



SCÉALA

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



CÉAD MILE Fáilte One Hundred Thousand Welcomes



MÁRTA March 2015



CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK'S DAY Tuesday, March 17th

9 am **GAA Finals**
10 am **Flag Raising Ceremony**
Light fare follows
12 noon **Pub Opens**



♣ PUB ♣

1:30-3:30 **Bedlam Brothers**
String Band
3:45-6:00 **Once Removed**
6:15-8:45 **Camac**
9:00-Close **Keltic Kick**

♣ CAROLAN ROOM ♣

1:00-3:00 **The Shamroques**
3:15-5:30 **Roll Away**
5:30-6:30 **Fairfield Gaelic Pipe Band**
Lenihan School of Irish Dance
6:30 - 9:00 **The Jolly Beggars**

Special Menu (in place of regular menu) starting at noon on Tuesday March 17, which includes corned beef sandwiches, fish & chips, chicken fingers, fries and tuna sandwiches. Irish potato chips and Irish chocolates will be available.

Volunteers are needed for the door on Tuesday, March 17 starting at 12 noon. Please sign-up at the front desk, contact Betty Leary betteleary@gmail.com or at 203-767-0117 or call the Manager at 203-254-0673. We also need help making sandwiches and serving food on Sunday, March 16 and Monday, March 17. Please sign-up at the front desk or call Mary O'Driscoll at 203-414-9462.

\$5 Guest Fee ♣ Tuesday, Mar 17 at 1 pm



Join us in the pub at

Friday Mar 6	<i>Mostly Green</i>
Saturday Mar 7	<i>Camac</i>
Friday Mar 13	<i>Girsa</i>
Saturday Mar 14	<i>Dreams of Freedom</i>
Tuesday Mar 17	<i>See Schedule Above</i>
Friday Mar 20	<i>Kurt & Helen Band</i>
Saturday Mar 21	<i>Across The Pond</i>
Friday Mar 27	<i>The Ghost Riders</i>
Saturday Mar 28	<i>Sharon & Tim Burke</i>



Events

KICKOFF TO ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY
Saturday, March 1, 5 - 9 pm, p 4



TRIVIA NIGHT ♣ Friday, March 6, 8 pm



CULTURAL NIGHT
Wednesday, March 11, 6:30 pm, p 4



CHILDREN'S ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY
Saturday, March 14, 11am - 1pm, p 4



ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION
Tuesday, March 17, p 1



FAMILY FUN NIGHT
Friday, March 27, 6 - 9 pm, p 3



DERVISH IN CONCERT
Friday, March 20, 8 pm, p 4



PAST PRESIDENT'S DINNER DANCE HONORING JUDE FITZGERALD

Saturday April 18th, 7:00 p.m.



Dinner and Dancing Music by *McLean Avenue Band* For information: ppdgac@yahoo.com

club ACTIVITIES

25 CARD GAME

Card players meet Thursdays at 7:30 pm.

FÁILTE COMMITTEE

Ideally we would like people to sit at the door whenever the Club is open. At this time there are very few committed people who have volunteered. We will take anyone who can give a few hours on a weekly or monthly basis. Contact Betty Leary at betteleary@gmail.com or 203-767-0117.

FAIRFIELD GAELIC PIPE BAND

We meet Mondays, 6:45 pm at First Church Congregational. Ted Rappa (203) 874-1183.

FRÉAMH ÉIREANN GENEALOGY GROUP

Our next meeting is Saturday, March 14 at 10:30 am. Contact Donna Orazio: donnaorazio@gmail.com

GAC BOWLING LEAGUE

Join us on Sundays at 6:30 pm at Nutmeg Bowl in Fairfield. Come alone or with friends!
Donna Lillis (203) 373-9129
Hilary Koreeda (203) 335-6861

GAC BUSINESS DIRECTORY/ TRADES LIST

The GAC Business Directory / Trades List is for "trades" AND professionals. Are you a doctor, attorney, engineer, or other professional? It's easy to place your professional listing in the Directory. Go to www.gaconline.org/directory1.html, click on GAC Businesses Directory and follow the prompts to add your listing. If you need a category added, e-mail the Committee from the *Contact Us* page.



