

Newsletter of the
Irish-American Society of New Mexico
www.irishamericansociety-nm.com

DECEMBER 2015

Note: Irish-American Society meetings are usually held on the second Friday of each month, except during July and August (and for special events). The usual meeting location is the Edelweiss Am Rio Grande German-American Club (GAC), 4821 Menaul, NE (west of San Mateo).

## Next Event: Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, Noon

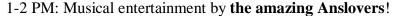
## It's the IAS Annual Christmas Party!

It's that holly jolly time of year and once again the IAS will be hosting its annual Christmas Party at the GAC on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, from noon to 5:00 PM. (Potluck starts at 1:00.)

#### We have two requests:

- 1. Bring a potluck dish to share. (And be sure to mark your plates and utensils so we can get them back to you.) Coffee, tea, and a no-host bar will be provided.
- 2. Bring a dessert of any kind (cake, pie, cookies, etc.) to donate to the Cake Walk Contest! (It's also perfectly all right to bring store-bought goodies!)

Here's the lineup for the day's festivities:



- 2-2:30: Irish Step Dancing Performance by the Coleman Academy of Irish Dance!
- 2:30-3:00: **A visit from Santa**! [Please bring a wrapped (and labeled with the child's name) present for each of your children for Santa to give to them personally. And don't forget to bring your cameras!]
- 3:00-4:00: Musical entertainment by Celtic fiddler Nikelle Gessner and Guitarist Matthew Brooks!
- 4:00-4:30: Cake Walk!
- 4:30-5:00: **Christmas music** provided by Jim Brauer



## **A Friendly Reminder:**

Your dues are now due for the 2016 membership year. In order to keep your membership current, please fill out the form on the last page of this newsletter and give it to Norita Callahan or mail it to the PO address on the form. (If your current membership card says "2016" your membership is good till Dec. 31, 2016.)

## **2015 Board Members and Committee Chairs**

President	Bob Bryers	792-
	tccrrb5@aol.com	2026
VP	Chris Kinlen	328-
	oldtowncelticshop@aol.com	7408
Treasurer	Vikki Bryers	792-
	TCCVRB@netzero.com	2026
Secretary	Jerri Campbell	554-
	Jcampbell3124@live.com	5286
Membership	Norita & Ken Callahan	298-
_	noraabq@yahoo.com	2708
Past	Paul McDonough	294-
President	penthormul@aol.com	8205
Board	Jay Vandersloot	362-
	JayVandersloot@yahoo.com	1733
Board	Christine Philips	710-
	Christine.ann.Philips@gmail.c	3972
	<u>om</u>	
Board	Maureen Riley	884-
	mriley6918@yahoo.com	0731

Health &	Fran Hardy	259-
Welfare	frananddon@aol.com	3348
Newsletter	Ellen Dowling	307-
	edowling@standuptrainer.com	1700
Hospitality	Luisa Gignac	881-
	lgdancer@BasicISP.net	4847
Web	Ellen Dowling	307-
Manager	edowling@standuptrainer.com	1700
Telephone	Beth Baker	994-
	adamsonbb@gmail.com	0443
Audio	Jim Brauer	352-
Services	rkeating14@comcast.net	2195



# Would you like to place an ad in the *Irish Times* newsletter?

Business-card-sized ads are a mere \$5 a month. Larger-sized ads can be negotiated with the editor, Ellen Dowling (<a href="mailto:edowling@standuptrainer.com">edowling@standuptrainer.com</a> 307-1700). Your ad will also appear on the IAS website (<a href="www.irishamericansociety-nm.com">www.irishamericansociety-nm.com</a>) at no extra charge.

Irish Food Delivered to Your Door Monthly!

http://www.irishtasteclub.com/





## President's Message

By Bob Bryers

#### Dear IAS Members:

Where did the time go? It seems like only yesterday I was composing my January message to the members of our society –time flies, as they say. It has been a good year and hopefully next year will usher in more of the same. The Holiday Season is in full swing right now, with Christmas and New Year's right around the corner. I have thoroughly enjoyed guiding the Society this past year, and as a result of our elections this past November, it will remain in capable hands with the election of Ellen Dowling as your new president starting in January. I will stay on in the office of vice-president for the Society and will endeavor to help make 2016 a breakout year, one to be remembered.

We will close out 2015 with our annual Christmas Party, which will be on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, from 1-5 PM at the German American Club. We have a great line-up of entertainment and events to make that afternoon enjoyable for all. You can read all the details on the front page of this newsletter, and remember—invite your friends and neighbors to come to this exciting event and help make it the success that it has always been in the past.

