



# SCÉALA

Newsletter for the Gaelic-American Club  
74 Beach Road, Fairfield CT 06824  
[www.gaconline.org](http://www.gaconline.org)



CÉAD MÍLE FÁILTE One Hundred Thousand Welcomes



Deireadh fómhair | October 2024

## MESSAGE FROM THE GAC PRESIDENT

Happy October! I cannot believe 10 months have flown by so fast. What a month September was with Dueling Pianos, Dancing with the Stars and concerts by Sean Keane, Ellis Kennedy and Peter Blanchette. Family Fun Night with DJ Peter has made it's return as well as the Oktoberfest. The club has been buzzing with all these events and there's more to come in the months ahead. Many thanks to the social committee for organizing such successful events.

Congratulations to the 2025 Grand Marshall Mark T Ryan DMD of the Greater Bridgeport St Patrick's Day Parade

A big thank you to Lorry Scott and Mike for hosting the Tuesday night BBQ this past summer and presenting a check at last month's meeting of \$1,641.00 from the proceeds. They are also back with the Monday Night BBQ, always a great time. The Dart league is now happening on Monday nights. Stop down have a burger, watch the game and play darts!

Now that the summer is over GAC's monthly Senior Lunch and weekly Set Dancing sessions are back on the calendar.

We are always looking for volunteers for all the committees. If you are interested, please reach out and we can connect you with the chairperson. It is a great opportunity to meet members and help the club.

As we approach the end of the year, I want to say thank you to all of you that have volunteered to be on a committee. You all have been doing such a great job and it shows over the past 10 months. The club has benefitted from all your hard work and dedication. The monthly meetings have been so informative and productive with all your reports letting the members know the accomplishments of the past, present and future of this year. I urge members new and existing to attend these meetings as they are a way to get more involved in the club, ask questions and voice your opinion. We appreciate the feedback as it makes the GAC a better place overall.

Next month for parents and their children we decided to have a meet and greet on November 3rd from 2-5 in the Carolan Room. We want to meet to get some insight as to what your concerns are, events for the children and other suggestions you may have. If you are interested in attending, please email me at [faithmgac@gmail.com](mailto:faithmgac@gmail.com).

Faith Maciver - *GAC Executive Committee President*



## STAIR NA HÉIREANN | IRISH HISTORY OCTOBER 13@ 2PM

We will welcome back  
CJ May who will present  
**Irish Tales of Ancient Halloween**

He'll share some of the oldest Halloween tales in the world, bringing back from the past those Irish stories told at the beginning of the ancient Celtic holiday of Samhain. Leave the kids at home, you wouldn't want them to see you this scared!

CJ May is a storyteller and magician. Through the telling of tales more than a thousand years old, he keeps alive the Celtic tradition of the seanachie, or storyteller. He brings to life the monsters, magic and messages of the ancient Celtic tales, helping us remember our past and prepare better for our future.

**Join us on October 13, 2024 at 2pm in the Carolan Room. Tickets \$5.00 (Students with ID \$2.00)**

No scrip or credit cards

Register online: [gactures@gmail.com](mailto:gactures@gmail.com).

Subject: Irish History, and provide name, address, phone

## NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Here's your opportunity to get involved and really understand what goes into making our club special. All Executive Committee (EC) positions are open for the election: president, VP, treasurer, financial secretary, recording secretary, sergeant at arms & director.

Descriptions for Executive Committee positions can be found in Section 5 pages 5-7 of the Club Bylaws (found on club website [www.gaconline.org](http://www.gaconline.org)), that section can be viewed by using QR Code.



Anyone interested in running for an EC Position should contact a nominating committee representative.

- Jude Fitzgerald - [jfitzgerald740@aol.com](mailto:jfitzgerald740@aol.com)
- Teri Brown - [teribrown@optimum.net](mailto:teribrown@optimum.net)
- Patrick Bosse - [pandbosse@optonline.net](mailto:pandbosse@optonline.net)
- Christine Pacelli - [christine.a.pacelli@gmail.com](mailto:christine.a.pacelli@gmail.com)
- Sabrina Bernardi Stiberi77@gmail.com

## BLOOD DRIVE FRIDAY OCTOBER 25TH FROM 9AM TO 2PM

Anyone wanting to donate needs to contact the Red Cross first at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org)

## GAC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Committee can be reached Via email at [executive@gacemail.org](mailto:executive@gacemail.org) they meet monthly on the Tuesday prior to the membership meeting.

## MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The next Membership Meeting is Friday October 11 @ 8pm.

## MEMBER TO MEMBER MARKETPLACE

To place your professional listing in the Member to Member Marketplace at [www.gaconline.org](http://www.gaconline.org) send info to [communications@gacemail.org](mailto:communications@gacemail.org). And when you need a business or trade service check the list and support your fellow members.

## 25 CARD GAME

The Group meets on October 20th around noon (*Irish time*). All are welcome!

## FÁILTE COMMITTEE

### New Front Door Guest Sign in Policy

When signing in guests (maximum of 4 per member) the signing member must show their membership card to the Failte volunteers. Your guest are your responsibility while at the Club and must leave when you depart - guests cannot remain onsite without their signing member.

FAILTE needs more 'front door' volunteers, anyone interested can contact Bette Leary at 203-767-0117 or email: [betteleary@gmail.com](mailto:betteleary@gmail.com).

## FAIRFIELD GAELIC PIPE BAND

The group practices Mondays at 6:30pm in the Carolan Room of the GAC. For more info visit [fairfieldgaelicpipeband.org](http://fairfieldgaelicpipeband.org) or call 475-329-0202.

## FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Friday October 25th 6-9pm with \$7 kid's only buffet and featuring DJ Peter. For more info contact Bette Leary [betteleary@gmail.com](mailto:betteleary@gmail.com)

## GENEALOGY GROUP

### FRÉAMB ÉIREANN

The group will meet October 12th @ 10:30am in the O'Keefe Room. For info [FESecretaryGAC@gmail.com](mailto:FESecretaryGAC@gmail.com).

## GOOD AND WELFARE

Mass cards were sent to: The family of Daniel Burns; and Mrs. Katie Parker on the death of her Mother, Patricia Torpie.

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



## TRIVIA FRIDAY OCTOBER 4TH @ 8PM

Once again it's time to unleash that random knowledge and win some cool stuff. Don't forget to wear black & orange.



## HALLOWEEN CEILI OCTOBER 27, 2024

IN THE CAROLAN ROOM OF THE GAC 4-7 PM

Certain be a lively afternoon. \$20 Admission. For more information: Donna Laponte [donna@lapolt.net](mailto:donna@lapolt.net)

## LÁ GAELIGE DAY OF IRISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

Irish Language Day Saturday, October 5, 2024 from 8 am - 5 pm

Includes Irish language classes on all levels taught by Fulbright students from Ireland, cultural workshops, guest speakers, lunch, seisiun, and door prizes. Browse through the Siopa OGHAM and the Daltaí book shop.

Meet new friends. Meet old friends. Have fun, learn Irish!

**\$50 for the day, \$25 for students presenting an ID**

Bigi linn! Contact: Caít Thopsey at [kthopsey01@gmail.com](mailto:kthopsey01@gmail.com)

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

The Membership Committee has successfully completed the 2024 season, and we are proud to let you know that the GAC is at capacity with 6000 members.

Thank you to Elaine Bataille, Bridget Gleeson, Bette Leary, Kathleen Farmer, Bill Reda, and Diane Speer for their help and support during our very busy season.

As we prepare for 2025, I would like to remind you that your white membership card should not be discarded when your Scrip is used for this year. There is a \$10 charge to replace cards, unless your card is broken, and you leave it in the membership mailbox with your request for a new card.

### 2024 Scrip is good until 2/28/25

If you would like to check on your Scrip balance, please go to <https://gaelicamericanclub.com/page-1675198> select Scrip Balance, register your card and you will be able to see your purchases and balance at any time.

If you have any questions regarding your Membership, please email Frances O'Neill, Membership Chair at [membership@gacemail.org](mailto:membership@gacemail.org).

## HOUSE COMMITTEE

House Committee

Contact [manager@gacemail.org](mailto: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. Join the AOH for good times and on-going charitable works. Contact Tom Donohue at [tdonohue@slwmc.com](mailto:tdonohue@slwmc.com) or visit the website [www.aohjfk.com](http://www.aohjfk.com).

## IRISH LITERATURE GROUP

The Group meets on Thursday the 17th of October at 7pm, we'll be discussing *Long Island* by Colm Tobin. We meet in the room at the top of the stairs and all are welcome. For more info: Mary Ellen Keresey [maryellenkeresey@gmail.com](mailto:maryellenkeresey@gmail.com).

## IRISH LANGUAGE GROUP

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

Beginners II Tuesday @ 6:45pm  
Info: [DesNolan@Optimum.Net](mailto:DesNolan@Optimum.Net)

## SENIOR LUNCH

Thursday October 31st @ noon  
Please make reservations by Sunday 10/27 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 - all are welcome.  
Brian Reynolds 203-214-2921.

