



Newsletter

Irish American Community Center New Haven Gaelic Football & Hurling Club DECEMBER 2018



IACC President: Eileen Roxbee (203) 584-4233 roxbeeileen@gmail.com
Vice President: Rich Ranciato 203 410 4543 richard.ranciato@comcast.net
Treasurer: John McGowan 203 314 7073 haveaharp@sbcglobal.net
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NHGF&H Club President:
 Anne Hines 203 488 4902 203 215 5997 (cell) ahsheep@aol.com

Vice President: Geoffrey Maxwell 203 605 7414 grmaxwell1601@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer: Joan Hall 203 315 9215 hjoan68@gmail.com

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

MEMBERSHIP DUES - did you forget - are yours past due?

Our Financial Secretary, Mary Roddy, would like to remind all our members that membership dues are payable 1st January. Please keep in mind dues are a vital part of the running of our Club so if you have not already remitted your payment please do so as soon as possible. Family \$75, Individual \$50, renewing seniors \$20 each and \$30 per couple. KEY LOCK WAS INSTALLED ON THE DOOR SO YOU WILL NEED YOUR CARD TO ENTER.

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 2nd, Christmas Irish Breakfast/Bazaar, 9am- 3pm

December 2nd, Executive Board Vote, 3pm

December 2nd, Youth Sports Banquet, 5pm

December 8th, 60th Annual Pioneers Christmas Party, 6:30pm

December 16th, Children's Christmas Party, 11am

December 20th, Retirees Meeting, 12:30pm

December 21st, Members Christmas Open House & Tommy Ryder in Lounge

Please note that there will be no bingo on Friday, December 21 or Friday, December 28



Upcoming Events

BINGO, Doors open at 5:30pm, Bingo starts at 7pm

Bingo started on Friday, November 30th. As a reminder, if anyone is interested in helping please reach out to Mary Roddy at 203-506-8367 or email mroddy@snet.net. Please spread the word and come out and enjoy. Thank you, Mary Roddy



Certificate valued at \$100 to the Playwright Restaurant. Please purchase or/and sell these tickets to all your family and friends. Remember your chances of winning are far better than the lottery!! We must put all our efforts into making this raffle a huge success, so let us help Anne Hines 203-488-4902 and Gerry Stratton 203-214-8578 by calling them for more tickets.... they will be happy to hear from you. **Drawing will take place at the IACC at our Christmas Bazaar on Sunday, 2nd December at 3pm.**

MEMBERSHIP DRAWING

Membership envelopes were mailed in the November Newsletter and have already started to come in. We will be drawing 2 free memberships on December 21st at our Christmas get-together. If you would like to be entered for a chance to win please have your 2019 membership to me by December 20th. Thank you! Mary Roddy

CHRISTMAS IRISH BREAKFAST/BAZAAR Sunday, December 2nd, 9-3pm.

Our Christmas Irish breakfast will take place from 9-12 noon (cost \$13 adults and \$6 children) and the Bazaar will run from 9-3pm. Please make your reservations for breakfast by calling Anne at (203) 488-4902 or email ahsheep@aol.com. We will have a bake sale, tea cup raffle, vendors, Irish goods and a Christmas Raffle drawing at 3pm. We are looking for volunteers to do some baking for the bake sale. Donations are welcome for the raffles.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR - CASH RAFFLE - THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS WHO HAVE PURCHASED TICKETS!

Time is running out to win one or all of our great raffle prizes! Our members have received raffle tickets for our Christmas Bazaar raffle. Many thanks to our great members who have purchased tickets. This is a great opportunity to win money and help our club. Tickets are priced at \$1 each. Our great prizes are: 1st prize \$1000, 2nd prize \$500, 3rd prize \$250 and 4th prize a Gift

VOTE FOR 2018 EXECUTIVE BOARD, Sunday, December 2nd, 3pm
 A vote will be cast at 3pm on Sunday, 2nd December for all incoming 2018 Officers of our Club.

