



# IRISH TIMES

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

FEBRUARY 2010

## Next Event: Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM

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).

### A Musical Performance by *Womenfolk – Et Cetera!*

*Womenfolk* is a group of four women brought together by their love of folk music. They became friends about four years ago in an Irish music class. When class was over, they began to meet to play Irish music on traditional instruments. They have since branched out to play folk music of all kinds, but Irish music remains their core.

The members of the band are

- ♣ Bronwyn Wilson: fiddle and guitar. By day, Bronwyn is a physician and professor at UNM. She began playing classical violin as a child, and learned guitar as a college student in Mexico. With her wide-ranging interests, she is versed in a variety of musical traditions. She plays everything from classical to sing-a-long, often with her two talented daughters.
- ♣ Karen Rathge: harp, fiddle, and keyboards. Karen is a speech therapist for rehab hospitals in Albuquerque, but music is her long-time avocation. She plays nearly every instrument, from psaltry to french horn to church organ. She started playing fiddle when she inherited a family violin a few years ago, and she made learning that difficult instrument look easy!
- ♣ Ariane Pinson: recorder and flute. Ariane is a professor of anthropology and archaeology at UNM and CNM. She plays various wind instruments for the group, including Irish flute, German flute, and tenor recorder. She specializes in the soprano recorder, which she terms the “English Pennywhistle.”
- ♣ Liz Holm: fiddle and shaker ball. Liz is a research scientist at Sandia. Although she played classical music as a child, Liz took a long hiatus before she discovered her true musical love: Celtic dance music. Liz plays fiddle for Irish set dance and Scottish country dance groups in New Mexico.

They will be joined at the IAS program by Bill McCoy on the bodhran. Bill is an artist residing in Corrales and a fixture in the Irish music scene in Albuquerque. His love of Irish music and culture goes way back to his youth in New York, and he is a font of information and knowledge. He also plays a great dance beat.

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

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Past President	Kate Nash <a href="mailto:MaryKate_Nash@msn.com">MaryKate_Nash@msn.com</a>	615-7732			

## Irish Interest Group

The Irish-American Society is a non-profit, non-political, and non-sectarian organization devoted to furthering Irish-American relations through education, travel, recreation, charity, music, and dance.

Membership is open to everyone and we encourage your support and participation. Dues are \$20.00 for an individual and \$25.00 for a family. For more information, please call Members Chair Norita Callahan at 298-2708.

The Irish Interest Group of the Albuquerque Genealogical Society meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 1:30-3:00 PM in the Special Collections Library, Botts Hall, Edith and Central, Albuquerque. Programs include Irish history, culture, and genealogy. All meetings are free and open to the public.

**Next IIG Meeting: February 17<sup>th</sup>**

For more information, contact Elaine Armstrong, AGS Irish Interest Group Coordinator, 836-7359 or [absobluminlutely@yahoo.com](mailto:absobluminlutely@yahoo.com)

### Would you like to place an ad in the *Irish Times* newsletter?

Business-card-sized ads are a mere \$5 a month. Larger-sized ads can be negotiated with the editor, Ellen Dowling ([edowling@standuptrainer.com](mailto:edowling@standuptrainer.com) 307-1700). You can also put a "click-through" ad on the web site of the IAS ([www.irishamericansociety-nm.com](http://www.irishamericansociety-nm.com)) at no extra charge. To put your ad online, contact Webmaster Ken Callahan ([kecabq@yahoo.com](mailto:kecabq@yahoo.com)).

## President's Message

Dear IAS Members:

We continue to have good entertainment and presentations at our monthly meetings, and January was no exception. Jamie Foster, who also sings with the Santa Fe Opera, entertained us with a number of Celtic songs, accompanied by Suzanne Taichert. Both received enthusiastic applause and numerous accolades afterwards. Jamie and Suzanne never fail to give a much appreciated performance.

As was brought out at our January General Membership meeting, it takes the cooperation of many members volunteering and working together to ensure everything is taken care of, so our members can enjoy our events. After the meeting this month, the next big event we need to plan for is the St. Patrick's Day celebration on Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00 'til 5:30 PM. As always, we need a number of volunteers to make it happen. There is decorating beforehand; entertainment; food; meal and dessert ticket sales at the event; busing tables; cleaning and straightening up afterwards; donations of door prizes, silent auction items, cakes for the cake-walk, and desserts; overseeing a silent auction; sale of tickets for the 50-50 drawing; and anything else you might think of. Please contact Suzanne Taichert at 505-823-4788, and let her know how you would like to help.

We also welcome your assistance in planning and putting on the IAS Celtic Festival Kick-Off Party and the Celtic Festival in May. Please let us know your interests and how you would like to help. We also need your ideas or suggestions on how we can improve things for our members, including your ideas for fundraising.

