



IRISHh TIMES

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

JULY 2010

Next Event: Friday, Sept. 10th, 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).

The Summer Solstice in Ireland

As you all know, we do not hold general membership meetings for the months of July and August. So instead of a description of an upcoming program (the next will be a musical performance on September 10th), I'll use this space to discuss some of Ireland's unique sites. As I write this, it is actually June 21st, the solstice that heralds the first day of summer, an event held in much honor by our ancient Celtic ancestors.

If you've been to Ireland, perhaps you may have visited the popular site of Newgrange, where the ancients celebrated the winter solstice. For the summer solstice, you'll need to visit the less-well-known Carrowkeel Cairns (located in the Bricklieve Mountains in Co. Sligo and known there as "The Pinnacles"). Carrowkeel is a beautifully situated megalithic hilltop passage tomb cemetery, consisting of 14 passage cairns identified with letters. [Note: Cairns—human-erected piles of stones—can be found in many parts of the world. The Carrowkeel Cairns seem to have been used primarily as sepulchers to house and honor the dead.]

Cairn G has a roofbox above the entrance, similar to Newgrange's, where the sun enters the chamber at sunset on the days around the summer solstice, illuminating the back of the chamber. Carrowkeel Cairn G is estimated to be 700 years older than Newgrange.

This whole area was probably one of the most important centers of Ancient Ireland—Carrowmore and Carrowkeel are joined by the Uinshin River which flows from Lough Arrow to Ballisodare Bay—the main road in stone age times. It is a landscape rich with physical remains of the ancient past, and mythical echoes that can still be perceived in the majesty of the locations and views from the top of the mountains across the plains of Sligo.

For a video slide show with spectacular pictures of Carrowkeel (and with beautiful background music), visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WzevktDJQnU>.

Other resources:

www.Newgrange.com
www.megalithicireland.com
www.carrowkeel.com
www.sacredsites.com



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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).



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President's Message

Dear IAS Members:

We appreciate the Irish Set Dancing demonstration at our May 11th meeting. While we have seen Irish Set Dancing many times, it was enlightening to have the descriptions we were provided to help us better understand some of the history and the makeup of the dances. Our thanks to all the set dancers, and especially to David Barnaby for his explanations of it all.

We also had a joint Celtic table at the Albuquerque Folk Festival on June 19th, which included information about the IAS, SASSNM, SAMS, Thistle, and Welsh societies. As always, it's fun and enjoyable talking with the people who come by and want to know about the various Celtic societies, and it gives us an opportunity to interest people in joining the IAS (or any of the other societies).

Before we realize it, the time will be upon us to elect Officers and Directors for next year's Board of Directors for our Society. With that in mind, we are forming a Nominations Committee now, to help with the "arm twisting" to determine who is willing to run for office, and to try to encourage the rest of us to run. Those of you who are willing to step up and serve, PLEASE DO. We need leaders who will take the extra step and put in the time and effort for the IAS. My thanks in advance to those who will volunteer to run for office. If you are interested in being on the Nominations Committee, contact me at either my email address, jayvandersloot@yahoo.com, or call my cell phone, at 505-362-1733. If you have been wanting to be more involved, but for whatever reason have not felt you could serve on the Board of Directors, a position on the Nominations Committee is just what you have been looking for. Contact me and let me know you are interested.


In July and August, as is the case each year, we will not have our normal membership meetings. I look forward to seeing you in September at both the meeting and the annual picnic. We'll also be looking to join together in the Halfway to St. Paddy's Day celebration on September 17th at O'Niell's Irish Pub. More to come on all of these events in upcoming editions of our *Irish Times* newsletter. In the meantime, have a safe summer.

