

# SCÉAL ÉILE

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



## From the Chairman



A Chairde,

March is upon us again! No use complaining, or wondering where the time went -- time instead to celebrate the season!

As always there is a wide variety of special events to choose from, many sponsored by the United Irish Societies (which as the name implies, consists of representatives from many of the organized Irish social groups in the area - including our branch of CCE). The biggest of these, of course, is the 160th St. Patrick's parade itself, on Saturday the 12th, at which our branch will have a strong showing, I am sure. But there are many other related events in the weeks prior to St. Patrick's Day itself - I encourage you all to check out the enclosed flyer and articles, and perhaps try out something a little different! The Parade itself will carry some additional meaning to our branch this year, as the Grand Marshals (Mike and Maureen Moriarty) and Honorary Grand Marshals (Florence Keighran and Eileen Moriarty) are people with special connections to the Cooley-Keegan branch of Comhaltas, and we are pleased to see them honored in this way.

Once all the hard work and logistics of these many events are safely behind us, don't forget to come out and party at the St. Patrick's Ceili, which we will be hosting on Sunday March 20th! Miliosa and Rich Lundy will be leading the live music, and I'm sure we will make it a great send-off for the many members who will be flying off to Texas the following week for the Comhaltas Convention!

Slán,  
Micheál R



## Events this Month



**Saint Patrick's Ceili** - On Sunday March 20<sup>th</sup>, CCE will celebrate Saint Patrick's Day with a Ceili at the UICC from 7 to 10PM. See attached flyer for more information.

**CCE Night at the UICC** - On the third Saturday of the April, the 16<sup>th</sup>, CCE will host a night of dancing at the UICC Music begins at 7:30 with dancing at 8PM to live traditional Irish Music. Admission is free. Contact: Michael Riemer (riemer@ce.berkeley.edu).

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

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

**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 charge for this class. Tea and cakes or sweets will be served. Contact: Mary McDonagh (irishsetdancer@yahoo.com), Micheal Minihane (michealminihane@yahoo.com)

**Children's Ceili** - The next Children's Ceili will be held at the Irish Cultural Center on April 17<sup>th</sup>. Comhaltas Members. Free. Non Comhaltas Members: \$5 per child or \$10 for two or more children.. Contact Josephine Brogan at 415-681-4803 or josephinebrogan@yahoo.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)

## ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Kasey Curtin and Connie Lynch want everyone to know that we will be entering our float again in the St. Patrick's Day Parade which will be held Saturday, March 12, 2011, downtown San Francisco. Everyone normally meets our float at 2nd & Howard or Folsom Street at 11:00am. You are all very welcome to walk with our float along the parade route, HOWEVER, you are asked to contact Connie Lynch at 707 318-9200 to find out what the dress code is.

In order to put this beautiful float in the parade, we need lots of help constructing and decorating it on the day before the parade, Friday, March 11, 2011. We will meet at 9am at Cunningham Moving and Storage at 1250 Van Dyke Street, San Francisco, CA 94124. For further details, please see or call Connie, or Josephine (415 681-4803) or Joannie (415 664-6579).

We are very grateful to our member, Pari Livermore for her help in fund raising for our new costumes which will make their debut on our St. Patrick's Day Parade Float. Hope you are feeling much better, Pari, and will be back to dancing soon – and Thank You!!!

Please refer to the attached list of activities sponsored by the United Irish Societies (UIS) over the St. Patrick's Day Season. This year, Comhaltas was among the UIS members who nominated Mike and Maureen Moriarty as Parade Grand Marshalls and our own Florence Keighran RIP and Eileen Moriarty RIP as Honorary Grand Marshalls. We are involved in the entertainment and support of many of the activities – please contact Connie if you would like to join us.

## CCE Membership Corner

Thanks to all who renewed their membership for the 2011 year. We are about 90% complete and will be contacting those who have not yet renewed.

The Treoir Magazine from Ireland was mailed in January so you should have your copy by now. If you have not received it, please either email (joannieoleary@msn.com) or telephone me at 415 664-6579. Please leave your name, address and phone number and I will check it out. If we do not hear from you within a short time of the Treoir mailing, we will not be able to send you a replacement issue.

## Song and Storytelling

The next Singing and Storytelling Seisiún will be hosted by Amelia Hogan on March 4<sup>th</sup>

715 Oakland Ave #205  
Oakland  
(831) 331 3705  
amelia@lair.org

The April Seisiún, on the 1<sup>st</sup>, will be hosted by John Hopkirk

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

On May 6<sup>th</sup> Michael Jones will host.

