



Céilí

Vol. 29, No. 4

A Publication of the Southwest Celtic Music Association

July-August 2010



Mick Moloney and The Green Fields of America: in McKinney August 14

The SCMA is proud to present to you what promises to be one of the most dynamic and exciting concerts we've yet produced. On Saturday, August 14, 2010, **Mick Moloney and The Green Fields of America** will take the stage at the McKinney Performing Arts Center and make it their own. If you have even a slight interest in Irish and folk music, you've heard Mick Moloney's work. He is the dean of Irish-American music,

having inspired, trained and toured the best musicians in the United States. For more than thirty years this renowned musician and folklorist has led a stalwart group of Irish-American instrumentalists, singers and dancers in concerts from coast-to-coast.

Continued on page 2

Cover Story

Continued from page 1

Though born in Ireland Moloney concentrates his efforts and interest on the Irish in America, and is an expert on the period during which the Irish were first attempting to integrate into American culture. **The Green Fields of America** is the vehicle by which he brings traditional Irish and Irish-American culture to American audiences, using American talent. The group was formed in 1978 after the Smithsonian Institution Festival of American Folklife presented traditional Irish music and dance in the nation's capital in a multi-cultural setting for the first time. Mick was hired by the Smithsonian Institution to carry out research in several major American cities to locate the best Irish musicians and dancers in the country. For one unforgettable week on the Mall in front of the Lincoln Memorial, 26 of the best musicians, singers and dancers in the land performed alongside 26 Irish performers brought from Ireland. The response was overwhelming. Since that time the personnel has changed, but the concept has remained constant over thirty years: to show in one major group some of Irish America's finest musicians and dancers. This group was the first on either side of the Atlantic to bring together Irish vocal, instrumental and dance traditions on the concert and festival stage. Sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts a record five times, the group has toured the United States constantly since the late 1970's. Among those who got their start performing with The Green Fields are Seamus Egan, Eileen Ivers, Marie Reilly, Donny Golden, and Jean Butler and Michael Flatley of Riverdance fame. Certainly a who's who of Irish music and dance tradition.

And now they are bringing that tradition to you. An evening with Mick Moloney's Green Fields of America is an unforgettable experience. They perform a brilliant repertoire of slow airs, jigs, reels, and hornpipes accompanied by exciting, virtuoso Irish dancing from World Champion step dancers, as well as a variety of traditional and contemporary songs in Gaelic and English. These include love songs, humorous songs, patriotic songs, songs of emigration and settlement, Irish American songs from variety theater and vaudeville, and the myriad other themes that have made the Irish oral literature and song tradition among the richest in the Western world. All this is linked by the urbane, informative and witty commentary for which the group is renowned. They have a rare capacity to appeal to folk and Irish music devotees and general audiences of any age.

Mick's current group includes Robbie O'Connell, guitar and vocals; Athena Tergis, fiddle; Billy McComiskey, accordion; John Doyle, guitar, and Mick himself on tenor banjo, mandolin, guitar and vocals. Any one of these folks alone would provide a terrific evening's entertainment; to have them all together is an embarrassment of riches indeed!

I need to say a few words about the venue for this concert. The McKinney Performing Arts Center has been the home for many of our concerts over the last few years, and we have developed a great relationship with them. They provide us with one of the best listening environments we've

been privileged to use. If you've not been to a show here I urge you to make this one your first. You will not be disappointed by either the venue or the presentation. All seats in the house are very good, but be advised they are the original wooden seats from its days as an actual courtroom, so feel free to bring a seat cushion! MPAC also provides cushions for a \$1 donation that goes to the maintenance and preservation of the space.

The location on the McKinney square also lends itself to making an evening of it - there are wonderful places for dinner just a few steps from the Arts Center, and a vibrant community awaits you. Please come and make Mick Moloney and his talented ensemble feel a strong Texas welcome!

Here are the details you'll need as you plan to join us for this event:

Date: Saturday August 14, 2010

Time: 8:00 pm.

McKinney Performing Arts Center
at the Historic Collin County Courthouse
111 N. Tennessee St., McKinney TX 75069

Events: 972-547-2656 -

Tickets & Show Information: 214-544-4630

Ticket prices range from \$20-\$30, plus applicable fees, with discounts for SCMA members, seniors and children.

Tickets may be purchased at the box office, by phone or via the internet at www.mckinneyperformingartscenter.org. **C**



Southwest Celtic Music Association
2528 Elm Street, Suite B
Dallas, TX 75226 (972) 943-4616

SCMA: www.scmatax.org/ NTIF: www.ntif.org/

Mailing address:

1920 Abrams Parkway #382, Dallas, TX 75214

Officers of the Board of Trustees

- President:** Sheri Bush
Vice-President: Floyd Harris
Secretary: Lybo Buchanan
Treasurer: John Hebley
Trustee Board: Hazel Sandlin Richard Jones
 Robert Moore Jeanne Eishen
 Barry Knight Denne Sweeney
 Judy Lanahan-Monroe
Assoc. Trustees: Betsy Cummings, Connie Ener, Lee
 Kelton, & Jim Stinson
Membership: Lybo Buchanan

Céilí Staff

- Editor-in-Chief:** Denne Sweeney
Calendar Reporter: Elaine Christian
Advertising Manager: Lybo Buchanan
Dance Reporter: Susan Harrison
Photographer: Steve Farmer
Asst. Editors: Connie Ener (e-Ceili contact)
 Lybo Buchanan (Ad Manager)

Céilí newsletter is the bimonthly publication of the Southwest Celtic Music Association, 501(c)3 not for profit Texas corporation dedicated to the study, promotion, preservation and performance of traditional Celtic music, dance and culture in the Southwest. All correspondence should be sent to the address above. All contributions are appreciated.

Céilí Advertising Rates

Ad Sizes	1 Issue	3 Issues	6 Issues
Business Card	\$18	42	66
1/4 Page	40	96	156
1/2 Page	60	144	228
Full Page	96	228	360
1/2 Back Cover	72	180	288

Deadline for Sep - Oct 2010 Issue: July 30, 2010

In this Issue:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 3 President's Letter | 13 Session Notes |
| 4 Toss the Feathers | 14 On the Dance Floor |
| 6 Celtic Calendar | 18 Keltic Dead Music |
| 9 Great Wee Tunes | 20 CD Reviews |
| 9 Board Elections | 24 NTIF Picnic |
| 10 Recurring Activities | |

President's Letter

by Sheri Bush
 President, SCMA



Happy Summer, everyone! We're right in the middle of it now, aren't we?

It's too hot to want to move very fast, or at all in some cases. Usually at this time of year we're slowing down just a bit since normally there isn't a lot that has to be done during the summer. Boy, has that changed! I feel like I've taken up residence inside a washing machine set on the spin cycle! We have so much happening around here that I'm not sure I can keep up myself, much less convey it all to you. I'll give it my best shot, though, so here goes.

We've just finished up a terrific night of music with Kevin Burke and Cal Scott at the McKinney Performing Arts Center, and I really want to thank them for a terrific show. Our second concert of the summer will be with Mick Moloney and The Green Fields of America on Saturday, Aug. 14, and I guarantee that you do not want to miss that show. There will be some Irish music giants on that stage and a great time is definitely promised. Come enjoy it with us!

We are also very much in the middle of a sizeable undertaking - pushing, pulling and dragging Cowtown Celtic Festival into existence. The planning and creative thinking that is going into this is pretty impressive - it's been a long time since we built a festival from the ground up. This event is very close to my heart and has been taking up space in my head for some time now. It's amazing to know that in a few short months it will be a reality. And a good thing, too - I need that space in my head back! The first weekend in October will be here before we know it. I do hope you spend it with us in Fort Worth at the Will Rogers Memorial Center for the inaugural Cowtown Celtic Festival. We have plenty of volunteer opportunities available and you can sign up through the website at www.cowtownceltic.org anytime.

The planning for NTIF 2011 is also well underway with all of the headliners booked and space planning ongoing for that event, and the knowledge that NTIF 2012 will be our 30th festival already has me thinking about that lineup. It really never stops, not anymore. And I wouldn't have it any other way - I've gotten quite fond of spin cycles.

And on top of all of this, the SCMA board takes on one of their most important chores during this time of year. We start looking for candidates for election to the SCMA Board of Trustees. I'd really like all of you to consider getting more involved both in this process and in the organization itself. Most of the current board members have been on the board 6 to 8 years in their current terms, and quite a few of them have served several terms prior to that. While this is a labor of love for all of us, we can only be improved by having a few new faces, new ideas, and

Continued on page 22

Toss The Feathers

By: *Lucky O'Day, Roving Reporter*

Howdy, folks. Let's all enjoy the July 4th holiday weekend with friends and family. Stay Safe!

Upcoming Birthdays:

Celebrating birthdays in **July** will be: Jim Waters, 5th; David Sparks, 5th; Mark Miller, 5th; John Hebley, 6th; Ross Van Horn, 7th; Sarah Dinan, 10th; Jodie Zoeller, 12th; Sarah and Elizabeth Morris, 13th; Julie Collins, 20th; Juli Williams, 20th; Carole Perry, 23rd; Joseph Edward Morris, 26th; Barney Behan, 28th; Carole Morris, 30th; Rhea Miller, 31st; Dudley-Brian Smith, 31st. **August Birthdays:** Gordon McLeod, 6th; Chuck Bloom, 11th; Joe Morris, 11th; Denice Brown, 12th; Joy Fitch Brillante, 18th; Marney Cullen-Dixon, 20th; Ilea Cullen-Scott, 27th; Andy Van Horn, 28th; Christy McLeod, 31st; Rodger Harrison, 31st.

Anniversaries:

The following folk will be celebrating their wedding anniversaries:

- *Katie (Glass) and Chad Holmes* - 6th - July 10th
- *Catherine Sherer and Chuck Bishop* - 5th - August 14th
- *Jim and Sue Stinson* - 45th - August 21st

Congratulations, everyone!

New Performer Products, Happenings and Other News:

Brother fans will be glad to know that they are finalizing their newest CD entitled "*Out from Under*".

The *Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann* (CCE) convention is coming to San Antonio, Texas in April 2011. We understand they are bringing in Pdraig and Roisin McEneaney from Ireland to teach set dancing workshops, and there will be sessions and music lessons. Details are still being worked out. However, we are providing an early "heads up" as this will be a rare opportunity to attend one of these events which is within driving distance to those of us in North Texas.

Ed Miller's weekly radio show, "Across the Water" on KUT-FM in Austin has been expanded from one to two hours in length. You can hear the show every Sunday evening from 6-8 p.m. in

the Austin area or on the Web at KUT.org (click on "Listen Live.") Ed would like to thank all those who have let the KUT management know that they like a weekly show of folk music from Scotland, Ireland and England.

