

NOVEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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Division 14  
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**NOVEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER**



**AOH President's Message**

The more I see what is going on around the World and even close to home it has become increasingly frightening to witness the lack of decency, moral conduct and respect for others. Rarely do you hear words spoken, such as, what can I do for you or what can I help you with today; instead it's what can you do for me. There is a sense of entitlement on the part of many with no capacity to comprehend beyond the moment. I was taught at an early age, as I'm certain many reading this were as well, that if you wanted something then you had to work hard for it, period. We are a Brotherhood born of the same Catholic beliefs that were instilled in us by our parents and grandparents. The Brotherhood we share will work as long as we are all on the same page and adhere to the same principles that we were taught and swore to.

Thanksgiving is a national holiday that is celebrated primarily in the United States and Canada as a day of giving thanks for the blessings of the preceding year. The observance of Thanksgiving can also be found in Grenada, Liberia, The Netherlands and Norfolk Island. The holiday in Grenada marks the anniversary of the U.S. led invasion of the island in 1983. Liberia celebrates the colonization of freed black slaves from the United States beginning in 1820. The Netherlands celebrates the day to commemorate the hospitality the Pilgrims received in Leiden on their way to the New World. The observance in Norfolk Island was brought there by visitors of American whaling ships.

Of all the American holidays, Thanksgiving is probably the one most open to personal interpretation. Thanksgiving, while certainly known for food and football, is first and foremost about giving thanks in whatever way you find personally appropriate. Across the nation, thousands of Americans will volunteer their time to help serve a meal to those in need. What does Thanksgiving mean to you?

Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,  
Joe

## **LAOH President's Message**

Dear Sisters,

The Thanksgiving holiday reminds us to practice gratitude. Research shows that people who practice gratitude every day are not only happier, but also healthier. Treating others, the way you would like to be treated shows gratitude and respect. Respect means that you accept somebody for who they are, even when they are different from you, or you do not agree with them. Strong people do not put others down, they lift them up. Let us practice gratitude and respect this holiday season by proudly living our motto of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity. Let's make a difference in our community. Thank you all for your dedication and commitment to our division.

Your generous donations last month to the Pregnancy Help resource center were overwhelming! Thank you for your support.

On Saturday, October 28, our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual craft fair was well attended and a great success. A huge thank you to Janice Aucoin, Noelle and Bobby Daly, Karen Bloomer, Janice Connolly, Denise McLaughlin, Mary Alice McMahan, Cathleen Morrison, Rita Stacy, and Carol Stockdale. They all did a fabulous job through their contributions and hard work.

On Sunday, October 29, our Ladies Division sponsored the coffee hour at Saint Patrick's after the 10:00 AM Mass. A big heartfelt thanks to Rita Stacy, Dianne O'Connell, Joan Duffy, Kathy Cunningham, Mary Ellen Hill, Janice Aucoin, and myself, for helping.

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, November 13, at 7 PM. We will be installing another group of fabulous women!

The deadline for the National Irish History Contest is fast approaching. All applications are to be sent to our Historian, Deborah Johnson, at her email address – [laohdivision14@gmail.com](mailto:laohdivision14@gmail.com) no later than November 15, 2023. Please feel free to share the information and reach out to Deb with any questions.

### **LAOH President's Message (Cont'd)**

Please join us on Monday, November 20, as we make fleece blankets for those who could use a warming reminder of friendship. We will also be assembling goodie bags for the Children's Christmas party to be held on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. Please bring sharp scissors.

Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 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 Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity,  
*DeeDee*

UPDATES and NOTICES

**AOH Membership Notice 2023 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 2023 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**

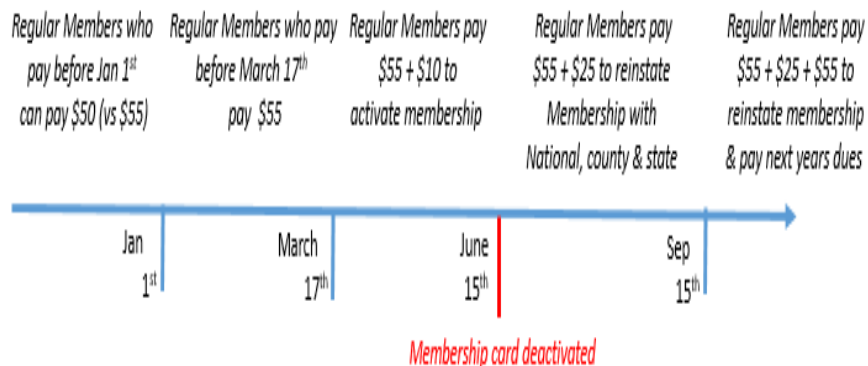
Sometime early next year.

