



Newsletter

Irish American Community Center New Haven Gaelic Football & Hurling Club



IACC

President: John Cullinan (203) 506-5417 jcullinan59@yahoo.com **Vice President:** Rich Ranciato (203) 410-4543 richard.ranciato@comcast.net
Treasurer: John McGowan (203) 314-7073 haveaharp@sbcglobal.net **Financial Secretary:** Alison McCormack (203) 272-4465 almack325@sbcglobal.net
Recording Secretary: Anne Hines (203) 488-4902 ahsheep@aol.com **Building Engineer:** Michael Faherty (203) 640-8927 mfaherty@snet.net

NHGF&HC

President: John Mackey (203) 314-9683 john.mackey@sbcglobal.net **Vice President:** Sean Cox Please email seancoxannaduff@aol.com
Secretary/Treasurer: Joan Hall (203) 469-4252 hjoan68@gmail.com

CLUB HOURS:

Wednesday & Thursday: 7pm-1am; Friday & Saturday: 7pm-2am; Sunday: 1pm-9p

December 2015

Mark Your Calendars

Nov.

Sun. 29th Toys for Tots Drive 1pm

Dec.

Sun. 6th Christmas Bazaar/breakfast 9am

Sun. 6th Youth Sports Banquet 5pm

Tues. 8th General Membership Meeting 7.30pm (new time)

Sat. 12th Pioneer Dance 7pm

Sun. 13th Children's Christmas Party 11 - 1pm

Sun. 13th Christmas Concert "Girsha" 3.30PM

Thurs. 17th Retirees Christmas Party 12.30pm

Fri. 18th Members "Happy Hour" 4-8pm

Tues. 29th Blood Drive

Upcoming in January 2016 - save the date:

Sat. 9th Kids' Pj party 7-10pm

Sun. 10th Social Meeting 12 noon

Sat. 16th Jan. Annual Pride of New York Concert

Sat. 30th Membership drive dinner 7pm

Sun. 31st Claddaghs & Taras 12-3pm

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS

1st Tuesday 7:30 PM - Executive Board

2nd Tuesday 8:00 PM - General Membership

1st Thursday 7:30 PM - Youth Irish Football

3rd Thursday 12:30 PM - Retirees

1st Saturday 1:00 PM - Genealogy

REGULAR WEEKLY MEETINGS

Wednesday - 7:30 PM - Gaelic Language

Thursday - 7:30 PM - Curlews Music

Upcoming Events

WELCOME - NEW MEMBERS

Please make yourself known to our Officers and Club members when visiting so we can personally welcome you to our Club: Mark O'Neill, Wallingford, Sean Maher, Milford, Steven Silk, North Haven, Ryan McFarland, Milford, James W. Cavanaugh, New Haven, John and Catherine Crawford, Guilford, Bob and Sue DeRose, East Haven, Jamene Farrell, West Haven, Amanda Gavagan, Middletown, Noreen Ann Leopardi, Deep River, Sharon Pask, Hamden, Alice Sette, Wolcott, Stephen and Kimberly Stratton, Hamden, Geraldine Faherty and Ryan Vedrani, Clinton.

CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE Sun. 29th Nov. 1 - 5pm

This year our club is joining up with Yale New Haven Children's Hospital on Sunday, 29th November at 1pm for our annual toy drive. Please come to our club, bring a toy and have fun. John Saville from 92.5FM will DJ the event. Take a chance on a huge stocking raffle filled with boys and girls toys. We will have a bake sale and many raffle prizes. Sgt. Romeo Chavez USA Marine Corp. will be present. All volunteers welcome. Santa and his Elf will stop by, Elsa is coming and she may bring Olaf. Face painting, balloon characters etc. will keep the kids entertained. Pizza and hot dogs will be available. For further information contact Alice Sette @ 203-823-0448 or asette6236@gmail.com. If you are unable to attend a box is at the club for your convenience to donate a toy.

CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST/BAZAAR Sunday 6th Dec. at 9am

Sunday, 6th December 9 - 2pm ~ Irish Breakfast, Raffles, great variety of Irish Goods, huge Bake Sale and over 25 Vendors ~ Breakfast at 9am - noon. cost: \$12.00 adults, \$6.00 children.. Anyone wishing to order Irish meats must preorder with Anne Hines 203 488 4902. We are looking for volunteers to do some baking for the bake sale. Donations are welcomed for the raffles.

