



# CLAN NA GAEL PLAYERS

PRESENTS

## “A WAKE IN THE WEST”

BY MICHAEL J. GINNELLY

Please come pay your respects to Tom Healy in this boisterous comedy set in a small fishing village in the West of Ireland during the 1970's.

**Our brilliant cast** includes Steve Bennett, Eileen Fickes, Joyce Fox, Pat Garmella, Georgette Geotsi, Peter Haynes, Valerie Huegel, Trish LoGalbo, Veronica Mullally Munoz, Dan O'Callaghan, David Pirrie, Kathleen Spellman and Byrne White under the direction of Tracy James.

**Production dates** are March 31<sup>st</sup>, April 1<sup>st</sup> and April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:30.

**Tickets** are \$15. For reservations contact us at [Cngplays@gmail.com](mailto:Cngplays@gmail.com) or call (203) 333-0422.

### TAKING THE SHOW ON THE ROAD

The Clan na Gael Players have been invited to perform with The Shannonside Players in Clonlara, County Clare. With Feile's agreement and support we have accepted their invitation. They will be hosting us in their actors homes. Performances are Oct. 7, 8 & 9. We are also looking into other venues where we can perform while we are there.

### FUNDRAISING EVENTS

The Clan na Gael Players are planning several fundraisers and hope you will support our efforts. So mark your calendars and plan to attend the following events.

**Saturday, May 14** ~ A suspenseful evening of mystery that will both intrigue and challenge our audience to figure out who-done-it.

**Saturday Sept.17** A Medieval Banquet will fill the room with a royal family, wenches, food, music, song, dance and merriment.

### 6TH ANNUAL ONE ACT PLAYWRIGHT CONTEST



The Clan Na Gael Players are pleased to announce that the 6th Annual One Act Playwright Contest will commence March 15th and run thru August 15th 2016. This year, we ask that all entries be submitted by email.

Please email [Naoneil@charter.net](mailto:Naoneil@charter.net) for the 2016 Contest Instructions and Official Submission Form. For more info contact Nancy O'Neil at (203) 377-1070.

### J-I VISA PROGRAM

For a number of years the J-I Visa Program has allowed full time foreign students, who, for lack of financial resources, could not otherwise afford to come to the United States, to come under a cultural exchange program. This program allows the students to come to the US, find a job in an approved industry and support themselves. Over the last 50 years, more than 150,000 Irish students, including 8,000 in 2014 have benefitted from this program. This cultural exchange benefits both the Irish community in Ireland as well as the Irish American community in the US by maintaining our cultural ties and common values.

The J-I Visa Program has changed for 2016 and for the first time the applicants for this exchange program must have a job offer before they can apply for participation in this cultural exchange program. This has created a significant problem since you cannot change 50 year old program without causing a great deal of administrative and logistical problems. This new requirement is expected to reduce the Irish student participation to 4,000, half of the number in 2014.

There is significant effort being put forth by the Irish government as well as the Irish Consulate to address this problem and hopefully modify the requirements. In the meantime, these efforts will not help for 2016 and a committee of GAC members is organizing an effort to identify potential employers and lodging for a number of these students. We are asking the members if (1) you could find a summer job for an Irish student and (2) you would be willing to put up a student for the summer. There are specific restrictions on the types of employment which are not appropriate, i.e. au pairs, life guards, construction.

If you believe you may have an employment opportunity and are interested in helping Irish students participate in this newly modified program, please contact me at [GaIrishVisaCommittee@gacemail.org](mailto:GaIrishVisaCommittee@gacemail.org).

Thank you,

Gerry Reidy ~ *J-I Visa Committee Chairman*

### THE GREENWICH HIBERNIAN ASSOCIATION

#### ANNUAL DINNER DANCE 3/5 AND PARADE 3/20

Saturday 5th March 2016 @ 7pm in The Red Men Hall, 17 East Elm Street, Greenwich. Tickets \$35.

42nd. Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held on Sunday 20th. March 2016, starting at 2pm from the Greenwich Town Hall. Our Grand Marshal is Cathy Lavaty, a life long Greenwich resident, worked at NBC Today Show, a Trustee at St. Mary's Church, whose Irish goes back to her Grandparents who came from Co. Cork. Groups interested in marching in the parade contact Haydn O'Shea at 203-536-1993.