

CelticFest Mississippi

September 10th, 11th, 12th, and 13th
Mississippi ΔΣ. and Forestry Museum

CelticFest Mississippi 2009, the Celtic Heritage Society's 19th annual weekend festival is almost here! Take your mind off of the weather at air-conditioned stages filled with the best of Celtic music and dancing -- Or venture outdoors to get your fill with everything else the festival has to offer. It's a packed weekend of Celtic music, dance, and fun not to be missed.



CelticFest is a celebration of the Celtic nations including Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Cornwall, the Isle of Man and Brittany. It takes place on September 10-13 at the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Museum. *CelticFest* features an exceptional variety of exciting Irish and Scottish music and dance on 6 stages, plus free Celtic heritage, music and dance workshops, a children's area, Celtic specialty vendors, and plenty of food and drink. Because much of the festival takes place indoors, CelticFest will be held RAIN OR SHINE!



CelticFest annually features several headlining artists of both international status and high caliber. 2009's artists are Irish supergroup **TRIAN** (featuring Liz Carroll-fiddle, Billy McComiskey-button accordion, and Daithi Sproule-guitar), Dublin balladeer **BRENDAN NOLAN**, the newly formed



CAPTAIN MACKKEY'S GOATSKIN & STRING BAND featuring Máirtín de Cógáin and Jimmy Crowley, both of Co. Cork, as well as virtuoso uilleann piper, **TIM BRITTON**. Trian's *CelticFest* '09 appearance will be a reunion of sorts, as this will be their first performance as a trio in many years.

Of course, *CelticFest*'s tried-and-true local and regional performers (over 40 acts) will travel from as far away as Michigan, Rhode Island, Florida for another round as well, including Smithfield Fair, Finvarra's Wren, Angus Dubghall, Stonecross, Legacy, Jim Flanagan, and more.

1st Annual Film Festival

Thursday evening *CelticFest* is teaming up with the Crossroads Film Society to present *CelticFest*'s first ever night of Irish film. The evening will begin with a selection of short films (TBA), followed by a discussion of the award winning feature film, The Wind that Shakes the Barley. Máirtín de Cógáin, who plays "Sean" in the film will be the master of ceremonies for the event. Tickets are \$7 General Admission or \$5 for Crossroads / CHS / Jackson Irish Dancers members and the event will be held in the Main Auditorium of the Heritage Exhibit Center.

The festival will continue on Friday night 7pm-12am with music/dance performances on multiple stages, vendors, the Whiskey and Scotch Tasting benefit, and an open tune session.

11th Annual Irish Whiskey and Scotch Tasting

The 11th Annual Tasting will begin at 7:30pm Friday night and will mark the first Tasting held in **Sparkman Auditorium**. The Irish Whiskey and Scotch Tasting is led once again by the esteemed Master Distiller, Evan Cattanach, from Kingussie, Scotland. Mr. Cattanach is the Ambassador of the Classic Malt collection with 47 years of personal experience years in the Scottish distilling industry. This event is sponsored by Wine & Spirits in the Quarter and Fenian's Irish Pub to raise funds in support of *CelticFest Mississippi*. Tickets are available for purchase online at the *CelticFest Mississippi* website (www.CelticFestMS.org), or folks can call Aimée Cole at 601-376-9866. Capacity is limited and the event usually sells out, so advance purchase is highly recommended. The price is \$30 advance or \$40 at the door, with space permitting. Mr. Cattanach will also be at Wine and Spirit in the Quarter on Friday the 11th from 4-5 pm prior to the Whiskey tasting to sign bottles.



On Saturday, the gates open at 10 am with even more entertainment, workshops, and activities continuously until midnight. The gates open again 11 am Sunday for another day of Celtic fun.

The South's Largest Céilí

An ever popular highlight of *CelticFest*, the massive Céilí Dance (pronounced 'kay-lee') caps off the Saturday night. No



dancing experience is required to participate – beginners are welcome. The Céilí will be led again this year by **Eamon de Cógáin** from Cork, Ireland.

The children won't be left out—*CelticFest* is a family-friendly festival! There will be a Children's Area and kid-oriented vendors on the grounds.

Admission is \$12 for an adult Weekend Pass, \$8 for seniors and students, \$5 for children ages 5-17, and \$1 for children under four. "A greater value of this quality can't be had in Jackson....," says Harvey Kimble, past president of the Celtic Heritage Society.

Make your plans and be ready for all the
Music, Dance, and Fun!

