

# In Step

Promoting traditional Celtic dance, music and culture.

Newsletter of the Greater Washington Ceili Club

[www.gwcc-online.org](http://www.gwcc-online.org)

A p r i l 2 0 1 0

## Martin Hayes & Dennis Cahill in Town!

Martin Hayes epitomizes the fiddle music of Ireland and County Clare for many people. He started playing when he was seven years old and, by the age of thirteen, was touring with the Tulla Ceili Band, arguably the most revered and famous ceili band in Ireland at the time which was led by his father, PJ Hayes. When Martin left Clare for Chicago in the 1980s, he became immersed in the diversity of musical styles that the city had to offer. It was also in Chicago where Martin met his current musical partner, Dennis Cahill. A master guitarist, Cahill is a native of Chicago born to parents from the Dingle Peninsula in County Kerry, Ireland. Cahill's spare, essential accompaniment to Martin Hayes' fiddle is acknowledged as a major breakthrough for guitar in the Irish tradition.



Hayes and Cahill formed the jazz/rock/fusion band Midnight Court, which allowed them to experiment with a variety of new music styles. After Martin reclaimed his traditional roots, reinvigorated, and recorded two solo albums, he began a new musical relationship with Cahill. In 1997 they released their first duet album and then their groundbreaking live recording; *Live in Seattle*, in 1999. The duo's galvanizing medleys, trading parts like jazz masters, was a landmark in new Irish music.

In 2008 Martin was named Ireland's Traditional Musician of the Year, a prestigious award by Irish TV-4. That same year, after a ten-year recording hiatus Hayes and Cahill released their latest CD, *Welcome Here Again* (Compass). The Wall Street Journal calls it "outstanding... it will only burnish the duo's reputation," and The Irish Examiner finds it "as close to a spiritual experience as a musical recording can be." Folk Roots UK raved, "Dennis Cahill's symbiotic guitar accompaniment is a crucial foil for Hayes' deliciously subtle displays of charming brilliance."

Along the way, Martin and Dennis have done some interesting collaborations with jazz guitarist Bill Frisell, new-grass musicians Darol Anger & Mike Marshall, a film soundtrack with Sinéad O'Connor, and most recently Martin has worked with Brooklyn Rider, a young NYC string quartet with Yo Yo Ma's Silk Road Ensemble. On stage and on record, Hayes and Cahill duo continue to explore and expand the centuries-old music of Ireland.

See April 10<sup>th</sup> listing on the Upcoming Events Calendar on page 7.



## DANCE NOTES

~ Edie O'Donnell

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

On Sunday, March 14th, the GWCC monthly ceili was held at Cherry Hill Park. 82 dancers were in attendance, and there were as many as 8 sets on the floor for some of the dances! The workshop dance was the Doire Cholmcille Set, taught by Paul O'Donnell. The band was the incomparable Bog Wanderers, who always give their best for our very appreciative dancers.

The first set of dances included the North Kerry Set, the Clare Plain Set and the Four Hand Reel. The pot luck tables were crammed with goodies, which were enjoyed during the first break. The second set of dances started with the Mazurka Set followed by the Haymaker's Jig and our workshop dance. Larry Frank won the 50/50 this month. We ended the evening with the Newport Set, the Connemara Reel Set, the Ballyvourney Jig Set, and the Clare Lancers Set.

On the following Thursday, we continued the dancing at our St. Patrick's mini-ceili, with music by Tina Eck and friends.

On Monday, March 15th, we returned to one of our favorite senior residences, Willow Manor in Olney, where our longtime friend and supporter, Jeanette Schuder, is the activities coordinator. Jeanette served refreshments, cookies and punch, enjoyed by audience and performers alike. Our hour-long performance included standard figures from sets we love to dance, showing the residents a reel, a polka, a jig and a hornpipe. We also showed off a couple of more complicated figures of the Dublin, Limerick Tumblers, and Antrim Square sets. The Outreach Ceili Band was in fine tune. With Dick de Freyre on whistle and flute, Marilyn Moore on whistle, Bridget Curran and Doug Ilg on bodhran and Tom Scullen strumming the guitar, we treated the residents to some "live" tunes, and the band played for our polka figure, too. Tom led the group in some

spirited sing-a-longs, and Paul O'Rourke served as MC and shanachie.

