



# 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 2021

## TRADITIONAL IRISH MUSIC



The Shamrogues in partnership with the GAC present September's 'First Friday Trad Music Session' featuring the premier Irish fiddle player, Brian Conway on Friday September 3rd from 6 to 8 PM.

Brian 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 and passed on to him by legendary Martin Wynne and fiddle great Andy McGann. His talents have also been enthusiastically received all over North America and throughout Ireland and the rest of Europe.

## LA GAELIGE DAY OF IRISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

The Irish Language class will once again be presenting a La Gaeilge day of Irish Language and Culture on Saturday, Oct. 2, from 9 am - 1 pm.

Our format will be different, as we plan to have a hybrid style event: Zoom availability as well as in person. Our day will include the flag raising and National Anthem, a bi-lingual lecture by Patrick Mahoney, Gaeilgoir, historian and author, some break out classes and music. For those attending in person, we will have lunch at 1 pm followed by a seisiun.

Bigi Linn! Join us! For further details  
Cait Thopsey 203-459-9686  
Robin Griskus 203-233-4979

LABOR DAY BBQ - MONDAY SEPT 6 FROM 1-3PM  
ADULTS \$15 | CHILDREN \$7

## MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT THE GAC

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 10TH @ 8PM  
ALL MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The Membership Committee has been very busy. As of 8/15/21, we have been able to renew memberships (including many that did not renew in 2020) and add new members for a total of 5830 active members, as well as 37 Lifetime members and 24 members of the Clergy.

Due to the pandemic, we had several hundred members who did not renew in 2020. Thank you to volunteers Elaine Bataille, Bridget Gleeson, John Minehan, Bill and Noreen Reda, and Diane Speer, who worked tirelessly in 2021 to ensure that we were able to reach our goal of giving every member who last renewed in 2019 or later, the opportunity to reactivate their membership. Thank you to the 5580 members who renewed their memberships and welcome to the 250 new members in 2021.

Additional thanks to Tom Flaherty and Jeff Devaney who work closely with, and support the Membership Committee.

Membership closes on 9/30/21 for this year and after that date, we cannot accept renewals or new memberships until 2022.

*Frances O'Neill, Membership Chair*

## WEEKEND MUSIC IS INDOORS 8:30-11:30

- Friday Sep 3 —  
Brian Conway (6-8pm)  
Madz & the Ladz (8-11pm)
- Saturday Sep 4 Highland Rovers
- Sunday Sep 5 McClean Ave Band (4-7pm)
- Friday Sep 10 Bedlam Brothers String Band  
(7:30-10:30pm)
- Saturday Sep 11 Mostly Green
- Friday Sep 17 —  
Liz McNichol & John Hurley (outside 6-8pm)  
Camac (inside 8-11pm)
- Saturday Sep 18 C-Sides
- Friday Sep 24 Ken McBride
- Saturday Sep 25 Mike McGovern



## BUSINESS & TRADES DIRECTORY

Place your professional listing in the GAC Business Directory Trades List at [www.gaconline.org](http://www.gaconline.org). Go to GAC Business Directory Tab and follow prompts to add your listing. And don't forget when you need a business or trade service check the List and support your fellow members.

## FÁILTE COMMITTEE

We always need for volunteers to work the front desk. This is a great way to meet members of our club and the liquor commission requires all guests to be signed in!

All members must sign in each of their guests: the members name PRINTED for EACH guest and each guest sign their own name and address. Thank you in advance!

If you'd like to join the FAILTE committee, call Bette Leary at 203-767-0117 or [betteleary@gmail.com](mailto:betteleary@gmail.com).

## FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Family Fun Night is Friday September 24th from 6-9pm.

## FAIRFIELD GAELIC PIPE BAND

The group practices Mondays at 6:30pm in the Carolan Room of the GAC. Lessons also available for all ages and ability levels. For more info visit [fairfieldgaelicpipeband.org](http://fairfieldgaelicpipeband.org) or call 475-329-0202.