GOOD & WELFARE

Congratulations to Diane and Patrick Speer on the birth of their grandson, James Patrick, born on Feb 12. He is Moira Speer Warren & Tim Warren's first child and great grandchild of Rita Bennett.

HOUSE COMMITTEE

P.K. Lenihan 203-261-6656

IRISH INSTRUMENT SESSIONS

Join us Mondays, 8 pm



IRISH LANGUAGE

Foshlaim Saeilge

The Irish language class meets at 6:30 PM in the cultural room on Thursdays. After class there is an Irish conversational session in the bar's snug starting around 7:30ish for the more advanced students. NEW IRISH LANGUAGE TEACHER NEEDED: We have a few students who want to join a new beginner's class, for which we need a teacher. If you have even a couple of years of learning Irish you're qualified. Assistance can be provided should you need it. For more information contact KThopsey@Fairfield.edu or DesNolan@OptOnline.Net or drop by the class.

IRISH LITERATURE GROUP

The Irish Literature Group will meet on Monday, March 23 at 7:30 in the Library. We will be discussing Sebastian Barry's The Whereabouts of Eneas McNulty. Barry's lyrical tale of a fugitive everyman is a compelling saga that illuminates Ireland's compelling history. When released, it was hailed by the San Francisco Chronicle "as the finest book to come out of Europe this year." We welcome new readers. If you have any questions, please call Gloria Piche at 203-260-4037.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

2014 labels for door cards should arrive in the mail early April. "Turned 21" Membership: Parents are reminded that any child who has reached the age of 21 during 2014 is entitled the his/her own membership in 2015 without going on the Wait List and is not required to pay an Initiation Fee.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

This month's meeting will be held Friday, March 14 at 8 pm. Meetings are open to all Members. Minutes from the previous meeting are posted on the Bulletin Board.

SCÉALA

The April issue deadline is March 14. Please submit news to 'Newsletter' via the website or to the Newsletter mailbox.

SCRIP

Scrip will be credited to the green Scrip cards for use beginning April 1. Note that March is the only month that Scrip is not used. For inquiries, send an e-mail to 'Scrip' via the website or call 203-256-0380.



SENIORS

Join us for lunch on Thursday, Mar 26 at 12 noon. Call for reservations by Sunday, Mar 22:
Ann Hague 203-374-5198
Shirley McMenamy 203-268-5083
Sally Savage 203-366-4826

SET DANCING

We dance on Thursdays at 7:30 pm. All are welcome! Brian Reynolds (203) 214-2921

SPORTS COMMITTEE

To all our Irish Football and Hurling fans: GAA Games are televised at the club on Saturdays and Sundays. Come meet up with friends and family and watch your county play!

club and member news

AOH COMMUNION MASS & BREAKFAST

Sunday, March 9th ✚ 8 am



AOH John F. Kennedy Div. 1 Bridgeport/Fairfield will hold its 65th Annual Communion Mass at St. Patrick's Church, 851 North Ave., Bridgeport on Sunday, March 8th at 8 am. Breakfast will follow at the Holiday Inn, 1070 Main St., Bridgeport. Celebrant and keynote speaker will be the Most Reverend Frank Caggiano, Bishop of Bridgeport. For details, information, and ticket reservations please visit www.aohjfk.com.

EASTER RISING MASS & COMMEMORATION

Sunday, April 6th ✚ 3 pm



The annual memorial Mass and Commemoration for the martyrs of 1916 rising in Ireland and the ten hunger strikers of 1981 will be celebrated at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Fairfield, CT on Sunday, April 19th at 3 pm. The Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Lawrence Ryan, SJ. Immediately after mass there will be a commemorative ceremony at the Gaelic American Club, 74 Beach Rd. A guest speaker will be announced later. For information, contact Pat O'Connell at 203-644-9073 or poc6575@optimum.net.