CELTICFEST
MISSISSIPPI 2009
www.celticfestms.org

Jackson Irish Dancers Update

If the economy is giving you the blues, here's a surefire way to lift your spirits -- try some Irish dancing! It's great fun and Jackson Irish Dancers can offer you a chance to dance each and every week. This year, for instance, we've continued our workshop series with Patrick O'Dea, Maldon Meehan, and Máirtín de Cógáin, as well as continuing our Mostly Monthly Céilí series (thanks to Fenian's Pub and their staff for hosting us) on Sunday afternoons. Fall céilí dates are October 11 and November 15 from 2-5 p.m.

In addition to these frequent special offerings, the heart of our dance instruction is weekly classes taught by Catherine Sherer Bishop, TCRG; she now offers solo dance classes for ages 6 and up on Wednesday evenings and Friday afternoons as well as Sunday afternoon classes (céilí and set dancing) for adults and teens. (Wednesday evenings in Clinton; Friday afternoons in Madison; Sunday afternoons downtown - call Catherine for details at 601-720-5034.) We appreciate Ballet Mississippi, Mississippi Ballet Theatre, and Chapel of the Cross for making space for our classes - thanks.

And since we mentioned the economy: the Mostly Monthly Céilí series is FREE, and weekly classes are very reasonably priced; your annual JID membership of \$25 for a family or \$15 for an individual member

serves as a registration fee, and after that you pay just \$10 per class. It's cheaper than the gym, it's lively, educational, aerobic, and it's the only place in Mississippi where you can find traditional Irish dance classes with a Dublin-certified instructor. Come on out and give it a try!

Our membership year begins again every September 1, so if you're already a member, it's time to renew! Please send your check to JID at P. O. Box 3261, Jackson, MS 39207-3261 (membership forms are available on our website on the "About Us" page), or email maggie@jacksonirishdancers.org for more information. If you're not a member, it's a great time to join!

In other news, we have a great performance planned for CelticFest - our signature polka set will very likely be back by popular demand, as well as lots of other great stuff. Come on out to join us and a host of other dance groups from across the region at CelticFest - it's family-friendly fun and you might just be inspired to take a class or two yourself! As well, we're heading over to Monroe, Louisiana in October once again for the Northeast Louisiana CelticFest - it's a short drive away and always a fun event. Meantime, find us at Fenian's many a Thursday night, doing some impromptu dancing with Legacy, Spirits of the House, and St. Brigids.

See you on the dance floor!



JACKSON IRISH DANCERS

Celtic Calendar

Every Wednesday (6-8pm) and Friday (3:30-4:30pm) and most Sundays (3:30-5:00pm)—Catherine Bishop, TCRG teaches dance classes for children and adults, 601-720-5034

September 10th - 1st Annual Irish Filum Festival, 7pm at the MS Ag. And Forestry Museum, Jackson, MS. www.celticfestms.org

September 11th - Eleventh Annual Whiskey Tasting, at the MS Ag. And Forestry Museum, Jackson, MS. www.celticfestms.org

September 11-13th - CelticFest Mississippi at the MS Ag. And Forestry Museum, Jackson, MS. www.celticfestms.org

September 25-27th - ClanjamFry Evergreen Presbyterian Church, Memphis, Tennessee. www.clanjamfrymemphis.org/

October 11th - Monthly Céilí—2 till 5 pm at Fenian's Irish Pub. Corner of Fortification and Jefferson, Jackson, MS.

October 24-25th - Northeast Louisiana Celtic Festival, The Ike Hamilton Expo Center, West Monroe, LA. www.nelacelticfest.net

October 23-25th - The O'Flaherty Irish Music Retreat, Midlothian, TX. www.irishtradmusic.org/

November 14-15th - Highlands and Islands Scottish Games, Harrison County Fairgrounds, Gulfport, MS. www.highlandsandislands.org

November 15th - Monthly Céilí—2 till 5 pm at Fenian's Irish Pub. Corner of Fortification and Jefferson, Jackson, MS.

March 5th-7th - 2010 - The 26th Annual North Texas Irish Festival. www.ntif.org

CelticFest Mississippi Performers for 2009 Headliners

Trián (Liz Carroll, Billy McComiskey, & Daithi Sproule)

Captain Mackey's Goatskin and String Band

Brendan Nolan

Tim Britton

Máirtín de Cógáin (storyteller)

Eamonn de Cógáin (Irish dance)

Regional Performers

Angus Dubhghall, Monroe, LA

Fel Bautista, Los Angeles, CA (workshop presenter)

Bridging the Gap, Vicksburg, MS

John Burleson, Ft. Worth, TX (story telling)

Celtic Crossroads, Hattiesburg, MS

*Celtic Ties, Newnan, GA/Vicksburg, MS

Coyne and Reeves, Gainesville, FL/Providence, RI

Crossroads Ceilí Band, New Orleans, LA

*Donny Brook Fair, Jackson, MS

Drowsy Maggie, Lafayette, LA

Father of Waters Pipes and Drums, Jackson, MS

Finvarra's Wren, Detroit, MI

Donna Fitch, Bedford, TX

Jim Flanagan, Hattiesburg, MS

Randy French, New Orleans, LA

Jim Gunter, New Orleans, LA (workshop presenter)

