



IRISH TIMES

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

MAY 2021

Note: Irish-American Society meetings are usually held on the second Friday of each month, except during July and August (and for special events). In the Before Times, the meeting location was the Memorial Hall at the First Unitarian Church, 3701 Carlisle Blvd NE, SW corner of Comanche and Carlisle (where someday we may meet again).

Next Virtual Meeting: Friday, May 14th, 7 PM

Presentation: Irish Women Artists

Our May meeting via Zoom will be a visit to us from Ireland by three Irish women artists: Niamh McCann, Annemarie Ní Churreáin, and Michelle Moloney King. **Niamh McCann** is a Dublin-based visual artist who has a diverse and playful practice in sculpture, installation, painting, and video. Her commissions include *Bile Buadha* (Tree of Power), a large-scale outdoors sculptural work, and *Pavilion/Mother's Lament*, an outdoors sculptural work.



Annemarie Ní Churreáin is a poet from the Donegal Gaeltacht and is fluent in Irish. Her publications include *Bloodroot* (Doire Press, 2017) and *Town* (The Salvage Press, 2018). Ní Churreáin grew up in Donegal in a place called Cnoc Na Naomh. She was educated at the Oscar Wilde Centre at Trinity College, Dublin. In addition to her writing practice, she is a panelist on the Writers in Irish Prisons Scheme.



Michelle Moloney King is an experimental poet and editor of *Beir Bua Journal*. She has a degree in computer science, post grad in education, and is a master hypnotherapist. She states: "My work is informed by play, the relationships of form/shape/semantic within the page, of identity and what it means to be unique, the plural happenings of life. And a longing to find the ultimate truth or get closure in a world of no logic and absurdity."



NOTE: As we have done for past Zoom meetings, the link to the event will be sent out shortly before 7 PM on May 14th. IAS members will be sent the link automatically. Feel free to forward the link to any friends who might be interested.

2021 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 307-1700).

Your sponsorship 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

Spring appears to have finally sprung in New Mexico (bringing of course our favorite weather condition—wind) and there are signs of life peeking out from the not-too-distant-now future. For one, the Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival is resurrecting itself virtually on May 1-2. (See the flyer on p. 8.) The Festival will be live streamed on both FaceBook and YouTube. (I'll send out the links when I receive them.) Should be two days of amazing craic!

Then we are also looking forward to possibly actually having an in-person picnic with the St. Andrew Scottish Society members on September 12 at Elena Gallegos picnic area. The City of ABQ is waiting until Bernalillo County reaches the “turquoise” level, and then they will open up the booking of open space venues. In the Before Times, we held this joint picnic every year, with the IAS and the SASS alternating hosting duties. Last year was our turn; last year was 2020; so this year is our turn. We will keep you posted on our progress.

Thanks again to our Programs Director, Bill Nevins, for bringing Larry Kirwan to us at our April 9 meeting. Larry was a hoot and a half! (If you missed the live event, you can watch on YouTube [here](#).) Larry's latest book is *Rockaway Blue* and it is also very entertaining. (See review on p. 6.)

I'm sorry to report that our board member Suzanne Taichert has had to resign from the board. We appreciate all the contributions Suzanne has made to the IAS, and we know that we will still see lots of her performing with various Celtic bands and we wish her well.

I am now happy to report that we have a new board member, John Roche—poet, educator, literary aficionado, and all-around lover of all things Celtic. (More about John in the next newsletter.) Welcome aboard!

And finally, a huge thank you to Bev Coleman and the former Coleman Academy of Irish Dance board, for donating the remaining funds from their organization to the IAS (\$1,884.92). We promise to use the funds to continue our mission of promoting Irish music and culture.

Membership Report

By Gwen Easterday

[Editor's Note: This month's membership report is brought to you by Norita Callahan, as Gwen Easterday is recovering from an illness.]

Céad Mile Fáilte: A hundred thousand welcomes to new members Andrew Oster, Cheryl Meyer & her granddaughter, and Chris Byrne! (Chris Byrne was a founding member of the Irish band Black 47.) As of 4/20/21 we have 47 single members and 47 (x 2) family members. This is a total of 141 renewals and new members for the 2021 membership year.

Message from Norita Callahan:

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 Barbara Nagey.