Our second performance venue was Victory Terrace in Potomac. Over 40 residents had participated in a special dinner, and we were served with the dessert! We had audience participation waltzes, and several residents gamely gave it a try. We took a moment at the end of our performance to pay tribute to Paul O'Rourke, who is relocating to South Carolina, for his constant support and participation in our outreach events. Reluctant to let the evening end, most of the dancers adjourned to nearby restaurants both nights to continue the good times. If you have never performed at one of our outreach events, I highly recommend it. The smiles on the faces of the residents are ample compensation for the time taken.

On the last weekend of the month, our annual Spring Fling was held in Shepherdstown, WV. With over 50 "full package" dancers and 20+ single or multi-event participants, the War Memorial building's floor got quite a workout. Friday evening began with a social at the hotel's Rumsey Tavern, followed by a ceili. Friday night's band was Custom House, and the dance card was filled with familiar favorites. On Saturday morning, things got started with a bountiful buffet of bagels, muffins, soda bread, rugelah, fruits and juices. We needed that fortification for two dance workshops taught by Jim Keenan on Saturday morning and afternoon. After a break for dinner, we reconvened for the Saturday night ceili, where a band assembled by Dave Abe kept us hopping...and jigging...and reeling...you get the picture. Two of the workshop dances were worked into the dance card, along with more of our favorites. Quite a few hearty souls returned to the hotel tavern to wind down, and be entertained by dancer/musicians fresh from the ceili. New this year was an optional brunch at the nearby Bavarian Inn on Sunday morning. What a spread! I think we gained back all the weight we lost dancing in one fell swoop! Congratulations to all the GWCC board members who made this weekend such a success. We can't wait until next year.

Get ready for our next ceili at Cherry Hill on April 25<sup>th</sup>, see the flyer on page 9 in this newsletter for details.



## BEV'S BEST BETS

~ Bev Ricks

**Borstal Boy**; Brendan Behan's life as it might have been...

As the film's disclaimer says, *Borstal Boy* is "inspired" by Brendan Behan's same named autobiographical account of his years in British reform school. Behan, who was born in 1923, joined the IRA at 14 and was arrested for possession of explosives in a bombing plot in Liverpool in 1939, at the age of 16. During his time in Borstal Prison, Behan began reading Oscar Wilde and writing. Otherwise there is little similarity between the 1958 book and Peter Sheridan's film, which debuted in 2000.

In the film, Brendan, played by Maryland native Shawn Hatosy, is tossed into adult prison immediately after his arrest. His cellmate is another under aged lad and member of Her Majesty's Navy, Charlie Millwall (Danny Dyer). After Brendan is pretty thoroughly knocked about by the guards, Charlie takes care of him, even planting a kiss on his cheek. The boys are transferred to an East Anglia juvenile detention center, run by Joyce (Michael York). There, Brendan discovers the library, produces an Oscar Wilde play, and makes plans to escape as is the duty of any "political prisoner." When knife wielding sex offender Dale (Lee Ingleby) insists on being included, at the expense of two others, Brendan ups the date for the escape, an event that proves tragic.

While one would expect a 5 star film from Jim Sheridan's brother, there are some troubling aspects of this production; much of the plot and action just doesn't seem plausible. York's Joyce, as the caring warden, is unconvincing; he tries not to be another Father Flanagan, but his effort results in a wooden performance. Eva Birthistle's portrayal of Joyce's

daughter, Liz, is almost as unconvincing, in that her character and role in the film are predictable. Brendan's growing genuine affection for Charlie is touching. However, it's troubling that it doesn't trouble him. In a reversal from his initial homophobia, Brendan kisses Charlie, on the mouth. One expects a little more angst from a Freedom Fighter, especially in the 1940's.

The film does, however, have some redeeming factors. Hatosy and Dyer give believable performances and Robin Laing's Jock is endearingly comedic. The nostalgic period details, right down to the black and white news reel, help give the film a sense of realism. The mostly misty see-your-breath chill of the outdoor scenes, shot in Naas, County Kildare and Dublin help create the bleakness appropriate for reform school.

Written by Nye Heron and Sheridan and produced by Pay Moylan and Arthur Lappin, the film runs 91 minutes. The music by Mr. O'Connell is orchestrated and conducted by Mark Armstrong, and features Don Baker on the harmonica and Derek Watkins on the trumpet.

Warning: some brief nudity and an occasional F bomb!

