**Leitrim Society of New York October 2020 Online Newsletter**

**Dear Member**,

We made it through September but the uncertainty that is 2020 continues. I hope that you are doing everything to stay protected. If your children are back in school or College I pray they all stay safe and healthy.

Due to the ongoing precautions, and in the interest of safety, we will conduct our October meeting virtually via ***Zoom*** on **Thursday, October 15th, 2020** **at 7:30pm**. If you would like to join in, please contact **Meg McKeon Baker** at ***718-445-8365*** for details.

**Scholarship: At our September meeting we held the drawing for our scholarships. This was observed by the President and all Officers participating via Zoom to allow for the greatest transparency. Congratulations to the following lucky winners:**

**Grammar School: $500.00**

1st. Jennifer Dolan (**In memory of Detective Barney Ferguson**)

2nd T.J. Dolan (**Richard Reynolds award, donated by the Society)**

3rd Justine Dolan (**In memory of** **Larry Dolan**)

4th Gavin Murray (**Aisling Cooke Memorial Award**)

**High School: $1,000**

1st James Dolan

2nd Matthew Dolan

**College: $1,000**

1st Fiona McIntyre (**McKeon family essay scholarship $2,000.00**)

2nd Brendan Dolan

3rd Sean Dolan

It was a great night of celebration for the Dolan family. Their grandfather, Larry Dolan, would be so proud of all their achievements. We wish all our winning students great success as they continue their education.

These scholarships would normally be presented at our annual **Memorial Mass/Scholarship** dance on **Sunday November 8th 2020**. However, this year, because of the ongoing pandemic and ever-changing restrictions, we made the very difficult decision to cancel this function. We apologize to all our scholarship recipients and their families, but we must put safety first. Please check our **website** for a **collage of** **pictures** of our winners. We will have the **drawing of our raffle tickets** on **Sunday** **November 8th via Zoom**. Please return your tickets and payment to Bernadette Dunleavy, 238 Blackford Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10704 before November 1st. Checks should be made payable to ‘**County Leitrim Society** **Scholarship Fund’**. We value and appreciate your continued support.

**Payment of dues for 2020 as well as 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.**

At our April meeting a motion was made that the Leitrim Society makes a donation of **$5,000** to **Slainte 2020.** This notice is being published in three (3) consecutive newsletters, May, September and October, and will be voted on at our October meeting.

 The County Leitrim Society of New York would like to congratulate those people who had the vision, in particular **Leitrim Guardian Person of the Year**, **Noel McPartland** and his son **Fergal,** who have spearheaded the success of the magnificent new 3 million Euro **Visitor Center** at **The Shed Distillery in Drumshanbo**, **home of world famous Drumshanbo** **Gunpowder Gin.** Since it’s opening on September 10th it has been a resounding success, despite all the headwinds it faced. We wish them every success in the future.

Please remember our sick members, **Aileen Kilcommons, Lisa Cullen, Michael O’Rourke,** and all who are ill. We also pray for those affected by the Coronavirus. We wish them all a complete recovery.

*Condolences* to **Thomas Murray** and family on the recent death of his brother, **Sonny Murray** in Ireland, to the family of **Ann McGovern**, a long-time member and great supporter of the society, to **Pat Murray** and family whose **first cousin, Ned Murray** (**Aughacashel**) passed away recently, to the family of **Dympna Doonan Reilly** (Mohill), **sister in law to** **Ann Doonan,** tothe family of **Angela Mackin (sister to Joe, Mike and John Prunty).** Please remember well known musician **Peter McKiernan, aka Mr. Catskills**, who passed away this week after a long illness. May they all Rest in Peace.

Please continue to pray for all our ***first responders,******medical staff and all essential service employees*** who continue their heroic work on the **front lines.** We thank them for all they continue to do, and ask God to keep them safe and well. We also remember all our families in Ireland during these very difficult times.

Stay safe and healthy, protect yourselves and each other.

**Happy Halloween**. Trick or Treat, but Please be safe

**Sincerely,**

**Donal O’Connell Anna Mulvey Buggy**

***President* *Corresponding Secretary***