

SCÉAL ÉILE

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



Chair's Message



A Chairde,

A sincere thank you to Maureen Callanan who served as our branch secretary since November 2016. Maureen has stepped down to devote her time to the duties as secretary of the Convention planning committee. She has served as secretary for both the branch and the convention planning committee for almost 2 years. Thank you for all your work and for your dedication to the branch.

We welcome Kate Wiese as our interim branch secretary. Great to have her onboard and we look forward to working with her.

Our Convention Registration Brochure is printed and will be included in the next edition of the Treoir magazine. We have a star-studded lineup of bands and workshop leaders. Within the next few weeks our website www.cceconvention2020.com will be set up to allow for online registration for weekend packages and individual workshops. It will also have a link to the Marriott Hotel Reservation page. Sign up for packages and book your hotel room early to lock in the special Convention rate.

Slán,

Josephine Brennan

Chair



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)

Song and Storytelling

The next Song and Storytelling Seisiún will be hosted on June 7th by Tracey Tynan & Marie

66 Seal Rock Drive
San Francisco
415-574-5752
thtgirl415@gmail.com

The July Seisiún is on the 5th hosted by John & Anne Hopkirk

145 Highland Ave.
San Carlos
650-593-0843
hopkirk@earthlink.net

In August the seisiún is on the 2nd. Check with Michael for information.

Contact Michael Jones for info about seisiúns at [mfj@ieee.org](mailto:mjf@ieee.org). Seisiúns start at 7:30pm.

Branch Meetings

CCÉ Cooley-Keegan branch meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month, 7:30pm, Location TBD. Upcoming meeting dates: June 4th and September 3rd (no July or August meetings) All members are encouraged to attend.

For further information, contact Katryn "Kate" Wiese at cce_secretary@ccewest.org.

Children's Workshop

Hear Ye Hear Ye- Be on the Lookout for 2nd Children's Workshop coming soon at UICC. Date to be determined. Music, dance and giggles galore. Stay tuned for information or questions, please phone Josephine Brogan 415-264-8856 or Maureen Murphy 415-309-9780.

Irish Language Classes

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.

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

Events in June

Cooley-Keegan Branch and the United Irish Cultural Center are co hosting an event on Friday, June 28th at 8.30 pm. De Bogman is an hour long Irish storytelling and comedy show.

It charts the story of Declan who, from his humble origins as a village idiot in Ireland, goes to America to become World Heavyweight Boxing Champion. The story is at once a homage to the Hollywood boxing movie, and also to the epic tales of the Irish in America. Performer Máirtín de Cógáin narrates the story at a furious pace, while also performing over twenty characters. Full of spectacular plot twists, De Bogman has had audiences howling with laughter (not to mention roaring on the loveable Declan) for nearly twenty years. See flyer attached. Tickets available from Josephine Brogan or online - irishcentersf.org/event/de-bogman-the-center/

2020 CCÉ Convention

We are making great progress with confirming workshops for our Convention, which is now 10 and a half months away!!! Your help is needed in all aspects of the Convention and getting involved will allow you to enjoy it even more!! Susan Keith has offered to be our Volunteer Coordinator. You can contact Susan at susanmaria.keith@gmail.com

If you already signed up at our December ceili, this information is being passed along to Susan. Please see our meeting dates and Josephine Brennan's Chair letter on page 1 for further details.

2020 Convention Meetings

Meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month, 7pm at the UICC. Upcoming meeting dates: June 18th and July 16th.

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.



SF GAA's Bertie Penny & Hall of Fame inductee, PJ

Photo credit: jGuerzonPictorials



Vera Burke and PJ

Photo credit: jGuerzonPictorials

Congratulations to PJ McGee who was inducted into the San Francisco GAA Hall of Fame amid a packed house at the Spanish Cultural Center on Saturday, February 23, 2019. A native of County Offaly, PJ has a long history of involvement in GAA Sports and Soccer in the SF Bay Area and is truly deserving of this great honor. It was a night of great celebration with friends and family. Wishing you all the best, PJ.



Cathy's sash sent from her niece at home reads "90 looks good on me!"



Cathy, Deirdre and friends kicking up their heels.

