

# SCÉAL ÉILE

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

## St. Patrick's Month Thanks

What a huge success the St. Patrick's Season was this year! There was a good turnout of volunteer dancers at the United Irish Societies' events. Along with our usual dancers, we had some new volunteers come and share in the fun and festivities and learn what a rewarding experience it is. Thanks to all who participated, and also to those who turned out to build the float. Because of the many volunteers, we were able to construct the float in record time and without the usual stress. We were very lucky this year to have volunteers from the Carpenters Union Local #22 who added to the efficiency of the day. We are so grateful to Charlie Cunningham for donating the use of his place of business and for the use of the truck and flatbed.

There are so many people we want to thank for helping on the day of the parade: to Bill & Steve Welch for letting us use the mortuary parking lot and facilities (Duggans-17<sup>th</sup> Street); to our wonderful musicians, flag and banner carriers, the truck driver, guests on the float, the walkers and, of course, the step dancers and the set dancers. Last, but not least, thank you to all who stayed with the float to break it down and store it away. None of this is possible without all of the contributions of our volunteers.

Thank you to the dancers who made the effort to come to the Block Party at the UICC the day after the parade to do some set dancing

A satisfied volunteer was heard to say, "These activities are such fun and with a great sense of community."

Thank you to all, Kasey and Connie

## Events this Month

**Comhaltas Night with Live Irish Music** - CCÉ hosts a night of dancing at the UICC on the third Saturday of the month. May's event will be held on the 16<sup>th</sup>. In June we gather on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Music begins at 7:30pm with dancing from 8-11pm to live traditional Irish Music. Admission is free. Contact: Michael Riemer at [riemer@ce.berkeley.edu](mailto: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, just dancing at the Plough & Stars from 8-11pm. \$5 donation suggested. Contact: Josephine Brogan at [josephinebrogan@yahoo.com](mailto:josephinebrogan@yahoo.com) or 1-415-681-4803.

**South Bay/ Peninsula** - On Tuesdays (except for the third Tuesday of the month) we meet at Lilly Mac's in Sunnyvale. Lessons: 7:30pm; Dance to live music 8-10pm. \$5 donation suggested. Info: Michael Murphy at 1-415-999-6062.

**North Bay** - Mary McDonagh and Micheal Minihaane teach Set Dancing on the second and fourth Fridays of the month at Brosnan School of Irish Dance in San Anselmo from 7-9pm. There is a \$5 donation suggested for this class. Tea and cakes or sweets will be served. **New venue: Redwood Cafe in Cotati on select Wednesday nights from 7pm-9pm.** Contact: Mary McDonagh at [cladaghdancer@gmail.com](mailto:cladaghdancer@gmail.com) or Micheal Minihaane at [michealminihane@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:john@starryploughceili.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)



“Not waltzing Matilda but a Waltzing Judi and Lew Milligan around the floor celebrating their birthdays. Don't they look Great! Happy birthdays.... Lew we didn't know you had it in you! And they were not the only Waltzers seen dancing around the floor this time the Lobby at ??? hour but Suzanne & Vinnie Cronin. Conventions bring out the Unexpected Surprises! Congrats on surviving your First Convention Vinnie! Also celebrating a Convention Birthday is our West Region Chair and set dance crazed Jim Belcher. Happy Birthday Jim!

Cannot comment further about any other festivities.. what happens in New Jersey stays in New Jersey!!

Looking forward to St Louis next April and a return to Convention only fun!

***Roving Reporter...”***

Well, this wasn't the most organized of conventions, but it was still enjoyable. Mick Mulkerrin lead a wonderful Sean-nós dance workshop where I picked up a set of steps to add to my little repertoire. Shannon Dunne from the D.C. area then taught us the basics of a jig Sean-nós dance that was challenging, but great to learn. Because the set dance crowd was small, there was plenty of room to dance and it was good fun to meet new people from different parts of the country. I can't wait to see them all again in St. Louis next year.

***Susan Keith***



## CCÉ Convention Continued



I had a swell time. (It takes a lot for me to have a bad time.) The Parsippany Hilton was very accommodating and basically kept the public spaces open 24/7.

### **Barb Southworth**

I had a wonderful time at the Convention in New Jersey. I was a little reluctant to go at first as we were going back to NJ once more. Then I decided I just could not miss it as I have been attending these Conventions for over 15 years. It is all about the music, dancing and the wonderful people you meet year after year. It was a smaller crowd than usual, but that left plenty room for dancing and to meet and dance with new people or people I have seen over the years and never got to talk to or dance with. I am really looking forward to going to St. Louis next year when it will be held at the St. Louis Union Station Hotel.

