

In Step

Promoting traditional Celtic dance, music and culture.

Newsletter of the Greater Washington Ceili Club

www.gwcc-online.org



A p r i l 2 0 0 8



Growing The Next Generation of Celtic Musicians

The Washington area is blessed with many excellent musicians who carry on the traditions established by the Irish masters of previous generations. Karen Ashbrook is one local musician who has made great contributions teaching and nurturing younger musicians to carry on the tradition.

Karen Ashbrook got her start with Irish music in 1976 when she built her first hammered dulcimer as a high school project. She attended the Eastman Preparatory School in Rochester, NY. In search of Irish music, she went overseas and spent 5 years playing in Europe and Asia, traversing the globe twice. With her delicate touch, trademark shimmering lilt and ear for authentic ornamentation, Karen is considered one of the finest Irish hammered dulcimer players anywhere.



In 1988, Karen started a monthly children's Irish music session to give a few of her students and her son a place to start playing and learning Irish music. The session met for 8 years at Nanny O'Brien's and regularly drew 12 – 18 children to participate. Eventually the session outgrew the space and moved up to Mrs. O'Leary's in Gaithersburg and stayed there until it sold a year later. In October 2006, the

session moved to McGinty's in downtown Silver Spring and moved the meeting to the first Tuesday night of the month to line up with the adult session that follows.

Early on, Karen realized most of the children had no context for the music and knew little of the culture, so she founded the Sligo Creek Hedge School to fill the gap. The Sligo Creek Hedge School is an Irish music and culture summer day camp for children. The camp day includes lots of music- singing, learning new tunes, beginning bodhran and pennywhistle instruction and even a bit of accordion. The children get many chances to try many instruments and at least one fiddler a year decides he needs to add a mandolin to his arsenal come Christmas! But the day includes more than music. Words are an integral part of the Irish experience and the camp has a daily Tea & Poetry break. Potatoes - an Irish dietary staple - are served at lunch. Field trips include visiting local instrument builders. There is a daily Celtic-themed art project. Campers learn a few words of Irish. Visitors have included Beth Benedetto, CCE Irish language expert, and members of the Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Society. The camp started out for children who already play Irish music, but Karen has added weeks for newcomers to music as well as a more advanced session on band arranging for the group of very talented teenagers that has grown up with music. This summer Karen is adding two half-day camps called "Sprouting Celts" for ages 6-8 to plant the seeds of love of Irish music and culture.

For more information on children's sessions in the DC area, the Sligo Creek Hedge School, and a free tune book, visit Karen's website <http://karenashbrook.com>.



***Come Dance With Us
At Southern MD Celtic Festival!***
~ Dixie Baker

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 26th, when the GWCC dancers will be performing at the Southern Maryland Celtic Festival as we have for the last ten years. If you would like to join us and get free admission to the festival, come to a practice on Thursday, April 24th, at the Frost Center in Rockville. Paul O'Donnell has agreed to end his class early so we can practice that evening. We will practice performance figures from various set dances beginning at 9 pm. Directions to the festival, instructions to the dances, parking permits, and passes to the festival will be given out then.

After the festival, everyone is invited to a pot luck party and ceili at Danny Flynn's, so this is not a festival to miss. For more information email Dixie Baker at dixiemb@aol.com.

If you would like to come to the festival, but not dance, information will be available at the April Ceili at Cherry Hill RV Park on April 20th. This is the best Celtic festival in the Washington area so don't miss it.



**SET DANCE FOR
APRIL CEILI**

This month's set is the West Kerry Polka Set and notes are included on page 13 of this issue. This is a set of polkas, slides and a rocking hornpipe. The West Kerry Polka Set will be taught by Ann Marie Brehney at the GWCC April Ceili at Cherry Hill RV Park Conference Center, College Park., Maryland, on Sunday, April 20th.

CAPE MAY 2008 DRAWING!!

~ Linda Fitzpatrick



The GWCC will hold a drawing at the Matt Cunningham Ceili on May 18th, and one very lucky GWCC member will win a weekend in Cape May, New Jersey, October 3-5, 2008.

Included in the prize package is admission to two ceilis and three workshops as well as hotel accommodations (including breakfast) at the Inn of Cape May or the Atlas Inn. Incredible dancing with music by the Cape May Ceili Band (Felix Dolan, John Whelan, Brendan Dolan, Bernadette Fee and Jimmy Kelly) and three set dance workshops with Padraig & Roisin McEneaney are a standard part of this weekend package.

You'll spend three days surrounded by set dance enthusiasts from near and far in this Victorian seaside town. There are also late night gatherings at each of the hotels and dining choices too numerous to mention. If the weather cooperates, there are walks along the beach. All you have to do is make sure your GWCC membership is current as of May 18th, and you automatically qualify for this drawing. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Fitzpatrick at sousane@comcast.net.



