



IRISH TIMES

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

DECEMBER 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: Sunday, December 10th, Noon

It's the IAS Annual Christmas Party!

It's that holly jolly time of year and once again the IAS will be hosting its annual Christmas Party at the GAC on Sunday, December 10th, from noon to 5:00 PM. (Potluck starts at 1:00.)

We have two requests:

1. Bring a potluck dish to share. (And be sure to mark your plates and utensils so we can get them back to you.) Coffee, tea, and a no-host bar will be provided.
2. Bring a dessert of any kind (cake, pie, cookies, etc.) to donate to the Cake Walk Contest! (It's also perfectly all right to bring store-bought goodies!)



Here's the lineup for the day's festivities:

- Noon – 5 PM: Ongoing Silent Auction with lots of cool Celtic stuff.
1-2 PM: Musical entertainment by Michael and Donna Coy!
2-2:30: Irish Step Dancing Performance by the Coleman Academy of Irish Dance!
2:30-3:00: A visit from Santa! [Please bring a wrapped (and labeled with the child's name) present for each of your children for Santa to give to them personally. And don't forget to bring your cameras!]
3:00-4:00: Musical entertainment by the Singing Pilgrims!
4:00-4:30: Cake Walk!
4:30-5:00: Christmas music provided by Jim Brauer

A Friendly Reminder:

Your dues are now due for the 2018 membership year. We are excited to announce that for the first time ever, the IAS will be accepting credit cards for membership dues! See p. 3 for information on how to pay by card, or check, or cash! (If your current membership card says "2018," your membership is good till Dec. 31st, 2018.)

2018 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	Volunteer needed!				
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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Fax: (505)830-5769
James.mccabe@kofc.org
nmknights.com
New Mexico
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President's Message

By Ellen Dowling

Dear IAS Members:

At our November meeting we held our annual elections for the IAS Board of Directors. Elected for another term in 2018 were 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 are looking to add another at-large board member, so if you'd like to get involved, let me know.

Our November 10th program with storyteller Susi Wolf was indeed a hoot and a half. In the grand tradition of the Irish *shanachies* (storytellers), Susi kept us all mesmerized and amused with her wonderful tales.

Next up is our annual Christmas party on December 10th with musical performances, step dancers, Ceili dancing, and a visit from Santa! (See the front page for more info.)

My most exciting news is that we are now able to take credit cards online for membership payments (and, shortly, for tickets to the St. Patrick's party dinner)! See below for more info.

New! Now there are 3 convenient ways for you to pay for and/or renew your IAS membership!

1. Come to any meeting or event (like the Christmas Party) and give Norita a check or cash with the application form filled out.
2. Use the application form on the last page of the newsletter, fill it out, and mail it to our PO box with your check.
3. Go to the IAS website (www.irishamericansociety-nm.com) and click on **Join the IAS!** **Get your membership here!** You will then be directed to a secure website where you can use a credit card to pay for your membership (family, individual, or student).

Membership Report

By Norita and Ken Callahan

Céad Mile Fáilte (A Hundred Thousand Welcomes)! Welcome back to John L. and Lorraine Freely Kirk!

Membership: As of November 15th, there are 101 single members, 88 (x 2) family members and 3 students. This is a total of 280 renewals and new members for the 2017 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 this month to Bob & Vikki Bryers, Joe & Elena Gallegos & family, and Maureen Riley.

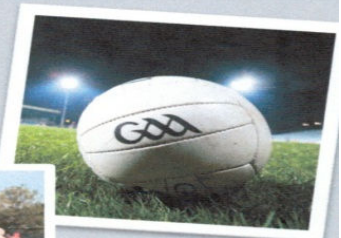
Treasurer's Report October 2017

Kathy Wimmer, Treasurer

Category	Income		Category	Expenses
Membership	\$50.00		U-Stor-It (Oct. rental)	\$35.00
			State Farm (ins. Policy yearly fee)	\$475.00
			Bob Bryers (printing supplies)	\$56.97
			Marc Roberts/Iscuma (1/2 Oct. meeting entertainment—other 1/2 donated back to IAS)	\$25.00
Total Income	\$50.00		Total Expenses	\$591.97
			IAS Account Sept. Ending Balance	\$7,872.30
			Plus Income (Oct)	\$50.00
			Less Expenses (Oct)	\$(591.97)
			October Ending Balance	\$7,330.33

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

November 10th, 2017

Peter McKenna, Secretary

President Ellen Dowling opens the meeting at 7:15 PM. She welcomes new members and guests. Introduces visitors Cindy Jones (SASSNM newsletter editor), and Jean Bridge, also Bethany who is here with Suzi Wolf, our storyteller for the evening.