## SEALA SUBMISSIONS

Submissions are due September 10  
[Communications@gacemail.org](mailto:Communications@gacemail.org)

# Club ACTIVITIES

## GENEALOGY GROUP

*FRÉAMB ÉIREANN*

For info Donna Orazio:  
[donnaorazio@gmail.com](mailto:donnaorazio@gmail.com).

## GOOD & WELFARE

A Mass Card was sent to Gailyn O'Brien Donofrio on the passing of her husband, Richard.

Sympathy cards were sent to: Phil and Bernadette Maguire on the passing of their granddaughter, Finley.

Damien Connolly on the passing of his father, Martin.

Claire Murrhy on the passing of her brother Padraic.

A Get Well Card was sent to Noreen Reda.

Deceased member plaques were engraved for:

- William Lyons
- Joan Ford
- Richard Donofrio

## Miscellaneous:

Robert H. Larkin turns 100 years old on September 23, 2021.

**Correction:** Last month's newsletter: Paul Dolson's name was spelled as Dodson.

*Notify Mary Alvarez of all member news at [alvarezmp@icloud.com](mailto:alvarezmp@icloud.com).*

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE

For information on upcoming events contact [social@gacemail.org](mailto:social@gacemail.org).

## 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, September 22nd at 7 p.m. to discuss Donal Ryan's *Strange Flowers*. Five years after she went missing, a beloved daughter, Moll Gladney, returns to rural Tipperary with a secret in a novel that explores all forms of love. The New York Times says it is written with a quiet lyricism that puts Ryan at the top-most branch of the flourishing tree of contemporary Irish fiction. We will meet in the backyard of the Club, weather permitting. All are welcome! For questions, please contact Clare Burnett @optonline.net.

## SENIORS

Senior Lunch and other activities  
[social@gacemail.org](mailto:social@gacemail.org)

## ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS

Be a part of the oldest Irish Catholic men's organization in America.

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, it's fun and rewarding.

For more info contact Division President Mark Ryan at 203 258-9846 or [mark.ryan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mark.ryan@sbcglobal.net).

For updates to Club Activities visit [www.gaconline.org](http://www.gaconline.org)

## 15TH SCHORLARSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT

September 14th to honor Grand Marshals Mary Ann Doonan and Gerry Reidy at Mill River Country Club.

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

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

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

### TO SIGN UP CONTACT:

John Carolan 203-521-1028 | Dave Curtin 203-366-7187 | Dan Ford 203-209-3989

## TRADITIONAL MUSIC SESSIONS

The Shamroques host an Open Traditional Music Session every Wednesday 7 to 9 PM in the Carolan Room.

On the first Friday of the Month The Shamroques in partnership with the GAC to sponsor a once-a-month special Trad Music Sessions in the Pub from 6 to 8 PM.

Guest Artist on September 3rd is Brian Conway.

See you there!

## 14 ANNUAL MILFORD IRISH FESTIVAL

The Festival Takes place on Fowler Field September 17 & 18, featuring a wide variety of music, fun, vendors, and your favorite Irish food & beverages!

For Additional Info: <http://milfordirish.org> | For Tickets: <https://tinyurl.com/milfordirishfest>

# September

## Meán Fómhair



### Schedule

Mon & Tues  
Wed & Thurs  
Friday  
Saturday  
Sunday

### pub hours

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

### Kitchen hours

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

### How To Reach us

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

### CÉAO MÍLE FÁILTE



Sunday  
Dombach

Monday  
Láir

Tuesday  
Máirt

Wednesday  
Céadaoin

Thursday  
Deardaoin

Friday  
Aoine

Saturday  
Satharn

**FOR TAKE OUT ORDERS PLEASE CALL 203-254-2723  
TO AVOID DELAY PLEASE PAY UPON ORDERING**

5

McClean Avenue Band 4-7pm

6 LABOR DAY

Labor Day BBQ 1-3pm

7

Executive Committee Meeting 7pm  
Lenihan Dance Lessons  
4pm Children - 8pm Adult

