



Philadelphia Ceili Group Seanachie ~ March 2013

A Message from the Philadelphia Ceili Group Board:

The Philadelphia Ceili Group Board would like to thank all of you who have supported us in the past year. Thank you for coming to our concerts, workshops and lectures. It is our pleasure to provide you with the opportunities to experience great traditional Irish music and dance. We enjoy meeting you and speaking with you. Thank you also for renewing your membership. This support keeps us afloat and enables us to keep our programs alive. Please check our Spring concerts and workshops. Hopefully we will see you there.

Mark Your Calendars NOW - and **SAVE THESE DATES**: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, **September 12, 13, and 14, 2013!**

Our Annual Irish Music Festival will be in full swing, and you'll want to be there!

We open Thursday with our traditional **Singers' Night**, and always have our Friday Night **Concert and Ceili**. Saturday is an all-day and night affair, with family-friendly events throughout, and dance, vocal, and musical instrument workshops, and more.

Our **Saturday Night Concert** will top off the weekend, with a fabulous traditional Irish musical group for this festival extraordinaire (which we are keeping under wraps at this writing!).

Keep looking at our website for updates on our 3-day Irish festival, and set aside those dates - making sure you spread the word to your family and friends!

Don't miss our year ahead of more great programs!"

March Promises great Irish Music and Dance at the Irish Center...Don't miss out on the fun!

Upcoming Concert Events Sponsored By the Philadelphia Ceili Group

Friday, March 8th, 8:00 pm

St. Patrick's Day Ceili

The Philadelphia Ceili Group St. Patrick's Day Ceili Co-sponsored by the Circle of Friends Set Dances.

Live music by the McGillians - Hosted by John Shields and Cass Tinney

Bring a dessert or dish to share, 50/50 raffle, prizes.

Admission: \$15, PCG Members & Students \$10, Children Free

The Commodore Barry Club, "The Irish Center", 6815 Emlen St., Philadelphia, PA 19119

Saturday, March 9, 8:00pm
Mary Courtney & Morningstar (John Redmond and Donie Ryan)

Commodore Barry Club / Irish Center
6815 Emlen Street, Phila., PA 19119
PCG Members - \$13, General \$15

Tickets are available online at
www.philadelphiaceiligroup.org . We encourage
that you purchase your tickets early.



Morning Star is Mary Courtney – songs, guitar, bodhrán, John Redmond - button accordion, Donie Ryan - tenor banjo.

Mary Courtney formed Morning Star in 1982 in the Bronx. Since then they have recorded several albums, and played at a variety of festivals across the USA. Morning Star features Kerry born Mary Courtney, whose voice has a beauty, depth, and clarity of tone that few can equal. John Redmond, a Wexford man, is the driving force in a joyous cascade of jigs and reels, one of the finest button accordion players of our time, with a bright and lively waterfall of sound that melds perfectly with

Mary's voice. A key element in the high energy of Morning Star is Donie Ryan on tenor banjo, from Co Tipperary, a rock solid player who is always note for note, with a deft and lyrical touch that blends perfectly with John's accordion and Mary's guitar. Morning Star beguiles the listener with compelling grace and boundless energy, certain to lift your feet and your spirit.

Bringing Trad Home House Concert Series: Up Coming Event

Friday, March 22, 2013

Young and Talented Fiddler Dylan Foley with Dan Gurney on accordion and Sean Earnest on Bouzouki

Friday, March 22nd in Ambler, PA
For more information and directions, please
RSVP to pcgradhouse@gmail.com

Wednesday April 10th, 2013

Our friends at Barn Star House Concert Series

Wednesday, April 10th in Philadelphia, PA
Brian Hart (also of Bua) and Len Graham
7:30pm

For more information and directions, please
RSVP to Barnstarconcerts@gmail.com

Friday, April 19, 2013

Cillian Valey & Ryan McGiver in Concert

Commodore Barry Club / Irish Center
6815 Emlen Street, Phila., PA 19119
PCG Members - \$13, General \$15

Tickets are available online at
www.philadelphiaceiligroup.org . We encourage
that you purchase your tickets early.



