



# SCÉALA

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



CÉAD MILE Fáilte One Hundred Thousand Welcomes 

Nollaig December 2014



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7 ★ 12 NOON - 6 PM

Elections for the 2015 Executive Committee offices will be held on Sunday, December 7, from 12 noon to 6 pm. See Candidates Slate, page 3; see Candidates Statements in November Newsletter. Six offices are a 1-year term and the Director is a 3-year term. All members in good standing as of September 30 are eligible to vote. Membership cards or picture IDs are required in order to vote. Come to the Club and show your support for all our candidates. Stay on to hear the results, celebrate with the winners and salute those who were willing to give so much of their time.

*Sunday, December 14 is the alternate date, should there be severe inclement weather. The decision to postpone shall be announced by 11 am on December 7 on the radio and on all available GAC media sites.*

Election Committee:

Frank Byrne, Moderator 203-259-1855 [irishcab@optonline.net](mailto:irishcab@optonline.net)

Deirdre Bennett 203-256-8089 [sdbccbennett@gmail.com](mailto:sdbccbennett@gmail.com)

Paddy Coyle 203-526-2412 [coyles135@msn.com](mailto:coyles135@msn.com)

Rose Leahy 203-256-1165 [roseyleahy@yahoo.com](mailto:roseyleahy@yahoo.com)

Peggy O'Connor 203-259-7545 [peggyanded@sbcglobal.net](mailto:peggyanded@sbcglobal.net)

Marie Ryan 203-259-1855 [corkybaby@optonline.net](mailto:corkybaby@optonline.net)

**Brunch** 11:30 am - 2:30 pm ★ Full Menu 2:30 pm - 9 pm

**Music** 🎵 Pat Speer & John Hurley 4 - 8 pm



20th Anniversary

## Celtic Christmas Fair

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6 ★ 9 am - 3 pm

Beautiful crafts & Irish treasures ...  
we have a sleigh full of gifts  
for everyone on your list!

Children's Chorus performs 11 am  
~ conducted by Mary Ellen Lyons

Santa will be by the fireplace  
for photos by Susan Drew



Raffles that dazzle  
to support our charities



Share scones & soda bread and a cup of  
coffee or tea with friends at breakfast  
and enjoy lunch with homemade  
harvest soup and Shepherd's Pie by  
our own Maura Kallaway, served by  
the Lenihan School of Irish Dance

Come out & support our wonderful  
Celtic Christmas tradition!

Mary Ann Doonan 203-377-4586  
Phyllis Billings 203-254-0606



## Join us in the pub at 9 pm

Friday	Dec 5	Karaoke with Bill Richards
Saturday	Dec 6	The Crickstones
Sunday	Dec 7	Pat Speer & John Hurley, 4 - 8 pm

Friday	Dec 12	Sharon and Pat Burke
Saturday	Dec 13	Mostly Green

Friday	Dec 19	Colleen and The Boys
Saturday	Dec 20	Four of A Kind

Friday	Dec 26	The Coracles * Irish Folk Music
Saturday	Dec 27	Peter McKiernan

Friday	Jan 2	Peter McKiernan
Saturday	Jan 3	Celtic Justice



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Members are encouraged to vote in the Executive Committee Elections on Dec 7. Celebrate the joy of the Christmas season at our festivities: Children's Chorus performances, Celtic Christmas Fair on Dec 6, Caroling in the Pub on Dec 17, Cherish the Ladies Concert on Dec 18, and the Children's Christmas Party on Dec 20. Ring in 2015 at our New Year's Eve Party on Dec 31.

Nollaig Shona agus  
Athbhliain faoi Mhaise Daoibh,  
Jude Fitzgerald



## CLUB ACTIVITIES

### 25 CARD GAME

We meet Thursdays, 7:30 pm

### FACEBOOK



Thank you to Colleen Filush for serving as Administrator for 3 years, helping to connect 1,250 GAC fans!