Until next
month,
Jay Vandersloot




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IAS Treasurer's Report

May 2010

Rose Marie Keating, Treasurer

| Category | Income | Category | Expenses |
|--|----------|--------------------------------|------------|
| Membership Dues | \$420.00 | Newsletter Printing | \$316.70 |
| Door Receipts – Celtic Festival Kick-Off | \$144.00 | Membership Cards | \$104.00 |
| Celtic Festival Sales | \$123.00 | Celtic Kick-off Entertainment: | |
| | | Welsh Choir | \$30.00 |
| Sum | \$687.00 | Harlow Pinsen (Saiorse) | \$60.00 |
| | | Gerry Muisiner | \$60.00 |
| | | Mac-Tire of Skye Pipes | \$30.00 |
| | | Hospitality Supplies | \$19.15 |
| | | Sum | \$619.85 |
| | | Margin for May | \$67.15 |
| | | Beginning Balance | \$7,083.93 |
| | | Plus income | \$687.00 |
| | | Subtotal | \$7,770.93 |
| | | Less expenses | \$619.15 |
| | | Reserve for uncashed checks | \$50.00 |
| | | Reserve for 2011 rental of GAC | \$825.00 |
| | | Reserve for 2012 rental of GAC | \$825.00 |
| | | Ending Balance | \$5,451.78 |

Céad Mile Fáilte

A 100,000 welcomes to our newest member:

Carrie Calloway

Welcome back to Larry and Betty McCabe.

As of June 16th, the IAS membership is as follows: 126 family members (times 2) and 133 single members. This is a total of 385 members for the 2010 membership year.

Norita
noraabq@yahoo.com (298-2708)

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 Linda Thomas & David Barnaby, Bob & Vikki Bryers, Hilde DeSpain and Lottie McDonald & family for their donations!

Irish-American Society Meeting Minutes June 11, 2010

Jay Vandersloot, President, called the member meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.PM.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS – Please contact Jay Vandersloot (362-1733) to sign up for the following:

- ♣ Nominating Committee: November 12th elections. Please help us get people to run for IAS board positions.
- ♣ Picnic Committee: Picnic September 19th. Please help us coordinate this effort.
- ♣ Dia de Los San Patricios: IAS will staff an information table at this 90-minute event on September 12th at the Hispanic Cultural Center. Gerry Muisener, IAS VP, is music director for this event (watch for TV commercial). Mexican Council will attend, as well as Irish Council from California. This is the First Annual San Patricio Event in Albuquerque.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT (Norita Callahan):

126 family members; 133 single; 385 members total.

NEW MEMBER: Please welcome Mr. Anthony Derrig, who learned of the IAS at the Celtic Festival.

NEWSLETTER REPORT: Always looking for copy about anything to do with Ireland. Trips, family history, etc. Please send to Ellen Dowling via email at edowling@standuptrainer.com.

RAFFLE STARTED FOR XMAS PARTY DRAWING: Irish Dancer and Leprechaun Doll. Selling chances @ \$1.00 each or \$5.00 for 6 tickets.

John Murray moved to adjourn; seconded and meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Karen Tengwald, IAS Secretary 2010



Flowers of the Forest

We were saddened to learn of the death of IAS member John Reddington Smith (1929 - 2010), who passed on June 10th. His daughter, Patrice, tells us that his mother was from Co. Galway and he visited relatives there and they visited him here several times during his life. “He was a kind and happy man,” she says, “and when in a pub in Ireland, he chatted up the locals so much they thought he WAS a local.

He loved all of the doings sponsored by the IAS. He was amazed at all of the talent. He loved the festivals, and attended his last one at this year’s Celtic Festival at the Balloon Fiesta Park. He also loved the bagpipes and the Irish dancers. You brought so much happiness into his life and I wanted you to know. It is a tribute to the IAS. Thanks for making him happy. He left this world with more light than he came with.”

Paul's Irish Cooking Corner

By Paul McDonough

THE IRISH AND SEAFOOD



“She wheels her wheelbarrow... Through streets broad and narrow... Crying ‘Cockles and mussels alive alive-oh!’”
 (“Molly Malone”)

Ireland is a group of islands; one very large island, and a bunch of smaller ones. Persons living along the coastline both feed themselves and make a living from the sea. Also, Ireland is known worldwide for its salmon fishing. Therefore, it seems just logical to do an article on cooking fish. And, since it's summertime, let's combine it with the American penchant for outdoor grilling.

