
MOHAWK VALLEY IRISH CULTURAL EVENTS NEWSLETTER

Volume 7, Issue 9

September 2010

September in Central New York is characterized equally by the sights and sounds of high school football, the 50-degree swings in temperature, the sadness at seeing the kids go back to school (uh, sniffle)... and great Celtic music. This September is no different. In this month alone, there are no less than seven Irish or Scottish festivals or cultural events, a burgeoning local music scene, and rare area appearances by some of the most talented and revered musical acts of our time. So without further ado, let's jump right into the events of the month.

Great Big Sea Rolls Into Syracuse

On Tuesday, September 21st, The Westcott Theater in Syracuse welcomes one of Canada's best-loved treasures, the legendary Great Big Sea. Great Big Sea is best known for performing energetic rock interpretations of traditional Newfoundland folk songs including sea shanties, which draw from the Island's 500-year-old Irish, English, and French heritage. The band, with founding band members Alan Doyle (vocals, guitar, bouzouki, mandolin), Séan McCann (vocals, bodhrán, guitar, tin whistle),



Darrell Power (vocals, bass, guitar, bones), and Bob Hallett (vocals, fiddle, accordion, mandolin, concertina, bouzouki, whistles, bagpipes), played its first official gig on March 11, 1993, opening for the Irish Descendants. They toured nearly constantly for the band's first several years, sometimes traveling as many as 300 days a year. The band won the *Entertainer of the Year* award at the East Coast Music Awards for every year between 1996 and 2000. (In 2001, they decided not to submit their name for nomination in order to allow other bands to compete.) They have also been nominated for several Juno Awards, including Group of the Year in 1998 and 2005. Tickets for the 8 PM show are \$25-30, and are available now at The Westcott Theater website, [here](#). Opening the show will be the Young Dubliners.

Scotland's Tannahill Weavers Grace the Earlville Opera House

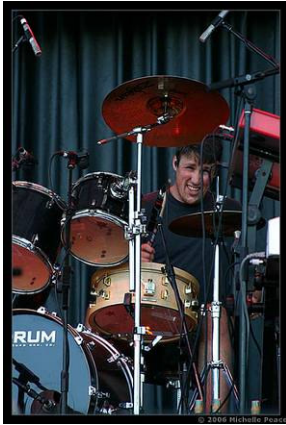
On Saturday, September 25th, the Earlville Opera House welcomes the legendary Tannahill Weavers for a very special 8 PM show. Marking their first return to the area since their exuberant performance at the 2009 Great American Irish Festival, the "Tannies" have been one of Scotland's premier traditional bands for over three decades. The band's diverse repertoire reflects both sides of Scotland's musical heritage: the mystical quality of the Highlanders' Celtic melodies, and the rollicking fun of the Lowlander's Anglo-Scots tunes. These versatile musicians – original members Roy Gullane (guitar and vocals) and Phil Smillie (flute, bodhran and vocals), with John Martin (fiddle and vocals) and Colin Melville (bagpipes) -- have received worldwide accolades consistently over the years for their special brand of



Scottish music, blending the beauty of traditional melodies with the power of modern rhythms. Over the years the Tannies have been trailblazers for Scottish music, and their unique combination of traditional melodies on pipes, flute and fiddle, driving rhythms on guitar and bouzouki, and powerful three and four part vocal harmonies have won them fans from beyond the folk and Celtic music scenes. Tickets for the show range from \$13 to \$23, and are available at the [Earlville Opera House](#) web site.

