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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



2025 - 2026 OFFICERS

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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 ~

A Cháirdé,

Once again this month, Máirin Keady has an uplifting, seasonal message for us:

May 1st has been an important date in Irish calendars for hundreds, and perhaps thousands, of years. There are many superstitions attributed to the day and countless stories relating to them, too many to recount here! To me, as a child, it was the promise of summer and long sunny days, to run and roam through the meadows and bogland. Somehow, I don't remember wet dreary weather in those bygone summers! Bealtaine is a time for celebrating the coming of summer, honoring the 'good people' (fairy folk) and warding away ill fortune. The most exciting element of May was the majestic call of the cuckoo. "The Cuckoo comes in April, She sings her song in May, She changes her tune In the month of June, And July she flies away". It was always breaking news in the villages when the cuckoo was heard. Even though we knew she would lay her eggs in some other unwitting birds' nest, the cuckoo was and still is beloved and revered in Ireland. There are countless references to An Chuach in many of the sean-nós songs I sing. Beautiful women were often compared to the Cuachín! Thomas McDonagh, one of the 1916 Easter Martyrs wrote a poem, "May Day", and speaks of the cuckoo:

The winds are there now and the green of May

On every feathery tree-bough, tender on every hedge:

Over the bog-fields there larks carol to-day,

And a cuckoo is mocking them out of the woodland's edge.

And speaking of our Irish songs and our pride in our language, I had the distinct pleasure of teaching Amhráin Ghaeilge to the children attending classes at Melodrama in Quincy this week. It was such a pleasure to witness the enthusiasm and desire of these children to learn songs like "Cúcúí, a chuachín", "Dillín o Deamhas" agus "An bhfaca tú mo Sheamanisín." Many of the children attending have Irish parents and were eager to share with them what they learned. I left there with a light heart, proud of my heritage. Tá suim sa teanga Gaeilge anseo i Massachusetts agus ar fud no tire uilig.

Cúc úí n, a chuínachín!

Cá ndéanaid an Samhradh?

Cúc úí n, a chuínachín!

Déanaid ins' an ghleann é.

Beidh an dreoilín 's a chlann ann.

With wishes for a joyful Mother's Day to our CCÉ moms. May all the love you've given come back a hundredfold on this special day.....Maureen Woods, PRO

EVENTS/NOTICES

Monthly Seisiún/Céilí ~ Our ceili on Sunday, May 3rd, will be part of the Tunes on the Charles event. 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!

Mid-Atlantic Fleadh ~ Congratulations to our members who participated in the fleadh. You made us proud. We will post the results in our next newsletter.

**CCÉ Cultural Experience 2027
April 1st – 4th**

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

****Early Bird Special through May 31, 2026****

\$275 per person (\$50 discount)

<https://cce-canada-east-region.bloomtickets.ca/event/1006>

GET WELL WISHES

Sending many warm wishes for a quick recovery and continued good health to Joe Harney.

CONDOLENCES & SYMPATHY

To Hughie Gaffney, and all his family, on the passing of his wife of 60 years, Brigid. Originally from Spiddal, Galway, Brigid and Hughie shared 60 years of marriage, raising seven children together. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam dílis.

To Mary Ann Concannon, her family and friends, on the passing of her husband of 59 years, Thomas (Tommy). Tommy will be remembered fondly by our RHC members as the host of many dances, weddings, benefits and more at “Concannon’s Village” in Norwell. May he rest in heavenly peace.

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.

Ryan McCombe Trio ~ Saturday, May 10th, 7:00 pm.

Neil Byrne ~ Monday, May 25th, 7:30 pm.

Bernadette Morris ~ Sunday, May 31st, 4:00 pm.

Irish Pastoral Centre ~ Monthly Trad Session, 2:00-4:00 pm. Sunday, May 17th. All musicians, singers, dancers & listeners welcome. 540 Gallivan Blvd., Dorchester.

<https://www.ipcboston.org/event-list>

Irish History Courses with Sean Murphy ~ Classes beginning April 30th: Northern Ireland/6 Counties 1998-2026 and History of County Clare. <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. Performing at the Woods Hole Trad Stroll, Saturday May 2nd.

<http://www.capeirish.com> Rumor has it that four of Bill’s original tunes will be included in the next issue of Treoir!

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. This event will be “a four-day celebration of Boston’s thriving Traditional Irish music and dance community, featuring leading artists from Ireland alongside some of the region’s most respected local musicians. Events will take place across the Cambridge/Somerville corridor.” <https://www.criirish.org/>

Cork Club ~ Monthly dance on Saturday, May 9th, Knights of Columbus Hall, 15 Winslow St., Arlington. 7:00-10:00 pm. \$10. Music by Fintan Stanley. Refreshments served.

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

The MAY MORNING (jig)



~ 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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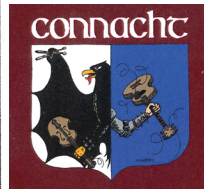
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**Space
Available**

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Available**