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Irish • Catholic • American

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# THE CHIEFTAIN

Friendship • Unity • Christian Charity



JANUARY 2026 • WWW.BCAOH.COM

## FROM THE PRESIDENT



Patrick Walsh  
AOH President

### Greetings, Brothers and Sisters,

As this marks my final Chieftain article for the AOH, I want to take a moment to sincerely thank everyone who has helped shape me during my time within our Division and throughout my term. It has been an honor to serve, and I am deeply grateful for the guidance, support, and trust you have all shown me. Each of you has played a role in helping me grow as a leader, and I will always appreciate that.

As we move into a busy season at the hall with preparations for the parade and many other upcoming endeavors. I am confident in the strength and dedication of our membership. The work ahead will require teamwork and commitment, and I know our Division is more than ready to meet the challenge.

I would also like to congratulate and thank **Ian Haines**, who will be stepping into the role of AOH President. I pledge my full support to Ian as he assumes this office and takes on the responsibility of leading us into the next busy season. I have every confidence in his leadership and dedication to our organization.

As we move forward, it will truly be an all-hands-on-deck effort. Please join me in supporting our new leaders and all Divisions as we embrace the

next chapter of the AOH and all that it has to offer.

Thank you again for the honor of serving you.

In Our Motto,

Patrick Walsh

Next AOH meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 13th, 2026

## Congratulations to our new Presidents!



Jaqi Kenefick  
LAOH1 President



Ian Haines  
AOH President



Susan Connors  
LAOH2 President

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## HISTORY CORNER: WHO WAS PATRICK CARR?

### WHO WAS PATRICK CARR OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION?

We all know the names of the heroes of the American Revolution. They faced the ruling British at great risk to their lives and livelihoods. But one name has been almost forgotten. The name is Patrick Carr. If you ever visit Boston, you can see his name listed with four others on a monument at the Old Granary Burying Ground, on Tremont Street. The memorial is dedicated to the Boston Massacre of March 5, 1770. Patrick was an Irishman born in Ireland. He died after British troops fired into a crowd that day. Crispus Attucks, a man of African and Indian descent, died that night, as did English colonists Samuel Gray and James Caldwell. The following morning, 17-year-old colonist Samuel Maverick died. Irishman Patrick Carr died 9 days later. The Boston Massacre had a large impact on relations between the British rulers and the Americans. Colonists became even more weary of Britain's oppressive rules and taxation. The Boston Tea Party followed, and the first Continental Congress was soon formed. In 1776, the revolution broke out full scale.

But there is more to the story of the violent and lingering death of Patrick Carr. The British soldiers were put on trial for murder. Ironically, the patriot and future president of the U. S. John Adams, led the British soldiers' legal defense. It is said he believed everyone deserved a fair trial and the rule of law was essential to a worthy society. The trial was the momentous news of the day. Over 40 witnesses were called. At the trial, the crowd on the day of the event was referred to as a rabble, not even worthy of being called a

mob. Carr was referred to as an Irish teague and a papist, both derogatory terms of the day used against Catholics. The sensational trial was full of accusations, hearsay, name-calling, stereotyping, and irony. But the most interesting testimony may have been that of Patrick Carr. Although Carr had died, his surgeon, John Jeffries, testified on his behalf. The surgeon testified that Carr essentially forgave the soldier who shot him.

Another ironic element of the event was that the soldiers who fired that night had been drafted and recruited from Dublin, Ireland. The British often conscripted or recruited from the poor and hungry of the lands they ruled. It may have been that Carr was sympathetic to the soldiers who fired that night because he understood their plight. In any case, it was an extraordinary act of compassion. The British soldiers were found innocent of murder but guilty of only manslaughter. Their punishment was reduced to branding on the thumb, a common punishment in 1770. Still, the Boston Massacre remains one of the outstanding flashpoints of the Revolution. Patrick Carr, Irishman, American patriot, staunch supporter of compassion, and another example of the connection between Irish and American history. - Submitted by Bill Burke.

Sources: *Irishman P. Carr, irishboston.org 3.5.2023/ The Trial of the Soldiers, Tiverton Historical Society, masshist.org/ The Boston Massacre Trial, National Park Service, Adams/ Boston Massacre, History.com editors, 10.27.2009*

**Thank you to everyone that supported our Christmas Cookie Fundraiser.**

**We appreciated your support and we hope you enjoyed your cookies. Happy New Year!**

Mary Nowak, LAOH Division I and the Cookie Chix Crew.