As of this writing, **Jiggernaut** finished recording their newest CD entitled "The Well". The CD includes 12 new songs, seven of which were written by members of the band.

Freshly home from their 10-show tour of Ireland in June (touring as a part of *Captain Mackey's Goatskin and String Band*), **Legacy** hits the road again in early July heading for a two-week tour in northern California and Nevada. A highlight of their tour out west will be their performance at *Hirishfest*—"the highest Irish music festival in the world"—which will take place at the Mt. Rose-Ski Tahoe resort near Reno. The end of July will find Legacy on tour in northern Michigan. An August highlight will be the *Kansas City Irish Festival*, again appearing as a part of *Captain Mackey's*."

Paddy Gone Wild's Greg Mahan and his fiancé, Cindy O'Connor, were married May 9th in Denton, TX. Greg plays the tin whistle and low 'D' whistle in the band. We all wish them well.

Roger Drawdy and the Firestarters plan to release a new CD album in early July 2010. The album name is *Sa Bhaile* (Irish for "At Home"), all designed in reverence to Roger's upbringing in Baltimore, County Cork. It is a combination of new original music and a few of the great traditional standards performed Firestarters style. This will be the first Firestarters album release that will include their brilliant new fiddle player, Ric Smith, and female vocalist, Keri McBride. It will be the first of two (2) new CD album releases this year. The second album this year will consist of all new original music and is scheduled for a late fall release. The Firestarters have a very busy summer schedule that is continuing to blossom with more festival dates each week. The band hopes to perform again at the North Texas Irish Festival in the future.

The **Texas Rose of Tralee Organization's** collective goal is to promote Irish culture, education and pride among young Texas women. And, of course, finding that one Rose with "*The truth in her eyes ever dawning!*" as stated in the song. Since its inception in 1985, the organization has sponsored a young lady to represent the Texas Irish community at the International Rose of Tralee Festival in Tralee, Ireland. They fully understand the challenges of today's economy. The organizers hope that many see the value of this event and will help send the Texas Rose to Tralee by becoming a Sponsor or Friend of the Rose for 2010. The candidates rely heavily on sponsors' generosity to support all the activities that lead up to selection night and the trip to Tralee. Every level of sponsorship is greatly appreciated by the committee and especially by the young women who participate. For more information, please contact Jackie Nelon at jmnelon@verizon.net.

Continued on page 22

O'Flaherty

seventh annual
IRISH MUSIC RETREAT

October 29-31, 2010

Fiddle; Tenor Banjo; Flute; Piano Accompaniment; Mandolin; Harp; Bouzouki/Octave Mandolin; Uilleann Pipes; Bodhran; Tinwhistle; Guitar (standard, dropped D and DADGAD); Accordion (button and piano); Kids Irish Music & Heritage Workshops; Singing (Gaelic & English); Learning by Ear; Music Theory for Irish Players; ABCs Notation; Basic Sound Operations; and many special Enrichment Classes.



Michael Black
Singing



Kevla Burke
Fiddle



Tom Croghan
Uilleann pipes



Colleen Donohy
Vocal



Eithne Mac Stathna
Fiddle



Gerry Maloney
Tenor Banjo



Sara McIlwain
Guitar



John McFrey
Fiddle



John Nelson
Button accordion



John Wynn
Flute

Instructor Concerts each night

Mini-Concerts during meals

Tune & Song Tussle Student Performances

Meet & Greet BBQ Thursday evening

Sessions, Sessions and more Sessions

Located at:

**Hoblitzelle Camp and
Conference Center
Midlothian, TX
(30 minutes south of Dallas)**

**\$200 regular tuition;
\$120 youth, ages 18 and under
3 meals offered daily \$8.50 each**

**On-site motel rooms, cottages,
dorms, RV park and tent camping**

O'Flaherty Irish Music Retreat is produced by the Traditional Irish Music Education Society (TIMES) and sponsored by the Southwest Celtic Music Association and the Trinity Hall Restaurant & Pub. For more information, call (972) 798-7890 or email to info@oflahertyretreat.org or visit www.oflahertyretreat.org



Celtic Calendar



Addresses of the most frequently cited venues:

Cassidy's Irish Pub, Ramada Inn,
601 N. Water St., **Corpus Christi,**
TX. 361.879.0534
www.cassidysirishpub.com

Enoch's Irish Pub & Café, 507
Louisville Avenue, **Monroe, LA**
318-388-3662
www.enochsirishpub.com

Fenian's Irish Grill & Pub, 901 E.
Fortification St. @ Jefferson,
Jackson, MS. 601.948.0055
www.feniandpub.com

Finnegans Wake, 812 3rd St.,
Alexandria, LA. 318.619.9622
www.finnegansalex.com

J. Gilligan's, 400 E. Abram,
Arlington, TX 76010, 817.860.0110
www.jgilligans.com

Lochrann's Irish Pub & Eatery,
6195 Main Street, **Frisco, Tx** 75034,
214.701.7878, www.lochranns.com

McGonigel's Mucky Duck, 2425
Norfolk, **Houston, TX.**
713.528.5999, www.mcgonigels.com

Plaza Pub, 1605 New York Avenue,
Arlington, Tx 76010 817.377.0202
www.myspace.com/plazapub

Trinity Hall, Mockingbird Station,
5321 E. Mockingbird Ln., Ste. 250,
Dallas, TX. 214.887.3600,
www.trinityhall.tv and
305 Central Expressway N, **Allen,**
TX 75013 469-854-6810

Late June 2010

Fri., June 18

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Shift

Trinity Hall
Allen, TX

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Finian's Rainbow

Trinity Hall
Dallas, TX

Sat., June 19

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Irish Rogues

Trinity Hall
Allen, TX

9PM – 1AM

Trinity River Whalers

Trinity Hall
Dallas, TX

9PM – 1AM

Seamus Stout

Plaza Pub
Arlington, TX

12:00-2:00PM

Five Second Rule

Oklahoma Celtic Festival
Payne County Expo Center
Stillwater, OK

Fri., June 25

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Seamus Stout

Trinity Hall
Allen, TX

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Jeff Phillips

Trinity Hall
Dallas, TX

6:00PM-7:15PM

Jed Marum

w/Lonestar Trout
Denison Lions Club Carnival
Denison, TX

10PM

Blaggards

O'Brien's Irish Pub
Temple, TX

Sat., June 26

8:00PM

SCMA Presents

Kevin Burke & Cal Scott

McKinney Performing Arts Center
McKinney, TX

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Jeff Phillips

Trinity Hall
Allen, TX

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Jed Marum

Trinity Hall
Dallas, TX

July 2010

Fri., July 2

8:00PM – 12:00MIDNIGHT

Irish Rogues

Trinity Hall
Allen, TX

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Seamus Stout

Trinity Hall
Dallas, TX

Sat., July 3

8:00PM – 12:00MIDNIGHT

Finian's Rainbow

Trinity Hall
Allen, TX

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Irish Rogues

Trinity Hall
Dallas, TX

10PM

Blaggards

Fado Irish Pub
Austin, TX

Sun., July 4

Happy & Safe

U.S. Independence Day

4:00PM – 7:00PM

Trinity River Whalers

Lightcatcher Winery
Ft. Worth, TX

Fri., July 9

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Jeff Phillips

Trinity Hall
Allen, TX

Sat., July 10

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Behan

Trinity Hall
Allen, TX

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Jeff Phillips

Trinity Hall
Dallas, TX

10PM

Blaggards

Molly Maguire's
Houston, TX

Mon. & Tue., July 12 & 13

O'Flaherty's Irish Music Youth Camp

The Heights Baptist Church
Richards, TX

<http://www.oflahertyretreat.org/youthcamp/>

Register early!

Fri., July 16

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Seamus Stout

Trinity Hall
Allen, TX

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Five Second Rule

Trinity Hall
Dallas, TX

Sat., July 17

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Irish Rogues

Trinity Hall
Allen, TX

9PM – 1AM

Trinity River Whalers

Trinity Hall
Dallas, TX

10PM

Blaggards

Fado Irish Pub
Austin, TX

Fri., July 23

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Jeff Phillips

Trinity Hall
Dallas, TX

10PM

Blaggards

O'Bannon's Tap House
College Station, TX

Sat., July 24

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Jeff Phillips

Trinity Hall
Allen, TX

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Behan

Trinity Hall
Dallas, TX

10PM

Blaggards

Fado Irish Pub
Austin, TX

Fri., July 30

8:00PM – 12:00MIDNIGHT

Finian's Rainbow

Trinity Hall
Dallas, TX

Sat., July 31

8:00PM – 12:00MIDNIGHT

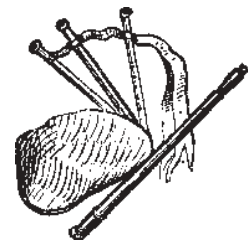
Finian's Rainbow

Trinity Hall
Allen, TX

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Seamus Stout

Trinity Hall
Dallas, TX



ALL EVENTS LISTED ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. Please call listed Phone Number. Usual starting times at Pubs are 8:30 to 9:30 PM unless otherwise noted.

To have your event listed in the next Calendar of Events, please submit your information to: SCMA Céilí Calendar, E-mail to Elaine Christian at trwhalers@gmail.com or call 817-896-0927. Submissions for the World Wide Web version of the CÉILÍ Calendar may be sent in at any time to the address above, but should be sent in as early as possible.

