

---

---

# *MOHAWK VALLEY IRISH CULTURAL EVENTS NEWSLETTER*

---

---

Volume 6, Issue 9

September 2009

Okay, you've shelled out a passel of cash for pencils and paper, computers and calculators, backpacks and binders, and you're ready to ship your kids off to school. Sure, you've taken care of them... but what about you? Shouldn't there be some upside to the end of summer for you (other than shipping your kids off to school)? Of course there should be... and there is. Perhaps as a deliberate attempt to soften the demise of summer -- to stretch those fleeting weeks and somehow recreate the seemingly endless summers of our youth --September has always been busy month for fans of Irish music. And this year is no different; in fact, this could easily be the strongest September we've ever seen. From the many festivals throughout the region to concerts from three of Scotland's musical pioneers and rare local appearances of the hottest Celtic acts in the world -- including North America's most celebrated Celtic family -- September may turn out to be the hottest month of the year.

## **Canadian Powerhouse "Leahy" Graces MWP AI Stage**

Equally revered for the fiery strains of arguably the world's greatest Celtic fiddler, the dulcet tones of sibling harmonies, unparalleled musicianship and high-energy step dancing, **Leahy** has earned their rightful spot as one of the most electrifying and entertaining Irish performing artists in the world today. The pride of Lakefield, Ontario makes their Utica debut on September 26th, in a very special performance at Munson-Williams Proctor Art Institute's Museum of Art Root Sculpture Court, as part of MWP AI's Concert in the Court series.

Leahy, fronted by fiddle impresario Donnell Leahy, is a dynamic mix of eight extraordinarily gifted musical brothers and sisters who have been playing together their entire lives. Part of a large family raised without a television, the Leahy siblings grew up on a farm in Lakefield where ancestor Michael Leahy settled from Ireland in 1825. Originally content to perform for and with their parents in their home, the Leahy children eventually extended their musical and geographical range, and ultimately their fan base, to all parts of Canada and the world, and their life story became the subject of an Oscar Award-winning documentary called "The Leahys: Music Most of All." And it is this music -- "...[a] volcanic explosion of talent, emotion, and feral passion [that] combines the influence of their Irish and Scottish roots with a rare level of energy, originality and musicianship" -- that sets them apart from most performers you'll see these days.

Tickets for the 8 PM show are \$30, and as this is a general admission venue with a modest seating capacity, you'll definitely not want to put off ordering them. To get your tickets, go to the Performing Arts Ticket Office at the MWP AI Museum of Art, or call (315) 797-0055 or (800) 754-0797, or you can get them on-line (as I just did) at [www.mwpai.org/performingarts/performances/concertsinthecourt/](http://www.mwpai.org/performingarts/performances/concertsinthecourt/). To learn more about Leahy, visit their site at [www.leahymusic.com](http://www.leahymusic.com).



## Proctor's Theater Hosts Dougie MacLean



Dougie MacLean holds a place in his native Scotland that can only be compared with artists like Bob Dylan or Christie Moore, but here in the States he remains for many an undiscovered pleasure. While audiences might have a passing familiarity with his early work with the seminal Scottish folk bands the Tannahill Weavers and Silly Wizard, or with cover versions of his songs by performers like Kathy Mattea, Mary Black or Dorothy Keane, American fans have not had many opportunities to experience MacLean as a live performer. That can all change on September 18th when Dougie MacLean starts the last leg of his fall U.S. tour at the 8th Step at Proctor's GE Theatre in Schenectady.

Although he has composed orchestral works and film scores, Dougie MacLean is best known for his songs, including "Ready for the Storm" -- the song that introduced him to American audiences when it was covered by Kathy Mattea -- and "Caledonia," an unofficial Scottish anthem that hit No. 1 on the charts. MacLean's melodies retain echoes of the ancient music of Scotland, but his emotionally intimate lyrics touch people of all cultures. His beautifully understated guitar work and infectious voice are as instantly comforting as an old friend, whether his masterful compositions are introducing you to something altogether new or reminding you of something long forgotten. Tickets for the 7:30 pm show are \$26... and they are expected to go quickly.

