

SCÉAL ÉILE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE COOLEY-KEEGAN BRANCH OF COMHALTAS CEOLTÓIRÍ ÉIREANN

Chair's Message

A Chairde,

Happy to report that the Valentine Dance on February 16th was a successful event. It was a wonderful night, everyone enjoyed themselves and we made a nice profit.

Thanks to all our sponsors, volunteers and everyone who supported us. It was a great start to our Fundraising campaign. Stay tuned for more fundraisers in the coming months. If anyone has ideas for a fundraiser please contact us, we would love input from the community.

Join us on Sunday March 31st at the United Irish Cultural Center for our March ceilí. We are starting a little earlier at 6:30pm and will continue until 9:30pm. Dancing to the wonderful Golden Gate Ceilí Band. Hope to see you all there.

Slán,

Josephine Brennan
Chair

Irish Language Class

Irish Language classes are held at the United Irish Cultural Center, San Francisco. Registration in advance is required. Please contact Josephine Brogan at josephinebrogan@yahoo.com or 415-264-8856 for further information.

Events each Month

San Francisco - On Thursdays, CCÉ hosts set dancing classes at the UICC from 7:30 pm to 9.15 pm. Cost: \$5. This is followed by more dancing at the Plough and Stars from 9.30 pm to 11:30 pm -- except for the first Thursday of the month when there is no class, just dancing at the Plough and Stars from 8.00 pm -11.00 pm ~ \$5 donation suggested. Contact: Josephine Brogan at josephinebrogan@yahoo.com or 415-264-8856.

South Bay/Peninsula - Tuesday night set dancing (with a smidgen of céilí style) at Lilly Mac's in Sunnyvale (upstairs); 187 S. Murphy Avenue between Evelyn and Washington Avenues. It is every Tuesday (except 3rd Tues. of the month); 8-10pm; Suggested donation is \$7. Mostly live bands. Contact: Michael Murphy at 415-999-6062 or irishboogieman0@gmail.com.

North Bay - Mary McDonagh and Micheál Minihane teach set dancing on the second and fourth Fridays of the month at Brosnan School of Irish Dance in San Anselmo from 7-9pm. There is a \$5 donation suggested for this class. Mary and Micheál also teach at the Redwood Cafe in Cotati on the second and fourth Wednesday. Contact: Mary McDonagh at cladaghdancer@gmail.com or Micheál Minihane michealminihane@yahoo.com.

East Bay - Starry Plough in Berkeley hosts céilí dancing on Mondays. Lessons from 7-9pm and dancing to live music from 9-11pm. Contact: Danny Botello at mr.dannyb@gmail.com or Michael Rael at michaelbpr@gmail.com.

See calendar page for address, phone number and web page for all venues.



FOUNDED IN 1951, COMHALTAS CEOLTÓIRÍ ÉIREANN IS IRELAND'S PREMIERE CULTURAL MOVEMENT. WHEN YOU JOIN COMHALTAS, YOU JOIN PEOPLE IN MORE THAN 400 BRANCHES WORLDWIDE IN SUPPORT OF THE TRADITIONAL IRISH ARTS OF MUSIC, DANCE AND LANGUAGE. WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS. PLEASE CONTACT THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY FOR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION OR VISIT US ON THE WEB AT [HTTP://SF.CCEWEST.ORG](http://sf.ccewest.org)



Saint Patrick's Céilí



Join us on Sunday, March 31st at the United Irish Cultural Center, St. Patrick's Ballroom from 6:30pm – 9:30pm to continue the celebrations of the St. Patrick's Day Season. Donation at the door is \$15/per adult. Children accompanied by adults are free.

This is one of three céilís the Cooley-Keegan branch sponsors each year and promises to be the highlight of the season!

We will celebrate the launch of our April 2020 Comhaltas North America Convention in San Francisco. (see 2020 Convention section in this Sceal for an update.)