Deadline for Sep - Oct 2010 issue: Friday, July 30, 2010

Issue will cover:

Sept - Nov 10, 2010

August 2010

Fri., August 6

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Seamus Stout

Trinity Hall
Allen, TX

Sat., August 7

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Five Second Rule

Trinity Hall
Allen, TX

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Irish Rogues

Trinity Hall
Dallas, TX

Fri., August 13

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Jeff Phillips

Trinity Hall
Allen, TX

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Seamus Stout

Trinity Hall
Dallas, TX

Sat., August 14

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Trinity River Whalers

Trinity Hall
Allen, TX

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Jeff Phillips

Trinity Hall
Dallas, TX

Fri., August 20

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Seamus Stout

Trinity Hall
Allen, TX

10PM

Blaggards

Fado Irish Pub
Austin, TX

Sat., August 21

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Irish Rogues

Trinity Hall
Allen, TX

9PM – 1:00AM

Trinity River Whalers

Trinity Hall
Dallas, TX

Fri., August 27

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Jeff Phillips

Trinity Hall
Dallas, TX

7:00PM-7:45PM

Jenny Glass

8:00PM – 10:00PM

Smithfield Fair

Six Strings & Coffee Beans
Arlington, TX

Sat., August 28

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Jeff Phillips

Trinity Hall
Allen, TX

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Seamus Stout

Trinity Hall
Dallas, TX

Early Sept. 2010

Fri., Sept. 3

10PM

Blaggards

Fado Irish Pub
Austin, TX

Sat., Sept. 4

8:30PM – 12:30AM

Irish Rogues

Trinity Hall
Dallas, TX

Celtic Performers Outside the Pale

Zoukfest 2010

June 11 & 12, 2010

Celebration Concerts

OutPost Performance Space

Andy Irvine; Martin Hayes; Roger
Landes; Paddy League & More
Albuquerque, NM

<http://www.zoukfest.com/>

Ireland Heritage Tour

July 7 - 19, 2010

Danny O'Flaherty

www.oflahertycruise.com

Visiting Belfast, Derry, Donegal,
Carrigallen, Carrick-on-Shannon,
Carna, Connemara and Ennis

Danny O'Flaherty

July 24, 2010

Logon Café

5:00 - 8:00 PM Matinee

3805 Calder, Beaumont, TX

<http://www.dannyoflaherty.com>

Scotland Highlands & Islands Tour

September 16 - 28, 2010

Danny O'Flaherty

www.oflahertycruise.com

C

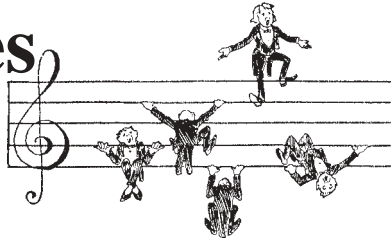
Changing of the [Calendar] Guard

After three years as Calendar Editor, **Denice Brown** is stepping down. We greatly appreciate all your hard work, Denice, and wish you the best with Cor Gaeilge.

Denice will be replaced by Elaine Christian, known to most of you as manager and booking agent for the Trinity River Whalers. Welcome, Elaine, we're happy to have you with us!

Great Wee Tunes

Submitted by Tom Muckian



The story behind the tune: Hector The Hero

Renowned Scottish fiddler-composer James Scott Skinner (1847-1928) wrote at least two pieces of music in honor of Major-General Sir Hector MacDonald (1857 - 1903), one of the most famous Victorian-era British military figures and a much admired figure in Scotland. MacDonald was born on Scotland's Black Isle, the son of a poor crofter. He was a draper's assistant until he ran away at the age of eighteen and enlisted in the 92nd Gordon Highlanders. Coming up through the ranks, he served as a colour-sergeant for most of the Second Afghan War until he was given a battlefield commission as 2nd Lieutenant toward the end of those hostilities. MacDonald was then transferred to South Africa, where he was mentioned in dispatches in the 1st Boer War. During the battle of Majuba Hill he was taken prisoner by the Boers after having lost nearly all his men, fighting on until he was overpowered. By the mid-1890's MacDonald had served for over a decade in the Sudan, taking part in several battles, winning awards for bravery and service, and rising steadily in rank (no easy task for a man of humble beginnings, not to mention one who began his military career as an enlisted man). In 1898 when his commander-in-chief, Horatio Kitchener, ordered an advance against the Dervish tribesmen in Khartoum, MacDonald was a general officer in command of a battalion of black Sudanese and Egyptian soldiers, some of whom he had trained himself. Nearing Omdurman in the Sudan, Kitchener unwittingly exposed his flanks to the entire Dervish army, and was only saved from disaster by the quick-thinking MacDonald, and the steadiness of his native troops. MacDonald swung his men in an arc as the Dervishes charged and by skilful manoeuvring held his ground, saving Kitchener and the rest of the army from certain doom. It was a near thing. When the fight was over MacDonald's troops had an average of only

two rounds left per man. Kitchener won the Battle of Omdurman and received a Lordship.

In 1903 MacDonald was accused of being a practising homosexual. He returned to London to defend himself, but was ordered back to Ceylon to face charges there. The crofter's son started back and got as far as Paris when he took his own life in a hotel room; able to happily endure physical peril, but not disgrace. Although the charge of homosexuality may possibly have been true, it was popularly believed by all levels of society in Scotland at the time that MacDonald had been framed by the English military establishment. Soon after the incident King Edward VII made his first visit to Scotland and found the atmosphere there decidedly chilly. Composer James Scott Skinner was incensed. A handwritten note on his original manuscript for the tune reads: "Play... on Sunday & get the Minister to announce, as this is a national Calamity - my eyes are full."

*Lament him, ye mountains of Ross-shire;
Your tears be the dew and the rain;
Ye forests and straths, let the sobbing winds
Unburden your grief and pain.
Lament him, ye warm-hearted clansmen,
And mourn for a kinsman so true
The pride of the Highlands, the valiant
MacDonald* **C**



Calling All Members Board of Trustees Election to be Held September 25, 2010— Candidates Invited

The SCMA board of trustees would like to invite any interested SCMA members to submit a letter of intent and bio if you would like to run for the annual board of trustees' election. The membership will be voting for four board member positions and the election will be held at our annual meeting on the 4th Saturday, September 25, 2010. The term of office is for three years.

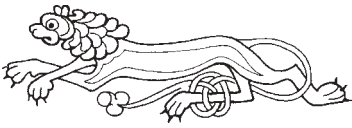
Qualifications:

1. Candidates must be current members of the Southwest Celtic Music Association.
2. Candidates must be willing to promote the mission of the association, which is to study, perform, promote and preserve traditional Celtic music, dance and culture in the Southwest.
3. Candidates should attend monthly board meetings held at the SCMA office on the first Wednesday of each month.
4. Candidates should be willing to volunteer their time at all SCMA functions and other events that are within our mission statement (such as NTIF, O'Flaherty Irish Music retreat, concerts, etc.)
5. Candidates will be called upon to assist with Ceili mailings, distribution of event promotional material, SCMA booth shifts at celtic-related events, and other duties within the scope of the organization.

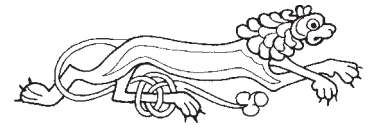
Deadline for submitting letters of intent and bios is August 13, 2010.

All bios should be 100 words or less and should include your interest in wanting to be a board election candidate and any skills and interests that you feel would be beneficial to the board and the SCMA. Interested members should submit a letter of intent and bio by [email](mailto:lybo@sbcbglobal.net) to:

*Lybo Buchanan at
lybolynn@sbcbglobal.net*



Recurring Activities



Please help us keep this section up to date by contacting Elaine Christian at

817-896-0927 or trwhalers@gmail.com

If your event does not appear here, it is because you have not contacted us in the past 6 months.

Email and/or website info for many of these regular events can be found on the SCMA website Calendar page at www.scmatrix.org

Contact Bob Moore at

boxplayer2001@yahoo.com

▲ **New or Updated Activity**

Last Updated May 23, 2010

Regularly Scheduled Performances:

Arizona: Tucson:

Round the House Sundays 4:00pm – 7:00pm @ **Auld Dubliner** 800 E. University Blvd., Tucson, AZ

Mississippi:

Jackson: Fenian's Irish Pub has Irish Music 8:00 – 11:00 PM on Thursday nights featuring **Bounds Street, Spirits of the House, Legacy, Jim Flanagan, or St. Brigid's** on a rotating basis. 901 E. Fortification St., Jackson, MS. 601.948.0055



Oklahoma: Tulsa **Cairde na Gael** 1st & 3rd Thursdays @ **Arnie's Irish Bar**, 318 E. 2nd St. @ Elgin, Tulsa, OK www.cairdenagael.com

Texas: Austin: Thomas "Doc" Grauzer performs Thursdays and Fridays 6:00pm -9:00pm as well as Saturday brunch 11:30am @ **Mother's**

Café 4215 Duval Street, Austin, TX 512.467.9898 www.docgrauzer.com **Ptarmigan** performs 1st & 3rd Wednesdays @ **Waterloo Ice House**, 1106 W. 38th St. (across from Seton Hospital), Austin, TX 512.451.5245

Gilmer & Moore perform most 3rd Mondays 8:00pm – 10:00pm @ **Genuine Joe's**, 2001 W. Anderson Lane, Austin, TX, 512.220.1576

Dallas: Trinity Hall Irish Pub has **Jigsaw** Thursdays 7:00pm – 10:00 PM; **The Irish Rogues** sing-along (w/song books) on first Saturdays; **Jenny Glass 1st Sundays** Noon – 2:00pm, **Irish TIMES Band** 4th Saturdays 8:00pm – midnight, a variety of Celtic Bands Fridays & Saturdays starting @ 8:30 pm and **Paddy Gone Wild** Sundays 3:00pm – 6:00pm @ Mockingbird Station, 5321 E. Mockingbird Ln., Ste. 250, Dallas, TX. 214.887.3600 www.trinityhall.tv

Humble: Celtic Voyage returns for regular sessions on 1st and 3rd Saturday evenings 8:00pm – 11:00pm @ **McClellan's Irish Pub** on the corner of Townsen Blvd. & N. Houston Rd. 281-446-7273 \$5.00 admit.

Houston: The Blaggards: 8:30pm Wednesdays @ **Molly's Irish Pub** Downtown, 509 Main Street, Houston, TX

Lubbock: Chris Smith & Friends Alternating Thursdays 8:30 – 10:00pm @ **Sugar Brown's Coffeehouse**, 4818 50th St., Lubbock, TX

Attention Session Players!
The Irish Dance scene nationally, is in need of feis musicians. Travel, hotel and meals paid, plus fees for playing ... If you would like more information, contact Erin Reid, TCRG @ 214.321.1200

San Antonio: Sally's Garden Sundays 2:00pm – 5:00pm @ **Nine Lives Books** 4919 NW Loop 410 @ Summit Parkway, San Antonio, TX Info at www.sallysgarden.org

Sessions:

Traditional Irish Music: Family-oriented. Acoustic musicians, dancers and listeners of all ages and skill levels are welcome.