YOUTH SPORTS BANQUET Sunday 6th Dec. at 5pm

The Youth Football program will hold its annual Awards Banquet on Sunday 6th December at 5pm. We've had a great year both in the league play and the CYC tournament in San Francisco, and will certainly have a lot to cheer about at the banquet. For more info, please contact Mike Faherty (mfaherty@snet.net) 203 640 8927.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING Tues. 8th Dec. at 7.30pm

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW TIME FOR MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Plan on attending our membership meetings and keep abreast of all the great things that are happening. It is your Club and the Executive Board welcomes all help, concerns and comments from you. Hope to see you on Tuesday, 8th Dec. at 7.30pm.

PIONEER DINNER DANCE Sat. 12th Nov. at 7pm

Annual Pioneer Christmas Dinner Party will be held at the club on Saturday 12th December at 7pm. Reservations and information Clare Murrihy, 203-288-6327

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY Sun. 13th Dec. 11 - 1pm

All children and grandchildren of members ages up to 11 years old are invited to Lunch with Santa at our club on Sunday, 13th December 11am - 2pm. Sign up sheets are at the bar or contact Angelique Burke at aburke@hbcommunications.com. Deadline for sign up is 6th December. Please let Angelique know your child's name, sex, age and interests (sports, dolls etc.). Volunteers needed for this event - contact Angelique.

GIRSHA - CLASSIC IRISH CHRISTMAS CONCERT Sun. 13th Dec. 3.30PM

On Sunday December 13th 2015 the Irish American Community Center, 9 Venice Place, East Haven, CT is sponsoring a wonderful, not-to-be-missed 'Classic Irish Christmas Concert' at 3:30 p.m. in the afternoon. The concert will feature the very popular and talented all girl group 'Girsa' who put on such a wonderful concert at the club last spring and also at the Irish Festival in North Haven. These performers will bring the magic and meaning of an Irish Christmas come alive with their outstanding rendition of the old Irish ballads, Christmas carols and folk songs, all beautifully woven together within this concert of Irish music and dance. GIRSA (Gaelic for girls) is an Irish band made up of young women from the Pearl River area of New York. They have captured the hearts of audiences everywhere with their melodious voices, electrifying musicianship and witty banter. Together they bring a creative mix of fiddle, accordion, banjo, tin whistle, bodhran, guitar and piano to their show. Their individual instrumental and vocal excellence combine to create a powerful force that is breaking into the forefront of Irish entertainment in the U.S.A. This is the perfect way to get into the true spirit of the Christmas season. Donation: \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. For

tickets and information: John O'Donovan 203-281-3563 or Pat Stratton 860-664-1600.

RETIRES CHRISTMAS PARTY Thurs. 17th Dec. at 12.30pm

The retirees annual Christmas party will be held on Thursday 17th December at 12.30pm. Reservations are a must. Please contact Sharon Kearns at 203-488-6605 or Pat Donohue at 203-248-4325. Please also remember to bring a gift for Toys for Tots at the December meeting.

HAPPY HOUR/CHRISTMAS PARTY Fri. 18th Dec. 4-8pm

All members are welcome to join us for happy hour/Christmas party on Friday, 18th December from 4 - 8pm. Each member will receive a free drink with proof of membership.

CHILDREN'S PAJAMA PARTY Sat. 9th Jan. 7-10pm.

Parents, know your youngsters are having supervised fun with a Disc Jockey, dancing, playing games while you take a break for dinner, theatre etc. on Sat. 9th January from 7-10pm. More info in next newsletter.

2016 ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE QUEEN SELECTION

Please take this opportunity to represent your club and the Irish Community as our 60th Queen at the 2016 St. Patrick Day Parade and for the entire year! Contest Date: Saturday, February 13, 2016. Application Deadline: Sunday, January 31, 2016. Contestants must be 17 years or older and a member or daughter/granddaughter of a member of one of the four Irish associations in New Haven - New Haven Gaelic Football and Hurling Club, West Haven Irish American Club, Knights of St. Patrick, & Ancient Order of Hibernians. Applications are available on www.iacc-ct.com and www.stpatricksdaysparade.org. For more information or questions, please contact Fiona Stewart at parade.queen@gmail.com or (203) 915-8943.

8th Annual Taras and Claddaghs Workshop

Save the date!! The time of year has come again for our girls and young women to gather and celebrate their heritage. Join the 2015 Parade Queen Margaret Heeran and Honor Attendant Siobhan Dacey for the 2016 Taras and Claddaghs Workshop on Sunday, January 31st from 12-3 PM at the Gaelic Club. For more information or questions, please contact Fiona Stewart at parade.queen@gmail.com or (203) 915-8943.

