THE MÍCHEÁL Ó DOMHNAILL BRANCH OF OREGON
COMHALTAS CEOLTÓIRÍ ÉIREANN

MEÁN FÓMHAIR I September 2023 Newsletter

ÓN mBORD I Message from the board:

A chairde go léir,

We hope you had a pleasant summer and, despite the bouts of heat and smoke, have come through rested and ready for the rains...well, almost anyway! Summer for us has been leisurely. Some of us ran summer courses at PCC, others danced sweaty sets on Mondays and then Wednesdays with Linda and Phil at the Sellwood Community House, while some took to the high roads and set off on summer ramblings. Sessions were more intimate as well. But things are shifting. The sun isn't as hot as it was before nor is it inhabiting that same corner of the sky. Autumn is definitely upon us and that means it's time to start gathering into those indoor spaces to create our own warmth and light. Are you ready? We're ready...well, almost anyway! Plenty going on this month to get us primed - two concerts featuring stellar musicians (one happening THIS SUNDAY), a final Saturday céilí featuring special touring musicians, the usual sessions springing back to life, and our first board meeting in quite a few months to dust off our programming. Looking forward to seeing some raindrops again...well, almost anyway! ;-)

Keep 'er lit!
Your board at MÓD

AN NUACHT POIBLÍ I Community News:

MÓD Organization News:

- **Membership Renewals:** We are coming to the end of our organization's fiscal year, which means it's time for our membership drive! If you were a member previously, you may soon received an invoice sent directly to your email inbox. If you do not receive one but would like to renew, or haven't been a member in the past, please click here! Feel free to use this link as well to donate, should membership not suit your interests but you'd like to support our aims.
- **TREOIR Magazine:** If you renewed or joined MÓD by May 2023, you may have recently received your copy of Treoir (pronounced /troar/)- the official publication of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann. If you haven't received a copy at all, contact us!
- **Board Election:** We're on the hunt for new board members. Many current members have been on board for several consecutive years and (like everyone) likely need a break. If you've been holding off for fear you don't know what it requires, hold back no further! We need you! All board positions turn over at the end of the fiscal year and include chair, vice-chair, secretary, treasurer, public relations officer, auditor, registrar, membership officer, Irish language officer, youth officer, and members-at-large. If you have questions about positions or you'd like to be included on the ballot to run for a particular board position, please contact us!
- **Annual General Meeting:** Our Annual General Meeting is open to both MÓD members and non-members alike. This special meeting gives us an opportunity to reflect on our organization as a whole, welcome in the new 2023-24 board, and give folx curious about our organization a chance to get to know us. This year's AGM will be held at the Saturday Rambling House event on October 28, 2023. More info on the event will be included in next month's newsletter so mark your calendars now.
- **Call for committee members:** Committees are the power behind our organization's bylaws and vision and help us run successful programming throughout the year. If you are interested in the types of committee currently organized or in serving on a branch committee for the 2023-24 year, please contact us! Committees are open to members and in many cases non-members.
- **MÓD Saturday Rambling House volunteers at Waverly UCC:** Call for volunteers!! While we took a much-needed break from summer programming, we're hitting the ground running this month and are looking forward to the upcoming Rambling House on Saturday, October 28th 2023. Community members interested in being involved with room set up/take down, potluck, and final cleaning duties for the Rambling House should contact us! Volunteers make this event possible so a big THANK YOU ahead of time.
- **Call for MÓD Annual Campout Documentation:** Do you have any documentation of the recent campout at ZigZag Mountain Farm up on Mt. Hood? We're looking for photos, videos, audio recordings, etc. We'd love to include it on our new archive page on the branch website. Kindly forward us your submissions by clicking here!

General Community News:

Celtic Community Night at Artichoke Music ON HIATUS:
It takes a lot of volunteers to run CCN. MÓD along with CNN founder Richie Rosencrans have decided to put the event on hiatus indefinitely. To past volunteers, participants, and performers - GO RAIBH MÍLE MAITH AGAIBH and thank you for making it an enjoyable run. We look forward to its possible relaunch in the future!