Enter the Haggis' James Campbell Leaving for "Real Life"

Few areas our size can lay claim to hosting Toronto's high-energy Celtic rock band Enter the Haggis more often than Central New York has, dating back to their first appearance at the Great American Irish Festival, a free concert at Utica College, and not one, but two, appearances at the Devereux in Utica. They quickly became a fan favorite, and have since been adopted by the area as our own. But just as many of our own family members leave us this time of year for college or for job opportunities far from home, so too is ETH drummer extraordinaire James Campbell. James, with bassist Mark Abraham, consistently laid down one of the most steady, solid and driving backbones around. If you ever pulled your attention from the guys in the front line and watched James in command of his kit, you immediately saw a master at his craft, and a man who genuinely loved what he was doing, always with a smile, and always... wearing shorts; Central New York (or Canadian!) weather notwithstanding. In a moving letter to his fans last month, James announced that he was leaving the band to follow in his father's footsteps, pursuing a career in Air Traffic Control. James will be playing his last gig with the boys on September 18th (on the 17th, he'll be much closer, at Irish 2000), after which he'll be handing the sticks over to Bruce McCarthy, a schoolmate of his and Mark's. James, you're a class act, and your Central New York family wishes you every success in this new phase of your life.



Request, Rate and Review the New Blarney Rebel CD on "Highlander Radio"

If you haven't discovered the online Celtic music station Highlander Radio (www.celticradio.net) out of Boston, now would be the perfect time to do so. Not only will you be rewarded with a steady stream of the best in Irish music, but now you can also request – and rate – your favorite song from the new Blarney Rebel Band CD, "Beneath The Surface." The album, the third by the local Irish band, featuring 11 original compositions as well as three tried-and-true traditional favorites, has been added to the play rotation of Highlander Radio, one of the largest Celtic internet radio stations in the world.



"At Highlander Radio, we just don't play any music on our internet broadcast," said Paul MacArthur of Celtic Radio Music Network. "Each and every musician, song and album is personally reviewed for acceptance."

Listeners who sign up for Highlander radio (it's free) can request any of the available tracks from "Beneath The Surface," as well as any of the 11 tracks from BRB's previous CD, "Buy My Soul," which is still receiving heavy play on the station. You will also have the opportunity to write your own review of "Beneath the Surface" and have it posted on the website. Highlander Radio is an award winning internet radio station broadcasting a wide range of Celtic Music 24 hours a day. Once you sign up, you can take advantage of any of the excellent membership benefits, including requesting any song in their 10,000 song database, seeing a list of upcoming songs, filing your own review of any of the albums in their collection, or rating whatever song is playing.

Subscribers can also nominate and, at the end of each year, vote for the Celtic Radio Music Award winners. Nominations for this award are made throughout the year by listeners and members of CelticRadio.net. After a careful screening process, which is based upon listener nominations, ratings, requests, and other radio statistics, three songs in six categories are selected for community voting. Categories for an award are Celtic Rock, Traditional, Jigs & Reels, Bagpipes, Contemporary and Roots Traditional. Voting begins on January 1st of each year and ends on March 17th (St. Patrick's Day).

You can also hear clips and order "Beneath The Surface" at www.cdbaby.com, where you can pick up the entire BRB catalogue, including the hard-to-find debut CD, "Live At Piggy Pat's."

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

So is it a coincidence that September is the month we get rid of... I mean we send our children to school AND it's the month with the most Irish Festivals? Yeah, probably... but no matter what, you've got to be impressed with the number of festivals and get-togethers being held throughout the area this month. Check these out:

- 🍷 **Capital District Scottish Games** (*Sept 4-5*) The Altamont Fairgrounds will host the 2010 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 The Brigadoons, Train of Fools, Colin Grant-Adams and more. Ticket prices are: Saturday: \$22 at the gate, \$18 pre-sale; Sunday: \$12 at the gate, \$10 pre-sale. Children 12 and under are free. For more info, visit www.scotgames.com.
- 🍷 **Syracuse Irish Festival** (*Sept 10-11*) On September 10-11, 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 Elders, The TownPants, Seamus Kennedy, The Glengarry Bhoys, Hair of the Dog, the Blarney Rebel Band and much more. Once again there will be a Gaelic Language Mass, slated for 11 AM on Saturday. The festival, which runs from noon to 11 PM both days, is free. For more info, check <http://www.syracuseirishfestival.com/>.
- 🍷 **16th Rochester Irish Festival** (*Sept 10-12*) 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 Derek Warfield & the Young Wolftones, Barleyjuice, Dady Brothers, Emish, The Wild Geese and others. For more information, check <http://www.rochesteririshfestival.com/>. Tickets are \$10 each day for Friday and Saturday (\$8 in advance), \$6 for Sunday, or \$20 for all three days.
- 🍷 **14th Irish 2000 Music and Arts Festival** (*Sept 17-18*) The 2010 edition of the Irish 2000 Music and Arts Festival will take place at the Saratoga County Fairgrounds in Ballston Spa, N.Y., on Sept. 17-18, 2010. Gates open at 4 PM on Friday and 11 AM on Saturday. Performers include Great Big Sea, John McDermott, Enter the Haggis, Gaelic Storm, Hair of the Dog, 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 \$28. Kids 12 and under are free. For more information, visit their [web site](#).
- 🍷 **Elmira Irish Festival** (*Sept 11*) The Elmira Hibernian-sponsored 10th Annual Halfway to St Patrick's Day Irish Festival will be held this year from 2:00 PM to 11:00 PM on September 11th, 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 Hair of the Dog, The Stoutmen, Pat Kane and more. A complete menu of food and beverages will be offered. Those attending should bring lawn chairs as limited seating is available.
- 🍷 **Irish Day at Lock 20** (*Sept 6*) On Monday, September 6th from 3 PM until dark, the annual "Irish Day" will be held at the Lock 20 Canal Park on Rte 49 in Marcy, as the last concert in 2010's "Betsy the Barge" series. Providing the Irish music will be Cliudan, Vince Colgan, John Gilligan, Comhaltas, a dance demonstration by the Butler-Sheehan Academy of Irish Dance, food, and a fireworks display at dusk. Show-goers are encouraged to bring their own blankets and/or lawn chairs.
- 🍷 **2nd Hudson Valley Irish Fest** (*Sept 25*) Shilelagh Law will once again headline at the 2nd Annual Hudson Valley Irish Fest on Saturday, September 25 at Peekskill Riverfront Green. Rounding out the lineup will be Celtic Cross, Mary Courtney and Morning Star, The Ruffians, Seisiun and Pat Whelan. Also appearing will be the Hudson Valley's finest traditional Irish musicians, Massed Pipe Bands and Irish Step Dancers. The festival runs from 11am to 7pm. There will be a donation entry fee for this event, food and drink are not included.

Book Review
“Brendan”
By Mark Sisti

Morgan Llywelyn’s fictionalized biography of Saint Brendan, “Brendan,” has everything going for it – an interesting subject, a captivating story, an inspirational journey, a common man’s rise to sainthood, one of the most revered figures in Irish history – it should have been a no-brainer, slam dunk, piece of cake, home run, or whatever other trite cliché you choose. Unfortunately, for some reason, it falls short of hitting the mark. It has, to continue the baseball analogy, warning track power.

Llywelyn created a niche for herself with her early retellings of Irish history and legends such as “The Horse Goddess” and “Lion of Ireland.” While some of those were a tad pedestrian, at her best she can be very good. One of her strengths has always been her ability to flesh out one-dimensional historical or mythological figures and, through meticulous research and uncanny empathy, make these characters come alive. While “Brendan” succeeds on some level at this, there is a curious distance that is always present between the reader and the main character, who we never really feel we get to know.

The story is set several years after St. Patrick had begun to convert Ireland to Christianity and, while the new religion has taken a firm hold, it is not universally accepted. Better known as the Navigator, Brendan of Clonfert became famous in the Middle Ages for guiding a group of monks on a dangerous ocean voyage to discover the Isle of the Blessed, a Paradise supposedly located beyond the Western Sea. There is considerable debate as to whether Brendan in fact made the journey with which he is associated, and some have speculated that the Isle of the Blessed was actually America, and that Brendan actually discovered the new world centuries before Columbus, an idea still being promulgated by an organization known as the St. Brendan Society. Llywelyn has said she worked directly from the Medieval text, “The Life of St. Brendan,” and her attempts to incorporate actual passages from that work may account for the occasional dryness in this novel.

