

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

SEPTEMBER 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: Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 7 PM

# Lecture: The Irish in Albuquerque

Welcome back! We hope you all had a lovely (and not too hot) summer!

For our September meeting, our own newsletter editor Ellen Dowling will present a lecture on *The Irish in Albuquerque*. Her talk will focus on the catalysts that brought first- and second-generation Irish people to Albuquerque, starting in the 1880s, including the military, the railroad, the promise of health, and the dedication of educators (primarily religious).

Among the many people profiled in her presentation, you may recognize the names of Katherine Kennedy O'Connor (the founder of the Albuquerque Little Theatre in 1930), Pat O'Grady (Albuquerque



**1880s Albuquerque**The Fergusson Hook & Ladder Company

Police Chief from 1925 to 1945), William Keleher (founder of the law firm, Keleher & McLeod, which recently celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary), Bernard Shandon Rodey ("Father of the University of New Mexico"), Brother Mathias Barrett (founder of The Little Brothers of the Good Shepherd and inspiration for the annual Brother Mathias Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner every St. Patrick's Day), and James A. Menaul (founder of Menaul School).

[Note: If you can't make the Friday night meeting, Ellen will be giving this same presentation again the following day, September 12, as part of the ABC Library and Historic Albuquerque speaker series, "People Create Cities," at the Special Collections Library, 423 Central NE, from 10:30 to 12 noon.]

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

### 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

#### Dear IAS Members:

Welcome back! I hope you have all had a great summer—and for those of you with school-aged children I am sure you are enjoying yourself!

Looking forward, we have an abundance of events to keep us busy through the upcoming holidays. Paul McDonough will fill you in on all the events coming up but I would like to point out that this upcoming Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, will be our Annual Joint Celtic Picnic at Elena Gallegos Park off Tramway and I hope to see all of you there. (See the flyer on p. 5.) As usual, we will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments and drinks, and are asking each of you to bring either a covered dish or desert to make this event successful. There is no entertainment scheduled, but feel free to bring your favorite musical instrument and join in with each other to "raise the roof." Admission is free, and if there is a park attendant at the gate, just let them know where you are going and he/she will let you pass.

Next up, this year the IAS and the other Celtic communities will be having their own party in October, on Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> at the GAC. We will be celebrating SAMHAIN (pronounced *sah-win or sow-in*), a traditional Gaelic festival marking the end of the harvest season and the beginning of winter or the "darker half." This event will be a costume party, with entertainment, pot luck, and a contest for costumes in various categories. There will be an admission fee at the door to help support the IAS and pay for the entertainment.

That about sums it up for now; I am looking forward to seeing all of you at our next General Meeting on Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup> (also now known as "Patriot Day").

**Bob Bryers** 

# Treasurer's Report July 2015

#### Victoria Bryers, Treasurer

victoria bryers.				ctoria bryers, Treasurer
Category	Income		Category	Expenses
Membership	\$45.00		Print Express (June)	\$311.98
Donation from Old				
Town Celtic Shop	\$100.00			
			Total Expenses	\$311.98
			April beginning balance	\$7961.85
			Plus Income	\$145.00
			Subtotal	\$8106.85
			Less Expenses	\$311.98
Total Income	\$145.00		July Ending Balance	\$7794.87*

<sup>\*</sup>Ending balance includes \$5000.00 from the Celtic Heritage Fund.