At this time I will close out this letter by giving my Holiday Greetings and wishes for a safe and enjoyable season to all.

## **Annual Election Results**

President: Ellen Dowling Vice President: Bob Bryers Treasurer: Vikki Bryers Secretary: Pete McKenna

Membership: Norita and Ken Callahan

Board Member: Jay Vandersloot Board Member: Christine Philips Board Member: Maureen Riley Board Member: Paul McDonough

## Names of Children Needed for this Year's IAS Christmas Party!

Our annual Christmas Party will be held this year on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, from noon to 5 PM. As usual, there will be a visit from Santa, and the IAS will have gift bags for all children who attend. If you are planning to bring a child (or two or three or more!), let Bob Bryers know so we can prepare enough gift bags. (Contact Bob at tccrrb5@aol.com or 792-2026.)

# Are you interested in performing at one of our monthly meetings?

We are looking for entertainers for our monthly meetings in 2016. If you would like to give a musical performance, a lecture, a dramatic recitation, a dance exhibition, or anything that is Irish- or Celtic-focused, please let us know by contacting Ellen Dowling at 307-1700 (edowling@standuptrainer.com).

## Treasurer's Report October 2015

Victoria Bryers, Treasurer

Category	Income	Category	Expenses
		Cash for Door Prizes and Door	
Membership	\$105.00	(Samhain Party)	\$200.00
Misc Sales	\$2.00	Christine Philips	\$41.92
Shirt Sale	\$20.00	Secretary of State	\$20.00
Returned from \$200 for			
Samhain Party	\$80.02	Samhain Party Entertainment	\$300.00
Door and raffle receipts	\$306.00	GAC (Samhain Party)	\$661.92
Total Income	\$513.02	Total Expenses	\$661.92
		IAS Account Sept. Beginning	
		Balance	\$1997.16
		Plus Income (Oct)	\$513.02
		IAS Account Sept. Ending	
		Balance	\$1997.16
		IAS Heritage Fund Account	\$5000.00
		Subtotal	\$6997.16
		Less Expenses	\$661.92
		Oct Ending Balance	\$6848.26

## **Membership Report**

By Norita and Ken Callahan

*Céad Mile Fáilte*: There were no new members this month. As of November 15<sup>th</sup>, there are 99 family members (x 2) and 142 single members. This is a total of 340 IAS members for the 2015 membership year.

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE STILL SEEKING PULL-TAB DONATIONS! The aluminum or steel pull tabs donated from beverage cans or ANY kind of canned food (6000 + pounds annually) generate funds to offset The House expenses. YOUR donations make a significant impact and are very much appreciated. Thanks this month to Bob & Vikki Bryers, Rosalie & Dennis Pfeiffer, and David & Jennifer Barnaby.



Members of the Rye Creek Band Performing at our Samhain Party!

# **Celtic Music Sessions at Apple Mountain Music:**

- ♣ Slow Celtic Session, 10 AM to 12 noon, first Saturday of every month.
- ♣ Scottish Session, 2 PM to 4 PM, second Sunday of every month.
- Open Irish Session, 2 PM to 4 PM, third Saturday of every month.

For info, contact Apple Mountain Music, 10301 Comanche NE, 505-23-2048.



## St. Andrew Scottish Society Annual Burns Night Dinner



January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 5 - 9 PM Hotel Cascada, 2500 Carlisle Blvd NE Formal Dress or Formal Scottish Kilt required

Ticket Prices:
November 1 - 30
\$50 / Member, \$60 / Non-Member
\$475 for a Table of 10\*
December 1 - January 17
\$55 / Member, \$60 / Non-Member
\$500 for a Table of 10\*

\*When purchasing a table, the whole table (10 seats) must be purchased. No exceptions.

Tickets can be purchased Online <u>HERE</u>, or by mailing in a check to SASSNM: Burn's Night, P.O. Box 37288, Albuquerque, NM, 87176. If mailing a payment in, please ensure that payment is received by the deadlines above for the proper prices to remain in effect. Also include a list of those Members attending, and whether they want the Meat Dish, or the Vegetarian Dish.

If you have any questions contact Jacob Wilson at 505-289-0577 (jacobawilson@hotmail.com)

#### **Cans for Celts**

Help raise funds for the Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival and Highland Games in 2016! Please bring your aluminum cans, pie plates, foil, etc. along with copper items, tubing, and small non-working appliances with electric motors to the IAS meetings for recycling. (No cardboard or paper this time or large appliances. I don't have room for them. ) For pick up between meetings — contact Paul McDonough @ 505-294-8205 and leave a message. Thank you!

