



# SCÉALA

Newsletter for the Gaelic-American Club  
74 Beach Road, Fairfield CT 06824  
[www.gaconline.org](http://www.gaconline.org)



CÉAD MÍLE Fáilte One Hundred Thousand Welcomes



Aibreán April 2015

## PAST PRESIDENT'S DINNER DANCE Honoring Jude Fitzgerald Saturday April 18th, 7:00 p.m.

Join us for a fun filled night of music and dance  
Dinner provided by O'Neill's Pub.  
Dance to the fabulous McLean Avenue Band!  
Tickets are \$25 each.  
Make checks payable to GAC  
Mail in or drop in Social Mailbox  
Email reservations to [ppdgac@yahoo.com](mailto:ppdgac@yahoo.com) or  
[s-tesei@hotmail.com](mailto:s-tesei@hotmail.com)

## SAVE THE DATE FOR MOM!

## MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH Sunday, May 10th



Please watch for the announcement updating  
times and pricing for the Mother's Day Brunch  
on both GAC website: [GACONLINE.ORG](http://GACONLINE.ORG)  
and in the weekly e-Bulletin.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we leave March behind us, we look forward to a busy April and some new events at the Club. Described elsewhere in the Newsletter is a Photographic Exhibit of Traditional Irish musicians by Robin O'Brien Kiteshew which will be on display in April in the second floor hallway. Also, the Social Committee is putting on a series of Irish movies in conjunction with the Faculty of Irish Studies at Sacred Heart University. These will be movies of different topics, related to Ireland, presented and discussed by the Faculty. Hopefully, they have a start date of April 15<sup>th</sup> but the details are being finalized and will be presented when ready. The Past Presidents Dinner and the Mass commemorating the Rising of 1916 are also on the April schedule and should be well attended. I want to thank all who gave so much of their time to make St. Patrick's Day enjoyable and especially the Social Committee for the entertainment and the House Committee members for their efforts in decorating the Club.

P. J. Carolan



## Join us in the pub at 9 pm

Friday	April 3	No Music—Good Friday
Saturday	April 4	Roll Away
Friday	April 10	Camac
Saturday	April 11	The Irish Band
Friday	April 17	Sharon & Tim Burke
Saturday	April 18	Karaoke
Friday	April 24	The Navels
Saturday	April 25	Four of a Kind
Friday	May 1	The Crickstones
Saturday	May 2	The Kurt & Helen Band



For a Special Trivia Treat go to back of April Calendar!

## Events

IRISH MUSIC & STORIES  
Starts Tuesday, March 24, 10am, p 3  
FACES OF IRISH MUSIC PHOTO EXHIBIT  
April 1 – April 30 p 3  
DONNELLY DASH  
Sunday, April 12, 9am, p 4  
VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION & FESTIVAL KICK-OFF  
Sunday, April 19, 1 pm, p 4  
EASTER RISING MASS & COMMEMORATION  
Sunday, April 19, 3 pm, p 3  
FAMILY FUN NIGHT  
Friday, April 24, 6 - 9 pm, p 3  
GAC & FEILE SCHOLARSHIP INFO, p 3

## club ACTIVITIES

### 25 CARD GAME

Card players meet Thursdays at 7:30 pm.

### FÁILTE COMMITTEE

Volunteers needed to sit at the front desk and welcome people entering the GAC when the club is open. We need people who can commitment to a specified time slot or who can fill in on a temporary basis. It's a great way to meet other club members. Please call or email Bette Leary to sign up: 203-767-0117 or [betteleary@gmail.com](mailto:betteleary@gmail.com).

### FAIRFIELD GAELIC PIPE BAND

We meet Mondays, 6:45 pm at First Church Congregational. Fairfield Gaelic Pipe Band (475) 329-0202 or visit [fairfieldgaelicpipeband.org](http://fairfieldgaelicpipeband.org)

### FRÉAMH ÉIREANN GENEALOGY GROUP

Genealogy Group will meet on Saturday, April 11 at 10:30 am. Contact Donna Orazio: [donnaorazio@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.gaconline.org) and choose the GAC Business Directory option under Membership Tab and follow the prompts to add your listing.

### GOOD & WELFARE

Get well cards were sent to Charlie Vaughn and Mark Darcy both recovering at home from a hospital stay. Mark Darcy responded to the GAC correspondences: *"Thanks to everyone for their well wishes while I recover from abdominal surgery. It's great to be home. Keep those calls and letters coming in. God bless,"* Mark Darcy.