Bev's rating 3 ½ stars



## SET OF THE MONTH

The Set Dance for March is the *Claddagh Set*, which hails from Claddagh, Connemara County, Galway, was taught by Séamus Ó Méalóid at the Connie Ryan Memorial Weekend in Malahide in January 2004.

Dick de Freyre will be teaching this set at the April 25<sup>th</sup> Ceili and dance notes are on pages 10 and 11.

## GWCC Officers and Board of Directors

### Officers:

Dixie Baker	President
Paul O'Donnell	Vice-President
Edie O'Donnell	Treasurer
Don Kaliher	Secretary

### Board Members:

Hugh Conway	Bridget Curran
Susan Day	Dick de Freyre
Linda Fitzpatrick	Betty McCarthy
Emmett Murphy	Ed O'Connor
Bev Ricks	Jane Twomey
Patrick Twomey	Tom Scullen (Past President)

### Committees (Chair):

Ceili	(Dixie Baker and Dick de Freyre)
Membership	(Hugh Conway)
Outreach	(Edie O'Donnell and Dixie Baker)
Newsletter	(Don Kaliher)
Scholarship	(Beth Curren)
Cape May	(Linda Fitzpatrick)
Spring Fling	(Dixie Baker)
Publicity	(Emmett Murphy)
Elections	(Edie O'Donnell)
Social	(Bridget Curran)
Communication	(Tom Scullen)

## ~~ GWCC IRISH DANCE CLASSES ~~

The Spring Session of GWCC Adult Irish Dance class is still going strong and continues through May 20<sup>th</sup>. Classes are held at the Frost Center, 4915 Aspen Hill Road, Rockville, MD. The entire session costs just one \$30 donation to the Frost Center. Instruction in basic dances is from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm, and instruction in advanced dances is from 8:00 pm to 9:30 pm.

The instructor is Paul O'Donnell and he plans to cover the Corofin Set, Newport Set, Seit Doire Cholmcille and the Claddagh Set during the Spring session. A mini-ceili with live music is held every third Thursday from 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm.

So stop by the Frost Center one Thursday evening and join the fun!

## Set Dancing at the Fleadh!

The CCE Mid Atlantic Fleadh, which serves Canada, the Mid Atlantic and Northeast Regions, will be adding set dance competitions this year. All are invited to participate. As many of you know, these competitions have become increasingly popular in Ireland, and the Fleadh organizers are looking for support to help bring set dancing to the forefront on this continent.

Set Dance Competitions will be held at Pearl River Middle School, NY, on May 22-23, 2010, and will include all Ladies Senior and Junior sets; Mixed Senior and Junior sets; and Half Sets, Senior and Junior.

For more information and a complete list of rules please contact: Fergal O'Halloran, (718) 513-6550 or email [Fleadhsets2010@Yahoo.com](mailto:Fleadhsets2010@Yahoo.com).

## Anyone For Dancing by the Waves?

A few ardent ceili and set dancers who have relocated to the beautiful Rehoboth Beach, Delaware area are very interested to get some ceili and set dancing going in the "Nation's Summer Capital." If anyone is interested in doing this part time or full time, seasonal or all year long, do contact them at [rehobothsets@gmail.com](mailto:rehobothsets@gmail.com). They would love to hear from you!

## Coming Up in the May Newsletter

Information on this year's CCE Musical Arts & Dance (MAD) Week 2010. Happening July 2010!

Information on all the programs at the Sligo Creek Hedge School with Karen Ashbrook – happening all summer, 2010!

## MONTHLY CEILIS

Note: ceili in bold is GWCC

### *Emerald Isle Club Ceili*

First Saturday, 7-11 pm  
Live music w/Peter Fitzgerald & J. Patrick's  
All-Stars  
All dances called by Marilyn Moore.  
American Legion Post 183 Hall  
2301 Putty Hill Ave, Parkville, MD 21234  
Family friendly – ceili, set and two-hand dances  
Info: [judy@kondner.com](mailto:judy@kondner.com)

### *Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann (CCE) Ceili*

Second Saturdays (except September)  
Class at 7 pm, Ceili 7:30 – 11pm  
Live music by the Bog Wanders Ceili Band  
All dances called by Marilyn Moore  
Frying Pan Park (Oct-Dec 2009)  
2739 West Ox Road, Herndon, VA 20171  
Great Falls Grange (Jan-May 2009)  
9819 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA 22066  
Family friendly – ceili, set and two-hand dances  
Info: <http://maddytom.ipower.com/>

