



SCÉALA

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



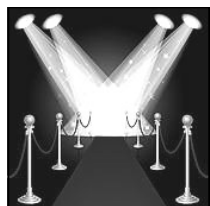
CÉAD MÍLE Fáilte One Hundred Thousand Welcomes  DEIREADH Fómhair October 2014



CELTIC NEW YEAR & HALLOWEEN PARTY

Saturday, November 1 ★ 8 pm - 1 am

Music by Tracy James & the Big Bad Band
Join Us on the "Dead Carpet"



Costumes Encouraged * Prizes
Bring Your Own Treats * Cash Bar
Music starts at 9 pm

RSVP: Den Fry at celticguy101@aol.com
Tickets \$10 at the Door



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Autumn ushers in a bustle of activity at our Club. Immerse in Irish culture with a Day of Irish Language on Oct 4th, dance and sing at the Céili on Oct 12th. Please support the 1916 Easter Rising Memorial benefit concert on Oct 17th. Watch the stars come out in the fifth annual Dancing with the GAC Stars charity fundraiser on Oct 18th. Join us for an interesting Irish History lecture on Oct 19th. Enjoy Clan na Gael's Playwrights Reading on Oct 26th. Celebrate Celtic New Year and Halloween at our parties for children on Oct 25th and for adults on Nov 1st. An ATM has been installed across from the elevator. ♣ On a personal note, I extend my heartfelt thanks to members for their support, kind wishes and prayers on the loss of my dear father Kevin in Ireland. It meant so much to me.

Sláinte, Jude Fitzgerald



Day of Irish Language ♣ Lá Gaelige

Saturday, October 4 ♣ 8:30 am - 5 pm

You are invited to attend a one day Irish language immersion course hosted by the GAC Irish Language Group and sponsored by Feile. Classes will be for beginners (no Irish), beginners (a little Irish), intermediate and advanced speakers as well as a variety of cultural workshops. All skill levels are welcome. Registration forms available in club foyer. The cost is \$50 and includes lunch; \$25 for students with ID card. For more information, please contact:

Cáit Thopsey kthopsey@fairfield.edu 203-459-9686

Roibin Griskus rdgriskus@aol.com 203-233-4979

Máire-Éilis Vollemans meov@optonline.net 203-372-3755



Join us in the pub at 9 pm

Friday Oct 3	<i>Alter Ego Band</i>
Saturday Oct 4	<i>Ghost Riders</i>
Friday Oct 10	<i>Sharon and Pat Burke</i>
Saturday Oct 11	<i>Celtic Justice</i>
Friday Oct 17	<i>Peter McKiernan</i>
Saturday Oct 18	<i>Outside Chance</i>
Friday Oct 24	<i>Colleen and the Boys</i>
Saturday Oct 25	TBA
Friday Oct 31	<i>Outside Chance</i>
Saturday Nov 1	<i>Bedlam Brothers String Band</i>
Wednesdays	 <i>Informal Music</i> * 8 - 10 pm
Thursdays	<i>Lizzie</i> * 6 - 9 pm




Ally Harron & Marian Curry

1916 Easter Rising
Memorial Benefit Concert

Join us on Friday, Oct 17th at 8 pm for great Irish & Country music for dancing and listening. All proceeds will go to the 100th Anniversary 1916 Easter Rising monument. Tickets \$20 at the door. For Info: Mary Ann Doonan (203)377-4586. Please support the raffle in club foyer. Great prizes include a basket of cheer, a basket of wine, and a hand-knit afghan.


events


MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL BARBEQUE
Mondays, 6:30 pm, p 6 

