



IRISH TIMES

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

APRIL 2023

Note: Irish-American Society meetings are usually held on the second Friday of each month, except during July and August (and for special events). For all future meetings, we are back at the German American Club at 4821 Menaul Blvd NE.

Next Meeting:
Friday, April 14
7:00 PM at the GAC:
A Visit from an Irish Storyteller!

No doubt many of you have heard of the Irish *seanchaí* (shan-a-key) or storyteller. Without a written language, the *seanchaithe* (plural form) of ancient Ireland carried the history, genealogies, myths, and legends of their society. From generation to generation, they passed the stories down by memorizing long lyric poems and reciting them to their audiences. In the 20th century, *seanchaí* and Tony Award-winning actor Éamon Kelly wrote, “The storyteller was the local historian and genealogist—a walking library, the repository of folk wisdom and culture.” Well guess what—we have our own *seanchaí* right here in New Mexico!



His name is Morris Peterkin and he tells us, “I am originally from Cherokee, NC. My mother was a Cherokee and my father's bloodline is Egyptian. My grandfather from four generations past was an Irishman from Co. Kerry. I lived in Ireland for many years studying Irish Gaelic and collecting folk stories, as well as learning the Irish sagas. I lived on the Dingle Peninsula for a few years, and that is where I met my wife, who is German. We moved to Bavaria and lived in a village with a strong Celtic history. My work has moved me since to New Mexico and we currently reside in Placitas.”

Morris plans to tell two to three stories regarding real life experiences from folks in the countryside in and around Co. Kerry. He will also have a sort of show and tell, as he will bring some authentic Celtic artifacts and tell the stories of how he obtained them.

This should be a most educational and enlightening presentation and you don't want to miss it!

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

2023 Board Members and Committee Chairs

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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.



Frankie's Irish Tours
Frankie Davis
Owner / Tour operator
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frankiesirish tours@yahoo.com
www.frankiesirish tours.com

President's Message

By Caren Garcia

We had a great Irish month! We want to keep that going this spring with lots of fun activities. In March we had our biggest event, the St. Patrick's Day Party, which featured great entertainment and loads of *craic*. Thanks again to the wonderful Duke City Ceili Band, the Ceili Dancers, the Brightburn Academy Step Dancers, Aden the Piper, and Jug O' Punch, who played extra numbers while we began cleaning up! Special thanks to Kathy Wimmer and Molly Martin, who were in charge of party preparations, and Jim Brauer, master sound technician.

This year we had a lot of interest from the community, perhaps because everyone is out and about again. Our organization and party were the subject of an article in *Albuquerque the Magazine* and on KOB Talk Radio a week before the event. We were also invited to be present when the State Senate passed and read a Memorial celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement and honoring our heritage in the month of St. Patrick's Day. Pretty impressive for a group like ours!! Thanks to Kathy Wimmer, Patrick McDermott, and Betty Carter, who accompanied me to the State Capitol, and volunteers who we initially planned to have perform, but were circumvented due to time constraints, Dain Forsythe and Aden Kemp.



We are looking forward to being entertained by an authentic Irish storyteller, Morris Peterkin, in April, and harpist and author Michele Buchanan in May. Where else could you get this kind of quality entertainment and social interaction in a safe and fun environment? I'm so proud to be a part of this group and hope you are too. If you haven't already done so, please renew your membership so you don't miss out on our awesome newsletters and informative emails curated by Ellen Dowling. If not for her, I would probably have missed the Super Ceili in February and a Celtic Music cultural event at the Albuquerque Public Library on Central & Unser March 12th. Performing were members Kathy Wimmer, Gwen Easterday, and Dain Forsythe, among others. Ellen keeps us informed and is a priceless resource.

Finally, announcing the winner of the tee shirt design contest: Virginia Maria Romero! She is a multi-talented artist and member who lives in Las Cruces. I can't wait until you all can see (and buy) the tee shirts!

Fáilte roimh (welcome) springtime!

Membership Report

By Molly Martin

Cead Mile Failte: We would like to welcome new members to the Society: Stephen Gardner & Lorna Greenway, Sharon MacArthur and Family, Terry and Jim Cahill, Colleen Rieder, and Mercedes Clemens and family. Thank you for joining us!

Spring is upon us, and the renewals and new memberships have been flowing into the Society. As of March 14th, we have one student, 45 individual, and 45 (x 2) family memberships for a grand total of 136 members.

