

SCÉAL ÉILE

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

From the Chairman

A Chairde,

It's June, and summer already! Time to take off in all directions, BUT before you do, let's get together at a picnic. This picnic will be on the 8th of June. (Please see separate notice.) A great time was had by all who came last year. There were balls, Frisbee and even juggling lessons. I hear a rumor those juggling lessons could happen again this year, so bring 2 or 3 small hand balls if you are interested. There was no shortage of food as everyone brought plenty and something to share. (There will NOT be any grilling so PLEASE DO NOT BRING anything that needs to be cooked.) This is a wonderful opportunity for all of us dancers, musicians, young and the young at heart to come together. Oh and let us not forget to include any of our friends who might want to come along. So, come, talk, play, make music and let us all be merry. I look forward to seeing friends and making new ones. This is also your chance to come and talk to me about all things Comhaltas. I invite any comment or suggestion you might have to offer.

Before I close I would like to congratulate Conall O'Raghallaigh and his students on their successful tin whistle class. They will have an end-of-the-term recital on June 3rd. Tin Whistle students will then be off for the summer.

Our fiddle teachers Lew and Kristina are also to be congratulated for their constant dedication. It would be great if all the students would bring their instruments to our picnic. We would love to hear them play.

Abig thanks to all our teachers for their continuous support in "Keeping Our Traditions Alive".

Slán, Kasey

Events this Month

CCE Picnic - On Sunday, June 8th, CCE will host a picnic at the West Portal playground above the West Portal Station from 1 to 6 PM. See attached attached flyer for more details.

CCE Night at the UICC - On Saturday, June 21st, CCE will host another night of dancing at the UICC. Dancing begins at 8:00PM to live music. Admission is free. Contact: Michael Riemer (riemer@ce.berkeley.edu). See attached flyer for more details.

South Bay - The Britannia Arms hosts dancing in San Jose every Wednesday. Set dancing with a wee bit of ceili from 8-10:30PM to live music. No lessons but an instructor on-hand to assist and lead sets. Join us for free on the first visit; a \$5 donation suggested for returning dancers. Contact: Michael Murphy at irishboogiemanager@yahoo.com.

North Bay - Finbar Devine's Irish Pub in downtown Petaluma hosts Set and Ceili dance lessons on occasional Sundays. Contacts: Connie Lynch (707-823-7378; cerrydancer@juno.com), Kasey MillerE (707-769-8552).

East Bay - Starry Plough in Berkeley hosts ceili dancing on Mondays. Lessons from 7-9PM and dancing to live music from 9PM to 11PM. Contacts: John Slaymaker or Gretchen Holm.

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

Song and Storytelling

The next Singing and Storytelling Seisiún will be held on September 5th. Have a great summer. If you would like to host a singing and storytelling seisiún contact Michael Jones at mfj@iee.org.



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)



Connaught champion sean-nós dancer Emma Ní Shuilleabháin (lower center) presented a series of sean-nós dancing lesson to CCE members. Feel free to request a demonstration on Thursdays from any of those pictured.

General Meeting

There will not be a General Meeting of the Membership in June. Check the July Sceal for the next meeting date.

Member News

We extend our condolences to Ann O'Connor on the passing of her husband, Pat on April 14th. Pat and Ann are long time CCE members and supporters, and came to every event they could when Pat was able to get out. We enjoyed his lively Kerry manner and sense of humor. Pat was praised as a great worker who could turn his hand to any kind of repair going. We fondly remember Pat and keep him and Ann in our prayers.

We would also like to extend our sincere sympathy to the Hennessy Family on the recent passing of Bernie's Mother, Anna Doherty, and also to Michael O'Donnell on the recent passing of his Father, Charlie O'Donnell.

Good wishes are extended to Martin Howard as he recuperates. We wish you all the best, Martin and hope you will be back to us soon and listening to the traditional music you so enjoy.

Hello to Pat Dillon who is overseeing all the events of CCE and the UICC from his armchair. Hope you are making Kitty a well-deserved cup of tea once in a while, Pat!

An Ghaeilge

Deireadh Seachtaine Gaeltachta 2008, uimhir a 10! (San Francisco Bay Area Irish Language Immersion Weekend, 10th annual!) September 26-28, 6pm Fri. - 4:30pm Sun. Venue: United Irish Cultural Center, San Francisco.