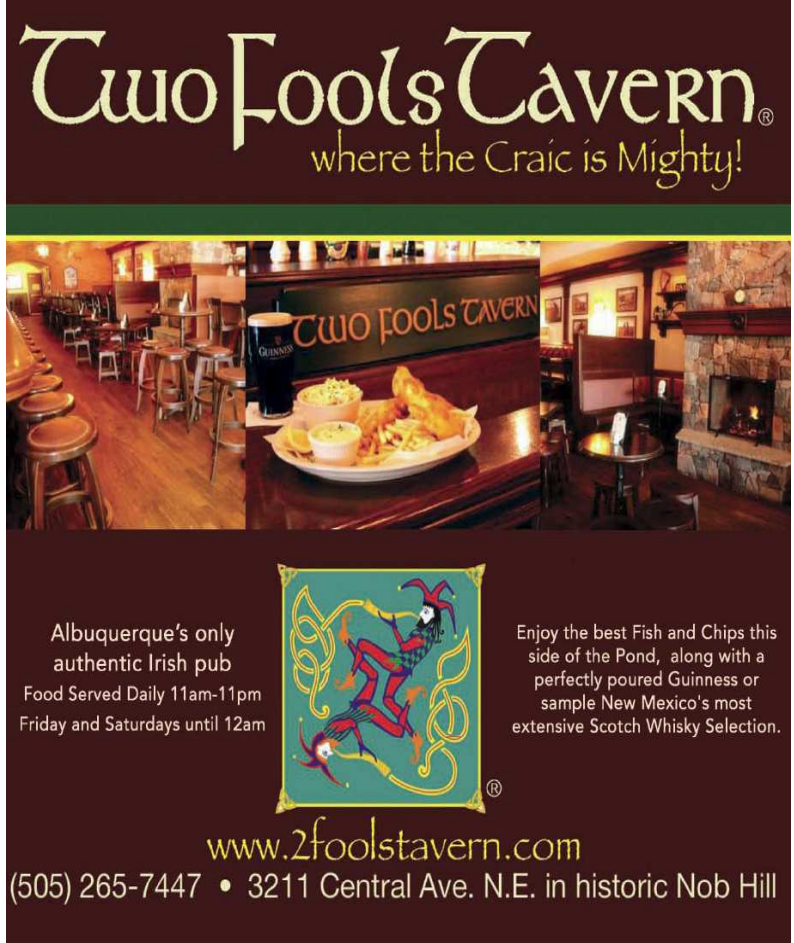
Until next month,  
Jay Vandersloot

## Minutes of the IAS General Meeting, January 8<sup>th</sup>

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM

It was identified to the membership that two clauses in the Bylaws gave conflicting guidance as to what constituted a quorum for the General Membership Meetings. A motion was made and passed to eliminate the conflict by re-wording the section, clearing stating that a quorum is 15 active members being present.

The members were briefed on what events were planned for this year, and were encouraged to volunteer to help with these events to ensure we can put on well-enjoyed activities for our members. The members were also encouraged to come up with ideas for fundraisers.



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The Bylaws call for the Board of Directors (BoD) to vote on and decide which of the two Vice Presidents would be the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, who would step in when the President cannot be available. The BoD voted that Gerry Meisener will be the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President for 2010.

Beginning in February, the BoD will wear name tags at the General Membership meeting, to enable any new members to know to whom they can go with any questions they may have. The members were also encouraged to introduce themselves to new members and visitors to help make them feel welcome.

Norita Callahan gave the membership update and announced new members. With the new membership year having just started, a number of our members have not yet renewed their membership. Consequently, we now have only 167 members to date. Cindy Bluehorse was introduced as a new member.

First VP Gerry Muisener announced that the movie, *Bloody Sunday*, will show at the Guild Theatre on Friday, January.29<sup>th</sup>. Proceeds will be donated to needy families in Northern Ireland.

No other Executive Officers had anything to report. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Karen Tengwald, IAS Secretary

## IAS Treasurer's Report – December 2010

Cathy Lybrand, Treasurer

Category	Income	Category	Expenses
Memberships	785.00	Print Express	309.51
Quilt Raffle	419.25	Tir Conaill Donation	50.00
Silent Auction	262.25	Plastic ware	20.01
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1466.50</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>379.52</b>
	December 1	Beginning Balance	4727.29
		Income	1466.50
		Expenses	379.52
	December 31	Ending Balance	5814.27

## Céad Mile Fáilte

*A 100,000 welcomes to our newest members:* Cindy Roddy Blue Horse, Jeannie Dyke, Dawn Lowe, David Marsters, and Dorothy Newman. And welcome back to Bill Cunningham, John Cunningham, Steve Lemken and Tim Luten!

As of January 15<sup>th</sup>, the IAS membership for the 2010 membership year is as follows: 57 family members (times 2) and 71 single members. This is a total of 185 members.