TRIVIA NIGHT ♠ Friday, Oct 3, 8 pm 

DAY OF IRISH LANGUAGE ♠ LÁ GAELIGE
Saturday, Oct 4, 8:30 am - 5 pm, p 1

CÉILI ♣ Sunday, Oct 12, 3 - 6 pm, p 4

ALLY HARRON & MARIAN CURRY: 1916
EASTER RISING MEMORIAL CONCERT
Friday, Oct 17, 8 pm, p 1 


DANCING WITH THE GAC STARS V
Saturday, Oct 18, 7 pm, p 4 

IRISH HISTORY LECTURE: CHARITY AND
THE GREAT HUNGER IN IRELAND 
Sunday, Oct 19, 2 - 4 pm, p 3

FAMILY FUN NIGHT
Friday, Oct 24, 6 - 9 pm 

CHILDREN'S CELTIC NEW YEAR &
HALLOWEEN PARTY
Saturday, Oct 25, 1 - 3 pm, p 3 

CLAN NA GAEL PLAY READINGS
Sunday, Oct 26, 4 pm, p 4 

CELTIC NEW YEAR & HALLOWEEN PARTY
Saturday, Nov 1, 8 pm - 1 am, p 1 

DECEASED MEMBERS MASS
Sunday, Nov 2, 11 am 

TRIVIA NIGHT ♠ Friday, Nov 7, 8 pm

HANGING OF THE JERSEYS
Sunday, Nov 9, 4 - 9 pm

SENIORS

Join us for lunch on Thursday, Oct 30 at 12 noon. Call for reservations by Sunday, Oct 26:

Ann Hague 203-374-5198

Shirley McMenamy 203-268-5083

Sally Savage 203-366-4826

We are in need of food items for the Thanksgiving Food Drive: canned vegetables, sweet potatoes, instant mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing, cranberry sauce or any other food items you can donate would be appreciated. Note that next month's lunch will be held on Nov 13. Have a safe Halloween. Mary Ann

club activities

25 CARD GAME

We meet Thursdays, 7:30 pm

FÁILTE COMMITTEE

Welcome and assist people entering the Club ... this is a great way to meet other members. See Sue Allen at front desk on Thursday nights or call the Manager at (203) 254-0673.

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, October 11 at 10:30 am. Susan Callahan: (203) 255-3905 or 7cs7cs@optonline.net


GAC BOWLING LEAGUE

Join us on Sundays at 6:30 pm at Nutmeg Bowl in Fairfield. Come alone or bring 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. To place your listing: 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

 We extend our condolences to President Jude Fitzgerald, Kiva Barry and their family whose father Kevin Barry passed away in Clonmel, Co. Tipperary on Sept 6.

A Mass card will be sent to Mary Moran Gilmore on the passing of her husband John J. Gilmore on Sept 10 and we extend our condolences to his brothers-in-law James Moran and John Moran and his cousin Patricia Lenihan.

HOUSE COMMITTEE

P.K. Lenihan (203) 261-6656

IRISH INSTRUMENT SESSIONS

Monday Night Musicians play on Mondays at 8 pm.

IRISH LANGUAGE

Foghlaim Gaeilge Learn Irish! Beginners classes meet at 6:30 pm and Intermediate classes meet at 7:15 pm on Thursdays in the Cultural Room. For Info: Kathy Thopsey at kthopsey@fairfield.edu

IRISH LITERATURE GROUP

Gloria Piche (203) 260-4037

LIBRARY

Peggy Corcoran (203) 870-6043

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, Oct 10th at 8 pm. Meetings are open to all Members. Minutes from the previous meeting are posted on the Bulletin Board.

SCÉALA

The November issue deadline is Oct 10. Please submit news to Rose Leahy, Editor via the *Contact Us* page on GAC website or to the Newsletter mailbox.

SET DANCING

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

Irish History Lecture: 10th in a Series

CHARITY AND THE GREAT HUNGER IN IRELAND:

The extent to which people throughout the world mobilized to provide money, food and clothing to assist the starving Irish

SUNDAY, OCT 18TH * 2 - 4 PM



Presented by Dr. Christine Kinealy, a graduate of Trinity College Dublin, where she completed her doctorate on the introduction of the Poor Law to Ireland. She has published extensively on the impact of the Great Irish Famine. She also has spoken to invited audiences in the British Parliament and in the U.S. Congress. Kinealy is the founding director of Ireland's Great Hunger Institute at Quinnipiac University and a noted author of numerous books on the Great Hunger. Registration \$5 per person. Send an e-mail to Mary Arroyo at marroyo@optonline.net with subject "Irish History" and include your name, address, and phone number. For more information, please call Mary at (203) 377-2346.

Sponsored by Feile, Inc.