Treasurer's Report March 2021

Kathy Wimmer, Treasurer

Category	Income	Category	Expenses
Membership—electronic (Square)	\$277.66	U-Stor-It monthly storage fee	\$35.00
Membership—cash/checks	\$80.00	PayPal payment: Dirk Mewes, DWM Pipes; St. Pat's virtual party entertainment/uilleann pipes	\$100.00
GAC membership	\$5.00	Ck# 227: Miranda Rensberger, entertainment, St. Pat's virtual party	\$100.00
Donation to defray newsletter mailing costs	\$10.00	Ck# 228: Suzanne Taichert for Jug O' Punch, entertainment, virtual St. Pat's party	\$100.00
Donations to IAS at St. Pat's Party: Patty Wiemers, Gene & Edie Brooks, Libby Casarez, David Rensberger, Pete McKenna, John Roche, Bill Nevins, Mary Lou Garrett, Karen Wall, Don & Fran Hardy, David Coles	\$434.81	Ck.#230: Larry Compton (stamps, labels for IAS hard copy newsletters)	\$30.65
		Ck. #231: Suzanne Kemp for highland piping, entertainment, St. Pat's party	\$100.00
		Ck.#232: Brightburn Academy of Irish Dance, entertainment, St. Pat's virtual party	\$100.00
		Ck. #233: Cleve Sharp (for Duke City Ceili Band), entertainment, St. Pat's virtual party	\$100.00
Total Income	\$807.47	Total Expenses	(\$665.65)
		IAS Account prior month's ENDING balance	\$9,092.84
		Plus Income (current month)	\$807.47
		Less Expenses (current month)	(\$665.65)
		Current month's Ending Balance	\$9,234.66

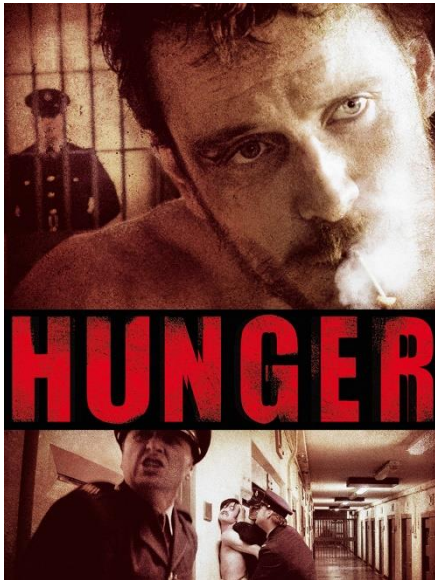
Job Opening: Roving Newsletter Reporter *(from the safety of your own house and computer!)*

The IAS is looking for a volunteer to help Ellen with the monthly newsletter. Tasks will involve interviewing members once a month for the Member Spotlight section, discovering online items of interest to the Celtic community, and brainstorming content. Probably about 5 hours a month. Requirements: computer skills, writing skills, enthusiasm! If you're interested, let Ellen know at edowling@standuptrainer.com.



Irish Movie Review: *Hunger*

By Larry Compton



Hunger is a 2008 film about Irish Republican Army prisoners at the notorious Maze Prison. It premiered at the 2008 Cannes Film Festival, winning the Caméra d'Or award for first-time filmmakers, and then earned several more nominations and awards. By 1981, when the story takes place, 2,187 people had been killed in The Troubles. We hear Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher state that "there is no such thing as political violence" and that the Irish Republican cause has been "discredited." (Prior to their political status in 1976, both IRA and Loyalist fighters had been treated as prisoners of war.)

In the opening scene a prison officer gets ready for work; he washes his hands, scarred from fighting. Leaving the house, he first looks up and down the street, then under his car for bombs. He slowly turns his key in the ignition; no bomb goes off. He arrives at the prison, where he does not socialize with or even talk to the other guards. A new IRA prisoner, Davey Gillen, is checked in. He "takes a blanket," meaning he refuses to wear a prisoner uniform. He strips naked, is given a blanket, and taken to H Block. (Warning: there are many disturbing scenes in this movie.) His new cellmate, also naked, is unshaven, as he's taking part in the "no wash" protest. The walls are covered in his smeared excrement.

Time passes slowly. There are long scenes with hardly a word or a sound, the wretched prisoners staring emptily into space. We see the guard taking smoking breaks by himself outside. The monotony is broken when Gillen tries a small radio that his wife has smuggled in. One day the guards open a cell, pulling out a solitary prisoner who resists. It's Bobby Sands (played by Michael Fassbender). They beat him, then hold him down in a bathroom and forcefully cut his hair and beard, then scrub him down in a bathtub. Meanwhile, men in hazmat suits come and hose down his filthy cell. Allowed to wear his own clothes, Sands is taken to see his visiting parents. Bruised from the beating and cut by the scissors, he is asked by his mother if he's been treated well. He merely replies "I'm grand, ma." Later, the prisoners are offered civilian clothing, but seeing that it is used, out-of-style clothes, they are insulted and refuse. Extra riot police are brought in after the prisoners wreck their cells; they are forced to run a gauntlet, where they are beaten with clubs and then cavity searched for smuggled contraband.

