



# SCÉALA

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

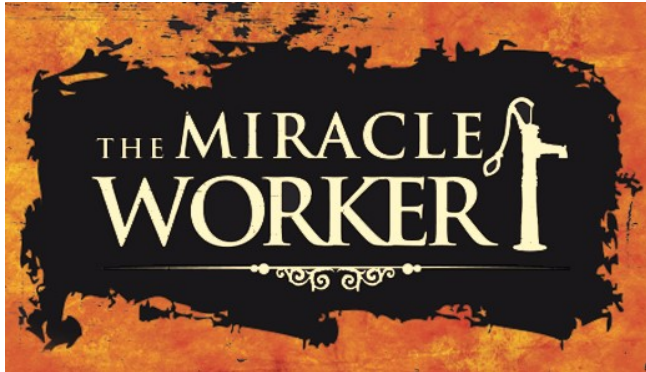


CÉAD MÍLE fáilte One Hundred Thousand Welcomes



Lánasa | August 2018

## SUPPORT CLAN NA GAEL'S SUMMER YOUTH PRODUCTION



Directed by Jillian Shaw Plomin  
All roles both on stage and backstage are performed by our young GAC Members

*The Miracle Worker* is the moving story of Helen Keller, a deaf and blind girl who, thanks to the tenacity and determination of her Irish immigrant teacher, Anne Sullivan, changed the world of communication forever.

Tickets are \$10 each

Thursday, Aug 16 @7pm | Friday, Aug 17 @7pm  
Saturday, Aug 18 @7pm | Sunday, Aug 19 @3:30pm  
Contact Bette Leary at [betteleary@gmail.com](mailto:betteleary@gmail.com)

## AUDITIONS FOR CLAN NA GAEL'S FALL PRODUCTION OF 'WHACKED'

Auditions for this adult comedy will be held Saturday September 22nd and Sunday 23rd from 1:00-3:30. Five men and three women ranging from ages 20 to 65 are needed. Auditions are open to all. No experience necessary. Production dates are November 15, 16, 17 & 18.

For further information contact the director at [guggenheimk@gmail.com](mailto:guggenheimk@gmail.com).



SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 22 FROM 4-8:30 PM  
ENTERTAINMENT BY BERNIE'S  
ORCHESTRA & BAVARIAN DANCERS

Enjoy Our Oktoberfest Buffet 5-7PM Spatan  
Oktoberfest Beer on Tap Fun & Games Cash Bar  
\$23 Adults and Kids 7 and under are \$5.

Make checks payable to GAC & drop off to to Social mailbox or mail to GAC. Attn: Oktoberfest. For more info contact: [Social@gacemail.org](mailto:Social@gacemail.org)

## Join us in the pub at 8pm

Friday	Aug 3	Mike McGovern
Saturday	Aug 4	Coracles
Monday	Aug 6	Sharon Shannon Band (see insert)
Friday	Aug 10	Ringrose & Feeman
Saturday	Aug 11	TBA
Friday	Aug 17	Susan & Gerard
Saturday	Aug 18	Crickstones
Friday	Aug 24	Sharon & Her Band
Saturday	Aug 25	Keltic Kick
Friday	Aug 31	Outside Chance
Saturday	Sept 1	Mostly Green

## Events

TRIVIA NIGHT - FRIDAY, AUGUST 3RD, @ 8PM  
SHARON SHANNON BAND AUGUST 6TH @ 7:30PM  
TRAD MUSIC SESSION - WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8TH, 7PM  
MEMBERSHIP MEETING - FRIDAY, AUGUST 10TH, 8PM  
PLAYWRITING CONTEST ENDS - WED AUGUST 15TH, PG 4  
YOUTH PLAY - AUG 16, 17, 18 @ 7PM & AUG 19 @ 3:30PM  
FAMILY FUN NIGHT - AUGUST 31ST 6-9PM  
ST PATRICK'S GAA CLUB NEWS, PAGE 3

GAA GAMES IN THE PUB EVERY WEEKEND IN  
AUGUST - TIMES & DATES IN WEEKLY BULLETIN

## club ACTIVITIES

### BUSINESS & TRADES DIRECTORY

Place your professional listing in the GAC Business Directory Trades List at [www.gaconline.org](http://www.gaconline.org). Go to GAC Business Directory 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.

