Leitrim Society of New York May 2021 Online Newsletter

**Dear Member**,

 I cannot believe that we are already two weeks into the month of May. How fast this year is passing by. It is lovely to see all the flowers blooming and the feeling of hope in the air. I hope all our ***mothers*** were able to celebrate **Mother’s Day** on Sunday. During this past year you have worn many hats.

 After a year of seeing each other on **Zoom calls,** I am **very excited** to announce that our **May** **meeting** will be ***in-person*!** We will meet on **Friday, May 21st, 2021 at 7:30pm in *the Heritage Bar*, McLean Avenue**, **Yonkers, NY**. All are welcome to attend. If you cannot attend but would like to participate via ***Zoom,*** please contact **Meg McKeon-Baker** at **718-445-8365** for details. We will have the drawing for the Scholarship winners at this meeting. Refreshments will be served. ***Social distancing*** will apply and please ***wear your mask***. This will be our last meeting before the summer recess. We hope to see many faces again.

**SAVE THE DATE!!** - Our celebration of the **‘*125th Anniversary of the* *Society*’** has been ***rescheduled*** for next year, **Friday March 11th, 2022**, in ***Antun’s,* Queens Village**. Our original ***Guests of Honor*** and ***Distinguished Service Award*** recipients will be presented. Further information on this will be published in upcoming newsletters and webpage.

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

 ***The Aisling Irish Community & Cultural Center*** is sponsoring a fundraiser for the redevelopment of the **Aisling Center** and will need to raise ***$500 hundred thousand dollars*** to complete this aspiring project. Their vision is for the **Aisling Center** to be built ‘***for the community, by the community’.*** You can help by ***“Buying a Brick and Dedicating Your Donation***” for an amount that suits your budget. For further information about this you can contact the **Aisling Center** at **914-237-5121** or their website [www.aislingcenter.org](http://www.aislingcenter.org). Each virtual brick purchased will make a substantial contribution towards the completion of the building.

 The ***Gaelic Athletic Association of Greater New York*** will hold their **87t**h **Annual Banquet** on **Saturday June 12, 2021** at the ***Fairways at Dunwoodie***, 1 Wasylenko, Lane, Yonkers, NY. 10701, with cocktails and dinner and dancing from 7:00 pm to 11:00pm.

Please contact Cathy Hogan for Journal Ads and tickets to dance at 646-489-5258. Congratulations to ***Seamus and Catriona Clarke*** on being the first recipients of the new ‘***GAA Community Spirit Award’***. They are most deserving and we thank them for all they do to improve the Irish community.

**Rescheduled**: **The ‘’*Detective Barney Ferguson Emerald Legacy Fund 6th******Annual “10-13” / May Day” Awards* Dinner** was postponed in May 2021 due to the Pandemic. The ***Rescheduled date*** will be **Thursday, August 26th, 2021,** from **6-10PM** at ***Juliano’s Restaurant,* 700 Main Street, New Rochelle, NY 10801.** The proceeds benefit injured, sick and deceased ‘M.O.S.’ and their families.

Please remember our sick members, **Aileen Kilcommons, Noreen Regan-Leggiero, Lisa Cullen, Michael O’Rourke, Gerry Gilrane, Anna Bohan, Terence Regan and Tommy Henry (Showband), Boston** who is dealing with multiplehealth issues. We extend good wishes to prominent Tyrone footballer and musician, **Mickey Coleman,** who recently suffered a massive heart attack. We hope his recovery is going well. We also pray for those affected by ***Covid-19*.** We wish them all a complete recovery.

***Condolences*** to the family of ***longtime member***, **Mike Healy** (**brother of the late Kay McHale**) who passed away recently in April, to the family of longtime member, **Elizabeth Keenan Papierowitz** (***sister*** of **Mary Keenan Avanzino**) who passed this month, to the families of **Pat McLoughlin, N.J., Oliver O’Donnell** (***Tipperary*** and **past president of NY GAA)**, **Pauline McKeon (Mohill**), **William Bernard Gaffney** (**Boston**), **Tommy Kilbride** (**Dromahair**), **Patrick Lyons (*Kilkenny*,** whose ***wife*** was **Rose Shanley**, ***Dromod***) and **Frank O’Rourke**, **Manorhamilton** (Ret. N.S. Principal). ***May they all Rest in Peace.***

We continue to pray for the health and safety of all our ***first responders,******medical staff and all essential service employees*** who continue their heroic work on the **front lines.** We thank them for their service. We also remember all our families in Ireland during these very difficult times. Hopefully things are improving, and with the easing of restrictions and vaccinations readily available, life will soon get back to normal and we will be able to enjoy all the things we have missed.

***Looking forward to seeing you all in September, have an enjoyable summer everyone!!***

**BE SAFE AND BE WELL**

 **Sincerely,**

**Donal O’Connell Anna Mulvey Buggy**

***President* *Corresponding Secretary***

***A message from our President …..***

**This year has been a very challenging time for our Society. However, with the help of *Zoom,* we managed to conduct our meetings in a productive manner. We thank our hardworking Officers for this and thank all our Society members who contributed to our Society in any way. At last we are coming out of this Pandemic. Again, enjoy the Summer in health and safety. God Bless.**

**Your President,**

**Donal O’Connell*.***