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Irish • Catholic • American

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HISTORY CORNER: HISTORIC CHANGE COMING?

Historic Change Coming to Northern Ireland? Maybe.

It has been more than a century since the British broke off 6 counties from Ireland and made them another country. It has taken decades, but there are indicators that Irish reunification may soon become a reality. Commentators point to the following:

The new president of Ireland is enthusiastic about reunification.

People in the North are upset about Britain's exit from the European Union.

Young people in N.I. want to be in the E.U. because it provides more opportunities.

The last census shows 46% of the people in Northern Ireland are either Catholic or were brought up Catholic, while only 44% listed themselves as Protestant.

The 1988 Good Friday Agreement ended most of the violence of "the Troubles".

Half the people of Northern Ireland now choose to use an Irish passport instead of a British passport (an option that came with the Good Friday Agreement, along with the option to hold a referendum on reunification).

Players from both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland now play on the national Irish Rugby team (seemingly a minor thing, but significant).

Many say that England no longer prioritizes Northern Ireland as an issue.

In most places, crossing the Irish border now is no different than crossing the Binghamton/Johnson City border. It is thought that such factors

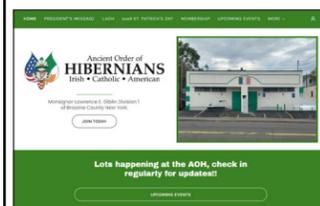
may bring about unity.

Others believe it will take a little more. A panel of scholars from Ireland, Northern Ireland, and London recently met to discuss reunification*. However, they noted that it is hard to mend bridges in a small country. They said that the pro-British community of N. I. must believe reunification will be better for them. The panel noted that priorities at this point may not be cultural issues. Main concerns involve matters such as housing, hospital, and health care. It was also noted that if the 6 counties were reunited, they would be the 6 poorest in Ireland. They stated that reasonable people must approach things in a reasonable way. There must be a plan, and at present there is not. The Republic of Ireland must make reunification a priority. There needs to be a civil dialogue and a policy put forward by the Irish Republic. The next 5 years are critical. In the panel's opinion, reunification will not occur with the beating of drums or singing of songs. But it could occur by 2030 with good planning. According to the panel, the people of Northern Ireland will say yes to reunification only when they can say... This is good for my family and me.

- Bill Burke

Sources: *How Close is Ireland to a Referendum on Unification YouTube '25, One Ireland? Christian Science Monitor '25, James O'Brian LBC 9.22'22, Fact CheckNI What religions are followed '25.

THE ALL NEW AOH WEBSITE IS HERE!



A big *Thank You* to our webmaster, Steve Cole, for the brand new site.
www.bcaoh.com

CORPORATION NEWS

We have a Board meeting on March 9th. Please continue to come to the hall to support our endeavors for the community.

In Our Motto,
Patrick Walsh

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Ian Haines
AOH President

Dear Brothers & Sisters,
The Holy Season is upon us! Lent and the High Holy days of St. Patrick's Day season have arrived, and we can feel the excitement in the air! The hall is buzzing with activity, and we hope that you will be able to come and enjoy the festivities with your fellow members!

Some of our upcoming events include: Parade Day! The Binghamton St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held March 7th. Before the parade of course is the Eucharistic Celebration in Honor of St. Patrick and the Deceased Members of the AOH and LAOH. The mass this year will again be held at St. Mary of the Assumption Church in downtown Binghamton

with a start time of 11:30 am. The parade will step-off at 1:30 pm. Please come and march with your respective division! The more people we have marching the more fun we will have and the better we will look! If you plan to attend the mass and the parade, please wear your sash! If you are unable to walk in the parade but still want to participate, the trolley will be available for those that would like to ride.

After the parade of course is the Seton Party where there will be lots of Irish Entertainment. Additionally, there will be music by John Tobias as well as food available at the hall after the parade, so stop down and enjoy!

Sunday March 15th from 8 am to 12 pm is the Irish Breakfast at the hall. This annual event is sure to be fun and delicious! A big menu will be served for only \$10 a person. Kids under 6 eat free! Please stop down that morning and enjoy a meal with your fellow members!

March 17th, the big day, St. Patrick's Day, there will be lots of activity going on around town and at the hall from flag raisings to live music, food and fun! Please stop down to any or all of the events and celebrate the big day!

