



Dear Brothers,

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and I want to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year and prosperity in 2024.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday January 3, 2024 at 8PM. This will be my last meeting. Good luck to John Owen, President, in trying to beat the 28-minute world record for the fastest, productive meeting. I'm thankful for having great AOH members and a board that worked together. I believe in 2024 and years to follow will be great under the Division's upcoming leadership.

I want to thank Tom McHugh and many other past presidents for their guidance and support. The Division is only as strong as the members, Committee Chairmen and Corporation officers. I hope all the Committee Chairmen will stay on and assist John the way you did me.

I congratulate John and all the officers in their new positions. I will be around to help anyone when needed. I am thankful for the honor of leading the John P. Reilly, East Islip St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 3, 2024.

**In our motto "Friendship,  
Unity and Christian Charity".  
Shawn**

#### **President Elect's Message:**

First, I would like to thank the membership for giving me the honor of becoming your next President. I follow one of the most capable and knowledgeable Presidents this Division has ever had, Shawn O'Neill. Shawn possesses a quiet dignity that puts others around him at ease. A rarity for an Irishman, he is a man of few words, however, as his Vice President, he patiently

answered the hundreds of questions I asked in preparation of taking the reins. For that, I am grateful.

Hopefully, most of you know me from my monthly reports as Catholic Action and Pro-Life chairman for the last 17 or 18 years. If not, I joined the Division in 1990 and my dad, Jack Owen, was my sponsor. My dad was an active member. He volunteered on various committees but the one committee that I got to work with him on was the Grand Marshal's Ball. My dad, Gerry Brennan, Marty Conway and I organized and set up three Grand Marshal Balls in the St. Mary auditorium at the end of the 5:00 Mass. Tables and chairs were brought in, bars set up as hot food was brought down the ramp in order to get the Ball started by 7:00 pm.. Volunteers, as they do today, made an impossible task possible for a successful Ball. My dad joined the Color Guard in 1992 and even though I was playing the bagpipes with the Nassau Police, I had the opportunity to play with the Roisin Dubh Pipe Band on several occasions. My dad's first and last NYC St. Patrick's Day was in 1992 as he sadly passed a month later.

Some of the best times I shared with my dad were at AOH activities. After his passing my interest in the Division waned, my only involvement was just keeping my membership current. That changed when my friend, Dan Kissane, became President. I attended more and more meetings until finally asking Dan how I could become an Officer. That was the beginning of my journey up the chairs.

I promise, as former President Jim Ryan and lifetime member use to say, "comport myself as a fine Irish gentleman" and continue the

traditions of Friendship, Unity & Charity.

**President Elect,  
John Owen**

## **Junior Boys**

We hope all of our Junior Boys & their families had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We will be having our monthly meeting on January 8th at the Hall. Preparations will begin for our upcoming Installation of Officers which will take place on Saturday, January 20th. All Junior Boys, along with their families are invited to attend. February's meeting is anticipated to be on February 12th. Be sure that Jason Holm has your contact information so you can be kept up to date with the upcoming events. Save the date: Sunday, March 3rd for our 59th Annual East Islip John P. Reilly St. Patrick's Day Parade.

We are always looking to expand our Junior Boys membership. If you know a boy, between the ages of 8-18, who is looking to join our organization, please contact John Hanley at (631) 766-2636 or Jason Holm at (631) 358-3935. Becoming a Junior Boy allows them to participate in community service, helping our community in various ways. Community service hours for school and or religious efforts such as Honor Society or Confirmation can be obtained as well. We welcome new members throughout the year.

2023 was a successful restart for our Division 7 Junior Boys and we look forward to watching them continue in our motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity!

**In our Motto,  
John and Jason**

## **L.A.O.H.**

Dear Sisters, I hope you all had a wonderful and blessed Christmas season. Thank you, Chris Brogan and Alie Gray-Barba for once again hosting a very successful 400 Club Raffle. We will continue to work on raising money for the many charities we support annually.

Thank you to all the ladies who helped decorate our beautiful Hall for the Christmas season. Our dues for 2024 will be \$45 and are now being accepted. If you would like to mail your dues card with your payment and have it signed and returned, please enclose a self-addressed envelope with your payment and the card will be updated and mailed back to you. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your dues, please email our Financial Secretary at [LAOHDiv7FinSecy@gmail.com](mailto:LAOHDiv7FinSecy@gmail.com).

Our next New Member Screening is on Tuesday, January 2nd at 7pm at the Hall. Margaret Davis has been accepting applications these past few months.

Division 7's 2024 honoree for the "Walking in the Footsteps of St. Brigid" is Maureen Connors. Suffolk County will honor all the ladies nominated for this honor with a Mass on Sun., February 4th at 11:15am at The Academy of St Joseph's Sacred Heart Chapel with a luncheon immediately following at Division 2 in Babylon. Tickets for the luncheon are \$28 and payable to LAOH Division 7 by our January meeting.

