

SCÉAL ÉILE

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



Chair's Message



A Chairde,

Here we are, nearly to the end of another year, and such a challenging one in so many ways: rising tensions around the globe, natural disasters and man-made crises across our country, and of course personal losses striking close to home here in the Bay Area so recently. It is at such times that being part of a larger and close-knit community can help us remain hopeful, share the burdens, and find some strength and fun when we gather together.

This month also marks the end of a longer journey for me -- after 16 years as the Chair or Co-Chair of the Cooley-Keegan branch, I'm "retiring". Keeping a balance between home, work and outside activities requires adjustments from time to time, and for the past few years that has meant a bit less of the music, dancing and general Comhaltas fun than I had been accustomed to. I still plan to be out there on the dance floor, or playing in the sessions when possible, but the branch is heading into exciting times, and deserves leadership that can really dig in and make new things happen.

My thanks to all of you who have added to the special community of our branch!

Slan,
Michael R.



Events this Month



Comhaltas Night with Live Irish Music - CCÉ typically hosts a night of set dancing at the UICC on the third Saturday of the month. For November the event will be replaced by the November Night Céilí on Sunday the 5th, December's is replaced by the Christmas Céilí on the 10th. Contact: Michael Riemer at riemer@ce.berkeley.edu.

San Francisco - On Thursdays, CCÉ hosts set dancing 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 or 415-264-8856.

South Bay/Peninsula - Tuesday Night Set Dancing (with a smidgen of céilí style) at Lilly Mac's in Sunnyvale (upstairs); 187 S. Murphy Avenue between Evelyn and Washington Avenues. It is every Tuesday (except 3rd Tues. of the month); 8-10pm; Suggested donation is \$7. Mostly live band. Contact: Michael Murphy (415-999-6062; irishboogieyman0@gmail.com.)

North Bay - Mary McDonagh and Mícheál Minihane 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. Mary and Mícheál also teach at the Redwood Cafe in Cotati on the first and third Wednesday nights from 7-9pm. Contact: Mary McDonagh at cladaghdancer@gmail.com or Mícheál 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 rinnce.mor@gmail.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)



Song and Storytelling



The next Singing and Storytelling Seisiún will be hosted by Imelda White November Seisiún is on the 3rd

275 Lassen Avenue
Mountain View
650-964-7643
imelda_white@yahoo.com

The December Seisiún is on the 1st, the host is Bill & Peri Frantz.

16345 Englewood Ave.
Los Gatos, CA 95032
408-356-8506
bill@frantzfamily.us

In January the host are Michael & Miriam

Michael & Miriam
412 Winding Way, San Carlos, CA 94070
650 622 9598
mfj@ieee.org

Contact Micheal Jones for info about seisiúns at mfj@ieee.org. Song seisiúns start at 7:30pm



Special Events



Holiday Céilí

Sunday, November 5th for our November Night Céilí and Sunday, December 10th for our Christmas Céilí. Both events are from 7-10pm at the UICC and cost \$10 per person..



Membership Corner



Our deepest condolences to Judy Forrest on the passing of her mother, Ruth Englund Forrest. May she rest In peace.

We offer our heartfelt sympathy to Kasey Curtin, Geli, Martine, Coleman and all the family on the sudden and tragic passing of her brother, Timothy Joseph Curtin on October 4th. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. *Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam uasal.*



Irish Language Class



Adult Class: Classes are held at the United Irish Cultural Center in San Francisco on Saturdays. The next 8 week session will started in January 2018.

Please contact Josephine Brogan at josephinebrogan@yahoo.com or 415-264-8856 for further information.



New Marin Venue



New Céilí dance in Marin! 1st and 3rd Friday of the month at the Almonte Clubhouse (105 Wisteria, Mill Valley) from 7 - 10pm.

For more information, contact Shirleigh Brannon at ceili_rat@yahoo.com



South Bay



Céilís at Lilly Mac's

Lilly Mac's Céilís will be held on **Saturday, November 18th** from 7-10pm. Admission is \$12 per person. Live Band; Mostly set dancing with some céilí dancing.

