



IRISHh TIMES

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

MAY 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, May 15th, 6:00 PM



Kickoff to the 27th Annual Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival and Highland Games!

In place of our regular monthly meeting, the Irish-American Society is pleased to host the traditional **Pot-Luck Kickoff Party** to the annual Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival (May 16th and 17th at Balloon Fiesta Park.) [See information on p. 7 and brochure included in the hard-copy newsletter or attached to the electronic version.] The party will start at 6 PM, with food being served at 6:30 PM. Donation at the door: \$3 per person (for hall rental and musicians).

Please bring a tasty dish for about 12+ people. The IAS will supply all paper goods, as well as coffee and tea. The GAC bar will be open. (Please be sure to mark your dishes and serving utensils so they will find their way back to you.)

Musical entertainment provided by the following:

6:00 PM: Mac-Tíre of Skye Pipes and Drums
6:45 PM: Coleman Academy of Irish Dance Irish Step Dancers
Followed by the vocal stylings of Casey Hennigan
Followed by music provided by Jim Brauer

Everyone is invited—IAS members, guests, Festival sponsors and volunteers! Spread the words to everyone you know! (Just remind them to bring a dish to share.)

2015 Board Members and Committee Chairs

President	Bob Bryers tcrrb5@aol.com	792-2026	Health & Welfare	Fran Hardy frananddon@aol.com	259-3348
VP	Chris Kinlen oldtowncelticshop@aol.com	328-7408	Newsletter	Ellen Dowling edowling@standuptrainer.com	307-1700
Treasurer	Vikki Bryers TCCVRB@netzero.com	792-2026	Hospitality	Luisa Gignac lgdancer@BasicISP.net	881-4847
Secretary	Gerri Campbell Jcampbell3124@live.com	554-5286	Web Manager	Ellen Dowling edowling@standuptrainer.com	307-1700
Membership	Caitlan Saunders caite_88@hotmail.com	559-0686	Telephone	Beth Baker adamsonbb@gmail.com	994-0443
Past President	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.

ISCUMA*
a band of high degree
celtic music etc.

Bill McCoy / 505 897 4407

*it doesn't matter

President's Message

Dear IAS Members:

May is upon us, in the usual New Mexico fashion—winds, warm weather, and the Renaissance Festival at the Balloon Fiesta Museum Park on Saturday, May 2nd. And don't forget our Annual Kickoff Party for the Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival on Friday, May 15th, at the GAC, featuring Mac-Tíre of Skye Pipes and Drums, the Coleman Academy of Irish Dance step dancers, the beautiful voice of Casey Hennigan, and music by Jim Brauer. The Celtic Festival itself will take place at the Balloon Fiesta Park on Saturday, May 16th, from 9-6 and Sunday, May 17th, from 9-4. We are still looking for volunteers to work the IAS booth. All those who volunteer will get a wrist band giving them access to the Festival for both days—how can you top that!!

Please also remember that the Road Runner food barrel food drive is still going on. The barrel is full to overflowing right now and we have called them to empty it out so that we can fill it up again; my thanks to all who have contributed to this good cause as well as the aluminum pull tabs that you give to Norita to support the Ronald McDonald house, and the "Cans for Celts" that Paul McDonough collects to raise funds for the Celtic Festival. We try our best to help the community that we live and work in.

Just a reminder – there will be no General Membership meeting this month as the Kickoff Party for the RGVCF will take its place on Friday, May 15th. Hope to see you all there, and as usual if there is anything you wish to discuss with either myself or any of the Board, please call or email us.

Bob Bryers

A **Road Runner Food Bank Barrel** has been placed in the German-American Club. Please bring **NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS** (prepackaged and canned goods) if you care to donate. The food drive will be going on through the month of June.

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



Old Town Celtic Shop
Specializing in Authentic Celtic Jewelry & Gifts

323 Romero Street NW, Suite 12
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87104
www.oldtowncelticshop.com

Chris Kinlen 328-7408
Lisa Kinlen 999-9219

Membership Report

By Caitlin Saunders, Membership Chair

Céad Mile Fáilte: A hundred thousand welcomes to our new members, Rian McCoy and Mario Barela & Family. And of course thank you to the many of you who have renewed your memberships. As of 4/17/15 we have 118 single members, 80 family members X 2 and 1 college student. This is a total of 279 members for 2015 membership year.