[Editor's Note: Because we had such a great turnout at our St. Pat's Party, we are going to extend the deadline for renewing your membership to April. **So if you have not renewed, this will be your last newsletter.** Don't let that happen! Go here: www.irishamericansociety-nm.com.]

Message from Norita Callahan: RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE STILL SEEKING PULL-TAB DONATIONS! But also a message from the Ronald McDonald folks: **“A REMINDER: only aluminum pull tabs are a part of this program. Please make sure your donation does not contain steel tabs. Thank You!”** Thanks this month to Steve and Kari Lavery & Family.

Treasurer's Report As of February 18, 2022*

Kathy Wimmer, Treasurer

Category	Income		Category	Expenses
Membership—cash/checks	\$380.00		U-Stor-It monthly storage fee (electronic payment #985049)	-\$40.00
Membership—electronic/Square (less fees—see expenses)	\$185.00		Square fees: memberships	-\$8.37
To defray cost of mailing hard copy newsletters	\$15.00		Check #307: John Brinduse, for Saiorse performance at the Feb. General Meeting	-\$100.00
GAC associate memberships	\$30.00			
Amazon Smile Donations	\$10.02			
Total Income	\$620.02		Total Expenses	-\$148.37
			IAS Account prior month's ENDING balance	\$6,726.31
			Plus Income (current month)	\$620.02
			Less Expenses (current month)	-\$148.37
			*Ending Balance as of date of report	\$7,197.96

The Irish Book Club

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 *Mary Lou McDonald: A Republican Riddle*, by Shane Ross; in April we'll be discussing *The Marriage Portrait*, by Maggie O'Farrell; and in May, we'll talk about *Snow* by John Banville. ***This month's Book Club review is by member Bill Nivens.***

***Mary Lou McDonald: A Republican Riddle* by Shane Ross**

In *Mary Lou McDonald, A Republican Riddle*, the story that author Shane Ross recounts is this: Mary Lou McDonald, born May 1, 1969, is a personable and witty woman now in her early 50s. She grew up in Dublin in a troubled but not abusive or violent family during a period of social change in *Eire* (the “southern” Republic of Ireland) and of violent near civil-war turmoil (euphemistically called “The Troubles”) in the six northeastern counties of the island, which have long been named Northern Ireland and which remain part of the United Kingdom. McDonald attended private schools and then Trinity College and had a hesitant career start before plunging into politics with the nominally-republican but thoroughly establishment Fianna Fail party. She also married and became a mother.



Meanwhile in the north of Ireland, civil rights demonstrations gave way to riots and a long-drawn-out asymmetric war fought between Irish Republican forces and the British Army with their Loyalist militia allies. Out of the famous hunger strike campaign of 1981 emerged the Sinn Féin party as a real, electable political entity, no longer simply the legal mouthpiece of the IRA. McDonald, disillusioned with the stodgy corruption of Fianna Fáil, left that party to join Sinn Féin where her talents were welcomed and put to the fore in a series of electoral campaigns with McDonald as candidate. She won election to the Euro Parliament in Brussels and, eventually, to the Irish Dáil. Along the way, her political rise was encouraged and facilitated by Gerry Adams, the unchallenged leader of the strictly-disciplined, moderately leftist/populist Sinn Féin.

Although she claims Irish Republican family and personal sympathies, McDonald never joined the IRA. Therefore, she had to work to gain enthusiastic support from Sinn Féin's northern corps of IRA veterans. She did win that support, to a degree. Now, with Sinn Féin enjoying unprecedented popularity and electoral support both north and south of the partition border, Mary Lou McDonald, who has dedicated her political life to the quest for Irish national unity, appears poised to assume the role of Taoiseach (Prime Minister) in the near future. What sort of leadership will McDonald and her triumphant Sinn Féin give to Ireland? That is the question (or "riddle") which Shane Ross's book raises but does not answer. (Ross indicates he does plan to write a sequel or two.)

When I started reading this book I was skeptical about the author's credentials. Both a journalist and a stockbroker, and himself an elected Irish parliamentary politician, Shane Ross is neither a socialist nor an Irish Republican. He is from an Irish Protestant Dublin background and he attended a private school in England and then Dublin's prestigious Trinity College. He began his political career in the conservative *Fine Gael* party, later taking office as an Independent member of the Irish Parliament, the *Dáil*.

