



IRISH TIMES

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

NOVEMBER 2017

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, November 10th, 7 PM

A Storytelling Performance by Susi Wolf!

Susi Wolf will entertain with storytelling at our monthly meeting on November 10th. Her show will feature Irish and other multicultural folktales from around the world to honor ancestors and share the importance of storytelling in life. Susi's style of telling is informal, witty, participatory, and encourages the heart and mind to become engaged with her tales.

Susi is a professional storyteller, solo performer, and trainer. She offers interactive storytelling that includes multicultural folktales, fairy tales, Native American tales (she is Eastern Band Cherokee/Celtic), animal fables, and more. Her one-woman shows present various women-related issues and stems from her strong background in acting. A seasoned trainer, Susi also offers multiple workshops which are educational, participatory, fun, and lively.



We think this will also be a lovely event for children, so bring them along!

Board of Directors Elections! At the business meeting before Susi's performance on Nov. 10, we will hold our annual Board elections for the coming year. We have a slate of nominees (see the President's Message on p. 3), but we always welcome new volunteers to join us as Members-at-Large.

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

2017 Board Members and Committee Chairs

President	Ellen Dowling edowling@standuptrainer.com	307-1700	Health & Welfare	Don Hardy frananddon@aol.com	259-3348
VP	Bob Bryers tcrrb5@aol.com	792-2026	Newsletter	Ellen Dowling edowling@standuptrainer.com	307-1700
Treasurer	Kathy Wimmer (Kmillewimm@comcast.net)	249-7012	Hospitality	Luisa Gignac lgdancer34@comcast.net	881-4847
Secretary	Pete McKenna pmckenna101@comcast.net	345-2566	Web Manager	Ellen Dowling edowling@standuptrainer.com	307-1700
Membership	Norita & Ken Callahan noraabq@yahoo.com	298-2708	Telephone	Beth Baker adamsonbb@gmail.com	994-0443
Board	Paul McDonough penthormul@aol.com	294-8205	Audio Services	Jim Brauer rkeating14@comcast.net	352-2195
Board	Jay Vandersloot JayVandersloot@yahoo.com	362-1733			
Board	Christine Philips Christine.ann.Philips@gmail.com	710-3972			
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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President's Message

By Ellen Dowling

Dear IAS Members:

What a wonderful celebration of Bill McCoy's memory we had at our October 13th meeting, thanks to *Iscuma* band members Kathy Wimmer and Marc Roberts! The two performed a variety of Irish and Celtic tunes, some featuring Bill's own pennywhistle and bodhran. Laura Banks was there with more of Bill's extensive collection of Celtic vinyl albums to give away; thanks to her for doing so.

At our November 10th meeting, we will hold our annual elections for the IAS Board of Directors. Here is the slate for 2017: President, Ellen Dowling; Vice President, Bob Bryers; Treasurer, Kathy Wimmer; Secretary, Pete McKenna; Membership, Norita and Ken Callahan; Members-at-Large, Paul McDonough, Maureen Riley, and Jay Vandersloot. We can have any number of at-large board members, so if you'd like to get involved, let me know or just nominate yourself at our November meeting. Being on the Board is a great way to get to know people and take part in planning all the fun stuff we do throughout the year!

It also sounds like our Nov. 10th program with storyteller Susi Wolf will be a hoot and a half. I think this would be a great time to bring the kids along!

Next up in December will be our annual Christmas party (Dec. 10th), replete with musical performances, step dancers, Ceili dancing, and a visit from Santa! More info will come in the December newsletter.



Membership Report

By Norita and Ken Callahan

Céad Mile Fáilte (A Hundred Thousand Welcomes) to our newest members, David & Samantha Avila and Pat & Joe Doyle.

Membership: As of October 16th, there are 101 single members, 87 (x 2) family members, and 3 students. This is a total of 278 renewals. This is a total of 278 renewals and new members for the 2017 membership year.

Frankie Davis
Owner/Tour Guide

(575) 706 4923
frankiesirishtours@yahoo.com
www.frankiesirishtours.com

Turas na hÉireann le Proinsias
Frankie's IRISH TOURS

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 Bob & Vikki Bryers, Bryan & Joan Pfeiffer, Deedree Stukas, and John Uher.

