



IRISH TIMES

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

MARCH 2022

Note: Irish-American Society meetings are usually held on the second Friday of each month, except during July and August (and for special events).

Next Event: Saturday, March 19th 1 to 4:30 PM at the GAC: Our Annual St. Patrick's Day Party, Once Again Live and in Person!



A Jug O'Punch Celtic Band



NM Fire & Police Pipes & Drums

Performances by local musicians and dancers! A potluck feast! A silent auction of cool Celtic things! A no-host bar! And lots of good craic and a ton of malarkey! (Details on p. 9.)



Brightburn Academy Irish Step Dancers

We also need a bunch of volunteers to help pull this off. (See p. 4 for the list of tasks.)



The Duke City Ceili Band

A Last Friendly Reminder:

If you have not paid them already, your dues are now overdue for the 2022 membership year. If you do not renew this month, this will be your last newsletter and you will no longer receive any email alerts. See p. 3 for information on how to pay by card, check, or cash.

2022 Board Members and Committee Chairs

President	Karen Wall Logos68540@gmail.com	909-583-1545	Health & Welfare	Don Hardy dbhardy725@gmail.com	505-259-3016
Treasurer	Kathy Wimmer Kmillemimm@comcast.net	505-249-7012	St. Pat's Day Party Chair	Maureen Riley mriley6918@yahoo.com	505-884-0731
Secretary	Tracee Edwards tracee_tlc@yahoo.com	505-730-8381	Newsletter Editor	Ellen Dowling edowling@standuptrainer.com Elena Gallegos elenavgallegos@aol.com	505-307-1700
Membership	Vacant: Need Volunteer(s)		Hospitality	Molly Martin mollymartin98@msn.com Maureen Riley mriley6918@yahoo.com	505-884-0731
Board	Molly Martin mollymartin98@msn.com	505-362-9824			
Board	Cian Fulton inked.gardener@gmail.com	530-570-2698	Web Manager	Ellen Dowling edowling@standuptrainer.com	505-307-1700
Board	Caren Garcia careng225@msn.com	505-908-0786	Audio Services	Jim Brauer rkeating14@comcast.net	505-352-2195
Board	James Connolly jjconnollyjdphd@mac.com	860-538-1144			
Past President	Ellen Dowling edowling@standuptrainer.com	505-307-1700			

Would you like to place a sponsorship 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 (edowling@standuptrainer.com 505-307-1700). 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 Karen Wall

Slainte!

WOW! It's already almost the end of February, and we are still clogging along. First off, thank you everyone for your loyalty and commitment to keep things going despite COVID's best efforts. We're Irish—'nough said!

At our February 11th zoom meeting, we had a great visit with Pierce Turner, an Irish musician from Wexford, who shared his stories about how he started and what he has been up to.

The big news for now is our upcoming St. Patrick's Day celebration at the GAC on March 19th. We're looking forward to a real craic time! [Details and information about COVID guidelines on p. 9.]

Remember to send in your stories about your Celtic doggos to Elena Gallegos (elenagallegos@aol.com) to include in upcoming newsletters before the Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival (June 4-5 at Balloon Fiesta Park). What a fun idea!

Also, remember to renew your memberships now so you don't miss out on anything, especially these great newsletters. The Board of Directors has been awesome in making sure we take care of you all (and ourselves of course) in the ways that we Irish are famous for. I'm ready for some soda bread! I hope you are as well! Have a wonderful day and I'll see you soon.

Membership Report

By Gwen Easterday

Céad Mile Fáilte: Thank you to all those who have renewed their memberships for 2022. Sadly, we have no new members to report over the last month. But St. Patrick's Day is coming soon and I suspect we'll see some new members in March.

Three more folks selected to again be an Associate Member of the German American Club (GAC). If you are one of those folks and you feel you need that card right away, please send an email message to me at greasterday@aol.com and I'll expedite that card. That brings the total Associate Members to 19.

Last month, I reported as of January 17th, 2022, we have 30 individuals and 29 family (x 2) renewals for a total of 88 members. So far this month, we have 34 individuals and 33 family (x2) renewals for a total of 100 members.

