



# SCÉAL ÉILE



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

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear friends and members,

Summer is quickly drawing to a close, as families return from late vacations, the United Irish Cultural Center will soon be re-opening its doors, and schools prepare for the return of their students (I'll be meeting our new students tomorrow here in Berkeley!) I trust you all have had either a restful or successful summer, depending on your goals and choices for the season.

If you were traveling or otherwise engaged (as I was), and missed some of your favorite Comhaltas activities these past few months (as I did), I am pleased to be able to point you toward some wonderful Irish music, singing and dancing opportunities that are now fast approaching, though still on the horizon. For example: it's been two years since our first introductory Music Workshops, and we are reviving this program with a more focused day of workshops featuring fiddle, accordion, singing in Irish, set dancing and more. We are also hosting a very special concert, featuring the wonderful button box music of John Whelan from the Boston area, and including some of our own area's best young step dancers! But wait, there's more ... we'll also be having an evening Ceili in San Mateo, close enough to the South Bay to lure our friends from down that way (and even our colleagues in the Clifford Hoban Branch, perhaps!) -- and to keep it all tidy and convenient, these special events

are all part of a single gathering of the new West Region of Comhaltas, taking place on the 23rd and 24th of October.

Many of the details concerning these events are described in the enclosed flyer, but let me add a few words to the larger picture: while our branch has "branched out" into many new activities these past few years, there are many folks interested in Irish music and culture that still know little about us. An infusion of enthusiasm and new ideas could do a lot to keep our activities vibrant and growing, so I would strongly encourage you to mention this "mini-convention" to friends you think might be interested in attending. Because of the scope and magnitude, we will be charging admission to some of the weekend's events, and are asking participants to register ahead of time to be sure we can accommodate everyone. Please pass along this registration form to interested parties if for some reason you won't be able to attend personally... but of course send in your own registration for the weekend as soon as you can! Late October may sound far off, but it's less than eight weeks away.

Slán,  
Michael R.

## GENERAL MEETINGS

The next General Meetings of the Membership will be on **Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> and October 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.** at the United Irish Cultural Center (2700 45<sup>th</sup> Ave. at Sloat).



COMHALTAS CEOLTÓIRÍ ÉIREANN IS IRELAND'S PREMIERE CULTURAL MOVEMENT, FOUNDED IN 1951. WHEN YOU JOIN COMHALTAS, YOU JOIN PEOPLE FROM MORE THAN 400 BRANCHES WORLDWIDE IN SUPPORT OF THE TRADITIONAL IRISH ARTS OF MUSIC, DANCE AND LANGUAGE. WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS. PLEASE CONTACT THE CHAIRMAN, OR MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY FOR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION, OR VISIT US AT [SF.CCEWEST.ORG](http://SF.CCEWEST.ORG)



*Congratulations to newly engaged Katie Grist and Michael Riemer*

IRISH LANGUAGE &  
CULTURAL EVENTS

Oíche Ghaeltachta! Beidh muid ag an Deireadh Seachtaine Gaeltachta an oíche sin i Meán Fómháir! Tá sónraí le fáil sa nóta seo a leannas. An chéad Oíche Ghaeltachta eile: 17 Deireadh Fómhair 2004, i Hayward aríst.

Gaeltacht Night! We'll be at the Gaeltacht Weekend that night in September. See below for details. Next Gaeltacht Night: 17 October 2004, in Hayward.

**Deireadh Seachtaine Gaeltachta**  
(Gaeltacht Weekend: Irish Language Immersion)  
September 17-19 2004  
Venue: United Irish Cultural Center, San Francisco

Three levels of intensive tutorials focusing on spoken language and increasing fluency. Teachers are native speakers of Irish, who travel in especially for this weekend course. Meals and snacks provided; keep practicing Irish between classes. Seisiúin! Bring instruments and your voices for sessions each evening, when we'll enjoy playing music, and sharing songs, poetry, and stories in Irish.

Registration form now available at  
[www.OneSourceGraphics.com/Gaeilge/DeireadhSeachtaine.html](http://www.OneSourceGraphics.com/Gaeilge/DeireadhSeachtaine.html)  
or contact 510 881 5958, or [gaeilge@ccwest.org](mailto:gaeilge@ccwest.org) for information

Thank you.

