



IRISH TIMES

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

MARCH 2019

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 meeting location is the Memorial Hall at the First Unitarian Church, 3701 Carlisle Blvd NE, SW corner of Comanche and Carlisle.

Next Event: Saturday, March 16th, 6 PM

Annual St. Patrick's Day Party!

Full details of this year's party are on the flyer on p. 6 and on our website, www.irishamericansociety-nm.com. Here are the wonderful entertainers for this year's party:



Shenanigans



NM Fire & Police Pipes & Drums



Rye Creek Band



Duke City Ceili Band



Celtic Steps Irish Step Dancers

A Last Friendly Reminder:

If you have not paid them already, your dues are now overdue for the 2019 membership year. If you do not renew this month, this will be your last newsletter and you will no longer receive any email alerts. You can pay by credit card, check, or cash. (If your current membership card says "2019," your membership is good till Dec. 31st, 2019.)

2019 Board Members and Committee Chairs

President	Ellen Dowling edowling@standuptrainer.com	307-1700	Health & Welfare	Don Hardy frananddon@aol.com	259-3348
VP	Bob Bryers tcrrb5@aol.com	792-2026	Newsletter	Ellen Dowling edowling@standuptrainer.com	307-1700
Treasurer	Kathy Wimmer Kmillewimm@comcast.net	249-7012	Hospitality	Laura Banks & Maureen Riley	
Secretary	Joanne Connolly jnagelc@gmail.com	615-3581	Web Manager	Ellen Dowling edowling@standuptrainer.com	307-1700
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Board	Open: Volunteer Needed				
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Board	Maureen Riley mriley6918@yahoo.com	884-0731			
Board	Kari Laverty krichgirl@gmail.com	(801) 390-0702			



Would you like to place a sponsorship in the *Irish Times* newsletter?

Your sponsorship will also appear on the IAS website (www.irishamericansociety-nm.com) at no extra charge.



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President's Message

By Ellen Dowling

Dear IAS Members:

Thanks to wonderful musician Casey Mraz, who delighted us with some lovely and lively Irish standards (and some of his own bluesy/jazzy compositions) at our February 8th meeting. (We all smiled when he asked if anyone knew “The Irish Rover.”) And our new space, the hall at the First Unitarian Church is indeed a great place for a musical performance—so comfy and intimate that Casey could play an acoustic set. Be on the lookout for Casey’s band, Los Metamorfos, as they play all around town. (We’ll try to get the whole band to play for us in the future.)

And now we are counting down to our biggest event of the year: our St. Patrick’s Day Party, this year on Saturday, March 16th, from 6 to 10 PM at the Jewish Community Center (JCC). (See the flyer on p 6. for details.) All of this is new to us—we’ll be in a new space, with a new caterer, and we have to provide our own beer and wine. This is why we are requiring everyone to purchase entry, dinner, and/or beer and wine tickets no later than March 11th, so we can tell everyone how many people will be attending and/or eating and drinking. Sales are moving briskly; be sure to get your tickets soon in case we sell out!

Now for a request: We need folks to help us the night of the party—with decorating, setting up sound equipment, working the door, and undecorating after the party. We also think it would be great if we had someone to set up a “children’s area” for kids to be amused while their parents listen, sing, and dance. If you can help us out, please let me know (edowling@standuptrainer.com 505-307-1700).

And another call for a volunteer: We need another board member-at-large. Our thanks go to Jay Vandersloot for his many years of service as both past president and board member. Due to an incredibly busy work/volunteer schedule, Jay has had to resign his board position, and we are looking for someone to take his place. Let me know if you’re interested.

Membership Report

By Brynn Cole

Céad Mile Fáilte (A Hundred Thousand Welcomes) to our newest members: Michal Mudd; Davonna, Don, & James Armijo; Randy Rockett (welcome back!); and Paul, Kimberley, & Frank Fahey.

As of 2/18, there are 5 students, 41 families (82 people) and 60 individuals. This is a total of 147 renewals and new members for the 2019 membership year.

REMINDER: Your 2018 IAS membership expired 12/31/18. If your current member card(s) end in 2018 - it is time to renew for 2019. You can do so in person by cash or check, mail in your check (the form is on the last page of this newsletter), or pay online by credit card at www.irishamericansociety-nm.com.

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 Steve & Kari Laverty & family, AND Sarah Erb Mitchell from Helena, Montana (via grandmother Lottie McDonald).