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 Magda Romano and an anonymous donor.

Norita

Treasurer's Report April, 2015

Victoria Bryers, Treasurer

Category	Income	Category	Expenses
Membership	\$90.00	Apr honorarium (Eagle's Whistle)	\$50.00
50-50 raffle	\$22.00	Print Express (newsletter)	\$313.42
Book sale	\$3.00	Zia Graphics for Ball caps	\$428.00
		Donation to Alan Spencer for his daughter's funeral	\$100.00
		Celtic Festival 50/50 donation	\$22.00
		Total Expenses	\$891.42
		April beginning balance	\$8753.50
		Plus Income	\$115.00
		Subtotal	\$8868.50
		Less Expenses	\$891.42
Total Income	\$115.00	April Ending Balance	\$8753.08

A message from IAS member Tom Quinn:

Every Wednesday I present a radio programme called "Skippely - Dai - Dee - Doh" on Newry Community Radio from 7 to 9 PM Irish time (1 to 3 PM NM time). The content of the show is Irish music and song and I was wondering if you would pass this information on to the Irish-American Society.

A lot of my students at the college tune in from Finland to China and exPats around the world. For requests I need two day' notice the Monday before the show and you can use this email address: thedancer@eircom.net.

The link to the station is <http://www.newrycommunityradio.tv>.

FEATURING SOLAS

in a Special Warmup concert Friday June 5th, 8pm



NEW MEXICO'S LARGEST
 PARTICIPATORY MUSIC FESTIVAL
JUNE 6TH, 2015
 ALBUQUERQUE BALLOON MUSEUM
 10AM-10PM

THE CAJUN-CREOLE CONNECTION, HANDSOME
 FAMILY, NOTORIOUS, SPENCER & RAIN, BILL
 HEARNE TRIO CACTUS TRACTOR, RYANHOOD, CALI
 SHAW BAND, WORKSHOPS, KIDS EVENTS, DANCES
 AND MUCH MORE!

WWW.ABQFOLKFEST.ORG



MAYOR RICHARD J BERRY



Learn to Play Gaelic Football in Albuquerque!



The Albuquerque Gaelic Football Club is looking for new recruits, with or without previous experience. Come and try out the most popular field sport in Ireland! You don't even have to be Irish! Just be ready to have a great time playing this fantastic sport.

Where: UNM Johnson Field, Redondo Drive, UNM campus

When: Wednesdays, 6.30pm, and Saturdays, 10.00am

For more information, contact

Alan Markey: (505) 980-9658 liveitlad@gmail.com

John Whitney: (505) 382-8778 johnwhitney1181@yahoo.com

Graham Matthews: (303) 667 5010 ireland111@yahoo.com

Celtic Society of UNM



Contact: Jennifer DeMerritt @

Celticunm@unm.edu

Phone: 505-916-9172

Irish Music Session

There is an open Irish music session every Thursday night at Joliesse Chocolates, on 4th St, Albuquerque, 7-9. All are welcome to participate or just enjoy listening. We play mostly traditional Irish tunes, and do some singing as well. Musicians, please bring a chair as the venue may not have enough.

New from Apple Mountain Music! Slow Celtic Session

Tom Tunney, Host. Please join us from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM on *the first Saturday of every month*, for a guaranteed **SLOW Celtic session**. (Fee: Donation.) The tune list will be limited to about a dozen tunes at a time so we can learn them from memory. We will work on how to learn the tunes using recordings and sheet music as well as various resources available online. It's not necessary to know how to read music, but we will spend some time learning that if anyone is interested. All instruments are welcome, but you should be able to play at least at a beginner's level.

Apple Mountain Music
10301 Comanche NE, Albuquerque

27TH Annual Rio Grande Valley CELTIC FESTIVAL

May 16 (9 am – 6 pm) & May 17 (9 am – 4 pm)
Balloon Fiesta Park, Albuquerque, NM

A Celebration of Irish, Scottish, Welsh, Manx, Breton, Cornish and Galician Culture.

MUSIC - Traditional, new & fusion by local and international performers. Harp competition 5/16, 9a-12n.

