



IRISH TIMES

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

OCTOBER 2018

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: Friday, October 12th, 7 PM

[Note: This meeting, and all other meetings/events for 2018 will take place at the GAC.]

Touring Ireland with Frankie Davis!

Our speaker for October will be Frankie Davis, a sponsor of the IAS and owner/operator of Frankie's Irish Tours.

Frankie's Irish Tours is a small, family-run business based in Carlsbad, NM. They specialize in running small group tours to Ireland and experiencing life in Ireland as a local with a local as their guide. They bring their guests to the locals where they are, whether it be at their houses, at their local pubs, or at their place of work.



As Frankie puts it, anybody can get on a big bus tour or plan a trip themselves to see the famous scenes of Ireland, but what his company prides itself in is giving people the real Irish experience, which is embedded in their people. Frankie himself is an Irishman, and has worked and lived all over the country in his 50 years there. He is delighted to be able to offer people an insider's view of Ireland and the Irish way of life, as he is fortunate enough to have connections all over the country and friends and family members who are willing to open up their homes and lives to the guests that travel with him, to allow them to get the true and authentic Irish experience.

And Frankie also says, "Ireland of a thousand welcomes still has those thousand welcomes; you just have to know who to ask." Frankie will be showing us pictures of places he has traveled to and experiences of previous tours he has taken to Ireland to date.

We hope to see you there and we hope that you will bring a sweet or salty snack to share!

2018 Board Members and Committee Chairs

President	Ellen Dowling edowling@standuptrainer.com	307-1700	Health & Welfare	Don Hardy frananddon@aol.com	259-3348
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Board	Laura Banks LLBanks64@comcast.net	582-4333			
Board	Maureen Riley mriley6918@yahoo.com	884-0731			



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 (edowling@standuptrainer.com 307-1700). Your ad will also appear on the IAS website (www.irishamericansociety-nm.com) at no extra charge.



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nmknights.com
New Mexico
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Coleman Academy of Irish Dance
Classes - Performances - Workshops
(505) 720-6979 Jennifer London, TCRG
(505) 720-7068 Kimberly Coleman, TCRG
www.ColemanAcademy.com



Frankie Davis
Owner/Tour Guide
(575) 706 4923
frankiesirishtravels@yahoo.com
www.frankiesirishtravels.com

President's Message

By Ellen Dowling

Dear IAS Members:



We had a great turnout for our September meeting at NOTZ pub! Although the service was problematic 🙄 the food was good and the musicians were GREAT!

Special thanks to the Duke City Ceili Band, who performed exquisitely, and fiddler Dylan Foley, who was brilliant! (You can see videos of both the Band and Dylan on the [IAS Facebook page](#).) And then there were Norita's Ceili dancers, Kelly Skehan's set dancers, Grace Broadband's step dancing, and lots of waltzing Celtic folk—a wonderful evening of Irish craic!

[Note: This meeting at NOTZ was a one-off event. For the rest of 2018 we will meet in our usual place, the German-American Club. For 2019, well—our new location(s) will be announced at our October meeting and in the November newsletter.]



I also want to thank the many folks who helped make our annual picnic on August 26th such a success, including Board members Laura Banks, Norita Callahan, Paul McDonough, Maureen Riley, Pete McKenna, and Jay Vandersloot. Special thanks to the wonderful musicians who came and played and sang: Michele Buchanan and the lovely voices of the Celtic Singers of NM, Kathy Wimmer and Suzanne Taichert and their guitars, Doug Cowan and his flute, and Harlow Pinson and Grace Broadhead and their fiddles. Elena Gallegos was filled with glorious Celtic music. (And thanks to all who brought the yummy side dishes!)

Looking ahead, I am putting together a committee to plan and prep for our St. Patrick's Day 2019 party (which will take place on Saturday, March 16th. We will be holding this event in a new location (to be announced) and we're going to need all hands on deck to pull it off. Please let me know if you're interested in being on the planning committee. In the meantime, hope to see you all at the Oct. 12th meeting or the Halloween Party on Oct. 27th!