BEV'S BEST BETS

~ Bev Ricks

Professor Ricks is currently swamped with thesis papers to grade and will return next month with a great movie review. She begs your indulgence!!



DANCE NOTES

~ Edie O'Donnell

March proved, once again, to be our busiest month of the year.

We began our St. Patrick's Day "season" on Monday and Tuesday, March 10th and 11th, with two performances at Willow Grove independent living communities in Olney and Silver Spring, where our longtime friend and supporter, Jeanette Schuder, is the activities coordinator. The hour-long performance included standard figures from sets we love to dance, showing the residents a reel, a polka, a jig and a hornpipe. We had audience participation waltzes, and a few residents gamely gave it a try. We also showed off a couple of more complicated figures of the Dublin and Kildownet sets. The Outreach Ceili Band was in fine tune. With Dick deFreyre on whistle and flute, Paul O'Rourke on the box, Bridget Curran on the bodhran and Tom Scullen strumming the guitar, we treated the residents to some "live" tunes, and the band played for our polka figure, too. Tom led the group in some "rover" sing-alongs, and Paul O'Rourke did his usual stint as shanachie.

The residents at both locations were very welcoming, and I'm happy to report that they had as much fun as we did! This may have been enhanced by Jeanette's refreshments of cookies, punch and Bailey's coffee, enjoyed by audience and performers alike. Reluctant to let the evening end, most of the dancers adjourned to nearby restaurants to continue the good times. If you have never performed at one of our outreach events, I highly recommend it. The smiles on the faces of the residents are ample compensation for the time taken.

On Sunday, March 16th, the GWCC monthly ceili was held at Cherry Hill Park. Nearly 80 dancers were in attendance! The workshop dance was the Fermanagh Set, taught by Paul O'Donnell. The band was the incomparable Bog Wanderers, who always give their best for our very appreciative dancers.

The first set of dances included the Siege of Ennis, the North Kerry Set and the Clare Plain Set. The pot luck tables were crammed with goodies, which were enjoyed during the first break. The second set of dances started with the Limerick Tumblers Set, which was followed by the Mazurka Set and the Haymaker's Jig. Ed O'Connor won the 50/50 this month, and several other lucky dancers won raffle prizes. We ended the evening with the Fermanagh Set, the Ballyvourney Jig set, a waltz, and the Clare Lancers Set.

On the following Thursday, a set's worth of Kennedy Center Fellows came out to give Irish dancing a try at our March mini-ceili at the Frost Center. By pairing a "newbie" with an experienced dancer, we were able to get all of them through an evening of dancing, and by all accounts, they had a great time. Thanks to Tina, Zan and Danny for playing all those polkas!

Get ready for our next ceili at Cherry Hill on April 20th; see the flyer in this newsletter for details. Finally, remember that our ceili on May 18th will be Matt Cunningham and his band from Ireland, an event not to be missed by dedicated (addicted?) set dancers.

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### Who are these dancers and musicians???



They are the Kerry Ramblers from the Ballydonoghue/Lisselton Branch of CCE in Listowel, Ireland. They will be visiting GWCC this coming October 2008. More to come in future *In Step* issues.



## 2008 CCE Fiddle Week

~ Mitch Fanning

The third annual CCE Fiddle Week is scheduled for July 7-11, 2008, at the Washington Waldorf School, Bethesda, Maryland. This year, the faculty will include Brendan Mulvihill, Brian Conway, and Heather Bixler.

Half day sessions are available and there are financial aid scholarships available through CCE and The Thomas M. Fitzpatrick II Memorial Scholarship Fund. There is a discount available for all paid registrations received by April 30, 2008.

Please see the CCE Fiddle Week flier on page 11 of this newsletter for more information



## Folklore Society of Greater Washington Special Irish Dance Performance Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 PM

Irish dancers, Shannon Dunne and Kieran Jordan, will perform Sean-nós (old style) Irish dancing at the Great Falls Grange, in Great Falls, VA. Guest artists for the evening will include: Emily Crews, Megan Downes, Agi Kovacs, Lucy Jickling, and our own Kerry Miller. Accompanying the dancers will be Baltimore/DC based Spórt, a new Irish band featuring Brendan Bell, Patrick Cavanagh, Josh Dukes, Sean McComisky and Danny Novak.

