

I have been a member of the LAOH since 10/19/1997. Over the course of almost 18 years, I have met women that have been committed tirelessly to our order. I have also met women that joined the order and after a brief stint, I never saw again. As a long time member, it has been necessary to recommit myself to the organization a few times. What does that mean? It means that you truly listen to the oath that you take and make sure that you follow its tenets. It can get tiring. The same ladies always volunteer year after year but some never assist. Members leave our organization for a lot of reasons. The organization might not be what they thought it would be. They don't like the meeting rituals. They don't like that they have to follow a constitution or bylaws. However, as a long time member that sometimes gets tired of the "drama" that sometimes can arise, it is a good process to recommit yourself to the organization. Recommitment is a wonderful way to really listen to what a member commits to when joining our organization.

On April 30, 2014, I had the opportunity along with my sister to see the Late Show with David Letterman taped live in NYC. The show was great and I really enjoyed the Top Ten list which was about the books of Dr. Seuss. I want to list for all of us the top ten things (as I see them) that we should remember as members of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians. They will not be as funny as they were on the show but they should hit home for all of us.

#10. Never wrong a sister.

#9. Keep calm and remember you are a Hibernian.

#8. Find someone in your division/county that has EXCEL skills – you really need to rely on your division talent to get these dreaded annual reports done on time!

#7. Remember your due dates for annual reports and get your reports in on time.

#6. Start your meetings on time. It is really not fair for someone that is on time to wait for stragglers.

#5. Never permit a sister to be wronged if in your power to prevent it.

#4. Make sure that you know all aspects of an office before you run for it.

#3. Be pleasant and make new members feel welcome. Make sure that they have the necessary information to learn what our organization is all about!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

#2. If you change your address, email address, telephone number or name, let your division financial secretary know. I can't tell you how many "bounce backs" I received on email over the past few years – yes, I can! A total of 27!

#1. Listen to the commitment a new member makes, what an officer commits to and RECOMMIT yourself to our organization!

I will be in touch shortly with all of the Presidents of counties and divisions via my introduction letter and our elected, appointed officers and Past Presidents here are committed to helping all of you.

God bless you all and please continue to do the good work of the order!