Board Members present and presented by Ellen:
Treasurer Kathy Wimmer; Secretary Peter McKenna;
Membership Norita Callahan; Board Paul McDonough; Board Jay Vandersloot; Board Maureen Riley. V.P. Bob Bryers is absent tonight.

Reports:

- ♣ Treasury – Kathy reports we took in \$50 and spent about \$571, leaving us with a balance of about \$7,333.
- ♣ Membership – Norita reports that we have 88 families (x2), 101 single and 3 student members for a total membership of 280 persons to date.

Elections:

Board elections for 2018 are this evening. Ellen tells the membership the current Board will stand for reelection with the exception of Christine Phillips. Ellen calls for nominations from the floor for all and any Board positions: no such nominations are forthcoming. President asks the membership if we accept the slate unanimously – all say “aye.” The Board for 2018 is reselected as follows: President – Ellen Dowling, Vice President – Bob Bryers, Treasurer – Kathy Wimmer, Secretary – Peter McKenna, Membership – Norita Callahan, Board Members – Paul McDonough, Maureen Riley, and Jay Vandersloot. Ellen says she will strong-arm the membership down the line for another Board member.

Upcoming Events:

- ♣ December 10th will be the Christmas Party; a silent auction will be held and donations to that will be accepted by Norita; Santa will be here for the kids, see full details in the newsletter.
- ♣ St. Andrew Scottish Society Burns Nite will be on January 28th. Discounted tickets available up to January, please visit the SASSNM website and see newsletter for information [p. 6].

Announcements:

- ♣ Jay Vandersloot reminds us the GAC will be closed Thanksgiving Day. Liesel Lopez, a longtime member of both the GAC and the IAS, has passed away; a memorial service for her will be held at the GAC on Nov. 26th.
- ♣ Paul McDonough tells the group SASSNM movie night (“Justice League” cartoon) is next Friday at the North Domingo Baca Community Center.

New Business: none. Call for Adjournment: Paul moves to adjourn; Maureen Riley seconds. All say “aye.” Meeting adjourns at 7:27 PM. Refreshments followed by Irish story telling by Suzi Wolf. About 25 people attending.

IAS Raffle!

IAS Board members Bob and Vikki Bryers have donated two tickets to **Celtic Nights: Oceans of Hope** for the IAS to raffle off as a fundraiser. The performance will take place at Popejoy Hall on Sunday, March 4th, at 3 PM. Raffle tickets for the middle of the mezzanine will be sold for \$5/ticket (for the pair of tickets) and 3 for \$10. (The tickets are worth \$48 each.) Raffle tickets can be bought at the Christmas Party, and at our January and February meetings. (You need not be present to win.)

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

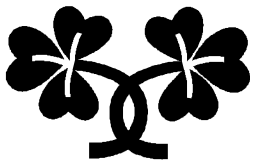
High Desert Pipes and Drums, Celtic Steppers, Celtic Harpist, Scottish Toasts
Robbie Burns Trivia, Silent Auction, Door prizes
Drawing for a free night's stay at the Best Western Plus
(Good for 2018, excluding the dates of the 2018 International Balloon Fiesta)

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



Flowers of the Forest

[From Norita] **Liesel Lopez** passed away on November 2nd, 2017.

This was her third bout with cancer and she passed quickly in hospice and with the loving care of son Charles. Liesel and husband Larry, who died in 2006, were long-time members of the Irish-American Society. They joined in 1991 and attended and enjoyed our Irish functions, picnics, and social gatherings.