Arizona: Sundays 1:00pm Beginner Session & Afternoon Séisiúin 4:00pm @ **Fibber Magee's**, 1989 W. Elliott Rd. #19, Chandler, AZ 480.722.9434 **The Auld Dubliner** 9780 W. Northern Ave., Peoria, Az., 623.877.1918 and **The Auld Dubliner** in Tucson @ 800 E. University Blvd., 520.206.0323; 1st Fridays @ 7:00pm in the Irish Cultural Center, 1106 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, Az., Contact George O'Brien. 602.258.0109; 1st Wednesdays 7:00pm @ **Into the Bean**, 1710 W. Southern Ave., Meza, AZ. Contact Paul Knight 480.890.0579; Wednesdays 7:00pm **Irish Séisiúin** @ Lis Doon Varna, 16100 N. Arrowhead Fountain Ctr, Peoria, AZ. Contact Jim McCray 623.979.0730; **Celtic & Old Time Jam** 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 8:00pm – 10:30pm @ Rincon Center, 6th St. @ Tucson Blvd., Tucson, AZ. Contact Sharon Goldwasser 520.298.3014 **Sundays** 7:00pm **Irish Séisiúin** @ Charly's Pub & Grill, 23 N. Leroux St., Flagstaff, AZ. Contact Kari Barton 928.600.1362

Arkansas: 2nd Mondays 7:30pm @ **The Flying Saucer**, 323 Pres. Clinton Ave., Little Rock; 2nd @ 4th Mondays 7:00pm Cregeen's Pub, 301 N. Main, North

Little Rock, 3rd Thursdays, 6:30pm @ **Something Brewing**, 1156 Front St. Conway; 1st & 3rd Wednesdays @ **Something Brewing** 1156 Front St., Conway, 501-329-1122; last Saturdays, 6:30 PM @ **Last Chance Lakeside Café**, 408 Ponce de Leon Dr., Hot Springs Village; 4th Mondays 7:00pm @ **Sesame's Restaurant**, 3 Rahling Cir. Little Rock sponsored by the **Arkansas Celtic Music Society**. Contact Weesa Boyd @ 501.602.5508 or the ACMS for info www.arcelts.com

Oklahoma: **Celtic Session** 1st Fridays 8:00pm – 10:00 pm at **Borders Books & Music**, 300 Norman Center Court, Norman, OK. 405.573.7907; 2nd Fridays

Celtic Session 7:00 – 10:00pm @ **Full Circle Books** 50 Penn Place, Oklahoma City, OK. Contact Jacque Rapp at 405.364.4526

Traditional Irish Session, 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays @ **Arnie's Irish Bar**, 318 E. 2nd St. @ Elgin, Tulsa, OK 918.583.0797

Celtic Music Jam Session 2nd Fridays 7:00pm @ **Best Western's Atrium**, 600 E. McElroy & Perkins Rd., Stillwater, OK. Contact Roger Graham

celticgraham@sbcglobal.net

2nd Saturdays @ 6:00pm **United**

Scottish Clans of Oklahoma Gathering @ Church of the Savior, 5600 NW 63rd, Oklahoma City, OK

Louisiana: **Tune Session** 1st & 3rd Fridays 8:00pm @ **Centenary** (formerly Outrageous) **Bar & Grill**, Stoner St. & Centenary, Shreveport, LA, **Session** Saturdays 10am @ **Main Street Market** on 6th Street, Baton Rouge. Contact katekanelaborde@msn.com for info; **Slow Irish Music session** Mondays 7:00pm – 9:00pm/beginners from 6:00pm 0 7:00pm in New Orleans @ Noel Reid's house. Contact him @ nollaig@thereids.net ; 4th Sundays Session @ the Kerry Irish Pub in New Orleans 5:00pm – 8:00pm. **Thursdays** 8:00pm – 11:00pm @ **Enoch's Irish Pub & Café**, 507 Louisville Ave., Monroe, LA

Tennessee: **Irish Music Session** @ **Dan McGuinness Pub** 1st & 3rd Saturdays 1538 Demonbreun St. Nashville, TN

Texas

Mid-Cities Open Session: Tuesdays, 7:00 – 10:00 PM hosted by “Bob the Box Player” Moore with members of **Spriggan** frequently participating @ **J. Gilligan's**, 400 E. Abram, Arlington, TX.

Acoustic Circle Session

Wednesdays, 8:00pm @ **The Plaza Pub**, 1605 New York Avenue, Arlington, Tx 817.377.0202

Bluegrass/Acoustic Jam: Thursdays 9:00 PM – Close @ **TNSTAAFL**, 409 N. Bowen Rd. (2 blks. N of Division), Arlington, TX. 817.460.9506

Celtic Song Session: 1st Sundays 2:30pm – 5:00pm @ **Things Celtic**, 1806 W. 35th St, Austin, TX. 512.472. CELT. See web-site

www.austinsongsession.com

Irish Tune Session 8:00pm – 11:00pm Sundays @ **Fiddler's Green Music Shop** (in the barn behind shop) 1809 W. 35th Street, Austin, TX, 512.452.3900

Irish Tune Session Sundays 9:00 ish – 11:30pm @ B. D. Riley's Pub, 204 E. 6th Street, Austin, TX 512.494.1335

Celtic & Traditional Music

sessions: Second Thursdays 7:00pm – 10:00pm @ **Sertino's Cafe**, 5657 Eastex Frwy, Beaumont, TX ,Contact Cliff or Michelle Ozmun 409.554.4284

Open Celtic Session

on Fridays, 7:00pm – 10:00pm @ **McSwiggan's Irish Pub**, 6910 Windhaven Pkwy. Suite #105, The Colony, TX



Dallas Slow Session Players led by Jim Wells, on 2nd and 4th Saturdays 2:00 – 5:00pm @ Addison Circle, Dallas, TX. See the web site @ <http://sifujim.tripod.com> Contact Jim Wells at jwellsr@tx.rr.com

Trinity Hall Session Players Sundays 3:00 – 6:00 PM in a session featuring some of the best musicians, by invitation, in the DFW area

Open Session (all levels of players) on 1st Saturdays from 3:00 – 6:00 PM @ **Trinity Hall**, Mockingbird Station, 5321 E. Mockingbird Ln., Ste. 250, Dallas, TX. 214.887.3600. 2nd Sundays has the advanced open session If you're interested in playing at these invitational sessions email Ken Fleming at ken.fleming@tx.rr.com. Also, there is a tune session @ 7:30 PM on Wednesdays.

SMUSH! (Scottish Fiddle Club), meets 3rd Sundays @ 2412 Old North Rd., #102, Denton, TX. Contact Rose Marie Chisholm 940.369.7040 rose.chisholm@unt.edu

À Celtic Session 2nd & 4th

Saturdays 1:00pm – 4:00pm @ **The Rig**, 6308 S. Freeway I-35, Fort Worth, TX 817.293.8363

Open Session & Céilí

1st and 3rd Sundays, 3:00 – 6:00pm @ **Lochrann's Irish Pub & Eatery**, 6195 Main Street, Frisco, TX

Celtic Stew open session Tuesdays 6:00pm @ **The Sports Bar at the Meridian**, 1503 Chartres Street, Houston, TX 713.225.1717

Irish Music Session: some of Houston's finest musicians in the longest running Celtic Session in Texas. Wednesdays 9:00 PM at **McGonigel's Mucky Duck**, 2425 Norfolk, Houston, TX. 713.528.5999, www.mcgonigels.com

Celtic Chorus of Houston: Sing-along session concentrating on harmony with the music of Ireland, Scotland & Wales on first Tuesdays 7pm -9pm. **St. Andrew's Episcopal Church** 1819

Heights Blvd., Houston, TX. Contact Dianna Shipman @ 713.552.1212 or diannashipman@att.net for info.

Celtic Chorus of Houston: Sing-along session concentrating on harmony with the music of Ireland, Scotland & Wales on Tuesday, except for 1st, evenings 7pm -9pm. **Griff's Shenanigans Café & Bar back patio**, 3416 Roseland Street, Houston, TX. Contact Dianna Shipman @ 713.552.1212 or diannashipman@att.net for info.

Open Session 1st & 3rd Thursdays 7:00 – 9:30pm @ **Kelvin Arms Pub**, 2424 Dunstan (off Kirby), Houston, TX. Contact Don Worall at danworral@msn.com

Irish music Slow Teaching Session Saturdays 4:00 – 5:30pm @ **J&B Coffeehouse**, 26th & Boston, Lubbock, TX Led by Dr. Chris Smith. Contact chris@coyotebanjo.com

Irish Traditional Music Session led by **Last Night's Fun**, Fridays 6:30 – 8:30 PM @ **O'Reilly's**, 18th & Buddy Holly Ave., Lubbock, TX.

Celtic Acoustic Session Thursdays 8:00 – 10:00pm @ **Radius Cafe**, 106 Auditorium Drive, San Antonio, TX 210.227.8111

Celtic Session: Tuesdays, 8:00 PM @ **Papa's Bar & Grill**, 9200 Broadway, San Antonio, TX. For info contact Lilly @ 830.779.7095

Session: Thursdays 8:00 PM @ **Pizza Italia**, 2950 Thousand Oaks Dr., San Antonio, TX.

Irish Session Thursdays 8:00pm – 10:30pm **Coffee Oasis**, 4650 NASA Rd. 1, @ **Kirby**, in Arlan's Shopping Ctr., Seabrook, TX 281.532.1439, www.coffee-oasis.com

Celtic Languages:

Irish Gaelige: Irish Language and Cultural Classes. Mondays. Taught by **Sean Glynn**, 7:00 – 8:00 PM for the Irish Language Classes, and from 8:00 –

9:00 PM for the Cultural Classes, at **Sláinte Irish Pub**, 509 Main St. (at Prairie), Houston, TX. 713.237.0000

Irish Language lessons taught by **Tim Theisen**. Wednesdays, 7:00 – 9:00 PM. **Brian O'Neill's Pub**, 5555 Morningside Dr., Houston, TX. 713.522.2603

Irish Language lessons presented by **The Gaelic League of Austin** Sundays **NOON – 2pm** @ Things Celtic, Austin, Texas 512.472.CELT

Irish Gaelic Study Group Saturday afternoons 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM @ Paperbacks Plus 6115 La Vista, Dallas, TX (behind the closed Tipperary Inn). guest teachers visit. E-mail **Ted Strain** at Ted256@aol.com for more information.

Irish Gaelic Conversation Group Wednesdays 7:30pm-9:00pm. Put down the books and speak with friends. For location, contact John McGuire jmcguire2156@hotmail.com

Cór Gaelige Texais practices & learns Gaelic songs, 1st, 3rd, & 5th Mondays 7:30pm – 9:00pm, **St. Mary's Anglican Church Office Bldg.**, Irving, TX. Contact Jonquele Jones jonquele@flash.net for information

Ä Ellis County Irish study group Wednesday afternoons 5:00pm – 6:30pm @ Ovilla Church of Christ, 3420 Ovilla Rd., Ovilla, TX Contact Denice Brown 972.842.5742 or ardibee@sweeneyweb.net for information.