Shannon Dunne has performed and taught at festivals all over the East Coast, Midwest, and in Ireland. She is a 2008 Dance Fellow and a five-time recipient of a Folk Arts Grant from the National Endowment of the Arts. Shannon has studied Sean-nós dance in West Clare and Connemara with Mick Mulkerrin, Mairead Casey, Roisin Ni Mhainin, and Aidan Vaughn. In the US,



she has studied and performed with Maldon Meehan and Kieran Jordan. She tours nationally with Footworks Percussive Dance Ensemble, and her recent brainchild, the SlanAbhaile Project, is dedicated to teaching dance styles that encourage freedom of personal style and to creating class situations in which students of all ages can dance together

Kieran Jordan lives in Boston where she works as a performer, teacher, and choreographer of Irish dance. With more than 25 years of dance experience, her



unique approach to the dance marries deep-rooted traditions with contemporary innovations. Born and raised in Philadelphia, Kieran has a BA in English/Irish Studies from Boston College; an MA in Contemporary Dance Performance from the University of Limerick, Ireland; and the TCRG certificate for teaching Irish dance. Kieran

has studied Sean-nós dance styles from Connemara and West Clare, with a particular focus on the dancing of Aidan Vaughan. She produced "American Women In Sean-nós Dance," a two-day sean-nós dance event at the ICONS Festival in New England in 2007. Kieran is the Dance Director for the WGBH production of "A Christmas Celtic Sojourn," now in its sixth season. Her dancing is featured in the show's 2007 DVD release - "A Christmas Celtic Sojourn, Live" - on Rounder Records. She teaches Irish dance at Mt. Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts, and has served on the dance faculty at the Catskills Irish Arts Week and the Blás Summer School, Limerick.

Admission for members of the Folklore Society of Greater Washington **and GWCC members** is \$15 and \$20 for the general public. For information contact Marty Summerour at 703-354-6460, or visit <http://www.fsgw.org> and page down to May 9<sup>th</sup>.



## PLEASE REMEMBER!

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### Volunteers Needed for CCE Feis

The CCE Feis this year is being held once again at Mt. St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, MD, on May 25, 2008. The feis will have over 800 dancers and musicians (mostly dancers) from all over the US and runs 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. If you would like more information or want to volunteer, please contact [lfrank2@earthlink.net](mailto:lfrank2@earthlink.net).

### GWCC Scholarships

GWCC has two grants / scholarships which can be awarded to active club members, in good standing, or to members of their immediate families. These are the Frankie Kennedy Memorial Scholarship and the Irish Cultural Experience Travel Grant. Complete guidelines for both scholarship and grants are available on the GWCC web page, [www.gwcc-online.org](http://www.gwcc-online.org).

### Glen Echo Needs Volunteers

The Glen Echo Park Partnership needs volunteers to assist with new Park Patron Surveys to help improve programs and services. Volunteers will be trained to administer short surveys to individuals who visit Glen Echo Park.

To Volunteer, please contact Jenni Cloud at 301.634.2228 or [jcloud@glenechopark.org](mailto:jcloud@glenechopark.org).



## 2007 Irish Festival Cruise

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~ Brenda Sullivan-Miller

Once again I thoroughly enjoyed the wonderful Irish music, culture, and camaraderie on board this annual Irish cruise. My favorite aspect of the cruise is socializing with the performers who are incredibly outgoing and warm. I even got the chance to protect the top of Matt Cunningham's head from the tropic sun by loaning him some of my SPF 50 suntan lotion.

The next cruise will be January 31 through February 7, 2009, aboard the Celebrity Line's Summit. A great line-up of entertainment includes Mary Black and the Black Brothers, Tommy Sands, Cherish the Ladies, Matt Cunningham, Johnny McEvoy, Don Stiffe, Danny Golden and many more.

The cruise will sail from San Juan, Puerto Rico, and visit St. Maarten, Dominica, Grenada, Bonaire and Aruba. All this and Irish music and dancing as well; what more could one ask for!

For more information on the Irish cruises, contact Mary Rowley at 1-800-441-HARP or visit [www.irishfestivals.com](http://www.irishfestivals.com)



## TELL TOM

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~ Tom Scullen, President

Since our club is very active, with monthly ceilis, dance lessons, special dance classes with visiting instructors from Ireland, dance and music performances at local assisted living centers, and the annual Cape May and Spring Fling Dance Weekends, I'd really like to hear from folks about things you'd like us to do. Send as many ideas as you'd like to [editor.gwcc@gmail.com](mailto:editor.gwcc@gmail.com).

## ***Presenting the GWCC Food Network!!***



### **Favorite Irish Recipes**

~ Brenda H. Sullivan-Miller

While I was on the Irish cruise in February, Mary Black and her brothers sang the Boxy Song and afterwards recounted the time when they were all wee kids in Dublin and their mom would put boxy in their lunch pails. All the Dublin kids begged for them to just share a little of their boxy.

