



SCÉALA

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



CÉAD MÍLE FÁILTE One Hundred Thousand Welcomes



Deireadh Fómhair | October 2022

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Here's your opportunity to get involved and really understand what goes into making this such a special club. Please contact anyone on the nominating committee if you have an interest in running for office. The positions are President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms and one Director's Position.

The Nomination Committee members are:

- Chair, Frank Byrne - irishcab@optonline.net
- Jude Fitzgerald - jfitzgerald740@aol.com
- Art Beagan - artbeagan@gmail.com
- Connie Beagan - cgbeagan@gmail.com
- Dave Curtin - dwamcurtin@gmail.com
- Ann Marie Curtin - curtin07@aol.com

MESSAGE FROM THE GAC PRESIDENT

Regarding Ireland's Great Hunger Museum of Fairfield

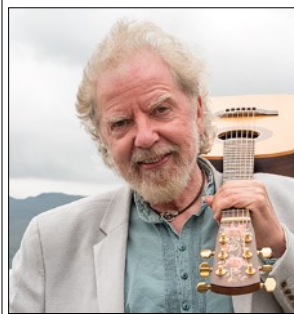
"I have been contacted by a number of members enquiring about recent newspaper reports that Quinnipiac University is transferring the art collection from the Ireland's Great Hunger Museum at the University to the Gaelic-American Club who will assume ownership and responsibility for its care.

Those reports are inaccurate. The collection is being transferred to the Ireland's Great Hunger Museum of Fairfield which has been set up as a separate charitable corporation to take ownership and custodial responsibility of the art collection.

The GAC is very excited about the art collection coming to Fairfield as the mission is consistent with our mission of preserving Irish history and culture and educating present and future generations of the terrible trauma inflicted on the Irish nation. The location of the Museum in Fairfield will continue to make Fairfield the "go to" destination in Connecticut for Irish culture.

However, as much as we endorse the project, as a fraternal organization rather than a charitable corporation under the tax laws, we can not be a party to the transaction and we therefore have no financial obligations with respect to the parties. We wish the IGHMF and its President John Foley every success, and commend that organization to our members for their individual support."

Gerry Forde, GAC Executive Committee President



TOMMY SANDS FRIDAY OCTOBER 14TH @ 8PM IN THE CAROLAN ROOM

Tommy Sands has achieved something akin to legendary status in his own lifetime. A rare combination of storyteller, author, singer, songwriter and social activist, Sands' reviews come from politicians and major authors as well as fellow musicians and music reviewers. Sands has become an integral part of the Irish folk music revival and a one of a kind North Ireland native, whose music is often found to speak louder than violence.

**Tickets are \$10 | For Reservations Contact:
Lizbyrnefeeney@hotmail.com**

TRIVIA FRIDAY OCTOBER 7TH @ 8PM

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

TRADITIONAL IRISH MUSIC SESSION OCT 7 @ 6PM

The Shamroques in partnership with the GAC present October's 'First Friday Trad Music Session' featuring the premier Irish fiddle player, Brian Conway. Conway performs with a skill, grace and force that are steeped in tradition but distinctively his own.

He has won numerous All-Ireland fiddling competitions, including the prestigious All-Ireland senior championship. New York born, Brian is a leading exponent of the highly ornamented Sligo fiddling style made famous by the late Michael Coleman. His talents have also been enthusiastically received all over North America and throughout Ireland and the rest of Europe.



WEEKEND MUSIC

Friday	Sept 30	Molly Byrne	6-8pm Outside
		TR Dallas	8-11pm in the Pub
Saturday	Oct 1	Sharon & Her Band	
Friday	Oct 7	Mike McGovern	8-11pm in the Pub
Saturday	Oct 8	The C-Sides	
Friday	Oct 14	Tommy Sands	Carolan Room 8pm
		Round Two	8-11 in the Pub
Saturday	Oct 15	Camac	
Friday	Oct 21	Liz McNichool Band	
Saturday	Oct 22	Ruff Dogs	
Friday	Oct 28	Madz & the Ladz	
Saturday	Oct 29	Mike McGovern	

GAC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Friday October 21st @ 8PM
Members are encouraged to attend!

25 CARD GAME

Oct 2nd - 12 to 3:30 pm. Come join us
and we'll teach you this Irish Traditional Irish Card Game. It's great craic!

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 sup-
port your fellow members.

FÁILTE COMMITTEE

We are getting into our busy times at
the GAC and we do need to have peo-
ple 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 [fairfieldgaelic-
icpipeband.org](http://fairfieldgaelicpipeband.org) or call 475-329-0202.

