



SCÉALA

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



CÉAD MÍLE FÁILTE One Hundred Thousand Welcomes



Eanáir | JANUARY 2023

GAC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2023

If you have a working email on file with us, you received notification in January to renew your GAC membership for 2023.

If you have no email or have requested paper billing, your invoice was mailed in late December. Other important information regarding membership renewal:

- Please make sure your contact information, especially email and home address are current. You can log into your account to review your information at any time on the GAC membership website <https://www.gaelicamericanclub.com/>
- If you usually receive your renewal from the GAC by email and did not receive an email from us by January 3rd, please check your settings and spam folder.
- If you usually receive your renewal by mail and do not receive anything from us by January 6, please let us know. The best way to contact the membership office is via email at membership@gacemail.org.
- Do not discard your white door/scrip card. There is a \$10 replacement fee. Your 2023 scrip will be loaded onto that card on April 1, 2023.
- All 2022 scrip expires on February 28, 2023. You can contact membership committee via email at membership@gacemail.org

Please note: The Gaelic American Club operates on a calendar year and depends on the prompt payment of membership dues. Membership renewal is payable beginning on January 1 each year. We allow up to a 60-day grace period to pay. All memberships must be renewed by February 28, 2023. Beginning March 1, there will be a \$100 reinstatement fee added to all unpaid accounts.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2023 GAC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- PRESIDENT John Brannelly
VICE PRESIDENT Gerry Forde
RECORDING SECRETARY - Simon McCarthy
TREASURER - Tom Langdon
FINANCIAL SECRETARY - Tom Egan
SERGEANT AT ARMS - Aaron Curtis
DIRECTOR 3-YEARS - Kelly Rasmussen
DIRECTOR 2-YEARS - Tony Hogan
DIRECTOR 1-YEAR - Sheila Tesei

TRIVIA FRIDAY JANUARY 6ND @ 8PM

Wear something Gold and have fun! Who knows maybe you'll win some cool stuff!

TRAD MUSIC FRIDAY -JANUARY 6TH FROM 6-8PM



Kira Jewett is our Frist Friday Trad Musician performing January 6th (6-8pm). She started playing classically when she was just three years old, but fell in love with the music of Ireland in her 20s and studied extensively with the virtuoso fiddler Brian Conway. She is the 2003 All-Ireland fiddle Slow Airs Champion. She is also a member of New Leaf and the band will play that night from 8-11PM!

SAVE MARCH 12TH FOR IRISH GENEALOGY DAY

Sunday, March 12, 2023 is Irish Genealogy Day at the GAC from 10 to 2pm. Looking to discover more about your family history? Come listen to and meet the experts from the Ulster Historical Foundation of Belfast. Registration details to follow. Hosted by Fréamh Éireann (Irish Roots) genealogy group & sponsored by Féile.

Bob Abercrombie, Chairman, Fréamh Éireann FEGA-Cinct@gmail.com or Clare Lawler Kilgallen
Email: FEsecretarygac@gmail.com

WEEKEND MUSIC

Friday	Jan 6	New Leaf
Saturday	Jan 7	Keltic Kick
Friday	Jan 13	Sharon & Her Band
Saturday	Jan 14	The Jolly Beggars
Friday	Jan 20	Mostly Green
Saturday	Jan 21	Kurt & Helen
Friday	Jan 27	Mike McGovern
Saturday	Jan 28	The C-Sides



GAC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meets monthly on the Tuesday prior to the Membership Meeting. The Committee can be reached Via email at executive@gacemail.org

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Friday January 13th @ 8PM
Members are encouraged to attend!

MEMBERSHIP REMINDERS

The white membership card with your name and 5 digit number is used for both entering the club and scrip DO NOT DISCARD AFTER USING UP YOUR SCRIP. \$10 replacement fee for lost card. You can mail or drop off payment with your info at the GAC to the Attn: Membership.

25 CARD GAME

The group will meet twice in January, on Jan 8th and again on Jan 22nd from 12 to 3:30 pm. Join us, we'll even teach you this Irish Traditional Irish Card Game.

