



# SCÉALA

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



CÉAD MÍLE Fáilte One Hundred Thousand Welcomes



feabhra | february

## GAC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2022

Please read this information carefully and pay special attention to the information in **BOLD**. It is best to use a laptop or desktop to renew membership. Phones and iPad devices are not always reliable.

To **renew online** please follow the instructions listed here:

Go to [www.GaelicAmericanClub.com](http://www.GaelicAmericanClub.com) and with your email address and password login to your profile [top right of the screen]. You may also login via Facebook or Google+.

1. If requested, agree to terms of use for this website.
2. Click the Renewal Button (Right Center of page).
3. Review and edit your profile & click the Update and Next Button.
4. Choose your payment method - see below for more details. **DO NOT CHOOSE "INVOICE ME" AND DO NOT HIT THE "BACK" BUTTON IF YOU ARE PAYING ONLINE.**

### First Time login?

1. Click "Forgot password" at the top right corner, beside the Login button.
2. Complete the form to create your password.
3. Now Login with your email address & password.

### ~PAYMENT OPTIONS~

If you pay online by Credit Card (3% fee)

When paying online, **DO NOT CHOOSE "INVOICE ME" AND DO NOT HIT THE "BACK" BUTTON.**

**PAYPAL or CREDIT CARD** - If you are using a credit card to renew, be sure to scroll past the PayPal option and enter your credit card information. You do not require a PayPal account to pay by credit card.

**eCHECK** - payment by eCheck is easy and convenient. All that is required is the entry of your bank account number and bank routing number, both of which are printed on your checks.

**PAPER CHECK** - You may access a printable Renewal Form at [www.GaelicAmericanClub.com](http://www.GaelicAmericanClub.com) under Existing Member tab or contact us for a mailed form.

No credit card or bank information is retained by the club

## TRADITIONAL MUSIC SESSION FEB 4TH - 6 TO 8PM



February's First Friday Trad Music session on February 4th will feature Jeanne Freeman who studied Irish fiddling with the late Donegal fiddler P.V. O'Donnell, and played and performed with him for many years. A professional classical violinist in her early years, she became interested in traditional music early on as a fiddler in Colonial Williamsburg (VA) and eventually found her way home to Irish music. Jeanne was the Irish fiddle soloist for the Hartford Symphony Orchestra's Saint Patrick's Day Celebration at the Bushnell Center for the Performing Arts, and was a featured solo performer at the Greater Hartford Irish Festival. She has performed at many festivals and venues around the region. In 2017, Jeanne was the featured fiddler in Celtic Life International Magazine. She was the Guest Artist for Simsbury (CT) Public School's 2018-2019 town-wide String Festival, teaching traditional Irish music to over 200 string students (violin, viola, cello, and bass) across the district, culminating in a full concert of traditional Irish music. Jeanne has hosted many traditional Irish sessions around the region, and also has a number of radio and television appearances to her credit, including a performance on Connecticut Public Television. She released her debut solo CD, "The Fiddler You Are" (produced by John Whelan) in 2014. Jeanne is the founder of the Academy, where she teaches fiddle classes.

## WEEKEND MUSIC IS INDOORS 8-11PM

Friday	Feb 4	Jeanne Freeman (6-8pm) Camac (8-11pm)
Saturday	Feb 5	Keltic Kick
Friday	Feb 11	The C-Sides
Saturday	Feb 12	Mike McGovern
Friday	Feb 18	Madz & the Ladz
Saturday	Feb 19	Jolly Beggars
Friday	Feb 25	Approaching Normal
Saturday	Feb 26	Allen Gogarty



## MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS?

Please direct all your Membership questions to the membership committee: [membership@gacemail.org](mailto:membership@gacemail.org)

## MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Friday February 11 @ 8PM

Members are encouraged to attend!

## GAC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meets monthly and can be reached Via email at [executive@gacemail.org](mailto:executive@gacemail.org)

## BUSINESS & TRADES DIRECTORY

To place your professional listing in the GAC Business Directory Trades List at [www.gaconline.org](http://www.gaconline.org). send info to [communications@gacemail.org](mailto:communications@gacemail.org). And when you need a business or trade service check the list and support your fellow members.

## FÁILTE COMMITTEE

We are getting into our busy times at the GAC and we do need to have people to volunteer to sit for a few hours at the front desk. It's a great way for new members to meet new people. Ideally we like a 3 (or more) hour shift - once a week, a month or year!

We have roughly 6000 members, yet we only have 3 volunteers to sit at the front desk. Please volunteer to help out. No experience necessary.

