



# IRISH TIMES

Newsletter of the  
Irish-American Society of New Mexico  
[www.irishamericansociety-nm.com](http://www.irishamericansociety-nm.com)

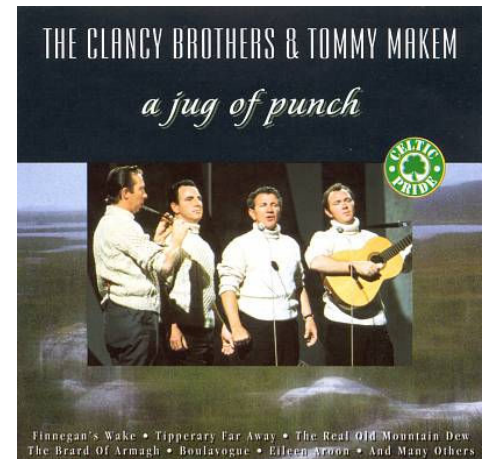
FEBRUARY 2015

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, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM

### A Musical Performance by A Jug of Punch!

Named for an Irish drinking song made famous by the Clancy Brothers, *A Jug of Punch* is an Irish-American band composed of four friends from the local session scene. The group plays and sings from the rich repertoire of music that flourished in Ireland and developed as the Irish moved across the seas to North America during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. The band is composed of Steve Alcorn on button accordion, Cleve Sharp on flutes and vocals, Tom Tunney on mandolin and violin, and Scott Ware on guitar and vocals. For tonight's meeting, *A Jug of Punch* will be joined by special guest Suzanne Taichert on harp and vocals.



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

#### **A Friendly Reminder:**

Your dues are now due for the 2015 membership year. In order to keep your membership current, please fill out the form on the last page of this newsletter and give it to Magda Romano or mail it to the PO address on the form. (If your current membership card says "2015" your membership is good till Dec. 31, 2015.)

We are looking for entertainers for our monthly programs in 2015. Singers, dancers, musicians, lecturers—all welcome! If you are interested, contact Ellen (307-1700)  
[edowling@standuptrainer.com](mailto:edowling@standuptrainer.com)

## 2015 Board Members and Committee Chairs

President	Bob Bryers <a href="mailto:tccrb5@aol.com">tccrb5@aol.com</a>	792-2026
VP	Chris Kinlen <a href="mailto:oldtowncelticshop@aol.com">oldtowncelticshop@aol.com</a>	328-7408
Treasurer	Vikki Bryers <a href="mailto:TCCVRB@netzero.com">TCCVRB@netzero.com</a>	792-2026
Secretary	Gerri Campbell	
Membership	Magda Romano <a href="mailto:magdaromano@msn.com">magdaromano@msn.com</a>	293-3788
Past President	Paul McDonough <a href="mailto:penthormul@aol.com">penthormul@aol.com</a>	294-8205
Board	Jay Vandersloot <a href="mailto:JayVandersloot@yahoo.com">JayVandersloot@yahoo.com</a>	362-1733
Board	Geoff Schaffer-Harris <a href="mailto:gschafferharris@gmail.com">gschafferharris@gmail.com</a>	554-1067
Board	Maureen Riley <a href="mailto:mriley6918@yahoo.com">mriley6918@yahoo.com</a>	

Health & Welfare	Fran Hardy <a href="mailto:frananddon@aol.com">frananddon@aol.com</a>	259-3348
Newsletter	Ellen Dowling <a href="mailto:edowling@standuptrainer.com">edowling@standuptrainer.com</a>	307-1700
Hospitality	Luisa Gignac <a href="mailto:lgdancer@BasicISP.net">lgdancer@BasicISP.net</a>	881-4847
Web Manager	Ellen Dowling <a href="mailto:edowling@standuptrainer.com">edowling@standuptrainer.com</a>	307-1700
Telephone	Beth Baker <a href="mailto:adamsonbb@gmail.com">adamsonbb@gmail.com</a>	994-0443
Audio Services	Jim Brauer <a href="mailto:rkeating14@comcast.net">rkeating14@comcast.net</a>	352-2195



### 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 ([edowling@standuptrainer.com](mailto:edowling@standuptrainer.com) 307-1700). Your ad will also appear on the IAS website ([www.irishamericansociety-nm.com](http://www.irishamericansociety-nm.com)) at no extra charge.

