



Hibernian Herald

**FEBRUARY
2026**



» MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE SYRACUSE, N.Y. ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS: COMMODORE JOHN BARRY DIVISION #2 «

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

...by Phil O'Neil,
AOH Syracuse Division President

Brothers,

Please join me in welcoming new AOH Syracuse Division member Kieran Coffey!

The Holiday Party and Officer Installation was held on Friday, January 9th, 2026. Attendance was 99 AOH & LAOH members, families, and friends, which was down a little because a couple of families were unable to attend as a result of scheduling conflicts and illness. Entertainment was outstanding with the Flyin' Column band and Irish dancers from the Francis Academy of Irish Dance. The Hotel staff members were great and the meal was first-rate, as always. AOH officer installation was conducted by AOH NYS President Tom Beirne and AOH NYS Past President Tom O'Donnell.

Officers installed:

- ☑ President: Phil O'Neil
- ☑ Recording Secretary: Bill Ryan
- ☑ Financial Secretary: Kevin Ahern
- ☑ Treasurer: Tim Lillis
- ☑ Chairman of the Standing Committee: Troy Murray
- ☑ Marshal: John Lyons
- ☑ Sentinel: Kevin Tooley

Awards presented to AOH Syracuse Division Brothers:

- ☑ Exemplary Service Award: Daniel Walsh (was presented at the January meeting)
- ☑ Recognition of Service Award: Michael Roche
- ☑ Geordy Austin Award: Thomas Ryan
- ☑ Past President Award: Michael Lehmann
- ☑ Hibernian Spirit Award (will be presented at the February meeting)

At the January meeting, a by-law wording change was made to the Donation section, with "feeding the poor" being added. The corresponding motion was put before the members in attendance, and the motion was seconded and carried unanimously. This by-law change will allow the division to sponsor fish dinners at The Samaritan Center in Syracuse every Friday during Lent this year. There will be details on the amount of this donation in the March newsletter. Thanks are in order for Brother George Lowe for leading this initiative.

Catholic Action: The Gingerbread Gallery take-down was on January 27th & 28th at the Erie Canal Museum. Thanks to the Brothers who helped with assembly and take-down.

Right to Life March: The march was Saturday, January 17th. Four Brothers from our division and four LAOH members participated, and the march had approximately 100 participants overall. The LAOH carried our parade banner during the march.

Apparel: Please check out the Papa's Sports website that is mentioned every month in this newsletter. There is new apparel available on the site's AOH Syracuse tab.

We have been invited by the AOH Oswego to march in their parade, which will be held on Saturday, March 7th.

Mark your calendar for the Syracuse St. Patrick's parade on Saturday, March 14th.

The Division should have the 300 \$15K raffle tickets available soon. An email blast will be sent to all members when the tickets are ready.

If you have any questions, comments, ideas, suggestions, or concerns, please contact me: theoneilgroup@gmail.com

Yours in Friendship, Unity, & Christian Charity, **Phil**

AOH SYRACUSE DIVISION MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD @ 7:00 PM

Marriott Syracuse Downtown
For info, contact Phil O'Neil: theoneilgroup@gmail.com

AOH members who pay their 2026 dues by Saturday, February 28th, 2026 will have their names entered into the 'Early Bird' drawing. The drawing winner will have his 2027 dues paid by the Division.

Chris Kane will be organizing the 2026 AOH Syracuse Division Family & Friends Golf Tournament, with assistance from Jim Egloff. The date of the tournament will be **Sunday, June 14th** at the **Tanner Valley Golf Club**. Cost and details are being finalized and will be available soon. It's not too early to start rounding-up hole sponsors so that our division can hopefully get some commitments from returning and potential new sponsors. Chris is looking for one or two more members to join him on the Golf Committee, so if you lend a hand, please contact Chris or Jim as soon as possible:

- ☑ Chris: christopher.j.kane@gmail.com / 315-382-7841
- ☑ Jim: jim.egloff26@gmail.com / 315-663-7330

AOH/LAOH Syracuse Division members are asked to provide any changes to their email address, phone number, or home address to Financial Secretary Kevin Ahern via:

- ☑ email: kevina78@hotmail.com
- ☑ phone: 315-468-6338

Also, if you've served in the US Military, but your membership card does not display 'VETERAN' on it, please contact Kevin to have your card updated.

Just a reminder that our division accepts payments via PayPal or Venmo. You can register for a free account on either platform and use it on your laptop/desktop or phone (with the free app). Once you've established an account, you can send your payment to our Division account:

- ☑ PayPal: AOH-Syracuse@gmail.com
- ☑ Venmo: @AOH-Syracuse-1

In your transaction details, please list the purpose of your payment (including the year that you're paying for, if dues-related). AOH Syracuse Division member Sean Conway has volunteered to help members set-up their PayPal accounts. Sean is available during the week (after 5:00 pm) or on the weekends, and his contact information is:

- ☑ email: sconway8675309@gmail.com
- ☑ phone: 315-243-0962

If you have information about sick or recently deceased AOH members, please contact Bob Bunce via:

- ☑ email: robertbunce2807@gmail.com
- ☑ phone: 315-546-6045

The **AOH apparel website** (from Papa's Sports) can be accessed via this URL/link:

https://www.papas-sports.com/ancient_order_of_hibernians

Please note that...

- ☑ Any orders in the queue at the end of each month will be produced and delivered in approximately 2-3 weeks.
- ☑ A shipping fee of \$10 will be charged to any members choosing to have their order shipped to their home address.
- ☑ Those choosing 'pick up my order' will be able to pick up their items at the next monthly meeting or can contact OH Syracuse Division member Kevin Tooley and pick up at his home.