Michael Harrison, Dallas, TX

*Henri's Notions, Birmingham, AL

*Laborde & McCutchan, Baton Rouge, LA

Legacy, Jackson, MS/Orlando, FL

Loyd & Burleson, Little Rock, AR/Ft. Worth, TX

*Curt Marcus, Tampa, FL (workshop presenter)

*McCoy, Avalon, & Farley, Jackson, MS

New Orleans Quarter Shanty Crewe, New Orleans, LA

New Orleans Strathspey and Reel Society, LA

*W.A. Petersen, Omaha, NE (workshop presenter)

*Stephen Rea, New Orleans, LA (workshop presenter)

Smithfield Fair, Baton Rouge, LA

Spirits of the House, Jackson, MS

Spot, Austin, TX

Richie Stafford, New Orleans, LA (workshop presenter)

Stonecross, Saginaw, MI

*Vogt Family Contra Band, Tuscaloosa, AL

Jim Waters, Bedford, TX

*McCoy, Avalon, & Farley, Jackson, MS

*Stephen Rea, New Orleans, LA (workshop presenter)

Smithfield Fair, Baton Rouge, LA

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Jim Waters, Bedford, TX

*McCoy, Avalon, & Farley, Jackson, MS

McTeggart Irish Dancers of Louisiana, New Orleans, LA

Muggivan School of Irish Dance, New Orleans, LA

(workshop presenter)

New Orleans Comhaltas Dancers, New Orleans, LA

Scott-Ellis School of Irish Dance, Nashville, TN

*performers not on CelticFest 2008 schedule

Dance Schools/Groups

Alabama Academy of Irish Dance, Birmingham, AL

Anam Cara Irish Dancers, Birmingham, AL

Birmingham Irish Set Dancers, Birmingham, AL

Inisheer Irish Dance Company, Gainesville, FL

Jackson Irish Dancers, Jackson, MS

McTeggart Irish Dancers of Louisiana, New Orleans, LA

Muggivan School of Irish Dance, New Orleans, LA

(workshop presenter)

New Orleans Comhaltas Dancers, New Orleans, LA

Scott-Ellis School of Irish Dance, Nashville, TN

*performers not on CelticFest 2008 schedule

Volunteers Needed to Help CelticFest

As usual for this time of year, here is our plea for help putting on *CelticFest Mississippi*. We need volunteer help for the festival in all sorts of areas: performers' product sales; beverage sales; gate management; set-up and take-down; performer check-in; signage; and program sales. For three hours of your time (one shift), you get free admission to *CelticFest* on the day you work. Work two shifts, and we'll throw in a free *CelticFest* t-shirt. Shifts are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis, so if you have a particular spot in mind, contact Keegan now by emailing kpbaldrige@gmail.com. Or, show up at Fenian's any Thursday night between now and *CelticFest* and see Harvey to sign up for a volunteer shift or two.

First Annual Irish Filum Festival opening CelticFest Thursday Night

To kick off *CelticFest Mississippi*, Thursday evening September 10th CelticFest is teaming up with the **Crossroads Film Society** to present CelticFest's first ever night of Irish film. The evening will begin with a selection of short films (TBA), followed by a discussion of the award winning feature film, The Wind that Shakes the Barley. Máirtín de Cógáin, who plays "Sean" in the film will be the master of

ceremonies for the event.

Winner of the Palme d'Or at the 2006 Cannes Film Festival, this gripping drama by Ken Loach is set during the early days of the Irish Republican Army, when British occupation of the Ireland radicalized many a citizen and caused some to take up arms.

This event will begin at 7pm and be held in the Main Auditorium of the Heritage Exhibit Center at the Ag & Forestry Museum. Tickets are \$7 General Admission or \$5 for Crossroads / CHS / JID members.



Heritage Workshops

The Heritage Workshops are a popular *CelticFest Mississippi* series aimed at creating a contact point for Mississippians with various features of the Celtic cultures. Workshop topics this year include *Gaelic Language*, *Who's Who in Irish Music*, *Ballad History of Scotland and Ireland*, *Turning Wood into Music*, *Mummers Tradition in Ireland*, *Sea Shanties of the South*, *Art of Storytelling*, *The Irish Emigrant in New Orleans*, *Songwriting/Performance*, and much more!

