



SCÉALA

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



CÉAD MÍLE FÁILTE One Hundred Thousand Welcomes



SAMHAIN | November 2022

GAC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMONEES

PRESIDENT

- ♣ John Brannelly
- ♣ Faith Maciver

VICE PRESIDENT

- ♣ Gerry Forde
- ♣ Joan Greenwood

SERGEANT AT ARMS

- ♣ Aaron Curtis
- ♣ Brian Filush
- ♣ Hilary Koreeda

DIRECTOR

- ♣ Kelly Rasmussen
- ♣ Timothy Russell

Uncontested Committee Positions:

RECORDING SECRETARY - Simon McCarthy

TREASURER - Tom Langdon

FINANCIAL SECRETARY - Tom Egan

(Bios can be found on GAConline.org.)

CLAN NA GAEL'S FALL PRODUCTION

"OUTSIDE MULLINGAR" BY JOHN PATRICK SHANLEY

This four person play featuring David Kaminski, Valerie Huegal, Susan Maxham and Mike O'Mara tells two intertwined stories of a long standing land dispute, between neighbors, which has kept the second story, about a rather one sided romance, on the back of the turf stove for many years. It is by turns, poetic, uplifting, dark and funny!

The play is being directed by Jillian Plomin and produced by Peg O'Leary.

Reserve your seat now - \$15 each

November 17, 18, 19 at 8:00

and Sunday November 20, at 2:30

at: playresvcng@gmail.com or 203-377-1070

TRAD FOR TRŌCAIRE RETURNS NOVEMBER 13TH

A Fairfield Prep/Lauralton Hall Tradition



TRAD for TRŌCAIRE Sunday November 13th from 2-4PM. Come down to the GAC to enjoy good craic and great music in support of Trōcaire, Ireland's largest international-aid organization. Learn more at www.trocaire.org. The event is free and open to the public but contributions will be gladly accepted to help

Trōcaire in its efforts to alleviate poverty in the world's most distressed regions. Join us!

HANGING OF THE JERSERY

Sunday November 13th

with Camac from 4-7pm

Join in the revelry and fun of this fine tradition celebrating the All-Ireland Hurling Champs Limerick, All-Ireland Football Champs Kerry and St. Patrick's Hurling & Football Club. There'll be plenty of food & craic for all, so come early to get your seats. Noreen Forde 203-273-0483.



DON MEADE NOVEMBER 4TH FROM 6- 8PM



The First Friday Trad Music Session Features Don Meade who has been a central part of the Irish traditional music scene in New York for over forty years. After relocating from California in 1976, he encountered and spent time with many of the older players including Martin Wynne, Mike Rafferty, Tom Doherty and especially Paddy Reynolds. In

1986, he took charge of the weekly traditional music concert series at the Eagle Tavern, a series that later moved first to the Blarney Star in 1993 and between 2004 and 2020 to the Glucksman Ireland House.

Highly respected among Irish traditional musicians of all ages, he has a vast knowledge of the music tradition in New York. This, combined with his journalistic skills ensured that Don is best placed to create an account of Irish music tradition history in the New York area.

TRIVIA FRIDAY NOVEMBER 4 @ 8PM

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

DECEASED MEMBER MASS SUNDAY NOVEMBER 6TH

In the Carolan Room @ 10am

WEEKEND MUSIC

Friday	Nov 4 The Jolly Beggars
Saturday	Nov 5 Once Removed
Friday	Nov 11 Sharon & her band
Saturday	Nov 12 Liz McNichol Band
Sunday	Nov 13 Camac Hanging of Jerseys,
Friday	Nov 18 Mike McGovern
Saturday	Nov 19 Allen Gogarty
Wednesday	Nov 23 Highland Rovers
Friday	Nov 25 Six2Go
Saturday	Nov 26 Eventide



GAC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Friday November 11th @ 8PM
Members are encouraged to attend!

25 CARD GAME

November 20th - 12 to 3:30 pm. Join us, we'll even teach you this Irish Traditional Irish Card Game. It's great craic and the winner gets a turkey!

BUSINESS & TRADES DIRECTORY

To place your professional listing in the GAC Business Directory Trades List at www.gaonline.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! Do you know OUR Club can be fined and/or closed if even 1 guest isn't signed in. Please, carry your GAC card, driver's license (so your membership can be looked up) OR just sign the book (even if you are a member). It doesn't matter if you have been a member 20 years or 20 days - carry your card.

We desperately need many 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.

The Fairfield Gaelic Pipe Band is looking for new members. Our first introductory seminar is planned for Monday, September 12, in the Carolyn Room from 6:30-7:30. Everything you need to know about starting a new rewarding activity. Please plan on attending by giving me a call: Art Beagan 203-451-0143 or email: artbeagan@gmail.com

GENEALOGY GROUP**FRÉAMH ÉIREANN**

The group meets on November 12th @ 10:30am in the O'Keefe Room. For info FESecretaryGAC@gmail.com.

