

SCÉAL ÉILE

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



From the Chairman



A Chairde,

The last two months have been very busy for many of us. Our float in the St. Patrick's Day parade took first prize, and I would like to thank every one involved for helping out, giving us a first rate show! Maldon Meehan was here to give us not one, but two workshops in April. And of course, many of us went to St. Louis for the CCE Convention. I was not able to go but I hear that it was very good.

Now we are moving headlong in to the Summer and warmer weather. We have some events in the works for the near future, but since nothing is finalized I won't go into any details - you will just have to wait and see.

Of our continuing events, the 'CCE Night' at the U.I.C.C is still a favorite and I encourage all of you to support our branch and the U.I.C.C. by joining on the 3rd Saturday of the month for good food, music and dancing.

If you or your kids are interested in playing an instrument, look into our music classes or the slow session at Ireland's 32. While the classes are mainly geared towards kids, the slow session is open to everyone who are learning to play Irish music. Please contact Josephine Brogan, Michael Riemer or myself for more information.

Slán,
Michael Duffy



CCE Classes



CCE sponsors many classes at the Irish Cultural Center in San Francisco.

Adult Irish Language Classes - are held weekly on Saturday mornings

Children's Tin Whistle Classes - are held weekly on Tuesday nights

Children's Fiddle Classes - are held weekly on Wednesday nights

Children & Adult Bodhran Classes - are held weekly on Saturday mornings

Please contact Josephine Brogan for more information at josephinebrogan@yahoo.com or 415-681-4803



Song and Storytelling



The next Singing and Storytelling Seisiún will be hosted on May 1st by Michael & Miriam. Contact:

412 Winding Way, San Carlos
(650) 622 9598
<http://idonotlike.tv/map>

The June seisiún will be hosted by Imelda White on June 5th in Mountain View. Contact:

275 Lassen Avenue
Mountain View, CA 94043.
650-964-7643

There will not be Seisiúns in July or August.

If you would like to host a singing and storytelling seisiún contact Michael Jones at mjf@ieee.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)



The 2009 CCE Convention was a grand craic for all who attended. John Sweeney also attended and took this photo.

CCE Archives

Our thanks to John Sweeney in Ben Lomond for taking the time to put all the Treoir Magazines on CDs for us. It is a wonderful resource for our branch. Joannie has the CD if anyone needs an article or piece of music from a previous issue. Thank you for laboring on this project, John, and thanks to Sue for her wonderful bread we all shared at the Convention.

We also extend our thanks to Bill Ngai for the CD of our performance in the St. Patrick's Day Parade. It was lovely to see and we appreciate your thoughtfulness, Bill.

Items for the branch archives will help us preserve our history. Mike Duffy is always willing to put photos on our website so please feel free to send him anything of interest you might have, of our events and members. Please see contact info in this newsletter.

Membership Corner

We have sent a final reminder to anyone who has not had the opportunity to renew their membership. All non-member names will be deleted from our mailing list for the next Sceal (July/August). Memberships may be obtained at any time by contacting Joannie (joannieoleary@msn.com or 415 664-6579) or by searching our website <http://sf.ccewest.org>.

Please also note the Treoir Magazine has been mailed to each household about 2 weeks ago. If you did not receive your copy, please contact Joannie immediately.

Deireadh Seachtaine Gaeltachta

Deireadh Seachtaine Gaeltachta 2009, uimhir a 11 ! (San Francisco Bay Area Irish Language Immersion Weekend, 11th annual!)

From Friday October 2nd to Sunday the 4th. Venue: United Irish Cultural Center, San Francisco. Increase your confidence and fluency in Irish, or make a good start on learning it!

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

Contact: (510) 881 5958, or cce_gaeilge@ccewest.org More info at OneSourceGraphics.com/Gaeilge/DeireadhSeachtaine.html

Registration form will be available soon, too, sometime in May.

Member News

Congrats & best wishes to Judy Forrest & Jim Nunally on their engagement.

We would like to send Get Well Wishes to Oceanlight who had a skiing accident recently. We hope to see her back on the dance floor in the not too distant future.

St. Patrick's Day Parade

March 14, 2009 was the day of the ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE. Once again C.C.E. entered a float in the parade. It was a magnificent float, if I do say so myself. It had everything--many dancers, musicians, candy throwers, flags and banner carriers, and, last but not least, hand wavers.

As always the float was built in one day, BUT the prep work happened over days and takes many hours. This work is done by small groups, two or three at a time, and by individuals. Dan and I made several trips to have the "solar panels" and "wind turbines" constructed. Thank you Dan for all your help. This year groups of woman came together to make ties and headbands. What a undertaking that was, but when it was done- wow- we looked great with them on. Well put together--thank you Mary, Kasey, Florence, Tracy, Marlene, Connie, and Cathy.

Every year about 2 weeks right before the parade I start to stress out. Will there be people to come on a FRIDAY to build the float? This year was different in that I was more stressed than usual. Dan would not be there for the day because he had an important commitment that was a must to keep. When the day arrived, as usual I didn't know for sure how many people would show up. But, Dan did a great job by getting his pickup down to the building site very early that morning. He left it there for the contents to be used for whatever was needed to build the float. Then it started, one by one, two by two, people came to help build the float. When all was said and done, we had quite a lot of helping hands. Thank you to all who came and worked so hard.

