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Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc.

Organized in 1894



The Ladies sponsor a partial scholarship to Trinity College, Washington, D.C. At the 1986 National Convention, it was voted to add \$5,000 to the principal of our investment in order to increase the yearly allocation to the scholarship recipient.

At the 1976 National Convention, the Bicentennial Year of our country, as a gift of gratitude for the freedom offered by America to our ancestors, the Order donated a case to the Catholic University of America for the permanent display of the vestments of Archbishop John Carroll, the first Roman Catholic Bishop in the United States.

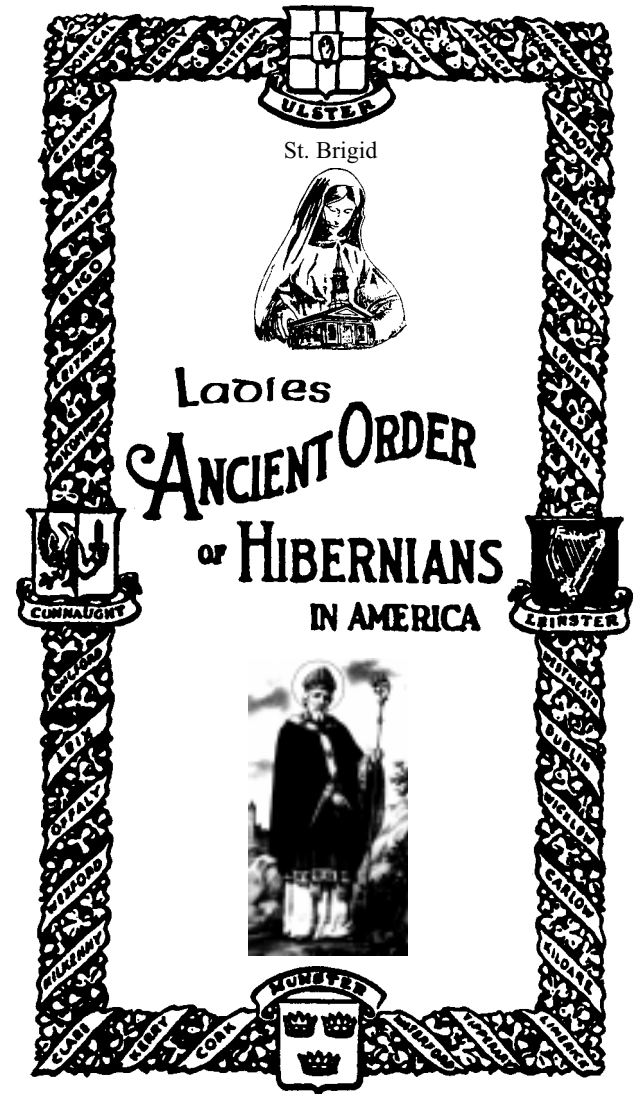
At the 1980 National Convention, the A.O.H. and the L.A.O.H. voted to fund a chair at the University of Notre Dame for the study of the history of the Catholic Church in the United States and the Irish contribution to that history.

At each National Convention the Order donates tens of thousands of dollars to the Columban Fathers, the principal charity of the Order. Through the years, the Ladies have contributed to the Valley Forge Freedom Foundation for the erection of a monument honoring the Irish soldiers of the Civil War, has erected a monument to the Nuns of the Battlefield in Washington, D.C. and has donated an altar honoring St. Brigid to the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington.

Today Hibernians are primarily a Catholic action entity. Our work in the beginning was the defense of our Holy Faith; today our work is the propagation of the Faith. Our work in the beginning with respect to Ireland was to defend our people against the prejudices and slander of bigots; today our work is to keep before our country and the world the fact that the Irish and their descendants are foremost among the people of the world in Faith, in patriotism, in a sense of justice, in the spirit of self-sacrifice in their love of true liberty and peace.

To those women of our Creed, who subscribe to our principles, aims and purpose, we extend a cordial invitation to join our ranks.

Issued by the L.A.O.H. National Board.



LADIES ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS, INC.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians in America, Inc. was organized in New York City in 1836.

The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians was organized in Omaha, Nebraska in 1894 as the "Daughters of Erin." The Order pledged itself to God and Country.

At the National Convention in Saratoga Springs in 1906, the Ladies received permission from the National Chaplain (Archbishop Farley of New York) and the National President of the A.O.H. to function as a separate organization. The name was changed to the "Ladies Auxiliary to the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America."

In 1984, at the National Constitutional Convention held in Albany, NY, the Ladies voted to change their name to the "Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians in America."

The primary purpose of the Ladies was to protect young immigrant Irish girls coming to the United States, to assist them securing employment, to give them the opportunity to be with girls of similar circumstances and to keep them from becoming homesick and discouraged.

The motto of the Ladies is "FRIENDSHIP, UNITY AND CHRISTIAN CHARITY." Our patron saint is Saint Brigid.

The preamble of our Constitution states that the intent and purpose of the Ladies is to promote Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity, to foster and sustain loyalty to the Roman Catholic Church and to the United States of America among its members, to aid and advance by all legitimate means the aspirations and endeavors of the Irish people for complete and absolute independence, and to foster the ideals and perpetuate the history and traditions of the Irish people and to promote Irish culture.

MEMBERSHIP

The LAOH membership is confined exclusively to practicing Roman Catholics who have complied with their religious duties within the past year.

To become a member one must be at least sixteen years of age, be a practicing Roman Catholic, Irish by birth or descent, legally adopted, the wife or mother of a Hibernian, the mother of a Junior Hibernian, or a member of a religious order.

STRUCTURE

The structure of the Order is by Division, County, State, District and National Boards.

ORGANIZATION

Fifteen women, eligible for membership, shall apply in writing to the County Board of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. In states with no County, the State President shall organize the Division.

In states not organized, organization shall be done under the direction of the immediate past National President. The expense of organizing is borne by the National Board.

A set of Constitutions and Rituals, fifty applications and other forms are furnished to a newly organized Division.

Divisions meet once a month. The officers are: President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Irish Historian, Office of Missions and Charities, Office of Catholic Action, Mistress-at-Arms and Sentinel.

The National, State/County and Divisions have the power of choosing their respective Chaplains.

ACTIVITIES

The National Office of Catholic Action encourages participation in all forms of Christian charity. Catholic Action is divided into three classes: spiritual, charitable and civic. She also coordinates donations to "Project St. Patrick."

The National Office of Missions and Charities encourages participation in the missionary work of the Church. This includes the Columban Fathers.

The National Irish Historian promotes the annual Irish History Writing Contest through States, Counties and Divisions to Catholic, public and private schools, and all other educational institutions to foster the interest of youth of the history of Ireland and its contribution to Christianity.

Divisions throughout the United States are engaged in the establishment of research and reference libraries in Catholic colleges and local libraries, sponsor grants and scholarship funds for seminarians, and organize retreat movements.

LADIES ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS, INC.

~ APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP ~

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Are you a Roman Catholic? _____

Have you complied with your religious duties within the last twelve months? _____

Please check qualifications for membership:

Irish by Birth _____ Descent _____

Wife of an A.O.H. member _____

Mother of an A.O.H. member _____

Mother of an L.A.O.H. member _____

I pledge the answers to the questions are true:

Signature of Applicant

Date _____

Parish _____

Occupation _____

Business Address _____

Date of Birth _____

Were you ever a member of the L.A.O.H. and if so, in what city/town and state? _____

What was the number of your Division? _____

What was the reason of your withdrawal? _____

Do you belong to any society to which the Catholic Church is opposed? _____

I heard about this organization through _____

SPONSOR: _____

Signature of Sponsor