Lilly Mac's Céilí



Saturday, April 13, 7-10pm

\$12.00 admission whether you're dancing or not. Food: Appetizers provided.

Music provided by members of Fox on the Town, Western Shore, and Birds in the Bush. There will be some céilí dancing at the beginning and set dancing for the rest of the evening.

Lilly Mac's Pub: 187 S. Murphy Avenue in Sunnyvale between Washington and Evelyn Avenues



Member News



Sending Cathy Jones many returns of the day as she celebrates her 90th birthday on April 5th. Wishing you many more years of great health, happiness and Irish dancing, Cathy. You are a true inspiration to us all.



Song and Storytelling



Join us for a Song and Storytelling Seisiún

The next Song and Storytelling Seisiún will be hosted on April 5th by Maureen Murphy
1959 17th Avenue
San Francisco
415-564-7188
moemurphy59@yahoo.com

The May Seisiún is on the 3rd hosted by Mairtin Mac An Ghoill
200 Ravenswood Ave
Menlo Park, CA 94025
650-207-6971
mairtin1@gmail.com

In June the seisiún is on the 7th. Host TBD.

Contact Michael Jones for info about seisiúns at mfj@ieee.org. Seisiúns start at 7:30pm.

2019 St. Patrick's Season

It takes a team to make the dream work. Our CCE team made the 2019 St. Patrick's Season work very well.

Thank you to all who volunteered the time and talent to perform at dinners and at retirement homes—always a rewarding experience.

Thank you to our great musicians who play tirelessly for us.

Thank you to all who came to Cunningham's to build the float--carpenters, painters, artists, decorators, those who brought refreshments—always so much fun working together.

Thank you to Martijn of Cunningham Moving and Storage who so generously donates the flatbed and the storage of it and of all the decorations year after year. He also allows us the space to do our building.

Thank you to Richie Cronin for his skilled driving of the cab to pull our magnificent float from Cunninghams to Duggans to the parade and back again. We were delighted to have Richie's family along for the ride!

Thank you to Bill and Steve Welch for letting us use their facilities and parking lot year after year.

Thank you to those who volunteered to be our color guard.

Thank you to all who came to practice and who danced on the float and in the performance. Thank you to Theresa Joyce, our Irish speaker, and to Denise Power, our lovely Irish singer.

WE WON FIRST PLACE FOR BEST IRISH FLOAT!!

Again: It takes a team to make the dream work... and every member of the team is vitally important. We have one GREAT team!

Kasey and Connie

Celtic Voices Choir

December 2018 Celtic Voices Choir Concert

Mary McKeever, the very talented director of the Celtic Voices Adults and Youth Choirs, hosts a wonderful Concert each December.

Comhaltas was invited to participate so we surprised and delighted the audience with a rousing Wren Boys appearance. Led by Tim Hill who made beautiful music on his flute, we gave them a peek into the tradition of the Wren Boys.

We danced two sets organized by Mary McDonagh. Dancers included Mary/Frank McDonagh, Dan McAuliffe, Maureen Brady, Josephine Brogan, Martin Giles, Micheál Minihane and Joannie O'Leary.

Thanks to all – especially Tim Hill and Mary McDonagh.

North Bay Hooley

You came, and hopefully, you danced, sang, raised a glass, enjoyed the food, and tapped yer toes to the music!! We would like to thank all that supported our first North Bay Hooley by either buying a ticket, selling tickets, making a donation, or helping in the kitchen. Our sincerest appreciation for making our First Hooley a very successful event.

Thank you,

Kasey, Micheál, and Mary

Irish Culture Bay Area

What if you could view all the many Irish Events, Arts & Cultural programs in the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond in one place?

NOW YOU CAN AT IrishCultureBayArea.com



Branch Meetings



CCÉ Cooley-Keegan branch meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month, 7:30pm, Location TBD. Upcoming meeting dates: April 2nd and May 7th. All members are encouraged to attend.

For further information, contact Maureen Callanan mcallanan2354@gmail.com.