The Vallely/McGiver duo features a unique collaboration between two distinguished names in traditional Irish and American folk music: Cillian Vallely (uilleann pipes & whistles) and Ryan McGiver (guitar & vocals).

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Armagh native **Cillian Vallely** has established his name over the last decade through his playing with award-winning traditional Irish supergroup Lunasa that was described by the New York Times as “the hottest acoustic band in the world”. Influenced by the rhythmic, flowing style of Paddy Keenan and Johnny Doran, Vallely’s mastery of chanter, drones and regulators has earned a reputation as one of the top players in the tradition. He has performed worldwide on tours as diverse as Riverdance, Natalie Merchant, Mary Chapin-Carpenter, Tim O'Brien, and the “Celtic Jazz Collective” with Miles Davis’ drummer Lewis Nash and bassist Peter Washington. He has also recorded on over 40 albums including six with Lunasa, “Callan Bridge” with his brother Niall and various guest spots with Natalie Merchant, “Excalibur” with Fairport Convention and Moody Blues, “GAIA” with the Prague Philharmonic Orchestra, and Karan Casey.

New York state singer and guitarist **Ryan McGiver** is known on either side of the Atlantic for his unique blend of open string guitar and breathy, eerie vocals.

Over the past decade he has performed extensively throughout North America, Europe and Asia and his music has been showcased on the BBC, RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta, NPR and The Lantern Journal. He has recorded and shared the stage with an eclectic blend of folk and rock musicians including Susan McKeown, Jolie Holland, Pádraig Rynne, Doug Wieselman, Vishtèn, Cillian Vallely and Shahzad Ismaily to name a few. His recent debut solo album entitled 'Troubled in Mind' is receiving international acclaim.

Saturday April 27th, 2013

SEAN NOS DANCING WITH SHANNON DUNNE

1:00-2:30pm Beginners
3:00-4:30pm Advanced

Workshop prices \$20 for one
****\$30 for both*****

Shannon Dunne- Concertina/Sean nos Dance. Shannon has performed at theaters, and festivals all over North America and Ireland, including the Kennedy Center, The Birchmere (VA), Comhaltas Ceoltori Eirann North American Convention, ICONS Festival (Boston), Saline Celtic Festival (MI), the University of Milwaukee Sean-nos Festival (WI), Choilin Sean Dharach Festival (Ireland), Brennan's (Nova Scotia), Greyfox Music Festival (NY), the Institute of Musical Traditions (MD), the Rams Head (MD), Potomac Celtic Festival (VA) and the Mainstay (MD).

In addition, she tours internationally with Childsplay, Kitchen Quartet, The Wren Girls: American Women in Sean-nos Dance and was a principal dancer with Footworks Percussive Dance Ensemble from 2007-2010. She has appeared as guest artist with world renowned Irish music acts, such as The Teetotalers, Solas, Flook, Karan Casey, Kevin Crawford, Killian Vallely, Tony DeMarco, Tim O'Brien, and Old-time Music Hero, Bruce Molsky. Her extensive theater resume includes work with Award Winning Synetic Theater (Company, 2005-2007), Theater Alliance, Scena Theater, and Young Playwright's Theater.

Shannon is a renowned teacher of Sean-nos dance, having studied with Mick Mulkerrin & Mairead Casey, Aidan Vaughan, Paidraic O'Hoibicin, Roisin NiMhanin and Patrick O'Dea.

She is the recipient of many awards and honors, including the 2008 Dance Fellowship and multiple Folk Arts Grants from the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities. She is on the roster of the Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation, and was the recipient of a Performers Grant from the University of Milwaukee.

