



# Newsletter

## Irish American Community Center New Haven Gaelic Football & Hurling Club



### IACC

**President:** John Cullinan 203-506-5417 jcullinan59@yahoo.com  
**Vice President:** Lynda Burke 203-996-5707 lynda.burke2011@hotmail.com  
**Treasurer:** Michael Hanlon 203-623-3945 coach5354@aol.com  
**Financial Secretary:** Madge Mulhall 203-268-2037 wmulhall1@charter.net  
**Recording Secretary:** Kerry Martens 203-996-9196 kmar13@aol.com  
**Building Engineer:** Pat O'Donoghue 203-671-5694 patodonoghue@sbcglobal.net

### CLUB HOURS:

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

### NHGF&HC

**President:** Tom Conway 203-671-2184 bronx244@aol.com  
**Vice President:** Matt Frawley 203-641-5077 mattmnmach@comcast.net  
**Secretary/Treasurer:** Jay McGuinness 203-985-4845 mohill.mack@gmail.com

APRIL 2012



### BENEFIT FOR MARY COUGHLIN BEREZECKY April 22, 2012

There will be a benefit for Mary Coughlin Berezecky, a member of our community, who has recently fallen victim to a serious form of cancer. Due to this disease, doctors had to

amputate Mary's leg. Mary is a devoted single mother to two children currently enrolled in college. Due to the seriousness of Mary's situation she is unable to work. She has high medical bills, that will only increase over time with the continuing treatment and rehabilitation necessary from the amputation of her leg. Friends and family of Mary are holding this benefit for Ms. Berezecky in hopes of relieving her of some of the financial burden that she now faces. The Benefit will be held on April 22, 2012 from 2:00pm - 8:00pm at the Irish American Community Center. Food, raffles, and the following acts for entertainment: John Whelan & Irish Musicians, Liz McNicholl, The Kennedy's (DJ), Marten Melody & Mary G (from NY).

Donations accepted at the door and also by visiting

[www.support4mary.myevent.com](http://www.support4mary.myevent.com).

Kathleen Stretton 203 269-4588 Anne Brady 203 387-8965



### TOMMY GOODWIN AND SHARON DANCE SATURDAY APRIL 28TH AT 7:30PM

Come listen and dance to Tommy Goodwin and Sharon. It was a sellout event in the fall. Tickets will be \$15.00 a person. Call Kathleen Stretton

203 269-4588 and Clare Murrighy (203) 288-6327.

### REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday 7:30 PM - Executive Board  
1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday 7:30 PM - Youth Football  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday 1:00 PM - Genealogy  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday 1:00 PM - Genealogy Meeting  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday 8:00 PM - General Membership

### REGULAR WEEKLY MEETINGS

Wednesday - Gaelic Language 7:30 PM  
Wednesday - Zumba 6:50 PM  
Thursday - Curlews Music 7:30 PM  
Friday - Ceili Lessons 7:30 PM

### SAVE THE DATE MARCH

31<sup>st</sup> - Club cleanup day

### APRIL 2012

3<sup>rd</sup> - Tuesday 7:30 PM - EBoard Meeting  
7<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 9:00 AM - Pancake Breakfast  
7<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 11:30 AM - Children's Easter Egg Hunt  
9<sup>th</sup> - Monday 7:30 PM - Festival Meeting  
10<sup>th</sup> - Tuesday 8:00 PM - General Membership Meeting  
13<sup>th</sup> - Friday 8:00 PM - Golf Meeting  
17<sup>th</sup> - Tuesday 5:30 - 8:00 PM - Chamber of Commerce - Business After Hours  
21<sup>st</sup> - Saturday 7:00 PM - Football - Spring Fling  
22<sup>nd</sup> - Sunday 2:00 PM - Benefit for Mary Coughlin Berezecky (Kathleen Stretton chair)  
23<sup>rd</sup> - Monday 7:30 PM - Festival Meeting  
28<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 7:30 PM - Dancing with Tommy Goodwin & Sharon  
29<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 2:00 PM - Cards afternoon - Game of your choice

