

SCÉAL ÉILE

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

From the Chairman

A chairde -

The CCE Cooley-Keegan Board of Directors wishes everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year! We are also pleased to welcome Ceri Garfield as our new Youth Officer!

The previous Sceal included a letter from Kasey describing the help needed to keep our branch and its activities thriving. We had two very welcome responses, plus help at our December Céilí - Thank you! We hope more members will answer the call during the coming year.

Visitors from the Seattle-Puget Sound Branch (Jim Belcher) and the Phoenix Four Peaks Irish Arts (Mary Hill-Connor, and Michelle and Lara Bohn) joined us for our annual CCE West Region meeting/seisiún/céilí in November. During a tasty dinner at the Irish Center that Saturday night we were treated to a lively seisiún led by Vincie Keehan and friends. The Céilí the following afternoon had us stepping out to the lively sound of the Emperor Norton Ceili Band, while Geli MillerE entertained us with us with a slip-jig.

Our Christmas Ceili reflected the spirit of the season as the Live Oak Ceili Band set a great pace all evening! Michael Murphy led the dancing, while entertainers included Gráinne Ní Riain on harp, and songs led by Erin Thompson.

Kasey and Connie will soon be sending information about the St. Patrick's Day float and other activities. This year, two of our own - Dan and Margaret McAuliffe - are being honored as Grand Marshall of the Parade and Festivities by the United Irish Societies. Stay tuned ...

Slan

Events this Month

Youth Music Student Recital - On Sunday, February 9th at 2pm at the UICC. It will feature the Comhaltas music teachers and their students. All are welcome, so come along and say thanks to the teachers.

Céilís at the UICC - On the third Saturday of the month, CCE hosts a night of dancing at the UICC. The next events will be on Jan. 18th and February 15th. Music begins at 7:30 with dancing at 8PM to live traditional Irish Music. Admission is free. Contact: Michael Riemer at riemer@ce.berkeley.edu.

San Francisco - On Thursdays, CCE hosts classes at the UICC starting at 7:30 followed by more dancing at the Plough & Stars until midnight -- except for the first Thursday of the month when there is no class and dancing at the Plough & Stars from 8-11PM. \$5 donation suggested.

South Bay/ Peninsula - On Tuesdays we meet at Lilly Mac's in Sunnyvale. Lessons: 7:30; Dance to live music 8-10. \$5 donation suggested. Info: Michael Murphy at 415-999-6062.

North Bay - Mary McDonagh and Micheal Minihane teach Set Dancing on the second and fourth Fridays of the month at Brosnan School of Irish Dance from 7 to 9PM. There is a \$5 donation suggested for this class. Tea and cakes or sweets will be served. Contact: Mary McDonagh (irishsetdancer@yahoo.com), Micheal Minihane (michealminihane@yahoo.com).

East Bay - Starry Plough in Berkeley hosts céilí dancing on Mondays. Lessons from 7 to 9PM and dancing to live music from 9 to 11PM. Contact: John Slaymaker at john@starryploughceili.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)



The November Céilí featured the Shannon Céilí Band and started out with the Haymakers Jig. A grand time was had by all.



T. Kevin Mallen Scholarship
Michael Healy Music Scholarship



The deadline for submission of these scholarship applications is January 30, 2014. Applications may be obtained by calling Josephine at 415-681-4803 or emailing her at josephinebrogan@yahoo.com or Joannie at 415-664-6579.

For some years now, thanks to the generosity of our good friend, Kevin Mallen, RIP, and the support of the Michael Healy Music Scholarship Fund, we are able to offer music scholarships to children who are members of the SF Cooley-Keegan Branch of Comhaltas. Many have benefitted from this scholarship through fiddle, tin whistle and bodhran classes.



General Meeting



General Meetings of the Membership are typically held on the first Tuesday of the month. The next ones will be on January 7th and February 4th

This is a members' meeting and all members are encouraged to attend in order to plan future activities.



Farewell to a good friend



Doug, Barb, Suzanne and I were the Shannon Ceili Band for about eleven years. We were primarily at the first and second Thursdays for the set dancing at the Plough and Stars.

Doug and I have been great friends for over 30 years. He always had a great love for the Irish dance music, although he was primarily a premier Blue Grass fiddler.