**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.



**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**

I wanted to share some notes from a talk given by Dr. Cheryl Lawther in the School of Law at Queen's University in Belfast at BC on October 4<sup>th</sup>. She discussed the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill and the three challenges of failing to adequately deal with the past.

1. Failure to deliver truth and justice.

She reminded me that the only justice that victims have achieved to date have all been due to legal inquiries that corrected what turned out to be false narratives and conclusions by the British government. Examples of some facts determined following inquests include

- Daniel Hegarty – 09.12.11 ‘Daniel posed no threat whatsoever’
- Francis Rowntree – 17.11.17 ‘no justification for use of reasonable force’
- Marion Brown – 23.04.18 ‘force used not justified’
- Pat McElhone- 21.01.21 ‘shooting cannot be justified’
- Ballymurphy – 11.05.21 ‘killings unjustified’
- Thomas Mills – 13.05.22 ‘completely unjustified’
- Leo Norney – 03.07.23 Leo was ‘entirely innocent.’ Leo was deliberately killed by a Paratrooper

If this bill takes force as planned, it will end all other forms of criminal investigation on 1 May 2024. No new inquests and civil cases will be opened. Those underway will be closed. To put this in perspective, in 2023, there are 46 inquests outstanding relating to 79 deaths. The majority will not be completed by 1 May 2024. Over 1000 civil claims against MoD, NIO & other state agencies will not be heard.

2.. Unanswered questions from the Past will cloud the future.

She noted that aside from the individual cases that will cause individual family anguish, there are broader, more controversial questions from the conflict remain unanswered. These include

- Extent of collusion between state forces and paramilitary organizations;
- The fate and location of the remaining ‘disappeared’;
- Allegations of torture and inhumane treatment of detainees;
- The running and handling of informers;

3. Perpetuation of the culture of impunity.

There is already an ‘apparatus of impunity’ that runs from the conflict era to today. This includes the lack of prosecution of state actors; lack of disclosure by state, security forces and police; failure to co-operate with investigations; destruction of evidence, etc. Now, Northern Ireland will have among the most expansive post-conflict immunity laws in the world.

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 November 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'm making a few pleas for help.

**Valid email addresses:** It is VITAL that we have correct email addresses for our members! We have email addresses for about 250 of our 320+ members; that leaves out over 70 people. We have only gotten requests from about 20 elderly members to get monthly newsletters mailed to them through the US Postal Service. If you pick up this newsletter while you're at the club, that's great but there is still a lot you may be missing, including:

- Email blasts about upcoming events
- invitations to sign letters to your representatives about important Irish Immigration legislation with the click of a button
- information about valuable scholarships or awards (local and national),
- information about your dues, and more

If you notice that another member keeps asking you what's going on at the club, PLEASE ask them if they get the monthly newsletter. If they don't get the newsletter, don't just say 'oh, you should let Rick or Joe know', ASK THEM for their email address and send it to me.

**Dues payments:** I have gotten some 2024 dues payments already but the \$5 discount period ends on January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Regular and Associate dues are \$55 (\$50 before Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>) and Senior Dues are \$30. Early payment reduces the number of paper dues notices I have to mail, and therefore reduces division expenses. Please send in your dues even if you haven't gotten an invoice.