#### **Candy Bars for Celts!**

Besides the Cans for Celts fundraiser for the Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival, we are now also trying to raise money by selling candy bars at \$1.00 each. Candy can be purchased at any meeting from Paul McDonough.



## Samhain/Halloween Party Report

By Norita Callan (Pictures by Ken Callahan)

Special thanks to all the folks who helped make the party a success!

Decorators: Bob Bryers, Jerri Campbell, Carol Cowan, Elena Gallegos, Luisa Gignac, Gary & Cindy Kloss, Lottie McDonald, Kathy & Roland Mueller, Rosalie Pfeiffer, Maureen Riley, and Petra Zavakos.

Transportation (trucks/carloads of boxes and 10 uggy creatures): Peggy Schmidt, Ken Callahan, and the Begay family.

Un-decorating helpers: Kathleen Begay, Sheri Kraemer, Melyssa Miranda, and Christine Philips.

Helpers with boxes/creatures: Katie & Alex Begay, Ryne Eversgerd, Paul Lopez, Mark Meadows, Randy Rockett, and Caitan Sandberg.

The band for the evening was the *Rye Creek Irish Band*, What a wonderful group!! Band members Terry Axline, Ray Darnell, Catherine Hubbard, Mike Murphy, and Ron Trellue wore costumes for the party . . . love 'em all! 'Twas a grrreat musical evening! And of course, thank you, Jim Brauer, our sound man, and thanx ALSO for donating some really cool Halloween wall decorations.



## **Costume Contest Winners**

**Best Couple**: Lorraine & John Freelykirk ("King and Queen of Hearts")

Scariest: Alyssa Tirard ("Wraith")

Most Original: Kathleen & Michael

Begay ("Mary Poppins and Chimney Sweep")

**Funniest:** Norita Callahan (cave woman with a dinosaur)

**Cutest:** Riley Philips-Smiddle ("Zombie Cheerleader")









## Irish-American Society Member Angus Gallegos Attains Champion Status at Latest Irish Dance Competition

You've seen Angus perform at the German Club, the Celtic Festival, the Brother Mathias Dinner, and other venues around Albuquerque. He is only nine years old and he is the first boy from New Mexico to reach Preliminary Championship status in Irish step dancing. Angus is the second child to reach this level in New Mexico for his age group (the first is Garnet Waldrop who also dances for Tír Conaill).

This past October 17<sup>th</sup> Angus competed at the Halloween *feis* in Scotsdale, AZ and won first place in all his dances. This outstanding performance advanced him to the championship level.

When Angus was three years old, he and his family went to the annual Brother Mathias St. Patrick's Day Dinner. He watched the Irish step dancers performing and started dancing alongside the stage. That is when his mom thought to put him in Irish dance lessons when he got old enough. When he was five, he joined the Tír Conaill Academy of Irish Dance. He loves going to class, performing, and practices everywhere. He says he still gets butterflies when he goes on stage, especially in front of the judges, but you wouldn't know it from his performance in Scotsdale.

Angus will be competing at the 2015 *Oireachtas* in Salt Lake City on November 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> as a solo competitor and as part of a Ceili team. Last year he placed third in this regional competition. Congratulate him and wish him good luck when you see him at the GAC! His hard work and dedication is impressive for such a

young age and he is the perfect ambassador to demonstrate and spread Irish culture around New Mexico. Congratulations, Angus!



## **More Samhain pics:**







## Learn to Play Gaelic Football in Albuquerque!



The Albuquerque Gaelic Football Club is looking for new recruits, with or without previous experience. Come and try out the most popular field sport in Ireland! You don't even have to be Irish! Just be ready to have a great time playing this fantastic sport.

Where: UNM Johnson Field, Redondo Drive, UNM campus When: Wednesdays, 6.30 PM, and Saturdays, 10.00 AM

For more information, contact

Alan Markey: (505) 980-9658 <u>liveitlad@gmail.com</u>

John Whitney: (505) 382-8778 johnwhitney1181@yahoo.com Graham Matthews: (303) 667 5010 ireland111@yahoo.com

## Celtic Society of UNM



Contact: Jennifer DeMerritt @ Celticunm@unm.edu
Phone: 505-916-9172

#### **Irish Music Session**

There is an open Irish music session every Thursday night at Joliesse Chocolates, on 4th St, Albuquerque, 7-9. All are welcome to participate or just enjoy listening. We play mostly traditional Irish tunes, and do some singing as well. Musicians, please bring a chair as the venue may not have enough.

