heritage.

"Finally, all of you, be of one mind, sympathetic, loving toward one another, compassionate, humble.

Do not return evil for evil, or insult for insult; but on the contrary, a blessing, because to this you were called, that you may inherit blessing."

1 Peter 3:8-9

In our motto,

Eileen Ternay,
President
Orange County LAOH

ORANGE COUNTY LAOH DIVISION NEWS

DIVISION 1

Division 1 hosted the St. Brigid's Mass at Sacred Heart, in Monroe, on Sunday, Jan. 31, 12 noon.

DIVISION 2

Division 2 participated in the "Adopt a Family" for Christmas program sponsored by Catholic Charities. Items of basic necessities were purchased for two families. One family was comprised of three people; the other family had four members. Items were purchased for the families in need and brought to Catholic Charities for delivery.

DIVISION 3

Div. 3 adopted two senior citizens for each of the annual Thanksgiving/Christmas Warwick Food Pantry Holiday Baskets. These overflowing baskets were greatly appreciated. On Dec. 12th, **Div. 3** members volunteered their time to wrap presents with the Warwick Lions Club. Donated gifts from local merchants are given to underprivileged children for themselves and their families for Christmas. Volunteers helped wrap gifts for the children. On Dec. 17th LAOH/AOH members attended the Grand Opening of the Blarney Station Restaurant in Warwick. Irish-born owner John will be giving discounts to all AOH/LAOH members with current dues card. It was a fun time for all! **Div. 3** is having a fundraiser to enable it to continue its charitable works as well as to help a Warwick resident Roy Chelson, NYC firefighter and first-responder at the 9/11 tragedy that needs our help NOW. Roy is suffering from Multiple Myeloma (cancer of the bone marrow) a condition attributed to first responders. **Div. 3** has collected hundreds of dollars in gift cards from local merchants to raffle-off. The prize will be a basket containing ALL the gift certificates/cards. The raffle will be held beginning December 28th and will continue until January 30th. Tickets are 6 tickets for \$5. The winning ticket will be drawn Jan. 31st. For ticket info please contact Lynne Koval at 986-8004. Please, help us "Help a Hero"!! On Dec. 19th, AOH/LAOH members sang Christmas Carols with the residents at Schervier Pavilion Nursing Home in Warwick. Santa, Patrick Colman, and his elves, sang Christmas songs, served punch and goodies, and handed-out gifts to the residents. It was a beautiful, fun-filled day for all.

DIVISION 5

Division 5 co-hosted U2 Nation, with Division 1 AOH, as a fundraiser to benefit "Our Father's Kitchen" at Sacred Heart Parish in Monroe. Together they raised \$600 towards the Soup Kitchen. **Division 5** held their first annual Christmas Party at Logan's Well. It was a successful evening with guests from both the ladies and Division 1 men attending. At the party, it was announced that Peggy Walsh accepted the division's nomination to be our first aide to the Grand Marshall in the Mid-Hudson St. Patrick's Day Parade. **Junior Division 5** is in the process of forming. Peggy Walsh, coordinator and Gail Cane, Asst. Coordinator, will be working with the girls in this new endeavor. This will be the only active junior division in Orange County. As of now, we have approximately 15 girls, but that number is expected to grow at their next meeting on February 7. The girls are sponsoring "Souper Sunday" at their next meeting where they will collect cans of soup to be donated to the local food pantry. Any girls in Orange County who are a practicing Roman Catholic, aged 6-18, of Irish birth or descent, are invited to become a member. Please contact Peggy Walsh at peggygriffin@frontiernet.net or Gail Cane at canelog@optonline.net for membership information. **Division 5** ladies are now active members of the **Mid-Hudson St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee**; Mary Luciana is Recording Secretary; Donna Goff is Treasurer as well as Chairperson of the Irish Rose Contest; Gail Edmonds is chairing the fundraising for the committee this year; and Janice Boyle is the Div.'s representative to the committee.

