



SCÉALA

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



CÉAD MÍLE Fáilte One Hundred Thousand Welcomes



Samhain | November

2019 GAC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

All positions have been nominated and filled without contention so there will be no election.

Gerry Reidy - President

Faith Maciver - Vice President

Tom Harding - Treasurer

Gerry O'Donovan - Recording Secretary

Jim Corcoran - Financial Secretary

Sergeant at Arms - John Comerford

Amy O'Shea - Director 3 Years

Hilary Dee Koreeda - Director 2 Years

Pat Carolan - Director 1 Year

Best of luck to the 2019 Executive Committee!

CLAN NA GAEL FALL PLAY

WHACKED, an adult comedy follows Jack Murphy, whose wife walks in on an embarrassing private moment the night before Thanksgiving. The in-laws, coming to celebrate, notice something amiss and get involved. A Thanksgiving farce stuffed full of sex, family, awkwardness and hilariously needless shame. Adult language and themes. Not intended for young audiences.

Cast: Mat Apgar, 2, Joseph Dias,
Eileen Fickes, Bettie Guggenheim, Eamon Speer,
Erin Williams, Byrne White.

Directed by Kelsey Guggenheim-Dias.

November 15, 16, 17 @ 8:00 Sunday Nov. 18 @ 2:30. Cabaret seating. Reservations: Bette Leary

TRAD FOR TROCAIRE

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 11 FROM 2-4PM

The Irish Clubs of Fairfield Prep, Luralton Hall, and St. Joseph's High School, will host the 5th Annual Trad or Trocaire on Sunday November 11 from 2-4 pm. Trocaire, the official social justice and relief organization of the Catholic Church in Ireland assists poor and impoverished communities in the developing world by providing food, medical care, and basic necessities. Events are held in every county in Ireland and 3 years ago, children of GAC members at local Catholic high schools held the first Trad for Trocaire event outside of Ireland and has since raised over \$10,000! So come listen to our traditional Irish musicians playing their hearts out for a good cause and show your support for our high schoolers trying to make a difference in the world. Kindly accepting "free will" offering at the door - no amount is too small.



Giving Tree

Once again, the Giving Tree will be put up at the GAC on the night before Thanksgiving. We will be collecting presents for Sister Theresa Tremblay's Nursery School children and their families.

Please take a tag (or 2 !), buy the designated present,

wrap it (with the original tree tag attached) and return the gifts to the GAC NO LATER December 15, 2018. Please don't take a tag unless you fully intend to buy a gift . Thank you to all who participate.

Join us in the pub at 8pm

Friday	Nov 2	Camac
Saturday	Nov 3	Peter McKiernan
Friday	Nov 9	Mike McGovern
Saturday	Nov 10	Keltic Kick
Friday	Nov 16	Jolly Beggars
Saturday	Nov 17	Mostly Green
Wed	Nov 21	Highland Rovers
Friday	Nov 23	Kurt & Helen
Saturday	Nov 24	Once Removed
Friday	Nov 30	Mike O'Malley
Saturday	Dec 1	Peter McKiernan

Events

TRIVIA NIGHT - FRIDAY, NOV 2ND, @ 8PM

DECEASED MEMBERS MASS -SUNDAY NOVEMBER 4TH 10AM

TRAD MUSIC SESSION - WEDNESDAY, NOV 7TH, 7PM

MEMBERSHIP MEETING - FRIDAY, NOV 9TH, 8PM

GENEALOGY GROUP FRÉAMH ÉIREANN - SAT NOV 10, 10:30

HANGING OF THE JERSEYS - SUNDAY NOV 18TH 6PM

LITERATURE GROUP MEETING - MONDAY NOV 26TH, 7:30

SENIOR LUNCH - THURSDAY, NOV 29TH @ 12 NOON

FAMILY FUN NIGHT - FRIDAY, NOV 30TH 6-9PM

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 your fellow members.