The novel is at its best in the early chapters, as we follow Brendan’s growth from a young boy learning about the world from nuns in a fosterage where, he says, “In this happy nursery I grew from babe to boy.” Brendan comes to love the meditative life and is devoted to the Sisters, particularly the head of the small community, Sister Ita, known as the “Bridget of Munster.” Even as a child Brendan feels the tug of wanderlust, and is constantly questioning and challenging what others accept as the norm. This curiosity follows him when his education and upbringing are transferred to the tutelage of one of the Bishops of the new religion, Erc, who is both exasperated and exhilarated by the inquisitive young man. Erc has plans for Brendan to succeed him as Bishop, but Brendan constantly feels compelled to seek more, a hunger that culminates in his legendary sea voyage.

We also follow Brendan on his many other travels, as he encounters many along the way who will be his followers (including a pet raven who becomes his travel companion) but we rarely get any sense of depth in any of these characters, nor do we get a sense of what there is about Brendan that makes him worthy of their devotion.

There are two main problems I had with this book. The first of those was Llywelyn’s shifting narrative voice. This is a literary conceit with which I usually have no issue, but in this case, as the story is told from three different viewpoints of the same character, the technique seems forced and intrusive, serving no purpose but to interrupt the flow of the writing. More problematic is the treatment of the epic journey. What should have been the centerpiece of the book becomes almost an afterthought, chapters interspersed among the real story. OK, I get it: the story is less about Brendan’s actual journeys than about his inner journey, and that necessarily gives it a more introspective feel, with less action. However, understanding what Llywelyn is trying to do doesn’t make it more interesting.

This is not to say the book isn’t worth reading; it is, if only because of the fascinating subject. While it may not be on a level with some of Morgan Llywelyn’s earlier works, that still puts it well above most authors writing in this genre.

Craobh Dugan “Tune of the Month” – Miss McLeods Reel – *By Skip Mansur*

The Tune this month is a popular reel, and has an associated dance of the same name. Scottish in origin, it has become a staple of both the Irish and American musical traditions. In Ireland it is most commonly played in the key of G major. In Scotland it's often played in the (national) key of A major. Apparently the tune was first printed in Gow's *Fifth Collection of Strathspey Reels* of 1809 with the note “An original Isle of Skye Reel.” As noted in “The Fiddler's Companion,” “Miss MacLeod” was popular as long ago as 1779 in Ireland as its playing is mentioned in an account by a foreign visitor named Berringer or Beranger of a “cake” dance (i.e., where the prize was a cake) he participated in while visiting in Connacht. O'Neill (1913) relates Beranger's observations somewhat differently and gives that it was one of six tunes played by Galway pipers in 1779 for the entertainment of the traveler.

Miss McCloud's



“The Fiddler's” also recounts the story of Johnny O’Leary at the deathbed in 1963 of his mentor, the famed Sliabh Luachra fiddler Pádraig O’Keeffe, in St. Catherine’s Hospital, Tralee. O’Keeffe was lucid until the end, and engaged in witty repartee with O’Leary:

*‘You know two great reels,’ he said. ‘Don’t ever forget them.’ ‘What are they?’ said I.
 ‘Miss McCloud’ and ‘Rolling in the Ryegrass’,’ he said.
 ‘You see, “Miss McCloud” is a great reel,’ he said, ‘but we’re playing it wrong.’ ‘How do you mean it?’ says I.
 ‘I’m at it now,’ he says, ‘but I suppose I won’t be left alive to do it—play it backwards. And,’ he says, ‘you’ll never in your life hear a nicer reel.’ Whether ‘tis right or not, I don’t know. He was just going to do it when he died. He said he had a sister that had the first part of it done backwards with a concertina and, Pádraig said, ‘twas double nicer than the way we’re playing it.’ He was a genius, you know. He was a genius.*

Words sung to this tune are often known by the name “Hop High Ladies” (aka “Uncle Joe”), there are many variations of lyrics. Here are a few:

Did you ever go to meeting Uncle Joe (3x),
 I don't mind the weather if the wind don't blow.

CHORUS: Hop High Ladies, Hop High Ladies, the
 cake's all dough,
 Hop High Ladies, Such gettin' upstairs I never have
 saw.

