

SCÉAL ÉILE

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



From the Chairman



A Chairde,

The end of another summer - I hope everyone enjoyed the warmer weather (all four days of it, maybe five?). I'm not quite sure where I misplaced my summer - it was June just the other day, I would swear. Like it or not, however, September is here, along with the new school year, shorter days, and campaign season -- not too much to get excited about there, at least for me.

This particular Fall, however, marks a shift in the local Irish Festival scene. Sadly, for the first time in 16 years, there will not be a Sebastopol Celtic World Music Festival in September, as apparently the community center at which it has been held for many years was unwilling to support it further. Over the years, this event had evolved from a relatively local, purely celtic event featuring many arts, crafts, vendors and activities to become a premiere concert venue for truly world-class performances by musicians in a variety of styles and genres. I attended what is probably my favorite single concert ever there, back in 2006...

Just a month later, however, a new tradition may be starting, in a small town with a staggering density of music per capita, year 'round!). The city of Fairfax, a bit west of San Rafael in Marin, will be hosting an inaugural Irish music festival on October 14th and 15th. Many of the musicians we love to listen and dance to will be participating, and the events will be distributed around town at multiple venues. Scheduling details are still being finalized, but details will be on their web site soon -- contact me if you are curious. Hope to see you there!

Slán,
Micheál R



Events this Month



CCE Night at the UICC - On the third Saturday of the month, September 17th, CCE hosts a night of dancing at the UICC . Music begins at 7:30 with dancing at 8PM to live traditional Irish Music. Admission is free. Contact: Michael Riemer (riemer@ce.berkeley.edu).

On October 15th there will not be a CCE Night -- instead you are encouraged to attend the Fairfax Feis.

South Bay/ Peninsula - On Tuesdays we meet at Lily Mac's in Sunnyvale. Lessons: 7:30; Dance to live music 8-10. \$5 donation suggested. Info: Michael Murphy at irishboogiemanager@yahoo.com 415-999-6062. .

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 - Mary McDonagh and Micheal Minihane teach Set Dancing on the second and fourth Fridays of the month at Brosnan School of Irish Dance from 7 to 9PM. 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)

Children's Ceili - The next Children's Ceili may be held at the Irish Cultural Center on October 9th from 4-6PM. Comhaltas Members. Free. Non Comhaltas Members: \$5 per child or \$10 for two or more children.. Contact Josephine Brogan at 415-681-4803 or josephinebrogan@yahoo.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)



Holiday Ceilis



Save the dates for our holiday Ceilis. More details as the dates approach

November Night Ceili -- October 30th.

Christmas Ceili -- December 11th.



Song and Storytelling



The next Singing and Storytelling Seisiún will be hosted by Oceanlight on September 2nd.

3373 St. Michael Drive,
Palo Alto
(650) 494-1332
fiddledancer@yahoo.com

The October Seisiún host is Michelle Valdez.
220 Bayview Avenue,
San Jose.
408.254.2252
valdezma@att.net

The November host is Michael Jones.



Congratulations



Congratulations and best wishes to Katherine Scanlon who celebrates her 80th birthday in September. Katherine is a long time member of Comhaltas. In the twilight hours on Cole Street, it is not elves working to get our newsletter ready for mailing, but Katherine hard at work, folding, labeling and stamping it. This is a tremendous help to us as it is very time consuming. She also opens up her home to us on Wren Boys night and puts on a great spread for the weary Wrens. Katherine attends all our Ceilis during the year and helps out on the door, and brings some of her great baked goods to share. Congratulations Katherine from all your friends in Comhaltas.



Call for Volunteers



Please help support Celtic and folk music and public radio by taking pledges at the KALW pledge drive on Saturday, September 17th. Volunteers are needed between 2pm and 8pm during the station's Celtic, folk, and bluegrass programs. Any time you can spare during that time period is appreciated—you do not need to volunteer for the whole 6-hour shift (although that would be fine too!). Food and training provided as well as on-air recognition for Comhaltas. Please contact Jennifer Mahoney at jenny.mahoney@gmail.com or 415 216-5490 if you can help out.