YOUTH FOOTBALL INDOOR PRACTICES

Youth Gaelic football indoor practices dates are: January 24th and 31st, February 14th and 28th and March 6th and 20th. All practices are from 2.30 - 4pm. on Sundays at the Connecticut Sportsplex in North Branford. As always, all new players are welcome.

KNIGHTS OF ST. PATRICK'S EVENTS

November 27th The Knights of St. Patrick Monthly Friday Night Music continues on Friday, November 27th from 7:00 – 10:00 PM. This month we are pleased to be hosting The Brandt Taylor Band featuring KOSP member Nick D'Errico on drums.

December 10th The Annual Car Raffle will be held on Thursday, 12/10 from 6:00 PM à 9:00 PM. Tickets are \$100.00 each with a maximum of only 500 tickets sold. Contact Mike York for tickets 203 671 1298. Let's make every effort to sell out this year!!!

December 18th December's Monthly Club-Run Dinner will be held on Friday, 12/18 @ 6:00 PM. This event will be combined with December's Monthly Music with Laura Clapp returning to the Grand Hall. The menu will be Roasted Chicken and the cost of the dinner is \$13/person (children ½ price).

December 30th December's Monthly Dinner will be held on Wednesday, 12/30 @ 6:00 PM. The menu will be soup, salad, pasta, and Surf and Turf (sirloin & stuffed shrimp). The cost is \$18/person (children ½ price).

PRAYERS and SYMPATHY

Our prayers and sympathy to Peggy Carlson on the death of her husband, club member Fred Carlson, Guilford.

GET WELL

Get Well Wishes to Joe Foley, Ansonia, Frances McGreevy, Martin Donohue and Rita Johnson, Hamden and Janet Butterworth, New Haven.

A SPECIAL REQUEST:

A Blood Drive scheduled for Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Hamden on Tuesday December 29, 2015 will be dedicated to Janet Butterworth who is a member of the parish. Janet, who is currently hospitalized, requires ongoing blood transfusions on a bi-weekly basis. This is your opportunity to roll up your sleeve in support of one wonderful long serving club member who is now in need of our help. For information call John O'Donovan 203-281-3563.

COAT OF ARMS FUNDRAISER

The newly renovated lounge is now named "The Heritage Pub" because each member is a part of the long history and heritage of the New Haven Gaelic Football & Hurling Club / Irish American Community Center. By purchasing your coat of arms it will be displayed in "The Heritage Pub" and the proceeds go towards the club's building renovations. Cost: \$60.00 per coat of arms. It's not just for Irish surnames – You can order any surname. Money back guaranteed if your coat of arms cannot be found. Please see the enclosed order form or go to the IACC website at www.iacc-ct.com under Heritage Pub for info. Any questions please email theresa.obrien@live.com.

Surname for Coat of Arms: _____

Surname Origin (i.e. Irish, Scottish, English, etc.): _____

Purchaser's First/Last name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Number of Coat of Arms: _____ Total Cost: _____

Mail order form and check (payable to IACC/NHGF&HC) to:

Coat of Arms Fundraiser, C/O Theresa O'Brien, 41 Bedford Avenue, Hamden, CT 06517. Any questions please email theresa.obrien@live.com. Gift Certificates Available. Each coat of arms is permanently imprinted in full color on a brass toned shield, which is then affixed to a handsome 8" x 10" hardwood cherry-stained plaque.

HAVE YOU DONATED TO THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND? IF NOT, PLEASE MAKE YOUR DONATION TODAY. UPDATED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT CAMPAIGN-THANK YOU

We would like to thank the following for their generous donations to our capital improvement campaign:

Gold \$1,000 to \$4,999

Sean Cox, Carroll MacFarlane, Michael Hanlon, John and Wendy Mackey, Sean Scollan (Anna and Daniel Murphy), John and Kathleen O'Donovan, Michael and Anne Faherty, John and Alison McCormack, John and Anne Cullinan, Jay and Kelly McGuinness, Miriam and Joe Lillis, William and Rosemary Barrett, Geoffrey Maxwell, Bill & Denise Mackey, George Waldron, Edward & Sarah Foley, Dennis & Andrea Regan, Vincent & Maureen McCabe, Sean O'Murray, State Farm Companies Foundation, Eileen and Kevin Roxbee, John & Masie O' Keefe, Fred & Kathleen Saunders, Bob & Maryalce Lee, Margaret & Charlie Starrs, Robert & Carmel Larese, Gerrard Keniry, Carole Brown, Edward Shanahan.