#### **Boxy**

*1/2 lb raw potato  
1/2 lb mashed potato  
1/2 lb flour  
Little milk  
1 egg  
Salt & pepper*

*Grate potato and mix with mashed potato. Add salt, pepper and flour. Beat egg and add to potato mixture with enough milk to make a dropping batter. Drop by tablespoon onto hot griddle or fry pan. Cook 3-4 minutes on moderate heat, turning when golden.*

#### **Colcannon**

*4 lb potatoes  
7 scallions, chopped  
10 oz milk  
1 ob curly kale or savoy cabbage  
1 oz butter*

*Peel and boil potatoes then drain and mash until smooth. In saucepan, bring milk to a boil, with chopped scallions in it. Add to potatoes and beat until fluffy. Boil cabbage or kale, drain, cool and chop fine. Add to potato mixture with butter. Serve with butter.*

### **Favorite Family Recipe**

~ Ann Marie Rounds

#### ***Banoffle Pie*** (serves 8)

*1/2 stick of butter  
3/4 cup of brown sugar  
1 graham cracker crust  
1 can sweetened condensed milk  
2 bananas, sliced  
1/2 pint whipping cream  
Flaked chocolate*

*Melt sugar and butter in a nonstick pan over low heat. Gradually pour in can of condensed milk and bring to a boil, stirring continuously for 5 minutes until it turns to caramel. Pour into pie crust and cool in refrigerator. Once cooled, layer banana slices in pattern on top. Whip the cream and spoon on top of the bananas. Sprinkle with shaved chocolate and serve chilled.*

If you'd like to share a favorite family recipe, just send it to [editor.gwcc@gmail.com](mailto:editor.gwcc@gmail.com).

## WEEKLY DANCE CLASSES

Note: class in bold is GWCC

Mondays (Note: No class this spring, contact Jan)  
Set dancing 7-8:30 beginners

Howard County Parks and Recreation

Instructor: Jan McVey

Waterloo Elementary School,

5940 Waterloo Rd., Columbia, MD

Info: 410 313-7275

[www.howardcountymd.gov/RAP](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/RAP)

Mondays

Ceili, set and 2 hand dance, 7:30 – 8:30 pm

1<sup>st</sup> and St. Stephen's Church, 6815 York Road,

Baltimore, MD (at York & Regester)

Instructor: Marilyn Moore

Ages 8 – adult welcome

Info: [marimoor@verizon.net](mailto:marimoor@verizon.net)

Tuesdays

Ceili & set dancing 7:00 beginners, 8:00 advanced

Ring of Kerry

Instructors: Anne Marie Russell (beginner) Marilyn

Moore (advanced)

Ridgeview Middle School

16600 Raven Rock Drive, Gaithersburg, MD

Info: 301-977-0983 [joaneejet@hotmail.com](mailto:joaneejet@hotmail.com)

Tuesdays

Sean Nos Dance Class, 8:00 – 9:00 pm

J. Patrick's Irish Pub,

1371 Andre Street, Baltimore, MD

Instructor: Kelly Smit

Info: [www.SeanNosDanceBaltimore.com](http://www.SeanNosDanceBaltimore.com)

Tuesdays

Ceili and set Dancing, 7:30 – 9:00 pm

Fairfax City Department of Recreation

Green Acres Center, 4401 Sideburn Road, Fairfax,

Instructor: Hugh Conway

Info: [ceiliset@yahoo.com](mailto:ceiliset@yahoo.com), 703-273-6869

Wednesdays

Ceili & set dancing 7 – 9pm

J Patrick's Pub

Instructor: Dan Stanton

1371 Andre St, Locust Point, Baltimore, MD

Info: 410-276-2766

Wednesdays

Ceili & set dancing 7:30 – 8:30pm

Montgomery County Recreation Department

Instructor: Jim Keenan

North Bethesda Middle School Dance Studio

8935 Bradmoor Dr., Bethesda, MD

Info: 240-777-6870

[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec)

## MORE WEEKLY DANCE CLASSES

Note: class in bold is GWCC

**Thursdays**

**Set dancing 7:00 beginners, 8:00 advanced**

**GWCC**

**Instructor: Paul O'Donnell**

**Frost Center, 4915 Aspen Hill Road, Rockville, MD**

**Info: [IrishGWCC@aol.com](mailto:IrishGWCC@aol.com)**

**Mini-ceili on the third Thursday of the month**

Saturdays

Ceili & set dancing 10:30am–12pm beginner friendly

Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Eireann (CCE)

Instructor: Marilyn Moore

Green Acres Center, 4401 Sideburn Rd., Fairfax, VA

Info: Larry 703-281-0910 [lfrank2@earthlink.net](mailto:lfrank2@earthlink.net)