Treasurer's Report January 2019

Kathy Wimmer, Treasurer

Category	Income	Category	Expenses
Membership (check/cash)	\$915.00	U-Stor-It monthly storage fee	\$35.00
Membership (electronic)	\$67.06	Ck #129: Norita (printing, stamps, envelopes)	\$61.90
St. Pat's Party sales (electronic)	\$125.62	Ck#130: January meeting honorarium	\$50.00
Coleman Academy newsletter sponsorship	\$60.00	Ck#131: Rhubarb & Elliott, catering deposit for St. Pat's party	\$200.00
Donation	\$24.27		
Total Income	\$1,191.95	Total Expenses	\$346.90
		IAS Account prior month's ENDING balance	\$8,347.45
		Plus Income (current month)	\$1,191.95
		Less Expenses (current month)	(\$346.90)
		Current month's Ending Balance	\$9,912.50



**aryeh
frankfurter
& Lisa
Lynne**

**IN CONCERT
TUES - MARCH 05
7:00 PM**

Celtic Harps, Rare Instruments
& Wondrous Stories

Unity of Albuquerque
9800 Candelaria Rd. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87112
505.292.1998

General admission \$20
Seniors/Students \$15
Advance tickets at
BrownPaperTickets.com
event # 4057059

uscabq.org LisaLynne.com Lionharp.com

Lisa Lynne and Aryeh Frankfurter also performing in Santa Fe on March 2nd

Besides their Albuquerque concert on March 5th (see box on left) Lisa Lynne and Aryeh Frankfurter will also be performing rare instruments and stories at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Santa Fe on Saturday, March 2, 2019 at 7PM. The concert will take place at the UU Santa Fe, 107 West Barcelona Road in Santa Fe. Tickets are \$20. Advance tickets for Santa Fe at <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4047488>. Advance tickets for ABQ at <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4057059>. For more info, call 505.982.9674.

Lisa Lynne and Aryeh Frankfurter are a Celtic harp and multi-instrumentalist duo. They share a background as progressive rock musicians who later discovered a love for Celtic, Renaissance and Swedish music on unique acoustic instruments. They hail from Oregon and tour extensively around the US and Europe. They perform as a duo, as a trio with legendary storyteller Patrick Ball, and with the Windham Hill Winter Solstice tours.

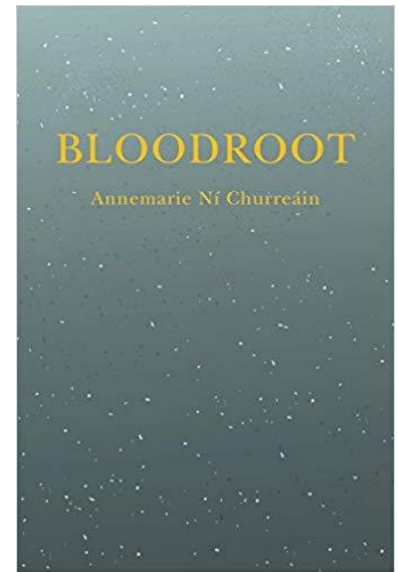
The Irish Book Club

The Irish Book Club is now online! If you are on Facebook, just type The Irish Book Club into the search bar (or click on <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2022642747761043/>), and you'll find us. In January, we read *Bloodroot*, a collection of poems by Irish writer Annemarie Ní Churreáin (pronounced "Nee Hurr-ann"). [Note: As I type this, Annemarie herself is in New Mexico on a poetry tour! Several book club members and myself plan to attend her poetry reading at UNM on Feb. 22.] Our book for February (which we'll start discussing on March 1st) is *The Flight of the Wren*, a novel by Orla McAlinden.

Bloodroot by Annemarie Ní Churreáin

An Amazon reviewer of this collection entitled his review, "A stunning display of lyrical strangeness!" and I think the book club members who read Annemarie's poems would have to agree at least about the "strangeness" part.

Ellen's take: "I've decided that my favorite poem is *Six Ways to Wash Your Hands* (Ayliffe, 1978). A little googling revealed that the title refers to an actual 1978 treatise on proper hand washing, by G. A. Ayliffe (and others). The six ways include '1. Wet hands, apply soap and rub palm to palm' and '2. Rub right palm over left dorsum and left palm over right dorsum.' Ah, but there's so much more going on here. The subtitle of the poem is 'for the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation,' which, as I think many of you must know, 'was established in 2015 by an order of the Irish government in the wake of claims that the bodies of up to 800 babies and children may have been interred in an unmarked mass grave in the Bon Secours Mother and Baby Home, located in Tuam, County Galway.'"