He was a loving husband, step-father, respected lawyer and adventurer, as well as a great musician. He was gifted with a quick wit, a dry humor and was a loyal friend.

We all still cannot believe that he is gone.

We miss him very much as would any of you who had the chance to know him.

--John Sherry



2014 CCE Convention



North American Convention of Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann

The Mid Atlantic Branch will be hosting the convention next year from April 24th - April 27th.

This is a wonderful weekend of Irish Music and Dance, Céilís, Concerts, Instrument, Singing, Set Dance, Céilí and Sean-Nós Workshops, and a great banquet on Saturday night. Please see more information at <http://www.cce-ma.com>

Be sure to make your hotel reservations at the Convention Hotel (Parsippany Hilton) as the branch needs to meet a certain quota of hotel rooms in order to get rooms for workshops, etc. free.



CCE Classes



CCE sponsors the following classes at the UICC.

Adult Irish Language
Children's Tin Whistle
Children's Fiddle
Adult Tin Whistle

Beginner fiddle class for children: We are excited to announce that Pat O'Donnell will teach this class on Wednesday nights at the UICC, from 7 to 7:45PM. We will need 4 students to make this feasible. If your child is interested, please contact Josephine Brogan at 415 681-4803 or josephinebrogan@yahoo.com Registration and payment are required before the start of class

Irish Language class for children: Gráinne Ní Riain, a native Irish speaker and teacher will be teaching at the UICC on Tuesday evenings from 6-7pm. If your child is interested, please contact Josephine Brogan at 415 681-4803 or josephinebrogan@yahoo.com. We will need a minimum of 6 children in order to sponsor this class. Registration and payment are required before the start of class.

Youth seisiúns: Ceri Garfield organizes monthly mini-seisiúns involving musicians and youth interested in playing music. This is held in the bar/restaurant area of the UICC: on Sunday January 19th and February 9th from 3-6PM. A recital of Comhaltas music students will be held on February 9th at 2PM. All are welcome.

Set Dancing for children: A six-week session for children to learn set dancing will start on January 8, 2014 at 6 p.m. at the UICC in the stage area. If interested, please contact Connie Lynch (707-823-7378).

These classes are ongoing. For more information, please contact Josephine Brogan at josephinebrogan@yahoo.com or 415-681-4803. **Pre-registration and payment is required to secure a place for all classes.**



Song and Storytelling



The next Singing and Storytelling Seisiún will be hosted by Patrick McEvoy on January 3rd
251 Chestnut
Palo Alto
650 493 3773
swagman@swagman.com

The February Seisiún is on the 7th will be hosted by Michelle Valdez
4049 Holly Drive
San Jose
408 390 2252
valdezma@att.net

In March John Hopkirk is hosting on the 7th:
145 Highland Ave.
San Carlos
650-593-0843
hopkirk@earthlink.net



Seachtain na Gaeilge - Irish Week



Save the date! (More details and events in the March Scéal Eile)

*16 Márta, 11.30 i.n.: Aifreann Gaeilge le cór, rinceoirí & ceoltóirí. Fáiltiú & seisiún ceoil ina dhiaidh. (*16 March. 11.30 a.m.. Mass in Irish with choir, dancers, musicians; reception with music session follows.)

ionad (venue): St. Joseph's Church, 582 Hope Street, Mountain View.



Membership Corner



Please renew your membership **NOW**.

Single Membership is \$40. Multi-membership (2 or more in household) or family memberships is \$50.

Here are the ways you can renew:

- Renew on-line through our website and remit payment through PayPal; <http://sf.ccewest.org>
- Renew on-line through our website and send your check to our PO Box. (we do not bill).
- Ask Josephine for a membership form at dancing and give her either a check or cash with a filled-in form.

If you have any questions, please call Joannie at 415-664-6579; email Joannie at olearyj@urology.ucsf.edu; or talk with Josephine at dancing.

Thank you for your support.



Set Dancing



Mondays:

- Starry Plough in Berkeley: Céilí dancing on Mondays. Lessons from 7 to 9PM and dancing to live music from 9 to 11PM. Contact: John Slaymaker.

Tuesdays:

- Lilly Mac's in Sunnyvale. Lessons: 7:30; Dance to live music 8-10. \$5 suggested to support the live music.

