Leitrim Society of New York January 2021 Online Newsletter

Dear Member,

 Let me begin by wishing you, and all your families a very **Happy, Healthy and** **Safe New Year**. I am sure, like myself, you were eager to **usher out 2020** and **welcome 2021**. This year brings much hope with all the available vaccines, and slowly brings us closer to the end of this Pandemic, which has consumed our lives and our way of living for the past year. I want to thank you all for your patience, support and friendship during the difficult months of last year, and for being a constant source of support for each other. Finally, there is light at the end of the tunnel.

 Since our December meeting was ‘virtual’ we were unable to do our annual **‘pass the hat’** collection. In lieu of this, the Society made a **donation of $500.00** to the **Aisling Center, McLean Avenue.**

 At our December meeting the **current Slate of Officers** were voted to **serve** for **2021.** Wishing everyone a successful year.

Our **January meeting** will be conducted via **Zoom** on **Thursday, January 21st, 2021** at **7:30pm**. If you would like to participate, please contact **Meg McKeon-Baker** at **718-445-8365 for details.**

Our **2021 St. Patrick’s Day Dinner Dance** has been **postponed indefinitely**. With so much uncertainty we decided that this was the right decision at this time. We will continue to review the situation, and further information will be forthcoming. We sincerely apologize for the continued disappointment but we must follow the guidelines required to protect our members and Guests of Honor.

**The United Irish Counties Association of New York** has **canceled** their **2021 Annual Dinner Dance.** Please watch for further information**.**

**Payment of dues for 2021** should be mailed to the **Financial Secretary** atthe **P.O. Box** addressabove**.** Dues are **$20.00 per person** or **$30.00 per couple.**

**The 2021 Leitrim Guardian** is now available**.** If you would like to get a copy please call **Frank Brady** at **914-963-8729.** This is always a very interesting book, and is the ideal gift for someone who is in lockdown at the moment.

**Congratulations** to **Cathy Mitchell Miceli** on her installation as **President of Division 29**, **Ladies AOH.** This lady never rests. Wishing her every success.

**Calling all Leitrim GAA supporters** – **50 miles in January** is the challenge. The goal is to raise **50,000 Euros**. Runners are from all over the world and share a determination to brave the elements, get fitter while raising funds. Here in **New York** a large group of staunch **Leitrim GAA exiles** have committed to this **challenge** or lesser variations of it, to raise badly needed funds for their native Leitrim team. These intrepid run/walk road warriors will wind up their exertions at **Tibbetts Park, Yonkers, on Sunday January 31st at 10 AM**. All support will be gratefully appreciated. For information regarding **participation/sponsorship** you can contact **John Conefrey** at **646-460-2702**, **Pat Reynolds 914-879-9753** or **Frank Brady 914-536-3512. Leitrim is destined to be the fittest county in Ireland when this is done!**

Your prayers are requested for our sick members: **Aileen Kilcommons**, **Willie Reynolds**, **Lisa Cullen, Noreen Regan-Leggiero, Anna Bohan**, **Bridie (Mitchell) Casey** (**sister of Cathy Miceli**) **Anne Brogan** and all those who are suffering with Covid-19. We wish them all a very speedy recovery.

Please remember our deceased especially **Joe Cornyn**, former proprietor of the ‘**Coach‘n Four’, Riverdale.** Joe and his late wife Teasie were constant figures at the door, they either met you coming in or leaving. Joe was always a great supporter of the Leitrim Society. We remember **Bridgie Wynne** **(Drumkeerin**), sister of **Monsignor James Curran**, our former Chaplain, **Pat Crossan** (**Ballinamore**), **Tommy McPartland** (**Corry, Drumkeerin**), **uncle of** **Michelle Munnelly** and those who have died from the coronavirus. May they all Rest in Peace.

Please continue to pray for all our ***first responders***, ***medical staff*** and ***all essential service employees*** who continue to work on the front lines. We thank them for their great service. Let us also remember our families in Ireland who are experiencing a very difficult time at present.

Stay safe and healthy, protect yourselves and each other.

 Sincerely,

Donal O’Connell Anna Mulvey Buggy

President Corresponding Secretary