## Old Blind Dogs To Play Two Area Shows

What could be better than to catch a performance from the landmark Scottish non-traditional trad band, Old Blind Dogs? How about two chances? Well, you are in luck: on September 11th OBD makes a return visit to the Earlville Opera House for an 8 PM show, and after a quick jaunt to Connecticut, they'll roll into Caffè Lena in Saratoga Springs on September 13th for a 7 o'clock performance. One of the original cutting edge folk outfits out of Scotland, Old Blind Dogs have evolved and grown into one of Scotland's favorite folk bands by applying original arrangements to traditional forms to create an infectious and irresistible energy.



Founding member Jonny Hardie (fiddle, mandolin, guitar) is joined by Aaron Jones (bass, bouzouki, backing vocals), Ali Hutton (pipes, whistles, vocals) and Fraser Stone (drums and percussion). While utilizing modern grooves and combining elements from other musical cultures, the Old Blind Dogs repertoire is set very firmly in their native Scotland. Tickets for the show at the Earlville Opera House (East Main Street in Earlville) are \$22 at the door or \$20 in advance, and ticket prices for the Caffè Lena performance range from \$12 to \$22. Caffè Lena is located at 47 Phila St., Saratoga Springs.

## Battlefield Band's Brian McNeill Headlines "Old Songs" Series



Brian McNeill's professional career spans more than three decades, earning him accolades as a songwriter, composer, producer and musical director, as well as a multi-instrumental performer (fiddle, octave fiddle, guitar, mandocello, bouzouki, viola, mandolin, cittern, concertina, bass and hurdy gurdy). In 1969 he formed the Battlefield Band, which became one of Scotland's best known ensembles. And on Thursday, September 24th, he'll be giving an 8:00 PM show as part of Old Songs, Inc.'s Concert Series, at their new (old) home at 37 South Main St. in Voorheesville NY. Tickets for the show are \$20, with age 12 and under paying \$5. For more information, visit [www.oldsongs.org/](http://www.oldsongs.org/).

## Rathkeltair Brings the “Big White Van” to Central New York

Great American Irish Festival fan favorite Rathkeltair (pronounce rath-KELT-ur) will be coming to the local area in a whirlwind four-day “mini-tour,” starting with a recently announced show in Utica on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. At 8 PM on Thursday, the Celtic Harp Pub -- Varick Street’s newest venue – brings in the electrifying trio, led by pipe sensation Neil Anderson, marking an appropriately powerful end to the Saranac Thursdays season. Then on Friday, the boys head west to Syracuse’s storied Armory Square, playing a 9 PM show at Kitty Hoynes Irish Pub. From there, they’ll be headlining at the Capital District Scottish Games in Altamont, with performances on both Sept 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Why not see for yourself why they’ve been called “...one of the most entertaining and original Celtic rock bands in North America.”

## “From Dingle to Kerry” Wins GAIF Photo Contest

The \$100 prize for the 2009 Great American Irish Festival Photograph Contest was awarded to Martha Malone of Penfield, NY, for her photograph titled “From Dingle to Kerry.” Martha shot the photo on a gorgeous sunny day in August 2008 (yes, they do have beautiful days in Ireland), capturing her husband, Michael, and her daughter, Clare, as they walked toward Dunbeg Fort on the Dingle Peninsula near Sleah Head, County Kerry.



Do you have a photograph of an Irish or Irish-American location, activity or event? Why not consider entering next year’s contest? Photographs may be submitted to the Great American Irish Festival Photo Contest, P.O. Box 584, Marcy, NY 13403, no later than July 20, 2010. Each photo must be at least 8 inches by 10 inches and no larger than 11 inches by 14 inches and must be mounted or matted. The pictures must show an Irish or Irish-American event, activity or location, and must include a person or people as the subject or a component of the photograph. The overall winning photograph will be chosen by popular vote of the festival attendees during the Great American Irish Festival, with the winning photograph announced at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoon July 25, 2010. All photographs submitted for the contest will become the property of the Great American Irish Festival and will be added to the photograph archive at the future Irish-American Cultural Center.