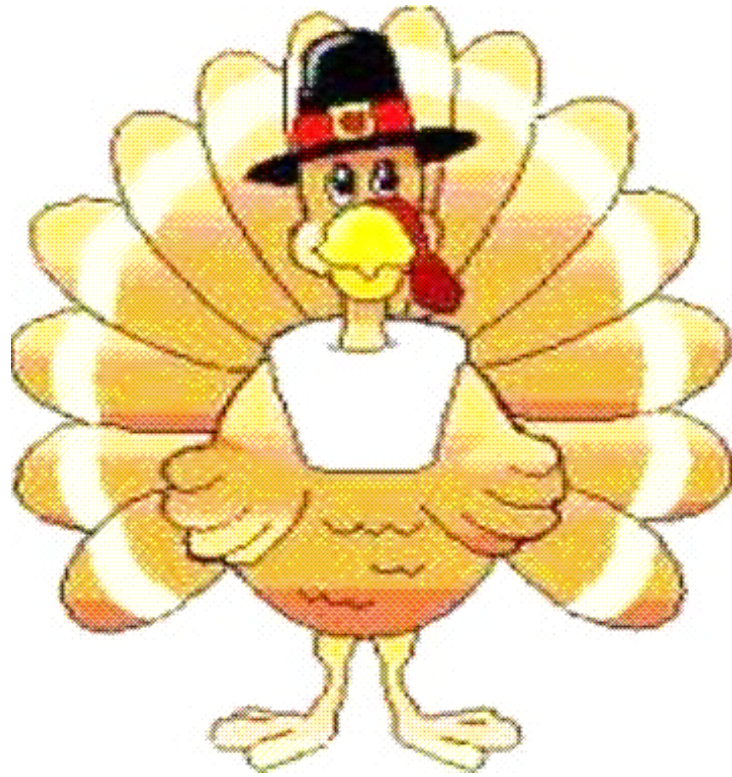
**Membership Date:** We like to recognize our appreciation for our long-term members, but due to multiple changes to the National Membership database we have a lot of missing information. Next time you send in a dues payment, try to make a note as to what year you were initiated and maybe even, who else was in your class.

**Closing Note:** Finally, on an unrelated topic, I'd like to thank a couple of our newest members for stepping up to help. Chris Ingemi was initiated during our October meeting and just days later helped out by greeting and checking in people as they arrived to our combination Book and Blood drive. Also, I overheard one of the other members that came in with the October class, I believe it was John Murphy, talk about how he would like to possibly become our Division Historian. We are always looking for more people to help out and these are a couple great examples of members stepping up. Thank you

Yours in Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity

Rick Stacy  
Financial Secretary  
[Membership.AOHDiv14@gmail.com](mailto:Membership.AOHDiv14@gmail.com)  
(617) 575-9585





AOH DIVISION 14  
151 WATERTOWN ST. WATERTOWN  
ANNUAL TURKEY SHOOT  
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 17, 2023  
DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM (**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**)  
CASH BAR  
ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE SONNY  
WHOOLEY FUND  
HELPING LOCAL FAMILIES IN NEED DURING THE  
CHRISTMAS SEASON



**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.

***Signup for each child at the Hall is required in advance to get an accurate headcount.***

Questions? Looking to help out? Contact Rick Connell at 860-867-7866 or email him at [rconnellsr@gmail.com](mailto:rconnellsr@gmail.com)

With Members of Division 9 Plymouth  
Brig St. John Memorial



National President's Testimonial Dinner



National Organizer Ryan Curry with Bertie Ahern



National President Danny O'Connell, Bertie Ahern and National Director Dick Thompson

## 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 WILL BE AVAILABLE SOMETIME  
WITHIN THE NEXT COUPLE OF WEEKS.



<b>Day of the week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Calendar of Events</b>
Thursday	9-Nov-23	7:30 PM	AOH Division-14 Meeting
Monday	13-Nov-23	7:00 PM	LAOH Division-14 Meeting
Wednesday	15-Nov-23	7:30 PM	AOH Club Inc. Meeting
Friday	17-Nov-23	6:30 PM	Turkey Shoot
Sunday	3-Dec-23	12:00 PM	LAOH State Board Meeting in Lynn
Sunday	10-Dec-23	1:00 PM	Childrens Christmas Party
Monday	11-Dec-23	7:00 PM	LAOH Division-14 Meeting
Thursday	14-Dec-23	7:30 PM	AOH Division-14 Meeting
Wednesday	20-Dec-23	7:30 PM	AOH Club Inc. Meeting
Monday	25-Dec-23		Christmas Day

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

