

# Ancient Order of Hibernians in America

Kevin Barry Division
Division Three
P.O. Box 380 - Smithtown, NY 11787



## January 2025 Newsletter

| January  | 7  | <b>LAOH Division Meeting</b>    | Travis Hall  | 7:30pm |
|----------|----|---------------------------------|--------------|--------|
|          | 8  | <b>AOH Division Meeting</b>     | Travis Hall  | 7:30pm |
|          | 15 | <b>AOH County Board Meeting</b> | Division 7   | 7:30pm |
|          | 20 | LAOH Suffolk County Board       | Division 7   | 7:30pm |
|          | 21 | Joint Meeting                   | Travis Hall  | 7:30pm |
| February | 4  | LAOH Division Meeting           | Travis Hall  | 7:30pm |
|          | 12 | <b>AOH Division Meeting</b>     | Travis Hall  | 7:30pm |
|          | 17 | LAOH County Board               | Division 8/9 | 7:30pm |
|          | 19 | <b>AOH County Board</b>         |              | 7:30pm |

#### A LITTLE BIT O'THIS, A LITTLE BIT O'THAT

*Happy 2025 to All!* We have many events planned this year, Missions & Charities fundraiser, St. Patrick's dance, the Ladies 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, just to name a few.

Thanks to all who participated in our Deceased Members' Mass. It was celebrated by Msgr. Patrick Whitney who as usual said a wonderful mass. Jaime Ramos did a wonderful job as our vocalist and a special thanks to Mary Ramos who organized the church for the mass.

The first Breakfast With Santa was a success. The children were excited to see Santa, breakfast was delicious and there were many crafts.

This month the **ladies will be meeting at Jack Dolan's Pub for lunch!** It will be on Tuesday, January 21st at noon. Jack Dolan's is located at 296 Maple Ave. in Smithtown.

Save the date for the annual **Missions and Charities Fundraiser**... Saturday, February 8th. Karen St. John has been working hard to put another fun evening together in Travis Hall! Please see the enclosed flyer.

St. Brigid's Day will be celebrated on Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:15am in the chapel at St. Joseph's Academy in Brentwood. Lunch will follow at Division 2 in Babylon. Our division honoree this year is Karilyn O'Brien. The price is \$30.

St. Patrick's Dance The St. Patrick's dance committee is planning a great night on Saturday, March 8th from 7-11pm in Travis Hall. *The Ed Ryan Band* will have us all out on the dance floor! Come and celebrate our "2025 Hibernian of the Year--Dennis Adrian." The journal ad is enclosed.

It's not too soon to think about our scholarship. This year we will be sponsoring a new scholarship. Please read below:

# Together, the Ladies and Men of Division 3 are proud to announce a new scholarship in memory of long-time member, Nellie O'Neill.

Nellie served as Division 3 Treasurer and President and held the offices of Irish Historian and Treasurer for Suffolk County LAOH as well. Nellie chaired the AOH/LAOH Fundraiser for the Division Chaplain's newly built church and chaired the 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, and 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations of our LAOH Division. When she wasn't chairing events, she was a volunteer in setting up and cleaning up, and no event was complete without her famous soda bread.

Nellie organized Division scholarship programs for members' children and grandchildren entering college. She served as our Membership Chairperson for 31 years. Under her guidance and adherence to membership requirements, countless new members have joined our Division. To ensure our group's growth, she was said to have never left home without a few applications in her pocketbook.

Nellie and Mike spearheaded the design and distribution of the prestigious John Barry medals for more than 30 years on behalf of the Division. Nellie also demonstrated her love of culture and of the Hibernians by preserving our work in ten large photo albums replete with photos, news articles, activities and programs dating back to the Division's inception. She has also played a key role in fundraising efforts for many years by organizing and

selling raffle tickets outside of local supermarkets and churches. She also was an annual volunteer at the Parish Family Picnic.

Nellie was honored as Division Hibernian of the Year and named as a Suffolk County Honoree. She was a Division nominee for the NYS Mother Teresa Award and was a worthy recipient of the "Walking in the Footsteps of St. Brigid" Award from the Suffolk County LAOH.

Nellie's sister Hibernians will always remember her soft, lovely voice, the light in her eyes and smile on her face that compelled you to say "yes" to anything she asked of you. She was best known for her sage advice, her kind generosity, and shining example of humanitarianism. We have lost a dear friend to many and an irreplaceable treasure.

Please see the enclosed application.

### Congratulations to....

Mary and Charlie Herbert's grandsons George and James Ostensen who became Eagle Scouts on Saturday, December 14th. George's project was a 600 lb granite block containing steel from the World Trade Center and is on display in front of the VFW in Westhampton. James' project was sensory boards made from materials found in nature and displayed outdoors at the Quoque Wildlife Refuge.

Bring your pennies each month to the ladies' meeting so we'll have a generous donation at the end of the year for the **St. Francis Breadline**. As you sign in, you can leave them with Margie Connick.

Your Dues are due! Your dues are due. Feel free to pay at your meetings or you can mail your checks. Ladies, please send your \$30.00 check, made payable to LAOH Div. 3, to Mary Ramos. Men, continue to send your \$40.00 check, made payable to AOH Div. 3, to Matt McCrossen. For Mary and Matt's contact information email us at <a href="mailto:aoh3smithtown@outlook.com">aoh3smithtown@outlook.com</a> By paying your dues on time you continue to be a member in "Good Standing." This is also a good time to update your contact information (phone number, email, etc.) with your financial secretary

<u>To All Members</u>...if for any reason you change your telephone number, your address or email, please let me know so that you will receive the newsletter and get telephone messages when *Calling Post* needs to be activated. Please contact **Karilyn O'Brien** at: <u>aoh3smithtown@outlook.com</u> with any changed information.

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