

## **Ancient Order of Hibernians 31st Annual Irish Fall Festival**

**NORTH WILDWOOD** -- The largest Irish festival on the east coast begins on Thursday, September 22nd and concludes on Sunday, September 25, 2022. This festive four day event is sponsored by James J. Reilly, Division 1, Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH). The AOH is an organization which fosters and preserves Irish culture and heritage.

The activities begin on Thursday, September 22nd, at noon with a round of GOLF at the Cape May National Golf Course, Route 9 and Fairway Drive, Cape May Court House (2 miles south of Route 47). The fee is \$120.00 on or before September 8th and \$130.00 after September 8th and includes green fee and cart, dinner, refreshments and many prizes. Space is limited and reservations are suggested. For additional information, please contact the AOH.

On Friday, Saturday and Sunday the FESTIVITIES will take place on Olde New Jersey Avenue. Here the street vendors will display their Irish memorabilia, and the food vendors will offer a variety of Irish and non-Irish treats. This activity begins at 8 AM each morning and continues until 7 PM. On Friday and Saturday there will be free LIVE ENTERTAINMENT continuously from noon until 8:30 PM.

Saturday begins with a 5K RUN. The cost to run is \$25 prior to 9/11 and \$30 on or after 9/11. You can pre-register at [www.runsignup.com/Race/NJ/Wildwood/IrishJog5K](http://www.runsignup.com/Race/NJ/Wildwood/IrishJog5K). Pre-registrants prior to 9/11 are guaranteed a tee shirt. There will be race day registration at 8 AM at the AOH tent (between 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenues) on Olde New Jersey Avenue.

Saturday at 10 AM the BRIAN RILEY PIPE EXHIBITION will take place at Bill Henfey Park located at 8th and Central Avenues, North Wildwood. This event attracts thousands of spectators every year. Come see and hear some of the best pipe bands in the East!

Also on Saturday, the AOH will host free IRISH DANCE LESSONS at the Elks Lodge, Chestnut and Olde New Jersey Avenues from 10 AM until noon. All are welcome.

On Friday and Saturday there will be free LIVE ENTERTAINMENT continuously from noon until 8:30 PM. The National Anthem will be sung at noon. Featured performers include: Broken Shillelaghs, Birmingham 6, Timmy Kelly, Brothers McGillian, Natterjacks, Robbie and Tim, and Ballina. In addition, Irish Schools of Dance will perform throughout both days.

On Sunday, everyone is welcome to celebrate our faith and heritage at Saint Ann's Roman Catholic Church in the Notre Dame de la Mer Parish, Glenwood and Atlantic Avenues, for 10:30 AM MASS. There will be a procession starting at the main entrance to the altar by the Protectors of the Faith Guards, the Cape May County Emerald Society Honor Guard and a liturgical bag piper soloist.

Sunday at 12:30 PM, the PARADE begins at 20th and Surf Avenues and will continue to Spruce and Olde New Jersey Avenues. Once again, we are honored to have Seamus Boyle, Past National President of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, as a special guest. The parade features many fraternal organizations, bag pipe bands, Irish dance groups and much, much more. All AOH organizations are welcome to be a part of this celebration of Irish history and heritage.

Irish food and entertainment will be available at most of the clubs and pubs in North Wildwood all weekend long.

As a result of this extremely successful annual fundraising event, the AOH achieves significant charitable accomplishments. These contributions reflect the loyalty and ideals which have helped to strengthen our families, community, and national character.

This festival is sponsored, in part, by the Greater Wildwood Tourism Improvement and Development Authority and the City of North Wildwood.

The AOH would like to acknowledge and thank Mayor Patrick Rosenello, City Council and the City of North Wildwood for their annual support of this event!

For additional information contact the AOH at 1-800-IRISH-91 or visit [www.cmcaoh.com](http://www.cmcaoh.com). Please continue to monitor this site for additional information and updates.