Hibernian Gala back at the Log Cabin in Holyoke for 2023

Francis X. Hennessey

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The Hibernians of Hampden/Hampshire Counties are delighted that the Traditional Irish Cultural Get-Together at the Log Cabin in Holyoke is back for 2023 after a 2 year hiatus due to Covid 19. The event is Saturday February 25, 2023.

If one plans to attend expect to experience the aura of the beautiful Log Cabin. Upon entering the banquet hall at the Log Cabin one will be mesmerized by: “Forty Shades of Green”, Colleens, Award Winners, Irish Dancers, Piper, Four Piece Band, Tables upon tables of Baskets to be raffled, old friends and friends you have not met.

The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Division Two will present the Woman of the Year Award for 2023 to Mary Kate O’Connor of Holyoke who will mark 30 years as a Nurse this year. Upon learning that she will be the 2023 honoree Mary Kate stated: “She would not be able to accomplish as much as she does for the organization if she did not have the family and friends that always step up to the plate and lend a helping hand.” Mary Kate serves on many committees such as quilt making, float, golf tournament, organizes the making of sandwiches for Kates Kitchen every six weeks and also organizes raffles to assist with the funding of the Maurice A. Donahue Memorial Scholarship each year.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians James A. Curran Division One will present The Man of The Year Award to Jay Whelihan of Holyoke. Jay is currently the chief assessor for the Town of Belchertown and is a Ward Five School Committeeman in Holyoke. Jay is the Treasurer of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. As Treasurer, he has updated the office of Treasurer, serves on the Irish Night Committee, The Picnic Committee, and assists at Kate’s Kitchen. Learning of the Award, Whelihan states: “I am humbled and honored to be selected as the 2023 AOH Man of the Year. I want to congratulate Mary Kate O’Connor for receiving the LAOH Woman of the Year and Brenda Lamagdeleine for receiving the Christian Charity Award (Award to be given March 12 at Communion Breakfast at Wyckoff CC). I look forward to representing the Hibernians during the upcoming parade festivities along with celebrating with Holyoke’s great citizens.”

O’Connor and Whelihan will March in the Holyoke St Patrick’s Parade March 19.

One of the Features of the Night is the Four piece Band of Keohanne and Kenneally. Tm Keohanne from Attleboro on vocals and guitar; Paul Kenneally from Milton on vocals, keyboard, saxophone, flute and tin whistle; Bernadette Fee from Bayside New York on Fiddle and Aidan Keohane from Attleboro on Bass. Both Paul and Tim were part of the Noel Henry Irish Showband. The group is a tour de force of talent-Irish Folk Music, Classic Rock, and Country.

Of course one would not want to miss the Traditional Corned Beef and Cabbage Meal and Ribs prepared by Michael “Mick“ Corduff from Ballyferriter Ireland the Executive chef and Co-owner of the Log Cabin/Delaney House.

For tickets for this “Right of Spring Event” call Joe O’Connor @ 413-627-7148 or Fran Hennessey @ 413-785-5687 or go on-line to Eventbrite. Com. by Feb. 20. This Irish Cultural Event to benefit the Maurice A. Donahue Memorial Scholarship and in memory of the late Hibernian Daniel P. Curran has been a sell-out in past years.