How do you like the ladies, Uncle Joe (3x),
 I don't mind the weather if the wind don't blow.
CHORUS

Did you ever see the devil, Uncle Joe (3x),
 If I don't see him here I'll see him down below.
CHORUS

Plastic candy wrappers, Uncle Joe (3x),
 I don't mind the weather if the wind don't blow.
CHORUS



This tune makes a great pair as the second tune with another popular reel, Soldier’s Joy. We often play it this way at sessions. But, unfortunately, space is short this month so we’ll save Soldier’s Joy (and “Rolling”) for another month and story. Perhaps as a challenge, try playing this tune backwards, Pádraig O’Keeffe style...?

From the Irish Kitchen (*recipes suitable for clipping*)

This month's recipe – "Guinness BBQ Chicken"

This recipe, submitted by Beth Loftis, comes from the Karott Productions' "Guinness Recipes" [website](#). In a tongue-in-cheek public service announcement, they write: "Be advised that all these recipes call for Guinness Extra Stout and not draught. You can make a reasonable facsimile of Irish pub Guinness by mixing a 3 to 1 ratio of draught to stout. This only applies outside of Ireland. The closer you are to Dublin, the better it tastes. Your mileage may vary."

INGREDIENTS:

1 teaspoon seasoned salt	1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 broiling/frying chicken (about 3 lbs) cut into serving pieces	1 tablespoon vegetable oil
1 bottle of Guinness	1 tablespoon dark molasses
1 tablespoon dark brown sugar	1/8 teaspoon red pepper sauce

Rub seasoned salt evenly over chicken. Arrange chicken in a single layer in shallow 2-quart baking dish. Mix remaining ingredients in small bowl; pour over chicken pieces. Cover and refrigerate at least 4 hours or overnight; turn chicken over several times during marinating. Preheat coals in outdoor barbeque. Remove chicken from marinade; reserving marinade. Arrange chicken, skin-side up, on cooking rack 5-7 inches above hot coals. Cook until underside of chicken is dark brown, 20-25 minutes. Brush it with marinade. Turn chicken over; brush chicken with marinade. Cook until underside of chicken is dark brown, 20-25 minutes longer. Turn chicken over; continue cooking until chicken is fork tender, 5-10 minutes longer, brushing often with marinade. Serve hot or cold.

If you try this recipe, feel free to share your experience with all of us; and of course, if you have a recipe you'd like to share, please contact Beth Loftis at bloftis@ymail.com.

Back to School: Irish-Themed Classes Abound

As I mentioned once or eight times, September is "Back to School" month. And admit it, school – for all its angst and acne – marked a great time in your life. Don't you wish you could go back and do it all over again? No, me neither. But as they said in the cinematographical classic, *Animal House*: "Knowledge is Good," and starting this month, you have three opportunities to extend your knowledge of Ireland, in myth and reality, with courses and talks being offered at two local community colleges (wherein we also discover that "cinematographical" is not an actual word).

"IRISH MYTHS AND LEGENDS" - MVCC, 7 PM Wednesdays, from Sept 22 through November 10th

In no culture is the line between history and mythology as blurred as in the culture of the Celtic nations. In this eight-week course dedicated to Celtic Mythology, students will get an overview of the myths that surround the Celtic culture, with an emphasis on the Irish myths and legends. This beginner's course will take students through the creation of the myths, the Gods and Goddesses, the oral storytelling traditions, tales of mystical beings such as the leprechaun – not the cereal-shilling cartoon character but rather a potentially dangerous encounter – and the banshee, whose wailing portends death. The class will also cover the meanings behind Celtic symbols and how the early Christians incorporated the pagan rituals and symbolism to help the spread of Christianity. The course will also use music to show the influence of these myths on Irish culture. The instructor is Mark Sisti, a mainstay in all aspects of the area's Irish cultural community. The cost is \$59.

