



AOH Michigan State Convention

Hilton Homewood Suites, Grand Rapids, MI

Saturday, October 9, 2021.

CONVENTION REPORT

This 83rd Biennial State Convention was held at the Hilton Homewood Suites, Grand Rapids, MI and called to order at 10:01am by State President, Mike Kelly.

Opening Prayer by Patrick Ryan Division Chaplin, Fr. Terry Treppa followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The reading of "Call to Convention and Determination of Delegates" by State Vice-President Tim Higgins followed by "Adoption of Rules for the Convention." Motion to accept "Call to Convention and Adoption of the Convention Rules" by Rob Bovitz and seconded by Bob Slattery.

In order to maintain a correct and thorough record and to maintain transparency regarding the business to be conducted, State President, Mike Kelly appointed State Vice-President Tim Higgins as Assistant Recording Secretary for the Convention.

A Welcome to Fr. Terry Treppa, Past State President, Kevin Burke and our National Director, Sean O'Dowd.

LAOH State President, Stacey Blair sent welcome and best wishes from all of the LOAH Divisions for a successful convention.

The Roll Call of Officers took place.

Chaplain - Fr. Richard Leliaert, Walsh Div., **Excused**

President - Mike Kelly, Walsh Div., **Present**

Vice President - Tim Higgins, Ryan Div., **Present**

Recording Sec - Tom Kish, Ryan Div., **Present/Late**

Treasure - William Kelly, McGee Div., **Present**

Financial Sec. - Patrick Sullivan, McGee Div., **Excused**

Past President - Kevin Burke, **Present**

Historian - Bob Slattery, Sullivan & O'Sullivan Div., **Present**

Organizer - Mick Lane, McGee Div., **Excused**

Charities & Missions - Sam McVean, Flynn Div., **Present**

Catholic Action - Vacant

Freedom for All Ireland - Paul Gowdy, Solanus Casey Div., **Excused**

Pro Life - Rob Bovitz, Ryan Div., **Present**

Veterans Affairs - Rick St. Peter, Ryan Div., **Absent**

Immigration - Joe Kelly, Ryan Div., **Absent**

Web Master - Ed Harkins, Ryan Div., **Absent**

Hibernian Hunger Project - Paul Gowdy, Solanus Casey Div., **Excused**

Project St. Patrick - Mike Riley, Ryan Div., **Excused**

Assistant Recording Secretary, Tim Higgins read Previous Minutes from Convention June 2019. Motion by Sam McVean to accept Minutes as read and seconded by Bob Slattery.

A Moment of Silence for -

Report of the Sick - Tim Miveren, Julie Choto, Brian Dunleavy, Mike Zelley
(Excuse spelling if incorrect)

Vice President's Report - Tim Higgins (to be filed with Convention Minutes upon receipt)

Treasures Report (to be filed with Convention Minutes upon receipt from new Treasure)

Bills & Claims, \$1,272.00 for Convention Meeting Room, Motion by Bob Slattery and seconded by Sam McVean

Financial Secretary Report (to be filed with Convention Minutes upon receipt from new Treasure)

Past Presidents Report - Kevin Burke, discussed lack of communication during COVID pandemic and need to improve. We need more younger members to get active. Willing to support the State Board and provide his guidance. (Copy of report to be filed with Convention Minutes upon receipt).

National Director Report - Sean O'Dowd, happy to be in Michigan for our convention. Was at Ohio, Illinois and Indiana State Conventions. Every Division had trouble fundraising and communicating during COVID. He sent Danny O'Connell, National Presidents best wishes and his concerns with recruiting new members. They do forward applications from potential applicants to nearest division. Need to have those followed up with. Improve communications with the

Divisions in your State and visit their events. Need Divisions to get behind the Christmas Appeal and Project St. Patrick with donations and sales of Mass Cards and Labels. There will be a new program instead of member labels. To be discussed after we receive scope of program. Looked forward to seeing a Michigan Delegation at the National President's Testimonial Dinner in Youngstown, Ohio, October 15-16, 2021.

Chair Reports, See Attached Reports, Motion to Accept by Bob Slattery and seconded by Rob Bovitz

President Report - Mike Kelly, Fr. Terry Treppa, National Director, Sean O'Dowd, Past President, Kevin Burke, State Board members, Division Officers and Brothers all. Welcome to Grand Rapids for the 83rd State Convention. Thank you for your support and contributions to the AOH. It was a difficult (2) years with the COVID Pandemic. We have had a few charity events and I visited Grand Rapids and Flint for events and meetings. **However, I have failed to follow thru with communications to all of the Divisions.** Communication is the most important part of the State Board for developing new members and keeping the Divisions operating properly. I can assure you all, as I start my last 2-year term as your President I will improve our communication. Patrick Sullivan is our new Recording/Corresponding Secretary and we have been working together very well. Congratulations Patrick for setting-up the State Convention and handling all of the details. Tim Higgins is settling into a new executive position at work and will be working closely with me as Vice-President. Past President Kevin Burke has offered his support and advice to the Board and understands communications go both ways. Thank you, Kevin, for an excellent job and I look forward to continue working with you. William Kelly, Treasure (my brother from another mother) will handle the finances and will help get us on track with reporting after the abrupt resignation of the previous Treasure. I have added (2) new Chairmen, Bill Sullivan, Walsh Division as Catholic Action and Tim Casey as our Financial Secretary. I have votes of Confidence from our current Chairmen and they have committed to (2) more years of service. Thank you again for your support and confidence. See attached calendar of events that I've participated in.

