



Gaelic League

Irish-American Club of Detroit



SPRING 2025 1.2

Come March with Us

67th Detroit St. Patrick's Parade

March 16th, Parade Sunday is a busy day at the Gaelic League, but some members take the time to march. Would you like to join us? It's a chance for members to participate in the parade and show our unity as a club.

The Gaelic League will be open from 10AM to 7PM with nonstop entertainment beginning at 11AM. \$10 or free admission with membership card.

Gaelic League & Irish-American Club members please check website and Facebook page for Division Staging Location and line-up time. Parade starts at 1PM.

The United Irish Societies Detroit St. Patrick's Parade Route and Areas

Gaelic League Member & 2025 Grand Marshal – Joan O'Halloran

Joan grew up in Mt. Pleasant and moved to suburban Detroit in the early 1960s. She has three children: Karen, Gary, and Scott and is the proud grandmother of: Katie, Erin, Megan, Elizabeth, and Anna.



Joan and her husband, Tom O'Halloran, owned the Tipperary Pub in Detroit for many years. They hosted events for the Irish community in addition to promoting Irish music. Many bands got their start right here in Detroit at the *Tipp*.

Joan has helped plan and host numerous events including; Children for Northern Ireland Project, 50th St. Patrick's Parade Dinner Dance, Annual Pallottine Dinner Dance, UIS Fundraisers, and Annual Motor City Irish Fest, to name a few.

As an active member of many Irish clubs in addition to being President of the Irish Bar Owners Association she has been recognized as; 2013 Hibernian Woman of the Year, 2014 Pallottine Woman of the Year, and 2023 Chairperson of the Motor City Irish Fest.

Tom O'Halloran passed in 2022. Joan continues to keep his legacy alive by honoring his request "*never let the music die.*"

Sunday, March 2nd all are welcome to meet and enjoy tea and light refreshments with Joan Rose Kavanaugh O'Halloran, the Grand Marshal, at the Gaelic League. Along with the UIS we will honor the 2025 St. Patrick's Parade Grand Marshal.

If you cannot attend in person be sure to tune into Detroit Irish Radio from 1-3PM. Joan will be the featured guest as we broadcast live from the Meet & Greet.

A Visit from Ireland's Consul General

Members were delighted with a surprise visit from Ireland's Consul General, Chicago on January 25. Appointed Consul General of the Midwestern USA in September 2024, Brian Cahalane made his first visit to the Gaelic League an impromptu one. He met some of the Gaelic League & Irish-American members, officers, volunteers, GAA Wolfetone members, and DIMA participants while touring our Club. We welcome Brian and his Vice Consul, Padraig Manning to Detroit and look forward to many more visits in the future.

During his visit, Brian was able to share information regarding the Consulate services. He and his staff can assist with applying for Irish passports and visas, provide information on Ireland, and of course, support the many links between Ireland and the United States. To find out more checkout Ireland.ie/chicago.



Kathleen Partyka, Brian Cahalane, and Kathleen O'Neill at the Gaelic League.



Brian Cahalane shares a pint with a few GAA Wolfetone members.



2025 Officers

Kathleen O'Neill
President

Geff Bush
Vice President

Rose Corey
Treasurer

Sheila Maloney
Financial Secretary

Theresa Anaya
Recording Secretary

2025 Board Members

Bill Miller

Alice Wingle

Katherine Jenny

Eric Cole

Tim Fix

Mike Clyne

Kathleen Finley

Patrick McParland

Graham Sheckels

2025 Board of Auditors

Jesse Anaya

Kate Miller

Katie Sperry

2068 Michigan Ave.
Detroit, Michigan 48216

313-964-8700

GaelicLeagueDetroit@gmail.com

GaelicLeagueOfDetroit.org

Current Hours

Monday: 6-9:30PM

Thursday: 5-9PM

Friday: 5PM-Midnight

Saturday: Noon-Midnight

Sunday: Noon-6PM

*Please submit all articles, pictures,
events for consideration in next issue by*

April 12, 2025 to

kodoirish@aol.com or

MtBailey@comcast.net

Dear Members:

2025 has begun with many successful, fun activities at the Gaelic League and Irish-American Club. The synergy and excitement from the organizers, participants, and volunteers propel us towards Spring. It's a time of rebirth, hope and a renewed commitment to preserve the rich cultural heritage offered weekly at the "Club". Recently, there's been an increase in Irish-American Club members by young professionals. They are adding to the energy and enthusiasm within our growing organization.

Happening the first week of March is a UIS St. Patrick's Parade Lepre-Con Pub Crawl Fundraiser, a special recognition for our Grand Marshal Joan O'Halloran, a Detroit Irish Music Association session, Irish language and dance classes, Lenten Friday Fish Fry, weekend entertainment and a St. Anne's Euchre Tournament Fundraiser for the GAA ladies team. In addition, we are preparing for many St. Patrick's celebrations. I encourage members to check our social media for additional announcements throughout March and April.

