

SCÉAL ÉILE

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

From the Chairman

Kasey, our branch Chair is a talented lady who wears many hats. While Kasey organizes all our March events, we remind you of the many activities we support in the Irish Community for St. Patrick's Day.

"Saints and Scholars: Empowering Communities through Education" is the theme of the 156th San Francisco St. Patrick's Day Parade. The parade is Saturday, March 15th starting at 11:30 from 2nd & Market Streets. We are proud that a good friend of CCE, Mr. Jack Curtin is the 2008 Grand Marshall. Jack is a quiet but busy presence in our community, engaging in active support of CCE, United Irish Cultural Center and numerous Irish and city organizations. We thank him for his many benevolent works and offer sincere Congratulations.

We also honor all the "Saints and Scholars" who were among us over the years. By their example and participation in our organization, our city and our country the Irish have greatly enriched the lives of those around them.

WE NEED YOUR HELP on Friday, March 14 at Cunningham's Moving & Storage to help construct the float. This is a work day for many, so we would appreciate any help you can give, whether it be a few hours or the day! Please call Josephine at 415 681-4803 or email her at josephinebrogan@yahoo.com for details and questions.

The Cooley-Keegan Branch joins other Irish organizations in entertaining the residents at St. Anne's Home on Sunday, March 2nd from 2-4pm; and at Laguna Honda Hospital (8am - noon) and Alma Via Home on Sunday, March 9th (2-4pm).

The UICC hosts an extraordinary concert featuring the David Munnely Band from County Mayo on Friday, March 14th at 8pm. There will be lots of opportunity for dancing during the evening! Bring your shoes as the craic will be MIGHTY!! As an accordion virtuoso, David toured for 4 years with the Chieftains. See the attached flyer and get your tickets EARLY (\$30.00) or \$40.00 at the door.

Events this Month

CCE Night at the UICC - On Saturday, March 15th, CCE will host another night of dancing at the UICC. Dancing begins at 8:00PM to live music by 'Live Oak Quintet'. 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 on March 12th and 26th. Set dancing with a wee bit of ceili from 8-10:30PM to live music by 'Banish the Dogs'. 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 (415-786-1337 or irishboogieyman@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.

General Ceili - Save Sunday, April 6th for a belated St. Patrick's Day Ceili from 7-10PM at the UICC.

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

Song and Storytelling

The next Singing and Storytelling Seisiún will be hosted by Bill Frantz on Friday, March 7th.

16345 Englewood Ave
Los Gatos
408-356-8506

Teresa & Pat Joyce will host in Oakland on April 4th.
45 Wilding Lane, Oakland.
510-653-5934



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)



Patrick O'Dea's Workshop was a well attended event

Seachtain na Caeilge 2008

Irish Week is the biggest Irish language and cultural festival in Ireland each year. This is our 6th year taking part. These events are free.

March 5th - Night Visiting, Imelda's place. Music, stories, singing, fun & chat. Your own "party piece" as Gaeilge welcome! Mountain View. 7.30PM. RSVP: 650.964.7643.

March 9th - Mass in Irish, with choir, dancers, musicians; reception follows. St. Joseph's Church, 582 Hope Street, Mountain View. 11.30AM.

March 11th - Wine tasting in Irish, plus Ernie O'Malley's story, from TG4. Short sean-nós dancing lesson and demonstration by Connacht champion sean-nós dancer Emma Ní Shuillabháin. Beckett's Irish Pub -. 7.00PM.

March 16th - Presented by CCÉ, Cooley-Keegan & Clifford-Hoban. Selection of feature films & film shorts in Irish, plus a traditional session of music and song. Sean-nós dancing by Emma Ní Shuillabháin. All are welcome! United Irish Cultural Center - 3.30PM on.

For more info:

folkplanet.com/cce, www.snag.ie
 cce_gaeilge@ccewest.org
 510.881.5958

See calendar page for venue address and phone numbers.

Membership Corner

Thanks to all who have renewed. Memberships are accepted year-round. Please check your mailing label to see your expiration date. I will be in contact with those who have the Seal Eile emailed. Thanks for your support, Joannie (415 664-6579 or joannieoleary@msn.com).

Condolences

Remembering Fr. Joe...by Maureen Murphy

My first recollection of Fr Joe was as a child. We lived in one of 2 houses his mother owned on 17th ave (we're still there). He & his black retriever would make visits over the years to his mother's house he still kept & rented...always a welcoming smile & a joke...time passes....!o! & behold who walked in when CCE started the monthly Sunday ceilis (back in the 70's) & was a regular for years but Fr. Joe himself. Keeping up on the local gossip (he knew everyone)... enjoying the dancing and he knew all the words to all the songs...one would never know Fr Joe suffered with a bad heart. After serving at St. Agnes then St. Stephens for many years, we began to visit Fr. Joe as part of our yearly Pilgrimage to "Bury the Wren" St. Stephens' Day.....we always found him smiling, asking about all the people he knew..& he could still out-sing & out-remember all the words to all the Irish songs he loved so well (even at 95). It was a privilege & honor to know one Fr. Joseph P. O'Reilly. His parting words came by way of his Memorial card quoting St. Thomas More, "Pray For Me as I Will For Thee, that We May Merrily meet in Heaven." RIP Fr. Joe.