Constitution Committee - Kevin Burke, Paul Gowdy & Tim Higgins

No proposed changes to the bi-laws.

Old Business:

AOH Michigan State Board Banner. Need start date of State Board to order.

AOH State Convention, Grand Rapids, MI Friday 10/8 & Saturday 10/9

New Business

An Gorta Mor Memorial, Irish Hill, MI Foundation, approached the Mi State Board to take over the management of the Memorial. – Looking for Chairman to assist with communication for the MI State Board and Lenawee Foundation

AOH National President's Testimonial & Sean MacBride Humanitarian Award Weekend. Friday 10/15 Cocktail Reception, Saturday 10/16 Mass at Columbia Cathedral, President's Dinner and Award Presentations. Hilton Doubletree, Youngstown, OH

Nomination and Election of Officers for the ensuing two-year term.

- * President - Mike Kelly, nominated by Tim Higgins, seconded by Sam McVean
- * Vice President - Tim Higgins, nominated by Mike Kelly, seconded by William Kelly
- * Recording Secretary Patrick Sullivan, nominated by Bob Slattery, seconded by Kevin Burke
- * Treasurer - William Kelly, nominated by Tim Higgins, seconded by Kevin Burke

Congratulations to Our Current Board and Chairman for 2021-22

Chaplain - Fr. Richard Leliaert, Walsh Div.

President - Mike Kelly, Walsh Div.

Vice President - Tim Higgins, Ryan Div.

Recording Sec - Patrick Sullivan, McGee Div.

Treasure - William Kelly, McGee Div.

Financial Sec. - Tim Casey, Walsh Div.

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Immigration - Joe Kelly, Ryan Div.

Web Master - Ed Harkins, Ryan Div

Hibernian Hunger Project - Vacant, **Need a New Chairman**

Project St. Patrick - Mike Riley, Ryan Div.

An Gorta Mor Memorial - Vacant, **Need a New Chairman**

President Mike Kelly - Thanks to all of the officers and chairmen for an excellent job and for their contributions and hard work. Look forward to serving with you for (2) more years. Thanks to Tom Kish for your contributions and look forward to your support in the new transition of chairman.

Good & Welfare of the Order –

- AOH/LAOH State Memorial Mass, Saturday, November 13, 2021 5:00pm St. Mary of Redford Catholic Church, 16098 Grand River, Detroit, MI 48227. We'll be reading the name of all of the deceased members.

Next State Board Meeting to be Determined in December '21 or early January '22

National AOH/LAOH Convention July 11-16, 2022 in Pittsburg PA., info to follow.

Motion for Adjournment by Kevin Burke, seconded by Rob Bovitz at 11:45am

Closing Prayer, Fr. Terry Treppa

Mass to Follow

No Major Degrees at this time

Dinner Ruth Chris at 7:30pm

MICHIGAN STATE BOARD

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OFFICIAL CALL TO THE MICHIGAN ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS' 83rd BIENNIAL STATE CONVENTION

September 7, 2021

DEAR BROTHERS:

In accordance with Article XII, Section 1 through 8 of the Michigan State By-Laws it is my duty to call the accredited delegates of the Ancient Order of Hibernians to attend the 83rd Biennial State Convention which will convene at the Homewood Suites, 161 Ottawa Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 on Saturday, October 9, 2021. The delegation will be called to order at 9:00 a.m. by the State Board President.

The Constitutional provision for representation to this convention is as follows:

ARTICLE XIII STATE CONVENTION

Section 1: A State Convention shall be held every odd numbered year with the approval of the State Board. It shall be held between the second week in May and the second week in July as determined by the Convention Committee. The convention date shall be announced no later than May 1st, the year preceding the State Convention. (Years without a global pandemic).

Section 2: Any Division or County who would like to host the next State Convention shall submit a written Notice of Intent to the State President no later than April 1st prior to the current convention, then the State Board shall determine the next convention site.

Section 3: Official Call. The State Secretary shall prepare the Official Call for the State Convention and forward copies to all concerned not more than sixty (60) days and not less than thirty (30) days before said convention.

Those concerned: National Officers of the State, National Secretary, all State Officers, Elected and appointed, State Convention Committee Chairman, all County Boards, all Division, all Past National Officers of the State, all Past Presidents (State, County, and Division).

Section 4: Delegates; The following members in good standing shall be eligible for seats or alternates at the State Convention:

State Elected Officers.

County Board Elected Officers.

Division Elected Officers (where County Board does not exist).