ISCUMA\*  
a band of high degree  
celtic music etc.

Bill McCoy / 505 897 4407

\*it doesn't matter

## President's Message

Dear IAS Members:

Well, January is now under our belt; we had a good meeting, great entertainment by Rye Creek, and just a great time had by all. February is now upon us, bringing us Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, President's Day and of course our monthly meeting on none other than Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>!

I would like to welcome Jerri Campbell, who has volunteered to fill the vacant position of Secretary on the Irish American Society Board. Jerri is also a member and the Secretary of the St. Andrew's Scottish Society! I want to also thank all those who have also volunteered for that position – we will not forget you – especially when we need volunteers for our other great events!!

Our new Membership Chair, Magda Romano has been busy processing those renewals – keep them coming folks! I would like to extend my hand and urge you to keep your membership current so as to be able to enjoy and participate in all our functions.

Speaking of functions, the entertainment schedule for our St. Patrick's Day Party has been determined. I am sure that our Webmaster and Newsletter specialist, Ellen Dowling, will include that information in the next newsletter. [Editor's Note: See this newsletter, p. 6.]

This month we will have some more great entertainment at our meeting (*A Jug of Punch* will play), as well as a 50/50 Raffle with proceeds donated to the Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival, which will once again be held in May at the Balloon Fiesta Park. We will also be setting up a donation barrel for the Roadrunner Food Bank in the GAC, so if you have any donations, please feel free to bring them in.

That's all for now – I encourage any and all members who have pictures, stories of travel or anything of a Celtic or historical nature to send them in to Ellen so that we might share them with the rest of the Society. Have a safe and healthy month.

Bob Bryers

### Cans for Celts

Help raise funds for the Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival and Highland Games in 2015!

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 this time or large appliances. I don't have room for them. )

For pick up between meetings – contact Paul McDonough @ 505-294-8205 and leave a message. Thank you!



**Coleman Academy  
of Irish Dance**

Classes - Performances - Workshops

(505) 720-6979 Jennifer London, TCRG  
(505) 720-7068 Kimberly Coleman, TCRG  
[www.ColemanAcademy.com](http://www.ColemanAcademy.com)



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Chris Kinlen 328-7408  
Lisa Kinlen 999-9219

## Membership Report

By Magda Romero, Membership Chair

*Céad Mile Fáilte:* A hundred thousand welcomes to our new members, Josh Meaders, John Pacheco, John Latour, Jr., Kate Killebrew, and Cindy Hunt. Welcome back, Lenny and Dot Bean! And of course thank you to the many of you who have renewed your memberships. As of January 17<sup>th</sup> we now have a total of 365 members, including 112 couples, 140 singles, and 1 college student.

REMINDER: Your dues are now due for the 2015 membership year. In order to keep your membership current, please fill out the form on the last page of this newsletter and give it to Magda Romano or mail it to the PO address on the form. (If your current membership card says “2015” your membership is good till Dec. 31, 2015.)

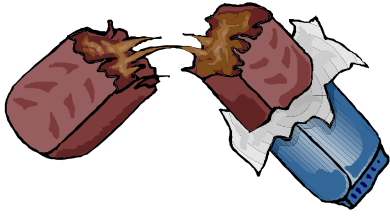
P.S. We are still collecting the **pull-tabs** for the Ronald McDonald House here in Albuquerque (managed by IAS member Sharon Nolen). Thanks to Sarah Erb (sent from Helena, Montana), Mark Meadows & Eunice Foley, and a no name baggie left at the GAC bar 😊.

Norita

### Treasurer's Report January, 2015

Victoria Bryers, Treasurer

Category	Income	Category	Expenses
Membership	\$1345.00	PO Box Yearly Rent	\$130.24
50/50 Raffle	\$24.50	Jan honorarium (donated by Rye Creek to the Celtic Festival)	\$50.00
		Renaissance Fair Table	\$50.00
		Stamps	\$10.71
		50/50 Donation to Celtic Festival	\$24.50
		IAS Booth for Celtic Festival	\$200.00
		IAS donation for Celtic Festival dance floor	\$400.00
		Print Express (Jan. newsletter)	\$315.10
		Total Expenses	\$1180.55
		Jan beginning balance	\$8454.98
		Plus Income	\$1369.50
		Subtotal	\$9824.48
		Less Expenses	\$1180.55
Total Income	\$1369.50	Jan. Ending Balance	\$8643.93



## Candy Bars for Celts!

Besides the Cans for Celts fundraiser for the Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival, we are now also trying to raise money by selling candy bars at \$1.00 each. Candy can be purchased at any meeting from Paul McDonough.