The Fairfield Gaelic Pipe Band is look-
ing for new members. Our first intro-
ductory seminar is planned for Mon-
day, 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: [art-
beagan@gmail.com](mailto:art-beagan@gmail.com)

GENEALOGY GROUP**FRÉAMB ÉIREANN**

The group meets on the October 8th
@ 10:30am in the O'Keefe Room. For
info FESecretaryGAC@gmail.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

LITERATURE GROUP

The Literature Group will meet on
Wednesday, October 19, at 7pm in
the GAC library to discuss *The Irish
Assassins: Conspiracy, Revenge* by
Julie Kavanagh. Come and enjoy a
discussion even if you haven't read
the book For more information please
contact Mary Ellen Keresey @
maryellenkeresey@gmail.com.

SENIOR LUNCH

Thursday October 27th @ noon
please make reservations by Sunday
Oct. 23th. Cost of Lunch is \$8 for
members. \$10 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 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

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.

MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS?

Please direct all your Membership
questions to the membership com-
mittee: membership@gacemail.org

**CEILI - MUSIC IN THE GLEN****SUNDAY OCTOBER 23RD FROM 4 - 7PM**

It will be a lively afternoon with music by Loretta
Egan Murphy, Katie Murray & Joe Heeran.
\$20 Admission. For more information:
Noreen Forde 203-273-0483

**The Shamrock Tradition Irish Music Society presents
Katie Linnane and Ivan Goff Oct 22@ 7:30 pm**

Katie Linnane & Ivan Goff are stalwarts of that vibrant
Irish traditional music scene in New York City. Their
classic combination of fiddle and uilleann pipes delivers
a sound rooted in the Irish traditional music scenes of
North America and Ireland. Individually, Katie and
Ivan have won plaudits for their music; together, this
musical power couple win over audiences with their
deep affinities in repertoire, style, and musical experi-
ence. Tickets \$20. Doors Open at 7PM for Ticket Sales.

LÁ GAELIGE DAY OF IRISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE**OCT 1ST FROM 8:30AM - 3:30PM**

The program includes a Fulbright Scholar and experienced teachers. Ogham Art
will set up shop and Daltai na Gaelige scholarship books will be available for
sale. Lunch will be provided. The cost is \$50 for the day, all inclusive. This
event is organized by the GAC Irish language class and sponsored by Féile, Inc.
To register, please send your name, email, phone and level of Irish, along with
your check made out to Feile, Inc. to: Gaelic American Club - La Gaelige,
74 Beach Rd., Fairfield, CT 06824.

Contact Cáit Thopsey 203-459-9686 kthopsey01@gmail.com
Robin Griskus 203-233-4979

(this is the contact number for the day of the Lá Gaelige)

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

With music by the McLean Avenue Band and catered by O'Neil's Irish Pub at the GAC!



28TH IN A SERIES ON IRISH HISTORY LECTURES
(Stair na hÉireann)
Ná Croch na Cearca! (Don't Hang the Hens!)
An exploration into Early Irish Life and Law.
Presented by Una McGillicuddy



Una McGillicuddy will discuss some of the principles upon which the Brehon laws were based along with examples that will surprise, delight and probably confound! Her main interest is in exploring what was meaningful to these living men and women and what, if anything,

we can learn and apply to our own lives and time.

Una McGillicuddy hails from Dublin where she studied Irish and Classical Civilization at Trinity College.

She has lived in New York since 1985 and has taught Irish with Daltai na Gaeilge and at other language immersion events. She is delighted to be invited to Fairfield and to exchange ideas in both Irish and English.

Sunday, October 2, 2022 from 2 - 4 p.m.

Tickets - \$5.00 (Students with ID \$2.00) cash only

Sponsored by: Féile, Inc.

Hosted by: Fréamh Éireann Genealogy & GAC Language Groups

Help us plan by registering in advance.

Register online at: gaclectures@gmail.com Please provide name, address, phone and email.



LIZ MCNICHOLL FAMILY SHOW
OCTOBER 16TH @ 1PM

This FREE - FÉILE sponsored event features Liz McNicholl and her fun loving, family entertainment on Sunday, October 16th at 1:00 pm. Her popular musical audience participation program is geared toward children of all ages, it brings smiles and joy to all the young at heart! Always a family favorite. For reservations: feileinc89@gmail.com.

CLAN NA GAEL'S FALL PRODUCTION

"OUTSIDE MULLINGAR"

BY JOHN PATRICK SHANLEY

This four person play featuring Tristen Cole, 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.

"Outside Mullingar" New Production dates:

November 17, 18, 19 at 8:00

and Sunday November 20, at 2:30

Taking reservations AFTER October 10th at: playresvcng@gmail.com or 203-377-1070

MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL & BBQ IS BACK AT THE GAC!

The pub is now open Monday nights from 5:30-9:30 for the return of our popular Monday Night Football BBQ! This is a casual, fun, member gathering night as we encourage members attending to bring sides to share. Volunteers will be grilling hamburgers, hot dogs etc. for sale at most reasonable prices!

Address Service Requested

Presorted First Class
 Mail
 U.S. Postage Paid
 Fairfield, CT 06824
 Permit # 288

Gaelic American Club
 74 Beach Road
 Fairfield, CT 06824
www.gaconline.org