### MAY 2012

1<sup>st</sup> - Tuesday 7:30 PM - EBoard Meeting  
5<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 1:00 PM - Genealogy Meeting  
8<sup>th</sup> - Tuesday 8:00 PM - General Membership Meeting  
12<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 7:00 PM - Spaghetti Dinner  
13<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 9:00 AM - Mother's Day Communion Breakfast  
19<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 7:00 PM - Trivia Night  
20<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 1:00-4:00 PM - New Member Open House

### NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

#### CLUB HOURS

Note: The club will be open Good Friday, but closed Easter Sunday. If there are GAA games it will be open for those.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2012 ARE PAST DUE** -Dues are due and payable by January 1st, 2012. The membership dues have not changed for 2012, family dues are in the amount of \$75.00, individual membership is \$50.00, senior couple is \$30.00 and senior individual is \$20.00. Dues envelopes were mailed with the November newsletter. If you did not receive one or if you have any questions, please call Madge at (203) 268-2037

**PLEASE SLOW DOWN-** As you all know the road into our club is a residential area. I ask all of our members to please slow down when coming and going from the club as there are kids who may be playing on the street. I thank you for your cooperation. John Cullinan

**CLUB CLEAN UP DAY-** We will get together on Sat. March 31st to do a spring clean up of our club exterior. If you can give us a couple of hours that morning we would be very grateful. Thanks. Pat O'Donohue

**CHILDREN'S EASTER EGG HUNT & BREAKFAST- April 7th** starts with a Pancake Breakfast from 9-11; \$5.00 adults, children 10 and under free. Easter Egg Hunt is at 11:30. Open to all children & grandchildren of club members (10 and under) at no cost. We will decorate cookies, show a movie and have a visit from Peter Cottontail.

**IRISH GOLF LEAGUE-** Annual meeting will be held on Friday April 13th at 8PM. They will play on Wednesday afternoons. New members are welcome.

**GAA GAMES** - There is still time to purchase a season pass to the games. The pass is \$220.00 and covers you through the All Ireland Finals. A donation of \$20 is required for each game. We had some great games so far and it looks like we will have a couple of real good league finals. We will be serving breakfast starting with the league finals and continue through the championship games. For more information please contact John Cullinan.

**CARDS IN THE AFTERNOON-** April 29<sup>th</sup> 2:00 PM  
Many members have said they'd like to play cards on a Sunday afternoon. Well here's your chance; drop in to your club with an organized group or by yourself to join with others looking to play some cards. The games are your choice. Bring your own snacks & breads; we'll have some coffee on.

**SPAGHETTI DINNER** - May 12<sup>th</sup> 7:30 PM  
A chance to get together for a little dinner, just to be social. We will provide the dinner, you provide the company and laughs. \$3.00 per person. Reservations are required. Lynda Burke 203-288-9218 or Madge Mulhall 203-268-2037.

**MOTHER'S DAY COMMUNION BREAKFAST** - May 13<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM - Annual Mother's Day Communion Breakfast will be held at 9:00 am. Mass will be celebrated. A traditional Irish Breakfast will be served by the gentlemen. \$12.00 per adult, \$5.00 children. Please call John Cullinan at 203-506-5417 to make your reservation

**TRIVIA NIGHT** - May 19<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM  
Get your teams ready. Please join in the fun for a night of trivia. Bring your picky food; we will have the trivia ready!

**NEW MEMBER OPEN HOUSE** - May 20<sup>th</sup> 1:00-4:00 PM  
We will be holding a New Member Open House. Please contact Mage Mulhall at 203-268-2037 to have your group represented at this event. Let's show new members what the club has to offer.

