



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 2018

IRISH HISTORY LECTURE "The Gaelic Idea: Reinventing Irish Dance" Sunday, May 6, 2018 at 2:00 PM



Presented by Sarah Churchill, adjunct professor of Art History at Housatonic Community College, the lecture focuses on Irish dance, a social dance form with humble origins, which today enjoys unprecedented worldwide popularity. With active dance communities in nearly 20 countries, seemingly boundless merchandising, and countless sophisticated stage production spin-offs, Irish dance is a global industry whose gross profit is almost incalculable. This lecture traces the development of Irish dancing, from the earliest days to the post-Riverdance boom, considering the ways in which the aesthetics of dancing and its purpose in Irish social life have changed over the course of its history, reflecting wider changes in Ireland itself.

Tickets: \$5 (\$2 students with ID)

Send checks made payable to Feile, Inc. Mary Adams-Arroyo, 221 McGrath Ct., Stratford, CT 06615.

Email: marroyo@optonline.net Subject: Irish History



FAIRFIELD COUNTY "WEE" IRISH FESTIVAL FATHER'S DAY JUNE 19 ~ NOON TO 6PM

At the GAC with music, dancers, pipers, food, raffles and more so watch for updates.

NEW MEMBERS MEET & GREET SUNDAY MAY 20TH FROM 3 TO 6PM

Let's all welcome our new members and encourage everyone (old and new) to participate in the many clubs and activities offered at the GAC!

Events

TRAD MUSIC SESSION - WEDNESDAY MAY 2, 7PM

TRIVIA NIGHT - FRIDAY, MAY 4TH, @ 8PM

MARY ELLEN & FRIENDS - THURSDAY, MAY 10TH, 6PM

MEMBERSHIP MEETING - FRIDAY, MAY 11TH, 8PM

GENEALOGY GROUP FRÉAMH ÉIREANN - SAT MAY 12TH, 10:30AM

SENIOR LUNCH - THURS, MAY 24TH, 12 NOON

FAMILY FUN NIGHT - FRIDAY, MAY 25TH, 6-9PM

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TRAD DAY SATURDAY JUNE 9TH

With life music throughout the day with
a special concert at 7:30PM

Following last year's successful inaugural event, the GAC will again host the 2nd Annual "Trad Day".



Starting at noon, the day will feature many of the northeast's finest Irish traditional musicians and dancers, including numerous All-Ireland Champions, in a succession of sets in the intimate setting of the pub throughout the afternoon and into the early evening, culminating in a formal concert at 7:30 in the Carolan Room by North America's premier traditional band, Pride Of New York, featuring Joanie Madden, Billy McComiskey, Brian Conway and Brendan Dolan.

The day-long events in the pub will be free to members and guests, with admission to the evening concert \$20. For event information please contact Gregg Burnett at (203) 255-3848. For concert reservations contact tmquinn@optonline.net

GAC BLOOD DRIVE

Wednesday May 16th from 1:30-6:45

So roll up your sleeves and give the gift of life.

The best pint ever served!

Join us in the pub at 9pm

Friday	May 4	The Fearless Band
Saturday	May 5	Camac
Friday	May 11	Approaching Normal
Saturday	May 12	Four of a Kind
Friday	May 18	Sharon & Her Band
Saturday	May 19	TBA
Friday	May 25	Ringrose & Freeman
Saturday	May 26	McLean Ave Band with the Lenihan School of Irish Dance
Monday	May 28	Jolly Beggars 12-4PM
Friday	Jun 1	Kurt & Helen

club ACTIVITIES

BUSINESS & TRADES DIRECTORY

Place your professional listing in the GAC Business Directory Trades List at www.gaonline.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

Faillte would like to thank everyone who did such a great job at the front door on St. Patrick's Day. Many volunteers made the day run very smoothly and everyone's efforts were greatly appreciated.

