

**Comhaltas Ceóltoirí Éireann
Tom Finucane Branch
Rochester, New York**



Newsletter

September/October 2017

**Meán Fomhair
agus
Deireadh Fomhair
2017**

An organization
dedicated to the
advancement of
traditional Irish music,
language, dance and
culture

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Irish Culture Day September 30



*Learn a new instrument
Learn a new tune
Enjoy the music*



Branch website: www.irishrochester.com
Facebook: rochester irish musicians association

Rochester Comhaltas Irish Cultural Day at St. John Fisher College

Date: **Saturday, September 30**

Location: Kearney Hall, St. John Fisher College, 3690 East Ave, St. John Fisher College. The big old steepled building. Here's the tentative schedule:

Saturday September 30, 12:00-5:00

12:00-12:30 Gathering, Cleary Auditorium

12:30-2:00 Workshops A

Whistle (Beginner) with John Michael Ryan

Fiddle (Beginner) with Scott Smith

Traditional Singing with Becky Farrell-Ferrigno and Adie Maher

Button and Piano Accordion with Ted McGraw and Jane Sturmer

Hammered Dulcimer with Mark Ballard

Melody on Frets: Banjo, Mandolin, Guitar, etc. with Ben Hockenberry

Fiddle (advanced) with Billy Henrie

2:00-2:15 Break

2:15-3:45 Workshops B

Irish Step Dance with the Fisher Irish Dance Club

Fiddle (Intermediate/Advanced) with Kit Fallon

Bodhrán with Kate Ballard

Whistle (Intermediate/Advanced) with Ralph Minervino

Harp and Song with Mary Lester

Anglo Concertina with Jim Kimball

[Possible] Mixed Instrument Session Standards with Ben Hockenberry

3:45-5:00 Trad Session

Cathy,
John,
Lynn
at
Genesee
Country
Museum &
Village
Fiddlers'
Fair





Join us this September 8th and 9th as we bring a celebration of Irish and Celtic Culture to Downtown Rochester. The Celtic Festival will feature dozens of performances of music and dance, with competitions, vendors, food, and drink, and activities for the whole family.

Park at the Strong Museum and receive free admission to the festival!

For a map and highlights of the performers at the festival:

<http://rochestercelticfestival.com/>

Besides the Music, there will be lots of food and great Irish/Celtic-themed activities and vendors at the festival!!

Food:

With both Irish and American food, you will not go hungry. We even have some of Rochester's favorite food and dessert trucks on site.

- Temple Bar & Grille will be serving Corned Beef and Cabbage dinners as well as Bangers and Mash
- Roc City S sammich

Other Vendors and Activities:

This year we have many new cultural aspects that will make for a fantastic family fun time. There will be a scavenger hunt, chalk Peace Wall, Irish and Scottish costumed historical people, instrument and dance demonstrations and workshops, hurling hitting cage, and much, much more!

- The Ladies AOH selling Soda Bread
- The Irish Children's Program Info Booth
- Paul Irving Photography
- Rochester St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee
- Tim Shannon
- Mike McCarthy
- Crazy Dog T-Shirts
- A scavenger hunt, hosted by the Irish Children's Program of Rochester will be held from 2-8pm on Saturday.
- Bring your children out to the family playground (An adult must supervise children at all times).



Aoife Scott

The Aoife Scott Band performs at **Lovin' Cup** September 10, 2017

Aoife returns to Lovin' Cup after a very well-received show in 2016, with her band which includes Eamonn Moloney (percussion) and Andy from **Fullset**, and Conor Lyons (fiddle).

DOORS @ 6:30PM SHOW @ 8:00PM
\$20 General Admission

300 Park Point Drive Suite #101
Rochester, NY 14623
Phone: 585.292.9940
Website: lovincup.com



Her sublime voice is a thing of beauty that stops people in their tracks. Fragile and ethereal one minute and strong and vibrant the next, Dublin Folk singer-songwriter Aoife Scott has become a force to be reckoned with on the Irish folk and traditional scene.

With an impeccable pedigree as a member of the legendary Black Family, which includes her mother, Frances, and her aunt, Mary, Aoife is steadily rising to the top of the traditional and folk music scene, while garnering acclaim and recognition both here and abroad as she hones her craft.

"We love Aoife and her new album, Carry the Day. The album and Aoife both deserve major attention. This woman can sing!"

- LiveIreland.com



Another Irish group performing in October:

SKIPPER'S ALLEY, Thursday, October 5, 8pm at Lovin' Cup, \$20 admission.