Steamed Clams and Mussels with Salmon

You will need a three-gallon bucket, one pound of sea salt (Morton makes it iodized too), one or two clean white T-shirts (the T-shirts need to be run through a clear water wash, no detergent, no bleach, no fabric softener—since you are going to cook with them and DO NOT need those chemicals in your food), a brownie pan (this is a pan with ½ inch sides), one lemon, one pound of butter, and aluminum foil.

CLAMS AND MUSSELS: Buy one pound of these shellfish per person. (Once you discount the shells, that's about ¼ lb/4 oz. each.) Scrub them with a NEW Scotchbrite (the chemical thing again) to remove any sand. If any are open, gently press the shells together. If they stay closed, keep them, and, if not, put them in a plastic bag to discard with the rest of the shells later. Fill the three-gallon pail with two gallons of tap water and add ½ lb. of the sea salt. (This will keep the shellfish from going into shock and dying.)

[Hint: If you like corn-on-the-cob, find some still in the husks. Soak them in the salt water overnight. The salt water will seep into the corn so that, when you grill them (still in the husks), you will only have to butter them as the salt taste is already there.]

Place the brownie pan on a medium/hot grill and fill it ¾ full with salt water from the bucket. Throw the T-shirts in the saltwater bucket. Place the clams and/or mussels in the brownie pan and cover with the wet T-shirts. (This will actually steam the shellfish rather than boil them and they will keep their original salty flavor; kind of like a beach clambake.) They are done in 5 to 10 minutes when the shells open wide, depending on the heat. Oh, the WHITE T-shirt is so you can readily see if it is burning. Please do not let it catch on fire. Please? Serve with melted butter. Or you can top them with a small pinch of cheese, and place them back on the grill just until the cheese melts.

SALMON: Figure about ¼ lb/4 oz. per person when buying the fish fillet. You can cook the fillet whole or in portions. Per portion, make foil boats for the salmon. In the boat with the fish place two tablespoons of saltwater, two tablespoons of white wine, a pat of butter (one tbsp), and lay a ¼ inch thick slice of lemon on top. If you cook the salmon fillet whole, use 1/4 cup/2 oz portions of the saltwater, wine, and butter. Slice up the whole lemon and lay the slices all over the fish. Again, you are going to cover the fish with the wet T-shirt soaked in saltwater. Cooking time on the fish is 5 to 15 minutes, depending on the heat of the grill. If you are using charcoal, the salmon is done when it fades from dark pink to fleshtone pink.

And don't forget the corn-on-the-cob you put on the grill earlier! ENJOY !



IAS Raffle!

Madame Alexander "Luck o' the Irish" dolls: one Lassie and one Leprechaun. The Lassie is 8" tall, with long light red hair, cream lace blouse w/shamrocks on collar, cream lace petticoat, green pleated skirt, Irish knit sweater w/wooden toggle buttons, white tights, and black boots. The Leprechaun is 5" tall with red hair and beard, green velvet waistcoat, knickers and top hat, striped multicolored shirt, orange bowtie, blue belt w/gold buckle, multicolored striped socks and black buckle shoes. (He also has a wee black pot filled w/gold!)

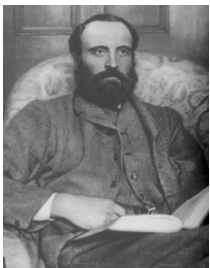
\$1 per chance or 6 for \$5

**Tickets will be sold at monthly meetings,
drawing at the Christmas Party**

The Reel Thing by The Dancer

Cead mile failte from Dundalk!

