

LADIES ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS "Our Lady of Knock" Division #87 – Organized February 4, 1992

May 2024 Newsletter

President's Message

Sisters,

I hope you have been enjoying the sunshine we have experienced occasionally during this month. I'm looking forward to soaking up some of the warm rays in the upcoming months. With thoughts of the beach and vacation it's time to start planning and maybe getting out for a nice walk to get into shape during physical fitness and mental health month.

During this month of May, we also celebrate Mother's Day, Cinco de Mayo, and Memorial Day where we honor our fallen soldiers who have given their lives for our freedom. As Catholics we dedicate the month of May to Our Blessed Mother and so we will be saying the rosary before our meeting on Tuesday, May 7th. Please join us at 6:15 either in person or via Zoom. We would love to have you join us! Remember to include in your intentions all our Family, Friends and Hibernians brother and sisters who are in need of our prayers.

There are only a few events coming up and they will be listed in the newsletter. If you can, be sure to bring a canned good or two for this month's charity donation to the Veterans. Also, there is a bus trip to the Phillies game on May 31st but don't delay since the bus will fill up quickly.

Our theme for food and beverages at the meeting will be festive so we can let loose and enjoy having a good time for Cinco de Mayo. If you have a favorite appetizer, feel free to bring it and we can all share in an amazing event.

Looking forward to seeing you all in person but if you are unable to make it or join us via Zoom (watch your email for the link).

I am wishing you all a Happy Mother's Day for whatever role you fulfill in the life of a child.

In Our Motto Maria



Shirley Poniatowski



GENERAL MEETING:

Tuesday, May 7th, 2024

Pray the Rosary - 6:15 PM

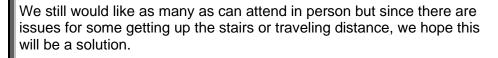
Meeting - 7:00 PM

3524 E. Thompson Street, Philadelphia, PA. Parking at Thompson and Tioga Streets. Please do not park in numbered spaces

WELOME TO THE 21st CENTURY LAOH DIVISION 87

If you have a phone, tablet , or computer you can now join us for our division meeting via Zoom.

Watch your email!!! The link will be emailed to you either the day before or day of the meeting.







PARKING UPDATE!!

As you are aware, Casbah Caterers has graciously allowed us to park in their lot at Thompson and Tioga Streets. Their only request is that we do not park in numbered spots as they are reserved for other neighbors. After parking, you had to exit through the main gate and walk around to Thompson Street. Well, this reporter has been told that a new gate has been installed that will allow you to walk out directly onto Thompson Street and put you closer to the Club.

THANK YOU CASBAH CATERERS!!!



- Kathy Annan
- Kate Centofante
- Bunny Clark
- MJ Hayes
- Nancy Jones
- Colleen Bowers
- Kathy Fanning
- Ed Halligan
- Dennis James
- Drew Kearney
- All the unspoken concerns we hold dear in our hearts



BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO OUR SISTERS!



Patricia Hanratty	12
Lorraine Quirk.	
Mary Slavin	16
Jackie Jones	18
Peggy Dickinson	24
Loretto Riley	

It brings us so much joy to celebrate your birthday with you. We pray that God blesses you and wraps His mighty arms of protection around you on this extra special day and forever.

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

2024 DUES ARE NOW DUE!

Please be sure to see Donna Kearney at the meeting to pay your 2024 dues. Annual dues remain \$25 for the year. Make checks payable to LAOH Division 87.

If you are unable to attend the meeting mail your dues to:

Donna Kearney 4540 Almond Street Philadelphia, PA 19137

You may also Venmo your dues to @LAOH-DivisionEightySeven. Be sure to include your name and "2024 Dues".

Please remember you must be a member in good standing in order to remain on the membership list.