### It's Past Time to Renew Your Membership for 2010!

The IAS 2009 membership year ends December 31, 2009. Please use the renewal form on the back page of the newsletter to renew for 2010. Dues are \$25 for a family and \$20 for a single. Send form/check to: IAS, PO Box 13435, Albuquerque NM 87192-3435. Thanks!

Norita Callahan  
[noraabq@yahoo.com](mailto:noraabq@yahoo.com) (298-2708)

## 10<sup>th</sup> Annual New Mexico State Championships & Feis

Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Radisson Hotel  
 2500 Carlisle Blvd NE  
 (505) 888-3311

8 AM - evening

*Feis* is Gaelic for festival. It is an Irish dance competition. Dancers will compete against other dancers of the same age and same dance level. Many feiseanna (plural for feis) will have a cultural competition, including ours. Cultural competitions may include instrumentals, song, recitation, art, and cooking/baking.

For more information, please visit our website at [www.irishdancenm.org](http://www.irishdancenm.org) or contact Trisha Hughes (Parent Volunteer for McTeggart School of Irish Dance) at 889-5478.



Pictured on the right are the winners of last year's Feis, including the young male dancer who won the Irish-American Society Trophy for Senior Open Champion. (The trophy is given in memory of John Brown.)

## Flowers of the Forest

IAS member Margaret Hunt Caranta passed quietly on December 29<sup>th</sup> after a month-long battle with an illness. Margaret was 92 years old, but that didn't stop her from being busy, busy and always on the go. She belonged to many organizations including the GAC, Post 49, the Elks, two square dancing clubs, the Coronado Club Thunderbirds and more. Margaret was also an active member of Sangre de Cristo Church.

Condolences to son Robert and Lois, her family and many friends. We will miss her. May She Rest In Peace.



Pictured above: Margaret at the 2009 St. Patrick's Day Party, flanked by IAS revelers (left to right) Jay Vandersloot, Emmett O'Sullivan, Joe McTaggart and John Dowling.



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## The Irish Times Needs Your Contributions!

As you can see from the article by IAS Member Lenore Van Winkle (on p. 11), it's a grand thing to read about one's adventures in Ireland (and even better if there are pictures!). If you've made the trip and want to tell us all about it, we'd love to hear from you!

We're also looking for contributors to write about other IAS members in a "Member Spotlight" column.

If you're interested in these ideas, or have any other suggestions for monthly articles, please contact the editor, Ellen Dowling, at 307-1700 ([edowling@standuptrainer.com](mailto:edowling@standuptrainer.com)).

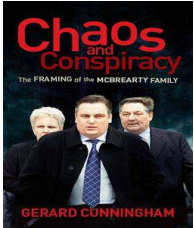


## The Reel Thing by The Dancer

*Cead mile failte from Dundalk!*



### The Bookshelf



***Chaos and Conspiracy: The Framing of the McBrearty Family*, by Gerard Cunningham**

*Chaos and Conspiracy* tells the full story of what happened in County Donegal from the night Richie Barron died to the conclusion of the work of the Morris Tribunal. The story lays bare the corruption at the heart of the investigation, as the Gardaí conspired to create false evidence, and the chaotic incompetence that let the corruption go undetected as senior officers let the murder inquiry run out of control.

First and foremost, however, this is the story of the families who were wrongly identified as murder suspects, and their dignity and courage in fighting back against the forces of the state ranged against them. Many of those arrested were brutalised in custody, with long-lasting effects that would take years to heal. But when a private detective found evidence of Gardaí corruption, proving the families were innocent, a legal battle began in the Donegal district courts leading eventually to vindication in the High Court and at the Morris Tribunal.

### Famous Sons and Daughters of Erin



#### Isaac Butt

Isaac Butt, regarded as the founder of the Home Rule Movement in Ireland, was born in Glenfin, on the 6<sup>th</sup> of September, 1813, the only son of a Protestant rector. He was educated at the Royal School, Raphoe, and at Trinity College, Dublin. A brilliant scholar, he was one of the founders of the influential *Dublin University Magazine* (1833) and editor (1834-38).

As a Professor of Political Economy (1836-41), he was called to the bar in 1838 and soon became a leader in his profession. A member of both the Irish and the English bar, he was a noted conservative lawyer and an opponent of Daniel O'Connell.

In these early years he wrote for the conservative press on both sides of the Irish Sea, and established a weekly newspaper in Dublin, *The Protestant Guardian*. After the Great Famine of the 1840s, he became increasingly liberal. The idealism of the Young Irelanders won him over to nationalism, and in 1848 he defended many Fenians, sacrificing lucrative briefs to do so although his financial position was precarious, as it remained throughout his life.

In 1852 Butt was elected to Westminster as Tory MP for both Harwich and Youghal in County Cork, a seat he held until 1865. After the 1867 Rising, Butt defended Fenian prisoners, as a result of which he became an advocate of Home Rule and legislative independence for Ireland. In 1869 Butt founded the Amnesty Association for the release of Fenian prisoners and in 1870 he founded the Home Rule Association. In 1871 Butt stood for election on a Home Rule ticket and was returned as MP for Limerick. In 1875 he published *Land Tenure in Ireland*.