Please RSVP by text, phone call or email
Contact: Michael Murphy (415) 999-6062
irishboogieman0@gmail.com

Lilly Mac's is at 187 S. Murphy Avenue in Sunnyvale (the céilí is upstairs).



Wren Boys



The annual Wren Boys trek will occur on Tuesday December 26th. Meet at 6:30pm at the Murphy's house, 1959 17th Avenue between Ortega and Pacheco streets in San Francisco. Dressed mostly like farmers in disguises of all kinds, we will be visiting houses and pubs, dancing sets and céilí dances and perhaps singing a chorus or two of Irish and/or Christmas songs. We will recite the Wren verse:

*The wren, the wren, the king of all birds,
On St . Stephen's Day
was caught in the furze*

*From bush to bush
And tree to tree
On Donoughmore Cross
He broke his knee
We brought him here
To the holly bush
Holly and I are well set up
And the man of the house
Is in very good luck.*

*I have a little pot
Under me arm
A penny or two
Will do it no harm.
Up with the kettle
And down with the pan
Give us a penny
To bury the wren*

For more information contact Michael Murphy at irishboogieman0@gmail.com / 415-999-6062 or Maureen Murphy at moemurphy59@yahoo.com.



Monthly Meetings



Our next regular monthly CCÉ members' meetings will be held Tuesday, November 14th, and December 12th at 8pm at the UICC. All members of the SF Cooley Keegan branch are encouraged to attend.

Preceding the regular meetings are special 2020 Convention meetings at 7pm.

For further information, contact Maureen Callanan mcallanan2354@gmail.com.



2020 SF Convention



Convention Meeting: Tuesday, November 14th, and December 12th 7-8pm at the UICC (immediately preceding the regular monthly CCÉ meeting).

Come be a part of this historic event. Join in the brainstorming and planning of what no doubt will be an incredible convention!



Join us in San Anselmo



Mary McDonagh and Micheál Minihane teach set dancing on the second and fourth Fridays of the month at the Brosnan School of Irish Dance in San Anselmo.



CCÉ Membership



Renewal time for 2018 Membership

If you have not already done so, please renew your membership immediately so we can send them to Ireland. If you receive your Scéal Eile by US Mail, a membership form was attached to the Sept/Oct issue, or you can find one on-line at sf.ccewest.org

Josephine Brogan sent a special email to those who receive the link electronically. Please be sure your contact information is current.

Our Membership runs from January 1st to December 31st.

Single Membership: \$40.00

Multi-Membership: \$50.00 (2 or more in household or family)

Here are ways you can renew:

Renew online through our website and remit payment through PayPal: sf.ccewest.org

Renew online through our website and send your check to our PO Box (We do NOT bill).

Complete your membership form and either give it with your check or cash to Josephine Brogan at set dancing or mail it with your check to our PO Box.

CCÉ Membership, Attn: Joannie O'Leary, P O Box 16244, San Francisco, CA 94116

If you have any questions, please contact Joannie at 415 664-6579 or joannieoleary@msn.com; Or talk with Josephine at dancing. Thank you for your support.

Samhain 2017

Òé Òomhnaigh SUNDAY	Òé Luan MONDAY	Òé Mairt TUESDAY	Òé Céadaoin WEDNESDAY	Òéardaoin THURSDAY	Òé h-Aoine FRIDAY	Òé Sathairn SATURDAY
Oct 29 Seisiún - Plough and Stars	30 Céilí dancing Starry Plough	31 Set Dancing Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale Seisiún Plough and Stars	Nov 1 Set Dancing Redwood Cafe Cotati	2 Set Dancing Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Céilí Band	3 Song Seisiún Imelda White, Mountain View Céilí dancing Almonte Clubhouse Mill Valley	4
5 November Night Céilí UICC 7-10pm w/ live music Seisiún - Plough and Stars	6 Céilí dancing Starry Plough	7 Set Dancing Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale Seisiún Plough and Stars	8	9 Set Dancing UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Crooked Road	10 Set Dancing Brosnan Dance Studio San Anselmo	11
12 Seisiún - Plough and Stars	13 Céilí dancing Starry Plough	14 2020 Convention Meeting UICC 7-8pm CCÉ Meeting UICC 8pm Set Dancing Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale	15 Set Dancing Redwood Cafe Cotati	16 Set Dancing UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	17 Céilí dancing Almonte Clubhouse Mill Valley	18 Lilly Mac's Céilí Sunnyvale
19 Seisiún - Plough and Stars	20 Céilí dancing Starry Plough	21 Seisiún Plough and Stars	22	23 Happy Thanksgiving	24 Set Dancing Brosnan Dance Studio San Anselmo	25
26 Seisiún - Plough and Stars	27 Céilí dancing Starry Plough	28 Set Dancing Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale Seisiún - Plough and Stars	29	30 Set Dancing UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	Dec 1 Song Seisiún Bill & Peri Frantz Los Gatos bill@frantzfamily.us	2



