

FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

**Ancient Order of Hibernians
151 Watertown Street
PO Box 11
Watertown, MA 02471**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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Division 14
PO Box 11
Watertown, MA 02471

FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER



AOH President's Message

It seems like it was just yesterday that we were celebrating the New Year and we're already into the second month of 2024. As we begin this new year, I look forward to hopefully seeing more members getting involved in Division business. As I have stated in previous messages, we have a core group of members that tend to do all the work. As the saying goes, "many hands make light work."

Things are going to hit fast as we move closer to the month of March. We will have the Irish Whispa performing in the Hall on March 3rd. On March 9th John Murphy will be hosting a talk about how to get started on tracing your Irish roots. On St. Patrick's Day we will be streaming Irish music and will have plenty of corned beef sandwiches for your consumption. We have been invited to march in the South Boston St. Patrick's Day parade, more information to follow. There is a Blood and Food Drive planned for Saturday March 30th. Our Annual Memorial Mass and Communion Breakfast will follow in the month of April. For more information on upcoming events please checkout our website, Facebook and email blasts to follow.

I know that we are still feeling the lingering effects of COVID. For some reason I don't think the Media, at large, wants the news of the Pandemic to go away. It is my belief that the fear-mongering the Media keeps putting out there is not mentally healthy for the public, especially those that are susceptible to such. I hope that cooler heads will prevail and as we continue to go about living our daily lives, we take all the necessary common-sense precautions to help keep ourselves and families safe.

Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,
Joe McCusker

LAOH President's Message

Dear Sisters,

January 31st is one of the most beautiful nights of the year - the Eve of St Brigid's Day - when so many customs & traditions are performed in anticipation & in honor of St Brigid's Day February 1st.

Some of these include placing new St Brigid Crosses in your house, gifting them to loved ones & neighbors, especially those in ill health; making St Brigid Dolls & gifting them, leaving a St Brigid's Cross in the window - or illuminated beside a candle or electric flame in the window; leaving a cloth outside for St Brigid to bless as she travels overnight to bless the Faithful or leaving water/milk/bread or other food outside for the homeless or hungry in the night (or for St Brigid herself to partake).

Regardless, if you do one or more of these, or read a book about St Brigid or listen to songs written about her, countless people across the globe will honor our saint & keep the lovely legacy of St. Brigid ongoing. Brigid woman of strength and gentleness, be our inspiration. Happy St Brigid's Day!

The next State Board meeting will be held in Worcester on Sunday, March 3, at 1:00 PM. If you would like to attend, please let me know so that we can organize carpooling. Our next monthly meeting will be held on Monday, March 11, at 7 PM.

Ham-O-Rama will be held on Saturday, March 23, 2024, at 6:00 PM. A separate email will be sent out seeking help from our members.

As always, please keep our brother and sister Hibernians in your prayers who are dealing with illness or hardship. If you know of a member who is not well, please reach out to me and Eileen Waldron so she can send a card and check in with that person.

Your 2024 membership dues are now due by April 30th. You can pay your 2024 dues by check. Please make checks payable to LAOH Division 14 and mail them to LAOH Division 14, Attention: Ellen Ridge, P.O. Box 11, Watertown, MA 02471. The dues are \$30 up to and including age 64 and \$25 for ages 65 and over.

In Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity,

DeeDee

UPDATES and NOTICES

AOH Membership Notice 2024 DUES

Regular Members pay \$55.00, Senior Members (age 65 plus and a member in good standing for at least 10 consecutive years) pay \$30.00. All Associate Members regardless of age pay \$55.00. You can mail your checks to A.O.H. Div. 14 c/o Rick Stacy, P.O. Box 11, Watertown, MA 02471. **Please see the insert below relative to incentives to pay early and/or on time. There will be penalties for late payment.**

LAOH Membership Notice 2024 DUES

2023 dues are payable NOW. When sending your dues please include your name, address, phone number and e-mail. This will provide us with an up-to-date listing. There are only two prices for dues, Members age 64 and below - \$30, 65 and over - \$25. You can make your checks payable to LAOH Division 14 and mail to Ellen Ridge, P.O. Box 11, Watertown, 02471.