IRISH LANGUAGE, IRISH POETRY CLASSES - Herkimer County Community College

HCCC will be offering a basic Irish Language course on Wednesdays from September 22 through October 27th -- in which the instructor, Tom Malley, will introduce students to the basic conversational Irish (Gaelic) language, including common expressions and pronunciation -- and a second course conducted on Thursdays from October 21st until December 9th devoted to Irish Poetry, which will introduce participants to both traditional and contemporary poetry. The cost of each class is \$53. There will be no classes on Veteran's Day, November 11th, or on November 25th, Thanksgiving Day (or Lá na Buiochas – that one was a freebie). For more information, contact the HCCC Continuing Ed office, 866-0300, x 8251, or check out the [online brochure](#).

SHADES OF IRELAND INFORMATION SESSION - MVCC, 6 PM Thursday, Oct 14th

Follow your dreams to Ireland! MVCC is partnering with Collette Vacations to plan a trip to Ireland. Come to this information session to find out more about exploring the Emerald Isle, from instructor Jennifer Baumann. Let Colette and MVCC make all of your arrangements. There is no fee to attend this presentation. Éirinn go Brách!

RANDOM RAMBLINGS

✿ **If a Picture is Worth a Thousand Words, what are a Thousand Pictures worth?** I don't know... but it's not just a rhetorical question. Even by the most conservative estimates, literally tens of thousands, maybe *hundreds* of thousands, of pictures and videos were taken at this summer's Great American Irish Festival. Heck, there were well over a thousand taken by the GAIF staff photographers alone! You can see the great shots from Sharon Kane Zohne, Charles Thomas and John Carl, by clicking on <http://www.flickr.com/photos/gaif/sets>, or you can check out Charley's web site at <http://www.charleyt.com/gaif2010.html>, or you can go to YouTube and search on "GAIF" and get tons of videos. And what about you? Did you take some shots you'd like to share with the world? Whether you've got them set up on your own web site, or would care to make them available to the GAIF site, we'd like to hear from you.

✿ **“Nuacht as Craobh Dugan”---news from the Dugan Branch** Chris Hoke of Craobh Dugan, the local branch of Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann, reports that Ceili Dance classes will resume Friday Sept 10 and continue each Friday, beginning at 7:00 PM at the Seton Center at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Utica. ALL are welcome!! Ceili dancing is great exercise and a lot of fun. Open sessions continue the first Tuesday of each month at the Nail Creek Pub on Varick St in Utica. Music begins at 7:30pm. If you play an instrument, feel free to join in. If not, just come to listen. If you close your eyes, you might think you are sitting in a pub in Ireland! Finally, she and the group would love to meet you at Lock 20's Irish Day on September 6th, or at any of their classes or scheduled performances. For more information, including how to join the local branch or how you can get a copy of Skip Mansur's impressive Craobh Dugan Seisiuns Tunebook, check out the Craobh Dugan website at www.uticairish.org.

✿ **16th Colorscape Chenango Arts Festival** On the weekend of September 11-12, the town of Norwich will be welcoming over 10,000 attendees to the 16th Colorscape Chenango Arts Festival. The art-themed event features music workshops at the children's stage, student art exhibit, competitive poetry slam, craft demonstrations, hands-on arts projects for adults and children of all ages in two art zones, and a variety of other creative opportunities throughout the parks. This year's musical entertainment boasts an outstanding lineup of performers from all genres, including Sara Molonovich with Daisycutter, and the legendary family band McPeake, from Belfast.