Ross makes no secret of his contempt for the modern (Provisional) Irish Republican Army and for its violent guerrilla-war campaign of the 1970s into the 1990s, which ended in 1998 with the Good Friday Agreement. Ross calls IRA actions "terrorism" and he describes in detail some of the most horrific atrocities attributed to the IRA, while barely mentioning parallel British and Loyalist atrocities. Nor does Ross give any context or motivation for the IRA's actions.

Ross clearly despises Gerry Adams, the previous *Sinn Féin* party president and former member of the *Dáil* who denies having been an IRA member but who is widely presumed to have been an IRA commander, if perhaps from the position of a civilian leader. (i.e., Joe Biden is not a member of the US military, though he is their Commander in Chief). Ross is disingenuous in downplaying Adams's crucial role in the ending of the IRA war campaign. He refers to Adams as a "godfather" emitting a "whiff of Sulphur," and as a "dour," menacing, nearly humorless personality. (Having met Adams myself, I would beg to differ with Ross's personal characterization of the man). Ross snidely implies that Adams still "pulls the strings" controlling Mary Lou McDonald and her career.

One might suppose that Shane Ross would be too hostile and biased a reporter, given that Mary Lou McDonald is the protégé of Gerry Adams and she is now the leader of the *Sinn Féin* party, which includes many IRA war veterans, which supported the IRA, and which still celebrates the IRA's long armed struggle and glorifies its patriot dead, while at the same time adhering to the enduring peace process.

However, having finished the book, I must say that I think his yawning political (and moral) distance from both Ms. McDonald and her party gives Shane Ross a perspective that a more sympathetic biographer might have lacked. His at times grudging, and sometimes amused, admiration for the skills and determination of his subject, Ms. McDonald, often outshines his ire in this perplexing and at times amusing 400-page book. The book is not a slog, but it is very detailed, and Ross tends to repeat himself. Especially for American readers, his parade of arcane Irish political inside knowledge (and Gaelic names) may be daunting. Yet, for a reader like myself, who has some previous grasp of recent Irish history, the book is of value and worth the reading.

With some reluctance, I recommend this book. It is valuable, if slanted. One hopes that in coming years there will be other books about the rise of contemporary Sinn Féin and its leader.

Member Spotlight: Michele Buchanan

By IAS Member Elena Gallegos

I had the pleasure of interviewing long-time IAS member, Michele Buchanan, for the April newsletter. She will be at our May entertainer and will give us an overview of the books she has written that deal with Irish mythology. (You will also see her at the Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival in May as part of the Celtic Singers of New Mexico.)

1. *Would you tell me about your group, Celtic Singers of New Mexico?*

For the last ten years or more I have led the Celtic Singers of NM, accompanying the songs on harp and entertaining at festivals, retirement homes, and various venues. The history behind the songs we sing is so interesting and revealing of Celtic cultures, languages, and customs such as “Waulking the Cloth.” Our group is open to anyone willing to sing in various languages, phonetically of course!

2. *Where do you find the traditional songs that you sing?*

I have been interested in Celtic history/myths since before my teens. I was mostly interested in Egypt from the age of four because *My Book House* volumes had beautiful illustrations. I taught myself to read with those stories.

My marriage to Tom Buchanan brought the heaviest Celtic influence however, as Tom's father was born in Kilsyth, Scotland. The Buchanan Clan is perhaps the oldest clan society, and Tom and I hosted the Clan Buchanan booth at our local games for twenty-five years. We've been married over 53 years, and have two children, Megan and Keith. Three years ago, Zachery, our first grandchild, was born to Keith and Linda, who live in Connecticut. Megan and her husband live here in Albuquerque, so we see them regularly.

3. *How long have you been playing the harp? What kind of harps do you play?*

When I got home from the Albuquerque Public Schools office after suddenly retiring, I announced, “I'm retired!” Tom said, “What do you want to do now?” I said, “I want to learn to play the harp!” This was totally strange, because I'd never had any real music training, the words just “came out of the blue.” Then I thought maybe it was because when I was five, my Irish grandfather gave me an autoharp. (The Connell family originated in Skibbereen, Co. Cork, and immigrated to America maybe a hundred years before I was born. But he was my favorite relative.)

I only play the Celtic harp that Tom built for me in '95, and a lap harp he built a few years after that for airplane travel. It has 36 strings, and full levers. (The lap harp has 22 strings.) I had never played an instrument before, so it was a surprise to learn it so quickly. *Teach Yourself the Celtic Harp* was the book I used, plus help from Donese Mayfield.