Liesel always read our monthly *Irish Times* newsletters and got so excited when she watched Irish-related TV programs: Ireland travel documentaries, Irish music and dancing. When she would call—sooo excited—she would often talk so fast that I could barely understand her 😊.

She often spoke about their memorable holiday in Ireland, especially in Dundalk, Co. Louth. Liesel and Larry visited with some Irish dancers and musicians whom they had first met here in Albuquerque. These were good memories, especially fun times in two pubs!

We will miss seeing and chatting with Liesel at Irish functions and also at The Edelweiss am Rio Grande German-American Club dances, thanks to her special friends, Rosalie and Dennis Pfeiffer, and IAS/GAC members. Condolences to sons Charles and David and their families, both here in America and in Germany and to the Lopez family.



[From Ernie Keady] **Barbara Keady** died on October 29th after a valiant three-year battle with brain cancer. She was 58 years old. Barbara used to come to many of our IAS events with her dad, Chuck Keady (who passed last year), and several times accompanied him to Northern Ireland to help with the Children's Friendship Project, one of Chuck's great passions. She is survived by her mother, Ernestine Keady, two sisters, two brothers, a son and a daughter and three grandchildren.

Halloween Report

By Norita Callahan

Over 80 people attended the IAS/GAC Halloween Party, held on October 28th. The variety band, *Hit Squad*, was entertaining and enjoyable. All were talented musicians and vocalists and got right into the spirit of Halloween with clever costumes. (The band is a family: Mom & Dad and twin girl teens.)

THANK YOU to the following IAS and GAC volunteers who festively decorated (and un-decorated) the GAC hall, which looked great. Your help was invaluable and much appreciated. Annie & Corky Adams, Ken Callahan, Lizzy Callahan, Elena Gallegos, Don & Fran Hardy, Anna Herrera, Rose Marie Keating, Sheri Kraemer, Paul McDonough, Heidi Meisen, Rosalie Pfeiffer, Maureen Riley, and Petra Zavakos. Special thanks to Jim Romero & family.

GAC member Juanita Rhode worked the front door desk the entire evening. THANK YOU!

The costume judges, Anna Herrera, Fred McKenna, and Rosalie Pfeiffer faced difficult decisions as the costumes AGAIN this year were numerous and creative. The winners of the various costume categories were: Rod & Ruby Walter, Brynn Cole, Hanna Manierre, Graham Laverty, John & Lorraine Kirk, Kaliah Kingsolver, Kari Laverty, Casey Lopez, Bruce & Cindy Miller, Brenna Laverty, Nyleen Jim, Laura Banks, and Steve Laverty.

Appreciate all who attended and brought delicious snacks to share. It was a nice function.



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 January 25th, when we will discuss *Himself, A Novel* by Jess Kidd. If you’re interested in joining us, contact Ellen at 307-1700 (edowling@standuptrainer.com).

At our October 26th meeting, we discussed *The Secret Place*, by Tana French, a whodunit page turner set in a girls’ boarding school in Ireland, where a young lad from a neighboring boys’ school has come up dead (from getting his head smashed in with a garden hoe). The police investigators, Stephen Moran and Antoinette Conway, are sure that the murderer is one of the teenaged girls, but which one? And why?

We all liked this book so much that we’ve decided to try and read ALL of Tana French’s books over the Christmas holidays. (Book club will not meet in December.) If you want to join us, grab your own copy of *In the Woods*, *The Likeness*, *Faithful Place*, *Broken Harbour*, and/or *The Trespasser*.

Here are some other reviews of *The Secret Place*:

“A book full of giddy, slangy, devious schoolgirls who cannot be trusted about anything, at least not on the first, second, third or fourth rounds of questioning Part of this book’s trickiness is its way of letting characters hide the truth behind the smoke screen of language and let both readers and investigators gradually figure out who is lying.”

— **Janet Maslin**, *The New York Times*

“Terrific—terrifying, amazing, and the prose is incandescent.”

—**Stephen King**

“Clever and crude and vulgar and vicious in one breath and deeply, profoundly tragic in the next.”