### FÁILTE COMMITTEE

Welcome and assist people entering the Club. See Sue Allen at the 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. Free lessons now available. Ted Rappa (203) 874-1183 or fairfieldgaelicpipeband@gmail.com

### FRÉAMH ÉIREANN GENEALOGY GROUP

Our next meeting is Saturday, December 13 at 10:30 am. Plans to present "Using City Directories for Family Research". 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 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. To place your listing: Go to [www.gaconline.org/directory1.html](http://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 Katrina Shea & Pat Lane who were married Nov 7.



Tracy Leary and Peter D'Arco welcomed baby Anne Leary D'Arco on Oct 2; congratulations to grandparents Kevin & Bette Leary and aunt Kate Leary.



A Mass card will be sent to Gerard Rooney and family on the passing of his wife Ann Marie Rooney on Oct 22. A sympathy card will be sent to Mary-Ellen Vollemans and family on the passing of her mother Arlene O'Sullivan on Nov 9.

### HOUSE COMMITTEE

Volunteers are needed to help decorate on Friday, Nov 28, starting at 9 am. Our Club always looks beautiful for Christmas but it takes your help to make this happen.

P.K. Lenihan (203) 261-6656

### IRISH INSTRUMENT SESSIONS

Monday Night Musicians play on Mondays at 8 pm.

### IRISH LANGUAGE

*Foshlam Saeilge* Learn Irish! Beginners classes meet at 6:30 pm and Intermediate classes meet at 7:15 pm on Thursdays in the Cultural Room. Kathy Thopsey [kthopsey@fairfield.edu](mailto:kthopsey@fairfield.edu)

### IRISH LITERATURE GROUP

We will meet in GAC library on Monday, Dec 1st at 7:30 pm to discuss *A TEMPORARY GENTLEMAN* by Sebastian Barry. Barry, a group favorite, returns to the McNulty family in his latest novel. This time we hear Jack's story. This meeting features a "book swap." If you want to participate, bring a wrapped gently-read book and join in the fun. Gloria Piche (203) 260-4037

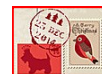
### LIBRARY

Peggy Corcoran (203) 870-6043

### MEMBERSHIP MEETING

This month's meeting will be held on Friday, Dec 12th at 8 pm. Meetings are open to all Members. Minutes from the previous meeting are posted on the Bulletin Board.

### SCÉALA



Thank you to Pat O'Connell, Jean Haggerty, Sally O'Hara, Mae Carlson, John Mahar, Mary & Sam Mostowy, Esther Lawless, Marilyn Russell, and Kathy McManus for administering the *Scéala* Newsletter monthly mailings and to Bob Hargus for special contributions. The January issue deadline is Dec 12. Please submit news to Rose Leahy, Editor via the *Contact Us* page on GAC website or to the Newsletter mailbox.

### SENIORS

Join us for lunch on Thursday, Dec 18 at 12 noon. Call for reservations by Sunday, Dec 14:

Ann Hague 203-374-5198

Shirley McMenamy 203-268-5083

Sally Savage 203-366-4826

We need unwrapped hats, gloves, scarves and socks for men and women in our Bridge Program. Mary Ann



Thank you to Mary Ann Doonan for chairing the Seniors Lunch for 6 years.

### SET DANCING

We dance Thursdays at 7:30 pm Brian Reynolds (203) 214-2921



With ivy, shamrock,  
and bright holly berry,  
be Christmas to you  
both blessed & merry

## DANCE SPECTACULAR

The stars were shining bright at the fifth annual Dancing with the GAC Stars charity fundraiser held on October 18. Congratulations to Carl Massaro, Jr. for his flirtatious Cha Cha, winning first prize and \$1,350 for Swim Across The Sound and to Trish LoGalbo for her flowing Fox Trot, winning second prize and \$1,000 for Project Hope. Patricia Brady, Rosie Dempsey, Jessica Lee and Elizabeth Power danced their hearts out and each of their charities will receive \$300.