Austin Gaelic League meets 2nd Sundays @ La Madeleine Restaurant 3:00pm – 4:00pm 35th & Lamar, Austin, TX

D/FW Gaelic League -The web-site is located at www.dfwgaelicleague.com

Scots Gàidhlig: Study Group: Tulsa, OK. Contact Chris Merle @ mailto:chrismrle@yahoo.com

Gàidhlig Study Group: Thursday nights, 7:30 – 9:00 pm, SW Ft Worth. Contact Jonquele Jones @ jonquele@flash.net

Beginning Conversational

Irish Saturdays 10:00am - 12:00noon, Katy, TX Contact Pat at patpmcmahon@aol.com for class info

On The Radio: *Many of these can be streamed on computer*

Note: National Public Radio's **Thistle & Shamrock** with Fiona Ritchie is broadcast on many NPR Stations. Individual **T & S** broadcasts are no longer listed here, other than Dallas, because days, times and/or stations change so frequently. Thistle & Shamrock's website lists schedules at www.npr.org/programs/thistle



KERA-FM 90.1 Dallas has **Thistle & Shamrock** with host **Fiona Ritchie** @ 9:00 – 10:00 PM on Saturdays

KUT-FM 90.5 Austin has **Ed Miller's Across the Water** 7:00pm -8:00pm Sundays. www.kut.org

KOOP-FM 91.7 Austin has **Celtic Storm** with host Donnelle MacKaskle. **Scottish, Irish & Welsh Music** Mondays, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Under the auspices of the Celtic Cultural Center of Austin www.celticcenter.org

KPFT-90.1 FM Houston has **Irish Aires** w/music, news & Irish lessons hosted by **Jay Dooling** and **Pete Little** @ 6:30 – 7:30 PM on Saturday evenings. www.kpft.org

WMPN-FM 91.3 Jackson, MS has Celtic Connections on Sundays from 5:00 – 6:00 PM. Mississippi Public Broadcasting, sponsored by **The Celtic Heritage Society of Mississippi**. Also broadcast on other Mississippi Public Broadcasting stations at the same time.

Continued on page 22

Session Notes

Submitted by Gordon McLeod



The O'Flaherty Irish Music Youth Camp July 12 and 13

I am expecting that some of the most rewarding Irish Music Sessions this summer will take place in connection with the O'Flaherty Irish Music Youth Camp. Perhaps many of the participants will not be the most seasoned of Irish musicians, but I would be willing to bet that they will have as much or more fun than many Irish musicians who have been playing decades longer.

Preparations are well under way for our third annual camp which will take place July 12 and 13, Monday and Tuesday at The Heights Baptist Church in Richardson at Central Expressway (75) and Renner Rd. We had to move the Camp to a larger venue since last year we ran out of room at our former location. We are expecting about 100 campers this year, about 30% more than last year. Campers will be coming from all over Texas as well as from Oklahoma and Arkansas. We are looking forward to an expanded schedule of classes including an advanced fiddle class which will be taught by world renowned Irish fiddler and instructor Randal Bays from the Seattle Washington area, an Irish harp class taught by Rebekah Passmore and a class for any campers regardless of musical experience called "Fun With Irish Music" to be taught by well known children's music educator Peggy Turner of Ft. Worth (also a member of the band Threadneedle Street). Other instructors are Chris Smith from Texas Tech University (mandolin, banjo, bouzouki), Ken Fleming (guitar), Kendall Rogers (piano), Erik Ryan-Johnson from Tulsa (fiddle), Daniel Lowery from New York (flute and whistle) Julia Graylion (fiddle), Gordon McLeod (fiddle), Janis Deane (flute), Clare Cason (fiddle), Peggy Fleming (fiddle), Vanessa Gordon (fiddle), Albert Alfonso (bodhran) and Christy McLeod (percussion and camp

manager). You can bet there will be some fun sessions on Monday night for the campers after the regular camp activities are concluded for the day. The Camp is filling up fast and we expect it to be full to capacity by the middle of June.

The Camp is open to any kids ages 5 through 17 regardless of their musical experience. Kids who have never played any instrument before can take classes in whistle, bodhran or harp as well as the Fun With Irish Music Class. There are also seven fiddle classes, three basic classes for fiddlers who have been playing for less than three years and for ages 5-8, 9-12 and 13-17 and three Intermediate classes with the same age distributions for fiddlers who have been playing for three years or more. There is also an advanced Irish fiddle class which will be taught by Randal Bays for experienced young Irish fiddlers. There are two sections of flute and whistle, the basic class will be taught by Janis Deane and the intermediate class by Daniel Lowery.

For the first time this year there will be classes in Irish harp taught by Rebekah Passmore. Rebekah is a wonder-

ful harpist and we are excited that so many kids have shown interest in learning the harp. We look forward to having the beautiful sounds of the harp added to our Youth Camp this year.

Chris Smith is joining us from Texas Tech University to teach mandolin/bouzouki/ banjo and Kendall Rogers from the Houston area will be joining our staff to teach piano. We are excited to have so many talented visiting instructors this year and we are expecting that this year's Camp will be the best ever.

We are also looking forward to the fall and the seventh annual O'Flaherty Irish Music Retreat which will be held October 23 through the 25th at Camp Hoblitzelle near Midlothian, Texas just south of Dallas-Ft. Worth. This year's lineup of instructors reads like a who's-who of international Irish music stars including Kevin Burke, Oisín Mac Diarmada and John McEvoy (fiddle), John Wynne

Continued on page 22





On the Dance Floor



E-mail/web addresses for the following listings may be found on the SCMA web site: www.scmatax.org, if provided.

Last updated May 21, 2010

Please help us keep this section up to date by contacting Susan Harrison, TMRP at susanh@dragonseye.com

* = new or change

Upcoming Events

Competitions:

* Irish:

The Irish Dance Teachers Association of North America and the North American Feis Commission coordinate, and are responsible for, the following Irish dance competitions.

www.idtana-southernregion.com

www.westernusregion.com

Aug. 7-8: Arizona State Championships & Feis, **Phoenix, AZ.**

thedancehall@aol.com

Cumann Rince Náisiúnta (CRN) sponsors the following Irish dance competitions.

www.crn-usa.org

None listed.

Highland: None listed.

Céilís, Special Events:

* Céilís at Trinity Hall on 1st Sundays

June 27 (sub for July 4), Aug. 1 from 3-6pm. Music by the Lone Star Céilí

Attention Session Players! The Irish Dance scene nationally is in need of feis musicians. For more information contact Susan Harrison @ 469.877.5472

Band, dances called by Michael & Susan Harrison. Trinity Hall, Mockingbird Station, **Dallas, TX.** Free. IrishDance@dragonseye.com

* Maguire Academy Workshops

Aug. 2-6. This week-long workshop is a great way for beginners to try Irish dance. For information, find Maguire Academy of Irish Dance on Facebook or contact marcia.barnett@sbcglobal.net

* Monthly Saturday Céilís

(dates TBD) 8-12pm, Deutsches Haus, 200 S. Galvez St., **New Orleans, LA.** Free admission. 985.259.0882, nollaig@thereids.net.

* Mostly Monthly Céilís at Fenian's Irish Pub

July 18, Aug. 22 from 2-5pm, **Jackson, MS.** All are welcome. Free admission. 601.948.0055. www.feniandpub.com/calendar.htm

Third Friday Celtic Dance & Jam

6:30pm Irish Set Dancing Lesson. Beginners welcome. Pay-by-donation.

Instructor: Lauren Sonder

7:30pm Celtic Jam. All are welcome to join in on traditional Celtic tunes.

Dancers are invited to stay and dance to live music (all Celtic styles). Listeners also welcome! Sonder Music, Dance & Art, **Norman, OK.** 405.474.9734 <http://sondermusic.com>

Regular Classes/Events

Irish:

Irish:

The following teaching certifications are awarded by the Examination Authority of *An Coimisiún Le Rincí Gaelacha* in Dublin,

Ireland:

TMRP: Céilí teacher

TCRG: Step dance and céilí teacher

ADCRG: Adjudicator (TCRG prerequisite)

The following teaching certifications are awarded by the Examination Panel of *Cumann Rince Náisiúnta* in Dublin, Ireland:

Associate Member: Teacher in training

ODCRN: Step dance and céilí teacher

ADCRN: Adjudicator

Belisama Irish Dance: Under the direction of Adrienne Bellis, Associate Member of CRN. Performance and competition opportunities. Classes in **Santa Fe and Los Alamos.** Call 505.670.2152 or email belisamadance@aol.com. www.belisamairishdance.com

Cass Academy of Irish Dance: Erin Cass TCRG, Director. **The Woodlands, Katy & Cedar Park, TX.** 281.814.9224 irishdancelessons@yahoo.com www.cass-academy.com

Crawford School of Irish Dance: Jill Crawford TCRG, Director. Classes in **Midvale, Holladay and Woods Cross, UT.** Call 801.508.7933.

Celtic Praise Troupe: Irish step dance company, **Oklahoma City, OK.** Contact Sarah Decker Director@celticpraisetroupe.com. <http://celticpraisetroupe.com>

Denton Celtic Dancers: Irish step dance, Sunday evenings. Visual Arts Center, **Denton, TX.** Contact June Skinner 940.321.0012.

Emerald School of Irish Dance:

Directors: Emily Touzin and Leslie Middleton TCRG. Step dancing, céilí, workshops and competition classes available at all locations, ages 5 and up. **Fort Worth, Arlington & Lewisville, TX**, call Leslie at 972.874.0360 for information or email emeraldschool@verizon.net. **North Dallas**, call Emily at 972.458.0145 for information. www.emeraldschool.com

Hibernia School of Irish Dance: Erin Reid TCRG, Director. Classes in **Plano** and **Greenville, TX**. www.HiberniaSchool.com

Hill Irish Dance School: Jean Hill TCRG, Director. Irish step and céilí dancing for ages 5 and up in **Oklahoma City** and **Stillwater, OK**. 405.524.7322 www.hillirishdance.com.

Inishfree School of Irish Dance: San Antonio, TX
Classes on Monday and Thursday.
Contact: Neill Reagan ADCRG
210.416.1627

Irish Dance Center: Eimir Ní Mhaoléidigh TCRG, Instructor: Irish step dance – weekly classes in **Austin, TX**. Call 512.528.0662 or email irishdancing@suddenlink.net. www.reelsnjigs.com

Irish Set Dance Classes: Tuesdays 6.30 to 8:00pm at the New Orleans School of Ballet, 717 Adams St., **New Orleans, LA**. Noel Reid, 985.259.0882.

Jackson Irish Dancers:

Traditional Irish solo dancing and céilí, figure and set dancing; instruction, céilí calling and performance. Céilí and set dancing classes for teens/adults on Sunday afternoons; solo dance classes for ages 6 and up on Wednesday evenings and Friday afternoons, with Catherine Bishop, MFA, TCRG. For information contact Maggie Cupples at 601.592.9914.

Llano Estacado Céilí Dancers: Paul and Chelsi Conklin leading céilí and sets. Saturdays at 9:45am in **Lubbock TX**. RSVP to 512.228.2181 lubbockirishdancers@yahoo.com.

Maguire Academy: Irish dance for children and adults. Instructors Darren Maguire, ADCRG, Maeve Croke, TCRG, and Andy McLane. Classes held at AD Dance, 718 N. Buckner Blvd., **Dallas** and in **Tucson, AZ**. www.maguireacademy.com.

