



SCÉALA

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



CÉAD MÍLE Fáilte One Hundred Thousand Welcomes



April 2024 | Aibreán

Happy Spring!

I want to take a moment to thank our staff and volunteers for making St Patrick's weekend a great success! I don't think people realize what it takes to get this done and if it weren't for all of you, it wouldn't have been such a great success.

A special shout out to the Fairfield Gaelic Pipe Band for earning 1st place as best Pipe Band at the New Haven St. Patrick's Day Parade - for the third time!

All of our committees are hard at work accomplishing their committee goals. Special thanks to Francis O'Neill and her membership team for all their hard work during the membership renewal process.

We have been getting great input from members and staff with their thoughts and suggestions and are working hard to improve our great Club.

The Tuesday night game and dart evening is off to a great start.

We appreciate you and want you to know that the Executive Committee is always here to listen.

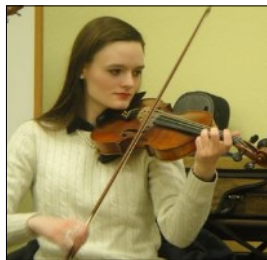
Faith Maciver,
President GAC Executive Committee

FASHION SHOW AND BRUNCH

SUNDAY APRIL 14TH FROM 11 AM - 1 PM

The GAC has partnered with local businesses and our member models walk the runway. Come enjoy brunch and get a glimpse of Spring Fashion. please contact Colleen@gomolac1@gmail or Kathie at kgomola@aol.com. 203-673-7018 - Ticket info TBA.

FIRST FRIDAY TRADITIONAL IRISH MUSIC SESSION APRIL 5TH FROM 6-8PM WITH LINDSEY CÉITINN



This award-winning fiddler and teacher will play the April's First Friday Trad Music Session. An accomplished musician, she's president of The PV O'Donnell Branch of Comhaltas and student of Brian Conway.

Clan na Gael's Spring Production

"Marrying Mike"

Written by James Keary

Directed by Erin Williams

Produced by Marie Stehle and Jillian Plomin

Performances are Thursday 04/25, Friday 04/26 &
Saturday 04/27 at 8pm and
Sunday 04/28 Matinee at 2:30pm

Featuring: Byrne White, Eileen Fickes,
Eamon Speer, Jillian Plomin, Dan O'Callaghan,
Patrick Baldwin, Laura Haynes

Elderly bachelor farmer Mike Fogarty, who has land and money despite appearances to the contrary, suddenly announces that he is looking for a wife. Mike's scheming friend Barney O'Toole decides that his sister Colette would be an ideal candidate. Both Barney and Colette are determined that it will be a very short marriage. Mike's friend Kate O'Sullivan discovers the scheme and rushes to the rescue. But Mike is a hard man to save from himself!

Admission for Marrying Mike is \$20

For reservations please email Nancy O'Neil at
playresvcng@gmail.com or call 203-377-1070



TRIVIA NIGHT APRIL 5TH @ 8PM

It's time once again to unleash that random knowledge and join us for another fun filled night and remember to wear Pink.

MUSIC IN THE PUB

Friday April 5 - *Ruff Dogs* - 9pm

Saturday April 6 - *Sharon & Her Band* - 8:30pm

Friday April 12 - *Once Removed* - 8:30pm

Saturday April 13 - *Herman & Co.* - 8:30pm

Friday April 19 - *Karaoke with Bill Richards*

Saturday April 20 - *The C-Sides* - 8:30pm

Friday April 26 - *Just Us* - 9pm

Saturday April 27 - *Mostly Green* - 8:30pm



Mother's Day Brunch is Sunday May 12th

THERE WILL BE 2 SEATINGS ~ NOON TO 1:30PM AND 2:15 TO 3:45PM. MORE INFORMATION TO COME.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

The Executive Committee can be reached at executive@gacemail.org. They meet the Tuesday prior to the Monthly membership meetings. The next Monthly Membership meeting is April 12th @ 8pm.

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. Mail or drop off payment with your info to the Attn: Membership.

25 CARD GAME

The Group meets on Sunday April 21st around noon (*Irish Time*).

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

SIGN IN SIMPLIFIED:

1. Carry your own card (No card or ID, you are a guest and must be signed in. *No Exceptions*);
2. Sign the book with your name, for each guest you have;
 - Each guest sign his/her own name and address.

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 will meet April 13th @ 10:30am in the O'Keefe Room. For info FESecretaryGAC@gmail.com.

GOOD AND WELFARE

A Get Well Card was sent to:
Rosemary McIntyre

Mass Cards were sent to the families of: Stephen Apgar; Thomas Brown; and Betty Ann Griffin on the passing of her husband, Lawrence

Deceased member plaques are being engraved for:

Thomas Brown; Thomas R. Mahoney
Dennis Wade; Donal Gleeson
And Maureen Reidy Fracassini

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

CLUB ACTIVITIES

HOUSE COMMITTEE

House Committee

Contact manager@gacemail.org

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. To join the AOH contact Tom Donohue at tdonohue@slwmc.com or visit the website www.aohjfk.com

IRISH LITERATURE GROUP

The Group meets (in the room at the top of stairs) Thursday April 18th at 7pm to discuss *A Thread of Violence* by Mark O'Connell. This book is a true crime story set in Dublin in the early 1980's. Info: Mary Ellen Kersey maryellenkersey@gmail.com.