Skipper's Alley are a modern Irish folk band with an old-school approach. Their influences range from folk revival bands such as Planxty and The Bothy Band to rare, eccentric solo players like Tommie Potts and Séamus Ennis. Once described as "a young Irish ensemble who look like a punk band and sound like The Chieftains" Skipper's Alley specialise in gritty, high-octane Irish dance tunes on Uilleann Pipes, Whistles, Fiddle, Bodhrán, Bouzouki, Flute and Harp, with occasional detours into the dark, sombre melodies of the Irish song tradition. Their second album is due for release in mid to late 2017.

photo on page 10





Celebrate the Erie Bicentennial: Party Like It's 1817

Featuring musicians Jay Ungar & Molly Mason; The Dady Brothers; Dave Ruch; Kimball, Canning, Bolt & McClure; George Ward; Erie Canal storytellers
New documentary: "Boom & Bust: America's Journey on the Erie Canal"

The Heartland Passage Tour - a unique performance event bringing troubadours, performers and storytellers - and the local premiere of a documentary by an Academy Award winning independent filmmaker - is traveling the length of the Canal from **September 2 - 23**. The Western New York and Finger Lakes stops include:

September 10: **Rochester**, with Jay Ungar & Molly Mason, Kimball et. al.

Location: The Little Theatre, 240 East Avenue, Rochester, NY

Admission: Members, seniors, students: \$8

Also:

Special screening of *Boom and Bust: America's Journey on the Erie Canal*.

Academy award-winning filmmaker Paul Wagner

September 14: **Medina**, with the Dady Brothers, Dave Ruch, George Ward

September 15: **Brockport**: with Dave Ruch, George Ward

September 16: **Macedon**, with Dave Ruch, George Ward

September 19: **Lyons**, with The Dady Brothers, George Ward

September 22: **Buffalo**, with Jay Ungar & Molly Mason, Kimball et. al.

Full schedules can be found here: <http://citylore.org/heartland-passage-tour>, and our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/heartlandpassagetour>

I would be happy to answer any questions. I hope to see you there!

Contact: Karen Canning

glowtraditions@goart.org

[585-991-9870](tel:585-991-9870) cell



Sean Nós is Coming to Rochester!

Rebecca McGowan will return to Rochester for a Sean Nós workshop hosted by Rochester Irish Arts.



Sean Nós is "old style" Irish step dancing, with low to the ground footwork and a relaxed upper body. Rebecca hails from Boston and dances with Kieran Jordan Dance, as well as teaching classes for children and adults. We're delighted to have her back! See www.rns.dance for more information.

When: Saturday, September 23, 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Where: Rince Na Saor Irish Dancing, located at Dance Biz in Longview Plaza, 1742 Long Pond Road, just off Route 390.

Cost: \$25

Register: Jean Smith, rochesteririsharts@gmail.com

In October, Rince Na Saor will offer beginner Sean Nós classes!

Our 45 minute classes are offered in short term sessions, and are open to adults and teens. No experience in Irish dance is necessary. See www.rns.dance for more information.

When: 4 Fridays, 8:30-9:15 p.m., October 6, 13, 20, 27.

Where: Rince Na Saor Irish Dancing, located at Dance Biz in Longview Plaza, 1742 Long Pond Road, just off Route 390.

Cost: \$35 for the session

Register: Kathy Whitfield, kathyw@rns.dance.
or download and mail in a registration form from www.rns.dance.



Music club activities**September 2, 2017**

Box Club, 10:00 am – 12:00, meets at home of Jon Berkner

407 Edgewood Ave in Brighton, 585 953 5670. jonasan@rochester.rr.com

Flute and Whistle Club, 10:00 am – 12:00

Pittsford Recreation Center, 35 Lincoln Avenue, Pittsford, NY

October 7, 2017

Box Club, 10:00 am – 12:00, meets at home of Jon Berkner

407 Edgewood Ave in Brighton, 585 953 5670. jonasan@rochester.rr.com

Flute and Whistle Club, 10:00 am – 12:00

Pittsford Recreation Center, 35 Lincoln Avenue, Pittsford, NY

September 8

Irish singer Nathan Carter concert at Rochester's Hochstein Performance Hall on September 8. Nathan is a young musician who's had great success in Ireland, and is embarking on his North American debut with a 12-stop tour. Alongside his band and fellow Irish singer Chloë Agnew, Nathan will perform old country favorites, folk songs, and adult contemporary classics. For more information on Nathan, and to learn more about the tour, you can visit nathancarter.ca

Musicians from The "Monday Session" performs at Paddle and Pour at Schoen Place

*Irish American Cultural
Institute, Rochester, NY*
www.rochesteriaci.org

Irish Film Feis – 2017-2018

October 1: The Wind that Shakes the Barley
November 5: Kisses
January 7: Jimmy's Hall
February 11: Intermission
March 4: Philomena
April 8: In America

4-7 pm at Briarwood at St. John's Meadows
Buffet dinner included; cash bar available.