Choose your night, choose your hours, please call Bette Leary at 203-767-0117. Thank you

## FAIRFIELD GAELIC PIPE BAND

The group practices Mondays at 6:30pm in the Carolan Room of the GAC. For more info visit [fairfieldgaelicpipeband.org](http://fairfieldgaelicpipeband.org) or call 475-329-0202.

## GENEALOGY GROUP

### FRÉAMB ÉIREANN

Meets 2nd Saturday of the month in the O'Keefe Room @ 10:30am. For info Donna [donnaorazio@gmail.com](mailto:donnaorazio@gmail.com).

## GOOD & WELFARE

Notify Mary Alvarez of all member news at [alvarezmp@icloud.com](mailto:alvarezmp@icloud.com).

## HOUSE COMMITTEE

Ilona Paxton, House Chairperson  
203-372-1280

## IRISH LANGUAGE GROUP

Thursday Evenings via Zoom

6:45 beginners | 7:30 intermediate  
For more information: Cait Thopsey  
203-459-9686

## LIBRARY

The library will NOT be accepting donations until the Spring.

# Club Activities

## LITERATURE GROUP

The Literature Group will meet at 7 pm on Monday, Feb 28th, via Zoom, we will discuss This Side Of Brightness by Colum McCann. Hailed as a "haunting novel," it follows the story of Nathan Walker, a black man who comes to New York City at the turn of the century to become a sandhog - a person who digs the tunnels that carry trains from Brooklyn to Manhattan. A parallel plotline follows Treefrog, a homeless man who in the 1980's makes his home in the rafters of one of those tunnels. The book forms a tale of family, race and redemption that is as old and fabulous as New York City itself. All are welcome to attend. For Zoom link contact [ClareBurnett@optonline.net](mailto:ClareBurnett@optonline.net).

## PRICE INCREASES

Over the past year we have experienced increased cost of goods and supplies due to Covid and the challenging supply chain. Unfortunately, we have had to raise the prices at the pub to keep pace with increases and to maintain a sufficient income to properly maintain the club operations. Please note that we have not increased prices in over 4 years.

Liquor cocktails have increased by 50 cents and bottled beers have been increased by 25 cents. Wine and draught beer prices have not increased at this time. Thank you for your understanding.

## USE OF SCRIP

Scrip was created as a means for members to purchase in-club food, beverages and events. In the summer of 2020, during the height of the pandemic scrip became an accepted form of payment on takeout orders only because cash transactions were suspended due to COVID Health precautions. Now that cash is once again being used, the GAC is going back to the original policy and will no longer accept scrip for payment of takeout.

## SCEALA SUBMISSIONS

Submissions are due February 11th  
[Communications@gacemail.org](mailto:Communications@gacemail.org)

## SENIOR LUNCH

Thursday February 24th  
please make reservations by Sunday, February 20th. Cost of Lunch is \$7 for members. \$9 for non-members.  
Shirley McMenamy 203-268-5083;  
Sally Savage 203-366-4826.

## SET DANCING

Lace up your dance shoes because Set Dancing is back every Thursday at 7:30pm. Contact Brian Reynolds  
203-214-2921.

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE

contact [social@gacemail.org](mailto:social@gacemail.org).

## TRAD MUSIC SESSION

The Shamroques host a Irish Trad Music Night every Wednesday from 7-9pm in the Carolan Room. All are welcome to join in or just listen.

## ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS

Meetings are held at the GAC every 3rd Thursday of the month. The AOH is a fraternal group that mixes social functions and Christian charity on a regular basis. Join your fellow Irish Catholic brothers for good times and on-going charitable works. Contact Mark Ryan at 203 258-9846 or [mark.ryan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mark.ryan@sbcglobal.net).

## THE GIVING TREE

Giving Tree: Thank you to everyone who helped to make this such a success. We were able to give so many, many presents this year. I would personally like to thank Tom, Mike, Chris G and Sheila (and her daughters) for all their help. This isn't a 'one and done' ordeal, it takes hours and without their help, I'd still be lugging and sorting!

## GAC FOOD DRIVE

Many thanks to all who contributed to this year's food drive. The GAC dropped off donations to St Pius in Fairfield and benefited local families.