With the renewal and growth, we have learned of members receiving strange emails and reports of troubling allegations. Some wondered, "Why am I getting these weird emails and what's going on at the Gaelic League?" I am pleased to report that our Executive Board is working in concert with investigators to address allegations made last year. Our Board is steadfast in being transparent, arriving at the truth and protecting the integrity of the Gaelic League from those who seek to tarnish our rich history. Our Executive Board is also resolved to protect our members from receiving unauthorized and unsolicited communications. The Board remains focused on our mission to preserve and promote Irish culture.

We believe direct communication is key. We appreciate the members who have reached out and we encourage any concerns or comments to be sent to GaelicLeagueDetroit@gmail.com.

During this time, I am inspired and drawn to the Gaelic word *Athbhreith* which speaks to a period of rebirth. The following poem captures this sentiment:

"From the cold earth, a green shoot breaks,
Like a heart that wakes, the slumber shakes.
The dawn's first light, a tender kiss,
On fields of emerald, life's sweet bliss.
A song of birds, a joyful sound,
As winter's grip is loosened, unbound.

The river flows, a silver thread,
Through valleys where new life is bred.
Like the Phoenix, from ashes rise,
With wings of hope, against the skies.
The ancient land, renewed and bright,
A tapestry of life, in morning light."

This is a time to renew your membership. Join us in the Parade on March 16th. Most of all, honor Ireland's patron saint, St. Patrick.

Let's enjoy sharing our rich Irish heritage.

Slainte, Kathleen O'Neill, President

Membership

A friendly reminder The Gaelic League and Irish-American Club of Detroit are private clubs requiring membership. As a 501c7 organization, everyone must show their current 2025 membership card to be served alcohol.

Gaelic League membership must be renewed by January 30th to keep your membership in good standing to attend and vote at membership meetings.

Irish-American Club membership is open to all with an interest in Irish Culture. Annual dues are \$25 per person, payable at the bar or online with PayPal.

Gaelic League membership is open to those of Irish decent. Current annual dues are \$40 per person. Please contact a Board Member about membership.

Please refer to website for additional information, by-laws, and Paypal link. *A transaction fee is added when paying online.* GaelicLeagueOfDetroit.org

Detroit's Gaelic League and Irish-American Club is modeled after the Gaelic League formed in 1893 in Ireland. From its beginning, the Gaelic League has been a "home away from home" for newcomers to Detroit. By its constitution the Gaelic League of Detroit is neither sectarian nor partisan. Our aim and objectives are to preserve and promote the Irish Culture. As Detroit's oldest Irish social center, the Gaelic League and Irish-American Club provide a bit of Ireland to its members and guests through many on-going activities.

Lenten Fish Fry & Music



Once again our kitchen crew will be putting together an amazing Fish Fry on Fridays during Lent. Starting March 7th from 5-8PM. Our last Fish Fry evening will be on Good Friday, April 18th.

Enjoy hand battered fish, fries, coleslaw, dinner roll, and an option of chicken tenders, also mac and cheese will be on the menu. Complete your meal with a delicious dessert for purchase. Come down for a great meal, followed by live music, 8-11PM. Check out the schedule on following page to see what local musician/band will be playing.

GOOD FOOD * GOOD MUSIC * GOOD COMPANY = GREAT NIGHT

Irish-American Club Young Adults

A huge welcome to the IAC Young Adults members (20s/30s). They hosted their first mixer on February 20th. It was a huge success with new friendships being formed. Follow Gaelic League Irish-American Club of Detroit Instagram page for future events.



Family Cultural Event April 6, 2025 • 3-4:30PM

We are delighted to present another fun night for families to learn more about Ireland. Led by Jessica Casiano.

An Irish adventure tale about a little girl and her best friend that happens to be... a sheep!

Shamrock the sheep has gone missing! Follow Maisie and her sheep all around the Emerald Isle as she heads one way on an epic quest not realizing that Shamrock is headed the other way! Will they ever find each other?

Preregistration is required, LearningMadeFunWithMaestraCasiano.com Those who show up without preregistering may not receive the same resources, and snacks as those who do! Children aged 3-12 years, along with their parents are welcome. \$10 per child/\$20 per family.



MIDWEST
GAA

Euchre Tournament

Saturday, March 8th

Support the Ladies GAA Football Team at their St Anne's First Euchre Tournament. Held at the Gaelic League of Detroit hall. Doors open at 6:30PM and play begins at 7PM. It's \$25 to participate. Cash prize for the winner! Register by venmo@DetroitStAnnes or reach out on their Instagram or Facebook pages.

313-671-6918 / 517-672-2159 for more information

Traditional Irish Music Night



Seán Gavin brings us another evening of Traditional Irish Music on April 5th. Everyone enjoyed the first concert in February which ended with guest musicians joining on stage.

This concert is an evening of authentic Irish music featuring three of Ireland's finest traditional folk musicians. Tara Breen *fiddle*, Padraig Rynne *concertina*, and Jim Murray *guitar*, direct from Ireland, demonstrate world class musicianship.