Membership Report

By Norita and Ken Callahan

Céad Mile Fáilte (*A Hundred Thousand Welcomes*) to our newest members: The Holt family (Jessica M., Timothy L., Sara T., Melissa L., & Hunter L. Garcia), Robert McMahon, and Rebecca Vaughan.

As of September 20th, there are 82 family members (x 2), 90 single members, and 7 students. This is a total of 261 renewals and new members.

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 and Kari Laverty & family, Barbara Nagey, and Emmett O'Sullivan, plus 2 "no name" baggies from the GAC.

Treasurer's Report August 2018

Kathy Wimmer, Treasurer

Category	Income		Category	Expenses
Membership (check/cash)	\$30.00		U-Stor-It (August)	\$35.00
Ad: Frankie's Irish Tours	\$60.00			
Total Income	\$90.00		Total Expenses	\$35.00
			IAS Account prior month's Ending Balance	\$9,517.43
			Plus Income (current month)	\$90.00
			Less Expenses (current month)	(\$35.00)
			Current month's Ending Balance	\$9,572.43

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



October 6 & 7, 2018
Aztec, New Mexico
Riverside Park

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Aztec Highland Games Association

Our Games Brought to You By: 

Featuring the
Four Corners Regional
Highland Games Championship

Defend **YOUR** State's Honor in the
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use individual scores to represent their
respective state on a virtual team.
Rules and Registration available on our website:
www.AztecHighlandGames.com

Be part of this epic event!
**Don't forget the rest of
the Celtic Festival...**

- Highland Dance Competition
- Two full days of Celtic Music
- Pipe Bands
- Celtic Vendors & Food
- Clan Tents
- Bonny Knees Competition
- Headlining: The Stubby Shillelaghs

The Irish Book Club

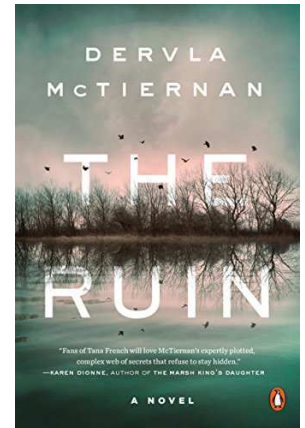
The Irish Book Club is now online! If you are on Facebook, just type The Irish Book Club into the search bar (or click on <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2022642747761043/>), and you'll find us. In August, we read *The Ruin*, A Novel, by Dervla McTiernan, who lives in Cork. Our choice for September (which we'll start discussing on Oct. 1st) is *Spill Simmer Falter Wither*, by Sara Baume. (I found a copy of this book in my local library.)

The Ruin, by Dervla McTiernan

From Amazon's description: "When Aisling Conroy's boyfriend Jack is found in the freezing black waters of the river Corrib in Ireland, the police tell her it was suicide. She throws herself into work, trying to forget—but Jack's sister Maude reappears in Ireland after years abroad, determined to prove Jack was murdered.

Meanwhile, Detective Cormac Reilly, who was recently transferred to Galway from his squad in Dublin, is assigned to dig into a cold case from twenty years ago—the seeming overdose of Jack and Maude's drug- and alcohol-addled mother. Other detectives are connecting Jack's death to his mother's, and pushing Reilly to arrest Maude, and fast. But instinct tells him something isn't quite what it seems.

This unsettling small-town noir draws us deep into the dark heart of Ireland, where corruption, desperation, and crime run rife. A gritty look at trust and betrayal where the written law isn't the only one, *The Ruin* asks who will protect you when the authorities can't—or won't."



This book was suggested to us by book club member Maura O'Keefe Baiardo. Here's Maura's take on it:

"Overall, I found the book a quick read; mostly likable for sentimental reasons. The Galway setting of the book was like a walk down memory lane for me as I lived there in college. I could easily picture Cormac and Aisling walking down Mill Street, across Bridge Street, through Eyre Square, and they hit all my favorite old haunts: The Kings Head, The Quays, Busker Browns, and Roisin Dubh. Boy do I wish I could visit Galway more often!

Overall character development was limited, but seeing as this appears to be the first in a crime series with Cormac, the author could slowly unfold his story over time. I was able to feel for Maude and Aisling, but only in response to their loss and abuse.