Cathy Jones celebrated her 90th birthday with a surprise party including over 100 of her favorite friends. They included dancers, singers, musicians, neighbors, and social friends, old and new. We danced and sang some of her favorites, including "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling." Cathy was born in 1929 in a thatched cottage in Meenaneary, Donegal. It was a small crossroads with a church, a school, a small shop, and a pub. Her father played the fiddle, so there was plenty of music and dance in the house as she grew up. When she was older, she enjoyed the local dances where highlands, mazurkas, and other two steps were performed. She met Harold, a ballroom dancer, in England and has continued to grace the dance floor ever since. Up until a few years ago, she was tap dancing as well as set dancing every week. Although she has moved far away from her humble beginnings, she continues to give an Irish welcome to everyone she meets and her feet just won't stop tapping! Cathy and her family thank everyone from CCÉ who made her special party such a grand success!



Easter Sunday Tribute



Each Easter Sunday, in commemoration of the 1916 Easter Rising and those dedicated to Irish Freedom, members of the SF Bay Area Irish community gather at Holy Cross Cemetery, Colma, at the grave of Thomas Desmond.

A native of Cobh, Co. Cork, and a member of the Knights of the Red Branch, he passed away in 1910 at age 72, after having served as an elected Sheriff of San Francisco. This monument honors Thomas Desmond as a hero of the Catalpa Expedition of 1876 that rescued six Irish political prisoners from the British penal colony in Freemantle, Australia, to which they had been exiled for life, their only crime being devotion to the Irish Republican cause.

The Pearse and Connolly Fife and Drum Band lead the procession from the Gates of Holy Cross to the monument. Guest speakers from Ireland and the local community paid tribute.

Pictured here laying a wreath at the grave of Thomas Desmond is KRB Member and CCÉ supporter, Jerry Boyle.



Treoir Magazine



The Second 2019 issue of the Treoir magazine will be mailed to the first member of every household or individual member in June. Be sure to check out the article on our 2020 Convention contributed by Donagh McKeown for this issue of Treoir. Our awesome Registration and Tour brochures are also included, with instructions on how to make your Convention Hotel reservations and obtain your Convention Package.

If you do not receive yours by the end of June, please email Joannie: joannieoleary@msn.com. We have a new CCÉ 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 returning 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.



CCÉ BIG DRAW 2019



Take a chance...buy a ticket...First prize is 5000 Euros. You could win a number of other cash prizes, a Luxury Weekend at Fleadh Cheoil na hÉirann, or a collection of traditional music CD's and DVD's. HERE'S THE BEST PART...YOU WILL BE HELPING THE SF COOLEY-KEEGAN BRANCH CONTINUE THIS VERY SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL FUND-RAISING EFFORT...TICKETS ARE \$5.00 EACH AND OUR BRANCH GETS TO KEEP 80% = \$4.00 per ticket!!!!

The last few years we have raised several hundred dollars in this draw. It will be a huge help towards our 2020 Convention fund-raising this year. Would you consider buying a ticket...and perhaps one for a friend? What a nice gift for a relative in Ireland – score points with your friends and family – and help SF Cooley-Keegan as well!!!

To purchase tickets:

- 1) Send your check payable to CCÉ- SF Cooley-Keegan to our PO Box 16244, SF, CA 94122. Include the name and address of the person(s) to receive the ticket(s) and we will forward the ticket stub(s) to you.
- 2) See Joannie O'Leary, Moe Murphy or one of the other branch officers at dancing at the UICC or Plough and Stars on Thursday evenings who will have them for purchase. (cash or check, please) Look for the BIG DRAW Poster at all our events!!!
- 3) Tickets will be available at the UICC/CCÉ Joint Presentation of "De Bogman" on Friday, June 28 at the UICC. See additional info on this event in this newsletter and check out link here:
irishcentersf.org/event/de-bogman-the-center/
- 4) Contact: Joannie O'Leary to inquire about or obtain BIG DRAW tickets: Telephone: 415-664-6579 (please leave message) or email: joannieoleary@msn.com

One more reason to buy a ticket in the BIG DRAW...CCÉ branches that sell 200 or more tickets will be entered in a special Draw for a prize of €1,000.

Our Convention Board and Committee are most grateful for any support you can give. Thank you.