## CORPORATION NEWS

Officers of the board now are President Pat Walsh, Secretary Tracy Wagaman, and Treasurer Rich Maloney. Repairs to the HVAC system are completed. Bands in March include: 3/6 BC Pipes, 3/7 J. Tobias, & hopefully the Phila. Pipes, 3/17 Shambles. If you need a sash, contact Kevin Brynes at 607 759 7715.

## LAOH COUNTY BOARD

I would like to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Installation of new Officers for the LAOH and Juniors will take place on January 4, 2026 @1:00 at the AOH hall. Please join us in congratulating them.

There are some events coming up in February: St. Brigid Mass on Sunday February 1st at 9:00 at St. Paul's Church.

Irish Days at St. Thomas February 28th.

I hope everyone can come and support these events.

Our next County Board meeting will be on March 3, 2026, at 5:30.

In our Motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity  
Michele Talcott, President 607-349-8736

## BROOME COUNTY LAOH JUNIORS

### Join the LAOH Junior Divisions – Keep Our Traditions Alive!

Our Junior members continue to inspire us with their unique creative talents, generosity, and joyful spirit. They truly put their special touch on everything they do!

At their December meeting, the girls welcomed new member Haley. They wrapped Christmas gifts for an adopted family. They also nominated their 2026 Officers. The meeting concluded with festive fun as the girls enjoyed making wreaths and exchanging gifts.

Congratulations to the nominated 2026 Officers:

President: Mary Grace Keenan

Vice President: Elizabeth Coyle

Secretary: Quinn Coyle

Treasurer: Mya McManus

Financial Secretary: Layla Blodgett

Historian: Ellody Kozel

Missions & Charities: Kathleen Keenan

Catholic Action: Elizabeth Lewis

Mistress at Arms: Mikayla Walsh

Sentinel: Haley Wagner

Immediate Past President: Mikayla Walsh

The installation of new officers will take place on January 4, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. at the AOH.

We are especially proud of Mikayla, who was selected as the 2026 Maid of Erin. Congratulations on this wonderful honor!

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, January 18, at 1:00 p.m. at the hall on Main Street.

Wishing everyone a very Happy New Year!

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 your Division President or pick up an application at the Hall.



# LADIES ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS



## LAOH DIVISION ONE



**Barbara Walling**  
President

Welcome 2026. Wishing you all a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Congratulations to our sister, Kathy Blodgett on being the recipient of the Immaculata Award given by the Diocese of Syracuse. She is a member of St. Paul's Church. A well-deserved honor! Kathy, you for all do for the church and the community.

Congratulations to our incoming officers for the 2026-2027 term. All are welcome to attend the Installation of officers for AOH, both LAOH divisions and LAOH Juniors which will take place on Sunday, January 4, 2026, at the AOH Hall at 1 pm.

December was a busy month with members truly living our motto. Our all-division Christmas party was an enjoyable evening. Thank you to Pauline LeStrange and her traveling keyboard and song leaders Sue Messina, Nancy Hyatt and Maggie Haines for leading the sing-along. Thank you to all the bakers, plate assemblers and those who supported our holiday cookie fundraiser. A special thank you for all who supported Wreaths Across America by purchasing wreaths or participating in placing wreaths at cemeteries in Conklin. A huge thank you for all who supported our December mission of providing hats, gloves, mittens, headbands, socks, hand and toe warmers, ChapStick, personal care items, etc., to fill stockings and gift bags for those at the Warming Center. Fifty recipients will each receive a gift bag and a Christmas stocking.

Dues for 2026 are now being collected and are \$30. You may pay your dues at our monthly meeting or mail a check for \$30 made out to LAOH Division 1, your membership card and a self-addressed stamped envelope to Eileen Zemek, 1960 Hawleyton Road, Binghamton NY 13903.

Our next meeting will be Friday, January 9th at 7 pm. We will say a decade of the Rosary at 6:45 pm.

Thank you for making my terms as President rewarding and inspiring. I am always amazed at the amount of generosity shown in support of our fundraisers or when collecting items for our charitable causes. Also impressive is how we show support or attendance at various events or fundraisers sponsored by the AOH, LAOH Div 2, LAOH Juniors or the Corporation.

In closing, kindness doesn't cost a thing, yet it's the richest gift you can give.

Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,  
Barb  
bwalling@binghamton.edu • 607-232-6367



## LAOH DIVISION TWO



**Deborah Burke**  
President

Congratulations to the 2026 LAOH-2 Incoming Officers:

President: Susan Connors  
Vice President: Deborah Burke  
Secretary: Kathleen Nilsson  
Treasurer: Darlene Comeno  
Financial Secretary: Clairann Luke  
Historian: Kelly Cole  
Missions & Charities: Elizabeth Mahar  
Catholic Action: Hollie Walsh  
Mistress at Arms: Lauren Hawley  
Sentinel: Deb Kennedy  
Grievance: Melissa Drabo,  
Diane Durgin-Sullivan  
FFAI: Margaret Tobias  
I&E: Michele Swan

The installation of the new officers for the AOH, Broome County LAOH, and LAOH Juniors will take place on Sunday, January 4, at 1:00 p.m. at the Hall. Please join us in congratulating the newly elected officers.

It gives me great pleasure to extend our warmest congratulations to the 2026 St. Patrick's Day Parade Officials: Grand Marshal: Joseph Milhako, Maid of Erin: Mikayla Walsh, Official Starter: Binghamton Police Investigator John Eggleston.

The Parade Committee is gearing up for the St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 7, 2026. Please consider placing an advertisement in the Parade Ad Journal—a wonderful way to promote your business or include a personal message. For more information, contact me at (607) 772-0280. Proceeds help offset the costs of sponsoring the parade.

The LAOH County Heritage Dinner Dance will be held on February 21 at Atrio Endicott, featuring music by Old Friends and the Broome County Pipe Band. This lovely evening includes a cocktail hour at 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner, dancing, and the introduction of the Parade Officials. Tickets are \$45. Deadline: February 7, 2025.

Please save the date for Irish Days on February 28 at St. Thomas Aquinas Church. Come enjoy Irish music, dance, delicious food, and Irish goods for sale.

2026 annual dues of \$30 are due in January. Dues may be paid at our January meeting or mailed by check payable to LAOH Division Two, along with your dues card and a self-addressed stamped envelope, to: AOH Hall, 148 Main St., Binghamton, NY 13905 Attn: Cookie Luke

Thank you to our members for the generous donations for Birthright, as well as for the delicious food shared.

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 21, at 7:00 p.m. Athbhliain faoi Mhaise Daoibh!

Happy New Year!

-Debbie-  
dburke8@stny.rr.com • 607.772.0280

## PARADE COMMITTEE NEWS

The 2026 parade is March 7th.

The Grand Marshal is Joe Mihalko, Maid of Erin Mikalya Walsh, Starter John Eggleston. Congratulations to all three.

The Dinner Dance is on February 21st and St. Thomas Irish Day on February 28th.

Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year from the 2026 Parade Committee.

## BARTENDER SCHEDULE - JANUARY 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
28 Funday Sunday 12:00-2nd half of second game Eileen	29 Closed	30 Cookie L Deb K	31 Diane D Pre New Years Eve party 1-4 Bloody Mary Bar Ball drop at 3:30	1 Happy New Year	2 Charlie&Dick Sylvia S	3 Matt F Open
4 Instillation of Officers 1:00	5 Closed	6 Jeff W Joanie M	7 Barb B Deb K Bar Bingo 5-7:30	8 Kate H John T Parade Comm 7:00	9 Deb B Pat W LAOH Div 1 6:30	10 Hollie W Open 3-7
11 Funday Sunday 12:00-2nd half of second game Tom C	12 Closed	13 Mike C Sylvia S Men's Meeting 7:00	14 Tom M Craig W Trivia 6-8 \$5 a person	15 Eileen R Donald B Pitch pickup 3:30-7	16 Barb B Kathy B	17 Donald B 3-9
18 Funday Sunday 12:00-2nd half of second game Molly M Juniors 1:00	19 Closed	20 Susan C John T	21 Donald B Sylvia S LAOH Div 2 7:00	22 Susan C Tom M Parade Comm 7:00	23 Bill B Deb K	24 Diane D Open 3-7
25 Funday Sunday 12:00-2nd half of second game Eileen	26 Closed	27 Pat H Jim B	28 Susan C Molly M	29 Barb B Tom M Morning Lark 7-9	30 Cookie L Deb K	31 Tom M 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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### RICHARD J. GRACE

ATTORNEY AT LAW  
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