**CEILI LESSONS-** Every Friday (weather permitting) Irish sets and ceili lessons will be at the club starting at 7:30PM. Beginners and advanced dancers, couples and singles are all welcomed! Thanks Brian

## **FESTIVAL 2012 NEWS**

Plans for the Festival are progressing nicely. Committees have been formed and we welcome all to participate. The program book has proven to be a significant source of revenue and, if everyone procured one ad, success would be assured. Last year a handful of members were responsible for a majority of the ads. In order to make the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary a success let's all make an effort to surpass last year's book. Personal memorials and tributes are again a feature of the book and are a fitting way to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. What better way to remember a loved one or acknowledge a memorable occasion? Forms are available on the Festival website [www.ctirishfestival.com](http://www.ctirishfestival.com) or at the club. With the exception of Tuesday March 27, meetings have been changed to Mondays at 7:30 to avoid conflicts. As we approach the date we will meet more frequently and notifications will be sent and posted. Committee members will be notified. We will meet March 27 and April 9 and 23. I hope to see more of our talented members attend and offer their suggestions.

Jim Martens (203) 467-3638 or [capecod13ct@aol.com](mailto:capecod13ct@aol.com)

Entertainment for the 2012 Festival:

*Seven Nations*  
*The Screaming Orphans*  
*McLean Avenue Band*  
*Celtic Cross*  
*The Mickey Finns*  
*Mean Carlene*  
*Tommy Goodwin and Sharon*  
*The Narrowbacks*  
*Kitchen Party*  
*Ceol Milis*  
*Tara Gold*  
*Damien Connolly*  
*Curlews*  
*Kyle Carey*

Please look at the festival website and facebook page for previews of their music.

**CLUB RAFFLE-** I want to thank everyone for their support with our raffle. We had a great response and that means a lot to our club. I have to thank Gerry Stratton who sold 48 books of tickets and Janet Butterworth and the retirees who came in a close second. The retirees worked all of our functions and we are very grateful for all of their time. All money from the raffle will be used to improve our club. The following are the winners. 1st Prize, R Stone of Hamden. 2nd Prize, Jake Swiderski of New Haven. 3rd Prize, Theresa Zikis of Hamden. 4th Prize, Kevin Scollan of MA. My thanks again to everyone. John Cullinan.

**IACC WEBSITE-** On Friday the 16th of March we launched our new and improved website. When you get a chance go check it out. You will find many new things on there. If any of our members have any ideas on how we can make it even better please call or email me or any officer. I am happy to tell you that now you can pay to renew your membership, buy tickets for the play, buy tickets to a concert and many other functions by just going to our web site. My sincerest thanks to Bernadette La France and her husband Rob for all of the work they put into the new site. They have been working for many months on this. There are still a few kinks to be worked out but I am sure you will be really happy with the result. Look out for a new feature that will allow our members to link to many of the news papers from Ireland. John Cullinan

**RETIREES-** Joe Nolan will show the video of the Third Chapter of the Kennedy Family History Production on April 19<sup>th</sup> 12:30p.m. A video will be shown at our May 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. There will not be a meeting in June as that will be Festival time.

**CLUB DARTS-** Come Thursdays and play casual darts with members of the club. We are forming a competitive team for next year and all skill levels are welcome including beginners. Those interested are encouraged to stop by Thursday nights at 8:00. For more information contact Pete Kilkelly at 203 248 2839.

**IRISH HISTORY ROUNDTABLE-**The IHRT meets the third Tuesday of the month at the Knights of St Patrick, 1533 State St, New Haven, CT. Upcoming programs include: April 17<sup>th</sup> Neil Hogan, President of IHRT will speak on "The Irish Battle of Fort Sumter". May 15<sup>th</sup> Chris and Colleen Conway, OghamArt.com will speak on "Ogham Art, Ancient Celtic Writing". Dues of \$10 are currently due and payable to: IHRT, PO Box 185604, Hamden, CT 06518

Hagaman Memorial Library in East Haven will be having the following programs: Author Thomas Craughwell will discuss his book "The Greatest Brigade" on the Irish in the Civil War on Thursday May 3rd at 7:00PM

