



IRISH TIMES

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

JANUARY 2010

Next Event: Friday, January 8th, 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 Performance of Irish Songs by Soprano Jamie Foster

For our first program of the New Year, we are delighted to announce that soprano Jamie Foster will perform a variety of Irish songs, accompanied by former IAS board member Suzanne Taichert.

Jamie Elizabeth Foster, an 11th grade "A" student at La Cueva High School, is a mere 15 years old but has the talent resume of a senior performer. She has performed at the Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival in the past as both singer and dancer. Most recently Jamie was selected as a Young Voice of the Santa Fe Opera, and she received the Violet Richardson Award for outstanding young person in the community. She sang at the Mayor's Charity Ball and the Governor's Award Banquet. She also sang for an eleven-state convention at the Hotel Albuquerque for a charity organization, the St. Andrew Society Robert Burns black tie dinners both in Albuquerque and Santa Fe, the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) State Conventions in both Las Cruces and Taos, the Shriner's Club Dedication breakfast for fallen American servicemen and women, the AAUW holiday dinner, a performance on Channel 4 noon show, and she was selected as a soloist for All State choir out of 150 members.

Jamie performed with the cast of the Phantom of the Opera at a special meeting of the cast with Music Theater Southwest, and has appeared in a number of their productions. She is also in the Opera Southwest, and has performed in four of their recent opera productions.

Last year July, Jamie was selected to be in the Vocal Academy for High School Students at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music in Oberlin, Ohio, to study advanced skills in opera. She is the youngest student to have been chosen for this honor.

Jamie is also a competition dancer in Scottish Highland dance. She has been dancing since the age of six, taking several medals in competition in several states and dancing Scottish dance in performances and productions throughout the Southwest.



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

Board Members and Committee Chairs

| | | |
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| VP-West | Gerry Muisener GerryAndLoniMuisener@yahoo.com | 833-3456 |
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| Members | Norita Callahan noraabq@yahoo.com | 298-2708 |
| Newsletter | Ellen Dowling edowling@standuptrainer.com | 307-1700 |
| Hospitality | Luisa Gignac lgdancer@BasicISP.net | 881-4847 |
| Webmaster | Ken Callahan kecabq@yahoo.com | 298-2708 |
| Telephone | Shirley Tomberlin shiradon@msn.com | 710-6680 |

Irish Interest Group

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: January 20th

For more information, contact Elaine Armstrong, AGS Irish Interest Group Coordinator, 836-7359 or absobluminlutely@yahoo.com

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.

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). You can also put a "click-through" ad on the web site of the IAS (www.irishamericansociety-nm.com) at no extra charge. To put your ad online, contact Webmaster Ken Callahan (kecabq@yahoo.com).

President's Message

Dear IAS Members:

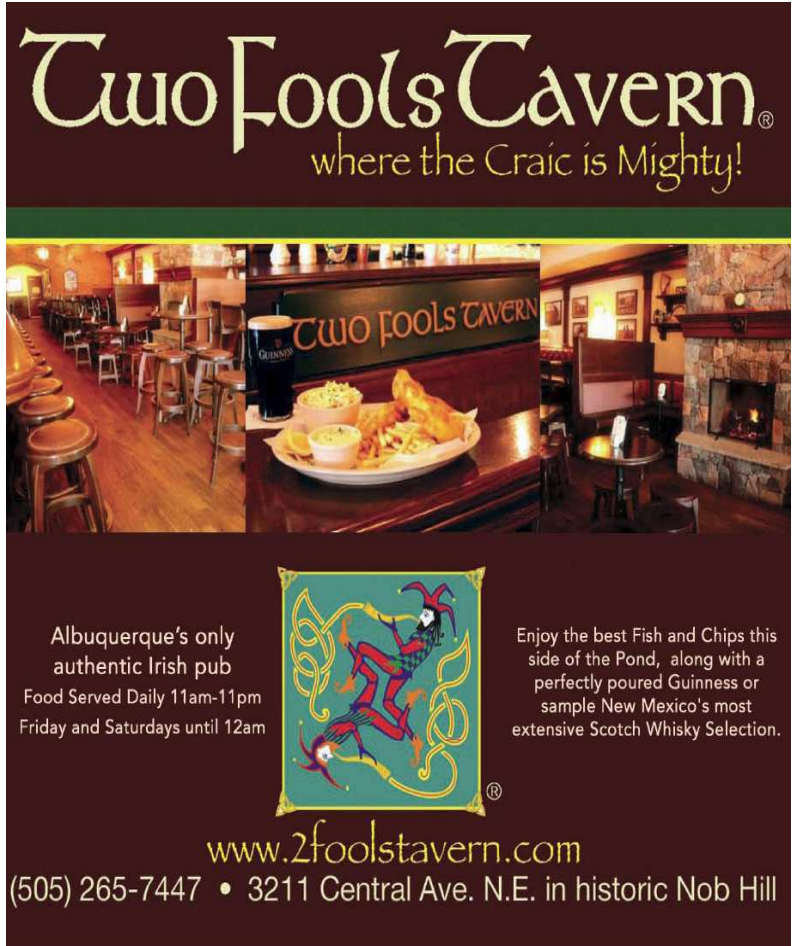
2009 was a good year for the IAS: Our membership surpassed 400; we had a number of great events, which were lots of fun and were enjoyed by all; and there was good entertainment at our monthly general membership meetings. All in all, our officers on the Board of Directors and the various committees put together a great time for us. We appreciate them and thank them for the fine work they did. Be sure to thank each of them yourselves for all they have done for the Society.