FÁILTE COMMITTEE

Once again, we are asking for volunteers to work the front desk. We especially need Wednesday night, Saturday afternoon and Sunday afternoon shifts covered. We would appreciate some volunteers for an occasional Friday and/or Saturday evening shift. This is a great way to meet members of our club (and the liquor commission requires all guests to be signed in!)

So all members must sign in each of their guests: the members name PRINTED for EACH guest and each guest sign their own name and address. It's really not a big deal, but, it would be a huge deal if the GAC were to be temporarily shut down because some member isn't in compliance. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

If you'd like to join the FAILTE committee, call Bette Leary at 203-767-0117 or email:betteleary@gmail.com

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 Nov 30. All GAC families are invited to our monthly FFN from 6-9PM, the last Friday of every month. Each family is asked to bring a canned good to be donated to the GAC Food Drive.

GLEE CLUB

Singers needed for Memorial Mass Choir - Rehearsals are Thursdays at 6:45PM in the Carolan Room. Memorial Mass is November 4th.

GENEALOGY GROUP

FRÉAMH ÉIREANN

Genealogy Group meets Nov. 10th at 10:30 am For info Donna Orazio:donnaorazio@gmail.com.

GOOD & WELFARE

A sympathy card was sent to Chris and Jack Collins on the death of their father Thomas.

A sympathy card was sent to Jerry Forde on the death of his father Brian in Ireland.

Get well wishes were sent to Kevin Flynn recovering from surgery and to Eileen Hussey who is at St. Vincent's Medical Center. Get well wishes were sent to Lynn Farrell.

Notify Noreen Reda of all member news at 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.

Thursday Evenings:

Kids/Parents and Beginner/Teens/Adults meet at 6:30 PM.

Intermediate Level at 7:30 PM. contact DesNolan@optonline.net.

LIBRARY

Volunteers needed to help cover books. Wednesday, Nov. 7th at 5:30pm.

Library is open Monday through Saturday and has added many new books. 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 (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 November 9th @ 8 pm. Meetings are open to all members.

LITERATURE GROUP

The Literature Group will meet on Monday, November 26th, we will meet in the library at 7:30 to discuss Time Pieces: A Dublin Memoir by John Banville If you have any questions, contact Clare Burnett at email ClareBurnett@optonline.net or phone 203-255-3848.

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

RUNNERS & WALKERS CLUB

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

SCEALA

Submissions for the Nov Sceala are due Nov.9th. 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, Nov 29th, reservations by Sunday, Nov. 25, 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. Starting 9/13 ! Contact Brian Reynolds 203-214-2921.



We are helping local area shelters for those less fortunate and need cash donations to purchase turkeys, canned & boxed dry goods. Gift cards from Stop And Shop, ShopRite, etc. are also a great way to give. Remember if you are stopping by for a drink or to attend an event/play bring a donation for the Food Drive! Faith Maciver 203-520-8048.

CELTIC CHRISTMAS FAIR SATURDAY DECEMBER 1ST FROM 9-3PM



Celtic Christmas Fair has a great selection of Irish vendors and unique crafters so you can do all your holiday shopping in one place. Bring the children & grandchildren to have their photo taken with Santa in front of the GAC's beautiful stone hearth. And don't forget the Lenihan School of Irish Dance will be serving lunch in the Pub. For info contact: Kelli Grady at email bkgrady@msn.com or Sue Shanahan at suz9ck@optimum.net.

MR. & MISS SHAMROCK SCHOLARSHIPS

High School Seniors with an Irish background may apply for a \$3,000 scholarship (Runner-ups will received \$1750) beginning November 1, 2018. Applications will be in the Guidance Offices of local Public and Catholic High Schools, as well as on The Greater Bridgeport St. Patrick's Day Celebration website www.stpatricksdaysbridgeport.com.

The actual judging and reception will be held at the GAC from 4:00-9:00pm on Saturday, December 15, 2018 (Snow date is Dec. 16)

All applications must be submitted to
Patty McDonnell
(pattymcd2001@gmail.com)
by Saturday, December 8, 2018.