Thank you to the event committee: Rose Leahy, Barbara Massaro, Mary Alvarez, Cliona Becker Louise Cahill, Cheri Dunn, Jay Dunn, Pat Gerckens, Joan Kleinknecht, Meghan Lenihan, Eileen Lynam, Kevin O'Neil, Nancy O'Neil, Sharon Szturma, Sheila Tesei, master photographer Sue Drew, master of ceremony Pat Dyer, and creator of the dance spectacular, Franny Tartamella. Thank you also to the GAC Executive Committee, GAC Staff, our young greeters Allison, Alexa and Paul Flaherty, the talented dance professionals Henry Skopp and Monika from Fred Astaire Southport, and especially our generous sponsors and supporters.



**CLAN NA GAEL PLAYERS** "The SS Dream Spinner" would like to thank all the passengers who sailed with us on our ill-fated and fun-filled voyage! We had some inquisitive detectives sailing with us who kept the crew and entertainers on their toes. Thanks to Mary Carberry, our producer who kept everything and everyone moving in the right direction while wearing her trademark big smile. Having served on a cruise ship she knew the ropes, so to speak. Thanks to all of our staff for a job well done! Thank you to our talented actors, Nick Kaye, Kristin Latin, Kathy Spellman, Tracy James, Byrne White, Eileen Fickes, David Veith, Macs Santacrose and Valerie Huegel who, with their improv skills, matched wits with the audience through-out the performances and kept them wondering who-done-it to the last minute. And ... a big THANK YOU to our loyal audiences who make all the work worthwhile with your enthusiasm! We will present another Sam Cree comedy, THE MATING SEASON in April. Next fall, at the request of 100th Anniversary 1916 Easter Rising Committee, we will present Sean O'Casey's THE PLOW AND THE STARS.  
*Peg O'Leary*

## CHILDREN'S CHORUS PERFORMANCES

Celtic Christmas Fair \* Saturday, Dec 6th at 11 am  
Dinner \* Wednesday, Dec 10th at 6 pm  
Brunch \* Sunday, Dec 14th at 1 pm  
Conducted by Mary Ellen Lyons  
GChildren.chorus@outlook.com



## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday, Dec 20th \* 1-3 pm  
Santa Claus arrives at 1:30 pm  
Children's lunch available for \$5  
Kelly (203) 913-6242 \* kellyanntakacs@yahoo.com



## HOLIDAY PUB SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve, Dec 24 \* Pub open 12 noon - 8 pm  
Christmas Day, Dec 25 \* Club closed  
New Year's Eve, Dec 31 \* Pub opens 5 pm  
New Year's Day, Jan 1 \* Pub opens 12



**CHANGE OF SEASONS:** With the change of seasons, the Monday night football BBQ has come to a close. We take this opportunity to thank all those who participated. It was a great experience and we look forward to doing it all again next year.  
*Pat, Pat and Jay*



## FAIRFIELD COUNTY IRISH FESTIVAL 2015

The Festival Committee is up and running! Our next meeting will be Monday, Dec 1 at 7 pm in the O'Keefe Room and then again on Monday, Dec 15 at 7 pm. Anyone interested in helping in any way is invited to attend. We are particularly looking for people with marketing/publicity knowledge to give us some insights.

### SLATE OF CANDIDATES

President	Pat Carolan Pat Dyer
Vice President	Chuck O'Connor Griffin Reidy
Recording Secretary	Katie Dyer Sheila Tesei
Financial Secretary	Faith Maciver Tom Walsh
Treasurer	Joe Campbell Theresa Fumo
Sergeant-At-Arms	John Minehan Terry Rooney
Director 3 Years	John Curtin Pat O'Connell

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS**  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7 12 NOON - 6 PM









### Cherish the Ladies presents A Celtic Christmas



#### Thursday, December 18 at 8 pm

Come enjoy an evening of Christmas & Celtic music. Mega-talented female musical group led by Joanie Madden, with singer Cathie Ryan and World Champion Irish Dancers. Tickets \$20. Reservations: E-mail Liz Feeney at [lizbyrnefeeney@hotmail.com](mailto:lizbyrnefeeney@hotmail.com) AND drop-off or mail check payable to GAC, Attn: Social - Cherish the Ladies. Advance payment requested to hold reservations. General admission seating. Doors open 7 pm. *Tickets selling quickly.*

 Please stop by our Giving Tree in the Pub, which benefits the families of The Daughters of Charity. Gifts needed by Sunday, Dec 14. 

