

SCÉAL ÉILE

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



From the Chairman



A chairde -

Well, March is here - and with it comes all the exciting festivities surrounding St. Patrick's Day. We have included a list of the events sponsored by the United Irish Societies which deserve your support.

Kasey, Dan and Connie are working hard, coordinating the construction and dancing for our parade float. SAVE THE DATE for the 2014 St. Patrick's Day Parade: Saturday, March 15th. All volunteers are warmly welcomed on Friday, March 14th to set-up the float. Take down date TBD. Call Kasey at (707)280-1235 if you can help.

March 2014 has special significance for us. Long-time, faithful members and supporters of CCE – Dan and Margaret McAuliffe were being honored as Grand Marshals of the St. Patrick's Day festivities. This honor is well-deserved by Dan and Margaret who are stalwarts, not only in CCE, but in the many organizations of the Irish Community. They serve on committees in parishes, schools and in their own local neighborhood community and are always ready to answer the call of those in need. Dan is an avid set-dancer and has been known to travel far and wide in search of a good (Cork) set. Both Dan and Margaret were instrumental in our 2007 Emerald Extravaganza, raising funds for our music and language programs which, to date, are going strong. The McAuliffes were celebrated at the Grand Marshals' Dinner on Friday, February 28th at the UICC. We are indeed fortunate to have Dan and Margaret in our midst and wish them all the best.

Slán,
Joannie O'Leary



St. Patrick's Events



St. Patrick's Day Activities - See attached flyer for a list of activities related to St. Patrick's day.

St. Patrick's Céilí - The annual St. Patrick's Céilí will be held on March 23rd at the UICC featuring Shannon Céilí band from 7-10pm. See attached flyer for more details.

UICC Block Party - The UICC and Java Beach are again co-sponsoring the "Block Party" on 45th Avenue between Wawona and Sloat (in front of the UICC) on Sunday, March 16th so come out for some good food, music, dancing and the craic!! Please see the UICC website for details www.irishcentersf.org.

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



St. Patrick's Day Parade



St. Patrick's Day Parade is on Saturday, March 15, 2014. Construction and deconstruction of the float for the parade will be at Cunningham Moving & Storage, 1250 Van Dyke Ave, S.F. 94124. A lot of help is needed to make the float a reality, so please lend a hand. Construction will be on Friday, March 14 2014, all day, deconstruction date TBD. It is important we have enough people for both, especially to deconstruct. People who work on the float get priority for dancing on the float, and dancers must be paid members of CCE. For more information and to let us know you will help, call Kasey (707)280-1235 or Connie (707)318-9200.



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)



Events this Month



Céilís at the UICC - Normally CCÉ hosts a night of dancing at the UICC on the third Saturday of the month. The next two months the schedule is being adjusted due to other events. The March CCÉ night will be replaced by the St. Patrick's Céilí on Sunday, March 23rd (see attached flyer for details). April's event will be moved to the prior week, April 12th. Music begins at 7:30pm with dancing at 8pm to live traditional Irish Music. Admission is free. Contact: Michael Riemer at riemer@ce.berkeley.edu.

San Francisco - On Thursdays, CCÉ hosts classes at the UICC starting at 7:30pm 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. Contact: Josephine Brogan at josephinebrogan@yahoo.com or (415)681-4803.

South Bay/ Peninsula - On Tuesdays we meet at Lilly Mac's in Sunnyvale. Lessons: 7:30pm; Dance to live music 8-10pm. \$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 7-9pm. There is a \$5 donation suggested for this class. Tea and cakes or sweets will be served. Contact: Mary McDonagh at irishsetdancer@yahoo.com or Micheal 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: John Slaymaker at john@starryploughceili.com.

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



2014 CCÉ Convention



North American Convention of Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann

The Mid-Atlantic Branch will be hosting the convention this 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 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.



Seachtain na Gaeilge - Irish Week



Imeachtaí Seachtain na Gaeilge 2014 *** Irish Week Events!

* 8 Márta, 11.00 r.n. -1.30 i.n.: **Corm Cheoil agus Rang as Gaeilge**, le Áodh Óg Ó Tuama, ó Chorcaigh. Beidh amhráin, filíocht agus ceol na hÉireann á chur i láthair ag an ngrúpa Four Shillings Short. Beidh leathanach focail ar fáil.

(* 8 March. 11am - 1:30pm Irish Language Concert & Class with native Irish speaker Aodh Óg Ó Tuama from Cork, Ireland. This concert will include Songs, Poetry and Tunes from Ireland with the Celtic duo Four Shillings Short. Song sheets will be available for students to learn some new songs in Irish.)

Ionad (Venue): St. Francis Room, UICC, 2700 45th Ave, SF 94116

* 16 Márta, 11.30 r.n.: **Aifreann Gaeilge** le cór, rinceoirí & ceoltoirí. Fáiltiú & seisiún ceoil ina dhiaidh.

(*16 March. 11.30am. Mass in Irish with choir, dancers, musicians; reception with music session follows.)

