

# 2005 Immersion Weekend

## Ceud Mìle Fàilte gu Ohio! (100,000 Welcomes to Ohio!)

### IMMERSION 2005 TO BE HELD IN OHIO

An Comunn Gaidhealach – America (ACGA) presents its 9th Annual Scottish Gaelic Immersion Weekend, held for the first time in Ohio, from Thursday May 19 – Sunday May 22, 2005

ACGA and The Great Lakes Gaelic Society will co-host this long weekend, featuring some of the best Scottish Gaelic instructors from Scotland, Cape Breton and the United States. The immersion weekend is a unique opportunity for learners of Scottish Gaelic to come together with more advanced and native speakers in both a classroom setting and informal gatherings. Whether you are a new learner with no experience or an advanced speaker, the immersion weekend will provide opportunities to speak Gaelic in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

Extracurricular activities will include old time Scottish dancing on the Friday evening and a cèilidh on Saturday evening.

The beautiful facilities of the Burr Oak Resort include a ravine hiking trail, tennis courts, indoor pool, and miles of nature trails and many vantage points from which to view the magnificent scenery.

Burr Oak Resort is located in Southern Ohio in the Burr Oak State Park. For more information on the resort and park, and to browse their website, log on to their website.

### Cò bhitheas a' teagasg? [Who will be teaching?]

**Alec MacDonald** was born and raised on the Isle of Skye. He is a native Gaelic speaker who lives in Staffin, a part of Skye where Gaelic is still the main language of the people. Alec has a very busy career as crofter, Gaelic teacher, and radio announcer. He acts as a trainer for primary school teachers in Gaelic. He also lectures part time at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, teaching both the full time immersion courses and summer courses. He presents the Friday night Gaelic request programme Na Dùrachdan on a fortnightly basis.

**Dr. Jamie MacDonald** currently holds the Ben Alder Chair of Celtic Studies at Saint Francis Xavier University in Nova Scotia, Canada. Jamie was raised in North Carolina, his ancestors having arrived there in 1802 from the Isle of Skye in Scotland. He obtained his Ph.D in Scottish Studies at the University of Edinburgh in 1993. In his spare time, Jamie enjoys singing and collecting Gaelic songs. He has been a Program Advisor for Gaelic television projects for BBC Scotland and Grampian

Television and has published a Gaelic dictionary for children. He was instrumental in the founding of the United States Mòd, the North Carolina Mòd, and the Grandfather Mountain Gaelic Song Week. Jamie has taught Gaelic, Gaelic song and Scottish Studies at seminars and workshops in the U. S., Scotland and Canada.

**Muriel Fisher** is a native of Skye and currently lives in Arizona where she teaches Gaelic through her Tucson Gaelic Institute, and at the University of Arizona. She is also a feature correspondent with BBC Alba and writes for Fios: The North Lewis Weekly. Muriel also teaches during the summers at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig.

**David Livingston-Lowe** is a fluent Gaelic and Irish speaker and teacher from Toronto. He holds a degree in Celtic Studies from the University of Toronto where he teaches Gaelic and is involved in efforts to promote the Gaelic language. He has studied at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Gaelic College in Cape Breton and An Ceathramh.

**Deborah Livingston-Lowe** has a degree in Celtic Studies from the University of Toronto. Her Gaelic studies have taken her to Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, An Ceathramh in Scotland and the Gaelic College in Nova Scotia. She began teaching Gaelic in 1990, first in a children's playgroup and later in adult community courses. Deborah currently teaches in an ESL kindergarten in Toronto.

*\*Instructors subject to change.*

## Cìsean [Fees]

The immersion weekend will begin on Thursday afternoon, May 19, 2005 and continue through the afternoon of Sunday, May 22, 2005. Fees for the weekend include classes, workshops, special activities, coffee breaks, learning materials, room and board. Early registration is encouraged to avoid the late fee (\$25 after March 13, 2005). Guests are responsible for any personal phone calls or personal room service charges.

Please make checks payable in U.S. funds to "ACGA".

Please print either the American or Canadian registration form and mail all registrations and checks to:

ACGA Immersion Weekend  
c/o Rudy Ramsey, Registrar  
7644 E. Lakecliff Way  
Parker, CO 80134-5933  
USA

## Cuid Oidhche [Room and Meals]

Rooms are standard motel rooms with full bath en suite and double sink. Meals are served in the dining room in the Main Lodge. You register for room and meals with your weekend registration.

The full weekend package includes all classes, lodging for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights, 3 meals on Friday and Saturday, and breakfast and lunch on Sunday.

The two day package includes all classes on Saturday and Sunday, lodging for Friday and Saturday nights, 3 meals for Saturday, breakfast and lunch on Sunday. Dinner can be purchased in the dining room up until 8:00 p.m. on the evening of registration.

## Clàr-Ùine [Schedule]

Classes and workshops are scheduled all day Friday, Saturday, and Sunday morning. Times for the AGM, Olde Time Dance and Ceilidh will be included in your weekend schedule.

May 19 – 22, 2005  
Burr Oak Resort and Conference Center  
10660 Burr Oak Lodge Road  
Glouster, Ohio 45732

For more information contact:

Frances Acar,  
2005 Immersion Weekend Chair  
[frances@waspfactory.org](mailto:frances@waspfactory.org)

As usual Gaelic learning materials, (language, song, history, culture) will be available at the bookstore which will be open at specific times throughout the weekend. Be prepared to pay in AMERICAN DOLLARS by check or in cash. We cannot accept credit cards or Canadian dollars.

## About ACGA

An Comunn Gaidhealach – America (ACGA) is a volunteer-run, non-profit 501©(3) corporation formed to promote and preserve Scottish Gaelic language and culture. ACGA supports language study and fluency in spoken Gaelic as well as interest in Gaelic literature, song, music, art and history. Incorporated in 1984, ACGA members are found throughout the USA, Canada, Scotland and Australia.

ACGA's board members and regional representatives seek to facilitate networking opportunities for Gaelic learners. From local events to regional Highland Games, ACGA members work to bring together people interested in Scottish Gaelic.

Membership in ACGA is open to anyone with an interest in studying and/or preserving the Scottish Gaelic language and culture.

ACGA seeks to support its members in their study of Scottish Gaelic. To that end, ACGA offers the

following:

- Naidheachd , a quarterly newsletter
- ancomunn, an online computer listserv where members can communicate
- The Annual ACGA Immersion Weekend
- The Annual National Mòd, a competition of Gaelic song, prose and poetry.
- North American distributor for Litir do Luchd Ionnsachaidh. from BBC Alba in print and CD format.
- Information on Gaelic study groups and supportive educational resources.
- Scholarships to attend Gaelic classes and workshops
- Can Seo video lending library
- Grants to related organizations that support quality Gaelic education.