



SCÉALA

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



CÉAD MÍLE Fáilte One Hundred Thousand Welcomes  bealtaine May 2017

THE PRIDE OF NEW YORK CONCERT SATURDAY MAY 20TH @ 8PM

Admission \$20 ~ Children only \$5

Four giants of traditional Irish music, Brendan Dolan, Brian Conway, Joanie Madden & Bill McComiskey have pooled their talents to create the East Coast's premier not-for-profit live Irish Traditional Music band. They take their name from the rich well-spring where they grew up at the forefront of



the extraordinary renaissance of traditional music in the 1970s & '80s. Don't miss their debut performance at the GAC.

For Reservations or more information call 203-257-8737 or email tmquinn@optonline.net or www.shamrockirishmusic.org

You're Cordially Invited to the Monthly Membership Meeting

Over the last few months I've had numerous conversations with members who didn't know much about the Monthly Membership Meetings. Although they'd been members for several years, many didn't know when the meeting takes place and some didn't realize it is open to all members.

On behalf of the Executive Committee you, and your friends who are also members, are cordially invited to attend the monthly membership meeting.

On the second Friday of every month all GAC members are invited to attend the Monthly Membership meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to update members on club operations and the ongoings of the many committees, socials, and activities that take place on a regular basis. This meeting is when some of the most important decisions for the club take place. If you're interested in the future of the GAC and how we can all contribute to its prosperous future, then I welcome you to attend the next meeting.

I look forward to seeing many of you at 8PM Friday May 12. *Slainte!* - Jim Carolan



MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

Celebrate Mom at the GAC on Sunday, May 14th. Join us for a delicious Mother's Day Brunch from 12-3pm. \$20 per person and \$12 for Kids 12-years old and under. All Mom's will enjoy a free mimosa.



Get Your Gaelic-American Club Gear!
GAC Apparel on sale in the lobby
Saturday May 6th & Friday May 12th



Join us in the pub at 9pm

Friday	May 5	<i>Ruffians</i>
Saturday	May 6	<i>The Jolly Beggars</i>
Friday	May 12	<i>Once Removed</i>
Saturday	May 13	<i>Mike McGovern</i>
Friday	May 19	<i>The Coracles</i>
Saturday	May 20	<i>Mostly Green</i>
Friday	May 26	<i>Camac</i>
Saturday	May 27	<i>Ghost Riders</i>
Monday	May 29	<i>Alehouads (12-4pm)</i>



BUS TO GAELIC PARK, BRONX NY

Sunday May 7th @ 1:30pm

2017 Connacht Senior Gaelic Football Championship: New York GAA vs Sligo
Adults \$20, Student & Seniors no charge.

Admission to match is paid separately at gate.
For bus seats: gaelicparkbusgac@gmail.com

Events

TRAD MUSIC SESSION WEDNESDAY, MAY 3 @ 7PM

TRIVIA NIGHT FRIDAY, MAY 5 @ 8PM

IRISH HISTORY LECTURE SUNDAY MAY 7 @ 2PM -PG 4

MEMBERSHIP MEETING FRIDAY, MAY 12, 8PM

GENEALOGY GROUP SATURDAY, MAY 13, 10:30AM

SENIOR LUNCH THURSDAY, MAY 25, 12 NOON

FAMILY FUN NIGHT FRIDAY MAY 26, 6-9PM

ST. PATRICK'S GAA CLUB NEWS - PG 3

CLAN NA GAEL NEWS - PG 3

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 June Concert ~ So come learn songs of the Irish in America! maryellen.lyons@outlook.com

GENEALOGY GROUP

FRÉAMH ÉIREANN

Genealogy Group will meet on Saturday, May 13th at 10:30 am. For info please contact Donna Orazio: donnaorazio@gmail.com.

GOOD & WELFARE

Sympathy cards were sent to the following: Sharon McGovern on the death of her father, Daniel Murphy who passed away in Florida. First Selectman Mike Tetreau on the death of his father, Fern. Jim Mulligan on the death of his sister, Pauline Bayley. Liz Feeney on the death of her mother. Kenny Elwood on the death of his mother.

A Get Well card was sent to Joan Woods, who is recuperating following a hospital stay.

Please notify Noreen Reda of happy news, births and weddings, to share with the members.

npreda4@gmail.com.

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Ilona Paxton, House Chairperson
203-372-1280

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 Cecia.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.