4. *Are you originally from New Mexico?*

I grew up in Los Alamos, where my father was a scientist with the Manhattan Project. It was not your normal city to say the least, but after high school, I went to UNM for my degrees in Special Education. I finished my Ph.D. in 1984 and had a lengthy career teaching Behavior Disordered and other students with special needs, including gifted kids. I taught all levels, and all ages of kids, and also taught at the Juvenile Detention Center. Recently I published a book about my teaching experiences, *Stayin' Alive in Special Education*, available at Amazon and local bookstores, as are my other books, *Scota's Harp* and *Who Knows What Song the Sirens Sang?*

5. *Have you travelled to Ireland or Scotland?*

Tom and I traveled to Scotland twice (we just flew over Ireland /stopover). I've taken several Ed Miller tours of Scotland, learned about Burns, etc. and then tried to learn some language. We sing a few songs in Gaelic, Gaidhlig, Welsh, Manx, Doric, and Broad Scots. It's the music that keeps the history alive.



Modern Ireland

By IAS President Caren Garcia

While working on a presentation on modern Ireland, I kept coming across more information that I thought the Society members would love to hear. This article is the product of that research. Over the last 30-40 years, Ireland has evolved from a fairly isolated, agricultural village community-based island to a surprisingly modern urban-centric European nation. The speed with which this has occurred is pretty amazing. The Republic is 62% urban! Its biggest industry is pharmaceuticals via international business contracts and membership in the European Union.

The island contains two governments, two currencies (the Euro and British pound) and two official languages, English and Irish Gaelic. Although a required course in school, Gaelic is spoken by about 39% of the population, but most do not use it on a daily basis. There are, however, districts that are strictly Irish speaking. Known as Gaeltacht areas, they were created in an attempt to preserve the language for future generations. Students can spend a term or a summer in one of these communities to learn more about their country's past and practice speaking their native tongue. Bilingual street signs and city markers are in both Gaelic and English.

Named for a goddess, Eriu (Ireland or Eire) became dominated by the Roman Catholic Church as both a religious and a political institution. With the exception of the 600 or so years in which it was illegal to practice the religion of the majority of the people, the power of their faith survived it all. Modern Ireland has disentangled the bonds of the religious state and created a society in which the rights of individuals to make decisions about things like birth control and marriage have taken precedence over the rigid rule of the church. Ireland was the first to legalize gay marriage by 68% of the vote in 2015 after having legalized divorce in 1997. Two Presidents have been women (both named Mary). Still 82% identify as Catholic.

Although recent research has established that the island has been occupied for over 12,000 years, the population has only surged in recent times, and is now over 5 million. Most recent figures give the 26 counties of the Republic at 4.86 million and the 6 counties of Northern Ireland at 1.86 million people. Not room for the approximately 80 million people of Irish heritage abroad. About ¼ of the population of the island live in Dublin! Talk about urbanization.

The history of Ireland is still very important to its people. Tourism is a vital industry and ancient sites are great draws for those related businesses. Scotland is often where one thinks of when castles are on the agenda, but did you know that there are 30,000 castles in Ireland? More than in any other



country. The oldest artifacts have been found at a site called Ceide Fields in County Mayo. This ancient site (about 6000 years old) is the oldest known ruins in Ireland. The most popular is the Newgrange passage tomb in County Meath. Living next to ancient ruins doesn't affect daily life a bit. I visited a pub (on the left) made from stone put together without mortar that was right across the road from a circle fort (on the right).



Ireland is the only country with a musical instrument as a national symbol—the harp. Music and the arts are and always have been a prized part of Irish heritage and culture. Musical styles range from trad (traditional) Ceili-style bands to groups like U2 and the Young Dubliners, who are known worldwide. Ireland is also known for its poets, playwrights, and novelists. Four of them have won the Nobel Prize for Literature: William Butler Yeats; George Bernard Shaw; Samuel Beckett; and Seamus Heaney. And then there's Oscar Wilde and Bram Stoker! There are renowned storytellers in every community and in the brilliant and dazzling Book of Kells. The world would be a smaller place without these people and their work. The poet Seamus Heaney was born in

1939 in County Londonderry, Northern Ireland and passed away in 2013; he is greatly loved for his relatable take on modern life. Due to strict control over the arts from the Catholic Church, much of the literature that has come out of Ireland until recently has been from the Irish Protestant community. Playwrights were often censored or blacklisted in Dublin before the laws began to change. Michael Flatley single-handedly made Irish dancing an international sensation, although it is a very modern variation. Dance programs are very common today, but were rare in the past due to religious leaders' concern for the morals of the people (all that touching and moving to the music, ya know.)