### **Josephine Brogan**



## Song and Storytelling



The next Singing and Storytelling Seisiún will be hosted by Bill and Peri Frantz on June 5<sup>th</sup>

16345 Englewood Ave

Los Gatos

1-408-356-8506

frantz@pwpconsult.com

There will not be a seisiún in July.



## Special Events



**South Bay Céilí** - Michael Murphy is having a céilí on May 30<sup>th</sup> between 7-10 pm at Lilly Mac's in Sunnyvale. Live Traditional Music with Michael Riemer and Friends.

**Children's Céilí** - THEY'RE BACK!! CCÉ is hosting a Childrens céilí June 21st, St Francis Room at the UICC from 3-5pm led by Susan Keith. Please see attached flyer. Come one, come all..... singing, dancing & sharing good times.... Further info, contact Maureen Murphy, 1-415-564-7188.

**West Region CCÉ Annual Meeting** - The West Region of CCÉ will hold it's annual West Region Meeting in Phoenix, AZ on the weekend of October 10-11, 2015. Chair person, Mary Hill-Connor from County Clare and her branch members are hosting this event which will include sessions and a céilí. We encourage you to think about coming along to Phoenix to see the sights and visit with the Four Peaks Irish Arts Branch. Contact Josephine Brogan for details.

**Fleadh Cheoil** - County Sligo - August 9-16, 2015 sponsored by Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann. For more info:

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



## General Meetings



General Meetings of the membership-contact Josephine Brogan for information: 1-415-681-4803 [josephinebrogan@yahoo.com](mailto:josephinebrogan@yahoo.com).



## CCÉ Membership



### **Join the SF Cooley-Keegan Branch of CCÉ**

Membership runs from Jan 1 - December 31. Please visit our website: [sf.ccewest.org/membership](http://sf.ccewest.org/membership) to join or renew on-line. Pay through Pay-Pal or send us a check. See Josephine, Moe or Judy at dancing for further information, or contact Joannie: 1-415-664-6579 or [joannieoleary@msn.com](mailto:joannieoleary@msn.com)

### **Share the Joy Please Help with Member Outreach!**

It's great to have new folks joining the dancing, but a lot of them don't even know that they could join CCÉ! If you are receiving and enjoying the Scéal Eile you are already a member -- think how much these newer folks would appreciate if you mentioned to them a little about CCÉ membership? Many don't know that CCÉ organizes and sponsors the dance lessons, the various dances at the UICC, the roster of callers at Thursday night dancing, the newsletter, classes and scholarships for kids, and much more. Please take a moment to mention CCÉ to the new folks at dance as we're sure they'd appreciate knowing how to get their own Scéal Eile! They can obtain membership forms online, or from Judy Forrest at dancing. Thanks!



## Member News



Our deepest sympathy goes out to Patty Hoyt, Jonah and all their family on the passing of her father, Dr. Donald Carter Hoyt in Albany, New York earlier this year.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Josephine Brennan on the passing of her mother, Alice Lynch, in County Kerry in May.

May they rest in peace.





## Set Dancing in Cotati



The newest venue for set dancing is the Redwood Cafe in Cotati.  
Mary McDonagh and Micheal Minihane lead classes on select Wednesdays between 7-9pm



CCÉ has a facebook group where we can share photos, ask questions and generally discuss all things Irish music and dance. In the search field at the top of your facebook page enter **Cooley-Keegan Branch**, select it from the list of choices and join the group.

Or, you can enter the following URL:

[facebook.com/groups/316504905030686](https://facebook.com/groups/316504905030686)



Another online group where events are planned is [meetup.com](https://meetup.com/irishdance) at the following URL:  
[meetup.com/irishdance](https://meetup.com/irishdance)



## Deireadh Seachtaine Gaeltachta



*Coinnigh nóta den dáta seo!*

Deireadh Seachtaine Gaeltachta San Francisco  
Uimhir a 16, 26-28 Meán Fómhair, 2014

*Save the date!*

16th San Francisco Irish Immersion Weekend  
September 26-28, 2014

Foirm cláraithe anseo ar fáil i Mí Bhealtaine.  
Registration form available here in the month of May.

[onesourcegraphics.com/Gaeilge/DeireadhSeachtaine.html](https://onesourcegraphics.com/Gaeilge/DeireadhSeachtaine.html)



## Irish Language Class



Adult class: a new 8-week class is scheduled to start in October 2015, on Saturday mornings at the UICC.

Registration and payment are required in advance.  
Please contact Josephine Brogan: 1-415-681-4803 or [josephinebrogan@yahoo.com](mailto:josephinebrogan@yahoo.com)



## 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 (except for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday). Lessons: 7:30pm; Dance to live music 8-10pm. \$5 suggested to support the live music.