### FÁILTE COMMITTEE

Anyone interested in sitting at the front desk and greeting those who come to the GAC, PLEASE contact Bette Leary - [betteleary@gmail.com](mailto:betteleary@gmail.com). We will arrange shifts to fit your schedule. Sign up for once a week, once a month or even once a year! It's a great way to meet new people.

### FAIRFIELD GAELIC PIPE BAND

Meets Mondays 6:30 pm at First Church Congregational. Fairfield Gaelic Pipe Band (475)329-0202 or visit [fairfieldgaelicpipeband.org](http://fairfieldgaelicpipeband.org).

### FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Family Fun Night is on August 31st from 6-9pm, featuring a 'kid-friendly' delicious buffet for \$5. Please remember to respect each other. Any questions Bette Leary at 203-767-0117. Thank you all in advance!

### GAC MEMBERSHIP MEETING

This month's meeting will be held Friday, August 10 @ 8 pm. Meetings are open to all members.

### GLEE CLUB & CHILDREN'S CHORUS

Chorus rehearsals for Memorial Mass, will begin the last week of September, followed quickly by Christmas Program practice. Please think ahead and plan to participate.

### GENEALOGY GROUP

#### FRÉAMH ÉIREANN

Genealogy Group on Summer break till September. Enjoy the Summer.

### ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS

Meetings are held at the GAC every 3rd Thursday of the month. This fraternal group mixes social functions and Christian charity on a regular basis. To join us Contact Tom Keane at via email [tkeane@optonline.net](mailto:tkeane@optonline.net) or Phone 203-256-8033.

### GOOD & WELFARE

A Mass Card was sent to the family of Eileen Harrity.

Sympathy Cards were sent to Frances Hill on the death of her husband Douglas Hill, Sr., and to Carol Thomas and Jim Mulligan on the death of their sister Jean Nelson.

*Notify Noreen Reda of all member news at [npreda4@gmail.com](mailto:npreda4@gmail.com).*

### HOUSE COMMITTEE

Ilona Paxton, House Chairperson  
203-372-1280

### IRISH LANGUAGE GROUP

#### Monday Evenings:

Irish Reading Class 7:00-8:00 PM, contact [JMinehan@gmail.com](mailto:JMinehan@gmail.com).

**Thursday Evening Sessions will resume in September.**

### LIBRARY

Library is open Monday through Saturday and upon request. Monitored children's hours for the Library are Friday and Saturday 6PM to 9PM. Children under 9 must be accompanied by an adult.

Please SIGN OUT BOOKS.

NO food or drink is allowed in the library. Volunteers needed for book covering, shelve shifting etc. Contact us at [library@gacemail.org](mailto:library@gacemail.org).

### LITERATURE GROUP

The Literature Group will meet on Monday, September 17th at 7:30 in the library to discuss William Trevor's *Last Stories*. If you have any questions, contact Clare Burnett at email [ClareBurnett@optonline.net](mailto:ClareBurnett@optonline.net) or 203-255-3848.

### SCEALA

Got something to say? Submissions for the Sept Sceala are due Aug 10th. Please send to Maura Kallaway and Jillian Plomin at [communications@gacemail.org](mailto:communications@gacemail.org). Please include ALL event details, date, time, location, cost, etc.

### SATURDAY MORNING RUNNERS & WALKERS CLUB

Runners meet Saturday mornings at 8:30am to run a 3.1 mile route from the GAC. Walkers meet 9am, walk to the Fairfield Beach Club and back. Maps for both routes are on GAC website under Clubs & Activities Tab.