IRISH MUSIC & STORIES

A program for preschool children ages 3 to 5

**Tuesdays 10 to 10:45 AM at the GAC
10 weeks, from March 24th - May 26th**

In these classes children will be taught a song, move to music preparing for a folkdance, and participate in an interactive story and a singing game. All materials will foster an appreciation for Irish culture. Registration forms are available on the green lobby table at the club and online at www.gaconline.org under Activities. Mrs. Lyons can be reached via email: GACchildrenpreschool@outlook.com

The updated **GAC WEBSITE** recently went live thanks to the efforts of our web team: Frank O'Driscoll, Ryan Wessel, Jude Fitzgerald, Donal Gleason. Rose Leahy & Maura Kallaway. We hope the membership will find it a useful resource. We also invite all clubs and committees to review current information on their activity and submit updates and photos.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

March 27 6-9 p.m.

We would like to ask each family to bring a NEW board game or deck of cards (i.e., UNO) to be donated to Sister Theresa's teen center.



ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Tuesday, March 17th

Downtown Bridgeport
Ted Lovely, Grand Marshal

8:00 am	Mass at St. Augustine Cathedral
9:15 am	Flag Raising at City Hall
10:00 am	Full Breakfast
12 noon	Parade Kick-off
1:30 pm	Lunch: Corned Beef sandwiches

Reserved seating for breakfast and lunch at the Bridgeport Holiday Inn are \$20 per meal when purchased by March 11th; afterwards tickets are \$25. For Reservations: Marilyn Mitchell at Moommy1@aol.com | (203) 261-4767 or Patty McDonnell at pattymcd2001@gmail.com (203) 366-2417.

Congratulations to The 2015 Shamrock winners:

Mr. Shamrock	Ian McLevy
Runner up	Owen Mockler
Miss Shamrock	Emily Devine
Runner up	Katherine O'Rourke

The St. Patrick's Day Celebration committee is looking for new members. Come join us for an exciting and rewarding time. For further information, call Patty McDonnell at 203 366-2417 or Marilyn Mitchell at 203 261-4767.

Put On Your Green ~ March with the GAC

RESEARCHING IRISH ANCESTRY— MAXIMIZING GRIFFITH'S VALUATION SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 1-5 P.M.

Noted Genealogical experts Mr. Fintan Mullan, executive director and Ms Gillian Hunt, Research Officer of the Ulster Historical Foundation will present a half-day Irish genealogy program. Sponsored by Feile, Ins and Fréamh Eireann Genealogy Group, the program will cover researching all of the island of Ireland and attendees will also have the opportunity to purchase useful genealogical information. For information—John Minehan at 203-293-8090. \$25, reservations required at email gacevent@gmail.com or mail check, payable to "feile, inc." to Mary Adams-Arroyo, 221 McGrath Court, Stratford, CT 06615

**On GIVING DAY. show Fairfield County how
important Irish Culture is to you
by supporting FEILE, Inc.,
a registered 501c3 nonprofit.**



Presented by Fairfield County's Community Foundation with lead sponsor Bank of America, Giving Day will take place on Thursday, March 5-2015. Everyone who makes a donation to **FEILE, Incorporated** through Fcgives.org on March 5th will be entered into a drawing to receive one 3-day pass to the 27th Fairfield County Irish Festival taking place on Father's Day weekend 2015, and a festival hat.



Special Concert Event!

Dervish

Friday, March 20, 8 p.m.

Direct from Ireland!

County Sligo-based super group led by singer Cathy Jordan and featuring award-winning instrumentalists Tom Morrow on fiddle, Liam Kelly on flute, Shane Mitchell on accordion, and Brian McDonagh and Michael Holmes on rhythm.