Kathy Wimmer's view: "I, too, was quite moved by *Six Ways to Wash Your Hands*. I also especially liked the poems that tied into mythology and history, where I could explore the subject further on the internet. That brings me to *Cult - after the Head of Brigid, Cavan*. I saw a replica of the Corleck Head (a three-face deity, associated with the Head of Brigid, since the actual head is lost) in the Cavan Museum the summer before last. Powerful." And John Roche concurred: "So many good poems, and the book is quite interlocked. Almost one poem. Especially moved by *On Visiting Ellis Island, Wall*, and *Six Ways to Wash Your Hands*."

These poems are not quick reads and they are certainly challenging, as Pete McKenna pointed out: "Ms. Churreáin's short selection of verse appeared to me to be couched in code – Irish, Catholic and feminine – for which I had no key for understanding. I think a women, in Ireland (and likely broadly attuned feminists elsewhere), could read this selection with greater clarity and appreciation. As the selections went on I found some toward the end of volume that I thought I understood and appreciated those, but for the most part, this offering was lost on me."

And here is [Annemarie's own explanation](#) of the source of her poems: "*Bloodroot* is a book dedicated to my foremothers, in particular the women of my family whose voices were not always heard. The title poem references the journey my grandmother took in the spring of 1951 from Northern Ireland down into Co. Westmeath where she gave birth to my father at the Castlepollard Mother and Baby Home. It was here, in the same year that Noel Browne resigned as minister for health following the failed Mother and Child Scheme (which the Catholic Church called 'anti-family') that my grandmother was forced to relinquish her child to adoption. It is at this point in the history of the State that poetry as a form of protest began like a code to write and rewrite itself into the DNA of who I am."

See p. 8 for the poems *Bloodroot* and *Cult*.



Come Join Us!

**The Annual IAS
St. Patrick's Day Party**

Saturday, March 16th, 2019
6:00-10:00 PM

The Ronald Gardenswartz Jewish Community Center
5520 Wyoming Boulevard NE (Between Spain and Academy)

Entry Fee

\$15 Adults (over 16); \$5 Children 5-15 (under 5: free)

Featured Entertainment

6:00 PM: *Celtic Band Shenanigans*
7:00 PM: *Celtic Steps Irish Step Dancers*
7:30 PM: *NM Fire & Police Pipes & Drums*
8:00 PM: *The Duke City Ceili Band*
Audience Participation Ceili Dancing with Norita
9:00 PM: *Celtic Band Rye Creek*

Dinner (optional)

Traditional corned beef, cabbage/potato stew (vegetarian), and Irish soda bread for \$20; all-beef hot dogs, chips and carrot sticks for \$15. Water and lemonade, plus dessert, will be served with dinner.

Dinner will be served from 6 to 8 PM.

Beer and Wine (optional)

Local craft beer (from Quarter Celtic Brewpub) and wine service \$10 (for 3 drinks).

Beer and wine will be served from 6 to 9 PM.

**ENTRY, DINNER, AND BEER AND WINE TICKETS MUST BE
PURCHASED BY MONDAY, MARCH 11th!
(NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR)**

You can purchase tickets online at www.irishamericansociety-nm.com

Minutes of the General Meeting

February 8th, 2019

Joanne Connolly, Secretary

President Ellen welcomed approximately 30 members and guests to our new meeting place at the First Unitarian Church on Carlisle and Comanche NE. Board Members present:

Treasurer: Kathy Wimmer
Secretary: Joanne Connolly
Membership: Brynn Cole
Board: Paul McDonough
Board: Maureen Riley
Board Laura Banks
Board Kari Laverty

Reports

Treasurer: Kathy reported that the current month ending balance is \$9,192.50.

Membership: Brynn reported that current membership is 5 students, 37 families, and 56 individuals, for a total of 135. President Ellen reminded the members to pay dues for 2019 to Brynn or on the IAS website:

www.irishamericansociety-nm.com.

Housekeeping: We use this space at the Unitarian Church hall with the agreement to clear the tables and put away the tables and chairs at the end of our meetings. Ken Callahan has taken the lead in hoisting the tables back on the rack with welcomed help from members.

St. Patrick's Day Party, March 16th at the Jewish Community Center (5520 Wyoming NE) from 6pm to 10pm: plans are underway and the entertainment will be grand! We must plan all dinners and drink requests in advance, so we will sell NO tickets at the door the night of the party. Laura Banks has the signup forms and will take cash or check tonight. Others can RSVP and pay on our IAS website or mail their checks. All RSVPs and payment must be in hand before March 11.