### FÉILE (IRELAND)

John West Féile na nGael and John West Feile Peil na nÓg are the All-Ireland Club festivals for Hurling, Football, Camogie and Handball at Under 14 years of age level. Teams participating are nominated by their County Bord na nÓg. The NY County Board held intensely competitive tryouts spanning the winter and early spring months in Gaelic Park in the Bronx and Rockland. This year, the following children of GAC Members were selected to represent New York in this tournament: Ronan O'Donnell (son of Mike & Kathryn O'Donnell) and Colman Gately (son of Colman & Heather Gately). Congratulations to Ronan & Colman for your accomplishments in Ireland! We are so proud of you!

### IRELAND U21 NATIONAL/OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Maura Keary, daughter of GAC members Jimmy and Amy Keary has been selected to play for the Irish Women's National Softball team this summer in Europe. She will be representing Team Ireland in the European Softball Championships July 16-29 in the U-19 tournament in Staranzano, Italy and the U-22 tournament in Trnava, Slovakia. Team Ireland is a fairly new program and fast pitch softball is still in its infancy in Ireland, playing its first game ever in July 2015. The team is made up of young Irish women from Ireland, the USA, and South Africa. Since 2015 they have grown through 2 European Championships and 2 World Championships and are currently ranked number 20 in the world. Maura is incredibly excited to represent Team Ireland on this initial journey to build a program that will compete in the European Fastpitch Olympic Qualifiers in 2019 as softball & baseball will be returning to the 2020 summer games in Tokyo.



## ST PATRICK'S GAA CLUB - CÚL CAMP - 2018



In June, St. Patrick's GAA Club hosted its annual Cúl Camp, a summer camp in Gaelic football, hurling & camogie with 85 children participating, ranging in ages from 6-13 years of age at Notre Dame H.S., Fairfield. Cúl Camps are held in every county in Ireland and throughout North America and seek to improve Gaelic games skills while having a ton of fun. The following coaches from Ireland & the US passed on their knowledge and passion for Gaelic football and hurling: Eimear Considine (Co. Clare), Ailish Considine (Co. Clare), Adrian Coyle (Trumbull), Tadhg Guihen (Co. Roscommon), Gerard Holian (Co. Mayo), Jack Feeny (Fairfield), Tim Forde (Easton), John Branigan (Co. Limerick), Conal Kilfeather (Co. Donegal), Ciáran Kifeather (Co. Donegal), Joe McCormick (New Haven), and Tadgh Branigan (Co. Dublin). The following U16/17 players volunteered as assistant coaches for the camp: Sean McAdams, Tommy Quinn, Brian Forde, Seamus Carolan, Seamus Carbin, Colin Fleming, Aidan Derby, Luke Giardina, Aidan Byrne, and Shane Carbin.

The camp relied on an army of GAC members who volunteered their time all week to make the camp successful including: Mairead Ryan, Celine Carbin, Allison O'Connor, and Jimmy McPartlan. A team of volunteers from high schools in the US & IRL devoted the entire week to take special care of the younger campers including: Mary Feeny (also served as camp administrator), Hannah Kilfeather, Cate Palaia, Kelly DeRosa, and Eimear Ryan. The set up & breakdown crew was led by Jarlath Carbin and Declan Carbin with a host of volunteers including Mike O'Connor, Tom Quinn, Brendan Keatley, Mike O'Connor, just to name a few!

The medical trainer who cared for any bumps and bruises was Dave Stickney (from the Sound Tigers Hockey team) and the Camp Doctor was Dr. Henry Backe, M.D., and wonderful team of doctors at Orthopedic Specialty Group of Fairfield. Special thanks to Mr. Christopher Cipriano, Principal of Notre Dame High School, Larry Wielk and Mike Moylan of Sacred Heart University for their support of this camp and keeping Gaelic games alive in Fairfield County. Special thanks to Caroline Feeny, Noreen Forde, Kieran & Helen McAlinden who provided the coaches with meals during camp week and Ollie O'Neill for his help feeding our hungry campers. Music at the camp graduation party was provided by the talented duo of Alan Gogarty (Co. Meath) and the exciting fiddler, Bernadette Fee. Special thanks to Jude Fitzgerald, Tom Flaherty, and Chris Boccamazzo for making the party such a success and to Des Nolan for excellent assistance teaching the children the Irish language!