Please come and enjoy all of our events and gatherings this month with your brothers and sisters at the AOH and LAOH and celebrate your Irish Heritage!

In our motto,
Ian Haines

Next AOH meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 10th, 2026

LAOH COUNTY BOARD

The month of March gives everyone a chance to celebrate their Irish Heritage in many ways with all the events and activities happening and will have wonderful memories to share.

Such as our beautiful Mass to honor our deceased members of the AOH and LAOH at St. Mary's Church at 11:30. The Parade will follow and then Seton and also activities at the AOH hall. Hope all can attend.

Thank you to everyone who helped or volunteered for the Irish Days at St. Thomas.

You can also walk in the Parade with your Hibernian brothers and sisters to share your pride as a member of the AOH and LAOH. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Our next County Board Meeting will be on March 3rd at 5:30.
In our motto,
Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity
Michele Talcott - President
607-349-8736

BROOME COUNTY LAOH JUNIORS

Join the LAOH Junior Divisions – Keep Our Traditions Alive!



celebrations. Junior members are encouraged to proudly represent their

We had a wonderful day at Irish Days. Thank you to everyone who stopped by our craft table. We truly appreciate your support and hope you enjoy your purchase!

The Saint Patrick's Day Parade will be held on Saturday, March 7. The day will begin with a beautiful Mass at Saint Mary's Church at 11:30 a.m., a meaningful way to start the

division by marching in the annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade, which begins at 1:30 p.m.

On March 15, we will be volunteering for the AOH helping with their breakfast and hope everyone will come out to support them. Our meeting will follow immediately afterward.

We warmly welcome young ladies who are Irish by birth, descent, or adoption, between the ages of five and eighteen, and who are practicing Catholics, to apply for membership. To apply, please contact the Division 2 Vice President or pick up an application at the Hall.

LAOH Division I and the Soup Committee would like to thank you for supporting our successful Ash Wednesday Simple Soup Supper!

We appreciate your soup orders, prayers for its success, and of course our bakers, soup makers and workers. Have a great Lent!



LADIES ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS



LAOH DIVISION ONE



Jaqi Kenefick
LAOH1 President

Well if are reading this you have survived the month of Febuary and it's many activities. I hope you and your families were able to enjoy them. Participation grows are sense of community.

MARCH is our heritage month. Celebrate with your Irish brothers and sisters.

March 5th B.C. Celtic Pipes and & Drums performing at the AOH at 5:15pm

March 7th Mass at St. Mary's Chruch. Officers please meet in the basement at 11:10am to line for the procession. There will reserved seats in the church for all LAOH members. Please wear your sash if you have one. Parade starts shortly after Mass. We will line up on Fayette Street, Hope to see you there.

After the Parade. There will be entertainment at Seton Catholic High School where you will be able to enjoy some of our Irish Coffee that we will be selling in the cafeteria.

At the AOH Hall John Tobias will be playing 2-4pm and 6-9 om Food will be available for purchase.

March 13 our monthly meeting. 6:45 for the rosary 7pm the meeting begins.

MARCH 15 Irish Breakfast at the Hall for 8am - 12pm. This event helps to pay for the mass. If you are able to provide scones, it would be greatly appreciated. If you were unable to sign up to help feel free to show up. Adults are \$10 Children under 6 are free.

March 17 Hall open all day. The Shambles playing 5-9 pm
March 18 -REST

It is time to start thinking about Woman Of the Year celebration. We will be asking for letters of nominations shortly. Details to be announced.

Attending a National Convention is a great way to meet your Sisters and Brothers from all over the country. Rooms are available at the Omaha Marriott downtown at the Capital District

If you were a lottery winner all checks will be in the mail at the beginning of March. If you do not hear from us there will be another opportunity to participate when the county has their lottery. Remember you have to be in it to win it

May love connect us, faith direct us and God protect us.

In our motto,
Jaqi Kenefick
607 206 6762 • Jkenefick1@stny.rr.com



LAOH DIVISION TWO



Susan Connors
LAOH2 President

Welcome to our newest member Bridget Nilsson, we are happy to have you and look forward to your participation. Thank you to LAOH Div. 1 for the beautiful St. Brigid's Mass and breakfast, it was an honor to bring forth the gifts.