### NEW YEAR EVE'S COCKTAIL PARTY

December 31 \* In the Pub  
Music by *Outside Chance* \* 9 pm - 1 am  
Open Bar \* 9 pm - 12:30 am

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Hot & Cold Hors d'oeuvres  
Seafood, Pasta & Carving Stations  
Champagne Toast & Desserts

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**Ticket Price To Be Announced**  
Send an e-mail to [gacnewyeareve@yahoo.com](mailto:gacnewyeareve@yahoo.com)  
Drop off or mail check payable to GAC,  
Attn: Social - NYE \* Advance reservations only  
**Deadline Tuesday, December 23**

Open Bar excludes all shots  
Pub open to members not attending party




### Christmas Caroling In the Pub with Colleen & Friends Wednesday, December 17 at 7 pm



*Haul out the holly and deck the halls!*  
*Join us for some holiday cheer. Gather with friends by the fireplace and sing along with us!*  
*Christmas Sweater Contest. Light fare served.*


### events

CHILDREN'S CHORUS: Sat Dec 6, 11 am  
Wed Dec 10, 6 pm & Sun Dec 14, 1 pm

CELTIC CHRISTMAS FAIR  
Saturday, Dec 6, 9 am - 3 pm 

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS  
Sunday, Dec 7, 12 Noon - 6 pm 

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE  
Wednesday, Dec 10, 12 - 7 pm 

CHRISTMAS CAROLING IN THE PUB  
Wednesday, Dec 17, 7 pm 

CHERISH THE LADIES CONCERT  
Thursday, Dec 18, 8 pm 

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY  
Saturday, Dec 20, 1 - 3 pm 

FAMILY FUN NIGHT  
Friday, Dec 26, 6 - 9 pm 

NEW YEAR'S EVE COCKTAIL PARTY  
Wednesday, Dec 31, 9 pm - 1 am 

TRIVIA NIGHT \* Friday, Jan 2, 8 pm

Address Service Requested

Gaelic American Club  
74 Beach Road  
Fairfield, CT 06824



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



Front row L-R:  
Nick Kaye  
Kathy Spellman  
Eileen Fickes  
Valerie Huegel  
Kristin Latin  
Cliona Becker  
Back row L-R:  
Tracy James  
Byrne White  
Mac's Santacrose  
Elizabeth Gallagher  
David Veith

The Clan na Gael Players aboard the SS Dream Spinner, see page 3.



### ST. PATRICK'S GAA

Congratulations to Mike O'Connor, Terry Brady, and Ken Gallagher and all the Players of St. Patrick's U8 Team for capturing the hurling AND football championship at the Ancient Order of Hibernians Tournament at Gaelic Park on Nov 15.

**Winter Training:** St. Patrick's GAA Club will host its annual winter training program "Introduction to Gaelic Football" for children 6 - 8 years old on Saturdays from 4 to 5 pm at The Field House in Fairfield for six weeks beginning on Saturday, Jan 31. All training is non-contact and emphasizes fun, games, hand-eye coordination and basic skills. Cost is \$60 and includes t-shirt and graduation ceremony. Registration opens on Dec 1. Visit [www.stpatricksgfc.org](http://www.stpatricksgfc.org) or e-mail questions to [admin@stpatricksgfc.org](mailto:admin@stpatricksgfc.org).

