

SCÉAL ÉILE

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

From the Chairman

Dear Friends and Members,

The St. Patrick's Day Céilí in San Mateo was from our point of view a success. Many thanks to all of our members who attended to show their support. To those who did not attend, I'd have to say that you missed a great time! The Shannon Céilí band was 'on', as was Michael Murphy. And the Hibernians paid for the band and provided a corned beef and cabbage dinner (Which was really good), plus the less traditional fare of hot dogs and crisps for those who did not want the corned beef. I'd especially like to thank the Hibernians for their support in the event.

We also continued our tradition of dancing at several local hospitals and homes to bring a bit of craic to those who would otherwise be without. Thanks to all the volunteers who made this possible.

We also again took second place in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in San Francisco! I'd like to thank the many volunteers who helped construct, dance, walk and take apart the float when all was said and done.

The CCÉ night at the U.I.C.C. was well attended, our table for dinner stretched the length of the Member's room. Following dinner the music portion of the night was excellent. We made the awards of the Kevin Mallen Children's Music Scholarship to Sean O'Donnell and Linnea Sepe-Forrest that night. Sean O'Donnell demonstrated his ability by playing with the band.

We told the O'Donnells earlier but Judy Forrest was taken completely by surprise. A fun night was had by all, and we may consider more such nights in the future!

But March is coming to a end and with that, less than a week away, the Convention looms on the horizon. I'll be attending along with many others from San Francisco. After that, a number are off to Ireland for a bit of holiday. Once I get back things should return to a steady, more relaxed pace.

Slán,
Michael Duffy

General Meetings

The next two General Meetings of the Membership will be on Tuesday, April 19th and May 3rd at 7:30pm at the United Irish Cultural Center.

Congratulations

A Happy Easter to all our members and a Special Happy 93rd Birthday on Easter Sunday to Fr. Joe O'Reilly, a long-time supporter of our branch!!!

We would like to congratulate Eileen Moriarity who turned a young 90 years, several weeks ago now. We regret being late with our greetings, but have celebrated with Eileen at the many events she supported us at over the past month! Happy Birthday, Eileen, and all the best.



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)

St. Patrick's Day Parade

The Cooley Keegan Branch owes a huge Thank You to Kasey Millere, our "artistic director" for the 2005 CCE Float in the Parade. Also thanks to Michael M. (Dance), Michael R. (Music), and Kelle (Scenic Painting and Signs) for all their efforts and patience in putting this winning float together.

The following is Kasey's article on the parade, along with thoughts by her daughter, Martine, who we are proud to have as one of our dancers. Please watch next month's issue of Sceal for the continuing story of those who worked to make our float such a fun and lovely one: .

"Congratulations to the many, many people, young and old (plus everyone in between), who participated in the annual Wearing of the Green. I am proud to announce that we won second place in the San Francisco St. Patrick's Day Parade.

I want to thank everyone who participated: the people who came to the first planning meeting, Cindy who sewed, our painter Kelly, Kevin for all his past art work, the group of 9 who build the float (in half a day) and the ones who broke it down and stored it away, people who gathered our supplies and drove our props, our wonderful musicians, the person who got the generator, the group of 3 who choreographed our four dances, our singer (Thursday night bartender), to all the dancers, our banner and flag carriers, our "villagers" and walkers, our "Kids at Large" and their parents, our elders who came to ride with us on the float, to all who donated funds, candy, truck, driver, warehouse space, (to my sister whom I ignored that day), and, last but not least, the poor people I talked to on the phone a billion times about "this, that, and the other thing". (Wow...I hope I didn't forget anyone!!!) To you all I want to say THANK-YOU SO MUCH!!! You gave me such a wonderful experience! This is such a special community and I feel truly blessed to be a part of it!!!

Kasey

"This is the 3rd year I have been involved in the St. Paddy's Day Parade and the 2nd year that we have won 2nd place. I was there helping to build the float and I was one of the step dancers out in front of the judges. The float looked fabulous and dancing was so much fun. All in all, I think everyone involved had a great time and I can't wait until we get to do it again next year."