Pioneers 60th Annual Christmas Party, Saturday, December 8th, 6:30pm

The Pioneers of the Sacred Heart will host their 60th Annual Christmas Party on Saturday, December 8th at the Irish American Community Center. Music and entertainment provided by Noel Henry's Band from Boston. Buffet dinner begins at 6:30pm and dancing from 7:30pm – 11:30pm. Donation is \$30.00. Advance reservations are required. Please contact Clare Murrhy at (203) 288-6327.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY, Sunday, December 16th, 11am

The annual Children's Christmas Party will take place on Sunday, December 16th at 11am. Please sign up your children under age 12 at the club by December 10th or by contacting Angelique Burke at angeliqueburke@hotmail.com.



RETIREES MEETING, Thursday, December 20th, 12:30pm

The Retirees meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month. In December, the group will meet on Thursday, December 20th at 12:30pm and they will celebrate with their Christmas party. If you would like to bring a friend, you are welcome to do so and the charge will be \$15. Please be sure to call Sharon Kearns (203) 488-6605, Pat Donohue at (203) 248-4325 or Beth Murphy at (203) 230-2993 to confirm your attendance so that they have an accurate headcount for food. In January and February, the group will watch the movie "The King's Speech".

MEMBERS CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE & TOMMY RYDER IN THE LOUNGE, Friday, December 21st, 6-9pm

All members welcome to join us for happy hour/Christmas party on Friday, 21st December from 6 - 9pm. Each member in good standing will receive a free drink. Music will be provided by Tommy Ryder. Light fare will be provided. Please feel free to bring snacks to share.

GAELIC PLAYERS THANK YOU

I would like to thank all who came out to support of our recent production of M.J Molloy's, The King of Friday's Men. This year was a special year for Irish theater in our Club, as we celebrated 50 years since Charlie & Margaret Starrs founded our group in 1968. This achievement is a result of the great support we have received throughout the years. I would like to thank the Executive Board and Tony Connor, for their support throughout. I would also like to thank our amazing cast and crew! While the cast entertain us with their talent and get to take the bows, the people who make it all happen behind the scenes, are priceless and are way too many to mention, and not miss someone. From the production team, costumes, makeup, lighting & sound, construction & set decorating, house staff, public relations, and to the members of the football club, for all their help in the dismantling of the set, I thank each and every one of you for your help along the way. None of this happens without all of you. I would like to especially thank the following people, who gave their professional expertise to me, and showed great patience when I continually asked more of them, Gerry Roddy, Kevin Beirne, Pat O'Donahue and Pete Kilkelly for giving me the set I asked for. Jason Simms, for all the public relations help. Sandy Hanrahan for being my right hand, and always having my back. Jim Hanrahan, for all his help travelling around the state and moving furniture back and forth with me. And finally, to my family at home, for all your patience and support throughout the last few months. Thank you all! Brian Beirne & The New Haven Gaelic Players

THANK YOU FROM 2018 IRISH WOMAN OF THE YEAR, JOAN HALL

My deepest appreciation to the Banquet Committee for selecting me as the 2018 Irish Woman Of The Year. I am truly humbled. The evening was superb from Vince McCabe's renditions of both the Irish and American National Anthems, Kitty Kelly's Band once again delighting us with both Irish and American standard music, to the vittles and grog served up by Cascade's. Sincere thanks also to all that came out to share in Gerry's and my big night. It was wonderful seeing all of you. Again, gratitude to all. Slainte and God bless! May the peace and joy of the Holy Family be with you and those you hold dear this Christmas and throughout the New Year. Joan Hall

THANK YOU FROM IRISH MAN OF THE YEAR, GERRY STRATTON

Thank you so much for the great honor of being 2018 Irish Man of the Year. It was a wonderful night and I appreciate all those who came to celebrate with me. Congratulations again to Joan Hall for being selected for 2018 Irish Woman of the year. Well deserved! I wish you all a happy and healthy holiday season. Cheers! Gerry Stratton

SAVE THE DATE FOR 2019 BANQUET, Saturday, November 23

Thank you to all who attended this year's annual banquet. It was a great evening and a wonderful celebration for Joan Hall and Gerry Stratton. Please be sure to mark your calendars for next year's banquet on Saturday, November 23.