DIVISION 4

Division 4 is in the process of collecting recipes for our cookbook. Please send submissions to Mary Anne Garay, P.O. Box 37, Bullville, NY 10915 - 845-361-1725.

Division 4 is still offering tickets for "Luck of the Irish" Anyone interested should call Financial Secretary, Veronica (Ronnie) Murphy, 845-551-8560.

DIVISION 6

Division 6 became official on December 5, 2009. Their first meeting was held on January 23, 2010. **Division 6** would like to send out a warm greeting to all our sisters in the LAOH. We are a new division and we have many enthusiastic and goal-oriented members with wonderful ideas and plans for the year ahead. Our official meeting place is Orange County Community College. Orange County LAOH Officers attended a small luncheon to honor **Division 6** and was joined by Helen Murphy, a NYS LAOH officer from Rockland County who swore in the division. They will be supporting St. Patrick's Day with a celebration on March 14, 2010, to be held at St. Joseph's Hall in Wurtsboro. Some of the division members will work that charity. Food, Irish Step Dancing, music, singing will highlight the festivities. **Division 6** is also preparing to march as Hibernians this year.

MEET YOUR COUNTY OFFICERS

Mary Patricia Wingenter, Secretary, OCLAOH

I was born in Croom, County Limerick, Ireland, to Michael and Elizabeth Sexton. I am the middle child of seven and the proud daughter of an all Ireland Hurler, both for Limerick and Munster. Following my graduation from Rockhill National School, I immigrated to Liverpool, England. There I lived with my Aunt as I continued my education while working for Elder-Dempster Import/Export Shipping Company. My weekend enjoyment consisted of attending local Church dances and enjoying flavored coffees at the "Cavern" as I listened to the Beatles practice.

I immigrated to the United States of America in 1961, and to secure a Green Card worked as a Nanny for a very prestigious family in Westchester. Following an exciting and educating year caring for three small children, I continued my education at Teff Business School, Westchester College, and SUNY Cornell. My work experience and ethics afforded me job opportunities with Nestle, PepsiCo, Datago, and as Human Resource specialist for NYNEX/Bell Atlantic/Verizon, which I staffed while relocating nationalists to new developments in the UK and Thailand.

My husband and I were blessed with four children and three grandchildren. Having spent thirty years in Westchester, we moved in 2002 to Emerald Green, Rock Hill, NY. The majority of my time is now devoted to Church activities, fundraisers for the Church, the poor and the needy and as treasurer for St. Joseph's Ave Maria Guild.

Becoming a member of LAOH Division 4, Middletown in 2004, I soon held the office of Vice President and President. Being proud and true to my heritage and my LAOH organization, I actively participate in the annual New York City St. Patrick's Day and the Pearl River Parades.

In 2008, I organized and successfully hosted the first community celebration day at St. Joseph's Church in honor of St. Patrick and St. Joseph. The third annual event is scheduled for March 14, 2010, at St. Joseph's Church, Wurtsboro, NY. I was very instrumental in organizing Division 6 of the LAOH, and bringing that division to Orange County.

Therese Meyer, Treasurer, OCLAOH

I was born in Blackrock, County Cork, Ireland. As a small child, I immigrated to the US and was raised in Engelwood and Hillsdale, NJ. The family eventually moved to Greenwood Lake, NY. I attended Mount St. Vincent High School in Tuxedo Park and graduated from SUNY Geneseo with a BS in Business Administration. I currently am the Human Resources Supervisor for Physical Therapy Solutions.

My husband, Ken, and I have been married for twenty-six years and have two daughters that are college-age. One daughter is attending Hartwick College and the other SUNY Delhi.

I have held the position of Past President of LAOH Orange County. I was one of the founders of LAOH St. Therese Division in Middletown, where, as a member, I have served as President and held many other officer positions.

I am the Delegate to NYC St Patrick's Day Parade Committee for Orange County LAOH, and have organized the Orange County LAOH Annual Holiday Dinner for the past eight years. Proceeds from the event help needy families and various local charities.