### *J Patrick's Irish Pub Ceili*

Second Sunday, 4:30 – 8:30pm  
1371 Andre Street, Baltimore, MD  
Live music by J Patrick's All Star Ceili Band  
All dances called by Marilyn Moore  
Sets and a few ceili dances  
Info: 410-244-8613

### *GWCC Ceili at Cherry Hill*

**Fourth Sunday, 5-9 pm**  
**(Except Ceilis Dec 31 and Mar 14)**  
**Cherry Hill Park Convention Center**  
**9800 Cherry Hill Rd, College Park, MD**  
**Set workshop starts at 4pm**  
**Live music & Potluck supper**  
**Sets and few Ceili dances - some dances called**  
**Info: 301-294-3568, [rdefrevre@aol.com](mailto:rdefrevre@aol.com)**

## LOCAL SEISIUNS AROUND TOWN

J Patrick's Pub, Locust Point, M  
Monday – Beginners Seisiun 8-10 pm  
Tuesday w/Laura Byrne-Egan & Jim Eagan, 9-12M  
Thursday w/Peter Fitzgerald 8-Midnight  
Kids Seisiun w/Donna Long  
Info: 410-244-8613

## MORE LOCAL SEISIUNS AROUND TOWN

Royal Mile Pub  
2407 Price Ave, Wheaton, MD  
Kids' Seisiun w/Mitch Fanning, 4th Sunday, 5-6:30  
info: [jmitchellf@yahoo.com](mailto:jmitchellf@yahoo.com)  
Adults' Seisiun, 4th Sunday, 7-10:30  
Info: 301-946-4511

McGinty's Publick House, Silver Spring  
911 Ellsworth Ave, Silver Spring, MD  
Kids' Seisiun with Mitch Fanning, 2nd Sunday  
info: 301-587-1270, [jmitchellf@yahoo.com](mailto:jmitchellf@yahoo.com)  
Adults' Tuesdays, 8:00, Dennis Botzer & C.B. Heinemann  
Info: [doginbush@yahoo.com](mailto:doginbush@yahoo.com)

RiRa Pub Bethesda  
4931 Elm Street, Bethesda, MD  
Sundays, 3-7 pm  
Philippe Varlet and Rob Greenway  
Info: 301-657-1122, [philvar@erols.com](mailto:philvar@erols.com)

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

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

McGinty's Pub Arlington, VA  
3560 South Glebe Road, Arlington  
Wednesdays, 7 pm  
w/ Josh Dukes or Keith Carr  
Info: 703-414-3555, [joshdukes@mac.com](mailto:joshdukes@mac.com)

Nanny O'Brien's Irish Pub  
3319 Connecticut Ave, NW, Washington, DC  
Mondays, 9 pm, Info: 202-686-9189

O'Lordan's Irish Pub  
14 Liberty St., Westminster, MD 21157  
Open Irish traditional session  
Every other Wednesday (9 Sep), 8 pm, Info: 410-876-0000

The Parkside, 4709 Harford Road, Baltimore, MD  
w/ Myron Bretholz and friends  
4<sup>th</sup> Saturday, 8-11 pm  
Info 410-444-6004, [www.theparksideonline.com/](http://www.theparksideonline.com/)

## WEEKLY DANCE CLASSES

**Note: class in bold is GWCC**

[Check with Instructor/School for exact class dates]

Mondays

Ceili, set and 2 hand dance, 7:30 – 8:30 pm  
1<sup>st</sup> and St. Stephen's Church, 6815 York Road,  
Baltimore, MD (at York & Register Road)

Instructor: Marilyn Moore

Ages 8 – adult welcome

Info: Marcia Ferguson, [marciaferg@comcast.net](mailto:marciaferg@comcast.net)

Mondays

Set Dancing, 7 – 8:30 pm, Beginners

Howard County Parks and Recreation

Instructor, Jan McVey

Ellicott Mills Middle School, 4445 Montgomery

Ave, Ellicott City, MD 21043

Info: 410-313-7275, [www.howardcounty.gov/RAP](http://www.howardcounty.gov/RAP)