**IACC IRISH YOUTH SPORTS PROGRAM:  
APRIL 21<sup>st</sup> IACC 7:00pm SPRING FLING MUSIC AND MORE  
IACC IRISH SPORTS SOCIAL & FUNDRAISER**

Come and enjoy John Mackey's band Just One More as we usher in the spring season with a fantastic fun bash and social. It's a great opportunity to support the IACC Irish Sports Program's efforts in Chicago coming up in July and to get out for a ton of fun. It is always a blast when our parents and supporters get together and we are eager to welcome new families and friends. Put on your dancing shoes and get ready for some great craic as we celebrate the new Gaelic football and hurling season and give our kids a nice big push toward Chicago. Small donations appreciated, 50/50 raffle, prizes and more! Always a great time for a good cause!

**COME SUPPORT OUR GAELIC FOOTBALLERS IN NEW YORK  
MINOR BOARD GAA SPRING LEAGUE COMPETITION**

Fortunately this year's schedule gives us a fair number of home games, and here's the list. Turn out for some great Gaelic action! Our kids play their hearts out, and for the first time in a good number of years New Haven has a robust U18 panel to put up against the finest New York has to offer. Come out and support the blue and white! Check out the website at [www.iaccirishsports.org](http://www.iaccirishsports.org) for our full games schedule, directions to our new full-size pitch in Hamden, and updates on weather delays and cancellations.

*To be played at IACC Patrick Bohan Gaelic Grounds (PBGG):*

**Sat April 7**

New Haven	St. Raymond's	U10/12	3,4pm
New Haven	Rockland	U14	5pm

**Sat April 21**

New Haven	St. Joe's	U10/12	3,4pm
New Haven	St. Brendan	U14	P5pm

**Sat May 12**

New Haven	Long Is Gaels	U10/12/14	3,4,5pm
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**Sat May 19**

New Haven	St. Brendan's	U10/12/14	3,4,5pm
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*To be played at Hamden Youth Center GAA Pitch 550 Newhall St. Hamden CT 06517*

**Sun Apr 22**

New Haven/Shannon Gaels	St. Barnabas/Celtics	U16	10:30am
New Haven	St. Barnabas	U18	11:45am

**Sun May 13**

New Haven/ShanG	St. Rays/St. Joseph	U16	10:30am
New Haven	St. Rays/St. Brendan	U18	11:45am

**GO NEW HAVEN!!!** - Thanks to all parents and players who came out for our St. Patrick's Day scrimmages and to all the club members who came out to cheer the kids on. It was a fun way to warm up for the season!

**FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE-**Join our fundraising committee anytime. All ideas welcome. Any questions contact Wendy at [wendy.mackey@yale.edu](mailto:wendy.mackey@yale.edu)

**PRAYERS and SYMPATHY:**Our prayers and condolences go out to: Susanne Bowery, Hamden on the death of her husband, club member Joseph Bowery. To Bill and Mary Connolly, East Haven on the death of Bill's brother Thomas Connolly, in New Jersey by way of Co. Galway.

**GET WELL WISHES:** Best wishes for a speedy recovery to: Betty Mulvey, East Haven.

**NHGF&HC BANQUET-** Will be on November 17<sup>th</sup> at Cascades, save the date.

**COUNTY/PROVINCE DINNERS** - County Dinners will begin in the fall.

**REMINDER-** Check the IACC website and Facebook page for updates. These pages and email are the most up to date forms of communication to our members and are updated constantly.

**EMAILS** - Want to receive the club emails? Sign up or update your new email address on our new club website <http://iacc-ct.com/>. Many of the email addresses have been sent back to us as incorrect, so if you did not receive any emails in March, please sign up on the website with your email address. Please remember to "unblock" emails from Constant Contact. Email Kerry Martens if you have any questions.