FRIENDSHIP, UNITY, AND CHRISTIAN CHARITY

MICHIGAN STATE BOARD

Division Presidents (where County Board exists).

Division Membership one (1) each for each fifteen (15) members or major fraction thereof as of December 31, of the previous year.

Delegates, but no alternates.

All current and Past National Officers.

All Past State and Division Presidents.

Section 5: Divisions established after December 31, prior year if State assessment is current shall be allowed one (1) for each officer and one (1) vote for membership if no County Board exists. Should a County Board exist, only two (2) delegates will be allowed.

Section 6: Voting Eligibility; No delegate or alternate shall be chosen who is not a member in good standing. To be considered a member in good standing, your Division and State assessment must be paid seven (7) days prior to the State Convention.

Section 7: Registration of Delegates or Guests; No delegate or alternate shall be permitted to register unless he has proper identification. Guests shall be entitled to register and receive guest badges with proper identification.

Section 8: Seating of Delegates; Delegates or authorized alternates will occupy a seat in a section reserved exclusively for them while the convention is in session.

Yours in our motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity.

Tom Kish
State Recording Secretary
Michigan State Board
Ancient Order of Hibernians

FRIENDSHIP, UNITY, AND CHRISTIAN CHARITY

President's Report 5/9 - 10/3/21

5/12 - Attended the AOH Stephen Walsh Division Meeting

5/16 - UIS Irish Plaza Clean-up Day

5/19 - AOH National Presidents Zoom Meeting

5/20 - Attended UIS Membership Meeting

6/11-13 Motor City Irish Festival

6/13 - Attended Michigan Irish American Hall of Fame
Class of 2021 Induction

7/8 - UIS Board Meeting

7/10 - Pallottine Fathers African Missions Golf Outing

7/14 - Attended AOH Stephen Walsh Division Meeting

7/15 - Motor City Irish Festival wrap-up meeting & dinner.

7/18 - Attended St. Anne Basilica Irish Novena Mass

7/22 - Attended IN Detroit (Irish Network, IACC) Board
Meeting.

8/2 - Co-Chaired AOH Larry Kelly & Kevin Brown Sr.
Memorial Golf Outing, for Michigan Hospice

8/16 - UIS Board Meeting

8/19 - Attended UIS Membership Meeting

8/22 - Co-Chaired AOH Stephen Walsh Family Picnic

8/29 - Attend & Participated LAOH Lady of Knock Mass

9/8 - Attended AOH Stephen Walsh Division Meeting

9/12 - AOH An Gorta Mor Memorial Mass, Irish Hills, MI

9/12 - UIS 1st Pitch Raffle Drawing, K of C Monaghan

9/15 - AOH National Presidents Zoom Meeting

9/16 - UIS Board Meeting

9/16 - Attended UIS Membership Meeting

9/18 - AOH State Board Zoom Meeting, AOH Walsh Division, Redford, MI

9/20 - Irish Music Café announce AOH State Convention and upcoming AOH/Irish events in October.

9/24 - UIS Irish Tiger Night, on field Dignitary Parade & caught 1st Pitch.

9/30 - IN Detroit (Michigan Irish American Chamber of Commerce) Board Meeting, discussed Funding from Cork and new events to get Irish Community involved.

10/1-3 - Attended the National Knights of Equity National Convention in Buffalo, NY.



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Project St. Patrick

I am coordinating the Project St. Patrick (PSP) program with Sts. Cyril and Methodius and Sacred Heart Major seminaries in the Detroit area. Ron Hagan is Catholic Action Chairman including the PSP program.

Ron plans to send out notices to the Religious Directors in a few days. The Religious Directors will notify the seminarians to go to the AOH website to complete the application and return it to them to complete a letter of recommendation for each seminarian. The Director will send the grant application and letter of recommendation to the LAOH Chair and Ron Hagan. They are requesting that this process be completed by early November. At that time they will review the applications along with the National Presidents for AOH and LAOH. When the seminarians are selected for the grant, letters will be sent to them with grants by early December.

In addition, the Prayer Card Program is available to participate in throughout the year. Ron Hagan can be contacted for them at no cost.

Mike Riley

AOH Michigan State Board PSP Chairman

University of Detroit Mercy AOH Archives

Sara Armstrong, Archive Research Center Director and Associate Dean, reported they're "STILL" trying to acquire glass display cases for the Archive area. There are Covid related supply issues with aluminum so they are projecting delivery the end of the year.

They also received a donation for new shelving which was much needed. The current shelving holding the AOH collection is too narrow and is somewhat dangerous with all the large heavy boxes. The donation allows them to purchase high quality shelving so that both materials and people will be safe.

They do have the online archive catalog system up and running. It's called ArchiveSpace. They're starting to do online accessioning and hope to link up to their library website in the near future. When it's done, patrons will be able to search for AOH items.

There are also delays getting a new computer for the Archive due to Covid related supply problems.

In summary they're making progress, although at a much slower pace due to Covid.

Mike Riley

UDM AOH Archive Contact for Michigan State Board