

**Ancient Order of Hibernians  
151 Watertown Street  
PO Box 11  
Watertown, MA 02471**

**DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



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Division 14  
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**AOH President's Message**

Thank you to all the members who stepped up this year to make the Needy Family Turkey Shoot a success. Unfortunately I don't have all the particulars in front of me but I know there were a lot of people who stepped up this year. Much appreciated.

As we enter the season of Advent we prepare for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas. Most of us will light an Advent wreath symbolizing Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

Our Christmas season begins on 8 December, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, with many putting up decorations and Christmas trees and runs through 6 January, Little Christmas.

Nollaig Shona Dhuit – Merry Christmas

I'd like to start this year's Christmas message by asking all members, Ladies and Men, to please be mindful of our Hibernian motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity. I sometimes feel that we lose track of a key part of who we are and how we should be relating towards others. I'm fairly certain that we were all taught at a very young age to treat others the same way you would expect to be treated. This mantra directly relates to our Hibernian motto. The Holiday/Christmas season can be a joyous time for most but for others it can be a painful time of year. The recent loss of a loved one, a physical setback, a rift with family and/or a break in relationships with friends. We don't know what hardships may be going on with others we see on a daily, weekly or monthly basis. We all can make the extra effort to be attentive to others that we see during this Christmas season.

It was great to see the turnout yesterday for Paul Connolly's last day on the bar. On behalf of the membership, Paul we all wish only the best for you, Rose and family.

Please have a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Joe

### **LAOH President's Message**

Dear Sisters,

As we enter the Christmas season, there are many ways during Advent that we can prepare our hearts and minds for celebrating Jesus' birth. Keep in mind those who are alone or experiencing loss or hardship. Random acts of kindness can cheer up those you least expect. Even yourself. No matter what you do, remember the reason you are preparing. Ask God to guide you as you anticipate the coming of His birth. He is ready to welcome you.

Thank you to the members who were able to join in on our Christmas Service Project held on Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. We made 14 fleece blankets! We are putting together a list of our members who could use a warming reminder of friendship for the holidays. If you know of a member that would enjoy receiving a blanket, please let me know! We will deliver these beautiful blankets early December. We also put together goodie bags for the Children's Christmas Party being held on December 10 at 1:00 PM.

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, December 11, at 7 PM. We are planning to install new members. Sunday, December 3, the State Board meeting will be held in Lynn at noon.

As always, please keep our brother and sister Hibernians in your prayers who are dealing with illness or hardship. If you know of a member who is not well, please reach out to me and Eileen Waldron so we can send a card and check in with that person.

**2023 dues are now past due.** If you still have not paid your dues, please make checks payable to LAOH Division 14 and mail to LAOH Division 14, Attention: Ellen Ridge, P.O. Box 11, Watertown, MA 02471. The dues are \$30 up to and including age 64 and \$25 for ages 65 and over. **\*Please note the change of address to mail your dues.**

In closing, I wish you and your families all a happy and healthy Christmas.

In Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity,  
*DeeDee*

UPDATES and NOTICES

**AOH Membership Notice 2024 DUES**

Regular Members pay \$55.00, Senior Members (age 65 plus and a member in good standing for at least 10 consecutive years) pay \$30.00. All Associate Members regardless of age pay \$55.00. You can mail your checks to A.O.H. Div. 14 c/o Rick Stacy, P.O. Box 11, Watertown, MA 02471. **Please see the insert below relative to incentives to pay early and/or on time. There will be penalties for late payment.**

**LAOH Membership Notice 2024 DUES**

2023 dues are payable NOW. When sending your dues please include your name, address, phone number and e-mail. This will provide us with an up-to-date listing. There are only two prices for dues, Members age 64 and below - \$30, 65 and over - \$25. You can make your checks payable to LAOH Division 14 and mail to Ellen Ridge, P.O. Box 11, Watertown, 02471.

**AOH New Class**

Sometime early next year.

**Bartenders needed**

Anyone interested in helping out as a bartender please contact Bobby McLaughlin, Vice-President/Steward, 617.448.3400.

**Sick Members and/or shut-in**

Contact Joe McCusker at 508.386.6438. For the LAOH please contact Eileen Waldron at 781.642.9250.