In the only scene with substantial dialogue, a priest comes to visit Sands. After a lot of back-and-forth chatter, Father Moran asks Sands what he wanted to tell him. Saying that "nothing's changed here," Sands says he's going to start a new hunger strike, "that's what I'm tellin' ya." Fr. Moran asks how it would be different this time, as the first one failed. Sands replies that there are 75 of them willing to do it, one at a time, and when one dies, he'll be replaced by the next. The priest tries to talk him out of it: "Is your intent to just commit suicide here? I call it murder." Refusing to eat, Sands wastes away and is moved into a hospital bed. Ribs showing, he develops ulcers on his skin (the actor prepared for this role through exercise and a low-calorie diet). Elected to Parliament, Bobby Sands dies after 66 days. Although the government steadfastly refused to officially grant the IRA prisoners political status, gradually their demands were met.

Hunger is a tough film to watch. It's not for everyone; with nudity and violence, it's not for sensitive or very young viewers. Nor is it for the easily bored. But the long, monotonous and nearly silent scenes, occasionally interrupted by graphic violence, tell the story of the prisoners' suffering and commitment to their cause better than any words could.

The Irish Book Club

One of the best things about being an online book club is that there need be no interruptions during this trying time. 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 discussion in April is *Big Girl, Small Town*, by Michelle Galen. For May, we'll read *Travelling in a Strange Land* by David Park.

***Rockaway Blue*, by Larry Kirwan**

We did not read this book as part of the Irish Book Club, but since author Larry Kirwan was so kind to visit us for our April 9 meeting, I'm including a review of it here. It's also well worth the read!

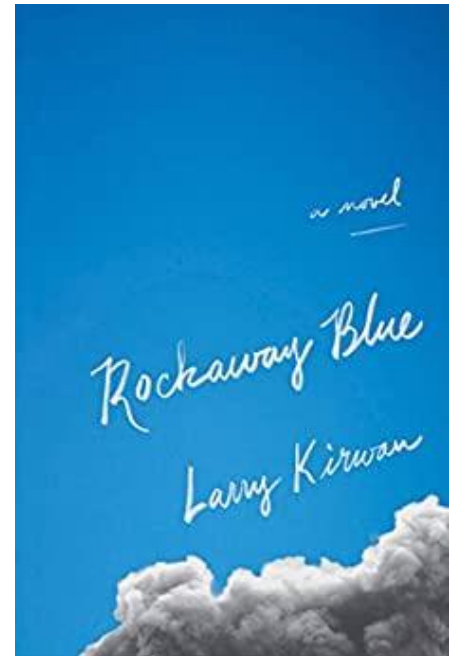
First, Amazon's description: "When terrorists attacked on September 11, 2001, Lieutenant Brian Murphy rescued seven people from the World Trade Center. Even as steel girders buckled and groaned, Brian rushed back up the stairs of the North Tower in search of those in need. He died a hero, one of more than four hundred police officers, firefighters, and other first responders who perished that fateful day.

Three years later, Vietnam veteran and retired NYPD detective-sergeant Jimmy Murphy is on a mission to find the truth behind his son's death. Why was Brian in the tower that morning? Had he anticipated the attack? Suspecting a cover-up of a deeper truth, Jimmy must confront his family, friends, and old colleagues in the police department to discover what happened to Brian and who his eldest son really was.

Murphy's investigation takes him from his home turf in the Irish American enclave of Rockaway Beach to Muslim Atlantic Avenue and beyond in order to find his own truth about 9/11. Dry-eyed and determined, Murphy battles barstool patriotism, the NYPD blue wall of silence, and a ticking clock—all the while haunted by his own secrets and the raw memory of his difficult relationship with his dead son. Written by author and musician Larry Kirwan, *Rockaway Blue* is a thrilling and poignant story of a family struggling to pull itself together after an unthinkable trauma."