Silver \$500 to \$999 Diane Wright, Patrick and Carolyn Hosey, David and Agnes Flynn, Dominic Sheehan, Richard Ranciato, Martin & Pat Donohue, Peter and Mary Burke, Carolyn Westerfield, Ann Brady, Aiden Shine, Dan

Turbett, Robert & Maria Roche, Anne & John Hines, State Farm Good Neighbor Grant Program, via John McCormack, Michael Ryan.

Bronze Less than \$500 Timothy Wall, Joan Hess, Vincent Kiernan, William and Eileen Tinker, Richard and Margaret Hopkins, Richard and Maryette Russell, Lisabeth and Shawn Hemingway, John and Louise Ortoleva, Joseph and Teresa Gill, Justine Miller, Susan Mc Nerney, Vivian Baker, Patricia O'Connor, Tom and Maura Sullivan, Mary Parker, David and Elizabeth O'Keefe, George O'Day Jr, Joseph and Cecilia Martin, Bruce and Mary Dapkins, Claire Boylan, Ronald and Geraldine Remer, John and Adela Collins, Kevin and Frances Woods, Cornelius and Joan Foley, Michael and Agnes Sheehan, Ann Pervier, Michael Malone, Robert T Gilhuly, John and Audrey Hanniford, Claire & William Brayfield, Edward McMahon, Anna Crowe, The Selmani Family Joan, Michael Klara, Catherine McMorrow, Kathleen Turbett, Rosemary Balsam MD, Michael & Margaret Shea, Dr. Dori Cole, Joe Nolan, Daniel & Emma Kirby, Katherine Heeran, Daria McCabe, Fr Philip Sharkey, Rory McCormack, Ann Smyth, Francis and Cristine Supple, Gerry and Anne Marie Rooney, Kirby & Laurie Hawkes, Carole B. Brown, John McGowan, Denis Pomfret, Theresa O'Brien, Brendan & Maura Donohue, Maureen C Delahunt, Joseph Foley, Mary (Crissie) C. Parker, Georgeanne Flanagan, David & Elizabeth O'Keefe, Susan Mc Nerney, Michael & Andrea Hogan, Jason & Jillian Simms, Bob & Maryette Russell, Russell & Pauline Mower, Nathalie Manniel, Mary Wallace, Bruce & Mary Dapkins, Patricia Stratton Bailey, Anne & Paul Paulsen, Eileen Tozzo (Courtney), Ann Pervier, Shelia & John Haverhampf, Brian Burgh, Frank Supple, Mary Jane Conroy, Daniel Mallon, Anne Marie Mulholland, Edward & Eileen Donadio, Geraldine Faherty, Vincent & Claire Cleary, Donald & Bernadette White, Eileen Mulvey, Helen Kobylenski, David Howe, Thomas Sbabo, Margaret Jensen, John & Marie Lawless, Dorel Benson, Mike & Maryann Dean, Brendan Faherty, Connor, Deirdre and Seamus Dolan, Emmet & Elizabeth Moore, Judy Doyle and Mike Clifford, Enda Cox/Donna Borzillo, Laurel Blauvelt, Robert & Shirley Meagher, Thomas Brennan, Rita & Christian Brayfield, Patricia Wall, Alice Marsh, William & Justine Early, Dermot Mulhall, Tommy O'Malley, Ann Purcell, Tom & Linda Morrissey, Sharon Kearns, Pat Heslin, Cathy & Bobby Catapano, Susanne Bowery, Dawne Flynn, George Pritchard, Paul Rook, John (Jay) Cannon, Patrick & Mary Begley, Cheryl Kling, Susanne Cooney, Marion Smith, Margot L'Heureux, James & Sandra Hanrahan, Betty Hunter, Mary & Christopher Flanagan, Audrey Mealia, Joseph Lynch, Frank & Brigid White, Sheila Garvey, Joan Harlow, Patricia & Sam Bello, John & Nancy Callahan, Irene & Walter Heller, Bernadette McInerney, William & Mary Connolly, Jim & Mary Lyng.

Due to the support of these listed members we have raised **\$51,341** in cash and pledges to date. **THANK YOU!** The capital improvement campaign is necessary to help raise funds for interior and exterior improvements which include remodeling the front façade on the building, the lounge area and kitchen. Additionally, a large outside patio and pavilion will be constructed and the expansion of our field to the minimum Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) requirements. These improvements will make our facility more enjoyable for all our members. The removal of rock and excess dirt is on-going. Thank you to the GAA for helping us financially with our field project. We are again asking for those who have not contributed to this campaign to do so today. This is our club and we need your support to complete these key projects. Every dollar will bring us closer to our goal. Thank you again for those who have already contributed. Please remember that the Irish American Community Center, Inc. is recognized as a 501C3 not-for-profit organization by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Therefore your charitable contributions are deductible to the extent allowable under IRS regulations. Please check with your tax advisor for any limits on your contribution. Thank you again to those who have supported this campaign and in advance to our remaining members for your anticipated generous support. Mike Faherty, Campaign Chairman, 203-640-8927.