I thought the plot was intriguing; it had enough twists and turns to keep me interested. I liked the chapter titles with dates to help me with timeline, and how alternate chapters followed different characters. It worked for this book. I was a bit disappointed to see that the Jake/Maude cases never really got closed with Keane and Schiller getting any post-mortem blame. They only briefly revisited with Maude and Aisling after the death of Danny, but had a long chapter from Carrie's point of view (who wasn't an essential character). The side-story of Fisher working on a separate unsolved murder case seemed to be the only real closure for the story. I guess Cormac needed to have at least one win.

The theme of Church and State issues impacting children propelled the story. I kept being struck by how the family unit was deemed more important than the child, even in the most dysfunctional situations. I was interested in learning more about Irish orphanages and foster care in 30s - 70s. And of course the Catholic sex/physical abuse and subsequent decline of the Church in Ireland (e.g., The Magdalene Sisters, etc.) remained in the forefront of my mind throughout the book. After reading, I was interested in the timeline of Irish laws for child protection and was shocked to see how long it took for their development compared to other developed nations."



**Hallowe'en
AKA
Celtic New Year Celebration**



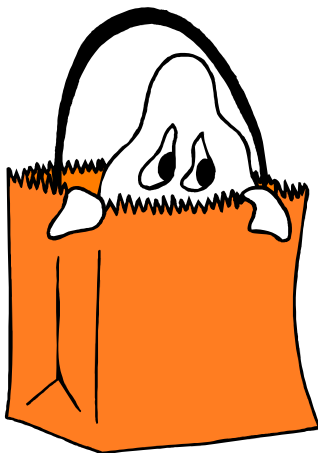
**Saturday, October 27th, 2018
at the German-American Club
4821 Menaul NE
6:30 to 10:30 PM
Variety Dance Music By
*DJ Madie***

**\$7 Adults – 21 & under free
Costume Prizes - Judging at 8:00 PM
(Costumes always optional! We need folks to be judges, too!)**

**Please bring a salty or sweet snack to share
Coffee/Tea Provided – Cash bar**

**Sponsored by
The Irish-American Society
The German-American Club**

Bring all your friends for some howlin' good craic!



**For more information,
contact Norita Callahan
(noraabq@yahoo.com, 298-2708).**



So I Went to Ballymaloe Cookery School . . .

By IAS member Carol Williford

Life is all about the journey. One of my goals (since I was eight) was to live overseas. This spring I made that promise a reality by living on the Emerald Isle for three months (as Americans we only get 90 days). After three flights I finally landed in the wee hours of the morning. Customs at Shannon greeted me with the usual welcome, “How long are you here for? Did you bring money? Welcome to Ireland!” After a fairly long bus ride (picking up people on their way to work), I arrived in Bunnratty. It was 7:30 in the morning, google maps wasn’t working on my phone, and I needed to find my BnB (they had a hot breakfast waiting). Fortunately it was close to the bus stop, so I checked into my room, ate an incredible breakfast, and slept till three PM (eight AM Mountain Time). Spent the rest of the day exploring, keeping hydrated, and enjoying the moment. The next day I travelled to Cork, shopped for items I couldn’t bring on the plane (all those crazy new luggage restrictions), stayed in a BnB above a pub, enjoyed the sights, sounds, food, and people. In the morning I was off again to where I would be staying until the middle of July on an organic farm in Shanagarry. I was going to Cookery School at Ballymaloe!



Wait! How did I decide to go to Ireland for—what was that again? Culinary school? Yes ma’am and not just for a day, weekend, or week long cooking adventure but 12 weeks! So now you’re asking, “What on earth prompted you to do that? Why not just relax? You just retired!” That may be true, but I can’t sit still for more than five minutes. Then again, why not?

About 12 years ago my youngest child graduated from the College of Santa Fe armed with a shiny new diploma in Film and Photography. And as the parent of two millennials, I can testify they don’t always go after a career in whatever they majored in. She announced to me four months before graduation that she wanted to go to culinary school. At the time I was working in the Bastrop Texas schools, which is a suburb of Austin. As fortune would have it, there was a Cordon Bleu Culinary school located there. So my daughter did the Baking and Pastry Arts certification and an externship in chocolates.