Isaac Butt was MP for Limerick until his death near Dundrum, Co. Dublin on 5<sup>th</sup> May, 1879. Three years earlier, on the 26<sup>th</sup> of December, 1876, he wrote to a friend, Dr. O'Leary, MP: "If the expence would not

be an inconvenience, I would wish to be buried in Stranorlar Graveyard, as close as may be to the South-Eastern angle. The ground is - or was - a good deal lower than the rest of the churchyard. A very shallow grave would be enough, with a mound of earth or a tomb raised over it. Put no inscription over the grave, except the date of my birth and my death; and, wherever I am buried, let the funeral be perfectly private, with as few persons attending, and as little show and expense as possible." Butt handed this letter to Dr. O'Leary on the day it was written, writing on the envelope "To be religiously observed."

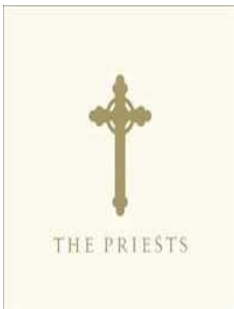
The following October (1877), Dr O'Leary met Butt at Bangor. Butt was in poor spirits and was returning to Ireland from Buxton in Derbyshire, a spa, whose mineral waters were taken for rheumatic diseases and other complaints. He was depressed, and believed he was going to die soon. He asked if his letter, written the previous Christmas, was safe, and Dr. O'Leary assured him it was, but stated that a third person should be made aware of his wishes. Butt sat down immediately and wrote a copy of the letter from memory, which he sent to his daughter. Both letters were produced the day after he died, and so his funeral was private and in Stranorlar.

The train carrying his coffin, together with family members, left Amiens Street Station (Dublin) on Saturday morning at 9:00 AM, arriving at Strabane Station that afternoon. The coffin of polished oak, with heavy brass mountings, bore the simple inscription: "Isaac Butt - Died 5<sup>th</sup> May 1879 - Aged 65 years." The coffin of the man who knew no religious bigotry was carried from the church by a number of working men, who no doubt considered it an honour, and borne to the south-east angle of the churchyard. Nearly all present remained until the grave was filled in, and the "last green sod placed on the grave of him whose memory a nation honours."

The Isaac Butt Visitor's Centre, dedicated to his memory, can be found in his native Cloghan.

## The Music Rack

### *The Priests Live at Armagh Cathedral (DVD)*



Three middle-aged Catholic priests from Northern Ireland have become a recording sensation with their eponymous debut album, which recorded the biggest opening week of sales ever for a classical album. *The Priests*, the album, shot into the UK album chart at number five in its first week and also topped the classical chart in its first week of release.

To launch the album in September 2008, The Priests (Fathers Eugene and Martin O Hagan, who are brothers, and their school friend of 30 years ago, Father David Delargy) performed a concert in Armagh Cathedral, Ireland, with special guests Sir James Galway and Moya Brennan, showcasing their incredible vocal talent and singing a spellbinding collection of traditional and religious classics.

Filmed by acclaimed director Chris Cowey this special concert - *The Priests in Concert at Armagh Cathedral* - includes the full 60-minute concert, 52 minutes of additional songs from the concert, original 60-second TV spots and exclusive footage of The Priests recording "Pie Jesu" and "Ave Maria" in St. Peters in the Vatican.

## The Site



### The Mourne Mountains

The Quaternary Period of the last 1.6m years has been marked by Ice Ages that were punctuated each 100,000 years or so by inter-glacials like the one we are presently in. At the peak of the last glaciation, about 18,000 years ago, the Antarctic ice-sheet would have been double its present size and ice covered most of Ireland, as well as the greater fraction of the Northern Hemisphere. In parts it was up to 3 km thick [or high] and scoured out wide U-shaped valleys in its advance.

The most dramatic examples are in Donegal [Glengesh, Glenveagh] and Antrim [Glenariff], though there are numerous examples in the High Mournes, and in the wide U-shaped Kilbroney valley, which climbs northwards out of fair Rostrevor. Besides the U-shaped valleys and sculpted mountain tops and sides, the principal relics of the last retreating Ice Age are the numerous lakes, drumlins and boulder clays and tills scoured out elsewhere and deposited randomly across the countryside. A minor relic is the occasional “erratic” – like the Cloughmore Stone in Rostrevor – carried from distant parts and dumped sometimes in the most unlikely of places. (The “Big Stone” was carried from an island in Strathclyde Bay and deposited on the edge of a hilltop many hundreds of feet above beautiful Carlingford Lough.)