### HOUSE COMMITTEE

Ilona Paxton 203-372-1280

### 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.

### 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](mailto:KThopsey@Fairfield.edu) or [DesNolan@OptOnline.Net](mailto:DesNolan@OptOnline.Net) or drop by the class.

### IRISH LITERATURE GROUP

The Irish Literature Group will meet on Monday, April 20 at 7:30 in the Library. To discuss Colm Toibin's *"Nora Webster"*. About a fiercely compelling young widow and mother of four navigating grief and fears while struggling for hope. We welcome new readers. If you have any questions, please call Gloria Piche at 203-260-4037.

### LIBRARY

Peggy Corcoran (203) 870-6043

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

2014 labels for door cards should arrive in the mail early April.

### MEMBERSHIP MEETING

This month's meeting will be held Friday, April 17 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 April 10. 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

The Spring Fling Senior Lunch is Thursday, April 30 at 12 noon. Call for reservations by Sunday, April 26. cost \$9. 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. Meet up with friends and family and watch your county play!



## club AND member news

### MEMBERSHIP NEWS

The committee will be sending out invitations to some applicants on the Wait List in the next few weeks. The number of invitations will depend on how many lapses there are. New members are accepted strictly in order of application date but only those with **complete** applications can be considered. Some have not yet provided their Heritage Affirmation forms and may miss their chance of acceptance this year. The complete Wait List is posted on the notice board in the foyer. Members are asked to review it and notify any applicants with incomplete applications.

### 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 24<sup>th</sup> - May 26<sup>th</sup>**

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. Contact Mrs. Lyons by email: [GACchildrenpreschool@outlook.com](mailto:GACchildrenpreschool@outlook.com)

### "THE FACE OF IRISH MUSIC"

#### A PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION ON DISPLAY THROUGHOUT APRIL

The Gaelic-American Club will host a photographic exhibit by Robin O'Brien Hiteshew through the month of April. "The Face of Irish Music" is a collection of images taken over 36 years as a visual archive of the people behind the music. *"The ones who create and maintain the richness of Irish music and the tremendous vitality of Irish culture that remains relevant in the twenty-first century"*. The collection will be displayed on the 2nd floor of the GAC from April 1-30. Weekday Evenings 7-9pm Weekends 12-9pm. **A Welcome Reception** to meet the artist, Robin Hiteshew will be held on Wednesday evening April 1st from 6:30-9pm.

### FAMILY FUN NIGHT ~

**Friday April 24 from 6-9pm**

DJ Charlie Lomnitzer will be playing music so the kids can dance. \$5 buffet per child, if your child wants to eat. Each family is asked to donate a toiletry of their choice, which will be included with the Senior Luncheon group's donation to the John's Street Bridge group in Bridgeport.



### EASTER RISING MASS & COMMEMORATION

**Sunday, April 19th \* 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. A commemorative ceremony will follow at the Gaelic American Club, 74 Beach Rd. Guest speaker, Matthew Ryan Shelton, Graduate Instructor, MA Student. COO Irish Studies Alliance, Dept. of English, UCONN. Pat O'Connell at 203-644-9073 or poc6575@optimum.net.

### GAELIC-AMERICAN CLUB SCHOLARSHIPS

The GAC is pleased to offer two \$2000 scholarships to deserving high school students attending a four-year college in fall 2015. Applications will be available both at the Club's events table in the lobby and by contacting Mary Santilli at [John@knowsource.com](mailto:John@knowsource.com). Applications for consideration must be received by May 15.

### FEILE SCHOLARSHIPS

Feile is pleased to offer three scholarships of \$2000 each to high school seniors who will be attending college in fall 2015. Applications are available at [www.irishfestival.org](http://www.irishfestival.org). Deadline is May 12. Announcement will be made June 1 and awards will be presented at the Fairfield County Irish Festival.

### SHOP WITH A SMILE

#### And Support FEILE, Incorporated

AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same shopping cart, same shipping options and same great service. The only difference is that the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to FEILE, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit charity who's mission is to promote an awareness and appreciation of Irish Culture. The AmazonSmile Foundation makes the donation so your price for the item remains the same.

**TO GET STARTED:** Go To [Smile.Amazon.com](http://Smile.Amazon.com) Search for Feile incorporated and select it as your charity. That's it! From then on, all you need to do is always start your shopping at [Smile.Amazon.com](http://Smile.Amazon.com). Your selected charity will be noted on the top of your page each time you shop. You shop, Amazon Gives, Feile receives at no cost to you!