Hosted by Fréamh Éireann Genealogy and GAC Language Groups



INFORMAL MUSIC

When the GAC moved to Fairfield, an interest in Irish music emerged. Pat Lawless with his accordion and a prodigious memory for tunes became the center of gravity for musicians playing informally. Club members began requesting their favorite songs, Tom and Mary Ganley regularly took a turn around the floor, and informal players and singers were lifted to the delight of making music together. When Pat was asked to name the group, participants wanted "Lawless" but the modest accordion player strongly vetoed the idea. "Informal Music" became the default name. Perhaps it was the wisest development because the only qualification for the group is a love of music and a good sense of humor. The group has evolved over the years through many participants. Presently "Informal Music" plays every Wednesday from 8 to 10 pm. We are all volunteers. It's an open group, bring your instrument, your favorite song and join us. Come and listen, sing along, make a request ...

Mary-Ellen, Gerry, Tom & Peter

Sunday Brunch resumes Oct 5, 11:30 am - 2:30 pm



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS



A Nominating/Election Committee has been appointed for the annual Executive Committee elections for the following offices: President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-At-Arms, and Director 3 Years. Anyone who is interested in being a candidate or nominating a candidate is asked to contact any member of the Nominating/Election Committee by **October 9**. The Committee will present a list of candidates at the Membership Meeting on **October 10**. Candidate statements will be published in the *November Newsletter*. Elections will be held Sunday, **December 7**.

The Nominating/Election Committee:

Frankie Byrne 203-259-1855 irishcab@optonline.net

Paddy Coyle 203-526-2412 coyles135@msn.com

Dan Ford 203-345-3125 dcford@optonline.net

Peggy O'Connor 203-259-7545 peggyanded@sbcglobal.net

Marie Ryan 203-259-1855 corkybaby@optonline.net



PERMITTEE'S MESSAGE

I am working with the Bar Committee to introduce new beverages to our club, including local beers, new exciting wines and a "Specialty Drink" list and would like to hear suggestions and ideas from our members! Please send your suggestions to me at cboccamazzo@yahoo.com. Also, I welcome any comments, complaints and compliments any member might have in regards to our bar - either product, service, staff, pricing - any and all! Please feel free to reach out to me so that we may provide courteous, friendly, respectful and timely service. *Chris Boccamazzo*

BOOKKEEPER APPLICATIONS

Applications are being accepted for consideration for the Bookkeeper position. Applications are available in the Manager's mailbox or by contacting the Manager. Completed applications can be submitted to President Jude Fitzgerald in a sealed envelope and left in the Executive Committee's mailbox by October 31.

Children's Celtic New Year & Halloween Party

Saturday, Oct 25 * 1-3 pm

Wear your Halloween costumes and come for games, crafts, and fun!

Kelly: kellyanntakacs@yahoo.com





Dancing with the GAC Stars V Charity Fundraiser in association with Fred Astaire Dance Studio Southport Saturday, October 18 ★ 7 pm



Patricia Brady
Swim Across
The Sound &
The Pegaus
Project



Trish LoGalbo
Operation Hope



Rosie Dempsey
Prader Willi
Syndrome
Association



Carl A. Massaro, Jr.
Swim Across
The Sound



Jessica Lee
Fairfield Animal
Shelter



Elizabeth Power
Mercy Learning
Center

Doors Open 6 pm ★ General Admission Seating ★ Raffles
Group Dance Lesson & Ballroom Show ★ Desserts ★ Cash Bar
Reservations Required: \$22 Adults, \$12 Children under 12
Mail or drop off check to Social mailbox,
Attn: Dancing with GAC Stars ★ Tickets will be mailed to you
For More Info: Barbara at bbm128@aol.com

Photos by Susan Drew



PLAYWRIGHTS READING Sunday, Oct 26 at 4 pm

Readings of the three plays that won the 4th annual Playwright Contest will be presented by the Clan na Gael Players and followed by an audience participation Q & A session with the writers, directors and cast of each play: *The Drive* by Tracy James, *The Love Seat* by Martha Patterson and *Green Card* by Aaron McNicholl. Admission is free and open to all. A light refreshment reception will be held after the Q & A session. Hope to see you there!