Tuesdays

Ceili & set dancing 7:00 beginners, 8:00 improvers  
Ring of Kerry

Instructors: Susan Day (beginners) Marilyn Moore  
(improvers)

Ridgeview Middle School

16600 Raven Rock Drive, Gaithersburg, MD

Info: Roger Andes, [randes@erols.com](mailto:randes@erols.com)

Tuesdays

Sean Nos Dance Class, 8:00 – 9:00 pm

J. Patrick's Irish Pub,

1371 Andre Street, Baltimore, MD

Instructor: Kelly Smit

Traditional Irish music & dance session 9 pm

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

Tuesdays

Ceili and set Dancing, 7:30 – 9:00 pm

Fairfax City Department of Recreation

Green Acres Center, 4401 Sideburn Road, Fairfax,

Instructor: Hugh Conway

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

Wednesdays

Ceili & set dancing 7 – 9pm

J Patrick's Pub

Instructor: Dan Stanton

1371 Andre St, Locust Point, Baltimore, MD

Info: 410-276-2766

## MORE WEEKLY DANCE CLASSES

**Note: class in bold is GWCC**

[Check with Instructor/School for exact class dates]

Wednesdays

Set Dancing Classes 7:30 – 9:00 pm

St. Mary's County, MD

Instructor: Diane Clark

Info: 301-475-3542, [cdpclark@md.metrocast.net](mailto:cdpclark@md.metrocast.net)

Wednesdays

Sean-Nos Dance: beginner 7:30-8:30 pm

Advanced Beginning, 8:30 – 9:20 pm

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

Washington, DC 20002

Instructor: Shannon Dunne

Info and registration [www.joyofmotion.org](http://www.joyofmotion.org)

Wednesdays

Basic Ceili Dances 6:30 – 7:30

January 7th-Feb. 11th (six week session)

6844 Olney-Laytonsville Rd. Laytonsville, MD 20882

Instructor: Annie Hurley

Info: [AnnieHurleySchool@gmail.com](mailto:AnnieHurleySchool@gmail.com)

**Thursdays**

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

**GWCC**

**Instructor: Paul O'Donnell**

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

**Info: 301-649-5419, [www.gwcc-online.org](http://www.gwcc-online.org)**

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

Saturdays

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

Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Eireann (CCE)

Instructor: Marilyn Moore

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

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

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Note: events in bold are GWCC**

- Apr 8, Thursday, 8 9m  
Moya Brennan, First Lady of Celtic Music  
The Barns at Wolftrap, Vienna, VA  
Info: 703-255-1900, [www.wolftrap@wolftrap.org](mailto:www.wolftrap@wolftrap.org)
- Apr 10, Saturday, 7:30 – 11 pm  
Baltimore Emerald Isle Club Ceili  
Live music w/Peter Fitzgerald & J. Patrick's  
All-Stars, All dances called by Marilyn Moore.  
American Legion Post 183 Hall  
2301 Putty Hill Ave, Parkville, MD 21234  
Info: [judy@kondner.com](mailto:judy@kondner.com)
- Apr 10, Saturday, 8 pm  
Martin Hayes & Dennis Cahill  
The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Street  
Alexandria VA  
Info: 800-404-9049, [www.sunspotpro.com](http://www.sunspotpro.com)
- Apr 11, Sunday, 3 pm  
Lunasa, Center Stage, Reston Community Center  
2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston, VA 20191  
Info: 703-476-4500
- Apr 11, Sunday, 4:30 -8:30  
J. Patrick's Ceili w/J Patrick's All Star Ceili Band  
J. Patrick's Pub, 1371 Andre Street  
Locust Point, Baltimore, MD;  
Info: 410-244-8613
- Apr 12, Monday, 7-9 pm  
Lunasa workshops: Flute w/Kevin Crawford  
Uilleann pipes w/Cillian Vallely; banjo w/Paul  
Meehan (Limited class size)  
6th & F Streets, NE, Washington, DC  
Info/Registration: 202-669-5977 or  
[bell.brendan@gmail.com](mailto:bell.brendan@gmail.com)
- Apr 14, Wednesday, 8:30 pm  
Informal Irish Song Session, Hard Times Café  
6362 Springfield Plaza, Springfield VA 22150  
Info: 703-407-2445, [myspace.com/waynejordan](http://myspace.com/waynejordan)
- Apr 15, Friday, 7:30 pm  
Lunasa at the Birchmere  
3701 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Alexandria VA  
Info: 703-549-7500

## MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

**Note: events in bold are GWCC**

- Apr 19, Monday, 7:30 pm  
Grace Griffith/Lynn Hollyfield CD release  
IMT Concert Series  
Saint Mark Presbyterian Church  
10701 Old Georgetown Road. Rockville, MD  
Info: 301-754-3611, [www.imtfolk.org/store/index.html](http://www.imtfolk.org/store/index.html)
- Apr 21, Wednesday, 8:30 pm  
Informal Irish Song Session, Hard Times Café  
6362 Springfield Plaza, Springfield VA 22150  
Info: 703-407-2445, [myspace.com/waynejordan](http://myspace.com/waynejordan)
- Apr 23, Friday, 8 pm  
Footworks Percussive Dance Ensemble w/guest  
musicians Cleek Shrey & Sean McComiskey  
F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre  
Rockville Civic Center Park  
603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville MD  
Info: 301-754-3611, [www.imtfolk.org](http://www.imtfolk.org)
- Apr 24, Saturday, 10 am – 6 pm  
32nd Celtic Festival of Southern Maryland  
Jefferson-Patterson Park, in Calvert County  
Info: <http://cssm.org/festival>
- Apr 25, Sunday, 5-9 pm**  
**GWCC Ceili at Cherry Hill**  
**Set workshop starts at 4pm**  
**Potluck supper at the first break**  
**Cherry Hill Park Convention Center**  
**9800 Cherry Hill Rd, College Park, MD**  
**Info: 301-294-3568, [rdefreyre@aol.com](mailto:rdefreyre@aol.com)**
- Apr 26, Monday, 7:30 pm  
Pavilion 3 – Karen Ashbrook, Paul Oorts,  
Steve Bloom  
IMT Concert, St Mark Presbyterian Church  
10701 Old Georgetown Rd., Rockville, MD  
Info: 301-754-3611, [www.imtfolk.org](http://www.imtfolk.org)
- Apr 28, Wednesday, 8:30 pm  
Informal Irish Song Session, Hard Times Café  
6362 Springfield Plaza, Springfield VA 22150  
Info: 703-407-2445, [myspace.com/waynejordan](http://myspace.com/waynejordan)

## MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

Note: events in bold are GWCC

Apr 30, Friday, 8 pm

Bonnie Rideout CD Release Concert  
Barns at Wolftrap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna, VA  
Info: [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org)

May 1 & 2, Saturday and Sunday, 10 am - 5 pm  
Sheep & Wool Festival, Celtic music all day  
Howard County Fairgrounds, 2210 Fairgrounds  
Road  
West Friendship, MD 21794  
Info: [www.sheepandwool.org/](http://www.sheepandwool.org/)

May 1, Saturday, 7:30 – 11 pm  
Baltimore Emerald Isle Club Ceili  
Live music w/Peter Fitzgerald & J. Patrick's  
All-Stars, All dances called by Marilyn Moore.  
American Legion Post 183 Hall  
2301 Putty Hill Ave, Parkville, MD 21234  
Info: [judy@kondner.com](mailto:judy@kondner.com)

May 5, Wednesday, 8:30 pm  
Informal Irish Song Session, Hard Times Café  
6362 Springfield Plaza, Springfield VA 22150  
Info: 703-407-2445, [myspace.com/waynejordan](http://myspace.com/waynejordan)

May 8, Saturday, 7:30 – 11pm (Class at 7 pm)  
Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann (CCE) Ceili  
Live music by the Bog Wanders Ceili Band  
Dances called by Marilyn Moore  
Frying Pan Park 2739 West Ox Road, Herndon,  
VA 20171, Info: [www.ccepotomac.org](http://www.ccepotomac.org)

**May, 23, Sunday, 5-9 pm**  
**GWCC Ceili at Cherry Hill**  
**Set workshop starts at 4pm**  
**Potluck supper at the first break**  
**Cherry Hill Park Convention Center**  
**9800 Cherry Hill Rd, College Park, MD**  
**Info: 301-294-3568, [rdefreyre@aol.com](mailto:rdefreyre@aol.com)**

May 29, Saturday, 5 pm  
Finnegan's Jig [Carey Creed, Jody Marshall,  
Andrea Hoag, Zan McLeod]  
Palladium Civic Green  
1445 Laughlin Ave, McLean VA  
Info: 703-288-9505

## MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

Note: events in bold are GWCC

Jun 3-1, Wednesday – Sunday, 8 pm + 2pm Sat & Sun  
Riverdance – Final Tour  
Filene Center, Wolftrap, VA  
Info: 703-255-1900, [www.wolftrap@wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap@wolftrap.org).

