



SCÉALA

Newsletter for the Gaelic-American Club
74 Beach Road, Fairfield CT 06824
www.gaconline.org



CÉAO MÍLE Fáilte One Hundred Thousand Welcomes  Aibreán April 2017

EASTER COMMEMORATION SUNDAY APRIL 30TH @ 3PM

An Easter commemoration will be held at the monument on the grounds of The Gaelic American Club.. The program will include the singing of the Irish and American national anthems, a reading of the Easter Proclamation and the laying of a memorial wreath. Officiating will be Reverend Charles H. Allen SJ. Guest speaker Hon. Jim O'Donnell. For info call 203-644-9073 Come and honor the men and women who fought and died for Ireland.



GAELIC-AMERICAN CLUB MESSAGE

We hope everyone enjoyed some, if not all of the St. Patrick's Day celebrations at the GAC. We'd like to acknowledge and thank all our volunteers, waitresses & bartenders, talented dancers, musicians and pipers who together, made it all happen.

But understand that successful events like St. Patrick's Day and even the GAC itself happen because of our many committed volunteers who give endless hours of their "free" time. So in an effort to keep this spirit going we ask that all our members get involved! So why not attend a membership meeting and find out how to contribute to our very unique club. ~ *Slainte!*

SUNDAY MAY 7 @ 2PM LECTURES ON IRISH HISTORY

The 18th lecture in the Series, **Brexit and Ireland: Disaster or Promise.** Presented by Louise Blakeney, PhD, Professor of History, Central Connecticut State University. 2:00 p.m. in the Carolan Room.



The Gaelic-American Club
will be closed
Friday April 14 & Sunday April 16th
in the observance of
Good Friday and Easter Sunday

CHANGE IN SCHEDULE

MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 7

Since the Membership meeting falls on Good Friday it's been moved up one week to 4/7. Hope to see you all there!

Join us in the pub at 9pm

Saturday April 1	Camac
Sunday April 2	Flavin/Hogan Irish Country
Friday April 7	Roll Away
Saturday April 8	Highland Rovers
Friday April 14	No Music Good Friday
Saturday April 15	Four of a Kind
Friday April 21	Susan & Gerard
Saturday April 22	Mostly Green
Friday April 28	Crickstones
Saturday April 29	Outside Chance

MIKE FLAVIN & JOHN HOGAN PERFORMING SUNDAY APRIL 2ND AT 6PM

These two music legends will perform Irish country classics and many hits from their 30 year music career.



Events

KINGS OF IRISH MUSIC SUN, APRIL 2 @ 6PM

MEMBERSHIP MEETING FRI, APRIL 7, 8PM

GENEALOGY GROUP MEETING

SATURDAY APRIL 8, 10:30AM

SENIOR LUNCH THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 12 NOON

FAMILY FUN NIGHT FRIDAY APRIL 28, 6-9PM

ST. PATRICK'S GAA CLUB NEWS - PG 3

CLAN NA GAEL NEWS - PG 4

SORRY NO TRIVIA NIGHT IN APRIL

club ACTIVITIES

25 CARD GAME

Card players meet Thurs at 7:30 pm.

BROKEN/LOST SCRIP CARDS

Individual Members: Send the broken card to us and we will send back a new, working card. Fee \$10.

FÁILTE COMMITTEE

No experience necessary!! Please volunteer to sit at the front desk to welcome our members and their guests. You can volunteer on a regular basis or a few hours a month or even a few hours a year! It's a great way to meet people and a great way to volunteer for our Club. To volunteer call Bette Leary at 203-767-0117

SIMPLE SIGN-IN PROCEDURES

Members with membership cards DO NOT have to sign in. Only guests need to be signed in. The member signs his/her name one time for each and every guest. The guest signs his/her name and FULL address. Each guest signs their **own** name and address. It's that simple.

FAIRFIELD GAELIC PIPE BAND

Meets Monday's 6:30 pm at First Church Congregational. Fairfield Gaelic Pipe Band (475)329-0202 or visit fairfieldgaelicpipeband.org

BUSINESS / TRADES DIRECTORY

Place your professional listing in the GAC Business Directory Trades List at www.gaconline.org. Go to GAC Business Directory option under Membership Tab and follow prompts to add your listing. And don't forget when you need a business or trade service check the List and support our GAC Members.

GAC GLEE CLUB

Glee Club rehearsals have resumed on Wednesday @ 6:30 PM in preparation of a May Concert ~ So come learn songs of the Irish in America! maryellen.lyons@outlook.com

GENEALOGY GROUP FRÉAMH ÉIREANN

Genealogy Group will meet on Saturday, April 8th at 10:30 am. For info Contact Donna Orazio: donnaorazio@gmail.com.