AOH New Class

New Class coming in the month of February in memory of Richard Kelly.

Bartenders needed

Anyone interested in helping out as a bartender please contact Bobby McLaughlin, Vice-President/Steward, 617.448.3400.

Sick Members and/or shut-in

Contact Joe McCusker at 508.386.6438. For the LAOH please contact Eileen Waldron at 781.642.9250.



Please remember recently deceased

Leonard P. Schofield "Lenny" suddenly, January 9, 2024. Beloved son of the late Allen W. and Jean (Glynn) Schofield. Dear Brother of Susan Fowle and her husband Robert of Frederick, MD, John Schofield and his wife Donna of Winter Park, FL, Bonnie Schofield of Gardner, Timothy Schofield of Auburndale and the late Allen Schofield Jr. Loving uncle of Megan, Jessica, Stefanie, Matthew and Anthony.



Patrick J. Hanlon of Watertown, passed away on January 21, 2024. Age 98. Beloved husband of the late "Eileen" Ellen (Kissane) Hanlon. Loving father of Patrick J. Hanlon & his fiancé Denise Charette of Hampstead NH, Ellen M. Ridge & her husband Jim of Watertown, Rita B. Stacy & her husband Rick of Watertown, Kathy Cotone & her late husband Frank of Summerville SC, and Josephine Antonellis & her husband Rick of Sudbury. Dear brother of Bertie Hanlon of Ireland and the late Richard, Michael, Thomas, Sean, & Theresa Hanlon, Nora Horan, Mary O'Toole, and Eileen Lahiff. Loving grandfather of 15 grandchildren and many great-grandchildren. Also survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins, & friends.

Known Members currently in constant care/recovery

Dorothy Brown is currently being cared for at the Brigham House which is located at 341 Mt. Auburn St. Watertown, MA 02472.

Mary Flanagan is currently being cared for at Meadow Green Rehab and Nursing Center which is located at 45 Woburn St. Waltham, MA 02452.

Ellen Dupuis is currently residing at The Residence at Watertown Square 20 Summer St. Watertown, MA 02472.

Zita Callahan is now being cared for at Benchmark Senior Living at Waltham Crossings which is located at 126 Smith St. Waltham, MA 02451.

.Please keep these folks in your daily prayers.

Political Education Chair Message

In this month's update, I have a nice article on the status of the Legacy & Reconciliation Bill by [Paul Gosling](#). The widely opposed Legacy Bill is now enacted as the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Act, 2023. But it remains widely hated and the Irish government has launched inter-state proceedings against the UK administration. This is a clear and strong sign of how bad relations are between the two governments that are co-guarantors of the Good Friday Agreement.

From The Legacy Act comes the Independent Commission for Reconciliation and Information Recovery. While this body – abbreviated to ICRIR – investigates past events from the Troubles, the Act limits criminal investigations, legal proceedings, inquests and police complaints. The Act also extends the prisoner release scheme that was initially enacted in 1998. In addition, the legislation aims to provide “for experiences to be recorded and preserved and for events to be studied and memorialized”.

The Irish government’s inter-state case claims that the Legacy Act reneges on previous commitments entered into by the UK government through the Stormont House Agreement. In addition, that the legislation is not victim-centered; that it is not consistent with obligations under the European Convention on Human Rights, which is a cornerstone of the Good Friday Agreement; that it is widely opposed within Northern Ireland; that it allows for the granting of immunity; and that it closes down existing police investigations and civil actions. Ireland argues that the ICRIR investigations are not a substitute for properly resourced police investigations.

In the latest Holywell Conversations, Sara Duddy from the Pat Finucane Centre explains why it and the victims it represents will not cooperate with ICRIR. Coinciding with the establishment of ICRIR, the Centre has launched its own ‘Impunity Project’, through which families of victims of Troubles killings seek to challenge false allegations against dead relatives. In some cases – as with Bloody Sunday – the Army falsely accused the dead of being bombers or otherwise paramilitaries to ‘justify’ their killings. Families are now seeking two types of justice – to know the truth behind killings and to correct false allegations against dead relatives.