UPDATE:

If you have paid your dues and need a new or updated dues card – reach out to Donna as soon as possible. Phone: (215) 915-3205 Email: kddfam@aol.com

L.A.O.H. DIVISION #87 NEWS AND INFORMATION

MEETING REMINDER

Our general meetings are held monthly on the first Tuesday of the month (except July and August). The meetings are held at AOH Division 87 located at 3524 E. Thompson Street, Philadelphia, PA. Casbah Caterers has graciously allowed us to use their parking lot at Thompson and Tioga Streets. As a courtesy, do not park in numbered spaces as they are reserved for neighbors.

The monthly general division meetings are to be held the same as a National Convention meeting, in that, for the sake of the general membership, there is to be no smoking or alcohol permitted during the meeting itself.

GOT ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

Please submit any newsletter items to Terry Welsh at <u>TerryLAOH87@gmail.com</u> or call 215.280.5992 no later than the 20th of the month for the next issue.

Please provide information on your family's joys and concerns so we can share them with all of our sisters!

IMPORTANT WEBSITES

LAOH DIVISION 87 - www.laoh87.com

LAOH PA STATE – <u>www.statepalaoh.com</u>

LAOH Division 87 Facebook Group – https://www.facebook.com/LAOH87 LAOH NATIONAL – <u>www.ladiesaoh.com</u>

ARE YOU ON OUR EMAIL LIST?

If you aren't receiving division email news, please send your email address to <u>TerryLAOH87@gmail.com</u> in order to be added.



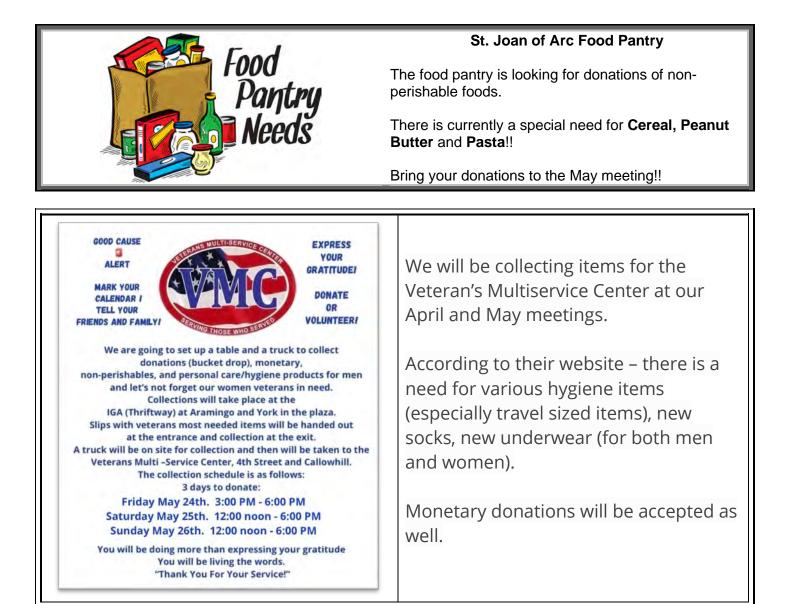
MISSIONS & CHARITIES COIN DROP!

There's no better time to clean out that purse, empty those pockets and lift those couch cushions!! Gather up all that spare change that is weighing you down and bring it to the meeting and drop off to Kris Bucko. Kris will accept the folding stuff too!

All proceeds benefit Columban Missions.

The LAOH has maintained a strong relationship with the

Columban Fathers and Columban Sisters. The Columban Fathers have been the primary charity of the LAOH since 1935, and the LAOH added the Columban Sisters in 2006. The donations collected help those that answered the call to mission and help facilitate their work across the world.



A REQUEST FROM OUR SISTER, NANCY JONES!!

Nancy is sharing this for a friend whose daughter's 21st birthday is coming up soon!!

Meg's 21st birthday is coming up and it's going to be an extremely difficult day for her to get through. Her fiancé, Teddi, was robbed and murdered in January, 2024. So, we've come up with an idea to help her! We're asking EVERYONE to send her a birthday card.