A final note from me: This will be my last Membership Report as I have advised the Board of Directors of my need to resign this position. If you or anyone you know would like to volunteer to take on this position, please let President Karen Wall or any other board member know of your interest.

To renew your membership with a credit card, visit www.irishamericansociety-nm.com. To pay by cash or check, fill out the form on the last page of this newsletter and mail it to our PO box.

Message from Norita Callahan:

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 Janet Patterson & Peter McKenna, Barbara Nagey, and the Mac-Tire of Skye Pipe and Drum Band.

Treasurer's Report January 2022

Kathy Wimmer, Treasurer

Category	Income	Category	Expenses
Membership—electronic	\$391.94	U-Stor-It monthly storage fee	\$40.00
Membership—cash/check	\$200.00	Ck# 265: Colin Broderick, January honorarium	\$100.00
GAC Associate Membership	\$30.00	Ck# 266: Lawrence Compton (supplies for Jan newsletter mailings)	\$23.50
To defray cost of sending hard copies of newsletters	\$15.00	Ck# 267: Norita Callahan, reimburse for 6 mos. rental IAS PO box.	\$102.00
Donation to defray Square (electronic) fee	\$5.00	Ck# 268: GAC, damage deposit for St. Pat's party March 19 (refundable if no damage)	\$200.00
Newsletter sponsorship: Two Fools	\$118.26	PayPal mistake: Kathy Wimmer will reimburse (IAS acct. accidentally used for personal charge)	20.00
Total Income	\$760.20	Total Expenses	(\$485.50)
		IAS Account prior month's ENDING balance	\$9,450.13
		Plus Income (current month)	\$760.20
		Less Expenses (current month)	(\$485.50)
		Current month's Ending Balance	\$9,724.83



We need your help with our St. Patrick's Day Party!

As my Irish grandma Kitty would say, "Many hands make light work." And oh, do we need "many hands" to help with our party on March 19th!

Maureen Riley, St. Pat's Party Chair, has listed below the tasks that need doing to make the party a success. Please call Maureen (505-884-0731) or email her (mriley6918@yahoo.com) and tell her which shift you can work. And thanks from all of us!

1. Set up: Tuesday, March 15th and Friday, the 18th, during the day. Helpers needed to decorate the GAC hall.
2. At the door on March 19th: Shifts available from 12-1, 1-2, 2-3, 3-4, 4-5. Two people working each shift will be best.
3. Helpers needed for the pot luck tables: coffee, tea, plates, placement of food as it arrives, etc.
4. Clean up crew: Help take down decorations, table coverings, sweep, clean pot luck area, etc. (4:30 or 5 PM-finish).

The Irish Book Club

One of the best things about being an online book club is that there need be no interruptions during this trying time. 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. Our book for January was *The Lonely Passion of Judith Hearne* by Brian Moore; in February, we are discussing *56 Days*, by Catherine Ryan Howard; and in March, we'll discuss *Diary of a Young Naturalist*, by Dara McAnulty.

The Lonely Passion of Judith Hearne, by Brian Moore

Amazon's Description: "*The Lonely Passion of Judith Hearne* is an unflinching and deeply sympathetic portrait of a woman destroyed by self and circumstance. First published in 1955, it marked Brian Moore as a major figure in English literature (he would go on to be short-listed three times for the Booker Prize) and established him as an astute chronicler of the human soul. Judith Hearne is an unmarried woman of a certain age who has come down in society. She has few skills and is full of the prejudices and pieties of her genteel Belfast upbringing. But Judith has a secret life. And she is just one heartbreak away from revealing it to the world."

Spoiler alert: Judy Hearne's secret is that she is an alcoholic. And an alcoholic who turns the picture of the Sacred Heart near her bed around so Jesus won't see her drinking. How sad is that?

Review from an Amazon reader: "This exquisitely written novel writes unflinchingly of a genteel, middle-aged Irish Catholic lady living in Belfast in the 1950's. She is plain, she has few useful skills (at least in the world of business), and she is a spinster. Her two chief possessions, adorning the walls of the shabby



Create Something This Year!

When my lovely wife Beverly asked for a custom seal for her correspondence, it took just a day to create the examples you see here.

This is the magic of 3D printing: no matter who you are or what your level of expertise, we can bring any idea to life as a physical object.