Club ACTIVITIES**GOOD AND WELFARE**

Get well cards were sent to: Jack Caldwell, Mary Ann Doonan, Bill Flannery, Dennis Fry, Esther Lawless, Clare Murrihy and Michael Wellington.

Mass cards were sent to:

Ann Walsh on the passing of her husband, Tom; To Seamus Rooney on the passing of his wife, Peggy; To Robin Redford on the passing of her Dad, Robert H. Larkin

A sympathy card was sent to: Thomas Clark on the passing of his Father, Peter; To Eamonn Ryan on the passing of his Mother, Nora; and To Nora Zillox on the passing of her brother Jim in Ireland.

Deceased member plaques were engraved for:

Robert H. Larkin; Margaret Rooney; and Tom Walsh

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

LITERATURE GROUP

The Literature Group will meet on Thursday, November 17, at 7pm in the GAC library to discuss "*Small Things Like These*" by Claire Keegan. Please note that we're meeting on Thursday instead of Wednesday. For info contact Mary Ellen Keresey @ maryellenkeresey@gmail.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

SENIOR LUNCH

Thursday November 17th @ noon please make reservations by Sunday 11/13. Lunch is \$8 members. non-members \$10. **Please bring non perishables items for Operation Hope**
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.

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

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. Contact Mark Ryan at 203 258 -9846 or mark.ryan@sbcglobal.net.

GREGG AND CLARE BURNETT INAUGURAL MEMORIAL CONCERT

Saturday November 5, 7:30pm Nathan Gourley and Joey Abarta

Fiddler & guitarist Nathan Gourley, and uilleann piper Joey Abarta have years of combined experience and accolades throughout the United States and Ireland, as well as a shared friendship with Gregg and Clare Burnett. Who better to help celebrate the first concert in their memory. As members of the GAC, both Gregg & Clare actively shared their love of Irish music, literature and culture. Their spirit and passion are incredibly missed.

ST. PATRICK'S GAA CLUB'S DINNER DANCE

St. Patrick's GAA Club will once again hold its Annual Dinner Dance at the GAC on Saturday December 3rd with cocktail hour beginning at 6:30pm & music provided by the McLean Avenue Band. This year the Gaelic football and hurling club will honor Jarlath & Celine Carbin as the Gaels of the Year for their long-standing dedication & commitment to St. Patrick's & the GAA. Tickets are \$100 per person and include appetizers, dinner, dessert, & open bar; \$75 for seniors. Journal ads are \$100 for a full page; \$50 for half-page ads. To reserve tables or place an ad in the journal, please email: fundraising@stpatricksgaa.us.

Save January 7th 2023 for The Greater Bridgeport**St. Patrick's Day Grand Marshal's Ball at the GAC**

Music by the McLean Avenue Band and food catered by O'Neil's Irish Pub.



GO RAIBH MAITH AGAIBH

The Irish Language Group would like to thank Féile for their annual support of our Lá Gaeilge, Day of Irish Language and Culture. Beginner, intermediate and advanced level Irish classes were taught by Eileen Zurell of Daltaí na Gaeilge; Eimear Millane, Fulbright Scholar at University of Connecticut; and Emer Maguire, Fulbright Scholar at Elms College.

We had workshops on sean nós singing and dancing and the Fulbrights also played the concertina and whistle for our group. We enjoyed hearing information about the future plans of the Famine Museum from our guest speaker, John Foley, President IGHMF. And ended our day with a rousing game of Wheel of Fortune, in Irish, with our own Des “Pád Sagart” Nolan and Rath deHoust as “Bheanna White”.

Chris Conway had the Siopa Ogham open for business and the Daltaí books were available. A tasty and plentiful lunch was provided by Joe the Chef. A fabulous time was had by all.

**Mark your calendars for next year’s language event:
Saturday, October 7, 2023. Bigi Linn.**

**SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR NEXT
IRISH HISTORY LECTURE**



The 29th in a Series of Lectures on Irish History will take place February 5, 2023 @ 2pm. So mark your calendars

THE GIVING TREE



Once again, the Giving Tree is up at the GAC. We will be collecting presents for the Bridgeport Rescue Mission and Sister Theresa Tremblay's Nursery School children and their families. Please take a tag (or 2), buy the designated present, wrap it (with the original tree tag attached) and return the gifts to the GAC

NO LATER 12/13 - Please don't take a tag unless you fully intend to buy a gift.

A Huge Thank You in advance to all who participate!

Address Service Requested

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Fairfield, CT 06824
Permit # 288

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