We are still looking for volunteers throughout the year for any and all hours that the GAC is open. PLEASE contact betteleary@gmail.com. We will arrange schedules 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.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Family Fun Night is on May 25th from 6-9pm, featuring a 'kid-friendly' delicious buffet for \$5. We are asking each family to donate a NEW pair of children's socks which will be brought to the Women's and Children's center in Bridgeport.

Reminder: If your child is in the Carolan Room for FFN a parent MUST be in the room with them. Also, if your child leaves the room to go in the yard or to the bathroom, the parent is to accompany their child. Children should NOT be roaming the GAC unaccompanied.

There shouldn't be toys, food, drinks or running on the dance floor. Your table should be cleared before your family leaves for the evening.

These reminders may seem harsh - unfortunately - they have become necessary.

Any questions call Bette Leary at 203-767-0117. Thanks in advance!

GLEE CLUB & CHILDREN'S CHORUS

Both Clubs are on hiatus and will announce when rehearsals resume

GOOD & WELFARE

A mass card was sent to Sally Burns on the death of her husband John. A mass card was sent to Barbara Omohundro on the death of her mother Pat Vosburgh.

A sympathy card was sent to Eileen Kennelly on the death of her mother.

Notify Noreen Reda of all member news at npreda4@gmail.com.

GENEALOGY GROUP

FRÉAMH ÉIREANN

Genealogy Group meets May 12 at 10:30 am. For info contact Donna Orazio: donnaorazio@gmail.com.

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Ilona Paxton, House Chairperson
203-372-1280

IRISH LANGUAGE GROUP

Wednesday Evenings:

Irish Grammar Class 7:00-8:00 PM, contact JMinehan@gmail.com.

Thursday Evenings:

Kids/Parents Irish Learning Helper Session: 6:30-7:30 PM, contact DesNolan@optonline.net.

Beginners Irish Class 6:30-7:30PM, Cecilia.Dalzell@quinnipiac.edu

Lower Intermediate Irish Class 7:30-8:30, DesNolan@optonline.net.

Higher Intermediate Class - meets Thursday from 6:30-7:30, contact JMinehan@gmail.com.

Grupa Comhra - 7:30- 9:00 PM, contact Cait 203-459-9686.

LIBRARY

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

Please SIGN OUT BOOKS.

NO food (including candy and gum) or drink is allowed in the library. Volunteers needed for book covering, shelf shifting etc. Contact us at library@gacemail.org.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

This month's meeting will be held Friday, May 11th @ 8 pm. Meetings are open to all members.

MEMBERSHIP REMINDERS

The white membership card with your name and a 5 digit number is used for both entering the club and scrip DO NOT DISCARD AFTER USING UP YOUR SCRIP. \$10 replacement fee for lost card. You can mail or drop off payment with your info to the Attn: Membership. To check Scrip balance, log into gac.campuscardcenter.com/ch/login.html. For more information contact membership@gacemail.org

LITERATURE GROUP

We will meet on Monday, April 16th at 7:30 to discuss Sebastian Barry's Days Without End. The novel takes place during the Indian wars and Civil War in America. All are welcome to attend. For questions, please call Clare Burnett at 203-255-3848 or email ClareBurnett@optonline.net.

SCEALA

Submissions for the May Sceala are due May 11th. Please send to Maura Kallaway and Jillian Plomin at communications@gacemail.org. Please include ALL event details, date, time, location, cost, etc. Proper grammar is also greatly appreciated.

SENIORS

Senior Lunch is Thursday, May 24, reservations by Sunday, May 20, Lunch is \$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

Lace up your dance shoes because we're Set Dancing every Thursday at 7:30pm. All are welcome! Contact Brian Reynolds 203-214-2921.



JOIN US FOR A BBQ

Monday, May 28th
FROM 12 - 3:00 PM
(STOP BY AFTER THE PARADE)

With the Jolly Beggars will be playing in the Pub from 12 noon to 4:00 p.m.