CÉILI ♣ Sunday, Oct 12 ♣ 3 - 6 pm Music by *Ceol agus Craic*

Enjoy an afternoon of dance, music, & fun. Bring some sandwiches, dessert, or fruit. \$15 at the door. For Info: Noreen Forde (203) 273-0483 nforde@aol.com

Is fearr Gaeilge bhriste
na Bearla cliste
Broken Irish is better than clever English

Come Celebrate
Celtic New Year & Halloween
Children: Saturday, Oct 25
Adults: Saturday, Nov 1



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



Address Service Requested

OCTOBER Deireadh Fómhair 2014



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 - 3 pm
Sunday	12 noon - 12 mid	5 pm - 9 pm	11:30 am - 2:30 pm

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 Míle fáilte



Sunday Domhnach	Monday Luan	Tuesday Máirt	Wednesday Céadaoin	Thursday Deardaoin	Friday Aoine	Saturday Satharn
Irish Lore In 1492, Columbus sailed the ocean blue, prayed at an Irish abbey in Galway before setting off to discover America. In 1493, he sailed the Caribbean Sea and discovered Monserrat; its national emblem shows an Irish woman holding on to a harp and a cross.		Reminder Please Sign-In Guests (maximum of 4) Please Return Your Glasses to the Bar	1 <i>♪ Informal Music</i> 8 -10 pm In the Pub	2 6-9 pm <i>♪ Lizzie</i> 6:30pm Irish Lang I 7:15pm Irish Lang II 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	3 8pm Trivia Night <i>♪ Alter Ego Band</i> 9 pm In the Pub	4 8:30-5pm Day of Irish Language & Culture <i>♪ The Ghost Riders</i> 9 pm In the Pub
5 6:30 GAC Bowling at Nutmeg Bowl	6 6:30 Monday Night BBQ 6:45 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church 8pm Irish Instrument Session	7 7:30 Exec Comm Mtg Open to all Members Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	8 <i>♪ Informal Music</i> 8 -10 pm In the Pub	9 6-9 pm <i>♪ Lizzie</i> 6:30pm Irish Lang I 7:15pm Irish Lang II 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	10 Scéala deadline 8pm Membership Mtg <i>♪ Sharon & Pat Burke</i> 9 pm In the Pub	11 Pub Dining Only 10:30 Genealogy Group <i>♪ Celtic Justice</i> 9 pm In the Pub
12 3-6pm Céili <i>♪ Ceol agus Craic</i> 6:30 GAC Bowling at Nutmeg Bowl	13 Columbus Day 6:30 Monday Night BBQ 6:45 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church 8pm Irish Instrument Session	14 Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	15 <i>♪ Informal Music</i> 8 -10 pm In the Pub	16 6-9 pm <i>♪ Lizzie</i> 6:30pm Irish Lang I 7:15pm Irish Lang II 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	17 Pub Dining Only 8 pm <i>♪ Ally Harron & Marian Curry</i> Benefit Concert <i>♪ Peter McKiernan</i> 9 pm In the Pub	18 Pub Dining Only 1:30-3:30 Clan na Gael Auditions 7 pm Dancing with the GAC Stars V <i>♪ Outside Chance</i> 9 pm In the Pub
19 1:30-3:30 Clan na Gael Auditions 2-4 pm Irish History Lecture 6:30 GAC Bowling at Nutmeg Bowl	20 6:30 Monday Night BBQ 6:45 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church 8pm Irish Instrument Session	21 Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	22 <i>♪ Informal Music</i> 8 -10 pm In the Pub	23 6-9 pm <i>♪ Lizzie</i> 6:30pm Irish Lang I 7:15pm Irish Lang II 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	24 Pub Dining Only 6-9pm Family Fun Night <i>♪ Colleen and the Boys</i> 9 pm In the Pub	25 Pub Dining Only 1-3 pm Children's Celtic New Year & Halloween Party <i>♪ TBA</i> 9 pm In the Pub
26 4pm Clan na Gael Playwright Readings 6:30 GAC Bowling at Nutmeg Bowl	27 6:30 Monday Night BBQ 6:45 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church 8pm Irish Instrument Session	28 Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	29 <i>♪ Informal Music</i> 8 -10 pm In the Pub	30 6-9 pm <i>♪ Lizzie</i> 12noon Seniors Lunch 6:30pm Irish Lang I 7:15pm Irish Lang II 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	31 Halloween <i>♪ Outside Chance</i> 9 pm In the Pub	

CLAN NA GAEL *presents* **S.S. DREAM SPINNER**



AUDITIONS for S.S. DREAM SPINNER, an audience participation comedy/mystery with a buffet dinner, will be held on Saturday, Oct 18 and Sunday, Oct 19 from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. The cast includes a short stage show requiring singing and movement and includes four females and four males of various ages: captain of the ship; cruise director; fitness instructor, ship doctor and four entertainers. Strong improvisational skills needed. Ability to play an instrument is also welcome. Show dates are Nov 20, 21, 22 and 23. For more info, please contact Peg at opeggyo812@gmail.com.