8

Trad Music Session 7-9PM

9

Irish Language Class  
• Beginners (zoom) 6:45  
• Intermediate( zoom) 7:30

10

Membership Meeting 8pm  
Sceala Submissions Due

11

All-Ireland Football Final  
Bedlam Brothers String Band - 7:30-10:30  
Mostly Green 8-11pm

12

Gaelic Pipe Band - 6:30pm

13

Gaelic Pipe Band - 6:30pm

14

Lenihan Dance Lessons  
4pm Children - 8pm Adult

15

Trad Music Session 7-9PM

16

Irish Language Class  
• Beginners (zoom) 6:45  
• Intermediate( zoom) 7:30

17

Liz McNichol & John Hurley 6-8pm  
Camac 8-11pm

18

C-Sides 8-11pm

19

CnG Auditions 1 - 3:30pm

20

Gaelic Pipe Band - 6:30pm

21

Lenihan Dance Lessons  
4pm Children - 8pm Adult

22

Irish Literature Group -7pm  
Trad Music Session 7-9PM

23

Irish Language Class  
• Beginners (zoom) 6:45  
• Intermediate( zoom) 7:30

24

Family Fun Night 6-9pm  
Ken McBride 8-11pm

25

CnG Auditions 1 - 3:30pm  
Mike McGovern 8-11pm

26

CnG Auditions 1 - 3:30pm

27

Gaelic Pipe Band - 6:30pm

28

Lenihan Dance Lessons  
4pm Children - 8pm Adult

29

Trad Music Session 7-9PM

30

Irish Language Class  
• Beginners (zoom) 6:45  
• Intermediate( zoom) 7:30

1

Irish Language Class  
• Beginners (zoom) 6:45  
• Intermediate( zoom) 7:30

2

Irish Language Class  
• Beginners (zoom) 6:45  
• Intermediate( zoom) 7:30



**CLAN NA GAEL'S FALL PRODUCTION  
INTERMISSION IS OVER ~ ITS TIME TO AUDITION**

Clan na Gael has chosen Sam Cree's "Second Honeymoon" as its fall production. This laugh filled comedy will be directed by Peg O'Leary and is casting this month!

**Auditions Dates:**

- Saturday September 25th 1 - 3:30pm
- Sunday September 26th 1 - 3:30pm

**Required are:**

- 6 Males AR 20's - 60's
- 6 Females AR 20's - 80's

**Production Dates**

- Nov. 18, 19 & 20 @ 8pm
- Nov. 21 @ 2:30pm

The action takes place in a summer rooming house lounge. The cast includes: a fussy, strict, stingy landlady; a young love searching maid; a henpecked husband and his wife; a young honeymoon couple; an older couple returning to where they spent their honeymoon; an old boyfriend of one of the wives; an older woman who has claimed the most food, and comfortable chair; a colorful effeminate man. All contributing to the ying and yang of conflicting options, bossiness, hunger, and a bathing beauty contest! Culminating in laughter!

Rehearsals will begin October 5th at 7:00pm and continue each Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7:00pm. There will be occasional Saturday or Sunday rehearsals based on availability of cast and space. Not all cast members will be required at all rehearsals.

**Tech week begins Nov. 13 time TBA. All Cast are Required at Tech rehearsals.**

Please come with all conflicts to list on your audition sheets. "We ask that everyone auditioning and rehearsing adhere to the CDC Guidelines regarding indoor gatherings"

**Clan na Gael is warm and open to all. No Experience Necessary! Experience Welcome!**

**GREATER BRIDGEPORT ST. PATRICK'S DAY COMMITTEE INVITES YOU TO HALFWAY TO ST PATRICK'S DAY**

September 19, 2021 from 4-7PM at the GAC.

Introducing Gerry Reidy as the 2022 Parade Grand Marshall

Music by the Jolly Beggars | Appetizers and Cash Bar

**For reservations contact: Peg Crossin at [pegcrossin@gmail.com](mailto:pegcrossin@gmail.com) \$25 per person**



Address Service Requested

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