Return of the TrailJams/MÓD Collaboration - Tune Explorers:
Karen Dale and Jonathan Lay launched Tune Explorers earlier in the year to fill in a needs-gap presented by adult learners needing more time to develop skills. Karen stepped in as educator and this time around it looks like she's enlisted the help of a few other co-educators. This course is likely to start sometime in late September, so keep your eyes on CCEOregon.org, our social media pages, and TrailJams.org for more information.

Chapel Sessions Concert Series:
MÓD is very excited to be collaborating with Nancy Conescu to re-work her House of Doolescu Concert Series. This collaboration, called Chapel Sessions Concert Series, will be held in the larger-but-somehow-still-intimate confines of the sanctuary at Waverly UCC and will focus on showcasing smaller but highly-accomplished touring acts (solo/duet/trios) to the wider Portland area. We're delighted to announce our inaugural act will be famed harper extraordinaire Máire Ní Chathasaigh and guitar maestro Chris Newman on Friday, October 13th 2023. More details below. To join the mailing list for this event visit the House of Doolescu.

Irish Gaelic Language Courses (in-person):
Portland Community College Cascade Campus

Irish Gaelic 1 CRN: 43705 9/25/23 - 11/27/23
Mondays 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Irish Gaelic 2 CRN: 43828 9/26/23 - 12/5/23
Tuesdays 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Irish Gaelic 3 CRN: 45782 9/27/23 - 12/6/23
Wednesdays 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Registration now open! To register visit PCC's Community Education page.

Portland Hibernian Society:
PHS monthly meetings are generally held the second Thursday of the month at 6pm at Kell's Pub downtown. For information on August's meeting, membership, or to sign up for their bi-monthly newsletter, contact Bill Gallagher and follow PHS on their Facebook page.

Columbia Red Branch GAA:
The GAA (Gaelic Athletic Association) is dedicated to the promotion of Gaelic sport here in the Portland area.

Current training schedule:

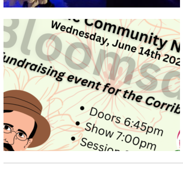
- Tuesday Hurling Training 6:30 - 8:00 pm
- Wednesday Football Training 6:00 - 7:30 pm
- Saturday Training: 9:00 am Hurling, 10:00 am Football

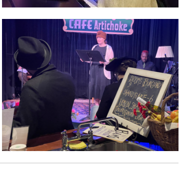
Visit the Red Branch calendar for location and more information.

The Corrib Theatre:
After a few roaring fundraising events this summer, (i.e. MÓD's sold-out CCN Bloomsday! event, and Slane Whiskey Tasting with Slane rep and newly minted Portlander Becky Gardner) the Corrib Theatre is delighted to announce its 2023-24 season (see below), which looks to be as stirring, thought-provoking, and exciting as last year's. Season subscribers save 15% on ticket prices FYI. More info here!

Bloomsday Event with the Corrib Theatre:

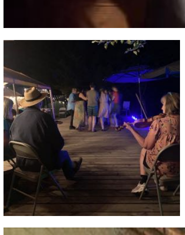
It seems ages since we gathered for the final Celtic Community Night at Artichoke Music before our summer break. So let me just jog your memory - we did something wild and of Joycean proportions - that is to say we held a Bloomsday celebration as fundraiser for Portland's own Corrib Theatre. Every once in a great moon, things align and the Irish music tradition presents itself as the perfect medium through which to help out communities beyond our own. (SHOCKING, I know!) Thanks to many, many volunteer musicians, singers, and dancers, along with director Karl Hanover and readers James Dixon and Sara Hennessy of the Corrib Theatre, Nancy Jarrell's writing and production skills, and Tom O'Leary's stellar professorialization (it's Joyce, of course that's a word), our efforts helped to raise OVER $600 toward Corrib's upcoming season. We're still gob-smacked and in awe at what our community can do when it reaches beyond itself for a good cause. I can't wait to see what more we can accomplish in the future!