THANK YOU to everyone who made this float possible, from the people who helped with the prep work to those who put it together. THANK YOU to all who came the day of the parade to make the float come alive. THANK YOU to all who made and brought sandwiches and refreshments for us to enjoy. THANK YOU to the ones who stayed to flatten the float at the end of the day. THANK YOU to the crew who showed up days later to put it all away for next year, and THANK YOU to all those who came out to see the parade. Thank you Bill for video taping the performance and making CD's so that those of us in it could finally see it. For none of this would be possible with out ALL OF YOU. You did a great job and deserve to win FIRST PLACE!

Events this Month

CCE Night at the UICC - On the third Saturdays of May and June (May 16th and June 20th) CCE will host a night of dancing at the UICC. Music begins at 7:30 with dancing at 8PM to live music. Admission is free. Contact: Michael Riemer (riemer@ce.berkeley.edu).

Children's Ceili - Sunday May 31st is the next Children's Ceili at the UICC from 4-6PM See attached flyer for details.

South Bay - The Britannia Arms hosts dancing in San Jose every Wednesday. Set dancing with a wee bit of ceili from 8 to 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 irishboogieman@yahoo.com.

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 - Micheal Minihane and Mary McDonagh teach Set Dancing on the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month at Brosnan School of Irish Dance from 7 to 9 pm. 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)

Galway Ramblers - See attached flyer for details on the Galway Ramblers June 5th performance.

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

Special Events

The Lisa Brosnan School of Irish Dance

Presents: LARK IN THE MORNING.

Friday, May 15 - 8pm - Marin Veterans Memorial Theater. "Please come along to a celebration of the Irish arts as seen through the eyes of the children of the Brosnan School of Irish Dance.

It is sure to be a fun evening for the whole family - full of song, dance, music, recitations, and more!"

Tickets; \$12/Adults; \$10 12 yrs and under. Marin Center Box Office: 415 499-6800



**COMHALTAS CEOLTÓIRÍ ÉIREANN
THE COOLEY-KEEGAN BRANCH**

CHILDREN'S CÉILÍ

- WHEN:** **SUNDAY, MAY 31ST 2009**
- WHERE:** **UNITED IRISH CULTURAL CENTER
2700 45TH AVENUE, SAN FRANCISCO**
- TIME:** **4.00 PM TO 6 PM**
- ADMISSION:** **Comhaltas Members: FREE**
- Non-Comhaltas Member: \$5 per child,
\$10 for two or more children**
- Live Traditional Irish Music**

For Information, contact Josephine Brogan (415) 681-4803

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

May 2009

DÉ DOMHNAIGH SUNDAY	DÉ LUAN MONDAY	DÉ MÁIRT TUESDAY	DÉ CEADAÓIN WEDNESDAY	DÉARDAÓIN THURSDAY	DÉ h-Aoine FRIDAY	DÉ SATHAIRN SATURDAY
April 26	27	28	29	30	May 1	2
<u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars		<u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	<u>Set Dancing</u> Britannia Arms Cupertino 8PM	<u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	<u>Song Seisiún</u> Michael & Miriam San Carlos <u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Rafael	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars		<u>CCÉ Meeting</u> UICC 7:30PM <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	<u>Set Dancing</u> Britannia Arms Cupertino 8PM	<u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars		<u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	<u>Set Dancing</u> Britannia Arms Cupertino 8PM	<u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	<u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Rafael	<u>CCE Ceili</u> UICC 8PM w/ Live Music
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars		<u>Slow Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	<u>Set Dancing</u> Britannia Arms Cupertino 8PM	<u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	<u>Junior Seisiún</u> Ireland's 32 7:30	<u>Song Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	<u>Set Dancing</u> Britannia Arms Cupertino 8PM	<u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House		



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JUNE 2009

DÉ DOMHNAIGH SUNDAY	DÉ LUAN MONDAY	DÉ MÁIRT TUESDAY	DÉ Céadaoin WEDNESDAY	DÉARDAIN THURSDAY	DÉ h-Aoine FRIDAY	DÉ SATHAIRN SATURDAY
May 31 <u>Children's Ceili</u> UICC 4-6PM <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	June 1	2 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	3 <u>Set Dancing</u> Britannia Arms Cupertino 8PM	4 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	5 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Imelda White Mountain View <u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Rafael	6
7 <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	8	9 <u>CCÉ Meeting</u> UICC 7:30PM <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	10 <u>Set Dancing</u> Britannia Arms Cupertino 8PM	11 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	12	13
14 <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	15	16 <u>Slow Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	17 <u>Set Dancing</u> Britannia Arms Cupertino 8PM	18 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	19 <u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Rafael	20 <u>CCE Ceili</u> UICC 8PM w/ Live Music
21 <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	22	23 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	24 <u>Set Dancing</u> Britannia Arms Cupertino 8PM	25 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	26	27
28 <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	29 <u>Junior Seisiún</u> Ireland's 32 7:30	30 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	July 1 <u>Set Dancing</u> Britannia Arms Cupertino 8PM	2 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	3	4

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

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

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

Bronsan School of Irish Dance - 1879 2nd Street, San Rafael (415) 259-0992 bronsanschool.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 third Tuesday of each month. This Seisiún is an intermediate seisiun intended for those with more skill who want to polish tunes in a friendly, forgiving environment.

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
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