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Ilona Paxton, House Chairperson
203-372-1280

GOOD & WELFARE

A mass card was sent to Marguerite Kinsella on the death of her mother, life member, Mary Ellen Kinsella. A mass card was sent to Terence Devine and Laura Pehota on the death of their father, Thomas Devine. A mass card was sent to the family of Sandy Sullivan.

The membership was notified of the death of past member, Nancy Tallon. A sympathy card was sent to Patricia McHugh on the death of her father, Eugene Palazzolo.

A get-well card was sent to Marie Stehle who is recuperating at home following surgery.

Happy news worth sharing: Peter Bellew and Joan Homa were featured on a highway billboard in Bridgeport highlighting successful heart surgery for both at St. Vincent's Medical Center in 2015. The ad featured them riding a jet ski in Wisconsin.

Notify Noreen Reda of happy news, births and weddings, to share with the members. npreda4@gmail.com.

IRISH INSTRUMENT SESSIONS

Join us Mondays, 8 pm

IRISH LANGUAGE

Foghlaim Saeilge

New Beginner and Intermediate Classes Thursdays at 6:30 to 7:30 and 7:30 to 8:30 respectively.

New Beginner Thursdays 6:30-7:30 pm upstairs in the Cultural Room – Contact Cecilia.dalzel@quinnipac.edu.

New Intermediate Class – Thursdays 7:30-8:30 in the Cultural Room. Contact Desnolan@optonline.net

New Grammar Class-Intermediate Level – every Wednesday, starting Sept 7 from 7:00-8:00 pm upstairs in the Cultural Room. For registration: jminehan@gmail.com

Current Intermediate Class – meets every Thursday from 6:30-7:30 in the library upstairs.

Grupa Comhra – Irish conversation group, any level, meets every Thursday from 7:30-ish- 9:00 pm in the snug at the end of the bar. For more info Cait 203-459-9686; no registration necessary.

LIBRARY

Library hours have been extended especially for children 8 years old and older. Friday and Saturday from 6PM to 9PM. Please note: Children 12 & under need a parent to sign out books to take home.

The library maintains over 2,000 books by Irish authors, about Ireland and/or the Irish people at home and abroad. **Needed:** Shelf Readers, volunteers who are willing to keep books on specific shelves in order. When in the club, visit the Library and straighten out (maintain Dewey order) books on your assigned shelves. maryellen.lyons@outlook.com.

LITERATURE GROUP

On Monday, April 24th at 7:30, we will meet to discuss, What Becomes of Us by Henrietta McKervey. This debut novel focuses on a feminist's awakening in 1960s Ireland and has echoes of Maeve Binchy. The Irish Times called it a "thoughtful, poignant and insightful novel." All are welcome to attend! Contact Clare Burnett at 203-255-3848 or Clareburnett@optonline.net.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

This month's meeting will be held Friday, April 7th @ 8 pm. Meetings are open to all Members Minutes from the previous meeting are posted on the Bulletin Board.

SCEALA DEADLINE

May Sceala submissions are due Friday April 14th. Please send info to comuncations@gacemail.org.

SENIORS

Senior Lunch is Thursday, April 27 at 12 noon. Call for reservations by Sunday, April 23rd. Cost for lunch \$7 for members and \$9 for non-members. Ann Hague 203-374-5198; Shirley McMenamy 203-268-5083; Sally Savage 203-366-4826.

SET DANCING

Thursdays at 7:30pm. All are welcome! Brian Reynolds 203-214-2921

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Friday April 28th from 6-9pm.

It's a great night for the entire Family! So come out enjoy the GAC and back lawn.
(mother nature permitting)



ANNUAL CÚL CAMP

St. Patrick's GAA Club will host its annual Cúl Camp, a summer camp in Gaelic football, hurling & camogie for children 5-15 years of age from June 26-30 at Notre Dame H.S., Fairfield. Cúl Camps are held in every county in Ireland and throughout North America. Whether you're an experienced player seeking to improve skills or have never played Gaelic games before, this camp is designed to introduce boys and girls to the excitement and challenges of Gaelic games. GAA Certified coaching staffing - with many coming direct from Ireland - to lead the training. Camp hours are 9 am to 3 pm each day. Graduation & medal ceremony on June 30th with family lunch & social following at the GAC. Space is limited and there are early registration and sibling discounts available. To Register for camp visit www.stpatricksgfc.org or admin@stpatricksgfc.org.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR 2017 HAS CLOSED

We are no longer accepting online renewal via credit card or e-check.

If you have not renewed your membership and wish to apply for reinstatement, please submit payment of 2017 dues by check and include a \$100.00 reinstatement fee. Mail or drop off at the GAC, 74 Beach Road, Fairfield CT 06824.