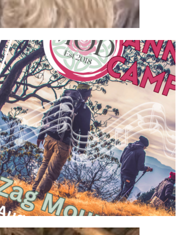




Annual MÓD Summer Campout Debrief:

The Annual MÓD Summer Campout was another success this year with multiple session groups providing music throughout the weekend. Friends also spent a lot of time catching up, swapping instruments, sharing skills, and singing songs; and then (of course) we all really enjoyed the requisite potluck and céilí on Saturday night. Even the ZigZag staff joined in! HUP! It's so enjoyable getting most everyone into ONE space given how difficult it can be to really connect at the more common settings of sessions and céilithe. A BIG THANK YOU goes out to the folx who volunteered their time and resources to help with the potluck and céilí, the tea/coffee set up and breakdown, and the final packing up process; and to the ZigZag facility and staff. Many hands DO make light work and we're always grateful when community comes together to make things happen. The one shadow cast on the campout was the air quality. The smoke from the Yellow Knife fire up in Canada made it to our camp on Saturday morning, which impacted folx in different ways. MÓD is so grateful that our fundraising and membership dues help afford us bigger purchases like the rental of the cabin, where we can shelter from smoke, rain, cold weather, etc. Here's to a seemingly mild fire season and a replenishingly wet autumn!





AN MARGADH I The Marketplace:

Concertina for sale!

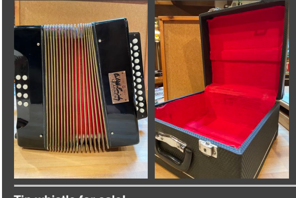
- Make: Stagi
- Model: W15LN
- Key: C/G
- Buttons: 30
- Asking price: $500

This beginner-level concertina has fully functioning buttons and reeds. You may need to replace straps if further adjustments are needed. There are minor dings and scratches but no leaks in the bellows. This is definitely a beginner instrument, but a solid one! Also comes with a black carrying case as pictured below. For more information or to make an offer, email Maggie Keffee or call 505-850-4391.

Button accordion for sale!

- Make: Billy McComiskey
- Model: 'Learner'
- Key: B/C
- Buttons: 23 (right hand) 8 (left hand)
- Asking price: $450

For more information or to make an offer, email Karen Godley.



Tin whistle for sale!

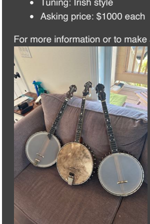
- Make: Sindt
- Model: Fully brass
- Key: D
- Holes: 6
- Asking price: $300

In mint condition. Recently polished. For more information or to make an offer email Brian Ó hAirt.

Tenor banjos for sale!

- Make: Vega
- Models: 3 upper model c. 1920s
- Hard cases
- Tuning: Irish style
- Asking price: $1000 each

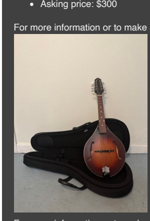
For more information or to make an offer, email Baron Collins-Hill.



Mandolin for sale!

- Make: Loar
- Model: LM290 A
- Padded case
- Asking price: $300

For more information or to make an offer, email Baron Collins-Hill.

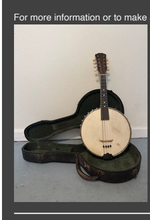


For more information or to make an offer, email Baron Collins-Hill.

Banjo-manolin for sale!

- Make: Vega
- Model: c.1920s banjo-mandolin
- Hard case
- Asking price: $400

For more information or to make an offer, email Baron Collins-Hill.



Do you have instruments, music paraphenalia, etc. needing a good home? We're setting aside space in our newsletter as a marketplace to sell/trade/swap your treasures with other folx in our community.

Send us a description of your wares with picture(s) and price/trade/swap conditions, and we'll be sure to include it in November's newsletter.

Upcoming Performances:

Well-known Portlander Cary Novotny joins special guests Kevin Buckley (fiddle) and Dan Lowery (flute/guitar) for an evening of outstanding music. Kevin and Dan are both accomplished Irish musicians based in Saint Louis, Missouri presenting traditional Irish music and song punctuated with pieces from the Americana playbook. Growing up in St. Louis, Kevin started taking Irish fiddle lessons at the age of 9 and spent his subsequent teenage years performing and competing all over the US and Ireland, establishing himself as a valued proponent of Irish traditional music. During those same formative teenage years, his musical world expanded as he started playing more American styles of fiddle music, including bluegrass, old-time, and swing. Dan is a flute player originally from Texas. He has been playing Irish music professionally for the past twenty years, performing with The Bronx Boys, The Colin Farrell Band, Warbelow Range, Derek Warfield, and in the Broadway musical Come From Away. **Suggested donation of $20.**