Wednesdays

Sean-Nos Dance: beginner 7:30-8:30pm, intermediate,  
8:30-9:30pm

Joy of Motion Atlas Studio, 1333 H Street, NW,

Washington, DC 20002

Instructor: Shannon Dunne

Mar 26 thru June 4 – registration required

Info: 202-399-6763 or [www.joyofmotion.org](http://www.joyofmotion.org)

## GWCC Officers and Board of Directors

### Officers:

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| Tom Scullen    | President      |
| Dixie Baker    | Vice-President |
| Ed O'Connor    | Treasurer      |
| Paul O'Donnell | Secretary      |

### Board Members:

|                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Susan Boon        | Don Kaliher    |
| Linda Fitzpatrick | Frank McCarthy |
| Dick de Freyre    | Emmett Murphy  |
| Betty McCarthy    | Edie O'Donnell |
| Joan O'Connor     | Bev Ricks      |
| Jane Twomey       | Patrick Twomey |

### Committees (Chair):

|              |                                  |
|--------------|----------------------------------|
| Ceili        | (Dixie Baker and Dick de Freyre) |
| Membership   | (Frank and Betty McCarthy)       |
| Outreach     | (Edie O'Donnell and Dixie Baker) |
| Newsletter   | (Don Kaliher)                    |
| Scholarship  | (Jane Twomey)                    |
| Cape May     | (Linda Fitzpatrick)              |
| Spring Fling | (Joan O'Connor)                  |
| Publicity    | (Emmett Murphy)                  |

## MONTHLY CEILIS

Note: ceili in bold is GWCC

First Saturday:

Emerald Isle Club ceili 7 -11pm  
Live music Peter Fitzgerald/J. Patrick's All-Stars  
All dances called by Marilyn Moore.  
American Legion Hall  
125 York Road, Towson, MD  
Info: 410-747-6868 or [www.emeraldisleclub.com](http://www.emeraldisleclub.com)

Second Saturday:

Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann (CCE)  
Class at 7 pm, ceili 7:30 – 11pm  
Live music by the Bogwanders Ceili Band.  
All dances called by Marilyn Moore.  
Green Acres Center  
4401 Sideburn Road, Fairfax, VA  
Info: [www.ccepotomac.org](http://www.ccepotomac.org)

Second Sunday:

J Patrick's Irish Pub ceili 4:30 – 8:30pm  
1371 Andre Street, Baltimore, MD  
Live music by *J Patrick's All Star Ceili Band*  
All dances called by Marilyn Moore  
Info: call 410-244-8613

**Fourth Sunday:**

**GWCC Ceili at Cherry Hill 5 pm**  
**Set workshop starts at 4pm**  
**Live music. Potluck supper.**  
**Some dances called.**  
**Cherry Hill Park Convention Center**  
**9800 Cherry Hill Rd, College Park, MD**  
**Info: 301-294-3568 [rdefreyre@aol.com](mailto:rdefreyre@aol.com)**

## LOCAL SEISIUNS AROUND TOWN

J Patrick's Pub, Locust Point, MD  
Monday – Beginners Seisiun 8-10 pm  
Tuesday w/Laura Byrne & Jim Eagan, 9-Midnight  
Thursday w/Peter Fitzgerald 8-Midnight  
Kids Seisiun w/Donna Long  
Info: 410-244-8613

Royal Mile Pub, Wheaton, MD  
Kids' Seisiun, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, 5-6:30  
info: [jmitchellf@yahoo.com](mailto:jmitchellf@yahoo.com)  
Adults' Seisiun, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, 7-10:30  
Info: 301-946-4511

McGinty's Publick House, Silver Spring, MD  
Kids' 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday info: [jmitchellf@yahoo.com](mailto:jmitchellf@yahoo.com)  
Adults' Tuesdays, 8:00  
Dennis Botzer and Patrick Kavanagh  
info: [dennis.botzer@ey.com](mailto:dennis.botzer@ey.com)

McGinty's Publick House, Silver Spring, MD  
Children's Irish Music Session, 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday each month  
6:30 – 7:50 p.m.  
Info: [mail@karenashbrook.com](mailto:mail@karenashbrook.com) , 301-592-0101

RiRa Pub, Bethesda, MD  
Wednesdays, 7-11 and Sundays, 3-7 p.m.  
Philippe Varlet and Rob Greenway  
Info: [philvar@erols.com](mailto:philvar@erols.com)

Auld Shebeen, North St & Rte 123, Fairfax, VA  
Saturdays, 12-2:00, kids once a month 11:00  
Info: 703-293-9600  
Kids' info: <http://www.novasession.org>

O'Faolain's Irish Pub  
20921 Davenport Dr, Sterling, VA  
Sundays, 6:30-9:30 Info: 703-444-9796  
Betsy O'Malley & Jim Wade