Peter Sheridan says that ICRIR hopes to be fully operational in the middle of this year and explains how it will proceed and how relatives of those who died, and also those seriously injured, will be able to raise cases with ICRIR. With such a wide array of opponents and critics of the Legacy Act – ranging from the five largest Northern Ireland parties to the Northern Ireland Human Rights Chief Commissioner, to the departing Victims Commissioner, to victims groups and to international human rights groups – it seems implausible that ICRIR will have an easy birth.

Rick Connell

Political Education Committee Chair for Division 14 Watertown

Financial Secretary Notes February 2024

As your Financial Secretary it is my responsibility to keep track of membership, distribute travel cards, and manage the key-cards used to gain entry into our member's lounge. Each month I use this space to highlight a different topic related to those duties. This month I have some happy and some not so happy notes. I'll start with the somber note.

Please keep these members and their families in your prayers: Connie Murphy, Lenny Schofield, and my father-in-law, Patrick Hanlon, have each passed away since the beginning of the year. Each will be greatly missed in their own way.

On a more upbeat note: I'd like to give out a great shout out to Ed Falter: I previously thanked him for his work updating the website to include a direct link to membership applications. I need to do that again as the responses via on-line applications have certainly exceeded my expectations. Over the last four months we have had 15 new membership applications and five new LAOH applications through the portal. Great job!

Another party: As I mentioned in a recent letter, we love to have pizza parties after initiating a new class of members. We have a big one coming up in February. We have about two dozen approved new members. I'm sure they won't all be able to make it to the February 8 meeting and initiation but it could be a big group. Come on down as we celebrate more growth for Division 14.

Calendar Program: There are still some AOH calendars available. If you buy a calendar, you can give the payment and registration slips to Joe or myself. They will then go to me so I can record and deposit the payment, then I will forward the registration info to Rick Connell who will track the winners. As always, our Treasurer, Dick Thompson, will then send the winners their checks early the next month.

Closing Note 1: Invite friends to see Irish Whispa at our open house March 3rd. It will be a great way to introduce prospective members to the Hibernians.

Closing Note 2: We are doing well on dues payments with about 72% paid but that still leaves about 75 members that have not yet paid the 2024 dues. The Discount period has ended.

Yours in Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity
Rick Stacy
Financial Secretary
Membership.AOHDiv14@gmail.com
(617) 575-9585

A Look Back At Irish History

7000 BC - Today



Images of Patrick Hanlon's 98th Birthday
Courtesy of Rick Stacy





Ancient Order of Hibernians
Division 14 Watertown
Presents



Local Band Irish Whispa
Will be playing in Hibernian Hall

Sunday, March 3, 2024
3 PM to 6 PM

Tickets are \$10

The event is *open to the Public.*
Tickets are limited and can be purchased
in advance at the Bar

Contact Rick Connell for more info
(860) 867-7866
Rconnellsr@gmail.com

FRIENDSHIP

CHRISTIAN CHARITY

UNITY



Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians

Invites you with free admission to our annual

HAM-O-RAMA

Saturday March 23rd, 2024

Doors Open 5:30pm Rounds start at 6:00pm

☘ Ham, Vegetables, Desserts & More ☘

☘ 160 Chances to Win ☘ Raffles ☘

☘ Cash Bar ☘

ALL ARE WELCOME TO BRING FRIENDS AND SNACKS

Ancient Order of Hibernian Hall
151 Watertown St. Watertown 02472



For more information contact: Dee Dee Walsh at dmwalsh39@gmail.com

RETURNING FOR ANOTHER NIGHT OF LAUGHTER AND FUN

FROM THE CREATOR AND STAR OF MISGIVINGS

Dave Kane's

JOKES MY IRISH FATHER TOLD ME



You'll have lots of fun, as comedian Dave Kane brings you a laugh filled presentation of jokes, one liners and stories that celebrate the warmth and resilience of the Irish sense of humor.