I vicariously went to school with her and decided I wanted to give it a go when I “graduated” from teaching. It took several years to find a program that wasn’t a year long, was taught in English, and in a country I would enjoy for an extended period of time. Ballymaloe Cookery School met the criteria, past students wrote wonderful blogs about it, and it was in one of my all-time favorite places to visit—Ireland!

Stay tuned: In my next installment I will chronicle my adventures in food, as I learned how to measure everything in grams and liters, cook on a hob, bake in degrees Celsius, and relearn how to pronounce things like paprika (PAP-rikuh). You will be amazed at what I learned in 12 weeks!

Irish Music Sessions in Taos! Jamie Wells of Taos says, "Irish music is alive and thriving in Taos at Eske's Pub! (106 Des George's Place <https://www.eskesbrewpub.com>) Gatherings there are free and all are welcome. We play on the fourth Monday of each month at 7 PM, weather permitting. September 24 and October 22 are our next scheduled gatherings. We play traditional Irish music: jigs, reels, hornpipes, aires, and a variety of instruments: fiddles, flutes, whistles, concertinas, mandolins, etc. We are always happy to have new musicians play with us, and there's good fish and chips, chili, and brews to go with it." Questions and updates on when sessions are scheduled: contact Jamie Wells at jaima@taosnet.com.

The Celtic Origin of Halloween

Adapted from Wikipedia by Jay Vandersloot

Samhain (sow win) is a Gaelic festival marking the end of the harvest season and the beginning of winter or the darker half of the year. Traditionally, it is celebrated from 31 October to 1 November, as the Celtic day began and ended at sunset. This is about halfway between the autumn equinox and the winter solstice. It is one of the four Gaelic seasonal festivals, along with Imbolc, Bealtaine, and Lughnasadh. Historically, it was widely observed throughout Ireland, Scotland, and the Isle of Man. Similar festivals are held at the same time of year in other Celtic lands; for example, the Brythonic Calan Gaeaf (in Wales), Kalan Gwav (in Cornwall), and Kalan Goaŋv (in Brittany).

Samhain is believed to have Celtic pagan origins and there is evidence it has been an important date since ancient times. Some Neolithic passage tombs in Ireland are aligned with the sunrise around the time of Samhain. It is mentioned in some of the earliest Irish literature and many important events in Irish mythology happen or begin on Samhain. It was the time when cattle were brought back down from the summer pastures and when livestock were slaughtered for the winter. As at Bealtaine, special bonfires were lit. These were deemed to have protective and cleansing powers and there were rituals involving them. Like Bealtaine, Samhain was seen as a liminal time, when the boundary between this world and the Otherworld could more easily be crossed. This meant the Aos Sí, the spirits or fairies, could more easily come into our world. Most scholars see the Aos Sí as remnants of the pagan gods and nature spirits. At Samhain, it was believed that the Aos Sí needed to be propitiated to ensure that the people and their livestock survived the winter, so offerings of food and drink were left outside for them. The souls of the dead were also thought to revisit their homes seeking hospitality.

Feasts were held, at which the souls of dead kin were beckoned to attend and a place was set at the table for them. Costuming was part of the festival, and involved people going door-to-door in costume (or in disguise), often reciting verses in exchange for food. The costumes may have been a way of imitating and disguising oneself from the Aos Sí. Divination rituals and games were also a big part of the festival and often involved nuts and apples. In the late 19th century, Sir John Rhys and Sir James Frazer suggested that it was the "Celtic New Year," and this view has been repeated by some other scholars.

In the 9th century AD, the Western Christian Church shifted the date of All Saints' Day from the month of May to 1 November, while 2 November later became All Souls' Day. Over time, Samhain and All Saints'/All Souls' merged to create the modern Halloween.

Inaugural

Edgewood Celtic Festival

SATURDAY OCTOBER 20, 2018 9AM-6PM



Celtic Music by Local Entertainers

Pipers & Pipe Bands

Highland Heavy Games

Celtic Dogs

Local Microbreweries

Highland Clans and Celtic Societies

Merchandise & Food Vendors

and more!



