



Ancient Order of Hibernians in America

Kevin Barry Division
Division Three
P.O. Box 380 - Smithtown, NY 11787



January 2022 Newsletter

- January**
- 4 LAOH Division meeting**
 - 12 AOH Meeting**
 - 17 LAOH County Board meeting**
 - 18 Joint meeting**
 - 19 AOH County Board Meeting**



A LITTLE BIT 'O THIS, A LITTLE BIT 'O THAT



The Officers' Installation will be on Friday, January 7th at 7:30 in Travis Hall. Come support your new officers.



This year's Missions & Charities fundraiser theme is a Tartans & Plaids party. Save the date: Saturday, January 22nd from 7-11pm . Joe and Caitie will provide the music, \$20 donation. See the enclosed flyer.



The LAOH Suffolk County Board will be celebrating **St. Brigid's Day** on Saturday, January 29th with a mass at 11am and luncheon to follow at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Patchogue.



Division 2 will be commemorating the **50th anniversary of Bloody Sunday** on January 30th with an 11:10am mass. Irish breakfast to follow \$20, contact Jerry Belmont at jnlcbel@verizon.net.



SUPERBOWL POOL

It's time for Division 3's Superbowl Pool! Boxes are \$10 each and there is one winner with a final score prize of \$500. The profit of \$500 goes towards our scholarships. You don't need to know anything about football or betting. Just pick a number from 1 to 100, and before the Big Game you'll have a score to root for! Please email Brian Clancy at aoh3smithtown@outlook.com for further information. Get your numbers in soon before your lucky number is taken! The Superbowl is Sunday, February 13, 2022.



YOUR DUES ARE DUE! Your 2022 dues are due now. Feel free to pay at your meetings or you can mail your checks. Ladies, please send your \$30.00 check, **made payable to LAOH Div. 3**, to **Ruth Bedell**. Men **made payable AOH Div. 3**, to Rich Johnston. Please email aoh3smithtown@outlook.com for Ruth or Rich's address information.

Please don't forget how very important it is to keep your dues up to date as we have to pay per capita tax on each member and we need your dues to do this.

January is also assessment time. Your financial secretaries need to update their membership records. If you have moved, changed your email or phone number, please let your financial secretary know (Ruth and Rich).



“Wear Your Sashes” So, how many times have we heard this request in a Calling Post? What's that? Don't have a sash? No problem! If anyone is interested in purchasing a **sash** to wear for parades and other group events, please contact **Carol Clancy** at aoh3smithtown@outlook.com



In the spirit of Charity We are now in fall and the cold weather is quickly approaching the less fortunate in our area will be in great need. Margie Connick and Mary Heizman are collecting items for the local (and not so local) homeless among us. If you would like to donate any items, please contact these hard working ladies at aoh3smithtown@outlook.com



Do you travel a lot and take all those soaps and shampoos from the hotel? Anna Gallagher is collecting items to make wash up kits for St. Anne's Outreach in Brentwood. Bring what you have to the next meeting; it would be great if you could make up little kits, soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, etc.



Bring your pennies each month to the meeting so we'll have a generous donation at the end of the year for the **St. Francis Breadline**. As you sign in, you can leave them with Kara Flannery.

To All Members...if for any reason you change your telephone number, your address or email, please let me know so that you will receive the newsletter and get telephone messages when **Calling Post** needs to be activated. Please contact **Karilyn O'Brien** at: aoh3smithtown@outlook.com .with any changed information.

If you have anything to add to the newsletter...send your news, events and just about anything else you'd like to contribute to the newsletter to **Karilyn O'Brien** at aoh3smithtown@outlook.com Be sure to send your information before the 20th of the month to get it in the next edition.



NEED SOME HELP? *Celtic Connections*, the networking arm of the Nassau/Suffolk AOH/LAOH offers a multitude of services from your fellow Hibernians. There are accountants, computer geeks, energy conservation specialists, lawyers, home inspectors, real estate agents, electricians and a variety of other specialties. If you need any kind of service, start your search by going to thecelticconnections.com. This is what BUY IRISH is all about. Membership in the organization is a mere \$50 a year and all of that goes back to the member's county and division. Spouses of members are eligible as well and need not be card carrying Hibernians. Any questions about Celtic Connections should be directed to Brian Clancy at aoh3smithtown@outlook.com

Did you know.....?

Years ago in Ireland at the stroke of midnight on New Years Eve, the man of the house would recite:

***“May your nets always be full,
Your pockets never empty,
Your horse not cast a shoe,
Nor the devil look at you
In the coming year”***

To all, have a happy, healthy and prosperous new year.

Ancient Celtic Festivals

By Tom O'Reilly, Historian

Please pray for the continuing comfort of the sick



Please pray for the repose of the souls of the deceased

There are four Ancient Celtic seasonal festivals — like the four seasons of the year. They are called Samhain, Imbolc, Bealtaine and Lughnasa. Some are still practiced today.

The Festival of Samhain When Was It Celebrated?

Samhain was celebrated at the end of October. It marked the beginning of the darker half of the year. Why Was This Festival Celebrated? Samhain marked the beginning of the Celtic year. It was a time of endings and new beginnings. It was also the time when the living and the dead were at the closest. This was in preparation for the new life and growth coming in spring. How Did People Celebrate the Festival of Samhain? People remembered their ancestors at this time. People prepared lots of food for all of their family, even those who had died. They also tried to keep away evil spirits by wearing costumes and masks. There were large bonfires lit and people came together to celebrate.

The Festival of Imbolc When Was It Celebrated?

Imbolc was celebrated during the first week of February. Why Was This Festival Celebrated? This festival celebrated the beginning of spring. People celebrated the growth on the land and the new life. It was also a time to celebrate the Celtic Goddess, Brigid. How Did People Celebrate the Festival of Imbolc? People gathered together to light big fires and they feasted together. The fires represented the returning of the warmer weather.

The Festival of Bealtaine When Was It Celebrated?

Bealtaine was celebrated at the start of the summer. Why Was This Festival Celebrated? This festival marks the beginning of the brighter half of the year. It celebrates the beginning of summer. People hoped that summer would bring them healthy crops. How Did People Celebrate the Festival of Bealtaine? Great bonfires were lit in celebration of Bealtaine. The word Bealtaine means bright fire. People and herds of cows walked between two bonfires for good luck and good crops. During this time of year, witches and fairies were thought to be up to the most mischief.

The Festival of Lughnasa When Was It Celebrated?

Lughnasa was celebrated at the start of harvest season. This occurs at the start of August. Why Was This Festival Celebrated? Lughnasa marked the end of summer and the start of autumn. This was the time when harvesting began. During the festival of Lughnasa, people tried to please the Celtic god, Lugh. They showed him respect by

celebrating with food, dance and poetry. Everyone hoped for good weather and good crops! How Did People Celebrate the Festival of Lughnasa? Families gathered together to eat. Lughnasa marks the start of the harvest season and people ate the first meal of the new crop of the year. People lit big fires to celebrate Lughnasa.