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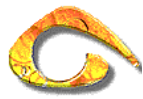
The mission of the Irish Cultural Centre,
is an ambitious and crucial one: to preserve and
promote Irish culture and heritage through music,
dance, arts, history, language, sports, festivals
and other cultural events and activities.

Find us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn.

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

Happy Easter!

Happy Patriots Day!



Litir nuacht ~ newsletter

Reynolds-Hanafin-Cooley Branch • Boston, MA USA

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

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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 Branch CCÉ; 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 second Sunday of September and then the first Sunday of each month, October thru June, 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,

We trust that everyone took advantage this past month of the many opportunities in our area to celebrate our Irish heritage. We now look forward to spring, which is often reluctant to present itself in New England. After reading Mairin's contribution below, I know it's due to the Old Cow!

There is a wealth of events upcoming this April, especially our CCÉ convention in Chicago and the Mid-Atlantic Fleadh in Parsippany, as well as many community happenings. Happy Easter and Happy Spring!

Many thanks to Máirin Uí Chéide for sharing her knowledge of the folklore, traditions and language of Ireland. Here is this month's contribution:

"Aibreán/ April is the last month of Spring in the Irish Celtic Calendar, the first day of Spring being February 1st. April showers are the life breath for our May flowers to bloom in profusion! Of course, the first few days of April can be stormy, rough and bitter cold, and folklore tells us it's all because of an old cow who boasted of surviving March's harsh weather to make it into April. March was not happy about this and asked to borrow a few days from April to give the old cow her comeuppance!! Henceforth if March roars out like an irate Lion making sweet April wait to give us milder days, that's what is called The Old Cow Days or The Days of the Brindled Cow, Laethanta na Bó Riabhaí. So, here's hoping March was way too busy, and missed the old cow's lamenting this year! May April bring us the soft warm showers we yearn for and the promise of bright sunny days."

Aibreán

*Aibreán, aibreán, teacht an earraigh,
Grian agus báisteach ag damhsa sa spéir.
Bláthanna buí ag dúiseacht go mall,
Céad fáilte romhat, a mhí an tsonais*

In closing, I offer my warmest wishes for blessings, love and peace this Easter. I recently saw this quote from Pope John Paul II, during a speech to the people of Galway in September 1979, which I'll share in that spirit:
"Love is never defeated, and I could add, the history of Ireland proves it."

...Maureen Woods, PRO

EVENTS/NOTICES

Monthly Seisiún/Céilí ~ Reminder: There will be no seisiún/céilí in April due to Easter falling on the first Sunday. Please join us on **Sunday, May 3rd**, 3:00-7:00 pm. Members \$10, non-members \$15. Canadian American Club, 202 Arlington Street, Watertown.

Weekly Set/Céilí Dance Workshops ~ are held every Tuesday with Barbara Boyd & Alanna Callendrello at the Canadian American Club, 7:30 – 9:00 pm. Spend an evening enjoying traditional dancing and some laughs!

Appreciation for a Generous Gift ~ We are always grateful for the contributions we receive to support our mission to preserve and promote traditional Irish music and culture. A grand thank you to the **Horrigan Family 2022 Charitable Foundation** for the recent grant we received. According to one of the foundation trustees, John Horrigan always enjoyed his Irish heritage and in that spirit the grant is to enable us to ensure the tradition continues. Go raibh maith agat.

LAST CALL!!
CCÉ North American Convention 2026
 April 9th – 12th
 Hilton Chicago/Northbrook
 2855 Milwaukee Ave, Northbrook, IL

CCÉ Mid-Atlantic Fleadh 2026
 April 17th – 19th
 Crowne Plaza Princeton
 900 Scudders Mill Road, Plainsboro, New Jersey
 ~ Competitions, Sessions,
 Hall of Fame Banquet & Ceili and more ~
<https://ccemidatlantic.com/mid-atlantic-fleadh>

CONDOLENCES & SYMPATHY

Sadly, once again this month we extend our heartfelt condolences to Helen McGowan Gardner and all her family. Helen’s brother, Daniel J. Shea, Jr., passed on March 5th, just three weeks after Helen’s sister Maureen. May he rest in peace and may Helen find comfort in her warm family memories.

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.

“Murder of Michael Collins” ~ Saturday, April 4th, 7:30 pm.

Ladies Auxiliary Annual High Tea & Fashion Show ~ Sunday, April 26th, 2:00 pm.

Irish Pastoral Centre ~ Community lunch 12:30 – 2:00 pm & Monthly Trad Session, 2:00-4:00 pm. Sunday, April 19th. 540 Gallivan Blvd., Dorchester. <https://www.ipcboston.org/event-list>

Boston College Gaelic Roots ~ Matt Malloy & John Carty. Thursday, April 16th, 4:00 pm. Theology & Ministry Library. Free & open to the public. <https://events.bc.edu/event/gaelic-roots-ft-matt-malloy-and-john-carty> (held at Brighton campus.)

Irish History Courses with Sean Murphy ~ Check Sean’s website for upcoming classes which will begin in late April. <https://www.irishhistory.online/events-all>. Sean’s set dance class is held at O’Shea’s Old Inn, West Dennis. Tuesdays, 5:30 pm.

Bill Black & Cat’s Melodeon ~ session at The Auld Triangle, 412 Main Street, Hyannis. Saturdays, 3:00-5:00 pm. <http://www.capeirish.com>

Patrick Touhey Memorial Weekend ~ “A gathering to memorialize one of America’s finest uilleann pipers.” Friday, April 17th- Sunday, 19th. Canadian-American Club, 202 Arlington St., Watertown. <https://www.patsytouheyweekend.com/>

Set Dance Pop-Up Class ~ collaboration between Casco Bay Set Dancers & Seacoast Set Dancers. Sunday, April 26th, 1:30 -3:30 pm. Dane Street Program Center, 4 Dane St., Kennebunk, ME.

Spring Céilí ~ with our friends at the Irish American Home Society, 302 Commerce St., Glastonbury, CT. Sunday, April 19th, 3:00 pm. Refreshments served. \$15

Tunes on the Charles ~ “An authentic Irish Celebration in the Heart of Boston.” Concerts, classes, sessions, céilís, and more. Thursday, April 30th – Sunday, May 3rd. <https://www.crirish.org/>

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

The SPRING GARDEN (hornpipe)



~ For newsletter items or suggestions, call or text Maureen Woods (978) 518-0436 or email mo.woods@comcast.net ~

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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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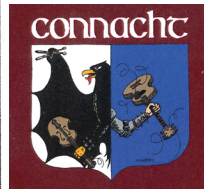
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