

SCÉAL ÉILE

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

From the Chairman

A Chairde,

I am very excited at this time to congratulate this year's recipients of the Kevin Mallen Scholarship. We had a nice turn out of applicants and I must admit the review committee enjoyed reading the different essays that accompanied each application.

For those who don't know, the "Kevin Mallen Music Scholarship Fund" was established by our branch shortly after Kevin's death in 2000. We are most grateful for the generous endowment that he left to us. Kevin was a native of Co. Wicklow and extremely proud of his heritage. He has been described as "...one of the most respected and illustrious Irishmen in the United States..." A graduate of Rockwell College, Dublin, Kevin was the founder of the American Irish Foundation and American Ireland Fund which raised more than \$150 million for Irish schools and foundations during the past 40 years. He was a lieutenant colonel and World War II Veteran in the US Air Force. The story of Kevin's life contains other accomplishments, voyages and contributions too numerous to describe here....

Kevin was a staunch supporter of the Cooley-Keegan branch and very interested in helping us to fulfill our mission to "Keep Our Tradition Alive". We continue his legacy of caring and love of his Irish Traditions through his Scholarship.

In his honor I am proud to congratulate the following on receiving the 2008 Kevin Mallen Music Youth Scholarship Fund:

Maureen Burke
Maggie Burke
Saoirse Magee
Margaux Sleckman
Linnea Sepe-Forrest
Sean O'Donnell

I look forward to hearing them playing Irish tunes.

Slán, Kasey

Events this Month

Children's Ceili - On Sunday May 4th from 4-6PM at the UICC. Live Irish traditional music, singing & Ceili dancing. Everyone is welcome. Comhaltas members FREE; Non-Comhaltas member: \$5.00 per child or \$10 for two or more children. Contact: Maureen Murphy (415-661-0351).

CCE Night at the UICC - On Saturday, May 17th, 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 on Wednesdays. *Starting in May this event will occur every Wednesday instead of twice a month.* 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 (415-786-1337 or irishboogieman@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.

Events Next Month

Save the date -- We are planning a CCE family picnic on June 8th.



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)



General Meeting



ATTENTION ALL COOLEY-KEEGAN MEMBERS

Our branch meeting on Tuesday, May 13th (7:30PM sharp at the UICC) centers on discussion and decision about the possible 2009 Emerald Extravaganza and 2011 CCE SF Convention. We urge your attendance as we map out the future of our branch. This is one meeting where we need as much attendance and participation as possible to determine what we are able to do. YOUR opinion and willingness to work counts. If you cannot come but wish to express an opinion, please email kaseywme@yahoo.com; joannieoleary@msn.com; or josephinebrogan@yahoo.com with your comments, but remember, the DISCUSSION is vital to our decisions.

Thank you,
Joannie O'Leary (Secretary) 415 664-6579



Song and Storytelling



The next Singing and Storytelling Seisiún will be hosted by Michael & Miriam on Friday, May 2nd.
412 Winding Way,
San Carlos. 650-622-9598

The next Seisiún will be on Friday, June 6th. Stay tuned for location.



Member News



A Twin Welcome!!!

We are delighted to wish congratulations on the birth of beautiful twins to...

Aleta Hancock, our loyal member in L.A. (and West Region Secretary) on the birth of her precious babies, Gemma and Weston who were born on April 1, 2008. No doubt these little ones will follow in their mother's footsteps and be fine set dancers! We send our love and best wishes to all!

"Over-the-moon" Grandma, Anne Burke happily welcomes her granddaughters, Nora Kathleen and Lily Anne Weaver, born on March 25th. Anne says this is a new lease on life for her! We wish her and the proud parents, Bridget and Randy Weaver all the very best.



An Chaeilge



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

Nuacht na Gaeilge! -- Irish Language News!
Reáchtlófar comhdháil chun toadhcháil na Gaeilge i Meiriceá Thuaidh a phlé: cathair Nua Eabhrac, 16 - 18 Bealtaine 2008.

A conference will be held to discuss the future of the Irish language in North America: New York City, 16 - 18 May 2008.

Press Release (English): <http://www.daltai.com/events/PreasNuaEabhracBearla.pdf>

Preasráiteas (Gaeilge): <http://www.daltai.com/events/PreasNuaEabhrac.pdf>

Tá clár na comhdhála le fáil anseo---
You can get the conference program here: http://www.onesourcegraphics.com/Gaeilge/clar_na_comhdhala.pdf



Membership Corner



Memberships are accepted year-round. Please check your mailing label to see your expiration date. Membership cards will be distributed at the April Ceili and in the May Sceal mailing. Thanks for your support, Joannie (415 664-6579 or joannieoleary@msn.com).



CHAIRPERSON: KASEY MILLERÉ (CCE_CHAIR@CCEWEST.ORG)

VICE CHAIRMAN: MICHAEL RIEMER (CCE_VICECHAIR@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 GAEILGE: NIKKI RAGSDALE (CCE_GAEILGE@CCEWEST.ORG)

WEBMASTER: MICHAEL DUFFY (CCE_WEBMASTER@CCEWEST.ORG)

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: TIM SULLIVAN (CCE_SCEAL@CCEWEST.ORG)

YOUTH OFFICER: MARTINE MILLERÉ

May 2008

De Dornnagh SUNDAY	De Luan MONDAY	De Mairt TUESDAY	De Céadaoin WEDNESDAY	Deáardaoin THURSDAY	De h-Aoine FRIDAY	De Sathairn SATURDAY
April 27 <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	28	29 <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	30	May 1 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	2 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Michael & Miriam San Carlos	3
4 <u>Children's Ceili</u> UICC 4-6PM <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	5	6 <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	7 <u>Set Dancing</u> Britannia Arms Cupertino 8PM	8 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	9	10
11 <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	12	13 <u>CCÉ Meeting</u> UICC 7:30PM <u>Slow Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	14 <u>Set Dancing</u> Britannia Arms Cupertino 8PM	15 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	16	17 <u>CCE Night</u> UICC 8:00PM w/ Live Music
18 <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	19	20 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	21 <u>Set Dancing</u> Britannia Arms Cupertino 8PM	22 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	23	24
25 <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	26 <u>Junior Seisiún</u> Ireland's 32 7:30	27 <u>Seisiún -</u> Plough and Stars	28 <u>Set Dancing</u> Britannia Arms Cupertino 8PM	29 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	30	31

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