For questions or more information, please contact Kevin via:

- ☑ email: ktooley@twcnny.rr.com
- ☑ phone: 315-398-9217

The CNY Irish Cultural Society has monthly social gatherings planned for members and friends for the craic and conversation. The gatherings are held on the second Friday of each month at Coleman's Authentic Irish Pub, starting around 4:00 pm.



LAOH

- ☑ **MEETINGS:** held on the second Tuesday of each month @ 7:00 pm at Nibsy's Pub (201 Ulster St. in Syracuse)
- ☑ **DIVISION OFFICERS:** Maureen Fogarty, President; Maureen Mullally Ferguson, Vice President; Kathryn Kelly, Treasurer; Jennifer Barclay, Financial Secretary; Eileen Tickner, Recording Secretary; Margie Miller, Missions and Charities Officer; Hope Cuddahee, Irish Historian; Liz Thomas, Catholic Action Officer; Kathleen Kenny, Mistress at Arms; Leslie Walker, Sentinel
- ☑ **MEMBERSHIP DUES:** Don't forget to pay your yearly dues; Make checks payable to 'LAOH' and send to Kathy Kelly, 5185 Boca Raton Way, Syracuse NY 13215
- ☑ **COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:** If you have comments or questions, contact Maureen Fogarty: 315-478-1096 / fogarty.maureen@yahoo.com

MUSIC & OTHER INFO

- ☑ **BILL KNOWLTON'S 'BLUEGRASS RAMBLE' RADIO SHOW:** Sundays, 9 pm to 12 am (Syracuse 91.3 FM / Utica 89.5 FM / Watertown 90.9 FM)
- ☑ **THE SYRACUSE KILTIE PIPE BAND IS SEEKING NEW MEMBERS.** For more information, contact Dan Walsh (dwalsh0817@hotmail.com).
- ☑ **THE TOM DOOLEY CHORALERS GROUP IS SEEKING NEW MEMBERS.** The Choraliers are seeking men who love to sing the popular songs of Ireland, and have been singing to promote Irish culture since 1962. Read music? Awesome! Don't read music? No problem! All their music is both printed and available with sing-along parts (learn by rote). Please visit www.choraliers.com for more information.
- ☑ **LIVE IRISH MUSIC CAN BE HEARD AT Kitty Hoynes Irish Pub & Restaurant:** 301 W. Fayette St. in Syracuse / www.kittyhoynes.com / 315-424-1974

DATES TO REMEMBER

- ☑ **2026 AOH Syracuse Division meeting dates (please note that all meetings will be held on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm, unless otherwise noted): February 3rd**
- ☑ **Friday, February 13th at 4:00 pm: CNY Irish Cultural Society monthly social gathering** / Coleman's Authentic Irish Pub
- ☑ **Saturday, March 14th at Noon: 2026 Syracuse St. Patrick's Parade** / Salina St. in Downtown Syracuse / www.syracusestpatricksparade.org
- ☑ **Sunday, June 14th: AOH Syracuse Div. Family & Friends Golf Tournament** / Tanner Valley Golf Club (in South Onondaga) / additional details will be available soon

Please pay your AOH Syracuse Division membership dues as soon as possible. Dues are as follows:

- ☑ \$40 for existing members age 60+
 - ☑ \$50 for existing members age 59 and younger
 - ☑ \$45 initial fee for new members age 60+
 - ☑ \$55 initial fee for new members age 59 and younger
- See Financial Secretary Kevin Ahern in person, pay via PayPal or Venmo online payment services, or send a check to:
- Ancient Order of Hibernians
Commodore John Barry Division
P.O. Box 11605
Syracuse, N.Y. 13218-1605

2026 AOH SYRACUSE DIVISION OFFICERS

- ☑ Chaplain: Father Tom Ward
- ☑ President: Phil O'Neil / theoneilgroup@gmail.com
- ☑ Vice-President: —vacant—
- ☑ Recording Secretary: Bill Ryan / bill13039@yahoo.com
- ☑ Financial Secretary: Kevin Ahern / kevina78@hotmail.com
- ☑ Treasurer: Tim Lillis / timothy.lillis@yahoo.com
- ☑ Chairman of the Standing Committee: Troy Murray / trizzle315@gmail.com
- ☑ Marshal: John Lyons / jlyons@lan-co.com
- ☑ Sentinel: Kevin Tooley / ktooley@twcny.rr.com

SITES OF INTEREST

- ☑ AOH Syracuse Division website: www.syraoh.com
- ☑ AOH apparel website: www.papas-sports.com/ancient_order_of_hibernians/
- ☑ AOH Syracuse Facebook page: www.facebook.com/aoh.syracuse
- ☑ AOH NYS: www.nyaoh.com
- ☑ AOH National: www.aoh.com
- ☑ National Hibernian Digest: www.hiberniandigest.com
- ☑ CNY Irish Cultural Society (CNY ICS): www.cnyicssyracuse.wixsite.com/cnyics
- ☑ Syracuse St. Patrick's Parade: www.syracusestpatricksparade.org
- ☑ IrishCentral news site: www.irishcentral.com
- ☑ Irish Family History Foundation: www.rootsireland.ie
- ☑ Irish Republican Book Shop: www.republicanbookshop.com
- ☑ Irish Echo online: www.irishecho.com
- ☑ Irish-American Heritage Museum: www.irish-us.org
- ☑ Irish foods/recipes: www.foodireland.com

As information becomes available, events and activities are listed on the 'Calendar of Events' page on our Division's website (www.syraoh.com).