## Inaugural Great American Irish Festival Golf Tournament

The folks at the Great American Irish Festival have done it again... not content to rest on their laurels, the GAIF committee is putting on the Inaugural GAIF Golf Tournament. On September 17th, the Stonebridge Golf Course in New Hartford will be the site of a fun filled day of Irish camaraderie, golf, cheer and music. Join us for our salt potato putting contests with, closest to the Leprechaun and Shamrock driving contest. Prizes will be awarded for the best and worst dressed and greenest Irish foursomes. Kilts are encouraged.. The day's festivities will be capped off by an outdoor concert at 6:30 pm by local favorites The Blarney Rebel Band, and at 8:00 pm, listen to 100 years of tradition with the legendary family band McPeake (<http://www.mcpeakemusic.com/>), from Belfast Northern Ireland, sponsored by First Source Federal Credit Union. Beverages have been sponsored by Saranac. Tickets are available for \$75 (covers Golf, Dinner, and Concert), \$30 (covers just Dinner and Concert), or \$20 just the Dinner. For more information or to sign up your foursome, contact Bob Kane @ [bobkane@roadrunner.com](mailto:bobkane@roadrunner.com) or 315 269-4100. There is a limited number of foursomes available and also a limited number of sponsorship opportunities for this event and they are going fast. Celebrate half way to St. Patrick's Day with the folks from the Great American Irish Festival!

## **Lughnasa – Feast of First Fruits**

As you'll recall (no doubt), we've presented articles on three of the major Celtic seasons: Imbolc, Beltaine and Samhain. It's time now -- well, actually it's a month late -- to tell you about Lughnasa -- the Harvest Season. Prior to 1996 hardly any Americans had heard the word Lughnasa, and indeed the talking heads on TV and radio had difficulty pronouncing it. It is pronounced Loo-nuh-suh, the gh is silent, like the p in swimming. The word came to the public eye, and ear, because of the play written by Brian Friel, "Dancing at Lughnasa," which was produced on Broadway, and won a Tony award. Meryl Streep starred in the play, and later, the movie. Lughnasa is a harvest festival observed in many Celtic countries, and some places where the Celts once held sway. The word comes from Lugh the long arm, one of the chief gods of the Tuatha de Danaan, or Dana's horde, and god of the harvest. Like many ancient feasts, the celebrations have taken different forms in different places. In Ireland, a variant spelling, Lúnasa, is the month of August. Depending on the location, the date of the festival varies from Aug. 1 to Aug 21. It is often referred to as the feast of first fruits. In some places it is the time when the berries are ready for picking. In Ireland, the first potatoes were dug by the fear an tí, the man of the house and taken by the bean an tí, the woman of the house, and cooked up. This signified the end of the "hungry month" of July; so called because by July the potatoes from the previous year were gone, or rotted in July's heat.

Among the customs in some places was handfasting. A man and woman stood on opposite sides of a wall and held hands through a hole in the wall. This signified they were married for a year and a day, at which time they could decide to stay together or separate by turning back to back and walking away. In some places it was couples who knew each other and wanted to marry, but in other places they were unknown to each other, standing on opposite sides of a wall too high to see over. Also prevalent were sports, including feats of strength. This was probably the origin of events seen at Scottish games, like the caber toss, the hammer throw, and the hay bale toss.

## **Comhaltas North America, Local Community Loses "Great Friend"**

Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann lost one of its North American legends with the passing of Jack Pendergast on August 6<sup>th</sup>, after a long and valiant battle with cancer. Jack was a resident of Clinton until 2001 (AOH member Kevin Kearney recalls that Jack's house on Kellogg Street was at one time home to the original Division 1 AOH chapter), and discovered a love of Irish music shortly after retiring from a prestigious and celebrated Air Force career. Soon afterward, he found a band of kindred spirits in Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann, and in the local Craibh Dugan Branch. Says CCE Northeast Hall of Fame member Mike Hoke: "Although he was not a 'founding member' of the local Comhaltas branch, he came on early in its existence. He was a very strong supporter of all things Irish. He did not play an instrument, but he was at all our Comhaltas functions to chat up people about traditional Irish music and culture."

