



SCÉALA

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



CÉAD MILE Fáilte One Hundred Thousand Welcomes



FÉADFAIRBH | May 2022

TRADITIONAL MUSIC SESSION MAY 6TH - 6 TO 8PM



May's First Friday Trad Music session on May 6th 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.

TIR GAN TEANGA, TIR GAN ANAM.
A NATION WITHOUT A LANGUAGE IS A
NATION WITHOUT A SOUL.
'IRISH-LITE'

4-week Introductory course to learn simple phrases, greetings, songs, prayers, proverbs, toasts and more.

Thursday evenings

**May 19, May 26, June 2 & June 9
7:30 - 8:00 pm. In person and via Zoom**

To learn more or to register contact Cait Thopsey (203-459-9686)

Cecilia Dalzell (Cecilia.dalzell@gmail.com)
or Marie Guma (marieguman@yahoo.com)

Spraoi go leor freisin - Lots of fun too!

TRIVIA NIGHT - MAY 6TH @ 8PM

The GAC's very popular Trivia night in the Carolan Room is on May 6th. The color to wear this month is Purple. So put on some purple threads, brush up on useless information and win awesome stuff!

WEEKEND MUSIC IS INDOORS 8-11PM

Friday	May 6	Jeanne Freeman (6-8pm) Reilly & Reidy (8-11pm)
Saturday	May 7	TBA
Friday	May 13	Camac
Saturday	May 14	Susan & Gerard
Friday	May 20	Sharon & Her Band
Saturday	May 21	The Irish Band
Friday	May 27	TBA
Saturday	May 28	The C Sides

CELEBRATE MOTHER'S DAY WITH THE ANDY COONEY BAND Sunday May 8 | 2 Seatings 12pm-1:30pm or 2pm-3:30pm

Buffet style meal & a complimentary glass of Prosecco for Mom!

\$35/person, \$15/children 12 & under
Reservations Required

Email tommyflaherty62@gmail.com

In your email please specify what seating time and how many in your party - limit 8 to a table. Include #adults, #kids, and a phone number. Space is Limited RSVP ASAP to ensure your desired seating time. Note: the GAC accepts credit cards, along with scrip cards and cash.



MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS?

Please direct all your Membership questions to the membership committee: membership@gacemail.org

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Friday May 13 @ 8PM

Members are encouraged to attend!

GAC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meets monthly and can be reached Via email at executive@gacemail.org

BUSINESS & TRADES DIRECTORY

To place your professional listing on the GAC Business Directory Trades List at www.gaconline.org. send info to 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. 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 or call 475-329-0202.

GENEALOGY GROUP

FRÉAMB ÉIREANN

Meets 2nd Saturday of the month @ 10:30am in the O'Keefe Room and via zoom. This month the group meets on 5/14. For more information or link contact FESecretaryGAC@gmail.com.

GOOD & WELFARE

A Sympathy card was sent to John Minehan and family on the passing of his wife, Marcia.

A Mass Card was sent to Carol Ruddy and family on the passing of Jim Ruddy.

Notify Mary Alvarez of all member news at alvarezmp@icloud.com.

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Ilona Paxton, House Chairperson
203-372-1280

Club ACTIVITIES

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.

LITERATURE GROUP

The Literature Group will meet on Wednesday, May 25 at 7 p.m. to discuss *The Elephant of Belfast* by S. Kirk Walsh. link please contact ClareBurnett@optonline.net.

SCEALA SUBMISSIONS

Submissions are due May 13th
Communications@gacemail.org

SET DANCING

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

SENIOR LUNCH

Thursday May 26th

please make reservations by Sunday, May 22nd. Cost of Lunch is \$8 for members. \$10 for non-members. Shirley McMenamy 203-268-5083; Sally Savage 203-366-4826.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

contact social@gacemail.org.

TRAD MUSIC SESSION

The Shamroques host an 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.

THE OGHAM ALPHABET: PAST & PRESENT | SUNDAY MAY 1ST @ 2PM

The 27th in a Series of Irish History Lectures



Colleen Berry Conway, co-owner and artist of Ogham Art, will present an interactive lecture on the history of Ogham, the first written form of the Primitive Irish language. Ogham was used in Ireland and parts of England, Scotland and Wales between the 2nd and 6th centuries. Though its actual origins

remain a mystery today, it is believed the Celts desired a cryptic alphabet that could not be deciphered by Roman Britain. Today there are roughly 400 surviving stones featuring proper names, ancestral and tribal affiliations, and Latin words.

The lecture will begin with a concise history of the Celts and an outline of the Celtic languages. A thorough presentation of the Ogham alphabet will be followed by a lesson for the attendees to write their names in Ogham. Also included are visuals and reference materials for those with a keen curiosity about a relatively unknown chapter of Irish history! A selection of unique creations by Ogham Art will be available for purchase at the event.

Sunday May 1st at 2PM in the Carolan Room GAC

Tickets – \$5.00 (Students with ID \$2.00)

Send check payable to Féile, Inc. to: Mary Adams-Arroyo,
221 McGrath CT, Stratford, CT 06615

Email: marroyo@optonline.net

Subject: Irish History Lectures – Phone: 203-377-2346

Contact Info: Mary-Ellen Vollemans - Email gacletures@gmail.com



SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

GALIC-AMERICAN CLUB SCHOLARSHIPS



The Gaelic-American Club is pleased to offer two, \$2,000 scholarships to deserving high school seniors attending a four-year college in the fall. Recipients will be announced in early June of 2022.

Return the completed application to the Fairfield Gaelic American Club by 5 PM on May 8, 2022. Completed applications must be placed in the Club Manager's mailbox and the envelope must be labeled to the attention of GAC Scholarship Committee or sent to Elizabeth Power, 14 Paisley Lane, Fairfield, CT 06825.

CHARLIE GORMAN'S WAKE MAY 22 @ 4PM

An original comedy movie by Paul Pender. The film is set in the sleepy County Kildare village of Ballycarraig, and tells the story of friendship among the patrons of Gorman's Bar who are relentlessly funny and always entertaining. Have a look at the trailer and maybe even see some familiar faces!
<http://www.charliegormanswakethefilm.com>
This event is sponsored by FÉILE

FÉILE SPONSORED SCHOLARSHIPS

2022 Joe Moran Memorial Scholarship

FÉILE is pleased to offer up to three scholarships of \$2000 each to high school seniors attending college in fall 2022.

2022 Patrick J. Dyer - 1916 Scholarship

FÉILE is pleased to announce our 2022 scholarship program in partnership with the family of Patrick J. Dyer.

The Patrick J. Dyer 1916 Scholarship One scholarship of \$1916 awarded to high school senior who will be attending college in fall 2022.

Information, applications, and details for both scholarship opportunities are available at FEILE SCHOLARSHIP INFO Deadline for submission is May 3, 2022.

The scholarship award winners will be notified in June 2022. Questions - Email feileinc89@gmail.com

MEMORIAL DAY BBQ

MONDAY MAY 30TH FROM 12-3PM

Good Food & Great Entertainment
No reservation needed just come on down and enjoy a fun afternoon for the entire family!
(Bring a guest - but please sign'em in)

Address Service Requested

Presorted First Class
Mail
U.S. Postage Paid
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