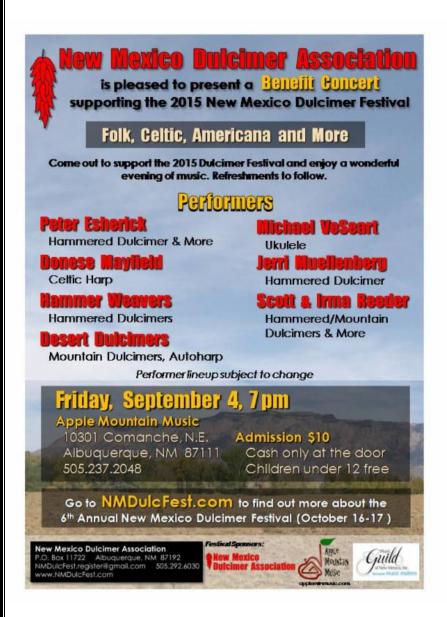
### **Membership Report**

By Norita and Ken Callahan, Membership Directors

*Céad Mile Fáilte*: A hundred thousand welcomes to our new members: Wanda Baca and Judy Kristl. And of course thank you to the many of you who have renewed your memberships. As of August 10<sup>th</sup>, there are 97 family members (x 2) and 136 single members, for a total of 330 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 to Jeanine Blair, Dennis & Rosalie Pfeiffer, Irene Gourlay, Cindy & Bruce Miller, Jeanine Blair & Peggy Blair, and Sheri Kraemer.

Norita





LEARN TO PLAY AN
INSTRUMENT AND
TRADITIONAL MUSIC
ONLINE

For all our friends and customers our new look website 3lmusic.com is ready to launch.

For those of you new to <u>3lmusic</u>, our website is designed to teach people of all ages to play the tin whistle and the flute using a library of online videos produced by Liam Kelly.

Our new site will also offer some new features. One in particular is an easy-touse affiliate programme, which we hope will benefit clubs and associations and even individuals looking to fund-raise. Earn while others learn!

Email <u>info@3lmusic.com</u> for more information

# It's the Irish-American Society's and the St. Andrew Scottish Society's Annual Combined Family Picnic!



at
Elena Gallegos Picnic Area
Kiwanis Reservation Area
Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015
12:00 noon to 4 PM



With malarky, musicians (hopefully\*), and a raffle!

[\*Note: If you play an instrument, please consider bringing it along to the picnic.]

The IAS and the SASS will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, plates, plastic ware, cups, napkins, condiments, and charcoal. BYO coolers with ice and beverages of your choice (sodas will be provided).

PLEASE: NO GLASS CONTAINERS ARE ALLOWED!

Potluck: Please bring a casserole, salad (potato, pasta, fruit, green, etc.) or dessert. Please remember to bring serving implements and remember to PUT YOUR NAME ON ALL IMPLEMENTS AND DISHES!

So we will have an approximate count for meat and bun purchases: PLEASE RSVP TO PAUL MCDONOUGH BY SEPTEMBER 8th

(penthormul@aol.com; 294-8205)

and tell him what dish you will bring and how many are in your party.

The Kiwanis Reservation Area is nestled in the picturesque Elena Gallegos Picnic Area (located east of Tramway, south of Paseo del Norte and just a little north of Academy). It is an outdoor facility with a sheltered picnic area that can accommodate up to 250 people. It is outfitted with three large coal grills; a recreation area with a volleyball net and a horseshoe pit; running water; electricity; restrooms; and access to the Elena Gallegos trails.

Note: The IAS and SASS have already paid for the facility, so just tell the ranger at the gate that you're with either group.

## 100th Anniversary 1916 Uprising Tour

In April 2016 join Derek Warfield and The Young Wolfe Tones on their home soil for an unforgettable 10-day journey around the historical sites and landmarks to commemorate the Irish Rebellion of 1916.

http://www.theyoungwolfetones.com/?page\_id=1215

#### **Tour Includes**

- 10 nights' accommodations as listed in itinerary.
- Full Irish Breakfast each day except arrival.
- Five (5) hotel dinners plus dinner & show at Celt Pub, Dublin.
- All transportation and sightseeing via deluxe motor coach with professional drivers/guides Dave Yeates & Mike Hogan throughout.
- All taxes and surcharges.
- Porterage of ONE suitcase.
- Portfolio of travel documents.
- Visits/Admissions: St. Edna's Museum, Kilmainham Jail, Glasnevin Cemetery, Bru Na Boinne Visitor's Center (Newgrange or Knowth subject to confirmation), Giant's Causeway. Belleek Pottery, Jackie Clarke Museum, Clonmacnoise, Cliffs of Moher, and Dunbrody Ship Museum.