I worked with Jack at the (then) Rome Laboratory, and I can attest to his penchant for, and ability in, "chatting up people." It was this gregarious personality -- and an organizational skill honed over years of military assignments -- that led to Jack's (humble) rise from a member of Craibh Dugan, to the Northeast Region Chairman (1986-1994), Provincial Secretary (1992-2004) and delegate to the Ardchomhairle (1994-2004). Fittingly, the most recent issue of Treoir contains a wonderful tribute from his longtime friends and colleagues, past Provincial Chairs Bill McEvoy and Frank Kennedy; both of whom heaped praise upon their comrade for the various roles and contributions that he made to CCE. Not only was he the key right-hand administrator for all the Provincial, Regional and Branch officers as Provincial Secretary, but he was a very effective and well-respected voice for CCE NA in Ireland as a long-time delegate to the Ardchomhairle; where he is remembered fondly throughout Ireland for his service to Comhaltas. And for many years, he organized the annual Comhaltas Live North American Tour. (It was at one of these concerts -- an "Echoes of Erin" all-star revue held in Clinton High School sometime during the early 90s -- where \*I\* discovered a love for Irish music. I'm sure there are people in Ireland today still wondering how a little town named

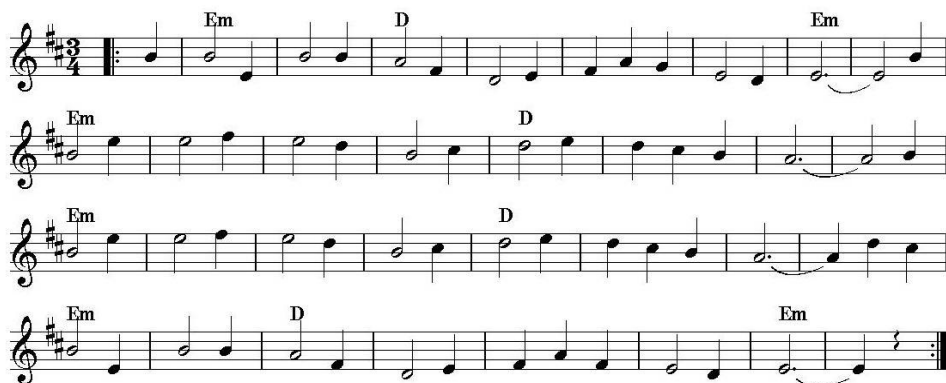


“Clinton” earned a spot among the other major US cities on the tour that year. That only proves that they don’t know Jack!). And finally, in 2007, the North American Province of Comhaltas awarded Jack their Meritorious Service Medal for his outstanding contributions to Comhaltas; only the second member to receive this recognition in North America. His many close friends and colleagues spread all over the world most importantly remember Jack as a generous, caring man of utmost integrity... and the tributes pour in to this day. Says Mike Hoke: “He made an even greater impact on the larger Comhaltas organization in Dublin, dazzling them with his military organizational skills and accuracy. He will be missed by the entire Comhaltas organization!” Perhaps his obituary says it best: “We are all blessed to have known you, John, and our lives are forever richer for it... Slán agus beannacht leat – Farewell and blessings on you!”

**If You Happen to go to the Nail Creek Sessions tonight...**

...you may hear the Craibh Dugan players doing one of Jack’s favorite songs: Spencil Hill. If you want to listen to these fabulous artists play it, you’ll hear no complaints from them. If, however, you have what it takes to sing or play along with them, here is the music/lyrics, courtesy of Mike Hoke:

**Spencil Hill**



Last night as I lay dreaming of pleasant days gone by  
 My mind being bent on rambling to Ireland I did fly  
 I stepped on board a vision and I followed with the wind  
 And I shortly came to anchor at the cross of Spencil Hill

It being the 23rd June the day before the fair  
 When Ireland's sons and daughters in crowds assembled there  
 The young and the old, the brave and the bold their journey to fulfill  
 There were jovial conversations at the fair of Spencil Hill

I went to see my neighbors to hear what they might say  
 The old ones were all dead and gone and the young one's turning grey  
 I met with the tailor Quigley, he's a bould as ever still  
 Sure he used to make my britches when I lived in Spencil Hill

I paid a flying visit to my first and only love  
 She's as white as any lily and as gentle as a dove  
 She threw her arms around me saying "Johnny I love you still  
 " Oh she's Ned the farmer’s daughter and the flower of Spencil Hill

I dreamt I held and kissed her as in the days of yore  
 She said, "Johnny you're only joking like many's the time before"  
 The cock he crew in the morning he crew both loud and shrill  
 And I awoke in California, many miles from Spencil Hill.