Famous Sons and Daughters of Erin



CHARLES STEWART PARNELL

<http://www.ireland-information.com/articles/charlesstewartparnell.htm>

The Great Famine of 1845 to 1849 left over one million dead with a further one million emigrating over the following 10 years. One of the effects of the disaster was to demonstrate to ordinary Irish people that the English Government had failed them in their time of need and that they must seize control of their own destiny. Out of the Famine grew several revolutionary movements which culminated in the 1916 Easter Rising.

In the second half of the nineteenth century the main concern of the Irish people was their land and the fact that they had no control whatsoever over its ownership. Charles Stewart Parnell, the son of a Protestant landowner, organised the rural masses into agitation against the ruling landlord class to seek the 3 Fs: Fixity of Tenure, Freedom to Sell and Fair Rent.

Violence flared in the countryside, but Parnell preferred to use parliamentary means to achieve his objectives. The result was a series of Land Acts which greatly improved the conditions under which the Irish agricultural class toiled. Parnell's main ambition was Home Rule for Ireland (local government) and he led the Irish Party, deposing Isaac Butt in the process to achieve this aim. He and colleagues such as Joseph Biggar made a science out of "filibustering" and delayed the English parliament by introducing amendments to every clause of every bill and then discussing each aspect at length. His popularity in Ireland soared to great heights.

Trouble loomed for Parnell however, in his private life. He had secretly courted a married woman,

Kathleen O'Shea, whose husband filed for divorce, naming Parnell as the co-respondent. He tried to ignore the scandal and continued his public life, but public pressure in Ireland and from Gladstone in England eventually brought about his downfall and he died shortly afterwards, in 1891.

The Home Rule Bill that he had forced Gladstone into introducing was passed in the House of Commons, but was defeated in the House of Lords. In his last speech in Kilkenny in 1891, he said: "I don't pretend that I had not moments of trial and of temptation, but I do claim that never in thought, word, or deed, have I been false to the trust which Irishmen have confided in me". But perhaps he will be most remembered for the quotation that can be found on his statue at the junction of O'Connell Street and Parnell Street in Dublin City Centre: "No man shall have the right to fix the boundary to the march of a Nation".

The Music Rack



The History of the Lambeg Drum

The Lambeg Drum rivals the flute as the most traditional of Orange instruments. But its exact origin is open to debate.

A Lambeg drum is a large Irish drum, beaten with curved Malacca canes. It is used primarily in Northern Ireland by

Unionists and the Orange Order traditionally in street parades held in the summer, particularly on and around 12 July ("The Twelfth"). Folklore has it that the Lambeg drum was brought to Ireland from Holland by troops of Duke Schomberg, William's second-in-command at the Boyne. Another theory is that the first Lambeg drum was made for the Battle of the Diamond in September 1795, after which the Orange Order was formed. The Lambeg Drum, as it is colloquially known, is perhaps the most easily recognised instrument in Ulster culture.

The Lambeg drum is, together with the bagpipe, one of the loudest acoustic instruments in the world, frequently reaching over 120 dB. It measures approximately three feet and one quarter inch (0.9 m) in diameter and two feet (0.65 m) deep, and weighs 35-40 lbs. Usually it is carried by the drummer while marching, using a neck harness.

The weight of the drum caused it to be replaced with smaller replicas for most parades, but the full-sized instrument has started to reappear in recent years, usually on floats. Traditionally it was accompanied by the shrill fife, a small transverse flute similar to the piccolo. Over time, the drum grew in size through competition between players, and eventually the drum got to such a scale that the fifes were drowned out. Today the fife and Lambeg together are the exception rather than the norm in parades.

Most of the original Ulster fifiers were of Flemish descent. A number of French Huguenots had followed William's army into Ireland and the Flemish, English and Scottish Protestant groups had united into the Orange Order. The name comes from the village of Lambeg, County Antrim, which is situated ten miles southwest of Belfast and two miles from Lisburn. The accepted explanation is that during a parade in Lambeg c1870, the drums were played for the first time with Malacca canes instead of the traditional cork or wood-headed sticks. This innovation enabled quicker rhythms to be played and dramatically increased the sound volume of the instrument. The practice of playing with canes quickly became widespread and thereafter when people referred to the drums they frequently used the prefix "Lambeg". (The drums are sometimes also called "tibbies", "slashers", or "killymans".)