It's been a rough couple of years and we're all tired of being stuck at home ... why not break out of the grind and create something new instead?

Contact us and we'll get your project started!



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shead-custom-design.com

boarding house in which she resides, are a picture of her deceased stern aunt, whose grip on her is as yet unloosened, and a print of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, a sign of a piety whose grasp is equally unshakable. And therein lies the passion of *The Lonely Passion of Judith Hearne*.

For Miss Hearne has a passionate nature, deep within her. She longs for the love of a man. And if she cannot have that, she longs for the spiritual consolation that will carry her through her days. Both longings prove to be impossible to fulfill, even though at time, at least to Miss Hearne, their fulfillment seems to be within sight, and even though they are irreconcilable longings. And so, quite shockingly and, it would seem, not at all inevitably, she turns to drink.

Despite the novel's pathos, there are wonderful comic portraits: of the scoundrel James Madden, returned from Brooklyn; of the landlady Mrs. Rice and her fat son Bernard; of the unkind priest, Francis Xavier Quigley. To enter the world of Judith Hearne, so beautiful and so bleakly sketched, is to enter another time and place and to be invited to think about the suffering of a woman so ordinary and unassuming that she is, to all intents and purposes, invisible."

Recipe for Bailey's Scones

By Carol Williford via Elena Gallegos

It seems like a lifetime ago, but at our January 2019 meeting, IAS member Carol Williford cooked us an Irish pudding made with seaweed. Yum! You may remember that Carol went to Ballymaloe Cookery School in Shannagarry, Co. Cork, Ireland. Here she shares her recipe for Bailey's Scones.

Preheat oven to 375⁰ (if you live at a higher elevation like we do in Albuquerque), otherwise 400⁰.

Into a medium size bowl mix together:

1 1/2 cups flour
3 Tablespoons sugar
1 1/4 tsp baking powder
1/2 tsp salt

Then add:

4 Tablespoons of cold butter cubed
Run the butter and flour through your fingers to blend them together until the mixture resembles tiny peas.

Make a well in the center of the mixture and add:

1/2 cup whole milk (use additional milk if mixture is too dry)
1 1/2 Tablespoons of Bailey's
Mix together using your hands until it forms a ball.



Place on parchment on a cookie sheet.

Form a round and flatten. (Dust your hands with flour if the mixture is sticky.)

Cut pie-shaped wedges or use a round cookie cutter.

Brush top with egg wash and sprinkle sugar on top.

Place cookie sheet in freezer or refrigerator so the dough will become cold again for 10 minutes.

THEN:

Bake for 22 minutes @ 375⁰ (in higher altitudes)

Bake 12 minutes @ 400⁰ (in lower altitudes)

Allow to cool for 5 minutes.

Bailey's Icing:

To 3/4 cup powdered sugar, add Bailey's until the mixture freely flows off the spoon. Drizzle over the scones.

Member Spotlight: Jim Crowley

By Elena Gallegos



I had the pleasure of interviewing fellow IAS member Jim Crowley via e-mail. He will be performing for us at our upcoming St. Patrick's Day party [as part of the Duke City Ceili Band], which I know we are all looking forward to!

1. Your talk on Brexit back in January 2020 was great! Any updates or a part two lecture in the future?

Brexit is not going well for the British. Pretty much every downside, predicted by people who saw the folly of Brexit (they were called "Remoaners" at the time), have come to pass. There have been large losses in terms of exports of British products, huge losses across the economy, and loss of political power as the US, China, Russia, and everyone else looks to the EU as a more important partner and the UK no longer has a seat at that table. Basically, a second lecture on Brexit would be titled, "Well, we told you so." And, of course Russia is involved again because a weaker EU is better for a Russia controlled by Putin. It was pointed out

by an expert recently that Russia massing troops at the border of Ukraine is not actually about NATO expansion at all. It's about Ukraine growing too close to the EU and what that means for the people in power in Russia. Russia is not worried about the US in this case, but the growing power and influence of the EU and the countries east of the EU.

2. You are from Mallow, Co. Cork. Would you tell us a little about your hometown, what you miss about it, and how things have changed since you've been abroad?