DANCE – Irish Step, Irish Ceili, Irish Set, Scottish Highland Competition & Scottish Country Dance, free workshops and more!

BAGPIPES – Piping & drumming competitions and performances.

ATHLETIC COMPETITION - Highland Games, Heavy Athletics Men's & Women's, Celtic 7's Rugby Tournament and Gaelic Football.

VENDORS – Traditional food & drink (NM microbreweries), art, jewelry, clothing, musical instruments, books, swords & armor, collectables and souvenirs.

HISTORY, LANGUAGE & DRESS – Cultural societies, Scottish Clans, Celtic dogs & sheepdog trials, ponies & Celtic horses, antique & modern British cars.

YOUTH & KIDS ACTIVITIES – Watch Sheepdog Trials, ride a pony, children's craft tent, fight a knight, archery and go on a treasure hunt!

Come out to support Paws and Stripes - Helping Dogs Helping Heroes.

ADMISSION (single day/both days) Note: Free program with paid admission.

Adults:	\$15/\$20
Seniors:	\$10/\$15
Kids 6-14	\$7/\$10
Kids under 6:	FREE
Active Military:	\$10 / \$15 (includes 2 children free on Sunday)

FREE Parking!



Dressed to Thrill

27th Annual Rio Grande Valley
Celtic Festival & Games

Highland Games & Rugby
Micro Breweries
Live Music & Dancing
Bagpipes • Harps
Traditional Food
Pony Rides • Celtic Horses & Dogs
Antique British Cars
Viking Encampment
Kids Activities
Arts & Crafts • Kilts & More

May 16 & 17, 2015
Balloon Fiesta Park, Albuquerque, NM, USA
www.celtfestabq.com

The Surprising Origin of Murphy's Law Revealed

From [Irish Central](#)

Murphy's Law is a very recent invention. The first reference to it is in a 1951 scientific journal.

It comes from an unlikely source. In 1948 and 1949, tests to see how humans could tolerate G forces on impact and while flying at high speeds were being carried out at Edwards Air Force base in the Mojave Desert, in California. Dr. John Stapp, a U.S. Air Force colonel and Flight Surgeon in the 1950s, was in charge. Research and Development chief Edward Aloysius Murphy, a New Jersey native and decorated World War II pilot, was also involved in the highly complex testing phase.

A key sensor was installed completely backwards, allegedly by Murphy, who never checked it before it was made operational. As a result the test went utterly haywire much to the embarrassment of everyone concerned. Stapp used the term "Murphy's Law" in a subsequent press conference, saying the incident had taught them to assume whatever could go wrong would and to plan for it.

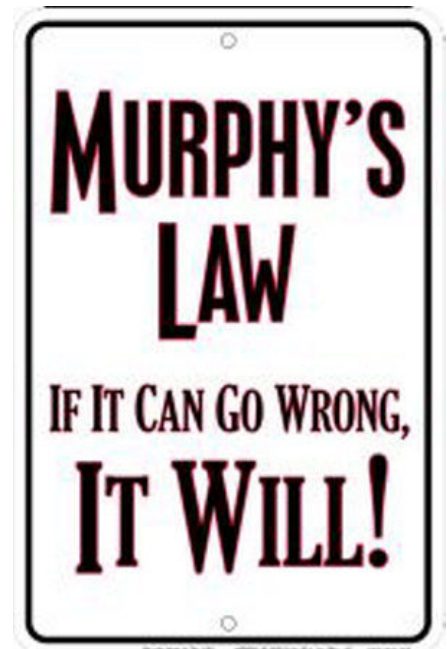
The next major mention is in the May/June 1955 issue of *Aviation Mechanics Bulletin*, which included the line "Murphy's law: If an aircraft part can be installed incorrectly, someone will install it that way."

It really took off (pardon the pun) in 1962 when the Mercury astronauts cited Murphy's Law in explaining why everything was checked and rechecked before spaceflight.

Murphy died in 1990. In the 1960s he worked on the Apollo moon mission on safety and life protection issues. He always claimed his law was a positive development, by teaching people to expect the worst and safeguarding against it.