A Reminder:

The PCG Board meetings are normally held the 3rd Sunday of the Month at 2:00 p.m. at the Commodore Barry Club aka "The Irish Center." The remaining Board Meeting dates for 2013 are as follows:

March 24th, April 21st, May 19th, June 9th,
No meetings in July and August
September 22nd, October 20th, November 17th,
December 15th.

Annual Meeting and Election of board members:
Jan 19th, 2014

Monthly Events Sponsored By the Philadelphia Ceili Group

Singers Session: Every 1st Wednesday of the Month at 7:30 pm the Singers Session is run by Terry Kane. Join local Irish Singers both of English and Irish tunes. All levels of singers welcome. For More information check website: www.philadelphiaceiligroup.org or call 215-704-5982. Bring a snack or dessert to share "It will be great craic!" The Session will be held at The Commodore Barry Club. (March 6, 2013, April 3, 2013, May 1, 2013 and June 5, 2013) The Singer's do take the summer off ;-)

Irish Traditional Music Sessions: Every 1st Friday of the Month [please note we have moved the session from the 3rd Friday to the 1st Friday]

from 8:00 -9:00 there is a **slow session**. This is a traditional Irish session in all ways except one: the tempo. You will play common session tunes at a slower than normal pace, so that beginning and intermediate players can more easily learn the tunes and join in the session. Also great for experienced players who are picking up another instrument!

A **regular session** sponsored by the Irish Center will run after that from 9:00 - On. For more information contact Courtney Malley at courtney@starlinx.com or 215-704-5982 (December 7, January 4, 2013, February 1, 2013, March 1, 2013, April 5, 2013, May 3, 2013 June 7, 2013, July 5, 2013 and August 2, 2013)

Ceili Dance: Every 4th Friday of the Month at 8:00 p.m. there is a Ceili at the Commodore Barry Club. A Ceili (kay-lee) is a traditional Irish gathering for fun, fellowship, and laughs (or craic as the Irish might say). Traditional Ceili dances were enjoyed at house parties and crossroads gatherings in the rural country sides. There are several dances which are easy for beginners to learn, such as, Haymaker's jig, Siege of Ennis, Fairy Reel, etc. Many of these traditional dances have a follow the leader pattern that new dancers can easily pickup on their 1st attempt. Our dance caller will teach the basic 3's, 7s, jig step, and Ceili swing at the start of the event. Come early (7:30 ish) and learn the basic steps while meeting new friends! You'll never learn if you don't try. Cost is \$12.00 when there is live music, \$10 when its recorded music unless otherwise noted. January 25, 2013, February 22, 2013, March 8th, 2013 (St. Patrick's Day Ceili on a special night \$15), April 26, 2013, May 24, 2012, June 28, 2013).

Stay tuned for the summer 2013 schedule.

SUPPORT LOCAL IRISH RADIO SHOWS!

Saturday: Noon-2:00 on 740 AM:
The Irish Hours with Mike Concannon

Sunday: 11-Noon on WTMR 800 AM and at www.wtmrradio.com:
Vincent Gallagher Irish Hour

Sunday: Noon-1:00 on WTMR 800 AM, www.wtmrradio.com
"Come West Along the Road"
with Marianne MacDonald.



The Commodore Barry Club



The Philadelphia Ceili Group has called the Commodore Barry Club aka "The Irish Center" its home since 1958. The Irish Center has always supported all the events, concerts and Festivals the PCG has held there. Here are some upcoming events that we hope you will support and enjoy! The Irish Center is located at 6815 Emlen Street, Philadelphia, PA 19119. Please check www.theirishcenter.com for additional events.

St. Patrick's Day Events at the Irish Center

March 10, Sunday, Post-Saint Patrick's Day

Parade: Relax after the parade and enjoy dinner and entertainment. Adult cover charge is \$10. There will be music by the Vince Gallagher Band and DJ John Shields, dancers and fun for all.