Towards the end of the last Ice Age, the greatest thickness of ice, after its retreat from the Mournes, spread over the Lough Neagh and Sperrin Mountains area. The climate warmed and the ice began to melt. The low-lying and scoured-out area in the centre of the north of Ireland filled to overflowing with the melted ice. The clays and other solids beneath the ice sheets became the covering of the rock strata in the whole Lough Neagh basin and south well into North Armagh. The deluge flooded south towards the sea at Carlingford Lough, carving out – and depositing along its length – the Poyntzpass drainage channel.

Although most drumlins – from “dromnín,” the Celtic name for these elongated, “basket-of-eggs” hills – are composed mainly of boulder clay ejected from the base of glaciers, many have a solid rock core, but this channel has many composed of “washed” sand and gravel useful in the building trade. In the eighteenth century of the Christian era, this channel was to be utilised for transportation; the Newry Canal was built along its length. Ironically, today the canal serves once again as a drainage channel.

Drumlins vary in size and height but are typically 10-30 m high and throughout “drumlin country” – sweeping roughly SW from north Co. Down to Galway Bay – the intervening ground is characterized by small lakes or boggy soil due to the poor drainage qualities of boulder clay. Further east but still in Co. Down, as the waters of Strangford Lough rose after the last glaciation, many of the drumlins became isolated as little islands. These drowned drumlins are known locally as “pladdies.” Many place names refer to these features. Cavan [An Cabhán] means “the hollow” and refers to the fact that the town is built in a hollow between several small, rounded hills; Monaghan [Muineachán] means “place of little hills”; Dromore [Droim Mhór] means “the large hill.” The term “drumlin” is applied now, worldwide, for this geographical feature.

## The Site II

**Carlingford** was raided by the Vikings in the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> centuries and then by the Normans in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. It is now a listed Medieval Heritage Town - it has more historical buildings than any similar sized town in the whole of Ireland.

Carlingford’s strategic position on the east coast of Ireland (along with Carrickfergus and Dundalk) made it a vital trading port. This trade led to its relative prosperity during the 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and early 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. Carlingford’s early prosperity was rocked, when in 1388, the town was burnt to the ground by a Scots force

under the command of Sir William Douglas of Nithsdale. This was a punitive raid, following Irish attacks on Galloway, the Lord of which was Nithsdale's father, Archibald the Grim. Carlingford received five charters in total – the first in 1326 by Edward II and the last in 1619 under James I.

**King John's Castle** stands on a high rock guarding the entrance to the harbour. It was built in the late 12<sup>th</sup> century by the Norman knight Hugh de Lacy. It was the first fortified stone structure in Carlingford. The castles of Carlingford and Greencastle, on the other side of the mouth of Carlingford Lough, at the foot of the Mourne Mountains, enabled the Normans to control the entrance to the Lough. As was common in those days, a settlement sprang up, close to this fortress.



Its common name of King John's Castle is derived from the fact that King John stayed here for three days in 1210. The castle itself is a D-shaped enclosure castle. The curtain wall at the western side had a rectangular gate house and a square flanking tower and the south west. Portions of the northern tower of this gate house still remain. The curtain wall is well provided with deep embrasures with narrow defensive slits. During the second half of the 13<sup>th</sup> century, a large rectangular hall was added on the eastern side. This hall had two main floors over a basement, which is now largely filled with masonry with the great hall situated on the first floor of the castle overlooking the harbour.

Carlingford Castle changed hands several times over the following centuries. Probably taken by Sir Henry Tichbourne in 1642, it was compelled to surrender to Lord Inchiquin in 1649. However in the following year it was delivered to Sir Charles Coote. In 1689 it was fired upon by retreating Jacobite forces and later used as a hospital by General Schomberg during the period leading up to the Battle of the Boyne.

**Taaffe's Castle** is a fortified town house with crenellated battlements, murder holes, and slit windows for archers that belonged to the rich mercantile Taaffe family who became Earls of Carlingford in 1661. Its close proximity to the harbour would suggest a trading depot of some kind occurring on the ground floor and barrel vaulted basement with the upper floors reserved for residence. Its construction suggests two phases - the main tower built in the early 16<sup>th</sup> century, while the extension to the side occurred later is a fine example of a castellated town house.

**The Mint** is essentially a fortified three-storey town house belonging to a wealthy merchant family in the centre of Carlingford. While the right to mint coinage was not granted to Carlingford until 1467, it is unlikely that it was actually used as a mint. The most interesting feature is the five highly decorated limestone windows. The patterns and motifs are an example of the influence of the Celtic Renaissance on art during the 16th century.

**The Tholsel** or "town-gate" is the only remaining example of its nature in Carlingford and one of the few left in Ireland. Originally it was three stories high – its present appearance is due to alterations made in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The original function was of course to levy taxes on goods entering the town – the murder-holes on the side of the walls are testaments to that fact. In 1834 it was used by the Corporation of Carlingford for meetings and a Parliament is said to have used it to make laws for the Pale. It was also used as a town gaol in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

**Church of the Holy Trinity:** The Heritage Centre is located in the tower of the original town wall, now part of the Old Carlingford Church. Donated by the Church of Ireland to Carlingford, this restored medieval church is also known as the Holy Trinity Heritage Centre. Exhibits inside display the history of Carlingford from Viking times to the present period, and the video and beautiful stained-glass windows are popular with visitors. Musical recitals are common. The grounds outside contain a graveyard.