*Book Review:*  
**“The Mammy”**  
*By Mark Sisti*

I have offered this warning in previous reviews, but it has never been more applicable than it is to Brendan O’Carroll’s debut novel, “The Mammy.” Do not, under any circumstances, read this book in a room where you are surrounded by people. You will, it is an ironclad guarantee, laugh very loudly and publicly at several points in the book. This can be embarrassing and potentially dangerous if you happen to be in the vicinity of an asylum of some sort.

If you, like every human being on the face of the earth, have read “Angela’s Ashes,” you may think you’re entering familiar waters. You know the routine, single working class mother raising large Irish family in poverty, etc. But it is pretty much there that the similarity ends. “Angela’s Ashes,” for all its heartwarming poignancy, is, at times, incredibly depressing; the same can never be said of “The Mammy.” It’s a laugh riot, with each episodic chapter as funny as the previous one. There is a depth in “Angela’s Ashes” that is missing in “The Mammy”, and that’s not meant as a criticism, for with depth can come solemnity and heaviness. “The Mammy” is an unpretentious fun read, filled with characters that are likeable and scenes that run the gamut of humor from mildly amusing to hilarious. Given a situation when other writers would aim to tug at heartstrings, O’Carroll unapologetically goes right for the funny bone. You may think that there’s little that’s funny about a dead spouse, poverty or cancer, but O’Carroll will prove you wrong.

We meet the novel’s protagonist, the indomitable Agnes Brown, in the opening scene at the local social services office, where she is attempting to arrange to receive benefits due as the result of her husband’s death. The problem is that her husband Redser had died just hours before, and a death certificate hasn’t even been issued yet. This doesn’t seem to Agnes or her constant companion, Marion Monks, like it should present much of an obstacle, even when the patient clerk explains that they need proof that Redser is dead: “No, love, he’s definitely dead. Definitely. Isn’t he, Marion?” “Absolutely,” confirms Marion, “I known him years, and I’ve never seen him look so bad. Dead, definitely dead!” This opening scene gives ample notice of what to expect, filled with a twisted logic that keeps raising the comic bar until the entire scene reads like a routine by Irish comic Noel V. Ginnity. (It’s no coincidence that O’Carroll himself is a stand-up comic.)

With Agnes, everything is as simple as that: if she knows for a fact he’s dead, why should she need a certificate to prove it? Agnes takes the same straightforward approach to everything, whether she’s dealing with bureaucrats, handling rude customers at her fruit-stand, coping with Marion’s health problems, or assaulting a nun with an overripe cucumber. (Yes, you read that right.) The only time she gets a little flustered is when she is spied on by her children dancing with a broom (she’s imagining that it’s Cliff Richard,) or when she’s explaining to her eldest son why he’s suddenly growing hair on certain parts of her body (it’s to keep those parts warm when he’s swimming) or when she’s discussing with Marion the fact that she’s never had “an organism” (don’t ask.)

The word “indomitable” certainly fits Agnes, but there is never a sense of heroism or courage in her actions, because that’s not the way she thinks. The elements of her life are just that. There is an acceptance of her lot in life that goes beyond acceptance, an uncomplicated view that keeps her from contemplating her station.

Another warning often given in these reviews, particularly in reviews about Dublin-based books, concerns language. As anyone can attest who’s spent any time in Dublin pubs (real ones, not the touristy ones) the language of Dubliners is so laced with profanity that words become no longer profane but normal and acceptable parts of speech. It is simply impossible to recreate Dublin dialogue accurately without a liberal sprinkling of words that would be considered unacceptable in polite society. Make no mistake about it, this is a bawdy and earthy book, and if coarse language easily offends you, you may wish to look elsewhere for your entertainment. That would be your loss, however, because it’s O’Carroll’s spot-on rendition of Dublin vernacular that helps him perfectly capture the vibrant and jovial irreverence of working-class Dubliners.

Does it all seem a little too perfect, a little too pat? Of course. Let’s be clear: this is not “Ulysses.” This book has little complexity, and no profound truths. What it does have is warmth, humanity, exuberance and (have I mentioned?) humor. It’s also the first of a trilogy (as well as a prequel) so if you like it, there’s more of Agnes Brown to get to know.