Now, a new year is upon us and with it a new Board of Directors—check out the list on page two, showing your new Board members. The committee chairs have all agreed to stay on and continue doing good things for us for another year. Be sure to thank each of them for all the work they do for the IAS—much of it being behind-the-scenes, it often goes unnoticed. But let me assure you they are all working hard to ensure you enjoy every event we have.

We're already planning a number of things for 2010. In addition to the monthly general membership meetings and entertainment, we're working on the details for our St Patrick's Day celebration; the IAS Celtic Festival Kick-Off Party and the Celtic Festival participation in May; the Albuquerque International Folk Festival in June; and our annual picnic with the St Andrew's Society in September. We're also discussing the possibility of a "Half Way to St Patrick's Day" celebration for September; possible support of the Celts fundraiser in September; Celtic New Year (Hallowe'en) in October; IAS elections in November; and our Christmas party in December. As you can see, we are planning on a year full of partying, socializing, and having a lot of fun. We would welcome your input and assistance in planning and putting on these events for 2010. Please let us know your interests and how you would like to help. Help is always needed.

If you have any thoughts, ideas, or suggestions on how we can improve things for our members, be sure to let someone on the Board know—including ideas for fundraising for the IAS. Speaking of the Board, the monthly Board of Directors meetings are NOT closed sessions. We really do believe in open governance, and you're welcome to attend the meetings. The meetings normally scheduled for 7 PM on the Tuesday prior to the second Friday of each month.

Until next month,
JAY VANDERSLOOT



Two Fools Tavern[®]
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(505) 265-7447 • 3211 Central Ave. N.E. in historic Nob Hill

IAS Treasurer's Report – November 2009

Cathy Lybrand, 2009 Treasurer

| Category | Income | Category | Expenses |
|---------------------|-------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Memberships | 295.00 | Print Express | 305.35 |
| | | Membership supplies | 11.48 |
| | | Halloween decorations | 26.21 |
| | | | |
| Total Income | 295.00 | Total Expenses | 343.04 |
| | | | |
| | November 1 | Beginning Balance | 4775.33 |
| | | Income | 295.00 |
| | | Expenses | 343.04 |
| | November 30 | Ending Balance | 4727.29 |



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www.moondancernm.com

The place to find a variety of
 Celtic items:
 jewelry, wall hangings, books
 to loan, and more!

Céad Mile Fáilte

A 100,000 welcomes to our newest members: Walter and Shirley Furen, and Jack Hayes.

And welcome back to Albuquerque to Maryann Fiore!

As of December 17th, the Irish-American Society has 135 family members (times 2) and 136 single members. This is a total of 406 members for our 2009 membership year which ended 12/31/09.

It's Time to Renew Your Membership for 2010!

Renewals to date for the 2010 membership year are 22 family (times 2) and 27 singles for a total of 71 members.