**Dominican Friary:** The Dominicans were established in Carlingford in 1305, primarily because of their patron Richard de Burgo with the friary itself being dedicated to St. Malachy. Dissolved in 1540 by Henry VIII, it

became the centre of a repossession struggle between the Dominicans and Franciscans in the 1670s. It was resolved in favour of the Dominicans by Oliver Plunkett.

However the friary itself was subsequently abandoned in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century by the Dominicans to their present location of Dundalk. The remains today consist of a nave and chancel divided by a tower. Also, there are possibly remains of some domestic buildings to the south like a mill, mill race and mill pond.

**Ghan House** is a fine Georgian house built by William Stannus in 1727. It is surrounded by castellated walls and a guard tower. The first floor contains the drawing room, which has a decorative ceiling of rococo plaster work of flower garlands and medallion busts reputed to be of Stannus ladies. The basement contains two underground passageways (now blocked) that run to the Heritage Centre and the bakers (now chemist). This latter tunnel was reportedly used by a silent order of monks who once lived on the site – apparently they supplied the local bakery but had to avoid contact with people. Today Ghan House is used as a luxury guest house.

**And to conclude:** If practice makes perfect . . . how do you explain taxi drivers? Well, that's all folks until the next time: It's a great art to laugh at your own misfortune. "Keep the faith!"

Tom Quinn

## August in Ireland

By IAS Member Lenore Van Winkle

Last fall I loaded up a bag and got on a plane to take the trip of my dreams. I landed in Shannon, County Clare, Ireland. It was beautiful! My first two days were spent in Killalough by the river Shannon. The flowers were gorgeous, with fuchsias growing wild on the hills. It was peaceful and so green. We drove around trying to get used to the tiny roads while driving on the wrong side of the road. Every time we met a truck, we squealed until we got safely by them. The old barns, thatch roofs, and lush green with rivers flowing through them fascinated us.



I notified the Gannons in Courtmcsberry that I had landed and he said he could place me on a ship the next day with a group from England to go deep sea fishing. If you are a fisherman, then you can understand my excitement at this news. Now all I had to do was find Courtmcsberry! We had not learned to stay



Only the Irish get beer like this!

off the yellow roads on the map yet, that came later. So we struggled with the tiny roads, the wrong side of the road and trying to figure out how to find Courtmcsberry. Wow, we were in Cork/Cobh, now to find the exit. Cobh (so beautiful), oh no, we went the wrong way. If we had not been in a hurry, we would love to have discovered all that Cobh had to offer. Back to Cork and on to very, very narrow winding roads, we made our way slowly to our fishing gig, only to find out we took the back roads and not the main road. We were wandering through the inlets along the coast line. Everyone we talked to was friendly and watched our faces closely so they could understand us. Imagine thinking WE talked funny and had an accent. One lady let us use the restroom (sorry, toilet) in her home because we were so out in the middle of nowhere. Her house was quaint and quite lovely.

We went across a long, narrow bridge on the bay and across the bay we could see Courtmsherry. It is a very small village right on the ocean, with only a couple of shops and two places to stay. The one we wanted was up on the hill on the cul de sac, we drove to it twice but because cul de sac meant something different to us, we did not think we were there, down the hill, through a long, very narrow tunnel cut out of the trees to the town again. Finally we understood and went to the door of a huge, beautiful old rock mansion. The house was built in the 1700s. The Gannons owned half and Mrs. Gannon's brother owned the other half. It was such a cozy, comfortable place to stay.

Early the next morning, I went fishing with the boys. They treated me like a queen since I was the only female. (Thank goodness they had a toilet on the boat.) We got out in the ocean and stopped to catch mackerel for bait. Immediately the boys cut it all up for bait. Later in the morning, the steering broke on the boat. Whoops, well it was all right, they just got a board, stuck it in a hole and the boys steered. We fished all day. We caught many different species. None very big but it was lots of fun and excitement. Finished fishing at dark.



Next stop was Cork, with its buses that took us to eat and someone else got to drive. Then on to the Jameson Distillery at Midleton with its giant teakettle and cast iron water wheel. I was in awe of this place. I talked to people in the street, in the distillery and coming and going. I loved the people. They were having a fair on the street



and we wandered around through, listened to the musicians playing. They were wonderful.

The rest of the days we spent in Waterford, Dromgheda, Youghal, Skerries, Luska, Kouth and Dublin. It was sad in Waterford because everyone is out of work; they closed the crystal factory last January. In Dublin, we saw the President of Ireland with his escort of only two motorcycle cops, saw where Jonathan Swift was buried,



the pub where all the authors and artists hung out, went to Dublin castle, and ate lots of tantalizing Irish breads, liquorish, and my favorite "Black Pudding," Wish I could have stuffed my suitcase full of the breads. I don't know what they were but they were delicious.