Jun 12/13, Saturday/Sunday, 10 am – 6 pm  
17<sup>th</sup> Annual Potomac Celtic Festival  
Morvin Park Equestrian Center  
41793 Tutt Lane, Leesburg, VA 20176

20 Aug, Friday, 8 pm  
The Irish Tenors, Filene Center, Wolftrap, VA  
Info: 703-255-1900, [www.wolftrap@wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap@wolftrap.org).

### Scenes from 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Fling by Paul O'Donnell





Greater  
Washington  
**CELI**  
Club

**Sunday, April 25th**  
**5:00 - 9:00 PM**  
**Set Workshop at 4:00**  
**Cherry Hill Park**  
**Conference Center**  
**9800 Cherry Hill Rd.**  
**College Park, Md.**  
**Entrance Code 76000**  
**"Set of the Month"**  
**Claddagh Set**

**MUSIC BY**

**THE IRISH INN MATES**

**TINA ECK**

**FLUTE**

**BETSY O'MALLEY**

**TENOR BANJO**

**MITCH FANNING**

**FIDDLE**

**WITH**

**MARC GLICKMAN**

**PIANO**

**PROGRAM**

Clare Mazurka  
North Kerry Set  
Siege of Ennis

Clare Plain  
Sweets of May  
Doire Cholmeille

Claddagh Set  
Ballyvourney Jig  
Waltz  
Clare Lancers



**POT LUCK SUPPER DURING THE 1st BREAK**



**ADMISSION**

GWCC members-\$12- ° Nonmembers-\$15  
Kids under 11-free ° Students 11 to 20-\$8

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

## CLADDAGH SET

### FIGURE 1: REELS (192 BARS)

- 1 All couples: Lead around anticlockwise, turn in to face partners and, without turning the lady, lead back clockwise - Finish with ladies facing into the set and gents facing out. 16 bars
- 2 All couples swing in waltz hold. 8 bars
- 3 1st Top gent + 2nd Top lady dance around each other once clockwise inside set finishing with back to own position and swing. 16 bars
- 4 Top couples: Swinging couple keep hands joined - Step back to partner (1st Tops first taking right hands / 2nd Tops taking left hands) while Partners begin first Advance of Advance & retire twice converting to lower promenade hold after first advance. 8 bars
- 5 Top couples keeping crossed hands - House across halfway and turn lady once under gent's right arm to face anticlockwise, keeping right hands joined over Lady's right shoulder, lead around half way back to place and turn lady anticlockwise under right hands to face partner. 8 bars
- 6 Top couples Swing 8 bars
- 7 Side couples dance 3 through 6 with first side gent (on right) and second side lady leading. 40 bars
- 8 Top couples dance 3 through 6 with first top lady and second top gent leading. 40 bars
- 9 Side couples dance 3 through 6 with first side lady (on right) and second side gent leading. Top couples also swing at 6 when sides are swinging the last time. 40 bars

### FIGURE 2: REELS (184 BARS)

- 1 All couples advance & retire twice + Swing (Waltz hold) 16 bars
- 2 Top ladies chain with right hands in the centre while gents move to partner's place [2 bars], ladies give left hand to opposite gent and turn under while gent moves toward the centre slightly, ladies dance around behind (anticlockwise) while gent continues to face into set moving back to own position [2 bars], ladies dance back turning anticlockwise under partner's right arm into place. 8 bars
- 3 Top couples keeping crossed hands - House across halfway and turn lady once under gent's right arm to face anticlockwise, keeping right hands joined over lady's right shoulder, lead around half way back to place and turn lady anticlockwise under right hands to face partner. 8 bars
- 4 Top couples swing. 8 bars
- 5 Side couples dance 2 through 4. 24 bars
- 6 Top gents take right raised hands in the centre and dance around clockwise then take left hands and dance back to place. 8 bars
- 7 Still holding hands in center, each top gent places his right arm around his partner's waist as she places her hand on his shoulder and top couples lead around., 8 bars
- 8 Top couples in open waltz hold - Advance and retire, advance to centre and form a Basket with ladies hands on gents' shoulders, swing in four. 16 bars
- 9 Top ladies chain, top couples house across and lead back to place. 16 bars
- 10 Top couples swing. 8 bars
- 11 Side couples dance 6 through 10. Top couples also swing at end to finish. 56 bars