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 (298-2708)

THE HISTORIC EL REY THEATER and PUCCINI PRODUCTIONS

Present

CELTIC CROSSROADS

Where: The Historic El Rey Theater
622 Central Ave., S. W.
(Downtown 7th and Central)

When: Friday, January 29, 2010

Time: Doors: 7:00 PM; Show: 8:00 PM

Price: \$18 in Advance (Advance tickets on sale at Bookworks,
Encore Music, Birdland, and 1-866-I-GET-TIX and GetTix.net)
\$25 at the Door; \$15 Children under 12

Contact: Kathy Zimmer
Chairman of the Board
(505) 242-2353

Last year CELTIC CROSSROADS performed its first ever season in the USA. Every show was a complete sell-out, and this year the show is looking at its biggest season yet. Performing from east coast to west, these world-class musicians and dancers are taking the performing arts circuit by storm.

The name CELTIC CROSSROADS originates from a time in Ireland when neighboring communities met at the crossroads between towns and villages to socialize – long before the pub tradition began. With a focus on keeping the tradition of Irish music alive, each performer nurtures this bygone concept, but by virtue of their young age and raw talent, they high-kick this tradition into the 21st Century. True high-kicking from some of Ireland's best-respected Irish dancers also intensifies the pulsating rhythms of the show.

The live concerts are a spectacle of talent, displaying how Irish music influenced the global birth of a multitude of musical genres. The inventive arrangements and bass driven grooves are steering Irish acoustic music into surprising new territory. The show itself, incorporating seven world-class musicians, playing over twenty instruments on stage, is a fantastic spectacle.

Celtic Crossroads is critically acclaimed as “the most exhilarating and authentic show to come from Ireland in decades - not to be missed.” It is an explosion of youthful energy and dazzling musicianship. Celtic Crossroads abounds with fusions of traditional Irish music, bluegrass, gypsy and jazz whilst pulsating with the rhythms of exciting Irish dance percussion. Spontaneous mid show ovations are the norm, and enraptured Celtic Crossroads audiences are always compelled to shout, and SHOUT for more.

For more information, visit their website: <http://www.celticcrossroads.ie/>

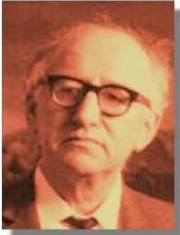
The Reel Thing by The Dancer



Cead mile failte from Dundalk!

Athbhliain faoi mhaise duit! (A prosperous New Year!)

Famous Sons and Daughters of Erin



Patrick Kavanagh

Patrick Kavanagh was born on 21 October 1904, in Mucker townland, Inniskeen parish, Co. Monaghan, the son of James Kavanagh, a small farmer with sixteen acres, who was also a cobbler, and Bridget Quinn. He attended Kednaminsa National School from 1909 to 1916 and worked on the family farm after leaving school. His first collection of poetry was published while he was still working on the farm by the Dundalk *Democrat and Weekly Independent*, in 1928; three more were printed by George Russell in *The Irish Statesman* during 1929-30.

In 1931 he walked to Dublin to meet Russell, who introduced him to Frank O'Connor. *Ploughman and Other Poems* was published by Macmillan in 1936. Soon after Kavanagh moved to London in search of literary work, but returned to Ireland when this failed to offer a living. A long poem, perhaps his best, "The Great Hunger," appeared in the London-based *Horizon* in 1942; its tragic statement of the mental and sexual frustrations of rural life was recognised as masterly by Frank O'Connor and George Yeats, who issued it in Dublin as a Cuala Press pamphlet; it seems also to have attracted the attention of the police and censors.

Another fine long poem, "Lough Derg," was written the same year though not published until 1971. A "Soul for Sale" (1947) was followed by "Tarry Flynn" (1948), called by the author "not only the best but the only authentic account of life as it was lived in Ireland this century"; it was briefly banned.

With his brother Peter and financed by him, Kavanagh edited a paper, *Kavanagh's Weekly*, subtitled "a journal of literature and politics" (13 issues; 12 April-5 July 1952); he contributed most of the articles and poems, usually under pseudonyms. In 1952 a Dublin paper, *The Leader*, published a profile that depicted him as an alcoholic sponger, and he sued for libel. He was harshly cross-examined by John A. Costello, defending *The Leader*, when the case came to trial in 1954, and he lost.