Our last day was spent touring the mound houses. These houses were built around 500 BC. Absolutely unbelievable that they were able to move those rocks and carve them with no tools.

My only regret about the trip is that it was not long enough.

## Culture All Around

### **Dance Classes:**

- ♣ **McTeggart School Irish Step Dancing.** 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](http://www.irishdancenm.org).
- ♣ **Tir Conaill Irish Dance Academy,** Saturdays at The Elite Dance Studio, 701 Osuna. Call 379-3753 or visit [www.tirconaillacademy.com](http://www.tirconaillacademy.com) for further information.
- ♣ **Ceili dance classes** are held every Wednesday at the GAC at 7:00 PM, \$2.00. No experience necessary! Call Norita Callahan at 298-2708.
- ♣ **Scottish Country Dancing,** Friday nights, 7:30 PM, at the Friends Meeting Hall (corner 5<sup>th</sup> and Bellamah, N.W.) First class free; \$5 per lesson after. Call Marcy 237-9039 for info.



### **Celtic Jam Session at Page One Bookstore (Juan Tabo and Montgomery):**

Every Thursday, 6:45 to 8:45 PM. Admission free. Everyone invited! For info, contact Chuck Butler ([chuckjacobbutler@msn.com](mailto:chuckjacobbutler@msn.com))

### **Celtic Music at O'Niell's:**

Music every Sunday from 4 to 7 PM at the new O'Niell's, 4310 Central Ave SE (Corner of Central & Washington in East Nob Hill). For more info, visit <http://www.oniells.com>

### **Celtic Music at Two Fools Tavern:**

- ♣ Celtic jam on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month, from 11 AM to 2 PM. Two Fools is located at 3211 Central NE ([www.twofoolstavern-nm.com](http://www.twofoolstavern-nm.com)). For jam info, contact Chuck Butler at 293-1421 ([chuckjacobbutler@msn.com](mailto:chuckjacobbutler@msn.com)).
- ♣ The Roger Landes ITM (Irish Traditional Music) Session, every second Saturday of the month from 3:00 to 5:00 PM. Roger Landes hosts this relaxed, performance-style session. Come on out and hear some high quality Irish traditional music!
- ♣ For all the news about what's going on at Two Fools, visit [www.2foolstavern.com/blog](http://www.2foolstavern.com/blog), where you can read their monthly newsletter.

### **Celtic Music on the Radio and the Web**

♣ **The Thistle and Shamrock** program, featuring Fiona Ritchie, airs on KANW 89.1 FM, Mondays at 10:00 PM.

♣ **Celtic and Beyond**, with co-hosts Ellie Blair and Kelly Clement, 7:00 PM each Wednesday on KTAOS 101.9 FM. (Also broadcast on the Web at [www.ktao.com](http://www.ktao.com).)

♣ **Irish Music on the Web, All the Time**

<http://www.midwestirishradio.com> / Midwestirishradio.com is a brand new, fully dedicated Irish Radio service available on the net.



**Celtic Connections:** For general information about Celtic events going on around the West, visit <http://www.celticconnection.com/>. Food, humor, books, sports, history and much more!

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

### ***The Next Chapter***

Celtic, Folk, Bluegrass, Original music on a variety of instruments, including vocals.

Contact: Jeanne Page (553-8205)

### ***Emily Anslover***

Young fiddle player

Contact: father, Frank Anslover (296-6484)

### ***Brad Fitzgerald***

Singer, guitar, and banjo (Celtic and folk)

Contact: Brad Fitzgerald (869-1527)

### ***Three Leaf Shamrock***

Irish, Scottish, Welsh (no English!)

Contact: Jack Russell (830-6924)

### ***Shennanigans***

Celtic and American Folk with a twist, variety of instruments and vocals. Contact: Kathy Wimmer (293-6403)

### ***Gerry Carthy***

Musician and singer from Ireland

Contact: Gerry Carthy 505-424-1942 (Santa Fe)

### ***Blarneystone***

Traditional and contemporary Celtic Music

Contact: Gerry (833-3456) or Andy (247-9867)

### ***Joe Brennan***

Highland bagpipes instruction and performance  
867-3628

### ***Mac-Tire of Skye Pipes and Drums***

Pipe Major Suzanne "Aden" Lumb

Phone: (505) 977-0097

Email: [desertpiper@yahoo.com](mailto:desertpiper@yahoo.com)

### ***Colonel Craig Chamberlain***

"Tunes of Glory" for funerals and weddings, etc.  
Bagpipes (293-2962)

### ***Saoirse*** ("seer shih," Irish for "freedom")

Celtic music from Scotland, Ireland, Brittany, and Galacia, spiced with jazz and world beat.

