

SCÉAL ÉILE

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

*Nollaig Shona agus Bliain Úr faoi Mhaise Daoibh go Léir!
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to You All!*

From the Chairman

A Chairde,

'Tis December and the year is nearly done. It went by fast, and we got a lot of things done, with great plans for more next year. For the coming month, we have our yearly Christmas Céilí and the ever popular Wren Boys on St. Stephens Day.

This is my last month as Chairman on our branch, and I thank you all for your support over the last few years. I'm pleased to announce that Kasey Millere has taken up the leadership for next year, with Michael Riemer continuing on in the Vice-Chair slot.

I'll still continue on as Vice-Chair at the regional level under Jim Belcher.

See ya 'round the dance floor!

Slán, Michael

General Meetings

The next General Meetings of the Membership will be Tuesdays December 5th and January 2nd at 7:30pm at the United Irish Cultural Center.

Song and Storytelling

The next Singing and Storytelling session will be hosted by Oceanlight on Friday December 1st at 8PM in Palo Alto.

3373 St. Michael Drive
Palo Alto 94306
650.494.1332

In January Angeline LeLeux will host in Cupertino.

Emerald Extravaganza

IT IS ONLY 14 WEEKS AWAY!!! And there is a lot of work to be done. For starters we will be doing a work day at the Irish Center on Jan 14. There is painting and cleaning and all around sprucing up to be done. So please put the date on your calender and give Kasey or Joannie a call.

Hoping to get flowers donated to be used as center pieces on our tables for the event. If you know or use a flower shop please ask if they would donate center piece. The shop will receive signage at the event and their business card on the table.

This fund raiser will go to support our organization and our programs. So I am hoping to get the support of all of our members. The projected ticket sales for this event is 300. In order to meet this we, as a group, need to purchase tickets for ourselves and to sell tickets to our family and friends. This fund raiser will be a fun night out for all who attend, so please keep in mind that we will only meet our ticket goal if we all pitch in and sell tickets to the people we know. Tickets will go on sale in Dec and make a great stocking stuffer.

The next convention planning meeting is on Monday December 12th at Joannies place.

PLEASE CONTACT KASEY (707 769-8552) OR JOANNIE (415 664-6579) AND LET THEM KNOW WHAT YOU CAN DO.

Member News

Best wishes to Cathy Mibach and Teresa Ford who are both recovering from surgery. Hope to see them on the dance floor soon again.



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)



10 young musicians (plus a few old codgers) playing tunes at the CCE Junior Seisiún in October

Events this Month

Christmas Ceili-- The Shannon Ceili Band will be playing Sunday December 10th from 7pm to 10 pm at the United Irish Cultural Center (Ballroom). Cost: Adults \$10. Children: Free.

Comhaltas Night - CCE night is on Saturday, December 16th. See attached flyer for details.

Wren Boys - The meeting time for Wren Boys is Tuesday, December 26th at 6:30 PM. Burying of the Wren will meet at the Murphy residence, 1959 17th Avenue between Ortega and Pacheco Streets in San Francisco. Contact: Michael Murphy at 415-786-1337 or irishboogieman@yahoo.com.

South Bay - The Britannia Arms in Cupertino will be the scene of Set dancing on the 13th (only one night in December). Dancing to LIVE music begins at 8 PM and goes until 10PM . Donations: \$5.00; Proceeds go to the band and the dance leader. Contacts: Michael Murphy, 415-786-1337 or irishboogieman@yahoo.com (for dancing info., directions) and Britannia Arms, 408-252-7262 .

North Bay - Finbar Devine's Irish Pub in downtown Petaluma is the scene for set dancing in the North Bay. No events are scheduled for December, they will resume in January. Contact Connie, Kasey, or Mary McD for more information.

Gaeilge - Irish Language

Mary McLaughlin of the Clifford-Hoban CCE branch has announced the debut of the "Cór Ainglí" (Choir of Angels) to perform Gaelic Christmas songs in two Christmas performances on Dec 9th and 10th in Santa Cruz and Boulder Creek.

Mary has also formed **Camogie** a new "super" band with a nouveau celtic flavour. They will be performing around the bay area in three concerts in January. See www.marymclaughlin.com/performances.html for more information.