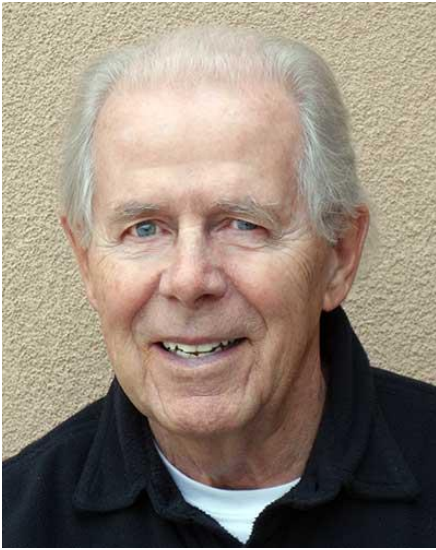
I asked Larry during our pre-show chat what kind of a book *Rockaway Blue* is—what type or genre of fiction? He laughed and said he was not sure, because this book's style could be any of these: family melodrama (brother of dead 9/11 hero is sleeping with dead hero's wife), action thriller (what was Brian looking for? Who told him something bad would happen soon?), and lovely, thoughtful evocation of a real place—the Rockaway of my own childhood, as my Irish grandmother would take me there every summer. And I was also impressed by how well Larry has done his homework: the descriptions of the lives of the NYPD and NYFD characters are very persuasive and true-to-life. (And this verisimilitude is coming to you from one of the founding fathers of a seminal Irish punk band, Black 47!)

And of course what could be better than a glowing tribute from Malachy McCourt himself: "When Larry Kirwan sets out on an artistic mission there is no stopping halfway. *Rockaway Blue* is a must read for New Yorkers and all those fascinated by the life of this amazing city."



Member Spotlight: Derek Swinson

By Kathy Wimmer



Long-time IAS members will be familiar with Derek Swinson, so before getting down to the planned series of questions I set out to ask him, I first wanted to know something we perhaps didn't know about him. This Irishman started out by telling me his great-great grandfather was Sven Svensson (I claim all misspellings as my own), a teacher and mariner from Hamburg, when it was part of Denmark. Jumping ahead a few generations, by then the renamed "Swinson" family had moved through England and finally settled in Belfast. Derek's father, one of eleven children, was in the petroleum business and his job took the family to Scotland at the start of WWII. Though born in Belfast, Derek spent many of his young years in Scotland until the family moved back across the Irish Sea to Bangor, a coastal town which is part of greater metropolitan Belfast. As a young man, Derek was in the Sea Scouts of Northern Ireland, and went to the world Scout Jamboree in Canada. He fell in love with Canada, so after getting his

degree in Physics in Belfast, he went to Calgary, in Alberta, for grad school.

How did he wind up in New Mexico? Simply put, he took a job as assistant professor at the University of New Mexico Department of Physics and Astronomy in 1965. But as natural storyteller, Derek provided me with a fascinating tale that was anything but simple. I learned about the route that took him to Calgary for Masters and Ph.D. programs and about his many studies and experiments. Did you know that he made a discovery that shook up the cosmic ray community and was originally named the Swinson Effect? That after he retired from UNM in 1995 he ran a consulting business for accident reconstruction for vehicular and skiing accidents? And when I asked the retired cosmic radiation physicist if we could also call him an astrophysicist, Derek said that, because study astronomy in depth, he could only claim to be a "half ast-physicist."

As a professor of physics, Derek Swinson wrote numerous articles and presented papers at many conferences, but he may be the only physicist to write songs with titles such as "Cold Fusion" and "Waiting for the Proton to Decay." And it's as an award-winning songwriter that Derek also made a name for himself. It all started at Phil's Pancake House in Calgary, when he was introduced to fellow Irishman and musician, Will Millar. Derek says that he and Will "got on like a house on fire" and they soon formed a trio with another musician and called themselves The Irish Rovers. But when Derek was faced with choice of giving up playing guitar and singing Irish music with the group or give up on his Ph.D., academia won out as he reasoned he would eat more regularly if he stuck with physics.

But he didn't give up music altogether, and neither did the reassembled Irish Rovers. Derek fast-forwarded a few years past his Calgary days to when the now-famous Irish Rovers came to Popejoy Hall for a concert. Will Millar invited Derek to join the group onstage and a photojournalist was there to record his performance and bring local fame as an original Canadian Irish Rover.

It also attracted a handful of other Irish ex-pats. Derek was "there from the beginning" of the establishment of the Irish American Society of New Mexico. Of course, the IAS is a welcoming place for anyone, of Irish descent or not, with an interest in anything Irish. At IAS meetings, Derek has played his accordion and regaled members with songs by the likes of Percy French along with original compositions. His songs and stories are known to our members and beyond. He wrote and performed for the once-yearly Faculty Follies at UNM, and was featured in the Press Club's Gridiron Show. One of his many awards came in 1983 when he was presented with the Gridiron Award as Best Original Songwriter. He was also involved in local theatre, acting in plays at the Albuquerque Little Theatre and with the Classics Theatre Company.