Bonfire at 6PM

Entry is \$5 a person for 12 and over
Take I-40 Exit 187 onto NM 344 for 1.5miles north






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.irishdancenm.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.)



Come learn to be a Rio Grande Riverdancer!

Irish Dance Lessons

at

The McDermott Athletic Center
801 Loma Colorado, Rio Rancho

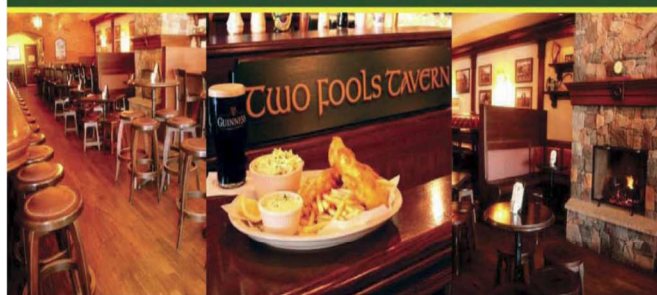


Classes for beginner dancers - ages 4 to adult!

For more information and to sign up now

Contact:

Christopher McGrory, ADCRG
Director, Celtic Steps Albuquerque
520-991-3605 or christopher.mcgrory@gmail.com
or Kate Padilla at 505-415-4390



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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 <http://www.oniells.com/>



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)

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)

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 2018! 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
October 2	Tuesday	IAS Board of Directors meeting , 7 PM at the GAC. All members are invited to attend.
October 12	Friday	IAS Monthly Meeting , 7 PM at the GAC. Program will be a lecture on Ireland by Frankie Davis of Frankie's Irish Tours. (See p. 1.)
October 27	Saturday	Halloween (Samhain) Party at the GAC. (See flyer on p. 6.)
November 6	Tuesday	IAS Board of Directors meeting , 7 PM at the GAC. All members are invited to attend.
November 9	Friday	IAS Monthly Meeting , 7 PM at the GAC. Lecture on the life of Irish poet Seamus Heaney by IAS member John Roche.

Celtic/GAC Events

GAC hours are Mon, Tues, Wed: 4 to 10 PM; Thurs, Fri, Sat: noon to 10 PM; Sunday: noon to 5 PM
The GAC phone number is 888-4833.

October 4, 11, 18, 25	Thursdays	Albuquerque Traditional Irish Music Open Session 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@indepth1.com .
October 6 & 7	Saturday & Sunday	Aztec Highland Games and Celtic Festival , Aztec, NM. For info, visit www.aztechighlandgames.com .
October 12 & 13	Friday & Saturday	Rye Creek Band performing at the Rio Grande Arts and Crafts Festival, in the Big White Tent at Sandia Resort and Casino, 1:15 – 2:15 (Friday) and 1:45 – 2:45 (Saturday).
October 20	Saturday	Edgewood Celtic Festival , Edgewood, NM. See info on p. 8.
October 20	Saturday	Apple Mountain Celtic Session from 1 to 3 PM at High and Dry Brewing, 529 Adams St. NE, ABQ. (Contact Jim Crowley jabbas40@yahoo.com).
October 21	Sunday	Hungarian Revolution Celebration at the GAC. Call Steve Borbas at 265-7088 for info.

An Irishman goes to the doctor, who after examining him says, "You have some problems with your heart, but if you take these tablets, I think it will be okay." So the doctor gives the man the tablets and the patient asks, "Do I have to take them every day?" "No," replies the doctor, "take one on Monday, skip Tuesday, take one on Wednesday, skip Thursday, and go on like that."

Two weeks later the doctor is walking down the street, and he sees the patient's wife. "Hello, Mrs. Murphy," he says. "How's your husband?" "Oh he died of a heart attack," says Mrs. Murphy. "I'm very sorry to hear that," says the doctor. "I thought if he took those tablets he would be all right."

"Oh the tablets were fine," says Mrs. Murphy. "It was all the bloody skipping that killed him!"



**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

Name_____

Address _____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Phone _____ E-mail_____

How did you hear about us? _____