The Irish are known for their beer, especially Guinness, and their whiskey, notably Jameson, and they are well known for drinking their share of both, but did you know that the Irish drink more tea than the entire UK combined? It's true. The oldest pub is in Athlone and is 900 years old! It's been known as Sean's Bar since 1759. That reminds me of when I was watching a program on the occasion of the American Bicentennial and a reporter had been sent to England, where he was shown leaning on a bar that was over 600 years old—so much for making a big fuss about a measly 200 years of American independence, eh? We historians are hard to impress. Nine hundred years does the trick though.

Sports are a big part of Irish life, not only cheering on favorite teams, like national and international football (soccer), but playing on and cheering for local sports teams. As part of efforts to revive native sports, in the late 19th century Gaelic football was brought back, as was a sport we Americans know little of—hurling (which is a bit like playing rugby with a stick). The Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) is the governing body for these very popular sports.



Celtic art is still in the midst of a boom which began in the mid-19th century and is stronger today than ever. Celtic jewelry is the inspiration for many popular items made today. You probably have a “Tree of Life” or Celtic Knot in your own collections. Irish nationalism has been closely linked with the Celtic Revival in all these areas—sports, art, and textiles.

Persistence is a characteristic of the Irish people. In spite of all the hardship and oppression, the Irish people and their culture persist, and past and present are joined everywhere you look. The magic has not left the shores of the Emerald Isle. I hope you get to see for yourself or return soon. Eire is calling!

A Few Pics from our St. Pat's Party!



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

Thursdays at 6 PM Open Irish Music Session

Hops Brewery
7222 4th St NW, Los Ranchos De Albuquerque

Please support our venue, Hops Brewery. They are great people and brew some excellent beer. Food is available.

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, \$2.00. No experience necessary! Call Norita Callahan at 505-298-2708.

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.)

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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

Calendar of Events

IAS Events

Date	Day	What
April 6	Thursday	IAS Board of Directors meeting , 7 PM on Zoom. All members are invited to attend. (Email Kathy Wimmer for the link.)
April 14	Friday	IAS Monthly Meeting and Program , 7 PM at the GAC: A performance by storyteller Morris Peterkin. (Details on p. 1.)
May 4	Thursday	IAS Board of Directors meeting , 7 PM on Zoom. All members are invited to attend. (Email Kathy Wimmer for the link.)
May 12	Friday	IAS Monthly Meeting and Program , 7 PM at the GAC: Musical performance and lecture by Michele Buchanan, harpist and author.

Celtic/GAC Events

The GAC phone number is 888-4833

(The Club is closed Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday—unless a special event is happening.)

March 28	Tuesday	Celts, Crown, and Colonialism: A lecture with Welsh, Irish, Scottish, and Indian perspectives. 12:30-1:30 PM at the UNM History Dept., 1104 Mesa Vista Hall.
April 5, 12, 19, 26	Wednesdays	Ceili Dancing Classes with Norita at the GAC , 6:30 - 8 PM, \$2.00. No experience necessary! (Call 505-298-2708 for more info.)
April 5, 12, 19, 26	Wednesdays	Celtic Music Session at the Singing Arrow Community Center (13200 Wenonah Ave SE) from 5:45-7:45 PM. This is a sheet-music-discouraged (but not prohibited) format and the music is the High & Dry list. For more info, contact Bob Deaver (bpdeaver@gmail.com).
April 6, 13, 20, 27	Thursdays	Albuquerque Traditional Irish Music Open Session from 6-9 PM at Hops Brewery, 7222 4 th Street. For more info, contact Harlow Pinson at hpinson@indepthl.com .
April 2 & 16	Sundays	Two Leaf Clover (Nikelle Gessner and David Garcia) play for Sunday Brunch at Two Fools Tavern every 1 st and 3 rd Sunday of the month from 11 AM – 2 PM.
April 4, 11, 18, 25	Tuesdays	The Irish Slow session meets Tuesdays at 6:30 in the Manzano Mesa Multi-Generational center, near Central and Eubank. For info, contact Kip Malone on Facebook .
April 16	Sunday	Jazz Sunday at the GAC , jam session and performance, hosted by the Rio Grande Jazz Society. Dancers welcome! \$5 Entry for non-members. Free for current members of the GAC. 2:00 to 5:30 PM.

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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