BUSINESS & TRADES DIRECTORY

To place your professional listing in 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

FAILTE needs your help! We need more new 'front door' volunteers, who can volunteer at definite times, whatever time you'd like, we can give you! Please volunteer to help our Club. The 'front desk' is 'the best seat in the house!' Please contact Bette Leary at email: betteleary@gmail.com or 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
FRÉAMH ÉIREANN**

The group meets on January 14th @ 10:30am in the O'Keefe Room. For info FESecretaryGAC@gmail.com.

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. And Don't forget to follow our First Friday Trad Music Sessions.

CLUB ACTIVITIES**GOOD AND WELFARE**

A Get Well Card was sent to:
Joanne Stange

A Sympathy Card was sent to:
Christine Bocamazzo on the passing of her sister, MaryAnn Luce

A Deceased Member Plaque was engraved for:
Thomas F. Hogan, Jr.

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

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Ilona Paxton, House Chairperson
203-372-1280

IRISH LITERATURE GROUP

The Literature Group will meet on Thursday, January 19th at 7 pm. We will be discussing *Holding* by Graham Norton. All are welcome to join even if you haven't had time to read the book it often fun to hear about a new book. For contact: Mary Ellen Keresey maryellenkeresey@gmail.com.

IRISH LANGUAGE GROUP

Thursday Evenings via Zoom

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

SENIOR LUNCH

Thursday January 26th @ noon
please make reservations by Sunday 01/22. Lunch price has increased and is \$9 members. non-members \$11
Shirley McMenamy 203-268-5083; Sally Savage 203-366-4826.

SET DANCING

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

ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS

Meets at the GAC every 3rd Thursday of the month. The AOH is a fraternal group that mixes social functions and Christian charity. Join the AOH for good times and on-going charitable works. Mark Ryan at 203 258-9846 or mark.ryan@sbcglobal.net.

THE IRISH-JEWISH ULYSSES:**HOW AND WHY TO READ THE WORLD'S GREATEST NOVEL
The 29th Lecture in a Series of Lectures on Irish History**

Our February presenter will be Dr. Abby Bender, Department of Languages and Literatures, and Director of the Minor in Irish Studies at Sacred Heart University. Dr. Bender's research is focused on Irish literature and culture, and she is the author of *Israelites in Erin: Exodus, Revolution, and the Irish Revival* (Syracuse UP, 2015), as well as essays on James Joyce, Lady Gregory, Patrick Pearse, the Irish Revival, and transnationalism.



Dr. Bender's current book project is a cultural and literary history of breastfeeding in Ireland, a topic that has led into further considerations of the body, biopower, disability, and medical humanities, with a particular focus on gender and women's writing. She continues to be interested in questions of transnational analogy, and her current work in Jewish-Irish studies addresses both historical and contemporary issues of solidarity, migration, and borders. Register at: gaclectures@gmail.com.

Sunday, February 5, 2023 in the Carolan Room at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets \$5, Students with ID \$2.

Sorry no GAC Scrip or credit cards

39TH ANNUAL GRAND MARSHAL'S GALA HONORING**GERRY REIDY THE 2023 GRAND MARSHAL**

Saturday January 7th @ 6pm

Enjoy cocktails (Open Bar) Dinner catered by O'Neil's of Norwalk. Dance to the Music of The McLean Avenue Band, Desert & Coffee. \$100 per person
For information: Connie Beagan 203-733-2002 or cgbegan@gmail.com
reserve & pay online at www.STPARTICKSDAYBRIDGEPORT.com

Semi Formal Attire

JANUARY Eanáir



Schedule

Kitchen hours

pub hours

How To Reach us

CÉAD MILE FÁILTE


Mon & Tues
Wed & Thurs
Friday
Saturday
Sunday

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

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

Office (203) 254-0673
Fax (203) 254-3012
Pub emergencies (203) 254-2723
Membership (203) 256-0380
Social (203) 418-7676
Website www.gaconline.org