RGVCF IS GOING VIRTUAL!

MAY 1-2, 2021 11-4:30 MST

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SEVEN NATIONS

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featuring

PIPER JONES ❧ **Celtic Coyotes**

❧ **Duke City Ceili Band** ❧

Gerry Carthy ❧ **Singing Pilgrims**

❧ **Grace Broadhead & Ben Williamson** ❧

Jug O' Punch ❧ **Grace Broadhead**

❧ **Scott & Johanna Hongell-Darsee** ❧

Saoirse ❧ **Duke City Sound**

Board Member Spotlight: Kathy Wimmer

By Larry Compton



For this month's Board of Directors profile, I interviewed our Treasurer, Kathy Mille Wimmer. Originally from Brooklyn, New York, Kathy moved to New Mexico on her 12th birthday, in 1972. Her grandparents had retired to Rio Rancho, and she and her mom followed them after her father passed away. She is now semi-retired from (still working part-time at) UNM-affiliated television station KNME-TV/New Mexico PBS, where she has been a producer since 2006. She's been married to Ken Wimmer since 1983.

When – and why – did you first join the Irish-American Society of NM?

The "when" is hard; the "why" is easy. In a nutshell, I've been a member for over 20 years, so I've been involved in the IAS since sometime in the 1990s. Also, I love Irish music and folklore, and although my mom's side of the family is all from Italy, I grew up knowing I was part Irish (with German and other ingredients mixed in) on my father's side. In 1993 I was in the Vortex Theater's production of "Dancing at Lughnasa," and we needed to find someone to instruct us in some Irish dancing steps. I met

Norita Callahan; for me, and for many other IAS members, "the rest was history." It was inevitable that I would eventually join the IAS.

You and your husband recently visited Ireland. Was that your first trip there? Tell us some of the highlights, and your favorite experiences and places.

Ken and I have traveled to Ireland twice, first to the Republic of Ireland in 2006 and then again with Mick Moloney's Tour of Northern Ireland in 2017. For our first trip, we went with our friends Patrick and Bart, and we rented a car and traveled from Dublin to Trim to Galway, down to the Dingle peninsula and around to Kilkenny and back to Dublin. We saw many of the sites in and around the cities and countryside, including Newgrange, the Hill of Tara, the Cliffs of Moher, and the Rock of Cashel. Patrick, a Mulhall and a lefty, took to driving like he was born to it, and so we made him our chauffeur. It's hard to distill this trip into most memorable moments, but the visit to An Daingean (Dingle) and borrowing a guitar to sing "Loose Women" in a pub was a highlight, as was the several hours we spent visiting the Great Blasket Island (a magical experience). In 2017 we returned to Ireland and met up with the Mick Moloney Northern Ireland/North of Ireland Tour. To say this was an extraordinary "trip of a lifetime" is an understatement. I've written about our day in Armagh for this newsletter, but I owe it more about our travels to Drogheda, Belfast, Derry, the Giant's Causeway, and the wonderful Gaelic-speaking Tory Island. There, we met and spent time with the King of Tory, Patsy Dan Rodgers, a year before he, sadly, passed away.

Kathy, I knew you long before I myself joined the Irish-American Society, through your involvement in music and the performing arts. Tell us what instruments you play, and what kind of music you like to sing, Celtic or otherwise.

I've played guitar since I was around ten. I knew about three chords and by sixth grade at the age of eleven, I volunteered to join the Folk Mass at my Catholic school and church back in Brooklyn, NY. I played lots of folk music in the 1970s, mostly to accompany singing. By that time I'd moved to Rio Rancho, and also got involved in drama in high school, later getting a BFA in Theatre Arts from UNM. Around 1990 I was acting and playing music in a production of "The Beggar's Opera" that a friend had adapted and was directing. He set the play in the Old West and used a lot of Irish-based tunes for the show's lyrics ("Drowsy Maggie," "Trip to Sligo," and the like). That led me to more interest in Celtic music, which then also led me to the Celtic harp. I also have a strong love of medieval and Renaissance music, so I play and sing in UNM's Early Music Ensemble.