Ionad (Venue): St. Joseph's Church, 582 Hope Street, Mountain View.



Cooney's Irish Concert



In Comhaltas, we pride ourselves for "keeping the tradition alive". Irish hurling and football games are a big part of Irish culture – recognized and played in many parts of the world. The San Francisco Irish Football and Hurling Youth League (IFHYL) has, for years, provided wonderful coaching, playing fields and trips to Ireland for the young people of our area. Some of our young musicians are also involved in this organization.

The IFHYL are sponsoring a concert at the UICC on Saturday, March 14th – "Cooney's Irish Concert", featuring singer Andy Cooney and singers, dancers and comedian, Noel McGinty. They have entertained widely on the East Coast and on numerous Irish Cruises.

The Irish Center and Irish organizations are making huge efforts to bring entertainment to us. Please consider lending this event your support... Call: (415)760-8108 or click the link below for details and tickets.

www.calendarwiz.com/calendars/popup.php?op=view&id=73105835&crd=uicc



Children's Recital



Back Row left to right - Joseph Howard, Ceri Garfield (whistle teacher) Molly O'Connell, Mikey O'Sullivan, Pat O'Donnell (fiddle teacher), Miliosa Lundy (music teacher) Front Row left to right - Aoibhinn Reidy, Caoimhe Lyons, Hannah O'Connell, Laura O'Sullivan and Clare O'Brien.

We had a great turn out for the children's recital at UICC on Sunday, February 9th with Ceri Garfield, Pat O'Donnell and Kristina Ben Arab's students.

The whistle students played several tunes. Joseph Howard played some lovely tunes on the fiddle and also accompanied the whistle students. This was followed by a session in the bar area with several other musicians. Ceri Garfield is moving back to Ireland in early March and we took this opportunity to make a presentation to her for her wonderful contribution to Comhaltas and the Music Program. She is also our Youth Officer. She will be greatly missed, but we do hope to see her back in San Francisco for a visit. Miliosa Lundy has graciously agreed to take over Ceri's whistle students. Miliosa has been a great supporter of Comhaltas for many years and will be a welcome addition to our music program.



Song and Storytelling



The next Singing and Storytelling Seisiún will be hosted by John Hopkirk on March 7th
145 Highland Ave.
San Carlos
(650)593-0843
hopkirk@earthlink.net

The April Seisiún is on the 4th and will be hosted by Michael Jones
412 Winding Way
San Carlos
(650)622 9598
mfj@ieee.org



Crossroads Irish-American Festival



The Crossroads Irish-American Festival promotes the discovery and understanding of the Irish experience in the Americas. Crossroads sponsors twelve events between March 1st and the 30th. A wide variety of events are scheduled including traditional Irish Accordionist Paddy O'Brien; author Peter Quinn; poets, musicians, dancers and panel discussion of historical topics.

A full schedule of events is at:

www.irishamericancrossroads.org/calendar.html



Member News



Congratulations and very best wishes to Rosie Keehan who was selected the 2014 San Francisco Rose of Tralee. Rosie, the daughter of our good friends, Vincie and Missy Keehan will represent SF on behalf of the United Irish Cultural Center in Ireland. Our good wishes go with Rosie – she will do us proud!!

Congratulations to Tim Sorensen and Michele Vesely. They were married on January 18, 2014. Tim is the son of Connie Lynch, and she is happy to welcome Michele into the family.

A speedy recovery is wished to our Cathy Jones who had surgery last week. Cathy is home & doing very well by all reports, and gearing up for the Convention!!



Membership Corner



Memberships are **PAST DUE** please renew 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.



General Meeting



General Meetings of the Membership are typically held on the first Tuesday of the month. The next ones will be on March 4th and April 1st.

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



Member News



Our sincerest sympathies go out to Terry & Craig Ritts on the passing of Terry's father Richard Owen Firebaugh 92 years old on 1/30/14. Terry & Craig have been long time supporters of CCE especially for the Parade. Mr. Firebaugh himself was very involved with the Hibernian Society in Watsonville so the tradition was passed on. Our deepest sympathies to you and your families Terry & Craig.

At this time of the year our thoughts go out to the family of Pat Joyce who passed away one year ago on February 17th. Pat and his family were such a huge part of our St. Patrick's Day celebrations and parade. He was sorely missed and remembered last year as we assembled the float he took such pride in. We continue to hold Theresa, Diane, Sarah and Linda and their families in our hearts as they carry on Pat's legacy. To borrow a phrase from Pat's obituary... "Patrick Joyce left this life as he lived it courageous, determined, & kind."



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 teaches this class on Wednesday nights at the UICC, from 7pm to 7:45pm. 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: We are interested in starting an Irish Language Class for children with Gráinne Ní Riain, a native Irish speaker, on Tuesday evenings from 6-7pm at the Irish Cultural Center. 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, 5 years and older, in order to sponsor this class. Registration and payment are required in advance.