## New from Apple Mountain Music! Slow Celtic Session

Tom Tunney, Host. Please join us from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM on the first Saturday of every month, for a guaranteed SLOW Celtic session. (Fee: Donation.) The tune list will be limited to about a dozen tunes at a time so we can learn them from memory. We will work on how to learn the tunes using recordings and sheet music as well as various resources available online. It's not necessary to know how to read music, but we will spend some time learning that if anyone is interested. All instruments are welcome, but you should be able to play at least at a beginner's level.

Apple Mountain Music 10301 Comanche NE, Albuquerque

## **Culture All Around**

## Dance Classes:

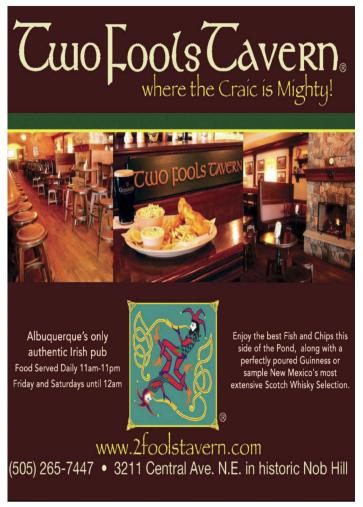
\* Coleman Academy of Irish Dance. Saturdays, 8 AM to 1 PM at the Lloyd Shaw Dance Center, 5506 Coal SE, and classes in Socorro on Saturdays, 3:30 - 6 PM at the Cottonwood Valley Charter School. Call 866-5867 for information or visit our web site at www.irishdancenm.org and www.colemanacademy.com.

- \* *Tir Conaill Academy of Irish Dance*, Saturdays at the New Mexico Irish Dance Company, Suite 3, 12700 San Rafael (Quail Run Shopping Center), Albuquerque. Call 379-3753 or visit <a href="www.tirconaillacademy.org">www.tirconaillacademy.org</a> for further information.
- ♣ *Ceili dance classes* are held every Wednesday at the GAC at 7:15 PM, \$3.00. No experience necessary! Call Norita Callahan at 298-2708.



## Celtic Music on the Radio and the Web:

- ♣ The Thistle and Shamrock program, featuring Fiona Ritchie, airs on KANW 89.1 FM, Mondays at 6:00 PM.
- ♣ Celtic and Beyond, with co-hosts Ellie Blair and Kelly Clement, 7:00 PM each Wednesday on KTAOS 101.9 FM. (Also broadcast on the Web at <a href="https://www.ktao.com">www.ktao.com</a>.)



### Celtic Music at O'Niell's:

Music every Sunday from 4 to 7 PM at the "old" O'Niell's, 4310 Central Ave SE (Corner of Central & Washington in East Nob Hill) and the "new" location (3301 Juan Tabo NE, between Comanche and Candelaria). For more info, visit <a href="http://www.oniells.com/">http://www.oniells.com/</a>



# Support Your Local Irish/Scottish/Celtic Musicians/Performers!

#### Shenanigans

Celtic and American Folk with a twist, variety of instruments and vocals. Contact: Kathy Wimmer (249-7012 kmillewimm@comcast.net)

#### Iscuma ("It Doesn't Matter")

Traditional Irish and Celtic music with Bill McCoy and Kathy Wimmer. For information, contact Bill McCoy at 897-4407.

#### Saoirse ("seer shih," Irish for "freedom")

Celtic music from Scotland, Ireland, Brittany, and Galacia, spiced with jazz and world beat. Contact: Harlow Pinson at <a href="mailto:hpinson@indepthl.com">hpinson@indepthl.com</a> or 994-2135.

*The Anslovers:* Teenagers Emily, John, and Jamie on violin, guitar, and upright bass. Contact: John & Lorraine Anslover at anslovernavy@comcast.net.

#### Carol Benson

Strolling café fiddler, vocalist, Suzuki teacher, and symphony violinist. Contact: 505-268-0906 (carolbens@gmail.com)

A Jug of Punch, featuring triple distilled Irish-American fun! Flutes, accordion, mandolin, violin, and guitar. Contact: Cleve Sharp, 505-507-9915 (clevelans@comcast.net)

## Michele Buchanan and Shanachie Harpers 765-1288 (tmbuchs@gmail.com)

#### Rye Creek

Folk, Irish, western and good old mountain music. Contact Terry Ryan Axline, 293-8924 (<a href="mailto:neomexicana@hotmail.com">neomexicana@hotmail.com</a>) or Ron Trellue, 505-362-2551 (<a href="mailto:trellue@swcp.com">trellue@swcp.com</a>) or visit <a href="https://www.myspace.com/ryecreeknm">www.myspace.com/ryecreeknm</a>.