We need volunteers to help with the Party. Maureen passed around the signup sheet for specific tasks, such as helping Norita decorate the room (put on the tablecloths) and then fold up the tablecloths after the party at 10 PM. Other opportunities include welcoming party guests at the door, checking their RSVPs, and giving dinner and drinks tickets, or wristbands (whatever we decide).

Each table tonight had a stack of publicity flyers to distribute – and if you need more flyers, copy them. President Ellen will email the flyer to our membership.

The business part of tonight's meeting began at 7:10 and ended at 7:25.

Our entertainment tonight was Casey Mraz singing and playing foot-stomping, hand-clapping Irish songs, and a few of his own. He sounded really authentic, singing Irish folk songs, which just goes to show "Everyone is Irish," since Casey's family was Czech, from Prague!

68TH ANNUAL



BROTHER mathias

CORNEB BEEF & CABBAGE DINNER

TO BENEFIT THE GOOD SHEPHERD CENTER

SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2019

3:00PM-6:00PM

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ticket prices \$15 adults

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ONLINE AT www.gscnm.orgGARSON'S; 2415 SAN PEDRO NE; GOOD SHEPHERD CENTER; 218 IRON SW;
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COORS BLVD NW #1; IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH; 224 7TH ST

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT DEACON STEVE RANGEL 505-249-6416

Poems by Annemarie Ní Churreáin

Bloodroot

at Castlepollard Mother and Baby Home

Behind the gates, a black awakening of trees.
Were you made to kneel here too, Mary, Josephine,
Bernadette?

If I call you by your house-names will you speak?

Torn avenue and pillars either side, I am here for the
girl
who had birds in her eyes.

If I render a wing may she speak?

Father with two red seeds in your palms,

If I show you my bones spilling out
will you show me a stone in this yard that can speak?

Doors if I stitch you a collar of lace all Spring
as I wait for the first-born
heat please, won't you open and speak?

Home, I press my lips to your ruins three times
and circle the grounds like a beast, if I say my root
to this earth

who will hear when I speak?

Cult

after the Head of Brigid, Cavan

Six-eyed and made of stone, it is said the head
of Brigid was carried to a lake and lowered in
until only a thin afterwave remained.

This is what happens to women who brew medicine,
who bend iron, who drive cattle on their own land
in the Upper Kingdom and all over the earth.

Dreamless now, I touch the water in the font,
cold as medals, streaked with my blood.

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. Call 866-5867 for information or visit our web site at www.irishdancemnm.org and www.colemanacademy.com.
- ♣ **Celtic Steps Arizona/New Mexico (formerly Tir Conaill Academy of Irish Dance),** at the McDermott Athletic Center, 801 Loma Colorado, Rio Rancho. Call 505-415-4390 or visit <http://celticsteps.org/albuquerque/> 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 www.ktao.com.)

Celtic Steps Irish Dance Classes

50% off Regular Tuition prices for first month!!

Classes for beginner dancers age 4 to adult!
The McDermott Athletic Center
801 Loma Colorado Dr., Rio Rancho, NM
For Information and to sign up now
Contact: Christopher McGrory, ADCRG,
Director, CelticSteps, Albuquerque
520-991-3605 or

christopher.mcgrory@gmail.com

Or Kate Padilla at 505-415-4390 or

khpadilla2001@yahoo.com

<https://www.themacsports.com/celtic-steps-irish-dancing>



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Free Genealogy Research Days!

Interested in learning more about your family history but don't know where to start? Come to THE GENEALOGY CENTER at the ABQ Library (2nd floor), on the corner of 5th and Copper, where volunteers will help you one-on-one in your quest. Celtic Research is held from 1-3 PM on the last Tuesday of the month.

Free parking for two hours at the parking garage on the SE corner from the library, just get your ticket stamped at the library.

Questions? Contact Robert Harper at
robertharper48@comcast.net

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 Kathy Wimmer and Marc Roberts. For information, contact Kathy at 249-7012.

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

Celtic music from Scotland, Ireland, Brittany, and Galicia, spiced with jazz and world beat. Contact: Harlow Pinson at hpinson@indepthl.com 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)

The Duke City Ceili Band will entertain you with fast paced jigs and reels, lilting waltzes, and rousing sea shanties from the Irish traditional repertoire. Find them on Facebook or contact Cleve Sharp at 507-9915 or clevelans@comcast.net.

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.