McCafferty School of Irish Dance: Judy McCafferty ADCRG, Director. Classes available in all forms of Irish dance for children ages 4 and up, as well as adults. **Fayetteville, Ft. Smith, and Little Rock, AR**. For more information, call 501.851.3979.

McTeggart Irish Dancers: Maureen McTeggart-Hall ADCRG. **New Orleans:** Saturday mornings. For details and location, call Megan Morphy at 504.394.2340; **Houston area:** Sundays at North Harris Performing Arts in Spring, TX; Contact Jennifer Hale TCRG at 936.321.6583; **North Texas:** Fort Worth, Bedford, Southlake. Contact Christie, new TCRG, at 817.274.8547 for location and schedule of classes. **San Antonio:** Contact Christie 817.274.8547. **Oklahoma City:** Contact Rebekah Cassiday at 405.969.3941.

Mo Cushla Academy of Irish Dance: Directors: Abbey Pride, TCRG and Joni Muggivan, TCRG. Classes for ages 5 and up on Thursday and Friday with workshops held on Saturday at First Christian Church, 3401 Santa Fe, **Corpus Christi, TX**. For information email info@mocushla.com. www.mocushla.com

Muggivan School of Irish Dance: Director: Joni Muggivan, TCRG. Classes for ages 3 through adult. Email: muggivan@gmail.com. Phone: 504.259.7315. Locations: **New Orleans, Mandeville and Baton Rouge, LA**. www.MuggivanSchoolofIrishDance.com **Mechanicsville and Fredericksburg, VA** www.freewebs.com/muggivanschoolva.

O'Donovan School of Irish Dance: Classes are held in **North Little Rock & Little Rock, AR**. Mary Rose O'Donovan Fansler TCRG. 501.834.1479.

Ó Maoiléidigh School of Irish Dance: Colm Ó Maoiléidigh TCRG. Weekly stepdancing & céilí classes Sunday from 10am to 6pm. **Houston, TX**. colm@omaoileidigh.com www.omaoileidigh.com

Rinceoirí Gaelacha na Machairí Arda (RGMA); aka: High Plains Irish Dancers: Irish step, céilí, and set dance. Contact: Kathleen Finley, 4306 60th, **Lubbock, TX** 79413. Phone: 806.792.5707.

San Antonio Irish Dancers: Meet on Friday evenings at the International Folk Culture Center at Our Lady of the Lake University, 411 SW 24th St., **San Antonio, TX**. For information call Debbie Priestly, Coordinator at 210.675.0705 or Jim Campbell, Instructor at 210.496.7149.

Shandon School of Irish Dance: Kay Brown LaGreca TCRG, Director. Classes in **Plano, Fort Worth** and **San Antonio, TX**. Call 972.658.0358 for more info. www.shandonirishdancers.com

Tiewe School of Irish Dance: Irish dance classes for children and adults taught in southeast **Houston, TX** by Richard. For info call 281.487.3580 or email rtew@yahoo.com. www.tieweirishdance.com

TTU Irish Set Dancers: Irish set dancing classes Tuesday evenings, 7:00-8:30pm, held in the Texas Tech Univ. School of Music Bldg., room M259, **Lubbock, TX**. Open to the public. Free class, but a parking permit is required if parking on campus. christopher.smith@ttu.edu

Tune & Dance Session: 6:00pm Sundays at B. D. Riley's Pub, 204 E. 6th St., **Austin, TX**. 512.494.1335.

Scottish:

Teaching certifications are awarded in Highland dance by one of the following organizations:
British Association of Teachers of Dance (BATD)
Scottish Dance Teachers Association (SDTA)
United Kingdom Association (UKA).

Austin Scottish Country Dance

Society: Beginners Thursdays, and Intermediate & Advanced Tuesdays. Come alone or bring a partner. Quicksilver Dancers, 8711 Burnet Rd, **Austin**, TX. Call for details: Sarah Harriman at 512.327.2869.

Bluebonnet Scottish Country Dancers: Sunday afternoons in San Antonio at the International Folk Cultural Center at Our Lady of the Lake University, 411 SW 24th St., **San Antonio**, TX.. 210.434.6711.

Denton Celtic Dancers: Scottish country dance, Sunday evenings. Visual Arts Center, **Denton**, TX. Contact June Skinner 910.321.0012.

Eileen Green: Scottish Country Dancing. Youth ages 9-12 & Teens: Thursdays at White Rock Activity Center, **White Rock, N.M** for info:

505.872.9763. Adults: taught by Marilyn Thayer, Monday nights at Fuller Lodge, **Los Alamos**, N.M. (phone Nancy Ullman for info: 505.662.7573), taught by Rob Sanders, Tuesday nights in **Taos**, N.M. (phone 505.751.0191), taught by Jane Lataille, Friday nights in **Santa Fe** at the Oddfellows Hall on Cerillos Rd. (phone 505.661.8317)

Scottish Country Dancing in the Metroplex: Fridays 7:00pm at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 727 Hill St. **Grand Prairie**, TX. September through May. Ellie Hayes, Fully Certified Scottish Country Dance Teacher by The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. 817.807.3677.

Margaret Lake: Highland Dancing. **San Antonio**, TX. 512.259.7440.

Loch Dhu Dancers perform Fridays at 9:00pm at Kelvin Arms, 2424 Dunstan (Rice Village), **Houston**, TX. 713.528.5002.

Lubbock Scottish Country Dancers: Basic on Monday evenings; Social on

Thursday evenings. Canterbury Student Center, 2407 16th St. **Lubbock**, TX. Call Darla Granberry at 806.792.0999.

Mary Jane Hillyard: Highland Dancing. **Arlington**, TX. 817.467.9711.

Karen Murphy, BATD: Highland Dancing. **Plano/Arlington**, TX. 214.908.5810.

*** Scottish Country Dancing and More:** Wednesdays 7-10pm. New dancers & families welcome. (Children must be interested in dancing & accompanied by parent or guardian.) Cost: \$5 for 14 and over; \$2.50 for under 14 (\$15 max per family). Fourth consecutive Wed. free. Oddfellows Hall, 115 E. 14th St. (Heights), **Houston**, TX. Contact Dianna L Shipman diannashipman@comcast.net 713.522.1212 <http://home.comcast.net/~celtic.houston/SCDM.htm>

Contra:

Austin Barn Dancers: Wednesday evenings 7:00 – 10:30pm at Hancock Recreation Center, 41st & Red River, **Austin**. Call Dale Rempert at 512.453.4225

Austin Contra Dance: 3rd Saturdays 7:30 – 11:00pm w/live music. St. Paul Lutheran Church, 3501 Red River, **Austin**, TX. Contact Rich Goss at 512.917.8711.

Bryan/College Station Contra-Dance: 3:00 – 6:00pm 2nd Saturdays at Unitarian Fellowship, 305 Wellborn Rd., **College Station**, TX. Contact Stan Swanson at 979.846.4504.

Dallas - North Texas Traditional Dance Society: Contra dancing, 8:00-11:00pm 1st Saturdays at the Plaza Theatre, 1115 4th Ave., **Carrollton**. 3rd and 5th Saturdays elsewhere (see web site). 2nd Saturdays 7:00-10:00pm at the

Senter East building, **Irving**, TX. \$8 admission, \$6 for members. Live music. Also check out our English Country Dances on 4th Saturdays at the Quaker Friends Meeting house 5828 Worth St in Dallas. For schedules, maps, directions, explanation of contra dance and more go to www.NTTDS.org. Contact: info@nttds.org.

Houston Area Traditional Dance Society: 2nd & 4th Saturdays, 8:00 – 11:00pm. Grace United Methodist Church, Heights Blvd. at 13th, **Houston**, TX. Live music. No partner or experience needed. 713.868.1513; 713.861.4185; or 713.436.2606.

San Antonio Contra Dancers: Meet 2nd & 4th Saturdays from 7:30 – 10:30pm (beginner lessons at 7:00pm) at The International Folk Culture Center at Our Lady of the Lake Univ., 411 SW 24th St., **San Antonio**, TX. Call Brooke Peters at 210.945.4383 for info.

Waco is starting a contra dance group. If you are interested, contact Rich Goss at 254.793.2278. **C**



An advertisement for 'The Caledonian Kitchen' featuring a circular logo with a thistle and the text 'THE CALEDONIAN KITCHEN'. To the right, it lists 'Jim Walters Laird O' Tha Haggis, CEO' and 'FINE CELTIC FOODS'. Below, it provides contact information for 'The Caledonian Kitchen, Inc' including address, phone numbers, and website. At the bottom, it mentions 'KTJ, FSA Scot National Board of Trustees, Council of Scottish Clans and Associations'.

sive and tasty lead guitar work at the end, by J. David Praet, adds an unexpected touch.

The title cut, *Scotland, Fair Scotland*, penned by Jan & Dudley Brian Smith is an artistic and impressive song that really sticks in your mind. The colorful descriptive lyrics make you feel like you might be standing on a Scottish hillside. Dudley gets a chance to show his skills on the pipes. Frang Bladen gets in a rolling percussion track that gets you ready to march off to fight for your Scottish home.

The Silkie/Song of the Mermaid track brought my attention to the subtle yet fitting bass lines by Bob Smith. A soulful, moving rendition.

I believe the song *Glenlogie* may be my favorite track, with its powerful acapella opening and the moving instrumental tracks make this song of a powerful love. Multiple guitar & accordion tracks add just the right feel in this.

All around My Hat just makes me smile with the catchy and engaging vocal tracks. Jan does a beautiful job on the lead vocal.

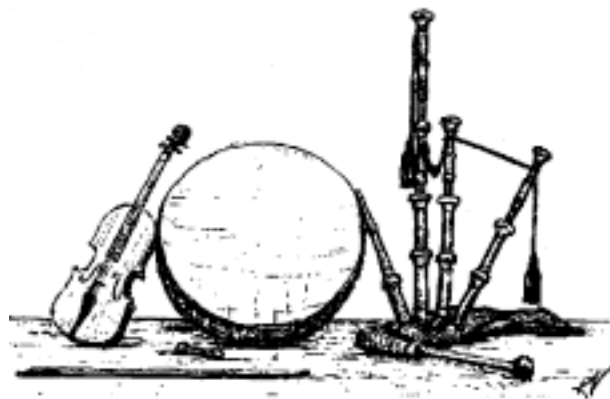
Smithfield Fair does a very dramatic and soulful version on *The Bonnie Banks of Loch Lomond*. The mandolin by Dudley,

is moving and tasteful with the guitars and vocals making a really memorable recording of this song that everyone knows.

Ae Fond Kiss/ O A the Airts allows Jan to showcase her piano skills, setting the perfect feel for the dramatic reading by Tom Murray Sr., of a Robert Burns writing.