Ryan's Daughter Irish Pub,  
600 East Belvedere Avenue, Baltimore, MD  
w/ Laura Byrne-Egan, Pat Egan, Julia Fitzgerald  
Sundays, 5-8 pm Info: 410-464-1000



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Note: events in bold are GWCC**

- Apr 15, Tuesday, 9:00 pm  
Brian Gaffney, The Irish Channel, 500 H St, NW  
DC, Info: 202-216-0046
- Apr 17, Thursday, 7:30 pm  
Gaelic Storm, The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon  
Ave., Alexandria VA, Info: 703-549-7500
- Apr 19, Saturday, 7:30 pm  
Ocean Quartet ([Jennifer Cutting, Lisa  
Moscatiello, Rosie Shipley, Jon Jazdin)  
Sugarloaf Coffeehouse, 16913 Germantown Rd.,  
Germantown, MD;  
Info: 301-977-8952, [www.scuu.org/coffeehouse](http://www.scuu.org/coffeehouse)
- Apr 19, Saturday, 9:00 pm  
Brian Gaffney, The Irish Channel, 500 H St, NW  
DC 20001; Info: 202-216-0046
- Apr 22, Tuesday, 9:00 pm  
Brian Gaffney, Irish Channel, 1053 Rt.3 North,  
Gambrills, MD 21054; Info: 410-451-4222
- Apr 23, Wednesday, 8:00 pm  
Ceann, Celtic rock, Flanagan's, 4844 Cordell  
Ave., Bethesda MD
- Apr 2, Friday, 8:00 pm  
Celtic Music & Dance featuring Maggie Sansone,  
Andrea Hoag, Sue Richards, Rob Greenway, Paul  
Oorts, Matt Bell, & Teelin School of Irish Dance  
F.Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, Rockville Civic  
Center Park, 603 Edmonston Dr., Rockville, MD  
Info: [www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre)
- 25 Apr, Friday, 9:00 pm  
Ceann, Celtic rock, Mick O'Shea's, 328 N.  
Charles St., Baltimore, MD 21201
- Apr 26, Saturday, 10 am – 6 pm  
30<sup>th</sup> Annual Southern Maryland Celtic Festival  
Jefferson Patterson Park  
1015 Mackall Road, Prince Frederick, MD  
(On the Patuxent River near historic St. Leonard)  
Info: 443-404-7319 or [www.cssm.org](http://www.cssm.org)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Note: events in bold are GWCC**

- Apr 29, Tuesday, 8:00 pm  
Brian Gaffney, Ireland's Four Provinces, 105 W.  
Broad St, Falls Church, VA 22046
- May 3, Saturday  
7th Annual Scottish Festival & Celtic Gathering  
City Park, Bridgeport, WV; w/ Iona  
Info: 304-842-3457; [www.scots-westvirginia.org](http://www.scots-westvirginia.org)
- May 3, Saturday, 9:00 pm  
Brian Gaffney @ Ireland's Four Provinces, 105  
W. Broad St, Falls Church, VA 22046
- May 10, Saturday, 2 – 4 pm  
FSGW Irish Dance & Music Workshops  
Sean-nos Dancing w/ Kieran Jordan  
Flute and Whistle w/ Laura Eagan  
Accompaniment for Irish Music w/ Josh Dukes  
Irish Fiddle w/ Danny Noveck  
St. James Church, Upper Parish Hall  
222 8th Street NE, Washington, DC 20002  
Info: 703-354-6460
- May 25, Sunday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm  
Comhaltas Irish Dance Festival (CCE Feis)  
Mt. St. Mary's University, Emmitsburg, MD  
Over 800 dancers & musicians  
Info: [lfrank2@earthlink.net](mailto:lfrank2@earthlink.net)
- Jun 14, Saturday  
Potomac Celtic Festival, Morven Park,  
Leesburg, VA; w/ IONA, Coyote Run, Tinsmith,  
Fynesound, Beggar's Circus, Hen, Flying Cows  
of Ventry  
Info: [www.pcfest.org](http://www.pcfest.org)
- Jul 11-13, Friday (6 pm) to Sunday (noon)  
The Gaelic League Irish Immersion Weekend  
Shepherdstown University, Shepherdstown, WV  
Planned beginning, intermediate & advanced levels  
Info: [covens7@gmu.edu](mailto:covens7@gmu.edu)

Continued on next page.

## MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

**Note: events in bold are GWCC**

Jul 21-25, 9-11:30 am Sligo Creek Hedge School  
Sprouting Celts – Ages 6-7

Irish songs, games, language, Celtic crafts

Registration required. (Apr 15<sup>th</sup>)

Info: 301.592.0101, [mail@karenashbrook.com](mailto:mail@karenashbrook.com)

Jul 28-Aug 1, 9:30 - 4, Sligo Creek Hedge School  
Teen Celtic Band Week – Ages 13 - 18

Ensemble skills, presenting traditional and contemporary Celtic music. Layering, dynamics, intros, bridges, endings, crafting performance arrangements, music theory, & CD recording of created ensemble arrangements

Registration required. (Apr 15<sup>th</sup>) Audition required.