Nathan Gourley and Laura Feddersen are an Irish fiddle duo hailing from Boston, Massachusetts. Their playing is steeped in lifelong study of the Irish musical tradition, and colored by their American roots. The pair have developed a unique style of twin fiddling, sometimes playing in taut unison, sometimes exploring chordal harmonies and rhythmic and melodic variations but always captivating and dance-invoking. Brian Miller fell in love with Irish traditional music and song as a teenager in northern Minnesota and followed the music to its source in Ireland and to its many strongholds in the US - playing with and learning from a rich assortment of tradition bearers along the way. When he's not playing with Laura and Nathan, he performs with Bua, Danny Diamond, and The Lost Forty, a project which revives historic songs of Irish immigrants to the Midwest. Each of these accomplished musicians perform and teach regularly both in their respective communities as well as at festivals throughout the US and Ireland. We're so excited to welcome them to our community. **WORKSHOPS IN FIDDLE & DADGAD GUITAR** are currently being organized so stay tuned to CCEOregon.org and our social media handle @cceoregon for info, schedule, and registration material!

Friday, October 13th 2023
Waverly UCC 3300 SE Woodward Street

Máire Ní Chathasaigh is **"the great innovator of modern Irish harping, a player of outstanding technique and imagination"** (The Rough Guide to Irish Music) and one of Ireland's most important and influential traditional musicians. As a teenager in the 1970s she invented a whole new traditional Irish style of harping that quickly became the norm amongst both her contemporaries and the younger generation of Irish players, thereby spearheading the re-introduction of the harp into the mainstream of the living tradition. She was described by the late Derek Bell as **"the most interesting and original player of the Irish harp today."** She was the 2001 recipient of Irish music's most prestigious award, Traditional Musician of the Year - Gradam Ceoil TG4 - a national recognition of her pioneering work. Chris is "one of the UK's greatest musicians" (BBC Radio 2) and "one of the top guitarists of his lik in the world" (The Living Tradition). He has toured and recorded with many luminaries of the folk and jazz worlds, among them Boys of the Lough, Aly Bain and Stéphane Grappelli and brings this experience to his collaboration with Máire.

IMEACHTAÍ NA MÍOSA I September Events:

Céili of the Valley I 2nd Friday Céili
Friday, September 8th 2023
VFW Hall 630 Hood St. NE
Salem, Oregon

Doors: 7:00 PM.
Live music: 8-11:00 PM.
Caller: Maldon Meehan
Musicians: Dale Russ & Teresa Baker
TBD Admission: $10 per person
Click here for more info!

MOD Youth Session w/Niamh Branigan <<< STILL ON SUMMER HIATUS
2nd & 4th Sundays of the month
Rose City Book Pub
1329 NE Fremont Street, Portland
4:00 - 5:00 PM

Closed Session w/Thom Dudley & Eddie Parente<<< NEW SESSION!!!
2nd & 3rd Sundays of each month
Highland Stillhouse Pub
201 S. 2nd St., Oregon City
7:00 - 10:00 PM

Oíche na n-Amhrán I Night of Songs <<< STILL ON SUMMER HIATUS
3rd Thursdays of the month
T.C. O'Leary's Pub
2526 NE Alberta St, Portland
8:00 - 10:00 PM

House Concert Featuring:
Laura Fedderson, Nathan Gorley, & Brian Miller
Boston-based duet fiddlers & Twin Cities-based DADGAD guitarist
Friday, September 29th 2023
Private Southeast Portland Residence
Doors: 7:00 PM
Music: 7:30 PM
Suggested donation: $20-25
To RSVP and for location contact Kate Gregory.

Final Saturday Céili w/the Meehans
All-sets céili w/music by Laura Fedderson, Nathan Gorley, & Brian Miller
and calling by Maldon Meehan
Saturday, September 30th 2023
Waverly United Church of Christ
3300 SE Woodward St, Portland
4:00 - 7:00 PM $15
Dancers and listeners alike welcome!