CCE Membership

Thanks to those who already renewed. For those who have not yet done so, please send in your renewal NOW as they must be forwarded to Ireland immediately. Your expiration date is shown on your mailing label. If you receive the Seal by e-mail and need to clarify, please contact Joannie at joannieoleary@msn.com. (\$35. individual membership; \$45.00, 2 or more persons)

We also have "Gift Memberships" available - a great idea for a friend who might be interested in our organization. Gift memberships are accompanied by colorful, personalized certificates notifying the recipients of your gift (as shown on our web site). Thank you. (415 664-6579)

Irish Music in the Schools

Musicians from the Cooley-Keegan branch of CCE have been participating in a special school program at Parkmead Elementary, in Walnut Creek. Each year the program chooses six different countries from around the world, explaining the cultures of these places through examples of food, music, stories, crafts and other activities. This year Ireland was a featured country, and so over the course of six weeks, CCE members Anne Goess, Darcy Noonan, Lew Milligan and Michael Riemer met with many small groups of students to demonstrate some of the traditional instruments (fiddle, accordion, whistle, flute and bodhran), and also the different types of dance music. The live music was very well received (especially by the parent volunteers!), as many of the children are learning some type of musical instrument at home – and in fact, we may be seeing some of these students again soon, as the school is looking to organize a class trip to attend our Children's Ceili in January!



CHAIRMAN/WEBMASTER: MICHAEL DUFFY (CHAIR@CCEWEST.ORG OR WEBMASTER@CCEWEST.ORG)

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COMHALTAS CEOLTÓIRÍ ÉIREANN
THE COOLEY-KEEGAN BRANCH

CHRISTMAS CÉILÍ

Join us for an evening of Music, Song and Dance
Special Entertainment by
The Celtic Dance Ensemble

- WHEN:** **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10TH, 2006**
- WHERE:** **UNITED IRISH CULTURAL CENTER**
2700 45TH AVE @ SLOAT, SAN FRANCISCO
- TIME:** **7PM TO 10 PM**
- MUSIC:** **SHANNON CÉILÍ BAND**
- COST:** **Adults: \$10.00**
Children: Free when accompanied by an adult

Comhaltas (CCÉ) is a worldwide organization, based in Dublin, Ireland, dedicated to preserving and fostering the traditions of Ireland, through music, song, dance, storytelling & language. Founded in Mullingar, Co. Westmeath, 50 years ago, CCÉ has over 400 branches throughout Ireland, Britain, the U.S., & many other countries.

Visit the San Francisco Cooley-Keegan Branch at: <http://sf.ccewest.org>

For Information, contact Josephine Brogan (415) 681-4803

COMHALTAS CEOLTÓIRÍ ÉIREANN

The San Francisco Cooley-Keegan Branch

MEMBERSHIP FORM 2007-2008

Comhaltas (CCÉ) is a worldwide organization, based in Dublin, Ireland, dedicated to preserving and fostering the traditions of Ireland, through music, song, dance, storytelling & language. Founded in Mullingar, Co. Westmeath 52 years ago, CCÉ has over 400 branches throughout Ireland, Britain, the U.S., & many other countries. Information on CCÉ and its events are available on our Website at <http://sf.ccewest.org> by request in writing to the address below, or phone Joannie at (415) 664-6579.

The San Francisco Cooley-Keegan Branch proudly promotes these traditions of Irish Culture in the S.F. Bay Area. MEMBERS of the Branch enjoy the benefits of:

- Monthly Subscription to our “Scéal Eile” newsletter containing events and news of our branch, of Comhaltas in Ireland and Irish activities in the Bay Area. “Scéal Eile” gives notification of our Céilís, Music and Song Seisiúns, Children’s Céilís and Music and Language Lessons.
- Weekly Set Dance Classes (see website or “Scéal Eile”)
- *Quarterly issue of “Treoir”, the Comhaltas Magazine containing a wealth of information on traditional Irish programs & activities of CCÉ world-wide, stories of its members & branches and tunes, songs and their history, for readers of all ages.
- Access to our website: <http://sf.ccewest.org> and a chance to involve yourself in the growing movement to preserve and promote Irish traditional Music, Song, Dance, Storytelling and Language.

Our music/dance program for children, workshops & set dance for all members and our Annual Music Youth Scholarship Program are thriving. We hope to host the 2009 CCÉ Convention, bringing visitors from Canada, Ireland and the USA. Your support through Membership is greatly appreciated and urgently needed to accomplish these goals. Comhaltas is a volunteer organization. Please complete the form below to join, or renew your membership **TODAY**, for the coming year. Keep the Tradition Alive! (*If you wish to subscribe/renew on-line, please visit our website under <http://sf.ccewest.org>, click on “Join CCÉ”. Payment by sending a check or utilizing Pay Pal is available for your convenience.*)

Go raibh maith agat. Thank you)

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW, CUT HERE AND RETURN WITH YOUR PAYMENT

Comhaltas – S.F. Cooley-Keegan 2007-2008 Membership Form

*First Member of Household: \$35.00 or *Two or more in household: \$45.00

First & Second Member’s Names: _____

Children’s Names and Ages: _____

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Telephone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

**If you have E-Mail and wish to receive the “Scéal Eile” and other information electronically (you will be notified monthly of the link to our website), PLEASE INDICATE HERE: YES _____ NO _____
and include your e-mail address: _____

To Pay electronically, please visit our website at “http://sf.ccewest.org/misc/join_cceck.html”.