## TRAD MUSIC SESSION

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



~ In Concert ~  
**Caitlin Warbelow and Chris Ranney**



Join us for an afternoon performance of traditional Irish music and original compositions on fiddle and piano by two of the Northeast's most renowned and accomplished musicians.

**Sunday, October 6, 3:30 pm**  
**Gaelic-American Club,**  
**74 Beach Road, Fairfield**  
**Tickets: \$22 online advance purchase/\$25 at the door**



Sponsored by the Shamrock Traditional Irish Music Society and Gaelic-American Club  
[shamrockirishmusic.org](http://shamrockirishmusic.org)

**CLAN NA GAEL'S FALL PRODUCTION**

The Seafarer by Connor McPherson directed by Erin Williams and produced by Peg O'Leary  
 The Cast:

**Emmon Spear:** *Sharky Harkin*, **Jim Foley:** *Nickey Giblin*  
**Byrne White:** *Richard Harkin*, **Patrick Baldwin:** *Ivan Curry*  
**Steven Bennett:** *Mr. Lockhart*

The Seafarer is a chilling play about the sea, Ireland, and the power of myth. It's Christmas Eve, and Sharky has returned to Dublin to look after his irascible, aging brother who's recently gone blind. Old drinking buddies Ivan and Nicky are holed up at the house too, hoping to play some cards. But with the arrival of a stranger from the distant past, the stakes are raised even higher and Sharky just may be playing for his very soul.

**Performance dates are:**

**November 21, 22, 23, and 24.**

For info contact Erin at [erinmargwilliams@gmail.com](mailto:erinmargwilliams@gmail.com)

**AN AFTERNOON WITH SHANNON HEATON**



**Saturday October 12 @ 3pm**  
**The art of Irish Music: Trad Tunes and the Stories Behind Them**

Flutist and singer Shannon Heaton will guide us through her favorite Irish Music. The special event is a unique opportunity to enjoy an up-close artistic understanding of traditional tunes and songs. The event is free but please register online at

[shamrockirishmusic.org](http://shamrockirishmusic.org) or use QR Code.  
**Bring your instruments - an open session will follow the presentation.**



**KID'S HALLOWEEN PARTY**  
 OCT 26 | 11-1 PM

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ENTIRE ST. PATRICK'S GAELIC FOOTBALL TEAM**

St. Patrick's historic victory against Westmeath New York this past September clinched the Junior B2 Championship title! This was the first NYGAA Championship in the Club's long history since its founding in 2003. The team is composed of lifelong and new players, each, a vital part of the team and for the win. An important shoutout to Jimmy Feeny, the club's Chairman and the team's manager. Without him, none of this would have been possible. We hope the players, management and all those involved celebrate this win for many more years to come!





**MUSIC IN THE PUB STARTS AT 8:30PM**

Friday October 4 - Susan and Gerard  
 Saturday October 5 - Ruff Dogs  
 Friday October 11 - The C-Sides  
 Saturday October 12 - Camac  
 Friday October 18 - Mike McGovern  
 Saturday October 19 - Sharon and Her Band  
 Friday October 25 - Bob C. & his One Man Band  
 Saturday October 26 - Keltic Kick



**TRADITIONAL IRISH MUSIC SESSION OCT 4 @ 6PM**



The Shamrogues in partnership with the GAC present October's 'First Friday Trad Music Session' featuring the premier Irish fiddle player, Brian Conway. Conway performs with the 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.

great food ♦ music ♦ dancing ♦ games

♦ **German food saves** ♦  
 sauerbraten, knockwurst, sauerkraut,  
 potato pancakes, strudel & more  
 oktoberfest bier ♦ cash bar

**BERNIE'S ORCHESTRA** **edelweiss passaic dancers**

BAVARIAN dance & stein holding contests

**saturday, oktober 26 ♦ 4:30 - 8:30 pm**

**TICKETS: Adults \$40 ♦ Kids 13U \$20**  
**RESERVATIONS: e-mail social@gacemail.org**  
 or call (203) 377-1070

**THE MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL BBQ CREW IS BACK**

Each Monday they'll spark up the grill from 5:30-8pm for as long as the weather permits. Just as we did during the summer, we ask that those who attend to bring an appetizer, side dish, or desert to share.