Our sympathy is also extended to Sheila Walsh and Joanne Harnett on the passing of Mary Walsh, their sister-in-law and cousin respectively. Mary and her late husband, Redmond were "regulars" at our ceilis in years gone by. May they rest in peace.

General Meetings

The next General Meeting of the Membership will be Tuesday March 4th at 7:30pm at the United Irish Cultural Center.



CHAIRPERSON: KASEY MILLERÉ (CCE_CHAIR@CCEWEST.ORG)
 VICE CHAIRMAN: MICHAEL RIEMER (CCE_VICECHAIR@CCEWEST.ORG) (510) 548-4727
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 YOUTH OFFICER: MARTINE MILLERÉ



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, March 15th, 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 Oak Quintet (Miliosa & Richard Lundy & Friends)**
- 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 or email:
Josephinebrogan@yahoo.com

Kerry Records Presents:

IRELAND - St. Patrick's Day !!

A Celebration - The David Munnelly Band!

**Presented by Kerry Records, United Irish Cultural Center of San Francisco, and sponsored by The Irish Herald:
March 14th, 2008 - 8:00PM**

**United Irish Cultural Center of San Francisco
2700 45th Avenue (at Sloat Boulevard)
San Francisco, California 94116
| www.irishcentersf.org |**



IRISH BUTTON ACCORDION WIZARD DAVID MUNNELLY from Belmullet, Co. Mayo who has exploded onto the international Irish music scene with hit albums in Europe and Japan, dual CD releases in North America, a PBS special, a BBC special, concert dates throughout the world including The Kennedy Center, The National Concert Hall, Dublin, Irish Unplugged Tour of Europe, will appear at The United Irish Cultural Center, San Francisco, on Friday, March 14th, 2008 in a celebration of Ireland that will have you dancing in the aisles. ("They are a creative force at the true epicenter of Irish traditional music."...LiveIreland.com). ("The David Munnelly Band..very nearly blew the roof off at this Kerry Records March 2007 concert at the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza...a truly astonishing performance.")...Aidan Flynn...The Irish Herald, April 2007.

Bring your dancing feet! The dance floor is open for this rare and superb Irish event. A must see! David Munnelly, button accordion; Kieran Munnelly, flute/bodhran/snare/vocals; Fergal Scahill, guitar; Paul Kelly, Fiddle/Mandolin; Nic Gareiss, sean nos dancer; Shauna Mullin, traditional Irish singer.

Tickets: \$30.00

Night of performance: \$40.00 at the door

On sale at The United Irish Cultural Center: Tel: 1-415-661-2700 | Fax: 1-415-661-8620
Kerry Records hotline: 1-818-784-3805 or on-line at www.kerryrecords.com

MARCH 2008

De Dómhnaigh SUNDAY	De Luan MONDAY	De Mairt TUESDAY	De Céadaoin WEDNESDAY	Deáardaoin THURSDAY	De h-Aoine FRIDAY	De Sábhainn SATURDAY
Mar 2 <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	3	4 <u>CCÉ Meeting</u> UICC 7:30PM <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	5 <u>Seachtain na Gaeilge</u> Night Visiting Imelda's Mountain View	6 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	7 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Bill Frantz Los Gatos	8
9 <u>Seachtain na Gaeilge</u> Mass in Irish Mountain View <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	10	11 <u>Seachtain na Gaeilge</u> Wine tasting & Sean-nós story, dancing Beckett's Irish Pub <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	12 <u>Set Dancing</u> Britannia Arms Cupertino 8PM	13 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class UICC post-class <i>no Plough & Stars today</i>	14 <u>David Munnely concert</u> UICC	15 <u>CCE Night</u> UICC 8:00PM w/ Live Oak Quintet
16 <u>Seachtain na Gaeilge</u> Film features & shorts Sean-nós song & dance UICC <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	17	18 <u>Slow Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	19	20 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Andrew MacNamara	21	22 <u>SF Celtic Festival</u> Oakland 2-10PM
23 <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	24	25 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	26 <u>Set Dancing</u> Britannia Arms Cupertino 8PM	27 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	28	29
30 <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	31 <u>Junior Seisiún</u> Ireland's 32 7:30	Apr 1 <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	2	3 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	4 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Teresa & Pat Joyce Oakland	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.

2nd and 4th 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