CO-CHAIRPERSON: JOSEPHINE BRENNAN (CCE_CHAIR@CCEWEST.ORG)
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 YOUTH OFFICER: SEAN O'DONNELL

Nollaig 2017

DÉ DOMHNAIGH SUNDAY	DÉ LUAN MONDAY	DÉ MÁIRT TUESDAY	DÉ Céadaoin WEDNESDAY	DÉARDAIN THURSDAY	DÉ h-Aoine FRIDAY	DÉ SATHAIRN SATURDAY
Nov 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/ Shannon Céilí Band	1 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Michael & Miriam San Carlos <u>Céilí dancing</u> Almonte Clubhouse Mill Valley	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 <u>Set Dancing</u> Redwood Cafe Cotati	7 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	8 <u>Set Dancing</u> Brosnan Dance Studio San Anselmo	9
10 <u>Christmas Céilí</u> UICC 7-10pm w/ live music <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	11 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	12 <u>2020 Convention Meeting</u> UICC 7-8pm <u>CCÉ Meeting</u> UICC 8pm <u>Set Dancing</u> Lilly Mac's, Sunnyvale	13	14 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Emperor Norton Céilí Band	15 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Almonte Clubhouse Mill Valley	16
17 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	18 <u>Céilí dancing</u> Starry Plough	19 <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	20 <u>Set Dancing</u> Redwood Cafe Cotati	21 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	22 <u>Set Dancing</u> Brosnan Dance Studio San Anselmo	23
24 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	25 <u>Merry Christmas</u>	26 <u>Wren Boys</u> Murphy's home San Francisco <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	27	28 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Céilí Band	29	30

Almonte Clubhouse - 105 Wisteria, Mill Valley, CA 94941 415-601-7708 www.almonteclub.org

Brosnan School of Irish Dance - 11 Belle Avenue, Suite B, San Anselmo, CA 94960 brosnanschool.com

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

Plough and Stars - 116 Clement Ave. (Between 2nd and 3rd), San Francisco, 1-415-751-1122 theploughandstars.com

Redwood Cafe - 8240 Old Redwood Hwy, Cotati CA 94931 1-707-795-7868 redwoodcafe.com

UICC - United Irish Cultural Center - 2700 45th Ave. (At Sloat Blvd.), San Francisco, 1-415-661-2700 irishcentersf.org

Starry Plough - 3101 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley 1-510-841-2082 starryploughpub.com

You can also visit the following website for events:

San Francisco CCÉ - Cooley-Keegan Branch - sf.ccewest.org



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 (rinnce.mor@gmail.com)

Tuesdays:

- Lilly Mac's in Sunnyvale (except for the 3rd Tuesday). Lessons: 7:30pm; Dance to live music 8-10pm. \$7 suggested to support the live music. Contact: Michael Murphy (415-999-6062)

Special Events:

- Redwood Cafe in Cotati.
Contact: Mary McDonagh (cladaghdancer@gmail.com), Mícheál Minihane (michealminihane@yahoo.com)

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 donation suggested for this class.
Contact: Mary McDonagh (cladaghdancer@gmail.com), Mícheál 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
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