By Martine MillerE Age: 13

Benefit Concert

A benefit will be held for Liam Dorgan. on Sat. April 30, 2005 at St. Gabriel's Hall (41st Ave at Ulloa, SF.). Liam, who previously lived in SF moved to Cork and was diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor. To help in his treatment and support of his wife and 3 young children, friends in the Irish Community are sponsoring this benefit. Music by Shades of Green (Louise Crossan & band). For info, contact Joannie at 415 664-6579

Gaeilge - Irish Language

Oíche Ghaeltachta, Dé Domhnaigh, 17 Aibreán. Hayward, 6:30 i.n. (3ú Domhnach de mhí) - comhrá as Gaeilge agus seisiún ceoil agus amhránaíocht ar an tsean-nós. "Adh an phóta" don dinnéar: 6:30; seisiún thart fá 8:00 i.n. An chéad ceann eile: 16 Bealtaine 2005, in Hayward. Seoaladh agus treoreacha le fáil: gaeilge@ccewest.org, (510) 881-5958

Gaeltacht Night, Hayward, Sunday 17 April, 6:30p.m. (3rd Sunday of the month) - conversation in Irish and a music and sean-nós singing session. "Pot luck" dinner: 6:30; session: about 8:00 p.m. Next one: 15 May 2005, in Hayward. Address and directions: gaeilge@ccewest.org, (510) 881 5958.

Song and Storytelling

The next Irish Song and Storytelling Seisiún will be hosted by Dan & Maureen Clarke in San Francisco on Friday April 1st from 8:00pm until 11-ish.

Dan's address:
1625 North Point Street, San Francisco, CA
(415) 775-7773, clarkedan@yahoo.com



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April 2005

DÉ DOMHNAIGH SUNDAY	DÉ LUAN MONDAY	DÉ MÁIRT TUESDAY	DÉ Céadaoin WEDNESDAY	DÉARDAOIN THURSDAY	DÉ h-Aoine FRIDAY	DÉ Sathairn SATURDAY
					1	2
					Song Seisiún Dan Clarke San Francisco	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			Set Dancing Fiddler's Green	Set Dancing Plough & Stars		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Slow Seisiún Ireland's 32			Set Dancing Fiddler's Green	Set Dancing Sunset Rec Center Plough and Stars		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Oíche Ghaeltachta Nikki's House		Slow Seisiún Plough and Stars CCÉ Meeting U.I.C.C.	Set Dancing Fiddler's Green	Set Dancing Sunset Rec Center Plough and Stars		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Slow Seisiún Ireland's 32			Set Dancing Fiddler's Green	Set Dancing Sunset Rec Center Plough and Stars		Benefit Concert for Liam Dorgan St. Gabriel's Hall

Fiddler's Green - 333 El Camino Real, Millbrae, (650) 697-3419

Ireland's 32 - 3920 Geary Blvd. (Between 3rd and 4th), San Francisco, (415) 386-6173

I.O.O.F. Hall - 113 South B Street, San Mateo

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

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

Sunset Rec Center - 2201 Lawton St. (At the corner of 28th Ave.), San Francisco, (415) 753-7098

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



Set Dancing



Every Wednesday: Fiddler's Green in Millbrae at 8:00pm. Please contact Josephine for information (650) 372-9659.

1st Thursday: Plough and Stars in San Francisco at 8:00pm. Music by the Shannon Céili Band.

2nd through last Thursdays:

- Lessons at the Sunset Recreation Center in San Francisco at 7:30pm. At Lawton and 28th Avenue. Taped music.
- Plough and Stars in San Francisco at 9:30pm. Music by Topsy House. Dancers are encouraged to contribute \$5 to help support the band.



Seisiún



Slow Seisiún:

- Ireland's 32, starting at 7:30pm on the 2nd and last Mondays of each month. This is intended for beginners learning to play traditional Irish tunes. 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 second to last Tuesday of each month. This Seisiún follows the same format as the Ireland's 32 Slow Seisiún.

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

Song and Storytelling Seisiún: Held on the first Friday of each month, check the for exact details.

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