## Happy February Birthdays!

Pat Cortez, Cindy Kloss, Bernadette McTigue, Emmett O'Sullivan, Rosalie Pfeiffer, and John Dowling (93 years old!)



## Mark Your Calendars Now! IAS St. Patrick's Day Party Sunday, March 15, 2015

### Featured Entertainment:

A Jug of Punch  
Mac-Tíre of Skye Pipes and Drums  
Ceili Dancing  
Tír Conaill Irish Step Dancers  
Rye Creek

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### *Brought to You by Albuquerque Bernalillo County (ABC) Library, Historic Albuquerque, and Oasis Albuquerque:*

A series of talks about the various ethnic groups that have influenced the growth of the City of Albuquerque, beginning with **Asian-American Legacies** on Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 AM to 12 noon, at the Special Collections Library, 423 Central N.E.

Each month, a different ethnic group will be showcased. Irish-American Legacies will be presented on September 12<sup>th</sup> by IAS newsletter editor Ellen Dowling.

## Coming in February:

### A Musical Performance by Tommy and Sandra O'Sullivan at Apple Mountain Music

<http://www.applemtnmusic.com/index.html>

Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup>

7-9 PM



Acclaimed as “one of the great contemporary folk voices of Ireland,” Tommy O’Sullivan, “stellar guitarist,” has remained one of the hidden treasures of traditional Irish music for many years. He has toured throughout North America and Europe, appearing at many major venues and festivals. Tommy has always kept an active recording schedule and has recorded three albums as a member of *Sliabh Notes* and a duet album with *Bothy Band* piper, Paddy Keenan.

Tommy’s long overdue second solo album was recorded in 2006. Entitled “Song Ablaze,” it is an ambitious project with songs that range from traditional Irish and traditional American music, to the works of contemporary writers, from both sides of the Atlantic. This album also features a supporting cast of internationally acclaimed musicians.

“A tenor voice that has all the ring of a Waterford Crystal that has only ever served smoky whiskey!” (Sean Laffy, *Irish Music Magazine*)

Sandra O’Sullivan is from Houston, Texas, with Native American roots. During high school and college she sang in many choirs and was a featured soloist. Upon leaving college, Sandra pursued a career in nursing, but she always maintained a high interest in music. Her interest in traditional Irish Music led her to attend an annual Irish music retreat in Midlothian, Texas in 2007 where she met Tommy. Encouraged by Tommy, Sandra has rekindled her singing. As they explored singing together, they discovered her alto harmonies to be a perfect match for his tenor lead vocals, adding a fertile texture to the overall sound. She has now become a very welcome addition to the vibrant local music scene in Dingle, Ireland, where Sandra and Tommy now live. (They own a pub in Dingle: <http://www.osullivancourthousepub.com/>)

## Strange Signs in Ireland

[Editor’s Note: As I’m sure those of you who have visited Ireland already know, some of the signage you encounter on your wanderings around the Emerald Isle is somewhat strange, to say the least. Here is a collection of such signs from [Ireland Central](http://www.irelandcentral.com/). See the next page.]



And my personal favorite



## Twenty Irish Novels to Read Before You Die

From [Irish Central](#)

[Note: See the January newsletter for the first 10 on the list.]