With sixteen tracks, this is a CD that will delight young and old for as long as Scotland shall last.

Get a copy for your collection. It's a real *charmer*.



SOUTHWEST CELTIC MUSIC ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

New Member Renewal Change of Address

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ Apt # _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP+4 _____

Phone: Home (____) _____ Work (____) _____

Email Address: _____

Type of Membership: (Please check one)

- Annual Member (\$20)* Annual Friendship (\$50)* Lifetime Member (\$300)*
 Annual Organization (\$25) Annual Sponsor (\$100)* Lifetime Sponsor (\$1000)*

*Please list family members: _____

Please list areas where you would be willing to serve as a volunteer:

- SCMA Office Membership Céilí Concerts Mailings Other

Specify Other: _____

How do you want to receive the newsletter?

Print Copy _____

Electronic _____

Send check or money order to: Southwest Celtic Music Association
1920 Abrams Parkway #382,
Dallas, TX 75214



KelticDead Broadside

Wraggle Taggle Gypsies

Shaun - Patrick O. Young

A Child Ballad

Francis J. Child [1825 – 1896] (Child Ballads) collected a wide variety of folktales and stories from the Celtic cultures. One such tale is “Gypsy Laddie” [Child. 200A-200L] and came out of Scotland, out of the Ayrshire area, about a lady of a wealthy lord who abandoned her husband and her rights (... and in some versions, her life) to run away with a *Johnny Faa* {“fay”} or a *Jockie Fay* of a band of Gypsies. Several tune versions are around, and while it is a very lively tune, the conclusion for this lady’s wild foray with the gypsies did not end well, and provides a healthy reminder to keep one’s emotions in check.

The first printing of the story was documented in 1740 in *Tea Table Miscellany* where the *Lady Cassillies Lilt* (aka *Johnny Faa, the Gypsie Laddie*) story is found within the Skene Manuscripts which holds a variety of documents from that time period. Alternate titles include: *Johnny Faa, Davy Faw, The Egyptian Laddie, The Gypsy Davy and Lord Garrick*.

The Gypsies in the 16th and 17th Century Scotland

The Gypsies were expelled from Scotland in 1541 and then in 1609. If one was found to be an “Egyptian” (Gypsy) in Scotland in those times, the “offense” was considered to be far worse than being convicted as a “freebooter” (highwayman or thief), and usually meant a quick execution. Not all gypsies left Scotland however, and some returned during those years using other titles and names to disguise their identities.

“Jockie Faa and Johnny Faa” were names associated with gypsies. There was a Jolinne Faw [“faa”] in 1540 who actually was supported in a dispute by James V of Scotland. The Privy Seal of the letter addressed to Jolinne Faw was titled “Jolinne Faw, Lord and Erle of Little Egypt,” dated February 15, 1540. From that time, the term, “Johnny Faa” becomes a name that denoted one as being a leader of a group of gypsies (travelers or migrant workers) in those times.

As the Tale is Told Over Time ...

It wasn’t until 1788 that this ballad became associated with John, the sixth Earl of Cassilis and his first wife, Lady Jean Hamilton. It is now generally accepted that the attachment of the folk ballad with the Earl of Cassilis and his first wife was, in fact, pure fiction and non-malicious slander. The association of this ballad with a

real figure in history was probably brought about by a corruption of one part of the ballad, where certain folk singers swapped out the expression “... our lord castle’s yett” with “... Lord Cassilis.”

The number of gypsies who appeared at the gate also varies in the twelve versions of the Child ballad. Whatever happened, the wife of this wealthy man was so moved by the Johnny Faa of the group that she forsake all to live her life with a band of gypsies.

One of Twelve Child Ballads Entitled, “Gypsy Laddie”

The gypsies came to our [good] lord [castle’s] gate [yett],
And wow but they sang sweetly!

*They sang sae sweet and sae very compleat
That down came the fair lady.*

*And she came tripping down the stair;
And a’ her maids before her;
As soon as they saw her well-far’d face,
They coost the glammer oer her.*

*‘Gae tak frae me this gay mantile,
And bring to me a plaidie;
For if kith and kin and a’ had sworn,
I’ll follow the gypsie laddie.*

*‘Yestreen I lay in a well-made bed,
And my good lord beside me;
This night I’ll ly in a tenant’s barn,
Whatever shall betide me.’*

*‘Come to your bed,’ says Johny Faa,
‘Oh come to your bed, my deary;
For I vow and I swear, by the hilt of my sword,
That your lord shall nae mair come near ye.’*

*‘I’ll go to bed to my Johny Faa,
I’ll go to bed to my deary;
For I vow and I swear, by what past yestreen,
That my lord shall nae mair come near me.*

*‘I’ll mak a hap to my Johny Faa,
And I’ll mak a hap to my deary;
And he’s get a’ the coat gaes round,
And my lord shall nae mair come near me.’*

And when our lord came hame at een,
 And speir'd for his fair lady,
 The tane she cry'd, and the other reply'd,
 'She's away with the gypsie laddie.'

'Gae saddle to me the black, black steed,
 Gae saddle and make him ready;
 Before that I either eat or sleep,
 I'll gae seek my fair lady.'

And we were fifteen well-made men,
 Altho we were nae bonny;
 And we were a' put down for aye,
 A fair young wanton lady.

Tough Times for Gypsies in Scotland

Folk tale historians believe that when the husband caught up with the gypsies, he promptly executed all fifteen of them. In those times, condemned men were hung from "dule (dooley) trees" or gallows, then tied up in a "gibbet" and left hanging for a time to show all who passed by, the punishment and fate of those who were convicted as criminals. Women were executed differently. A hole was dug into the ground, filled with water, and the condemned female was held in the water pit, until she drowned. In some ver-

sions of the tale, the lord's lady was convicted, but apparently, she was pardoned, and spent her remaining days in a prison, which in those days was probably a more gruesome fate than a quick death.

Tune Arrangement

Typically, this tune only consists of the first eight bars and repeated as often as needed with the various lyrics that have been written for the tune. I have added an "ending" measure that shows a slight variant of the tune. In this feature, I wrote the Keltic Dead arrangement in the key of G Major and can be played with a G diatonic harmonica. The beat is usually played lively, and one gets a sense of the husband riding his horse to catch up with his runaway wife and the gypsies.

Visit the *KelticDead Music* website at www.kelticdead.com for more information about the *KelticDead* and the *KelticDead Broadsides*.

20100505

KelticDead Broadside: "Wraggle Taggle Gypsies"
 C

Wraggle Taggle Gypsies

Arrangement by the Keltic Dead

Traditional



Reviews

The Upstairs Sessions Crossroads

By Chuck Bloom
NTIF Performer Products Coordinator

Within the title of its debut CD is found the evolution of the Tulsa-based group, Crossroads.

Formed in late 2008, it sports the duo of Dana Fitzgerald Maher (on Celtic harp) and flutist Melissa Schiavone, who earlier performed for three years as Anam Crónán. Fiddler Abby Bozarth joined the group last October, in time to play on “The Upstairs Sessions.”

The CD is so named because it was recorded ... (drum roll) ... upstairs at the University of Tulsa’s Tyrrell Hall, in Room 302, where the school’s music students start each day with Theory and Ear Training classes. It also where Maher (an adjunct professor of piano at TU) and Schiavone first met in 1987 as students.

“We spent every weekend for awhile lugging the harp, recording equipment and all the other instruments up three flights of stairs,” Maher noted.

In fact, they recorded “The Upstairs Sessions” before ever performing in public – the initial concert (at the University of Tulsa) happening just three weeks prior to playing at the North Texas Irish Festival.

“We really feel like the three of us have knit together very quickly and are enjoying ourselves immensely,” Maher added. “The TU concert was a fabulous way to begin this new phase because there was a huge turnout and many of the crowd sat on the floor of the auditorium, stood along the sides and back and even stood in the lobby and hallway of the building for the entire concert.”

Crossroads took its name from a photo – “Dancing at the Crossroads” – representing a time in Irish history when dancing was prohibited by the English government.

“The Irish would meet on country roads, often where the roads crossed, bringing food, drink, and music, while watch-

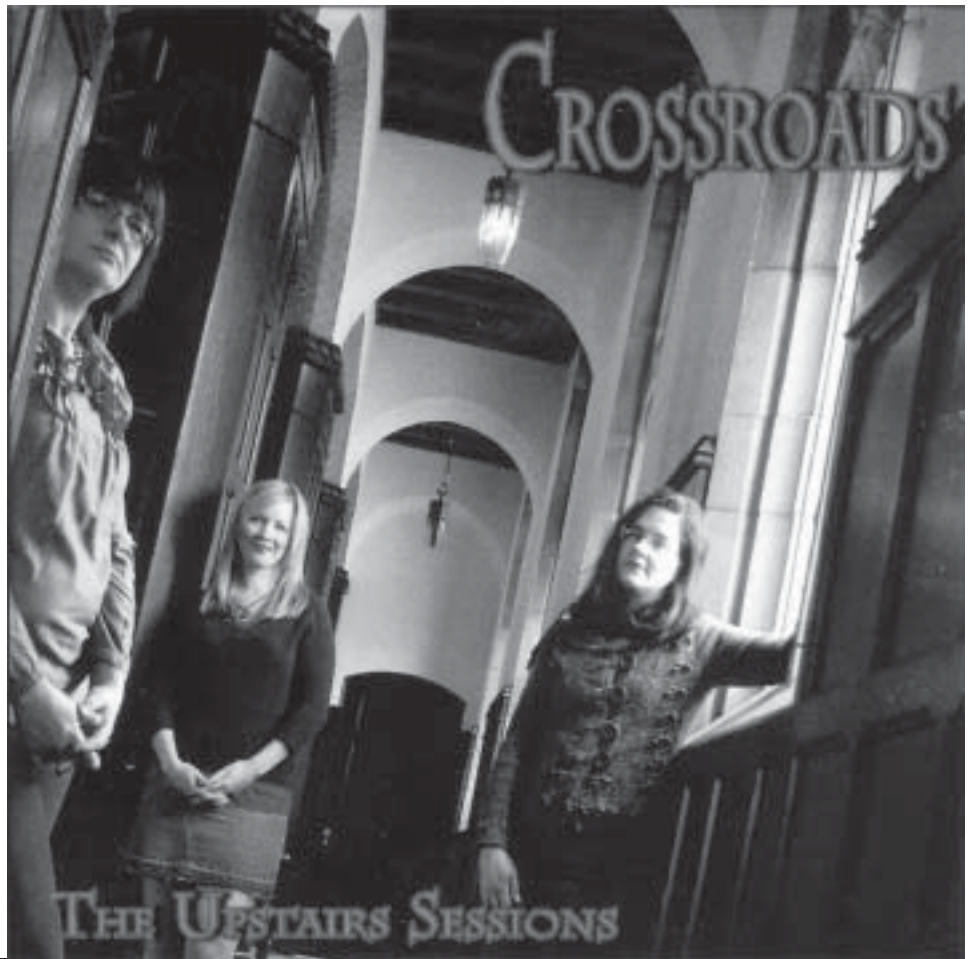
ing out for British soldiers,” Maher explained. “They danced their country dances, the ceili dances and set dances that are danced even today. So dancing at the crossroads signified a determination in the Irish people to keep their traditions, culture and way of life vibrant, even in the face of tremendous opposition.”