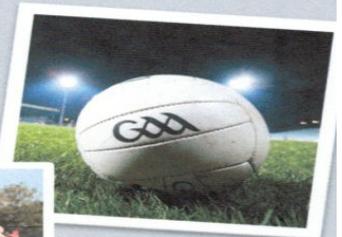
Treasurer's Report September 2017

Kathy Wimmer, Treasurer

Category	Income	Category	Expenses
Membership	\$40.00	U-Stor-It (Sept. rental)	\$35.00
Donation (McCoy books)	\$60.00	Angel Cervantes (Sept. honorarium)	\$50.00
Total Income	\$100.00	Total Expenses	\$85.04
		IAS Account August Ending Balance	\$7,872.30
		Plus Income (Aug)	\$100.00
		Less Expenses (Aug)	\$(85.00)
		August Ending Balance	\$7,887.30*
		*Note: Ending balance includes \$5,000 from Heritage Acct. funds	

Albuquerque Gaelic Football Club

Wednesdays, 6pm at Bullhead Memorial Park



No Experience Needed!

Albuquerque G.F.C. is looking for new recruits to play Ireland's Gaelic Football. Elements of soccer, rugby, even basketball and volleyball are included in this fantastic and challenging sport.

- * **FREE** to join for the 2017 Season
- * All are welcome
- * **Bullhead Memorial Park**
1606 San Pedro Boulevard, SE
Albuquerque, NM 87108

For more information contact
us at abqgfc@gmail.com

IAS General Meeting Minutes October 13th, 2017

Peter McKenna, Secretary

Ellen opens the meeting at 7:15 PM with introductions of guest Lisa Coffey (Kathy Wimmer's guest) and new members Katie and Tim Carlin and Pat and Joe Doyle all joining us for the first time this evening. Ellen tips the hat to the Board, all of which are present except Christine Philips.

Reports:

Treasurer (Kathy Wimmer) – reports we've had \$100 come in and \$85 go out during the month of September (dues and a donation) and we currently have a balance of \$7,870.32.

Membership (Norita Callahan) – reports 278 members to date with 101 singles, 87 families, and 3 students. Ellen tells us that she and Kathy are working to make the IAS website interactive for online dues and events payments.

Upcoming Events:

October 20: SASSNM movie night "Man from Earth" at 6:30 PM.

October 28 (Saturday): annual Halloween Party at the GAC runs 7-11 PM; \$7 adults, people less than 21 are free, DO dress up!! Norita requests help for decorating 2-3 days prior to party; please contact her to coordinate.

November 10 (Friday) is our next monthly meeting with storyteller Susi Wolf. Ms. Wolf brings the heat on Irish and multi-cultural folk tales from around the world. Bring the kids if you can!

December 10 (Sunday) is our annual Christmas Party – more information will be forthcoming.

In the Moment Business: Laura Banks has brought more of the late Bill McCoy's Irish folk music LPs for interested people who would like to have them.

Other Business: Jay Vandersloot announces that Burns Night tickets are now on sale at steep discounts (\$45 a person) through the end of November, after which they will rise to \$50 and \$55 in January with sales closing on January 20th. Paul McDonough announces a fundraiser at Quarter Celtic for the Wanagi Wolf Fund this coming Sunday afternoon.

Meeting adjourns at 7:33 PM. Refreshments followed by music, memories, and memorial from 2/3 of *Iscuma*, Bill McCoy now being on permanent sabbatical. 😞

Jim Malcolm
Just flown in from Scotland

‘One of those pure warm Scottish folk voices one never tires of listening to.’
Derry Lines

‘Utterly authentic yet completely modern and accessible.’
Inverness Courier

‘Jim Malcolm’s voice has the complex individuality of an aged single-malt whisky.’
Boston Globe

‘Undeniably Stunning.’
Mojo

Enjoy an entertaining evening of Scottish songs old and new
from one of Scotland’s finest singers and songwriters

Wednesday November 1, 2017

Apple Mountain Music

Albuquerque NM

10301 Comanche NE, Albuquerque NM 87111

Tickets \$20 Doors 6.30pm; Concert 7pm
To reserve your tickets please call
505-237-2048

Robbie Burns Dinner 2018 The Red, Red, Rose



**The Saint Andrew Scottish Society of New Mexico invites you to the
Annual 2018 Robbie Burns Dinner,
celebrating the immortal works and life of Scotland's poet laureate.**

**Best Western Plus Rio Grande at Rio Grande and I-40
January 27th, 2018
Registration/Social Hour begins at 5:00 PM**

Gourmet Buffett Dinner Menu

Mushroom Salad
Field Green with Choice of Two Dressings
Chef Carved Roasted New York Strip
Salmon with a Black Bean Mango Salsa
Chicken Breast with a Honey Piñon Cream Sauce
Steamed Asparagus
Oven Baked Baby Red Potatoes
Baked Assortment of Dinner Rolls with Butter
Freshly Brewed Coffee and Iced Tea
Chef's Choice of Dessert