SHOW RESERVATIONS: The Clan na Gael Players will perform S.S. DREAM SPINNER, an audience participation comedy/mystery with a buffet dinner. Show dates and times: Thursday, Nov 20, Friday, Nov 21, and Saturday, Nov 22 evening shows at 8 pm; and Sunday, Nov 23 matinée at 2:30 pm. For reservations, send an e-mail to cngplays@gmail.com or call (203) 333-4736. Tickets \$25. Advance payment requested. Please make check payable to Feile and drop-off to Feile mailbox or mail to the GAC: Attn "S.S. DREAM SPINNER".



THE MAKING OF A CLASSIC

The 100th Anniversary 1916 Easter Rising Committee wishes to thank all who took part in the golf tournament on Sept 5th at the Fairchild Wheeler golf course. Also, a big thank you to those who sponsored a hole, all those who donated food for the wonderful meal afterwards and those who contributed raffle prizes. A special thanks to bartenders Din and Coleen who donated their time at the service bar. A big thank you to Corky and the kitchen crew and to Tommy Flaherty and all those who helped out at the GAC. Lastly, a big thank you to Frank O'Driscoll and his crew who worked so hard to make the fundraiser a success. Thank you all. Sincerely, *The Committee*

APPLICATIONS: The GAC accepts applications for kitchen, wait staff, bartenders, and custodial positions. Should a vacancy occur, applications on file will be considered. Applications are available in the GAC Manager's mailbox in lobby stairwell.

Thanksgiving Food Drive: We are collecting canned goods and non-perishable food items. Please drop off donations in club foyer from Oct 17 to Nov 23. *Faith Maciver*



GREATER BRIDGEPORT ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

GRAND MARSHAL'S RECEPTION

Honoring Ted Lovely on Saturday, Oct 25th, 7 - 11:30 pm at the GAC. \$55 per person. Cash bar. RSVP, make check payable to GBSPDC Inc, and mail to GBSPDC, c/o Patricia Brady, 48-B Enid St, Bridgeport, CT 06606. Deadline Oct 20th. For Info: Patricia Brady (203) 372-5612.

CHILI CONTEST

Support our Scholarship Fundraiser on Sunday, Nov 9th, 3 - 7 pm at Brennan's Shebeen, at Smith Richardson Golf Course. Admission \$10; children free. For contest rules and info: Pat Gerckens 203-734-8764 or pgerckens@snet.net.



MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL BARBEQUE

Come by on Monday nights from 6:30 until ?, weather permitting, as the cooking mavens Pat, Pat and Jay serve up 1/2 pound Angus beef Hamburger and Cheeseburgers \$4, Hot Dogs \$2 and Pork Loin Ribs \$4. In October, we're adding Knockwurst and Bratwurst with Sauerkraut \$3 to the menu. Please come, bring your appetite & enjoy!



A MUST SEE AND HEAR

Hailed as "one of the greatest Irish American celebrations in living memory", the Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland, under the direction of legendary Irish conductor Maestro Gearoid Grant, is on its return visit to New York - to Carnegie Hall on Thursday, Oct 30 at 7:30 pm. Established as a peace initiative, the orchestra is composed of more than 100 exceptionally talented musicians from all over Ireland. They will be joined by our very own Fairfield County Children's Choir of Fairfield, under the direction of Jon Noyes. The event promises to be inspiring, uplifting and full of hope for a brighter future. For more info, contact Peggy O'Connor at (203) 259-7545. For tickets, go to www.carnegiehall.org.

IRISH FILM FESTIVAL: Hosted by Fairfield University Irish Studies Program at the DiMenna-Nyselius Library on Wednesdays, October 1, 8, 15, & 22 at 7 pm. Event is free.

See September Newsletter for listings.



TRAD FOR TRÓCAIRE: Sunday, Nov 9th, 2 to 4 pm at GAC. Traditional Irish music organized by students and musicians from Fairfield Prep & Luralton Hall. Proceeds to benefit Trócaire.