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Tara Lynch ~ Email: tara@bostonirishmusicschool.com



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www.irishculture.org 781-821-8291
200 New Boston Drive, Canton, MA 02021

Merry Christmas!

Happy New Year!



Litir Nuachta ~ newsletter

Reynolds-Hanafin-Cooley Branch • Boston, MA USA

Websites: www.cceboston.org
www.bostonirishmusicschool.com

2025 - 2026 OFFICERS

Chairperson...Alanna Callendrello Vice Chairperson...Regina Delaney Treasurer...Michael Hickey

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Múinteoir Damhsa...Sally Harney • Membership Coordinator...Barbara Boyd

Delegates to Regional Council...Barbara Boyd and Aoife Griffin • Web Master...Eileen McClelland

Honorary Life Members...Kitty Curran • Frank Kennedy • Maureen Keady • Ann Walsh • Barbara Davis • Tara Lynch • Maureen Conway

Provincial Chair...Frankie McCormick • Regional Chair...Tim Quinn • Regional Vice Chair...Bridget English

Membership Year ~ November 1 thru October 31

Dues payable by Nov. 1: Individual Adult Membership \$25 • Second Adult (same address) \$8
Couples \$33 • Jr Membership (under 18) \$5 • Family Membership (with all children under 18) \$40

Make check payable to: Reynolds-Hanafin-Cooley and note Membership on the check memo line

Mail to: Michael Hickey, Treasurer • 100 Woodpecker Road • Stoughton, MA 02072

Or apply/renew online at <https://cceboston.org/membership/>

For Newsletter Advertising Info and/or Rates ~ Call or text Maureen Woods (978) 518-0436

REGULAR BRANCH ACTIVITIES

Monthly Seisiún ~ The first Sunday of each month, October thru June & second Sunday of September, 3:00 - 7:00 pm at the Canadian-American Club, 202 Arlington Street, Watertown. Musicians are invited to join in. There is set, céilí, old-time waltz and other dancing. Admission \$10 members/\$15 non-members. Refreshments served. Remember to bring along your own tea/coffee mug to help save our planet!

Set/Céilí Dance Workshops ~ With Barbara Boyd & Alanna Callendrello are held each Tuesday, September - May, at the Canadian-American Club, 202 Arlington Street, Watertown at 7:30 pm. \$7. *All levels welcome.*

Boston Comhaltas Music School ~ Offers two 10-week semesters in the spring and fall for most traditional Irish instruments, including banjo, bodhran, button accordion, concertina, flute, guitar, harp, mandolin, tin whistle, and uilleann pipes, as well as singing. Rental instruments are available to enrolled students.

<https://bostonirishmusicschool.com/>

~ For address updates call Cait Bracken at (619) 905-8482 or email cait.bracken@gmail.com ~

Δ Chairde,

And here we are at “the most wonderful time of the year.” It’s also time to remind ourselves that the ‘most wonderful’ part is sharing and celebrating our blessings with friends and family and not letting all the wonderful distractions get in the way!

Our Annual General Meeting was held on October 5th. Thank you to all who attended. It was especially appreciated that Tara Lynch and Frank & Regina Kennedy were present to offer their valuable input and institutional knowledge, along with their wonderful selves. Aoife Griffin will become a new delegate to the Regional Council, replacing Michael Hickey. We thank all the continuing officers for their dedication to our branch. The Youth Slow Session held prior to our meeting and October céilí was a tremendous success and will become a regular event preceding our monthly céilís.

Many folks know or know of Elizabeth Sweeney, the Irish Music Librarian at Boston College. Elizabeth has announced her retirement and we’d like to take this opportunity to thank her for her vital work in managing BC’s extensive Irish music collection and also her role in the project to digitally preserve tapes of some of the most prominent Boston Irish musicians of the mid-20th century which “capture uniquely the time and spirit of this evolving musical genre.”

April may seem the distant future, but it’s time to plan your trip to Chicago for our annual North American convention or “Trad Irish Arts Weekend,” as it’s billed this year. The folks in Chicago are known for hosting memorable conventions. Reserve now; it’s likely to be a sell-out.

Many blessings to all this Christmas season and good health to you in the new year ~ Maureen Woods, PRO

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~ Be sure to mention that you saw their ad in our newsletter ~

EVENTS/NOTICES

Monthly Seisiún/Céilí & Youth Seisiún ~ Please join us on **Sunday, December 7th**, 3:00-7:00 pm. Members \$10, non-members \$15. Canadian American Club, 202 Arlington Street, Watertown. Don't forget your coffee cup and thank you in advance for your kind donations of baked goods for tea and raffle prizes. Our monthly seisiún/céilí in January will be held on the 4th. The youth slow seisiún inaugurated last month will continue to precede our céilí, 1:00-3:00 pm.