## **Please remember recently deceased**



KELLY, Captain Richard 'Riche,' days short of his 85th birthday, of Watertown and his treasured home on Baker Road in West Yarmouth, passed peacefully on November 15 at North Hill in Needham, MA. Riche was the son of the late Michael and Katherine (Cannon) Kelly who immigrated from Ireland in the early 20th century. Riche was the youngest of 5 brothers: the late Watertown Police Chief Joseph P. Kelly (the late Kathleen), Francis Kelly, Vincent Kelly, and James (the late Priscilla). Riche is survived by his devoted wife of 52 years, Mary Agnes (Fitzgerald). He leaves his daughters and sons-in-law Maura and Gene Fredey (Winchester, MA) and Kate Kelly and Tony Macaluso (Arlington, MA) and three most-cherished grandchildren, Caroline and Julia Fredey and Harrison Macaluso.

### **Known Members currently in constant care/recovery**

Dorothy Brown is currently being cared for at the Brigham House which is located at 341 Mt. Auburn St. Watertown, MA 02472.

Mary Flanagan is currently being cared for at Meadow Green Rehab and Nursing Center which is located at 45 Woburn St. Waltham, MA 02452.

Ellen Dupuis is currently residing at The Residence at Watertown Square 20 Summer St. Watertown, MA 02472.

Zita Callahan is now being cared for at Benchmark Senior Living at Waltham Crossings which is located at 126 Smith St. Waltham, MA 02451.

Eileen Waldron is currently being cared for at Marist Hill which is located at 66 Newton St. Waltham, MA 02453. Eileen is expected to be returning home soon.

**.Please keep these folks in your daily prayers.**

### Political Education Chair Message

As I noted in last month's update, the passage of the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill into law sets 1-May-2024 as the date ending of all forms of criminal investigation. These include...

- Closure of inquests in the coroner's courts.
- No new criminal investigations or public inquiries.
- Prohibition on new civil claims.
- No further complaints heard against conduct of police (via the Police Ombudsman).

Much Legacy work is "in the pipeline" and most inquiries, civil claims, and petitions to the Police Ombudsman will certainly not be completed by the 1-May date.

There is optimism regarding Ireland suing the British Government in the International courts of law. However, there were initially 20 applications challenging various provisions of the Legacy Act, but [this has since been narrowed down to a handful of cases](#), which will be dealt over the next week. For more news on the legal actions, see articles "[Dublin to decide soon on legal action over Northern Ireland amnesty law](#)" and "[Police Ombudsman won't investigate 26 Troubles killings due to Legacy Bill](#)".

While this work is being considered, the actual mechanism if the shutdowns of investigations are starting.

*The week before Thanksgiving, the Office of the Police Ombudsman delivered 26 letters to the offices of Relatives for Justice which were addressed to 26 families supported by Relatives for Justice.*

*According to a report by ITV News, these letters were part of hundreds sent to families this week. They reported that Police Ombudsman Marie Anderson sent "over 200 letters to families to inform them investigations into the killings of their family members during the Troubles will no longer continue. A statement released by Relatives for Justice read: "Apart from the opening line of address each letter said exactly the same thing – that due to the Legacy Act the Police Ombudsman is not in a "position to investigate" their complaints.*

*"The letters are impersonal, not mentioning the name of the person killed during the conflict, or acknowledge that families may view this as an "unwelcome" development.*

On the FFAI front, check out the thoughtful article in the NY Times "[Is Ireland Headed for a Merger?](#)" which soberly discusses the prospects and challenges to forming a united Ireland. Yours in the Brotherhood,

Rick Connell

Vice-President & Political Education Chair [www.AOHDIV14.com](http://www.AOHDIV14.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/aohdiv14>

### **Financial Secretary Notes December 2023**

As your Financial Secretary it is my responsibility to keep track of membership, distribute travel cards, and manage the key-cards used to gain entry into our member's lounge. Each month I use this space to highlight a different topic related to those duties. This month I have some holiday season notes.

**Holiday Season means the membership discount period is still in effect.** You should have already received my annual Christmas Postcard – ok, it's just a dues notice, but I do hope you all have a happy holiday season and a Merry Christmas. Regular and Associate dues are \$55 (\$50 before Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>) and Senior Dues are \$30.