SENIOR FUNDRAISER SUCCESS

A big thank you to all seniors who responded to our Bridge request for toiletries. Everyone was more than generous and it was greatly appreciated. A special thank you to Mary & Sam for all their help.

LIBRARY

The Library is open all day Monday through Thursday. Friday and Saturday the Library has special monitored hours for children age 9 and older 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

The group will meet on Monday, May 22 to discuss the novel *The Sea, The Sea* by Iris Murdoch. A winner of the Booker Prize, it concerns Charles Arrowby, a famous English director/playright, stage tyrant and lover of stars, now in his 60's. Arrowby has retired to a lonely seaside house to learn to be good after a life of egoism, art and power. It is the last meeting until September. We hope to see you there. If you have any questions, please email Clare Burnett at ClareBurnett@optonline.net.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

This month's meeting will be held Friday, May 12th @ 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 May 12th. Please send info to comuncations@gacemail.org.

SENIORS

Senior Lunch is Thursday, May 25th at 12 noon. Call for reservations by Sunday, May 21st. 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



MEMBERSHIP IMPORTANT REMINDERS

All members have been issued a white membership card with your name and a 5 digit number. This card is used for both entering the club and scrip-DO NOT DISCARD AFTER USING UP YOUR SCRIP.

If you have lost your card, there is a \$10 replacement fee. You can mail or drop off payment at the GAC, 74 Beach Rd. Fairfield 06824. Attn: Membership.

To check your Scrip balance, log into gac.campuscardcenter.com/ch/login.html. If you have never used this link, please register your card by clicking on the "register now" link.

If you need to reach the membership committee, please use our email membership@gacemail.org

WEDNESDAY MAY 3RD @ 7PM

TRAD MUSIC SESSION



Enjoy live trad music led by the Shamroges 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.

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.

TWO SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



GAC Scholarships: The Gaelic American Club is offering two \$2,000 scholarships to deserving high school students attending a four-year college in fall 2017. Applications are available at GAOnline.org and

must be returned to GAC by May 19.

Feile Scholarships: Feile is pleased to offer three scholarships of \$2,000 each to high school seniors who will be attending college in fall of 2017. Scholarship Applications available at www.irishfestival.org. Deadline is May 15.

Pool Tournament Winners

Congratulations to John O'Donnell and Craig Curly, winners of the GAC Pool Tournament. A big **'Thank You'** to all who participated.



CLAN NA GAEL CELEBRATES 30 YEARS

Clan na Gael has been successful these past years because we are an open, ever-growing group, who always encourage and welcome new actors and staff and maintain our 'No Experience Necessary' policy.

We were especially fortunate to have had Kelsey Guggenheim direct our latest production *Troubled Bachelors*. Kelsey began with us as a teen acting in our 20th Anniversary show *The Buds of Ballybunion* back in 2007. She has since appeared on our stage several times and skillfully directed a well received production winning the hearts and accolades of her actors and staff.

Speaking of new people we welcomed five (5) new actors: Barry Halprin, Lila O'Callahan, Karol Therese Plomin, Christine Weselcouch and Janine Wolfe. In addition we welcomed twelve (12) new staff members: Ken Guggenheim, Adam Guggenheim, Richard Guggenheim, Sebastian Holt, Sue O'Hara, Justin Pecor, Jillian Plomin, Matt Plomin, Noreen Reda, Rich Tallberg, Tory Tallberg and Peter Wolfe. If you were counting, yes, 17 new people! Newbie, Lila O'Callahan, appeared on stage with her Dad and Grandfather, a CnG first, three generations on stage together!

All of our newcomers enriched our shared production. We are thankful and happy to add them to our CnG family and look forward to working with them all again.

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: Nancy O'Neil at (203) 377-1070. Naoneil@charter.net

Writers Workshop

The Clan na Gael Players are sponsoring a Writers Workshop instructed by Jack Rushen, a local published playwright and screenwriter. The workshop begins Wednesday June 28th and runs for 4 weeks from 7-9pm. Class size is limited to give all students quality learning time. Nancy O'Neil 203-377-1070.

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

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

For further info: opegyo812@gmail.com

IRISH HISTORY LECTURE ~ SUNDAY MAY 7 @ 2PM



The Gaelic American Club Genealogy and Language Groups will host "Brexit and Ireland: Disaster or Promise?", the 18th in a series of Lectures on Irish History. This lecture is presented by Louise Blakeney Williams, Ph.D., Professor of History at Central Connecticut State University since 1997. Louise Blakeney Williams received her Ph.D. in history at Columbia University and teaches an Irish history course that includes a trip to Ireland and Northern Ireland as well as classes on the British Empire, modern British history, European history, and intellectual and cultural history. (For full article visit www.gaonline.net.)