Nikki Ragsdale,  
Treóraí na Gaeilge, CCE



COOLEY-KEEGAN BRANCH OFFICERS

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<b>Dé Domhnaigh Sunday</b>	<b>Dé Luan Monday</b>	<b>Dé Mairt Tuesday</b>	<b>Dé Céadaoin Wednesday</b>	<b>Déardaoin Thursday</b>	<b>Dé h-Aoine Friday</b>	<b>Dé Sathairn Saturday</b>
<b>August 29</b>  <u>Seisiún</u> 8:30 Plough and Stars	30	31	<b>September 1</b>  <u>Set Dancing</u> 8PM Scruffy Murphy's Sunnyvale	2  <u>Set Dancing</u> 8:00 Plough and Stars	3  <u>Song Seisiún</u> Dan Clark's - SF	4
5	6	7  <u>CCE Meeting</u> 7:30 UICC	8	9  <u>Set Dancing</u> 7:30 Sunset Rec Center 9:30 Plough and Stars	10	11
12  <u>Oíche Ghaeltachta</u> (Gaeltacht Night), 6:30 Hayward  <u>Seisiún</u> 8:30 Plough and Stars	13  <u>Slow Seisiún</u> 8PM Ireland's 32	14	15	16  <u>Set Dancing</u> 7:30 Sunset Rec Center 9:30 Plough and Stars	17  <b><u>Irish Language Weekend</u></b> Deireadh Seachtaine Gaeltachta	18  <b><u>Irish Language Weekend</u></b> Deireadh Seachtaine Gaeltachta
19  <u>Deireadh Seachtaine Gaeltachta</u> <u>Seisiún -</u> 8:30 Plough and Stars	20	21  <u>Slow Seisiún</u> 8:30 Plough and Stars	22	23  <u>Set Dancing</u> 7:30 Sunset Rec Center 9:30 Plough and Stars	24	25
26  <u>Seisiún</u> 8:30 Plough and Stars	27  <u>Slow Seisiún</u> 8PM Ireland's 32	28	29	30  <u>Set Dancing</u> 7:30 Sunset Rec Center 9:30 Plough and Stars	<b>October 1</b>  <u>Song Seisiún</u> Michael Murphy- SF	2
3  <u>Seisiún</u> 8:30 Plough and Stars	4	5  <u>CCE Meeting</u> 7:30 UICC	6  <u>Set Dancing</u> 8PM Scruffy Murphy's Sunnyvale	7  <u>Set Dancing</u> 8:00 Plough and Stars	8	9

### Set Dancing

**1<sup>st</sup> Thursday** - 8PM - Shannon Ceili Band at the Plough and Stars.

**2<sup>nd</sup> through Last Thursday** - 7:30 to 9:30 Lessons at the Sunset Recreation Center (on Lawton at 28<sup>th</sup> Ave.)

Following the lessons 9:30 - Topsy House performs at the Plough and Stars. Dancers are encouraged to contribute about \$5 to help support this great opportunity

**Wednesday's** - 8PM - Josephine Moore's leads classes at the United Irish Cultural Center. Contact Josephine at 650-372-9659 for details

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday** - Scruffy Murphy's in Sunnyvale. Michael Murphy teaches. Lessons begin at 8PM with live music beginning at 9:00. Call 415-564-7188 for details.

### Music Seisiún

**Slow Seisiún** - 8PM Ireland's 32 Pub (3920 Geary Blvd. Between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Ave.) Intended for beginners learning to play traditional Irish tunes. Starting at 9PM 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.

**Slow Seisiún** - 8:30 Plough and Stars -- Michael Duffy is also hosting a Slow Seisiún one Tuesday each month.

**Seisiún** - 8:30 Sundays at the Plough and Stars, various hosts.

**Song and Storytelling Seisiún** are held on the first Friday. For September it will be at Dan (& Maureen) Clarke: 1625 North Point St., San Francisco, 415-775-7773. For October, Michael Murphy will be the host.