After spending nearly 40 years as founder/leader of the legendary Wolfe Tones (named after the 18<sup>th</sup>-century Irish Revolutionary Theobald Wolfe Tone), Derek Warfield is revered as a singer, songwriter, historian and entertainer in all parts of the world where Irish roots have been put down. The Wolfe Tones enjoyed phenomenal success with 13 best-selling albums, 3 number one hits, many television appearances and shows in esteemed venues such as New York's Carnegie Hall and The Royal Albert Hall in London. In 2006 Derek put together a band containing some of the finest musicians and singers in Irish music – The Young Wolfe Tones.

# Celtic Jam Session at Witch's Brew!

First and Third Tuesdays of Every Month (at the site of the former Blue Dragon, 1517 Girard Blvd NE) 7 – 9:30 PM

Both musicians and audience members invited!

For more info, contact Cleve Sharp clevelans@comcast.net

# 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. 237.2048.

# Book Review: The Valley of the Squinting Windows by Brinsley MacNamara

By Ellen Dowling



Somewhere in my readings and browsings I came across this novel, published in Dublin in 1918, by Brinsley MacNamara (real name: John Weldon).

What interested me immediately was the account of the outpouring of malice that greeted its publication, mainly from the inhabitants of the author's own hometown of Devlin, Co. Westmeath. The book is not overtly set in Devlin; the action takes place in the fictional town of Garradrimna, Co. Meath. But the Devlin dwellers had no doubt whatsoever that the book's characters were based on themselves, and they were furious to be so negatively depicted. (So furious that they held a public book burning after the publication and then boycotted the author's father, a schoolmaster.)

What in this book could have caused so much animosity? Well, of course I had to read it to find out.

The Valley of the Squinting Windows tells the story of Nan Byrne, once the beauty of the village, who fell madly in love with Henry Shannon, a wealthy farmer, went away with him on a forbidden "honeymoon" where they posed as man and wife, and who subsequently gave birth to a child who was spirited away upon its arrival and supposedly buried alive in a field somewhere.

Disgraced, and watched constantly by the "squinting windows" of the title, Nan settles for a life of toil, trouble, and loneliness with Ned Brennan, with whom she has a son, John. She was happy for a short time in her marriage to Ned, but then one of the "squinting" villagers spilled the whole sordid story of his wife's "sin" to Ned, who from that time on lived with his wife (for over 18 years!) in an atmosphere of disgust and spite. Despite all this bitterness, when Nan's son John grows up he declares his intention to become a priest, which pleases his mother no end and makes her believe that her son's vocation will wipe out any memories of her former sullied youth. In the meantime, Henry Shannon has married Grace Gogarty, and has also had a son, Ulick (born around the same time as Nan's dead baby). Much to Nan's dismay, John Brennan and Ulick Shannon become fast friends.

Then a new schoolteacher, Rebecca Kerr, arrives in the valley (squint, squint), and all hell breaks loose. I can say with certainty that there is really not one likeable character in this book (except maybe the poor, putupon Rebecca Kerr, whose neighbors describe her as a "bold-looking hussy, with not a bit of shame in her at all"). My favorite character is the village postmistress, who has no qualms about reading everyone's letters as they come across her desk and then spreading the news with glee. Most every person in the town of Garradrimna (especially any man) is a drunk; the little town itself has six pubs! Drink is the cause of the novel's central tragedy as well as its most hilarious moments.

This is a book that will make you laugh out loud and snigger in silence. No wonder the inhabitants of Devlin were outraged!

Note: I would love to get more book reviews (movie reviews, too) from the membership. Let me know if you're interested in reading (or watching) and writing one!