412 Winding Way  
San Carlos  
650 622 9598  
mfj@ieee.org

## Seachtain na Gaeilge

Seachtain na Gaeilge 2011, 5ú-17ú Márta (Irish Week, 5th-17th March): Our Irish language film festival will take place on March 6th, 3.30 - 9.30pm at the UICC, St. Francis Room. In addition to the films being shown as Gaeilge, the event will also include an open session for poetry & song in Irish & traditional music at about 6pm, if you would like to participate in that.

Two more Seachtain na Gaeilge events: an evening of craic on the 8th at 7pm with An Chuallacht (also at the UICC); and the annual Afreann Gaeilge (Irish Mass) in Mountain View, St. Joseph's Church, 582 Hope St. on March 13 at 11.30 am, with reception after.

## CCE Classes

CCE sponsors the following classes at the UICC.

**Adult Irish Language**  
**Children's Tin Whistle**  
**Children's Fiddle**  
**Children & Adult Bodhran**

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.

## General Meeting

General Meetings of the Membership are held on the first Tuesday of the month. The next one will be on March 1<sup>st</sup> starting at 7:30 at the UICC. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.



## News of CCE Members



It is always nice to hear from our members – especially those who live a bit farther away and are not able to attend our local events. Did you know that “our faithful” include Luke, Dominique Trudeau, Aimee & Louis-Michel Friloux (Washington DC), Kelly Skeehan (Albuquerque), Walter and Lillian McGovern (Portland, Oregon), Kelle Deforest in Eastern Oregon, Aleta, Weston & Gemma Hancock (Pasadena, CA), our own Jim Belcher, Erin Duffy, Frances and Rory Belcher in Bellview, WA, and Mary Casey in County Limerick, Ireland,

We had the pleasure of meeting Aleta and her delightful twins last November when she kindly hosted the West Region meeting in Pasadena. Aleta is the secretary of our West Region and makes certain that we are kept current on all the “goings on” of CCE in general. She is also our link with the wonderful people of the LA set dancers who were very kind and hospitable to all of us when we visited in November. We hope to go again, so keep an eye out for news in the fall.

Walter and Lillian McGovern are great fans of the Fleadh Nua in Ennis, County Clare (held this year May 23-31). They are very instrumental in “keeping the tradition alive” in Portland and enjoy the set dancing. Walter’s great grandfather, James McGovern served in the Brooklyn police department as a Lieutenant for 41 years before retiring. Lt. McGovern’s Retirement Pin was recently presented to Walter & Lillian’s daughter, Noreen McGovern-Zupan in a very emotional remembrance of “New York’s Finest”. Congratulations to all the McGovern’s and keep up the good work.

Kelle, our member, friend and wonderful artist who designed our Emerald Extravaganza harp resides “at the edge of a group of 20 houses that butts up against the wood...We have seen a herd of elk (28?) go by up the road every fall on their way to the coast from Eastern Oregon”. Kelle and Kevin cultivate bee hives. Anyone who came to our monthly CCE meetings lately tasted some of the beautiful raw farm-fresh honey they sent down to us. See Joannie if you want to know more...

Jim travels to SF to see his grandchildren and manages to meet us on a Thursday night now and again for “a little set dancing”. Jim is Chair of our CCE West Region and is always looking for ways to help branches thrive.

Kelly Skeehan, an avid set dancer, will accompany a group from Albuquerque to the CCE Convention in San Antonio in March. She makes it out here occasionally to dance with us.

A most supportive and generous Mary Casey returned to her native Limerick a few years ago. Mary continues her CCE membership here, keeps us advised of news on the traditional Irish scene and comes out to visit when she can.

We will hopefully have an update from the Friloux family for you next time.

Our branch has grown over the past nearly 40 years from what was once a San Francisco-based membership, to span a wide portion of the Bay Area. Some dedicated folks travel from far and wide, 1, 2, or 3 hours to come to dancing, ceilis, St. Patrick’s Day Parade participation and float construction, etc. Lynn and Richard Ferry and friends travel from the Yosemite Valley to play music for us every Wren Boys night. We are grateful for all our members and especially our volunteers.

We hope the annual CCE Convention (San Antonio TX this year - March 24-27) will continue so all the friends we have made through Comhaltas will have a central place to meet and keep our traditions alive!