## RANDOM RAMBLINGS

### September – Marking The End of Summer or... the Beginning of Fun??

You know it as well as we do: September in Central New York means bringing in the trampolines, trying to remember where we put the rake, telling the kids that you'll make them go swimming if they don't clean their room, and wishing the Mets better luck next year. But does the fun have to stop? Absolutely not... just throw on your GAIF fleece and head out to any of these September festivals:

- 🍷 **Capital District Scottish Games** (*Sep 5-6*) The Altamont Fairgrounds will host the 2009 Capital District Scottish Games, which will feature pipe band, solo piping and drumming, highland dance and highland athletic competitions, The Scottish Dog Breeds exhibition and Scottish dog show, Children's events and a bonniest knees contest, Exhibits by Scottish clans and societies, Scottish Livestock Show, Irish Step dancing demonstrations and performances by Rathkeltair, Kevin McKrell and The Hard Road Céilidh Band, Hair of the Dog, The Brigadoons and more. Ticket prices are: Saturday: \$20 at the gate, \$15 pre-sale; Sunday: \$12 at the gate, \$10 pre-sale; Two-Day Tickets: Pre-sale only \$23. Children 12 and under are free. For more info, visit [www.scotgames.com](http://www.scotgames.com).
- 🍷 **Syracuse Irish Festival** (*Sep 11-12*) On Sept 11-12, downtown Syracuse will be touched with a tint of green as the Syracuse Irish Festival once again takes to the streets. In total, performances will take place on two separate stages in Clinton Square, by such Celtic and Irish bands as The Young Dubliners, Gaelic Storm, The Prodigals, The Kreellers, Seamus Kennedy, The Flying Column, The Causeway Giants, Freeborn Men and much more. Once again there will be a Gaelic Language Mass, slated for 10 AM on Saturday. The festival, which runs from 5-11 PM on Friday and 10 AM to 11 PM on Saturday, is free. For more info, check <http://www.syracuseirishfestival.com/>.
- 🍷 **15<sup>th</sup> Rochester Irish Festival** (*Sep 11-13*) Started in 1994, the Rochester Irish Festival is committed to the ideal of staging an event in an atmosphere conducive to families and children, with entertainment that is dynamic, vibrant and energetic. This year's lineup includes the Young Dubliners, Dady Brothers, The Stoutmen, Emish, Barleyjuice, The Wild Geese, Cluidan and others. For more information, check <http://www.rochesteririshfestival.com/>
- 🍷 **Irish 2000** (*Sep 18-19*) The 2009 edition of the Irish 2000 Music and Arts Festival will take place at the Saratoga County Fairgrounds in Ballston Spa, N.Y., on Sept. 18 and 19, after 11 successful years at the Altamont Fairgrounds. Performers at this year's festival include The Elders, Enter the Haggis, Black 47, Gaelic Storm, The Gobshites, Eileen Ivers and Immigrant Soul, The Prodigals, Derek Warfield & The Young Wolfetones, Hair of the Dog, McPeake, Screaming Orphans and more. Tickets for the festival are: Friday, \$20 at the gate (\$15 in advance), Saturday, \$20 at the gate (\$15 in advance), with a special 2-Day Pass available for \$25. Kids 12 and under are free. For more information, visit their web site at <http://www.irish2000fest.com/welcome.asp>.
- 🍷 **Elmira Irish Festival** (*Sep 19*) The Elmira Hibernian-sponsored 9th Annual Halfway to St Patrick's Day Irish Festival will be held this year from 2:00 PM to 11:00 PM on September 19th, at the Hibernian Center grounds at 701 Kinyon St on Elmira's Southside. Admission is free. This year's Festival looks to be one of the best ever with many of the top name Irish Entertainers, including The TownPants, Pat Kane, the Stoutmen and more. A complete menu of food and beverages will be offered. Those attending should bring lawn chairs as limited seating is available.
- 🍀 **Albany Police Pipes and Drums Drumming up Support for All-Ireland Pipe Band Competition** Piper Pat O'Hara recently wrote: "Our pipe band is currently #2 in the EUSPBA grade 5 point standings out of 109 bands. We recently took 2nd place at Hunter Mt. We are raising money to travel to Ireland to compete in the 2010 All Ireland Pipe Band Competition, which will be held in Ballina, County Mayo in July." Now if you know Pat, you know that bragging is not his style. Still, he wanted to let people know how close to their goal