And to conclude: When life hands you lemons, ask for a bottle of tequila.

Well that's all folks. Until the next time, remember: All the advice and wisdom cannot help you until you apply it.

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.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 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 and More at O'Niell's:

Music every Sunday from 4 to 7 PM at 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).
- ♣ 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!

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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)

West of the Isle

Traditional and contemporary Celtic Music

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Womenfolk

Celtic, country and world folk music. Contact: Liz Holm (250-6567)

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

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

Contact: IO (268-7303)

Fonn Sona ("Happy Melody")

Reels, jigs, waltzes, polkas, etc.

Contact: Chuck Butler (293-1421)

chuckjacobbutler@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.

Michele Buchanan and Shanachie Harpers

Michele's Harp

765-1288 (tmbuchs@gmail.com)

Celtic Coyotes

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

celticcoyotes@yahoo.com (710-0583).

Friends Forever

Mike and Donna Coy and Chris Nelson play Celtic, Folk, Cowboy and Originals. Contact: 296-2017 or 250-4429.

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 Events

| Date | Day | What |
|--------------|--------|---|
| September 10 | Friday | <i>Monthly Meeting and Program</i> at the GAC, 7:00 PM. Program to be announced. |
| September 12 | Sunday | <i>Día de los San Patricios</i> , a community celebration of Mexican and Irish culture, 3:00 – 4:30 PM, National Hispanic Cultural Center. (More details to come.) |
| September 19 | Sunday | <i>IAS Family Picnic (co-sponsored with the St Andrew Scottish Society)</i> : 12 noon to 4 PM, at the home of Olive McCaskill Bell. (More details in the September newsletter.) |

Celtic/GAC Events

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| July 4 | Sunday | <i>Irish Music at O'Hare's (Rio Rancho) with Gerry Carthy and Dan McDermott</i> , 5:00 – 7:30 PM. (O'Hare's is just west of the intersection of 528 and Southern Blvd.) |
| July 9 – 11 | Friday - Sunday | <i>Colorado Irish Festival</i> , Clement Park, Littleton, Colorado. For more info, visit www.ColoradoIrishFestival.org . |
| July 10 | 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 jcon@swcp.com |
| July 18 | Sunday | <i>Performance by musical group Friends Forever</i> (Donna and Michael Coy and Christine Nelson), Haynes Park, Rio Rancho, 7:00 – 8:30 PM. |
| September 9 - 12 | Thursday - Sunday | <i>Long's Peak Scottish-Irish Highland Festival</i> , Estes Park, Colorado. For information, visit http://www.scotfest.com/Scottish_Festival/Home.html |
| September 23 - 26 | Thursday - Sunday | <i>6th Spanish Peaks International Celtic Music Festival</i> in Huerfano County, Colorado. For info, visit www.celticmusicfest.com . |

This month's Irish joke:

An Englishman, a Scotsman and an Irishman were without tickets for the opening ceremonies of the Olympics but hoped to be able to talk their way in at the gate. Security was very tight, however, and each of their attempts was met with a stern refusal.

While wandering around outside the stadium, the Englishman came upon a construction site, which gave him an idea. Grabbing a length of scaffolding, he presented himself at the gate and said, "Johnson, the pole vault," and was admitted.

The Scotsman, overhearing this, went at once to search the site. When he came up with a sledge hammer, he presented himself at the gate and said, "McTavish, the hammer." He was also admitted.

The Irishman combed the site for an hour and was nearly ready to give up when he spotted his ticket in. Seizing a roll of barbed wire, he presented himself at the gate and announced, "O'Sullivan, fencing."



**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:

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Individual _____ \$20.00 Family _____ \$25.00

Name _____

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Would you like to receive the IAS newsletter electronically? _____