Contact: IO (268-7303)

### ***Jamie Elizabeth Foster***

Soprano available for all events. Contact Jamie at 505-323-1309.

### ***Irish DJ***

Over 600 CDs of all varieties of Irish/Celtic music

Contact: Mike Foley 858-1047 ([Aulsod@aol.com](mailto:Aulsod@aol.com))

### ***Fonn Sona ("Happy Melody")***

Reels, jigs, waltzes, polkas, etc.

Contact: Chuck Butler (293-1421)

[chuckjacobbutter@msn.com](mailto:chuckjacobbutter@msn.com)

### ***Rye Creek***

Folk, Irish, western, and good old mountain music.

Contact: Ron Trelle (292-7369) or Terry Axline (293-8924) [taxline@cabq.gov](mailto:taxline@cabq.gov).

### ***Michele Buchanan and Shanachie Harpers***

Michele's Harp

765-1288 ([buchanan@cybermesa.com](mailto:buchanan@cybermesa.com))

### ***Celtic Coyotes***

Traditional music from Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and Brittany. Contact: Doug Cowan

[celticcoyotes@yahoo.com](mailto:celticcoyotes@yahoo.com) (710-0583).

### ***Michael and Donna Coy***

Celtic, Folk, Bluegrass, International, Cowboy, and Traditional (296-2017)

### ***Irish Musician/Instrument Repair***

Guitar, bass, and mandolin. Repair and setup of guitar, bass, Appalachian dulcimer, hammer dulcimer, mandolin, and bouzouki. Contact: Keith Coleman,

[keith@wckc.us](mailto:keith@wckc.us)

## Calendar of Events

### IAS/IHC Events

Date	Day	What
February 12	Friday	<i>IAS Monthly Meeting and Program</i> , 7:00 at the GAC. Performance of traditional Irish music by Elizabeth Holm and Bill McCoy.
March 13	Saturday	<i>IAS St. Patrick's Day Party at the GAC</i> , 1 – 5:30 PM at the GAC. (See details in the March newsletter.)

### Celtic/GAC Events

February 5-7	Friday, Saturday, Sunday	<i>Riverdance (the Farewell Performance)</i> , at Popejoy Hall. Tickets at <a href="http://www.unmtickets.com">www.unmtickets.com</a> or 505-925-5858 or 1-877-664-8661.
February 13	Saturday	<i>Traditional music seisiún (session)</i> . Brickyard Pizza (2216 Central Ave., SE across from UNM), 1 to 4 PM. For more info, contact John Conoboy at <a href="mailto:jcon@swcp.com">jcon@swcp.com</a>
February 27	Saturday	<i>10th Annual New Mexico State Championships &amp; Feis</i> , 8 AM – evening, Radisson Hotel, 2500 Carlisle Blvd NE. (See details on p. 5.)
March 11	Thursday	<i>Battlefield Band</i> , South Broadway Cultural Center, 1025 Broadway SE, 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$20 advance, \$25 day of show. Tickets available from <a href="http://amconcerts.org">amconcerts.org</a> , Bookworks or Natural Sound. Under the banner “Forward With Scotland’s Past,” <i>Battlefield Band</i> play Scottish music of rare passion and joy on a unique fusion of ancient and modern instruments—bagpipe, fiddle, synthesizer, guitar, cittern, flute, bodhran and accordion. (Artist web site: <a href="http://www.battlefieldband.co.uk/">http://www.battlefieldband.co.uk/</a> )
March 19	Friday	<i>Martin Hayes &amp; Dennis Cahill</i> , The Cooperage, 7220 Lomas Blvd NE (just east of Louisiana), 8:00 PM. (Doors at 6:30 PM.) Tickets are \$15 advance, \$20 day of show. Tickets available from <a href="http://amconcerts.org">amconcerts.org</a> , Bookworks and Natural Sound. Martin Hayes epitomizes the fiddle music of County Clare for many people. In 1997, he and master guitarist Dennis Cahill released their first duet album. Folk Roots UK raved, “Dennis Cahill’s symbiotic guitar accompaniment is a crucial foil for Hayes’ deliciously subtle displays of charming brilliance.” ( <a href="http://martinhayes.com">http://martinhayes.com</a> )
March 27	Saturday	<i>Concert by Canadian Quintet Enter the Haggis</i> , South Broadway Cultural Center, Performance 8:00 PM. Tickets: Adults \$5.50/Child \$3. Call 848-1320 for more information.

### The Ronald McDonald House Fundraiser Project

We are still collecting the **pull-tabs** for the Ronald McDonald House here in Albuquerque (managed by IAS member Sharon Nolen). Thanks to Gloria Bolek, Bob & Vikki Bryers, Desi Garcia, Lottie McDonald, Deedree Stukas, Mel & Becky McNeely and Marcia Scott for the bags of pull-tabs.

Norita





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

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**Irish-American Society of Albuquerque, NM**  
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

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