## CLADDAGH SET, page 2

### FIGURE 3: REELS (152 BARS)

- 1 All couples circle, advance and retire twice. 8 bars
- 2 All couples with crossed hands house across half way, turn lady under (right hands) and lead back (right hands joined over Lady's shoulder), turn lady under anticlockwise to face partner. 8 bars
- 3 All couples swing. 8 bars
- 4 Ladies right hand star, left hand star back and turn under partners' right hand to place. 8 bars
- 5 Gents left hand star, right hand star and turn partner under left hand when almost home. 8 bars
- 6 All couples with crossed hands house across, turn lady, lead back, turn lady and swing. 16 bars
- 7 Cross chain: Top Ladies dance 3/4 turn around each other in center to finish facing side gent left of their own home position (4 bars). As the top ladies turn I the center, the side gents turn clockwise in place. Each top lady now gives her left hand to the side gent, dancing around behind him, turning clockwise under his arm while he faces in without turning and now the top ladies cross, touching right hands in the center, to finish facing the side gent on the right of their own original position. (4 bars)  
While top ladies dance this chain, the side ladies advance and retire to the top gent on their right, then cross on the inside as he turns clockwise in place, to finish facing him in the top lady's position.
- 8 All swing new partners. 8 bars
- 9 Top ladies now chain around each other from side positions while the top gents turn in place, this time turning under their own partner's left arm and touching hands as they cross to face the opposite top gent.  
At the same time, each side lady, now in a top position, advances and retires to the opposite side gent (now on her right) and dances over on the inside as he turns clockwise, to face him in place. 8 bars
- 10 All swing new partners. Ladies should now be in the position opposite their original position. 8 bars
- 11 Side ladies not dance the cross chain starting in opposite side positions while top gents turn in place, as top ladies advance to the gent on their right and, as he turns clockwise, cross on the inside to face him. 8 bars
- 12 All couples swing their new partners. 8 bars
- 13 Side ladies chain again as side gents turn in place, to finish facing their own partners in place. At the same time, top ladies advance and retire to their own partners and dance across as top gents turn clockwise, to face them at home. 8 bars
- 14 All couples circle advance and retire twice. 8 bars
- 15 All couples with crossed hands house across, turn lady, lead back, turn lady and swing. 16 bars

### FIGURE 4: JIGS (192 BARS)

- 1 All couples circle, advance and retire twice. 8 bars
- 2 All couples grand chain with gents turning partner under right hand in opposite place and continue chain to place. 16 bars
- 3 All couples swing. 8 bars
- 4 Top couples take right hands, advance and retire once, 2nd Tops arch as 1st Tops go under with couples changing place. 1st Top gent turns partner under twice switching to finish on the left of his partner while 2nd Top Gent turn Partner under once as he dances around partner outside the set to finish on her left. 8 bars
- 5 Top couples repeat: Advance & retire once, 1st Tops arch over 2nd Tops and turn ladies under to original place. 8 bars
- 6 Top couples with crossed hands, house across, turn lady, lead back, turn lady and swing. 16 bars
- 7 Top couples swing. 8 bars
- 8 Side couples repeat 4 through 7. 32 bars
- 9 Top couples repeat 4 through 7 with second top couple leading – they dance under the arch first. 32 Bars
- 10 Side couples repeat 4 through 7 with second side couple leading – they dance under the arch first. 32 Bars
- 11 All face partners and chain around the set. When partners meet at opposite side each lady turns anticlockwise under her partner's right arm and all continue to chain home. 16 bars
- 12 All swing to finish. 8 bars.

### REFERENCES

Murphy, Pat (2004). Claddagh Set. In Lynch, Bill (ed.) Set Dancing News. April-May 2004. p. 40.

The set originates from Claddagh, Connemara, County Galway and was taught by Séamus Ó Méalóid at the Connie Ryan Memorial Weekend in Malahide in January 2004. Notes supplied by Pat Murphy have been published by Bill Lynch in Set Dancing News.

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