



Hibernian



Herald

SEPTEMBER
2026



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

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

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

Brothers,
Please join me in welcoming our newest division member, Jody Manning!

The Scottish Games & Celtic Festival was held on August 8th at Longbranch Park in Liverpool. Except for a brief shower at about noon, the weather was great. The crowd seemed to be smaller than in years' past, which may have been due to the Games now charging \$20 for admission. We also now have some competition from other food vendors which may have affected our sales and profits. All that said, volunteer response was outstanding. The volunteers who stepped-up to work the food concession as cooks, order takers, and cashiers were as follows. Andy O'Hara, Jim Egloff, Dan Donovan, Ron Clare, Jerry Cregan, George Lowe, Sean DeZalia, Joe Kenny, Justin Schrock, Ross Kennedy, Paul Bonner, Dick Gosson, Chris Kane, Mike LaCasse, Mike Roche, Bill Ryan, Tim Lillis, Kevin Tooley, Rose Schiltz, Bern Tomeny, Chuck Tomeny, Paige Tomeny, Allen Smith, Tim Kissane, Bob Bunce, Brian Courtney, and me. I apologize if I missed anyone. Some Brothers worked on Friday from 9:00 am to Noon, loading grills and equipment and setting-up our concession at the pavilion at Longbranch. Saturday brought other Brothers, as well as family and friends to the event, for breakfast from 7:00 am to 9:00 am. The main menu was served from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Many Brothers worked different shifts on both days. Special acknowledgments go to Joe Schiltz and Tom Ryan. Brother Schiltz handles all the menu planning and food order placement. Brother Ryan handles all the logistics of equipment loading and transporting. Both pull extra duty behind the grills. A big shout-out goes to Brian Courtney for allowing us to use his pole barn to store the trailer, which was loaded with the grills and other equipment. That saves significant time and manpower as the trailer will remain loaded and ready to be transported to Clinton Square for the upcoming Irish Fest.

The next big event and fundraiser for the Division is, of course, the Irish Fest on September 11th & 12th. Setup and volunteering are a little different for Irish Fest. As mentioned above, the equipment is loaded and ready to transport. We set everything up on Friday morning. Set-up takes a little longer, as we have our large tent to put up, along with the equipment, tables, etc. You guessed it – volunteers are needed for that work! We begin food service about Noon on Friday until about 8:00 pm. Saturday is a full day, with food service starting at 10:00 am and going through about 8pm. We begin breaking-down equipment and loading the trailer starting at about 9:00 pm. There is a Mass at the main stage in Clinton Square in the morning on the 12th. An email will be sent out to ask for volunteers/confirm times on Friday and the Mass.

The winners of the prize money for the \$15,000 '300 Raffle' and 50/50 raffle will be drawn during the Irish Fest on September 12th. Those tickets are going fast. If you've been meaning to buy a ticket (or split one with a couple of friends or family members), now is the time! We anticipate that all 300 tickets will be sold by Labor Day. As the old NY Lottery jingle goes: "You've got to be in it to win it!". Thanks to George Lowe and Tom Ryan for leading the team of ticket sellers.

Brothers as you can see from the above paragraphs, the success of our Order depends on member involvement – whether by volunteering for events, by financially supporting events and initiatives, or by regularly attending monthly meetings. Input from members is extremely important. Members sponsoring new members is what keeps our division moving forward.

Periodically, we're asked where our fundraising monies go. The following is just a partial list of the recipients: The Catholic school scholarship program for elementary schools in CNY. The schools are Blessed Sacrament in Syracuse, Holy Cross in Dewitt, Holy Family in Fairmount, Immaculate Conception in Fayetteville, Most Holy Rosary in Syracuse, St. Mary's Academy in Baldwinsville, St. Rose of Lima in North Syracuse, All Saints in Syracuse (Tipp Hill), and partial scholarships to CBA and Bishop Ludden-Grimes. The Samaritan Center – this year, the Division donated all the food for fish dinners for Fridays during Lent. Others are the St. Patrick's Parade, St. Patrick's Church Irish Festival, Father Chaplin's Guardian Angel Society, and Freedom for All Ireland (FFAI). These organizations receive significant financial support from our Division, and there are other causes and organizations that receive smaller donations. There are other entities at which Division members volunteer their time. Examples of these are Francis House and Erie Canal Museum.

Special thanks to Brother Kieran Delay for his ongoing commitment to putting our monthly newsletter together.

Ideas and opportunities for the Order to raise funds, help in the community, and promote the Order are welcomed. 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, SEPTEMBER 1ST @ 7:00 PM

Marriott Syracuse Downtown

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

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

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

- ✓ email: kevin78@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.

You can access the **AOH apparel website** (from Papa's Sports) 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 AOH Syracuse Division member Kevin Tooley and pick up at his home.

For questions or more information, please contact Kevin via:

- ✓ email: ktooley@twcny.rr.com
- ✓ phone: 315-398-9217

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 CNY Irish Cultural Society has monthly social gatherings 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 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

- ✓ **BILL KNOWLTON'S 'BLUEGRASS RAMBLE' RADIO SHOW:** Sundays, 9 pm to midnight (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 have been singing to promote Irish culture since 1962 and are seeking men who love to sing the popular songs of Ireland. Read music? Great! 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 pm, unless otherwise noted):** September 1st, October 6th, Wednesday, November 4th, and December 1st
- ✓ **Friday, September 11th at 4 pm:** CNY Irish Cultural Society monthly social gathering | Coleman's Authentic Irish Pub & Restaurant
- ✓ **Friday & Saturday, September 11th & 12th:** Syracuse Irish Festival | Clinton Square in Syracuse | www.syracuseirishfestival.com

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: Deacon Bernie Feldman
- ✓ President: Phil O'Neil / theoneilgroup@gmail.com
- ✓ Vice-President: Ed Riley / watfrder@msn.com
- ✓ Recording Secretary: Bill Ryan / bill13039@yahoo.com
- ✓ Financial Secretary: Kevin Ahern / kevin78@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.cnyicsyracuse.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).