GUEST SPEAKER MAUREEN TAYLOR AT MAY FRÉAMH ÉIREANN MEETING



Noted genealogist, Maureen Taylor, speak at the May 12th meeting of the Fréamh Éireann Genealogy Group. She is a blogger, author of many books and magazine articles. The *Wall Street Journal* named her the "nation's foremost historical photo detective."

Family historians often overlook the ethnic evidence sitting in their photo albums. Using case studies and examples, this special presentation illustrates how to read immigration clues in pictures taken in the United States and abroad.

Ms. Taylor's presentation is open to all members of the Gaelic American Club and will be in the Carolan Room on Saturday, May 12 at 10:30 am.

TWO SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Feile Scholarship - Feile is pleased to offer three, \$2000 scholarships, open to high school seniors who will be attending college in fall 2018. Applications are available at www.feileinc.org. Deadline

is May 15. Announcement will be made in June and awards will be presented at the Wee Irish Festival on Sunday, June 17 at the GAC.

GAC Scholarship - The Fairfield Gaelic American Club is pleased to offer two, \$2,000 scholarships to deserving high school seniors attending a four-year college in the fall. Recipients will be announced in early June of 2018. Scholarship is open to children and grandchildren of GAC members. Deadline is May 21st.

ST. PATRICK'S GAA CÚL CAMP ~ JUNE 25TH - 29TH



Boys or girls interested in learning how to play Gaelic football, hurling, or camogie - register for Gaelic games summer youth camp at St. Patrick's GAA Club, June 25 - 29. Visit stpattricksgfc.org for more information and to register. No experience needed, all children are welcome to join in the fun!

JOIN THE 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. Contact Division President Tom Keane for more information tkeane@optonline.net or Phone 203 256-8033.

CLAN NA GAEL NEWS



Thank you to the cast and crew of "Love In The Title", and to our audience for another successful Clan na Gael Production. We invite you all to come 'play' with us!

Kudos to our stars, (seated) Marie Stehle, (Left to Right), Tory Tallberg, Kelsey Gugenheim-Dias.

8TH ANNUAL ONE ACT PLAYWRITING CONTEST

The Clan Na Gael Players are pleased to announce that the 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. Please contact Nancy O'Neil at (203) 377-1070 with any questions regarding the contest ~ and good luck to all!



IRISH EMIGRATION VIDEO HISTORY PROJECT

The video history project is looking for immediate, professional help and advice from a club member with film making experience.

Our goal is to produce a documentary about the emigration from Ireland to Fairfield County. Presently fifty-five interviews were recorded of people who emigrated from Ireland.

Running time of interviews: 1 to 2 hours. Interviews covered life in Ireland and emigration to the states. All original video information has been entered into a data base system. Original videos have been converted to DVD format and loaded to a private secured site as well as preserved in their original forms.

Professional help needed to continue this important project. For more information or to lend a hand contact Peg at: opegyo812@gmail.com.

EASTER RISING COMMEMORATION

The annual 1916 Easter Commemoration will be held on Sunday May 6th, at 12 noon at the monument at the Gaelic American Club, 74 Beach Rd, Fairfield. A wreath laying to the memory of those who died for Ireland's freedom will take place. Guest speaker will be Dr. Patrick (Pat) Carolan. For information contact Pat, 203-644-9073 or poc6575@optimum.net.

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH**Sunday May 13th from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm**

\$22 Adults and
\$12 Children under 12
Free Prosecco for Mom!
For Tickets, please drop off
check (with all the information
below included) in the social
mailbox or, mail to GAC,
Attn: Social Committee,
74 Beach Road,
Fairfield, CT 06824
Checks made payable to Gac

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

_____ # Adults \$22 _____ # Children \$12

2018 IS YEAR OF IRISH LANGUAGE

The Irish Government has declared 2018 the Year of Irish Language. People are encouraged to speak or learn some (or more) Irish. In light of that, the following Irish events are offered:

- ♣ A new display exists at the front desk, in which every couple of months there will be a different set of handouts with Irish, English Translation and Phonetics on some interesting topics.
- ♣ Assistance to all activity groups and staff within the club to work with them to introduce a little Irish to their activity or work.
- ♣ Irish Language Immersion Day will be on Oct. 6th. Handouts are on club's information table.
- ♣ Irish Language classes take place every Thursday evening. All are welcome!
- ♣ See page 2 for class schedule.