I am really hoping that she receives hundreds of them...enough to fill a BIG box that will be wrapped up and presented to her on her birthday! It will keep her busy!!!

Thank you so very much for helping us to help our child.

Cards can start being mailed ASAP to:

Megan Dawson; 4543 Worth Street; Philadelphia, PA 19124-3422



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Sr. Lisa Breslin, SSJ

"God writes straight with crooked lines." ~Unknown

This has been the theme of my days lately. Did you ever wonder how the lines of your life got crooked? Did you ever wish for a "Waze App" for your life? Did you ever dream about an easy way ahead? Sometimes the road is smooth; sometimes it's crooked and bumpy and filled with obstacles, but we continue on. How? Through our own wisdom and resilience, the help of friends, and the grace of God.

The Blessed Mother comes to mind in this context. Her life certainly did not go the way she thought it would, and I wonder what her parents had to say when she told them she was with child. We know she had deep faith and trust in God, but we tend to romanticize her life and imagine it all came easily. After all, she is the Mother of God. But...she didn't know God was acting in her life until the Holy Spirit told her.

About the Holy Spirit...the Spirit does speak to us, but it's hard to hear in the noise of everyday life. At times, I thought my mother was deaf. I'd call her: "Mom, mom, mom, MOM!!!!!" Well, she may not have answered but she heard me. Her response was, "you don't have to repeat or yell, just wait." That's the trick, just wait and the Holy Spirit will answer eventually, just like our moms. I like to think our Blessed Mother was impatient with God at times, as we were with our mothers. But like her, we wait uncomfortably, and God eventually answers and gives us the grace we need. The trick is to listen and look for the answer.

This past week I was extremely disconcerted about a decision that was made, and I felt a mixture of confusion, anger and sadness. I did not sleep well when I heard this news. The next morning, I said to God, "I need a word from you. Just one word." Silence and more frustration so I gave up. I sometimes read the readings for the day in the morning, so I opened the *Give Us This Day* App and read the gospel (John 14: 1-6.) This is what I heard when I read the passage: "Lisa, do not let your heart be troubled. Have faith in God and faith in me. There are many possibilities for you, and I'm taking care of things. What matters is that you stick with me. I am the WAY." The path of my life had become crooked because of human nature, but God made the crooked line a little straight, and I had hope and trust again.

Of course, this reflection is somewhat simplistic, and faith and life can be complicated, but the fruit of our efforts and God's grace will always be a blessing. That is what we profess as Catholic women. There is no GPS from God we can install on our phones and some days are extremely difficult, but we keep moving forward, in faith. WE WALK BY FAITH NOT BY APPS.

In our motto, Sister Lisa

STATE OF THE HEART



The next State of the Heart will be held May 28th, 2024 at 7:00 pm. It will be held at AOH 87 Hall (2nd floor).

State of the Heart is a monthly meeting facilitated by Sister Lisa Breslin. This is a space for meditation, prayer and sharing where you are at the present moment.

marifaln Case You Missed April's Irish History Report:

<u>TIR NA NÓG</u>

Tír na nÓg is one of the names for the Celtic Otherworld. It literally translates as "land of the young" and is considered either to be *the* Celtic Otherworld, or part of it. It is thought of as an earthly place which can only be reached through magic. In Irish mythology, it is depicted as an earthly paradise – sometimes a flower-filled meadow, sometimes a lush, forested wilderness – and unlike its heavenly counterparts in the folklore of other countries, Tír na nÓg is seen instead as a supernatural realm – or "otherworld" – where everlasting youth, health, beauty and joy are experienced by all who dwell there.

The inhabitants of the island of Tír na nÓg are the Tuatha Dé Danann which translates as "the folk of the goddess Danu". The Tuatha are a supernatural race who live in the Otherworld but interact with humans and spend time in the human world. This group is usually thought to be the gods of pre-Christian Ireland, and the god that rules over Tír na nÓg – usually named as Manannán mac Lir – is said to be the first ancestor of the human race and the god of the dead.