## 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, 6.30pm, and Saturdays, 10.00am

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:

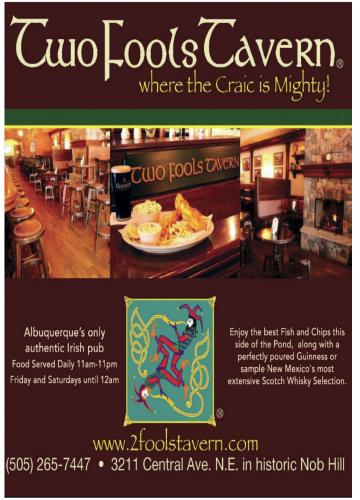
\* Coleman Academy of Irish Dance. Saturdays, 8 AM to 1 PM at the Lloyd Shaw Dance Center, 5506 Coal SE, and classes in Socorro on Saturdays, 3:30 - 6 PM at the Cottonwood Valley Charter School. Call 866-5867 for information or visit our web site at www.irishdancenm.org and www.colemanacademy.com.

- ♣ *Tir Conaill Academy of Irish Dance*, Saturdays at Triple Threat Performing Arts Studio (on Tramway between Academy and Paseo), 12700 San Rafael, Suite 6, Albuquerque, NM. Call 379-3753 or visit <a href="https://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 <a href="mailto:anslovernavy@comcast.net">anslovernavy@comcast.net</a>.

#### 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 (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 <a href="mailto:celticcoyotes@yahoo.com">celticcoyotes@yahoo.com</a> (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 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.c om

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

You can get yours at any IAS meeting, or contact Paul McDonough to arrange purchase (penthormul@aol.com, 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
September 1	Tuesday	IAS Board of Directors meeting, 7 PM at the GAC. All members are
		invited to attend.
September 11	Friday	IAS Monthly Meeting and Program, 7 PM at the GAC. Lecture on "The
		Irish in Albuquerque" by Ellen Dowling.
September 13	Sunday	IAS/St. Andrew Scottish Society Joint Annual Picnic, 12 noon to 4 PM
		at Elena Gallegos Park. (More info on p. 5.)
October 6	Tuesday	IAS Board of Directors meeting, 7 PM at the GAC. All members are
		invited to attend.
October 9	Friday	IAS Monthly Meeting and Program, 7 PM at the GAC, performance by
		Tir Conaill Iris Stepdancers.
October 23	Friday	Samhain (Halloween) Party at the GAC. See October newsletter for
		details.

#### **Celtic/GAC Events**

Tuesdays	Celtic Jam at Witch's Brew, 1517 Girard Blvd NE, 7 – 9:30 PM. For
	more info, contact Cleve Sharp <u>clevelans@comcast.net</u> .
Thursdays	<i>Irish Music Session</i> , every Thursday night at Joliesse Chocolates, in the
	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> .
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.)
Saturday	Weinfest at the GAC with Swingshift Band performing, 7 to 11
-	PM. Cost \$10.
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.)
Saturday	Open Irish Session at Apple Mountain Music, 2 PM to 4 PM. (For more
-	info, contact Apple Mountain Music, 10301 Comanche NE, 505-237-
	2048.)
Saturday	50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party at the GAC with Jim Brauer's band performing,
•	7 to 11 PM. Cost \$10.
	Thursdays  Saturday  Saturday  Sunday  Saturday

### 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

lrísh-Ai	nerican	Society (	of New Me	XÍCO
		Application/Re		
Please check one: New Me	mbership Appl	icationl	Renewal	
If this is a renewal, has you	ir contact infori	nation changed?	Yes No	
Please make checks payab	le to <b>The Ir</b> í	sh-America	an Society	
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and mail to: P.O. Box 1343	35, Albuquerque	e, NM 8/192-34	35	
Individual	20.00 Family		\$25.00 Student	\$10.00
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Anniversary Month	Day	(optio	nal)	