Mallow town sits on the Blackwater River. In 1185 a castle was built close to north bank and also right at the crossing point of the river to control the flow of goods and levy tariffs as was the noblemen's desire. Mallow and the surrounding countryside were very focused on business related to agriculture when I was growing up. You didn't have to walk far from the main street before you were in the countryside. That has changed, and Mallow is now a big urban sprawl, and you cannot get from one side of town to the other without getting stuck in a traffic jam. It's only 22 miles from Cork city, so it's become a place you can commute to workplaces like Apple and Pfizer (we manufacture all Pfizer's Viagra in Cork!) and all these other international corporations which have large presences in the region.

3. How long have you lived in the U.S.? How long have you lived in NM and why NM?

I'm here in New Mexico just over five years. When I was working out of Bangkok for IBM, I met a woman from El Paso. The usual story.

4. How long have you been a member and how did you find out about the IAS?

I've also been a member of the IAS for close to five years. At one of my first outings to a traditional Irish music session in Albuquerque, I was fortunate to bump into the incomparable Norita O'Callaghan. She had me introduced to anyone and everyone in about five hot minutes.

5. How does one acquire the title master fiddler? Competitions? Do you play in pubs around ABQ? Are you classically trained as well? Do you play Bluegrass too?

First off, I'm not a master fiddle player. However, I do know a few of them and they are completely engrossed in the instrument and the music. It's a way of life and they surround themselves with the music. The music just becomes an extension of themselves. I am definitely not a good candidate for competitions. I would be too nervous; I'll leave those for the younger generation to chase. I'm not classically trained but have played all sorts of music and instruments over the years. My main strength is arrangements and production for pop/indie and of course traditional Irish music. I do have a fiddle album coming out in a couple months, called *Far from the Old Country* (shameless plug), but it's not strictly a traditional fiddle album. I've played old time and a little bit of bluegrass back in Ireland for "The Prairie Dogs" and "The Mississippi Moonshine Project."

What's Your Celtic Tree?

By IAS Board Member Caren Garcia

CELTIC SIGNS AND OGHAMS



Most people, believers or not, know their astrological sun sign, but do you know which tree represents you in Celtic lore? Some call it Irish Astrology. Believed to have been used from about 1000 BCE until the time of the Romans, here is a rundown on the types and meanings of the ancient tree symbols. There are also associated colors, animals, and gems for each sign, like our birth stones. It is also used for foretelling one's future. (The information below was adapted from an article by Dmitri Kara.)

Dec 26-Jan 20	Birch	The Achiever	Driven and passionate
Jan 21 - Feb 17	Rowan	The Thinker	Creative/visionary
Feb 18 - March 17	Ash	The Enchanter	Free-thinking/spontaneous
March 18 - April 14	Alder	The Trailblazer	Pioneer/innovator
April 15 - May 12	Willow	The Observer	Intuitive/Lifelong learner
May 13 - June 9	Hawthorn	The Illusionist	Curious but calm
June 10 - July 7	Oak	The Stabilizer	Fair and confident
July 8 - August 4	Holly	The Ruler	Brave leader
August 5 - September 1	Hazel	The Knower	Thirsty for knowledge
September 2 - September 29	Vine	The Equalizer	Strong-willed and unpredictable
September 30 - October 27	Ivy	The Survivor	Optimistic and restless
October 28 - November 24	Reed	The Leader	Great willpower/ learner
November 25 - December 25	Elder	The Scholar	Resilient and opinionated

The ancient Ogham alphabet, of which many are aware, is also associated with this system. Last year, I made both of my sons a framed rag paper grouping of their tree sign, related data, and the ogham letter and word. Not great art, but a fun project. Below are the letters and symbols for each tree. If you've seen Ogham writing, it is a very simple set of lines written in a column.

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Come Join Us!
The Annual IAS
St. Patrick's Day Party

Saturday, March 19th, 2022

1:00-4:30 PM

At the German-American Club
 4821 Menaul Boulevard Northeast



Entry Fee

\$10 Adults; \$5 Children (5 to 12 years); free for under 5

(The entry fee is used to pay the performers and the GAC hall rental.)

Tickets may be purchased in advance at www.irishamericansociety-nm.com
 or at the door with cash, check, or credit card.