**ECHO OF ERIN** -Tune in to "Echoes of Erin" broadcasting live twice weekly, Sundays noon to 2pm and Mondays 6 to 8 p.m. also on the internet at [www.wnhu.net.](http://www.wnhu.net.), with hosts, Pat & Joan Kennedy, Pat Hosey & Siobhan Dacey and Mike McGrath all on WNHU, 88.7 F.M. your station for the very best in Irish Music.

**SOUNDS OF IRELAND** Hosted by Sean Canning and his son Brendan Canning, this program of traditional Irish music has been running for nearly three decades. Here on WQUN, you can hear it Sundays from 9-11 a.m.

**MUSIC OF IRELAND** - Check out new time Music of Ireland show is back to its old time slot live 6 to 8pm on Thursdays 88.7 WNHU and re-broadcast from previous week on Thursdays 12 noon to 2pm. Your host is Tom Faherty and Kenny, live from Ireland, with all the Sports and News.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD:**

Membership List- The club membership list is private and confidential. It cannot be used without expressed consent of the Executive Board.

**May Newsletter Deadline will be Friday 4/13/12. Please email all information to [kmar13@aol.com](mailto:kmar13@aol.com)**

If you wish to receive your newsletter by email, which will be faster and more cost effective for the club, please email Kerry Martens at [kmar13@aol.com](mailto:kmar13@aol.com) giving your permission to send it to you in this format. Starting in September if we have your

email on file, and unless you specify you would like to have your newsletter mailed, we will be emailing the newsletter to you.

**IACC PRESIDENTS MESSAGE-** I want to thank everyone who helped us over the last few weeks with the various functions. We had a great turnout for the corned beef and cabbage dinner, Parade day, Brendan Grace show, St Patrick's Day. A special thanks to all who marched with our club on parade day. It was an honor to be part of the biggest group in the parade that day. There has been a lot of cooking recently and I want to thank all the ladies and gents and kids that helped in the kitchen. A special thank you to Peter and Lynda Burke for all of their time that they spent in the kitchen making sure it ran like clockwork. I want to congratulate one of our founding members, Sean Scollan who was honored with the Appreciation Award at the Parade Ball. I believe Sean gave one of the best speeches that I have ever heard at the Parade Ball. The spring is here and that means it is time for our youth football and hurling teams to start playing outside again. I want to wish the best of luck to all of our teams for this year's season. If you would like to know when they are playing home games please go to [iaccirishsports.org](http://iaccirishsports.org) for all the updates. My thanks to all the families and coaches who have committed again this year as it is great to see the kids play. I ask you to please help out our youth football and hurling fundraisers in the upcoming months. The teams will be representing our club this year in the CYC in Chicago. It takes a great deal of money to get the kids there so do what you can, thanks. We have installed two new 42" tv's in the lounge and bar. The other tv's will be installed elsewhere in the club. It's coming that time of year again when we have our biggest fundraiser, The Festival. This year's festival will be the

50th anniversary of our first field day. This year it is in the good hands of Jim Martens. Jim and his committee are working hard to make this year's festival the best it has ever been. If you can help in any way please give Jim or any board member a call or send an email. I want to thank John Hanlon and Anne Meaney for all they did for me and the club over the recent weeks. Don't forget our teams will be playing on the club field soon so why not come out and support them. Have a great spring. Sincerely, John Cullinan.

**NHGF&HC PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE-** What a great time these past few weeks have been for our club. The number of club members to thank would fill the page. Just proves that when we all come together good things happen. I have a few people I must recognize for their hard work, first of all Johnnie and Anne for having the club looking so good every time we had an event and Lynda and Pete Burke for their countless hours in the kitchen and anywhere else they could help. Thank you to all who marched in the parade this year, once again you should all be so proud. Gerry, Matt, Jay, and Pete thanks for organizing the club marchers at the parade. Great turn-outs for all the St Patrick's Day events we had at the club. As we move into spring remember the GAA games on Sundays and our own youth football and hurling programs are getting under way. Also please remember the benefit for Mary Coughlin Berezecky that will be held on April 22. One of our own needs our help. God bless. Tom Conway

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