Cooley-Keegan Branch of  
**COMHALTAS CEOLTÓIRÍ ÉIREANN**  
P. O. Box 16244  
San Francisco, CA 94116

Address Correction Requested

September 2004 SCÉAL EILE

West Region  
Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann

## Irish Traditional Music & Dancing

October 23-24, 2004

*Come join us for a weekend of lively music, song and dancing!*

*The Saturday Workshops will include fiddle, flute, accordion, whistle, sean-nos singing in Irish, and set dancing, and will be followed by dancing to the music of All-Ireland button accordion virtuoso John Whelan at the Ceili that night in San Mateo (113 S. B Street).*

*John will also be the featured performer at the Concert on Sunday evening from 7 to 10pm at:*

**United Irish Cultural Center**  
2700 45<sup>th</sup> Avenue (at Sloat)  
San Francisco

For additional information, please contact:

Maureen Murphy 415-661-0351  
Josephine Brogan 415-681-4803  
Joannie O'Leary 415-664-6579

*Indicate your choices with a check mark to register*

### Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>

Morning workshops (10am to Noon)	
Workshop	Teacher
Tin Whistle	
Beginning Accordion	John Whelan
Beginning Fiddle	Erin Shrader
Beginning Singing	Nikki Ragsdale
Set Dancing	Michael Breen
Afternoon workshops (2pm to 4pm)	
Flute	Michael Riemer
Advanced Accordion	John Whelan
Int./ Advanced Fiddle	Erin Shrader
Int./ Advanced Singing	Nikki Ragsdale
Set Dancing	Michael Breen
Evening Ceili dance (7pm to 10pm)	
Ceili with John Whelan & Michael Breen	

All above workshops and Ceili will be held at the I.O.O.F. Hall, 113 S. B Street, San Mateo

### Sunday, October 24<sup>th</sup>

FREE events for Children at the United Irish Cultural Center (St. Francis Room) 11 to 1 pm	
Children's Tin Whistle	TBD
Children's Music Workshop	John Whelan

**Also on Sunday:**

- Seisiun at the Plough and Stars 2 - 5pm
- Sunday Dinner at the UICC 5 - 7pm\*
- Sunday Concert at the UICC 7 - 10pm

**Sunday Dinner\*:**

Group dinner Sunday, UICC. **5pm sharp**  
\$25 (includes tax & tip) Please enclose a separate check payable to J. O'Leary.

**Broiled Salmon**     **Mixed Grill**

**Chicken Marsala**     **Leg of Lamb**

Sorry, no substitutions/ cancellations/refunds

## Registration

Please submit a separate form for each registrant, and send payment to:

**Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann**  
**West Region Convention 2004**  
**P.O. Box 16244**  
**San Francisco, CA 94116**

### Individual Events:

All Workshops & Ceili:

Current paid up CCE Members:

\$20 per event (child under 16 - \$10)

Non-members:

\$25 per event (child under 16 - \$12)

Concert: All Concert Tickets: **\$20**

**We are offering a Package which includes 2 workshops, the Sat. night Ceili & Sunday night Concert:**

**Package – CCE Members: \$70**

**Package – Non-members: \$85**

Non-CCE participants may get the CCE rate if their Pre-Registration is accompanied with a completed, paid membership application form. We will accept CCE membership at the door as well.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Tel:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

The West Region consists of:  
California, Oregon, Washington,  
Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah,  
Colorado, Wyoming, Arizona and  
New Mexico.

Within these states we currently have  
three branches:

Cooley-Keegan, San Francisco, CA

Clifford-Hoban, Santa Cruz, CA

Columbia, Vancouver, WA

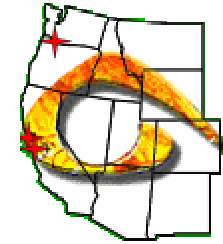
For additional information on the West  
Region, please contact:

Jim Belcher: 425-402-8363



Check our website for more information:  
<http://sf.ccewest.org>

Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann  
PO Box 16244  
San Francisco, CA 94116



## West Region Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann

Proudly Presents a Weekend of

### ***Irish Traditional Music & Dancing***

***October 23 and 24, 2004***

*I.O.O.F. Hall,  
113 S. B Street, San Mateo  
&  
United Irish Cultural Center,  
San Francisco*

Featuring 7-time All Ireland button  
accordion player

### ***John Whelan***