they are... and that all they need to do is to raise enough money to make it to the competition. To raise money for this trip, the band will be selling raffle tickets, with a Grand Prize of \$5,000, the equivalent of a "Trip for Two to Ireland." Second prize is \$500 and third prize in \$250. The drawing will be held on Saturday, May 8, 2010. They are also selling band t-shirts -- \$20 apiece or two for \$30 -- which are so sharp they'd even look good on Pat. If you would like to purchase either, please contact him at [pipeband@gaif.us](mailto:pipeband@gaif.us). For more details, visit [www.capitaldistrictpolicepipesndrums.com](http://www.capitaldistrictpolicepipesndrums.com).

✚ **Local Comhaltas News** Tom Malley, beat news correspondent for the Craobh Dugan Branch of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann, reports that the Annual General Meeting will be held the 3rd Friday of October. There will be a pot luck supper prior to the meeting and a session/ceili following. If you have any agenda items or suggestions for officers, please let Tom know as the date gets closer... some upcoming Comhaltas-related events: Tues. Sept 1 7:30 pm Open Session @ Nail Creek Pub; Mon. Sept 7 4:00 pm Irish Day @ Lock 20 Canal Park in Marcy--Musicians and Dancers; Wed. Sept 16 7:00 pm Thea Bowman Concert @ St Joseph/St Patrick Church--Musicians only; Fri. Sept 18 7:00 pm Monthly Ceili @ Seton Center; Sat. Sept 19 11:00am or 1:00 pm @ Waterville HS Gym Musicians and Dancers.

**Celtic Club Calendar** Finally, here's the Irish Musical and Cultural calendar for September:

Sep 1	"Nail Creek Sessions" w/ Craobh Dugan branch	<a href="#">Nail Creek Pub</a>	Utica	7:30-10 PM	Free
Sep 3	Rathkeltair	<a href="#">Celtic Harp Pub</a>	Utica	8 PM	TBD
Sep 4	Rathkeltair	<a href="#">Kitty Hoynes</a>	Syracuse	9 PM	Free
Sep 5	Pat Kane	<a href="#">Kitty Hoynes</a>	Syracuse	9 PM	Free
Sep 6	<a href="#">Syracuse Irish Session</a>	Wayside Irish Pub	Elbridge NY	4-7 PM	Free
Sep 6	Pat Kane	<a href="#">Coleman's Irish Pub</a>	Syracuse	4-7 PM	Free
Sep 5-6	<a href="#">Capital District Scottish Games</a>	Altamont Fairgrounds	Altamont, NY	Open 9 AM Sat, 10 AM Sun	Sat: \$20 gate, \$15 adv; Sun: \$12 gate, \$10 adv; 2-Day Tix: \$23; 12 and under Free
Sep 7	Irish Day – Vince Colgan, John Gilligan, Cliudan	Lock 20	Marcy	4 PM	Free
Sep 7	Trad Irish Music Session	<a href="#">The Susquehanna Café</a>	Bainbridge NY	5:30-8:30 PM	Free
Sep 11	Old Blind Dogs	<a href="#">Earlville Opera House</a>	Earlville	8 PM	\$22 door , \$20 adv
Sep 11	Seven Nations	<a href="#">Kitty Hoynes</a>	Syracuse	9 PM	Free
Sep 11	Frank Cannistra	<a href="#">Piggy Pat's Pickled Pig Pub</a>	Washington Mills	6-9 PM	Free
Sep 11	Donal O'Shaughnessy	Shenanigans	Syracuse	5-9 PM	Free
Sep 11-12	<a href="#">Syracuse Irish Festival</a>	Clinton Square	Syracuse	5-11 PM Fri 10 AM - 11 PM Sat	Free
Sep 11-13	<a href="#">Rochester Irish Festival</a>	Camp Eastman	Irondequoit, NY	3– 11 PM Fri 12 – 11 PM - Sat 12 – 6 PM Sun	\$12/day (\$10 adv); \$25 Weekend
Sep 12	Trad Irish Music Session	<a href="#">Kitty Hoynes</a>	Syracuse	2-5 PM	Free
Sep 12	Old Friends	<a href="#">Kitty Hoynes</a>	Syracuse	9 PM	Free
Sep 12	Dublin City Ramblers	<a href="#">Katie O'Byrnes</a>	Schenectady NY	9 PM	\$20
Sep 12	Hair of the Dog	Parting Glass	Saratoga Springs	9 PM	\$13, reserv'ns
Sep 13	Old Blind Dogs	<a href="#">Caffè Lena</a>	Saratoga Springs	7 PM	\$12 to \$22