SPRING INTO SPECIALS IN THE PUB**HESS CHARDONNAY****ANGRY ORCHARD ROSE HARD CIDER****HONOR CHERRY WHEAT ALE ON DRAUGHT****TANK 7 FARMHOUSE IPA****WOODFORD RESERVED KENTUCKY BOURBON****KILBEGGAN SINGLE GRAIN IRISH WHISKEY****SLANE TRIPLE CASKED IRISH WHISKEY****VAN GOGH TRIPLE EXPRESSO VODKA MARTINI**

MAY



*May laughter
ring ~ for here
comes spring!*

Bealtaine

Schedule

Pub hours

Dinner

Lunch & Branch

How To Reach us

Mon & Tues
Wed & Thurs
Friday
Saturday
Sunday

7 pm - 12 mid
5 pm - 12 mid
4 pm - 2 am
12 noon - 2 am
12 noon - 12 mid



5 pm - 9 pm
5 pm - 10 pm
5 pm - 10 pm
5 pm - 10 pm
12 pm - 8 pm

12 noon - 2:30pm
12 noon - 8:00pm

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

CÉAO MILE
FÁILTE



Sunday DOMHNACH	Monday LUAN	Tuesday MÁIRT	Wednesday CÉADAoine	Thursday DEARDAoine	Friday AOINE	Saturday SATHARn
Reminder Please Return Your Glasses to the Bar	Reminder Please sign-in Guests (maximum of 4)	1 Beltane Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	2 7pm Trad Music Session	3 6:30pm Irish Language 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	4 🎵 The Fearless Band 9 pm in the Pub	5 Cinco de Mayo <i>Derby Day</i> 🎵 Camac 9 pm in the Pub
6 12pm Easter Rising Commemoration 2pm Irish History Lecture "The Gaelic Idea: Reinventing Irish Dance"	7 6:30 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church 8pm Irish Instrument Session	8 7:30pm Executive Committee Meeting Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	9 7pm Irish Grammar Class	10 6pm Mary Ellen & Friends 6:30pm Irish Language 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing 8:30pm Irish Country Music Dance	11 8pm Membership Meeting Sceala Submissions Due 🎵 Approaching Normal 9 pm in the Pub	12 10:30am Genealogy Group Fréamh Éireann Meeting With Guest Speaker Maureen Taylor 🎵 Four of a Kind 9 pm in the Pub
13 11am Mother's Day Brunch	14 6:30 Gaelic Pipe Band 7:30pm Irish Literature Group 8pm Irish Instrument Session	15 Feile Scholarship Due Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	16 1:30—6:45pm Blood Drive BLOOD DRIVE 7pm Irish Grammar Class	17 6:30pm Irish Language Class (all levels) 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	18 🎵 Sharon & Her Band 9 pm in the Pub	19 🎵 TBA 9 pm in the Pub
20 3pm New Members Meet & Greet	21 GAC Scholarship Due 6:30 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church 8pm Irish Instrument Session	22 Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	23 7pm Irish Grammar Class	24 12 Noon Senior Lunch 6:30pm Irish Language Class (all levels) 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	25 6pm Family Fun Night 🎵 Ringrose & Freeman 9 pm in the Pub	26 🎵 McLean Avenue Band with a performance by The Lenihan School of Irish Dance 8 pm in the Pub
27 	28 12pm Memorial Day BBQ 6:30 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church 8pm Irish Instrument Session	29 Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	30 7pm Irish Grammar Class	31 6:30pm Irish Language Class (all levels) 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	1 🎵 Kurt & Helen 9 pm in the Pub	2  🎵 TBA 9 pm in the Pub