Ireland 1921-2021

From [The Journal. IE](#)

[Editor's Note: Larry Kirwan gave us a stirring, profound look at what it might have been like to grow up in Ireland during the 1950s, and also discussed the impact of the War of Independence on later generations. To commemorate the centenary of that War, here is a timeline of events.]

Ireland's decade of commemorations continues this year as the country remembers 1921, the final year of fighting in the War of Independence. The year of 1921 saw the continued cycle of attacks and reprisals throughout the country but as the year wore on the likelihood of a cessation grew.

Discussion around the commemorations this year is likely to lead to some difficult questions, particularly in the latter part of the year as Ireland remembers the Anglo-Irish Treaty.

To help you get in the mindset for the year, here is a non-exhaustive timeline of some of the events likely to be remembered and spoken about this year.

1 January 1921: Following the sacking of Cork the previous month, the military governor in Cork orders the burning of six houses in Midleton, Co Cork. It follows the killing of three policemen a number of days previous.

20 January 1921: A major ambush took place in Glenwood, Co Clare when six policemen were shot dead by members of the East Clare Brigade IRA.

2 February: The Longford Column of the IRA, under Sean MacEoin, ambushes two lorries carrying Auxiliaries at Clonfin, leaving four dead.

10 February: A raid on Paul Farrell's flat on South Frederick Street fails in its target of capturing Richard Mulcahy, Chief of Staff of the IRA.

15 February: Six civilians are killed when an IRA ambush of a British troop train at Upton Station in Cork goes badly.

20 February: Twelve members of the Flying Column of the Fourth Battalion, First Cork Brigade were killed in an ambush near Clonmult. It was the greatest loss of life suffered by the volunteers in a single engagement during the War of Independence.

14 March: Six IRA men are hung in Mountjoy Jail; Thomas Bryan, Patrick Doyle, Frank Flood and Bernard Ryan. Flood was a friend of Kevin Barry and the pair are the youngest Volunteers to be executed during the War of Independence.

19 March: In terms of the numbers involved, the Crossbarry Ambush is one of the largest encounters of the War of Independence, making the front page of the New York Times the following day. The IRA claims over 30 thirty British are killed while official British figures say 10 were killed along with six IRA men.

21 March: The Headford Ambush in Kerry sees an IRA attack on a British troop train near Killarney. Two IRA men, three civilians and an unconfirmed number of British troops are killed.

21 April: An unofficial intermediary from the British government, Lord Derby, arrives in Dublin and meets with President of Dáil Éireann Eamon de Valera.

3 May: The Tourmakeady Ambush by the flying column of the South Mayo Brigade of the IRA, four RIC men are killed along with one IRA man.

19 May: In the town of Kilmeena, an ambush went badly for the West Mayo Brigade and a counter-attack from the British sees six Volunteers killed.

25: May: A large-scale occupation of the Customs House in Dublin sees the building in flames and leads an estimated six IRA men being killed and dozens captured.

[To be continued in subsequent newsletters . . .]

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.themacsports.com/brightburn-irish-dance> for further information.

♣ **Ceili dance classes** are held every Wednesday at the GAC at 7:15 PM, \$4.00. No experience necessary! Call Norita Callahan at 298-2708. [Indefinitely postponed. ☹]

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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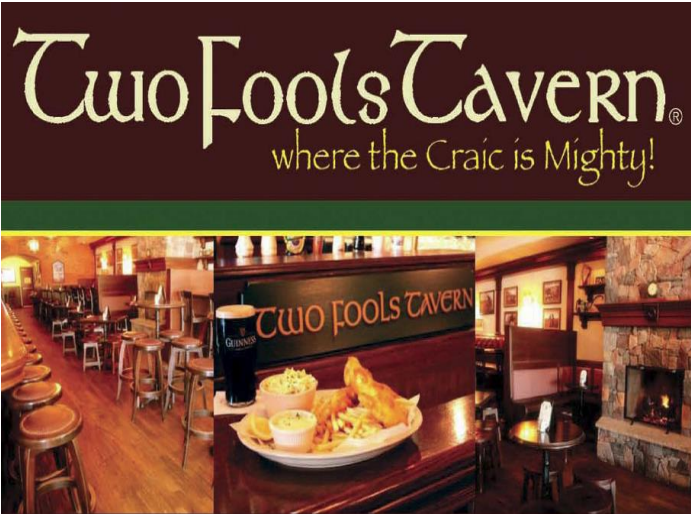
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Free Genealogy Research Days!

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

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:
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OR

You can also visit our website (www.irishamericansociety-nm.com) and pay by credit card.

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