WHEN: SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024

**WHERE: HIBERNIAN HALL
151 WATERTOWN STREET
WATERTOWN, MA**

PRICE: \$20.⁰⁰ PER SEAT

CASH BAR, BYO SNACKS

DOORS OPEN @ 7:00PM

SHOW START @ 8:00

TICKETS: MIKE MORASH, NOELLE DALY, BOB DALY

CALENDAR PROGRAM 2024

1. CALENDAR PROGRAM 2024. Please note that we have our calendars in to start the Calendar program for 2024. The Calendar program is one of the ways we generate much needed funds for the Division to cover expenses and provide for donations to charities, etc. Please consider buying a calendar (many members give them as Christmas gifts) as it is a great way to support the Division and in the process have a chance to win some \$\$\$. The way the Calendar (Mass State Lottery) program works ...

a. Calendars may be purchased for \$50
b. You will have a 3 digit number on your calendar
c. If the 3 digit number on your calendar is the same as the first 3 digits of the evening daily number (exact order) you will win the prize allocated for that day (you have a chance to win every day). No need to call to receive your prize, we reconcile all the winners at the end of each month and automatically mail payments out typically within 10 business days.

- i. The prize money for Monday – Friday is \$50
- ii. The prize money for Saturday and Sunday is \$75
- iii. The prize money for Holidays will vary and are

identified on the calendar

d. You can purchase a calendar at the Members lounge – If you can't make it to the lounge you can mail a check in the amount of \$50 to Joe McCusker and I will send the calendar to your return address, details below.

- i. Joe McCusker
P.O. Box 11
Watertown, MA 02471

Note: make the check payable to A.O.H. Division 14 – remember to include your return address.

PLEASE NOTE CALENDARS ARE NOW AVAILABLE



Day of the week	Date	Time	Calendar of Events
Thursday	8-Feb-24	7:30 PM	AOH Division-14 Meeting
	14-Feb-24		ASH WEDNESDAY
Wednesday	21-Feb-24	7:30 PM	AOH Club Inc. Meeting
Sunday	3-Mar-24	3:00 PM	Irish Whispa performing in the hall
Saturday	9-Mar-24	2:00 PM	Trace your Irish Genealogy in the lounge
Monday	11-Mar-24	7:00 PM	LAOH Division-14 Meeting
Thursday	14-Mar-24	7:30 PM	AOH Division-14 Meeting
Sunday	17-Mar-24		St. Patrick's Day music and corned beef sandwiches in the lounge
Wednesday	20-Mar-24	7:30 PM	AOH Club Inc. Meeting
Saturday	23-Mar-24	5:30 PM	LAOH Ham-O-Rama
	28-Mar-24		Holy Thursday
	29-Mar-24		Good Friday
Saturday	30-Mar-24	9:00 AM	Blood and Food Drive
Sunday	31-Mar-24		Easter
Sunday	21-Apr-24	10:00 AM	Memorial Mass and Communion Breakfast

Please remember when renting the hall or Lounge as a member you must be a member in good standing (dues must be paid in full), pay with your own check and you must be at the function. The Members Lounge may be used for up to forty (40) people. For more than forty (40) the Big Hall is available. We love to see members renting the hall for all their family functions. Please note that the members rental fee for the Hall is now \$375 and for the Lounge it's \$100.


For more information please contact the Rental Agent at 617-710-8680. Also check out our web pages for photos of the Hall:
www.aohdiv14.com

FÁILTE!

We have classes for boys and girls age 4+ in your area!

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Facebook/osheachaplin
Instagram/osheachaplin
BostonIrishDance.com
osheachaplin@hotmail.com



Beginner Irish dance classes for children age 4 and up are held at Division 14 every Tuesday beginning at 5:15PM. For more information contact Lisa at the email address above.

**Please support these establishments
who have supported the Hibernians!**

Paddy's Pub
95 Elm St.
West Newton, MA
617-965-6444

Devlin's Restaurant
332 Washington St.
Brighton, MA
617-779-8822

Donohue's
87 Bigelow Ave.
Watertown, MA
617-924-4900

Copper House
380 Winter St.
Waltham, MA
781-890-8989

The Warren Tavern
2 Pleasant St.
Charlestown, MA
617-241-8142

O'Hara's Pub
1185 Walnut St.
Newton, MA
617-965-6785

Fit Z's Bar & Grille
451 Main St.
Watertown, MA
617-923-3969

Deveney & Sons
Monuments
Waltham, MA
781-891-9876