IRISH LANGUAGE GROUP

Thursdays at 6:45 pm via Zoom. For info: Cáit Thopsey, 203-459-9686

BEGINNERS IRISH LANGUAGE

Tuesdays at 6:45pm, Contact DesNolan@Optimum.Net

SENIOR LUNCH

Thursday April 25th @ noon Please make reservations by Sunday 04/21 by calling Shirley McMenamy 203-268-5083; Sally Savage 203-366-4826. Lunch price is \$9 members and for non-members \$11.

SET DANCING

Come on out and dance. Thursdays at 7pm. (*starting a bit earlier*) Brian Reynolds 203-214-2921.

TRAD MUSIC SESSION

The Shamroques host an Irish Trad Music Night every Wednesday 7-9pm

MAMMA MIA ~ ABBA DANCE PARTY

Come celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Abba at the GAC Music with DJ Peter G – April 6th 8-11pm in Carolann Room. Entry is free!

TRADITIONAL IRISH MUSIC CONCERT | SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 7:30 PM

Sponsored by the Shamrock Traditional Irish Music Society and The GAC Our April concert event will feature the world-renowned accordion player, James Keane, who will be joined by pianist and fiddler Michelle Bergin, a leading New York traditional musician and music teacher in her own right.

Admission is \$25 at the door or \$22 online @ shamrockirishmusic.org

IRISH HISTORY LECTURE

"There isn't anything more the sea can do to me"
A Maritime History of Modern Irish Literature"



Our May 5, 2024 Irish History Lecture will be presented by Nels Pearson, Ph.D., Professor and Chair of English at Fairfield University.

The topic of the talk will be the role of the sea in modern Irish literature, and it will be drawn from his book manuscript (in process): *Dissolving Britain: Water, Coasts and Islands in the Modernist Literature of "the British Isles"*

Dr. Pearson is Professor of English and Director of The Humanities Institute at Fairfield University. His research focuses on the historical and political contexts of British and Irish literature of the early twentieth century. His 2015 book *Irish Cosmopolitanism: Location and Dislocation in James Joyce, Elizabeth Bowen, and Samuel Beckett* was awarded the Donald J. Murphy Prize by the American Conference for Irish Studies. His articles and chapters have appeared in many forums including *ELH*, *Modern Fiction Studies*, *The Edinburgh Companion to Irish Modernism*, *Twentieth-Century Literature* and more. He is also Co-editor, with Marc Singer, of *Detective Fiction in a Postcolonial and Transnational World*.

Tickets \$5 (Students with ID \$2) No scrip or credit cards.

Register: gaclectures@gmail.com | Please provide name and address



2024 SCHOLARSHIP SPONSORED BY FÉILE INC

2024 Joe Moran Memorial Scholarship

FÉILE is pleased to offer up to three scholarships of \$2000 each to high school seniors who will attend college in fall 2024.

2024 Patrick J. Dyer - 1916 Easter Rising Memorial Scholarship

In partnership with the family of Patrick J. Dyer One scholarship of \$1916 awarded to high school senior attending college in fall 2024.

Information, applications, and details for both scholarship are available at FEILEINC.ORG.

Deadline for submission is April 15, 2024

Questions - Email feileinc89@gmail.com

GAC SCHOLARSHIP

The GAC is offering two, \$3,000. scholarships or three, \$2000. scholarships to deserving high school seniors attending a 4-year college in the fall. Six copies of the completed application must be submitted to the Gaelic American Club by 5 PM on May 3, 2024. Envelopes clearly marked with applications can be placed in Managers Mailbox or mailed to: Elizabeth Power, 14 Paisley Lane, Fairfield, CT 06825.

Full application can be found on the GAC website at <https://gaconline.org/gac-scholarship/>

ONE ACT PLAYWRITING CONTEST

This contest strives to support and encourage emerging playwrights and to provide a stage for scripts that might not otherwise find one. Playwrights of all ages are encouraged to enter. All entries must be submitted by email no later than August 1st, 2024 to be considered.

For the first time, monetary prizes will be rewarded and the three winners will also receive a staged reading of their play at the Gaelic American Club in 2024.

COMPLETE 2024 RULES & INSTUCTIONS

<https://cngplayers.org/one-act-playwriting-competition/>

For Submission Form email: cngoneactplay@outlook.com

ST. PATRICK'S GAELIC FOOTBALL & HURLING CLUB

Registration for Summer Camp and Spring season in now open. Spring Season runs April-June including weekly practice and games. Summer Gaelic Sports Cul Camp, June 24th-28th 9-3pm, lunch included. Registration at <https://www.stpatricksgfc.org/>

IRISH FAMINE COMMEMORATION DAY SLIDE SHOW

FRIDAY MAY 17TH @ 7PM

Thousands of Irish famine immigrants died at Staten Island Marine Hospital and Quarantine Station after enduring long, hazardous sea voyages. Join author Loretto Leary to learn more about the historical significance of Staten Island to Irish Famine Immigrant history and International Irish Famine Commemoration Day, which is Sunday, May 19th.

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