THANK YOU

A big thank you to the following members for their help with projects around the club:

Marty Lendroth for tree removal, Pete Kilkelly for doing great job blowing leaves in parking lot, Shane Murtagh for helping us with a plumbing issue, Billy Mackey for coming up on short notice to solve electrical issue and Pat Donahue for helping with many tasks. As we are coming to the end of 2018, a special thanks to all the volunteers who helped me throughout the year. We certainly got a lot of things accomplished but we have plenty more to tackle. Anyone who can volunteer some time, it is greatly appreciated. Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year! Gerry Roddy

TALENT SHOW THANK YOU

I would like to thank all those who participated in our first annual Talent Show. To Packy Lillis, our MC, Kevin Gorman for his help with lighting, John Thornburg for support with sound, Orna Johnston and Carmel Larese for coach roasting. For those who escaped out the back door for the fear of embarrassment, we will catch up with you another day. And to Liz McNicholl, thank you for stepping in at short notice with musical backup. It was heartwarming to see many acts first appearances on stage and hoping it will not be their last. For those who were not there, you missed an amazing evening of talent. Until the next one. Thanks!! Geoff Maxwell

Thanks From The Youth Football Program!!

Thank you to Sonny Ryan for once again organizing an incredible day of golf to benefit the Youth Football program. Thanks as well to his committee, John McGowan, Rich Ranciato, Julie Mendez, Catherine Staunton & John McCormack. Thanks to Julie & Orlando for bringing so many golfers! With all of this effort, the Playwright has raised \$9,000 for youth football. These funds will help us to continue to promote this beautiful game!

Thank you to Geoff Maxwell for organizing an incredible Talent Night! We appreciate the countless hours he spent to make sure the night went off without a hitch! Thanks to all of those who assisted Geoff, including Lesley his better half, Carmel Larese, John Thornberg and Liz McNicholl. For those who missed it, our footballers can do much more than kick a ball. Singing, dancing, trumpet, flute, guitars, and finally some incredible acting to wrap up the night. Definitely the first of many Talent Shows! Well done to all of the participants.

Special Recognition to Pat Keogh – When we have a big event at the club, and everyone is inside having fun, there is always a crew outside parking cars. And as sure as the sun rises in the

east, one of those men is Pat Keogh. His ability to find the open spot is unsurpassed, and he has gone over 30 years without allowing one parking lot accident. Kudos Mr. Keogh, we couldn't park without you!!

INDOOR TRAINING – We have scheduled our indoor trainings for Gaelic Football, and hope to see everyone out there. All dates will be from 12:00 – 1:30 on Sundays, and will be held at the Connecticut SportsPlex, 216 Foxon Road, North Branford, CT. This is a great opportunity to introduce new players to the game, so please make an effort to bring a friend! This is open to all ages – and our coaches are committing their Sunday afternoons, so please bring your players!! Mark these dates on your calendar: January 20th, January 27th, February 3rd, February 10th, February 17th & February 24th.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to the club and hope to see you around frequently: Jacqueline O'Brian-Tatro (Wallingford), Michael Ring (Madison), Danielle & Jemar Velazquez (New Haven).

PRAYERS and SYMPATHY

To: Dolores Libow, West Haven, on the death of her brother Paul Olohan in Canada, by way of Co. Meath.

To: David and Debbie Casner, East Haven, on the death of David's father Francis Casner of Branford.

To: Joseph Nugent, Guilford on the death of his wife Barbara Nugent Guilford by way of England.

GET WELL WISHES

We extend our get well wishes to Jim Gaffney, Wallingford; Pat Begley, Cos Cob; Joe Lillis, Hamden; Charlie O'Hagan, New Haven.

THANK YOU

A special word of thanks to Miriam Lillis for arranging the annual Mass for the deceased members which was celebrated on Sunday, November 18th. Special prayers of remembrance were offered for the 24 club members who went home to the Lord during the past year.

TRIP TO IRELAND, May 30th - June 10th 2019 with Fr. Michael Dolan

Interested in a group trip to Ireland? Contact S & B Canning Tours, 231 Mansion Rd. Wallingford 203 288 8347 or email seancanning@sbcglobal.net for further information.