March 17, Sunday, Saint Patrick's Day: We celebrate the day with a traditional Irish Saint Patrick's Day celebration: mass at 1:00, followed by a luncheon. Music will be provide by the Vince Gallagher Band and DJ John Shields. All are welcome, and there is no charge.

Circle of Friends Irish Set Dancers

John Shields and Cass Tinney offer Irish Set Dance classes at the Commodore Barry Club in Mt Airy. Please see below schedule:

Beginner Class: Tuesday, 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm, Please contact John Shields for information: 215-722- 673, johnshields@aol.com

Advanced Class: Wednesday, 7:30 pm -9:30 pm John Shields & Cass Tinney. Please contact Cass Tinney for more information: 215-637-9366 - casstinney@aol.com

Fourth Friday Ceili - sponsored by the Ceili Group on the 4th Friday of each month, dances are Ceili, set, waltzes, quick step - live music - call for information.

Second Friday Sets - All sets - CD's or live music sponsored by John & Cass on most 2nd Fridays of the month. Call for information.

NEXT GENERATION:

A group of musicians of all ages that meet every second Sunday of the month from 1-3pm at the Irish Center in Mt. Airy for a session. The Next Generation is led by Chris Brennan-Hagy, Kathy DeAngelo and Dennis Gormley, who spend the first hour teaching a tune and leading the session in the second hour. Participants should already know how to play their instruments. All tunes are taught by ear. Free. The session meets monthly September through June.

Website:

<http://www.hsic.org/~gormley/mcdh/nextgen.htm>

**Philadelphia Area Irish Cyber News:
JUST A FEW FUN AND INTERESTING SITES TO
CHECK OUT ON THE WEB:**

www.Philadelphiaceiligroup.org The Philadelphia Ceili Group is devoted to the promotion and perpetuation of Irish music, dance and culture in Philadelphia and throughout the Greater Delaware Valley. Offering information about great concert series, ceilis and other activities.

www.irishphiladelphia.com Irish Philadelphia brings together all aspects of *Irishness* in the Delaware Valley under one roof. More than that, they give you the tools to become a full participant in this wonderfully rich culture.

Irish Philly recently produced a new CD, **Ceili Drive: The Music of Irish Philadelphia**, which features some of the leading lights of Irish music in Philadelphia area, including Kevin McGillian and sons, John and Jimmy; John, Eugenia, and Judy Brennan; John and Michael Boyce and Karen Boyce McCollum; Gerry Timlin; Dennis Gormley and Kathy DeAngelo; RUNA; the Next Generation kids including Haley Richardson; Marian Makins and Gabriel Donohue (performing "Duffy's Cut"); John Byrne; Tim Hill; Kitty Kelly; Chris Brennan Hagy; Tom O'Malley; Hollis Payer, and many, many more. Ordering information will be on the website shortly and announced on the Irish Philadelphia Facebook page.

**Philadelphia Area Irish Cyber News:
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CHECK OUT ON THE WEB:**

CTIMS.info The Coatesville Traditional Irish Music Series, a little bit outside of Philadelphia, but offering a great concert series of Irish traditional music.

www.irishmemorial.org Website devoted to information about the conception and history of the Irish Memorial. The Memorial stands prominently at the southeast corner of Front and Chestnut Streets in Philadelphia. The Irish Memorial is dedicated to the memory of more than one million innocent men, women and children who perished during the years 1845 to 1850 and to the millions of Irish immigrants who found here in the United States of America the freedom, liberty and prosperity denied to their ancestors in Ireland.

www.theirishcenter.com The Society of Commodore John Barry USN, also known as the Irish Center, was established in 1951 to promote Irish culture and traditions in the Delaware Valley area. The Irish Center is a large facility located at Carpenter Lane and Emlen Streets in the Mt. Airy section of Philadelphia, rental facilities are available for meetings, weddings, parties and any other occasions of all sizes. Additionally, the Irish Center serves as a home to several Irish organizations. For further information about the Irish Center, please call (215) 843-8051, or e-mail : centerinfo@irishcenter.com



PHILADELPHIA CEILI GROUP. JOIN TODAY!