**We like to give out free Pizza:** Whenever we initiate a new class of members, we have free pizza. We do have ten current membership applications so we could have a pretty good crowd at the next initiation (possibly at the January meeting). All members are always invited to the meetings and it's especially nice when sponsors come down to welcome the friends they nominated. Keep recruiting and we'll be able to have more pizza parties.

**Calendar Program:** I'm sure it will be mentioned elsewhere in this month's bulletin, but this is another reminder that the AOH Calendars make great Christmas gifts!

**Closing Note 1:** During the Christmas season a lot of you will be going out to celebrate at local restaurants. If you have the opportunity, let the owner or manager know that you are a Hibernian. It may help when later in the year we (or maybe even you) approach them requesting future donations of gift cards or help promoting events by allowing us to post signs. This is even more important if you are at one of the places that advertise in our bulletins.

**Closing Note 2:** Merry Christmas!

Yours in Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity

Rick Stacy

Financial Secretary

[Membership.AOHDiv14@gmail.com](mailto:Membership.AOHDiv14@gmail.com)

(617) 575-9585

## December in Irish History

**The Battle of Kinsale (1601):** In December 1601, the [Battle of Kinsale](#) took place in County Cork ending the [Nine Years' War](#) between the Gaelic Irish lords led by [Hugh O'Neill](#) and the forces of English Queen, Elizabeth. The battle marked a decisive victory for English forces led by Lord Mountjoy over Irish and Spanish troops, effectively ending the old Gaelic order in Ireland leading to the subsequent exile of the Irish lords with the [Flight of the Earls](#) and the [plantations of Ulster](#).

**French Expedition to Ireland (1796):** The [French expedition](#) to Ireland in December 1796 was a military campaign initiated by the French Republic during the French Revolutionary Wars. The expedition aimed to support the Irish rebellion against British rule by sending troops and supplies to aid the Irish rebels. Led by [General Hoche](#) alongside [Wolfe Tone](#), the expedition comprised of 43 vessels and 14,500 men. The French forces faced Atlantic gales bringing blizzards that hid the shoreline. 36 ships arrived at Bantry Bay, Cork but could not attempt a landing due to the bad weather and so returned to France. The French lost 12 warships and 2,230 men in the expedition. In 1798, a veteran of the 1796 expedition, [General Humbert](#) successfully landed a small number of French troops near [Killala, Co. Mayo](#) where he was joined by local rebels. Humbert led his small force halfway across Ireland before being surrounded and defeated by superior British numbers. The 1979 novel, *The Year of the French*, by [Thomas Flanagan](#) was based on Humbert's invasion.

**The Anglo-Irish Treaty (1921):** Negotiations for the [Anglo-Irish Treaty](#) culminated on December 6, 1921, when it was signed between representatives of the British government led by Prime Minister, David Lloyd George and the Irish delegation led by [Arthur Griffith](#) and including [Michael Collins](#). [Éamon de Valera](#), the President of the Irish Republic was not part of the Irish delegation. The treaty established the [Irish Free State](#) and marked the end of the armed conflict of the [Irish War of Independence](#). The treaty, however, sparked a significant division within the Irish nationalist movement with one of the Irish signers, [Robert Barton](#), describing it "as the lesser of two outrages forced upon me and between which I had to choose". [Éamon de Valera](#) came out against the treaty as signed. Ultimately the divisions could not be bridged and led to the [Irish Civil War](#).

John JF Murphy  
Division 14 Historian





**Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM  
At Hibernian Hall, Watertown**

The AOH & LAOH is hosting its annual Children's Christmas party at the hall on 10-December. The event is open to children and grandchildren of members and is free.

Dance force will host the entertainment and feature snowball wrap, hula hoop, musical chairs, dance contest, line dances, etc.

Drinks, snacks and pizza will be provided for the kids.

Santa arrives after 3:00 PM and will provide a goodie bag for all the kids in attendance.