**1<sup>st</sup> Thursday:** Plough and Stars in San Francisco at 8pm. Music by the Shannon Céilí Band. \$5 suggested to support the live music.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

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

- Brosnan School of Irish Dance in San Anselmo: From 7-9pm. There is a \$5 charge for this class.  
Contact: Mary McDonagh (cladaghdancer@gmail.com), Micheal Minihane (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, See **Song and Storytelling** section for details..

COOLEY-KEEGAN BRANCH OF  
COMHALTAS CEOLTÓIRÍ ÉIREANN  
P.O. Box 16244  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94116

# Bhealtaine 2015

Dé Domhnaigh SUNDAY	Dé Luan MONDAY	Dé Mairt TUESDAY	Dé Céadaoin WEDNESDAY	Déardaoin THURSDAY	Dé h-Aoine FRIDAY	Dé Sathairn SATURDAY
Apr 26 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	27 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	28 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	29	30 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Emperor Norton Céilí Band	May 1 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Anne & John Hopkirk San Carlos	2
3 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	4 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	5 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	6	7 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Céilí Band	8 <u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Anselmo	9
10 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	11 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	12 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	13	14 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	15	16 <u>Comhaltas Night</u> UICC 7:30-11pm w/ live music
17 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	18 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	19 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	20 <u>Set Dancing</u> Redwood Cafe Cotati	21 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Crooked Road	22 <u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Anselmo	23
24 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	25 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	26 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	27 <u>Set Dancing</u> Redwood Cafe Cotati	28 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	29	30 <u>South Bay Céilí</u> Lilly Macs Sunnyvale 7-10pm



CO-CHAIRPERSON: MICHAEL DUFFY (CCE\_CHAIR@CCEWEST.ORG)  
 CO-CHAIRPERSON: MICHAEL RIEMER (CCE\_CHAIR@CCEWEST.ORG) 1-510-548-4727  
 PUBLIC RELATIONS: JOSEPHINE BROGAN (CCE\_PR@CCEWEST.ORG) 1-415-681-4803  
 SECRETARY/REGISTRAR: JOANNIE O'LEARY (CCE\_SECRETARY@CCEWEST.ORG) 1-415-664-6579  
 TREASURER: MAUREEN MURPHY (CCE\_TREASURER@CCEWEST.ORG) 1-415-661-0351  
 TREORAÍ NA GAELIGE: NIKKI RAGSDALE (CCE\_GAEILGE@CCEWEST.ORG)  
 WEBMASTER: MICHAEL DUFFY (CCE\_WEBMASTER@CCEWEST.ORG)  
 NEWSLETTER EDITOR: TIM SULLIVAN (CCE\_SCEAL@CCEWEST.ORG)  
 YOUTH OFFICER: CERI GARFIELD

# Meitheamh 2015

De Domhnaigh SUNDAY	De Luan MONDAY	De Mairt TUESDAY	De Céadaoin WEDNESDAY	Deáardaoin THURSDAY	De h-Aoine FRIDAY	De Sathairn SATURDAY
May 31 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	Jun 1 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	2 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	3	4 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Céilí Band	5 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Bill & Peri Frantz Los Gatos	6
7 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	8 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	9 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	10	11 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Emperor Norton Céilí Band	12 <u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Anselmo	13
14 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	15 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	16 <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	17	18 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	19	20 <u>Comhaltas Night</u> UICC 7:30-11pm w/ live music
21 <u>Children's Céilí</u> UICC 3-5pm  <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	22 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	23 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Song Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	24 <u>Set Dancing</u> Redwood Cafe Cotati	25 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Crooked Road	26 <u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Anselmo	27
28 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	29 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	30 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	Jul 1 <u>Set Dancing</u> Redwood Cafe Cotati	2 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Céilí Band	3 <u>No Song Seisiún</u>	4

**Brosnan School of Irish Dance** - 11 Belle Avenue, Suite B, San Anselmo, Ca 94960 [brosnanschool.com](http://brosnanschool.com)

**Lilly Mac's** - 187 S. Murphy Ave, Sunnyvale (between Washington and Evelyn Avenues) 1-408-732-0200 [lillymacs.com](http://lillymacs.com)

**Plough and Stars** - 116 Clement Ave. (Between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>), San Francisco, 1-415-751-1122 [theploughandstars.com](http://theploughandstars.com)

**Redwood Cafe** - 8240 Old Redwood Hwy, Cotati CA 94931 1-707-795-7868 [redwoodcafe.com](http://redwoodcafe.com)

**UICC** - United Irish Cultural Center - 2700 45<sup>th</sup> Ave. (At Sloat Blvd.), San Francisco, 1-415-661-2700 [irishcentersf.org](http://irishcentersf.org)

You can also visit the following website for events:

**Starry Plough** - 3101 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley 1-510-841-2082 [starryploughpub.com](http://starryploughpub.com)

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