For brochure, contact Katherine McMahon:
kmcfly@gmail.com

Comhaltas Rochester T-Shirts are only \$15.
To purchase a t-shirt,
Contact Kate Ballard at
katekballard@gmail.com

Rince Na Saor

Rochester's Non-competitive Irish Dance School
since 1997!

Classes for ages 7 to Adult
at Dance Biz
Longview Plaza--1742 Long Pond Road



www.rns.dance
227-6614



T-shirt: front

Brennan Genealogical Research

Christopher Brennan, MA, MLS
Genealogical and Historical Researcher
116 Wildwood Drive, Rochester, NY 14616
585-319-3806 cristoir@twc.com

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Branch Officers - 2016

Cathoirleach (Chair)
Mark Ballard
Leas-Cathoirleach (Vice Chair)
John Ryan
Runai (Secretary)
Bill Hallahan
Cisteoir (Treasurer)
Lynn Pilaroscia
Míchoir (Auditor)
Shawn Casey
Youth Protection Officer
Ben Hockenberry

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Ted McGraw
John Ryan
Ceili Dancing
Arlene Miller
Membership
Bill Hallahan
Singers' Session
Chris Brennan
Music Learner's Session
Mark Ballard
Website
Ben Hockenberry
Newsletter
Bill Hallahan
Music Instrument Library
Mark Gowman
Concerts & Festivals
Dave Halligan
John Ryan

Look for us on Facebook:

Rochester Irish Musician's Association

Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann

MEMBERSHIP AND DUES for 2017

Dues:

First Adult	\$25.00
Second Adult	\$ 8.00
Family	\$40.00
Junior	\$ 4.00

Make check payable to: "CCE Rochester"

Mail to: Comhaltas
6658 North Avon Road
Honeoye Falls, NY 14472

Your donations are tax-deductible.

Irish Rochester CDs are still available.

This classic, 2-CD set, produced by John McGraw contains many of the traditional tunes you will hear at sessions as well as local musicians from the Rochester area. **Only \$20.**

To purchase a CD, contact Lynn Pilaroscia:
pilarins@frontiernet.net

Irish music on the internet:

<http://www.clare.fm/listen-live/>

JOIN COMHALTAS AND SUPPORT IRISH MUSIC AND CULTURE.

CHECK YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD FOR EXPIRATION DATE.

If you have ideas or articles or announcements or photos to include in this newsletter, please send them to Bill Hallahan at whallah3@naz.edu.



Comhaltas-Sponsored Music Sessions, Dancing, Singing

1st Sundays of every month:

4:00 pm

The American Hotel

7304 E. Main Street, Lima, NY

2rd Friday of every month:

7:30 pm CCE music session

The Greenhouse Cafe

2271 E Main St., Rochester, NY 14609

Last Sunday of every month:

Johnny's Irish Pub

1382 Culver Road, Rochester, NY

3:00 pm Music Learning Session with Mark Ballard

3:00-5:00 pm Singer Session with Chris Brennan

5:00 pm Regular session

Set Dancing Every Wednesday:

7:30 pm

McGinnity's Bar & Restaurant

534 West Ridge Road

No experience, no partner necessary.

Instructors: Arlene Miller (585) 663-4438. James Coughlin, caller.

OTHER TRADITIONAL IRISH & CELTIC MUSIC SESSIONS

Every Monday:

Colie's Café, Nazareth College campus

Leader: Jane Sturmer

6:00-7:00 pm waltz session

7:00-9:00 pm: jigs, reels, etc. Beginners are especially welcome

Ben's website for the Monday session:

<https://sites.google.com/site/rocnyslowsession/>

Every Tuesday:

7:00 pm (study session) **Charlotte Tavern**, 2 River Road & Lake Ave.

Every Saturday:

Barry's Old School Irish, Webster.

2:00-5:30 pm.

Leader: John Ryan

First Wednesdays:

7:00 pm

Scottish Sessions at 7:00-9:00 PM at the Pittsford

Recreation Center (Spiegel Community Center), 35 Lincoln Avenue Pittsford, NY 14534



Skipper's Alley
October 5, 8 pm
at Lovin' Cup

