



SCÉALA

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



CÉAD MÍLE FÁILTE One Hundred Thousand Welcomes



Meán Fómhair | September 2022

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



Brehon Law is the body of ancient native Irish law which was generally operational in Gaelic areas until the completion of the English conquest of Ireland in the early 17th century. About the time of Elizabeth I, the Brehon laws were banned and English common law was introduced.

Although part of the oral tradition and of unknown age, the Brehon laws were first set down on parchment in the 7th century and were named after the Brehons (na breithimh) who acted as interpreters of the law when called upon.

This code of law transmits so much about the character of early Irish life - it's hierarchy, the central place of farming and cattle-raising, the relationship to the land and property, marriage and child-raising, sickness and healing - among other aspects of life.

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 from them 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
2:00- 4:00 p.m.

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

Sorry we cannot accept GAC script or credit cards

Sponsored by: Féile, Inc.

Hosted by: Fréamh Éireann Genealogy &
GAC Language Groups

Help us plan seating and refreshments by registering in advance. Register online at: gaclectures@gmail.com
Please provide name, address, phone and email.

LÁ GAEILGE DAY OF IRISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE - OCTOBER 1ST FROM 8:30AM - 3:30PM

Come join us for an experience of multi-level language classes, lectures, workshops and activities, all designed to improve your Irish language skills, whether you have ciplá focal or are cainteoir líofa, all are welcome to this day of fun and inspiration.

The program includes a Fulbright Scholar and experienced teachers. Ogham Art will set up shop and Daltai na Gaeilge 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 Feile, 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 Gaeilge, 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 Gaeilge)

TRIVIA FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 2ND @ 8PM

The color will be camouflage, have fun and maybe win some cool stuff!

LABOR DAY BBQ SEPTEMBER 5TH 12-4PM

The GAC will serve up a tasty BBQ with music by Mostly Green.

WEEKEND MUSIC

Friday	Sep 2	Elana Zabari 6-8pm Outside
		Liz McNichol 8-11pm in the Pub
Saturday	Sep 3	Once Removed
Monday	Sep 5	Mostly Green 12-4pm Labor Day BBQ
Friday	Sep 9	Bedlam Bros
Saturday	Sep 10	Camac
Friday	Sep 16	Eventide 6-8pm Outside
		Mike McGovern 8-11 in the Pub
Saturday	Sep 17	Elana Zabari 6-8pm Outside
		Sharon & Her Band 8-11 in the Pub
Friday	Sep 23	Round Two 6-8pm Outside
		C-Sides 8-11pm in the Pub
Saturday	Sep 24	Ruff Dogs
Friday	Sep 30	TR Dallas

MEMBERSHIP REMINDERS

The white membership card with your name and a 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 to the Attn: Membership. To check Scrip balance, log into gac.campuscardcenter.com/ch/login.html. For more information contact membership@gacemail.org

25 CARD GAME

Come join the fun, Sept 11th - 12 to 3:30 pm to play this Traditional Irish Card Game! We'll even teach you!

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

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.

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: art-beagan@gmail.com

GENEALOGY GROUP

FRÉAMH ÉIREANN

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

Club ACTIVITIES

MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS?

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

GAC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Friday September 9th @ 8PM
Members are encouraged to attend!

GOOD & WELFARE

Get well cards were sent to: Eileen Blackall; Tom Walsh and James Fahey.

Mass Cards were sent to: Kathleen Henry on the passing of her husband, John; Deacon Paul Reilly on the passing of his wife, Barbara; Allison O'Connor on the passing of her Mother, Diane Dunn

A Sympathy Card was sent to: Patrick and Ann Kinahan on the passing of their son, Patrick Joseph.

Notify Mary Alvarez of all member news at 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 at this time.

LITERATURE GROUP

The Literature Group will meet on September 21 at 7pm. We will be discussing 'The Lost Girls of Ireland' by Susanne O'Leary. All are welcome to attend. For more information please contact Mary Ellen Keresey @ maryellenkeresey@gmail.com.

SENIOR LUNCH

Thursday September 29th @ noon please make reservations by Sunday, Sept. 25th. 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 Thursday Sept 15 at 7:30pm. Contact Brian Reynolds 203-214-2921.

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.

Shamrock Traditional Irish Music Society presents
Kathleen Conneely,
John Coyne & Sean Clohessy
in Concert on September 24th
@ 7:30 - Admission \$20
More info: Shamrockirishmusic.org

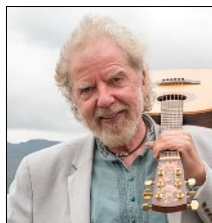
"These three musicians are an ideal crew – each is an outstanding player, but as you'll hear there's something special when they get together to find common ground. Their music is simply top shelf and if you're a traditional music lover it's one you'll absolutely have to have to hear for yourself".

~ Daniel Neelly - The Irish Echo



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

Tickets are \$10
For Reservations Contact
Lizbyrnefeeney@hotmail.com
(Please put Tommy Sands in subject line)



CLAN NA GAEL HAS MOVED THE PRODUCTION OF
"OUTSIDE MULLINGAR"

BY JOHN PATRICK SHANLEY TO THE FALL.

Clan na Gael is pleased to announce the spring production of "Outside Mullingar" by John Patrick Shanley has been rescheduled for the fall.

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

THREE EVENTS TO
INTRODUCE, HONOR AND CELEBRATE
Gerry Reidy as Greater Bridgeport St. Patrick's Day
Parade 2023 Grand Marshal

15th Scholarship Golf Tournament

September 20th to honor Grand Marshal Gerry Reidy at Mill River Country Club.

Registration: 11:00 am | Lunch: 11:30 am to 12:30

Shotgun start: 12:45 pm | Cocktails/Dinner: After golf

\$250 pp - \$1000 Foursome | Tee Sponsors \$300

To sign up contact: Dan Ford: 203-209-3989, John Carolan: 203-521-1028, Dave Curtin: 203-366-7187, Elizabeth Power: 203-685-6256, Terry O'Connor: 203-243-8240 or Peter Carroll: 203-913-0259

Halfway to St. Patrick's Day Celebration

September 18th from 4-7PM at the GAC Side Yard

Gerry Reidy as 2023 Parade Grand Marshall

Appetizers and Cash Bar

Music & Entertainment by Liz McNicholl

Lenihan School of Irish Dancer and

the Fairfield Gaelic Pipe Band.

For reservations: Pat Carolan at pjarlan@gmail.com

\$25 per person

Greater Bridgeport St. Patrick's Day
Grand Marshal's Ball

The Ball takes place January 7th 2023 at The GAC. Music by the McLean Avenue Band and will be catered by O'Neil's Irish Pub, So Save the Date!

LIZ MCNICHOLL'S KIDS & FAMILY SHOW SUNDAY OCTOBER 16TH @ 1PM

This FREE - FÉILE sponsored event features Liz McNicholl and her musical audience participation program that's always a family favorite. For reservations: feileinc89@gmail.com.

Address Service Requested

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Permit # 288

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