Info: 301.592.0101, [mail@karenashbrook.com](mailto:mail@karenashbrook.com)

Aug 4 - 8, 9:30 – 3:30 Sligo Creek Hedge School

Intro to Irish Music & Arts – Ages 9 - 14

Intro to bodhran, accordion pennywhistle, Irish songs, games, language & Celtic crafts

Registration required. (Apr 15<sup>th</sup>)

No music experience needed

Info: 301.592.0101, [mail@karenashbrook.com](mailto:mail@karenashbrook.com)

Aug 11 - 15, 9:30 -4, Sligo Creek Hedge School

Musician's Week – Ages 9 - 14

Bodhran and pennywhistle in addition to student's instrument. Must play some Irish music with several tunes memorized at tempo.

Registration required. Audition required. (Apr 15<sup>th</sup>)

Info: 301.592.0101, [mail@karenashbrook.com](mailto:mail@karenashbrook.com)

Nov 7 – 9, Friday - Sunday

Maryland Irish Festival

Timonium Fair Grounds, MD

Info: [irishfestival.com](http://irishfestival.com)

# CCE FiddleWeek 2008

July 7-11, 2008 – Washington Waldorf School – Bethesda, Maryland

The O'Neill-Malcom Branch of *Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann* (CCE), the local Washington metro branch of the Irish-based organization charged with promoting Irish culture, and Mitch Fanning (Director of FiddleWeek) are pleased to announce CCE FiddleWeek 2008.



The purpose of FiddleWeek is to offer violinists and fiddle players of all ages and levels of ability a unique and fun-filled opportunity to improve their playing through the study of traditional Irish music.

Students will be taught traditionally – in group classes, arranged according to ability and level of experience with traditional Irish music. Each group will have an opportunity to perform at a closing concert and ceili dance and each individual will also have a private lesson (half hour) with one of our teaching staff during the week.

The teachers for the week are all accomplished performers of traditional Irish music as well as excellent instructors. In addition to our teaching staff of local talent, through the aegis of *Comhaltas* we're pleased to feature the fiddling and class teaching of **Brendan Mulvihill**, **Brian Conway**, and **Heather Bixler** for the entire week. Please see the bios on each!

Each class will learn a variety of traditional tunes – hornpipes, jigs, reels, mazurkas, barndances, airs, and highlands among others. In addition to class and private instruction, students will have an opportunity to play in traditional Irish sessions and hear faculty performances throughout the week. Students can also participate in elective classes in bodhran (Irish drumming), basic Irish step dancing, Celtic crafts, and pennywhistle which are also offered during the week.

|                  |                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Who?</b>      | Brendan Mulvihill, Brian Conway, Heather Bixler                                                                                          |
| <b>What?</b>     | CCE FiddleWeek 2008                                                                                                                      |
| <b>When?</b>     | July 7-11th, 2008                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Where?</b>    | Washington Waldorf School, Bethesda, Maryland                                                                                            |
| <b>Why?</b>      | Because it's a fun and productive way to learn Irish fiddle                                                                              |
| <b>Deadline?</b> | Early Registration Discount Deadline: April 30th.                                                                                        |
| <b>How?</b>      | Email: <a href="mailto:mitch.fanning@semperfidils.com">mitch.fanning@semperfidils.com</a><br>A registration package will be sent to you! |



**Sunday, April 20th**  
**5:00 - 9:00 PM**  
**Set Workshop at 4:00**  
**Cherry Hill Park**  
**Conference Center**  
**9800 Cherry Hill Rd.**  
**College Park, Md.**  
**Entrance Code 76000**  
**"Set of the Month"**  
**West Kerry**