Increase your confidence and fluency in Irish, or make a good start on learning it! Four class levels, beginner to advanced.

The Deireadh Seachtaine Gaeltachta features intensive tutorials focusing on spoken language and increasing fluency. Teachers are native speakers of Irish. Bring instruments & voices for sessions each evening -- playing music, & sharing songs, poetry, stories & craic in Irish.

Info & registration form available at <http://www.OneSourceGraphics.com/Gaeilge/DeireadhSeachtaine.html> or contact 510 881 5958, or cce_gaeilge@ccewest.org

Membership Corner

Memberships are accepted year-round. Please check your mailing label to see your expiration date. Thanks for your support, Joannie (415 664-6579 or joannieoleary@msn.com).



CHAIRPERSON: KASEY MILLERÉ (CCE_CHAIR@CCEWEST.ORG)
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COMHALTAS CEOLTÓIRÍ ÉIREANN
THE COOLEY-KEEGAN BRANCH

COMHALTAS PICNIC

Join us for an afternoon of fun, games and music

- WHEN:** SUNDAY, JUNE 8TH 2008
- WHERE:** WEST PORTAL PLAYGROUND,
131 LENOX WAY/ULLOA STREET, SAN FRANCISCO
- TIME:** 1PM TO 6PM
- COST:** FREE

Bring your favorite picnic food and drink and something to share
(no grills for cooking at park/no alcohol allowed per permit)



A great little playground with wonderful climbing structures, swinging decks, rocking horses, swings and picnic tables.

The playground is conveniently situated next to the [West Portal Muni station](#).

For Information, contact Maureen Murphy at: 415-661-0351 or
Josephine Brogan at: 415-681-4803



COMHALTAS CEOLTÓIRÍ ÉIREANN
The Cooley-Keegan Branch

COMHALTAS NIGHT

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>

- WHEN:** Saturday, June 21st, 2008
- WHERE:** United Irish Cultural Center*
2700 45TH Avenue, San Francisco (Bar area)
- TIME:** 7.30 pm to 11.30 pm approx.
- MUSIC BY:** Live Traditional Music and Dancing
- ADMISSION:** FREE

*The restaurant is open for dinner from 5 pm to 9 pm.
Reservations are appreciated: 415-661-2700, ext. 100

*For Information, contact Josephine Brogan at (415) 681-4803/
Josephinebrogan@yahoo.com or Michael Riemer at Riemer@ce.berkeley.edu*

JUNE 2008

DÉ DOMHNAIGH SUNDAY	DÉ LUAN MONDAY	DÉ MÁIRT TUESDAY	DÉ Céadaoin WEDNESDAY	DÉARDAIN THURSDAY	DÉ h-Aoine FRIDAY	DÉ SATHAIRN SATURDAY
June 1 <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	2	3 <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	4	5 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	6 <u>Song Seisiún</u> --none this month--	7
8 CCE Picnic West Portal Playground 1-6PM <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	9	10 <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	11 <u>Set Dancing</u> Britannia Arms Cupertino 8PM	12 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	13	14
15 <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	16	17 CCÉ Meeting UICC 7:30PM <u>Slow Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	18 <u>Set Dancing</u> Britannia Arms Cupertino 8PM	19 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	20	21 CCE Night UICC 8:00PM w/ Live Music
22 <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	23	24 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	25 <u>Set Dancing</u> Britannia Arms Cupertino 8PM	26 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	27	28
29 <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	30 <u>Junior Seisiún</u> Ireland's 32 7:30	July 1 <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	2 <u>Set Dancing</u> Britannia Arms Cupertino 8PM	3 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	4 <u>Song Seisiún</u> --none this month--	5

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

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

Britannia Arms - 1087 South De Anza Blvd, San Jose (near Cupertino border) (408) 252-7262

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

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

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

Beckett's Irish Pub - 2271 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley (510) 647-1790 www.beckettsirishpub.com

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 - theploughandstars.com

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

Starry Plough - www.starryploughceili.com



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.

Wednesdays:

- Britannia Arms in Cupertino: Dancing to live music between 8-10PM. Dancers are encouraged to contribute \$5 to support the live music.



Seisiún



Slow Seisiún:

- Ireland's 32, starting at 7:30pm on the last Monday 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 above for details.

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