The installation of the 2024-2025 officers will be held January 20th at our Hall starting at 5pm.

Lastly, we're having a Local Hibernians Parade Fundraiser on Sunday, February 4th at 2pm at the Harp & Hound in Islip. We will have raffles, 50/50 and assorted appetizers with a donation at the door. All are welcome and encouraged to join us! Please save the date for the Grand Marshal's Ball on Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at Captain Bill's in Bay Shore in honor of Division 7's Grand Marshal Shawn

O'Neill and Ladies Aide Mary Phalen. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 10th at 7:30pm. Hope to see you all there!

My wish for 2024 is to bring each and all of you a Happy and Healthy New Year, surrounded by those we love and hold dear.

**In our Motto,  
Becci Enders**

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## **Junior Girls**

We hope all of our Junior Girls & their families had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Thank you to everyone who joined and supported our Juniors at our Annual Tree Lighting on 11/28.

We will be having our monthly meeting on January 8th at the Hall where we will be getting ready for our upcoming Installation of Officers which will take place on Saturday, January 20th. All Junior Girls, along with their families are invited to attend. In addition, we will begin discussions about our upcoming St. Brigid's Day Mass that we attend annually.

Our Junior Girls will be joining our Division 7 LAOH at the Sisters of St. Joseph for St. Brigid's Day Mass on Sunday, 2/4/24. Our monthly February meeting will be on Monday, 2/12. Be sure that Gina Holm has your contact information so you can be kept up to date with the upcoming events.

Save the date: Sunday, March 3rd for our 59th Annual East Islip John P. Reilly St. Patrick's Day Parade.

We are always looking for new Junior Girls to join our membership. If you know a girl, between the ages of 8-18, who is looking to join our organization, please contact Denise Fischer at (516) 428-5283 or Gina Holm at (516) 445-9592. We welcome new members throughout the year.

**In our Motto,  
Denise and Gina**



Division 7 Juniors visit to Lt. Michael Murphy Museum

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Decorating the Hall for Christmas

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Tree Lighting Ceremony





*What's  
Happening  
Jan. & Feb.*



**JANUARY:**

Jan 2 Tue	LAOH New Member Screening	7:00 PM
Jan 3 Wed	AOH Division Seven Meeting	8:00 PM
Jan 8 Mon	Jr. Girls & Jr. Boys Meeting	6:30 PM
Jan 10 Wed	LAOH Division 7 Meeting	7:30 PM
Jan 20 Sat	Installation of Officers for 2024-2025 For AOH, LAOH, Jr Girls & Jr Boys	5:00 PM

**FEBRUARY:**

Feb 4 Sun	St. Brigid's Mass at The Academy of St Josephs Sacred Heart Chapel	11:15 AM
Feb 4 Sun	E.I. St. Patrick's Day Fundraiser at The Harp & Hound in Islip	2:00 PM
Feb 7 Wed	AOH Division Seven Meeting	8:00 PM
Feb 11 Sun	Super Bowl Sunday	
Feb 12 Mon	Jr. Girls & Jr. Boys Meeting	6:30 PM
Feb 14 Wed	LAOH Division 7 Meeting	7:30 PM
Feb 24 Sat	Grand Marshal Ball at Captain Bill's in Bayshore	7:00 PM

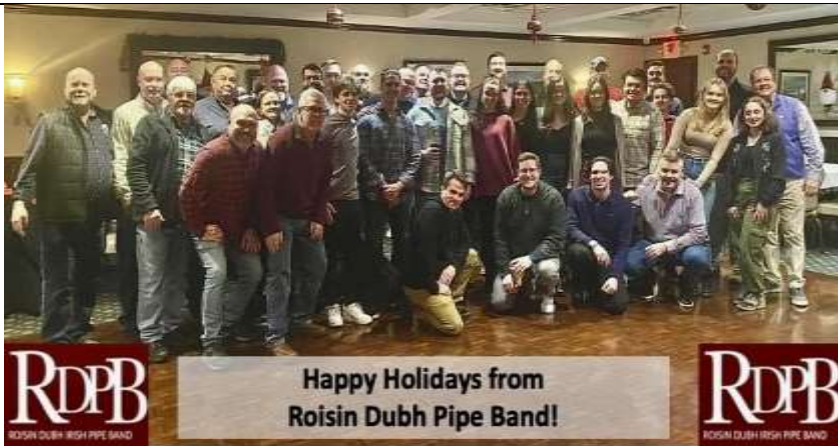
**THE IRISH**

Irish – Lá fhéile Vailintín sona duit

Pronunciation – lah leh VAL-in-cheen  
SUN-uh ditch!

English - Happy Valentine's Day

By Vic Vogel





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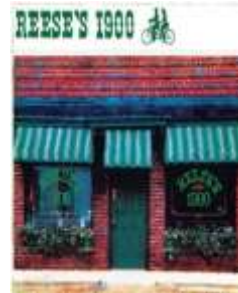
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