Entertainment Features and Activities

High Desert Pipes and Drums, Celtic Steppers, Celtic Harpist, Scottish Toasts
Robbie Burns Trivia, Silent Auction, Door prizes
Drawing for a free night's stay at the Best Western Plus
(Good for 2018, excluding the dates of the 2018 International Balloon Fiesta)

Ticket sales available now at www.SASSNM.org

Advance ticket prices;
October 1st through November 30th: \$45.00
December 1st through December 31st: \$50.00
January 1st to January 20th: \$55.00

We have to provide the hotel with a firm count, therefore
NO reservations accepted after January 20th
NO last-minute reservations
NO reservations at the door

Five Things No Longer Found in Ireland

By James Wilson, published in [Irish Central](#)

1. Wearing the clothes of the dead to Mass

Until the mid-20th century, in certain parts of Kerry and West Cork, it was tradition for someone in the family to wear the clothes of the departed to Mass in order to keep away ghosts. Over time people began to just take the clothes to Mass and leave them in a suitcase at the back of the church before abandoning the tradition entirely.

2. British soldiers

If you know an Irish person a hundred years old or more, ask them if they remember the War of Independence when the Black and Tans and soldiers from other British regiments roamed the land in an attempt to keep order. Anyone 30 or over from Northern Ireland will remember Her Majesty's Armed Forces patrolling the streets and alleys of Northern Ireland during the Troubles. For a long time, crossing the border meant being checked by the British Army, but as peace returned, so Britain's military presence gradually melted away. Operation Banner formally came to an end in 2007 and, whilst there are still British army barracks in the province (in the same way there are in England, Wales, and Scotland), they're no longer tasked with keeping an armed insurrection at bay.

3. Monolingual Irish speakers (probably)

A few decades ago, it would have been possible to find people in certain *Gaeltachtaí* (Irish Gaelic-speaking areas) who spoke only *Gaeilge* (Irish). Certainly there are a number of children too young for school who still don't speak English currently but they'll soon pick it up – they all watch American cartoons and movies. There are also still plenty of people who feel more comfortable speaking Irish than English. They might not know the words for things they've only ever spoken about in Irish, but even this group of imperfect bilinguals dwindles year on year. Most young people who hail from the Gaeltacht leave at some point for a city and return perfectly fluent in both of Ireland's official languages.

4. No drinking on St Patrick's Day

Up until the 1970s, pubs in Ireland used to close on St Patrick's Day. Not only was it a question of law but it was a day off for bar staff like anyone else and a day for religious observance. The only place you could buy a legal pint was the Royal Dublin Dog Show and many who attended had little interest in canines; one politician remarked that it was a fine event, "except for all the dogs." Soon the ban on the sale of alcohol on Good Friday will be lifted, which means 2018 will be Ireland's first Holy Thursday where the shelves of booze in stores aren't cleared empty by people worried they'll have nothing to drink the next day.

5. Ladies not being served pints

Never mind St Patrick's Day, there was a time when it was considered unladylike to drink a pint and most pubs would refuse to serve any woman who dared ask for one. In the 1970s, large groups of Dublin feminists took to visiting bars and ordering brandies. The last woman to be served would then ask for a pint; when she was refused, her friends would all down their brandies and leave without paying.



[Editor's Note: See next month's *Irish Times* for Five More Things No Longer Found in Ireland!]

The Irish Book Club

The Irish Book Club meets at O’Niell’s Pub at Washington and Central at 7:30 PM, usually on the last Thursday of the month. Our next meeting will be on November 30, when we will discuss *Looking under Stones* by Joe O’Toole. If you’re interested in joining us, contact Ellen at 307-1700 (edowling@standuptrainer.com).