As the legends go, the residents of Tír na nÓg often invite humans to their realm, and it is from these invitations that many famous Irish folklore stories stem. The visitors reach Tír na nÓg in a variety of ways, from venturing across the seas in a treacherous days-long journey to entering via ancient burial grounds.

While it is a place of joy for those who live there, Tír na nÓg can be a dangerous place for humans, particularly those who remain there for a period of time that is a multiple of three, such as three days or years. So why would any humans visit such a place? Well, often they were tempted by the beautiful women of the island of Tír na nÓg. In folklore tales, the women often left Tír na nÓg and brought men back there.

Tír na nÓg is best known for the tale of Oisín and Niamh. Oisín was the son of the legendary Finn MacCool. Finn was the leader of the Fianna, and Oisín was, as well as a great warrior like his father, also a great poet. It is said that the great stories of Finn's battles that we know today as an essential part of Irish folklore were passed down through Oisín's poetry.

One day when Finn and Oisín were hunting around the Ring of Kerry, they stopped for a rest on a hillside overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, keeping one eye out for invaders. Soon, in the distance, they saw a white horse approaching them and on its back was the most beautiful woman Oisín had ever seen, with long golden hair that flowed behind her as she rode. That woman was, of course, Niamh, a name which translates as "radiance" or "brightness". She had been watching Finn and Oisín for some time and had come to earth to make Oisín her husband and bring him back to the Otherworld. Oisín fell in love with Niamh immediately, and although he was sad to be leaving his father and the rest of the Fianna behind, he was excited about a future married to Niamh, who was the very personification of her name.

They rode off together on Niamh's horse to Tír na nÓg, where they spent many magical months together. Niamh promised him that Tír na nÓg was a land of happiness where everyone lived forever and felt no sadness. While this was mostly true, Oisín did miss his homeland and his father, and longed to see him again.

After what seemed to be three years together in the Otherworld, Oisín begged Niamh to let him return to Ireland to see his father. She agreed and let him take her magical white horse to return earth-side to see his family. However, she begged him not to get off the horse, and never let his feet touch the ground or he would not be able to return to Tír na nÓg.

When Oisín arrived back in Ireland, he did not recognize the place, or any of the people. He came across some men struggling to move a rock and stopped to ask them where he could find Finn and the Fianna. The men replied that stories used to be told about the great warrior, his mighty son Oisín and the fearsome Fianna – but

that was a long time ago, and no one told such tales anymore. It was then that Oisín realized that time slows down in Tír na nÓg and rather than 3 years, it had actually been 300 years since he had last seen his father. To prove that the stories the men had heard were not just tales, Oisín said that any of the Fianna would have been able to pick up the rock with just one hand. He remembered Niamh's warning about not getting off the horse, so he leaned over to pick up the rock while still mounting the white horse – and fell off. His feet touched the ground and he immediately aged 300 years, becoming an old frail man.

Niamh's horse galloped away, knowing that Oisín could never return to Tír na nÓg and his love, and Oisín died soon after but not before he shared legends and stories of Fianna, his father the great Finn MacCool, and the magical land of eternal youth that is Tír na nÓg. And even today in Ireland, these legends live on.



Submitted by: Anne Foody, Division #87 Irish Historian April 2, 2024

See: https://www.celtictitles.com/blog/tir-na-nog/

https://www.irishcentral.com/roots/history/tir-na-nog-legend-eternal-youth



We will have some clothing items for sale at the May meeting from Joe Bradley

All are priced to go at \$5 each Quantities are limited ! If interested, please contact Maria Gallagher. Venmo @ Maria-Gallagher-26

Shamrock Jacket



They run really small. If you normally take an XL you will need a 2XL **Shamrock Hoodie**



Mary Mother of God

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May The Month of Our Blessed Mother

LAOH Division 87 c/o Terry Welsh 2817 Sellers Street Philadelphia, PA 19137