Sep 13	Donal O'Shaughnessy	<a href="#">Coleman's Irish Pub</a>	Syracuse	4-7 PM	Free
Sep 14	Trad Irish Music Session	<a href="#">The Susquehanna Café</a>	Bainbridge NY	5:30-8:30 PM	Free
Sep16	Thea Bowman Concert – Craibh Dugan	St Joseph/St Patrick Church	Utica	7 PM	Free
Sep 17	Halfway to St. Patrick's Day	<a href="#">Kitty Hoynes</a>	Syracuse	6 PM	Free
Sep 17	GAIF Golf – McPeake and Blarney Rebel Band	StoneBridge Golf Club	Frankfort NY	6:30 PM	Varies with golf
Sep 18	Donal O'Shaughnessy	<a href="#">Piggy Pat's Pickled Pig Pub</a>	Washington Mills	6-9 PM	Free
Sep 18	Dougie MacLean	<a href="#">8th Step at Proctors</a>	Schenectady, NY	7:30 PM	\$26
Sep 18	Monthly Craibh Dugan Ceili	Seton Center	Utica	7:00 pm	Free
Sep 18-19	<a href="#">Irish 2000</a>	Saratoga County Fairgrounds	Ballston Spa, NY	Fri 5-11 PM, Sat 11 AM-11 PM	Fri-\$20;\$15 adv Sat-\$20;\$15 adv 2-Day Pass \$25
Sep 19	Enter the Haggis	Will Rogers Auditorium	Saranac Lake	8 PM	\$15 Adv \$18 @ door
Sep 19	Craibh Dugan Musicians and Dancers.	Waterville HS Gym	Waterville	11 AM or 1 PM	Free
Sep 19	Elmira AOH Irish Festival	Hibernian Center	Elmira NY	2-11 PM	Free
Sep 20	<a href="#">Syracuse Irish Session</a>	Johnston's Bally Bay Pub	Syracuse	4-7 PM	Free
Sep 21	Trad Irish Music Session	<a href="#">The Susquehanna Café</a>	Bainbridge NY	5:30-8:30 PM	Free
Sep 24	Brian McNeill	<a href="#">Old Songs Concert Series</a>	Voorheesville, NY	8 PM	\$20; 12 under \$5
Sep 25	Blarney Rebel Band	<a href="#">Piggy Pat's Pickled Pig Pub</a>	Washington Mills	6-9 PM	Free
Sep 25	Neil Emberg	<a href="#">Kitty Hoynes</a>	Syracuse	9 PM	Free
Sep 26	Neil Emberg	<a href="#">Kitty Hoynes</a>	Syracuse	9 PM	Free
Sep 26	Trad Irish Music Session	<a href="#">Kitty Hoynes</a>	Syracuse	2-5 PM	Free
Sep 26	Leahy	<a href="#">MWPAL Root Sculpture Court</a>	Utica	8 PM	\$30
Sep 27	Flyin' Column	<a href="#">Coleman's Irish Pub</a>	Syracuse	4-7 PM	Free
Sep 28	Trad Irish Music Session	<a href="#">The Susquehanna Café</a>	Bainbridge NY	5:30-8:30 PM	Free

That wraps it up for this month. If you have anything you want to share with us, feel free to send them to us ([sistia@roadrunner.com](mailto:sistia@roadrunner.com), [bloftis@gmail.com](mailto:bloftis@gmail.com) or [marksisti@roadrunner.com](mailto:marksisti@roadrunner.com)) and we'd be happy to include them. As always, while we try to get things – prices, places, times, genders, etc., -- as accurate as we can, sometimes we make mistakes. It always makes sense to call ahead to confirm some of these further-out trips.