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 -- in bar area. Taped music:
- Plough and Stars in San Francisco at 9:30pm.
 - Live traditional music featuring Topsy House, Emperor Norton 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 to 9 pm. There is a \$5 charge for this class.
Contact: Mary McDonagh (irishsetdancer@yahoo.com), Micheal 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, check above for details.

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

CANÁIR 2014

Óé Domhnaigh SUNDAY	Óé Luan MONDAY	Óé Mairt TUESDAY	Óé Céadaoin WEDNESDAY	Óeardaoin THURSDAY	Óé h-Aoine FRIDAY	Óé Sathairn SATURDAY
Dec 29 Seisiún - Plough and Stars	30 Céilí dancing Starry Plough	31 Happy New Year's Eve	Jan 1 Happy New Year's Day	2 Set Dancing Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Céilí Band	3 Song Seisiún Patrick McEvoy Palo Alto	4
5 Seisiún - Plough and Stars	6 Céilí dancing Starry Plough	7 CCÉ Meeting UICC 7:30PM Set Dancing Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale Seisiún Plough and Stars	8	9 Set Dancing UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	10 Set Dancing Bronsan Dance Studio San Anselmo	11
12 Seisiún - Plough and Stars	13 Céilí dancing Starry Plough	14 Set Dancing Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale Seisiún Plough and Stars	15	16 Set Dancing UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Live music	17	18 CCE Ceili Night UICC 7-10PM w/ live music
19 Learners Seisiún UICC Bar Area 3-6PM Seisiún - Plough and Stars	20 Céilí dancing Starry Plough	21 Set Dancing Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale Song Seisiún Plough and Stars	22	23 Set Dancing UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Live music	24 Set Dancing Bronsan Dance Studio San Anselmo	25
26 Seisiún - Plough and Stars	27 Céilí dancing Starry Plough	28 Set Dancing Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale Seisiún - Plough and Stars	29	30 Set Dancing UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Live music	31	Feb 1



CO-CHAIRPERSON: MICHAEL DUFFY (CCE_CHAIR@CCEWEST.ORG)
 CO-CHAIRPERSON: MICHAEL RIEMER (CCE_CHAIR@CCEWEST.ORG) (510) 548-4727
 PUBLIC RELATIONS: JOSEPHINE BROGAN (CCE_PR@CCEWEST.ORG) (415) 681-4803
 SECRETARY/REGISTRAR: JOANNIE O'LEARY (CCE_SECRETARY@CCEWEST.ORG) (415) 664-6579
 TREASURER: MAUREEN MURPHY (CCE_TREASURER@CCEWEST.ORG) (415) 661-0351
 TREORAÍ NA GAELIGE: NIKKI RAGSDALE (CCE_GAEILGE@CCEWEST.ORG)
 WEBMASTER: MICHAEL DUFFY (CCE_WEBMASTER@CCEWEST.ORG)
 NEWSLETTER EDITOR: TIM SULLIVAN (CCE_SCEAL@CCEWEST.ORG)
 YOUTH OFFICER: CERI GARFIELD

FEABHRA 2014

Óé Domhnaigh SUNDAY	Óé Luan MONDAY	Óé Mairt TUESDAY	Óé Céadaoin WEDNESDAY	Óéardaoin THURSDAY	Óé h-Aoine FRIDAY	Óé Sathairn SATURDAY
Jan 26 <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	27 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	28 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	29	30 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Live music	31	Feb 1
2 <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	3 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	4 <u>CCÉ Meeting</u> UICC 7:30PM <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	5	6 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Céilí Band	7 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Michelle Valdez San Jose	8
9 <u>Music Students Recital</u> UICC Bar Area 2PM <u>Learners Seisiún</u> UICC Bar Area 3-6PM <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	10 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	11 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	12	13 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	14 <u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Anselmo	15 <u>CCE Ceili Night</u> UICC 7-10PM w/ live music
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23 <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	24 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	25 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	Jan 1	27 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Live music	28 <u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Anselmo	Mar 1

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

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

Lilly Mac's - 118 S. Murphy St. Sunnyvale (between Washington and Evelyn Aves)

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

Brosnan School of Irish Dance - 11 Belle Avenue, Suite B, San Anselmo, Ca 94960 brosnanschool.com

You can also visit the following website for events:

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