11. Patrick McCabe - "[The Butcher Boy](#)" (1992) Set in a small town in Ireland in the late 1950s, it tells the story of Francis "Francie" Brady, a schoolboy who retreats into a violent fantasy world as his troubled home life collapses.
12. James Plunkett "Strumpet City" (1969) A historical novel set in Dublin at the time of the Dublin Lock-out. The novel is an epic, tracing the lives of a dozen characters as they are swept up in the tumultuous events that affected Dublin between 1907 and 1914.
13. C. S. Lewis - "[The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe](#)" (1950) This is the first published book of *The Chronicles of Narnia* and is the best known book of the series. Although it was written and published first, it is second in the series' internal chronological order, after *The Magician's Nephew*. *Time* magazine included the novel in its TIME 100 Best English-language Novels from 1923 to 2005. It has also been published in 47 foreign languages.
14. [Edna O'Brien](#) - "The Country Girls" (1960) This is the first novel written by Irish author Edna O'Brien. It was released in 1960, and later made into a movie. It tells the story of Kate and Baba, who have spent their childhood together. As they leave the safety of their convent school in search of life and love in the big city, they struggle to maintain their somewhat tumultuous relationship.
15. [Samuel Beckett](#) - "Molloy" (1951) At first the book concerns two different characters, both of whom have interior monologues. As the story moves along, the two characters are distinguished by name only as their experiences and thoughts are, to say the least, similar. The novel is set in an indeterminate place, most often identified with the Ireland of Beckett's birth. It was written in Paris, along with the other two books (*Malone Dies* and *The Unnamable*) of "The Trilogy."
16. [Patrick Kavanagh](#) - "Tarry Flynn" (1948) Set in 1930s rural Ireland, this book is based on Kavanagh's experience as a young farmer in Monaghan. The story describes the life of a young farmer poet and his quest for big fields, young women, and the meaning of life.
17. Brian Moore - "Judith Hearne" (1955) 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 and established him as an astute chronicler of the human soul.
18. Elizabeth Bowen - "The Last September" (1929) This is Elizabeth Bowen's portrait of a young woman's coming of age in a brutalized time and place, where the ordinariness of life floats like music over the impending doom of history. In 1920, at their country home in County Cork, Sir Richard Naylor and his wife, Lady Myra, and their friends maintain a skeptical attitude toward the events going on around them, but behind the facade of tennis parties and army camp dances, all know that the end is approaching—the end of British rule in the south of Ireland and the demise of a way of life that had survived for centuries.
19. Lawrence Sterne - "Tristram Shandy" (1760) "The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman" humorously chronicles the life of Tristram Shandy; this comic account is intertwined with his thoughts and philosophies regarding various issues. The novel is typographically very unusual in a style that is Sterne's own all the way.
20. [Jennifer Johnston](#) - "How Many Miles to Babylon?" (1974) The story is the complex tale of a friendship between two boys in Wicklow, Ireland, prior to and during World War I. Alec, the son of Anglo-Irish parents grows up lonely and friendless on his parents' estate in Wicklow during the early years of the 20th century.

**Editor's Note:** I'm still hoping that someone who likes to read might also like to write a review for the newsletter. Let me know if you're interested.



## 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 [Irishdancenm@gmail.com](mailto:Irishdancenm@gmail.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 [www.tirconailacademy.org](http://www.tirconailacademy.org) 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:

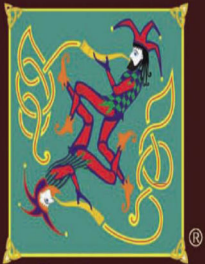
- ♣ **The Thistle and Shamrock** program, featuring Fiona Ritchie, airs on KANW 89.1 FM, Mondays at 6:00 PM.
- ♣ **Celtic and Beyond**, with co-hosts Ellie Blair and Kelly Clement, 7:00 PM each Wednesday on KTAOS 101.9 FM. (Also broadcast on the Web at [www.ktao.com](http://www.ktao.com).)

# Two Fools Tavern

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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.

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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/>



O'Niell's

Award Winning Food  
Best Late Night Happy Hour  
Dog Friendly Patio  
Good Food. Honest Drink

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

[Editor's Note: To be listed on this page free of charge, you or at least one member of your group must be a member in good standing of the IAS.]

### ***Shenanigans***

Celtic and American Folk with a twist, variety of instruments and vocals. Contact: Kathy Wimmer (249-7012 [kmillewimm@comcast.net](mailto: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: Suzanne Taichert at 331-0991, e-mail [susawin@mac.com](mailto:susawin@mac.com)

***The Anslovers:*** Teenagers Emily, John, and Jamie on violin, guitar, and upright bass. Contact: John & Lorraine Anslover at [anslovernavy@comcast.net](mailto:anslovernavy@comcast.net).

### ***Carol Benson***

Strolling café fiddler, vocalist, Suzuki teacher, and symphony violinist. Contact: 505-268-0906 ([carolbens@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:clevelans@comcast.net))

***Michele Buchanan and Shanachie Harpers***  
765-1288 ([tmbuchs@gmail.com](mailto:tmbuchs@gmail.com))

### ***Rye Creek***

Folk, Irish, western and good old mountain music. Contact Terry Ryan Axline, 293-8924 ([neomexicana@hotmail.com](mailto:neomexicana@hotmail.com)) or Ron Trellue, 505-362-2551 ([trellue@swcp.com](mailto:trellue@swcp.com)) or visit [www.myspace.com/ryecreeknm](http://www.myspace.com/ryecreeknm).