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



# October Deireadh Fómhair



## Kitchen hours

Mon - BBQ 5:30-8pm  
 Tues - Closed  
 Wed & Thurs 4 -9pm  
 Friday 4 -10pm  
 Saturday 12 -10pm  
 Sunday 12-8pm

## Pub hours

Mon - Open (BBQ & Football)  
 Tues - 5:30 -9 pm Wed &  
 Thurs 4 -10pm Friday 4pm -  
 12am Saturday Noon -  
 12pm Sunday Noon - 9pm

## 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](http://www.gaconline.org)

CÉAD MILE  
FÁILTE



Sunday DOMHACH	Monday LUAN	Tuesday MÁIRT	Wednesday CÉADAÓIN	Thursday DEARDAÓIN	Friday AOINE	Saturday SATHARN
	<p><b>Reminder</b> Please Return Your Glasses to the Bar</p>	<p><b>1</b> Beginners Irish Language 6:45pm Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children - 8pm Adult</p>	<p><b>2</b> Trad Music Session 7-9PM</p>	<p><b>3</b> Irish Language • (via zoom) 6:45pm Set Dancing 7pm</p>	<p><b>4</b> Brian Conway 6-8pm Trivia 8pm ♪ Susan and Gerard 8:30pm In the Pub</p>	<p><b>5</b> Lá Gaeilge - Irish Language Day 8- 5 PM ♪ Ruff Dogs 8:30pm in the Pub</p>
<p><b>6</b> Caitlin Warbelow and Chris Ranney Concert 3:30pm \$22 in advance</p>	<p><b>7</b> Monday Night Football BBQ 5:30-8pm (bring a side dish) Gaelic Pipe Band - 6:30pm</p>	<p><b>8</b> Irish Language 6:45pm Executive Committee Meeting 7pm Lenihan Dance Lessons 4pm Children - 8pm Adult</p>	<p><b>9</b> Trad Music Session 7-9PM</p>	<p><b>10</b> Irish Language • (via zoom) 6:45pm Set Dancing 7pm</p>	<p><b>11</b> Membership Meeting 8pm ♪ The C-Sides 8:30pm In the Pub</p>	<p><b>12</b> Genealogy Group 10:30am Shannon Heaton's 3pm The Art of Irish Music - free ♪ Camac 8:30pm in the Pub</p>
<p><b>13</b> Stair na Héireann   Irish History 2pm Irish Tales of Ancient Halloween with CJ May</p>	<p><b>14</b> Monday Night Football BBQ 5:30-8pm (bring a side dish) Gaelic Pipe Band - 6:30pm</p>	<p><b>15</b> Beginners Irish Language 6:45pm Lenihan Dance Lessons Children 4pm - Adult 8pm</p>	<p><b>16</b>  Trad Music Session 7-9PM</p>	<p><b>17</b> Irish Language • (via zoom) 6:45pm Set Dancing 7pm Irish Literature Group 7pm</p>	<p><b>18</b> ♪ Mike McGovern 8:30pm In the Pub</p>	<p><b>19</b> ♪ Sharon and Her Band 8:30pm in the Pub</p>
<p><b>20</b> 25 Card Game 12 noon</p>	<p><b>21</b> Monday Night Football BBQ 5:30-8pm (bring a side dish) Gaelic Pipe Band - 6:30pm</p>	<p><b>22</b> Beginners Irish Language 6:45pm Lenihan Dance Lessons Children 4pm - Adult 8pm</p>	<p><b>23</b> Trad Music Session 7-9PM</p>	<p><b>24</b> Irish Language • (via zoom) 6:45pm Set Dancing 7pm</p>	<p><b>25</b> Blood Drive 9-2pm  Family Fun Night 6-9pm ♪ Bob C. &amp; His One Man Band - 8:30pm In the Pub</p>	<p><b>26</b> Kid's Halloween Party 11-1pm Oktoberfest 4:30 - 8:30pm \$40 Adults   \$20 Kids U13 ♪ Keltic Kick 8:30pm in the Pub</p>
<p><b>27</b> Halloween Céili 4-7pm - \$20</p>	<p><b>28</b> Monday Night Football BBQ 5:30-8pm (bring a side dish) Gaelic Pipe Band - 6:30pm</p>	<p><b>29</b> Beginners Irish Language 6:45pm Lenihan Dance Lessons Children 4pm - Adult 8pm</p>	<p><b>30</b> Trad Music Session 7-9PM</p>	<p><b>31</b>  Halloween   Oíche Shamhna Senior Lunch Noon Irish Language • (via zoom) 6:45pm Set Dancing 7pm</p>	<p><b>1</b> ♪ TBA 8:30pm In the Pub</p>	<p><b>2</b> ♪ TBA 8:30pm in the Pub</p>