**TRAD FOR TROCAIRE** was held at the GAC on Nov 9 and raised \$1,541 for the Catholic Church's relief efforts in the developing world. Special thanks to young member organizers Adrian Coyle, Claire Feeney, and Kyle O'Brien and the Irish Clubs of Lauralton Hall, Fairfield Prep, and St. Joseph's High School. Thank you to Tim Quinn (MC & sound engineer) and the Milford Branch of Comhaltas, The Shamroques, Lenihan School of Irish Dance, Noreen Forde & GAC Set Dancers, Marianne McShane the "Shanachie", Camac, Damien & Coleman Connolly, Loretta Murphy & John Brennan, Willie and Siobhan Kelly, St. Patrick's GAA Club, and the terrific young musicians and dancers of St. Joseph's Ceili Band. Thanks also to GAC Manager, Permittee and Bar Staff for helping to make this day a success.

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

### IRISH CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

#### Christmas with The Celts

Monday, Dec 8 at 7 pm

The Bijou Theatre, Bridgeport

"Performing for 15 years, *Christmas with the Celts* brings an infectious energy, humor, passion and masterful musicianship to every audience". Theatre seats \$45; Table seats \$55; Group rates available. Visit [www.thebijoutheatre.com](http://www.thebijoutheatre.com) or call box office 203-332-3228.

#### An Irish Christmas: A Musical Solstice Celebration

Saturday, Dec 13 at 7:30 pm

Edgerton Center, Sacred Heart University

Featuring Mick Moloney, Athea Tergis and special guests. Presented by SHU's Center for Irish Cultural Studies and the Shamrock Traditional Irish Music Society. GAC members receive \$5 discount with code "GAC". Visit [edgertoncenter.org](http://edgertoncenter.org) or call box office 203-371-7908.



### MR. & MISS SHAMROCK SCHOLARSHIPS

Attention - parents of High School Seniors - The Greater Bridgeport St. Patrick's Day Celebration Committee will again be offering two scholarships of \$3,000 each to the boy and girl selected as Mr. and Miss Shamrock on Feb 7th at the GAC. Runner-ups will receive \$1,750. Applications may be e-mailed to Patty McDonnell at [patty-mcd2001@yahoo.com](mailto:patty-mcd2001@yahoo.com) or call 203-366-2417 for more information. Deadline is Jan 31.



### The Pipes are Calling ...








Consider joining us for introductory lessons offered by the Fairfield Gaelic Pipe Band. As part of our 20th anniversary celebration and as a dedication to our Irish culture and heritage, we are offering FREE introductory lessons to all that are interested. *No previous musical experience required.* We rehearse Monday nights at First Church Congregational, corner of Old Post Rd & Beach Rd in Fairfield at 7:30 pm. For more info: please contact Band President Ted Rappa via email at [fairfieldgaelicpipeband@gmail.com](mailto:fairfieldgaelicpipeband@gmail.com) or visit [www.FairfieldGaelicPipeBand.org](http://www.FairfieldGaelicPipeBand.org).



### AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood. More than 41,000 blood donations are needed every day. Please consider donating blood at the GAC on **Wednesday, December 10th from 12 noon to 7 pm.**