Help us plan seating and refreshments by registering in advance. Tickets are \$5.00 (\$2.00 for Students with Student ID). Register on-line at: marroyo@optonline.net, subject: "Irish History" and mail your check payable to "Feile, Inc." to: Mary Adams-Arroyo, 221 McGrath Court, Stratford, CT 06615. Please provide name, address, phone and email. For info call Mary (203) 377-2346. This event is sponsored by Feile, Inc. and is open to the public.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE "WEE IRISH FESTIVAL"!



In lieu of a full Fairfield County Irish Festival weekend this year, Feile and the GAC invite you to the Club on Father's Day, June 18, for a "Wee Festival". Food, drink, bands, dancers, pipers, and more! Details to follow!

MEMORIAL DAY BBQ

The GAC is the perfect place to stop after the Memorial Day Parade. Join us for a BBQ on May 29th, 12-3pm and the music of The Alehounds in the Pub from 12-4pm.



GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE
GAC BLOOD DRIVE WEDNESDAY, MAY 17TH FROM 1:30 - 6:45PM



MAY



*May laughter
ring, for here
comes Spring!*

bealtaine

Schedule

Mon & Tues
Wed & Thurs
Friday
Saturday
Sunday

pub hours

Dinner

Lunch | Branch

7 pm - 12 mid
5 pm - 12 mid 5 pm - 9 pm
4 pm - 2 am 5 pm - 10 pm
12 noon - 2 am 5 pm - 10 pm
12 noon - 12 mid 12 pm - 8 pm

How To Reach us

Office (203) 254-0673
Fax (203) 254-3012
Pub emergencies (203) 254-2723
Membership (203) 256-0380
Social (203) 418-7676
Website www.gaonline.org

**CÉAO MILE
FÁILTE**



Sunday Domhnach	Monday Luan	Tuesday Máirt	Wednesday Céadaoin	Thursday Deardaoin	Friday Aoine	Saturday Satharn
	1 Beltane 6:45 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church 8pm Irish Instrument Session	2 Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	3 6:30pm Glee Club 7pm Trad Music Session	4 6:30pm Irish Language Class (All Levels) 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	5 8pm Trivia Night 🎵 The Ruffians 9 pm in the Pub	6 Derby Day  🎵 The Jolly Beggars 9 pm in the Pub
7 1:30pm Gaelic Park Bus Trip 2:00pm Irish History Lecture	8 6:45 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church 8pm Irish Instrument Session	9 7:30pm Executive Committee Meeting Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	10 6:30pm Glee Club	11 6:30pm Irish Language Class (All Levels) 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	12 <i>Scéala</i> deadline 8pm Membership Mtg 🎵 Once Removed 9 pm in the Pub	13 10:30am Genealogy Group Meeting 🎵 Mike McGovern 9 pm in the Pub
14 12-2pm Mothers' Day Brunch	15 Feile Scholarship Application Due 6:45 Gaelic Pipe Band 8pm Irish Instrument Session	16 Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	17  1:30– 6:45pm Blood Drive 6:30pm Glee Club	18 6:30pm Irish Language Class (All Levels) 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	19 GAC Scholarship Application Due 🎵 The Coracles 9 pm in the Pub	20 8pm Pride of New York Concert 🎵 Mostly Green 9 pm in the Pub
21 Reminder Please Sign-In Guests (maximum of 4) Please Return Your Glasses to the Bar	22 6:45 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church 7:30 Irish Literature Group 8pm Irish Instrument	23 Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	24 6:30pm Glee Club	25 Noon Senior Lunch 6:30pm Irish Language Class (All Levels) 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	26 6pm Family Fun Night 🎵 Camac 9 pm in the Pub	27 🎵 Ghost Riders 9 pm in the Pub
28 	29 Memorial Day 12-3 Memorial Day BBQ 12-4 The Alehounds In the Pub 6:45 Gaelic Pipe Band 8pm Irish Instrument	30 Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	31 6:30pm Glee Club	1 6:30pm Irish Language Class (All Levels) 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	2 🎵 TBA 9 pm in the Pub	3 🎵 TBA 9 pm in the Pub