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.**

MÁRTA 2014

Dé Domhnaigh SUNDAY	Dé Luan MONDAY	Dé Mairt TUESDAY	Dé Céadaoin WEDNESDAY	Déardaoin THURSDAY	Dé h-Aoine FRIDAY	Dé Sathairn SATURDAY
Feb 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	27 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Emperor Norton Céilí Band	28	Mar 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> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Céilí Band	7 <u>Song Seisiún</u> John Hopkirk San Carlos	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	13 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Emperor Norton Céilí Band	14 <u>No Set Dancing</u>	15 <u>St. Patricks Day Parade</u> Market St. SF
16 <u>UICC Block Party</u> UICC <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	17 <u>St. Patrick's Day</u> UICC open all day <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	18 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Song Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	19	20 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ John Caulfield and Friends	21	22
23 <u>St. Patrick's Ceili</u> UICC 7-10pm w/ Shannon Ceili Band <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	27 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	28 <u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Anselmo	29



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)
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 YOUTH OFFICER: CERI GARFIELD

AIBREÁN 2014

DÉ DOMHNAIGH SUNDAY	DÉ LUAN MONDAY	DÉ MÁIRT TUESDAY	DÉ Céadaoin WEDNESDAY	DÉARDAIN THURSDAY	DÉ h-Aoine FRIDAY	DÉ SATHAIRN SATURDAY
Mar 30 <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	31 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	Apr 1 <u>CCÉ Meeting</u> UICC 7:30pm <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	2	3 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Céilí Band	4 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Michael Jones San Carlos	5
6 <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	7 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	8 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	9	10 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	11 <u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Anselmo	12 <u>CCÉ Ceili Night</u> UICC 7:30-11pm w/ live music
13 <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	14 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	15 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	16	17 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Live music	18	19
20 <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	21 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	22 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	23	24 <u>CCÉ Convention</u> Parsippany <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	25 <u>CCÉ Convention</u> Parsippany <u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Anselmo	26 <u>CCÉ Convention</u> Parsippany
27 <u>CCÉ Convention</u> Parsippany <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	28 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	29 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	30	May 1 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Céilí Band	2 <u>Song Seisiún</u> TBD	3

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

UICC - United Irish Cultural Center - 2700 45th Ave. (At Sloat Blvd.), San Francisco, (415) 661-2700 www.irishcentersf.org

Lilly Mac's - 118 S. Murphy Ave, Sunnyvale (between Washington and Evelyn Aves)
(408)732-0200 www.lillymacs.com

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



COMHALTAS CEOLTÓIRÍ ÉIREANN
The San Francisco Cooley-Keegan Branch

ST. PATRICK'S CÉILÍ

Special Presentation of our 11th
*"T. Kevin Mallen & Michael Healy Music
Scholarship Awards"*

SUNDAY, MARCH 23rd, 2014

United Irish Cultural Center
2700 45TH Avenue, San Francisco

7:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Shannon Ceílí Band

Adults: \$10.00 Children: Free

Everybody is welcome

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

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





Our 163rd Year

UNITED IRISH SOCIETIES

of San Francisco

Sponsors of the St. Patrick's Day Parade

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

2014 ST. PATRICK'S DAY ACTIVITIES

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2014

GRAND MARSHAL DINNER

6 PM No Host Cocktails - 7 PM Dinner

\$75 per person

United Irish Cultural Center - 2700 45th Avenue

SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 2014

HONORING COMMODORE JOHN BARRY

10:00 AM VETERANS RETIREMENT HOME

4150 Clement Street at 42nd Avenue

SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 2014

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

300 Lake Street at 3rd Avenue

FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2014

11:30 AM FLAG RAISING

CO-HOSTED BY THE HONORABLE MAYOR EDWIN M. LEE

AND THE UNITED IRISH SOCIETIES OF SAN FRANCISCO

City Hall Rotunda

SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 2014

9:00 AM LAGUNA HONDA HOSPITAL

10:00 AM MASS

Laguna Honda Blvd. and Woodside Drive

SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 2014

2:00 PM ALMA VIA RETIREMENT HOME

1 Thomas More Way

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2014

9:00 AM ST. PATRICK'S DAY MASS

Reception in Parish Hall

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

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2014

11:30 AM ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

2nd and Market Streets to Civic Center

SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2014

FR. PETER C. YORKE DAY

10:00 AM MASS - ALL SAINTS MAUSOLEUM

HOLY CROSS CEMETERY, 1500 MISSION RD., COLMA

DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED

ROBERT EMMET DAY

CONSUL GENERAL OF IRELAND

Honorable Philip Grant

CHAPLAIN

Father Joseph Walsh

PRESIDENT

Diarmuid Philpott

VICE PRESIDENT

Valerie McGrew

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Catherine Linehan

TREASURER

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www.uissf.org

Questions and information call Cathy Mibach 415/753-0234



Set Dancing



Mondays:

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

Tuesdays:

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

1st Thursday: Plough and Stars in San Francisco at 8pm. Music by the Shannon 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:
- 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 charge for this class.
Contact: Mary McDonagh (irishsetdancer@yahoo.com), Micheal Miniñane (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