Tickets \$20. For reservations email dervishgac@yahoo.com AND mail/deliver payment to the GAC attn: Social

ST. PATRICK'S DAY KICKOFF PARTY

Sunday, March 1st ♣ 5-9 pm

Music by McLEAN AVENUE

a Fun Night Filled with Music,
Dancing and general merriment!

Bring your own snacks!



Cultural Night

Wednesday, March 11h ♣ 6:30 pm

Noel McGovern, Emcee

The Shamroques

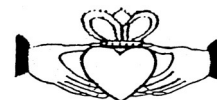
Lenihan School of Irish Dance

Fairfield Gaelic Pipe Band

St. Patrick's Gaelic Football Club

Clan na Gael ♣
Irish Language

Set Dancers
Club



Children's St. Patrick's Day Party

Saturday, March 14th ♣ 11 am - 1 pm

Buffet lunch available \$5

Performance & Mini Lesson by Lenihan School of Dance
Kelly Takacs ♣ kellyanntakacs@yahoo.com


































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Gaelic American Club
74 Beach Road
Fairfield, CT 06824
www.gaconline.org



Address Service Requested

MARCH MÁRTA 2015 		Schedule Pub hours Dinner Lunch & Branch			How To Reach us		Céao Míle fáilte 
Sunday Dómhach		Monday Luan	Tuesday Máirt	Wednesday Céadaoin	Thursday Deardaoin	Friday Aoine	Saturday Satharn
1 Pub Dining Only   5-9 pm St. Patrick's Day Kickoff Party , p 4 6:30 GAC Bowling League at Nutmeg Bowl		2 6:45 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church 8pm Irish Instrument Session	3 Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	4  Informal Music 7-9 pm In the Pub	5 6:30pm Irish Language I 7:15pm Irish Language II 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	6 Lenten Specials  8 pm Trivia Night  Mostly Green 9 pm in the Pub	7 Pub Dining Only   Camac 9 pm in the Pub
8 Daylight Saving Time Begins  Pub Lunch, 12-3pm Sally & Damien Connolly 6:30 GAC Bowling		9 6:45 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church 8pm Irish Instrument Session	10 Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	11 Pub Dining Only   6:30 Cultural Night	12 6:30pm Irish Language I 7:15pm Irish Language II 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	13 Scéala deadline Lenten Specials  8 pm Membership Mtg  Girsa 9 pm in the Pub	14 10:30 Genealogy 11am-1pm Children's St. Patrick's Day Party  Dreams of Freedom 9 pm in the Pub
15  Pub Lunch, 12-3 Sally & Damien Connolly  The Irish Band  6:30 pm In the Pub 6:30 GAC Bowling League at Nutmeg Bowl		16 6:45 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church 8pm Irish Instrument Session	17  9am GAA Finals 10am Flag Raising 12noon Pub Opens See Newsletter for Agenda	18	19 6:30pm Irish Language I 7:15pm Irish Language II 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	20 First Day of Spring Pub Dining Only  Lenten Specials  8pm DERVISH Concert  Kurt & Helen 9 pm in the Pub	21  Across the Pond 9 pm in the Pub
22  Pub Lunch, 12-3pm Sally & Damien Connolly 6:30 GAC Bowling League at Nutmeg Bowl		23 6:45 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church 8pm Irish Instrument Session	24 Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	25  Informal Music 7-9 pm In the Pub	26 12noon Seniors Lunch 6:30pm Irish Language I 7:15pm Irish Language II 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	27 Lenten Specials  6-9 pm Family Fun Night  The Ghost Riders 9 pm in the Pub	28  Sharon and Tim Burke 9 pm in the Pub
29  Pub Lunch, 12-3 pm Sally & Damien Connolly 6:30 GAC Bowling League at Nutmeg Bowl		30 6:45 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church 8pm Irish Instrument Session	31 Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult		Reminder Please Sign-In Guests (maximum of 4) Please Return Your Glasses to the Bar	Corned Beef and Cabbage Specials March 14 and 15	