### ***Celtic Coyotes***

Traditional music from Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and Brittany. Contact: Doug Cowan [celticcoyotes@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:mmcoy3@msn.com)



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

You can get yours at any IAS meeting, or contact Paul McDonough to arrange purchase ([penthormul@aol.com](mailto: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
February 3	Tuesday	<b>IAS Board of Directors meeting</b> , 7 PM at the GAC. All members are invited to attend.
February 13	Friday	<b>IAS Monthly Meeting and Program</b> , 7:00 at the GAC. Music by A Jug of Punch.
March 3	Tuesday	<b>IAS Board of Directors meeting</b> , 7 PM at the GAC. All members are invited to attend.
March 15	Sunday	<b>IAS Annual St. Patrick's Day Party</b> , 1:00 at the GAC. (Details in the March newsletter; preview of entertainment, see p. 6.)

## Celtic/GAC Events

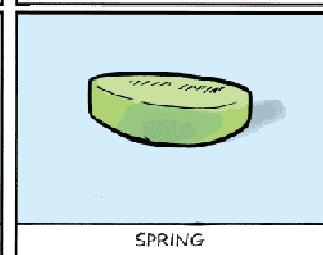
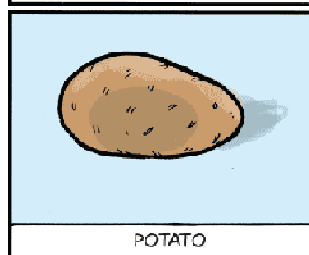
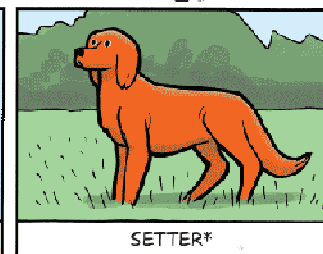
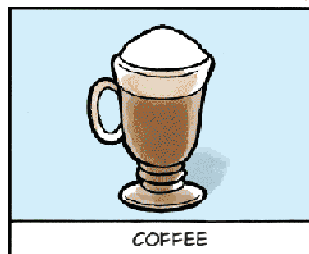
February 14	Saturday	<b>Masken/Damen Ball</b> at the GAC. Showcase will be playing from 7 to 11 PM. Charge \$10. Dinner will be \$10. Call 888-4833 for dinner reservations.
February 15	Sunday	<b>Jazz Sunday</b> from 2 to 5:30 PM at the GAC. Cost to IAS members: \$5.
February 17	Tuesday	<b>Kehraus with Walter Kirsch entertaining</b> at the GAC. No charge. Call Kenny Blemel at 991-6997 for more information.
February 20	Friday	<b>Musical performance by Tommy and Sandra O'Sullivan</b> from Dingle, Co. Kerry, at Apple Mountain Music, 7-9 PM. Cost: \$15. (See p. 6 for more info.)
February 28	Saturday	<b>Carlos Núñez</b> in performance at the National Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 4th St SW, Albuquerque. Carlos Nuñez is one of Galicia's most revered artists, undisputed as the tradition's greatest piper. He is well known in Irish music circles, thanks to his early "adoption" by The Chieftains (so close was his musical and personal connection he was dubbed "The Seventh Chieftain").
February 28	Saturday	<b>Roaring 20's Ball</b> at the GAC. Showcase will be playing from 7 to 11 PM. Charge \$10. Dinner will be \$10. Call 888-4833 for dinner reservations.

### 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.

KNOW YOUR IRISH

©2008 Stivens



\*CONTAINS LITTLE OR NO WHISKEY



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

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**Irish-American Society of New Mexico**

**Membership Application/Renewal Form**

Please check one: New Membership Application \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Individual \_\_\_\_\_ \$20.00 Family \_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 Student \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to receive the IAS newsletter electronically? \_\_\_\_\_

(Note: Student members automatically receive the online newsletter.)

Birthday (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ (optional)

Birthday (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ (optional)

Anniversary Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ (optional)