

# SCÉAL ÉILE

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



## From the Chairman



A Chairde,

Here we are, delving into our busy season! March is always an exciting time for Irish organizations, of course, but afterward many members of our branch will be heading off to the convention in April as well. This year, there are some special events in addition to the usual seasonal festivities (details for which can be found within this issue).

As in previous years, the kickoff to the season was the Patrick O'Dea workshop and ceili a few weeks ago. It was great to see so many members and friends show up and enjoy both Patrick's ebullient teaching and leading, and the wonderful live (and lively!) music provided by Darcy, Autumn and George.

Like many of our other events, we held the workshop at the United Irish Cultural Center—a remarkable resource that we can all too easily take for granted. Our newer Comhaltas members may not be aware that our branch began its life as a club within the UICC. Over the years we have held many special events there, including the music tours from Ireland, the first North American Convention that we hosted in San Francisco, and of course the Emerald Extravaganza that was such a success. In recent years we have also expanded the scope of regular classes and meetings there beyond the Thursday dancing, to include music instruction for children and Irish language classes. In a very practical sense, the UICC is our "home".

This year the UICC is commemorating its 35th anniversary in style with a major celebration on Saturday, March 6th and a special fundraiser on Sunday, March 7th. These are coming up quickly, so please see the flyers included describing the events and schedules, and make a point of coming out to support this venerable organization. I look forward to seeing you there!

Slán, Michael R.



## Events this Month



**St. Patrick's Ceili** - Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 10PM at the UICC. See attached flyer for details.

**Children's Ceilis** - Sunday, April 18<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 6 pm at the Irish Cultural Center. 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.

**CCE Night at the UICC** - On the third Saturday of April (April 17<sup>th</sup>) CCE will host a night of dancing at the UICC. Music begins at 7:30 with dancing at 8PM to live music. Admission is free. Contact: Michael Riemer (riemer@ce.berkeley.edu).

**South Bay** - *Due to lease issues with the Britannia Arms set dancing in the South Bay has been suspended for now.* If you know of a suitable location or for more information contact: Michael Murphy at irishboogieman@yahoo.com.

**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 Friday 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)

*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)

## Seachtain na Gaeilge 2010

### Clár (Program)

*saor in aisce ! (these events are free):*

**9 Márta:** Oíche Seachtain na Gaeilge: Oíche chomhrá ar shíuil – craic & deochanna, ceol, siamsa, filíocht, scéalaíocht, amhránaíocht & spraoi... (music, song, stories, poetry, fun & craic). Grúpa: “An Chuallacht”; ionad: Beckett’s Irish Pub, 2271 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley. 7.00PM.

**14 Márta:** Aifreann Gaeilge le cór, rinceoirí & ceoltóirí, agus fáiltiú & seisiún ceoil ina dhiaidh (stiúrthóir an chóir: Aodh Ó Tuama). (Mass in Irish with choir, dancers, musicians; reception with music session follows). St. Joseph’s Church, 582 Hope Street, Mountain View. 11.30AM.

**21 Márta:** An 5ú Feis Scannán Gaeilge & Ceoil Traidisiúnta na hÉireann, agus Aithris Filíochta Gaeilge. Curtha i láthair ag Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann (CCÉ). Togha scannán & rogha gearrscannán as Gaeilge, agus seisiún traidisiúnta ceoil, amhránaíochta, & aithris filíochta comh maith (...abair píosa linn!). Fáilte roimh cách! tuilleadh eolais: <http://sf.ccewest.org>.

(Presented by CCÉ, Cooley-Keegan branch. The pick of feature films and shorts in Irish [English subtitles], & traditional open session of music, song, and poetry reading. Bring a poem in Irish to read aloud! All are welcome!) United Irish Cultural Center, 2700 45th Ave, San Francisco. 3.00–9.30PM.

Tuilleadh Eolais  
(more information):  
[cce\\_gaeilge@ccewest.org](mailto:cce_gaeilge@ccewest.org)  
510.881.5958  
<http://sf.ccewest.org>

## CCE Classes

CCE sponsors many weekly classes at the UICC. Classes resume next year.

**Adult Irish Language** - Saturday mornings  
**Children’s Tin Whistle** - Tuesday nights  
**Children’s Fiddle** - Wednesday nights  
**Children & Adult Bodhran** - Wednesday nights  
(may switch back to Saturdays)

Please contact Josephine Brogan for more information at [josephinebrogan@yahoo.com](mailto:josephinebrogan@yahoo.com) or 415-681-4803. Pre-registration is required for all classes.

## Song and Storytelling

The next Singing and Storytelling Seisiún will be hosted by Juanay on March 5<sup>th</sup>

131 Saratoga Ave #3107  
Santa Clara, CA 95051  
(408) 296 4034

On April 2<sup>nd</sup> Jillian Barber will host the seisiún  
2615 Shasta Road  
Berkeley, CA 94708  
(781) 974 7957

On May 7<sup>th</sup> Michael and Miriam will host.  
412 Winding Way  
San Carlos, CA 94070  
(650) 622 9598

## Membership Corner

Thank you to everyone who renewed your membership. I apologize for the time it took some of the checks to be deposited and appreciate your patience and help. Your membership supports a 100% volunteer organization and allows us to plan various activities for your entertainment during the year.