***Please note the last day to signup is Sunday  
December 3rd, we need to know in advance so we  
can plan accordingly.***

Any questions please contact Rick Connell at 860-867-7866 or email  
rconnellsr@gmail.com

Beautiful Nativity Scene in front of St. Patrick's



Paul Doucette job well done

Paul Connolly's memorable last day on the bar



## CALENDAR PROGRAM 2024

1. CALENDAR PROGRAM 2024. Please note that we have our calendars in to start the Calendar program for 2024. The Calendar program is one of the ways we generate much needed funds for the Division to cover expenses and provide for donations to charities, etc. Please consider buying a calendar (many members give them as Christmas gifts) as it is a great way to support the Division and in the process have a chance to win some \$\$\$. The way the Calendar (Mass State Lottery) program works ...

a. Calendars may be purchased for \$50  
b. You will have a 3 digit number on your calendar  
c. If the 3 digit number on your calendar is the same as the first 3 digits of the evening daily number (exact order) you will win the prize allocated for that day (you have a chance to win every day). No need to call to receive your prize, we reconcile all the winners at the end of each month and automatically mail payments out typically within 10 business days.

- i. The prize money for Monday – Friday is \$50
- ii. The prize money for Saturday and Sunday is \$75
- iii. The prize money for Holidays will vary and are

identified on the calendar

d. You can purchase a calendar at the Members lounge – If you can't make it to the lounge you can mail a check in the amount of \$50 to Joe McCusker and I will send the calendar to your return address, details below.

- i. Joe McCusker  
P.O. Box 11  
Watertown, MA 02471

Note: make the check payable to A.O.H. Division 14 – remember to include your return address.

PLEASE NOTE CALENDARS ARE NOW AVAILABLE





BARTENDERS  
NEEDED  
REGULAR SHIFT  
OR  
SPARE

No Experience Necessary!  
We Will Train!  
If interested, please contact Bobby McLaughlin  
at  
617.448.3400

<b>Day of the week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Calendar of Events</b>
Sunday	<b>3-Dec-23</b>	<b>12:00 PM</b>	<b>LAOH State Board Meeting in Lynn</b>
Sunday	<b>10-Dec-23</b>	<b>1:00 PM</b>	<b>Childrens Christmas Party</b>
Monday	<b>11-Dec-23</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>LAOH Division-14 Meeting</b>
Thursday	<b>14-Dec-23</b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>AOH Division-14 Meeting</b>
Wednesday	<b>20-Dec-23</b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>AOH Club Inc. Meeting</b>
Monday	<b>25-Dec-23</b>		<b>Christmas Day</b>
Monday	<b>1-Jan-24</b>		<b>New Year's Day</b>
Saturday	<b>6-Jan-24</b>		<b>Little Christmas</b>
Monday	<b>8-Jan-24</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>LAOH Division-14 Meeting</b>
Thursday	<b>11-Jan-24</b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>AOH Division-14 Meeting</b>
Wednesday	<b>17-Jan-24</b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>AOH Club Inc. Meeting</b>

Please remember when renting the hall or Lounge as a member you must be a member in good standing (dues must be paid in full), pay with your own check and you must be at the function. The Members Lounge may be used for up to forty (40) people. For more than forty (40) the Big Hall is available. We love to see members renting the hall for all their family functions. Please note that the members rental fee for the Hall is now \$375 and for the Lounge it's \$100.


For more information please contact the Rental Agent at 617-710-8680. Also check out our web pages for photos of the Hall:  
**[www.aohdiv14.com](http://www.aohdiv14.com)**

**FÁILTE!**

**We have classes for boys and girls age 4+ in your area!**

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*Facebook/osheachaplin*  
*Instagram/osheachaplin*  
*BostonIrishDance.com*  
*osheachaplin@hotmail.com*



Beginner Irish dance classes for children age 4 and up are held at Division 14 every Tuesday beginning at 5:15PM. For more information contact Lisa at the email address above.

**Please support these establishments  
who have supported the Hibernians!**

Paddy's Pub  
95 Elm St.  
West Newton, MA  
617-965-6444

Devlin's Restaurant  
332 Washington St.  
Brighton, MA  
617-779-8822

Donohue's  
87 Bigelow Ave.  
Watertown, MA  
617-924-4900

Copper House  
380 Winter St.  
Waltham, MA  
781-890-8989

The Warren Tavern  
2 Pleasant St.  
Charlestown, MA  
617-241-8142

O'Hara's Pub  
1185 Walnut St.  
Newton, MA  
617-965-6785

Fit Z's Bar & Grille  
451 Main St.  
Watertown, MA  
617-923-3969

Deveney & Sons  
Monuments  
Waltham, MA  
781-891-9876