The following year Kavanagh was diagnosed with cancer. On 31 March, he underwent surgery at the Rialto Hospital and had a lung and rib removed. As the weather for the summer of 1955 was warm, he spent much of his time convalescing on the banks of the Grand Canal. The poem "Canal Bank Walk" refers to this as a time of renewal for his poetic energies. *Recent Poems* (Peter Kavanagh, Hand Press, New York, 1958), was followed by *Come Dance with Kitty Stobling* (London, Longmans, 1960); these contain some of his best known shorter poems. His *Collected Poems* were published in 1964 by MacGibbon and Kee who also brought out *Collected Prose* (1967). "Tarry Flynn" was dramatised by P.J. O'Connor and produced by the Abbey Theatre in Dublin in 1967.

Kavanagh wrote "On Raglan Road" in 1946. The poem was originally published as "Dark Haired Miriam Ran Away" and was written about his unrequited love for Hilda Moriarty. Luke Kelly (of The Dubliners fame) met Patrick Kavanagh only once and during this encounter Kavanagh told him he had a song for him. The song was "On Raglan Road." For many people, Luke Kelly's interpretation of "On Raglan Road" is the definitive one and has been recorded by many artists, including Van Morrison and Sinéad O'Connor.

Kavanagh married Katherine Barry Moloney in April 1967 and lived with her in Waterloo Road, Dublin. In November 1967, the Abbey Theatre, under the direction of Thomas Mac Anna, staged "Tarry Flynn" in Dundalk. While attending a performance of the play, Kavanagh fell ill and his sisters took him back to

Mucker for a couple of days until Katherine Kavanagh came to take him to Dublin. Diagnosed with pneumonia, Kavanagh died on 30 November 1967, aged 63, in a Dublin nursing home. He was buried two days later in Inniskeen and now rests in a modest grave under a small wooden cross. The church has become the Patrick Kavanagh Centre in Inniskeen just a few miles west of Dundalk.

Poetry

Memory of My Father

by Patrick Kavanagh

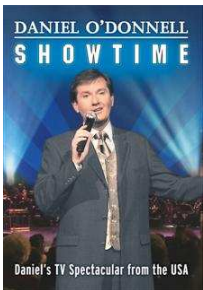
Every old man I see
Reminds me of my father
When he had fallen in love with death
One time when sheaves were gathered.

That man I saw in Gardner Street
Stumble on the kerb was one,
He stared at me half-eyed,
I might have been his son.

And I remember the musician
Faltering over his fiddle
In Bayswater, London.
He too set me the riddle.

Every old man I see
In October-coloured weather
Seems to say to me
“I was once your father.”

The Music Rack



Daniel O'Donnell: Showtime

Daniel O'Donnell was brought up in a small district in the north-west of County Donegal. He grew up as the youngest of the family, with his parents Julia and Francis O'Donnell and his siblings: John, Margaret (Margo), Kathleen, and James. In 1980 he went to Galway to study Business Studies; however, he never settled down and by Christmas he was in his sister Margo's band.

Margo had already forged a very successful career in Ireland. His sister Margaret - better known in Ireland as the singer, Margo - has had a big influence on his career. In his own words, “Margaret, who is just over ten years older than me, started singing in a band when she was only twelve years old. I used to get away at weekends because my mother would travel to see her perform and she took me with her. It was on those occasions that I got my first taste of the stage, because Margaret used to get me up to sing with her - I would have been ten or eleven.”

Not getting enough opportunities to perform solos with the band, in 1983 O'Donnell decided to record his own record. On 9 February 1983, he recorded his first single, Johnny McCauley's “My Donegal Shore,” with £1,200 of his own money, selling all the copies himself. In 1985, the manager of the Ritz label, Mick Clerkin, saw him perform, and introduced him to Sean Reilly, who remains his manager to this day.

By the mid-1990s, under the management of Reilly, O'Donnell had become a household name, not only in his native Donegal, but in the rest of Ireland and throughout the United Kingdom also. He appeared on the biggest television shows on both sides of the Irish Sea, and won countless awards. In 2002, he was awarded an Honorary (due to his Irish citizenship) MBE for his services to the music industry. He has had twenty UK Top 40 albums as well as fifteen Top 40 singles and has sold 10 million to date. He has charted 18 albums in the Top 20 of the US Billboard's World Music Album Chart and also has had several entries in the Independent Albums Chart. He is known for his close relationship with his wide fan base and has a meet-and-greet session after almost every concert, as well as a huge tea party outside his Donegal home every year.