February is always a fun month for those attending the Irish Heritage Dinner Dance. We were officially introduced to the Grand Marshal Joseph Mihalko, Maid of Erin Mikayla Walsh, Official Parade Starter John Eggleston and the Brian Murphy Community Service Award recipients Patricia and William Newland, congratulations to all! Thank you to Barbara

Button, chair of our division craft table at Irish Day and to the wonderful cookie and craft makers. A special thank you to Darlene Comeno and Marie Davenport for co-chairing the event.

March 7th is a busy day starting with the Mass for Deceased AOH/LAOH members at 11:30am, please plan to attend. AND, we are hoping for warm weather as we march down Court St after mass. Follow the green line to the AOH for music and fun, our AOH Brother John Tobias will be playing from 2-4 and 6-9. The fun continues throughout March with the AOH Breakfast on March 15 which helps to defray the cost of the mass. On March 17, why not attend one or both flag raisings: Johnson City at 9am and Binghamton City Hall at 11:30am, at night head over to the AOH for The Shambles.

We hope you will support our Good Friday Fish/Macaroni & Cheese Dinner on Friday, April 3rd (take-out only), reservation deadline is March 20th, call 607.772.0280, or sign up at the hall. Thank you to Debbie Burke for chairing this, please see enclosed flyer.

Deadline reminder for the LAOH Division 2 Scholarship in memory of Mary Curry is May 1st, (see the info & application flyer).

Cookie Luke is accepting payment for dues (\$30), please send a check with your card and a self-addressed stamped envelope to the AOH Hall, 148 Main St., Bing., NY 13905 to her attention or better yet, pay at the March meeting, Wednesday, March 18 at 7pm.

Please continue to pray for our Brother and Sister Hibernians and their families. Prayers and sympathies go out to our Sister Beth Mahar and her family on the loss of her brother, and the families of Kelly O'Shea and Barbara Gorman on their loss. "May your day be touched by a bit of Irish luck, brightened by a song in your heart, and warmed by the smiles of the people you love." Happy St. Patrick's Day...

Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,
Susan
607.727.2262 • sconners@binghamton.edu

PARADE COMMITTEE NEWS

"Parade Day" - Saturday March 7th

11:30 Mass at St Mary's • 1:30 parade starts
3:00-6:00 Post Parade Party at Seton.

St. Patrick's Day - Tuesday March 17th

Flag Raising 9:00 Johnson City and 11:30 Binghamton.

Thanks to all for your support in making the 2026 parade possible.
Enjoy the St Patrick Season.

BARTENDER SCHEDULE - MARCH 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1 Closed	2 Closed Firemen 6:00	3 Jeff W Joanie M County Board 5:30	4 Barb B Tom K Bar Bingo 5-7:30	5 Barb B Tom M Mass Practice 6:00 Prade Com 7:00	6 Charlie&Dick Cookie & Sylvia Pipers 5:15	7 Parade Day Mass 11:30 Hall Open 12:00 Parade 1:30 John Tobias 2-4 and 6-8
8 Closed	9 Closed Board of Directors 5:00	10 Mike C Sylvia S Men's Meeting 7:00	11 Tom M Craig W Trivia 6-8 \$5 a person	12 Kate H John T Morning Lark 7-9	13 Deb B Pat W LAOH Div 1 6:30	14 Hollie Open 3-7
15 Molly 11-5 AOH Irish Breakfast 8-12 Juniors 1:00	16 Closed	17 St Patrick's Day Flag raising JC 9 Bing 11:30 Hall open at 12:00 Shambles 5-9	18 Donald B Sylvia LAOH Div 2 7:00	19 Eileen R Donald B	20 Barb B Kathy B	21 Donald B
22 I Can Ride Fundraiser 2-6 Featuring Yada Yada 3-5 Tips donated	23 Closed	24 Pat H Jim B	25 Susan C Jaqi K	26 Susan C Tom M Card pick up night 4-7	27 Bill B Deb K	28 Diane D Open 3-7
29 Closed Parade Party 4-6	30 Closed	31 Jeff W Joanie M Convention Mtg 6:00	1 Barb B Deb K Bar Bingo 5-7:30	2 Barb B Tom M	3 Charlie&Dick Sylvia Good Friday LAOH Div 2 Fish Dinner 4:30-6:30	4 Matt F Open 3-7

Bartender shifts: 3-5:30 and 5:30-8. Saturday 3-7. Please call Cookie at 607-727-8161 if unavailable for your assigned shift and can't find a substitute.



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