Depart from Our Lady of Mt Carmel Church, Hamden at 1:00pm to JFK airport. Visit Co. Clare and cruise around the Cliffs

of Moher, see Inis Mor, the larger of the Aran Islands, arrive in Galway and tour Connemara National Park, Kylemore Abbey on the grounds of Kylemore Castle, and dine at Medieval Banquet at Dunguaire Castle. Knock Shrine in Co. Mayo is next, followed by the Famine Museum in Strokestown, Co. Roscommon and continue on to Carrick-on-Shannon. Enjoy a relaxing cruise along the Shannon River in the Leitrim/Roscommon area on the Moon



River Pleasure Cruiser. Don't miss Arigna Mining Experience and accompany an ex-miner on a tour which is literally a journey through a miner's life. Now off to Derry City with a stop at Drumcliffe Cemetery, the resting place of poet William Butler Yeats (1865-1939) and Ulster American Folk Village near Omagh Co. Tyrone. Giant's Causeway, an area of about 40,000 interlocking basalt columns resulting from an ancient volcanic fissure eruption is not to be missed. Visit Bushmills Distillery and Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge, a famous rope bridge near Ballintoy in County Antrim. It spans 66 ft. and is 98 ft. above the rocks below. Finally, we tour the Titanic Museum in Belfast and Downpatrick to visit the resting place of Saint Patrick and then south towards Dublin to visit Monasterboice, famous for its high crosses. Continue on to Fitzpatrick's Castle Hotel in Killiney Co. Dublin. Depart and travel to Dublin airport in time to board our Aer Lingus flight back to CT.

IACC LOOKING FOR HELP

The IACC is always looking for members who are willing to help with painting, plumbing, HVAC, carpentry and landscaping projects at the club. If you are skilled in any of these occupations and are willing to donate your time to the IACC please contact Gerry Roddy at 203-215-3268 or email at mroddy@snet.net. Any time you can donate will be very much appreciated!



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 Mary Roddy (203) 506-8367 or email her at mroddy@snet.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 Mary know.

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 Doreen Busca at dkbusca73@yahoo.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 mroddy@snet.net.

LOCAL IRISH RADIO PROGRAMS

Sounds of Ireland Sundays from 9am – 11am on AM 1220 WQUN or www.wqun.com

Echoes of Erin Sundays from 12pm - 2pm on FM 88.7 WNHU www.wnhu.net

Celtic Airs on Tuesdays from 6pm -9pm WWUH91.3 or www.wuh.org

NHGF&H Club PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Congratulations to Joan Hall and Gerry Stratton, our 2018 Irish Woman and Man of the year - a nice night enjoyed by all. Thank you to all who purchased raffle tickets for our Christmas bazaar - make sure you get yours in for the drawing at our Christmas Bazaar on 2nd Dec. Call me if you wish to order breakfast on 2nd Dec. or wish to order Irish meats - you can collect them on 2nd Dec. from 9-3pm. Our Happy Hour members Christmas get-together will be 21st December 6-9pm. Hope to see you all. Thank you to Bill Mackey for again volunteering to be Chairman of the 2019 festival. He will be reaching out to you for your usual help. Congratulations to all the talent who participated in the youth talent show - a great night with many laughs. I wish you all a very happy, holy Christmas and a prosperous 2019. Anne Hines

IACC PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Club Members,
The holidays are upon us and with that I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and happy and healthy 2019! I am pleased to be running again as president of the IACC for my fourth term. I am proud of the ongoing maintenance items and improvements that have been completed in part with grants from the Irish Consulate General in New York. Gerry Roddy and his crew have been instrumental in completing this work, but we have still much to do. Currently, we are installing a central fire alarm system and new fire place insert. We appreciate your input and ideas into what improvements you would like to see. We also need your donations too. We are continually looking for ways to raise money. Bingo has started and is lots of fun. Come and visit us on Friday evenings. Enjoy the holiday season. I hope to see you at our member open house on December 21st.
Slainte,
Eileen

MEMBERSHIP DUES - Did you forget? Are yours past due? Our Financial Secretary, Mary Roddy, would like to remind all our members that membership dues are payable 1st January. Please keep in mind dues are a vital part of the running of our Club so if you have not already remitted your payment please do so as soon as possible. Family \$75, Individual \$50, renewing seniors \$20 each and \$30 per couple. **KEY LOCK WAS INSTALLED ON DOOR SO YOU WILL NEED YOUR CARD TO ENTER.**