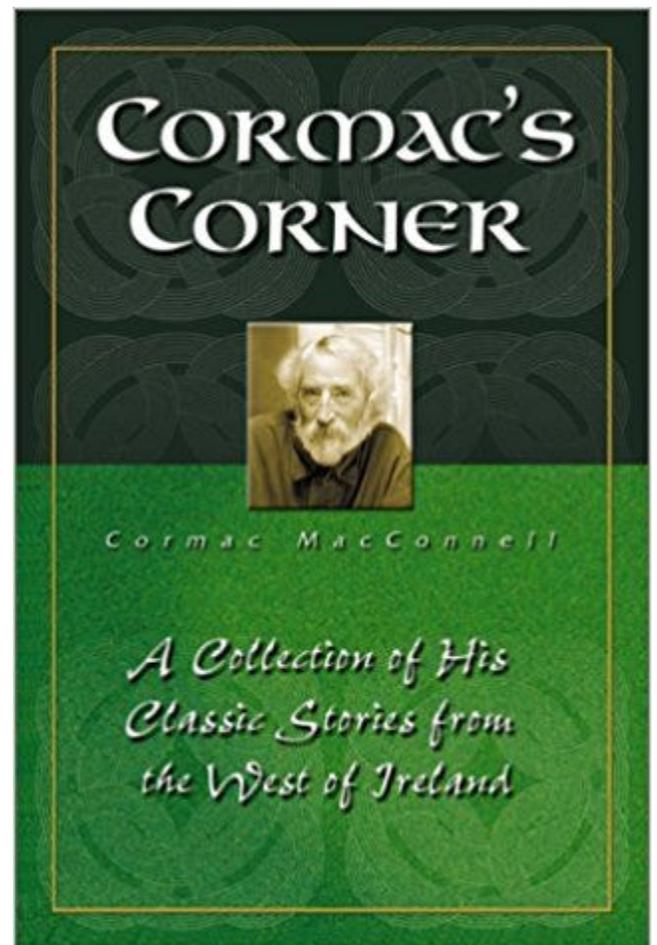
At our September 28th meeting, we discussed *Cormac’s Corner*, by Cormac MacConnell, a delightful collection of essays about daily life in western Ireland. A columnist for the *Irish Voice*, MacConnell is a journalist, broadcaster author and songwriter and resides in Co. Clare. We all thoroughly enjoyed this book. Here are some equally positive reviews from Amazon:

“Cormac MacConnell is a news editor who lives in the west of Ireland. He writes for several newspapers and hosts a talk show on a local radio station in County Clare. This book is a compilation of some of the best of his weekly columns in the *Irish Voice* and other publications. His columns give an insight into life on the Island of Saints and Scholars. He is alternately witty, funny, insightful, and always entertaining. He has a most wonderful descriptive style. Even if you've never been to Ireland, you'll feel as though you had!”

“Bout time . . . as we say in the South for Cormac MacConnell's columns to show up in print. Now I can pitch out all the yellowed newspaper clippings I saved from the *Irish Voice* and the fading printouts from Emigrant Online, which constituted my personal "Cormac scrapbook." *Cormac's Corner* is a beautifully printed collection of the lyrical observations and acerbic stories of my favorite author, complete with the surreal/folk art illustrations of Caty Bartholomew. 'Bout time all of America discovered and fell in love with Cormac MacConnell's writings.”

“Cormac MacConnell paints pictures with words, taking the reader down uncharted paths. A master storyteller, he draws us into another world. In the great tradition of Charles Kuralt, Charles Osgood, and Robert Fulghum, MacConnell has compiled his "slice of life" stories into a charming book. As Kuralt spun stories about ordinary Americans doing extraordinary things, MacConnell, too, introduces us to amazing stories, sometimes sad, sometimes charming, sometimes hilarious—and always wonderful. A great Christmas gift—and a great read!”

“The Irish have a story-telling tradition in which Cormac MacConnell has been thoroughly steeped. Whether you read his collection of columns or hear him read them over the air or in person peppered with sly comments (Ask him to sing “Hokus Pokus, Focus Folks”), you will sense Ireland, and indeed, sense an Ireland that is slowly disappearing. From the stories about the ‘Troubles’ to the last leprechaun in Ireland who just so happens to appear to Cormac, his compilation runs the gamut of the country. Pick this book up, there is no equal!”



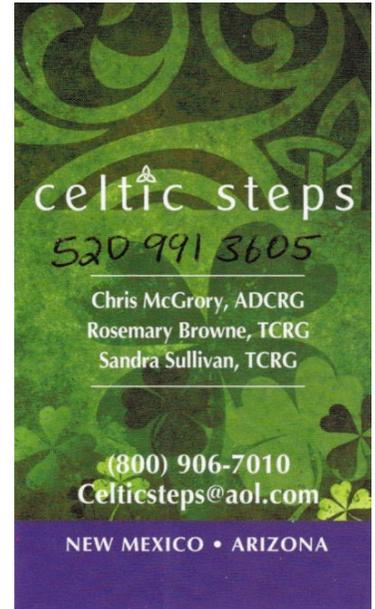
Culture All Around

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),** Saturdays at the New Mexico Irish Dance Company, Suite 3, 12700 San Rafael (Quail Run Shopping Center), Albuquerque. Call 379-3753 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.