2020 Convention Meetings



Meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month, 7pm at the UICC. Upcoming meeting dates: April 16th and May 21st.

Contact any of the Cooley-Keegan board members if you'd like to get involved in what is going to be an incredible and memorable event!

Convention dates: April 16 - 19, 2020.
<https://www.cceconvention2020.com>

For more information contact Maureen Callanan: mcallanan2354@gmail.com.



Treoir Magazine



The first 2019 issue of the Treoir magazine will be mailed to the first member of every household or individual member in early April. If you do not receive yours by April 20, please email Joannie: joannieoleary@msn.com.

We have a new CCE branch in Los Angeles with several Junior members who do not receive a Treoir, due to their minimum membership payment. If you do not wish to keep your Treoir once you have looked through it, please consider return it to us. If you do not come to dancing, we will figure out a way to get it from you. Many thanks for helping the kids out.



2020 CCÉ Convention



Come and celebrate the Launch of our 2020 CCE North American Convention during the break at our March ceili on Sunday, March 31st. We will give you an inside PEEK at what goes on and what we are planning! We are working hard on the Convention which is now ONE YEAR AWAY. Come along to hear about our plans and how you can help!!!



Saint Patrick's Season Performances



Comhaltas performs at many events during the Saint Patrick's Season
Left to Right: Dan, Kasey, Connie, Al, Maureen, Sean, Maureen, Michael and Cathy



Saint Patrick's Day Parade



The First Place Float in the Saint Patrick's Day Parade



Parade Musicians: From left to right: Alan Patterson, Peter Persoff, John Sherry, Anne Goes; on the float in middle: Michael Riemer.



Saint Patrick's Day Parade



From left to right: Aiden O'Sullivan, Aine Sweeney, Patrick O'Malley, Kevin Roletto



CCÉ 2019 Membership



THERE IS STILL TIME TO RENEW YOUR 2019 CCÉ MEMBERSHIP

Thanks to all who have already renewed. Our Membership runs from January 1 to December 31st. As a benefit of your 2019 membership, the Treoir magazine from Ireland will be sent out in March, June and November. Please let Joannie know if you do not receive yours.

Single Membership: \$40.00

Multi-Membership: \$50.00 (2 or more in household or family)

Here are ways you can renew:

- Renew online through our website and remit payment through PayPal: sf.ccewest.org;
- Renew online through our website and send your check to our PO Box (We do NOT bill).
- Complete your membership form and either give it with your check or cash to Josephine Brogan at set dancing or mail it with your check to our PO Box.

If you have any questions, please contact Joannie at 415-664-6579 or joannieoleary@msn.com; Or talk with Josephine at dancing. Thank you for your support.

CCÉ Membership, Attn: Joannie O'Leary, P O Box 16244, San Francisco, CA 94116



CCÉ has a facebook group where we can share photos, ask questions and generally discuss all things Irish music and dance. In the search field at the top of your facebook page enter **Cooley-Keegan Branch**, select it from the list of choices and join the group.

Or, you can enter the following URL:

facebook.com/groups/316504905030686



Another online group where events are planned is meetup.com at the following URL:

meetup.com/irishdance

Aibreán 2019

DÉ DOMHNAICH SUNDAY	DÉ LUAN MONDAY	DÉ MÁIRT TUESDAY	DÉ Céadaoin WEDNESDAY	DÉARDAIN THURSDAY	DÉ h-Aoine FRIDAY	DÉ SATHAINN SATURDAY
Mar 31 St. Patrick's Céilí. UICC 6:30-9:30 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	Apr 1 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	2 <u>CCÉ Meeting</u> TBD 7:30pm <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnysvale <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	3	4 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough and Stars w/ Golden Gate Céilí Band	5 <u>Song Seisiún</u> 1959 17th Avenue San Francisco 415-564-7188 moemurphy59@yahoo.com	6
7 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	8 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	9 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnysvale <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	10 <u>Set Dancing</u> Redwood Cafe Cotati	11 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough and Stars w/ Emperor Norton Céilí Band	12 <u>Set Dancing</u> Brosnan Dance Studio San Anselmo	13
14 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	15 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	16 <u>2020 Convention Meeting</u> UICC 7pm <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	17	18 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough and Stars w/ Cúlarán	19	20
21 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	22 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	23 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnysvale <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	24 <u>Set Dancing</u> Redwood Cafe Cotati	25 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough and Stars w/ Topsy House	26 <u>Set Dancing</u> Brosnan Dance Studio San Anselmo	27
28 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	29 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	30 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnysvale <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	May 1	2 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough and Stars w/ Golden Gate Céilí Band	3 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Mairtin Mac An Ghoill 200 Ravenswood Ave Menlo Park, CA 94025 650-207-6971 mairtin1@gmail.com	4



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Bhealtaine 2019

DÉ DOMHNAIGH SUNDAY	DÉ LUAN MONDAY	DÉ MÁIRT TUESDAY	DÉ CEADAOIN WEDNESDAY	DÉARDAOIN THURSDAY	DÉ h-AOINE FRIDAY	DÉ SATHAIRN SATURDAY
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Brosnan School of Irish Dance - 11 Belle Avenue, Suite B, San Anselmo, CA 94960 brosnanschool.com

Lilly Mac's - 187 S. Murphy Ave, Sunnyvale (between Washington and Evelyn Avenues) 408-732-0200 lillymacs.com

Plough and Stars - 116 Clement Ave. (Between 2nd and 3rd), San Francisco, 415-751-1122 theploughandstars.com

Redwood Cafe - 8240 Old Redwood Hwy, Cotati CA 94931 707-795-7868 redwoodcafe.com

UICC - United Irish Cultural Center - 2700 45th Ave. (At Sloat Blvd.), San Francisco, 415-661-2700 irishcentersf.org

Starry Plough - 3101 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley 510-841-2082 starryploughpub.com

You can also visit the following website for events:

San Francisco CCÉ - Cooley-Keegan Branch - sf.ccewest.org



Set Dancing



Mondays:

- Starry Plough in Berkeley: Céilí dancing on Mondays. Lessons from 7-9pm and dancing to live music from 9-11pm. Contact: Contact: Danny Botello at mr.dannyb@gmail.com or Michael Rael at michaelbpr@gmail.com.

Tuesdays:

- Lilly Mac's in Sunnyvale (except for the 3rd Tuesday). Lessons: 7:30pm; Dance to live music 8-10pm. \$7 suggested to support the live music. Contact: Michael Murphy (415-999-6062)

2nd and 4th Wednesdays.

- Redwood Cafe in Cotati.
Contact: Mary McDonagh (cladaghdancer@gmail.com), Micheál Minihane (michealminihane@yahoo.com)

1st Thursday: Plough and Stars in San Francisco at 8pm. Music by the Golden Gate Céilí Band. \$5 suggested to support the live music.

2nd through last Thursdays:

- Lessons at the United Irish Cultural Center (UICC) in San Francisco at 7:30pm in the bar area. Taped music:
- Plough and Stars in San Francisco at 9:30pm.
Live traditional music featuring Topsy House, Emperor Norton Céilí Band and other fine bands.
Dancers are encouraged to contribute \$5 to support the live music.

2nd and 4th Fridays:

- Brosnan School of Irish Dance in San Anselmo: From 7-9pm. There is a \$5 donation suggested for this class.
Contact: Mary McDonagh (cladaghdancer@gmail.com), Micheál Minihane (michealminihane@yahoo.com)



Seisiún



Seisiún: - Sundays and Tuesdays starting at 8:30 at the Plough and Stars, various hosts.

Song and Storytelling Seisiún: Held on the first Friday of each month, See **Song and Storytelling** section for details..

COOLEY-KEEGAN BRANCH OF
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P.O. Box 16244
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