DAMHSA SA MBAILE I Dancing Around Town:

Community Set Dancing w/Linda Burch
Sellwood Community House
1436 SE Spokane Street
Portland OR 97202
Mondays 12:30 - 2:00 PM **<<< BACK TO THE NORMAL TIME FOR FALL!**
Fall schedule starts Monday, September 11th! For more information: Linda Burch

Set Dancing Classes w/Mariclare & Phil Meehan <<< STILL ON SUMMER HIATUS
Waverly United Church of Christ
3300 SE Woodward Street
Portland OR 97202
Saturdays 4:00 - 6:00 PM
Email Phil or more information.

Join the Portland Set Dancers Facebook group to keep up-to-date on set dancing in the Portland area. Also, visit our newly dedicated webpage: www.portlandsetdancers.com/mariclare-dancing

NA SEISIÚIN I Sessions:

Kate and the Lads Live in the Pub:
(session by invite)
Mondays
T.C. O'Leary's Pub, Portland
8:00pm - 10:00 PM

Corner Session w/Clary Novotny & Guests (closed session)
Mondays
The Moon & Sixpence
2014 NE 42nd Ave
Portland OR 97213
8:00 - 10:00 pmish

Seisiún na mBan I Women's Session:
(session by invite)
Tuesdays
T.C. O'Leary's Pub, Portland
8:00 - 10:00 PM

Open Session w/Tania Skinner:
Wednesdays
Dublin Pub
6821 SW Beaverton Hillsdale Hwy, Portland
7:00 - 10:00 PM

Taking-Time Slow Session w/John Whelan:
(online session)
Wednesdays
Zoom! http://johnwhelanmusic.com/slow-session/
4:00 PM

Players and listeners of all levels are very welcome to enjoy playing or hearing favorite tunes at a moderate tempo. This is an opportunity for learning new tunes, as everybody but the session leader (John) will be muted while they play.

Trail Jams in the Park (open session)
Thursdays
Cook Park
17005 SW 92nd Ave, Tigard
3:00 - 5:00 PM

Kells Session w/rotation of musicians:
(session by invite)
Thursdays
Kells Pub
112 SW 2nd Ave, Portland
6:00 - 8:00 PM

Olympia Monthly Irish Singing Session: <<< STILL ON SUMMER HIATUS!
(online session)
Saturdays
Zoom!
7:00 - 9:00 PM
For RSVP and link contact Sean Williams

MOD Youth Session w/Niamh Branigan: <<< STILL ON SUMMER HIATUS!
Second & fourth Sundays of the month
Rose City Book Pub
1329 NE Fremont Street, Portland
4:00 - 5:00 PM

Trail Jams Session:
(open session)
Sundays
Hostel Café
1810 NW Glisan Ave, Portland
1:30 - 4:30 PM

Irish Piping Tunes w/ Preston Wilde and Conor O'Bryan:
(session by invite)
Sundays
T.C. O'Leary's Pub, Portland
2:00 - 5:00 PM

Intermediate Session w/Tim Smith:
(open session)
Sundays
Brickhouse
109 W 15th St Vancouver WA 98660
6:30 - 8:30 pmish

Closed Session w/Thom Dudley & Eddie Parente<<< NEW SESSION!!!
2nd & 3rd Sundays of each month
Highland Stillhouse Pub
201 S. 2nd St., Oregon City
7:00 - 10:00 PM

ROMHAINN I Looking Ahead:

Céilí of the Valley I 2nd Friday Céilí
PAN-CELTIC CEILI
Friday, October 13th 2023
VFW Hall 630 Hood St. NE
Salem, Oregon

Doors: 7:00 PM.
Live music: 8-11:00 PM.
Caller: Chandler, Brown, Reed, Kenney
Musicians: Doug Hopkins & Array Herman
Admission: $10 per person
Facebook Event

All ages welcome!

Chapel Sessions Concert Series Presents:
Máire Ní Chathasaigh & Chris Newman
Waverly United Church of Christ
3300 SE Woodward Street
Portland, Oregon
Doors: 6:30 PM
Music: 7:00 PM
Suggested donation: $20-25
Facebook Event & Brochure

Samhain Celtic New Year Festival
Saturday, October 21st 2023
Spinning Room at
Willamette Heritage Center
1313 Mill St SE
Salem, Oregon
Facebook Event Page

MOD Samhain Rambling House
Saturday, October 28th 2023
Waverly United Church of Christ
3300 SE Woodward Street
Portland, Oregon
Suggested donation: $10
Facebook Event Page

Find Out More

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