Perhaps the most striking feature of the songs included on “Sessions” is the often sorrowful tone addressed by the various writers – women expressing pain and hurt over lost love.

The first track, “House Carpenter,” is a ballad about a love eventually lost at sea. “Love is Pleasing” is a sad, painful warning to others about crumbling love affairs as voiced by lead singer Schiavone.

“Our choice of music was governed by tunes and songs that we just love,” Maher said. “Many of the things on the CD were played on that TU concert, so they’ve become extra special to us because of that.”

Maher said the trio – all mothers of children ranging in ages from 2 ½ to 12 – is trying to give life, and voice, to the women of their heritage.



"I'm very mindful of how good we have it as women now, compared to the old days; it's important to me to have that connection with everyone who came before us and I think the songs give that," she said. "Life was much harder then. Performing this music is my homage to my great-grandparents who came here from Ireland and Great Britain."

However, their past performance collaboration did not include vocals.

"We only started singing in March of last year; we were thrilled to find out that Abby also sang after joining us," Maher said. "We were looking for someone who would be very collaborative and interested in really working towards developing our own sound and style within the Celtic-traditional genre."

In fact, for a group that only added vocals to its repertoire, the results are outstanding. The highlights of the album can be found on two *a capella* efforts – "P Stands for Paddy" (where all three women join together) and the beautiful Hazel Dickens composition, "Pretty Bird."

The latter song was the first thing Maher and Schiavone ever sang together and its inclusion is sentimental for both. The blending of their voices easily shows a long-standing connection between the two, further demonstrated on "One, I Love," perhaps the best track of them all. The Jean Ritchie song is marked by its simplicity – just two voices in harmony and Maher's beautiful harp accompaniment.

Not everything on the CD is vocalized. "Lark on the Strand" is a more traditional four-part reel and jig set (one of three instrumental tracks on the disc, including the "Lochaber Badger" and "Lord Mayo" sets), highlighting Maher's deft ability on the Celtic harp (she actually teaches piano but is strictly a harp player here), Schiavone's prowess on the flute and Bozarth's sturdy fiddle work. In fact, the effort is excellent, made even better when one learns that Maher has only played the harp since 2006. By day, she teaches classical piano and is principal pianist for Tulsa's Signature Symphony.

Jay Ungar's "Ashokan Farewell" turns the spotlight upon Bozarth, who has been playing and performing since the age of 8, and allows her bluegrass roots to shine through.

The disc ends with a strong effort on Doug MacLean's "Garden Valley," again buoyed by three-part harmony.

Emboldened by the public's reception – at TU and in Dallas – Crossroads is planning bigger and better for its future.

"It was a real learning process; we are already beginning to plan for another (CD) to come out in 2011," Maher said.

Crossroads is a group that should become more familiar



to area Celtic music fans in the future. With initial quality efforts like "The Upstairs Sessions," these women will be delighting audiences in Oklahoma and the Southwest for a long time to come.

Go to www.crossroadsceltic.com for more information about the trio and its schedule.

Scotland, Fair Scotland Smithfield Fair

A Review by C. Micheal Price

The new CD from Smithfield Fair is a must have for those of Scottish descent & those with a Scottish soul. The wonderful collection of traditional songs has been skillfully and energetically arranged by Dudley-Brian, Jan & Bob Smith. I would describe the recording as very organic. Not overproduced as digital. The warm live quality of the songs makes you feel like you have old friends sitting with you, playing songs from the heart.

Wild Mountain Thyme, a song recorded and played by so many is made over in the style that is Smithfield Fair. Guitars, accordion, bass and sweet harmonies start this CD off on a wonderful note. Jan's voice rings and rolls on *An Coineachen – the Fairy Chase*.

The Mingulay Boat Song is a song you will find yourself singing along to. Jan gets to display her talents on accordion. John Taylors warm fiddle fills up the sound and the very expres-

Continued on page 17

President's Letter

Continued from page 3

some fresh energy to join us in our commitment to preserve and promote Celtic culture in this area. Please, give some thought to who might benefit the board and the community by their presence, and nominate them. If you think you're that person, nominate yourself! Volunteering your time, energy and talents to an organization or event you can feel passionate about is one of the best feel good moves you can ever make, as evidenced by the fact that those of us heavily involved and invested in the SCMA and NTIF have been here for quite a few years. We don't do it for the money, I promise! We do it for the joy it gives us in presenting a great concert to you, presenting a deserved scholarship to a great dancer or musician, and hosting the best Irish festival in the Southwest. We do have fun with all this, and we appreciate you all being part of the family.

Thanks for your time – now go back and hang at the pool. Have a great summer, and we'll see you out and about soon!

C

Session Notes

Continued from page 13

(flute), Sean McElwain (guitar), Grainne Hambly (harp), John Nolan (button accordion) and Michael Black (singing) plus many other regional professional Irish musicians on staff. Every year this event grows stronger and better and the sessions, of course, are tremendous. The Instructor concerts are some of the best Irish music concerts I have heard anywhere on either side of the Atlantic.

So, North Texas Irish music lovers, you have a lot to be thankful for. Be sure and take advantage of these opportunities to learn and enjoy some great Irish music in North Texas this summer and fall.

C

Toss the Feathers

Continued from page 4

The old *Tipperary Inn* in East Dallas has been vacant since May 2009. Apparently, the new tenants have or will soon open a pub called *Molly Maguire's*, an "authen-

tic Irish pub". According to Co-owner Ricky Woolfolk, he says he and two partners are creating an all-new Irish menu and updating the building's patio area, but they're leaving the interior as it was. The new place will have live music on the weekends, and they'll be open seven days a week from 11 a.m.-2 a.m. They'll also have a gluten-free menu. Welcome to the neighborhood!!

Wolf Loescher is pleased to announce that he is the new drummer for Twin Cities based Celtic folk rockers, the Sweet Colleens. The first gig with the new lineup was at the new Kieran's location in downtown Minneapolis this past June. For more information, check out the web site at www.sweetcolleens.com. (And we hope to get the band down to Texas for NTIF and other festivals in the very near future!)"

Usual Reminder:

In order to keep the "*Toss the Feathers*" column active, we need to have news and interesting tidbits to report. So, that means that we need all of you to help keep us informed of happenings, events, and any other pieces of gossip you think others would like to read about. Email submissions may be sent to "stringer" Connie Ener at kiltfinder@yahoo.com. If fax is available, Connie's machine will receive news at 1-866-326-1090. Please include a name, phone number with area code and a mailing address with all submissions. **Column deadline for the next *Ceili* issue (September/October 2010) will be Friday, July 23, 2010.**

C

Recurring Activities

Continued from page 12

Internet Radio:

Midwest Ireland Radio

www.midwestradio.ie

RtÉ Radio

www.rte.ie/radio

Radio nan Gaidheal

www.bbc.co.uk/scotland/alba/radio

LiveIreland.com

www.liveireland.com/live.shtml

Breton Radio www.radio.stalig.com

Highland Radio – Co. Donegal

www.highlandradio.com

Irish Radio List www.eire.fm

Scottish Radio List

www.scottishwebcamslive.com/radio.htm

Isle of Man Radio www.bbc.co.uk/isleofman

C



Molly Maguire's to Open Soon

The old Tipperary Inn is being resurrected once again. Soon to be known as Molly Maguire's, the location at 5815 Live Oak, Dallas, will reopen late June or early July under the management of owner Ricky Woolfolk. We hope to have a full report on the opening in the Sept-Oct issue. Keep up with the progress at www.mollysdallas.com



NTIF Picnic

Continued from page 24

CDs from performers (Ed Miller, Cathie Ryan, Boru's Ghost, Trinity River Whalers/Blarney Brothers, Jigsaw, Jiggernaut, Shift) to a 2011 NITF VIP package to handmade jewelry, fleece throws and stitchery and, of course, "adult beverages" of ALL kinds, a grand total of \$2,482 (in bids and donations) was raised to help the Harrisons with expenses during Michael's treatment period.

Despite recent treatments, Michael's schedule was changed and allowed him and his wife, Kelly, to attend the picnic, and buoyed by the positive energy from well-wishers, a planned one-hour stay lasted for almost three hours – meeting and greeting scores of fans and friends.

"I don't know what to say other than thank you," Michael told the gather-



Scores of NTIF volunteers attending the annual picnic took time to bid on more than 40 packages/items for a silent auction to benefit DFW-area entertainer Michael Harrison.



ing. "This is truly overwhelming."

It was also the first time he had been able to hear live music, of any kind, in months, enjoying the offerings of Gordon MacLeod, Ken Fleming, John Delaney and Emily Bryant.

"You don't know how much you miss something you normally take for granted," he added. "It's a blessing."

Harrison said he has picked up a guitar and begun writing songs again, with the eventual goal of returning to the stage, as a singer, to perform before a live audience – perhaps even at the next North Texas Irish Festival.

In all, there were 43 different packages for people to bid, involving more than 100 individual items, from more than 30 donors. In addition, others gave cash "tips" and checks as straight donations.

For a seed that was planted in an e-mail and blossomed in three weeks' time, the flower that bloomed capped a thoroughly delightful day at the lake. **C**

Auction co-ordinator Chuck Bloom (Tiger fan) and fellow Detroit expatriate Michael Harrison (Red Wing fan).

NTIF Picnic Produces Heart, Soul, Money To Help Stricken Performer

By Chuck Bloom

NTIF Performer Products Coordinator

“Michael, you’ve got many more friends than I think you realize,” I said.

“I guess I do; you never know until something like this happens,” he responded with both a tear and twinkle in his eyes. “And I’m so grateful that I do.”

Not only was the annual NTIF volunteer picnic an opportunity to laugh, eat and honor the top volunteers from the 2010 festival, but it was also a chance for these same people to demonstrate the depths of their hearts, souls and wallets to help a fellow member of the Celtic music community.

Attendees to the picnic, through bids at a silent auction, brought tears and smiles to the Michael Harrison family in his ongoing battle against throat cancer.

By bidding and purchasing a diverse group of donated items, from photos of Scotland life and landscape, to donated

SCMA president Sheri Bush delivers a happy “welcome back” hug to singer Michael Harrison upon his arrival at the NTIF volunteer picnic.



Continued on page 23