The Philadelphia Ceili Group is a non-profit, volunteer, educational organization (governed by a nine member Board of Directors), which is dedicated to the support of Irish Culture through a variety of activities. The Ceili Group (pronounced Kale-lee.) was founded in 1958 to preserve traditional Irish ceili, or set dancing. From our beginning as a group of precision dancers, the Ceili Group has grown to encompass a wide range of activities, centered on Irish music

and dance. In addition to our popular Annual Festival, members can take advantage of discounted prices for: Special Dance Events, Musical and Dance Lessons, Concerts by world-renowned performers, Concerts featuring talented newcomers, Cultural and Craft activities, Music workshops taught by first class musicians, Music Sessions. Bring along your instrument, or just sit back and enjoy!

Annual Membership Dues

Individual \$15.00, Family \$25.00, Lifetime membership \$500.00, (Lifetime members receive FREE ADMISSION to all Ceili Group Events) You can join on-line by going to www.philadelphiaceiligroup.org and going to the membership page, **or** Send your check or money order with the following information: Name, Address, Phone #, and Email Address to:

**The Philadelphia Ceili Group
6815 Emlen Street
Philadelphia, PA 19119**

Updates to the PCG WebPage:

Supporters of the Philadelphia Ceili Group can now donate on-line! Just go to www.philadelphiaceiligroup.org. There is a "donate now" button in the left hand corner. We are very grateful for all of your support. If you have any questions or require a letter for tax purposes please contact us at phillyceiligroup@gmail.com.

Volunteers Needed:

If you have any experience in technical theater and are interested in volunteering to assist with setting up and running lights at PCG concerts please contact Anne McNiff at phillyceiligroup@gmail.com

Special Event of Note: Sunday
March 3, 2013

**Philadelphia St. Patrick's Day Parade
Fundraiser**

NEW LOCATION, PLEASE PASS THE
WORD!

Philadelphia St. Patrick's Day Parade Fundraiser
will be at Cardinal O'Hara High School (1701
South Springfield Rd. Springfield, PA 19064)

Sunday, March 3, 2013, from 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM

\$25.00 Adults, \$10.00 Students - Price includes
Buffet and Entertainment
Music by Sláinte & The Round Tower Band



Local Irish Music Sessions

SUNDAY

1 p.m. to 3 p.m. (every 2nd Sunday of the Month)
Next Generation at the Irish Center in [Mt. Airy]
Philadelphia, PA.
2 p.m. Sligo Pub in Media, PA
4 p.m. (every 2nd Sunday of the Month)
Braveheart Pub in Hellertown, PA
4 p.m. Dublin Square in Bordentown, NJ
5 p.m. to 9 p.m. The Plough and the Stars at 2nd
and Chestnut Sts., Philadelphia, PA.

MONDAY

7 p.m. Kildare's in West Chester, PA.

8 p.m. Rocking Stone in Paulsboro, NJ.

THURSDAY

7:30 p.m. The Ugly Oyster Draughtouse in
Reading, PA.

8 p.m. at The Treehouse in Audubon, NJ.

8:30 p.m. at Irish Times on South 2nd St in
Philadelphia, PA.

Billy Murphy's on Thursdays from 7-10 at Indian
queen lane and Conrad sts in east falls.

FRIDAY

8 p.m. to 9 p.m.(every 1st Friday of the month)
Slow Session at the Irish Center [sponsored by
Philadelphia Ceili Group] Regular Session 9 p.m.
[sponsored by the Irish Center] Philadelphia PA.

SATURDAY

4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Fergie's Pub at 12th and Sansom
Sts in Philadelphia, PA.

We would like to keep this listed updated, so
please let us know if we've missed any sessions
or if any of these are no longer happening.