## Set Dancing



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

**2<sup>nd</sup> 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. Shannon Ceili Band typically plays on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday; Topsy House on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> and last Thursday;
- Dancers are encouraged to contribute \$5 to support the live music.

**Tuesdays:**

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

**Mondays:**

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

**2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays:**

- Brosnan School of Irish Dance in San Rafael: 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



**Slow Seisiún:**

- Junior Seisiun/slow seisiun is now held one hour prior to each Children's Ceili at the UICC. Please check the calendar for details and dates.

**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

# MÁRTA 2011

De Dómhnaigh SUNDAY	De Luan MONDAY	De Máirt TUESDAY	De Céadaoin WEDNESDAY	Deáardaoin THURSDAY	De h-Aoine FRIDAY	De Sathairn SATURDAY
Feb 27 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	28	Mar 1 <u>CCÉ Meeting</u> UICC 7:30PM <u>Set Dancing</u> Lily Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	2	3 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	4 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Amelia Hogan Oakland	5
6 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	7	8 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lily Mac's Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	9	10 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	11 <u>Float Construction</u> 9AM Cunningham's <u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Rafael	12 <u>Saint Patrick's Day Parade</u> San Francisco
13 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	14	15 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lily Mac's Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	16	17 <u>Saint Patrick's Day</u> No dancing tonight	18	19
20 <u>Saint Patrick's Ceili</u> UICC 7-10PM <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	21	22 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lily Mac's Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	23	24 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	25 <u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Rafael	26
27 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	28	29 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lily Mac's Sunnyvale <u>Song Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	30	31 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	Apr 1 <u>Song Seisiún</u> John Hopkirk San Carlos	2



CO-CHAIRPERSON: MICHAEL DUFFY (CCE\_CHAIR@CCEWEST.ORG)  
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 YOUTH OFFICER: SEAN O'DONNELL

# AIBREÁN 2011

DÉ DOMHNAIGH SUNDAY	DÉ LUAN MONDAY	DÉ MÁIRT TUESDAY	DÉ Céadaoin WEDNESDAY	DÉARDAIN THURSDAY	DÉ h-Aoine FRIDAY	DÉ Sathairn SATURDAY
Mar 27	28	29	30	31	Apr 1	2
<u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars		<u>Set Dancing</u> Lily Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars		<u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	<u>Song Seisiún</u> John Hopkirk San Carlos	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars		<u>CCÉ Meeting</u> UICC 7:30PM <u>Set Dancing</u> Lily Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars		<u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	<u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Rafael	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars		<u>Set Dancing</u> Lily Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars		<u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House		<u>CCE Ceili</u> UICC 8PM w/ Live Music
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<u>Children's Ceili</u> UICC 4-6PM <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars		<u>Set Dancing</u> Lily Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Song Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars		<u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	<u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Rafael	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars		<u>Set Dancing</u> Lily Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars		<u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band		

**Plough and Stars** - 116 Clement Ave. (Between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>), San Francisco, (415) 751-1122 [theploughandstars.com](http://theploughandstars.com)

**U.I.C.C.** - 2700 45<sup>th</sup> Ave. (At Sloat Blvd.), San Francisco, (415) 661-2700 [www.irishcentersf.org](http://www.irishcentersf.org)

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

**Starry Plough** - 3101 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley (510) 841-2082 [starryploughpub.com](http://starryploughpub.com)

**Beckett's Irish Pub** - 2271 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley (510) 647-1790 [www.beckettsirishpub.com](http://www.beckettsirishpub.com)

**Angelica's Bistro** - 863 Main Street, Redwood City

**Brosnan School of Irish Dance** - 1879 2nd Street, San Rafael (415) 259-0992 [brosnanschool.com](http://brosnanschool.com)

*You can also visit the following websites for events:*

**San Francisco CCE - Cooley-Keegan Branch** - [sf.ccewest.org](http://sf.ccewest.org)

**Santa Cruz CCE - Clifford-Hoban Branch** - [www.folkplanet.com/cce](http://www.folkplanet.com/cce)



COMHALTAS CEOLTÓIRÍ ÉIREANN  
THE COOLEY-KEEGAN BRANCH

## *ST. PATRICK'S CÉILÍ*



Special Presentation of our eight  
"Kevin Mallen Scholarship Award"

- WHEN:** SUNDAY, MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup> 2011
- WHERE:** UNITED IRISH CULTURAL CENTER  
2700 45<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, SAN FRANCISCO
- TIME:** 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM
- MUSIC:** Miliosa and Richard Lundy & Friends
- ADMISSION:** Adults: \$10.00 Children: Free