Experience the blending of intricate melodies, rhythms, and storytelling passed from one generation to the next. The concert at the Gaelic League begins at 8PM on Saturday, April 5th. Visit irishmusicinstitute.org for more info. Purchase tickets online \$25, at the door \$30, *under 18 years old free*.



Children's Easter Party

Saturday • April 12
2PM TO 4PM

Join us for

Games, Crafts, Dye Easter Eggs, Decorate Cookies, and a Visit with the Easter Bunny! A fun filled afternoon for members and their families! *Children 10 and younger.*

Please make your reservation by April 4, 2025

Kathleen Partyka: 586-604-2088

Play & Learn with Us

In The Pub_____

March 8-11PM

- 1 Barley Brothers
- 7 Tim Reynolds
- 8 Billy Dixon
- 14 The Fab 2
Terry Murphy & Billy Dixon
- 15 John L. Sullivan
- 21 McSpillan
- 22 Terry Murphy
- 28 Devils Dew
- 29 Madigan's Attic

Parade Sunday_____

- 11-2PM Billy Dixon & Terry Murphy
- 2-5PM Devil's Dew
- 5-7PM Barley Brothers

St. Patrick's Day_____

- 11-1PM Terry Murphy
- 1-4PM Devil's Dew
- 4-7PM McSpillan

March_____

- 1 Lepre-Con Pub Crawl – A walking Corktown Pub Crawl. Kick off at the Gaelic League. Come dressed in your leprechaun finery. Proceeds go to the UIS annual St. Patrick's Parade. 3PM, \$30.
- 2 Meet & Greet the Grand Marshal Tea. 1PM-3PM
- 2 Detroit Irish Music Association session, *all levels welcome*. 3-5PM *If you want to play on the radio, arrive at 2:30PM*
- 8 Detroit St. Anne's Ladies GAA Football Team Euchre Tournament Fundraiser. 7pm *doors open 6:30pm*, \$25
- 16 67th Annual Parade Sunday – Gaelic League has extended hours 10AM-7PM, live entertainment starts at 11AM
- 17 St. Patrick's Day – Gaelic League has extended hours 10AM-9:30PM, live entertainment starts at 11AM

- 22 Irish Genealogical Society of Michigan focuses on genealogical research in all 32 counties of the Emerald Isle. Our meeting is open to everyone who attends the Gaelic League. Zoom invitations are sent out to members only. miigsm.org, 1:30PM
- 23 Pub Quiz – Bring your team, up to five, *or we will place you on a team*, and optional appetizer/snack to share. Make new friends, and wear your thinking cap! 4-7PM *sign-up 3:30PM*, \$5 per person
- 24 Gaelic League Board Meeting. 7PM
- 30 Detroit Irish Music Association session, *all levels welcome*. 3-5PM *If you want to play on the radio, arrive at 2:30PM*
- 31 General Membership Meeting. 7PM

April_____

- 5 Traditional Irish Music Night with Seán Gavin. 8PM, \$25 tickets online, \$30 at the door, *under 18 free*
- 6 Family Cultural Event. 6-7:30PM, \$10 per child/\$20 per family
- 12 Children's Easter Party, ages 10 and under with their family. Preregister 586-604-2088, 2-4PM
- 13 Detroit Irish Music Association session, *all levels welcome*. 3-5PM *If you want to play on the radio, arrive at 2:30PM*
- 19 Easter Brunch at the Gaelic League. 12:30-3:30PM, \$25
- 21 Gaelic League Board Meeting. 7PM
- 24 Corktown Music Festival – 180 acts 25 at 9 Venues. See Facebook and CorkTownMusicFestival.net, 6PM-1AM
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- 28 General Membership Meeting. 7PM

Ongoing Groups_____

Sunday

- ♣ Detroit Irish Radio with Kathleen O'Neill live from the Gaelic League, 1-3PM, or crbradio.com Studio 1.
- ♣ Knitting with Muirgen Haig every 2nd Sunday. Do you know how but would like some company? Have you always wanted to learn? Grab your needles, your yarn, and call 586-604-2088 to register. 1PM, \$5

Monday

- ♣ Set Dancing with Anne McCallum, in the Hall, 7-9PM. Beginners always welcome. For more information annemccallum847@gmail.com. \$10

Wednesday

- ♣ Irish Language with Brian Boll. Classes meet on Zoom or upstairs. GLDetIrish@gmail.com for more information. 7-9PM
- ♣ Ciorcal Sceil *The Story Circle* meets every 2nd Wednesday by the hearth to discuss Irish literary traditions. JanetAnderson1965@hotmail.com. *All are welcome*. 6-8PM
- ♣ Detroit Irish Music Association (DIMA) session, *all levels welcome*. Meet 1st Wednesday of the month. DetroitIrishMusic.org, 6:30-9PM

Friday

- ♣ Irish Music Classes with Seán Gavin. All ages, all instruments. 5-7PM, \$15 donation or any amount you can.
- ♣ Ardán Academy of Irish Dance – Step and Céili will resume May 2nd.