COME DANCE TO THE  
LOONEY TUNES OF

**"LOONISH"**

**BETSY O'MALLEY**

TENOR BANJO

**JESSE WINCH**

DRUMS

**PETER BRICE**

ACCORDION

**DOC BOTZER**

PIANO

**ROB GREENWAY**

FLUTE

PROGRAM

Clare Mazurka  
North Kerry Set  
Seige of Ennis

Cashel Set  
Clare Plain  
Fermanagh Set

West Kerry  
Waltz  
Clare Lancers



POT LUCK SUPPER DURING THE 1st BREAK



**ADMISSION**

GWCC members-\$12- ° Nonmembers-\$15

Kids under 11-free ° Students 11 to 20-\$8

For more information, call (301) 294-3568 or <http://www.gwcc-online.org>

## **THE WEST KERRY POLKA SET**

### **First Figure - Ladies Chain (Polkas) 144 bars**

- 1 Double reverse house: for the first 2 steps of each house the gent reverses the lady into the next place on the R. They then house 6 bars to place and repeat the whole movement. 16 bars
- 2 Lead around, with waist hold. 8 bars
- 3 Ladies R hand star round (4 bars) to face partners and swing with waltz hold. (12 bars). 16 bars
- 4 Top couples: Ladies chain R hands in the centre, L elbow to turn the opposite gent, R hands in the centre and into waltz hold with their partners who have moved across into the ladies' positions. 8 bars  
Reverse house around each other. 8 bars
- 5 Double reverse house. Lead around.  
Ladies R hand star and swing. 40 bars
- 6 Side couples chain and reverse house. 16 bars
- 7 Double reverse house. Lead around, finishing with a stamp and clap on the last beat of the 8th bar. 24 bars

### **Second Figure - First Show (Polkas) 192 bars**

- 1 Double reverse house. Lead around. 24 bars
- 2 1st top couple double reverse house within the set. 16 bars
- 3 Double reverse house. Lead around. 24 bars
- 4 2nd top couple double reverse house within the set. 16 bars
- 5 Double reverse house. Lead around. 24 bars
- 6 1st side couple (L of 1st top couple) double reverse house within the set. 16 bars
- 7 Double reverse house. Lead around. 24 bars
- 8 2nd side couple double reverse house within the set. 16 bars
- 9 Double reverse house. Lead around. 24 bars

### **Third Figure - The Slide 192 bars**

- 1 Full slide: All couples take waltz hold and slide towards the centre 1, 2, 1, 2, and back, 2, 1, 2, 3 (4 bars). They then house around to the opposite place (4 bars) and repeat the movement to get back home (8 bars). 16 bars
- 2 Lead around. 8 bars
- 3 Top couples: Ladies chain. 8 bars  
Reverse house around each other. 8 bars
- 4 Full slide. Lead around. 24 bars
- 5 Top couples chain and reverse house. 16 bars
- 6 Full slide. Lead around. 24 bars
- 7 Side couples chain and reverse house. 16 bars
- 8 Full slide. Lead around. 24 bars
- 9 Side couples chain and reverse house. 16 bars
- 10 Full slide. Lead around. 24 bars

### **Fourth Figure - Second Show (Polkas) 152 bars**

- 1 Double lead around: Couples lead around anti-clockwise with crossed hand hold in front. The ladies twirl clockwise under the gents' raised arms on the 8th bar, keeping hands held, and couples lead around anti-clockwise for a second time back to place. 16 bars
- 2 Top couples: 1st couple double reverse house within the set. 16 bars  
Both couples slide and change: they slide into the set and back (4 bars) and house across to the opposite place (4 bars). The movement is repeated back to place (8 bars). 16 bars  
2nd couple double reverse house within the set. 16 bars  
Both couples slide and change. 16 bars
- 3 Side couples now dance 2. 64 bars

### **Fifth Figure - Ladies Move On (Slides) 224 bars**

- 1 Double reverse house. Lead around. 24 bars
- 2 Circle: all join hands in a circle and advance and retire twice. 8 bars  
Ladies RH and gents LH stars: Ladies take R hands in the centre and wheel around to pass three gents, drop hands and dance out of the set to turn in clockwise behind the fourth gent (4 bars). Gents take L hands in the centre and wheel around to their own place to face their new partners, with backs to the centre, and take waltz hold (4 bars). (see ENDNOTE) 8 bars
- 3 Swing new partners. 8 bars
- 4 Double reverse house around. Lead around. Circle. Ladies R and gents LH stars. Swing new partners. 48 bars
- 5 Double reverse house around. Lead around. Circle. Ladies R and gents LH stars. Swing new partners. 48 bars
- 6 Double reverse house around. Lead around. Circle. Ladies R and gents LH stars. Swing own partners. 48 bars
- 7 Double reverse house. Lead around. 24 bars

### **Sixth Figure - The Hornpipe 120 bars**

- 1 House around. 8 bars
- 2 Double round: couples double around the house 8 bars
- 3 Ladies move on, walking round to the next gent on their R while the gents stand. 8 bars
- 4 House around. Double round. Ladies move on. 24 bars
- 5 House around. Double round. Ladies move on. 24 bars
- 6 House around. Double round. Ladies move on to own partners 24 bars
- 7 House around. Double round.

**Join the club!**

Get our monthly newsletter and save on monthly ceilis, all for just \$15 per person.  
To sign up or renew today, send this membership form and your check to:

Frank McCarthy, 728 Milshire Court, Silver Spring, MD 20905

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Email \_\_\_\_\_

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