*For Information, contact Josephine Brogan at (415) 681-4803 or  
[josephinebrogan@yahoo.com](mailto:josephinebrogan@yahoo.com)*

*Please visit our website at: <http://sf.ccewest.org>*



Our 160th Year

## UNITED IRISH SOCIETIES

*of San Francisco*

*Sponsors of the St. Patrick's Day Parade*

P. O. Box 16026 • San Francisco, CA 94116

### 2011 ST. PATRICK'S DAY ACTIVITIES

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**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2011**

**HONORING COMMODORE JOHN BARRY**

**10:00 AM VETERANS RETIREMENT HOME**

*4150 Clement Street at 42nd Avenue*

**FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 2011**

**10:00 AM FLAG RAISING**

*City Hall Rotunda*

**FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 2011**

**GRAND MARSHAL DINNER**

**7 PM No Host Cocktails 8 PM Dinner**

*United Irish Cultural Center - 2700 45th Avenue*

**SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 2011**

**2:00 PM ST. ANNE'S LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR**

*300 Lake Street at 3rd Avenue*

**SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2011**

**9:00 AM LAGUNA HONDA HOSPITAL**

*Laguna Honda Blvd. and Woodside Drive*

**SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2011**

**2:00 PM ALMA VIA RETIREMENT HOME**

*1 Thomas More Way*

**SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 2011**

**9:00 AM ST. PATRICK'S DAY MASS**

**Auxiliary Bishop W. Justice**

*St. Patrick's Church, 756 Mission St. at 3rd Street*

**SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 2011**

**11:30 AM ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE**

*2nd and Market Streets to Civic Center*

**11:00 AM - 5:00 PM IRISH FESTIVAL**

*Civic Center*

**SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 2011**

**FR. PETER C. YORKE DAY**

**SEPTEMBER 25, 2011**

**ROBERT EMMET DAY**

[www.uissf.org](http://www.uissf.org)



# Seachtain na Gaeilge 2011

5–17 Márta ♦♦♦ 5–17 March

**Imeachtaí Gaeltachta**

**Cheantair Bhá Naomh Phroinsias.....**

**.....Events for San Francisco Bay Area Gaeltacht**

Is í Seachtain na Gaeilge an fhéile chultúrtha agus teanga is mó in Éirinn gach bliain. Tá muidne páirteach ann le 9 mbliain anuas! (*Irish Week is the biggest Irish language celebration in Ireland each year. This is our 9th year participating!*)

**Clár (Program),**

saor in aisce! (*these events are free*):

**6 Márta: An 6ú Feis Scannán Gaeilge & Ceoil Traidisiúinta na hÉireann, agus Aithris Filíochta Gaeilge.**

Curtha i láthair ag Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann (CCÉ).

Togha scannán & rogha gearrscannán as Gaeilge, agus seisiún traidisiúinta ceoil, amhránaíochta, & aithris filíochta comh maith (...abair píosa linn!). Fáilte roimh cách! tuilleadh eolais: <http://sf.ccewest.org>. (*Presented by CCÉ, Cooley-Keegan branch. The pick of feature films and shorts in Irish [English subtitles], & traditional open session of music, song, and poetry reading. Bring a poem or song in Irish to perform! All welcome!*) United Irish Cultural Center, 2700 45th Ave, San Francisco. 3.30–9.30PM.

**8 Márta: Oíche Seachtain na Gaeilge: Oíche chomhrá ar shiúil – craic & deochanna, ceol, siamsa, filíocht, scéalaíocht, amhránaíocht & spraoi...** (*music, song, stories, poetry, fun & craic. NOTE CHANGED VENUE!*). Grúpa: “An Chuallacht”; **IONAD NUA:** United Irish Cultural Center, 2700 45th Ave, San Francisco. 7.00PM.

**13 Márta: Aifreann Gaeilge** le cór, rinceoirí & ceoltóirí. Fáiltiú & seisiún ceoil ina dhiaidh. (*Mass in Irish with choir, dancers, musicians; reception with music session follows*). St. Joseph’s Church, 582 Hope Street, Mountain View. 11.30AM.

**Croí na Teanga – It's Your!**



Tuilleadh Eolais  
(*more information*):

[cce\\_gaeilge@ccewest.org](mailto:cce_gaeilge@ccewest.org)

510.881.5958

<http://sf.ccewest.org>

[www.snag.ie](http://www.snag.ie)