## FEILE THANKS YOU

Thank you to all who generously donated to FEILE, Incorporated on Fairfield County's Giving Day. Over the next year, your gift will help us continue our mission to promote an awareness and appreciation of Irish culture through ever widening charitable, educational, scholarship, literary and artistic pursuits. We couldn't do it without you. Congratulations to JOYCE DAY, winner of a 3 day pass to the Fairfield County Irish Festival held Father's Day weekend and a festival hat!

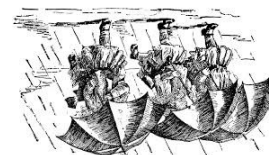
## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION AND FESTIVAL KICK-OFF PARTY

You're Invited to the Fairfield County Irish Festival VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION AND FESTIVAL KICKOFF PARTY. Join FEILE and the 2015 Festival Committee for music, prizes and fun honoring our favorite people. Our Festival Volunteers! New Volunteers are welcome. Sunday April 19 from 1-3pm at The Gaelic-American Club.



## The Donnelly Dash: Sunday, April 12th 9AM

The Gaelic American Club is once again the premier partner for the Donnelly Dash. So come out and run with the spirit of Tim and Kim in your heart: 3.5 mile run or 1.8 mile walk. Registration starts 7:45am (Race starts: 9:15) at Tomlinson Middle School, Fairfield. A post-race gathering will be held at the GAC with giveaways for All Donnelly Dash participants. For more info, visit [www.clubct.org](http://www.clubct.org).



Address Service Requested

Presorted First Class Mail  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Fairfield, CT 06824  
Permit # 288


Gaelic American Club  
74 Beach Road  
Fairfield, CT 06824  
[www.gaconline.org](http://www.gaconline.org)



**APRIL**  
**Aibreán**  
**2015**



**Schedule Pub hours Dinner Lunch & Branch**

<b>Mon &amp; Tues</b>	7 pm - 12 mid		
<b>Wed &amp; Thurs</b>	5 pm - 12 mid	5 pm - 9 pm	
<b>Friday</b>	4 pm - 2 am	5 pm - 10 pm	
<b>Saturday</b>	12 noon - 2 am	5 pm - 10 pm	12 noon - 3:00 pm
<b>Sunday</b>	12 noon - 12 mid	5 pm - 9 pm	11:30 am - 2:30 pm

**How To Reach us**

<b>Office</b>	(203) 254-0673
<b>Fax</b>	(203) 254-3012
<b>Pub emergencies</b>	(203) 254-2723
<b>Membership</b>	(203) 256-0380
<b>Scrip</b>	(203) 254-8502
<b>Social</b>	(203) 418-7676
<b>Website</b>	www.gaconline.org