ANNOUNCEMENTS IN THE NEWSLETTER

If you would like to make an announcement in the newsletter i.e. engagement, marriage, birth, graduation from college, or an achievement of any kind, please submit via email to Anne Hines at ahsheep@aol.com by the 15th of the month.

EMAILS / NEWSLETTER

If you would like to receive emails from the IACC which include the info on the latest events and/or the newsletter by email please send your name and email address to theresa.obrien@live.com.

Please send newsletter items by the 15th of each month to Anne Hines at ahsheep@aol.com.

WEEKLY MEETINGS

Keep in mind every Wednesday at 7.30pm the Gaelic Language classes are held and every Thursday the Curlews practice and play in the lounge at 7.30pm.

YOUTH FOOTBALL MEETING

The Youth footballers meet the first Thursday of each month. Games, schedules, fundraisers etc. are discussed. Please come out and support these young athletes. More information call Chairman Mike Faherty 203 640 8927.

<p style="text-align: center;">LOCAL IRISH RADIO PROGRAMS Sounds of Ireland Sun. 9:00 A.M.-11:00 P.M. AM 1220 WQUN or www.wqun.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Echoes of Erin Sun. 12- 2pm Monday 6-8pm FM 88.7 WNHU www.wnhu.net</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Music of Ireland Thursday 6:00-8:00 P.M. FM 88.7 WNHU or www.wnhu.net</p>

UP TO DATE MAILING ADDRESS

If you have moved or are planning on moving please keep the Club informed of your new address. Please call Alison McCormack 203 272 4465 or email her at almack325@sbcglobal.net. This would include any phone number and email changes also. In an effort to keep mailing costs down, anyone who receives the email newsletter will no longer receive the paper copy in the US mail. If you wish to continue receiving both the email and the paper newsletter, please let Alison know. almack325@sbcglobal.net

IACC FURNITURE for SALE

As you know the lounge at our Club has been renovated with new furniture and as a result we are selling the old lounge furniture at the following prices: Bar stools \$25 each, lounge chair \$25 each, tables \$25 each and green bench seats \$250 obo. If you are interested in purchasing the furniture or have any questions regarding the furniture please contact Mike Faherty 203 640 8927 (mfaherty@snet.net) or Anne Hines 203 488 4902 (ahsheep@aol.com)

IACC PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

My thanks to all who have helped us out in the past few weeks. My congratulations to Brian Beirne on directing a great play this year called The Far-Off Hills. This was his first time directing The Gaelic Players and he did an incredible job. Congrats to the cast for an outstanding job too and thank you to the whole crew for making sure it ran smoothly. It's taken months of hard work for Brian and his cast and crew to put this play together. I am happy to say that it was sold out almost every night. We have a busy few weeks ahead at our club. We will have our annual bazaar, youth sports banquet, our children's Christmas party, toys for tots drive and GIRSA in concert. There will also be many other parties in the next few weeks. Please try and support one or more of these events. I want to thank Eileen Roxby and Donna Borzillo for stepping up to fill the offices IACC President and Gaelic Club Vice President. I am sure they will be a huge benefit to the executive board and club. Please try and make it to the member's happy hour on Dec 18th. I'm sure it will be a fun night. I want to welcome our newest members and hope you have time to get involved in our club as it is the best way to meet many of our hard working members. As winter will soon be upon us please check with your local TV stations for club closings in the case of bad weather. I want to wish you all a very happy and safe thanksgiving with your families and friends. Sincerely, John Cullinan.

NHGF&H CLUB PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Congratulations to Director Brian Beirne and the entire cast of The Far Off Hills. The show was a huge success and everyone involved should be very proud. Special thanks to Johnnie Hanlon for keeping the bar running and our club clean and presentable during a very busy week. When the weather gets cooler your club starts to get busier. Please be sure to check upcoming events and do your best to attend. Upcoming events include our Christmas Bazaar, Children's Christmas Party and Member's Happy Hour. Please consider inviting a friend to any of these. Our club is only as good as its members. So many people don't know where we are and what we do. When they learn about us they are often happy to join. Thanks and see you at the Club!

John Joe Mackey

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9 VENICE PLACE
EAST HAVEN, CT 06512