WIN A TURKEY

Play a few hands of the traditional card game 'Game of 25' on Sunday November 18th @1pm for a chance to win a turkey for your Thanksgiving

PURPOSE: NOTICE TO APPEAR IN THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER. NOTICE CHANGE TO 2019 ANNUAL MEMBER DUES, SCRIPT AND INITIATION FEES

At the October Monthly Membership meeting the Executive Committee recommended an increase in Annual Dues and Script. A motion to increase the new member Initiation fee was also made from the floor.

Since the last increase in membership fees in the 1990s the club has grown significantly. Membership has grown from hundreds of members to a club of 6,000 members with a waitlist of new applicants. The club facilities have also expanded significantly nearly doubling the physical building footprint. With this growth there has been many positive changes for the GAC community with expanded programs and services for members.

The growth of the club also comes with the additional cost of operations. As we celebrate the 25th year in the current club location the building is starting to show its age. A recent evaluation by the Facilities Committee estimated more than \$250,000 of maintenance requirements over the next two years including new roofs, windows and HVAC equipment. All of which have a typical lifespan of 25 years.

Currently the club does not operate with a cash reserve or the necessary financial safeguards for unexpected events. In the last year we've had significant pipes burst and the basement flood. Since insurance doesn't cover everything these types of unexpected events can have a impact on the financial health of the GAC. Therefore, once the immediate building repairs are addressed we intend to use an increasing percentage of the revenue generated from membership dues to establish a financial reserve for the club. This reserve will also be used to fund a Capital Projects fund to address building maintenance early before small issues become large and expensive projects.

As presented to the membership at the October 2018 monthly meeting the Executive Committee is recommending the following changes to membership Dues, Scrip and Initiation fees.

The proposed changes to the 2019 membership fees are as follows:

- **Senior (1): Dues: \$30 Scrip: \$75 Assessment: \$0 Total: \$105**
- **Senior (2): Dues: \$60 Scrip: \$150 Assessment: \$0 Total: \$210**
- **Individual: Dues: \$60 Scrip: \$75 Assessment: \$40 Total: \$175**
- **Senior + Individual Dues: \$90 Scrip: \$150 Assessment: \$40 Total: \$280**
- **Family (1 Adult and children under 21): Dues: \$60 Scrip: \$75 Assessment: \$40 Total: \$175**
- **Family (2 Adults with or without children under 21): Dues: \$120 Scrip: \$150 Assessment: \$80 Total: \$350**
- **New Member Initiation: \$150**

Please note that a motion was made at the October meeting and passed to raise the initiation fee from \$100 to \$150. Since this increase can be interpreted to be "other monetary requirements of membership" per section 4.2 of the Bylaws it will be proposed again for good order.

The Final vote on all 2019 member related fees to take place at the November 9th Monthly Membership Meeting.

THE ST. PATRICK'S GAELIC FOOTBALL AND HURLING CLUB ANNUAL DINNER DANCE

Saturday Dec. 1st @ 7pm - Gaelic American Club

Honoring Jimmy & Caroline Feeney as well as honoring player of the year Joe Jones.

The dinner dance celebrating the Club's continued growth and numerous successes on the field including NYMB and CYC/National Championships will feature The McLean Ave band, terrific dinner and dessert and an open bar. The cost for the evening is \$100 per person which includes a limited open bar.

Ticket purchasing information will follow seating reservations, but we will offer both an electronic payment option, and table captains will be collecting checks and donations on the night of the event. Please note that there is limited capacity at the GAC and we fully expect the dinner dance to sell out quickly; tickets will be sold on a "first come-first served basis" and will be initially offered exclusively to members before other members of the community are invited to purchase tickets.