**CÉAO MILE**  
 **fáilte**



<b>Sunday</b> <b>Dómhach</b>	<b>Monday</b> <b>Luan</b>	<b>Tuesday</b> <b>Máirt</b>	<b>Wednesday</b> <b>Céadaoin</b>	<b>Thursday</b> <b>Deardaoin</b>	<b>Friday</b> <b>Aoine</b>	<b>Saturday</b> <b>Satharn</b>
<b>Reminder</b> Please Sign-In Guests (maximum of 4)  Please Return Your Glasses to the Bar		<b>Scrip Cards</b> Are loaded and ready to use.	<b>1</b>  <b>April Fool's Day</b>  🎵 Informal Music 7-9 pm In the Pub	<b>2</b>  6:30pm Irish Language I 7:15pm Irish Language II 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	<b>3</b> Lenten Specials  <b>Good Friday</b> No Music	<b>4</b>  🎵 Roll Away 9 pm in the Pub
<b>5</b>  <b>HAPPY EASTER</b> <b>Pub Closed</b>	<b>6</b> 6:45 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church  8pm Irish Instrument Session	<b>7</b>  <b>Lenihan Dance Lessons</b> 4pm Children 8pm Adult	<b>8</b>  🎵 Informal Music 7-9 pm In the Pub	<b>9</b> Pub Dining Only  6:30pm Irish Language I 7:15pm Irish Language II 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	<b>10</b> Pub Dining Only Scéala deadline  🎵 Camac 9 pm in the Pub	<b>11</b> Pub Dining Only  10:30 Genealogy  🎵 The Irish Band 9 pm in the Pub
<b>12</b> Pub Dining Only <b>Pub Lunch, 12-3</b> <b>Sally &amp; Damien Connolly</b> Donnelly Dash 9:15am 6:30 GAC Bowling League	<b>13</b> 6:45 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church  8pm Irish Instrument	<b>14</b> 7:30 Executive Commit- tee Meeting  <b>Lenihan Dance Lessons</b> 4pm Children 8pm Adult	<b>15</b>  🎵 Informal Music 7-9 pm In the Pub	<b>16</b>  6:30pm Irish Language I 7:15pm Irish Language II 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	<b>17</b> 8 pm Membership Mtg  🎵 Sharon & Tim Burke 9 pm in the Pub	<b>18</b> Pub Dining Only  7 pm Past President's Dinner Dance  🎵 Karaoke 9 pm in the Pub
<b>19</b> Pub Lunch, 12-3pm <b>Sally &amp; Damien Connolly</b> Volunteer Party 1pm Easter Rising Mass 3pm 6:30 GAC Bowling League at Nutmeg Bowl	<b>20</b> 6:45 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church  8pm Irish Instrument Session	<b>21</b>  <b>Lenihan Dance Lessons</b> 4pm Children 8pm Adult	<b>22</b>   🎵 Informal music 7-9 pm In the Pub	<b>23</b> 12noon Seniors Lunch 6:30pm Irish Language I 7:15pm Irish Language II 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	<b>24</b> 6-9 pm Family Fun Night  🎵 The Navels 9 pm in the Pub	<b>25</b> Pub Dining Only  🎵 Four of a Kind 9 pm in the Pub
<b>26</b> 🎵 Pub Lunch, 12-3 pm <b>Sally &amp; Damien Connolly</b> 6:30 GAC Bowling League at Nutmeg Bowl	<b>27</b> 6:45 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church  8pm Irish Instrument Session	<b>28</b>  <b>Lenihan Dance Lessons</b> 4pm Children 8pm Adult	<b>29</b>  🎵 Informal Music 7-9 pm In the Pub	<b>30</b>  6:30pm Irish Language I 7:15pm Irish Language II 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	<b>April</b> Showers bring May Flowers	



**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](mailto: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](mailto:Naoneil@charter.net) or 203-377-1070.

**FAIRFIELD GAELIC PIPE BAND**

As we gladly say goodbye to winter..."Spring" into action by learning to play the bagpipes or drums. Members of the Gaelic American Pipe Band welcome you to complimentary introductory lessons. We practice on Monday evenings — 6:30 for beginners/students and 7:30 for current band members. We gather at the First Church Congregational at the corner of Old Post Road & Beach Road, Fairfield. For more information, contact us via email at: [FairfieldGaelicPipeBand@gmail.com](mailto:FairfieldGaelicPipeBand@gmail.com) or call Art Beagan at: 203-451-0143 Visit our website: [www.FairfieldGaelicPipeBand.org](http://www.FairfieldGaelicPipeBand.org); or Facebook.com/FairfieldGPB



**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](http://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>.

**"THE STORY OF IRELAND TOLD  
THROUGH SONG"**

Sunday May 3 ~ 2-4pm.

Damien Connolly will talk about the history of Ireland with a focus on song. Connolly is an All Ireland Musician, Teacher at Lauralton Hall and an Associate Professor at Sacred Heart University. A \$5.00 Fee payable at door. For more information Mary Arroyo [marroyo@optonline.net](mailto:marroyo@optonline.net).

**FILM LECTURE SERIES**

Come to the GAC this April to view an Irish film and partake in a spirited and informative discussion about the film led by professors from Sacred Heart University. FREE Admission. For more information check GAC website: [www.gaconline.org](http://www.gaconline.org).

**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/>.

**~ SPECIAL TRIVIA TREAT ~**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. What day was considered lucky to sow potatoes?</li><li>2. What weekend is the Irish Festival?</li><li>3. What does the G stand for in GAA?</li><li>4. What is happening at the GAC on April 18th?</li><li>5. How long will the "The Face of Irish Music" Photo Exhibit be displayed at the GAC?</li></ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>6. What band plays in the Pub on April 10?</li><li>7. Where is the Hogan Stand?</li><li>8. When is Family Fun Night?</li><li>9. What is Carrageen Moss?</li><li>10. When can you see "The Mating Season"?</li></ol> |
|--|---|