



# 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  SAIBHÁN

October 2015

## "Adult Celtic New Year & Halloween Party"

Saturday, October 31 from 8PM to 1AM

Music by Tracy James and The Big Bad Band. This year's theme "Super Hero's! VS Super Villains! Costumes are encouraged. Bring your own treats. Cash Bar. Music starts at 9 PM. Cost \$10 at door or RSVP by mailing checks made out to the G.A.C. to the club attention social (Celtic New Year Party)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The fall is when the GAC resumes its busy schedule and is the start of many old and some new activities in the club. The newest program getting underway is the Children's Choral Group and the Music for Children led by Mary Ellen Lyons who has also rekindled interest in the revived Glee Club. The movies series which began in the spring returns on October 7<sup>th</sup> with the faculty in Irish Studies at Sacred Heart moderating the program. Most of what is happening is contained within this Newsletter. The October monthly meeting is an important one as the Nominating Committee presents the slate of candidates for the Executive Committee and nominations from the floor also take place at the meeting, leading up to the December elections.. I encourage all the members, especially the new members, to come to the meeting, be involved and participate in your club. ~P.J. Carolan



**SATURDAY, October 3 from 5 - 9 PM**

**Entertainment by  
BERNIE'S ORCHESTRA BAVARIAN  
DANCERS**

Enjoy Our Oktoberfest Buffet 5:30 - 7:30 pm Spaten Oktoberfest Beer on Tap Fun & Games Cash Bar \$22 Adults and Kids 7 and up. Kids Under 7 free. Make check payable

to GAC & drop off to Social mailbox or mail to GAC, 74 Beach Road, Fairfield CT 06111. Attn: Oktoberfest.

## KIDS HALLOWEEN PARTY

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 31ST FROM 11-1PM**

Wear your Halloween costumes and come for games, crafts and fun! Contact: Kelly at [kellyanntakacs@yahoo.com](mailto:kellyanntakacs@yahoo.com).



**Join us in the pub at 9pm**

Friday	Oct 2	<i>The Irish Band</i>
Saturday	Oct 3	<i>The Crickstones</i>
Friday	Oct 9	<i>Sharon &amp; Pat Burke</i>
Saturday	Oct 10	<i>Four of a Kind</i>
Friday	Oct 16	<i>Peter McKiernan</i>
Saturday	Oct 17	<i>The Navels</i>
Friday	Oct 23	<i>The Ghost Riders</i>
Saturday	Oct 24	<i>Keltic Kick</i>
Friday	Oct 30	<i>The Kerry Boys</i>
Saturday	Oct 31	<i>Mostly Green</i>



## Events

**TRIVIA NIGHT**  
Friday Oct 2, 8 pm

**OCTOBERFEST**  
Saturday Oct 3, 5-9 pm

**CLAN NA GAEL PLAY READING**  
Oct 4 - 2:30 pm, P3

**SOCCER 25TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY**  
SATURDAY OCT 10

**DANCING WITH THE GAC STARS**  
Friday, Oct 17, 7pm, p4

**BOOK SIGNING AND LECTURE**  
Oct 16 - 7pm, P3

**SENIOR LUNCH**  
Thursday, Oct 29, 12noon

**FAMILY FUN NIGHT**  
Friday, Oct 30, 6-9pm

**KIDS HALLOWEEN PARTY**  
Saturday, Oct 31, 11-1pm,

**CELTIC NEW YEAR & HALLOWEEN PARTY**  
Saturday Oct 31, 8pm



## club ACTIVITIES

### 25 CARD GAME

Card players meet Thurs at 7:30 pm.

### FÁILTE COMMITTEE

Volunteers needed to welcome members and sign in guests (as required by CT State Law). It's a great way to meet other members. Contact Bette Leary at 203-767-0117 or [betteleary@gmail.com](mailto:betteleary@gmail.com).