Some other organizations that I am affiliated with are Town of Wallkill Lions Club, Special Children's Fund, Board Member and Advisor for the American Cancer Society, Chair of Goshen Relay for Life, Board Member for Making Strides Walk, Board of Volunteers for St Jude Hospital for Children, New England Charity Challenge, and a volunteer for Winslow Riding Academy.

I believe in our Motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity

*A LITTLE BIT OF IRISH HISTORY...**Celebrate the Feast Day of St. Brigid,*

On February 1st, we as members of the LAOH, celebrated the Feast Day of St. Brigid. It is believed that Brigid traveled around the countryside on the eve of her festival blessing the people and their livestock. Families welcomed Brigid by placing cake or pieces of bread and butter on their windowsills. In some parts of Ireland, an oatmeal cross was specially baked for the occasion. In addition, a sheaf of corn was often placed beside the oatmeal cross as refreshment for Brigid's favorite white cow that often accompanied her. Although many households were poor, the lady of the house would always try to prepare a festive supper or a tasty treat as a welcome for Brigid. Boxyt pancakes, apple cake, dumplings, and colcannon were parts of the welcoming supper. In some areas, a fruit bread called barm brack was served. Special crosses woven from reeds and rushes were hung over doorways as a sign of welcome. People hung handkerchiefs on their clotheslines, waving in the breeze a sign to Brigid of the welcome which awaited her. St. Brigid is second only to St. Patrick in the hearts of the Irish faithful.

This February 1st why not show your dedication to St. Brigid. Celebrate her Feast Day by doing a good deed or giving of yourself to those less fortunate.

Lynne Koval,
OCLAOH Historian

GOODWILL AND WELFARE**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

Pray for those in the LAOH who are sick:
Joan Cronin (Div. 2)
Patricia Brennan & Terry Meyer (Div. 4)
Evelyn Lynch & Brieger DeBold (Div. 5)
The mother of Fr. Robert Sweeny,
LAOH County Chaplain

REMEMBER YOUR FOOD PANTRIES

In these difficult economic times, please remember to bring needed items to local food pantries; some supermarkets are conducting "can-can" sales and you can pick up a few cans inexpensively.

**PRAYING FOR OUR MILITARY**

A new feature in our newsletter will be mention of any member who has a relative serving in the military; please remember in your prayers:

Lcpl. Tim Jones, son-in-law of Gail Cane, Division 5 Recording Secretary; he is serving with the US Marine Corp, stationed at Camp LeJeune, NC, and will soon deploy for Afghanistan. Gail's daughter, Melissa resides in Hubert, NC and is a former member of Div. 5.





LAOH MASS FOR THE DECEASED FOR 2010

The Orange County LAOH started 2010 with a Memorial Mass at Holy Rosary Church, Greenwood Lake. Rev. Robert J. Sweeney, Pastor, and Chaplain for the Ladies celebrated the Mass on Sun, January 17 for deceased members of the LAOH and their families. A luncheon for the membership followed at Murphy's Park Inn, Greenwood Lake.

Pictured are Officers of the Orange County LAOH for 2010:

Seated left to right - Jean Paukovits, Eileen Ternay, President, Anita Colman and Patsy McAteer

Standing left to right - Kate Swiatek, Deborah Finnegan, Lynne Koval, Mary P. Schwartz, Therese Meyer and Marie Cunningham

CELT OF THE YEAR

Father Robert Sweeney, Orange County LAOH Chaplain, will be honored on Saturday, March 13 as "Celt of the Year". The celebration will be held at the American Legion Hall in Greenwood Lake. For further information, contact Eileen Ternay.

Editor's Note:

If you have any information that you would like published in the next newsletter, scheduled for publication sometime in April 2010, please email your information to me at canelog@optonline.net. **The deadline for submissions for the newsletter is APRIL 15.** If you have pictures to be included, please send them as a "jpeg" file on an attachment to an email. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me by email or phone at 845-469-7022.

Thank you,
Gail Cane