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

Sep 3	Blarney Rebel Band	Piggy Pat's Pickled Pig Pub	Washington Mills	6-9 PM	Free
Sep 3	Ceann	Kitty Hoynes	Syracuse	9 PM	Free
Sep 3	"Mostly Irish" Monthly Jam	Irish American Club	Amsterdam NY	7:30 PM	Free
Sep 4-5	Capital District Scottish Games	Altamont Fairgrounds	Altamont, NY	10 AM – 6:30 PM	Sat - \$22 (\$18 adv); Sun - \$12 (\$10 adv)
Sep 6	"Irish Day"	Lock 20	Marcy	3 PM	Free
Sep 6	Trad Irish Music Session	The Susquehanna Café	Bainbridge NY	5:30-8:30 PM	Free
Sep 7	"Nail Creek Sessions"	Nail Creek Pub	Utica	7:30-10 PM	Free
Sep 9	Traditional Irish Session	Marcellus Legion Hall	Marcellus, NY	4-7 PM	Free
Sep 10-11	Syracuse Irish Festival	Clinton Square	Syracuse	Noon – 11PM	Free
Sep 10-12	Rochester Irish Festival	Camp Eastman	Irondequoit, NY	3– 11 Fri 12 – 11 - Sat 12 – 6 Sun	\$10 Fri or Sat (\$8 adv), \$6 for Sun, or \$20 for 3 days
Sep 11	Elmira Irish Festival	Hibernian Center, Kinyon St	Elmira	2 PM - 11 PM	Free
Sep 11	Trad Irish Music Session	Kitty Hoynes	Syracuse	2-5 PM	Free
Sep 11	Pat Kane	Kitty Hoynes	Syracuse	9 PM	Free
Sep 12	Cassidy-McCale	Coleman's Irish Pub	Syracuse	4-7 PM	Free
Sep 13	Trad Irish Music Session	The Susquehanna Café	Bainbridge NY	5:30-8:30 PM	Free
Sep 15	Donal O'Shaughnessy	Killabrew Saloon	New Hartford	7-10 PM	Free
Sep 15	Traditional Irish Session	Marcellus Legion Hall	Marcellus, NY	4-7 PM	Free
Sep 17-18	Irish 2000	Saratoga County Fairgrounds	Ballston Spa, NY	Fri 5-mid, Sat 10 AM-11 PM	Fri-\$20;\$15 adv Sat-\$20;\$15 adv 2-Day Pass \$28
Sep 17	Celtic Thunder – TV Taping	Mid Hudson Civic Center	Poughkeepsie, NY	7:30 PM	\$31.50-\$51.50
Sep 19	Donal O'Shaughnessy	Coleman's Irish Pub	Syracuse	4-7 PM	Free
Sep 19	Syracuse Irish Session	Johnston's Bally Bay Pub	Syracuse	4-7 PM	Free
Sep 20	Trad Irish Music Session	The Susquehanna Café	Bainbridge NY	5:30-8:30 PM	Free
Sep 21	Great Big Sea	The Westcott Theater	Syracuse, NY	8 PM	\$25-30
Sep 21	Neil Emberg	Kitty Hoynes	Syracuse	9 PM	Free
Sep 23	Traditional Irish Session	Marcellus Legion Hall	Marcellus, NY	4-7 PM	Free
Sep 24	Donal O'Shaughnessy	Piggy Pat's Pickled Pig Pub	Washington Mills	6-9 PM	Free
Sep 25	Trad Irish Music Session	Kitty Hoynes	Syracuse	2-5 PM	Free
Sep 25	Tannahill Weavers	Earlville Opera House	Earlville	8 PM	\$13-23
Sep 25	Celtic Thunder	Shea's Performing Arts Center	Buffalo, NY	8 PM	\$32-\$45
Sep 25	Hudson Valley Irish Fest	Peekskill Riverfront Green	Peekskill, NY	11 AM – 7 PM	Donation
Sep 26	Flyin' Column	Coleman's Irish Pub	Syracuse	4-7 PM	Free
Sep 27	Trad Irish Music Session	The Susquehanna Café	Bainbridge NY	5:30-8:30 PM	Free
Sep 27	Colm Wilkinson	UB Center for the Arts	Buffalo, NY	7:30 PM	\$41.50-\$53.50
Sep 29	Tannahill Weavers	Shannon Pub	Tonawanda, NY	8 PM	\$20
Sep 30	Traditional Irish Session	Marcellus Legion Hall	Marcellus, NY	4-7 PM	Free

If you have anything you want to share with us, feel free to send it to us (sistia@roadrunner.com, bloftis@ymail.com or marksisti@roadrunner.com), and we'll be happy to include it. As always, while we try to get things – prices, places, 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.