**6th Annual
Hair of the Dog
Extravaganza!**



Saturday, March 21 at 7:30 pm
Fairfield University Quick Center

A unique variety show fusing Irish music and dance with American music and dance, and the renowned deaf theatre of *The Cridders*. Other performers include *Tim Warren of The Alternate Routes*, *The Sheeuan Academy of Irish Dance*, *Liz McNichol, Once Removed*, *Performing Arts Center of Trumbull* and more. Tickets \$22, Seniors \$17, and Children \$14 at hairofthedogextravaganza.com



FAIRFIELD COUNTY IRISH FESTIVAL

The 2015 Irish Festival will be held Father's Day weekend on June 19, 20 and 21 on the Fairfield University grounds. Become a Sponsor and help us in celebrating *All That is Irish*. To find out more, please visit www.irishfestival.org. You can also join in the fun by volunteering with your family and friends. Everyone is welcome. Visit our website to sign up or go to our volunteer web page at: <http://vols.pt/XQpxxD>. Watch for our 2015 festival shirts and sweatshirts which will debut at the GAC on St. Patrick's Day.



**51st Annual
ST. PATRICK'S SCHOLARSHIP DINNER**



**Monday, March 16
6 pm Cocktails & 7 pm Dinner**

Irish entertainment following brief speakers program. 501(c)3 charitable organization with mission to provide \$24,000/4-year scholarship to a high school senior attending college in the fall regardless of race, color, or religion. Contributions graciously accepted. Event held at Bridgeport Holiday Inn. Formal Attire. Tickets \$125 per person; Dave Howe at 203-767-6519.

**SUPPORT FOR AL'S ANGELS:
ETHAN NEEDS A VAN**

GAC members are planning fundraising activities for one our club families whose son, Ethan, has Spinal Muscular Atrophy. His greatest need right now is a new van which can accommodate his and the family's needs. If selected, Whole Foods will donate 5% of total sales day to the cause through their Donation Partnership Program in April. What can you do? Email your letter of support—under the title above—to Shari.vikmanis@wholefoods.com Details, more information and sample letter available on gaconline.org.



Direct from Ireland
CELTIC THUNDER'S PAUL BYROM

Downtown Cabaret Theatre

Saturday, March 14
5:30 p.m. & 8:30 p.m.

203-576-1636 or
www.MyCabaret.org



CLAN NA GAEL PLAYERS

Spring Production:

The Mating Season by Sam Cree

April 9, 10, 11, 12 - 8 p.m., April 12 -2:30 p.m.

The action takes place in the living room of Sidney Gillespie, a widower who has found a prospective wife and is giddy with happiness! Misunderstandings, confusion, spying, lying, twists and turns fill the room before the dust settles on a final resolution. It's all in good fun ... the audience will be laughing out loud as the action moves. Producer: Marie Stehle; Director: Peg O'Leary; Production Stage Manager: Mary Carberry. Cast: Steve Bennett, Breda O'Sullivan, Noel McGovern, Mat Apgar, Eamon Speer, Joyce Fox, Kelsey Guggenheim, Tracy James, Avery Bebon, Bette Guggenheim.

\$15 Cabaret Style Seating For reservations:
203-873-6556 or cngplays@gmail.com

5TH ANNUAL ONE ACT PLAYWRIGHT CONTEST

Contest runs from February 15 to July 15. Open to all ages. Complete rules and entry forms can be found on the green table in the Club Lobby. For further information, please contact Nancy O'Neil at Naoneil@charter.net or 203-377-1070.

**WOMEN AND THE GREAT HUNGER IN IRELAND
June 3 - 6 at Quinnipiac University**

Three distinguished keynote speakers include: Jason King, PhD, of Galway University; Ciarán Reilly, PhD, of Maynooth University; and Margaret Ward, PhD, of Queen's University, Belfast. Details of the conference can be found at: <http://www.quinnipiac.edu/institutes-and-centers/irelands-great-hunger-institute/women-and-the-great-hunger-in-ireland-conference/>.