### FRÉAMH ÉIREANN

#### GENEALOGY GROUP

Genealogy Group will meet on Saturday, October 10 at 10:30 am. For info Contact Donna Orazio: [donnaorazio@gmail.com](mailto:donnaorazio@gmail.com)

### GAC BOWLING LEAGUE

Join us Sundays at 6:30pm at Nutmeg Bowl in Fairfield. Come alone or bring friends. Contact Donna Lillis email [donna\\_m\\_lillis@sbcglobal.net](mailto:donna_m_lillis@sbcglobal.net) or (203) 373-9129.

### FAIRFIELD GAELIC PIPE BAND

Meets Monday's 6:30 pm at First Church Congregational. Fairfield Gaelic Pipe Band (475)329-0202 or visit [fairfieldgaelicpipeband.org](http://fairfieldgaelicpipeband.org)

### GOOD & WELFARE

Mass cards were sent: to Elizabeth Power for the death of her husband Robert Power; to Laura Peredo whose mother Mary Ann Kerr passed away. Mary Ann was the sister of members Marty Fox, Eileen Fox, Robert Fox, and Elizabeth Hall; to Kathleen Carroll for the death of her husband Ed Carroll.

Sympathy cards were sent to Shelia Tesei for the death of her brother George Standing; to Dave Boyle for the death of his wife Anne Boyle.

Please notify Carol Ruddy of any births, deaths or special happenings at [carolruddy42@optonline.net](mailto:carolruddy42@optonline.net).

### GAC BUSINESS DIRECTORY/ TRADES LIST

It's easy to place your professional listing in the GAC Business Directory Trades List at [www.gaconline.org](http://www.gaconline.org). Go to GAC Business Directory option under Membership Tab and follow prompts to add your listing.

### GLEE CLUB MEETING

Starting in October Glee Club meets on Wednesdays at 6:30PM Carolan Room. Join us!

### HOUSE COMMITTEE

Ilona Paxton 203-372-1280

### IRISH INSTRUMENT SESSIONS

Join us Mondays, 8 pm

### IRISH LANGUAGE

#### Foghlaim Saeilse

Irish Language Class Thursdays 6:30PM. Contact Desmond Nolan [DesNolan@OptOnline.Net](mailto:DesNolan@OptOnline.Net). For more information. Language Conversational Group meets afterwards at 7:30 in the Bar's Snug. Contact Kate Thopsey: [kthopsey@fairfield.edu](mailto:kthopsey@fairfield.edu).

### IRISH LITERATURE GROUP

The GAC Literature Group will meet on Monday, October 19th at 7:30 to discuss Jennifer Johnston's *How Many Miles To Babylon?* The slim but emotionally hefty novel, originally published in 1974, concerns the tensions surrounding the friendship between an Irish aristocrat and a laborer on his lands, before and during the First World War. New members are always welcome. For info please call Clare Burnett at 203-255-3848.

### LIBRARY

Look for the Library display at the monthly membership meeting. This month feature is Irish History. For more information: Mary Ellen Lyons, [maryellen.lyons@outlook.com](mailto:maryellen.lyons@outlook.com).

### LOST/BROKEN SCRIP CARDS

Individual Members: Send the broken card to us and we will send back a new, working card. Family Members: Send us the broken card PLUS your spouse's working card. Once we know which one to replace, we will send both back to you.

### MEMBERSHIP MEETING

This month's meeting will be held Friday, October 9 @ 8 pm. Meetings are open to all Members. Minutes from the previous meeting are posted on the Bulletin Board.

### GAC MOVIE NIGHT

GAC Movie Night returns October 7th, so watch the e-bulletin and website for our featured films.

### SCÉALA

The November issue deadline is October 9th. Please submit news via email to [feismum13@gmail.com](mailto:feismum13@gmail.com) or to the Newsletter mailbox.

### SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Anyone interested in planning club events is welcome. Kevin O'Neil at [kjoneil101@charter.net](mailto:kjoneil101@charter.net)

### SENIORS

Senior Lunch is Thursday, October 29th at 12 noon. Call for reservations by Sunday, October 25. Cost for lunch \$7 for members and \$9 for non-members. Ann Hague 203-374-5198; Shirley McMenamy 203-268-5083; Sally Savage 203-366-4826.

### SET DANCING

Thursdays at 7:30pm. All are welcome! Brian Reynolds 203-214-2921

## FOR THE WEE PEOPLE

### CHILDREN'S CHORUS

Wednesdays 5 to 6PM in the Carolan room (sign-ups are at the beginning of rehearsal).

### 'SONGS AND A STORY'

For pre-K through first grade children. Group meets October 3rd In the library 11AM (first Saturday of the month).

### FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Friday October 30th from 6-9pm.

### GAC 25TH ANNIVERSARY SOCCER PARTY SAT. OCT 10

To all current and past GAC soccer players ~ Join the GAC sponsored soccer club in celebrating their 25th Anniversary the evening of Oct 10th in the Carolan Room. It's sure to be a great time with food drink and reminiscing. \$20 per person for food & drink tickets.

**KITCHEN HELP NEEDED;** Full time or Part time Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday 5pm-9pm.

**LINE COOK:** Wed thru Sun. Applicants do not have to be members. Contact Tommy Flaherty [tommyflaherty62@gmail.com](mailto:tommyflaherty62@gmail.com).

### ALL SOULS DAY MASS ~ 9AM

Commemorate the Faithful Departed at The All Souls Day Mass Celebrated by Bishop Frank J. Caggiano.

### "THE MEN BEHIND PATRICK PEARSE AND 1916" SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2-4PM

Fréamh Éireann Genealogy and GAC Language Groups will host **"The Men Behind Patrick Pearse and 1916"** An Irish History lecture sponsored by: Feile, Inc. and presented by John Roney Ph.D. Registration is \$5.00 and can be done on-line at [marroyo@optonline.net](mailto:marroyo@optonline.net) Subject: Irish History then mailing check, payable to "Feile, Inc. to Mary Adams-Arroyo 221 McGrath Court, Stratford, CT 06615. For more information, call Mary at (203)377-2346. Net Proceed donated to 1916 Memorial Committee.

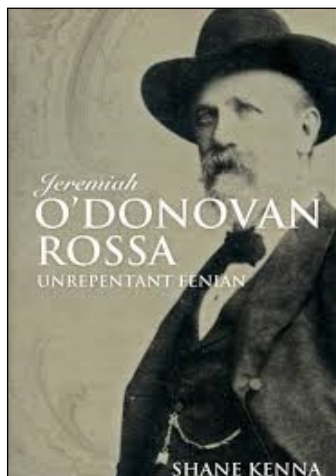
### MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL BARBECUE ~7PM

Enjoy the game with hamburgers, hot dogs with all the trimmings prepared by your favorite cooks Pat, Pat and Jay. For info call Pat at 203-644-9073 or [pat6575@optimum.net](mailto:pat6575@optimum.net).

### CLAN NA GAEL PLAY READING

The 2015 Playwriting Contest Winning Plays will be presented in a Reading to be held on Sunday October 4th from 2:30pm to 5:30pm in the Carolan Room. There will be a reception after the Reading and refreshments will be served. The event is free and all are welcome to enjoy this very special event. Questions, contact Nancy O'Neil at (203) 257-2395.

### BOOK SIGNING AND LECTURE



Book signing of "Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa--Unrepentant Fenian" by Author Shane Kenna on Friday, October 16th 2015 at 7 PM at the GAC. A lecture will also be given on the life and times of O'Donovan Rossa by the author. Also present will be the publisher--Conor Graham. Come and greet O'Donovan Rossa's

grand- daughter and great-grandson. For more information, contact Pat O'Connell 203-644-9073, [poc6575@optimum.net](mailto:poc6575@optimum.net). Event is being sponsored by, 100th Anniversary Easter Rising Committee.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

A Nomination/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. 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 8. The Committee will present a list of candidates at the membership Meeting on October 9. Candidate Statements will be published in the November Newsletter. Elections will be held Sunday December 6.