Fundraising Opportunity



You can help raise funds for Comhaltas by purchasing any day grounds tickets for the Charles Schwab Cup Golf Championship, which will be held at Harding Park, San Francisco, on November 2-6, 2011. Any day grounds tickets cost \$25. 75% of the proceeds will benefit Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann and 25% of the proceeds will benefit The First Tee of San Francisco, a program that teaches young people life skills through golf. You can purchase tickets by going directly to this link - <https://www.schwabcuptfc.com/tickets/forward.php?C=CCE> or you can also contact Josephine Brogan at 415-681-4803 or josephinebrogan@yahoo.com and she can order tickets for you.



Deireadh Seachtain Gaeltachta



Bígi Linn!

The 13th annual Deireadh Seachtaine Gaeltachta (Irish language Immersion Weekend) takes place September 30 - October 2. This event features intensive tutorials focusing on spoken language and increasing fluency. Four class levels, beginning to advanced. Teachers are native speakers of Irish who travel into SF for this event. Meals included. Venue is UICC. Bring instruments & voices for sessions each evening -- playing music, & sharing songs, poetry, stories & craic in Irish.

More info, pictures, and online registration at: <http://www.OneSourceGraphics.com/Gaeilge/DeireadhSeachtaine.html> or contact 510 881 5958, or cce_gaeilge@ccewest.org



CCE Classes



CCE sponsors the following classes at the UICC.

Adult Irish Language
Children's Tin Whistle
Children's Fiddle
Children & Adult Bodhran

These classes will resume in mid-September. For more information, please contact Josephine Brogan at josephinebrogan@yahoo.com or 415-681-4803. Pre-registration and payment is required to secure a place for all classes.



General Meeting



General Meetings of the Membership are held on the first Tuesday of the month. The next ones will be on September 6th and October 4th starting at 7:30 at the UICC.

This is a members' meeting and all members are encouraged to attend in order to plan activities for the rest of 2011 and for 2012.



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. Shannon Ceili Band typically plays on the 1st and 2nd Thursday; Topsy House on the 3rd and 4th and last Thursday;
- Dancers are encouraged to contribute \$5 to support the live music.

Tuesdays:

- Lily Mac's in Sunnyvale. Lessons: 7:30; Dance to live music 8-10. \$5 suggested to support the live music.

Mondays:

- Starry Plough in Berkeley: Ceili dancing on Mondays. Lessons from 7 to 9PM and dancing to live music from 9 to 11PM. Contact: John Slaymaker.

2nd and 4th Fridays:

- Brosnan School of Irish Dance in San Rafael: From 7 to 9 pm. There is a \$5 charge for this class. Contact: Mary McDonagh (irishsetdancer@yahoo.com), Micheal Minihane (michealminihane@yahoo.com)



Seisiún



Slow Seisiún:

- Junior Seisiun/slow seisiun is now held one hour prior to each Children's Ceili at the UICC. Please check the calendar for details and dates.

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, check above for details.

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

MEÁN Fómhair 2011

De Dómhnaigh SUNDAY	De Luan MONDAY	De Mairt TUESDAY	De Céadaoin WEDNESDAY	Deardaoin THURSDAY	De h-Aoine FRIDAY	De Sathairn SATURDAY
Aug 28 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	29	30 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lily Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	31	Sept 1 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	2 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Oceanlight Palo Alto	3
4 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	5	6 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lily Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	7	8 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	9 <u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Rafael	10
11 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	12	13 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lily Mac's Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	14	15 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	16	17 <u>CCE Ceili</u> UICC 8PM w/ Live Music
18 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	19	20 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lily Mac's Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	21	22 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	23 <u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Rafael	24
25 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	26	27 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lily Mac's Sunnyvale <u>Song Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	28	29 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	30	Oct 1