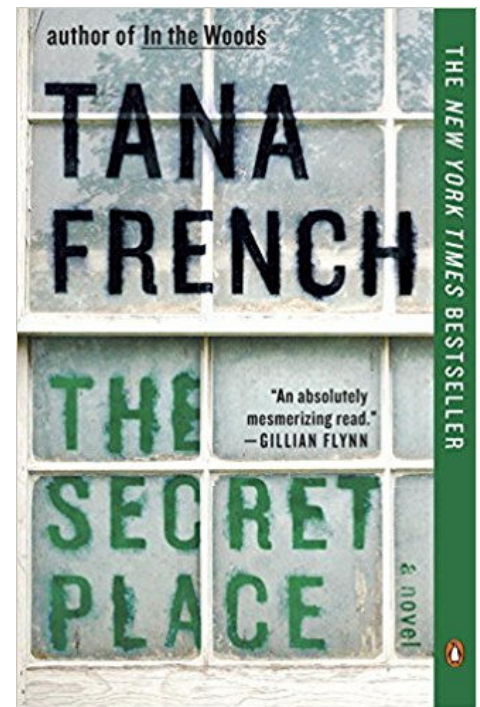
—**Marilyn Stasio**, *The New York Times Book Review*

“A twisting, teasing, and tense murder mystery that, while impressive in the matter of whodunit, soars on the psychological insights of whydunit. *The Secret Place* rips you to shreds, too, but in all the right ways. While channeling teens and cops alike, Tana French has – OMG, like, totes, amazeball – written a novel that seems all but certain to be among the best mysteries of the year”

—**The Christian Science Monitor**

“Once again Tana French has written a gripping story of murder, this time a ‘cold case’ that happened at an exclusive private girls’ boarding school located in an affluent area of Dublin, Ireland. The action takes place in a single day and, mostly, in a single place: the school, attended by 16-year-old Holly Mackey, but the story is punctuated with flashback scenes of Holly and her best friends that reveal both their relationship with each other and their schoolmates, as well as the boys they get to know from nearby St. Colm’s, a similar institution to their own. Lots of twists and turns and rather alarming revelations about what’s going on in the world of today’s teenagers, whether in Ireland or here in the U.S. Another great book by Tana French.”

—**An Amazon Reader**



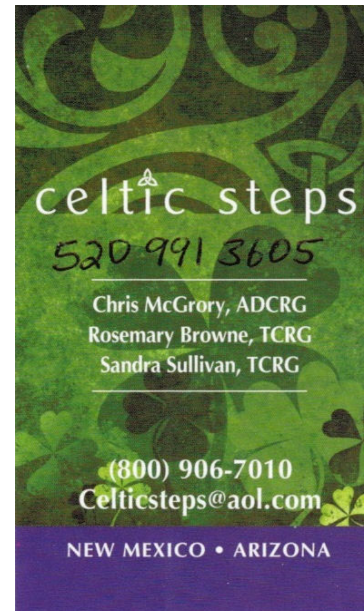
Culture All Around

Dance Classes:

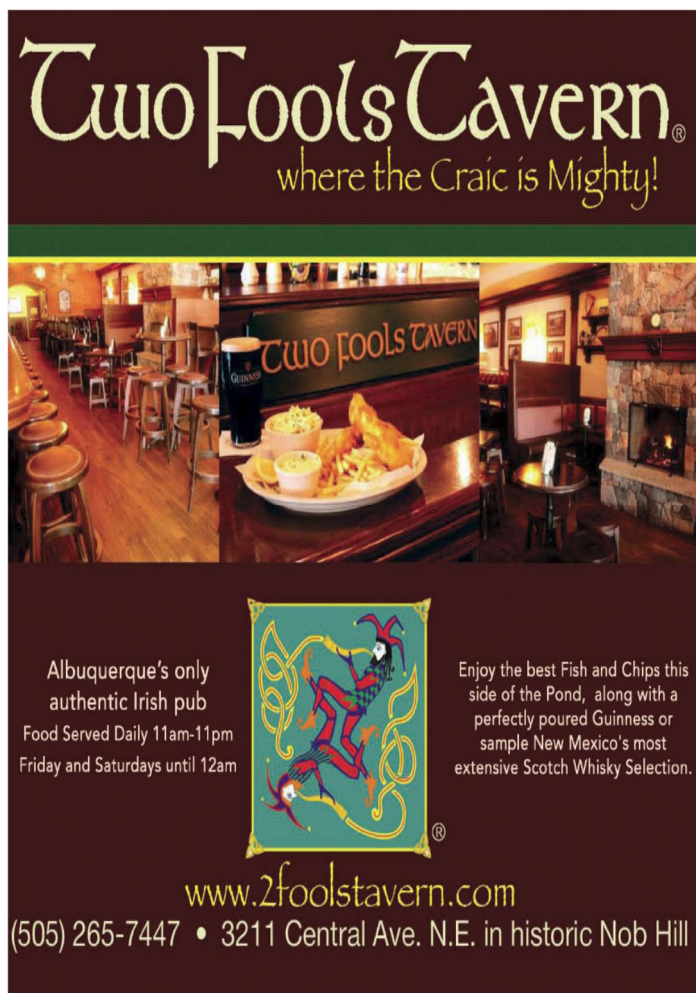
- ♣ **Coleman Academy of Irish Dance.** Saturdays, 8 AM to 1 PM at the Lloyd Shaw Dance Center, 5506 Coal SE. Call 866-5867 for information or visit our web site at www.irishdancenm.org and www.colemanacademy.com.
- ♣ **Celtic Steps Arizona/New Mexico (formerly Tir Conaill Academy of Irish Dance),** 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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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

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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)



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.

Michele Buchanan and Shanachie Harpers

765-1288 (tmbuchs@gmail.com)

Rye Creek

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

Celtic Coyotes

Traditional music from Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and Brittany. Contact: Doug Cowan celticcoyotes@yahoo.com (710-0583).

Friends Forever

Michael and Donna Coy and Chris Nelson play Celtic, Folk, Cowboy and Originals. Contact: 296-2017 or 250-4429; mmcoy3@msn.com.

Eagle's Whistle: Same group, but also with Andy Moss on whistle and concertina.

The Singing Coyote Sisters

Donna Coy & Michelle Palmer perform Celtic, Folk, Gospel, and Sing-A-Longs. Contact: 296-2017 or 730-1985 mmcoy3@msn.com

Cans for Celts

Help raise funds for the Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival and Highland Games in 2018! Please bring your aluminum cans, pie plates, foil, etc. along with copper items, tubing, and small non-working appliances with electric motors to the IAS meetings for recycling. (No cardboard or paper or large appliances.) For pick up between meetings – contact Paul McDonough @ 505-294-8205 and leave a message. Thank you!

Calendar of Events

IAS Events

Date	Day	What
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 on p. 1 of this newsletter.
January 2	Tuesday	IAS Board of Directors meeting , 7 PM at the GAC. All members are invited to attend.
January 12	Friday	IAS Monthly Meeting , 7 PM at the GAC. Program will be a performance by <i>the Bardic Sisters, Irish Music and Lore</i> .

Celtic/GAC Events

December 7, 14, 21, 28	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 .
December 2	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.)
December 2	Saturday	Royal Ball at the GAC with the Swing Shift Band, 7 to 11 PM. Cost \$10.
December 9	Saturday	Folk Music Jam , led by IAS member Michael Coy, at Apple Mountain Music, 2 to 3:30 PM.
December 10	Sunday	Scottish Session at Apple Mountain Music, 2 PM to 4 PM.
December 11	Monday	The Singing Pilgrims present A Christmas Ceilidh 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.
December 16	Saturday	Christmas Party at the GAC with Madie Mirabal Disc Jockey, 7 to 11 PM. Cost \$10.
December 17	Sunday	Jazz Sunday at the GAC, 2:00 to 5:00 PM. Cost to IAS member \$5.00.
December 31	Sunday	New Year's Eve Party at the GAC with the Hit Squad Band. \$40 for dinner, champagne, and breakfast. (\$25 without dinner.) Call 888-4833 for reservations (when the GAC is open).
January 27	Saturday	St. Andrew Scottish Society Annual Burns' Night Dinner . See p. 6 for details.

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_____

How did you hear about us? _____