IMPORTANT- Please note: The white card you received in March 2016 is your membership door card and your scrip card. **DO NOT THROW IT AWAY.** We will not be issuing new cards for 2017. There is a \$10.00 fee for replacement. Scrip for 2017 will be active effective April 1, 2017.

THE WAIT LIST OF MEMBERSHIP APPLICANTS

The List is now posted on the Notice Board. Members who have sponsored or know any of the applicants are asked to review the List. If you know of any applications marked "Incomplete" please contact the individual to inform them of their status and has have them take the necessary action.

HELP WANTED - FINANCIAL CONTROLLER



The Gaelic American Club is currently seeking a Financial Controller to lead the accounting and finance function of the Club. The position is expected to be part time, i.e. 15-20 hours per week, and compensation will be determined based in part on qualifications of the successful candidate. Interested candidates should send resumes to the attention of the Executive Committee at positions@gacemail.org.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 5TH

TRAD MUSIC SESSION

Enjoy live trad music led by the Shamroques from 7-9pm. All musicians are welcomed to sit in on the session. So dust off those instruments, warm up your voice and get energized with Traditional Irish Music.



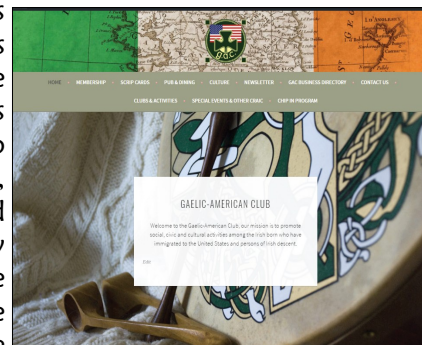
ORAL VIDEO HISTORY PROJECT

The Feile, Inc. sponsored Oral Video History Project is moving forward. We began by collecting interviews from fifty six subjects. They graciously shared their own unique emigration stories with remembrances, feelings, thoughts and insights. We then copied each interview to a dvd and presented one to each person interviewed. Our plan is to continue interviews, as well as making available the recorded interviews for research, study and promoting our Irish Culture.

We will also be applying for grants to fund the making of documentary film. We are, therefore, looking for people with documentary skills: editors; film makers; videographers; and production people. We welcome your support. The steering committee for the project are: Joan Klienknecht, Eileen Lynam . Noel McGovern, John Minehan and Peg O'Leary. For more info: Peg O'Leary at: opegyo812@gmail.com.

GAELIC-AMERICAN CLUB ONLINE

The GAC website is getting a face-lift this month so in the next few weeks check out the Club & Activity Pages, photo galleries and of course the new Chip In Page~where GAC Members are encouraged to share their special skills and get involved. The GAC was founded on the good work of many volunteers so here is your opportunity to keep that spirit alive by chipping in! Go to GAOnline.org



CLAN NA GAEL CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF PRESENTING PLAYS BY OR ABOUT THE IRISH.



**CLAN NA GAEL'S
SPRING PRODUCTION**
April 20, 21, 22 @ 8:00 pm
April 23 matinee at 2:30 pm
Reservations:
BetteLeary@gmail.com
at 203-767-0117
\$15 per person

A Country Comedy, Directed by, Kelsey Guggenheim

An ordinary day turns into bad news when three bachelors, (Byrne White, Griffin Reidy, Eamon Speer) receive notice from the county council, (Dan O'Callaghan, Barry Halpin, Dave Pirrie, Christine Weselhouse) informing them of changes in their housing arrangements. Three village women (Joyce Fox, Alison Flannery, Janine Wolfe) eagerly come forward to help the men easily solve their problem. However, two young girls, (Lila O'Callagan, Carol Plomin) have a plan of their own. Lots of laughs as the bachelors' problem takes laughable twists and turns on the way to a final solution.

Cabaret seating, drinks available at the bar. \$15.00 pp.
Advanced reservations strongly suggested.

ONE ACT PLAYWRIGHT CONTEST

One Act Playwright Contest began March 15th, 2017 and will run thru August 15th, 2017. To receive the contest instructions and entry form: Naoneil@charter.net or call Nancy O'Neil at (203) 377-1070.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Actors Workshop. Will include: Improv, character development, movement, scene study. No Experience Necessary. Come play with us.

WRITERS WORKSHOP

Direction on writing a short One Act Play from your idea. Guidance through the steps to a finished script. Class size limited. No Experience Necessary.

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

Clan na Gael's Fall Production
November 16, 17, 18 & 19.

For further information, or to help behind the scenes for the current play please contact: opeggyo812@gmail.com

SAVE SUNDAY MAY 14TH FOR MOM !

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH ~ watch for the announcement regarding times and pricing for the Mother's Day Brunch on both GAC website: GACONLINE.ORG and weekly e-Bulletin



Donnelly Dash

Fairfield, CT

Run with the spirit of Tim & Kim in your heart

Sunday April 9, 2017