If returning this form with your check, please make check payable to “CCÉ”, and mail to:

CCE Attn: Joannie O’Leary
P O Box 16244
San Francisco, CA 94116

For Questions or information, please call:
Joannie at (415) 664-6579; or membership@sf.ccewest.org

Gift Membership also available ~ a great idea for a friend who might be interested in our organization!!

DECEMBER 2006

DÉ DOMHNAIGH SUNDAY	DÉ LUAN MONDAY	DÉ MAIRT TUESDAY	DÉ CÉADAOIN WEDNESDAY	DÉARDAOIN THURSDAY	DÉ h-Aoine FRIDAY	DÉ SATHAIRN SATURDAY
Nov 26 Seisiún - Plough and Stars	27	28	29	30 Set Dancing UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	Dec 1 Song Seisiún Oceanlight Palo Alto	2
3 Seisiún - Plough and Stars	4	5 CCÉ Meeting UICC 7:30PM	6	7 Set Dancing Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	8	9
10 Christmas Ceili Shannon Ceili Band UICC 7-10PM Seisiún - Plough and Stars	11 Slow Seisiún Ireland's 32	12 Convention Planning Joannie's place	13 Set Dancing Britannia Arms Cupertino 7PM w/ Birds in the Bush	14 Set Dancing UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	15	16 CCE Night UICC 8-12
17 Seisiún - Plough and Stars	18	19 Slow Seisiún - Plough and Stars	20	21 Set Dancing UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	22	23
24 Seisiún - Plough and Stars	25 Merry Christmas!!	26 Wren Boys Murphy residence Song Seisiún Plough and Stars	27	28 Set Dancing No class at UICC Plough & Stars w/ Ceili Chicks	29	30

Ireland's 32 - 3920 Geary Blvd. (Between 3rd and 4th), San Francisco, (415) 386-6173

I.O.O.F. Hall - 113 South B Street, San Mateo

Nikki's House - Call or e-mail for directions: (510) 881 5958 or gaeilge@ccwest.org

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

U.I.C.C. - 2700 45th Ave. (At Sloat Blvd.), San Francisco, (415) 661-2700

Finbar Devines - 145 Kentucky St, Petaluma (North Bay), (707) 762-9800 finbarspetaluma.com

Britannia Arms - 1087 South De Anza Blvd, Cupertino (South Bay), (408) 252-7262

You can also visit the following websites for events:

San Francisco CCE - Cooley-Keegan Branch - sf.ccwest.org

Santa Cruz CCE - Clifford-Hoban Branch - www.folkplanet.com/cce

Plough and Stars Calendar - pweb.jps.net/~jgilder/plough.html

U.I.C.C. - www.irishcentersf.org



Set Dancing



1st Thursday: Plough and Stars in San Francisco at 8:00pm. Music by the Shannon Céilí Band.

2nd through last Thursdays:

- Lessons at the United Irish Cultural Center (UICC) in San Francisco at 7:30pm -- check at bar for room. Taped music.
- Plough and Stars in San Francisco at 9:30pm. Topsy House typically plays on the 2nd, 4th and last Thursday; Shannon Ceili Band on the 1st and 3rd Thursday. Dancers are encouraged to contribute \$5 to support the live music.

2nd and 4th Wednesdays:

- Britania Arms in Cupertino: Lessons at 7:15; Dancing at 8PM: Live Music. Dancers are encouraged to contribute \$5 to support the live music.



Seisiún



Slow Seisiún:

- Ireland's 32, starting at 7:30pm on the 2nd and last Mondays of each month. This is intended for beginners learning to play traditional Irish tunes, and the last Monday each month features the kids in our community. Starting at 9:00pm more experienced musicians are encouraged to join in on the faster paced, more Traditional Seisiún which follows. All are welcome to come listen as well. Contact Michael Riemer or Michael Duffy for more information.
- Plough and Stars, starting at 8:30 on the **second to last** Tuesday of each month. This Seisiún follows the same format as the Ireland's 32 Slow Seisiún.

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

Song and Storytelling Seisiún: Held on the first Friday of each month, check the calendar for exact details.

COOLEY-KEEGAN BRANCH OF
COMHALTAS CEOLTÓIRÍ ÉIREANN
P.O. Box 16244
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94116