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The CCE 2022 North American Convention is this month!



Finalize your plans for San Francisco ~ April 21-24 ~

https://cceconvention2022.com/

We've been anticipating this event for a long time and no doubt it will be worth our wait. Workshops are planned in a wide range of disciplines: music, dance, language, singing, storytelling and more. There will be four céilís, including a Céilí Mór on Saturday. The schedule will keep you busy, entertained and smiling from 9:00 AM until 2:30 AM!

Don't miss the fun! https://cceconvention2022.com/

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Warm wishes for a happy and blessed spring to all. The festivities of March have passed and we're now anticipating a spring that, hopefully, will be close to normal for the first time in two years. If the virus continues on its current path, this season truly will seem like a rebirth for us all. Pretty exciting stuff and definitely reason to count our blessings and all we took for granted prior to living through a pandemic.

Speaking of March festivities, we're hopeful that having in-person celebrations allowed Irish musicians and artists an opportunity to bridge some of their financial losses of late. We look forward to many more live events this spring and beyond.

There is much happening this month as our world reopens. The Patsy Touhey Weekend, organized by Joey Abarta, will be a memorable way to end the month. Leading up to it will be innumerable events at the ICC, history courses with Sean Murphy, what looks to be a 'WOW" category concert at Boston College and, of course, the highlight of the month: the CCE 2022 Convention in San Francisco on April 21st -24th.

I wish you all many blessings this Easter. Please continue to pray for the people of Ukraine and for an end to this needless war that has caused so much unspeakable suffering.

300 bless everyone... Maureen Woods, pro

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Patrick J Touhey Memorial Weekend ~ This long running event will be held April 29th – May 1st at the Canadian American Club. Organized by Joey Abarta, the event draws musicians from across the US as well as Ireland. Workshops, concerts and sessions will be on tap. https://www.patsytouheyweekend.com

<u>Irish History Courses</u> ~ Sean Murphy continues his interesting and well-researched courses. April's topics will be *The Rise of Sinn Féin and the Irish War of Independence* and *The History of County Antrim and Belfast City*. Classes will be held each Thursday from 6:00-7:30 PM. Email <u>seanmurphy630@gmail.com</u>.

<u>Irish Cultural Center</u> ~ The staff at ICC have so many events lined up for April and succeeding months, there's not enough room to list them all. Please check their website for lectures and workshops in Irish crafts, language, history, art, music and dance, as well as a weeklong summer workshop for children. And be sure to pay a visit in person; the building has been thoroughly spruced up and is looking quite spiffy, including the pub which has reopened for Friday and Saturday evenings. https://www.irishculture.org/

BC Irish Studies ~ Gaelic Roots concert with Donegal fiddler Oisín McAuley on April 21st. Oisín is a member of the traditional Irish band Danú and is the Director of Summer Programs at Berklee College of Music. Event is free & open to the public. Gasson Hall, Rm 100,7-9 PM. https://events.bc.edu/event/gaelic_roots_concert_featuring_donegal_fiddler_oisin_mcauley#.YjZ6KerMJD8

<u>CONDOLENCES AND SYMPATHY</u> ~ We send our love and prayers to Theresa McLaughlin, Frances Ross & Sally Harney (& husband Joe) on the unexpected passing of their brother, Joe McLaughlin. May he rest in peace.

We also send prayers to all who have lost loved ones. We wish warm memories may bring you much comfort.

REGULAR BRANCH ACTIVITIES

Monthly Seisiún ~ As of the date we are going to print, a potential day for an April céilí is not set. We will send out a notice when plans are definite.

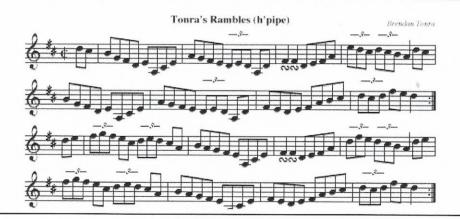
<u>Set/Céilí Dance Workshops</u> ~ Workshops continue to be held every Tuesday evening from 7:30-9:00. Come join the fun! All levels are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Music School ~ The spring semester will wrap-up mid-April. Consider taking on a new challenge or taking your skills to a new level next semester. Classes will reconvene in the fall and are offered in fiddle, flute, tin whistle, button accordion, guitar, bodhran, harp, tenor banjo, mandolin, singing, C/G anglo concertina, and uillean pipes. Classes also are available via Zoom. As one student attests: "Zoom is a great alternative to in person lessons with a nice community feel. It allows out of state students to attend. Did you know there are 6 students in our Tin Whistle Adult Advanced Beginner class, and two are from FL and one from NY? Overall, the majority of students are from MA, but they also come from CA, CT, FL, MI, MN, NY and OH." https://bostonirishmusicschool.com/

EVENTS/NOTICES

<u>Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann</u> ~ All lovers of traditional music are invited to gather in Mullingar July 31st to August 7th for Fleadh Cheoil Mullingar 2022, "The Homecoming".

CCÉ Mid-Atlantic Region Fleadh May 6-8 ~ A block of rooms has been reserved at the Parsippany Hilton (1 Hilton Ct, Parsippany, New Jersey 07054) at the rate of \$154/night, which includes breakfast for two adults and children under 12. This rate is available until April 7th or until the group block is sold out. Use group code IRISH2 when booking by phone: 973-267-7373. Rooms are going quickly, so book soon to not miss out.



For Address updates call Maureen Conway (617) 895-6108 or email mauconway@aol.com For Newsletter items call Maureen Woods (978) 518-0436 or email mo.woods@comcast.net



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