If you have requested that your Sceal Eile be sent by US Mail, please contact us if you do not receive your bi-monthly edition – we will not know about the problem unless you tell us.

We will also notify you when the Treoir magazine is shipped from Ireland. The next one is due around the end of March/April.

Please contact Joannie O’Leary for any questions regarding membership: 415 664-6579 or [joannieoleary@msn.com](mailto:joannieoleary@msn.com). Thank you again for your continue support.

## Set Dancing Workshop

A great night was had by all at the set dancing workshop with Patrick O’Dea from Ireland on Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at the United Irish Cultural Center. We had five sets!

This was followed by a Ceili with Autumn Rhodes, George Grasso and D’arcy Noonan playing for us. It was a wonderful night of lively music and dancing.

## General Meeting

The next General Meetings of the Membership will be held on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and April 6<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:30 at the UICC. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.



## Set Dancing



**1<sup>st</sup> Thursday:** Plough and Stars in San Francisco at 8:00pm. Music by the Shannon Céilí Band.

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

**Wednesdays:**

- South bar set dancing suspended for now.

**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.

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

- Brosnan School of Irish Dance in San Farael: From 7 to 9 pm. There is a \$5 charge for this class. Contact: Mary McDonagh ([irishsetdancer@yahoo.com](mailto:irishsetdancer@yahoo.com)), Micheal Minihane ([michealminihane@yahoo.com](mailto: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:** - 8:30 Sundays 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

# MARCH 2010

De Dómhnaigh SUNDAY	De Luan MONDAY	De Mairt TUESDAY	De Céadaoin WEDNESDAY	Deáardaoin THURSDAY	De h-Aoine FRIDAY	De Sathairn SATURDAY
Feb 28 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	Mar 1	2 <u>CCÉ Meeting</u> UICC 7:30PM <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	3	4 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	5 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Juanay Santa Clara	6
7 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	8	9 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	10	11 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	12 <u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Rafael	13 <b>St. Patrick's Day Parade</b> Market St. 11AM Civic Center Plaza
14 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	15	16 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	17	18 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	19	20
21 <u>Feis Scannán Gaeilge</u> Irish Language Film Festival for Seachtain na Gaeilge <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	22	23 <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	24	25 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	26 <u>Set Dancing</u> Bronsan Dance Studio San Rafael	27
28 <u>St. Patrick's Ceili</u> UICC 7-10PM <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	29	30 <u>Song Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	31	Apr 1 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	2 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Jillian Barber Berkely	3



CO-CHAIRPERSON: MICHAEL DUFFY (CCE\_CHAIR@CCEWEST.ORG)  
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 YOUTH OFFICER: SEAN O'DONNELL

# APRIL 2010

DÉ DOMHNAIGH SUNDAY	DÉ LUAN MONDAY	DÉ MÁIRT TUESDAY	DÉ CÉADAOIN WEDNESDAY	DÉARDAOIN THURSDAY	DÉ h-Aoine FRIDAY	DÉ SATHAIRN SATURDAY
Mar 28 <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	29	30 <u>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	31	Apr 1 <u>Set Dancing</u> Plough & Stars w/ Shannon Ceili Band	2 <u>Song Seisiún</u> Jillian Barber Berkeley	3
4 <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	5	6 <u>CCÉ Meeting</u> UICC 7:30PM <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>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>Children's Ceili</u> UICC 4-6PM <u>Seisiún</u> Plough and Stars	19	20 <u>Song 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>Seisiún</u> - Plough and Stars	28	29 <u>Set Dancing</u> UICC for class Plough & Stars w/ Topsy House	30	May 1

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

**U.I.C.C.** - 2700 45<sup>th</sup> Ave. (At Sloat Blvd.), San Francisco, (415) 661-2700 [www.irishcentersf.org](http://www.irishcentersf.org)

**Britannia Arms** - 1087 South De Anza Blvd, San Jose (near Cupertino border) (408) 252-7262

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

**Beckett's Irish Pub** - 2271 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley (510) 647-1790 [www.beckettsirishpub.com](http://www.beckettsirishpub.com)

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

**Brosnan School of Irish Dance** - 1879 2nd Street, San Rafael (415) 259-0992 [brosnanschool.com](http://brosnanschool.com)

*You can also visit the following websites for events:*

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

**Santa Cruz CCE - Clifford-Hoban Branch** - [www.folkplanet.com/cce](http://www.folkplanet.com/cce)



COMHALTAS CEOLTÓIRÍ ÉIREANN  
THE COOLEY-KEEGAN BRANCH



## *ST. PATRICK'S CÉILÍ*



Special Presentation of our seventh annual  
“Kevin Mallen Scholarship Awards”

- WHEN:** SUNDAY, MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2010
- WHERE:** UNITED IRISH CULTURAL CENTER  
2700 45<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, SAN FRANCISCO
- TIME:** 7PM TO 10PM
- MUSIC:** Live Traditional Music
- ADMISSION:** Adults: \$10 Children: FREE

*For Information, contact Josephine Brogan at (415) 681-4803  
or [josephinebrogan@yahoo.com](mailto:josephinebrogan@yahoo.com)*

*Please visit our website at: [sf.ccewest.org](http://sf.ccewest.org)*