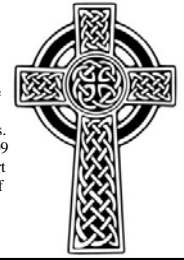
Music Workshops

CelticFest Mississippi regularly schedules music workshops on various Celtic instruments, including flute, tinwhistle, fiddle, guitar, bodhrán (Irish drum), and more. We also arrange for top-notch singing workshops, in English and Celtic languages. All workshops are held by *CelticFest's* headlining and regional performers. It's a great way to get some musical instruction from great musicians in an intimate setting!

Dance Workshops

Members of many dance groups represented at *CelticFest* offer free dance workshops throughout the day Saturday leading up to the big céilí, as well as on Sunday. Topics may include *céilí dancing*, *solo dancing*, *séan-nos (old-style) step dancing*, *Cape Breton dancing*, *Scottish highland dance*, and more. Check the schedule to find a workshop appropriate for your age group and level of experience. Most are beginner-friendly, and a great way to try lots of different forms of Celtic dancing for the first time, or to learn a new step if you're an experienced dancer.

Sunday Morning Rirking



Throughout their existence, spirituality has been a strong and essential fiber in the fabric of the culture and traditions of the Celtic nations. Wars have been fought, great sacrifices made, and history carved on the strong spiritual and religious beliefs of these people. What characterizes the Celtic people even today is the strong spirituality innate within them.

The Celtic Fest non-denominational worship service has grown over the last 5 years and will continue to serve as a

source of spiritual peace and respite. The service features scripture and song and all are welcome to attend. A capella singing of hymns in the old Industrial Village chapel is in itself a wonderfully renewing experience, but attendees will be treated to a powerful message of hope and focus from Dr. William Shepherd Smith. A retired minister of the Presbyterian Church USA, Dr. Smith and his wife, Rosanne, live in the Jackson area. His family is of strong Scottish stock and he is the uncle of the members of Smithfield Fair.

The Board of the Celtic Society is pleased to present this non-denominational Christian worship service as a service to the Celtic community and invites all present to attend and worship prior to Sunday's continued music and events. The service is at 10:00 a.m., Sunday, September 13th, 2009 in the old white chapel in the Industrial Village in the heart of the Jim Buck Ross Agricultural Museum in the midst of festival activities. Come worship with us!

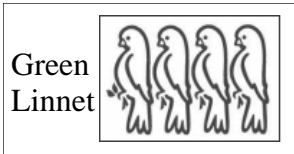
11th Annual Irish Whiskey and Scotch Tasting once again Features Ambassador of the Classic Malts

Wine and Spirits in the Quarter has once again pulled out all the stops for this year's Irish Whiskey and Scotch Tasting. Evan Cattanach, Master Distiller Emeritus, of Kingussie, Scotland is returning to be this year's guide and guest speaker again. Mr. Cattanach, who has been named the "Keeper of the Quaich" because of his service to the Scotch Whiskey trade industry, travels the globe representing Classic Malts, a group of six of the finest single malt whiskies that represent each of the distinct scotch-producing region of Scotland. Fenian's Irish Pub will once again be providing fine finger food to cleanse the palate. The tasting is Friday, Sept 11, 2009 at 7:30 pm in Sparkman Building. Tickets are available for purchase online at the CelticFest Mississippi website (www.CelticFestMS.org), or folks can call Aimée Cole at 601-376-9866. Capacity is limited and this event usually sells out, in advance. The price is \$30 advance or \$40 at the door, with space permitting.

This Tasting is sponsored by Wine and Spirits in the Quarter, and Fenian's Irish Pub



JACKSON IRISH DANCERS



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CHS Email List

CHS has an email list working to send out important information to CHS members. If you would like to be included on this email list send a message simply saying "subscribe" in the body of the message to: memberlist@celticfestms.org This is a low volume email list that will only discuss matters concerning CHS or send out information about upcoming CHS events.



The Celtic Chronicle is the somewhat quarterly publication of the Celtic Heritage Society (CHS). The CHS is an IRS recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt organization dedicated to the promotion and preservation of the music, art, literature, dance, and culture of the seven Celtic Nations — Ireland, Scotland, Galicia, Wales, Cornwall, Brittany, and the Isle of Man. Newsletter publication dates are February, May, August, and November. Deadlines for publication are January 30th, April 30th, July 30th, and October 30th. Items of interest and all other correspondence should be mailed to P.O. Box 5166, Jackson, MS 39296-5166.

Please check the date on your mailing label. If the date is past please renew your subscription either by coming by the CHS table at the next CHS sponsored event or by mailing a check for \$15 for individuals or \$25 for families to: CHS, P.O. Box 5166, Jackson, MS 39296-5166. Applications can be found on the website at: www.celticfestms.org

Advertising Rates for *The Celtic Chronicle*:

Eighth Page (Business Card)	\$30
Quarter Page	\$45
Half Page	\$90
Full Page	\$165

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