## SUPPORT IRELANDS GREAT HUNGER MUSEUM

Join the community of artists, educators, historians, docents and volunteers who stand ready to support all efforts to reopen the museum and short of that, to safeguard the collection. You can support this mission by donating to the campaign to reopen the museum and safeguard the collection at the link Visit <https://www.saveighm.org/>

# february feabhra



## Schedule

Mon & Tues  
Wed & Thurs  
Friday  
Saturday  
Sunday

## Kitchen hours

4pm - 9pm  
4pm - 10pm  
12pm - 10pm  
12pm - 8 pm

## pub hours

Closed  
4 pm - 10 pm  
4 pm - 12 am  
12 noon - 12 am  
12 noon - 9pm

## 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.gaonline.org](http://www.gaonline.org)

CÉAO MÍLE  
FÁILTE



Sunday Dombnach	Monday Luan	Tuesday Máirt	Wednesday Céadaoin	Thursday Deardaoin	Friday Aoine	Saturday Satharn
Reminder Use your scrip by 2/28		<b>1</b> St Brigid's Day  Lenihan Dance Lessons	<b>2</b> Ground Hog Day  Trad Music Session 7-9PM	<b>3</b> Irish Language Class • Beginners (zoom) 6:45 • Intermediate( zoom) 7:30  Set Dancing 7:30pm	<b>4</b> Trivia Night 8pm ♪ Jeanne Freeman 6-8pm ♪ Camac 8-11pm	<b>5</b>  ♪ Keltic Kick 8-11pm
<b>6</b>  	<b>7</b>  Gaelic Pipe Band - 6:30pm	<b>8</b> Executive Committee Meeting 7pm  Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children - 8pm Adult	<b>9</b> Trad Music Session 7-9PM	<b>10</b> Irish Language Class • Beginners (zoom) 6:45 • Intermediate( zoom) 7:30  Set Dancing 7:30pm	<b>11</b> Membership Meeting 8pm Sceala Submissions Due  ♪ The C-Sides 8-11pm	<b>12</b> Genealogy Group Fréamh Eiréann Meeting 10:30am  ♪ Mike McGovern 8-11pm
<b>13</b> Super Bowl Party	<b>14</b> Valentine's Day  Gaelic Pipe Band - 6:30pm	<b>15</b> Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children - 8pm Adult	<b>16</b> Trad Music Session 7-9PM	<b>17</b> Irish Language Class • Beginners (zoom) 6:45 • Intermediate( zoom) 7:30  Set Dancing 7:30pm	<b>18</b>  ♪ Madz & the Ladz 8-11pm	<b>19</b>  ♪ Jolly Beggars 8-11pm
<b>20</b>  	<b>21</b> Gaelic Pipe Band - 6:30pm	<b>22</b> Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children - 8pm Adult	<b>23</b> Trad Music Session 7-9PM	<b>24</b> Senior Lunch 12 noon Irish Language Class • Beginners (zoom) 6:45 • Intermediate( zoom) 7:30  Set Dancing 7:30pm	<b>25</b>  ♪ Approaching Normal 8-11pm	<b>26</b>  ♪ Allen Gogarty 8-11pm
<b>27</b>  Reminder Renew your membership by 2/28	<b>28</b> Last Day to Use Scrip  Gaelic Pipe Band - 6:30pm Irish Literature Group -7pm (Via Zoom)	<b>1</b> Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children - 8pm Adult	<b>2</b> Trad Music Session 7-9PM	<b>3</b> Irish Language Class • Beginners (zoom) 6:45 • Intermediate( zoom) 7:30  Set Dancing 7:30pm	<b>4</b>  ♪ The C-Sides 8-11pm	<b>5</b>  ♪ TBA 8-11pm

### CLAN NA GAEL NEWS

The Clan na Gael Players are pleased to announce their spring production

**"Outside Mullingar" directed by Jillian Plomin**

Performances are April 21, 22, 23, 24.

**Auditions will be held on Saturday March 3rd and Sunday March 4th from 1:00 to 3:30 at the GAC.**

Needed are four actors. Two women, age range 35-65 Two men, age range 35-65.

Do you have a suggestion of a play you would like us to consider in the future? If so send it to: opeggyo812@gmail.com We promise to read and consider, any suggestions received.

### TRIVIA NIGHT - FEBRUARY 4TH @ 8PM

Trivia returns on Friday February 4th @ 8pm in the Carolan Room. This month is a valentine theme. So get ready for a great time and brush up on all that useless information to win some awesome stuff!

### FAMILY ST. PATRICK'S DAY SHOW

Liz McNichol returns with her popular, fun loving, family entertainment on

**Sunday, March 13th at 1:00 pm**



Her program is geared toward children of all ages, it brings smiles and joy to all the young at heart! This will be a special pre-Saint Patrick's Day Celebration show.

All Covid Restrictions will be followed. Seating will be limited so reservation are a must. To ensure you've a seat for this free event that is open to the public please email opeggyo812@gmail.com

Liz McNichol Pre-Saint Patrick's Day Show is sponsored by Feile, Inc. whose mission is to educate, and entertain all ages of the public with it's programs of all things Irish.

**Don't forget to wear your green!**

### SUPER BOWL SUNDAY

Join us Sunday February 13th for the Super Bowl!  
Come watch a great game and enjoy the fabulous free buffet.