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 (neomexicana@hotmail.com) or Ron Trellue, 505-362-2551 (trellue@swcp.com) or visit www.myspace.com/ryecreeknm.

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; mmcoy3@msn.com.

Eagle's Whistle: Same group, but also with Andy Moss on whistle and concertina.

The Singing Coyote Sisters

Donna Coy & Michelle Palmer perform Celtic, Folk, Gospel, and Sing-A-Longs. Contact: 296-2017 or 730-1985 mmcoy3@msn.com

Cans for Celts

Help raise funds for the Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival and Highland Games in 2019! 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 or large appliances.) For pick up between meetings – contact Paul McDonough @ 505-294-8205 and leave a message. Thank you!

Calendar of Events

IAS Events

Date	Day	What
March 7	Thursday	<i>IAS Board of Directors meeting</i> , 7 PM, location to be announced. All members are invited to attend.
March 16	Saturday	<i>IAS Annual St. Patrick's Day Party</i> , 6 to 10 PM at the Jewish Community Center. (See flyer on p. 6 for details.)
April 4	Thursday	<i>IAS Board of Directors meeting</i> , 7 PM, location to be announced. All members are invited to attend.
April 12	Friday	<i>IAS monthly meeting and program</i> , 7 PM at the Unitarian Church hall, Comanche and Carlisle. Musical performance by Friends Forever.

Celtic/GAC Events

GAC hours are Mon, Tues, Wed: 3 to 8 PM; Thurs, Fri: noon to 10 PM; Sat: noon to 11 PM; Sunday: noon to 6 PM.

March 1	Friday	<i>Karaoke at the GAC</i> , 4:30-6:30 PM.
March 1	Friday	<i>Rye Creek Band</i> performing at Oasis Lifelong Adventure, 2-3:30 PM. Visit www.oasisabq.org or call 505-884-4529 to register.
March 2 and 5	Saturday and Tuesday	<i>Lisa Lynne and Aryeh Frankfurter Celtic Harps concert</i> , March 2 in Santa Fe and March 5 in ABQ. Both concerts start at 7 PM. (Details on p. 4.)
March 2	Saturday	<i>Maskenball at the GAC</i> . Meal 5:30 till 6:45; music 6:30 till 10:30. Door fee \$10; meal fee \$10. Music by Hit Squad. Call 505-888-4833 not later than Thursday, Feb 28 th (call weekdays between 4 and 9 pm) to reserve meal.
March 5	Tuesday	<i>Kehraus (end of Fasching ceremonies and dance) at the GAC</i> . Music by Walter Kirsch.
March 7, 14, 21, 28	Thursdays	<i>Albuquerque Traditional Irish Music Open Session</i> from 7- 9 PM at ABQ BBQ, 7520 4 th St. NW, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque. Reels, jigs, hornpipes, waltzes, set dances, and occasional singing. All are invited to participate or just listen. Food, non-alcoholic beverages, beer and wine, are available. 7 to 10 PM. For more info, contact Harlow Pinson at hpinson@indepthl.com .
March 10	Sunday	<i>Rye Creek Band</i> performing at O'Niells Pub Nob Hill, Central and Washington, 4 to 7 PM.
March 15	Friday	<i>Rye Creek Band</i> performing at the Bear Canyon Senior Center, 4645 Pitt St., 11:30 – 1:00 (St Patrick's Day lunch music).
March 16	Saturday	<i>Apple Mountain Celtic Session</i> from 1 to 3 PM at High and Dry Brewing, 529 Adams St. NE, ABQ. (Contact Jim Crowley jabbas40@yahoo.com).
March 17	Sunday	<i>Brother Mathias Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner</i> , 3 to 6 PM at St. Pius X High School. (See p. 8 for more info.)
March 17	Sunday	<i>Rio Grande Jazz</i> at the GAC from 2 to 5:30 PM.
March 23	Saturday	<i>Shamrock Fest</i> at Balloon Fiesta Park, 11 to 6 PM.
March 30	Sunday	<i>Early Bird Dance</i> at the GAC, 1-5 PM. Door fee: \$12; light potluck (appetizers, desserts, sweet/salty snacks).



**The Irish-American Society
of New Mexico**

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Irish-American Society of New Mexico

Membership Application/Renewal Form

Please check one: New Membership Application _____ Renewal _____

If this is a renewal, has your contact information changed? Yes _____ No _____

Please make checks payable to **The Irish-American Society**
and mail to: P.O. Box 13435, Albuquerque, NM 87192-3435

Individual _____ \$20.00 Family _____ \$25.00

Student _____ \$10.00

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