Irish Humour

A lady goes to the bar on a cruise ship and orders a Jameson with two drops of water. As the bartender gives her the drink she says, "I'm on this cruise to celebrate my 80th birthday and it's today."

The bartender says, "Well, since it's your birthday, I'll buy you a drink. In fact, this one is on me."

As the woman finishes her drink, the woman to her right says, "I would like to buy you a drink, too."

The old woman says, "Thank you. Bartender, I want a Jameson with two drops of water."

"Coming up," says the bartender.

As she finishes that drink, the man to her left says, "I would like to buy you one, too."

The old woman says, "Thank you. Bartender, I want another Jameson with two drops of water."

"Coming right up," the bartender says. As he gives her the drink, he says, "Ma'am, I'm dying of curiosity. Why the Jameson with only two drops of water?"

The old woman replies, "Sonny, when you're my age, you've learned how to hold your drink. Holding your water, however, is a whole other issue."

And to conclude: An Irishman has an abiding sense of tragedy which sustains him through temporary periods of joy. Well that's all folks until the next time; it is never too late to be what you might have been.

"Keep the faith!"

Tom Quinn

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.
- ♣ **Tir Conaill Irish Dance Academy,** Saturdays at The Elite Dance Studio, 701 Osuna. Call 379-3753 or visit www.tirconailacademy.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 5th 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)

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 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays of each month, from 11 AM to 2 PM. Two Fools is located at 3211 Central NE (www.twofoolstavern-nm.com). For jam info, contact Chuck Butler at 293-1421 (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, 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.)



♣ **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
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Pipe Major Suzanne "Aden" Lumb

Phone: (505) 977-0097

Email: 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)

Fonn Sona ("Happy Melody")

Reels, jigs, waltzes, polkas, etc.

Contact: Chuck Butler (293-1421)

chuckjacobbutter@msn.com

Rye Creek

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

Contact: Ron Trelue (292-7369) or Terry Axline (293-8924) taxline@cabq.gov.

Michele Buchanan and Shanachie Harpers

Michele's Harp

765-1288 (buchanan@cybermesa.com)

Celtic Coyotes

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

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

Calendar of Events

IAS/IHC Events

| Date | Day | What |
|-------------|--------|--|
| January 8 | Friday | <i>IAS Monthly Meeting and Program</i> , 7:00 at the GAC. Musical performance of Irish songs by soprano Jamie Foster. |
| 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. |

Celtic/GAC Events

| | | |
|------------|----------|---|
| January 9 | Saturday | <i>Traditional music seisún (session)</i> . Brickyard Pizza (2216 Central Ave., SE across from UNM), 1 to 4 PM. For more info, contact John Conoboy at jjcon@swcp.com |
| January 29 | Friday | <i>Celtic Crossroads Performance</i> , the El Rey Theater, 8 PM. (See details on p. 5.) |
| 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

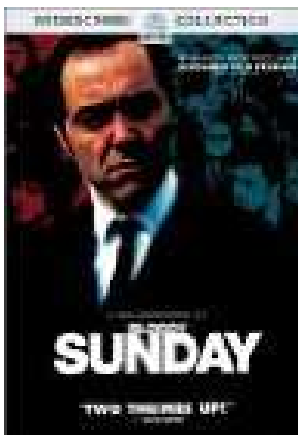
We are still collecting the **pull-tabs** for the Ronald McDonald House here in Albuquerque (managed by IAS member Sharon Nolen).

Norita



Special Movie Screening with Live Music

The Historic Guild Cinema presents the powerful and important film *Bloody Sunday*:



Friday, January 28, 2010
 Live music from 6:30 until 7:15 PM
 Film shows at 7:30 PM
 Admission: \$8.00
 Guild Cinema
 3405 Central Ave. NE (Nob Hill)
 Phone 255-1848

A dramatization of the Irish civil rights protest march and subsequent massacre by British troops on January 30, 1972.



**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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Would you like to receive the IAS newsletter electronically? _____