#### Celtic Coyotes

Traditional music from Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and Brittany. Contact: Doug Cowan celticcoyotes@yahoo.com (710-0583).

#### Friends Forever

Michael and Donna Coy and Chris Nelson play Celtic, Folk, Cowboy and Originals. Contact: 296-2017 or 250-4429; <a href="mmcoy3@msn.com">mmcoy3@msn.com</a>. *Eagle's Whistle*: Same group, but also with Andy

#### The Singing Coyote Sisters

Moss on whistle and concertina.

Donna Coy & Michelle Palmer perform Celtic, Folk, Gospel, and Sing-A-Longs. Contact: 296-2017 or 730-1985 <a href="mmcoy3@msn.com">mmcoy3@msn.com</a>



#### **IAS T-Shirts for Sale!**

You can get yours at any IAS meeting, or contact Paul McDonough to arrange purchase (<a href="mailto:penthormul@aol.com">penthormul@aol.com</a>, 294-8205). The T-shirts come in a variety of sizes, from small to XXL. There are also white shirts with a Celtic knot and the Zia symbol. T-shirts are \$15 for short sleeve; \$20 for long.

## **Calendar of Events**

## **IAS Events**

Date	Day	What
December 1	Tuesday	IAS Board of Directors meeting, 7 PM at the GAC. All members are
		invited to attend.
December 13	Sunday	IAS Annual Christmas Party, Noon to 5 PM at the GAC. (See front page
		of this newsletter for details.)
January 5	Tuesday	IAS Board of Directors meeting, 7 PM at the GAC. All members are
		invited to attend.
January 8	Friday	IAS Monthly Meeting and Program, 7 PM at the GAC. Program: A
		"Getting to Know You" Evening of Games and Activities.

### **Celtic/GAC Events**

Cettle/GAC Events			
December 3, 10,	Thursdays	Irish Music Session, every Thursday night at Joliesse Chocolates, in the	
17		North Valley at 6855 4th Street NW, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, 7 to	
		9 PM. For more info, contact Harlow Pinson at <a href="mailto:hpinson@indepthl.com">hpinson@indepthl.com</a> .	
December 4	Friday	St. Nicholas Children's Christmas Party at the GAC, 6 PM. No charge.	
		Bring a wrapped present for your child with their name on it.	
December 5	Saturday	Slow Celtic Session at Apple Mountain Music, 10 AM to 12 noon. (For	
		more info, contact Apple Mountain Music, 10301 Comanche NE, 505-	
		237-2048.)	
December 5	Saturday	Fasching Royal Ball, 7 to 11 PM. \$10 charge. Jim Brauer's Schunkel	
		Buben Band performing.	
December 13	Sunday	Scottish Session at Apple Mountain Music, 2 PM to 4 PM. (For more	
		info, contact Apple Mountain Music, 10301 Comanche NE, 505-237-	
		2048.)	
December 19	Saturday	<i>Open Irish Session</i> at Apple Mountain Music, 2 PM to 4 PM. (For more	
		info, contact Apple Mountain Music, 10301 Comanche NE, 505-237-	
		2048.)	
December 19	Saturday	Christmas Party at the GAC, 7 to 11 PM. \$10 Charge. Band still to be	
		decided.	
December 20	Sunday	Jazz Sunday at the GAC, 2 to 5 PM. (\$5 for IAS members.)	
December 31	Thursday	New Year's Eve Party at the GAC with Showcase performing. Call	
		888-4833 for more information.	

## A Message from the GAC:

The Edelweiss Am Rio Grande German-American Club (GAC) is a private club and as such cannot solicit by advertising or otherwise participation in its events and activities to the general public. The IAS is an associate club of the GAC and all IAS members and their bona fide guests are welcome at all GAC events and IAS events held at the GAC.





# The Irish-American Society of New Mexico

P.O. Box 13435 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87192-3435

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Irisn-Ai	merican s	ociety	of New Me	XICO
	Membership A	Application/R	enewal Form	
Please check one: New Me	_			
If this is a renewal, has yo				
Please make checks payab	le to <b>The Iri</b> s	sh-Americ	can Society	
and mail to: P.O. Box 134			-	
Individual	\$20.00 Family_		\$25.00 Student	\$10.00
Name	_		_	
Address				
City	State	Zip		
Phone	E-mail			
Would you like to receive (Note: Student members a			•	
Birthday (Name)		Month	Day	(optional)
Birthday (Name)				
Anniversary Month				-