#### The Nominating /Election Committee:

- ♣ **Richard Owens**  
203-375-5595 [rowen9798@yahoo.com](mailto:rowen9798@yahoo.com)
- ♣ **Ralph Burke**  
203-255-5335 [ralphburke@optonline.net](mailto:ralphburke@optonline.net)
- ♣ **Noreen Forde**  
203-292-3721 [ngforde@aol.com](mailto:ngforde@aol.com)
- ♣ **Deidre Ronan**  
203-543-6806 [djkronan@gmail.com](mailto:djkronan@gmail.com)
- ♣ **Kathy Blackhall**  
203-814-2263 [Kathleen.Blackall@raveis.com](mailto:Kathleen.Blackall@raveis.com)
- ♣ **Arthur Beagan**  
203-451-0143 [artbeagan@comcast.net](mailto:artbeagan@comcast.net)

### CLAN NA GAEL FALL PRODUCTION



Clan na Gael is proud to announce the cast of their fall production of Sean O'Casey's, drama of the 1916 uprising, **THE PLOUGH AND THE STARS**, Directed by Peg O'Leary.

**The Cast:** Mathew Apgar , Steven Bennett , Patty Brady, Eileen Fickes , Allison Flaherty,, Kelsey Guggenheim, Nick Kay, Ann Mcquire, Noel McGovern , John Moran, David Pirrie, Griffin Reidy, Eamon Speer, Marie Sthele and Byrne White.

**Production Dates:** Nov. 19, 20,21 & 22.

**For Reservations:** via email [Cngplays@gmail.com](mailto:Cngplays@gmail.com) or phone 203-333-4736.

### FLEADH CHEOIL NA HÉIREANN

Congratulations to GAC Members Monica Ferguson, Gregg Burnett, Claire Feeney, Jack Feeney, and Ellen Feeney, who participated in the 2015 Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann in County Sligo this past summer!



## DANCING WITH THE GAC STARS VI CHARITY FUNDRAISER

Fred Astaire Dance Studio Southport ~ Saturday, October 17 @ 7 pm



**Elaine Bataille**  
Boys & Girls Club of Milford



**Bobby Becker**  
National MS Society



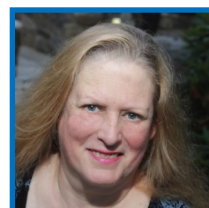
**Theresa Jacksis**  
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation



**Donna Keys**  
The CTChallenge



**Colleen Morgan**  
Children's Medical Center  
Foundation of Hartford



**Marie Stehle**  
Shepherds Inc

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 information ★ Barbara at [bbm128@aol.com](mailto:bbm128@aol.com) ★ Fran Tartamella at [fitzmella@yahoo.com](mailto:fitzmella@yahoo.com).

2015 COMHALTAS TOUR OF AMERICA

COMHALTAS

# Echoes of Erin

October 18th to November 1st

A COLOURFUL & EXCITING SHOW OF IRISH TRADITIONAL  
MUSIC, SONG, DANCE & HUMOUR

**GAELIC AMERICAN CLUB**  
Sunday November 1st - 4:00 PM  
74 Beach Road, Fairfield, CT  
Box Office 917-886-3368  
[echoesoferin2015@gmail.com](mailto:echoesoferin2015@gmail.com)  
\$20 adult | \$5 children

This event is co-sponsored by the GAC and the  
Shamrock Traditional Irish Music Society

**PEACE AND RECONCILIATION GATHERING ~  
THURS. OCT. 15 @ 7PM**

Fairfield University's Irish Studies Program, directed by Dr. Nels Pearson, will host a "Peace and Reconciliation Gathering," presented by The Playhouse Theatre of Witness, produced by Pauline Ross, and featuring Kathleen Gillespie and Anne Taylor, in Egan Chapel on the Fairfield University campus 1073 North Benson Rd., Fairfield, CT. The event is free and the public is invited. Further information; please contact Prof. Marion White, [mwhite@fairfield.edu](mailto:mwhite@fairfield.edu).