To purchase tickets : <https://bit.ly/2S4XUiM> or go to link on website (GAOnline.org) under **Special Events & Other Craic Tab.**

FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN THE SUBMITTING AN AD FOR THE ANNUAL DINNER DANCE JOURNAL

We will follow similar format to years past, and ask that you submit your journal ads via email. Please complete the attached form and send your entry, including artwork / logos / pictures to fundraising@stpatricksgaa.us by November 17,

INTO TO GAELIC FOOTBALL FOR CHILDREN

Mark Your Calendars! St. Patrick's G.A.A. Club will host its annual winter training program "Introduction to Gaelic Football for Children 6-8 Years Old" on Saturdays from 4-5pm at The Field House in Fairfield for six weeks beginning in January. All training is non-contact and emphasizes fun, games, hand-eye coordination and basic skills. Cost is \$50 and includes T-shirt and graduation ceremony. Limited capacity. To register, please visit: www.stpatricksgfc.org. Email questions to: admin@stpatricksgfc.org.



DECEASED MEMBERS MASS

Will be celebrated in the Carolan Room
Sunday November 4th at 10AM.
Lite refreshments to follow.



"FRIENDSGIVING" SUNDAY NOVEMBER 11TH FROM 4-8PM

"Friendsgiving" a free event to toast the holidays with friends and family with the McLean Avenue Band playing in the Pub. Kitchen will be open!



CELEBRATE

THE HANGING OF THE JERSERYS WITH CAMAC
Sunday November 18th @ 6PM

Join in the revelry and fun of this fine tradition celebrating Dublin the All-Ireland Hurling Champs Limerick, All-Ireland Football Champs Dublin and St. Patrick's Hurling & Football Club



Samhain NOVEMBER



Schedule

Pub hours

Dinner

Lunch & Branch









Mon & Tues	7 pm - 12 mid		
Wed & Thurs	5 pm - 12 mid	5 pm - 9 pm	
Friday	4 pm - 2 am	5 pm - 10 pm	
Saturday	12 noon - 2 am	5 pm - 10 pm	12 noon - 2:30pm
Sunday	12 noon - 12 mid	12 pm - 8 pm	12 noon - 8:00pm

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.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 Bring in canned goods for FOOD DRIVE		1 6:30pm Irish Language 6:45 Glee Club 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	2 8pm Trivia Night 🎵 Camac 8 pm in the Pub	3 🎵 Peter McKiernan 8 pm in the Pub
4 10am Deceased Members Mass 	5 Monday Night BBQ 6:30 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church 7pm Irish Reading Class 8pm Irish Instrument Session	6 7:30pm Executive Committee Meeting Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	7 7pm Trad Music Session 	8 6:30pm Irish Language 6:45 Glee Club 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	9 8pm Membership Meeting Sceala Submissions Due 🎵 Mike McGovern 8 pm in the Pub	10 10:30am Genealogy Group Fréamh Éireann Meeting 🎵 Keltic Kick 8 pm in the Pub
11 2pm Trad for Trocaire 4pm 'FriendsGiving' with McLean Ave Band	12 Monday Night BBQ 6:30 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church 7pm Irish Reading Class 8pm Irish Instrument Session	13 Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	14 	15 6:30pm Irish Language 6:45 Glee Club 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing 8pm CnG Play 'Whacked'	16 8pm CnG Play 'Whacked' 🎵 Jolly Beggars 8 pm in the Pub	17 8pm CnG Play 'Whacked' 🎵 Mostly Green 8 pm in the Pub
18 2:30pm CnG Play 'Whacked' 6pm Hanging of the Jerseys with Camac	19 Monday Night BBQ 6:30 Gaelic Pipe Band 7pm Irish Reading Class 8pm Irish Instrument Session	20 Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	21 🎵 Highland Rovers 8 pm in the Pub	22 	23 🎵 Kurt & Helen 8 pm in the Pub	24 🎵 Once Removed 8 pm in the Pub
25 	26 Monday Night BBQ 6:30 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church 7pm Irish Reading Class 7:30 Irish Literature Group 8pm Irish Instrument Session	27 Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	28 	29 12pm Senior Lunch 6:30pm Irish Language 6:45 Glee Club 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	30 6-9 pm Family Fun Night 🎵 Mike O'Malley 8 pm in the Pub	1 9-3pm Celtic Christmas Fair 7:30pm St. Patrick's GAA Diner Dance 🎵 Peter McKiernan 8 pm in the Pub 