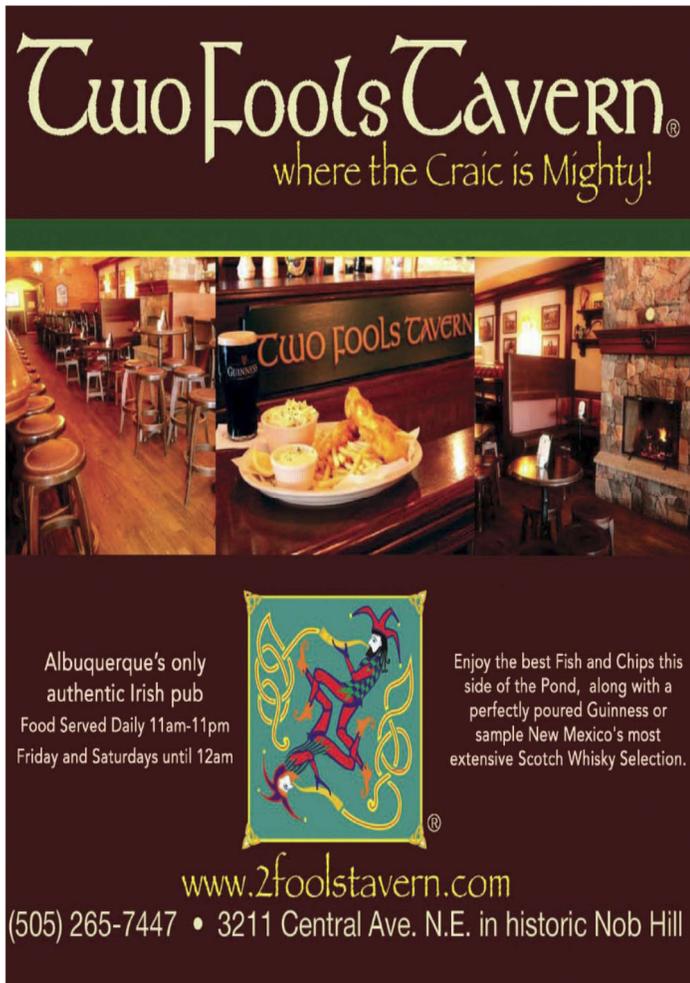
Celtic Music on the Radio and the Web:

- ♣ **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.)



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Chris McGrory, ADCRG
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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>



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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 Galacia, 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)

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



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.

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
November 7	Tuesday	IAS Board of Directors meeting , 7 PM at the GAC. All members are invited to attend.
November 10	Friday	IAS Monthly Meeting and Program , 7 PM at the GAC. Program will be a storytelling performance by Susi Wolf.
December 5	Tuesday	IAS Board of Directors meeting , 7 PM at the GAC. All members are invited to attend.
December 10	Sunday	IAS Annual Christmas Party , noon to 5 PM at the GAC. Details in the December newsletter.

Celtic/GAC Events

November 1	Wednesday	Scottish Musician Jim Malcolm performing at Apple Mountain Music, 6:30 PM. (For more info, see p. 5.)
November 2, 9, 16, 30	Thursdays	Irish Music Session , 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 hpinson@indepthl.com .
November 4	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.)
November 5	Sunday	Rye Creek Band performing at O'Niell's Nob Hill, Central and Washington, 4 to 7 PM.
November 5	Sunday	St. Andrew Scottish Society Kirkin o' the Tartan at the Central United Methodist Church, 201 University Ave. NE (1 block north of Central Ave on the west side of University). The event will be held at both the 8:30 and 11:00 services. The High Desert Pipes & Drums will perform.
November 12	Sunday	Scottish Session at Apple Mountain Music, 2 PM to 4 PM.
November 13 & 27	Mondays	The Singing Pilgrims present Ceilidh at the Crossroads at The Blue Grasshopper Pub (at its new Westside location at 6361 Riverside Plaza Lane NW, near Coors and Montano) from 7 PM-9 PM.
November 11	Saturday	Folk Music Jam , led by IAS member Michael Coy, at Apple Mountain Music, 2 to 3:30 PM.
November 18	Saturday	Opening Ball for Fasching at the GAC with Jim Brauer's Schunkel Bub'n playing from 7 to 11 PM. Cost: \$10.00.
November 19	Sunday	Jazz Sunday at the GAC, 2:00 to 5:00 PM. Cost to IAS member \$5.00.

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

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 _____