Weekly Set/Céilí Dance Workshops ~ Every Tuesday with Barbara Boyd & Alanna Callendrello at the Canadian American Club, 7:30 – 9:00 pm. Come have some fun!

Membership Renewals ~ Many thanks to all who have renewed your membership and especially to our new members. It's not too late to send in your renewal form! **Please make check payable to Reynolds-Hanafin-Cooley.**

CCÉ North American Youth Chairperson Emily Bergen ~ hosts a virtual session every Sunday at 7:00 pm. Contact her at emilyberginccce@gmail.com for details.

CCÉ North American Convention 2026
Chicago, IL, April 9th – 12th
Registration is now open!
Book now!
<https://cceconvention.com/>

CONDOLENCES & SYMPATHY

~ To Máirín Conneely and her family on the loss of her dear husband of 56 years, Michael, on July 16th. A longtime RHC member, Michael hailed from the Aran Island of Inish Meáin. Máirín devoted herself for many years to lovingly caring for her kind, generous husband as he lived with dementia. Sadly, Mairin also lost her dear sister this past summer.

~ To John McGrath's wife Patty and his entire family on his passing on October 29th. A kind & warm gentleman, John's enthusiasm for set dancing was cut short by Parkinson's disease. He'll be remembered fondly by his many friends.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Irish Cultural Centre, 200 New Boston Drive, Canton
 Check the ICC website for more events:
<https://www.irishculture.org/whats-on/events>

Set dance workshop ~ with Cait Bracken, Mondays, 7:00 pm. All levels welcome! \$10

The Friday Night Session Group ~ open session every week, 7:00 pm; all musicians, singers and toe-tappers are welcome.

The ICC has many Christmas events scheduled: Chloe Agnew, Meadhb Walsh, Michael Londra, An Irish Christmas with ISHNA, as well as the ICC annual open house and 50/50 draw. Check their website (above) for details.

Irish Pastoral Centre ~ is now hosting a Community Lunch prior to the monthly Trad Session on the 3rd Sunday of each month, 12:30 – 2:30. The session immediately follows. 540 Gallivan Blvd., Dorchester. www.ipcboston.org

Irish History Courses ~ Sean Murphy's upcoming offerings can be found on his website <https://www.irishhistory.online/>. Sean's set dance class is held at O'Shea's Old Inn, West Dennis. Tuesdays, 5:30 pm.

Cork Club Dance ~ December 13th, music by Tommy Byrne & Jerry Bailey. January 10th, music by Mossie Coughlin. K of C, 15 Winslow St. Arlington, 7:00-10:00 pm. Refreshments served.

St. Stephen's Day Ceili ~ is being planned once again by the South Shore Ceili Club. More information will be sent via email.

Danvers Christmas Ceili ~ will be held on Sunday, December 28th, 3:00 pm. Danvers Art Association, 105 Elliot St, Danvers.

Set Dancing Opportunities ~ we'd like to list the various set dance opportunities in our area on our website. We'd appreciate if organizers would send along contact information and any details you would like listed to mo.woods@comcast.net.

Bill Black & Cat's Melodeon ~ session at The Auld Triangle, 412 Main Street, Hyannis. Saturdays, 3:00-5:00 pm. Also performing at "Belong to Each Other" Fundraiser at The Daily Brew, 412 North Falmouth Hwy, Dec 28th. For time and more events on the Cape & south shore, visit <http://www.capeirish.com>
 Bill composed the "prayer tune" below in honor of Adelia Summers, an 8 year old who battled bravely but unsuccessfully against brain cancer. <http://www.adeliastrong.com>.

Tune courtesy of Bill Black <http://www.capeirish.com/itt/>

The WONDER GIRL HORNPIPE (for Adelia)

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Irish History - Two Courses Every Month
Each month there will be a general history topic and a history of one of the 32 counties. Courses are presented live on Zoom on Thursday evenings. Course fee is \$90 a course. Visit irishhistory.online or email seanmurphy630@gmail.com



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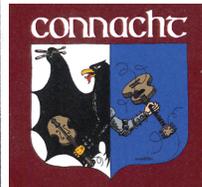
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OPEN IRISH MUSIC SESSIONS!
Every Friday Night, 7:00-10:00pm
at the Irish Cultural Centre
200 New Boston Drive, Canton MA



Family-friendly ICC Pub opens at 5:00pm.

- Open session for Musicians & Singers of all ages and abilities.
- Irish Food & Drink available to purchase.

Space Available

Space Available