Featured Entertainment

1:00 PM: *Celtic Band Jug O'Punch*

2:00 PM: *Brightburn Academy Irish Step Dancers*

2:30 PM: *NM Fire & Police Pipes & Drums*

3:00 PM: *The Duke City Ceili Band*

Audience Participation Ceili Dancing with Norita

Silent Auction with Lots of Cool Celtic Things!!

Cash bar provided by

the German-American Club

(Coffee and tea provided by the IAS; no outside drink allowed.)

Pot Luck!!

Please bring a dish to share and mark your utensils with your name.

Reservations and vaccinations required: Email (mriley6918@yahoo.com) or call (505-884-0731) Maureen Riley and tell her how many are in your party, their vaccination status, and what dish you will be bringing. (Reservations are also needed so the GAC will know how much Guinness and Jameson's to order! 😊)

Pandemic Protocol: All attendees must be vaccinated, but wearing a mask is now optional.

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

Bardic Sisters

Storytelling, narratives, readings and poetry with and through musical accompaniment. Gwen Easterday and Kathy Wimmer on Celtic harps, other folk instruments, and vocals. Contact Kathy at kmillewimm@comcast.net (505-249-7012).

Colleens and Lassies

Featuring Irish and Scottish songs and tunes with Mary Templeton and Kathy Wimmer on fiddle, Celtic harp, and other instruments. Contact Kathy at kmillewimm@comcast.net (505-249-7012).

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.

A Jug O'Punch

A trio playing Irish music galore! Contact Suzanne Taichert: suzannetaichert@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 Jim Crowley: jabbas40@yahoo.com.

Michele Buchanan, Harper

765-1288 (tmbuchs@gmail.com)

Mountain Road

Featuring Dain Forsyth on flute, whistles, bodhrán, and vocals, and Scott Estes on DADGAD Guitar and Irish Bouzouki, Mountain Road provides gorgeous airs, driving reels and jigs, stories and songs for all occasions.

Contact: dleeforysthe@gmail.com
<https://www.tradbodhran.com/ensembles>

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 play Celtic, Folk, Cowboy and Originals. Contact: 296-2017 or 250-4429; mmcoy3@msn.com.

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

Culture All Around

Dance Classes:

♣ **Brightburn Academy of Irish Dance (formerly Celtic Steps Arizona/New Mexico)**, at the McDermott Athletic Center, 801 Loma Colorado, Rio Rancho. Call 505-415-4390 or visit <https://www.brightburnacademy.com> for further information.



FOR INFORMATION ON CLASSES FOR CHILDREN AGES 4 & UP, AS WELL AS ADULTS,
SEE OUR WEBSITE OR CONTACT KATE PADILLA, MSW, AT
(505) 415-4390
OR BRIGHTBURNACADEMY@GMAIL.COM

<https://www.brightburnacademy.com>

Ceili dance classes are held every Wednesday at the GAC. The **new** time is 6:30 - 8 PM, \$4.00. No experience necessary! We need to see your vaccination card (just once). Masks are mandatory. 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, Sundays at 12:00 noon.
- ♣ **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.)

Two Fools Tavern
where the Craic is Mighty!

Albuquerque's only authentic Irish pub
Food Served Daily 11am-11pm
Friday and Saturdays until 12am

Enjoy the best Fish and Chips this side of the Pond, along with a perfectly poured Guinness or sample New Mexico's most extensive Scotch Whisky Selection.

www.2foolstavern.com
(505) 265-7447 • 3211 Central Ave. N.E. in historic Nob Hill

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

Irish-American Society of New Mexico

Membership Application/Renewal Form

Please Check One: Membership Application Membership Renewal

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

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

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please choose your membership level:

Student (\$10) Individual (\$20) Family (\$25) *

(Optional) Additional Associate Membership to the German-American Club (\$5 per person)*

* If you opt to add the additional GAC fee to a family IAS membership, please indicate which members of your family should receive a GAC associate membership card (and add \$5 per person to your total dues):

(Optional) If you receive your newsletter by US mail (instead of electronically), please consider adding an extra \$5 to your annual membership to help offset the costs of mailing and postage.

Enclosed is a total of \$_____

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

OR

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