Some Murphy's laws:

1. Everything that can go wrong will.
2. If there is a possibility of several things going wrong, the one that will cause the most damage will be the first one to go wrong.
3. The things that go wrong are the hardest to get right.
4. Murphy was an optimist.
5. If you perceive that there are four possible ways in which something can go wrong, and circumvent these, then a fifth way, unprepared for, will promptly develop.
6. If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.
7. Everything takes longer than you think.
8. You never find a lost article until you replace it.
9. If nobody uses it, there's a reason.
10. You get the most of what you need the least.
11. Nature always sides with the hidden flaw.
12. Enjoy today, tomorrow will be worse.



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 www.irishdancem.org and www.colemanacademy.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.tirconallacademy.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:

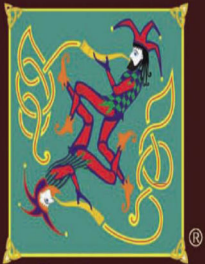
- ♣ **The Thistle and Shamrock** program, featuring Fiona Ritchie, airs on KANW 89.1 FM, Mondays at 6:00 PM.
- ♣ **Celtic and Beyond**, with co-hosts Ellie Blair and Kelly Clement, 7:00 PM each Wednesday on KTAOS 101.9 FM. (Also broadcast on the Web at www.ktao.com.)

Two Fools Tavern

where the Craic is Mighty!



Albuquerque's only authentic Irish pub
Food Served Daily 11am-11pm
Friday and Saturdays until 12am



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.

www.2foolstavern.com

(505) 265-7447 • 3211 Central Ave. N.E. in historic Nob Hill

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/>



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

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

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 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

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.

Calendar of Events

IAS Events

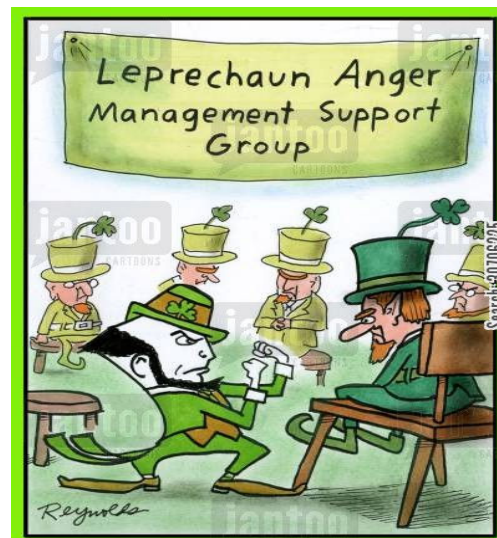
Date	Day	What
May 5	Tuesday	IAS Board of Directors meeting , 7 PM at the GAC. All members are invited to attend.
May 15	Friday	IAS Kickoff to the Celtic Festival Party! See the first page of this newsletter for more info.
June 2	Tuesday	IAS Board of Directors meeting , 7 PM at the GAC. All members are invited to attend.
June 12	Friday	IAS Monthly Meeting and Program , 7 PM at the GAC. Program TBA.

Celtic/GAC Events

Weekly	Thursday	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. More info, contact Harlow Pinson at hpinson@indepthl.com .
May 2	Saturday	Maifest/May Fest at the GAC. Swingshift Band from 7:00 to 11:00 PM. Cost \$10.00.
May 16-17	Saturday and Sunday	27th Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival at Balloon Fiesta Park . (See p. 7 in this newsletter and attached brochure. Or visit http://www.celtfestabq.com/)
May 16	Saturday	Sock Hop at the GAC. Showcase Band from 7:00 to 11:00 PM. Cost \$10.00.
May 17	Sunday	Rye Creek performing at O'Niell's at Central and Washington, 4 to 7 PM.
May 17	Sunday	Jazz Sunday at the GAC, from 2:00 to 5:00 PM. Cost to members \$5.00.
June 5	Friday	Irish Band Solas performing at the Balloon Fiesta Museum, 9201 Balloon Museum Dr NE (off of Alameda), 8:00 PM. For tickets, go here: http://www.amconcerts.org/event/197117/solas
June 6	Saturday	Albuquerque Folk Festival , 10 AM to 10 PM at Balloon Fiesta Park. See flyer on p. 5 or visit www.abqfolkfest.org

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 _____

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)