### U8 TOURNAMENT, HIGH SCHOOL GAELIC FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP & ADULT 7-ASIDE TOURNAMENT

St. Patrick's held its annual U8 Tournament on Saturday June 16th at Notre Dame High School. GAA Clubs from throughout the tri-state area and Boston sent over 16 teams to participate in this thrilling tournament. Congratulations to St. Patrick's for capturing the B Division Championship lead by Coach Mike O'Connor (Co. Wexford). Following the U8 Tournament, Coach Griffin Reidy and team Captain Jack Feeny, led the Fairfield Prep Gaelic football team as they bravely battled the formidable squad from Archbishop Stepinac for the Donnelly Cup only to see Stepinac pull ahead in the second half. Well done to the Prep team and we look forward to a re-match in 2019! Special thanks to the Donnelly family for helping with the presentation of Cup & medals and the kind words said during the awards ceremony.

The tournament ended with the first ever Adult 7-Aside with GAA Clubs from Albany, New Haven, Fairfield, and New York all battling for the Cup. Led by Coach Paddy Coyle, St. Patrick's staved off stiff challenges to claim the title and take the Cup back to the GAC!

This tournament was made possible by a generous donation from Mr. Richard MacLean and Féile and we sincerely thank them for supporting this day long festival of Gaelic football!





**1ST ANNUAL ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS  
CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT**

Awarding 1st, 2nd & 3rd Prizes as well as 50/50 Raffle and more. So join us September 22nd from 5-9PM at Insports, 29 Trefoil Dr, Trumbull, CT.  
Make check out to Bridgeport AOH - \$100.00 per team of 2 by Tuesday September 18th. Send Check to AOH VP Mark Ryan 26 Riverbend Road, Trumbull CT 203-258-9846, mark.ryan@sbcglobal.net

**8TH ANNUAL ONE ACT PLAYWRITING CONTEST**

Clan Na Gael Players' 8th Annual One Act Playwriting Contest will commence March 15th and run thru August 15th 2018. Please email Naoneil@charter.net for the 2018 Contest Instructions and Official Submission Form.

**VIDEOGRAPHERS NEEDED FOR ORAL  
HISTORY VIDEO PROJECT**

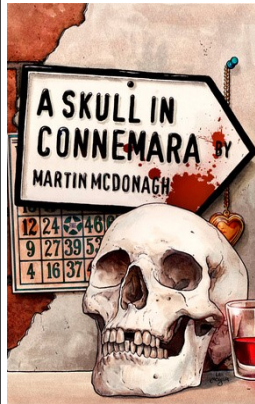
Volunteers are needed to assist in filming interviews for the Oral History Video Project. This is a great learning opportunity for young people!  
If you are interested in the filming process, or if you are an Irish-born member interested in being interviewed, contact Peggy O'Leary at 203-243-8124 or opeggyo812@gmail.com.

**MY NAME IS JOAN - OCTOBER 28TH @ 2:30 PM**



Feile, Inc. invites you to a screening of Susan Drew's documentary, MY NAME IS JOAN. Susan details her story of being adopted at age two, from Ireland in the late 1950's and her journey to find her birth mother in Dublin. The screening will be held on October 28th and followed by a Question and Answer forum and reception. The event will run from 2:30-4:30 and is open to all FREE of charge.

**SKULL OF CONNEMARA  
OCTOBER 27 & 28 @ 8PM**



Clan na Gael Players is presenting a staged reading of SKULL OF CONNEMARA by Martin McDonagh Saturday October 27 and Sunday October 28th at 8:00. Peg O'Leary is directing the cast of, Mathew Apgar, Noel McGovern, Breda O'Sullivan and Byrne White. This macabre, graveyard, black humor, set in Leenane, is recommended for mature audiences and is a fitting nod to the approach of All Saints Day.

IRISH LANGUAGE IMMERSION DAY IS OCT. 6TH - DON'T MISS IT!  
HANDOUTS ARE ON CLUB'S INFORMATION TABLE.



Address Service Requested

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U.S. Postage Paid  
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