Kathleen Gillespie and Anne Taylor, from opposite sides of the political conflict during the late 20th century Troubles in Ulster, have come together to tell their personal stories in support of Northern Ireland's Peace Process.

They have worked individually and as a team since taking part in The Playhouse Theatre of Witness Program in Derry, Northern Ireland.

**UPCOMING GREATER BRIDGEPORT ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION COMMITTEE EVENTS**

- ✱ **12th Annual Greater Bridgeport St. Patrick's Day Scholarship Classic, October 1, 2015** 10:30am. Registration is at 10:30 am; Luncheon starts at 11:30 am; Shotgun Start at 12:00 pm; Cocktails start at 5:30 pm; Dinner starts at 6:00 pm. The format is an Irish Scramble. there will be Awards, Raffle and a Silent Auction! Alanna Kabel (203) 233-4598, Tom McCarthy (203) 218-4843, Pat Daly (203) 394-2170.
- ✱ **2016 St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshal Ball November 7, 2015. @ 7pm at the GAC.** Please join us for the 2015 Grand Marshal Reception honoring Alanna Kabel with music by Keltic Kick. Cost is \$55 per person – Cash Bar. Make Checks Payable to GBSPDCC, Inc. For more information: Patricia Brady (203)372-5612.

# cherish the ladies

**SAVE THE DATE**

Sunday December 13th at 4PM, America's favorite Irish band, Cherish The Ladies, will be bringing their Christmas Extravaganza to the Edgerton Center at Sacred Heart University, featuring Special Guests and world champion dancers in a wonderful holiday season celebration for the whole family. GAC members will enjoy a \$5 discount off the general admission price of \$30. More details to follow shortly regarding discount reservations, so save the date. For info: Gregg Burnett at 255-3838 or email [greggburnett@optimum.net](mailto:greggburnett@optimum.net).

**5TH ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25TH, 2015 3-7PM**

Brennan's Shebeen at Fairchild Wheeler Golf Course. 245 Morehouse Hwy, Fairfield. Tickets: \$10.00, Children are free! There will be snacks and cash bar. Contact: Pat Gerckens for more information on how to enter @ 203-734-8764 or [pgerckens@snet.net](mailto:pgerckens@snet.net). All proceeds to benefit the Greater Bridgeport St. Patrick's Day Parade Celebration Committee.



**INTRODUCTION TO  
GAELIC FOOTBALL FOR YOUNG CHILDREN**

St. Patrick's GAA Club will host its annual "Introduction to Gaelic Football" for boys and girls, 5-8 years of age, at The Fieldhouse in Fairfield beginning on January 23, 2016. The program runs from 4pm-5pm on Saturdays for six weeks. Please see [www.stpatricksgfc.org](http://www.stpatricksgfc.org) for more information.



**SUNDAY OCTOBER 4TH 1PM TO 7PM IACC BENEFIT FOR ALLISON STRATTON PETERSON**

Phil and Ann Stratton's daughter Allison was struck by a severe virus of the heart and nervous system last October. The condition left this young mother of two paralyzed from the waist down facing an arduous and expensive road to recovery. The event will feature food, musical entertainment, raffles and other opportunities to assist financially and in spirit. Ink in this important date on your calendar and let's show Allison and the Stratton family how much we care. Donations may be made payable to Allison Stratton Peterson Fund c/o Gerry Stratton, 76 Brown St. Hamden CT 06518. Contact Gerry Stratton 203.214.8578 [gerrystratton@hotmail.com](mailto:gerrystratton@hotmail.com) or Dennis Regan 203.215.2281 [dregan@aifs.com](mailto:dregan@aifs.com) for further information. Spread the word!