

County Leitrim Society of New York



**Sean MacDermott
(1884-1916)**

(Founded in 1895)
**P.O. Box 72, Woodlawn Station
Bronx, NY 10470**

Web Site: www.leitrimsofny.com



March 8th, 2022

CHAPLAIN

Msgr. Patrick Whitney

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Donal O'Connell
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Desmond McWeeney
Pat Murray

AUDITORS

Frank Brady
Margaret Taylor Finucane
Bernadette Dunleavy

Dear Member and Friends:

The **125th Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Dance** of the County Leitrim Society of New York will be held on **Sunday, May 1st, 2022** at **Antun's**, 96-43 Springfield Blvd., Queens Village, NY 11429. The deluxe cocktail hour will begin at **3:00 pm**, followed by dinner and dancing to the **Rumor Has it Band**. Tickets are **\$100.00 each**. Please make your reservations early; payment prior to the dance is greatly encouraged and appreciated.

As we celebrate our **milestone anniversary**, after a pause of two years due to the **Covid pandemic**, it was decided in 2019 to have this year's dance pay honor to a **special group** of people that have made a huge contribution to our Society over the past **50 years**, many of whom are **octogenarians** and some **nonagenarians**. These members represent the very best qualities and principles that helped guide our Society to the success it is today. All of these men and women immigrated many years ago, yet never forgot the customs and traditions of our native county that they grew up with. We are thankful for their work commitment and dedication to our Society in keeping these traditions alive and well in their adopted country.

We are delighted to have them as our guests and will be forever grateful for everything that each of these members represent. "**Congratulations**" to the following **10 most deserving honorees**:

Agnes Beirne (Carrick-on-Shannon) - Former 2nd Vice President, Trustee and Dance Committee Chairperson.

Mike Dillon (Cloone) – Former 2nd Vice President, Auditor, Welfare and Journal Chairperson.

Myra Fisher (Cloone) – Former Corresponding and Financial Secretary.

Rose Halpin (Gortletteragh) – Former Corresponding and Financial Secretary and Scholarship Chairperson.

John Maguire (Newtowngore) – Former 2nd Vice President, Auditor and Welfare Chairperson.

Pat Murray (Ballinamore) – Former Vice President, Trustee and Journal Chairperson.

Mary O'Keeffe (Leitrim Village) – Former Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Trustee and Scholarship Chairperson.

Michael O'Rourke (Carrigallen) – Past President and Trustee.

Joe Taylor (Eslin Bridge) – Past President, Trustee and Welfare Chairperson.

John Taylor (Eslin Bridge) – Past President, Auditor and Sergeant At Arms.

Our ***Distinguished Service Award*** recipient this year is **Bernadette Dunleavy**. Bernadette is currently an **Auditor** and **Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee**, and has held the office of **Vice President** and **President** of the **Society** (2014-2015). Bernadette was born in the Bronx, NY to the late **Mary Cullen (nee Flynn)** who was raised in **Drumkeerin, Co. Leitrim** and **Tommy Cullen** from **Arigna, Co. Sligo**. Bernadette has one **brother, Thom**, who resides in **Richmond, Virginia** with his wife, **Kathy**.

Bernadette attended **Misericordia School of Nursing** and started her career in **St. Elizabeth's Hospital**. She spent 10 years working as an **operating room nurse** in **Union Hospital** of the Bronx. In 1986, she and her husband, **Tony**, opened **the Shamrock Irish Gift Shop** and continued the business until she was busy with her children. After a hiatus of raising her three children, she became a **NYC Public School Nurse** where she has been working for the past 16 years. In 2015, she was awarded the **UFT District 11 SRP Award** for service and compassion for her students. Bernadette married **Tony Dunleavy**, a native of **Co. Mayo** in 1984 and they now reside in Yonkers. They have **three children, Gerard**, a **stationary engineer** in **Local 30 Union**, **Marie**, a **ER nurse** and **Anne** a **physical therapist**. Bernadette has been an active member of **the Leitrim Society** for the past 15 years since her **cousin, Helen McAlinden**, brought her to her first meeting. She is very proud of her Leitrim heritage and is very appreciative of this recognition. We congratulate her on this well-deserved honor.

We have already published a **Souvenir Journal** in conjunction with this dance and it will be available for your reading pleasure on your table at our dance. It contains many interesting articles. We would ask that you earnestly make an effort this year to patronize our journal business sponsors. They are proud supporters of the Leitrim Society and it is our pleasure to show solidarity for these men and women who have endured much adversity during the pandemic. They are the backbone of our community. Thank you for your continuing support of their businesses.

For reservations, please contact **Noeleen Bohan McGovern** at **(914)693-7592**. Please make all checks payable to **'County Leitrim Society of NY'** and return to **Noeleen Bohan McGovern, 45 Southfield Avenue, Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522** before **April 25th, 2022**.

Again, thank you as always for your steadfast support. We look forward to seeing you on **Sunday, May 1st, 2022** for what will be a tremendous celebration.

Yours sincerely,

Desmond McWeeney
Dance Chairperson
(516)443-0485

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(914)356-1989

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