CO-CHAIRPERSON: MICHAEL DUFFY (CCE_CHAIR@CCEWEST.ORG)
 CO-CHAIRPERSON: MICHAEL RIEMER (CCE_CHAIR@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
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 YOUTH OFFICER: SEAN O'DONNELL

DÉIRIADH FÓMHAR 2011

DÉ DOMHNAIGH SUNDAY	DÉ LUAN MONDAY	DÉ MARI TUESDAY	DÉ CÉADAOIN WEDNESDAY	DÉARAOIN THURSDAY	DÉ h-Aoine FRIDAY	DÉ SATHAIRN SATURDAY
Sept 25 <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	26	27 <u>CCÉ Meeting</u> UICC 7:30PM <u>Set Dancing</u> Lily Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	28	29 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	30	Oct 1
2 <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	3	4 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lily Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	5	6 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	7 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Michelle Valdez San Jose	8
9 <u>Children's Ceili</u> UICC 4-6PM <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	10	11 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lily Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	12	13 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	14 <u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Rafael	15 <u>Fairfax Feis</u> Fairfax Live Music
16 <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	17	18 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lily Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Song Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	19	20 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	21	22
23 <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	24	25 <u>Set Dancing</u> Lily Mac's, Sunnyvale <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	26	27 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	28 <u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Rafael	29
30 <u>November Night Ceili</u> UICC 7PM w/ Live Music	31					

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

U.I.C.C. - 2700 45th Ave. (At Sloat Blvd.), San Francisco, (415) 661-2700 www.irishcentersf.org

Lily Mac's - 118 S. Murphy St. Sunnyvale (between Washington and Evelyn Aves)

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

Brosnan School of Irish Dance - 1879 2nd Street, San Rafael (415) 259-0992 brosnanschool.com

You can also visit the following websites for events:

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

Santa Cruz CCE - Clifford-Hoban Branch - www.folkplanet.com/cce

The 1st Annual FAIRFAX FEIS

(pronounced Fesh)

October 14th & 15th, 2011

Festival of Irish Music and Dance

FEATURED ARTISTS:

Girsa, Todd Denman & Friends, Shay & Michael Black, Brosnan School of Irish Dancing, Culann's Hounds, Kyle Alden, Lucia Comnes Band, Gerry Carthy, Colm Ó Riain, The Gas Men, Gerry Forde, The Mild Colonial Boys, Dale Russ, Jack Gilder, Dave Cory, Pat Hamilton, John Pedersen, The Toast Inspectors and many more.

Visit www.fairfaxfeis.com for details, schedule and to purchase tickets.



TICKETS INFORMATION:

(Kids under 12 free)

Friday night 8:30PM – Until Closing

All venue ticket*: \$15 (3 venues, 6 bands)

Single venue at the door: \$7

Saturday Pavilion Concert tickets:

Fairfax Pavilion Concert 11AM – 7PM:

\$30 at the door, \$25 purchased online
(8 hours of music and dance)

Saturday night multi-venue ticket*:

7:30PM – Until Closing: \$15 (music on
multiple stages around Fairfax)*

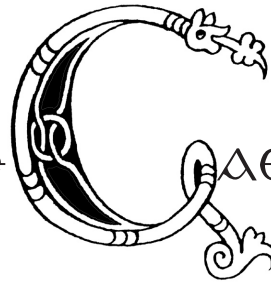
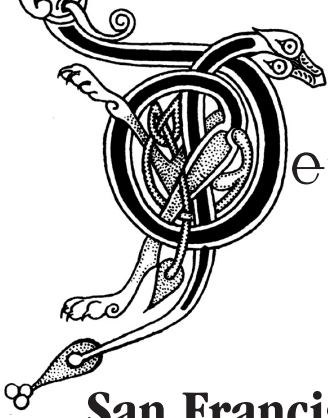
Does not include Pavilion Concert

Single venue ticket at door: \$7

*Multi venue performances throughout Fairfax Friday and Saturday nights include musical performances at **THE SLEEPING LADY, PERI'S, 19 BROADWAY, IRON SPRINGS, SORELLA CAFE, NAVE'S BAR and FAIRFAX COFFEE ROASTERY.**



Produced by Heartbeat Music and
The Fairfax Chamber of Commerce 2011©



San Francisco Bay Area Irish Language Immersion Weekend

Uimhir a Trí Déag! Year Thirteen!