<div> <div> <b>DECEMBER</b>  <b>DOLLAIS</b>  <b>2014</b> </div>  </div>		<b>Schedule Pub hours Dinner Lunch&amp;Branch</b>			<b>how To Reach us</b>		<b>CÉAO MÍLE fáilte</b> 
		<b>Mon &amp; Tues</b> <b>Wed &amp; Thurs</b> <b>Friday</b> <b>Saturday</b> <b>Sunday</b>	7 pm - 12 mid 5 pm - 12 mid 4 pm - 2 am 12 noon - 2 am 12 noon - 12 mid	<b>Dinner</b> 5 pm - 9 pm 5 pm - 10 pm 5 pm - 10 pm 5 pm - 9 pm	<b>Lunch&amp;Branch</b>  12 noon - 3 pm 11:30 am - 2:30 pm	<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>Social</b> (203) 418-7676 <b>Website</b> www.gaconline.org	
<b>Sunday</b> <b>Dómnach</b>	<b>Monday</b> <b>Luan</b>	<b>Tuesday</b> <b>Máirt</b>	<b>Wednesday</b> <b>Céadaoin</b>	<b>Thursday</b> <b>Déardaoin</b>	<b>Friday</b> <b>Aoine</b>	<b>Saturday</b> <b>Satharn</b>	
	<b>1</b> 6:45 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church 7:30 Irish Literature 8pm Irish Instrument Session	<b>2</b> Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	<b>3</b> ♪ Informal Music 7-10 pm In the Pub	<b>4</b> 6-9 pm ♪ Lizzie 6:30pm Irish Lang I 7:15pm Irish Lang II 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	<b>5</b> Pub Dining Only ♪ Karaoke with DJ Bill Richards 9 pm In the Pub	<b>6</b> Pub Dining Only 9am-3pm Celtic Christmas Fair 11am ♪ Children's Chorus ♪ The Crickstones 9 pm In the Pub	
<b>7</b> Pub Dining Only 12-6 pm Elections for Executive Committee 4-8 pm ♪ Pat Speer & John Hurley In the Pub 6:30 GAC Bowling League	<b>8</b> Immaculate Conception 6:45 Gaelic Pipe Band at the church 8pm Irish Instrument Session	<b>9</b> 7:30 Exec Comm Mtg Open to all Members Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	<b>10</b> 12-7pm Blood Drive ♪ Children's Chorus 6 pm in the Pub ♪ 7-10 Informal Music Holiday Special	<b>11</b> 6-9 pm ♪ Lizzie 6:30pm Irish Lang I 7:15pm Irish Lang II 7:30pm 25 Card Game 7:30pm Set Dancing	<b>12</b> Scéala deadline 8pm Membership Mtg ♪ Sharon & Pat Burke 9 pm In the Pub	<b>13</b> Pub Dining Only 10:30 Genealogy Group ♪ Mostly Green 9 pm In the Pub	
<b>14</b> 1pm ♪ Children's Chorus ♪ Last Day for Giving Tree drop-off 6:30 GAC Bowling League	<b>15</b> 8pm Irish Instrument Session	<b>16</b> Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children 8pm Adult	<b>17</b>  ♪ Christmas Caroling with Colleen & Friends 7 pm In the Pub	<b>18</b> Pub Dining Only 6-9 pm ♪ Lizzie 12noon Seniors Lunch 6:30pm Irish Lang I 7:15pm Irish Lang II 7:30pm 25 Card Game 8pm ♪ Cherish the Ladies Concert	<b>19</b> ♪ Colleen & The Boys 9 pm In the Pub	<b>20</b> 1 - 3 pm Children's Christmas Party ♪ Four Of A Kind 9 pm In the Pub	
<b>21</b> Winter solstice 6:30 GAC Bowling League	<b>22</b> 8pm Irish Instrument Session	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Christmas Eve 12-8pm Pub Open Kitchen Closed 	<b>25</b> CHRISTMAS Club Closed 	<b>26</b> St Stephen's Day Pub Dining Only 6-9pm Family Fun Night ♪ The Coracles Irish Folk Music 9 pm In the Pub	<b>27</b> Pub Dining Only ♪ Peter McKiernan 9 pm In the Pub	
<b>28</b> 6:30 GAC Bowling League	<b>29</b> 8pm Irish Instrument Session	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> New Year's Eve 5 pm Pub Open Kitchen Closed 9 pm New Year's Eve Cocktail Party ♪ Outside Chance	<b>Irish lore</b> * Winter Solstice~Sunrise illuminates Newgrange passage and chamber * Christmas Décor ~ Holly on the door * Christmas Eve ~ Candle in the window * St. Stephen's Day ~Children go house to house to take up a collection * New Year's Eve ~ Waterford crystal ball drops at Times Square, NYC			