Sunday Dombnach	Monday Luan	Tuesday Máirt	Wednesday Céadaoin	Thursday Deardaoin	Friday Aoine	Saturday Satharn
1 athbhliain faoi mhaise duit!	2 Gaelic Pipe Band - 6:30pm	3 Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children - 8pm Adult	4 Trad Music Session 7-9PM	5 Irish Language Class • Beginners (zoom) 6:45 • Intermediate(zoom) 7:30 Set Dancing 7:30pm	6 Trivia 8pm ♪ Kira Jewett 6-8pm ♪ New Leaf 8-11pm	7 Bridgeport Parade Dinner Dance 6:30pm ♪ Keltic Kick
8 25 Card Game 12:30 - 3pm	9 Gaelic Pipe Band - 6:30pm	10 Executive Committee Meeting 7pm Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children - 8pm Adult	11 Trad Music Session 7-9PM	12 Irish Language Class • Beginners (zoom) 6:45 • Intermediate(zoom) 7:30 Set Dancing 7:30pm	13 Sceala Submissions Due Membership Meeting 8pm ♪ Sharon & Her Band	14 Genealogy Group 10:30am ♪ The Jolly Beggars
15 Reminder Renew your membership by 2/28	16 Gaelic Pipe Band - 6:30pm	17 Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children - 8pm Adult	18 Trad Music Session 7-9PM	19 Irish Language Class • Beginners (zoom) 6:45 • Intermediate(zoom) 7:30 Irish Literature Group 7pm Set Dancing 7:30pm	20 ♪ Mostly Green	21 CnG's Readers Theatre "The Good Father" @ 8pm ♪ Kurt & Hellen
22 25 Card Game 12-3:30pm CnG's Readers Theatre "The Good Father" @ 7:15pm	23 Gaelic Pipe Band - 6:30pm	24 Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children - 8pm Adult	25 Trad Music Session 7-9PM	26 Senior Lunch 12pm Irish Language Class • Beginners (zoom) 6:45 • Intermediate(zoom) 7:30 Set Dancing 7:30pm	27 ♪ Mike McGovern	28 ♪ The C-Sides
29 	30 Gaelic Pipe Band - 6:30pm	31 Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children - 8pm Adult	1 Trad Music Session 7-9PM	2 Irish Language Class • Beginners (zoom) 6:45 • Intermediate(zoom) 7:30 Set Dancing 7:30pm	3 ♪ McLean Avenue Band	4 ♪ Camac



CLAN NA GAEL



The Clan na Gael Players would like to thank all who attended our production of "Outside Mullingar " and look forward to seeing you soon at another CnG event.

This month CnG will present another evening of the **Readers Theatre** featuring *The Good Father* by Christian O'Reilly. The play will be read under the direction of Valerie Huegal on Saturday January 21st @ 8pm and Sunday January 22nd @ 7:15 - Admission is \$5.

The Good Father begins on New Year's Eve when bored with the party, a man and women meet and decide to have their own intimate party, which on turn, takes them on an unexpected roller coaster journey filled with "inescapable electric dialogue". The couple leads us through unmistakable laughter, along with every other emotion that is life. Mature play goers suggested.

Then in March the **Clan na Gael One Act Playwright Contest Winning** entries will be read Sunday, March 26, 2023, 2:30pm - Admission is Free!

- 1st Place "The Head of Shamus Delaney" by Ben Scranton
- 2nd Place "The Turquoise Sheep" by Alison Flannery
- 3rd Place "Leaving" by Brian Whelan

CnG's Spring Production Auditions of *The Poets Rebellion* under the direction of Eamon Speer be held February 25, 26 from 1:30-3:30 at the Gaelic American Club. Cast of 6 Males and 3 Females. Auditions are open to all. No experience necessary.

CnG is planning an **Evening of Merriment** for those involved in prior CnG productions. And all interested in learning more about us as we celebrate 36 years of presenting plays by or about the Irish. No Experience Necessary! But always welcome! Watch for more information.

happy new year!
athbhliain faoi mhaise duit!

Address Service Requested

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Fairfield, CT 06824
Permit # 288

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