CCÉ 2019 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

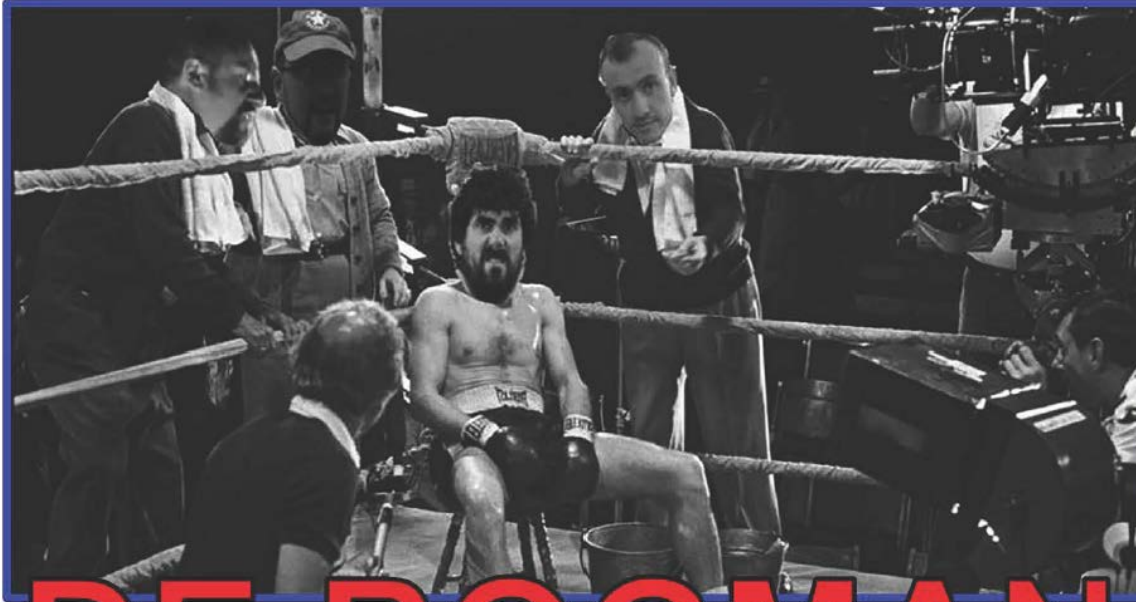


Another online group where events are planned is meetup.com at the following URL:

meetup.com/irishdance

Be Your Own Banana Theatre Company

present



DE BOGMAN

Written by Brian Desmond & Máirtín de Cógáin

Directed by Brian Desmond - Performed by Máirtín de Cógáin

Storytelling/Comedy

Friday, JUNE 28, 2019 - 8:30-9:30 pm

Doors open at 7:30 p.m. No Host Bar - Beer & Wine

Tickets: \$20.00

Call Josephine Brogan at 415-264-8856

or go to: <http://www-o-comhaltas-ceoltoiri-eireann.eventbrite.com/>

United Irish Cultural Center

2700 45th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94116

Co-hosted by United Irish Cultural Center and San Francisco Cooley-Keegan Branch of Comhaltas

Meitheamh 2019

De Dombhainch SUNDAY	De Luan MONDAY	De Mairt TUESDAY	De Céadaoin WEDNESDAY	Deardaoin THURSDAY	De h-Aoine FRIDAY	De Sathairn SATURDAY
May 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 and Stars w/ Emperor Norton Céilí Band	31	Jun 1
2 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	3 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	4 <u>CCÉ Meeting</u> TBD 7:30pm <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	5	6 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough and Stars w/ Golden Gate Céilí Band	7 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Tracey Tynan & Marie 66 Seal Rock Drive San Francisco 415-574-5752 thtgirl415@gmail.com	8
9 <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 <u>Set Dancing</u> Redwood Cafe Cotati	13 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough and Stars w/ Cúlarán	14 <u>Set Dancing</u> Brosnan Dance Studio San Anselmo	15
16 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	17 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	18 <u>2020 Convention Meeting</u> UICC 7pm <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	19	20 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough and Stars w/ Topsy House	21	22
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	26 <u>Set Dancing</u> Redwood Cafe Cotati	27 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough and Stars w/ Golden Gate Céilí Band	28 <u>De Bogman Comedy</u> 8.30 pm see newsletter for details <u>Set Dancing</u> Brosnan Dance Studio San Anselmo	29



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YOUTH OFFICER: CAOIMHE LYONS

July 2019

De Dómhnaigh SUNDAY	De Luan MONDAY	De Mairt TUESDAY	De Céadaoin WEDNESDAY	Deárdaoin THURSDAY	De h-Aoine FRIDAY	De Sathairn SATURDAY
Jun 30 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	Jul 1 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	2 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <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> _John & Anne Hopkirk 145 Highland Ave. San Carlos 650-593-0843 hopkirk@earthlink.net	6
7 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	8 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	9 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <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/ Cúlárán	19	20
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28 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	29 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	30 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	31	Aug 1 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough and Stars w/ Golden Gate Céilí Band	2	3

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: Danny Botello mr.dannyb@gmail.com or Michael Rael 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: \$5 suggested donation
- 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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