September 30 – October 2, 2011

(6 PM Friday through 4:30 PM Sunday)

Four levels, intensive tutorials focusing on spoken language and increasing fluency. Our teachers are native speakers.

Meals and snacks provided — continue practicing Irish over lunch and dinner!

Seisiún! Bring instruments and your voices for sessions each evening, when we'll enjoy playing Irish music and sharing songs, poetry, stories, a little dancing, and other craic *as Gaeilge*.

- ☉ **Leibhéal 1**, (no Irish, or a smidgin), for absolute beginners, and those who may have made a start already, but are still learning beginner basics.
- ☉ **Leibhéal 2**, (lag), for intermediate learners, who've studied Irish enough to know the basics reasonably well, can participate in a very simple communications, and want to increase their skills.
- ☉ **Leibhéal 3**, (sásúil), for higher intermediate students who may understand or read a good bit of Irish, yet lack practice with hearing or speaking Irish, and seek confidence to make the leap into more conversation.
- ☉ **Leibhéal 4**, (maith) do dhaoine ar mhaith leo snas a chur ar a gcuid Gaeilge. Déanfar staidéar ar fhoclóir nua-aimseartha, saibhreas na teanga, litríocht, filíocht, béaloideas agus an saol chomh-aimseartha.

This language course is geared to accommodate adults at all learning stages, from those just starting to those who are advanced but desire practice and polish. There will be four levels— advanced, high intermediate, intermediate, and beginner. Class tuition is by specialist teachers who use proven methods of language instruction and are themselves native speakers. The teachers are coordinated by Oideas Gael, and travel to San Francisco especially for this course. Each day's study consists of intensive tutorials with attention directed toward spoken Irish and aimed at correct pronunciation, proper idiom, and development of contemporary vocabulary. The intention is to foster conversational ability and fluency. Between classes, over meals, and during our seisiún each evening, you are encouraged to keep practicing your Irish with people from all levels while enjoying the craic— it is of great benefit to hear Irish spoken 'live' around you, taking part to whatever degree you are able! (*There's opportunity for an extra seisiún Sunday after the course ends, for those who want to stay.*)

Course fee: \$355.00, includes tuition and food (sandwiches, soup & fruit for supper Friday evening, cheese & Irish bread & coffee/tea available each morning, coffee/tea breaks, and full meals for lunch and dinner Saturday and lunch Sunday). Out-of-town attendees to make their own accommodation arrangements. We can provide suggestions if needed. The course will be held at the United Irish Cultural Center, in S.F.

Space is limited— please register early!

Cancellation Policy: Course fees—less a \$75 handling charge— are refundable up to 1.September.2011 (1 month before the course).

For more information, call 510-881-5958 or e-mail cce_gaeilge@ccewest.org, *Treoraí na Gaeilge, Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann, Cooley-Keegan Branch.*

To register by post, fill in this coupon and send it, together with your check or money order for \$355.00, made out to N. L. Ragsdale (for Deireadh Seachtaine Gaeltachta). *Payment must be made in advance to secure your place on the course.*

Name _____

Address _____

tel. _____ e-mail _____

Do you have knowledge of the Irish language? yes no a bit

		maith	sásúil	lag
<i>Inis dúinn faoi do leibhéal Gaeilge:</i>	Comhrá	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Scríobh	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Léamh	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Send to: N. L. Ragsdale, re: Deireadh Seachtaine Gaeltachta, 22661 Linden Street, Hayward, CA 94541-3121.

You may also register online at onesourcegraphics.com/Gaeilge/