



The Irish Connection

The Irish American Society of Tidewater News

September 2016

The Irish American Society of Tidewater, Virginia, was established in 1980 to promote and preserve Irish culture, and all things distinctly Irish. Membership is open to persons of Irish birth or ancestry, as well as those persons who have an interest in Irish history and culture.

OUR NEXT MEETING:
SEPTEMBER 1, 2016

Meetings are held the first Thursday of every month at the Church of the Ascension Community Center 4853 Princess Anne Rd Virginia Beach, VA. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., the meeting usually gets underway at 7:00 p.m., ending at 9:00 p.m.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

My fellow Irish American Society members,

The Variety Show at the August meeting was so much fun! Big thanks go out to **Terry Fahey**, **Connie Austin Smith**, and **John McGlynn** for sharing your musical talents and jokes. Music is such a huge part of the Irish culture, and I hope we can include more singing, playing, and dancing in the months to come.

This past month, the IAS also participated in the **Suffolk Public Libraries Festival of Nations**. IAS members set up an "Ireland" table with maps, fun facts, Irish dancing shoes, hurling and camogie equipment, and more! Our table was a big hit! Ireland was also represented with a demonstration by members of the **Hampton Roads Hurling Club** and the **Cumann na mBan Camogie Team**. The kids really got a kick out of this sport that none of them had ever seen before! Thank you to **Skip Hunter**, **Bob Akamine**, **Erin Akamine**, **Paul Cannon**, and **Gretchen Heins** for showing off your skills and love of the game! The big finale to the Ireland presentations was a performance organized by our 2016 IAS Princess, **Laura Payne**, by four very talented Irish dancers from **An Cor Rud**, **The Reel Thing School of Irish Dance**. Earlier in the day, festival attendees told us they were sticking around longer just to see the dancers, and An Cor Rud did not disappoint! Well done to **Samantha Libasci**, **Emily Murphy**, **Alyssa Libasci**, and **Dylan Libasci**!

Our next upcoming social event is the **Celtic Cousins Picnic** put on by **The Scottish Society**, **The St. Andrew's Society**, and **The Irish American Society of Tidewater**. The picnic will be held at the Church of the Ascension's Picnic Shelter on **Saturday, September 10th, 1PM – 5PM**. The Societies will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, condiments, and soft drinks. Please bring a side dish to share. Children, dogs,

and coolers are welcome! Please RSVP to any board member at the meeting or via e-mail to ias.tidewater@gmail.com if you plan to attend.

At our next meeting, **September 1st**, we will be discussing and deciding on a charity for the IAS to support for the next year. All members are welcome to present a charity for which they would like the IAS to volunteer and support on an ongoing basis. After the presentations, the membership in attendance will cast private votes for the charity of their choice. The business meeting and charity discussion will not leave enough time for a full program, so we should have plenty of time to socialize. If you or any musicians you know would like to bring instruments for an **informal music seisiún**, please do!!!

Please also remember that the IAS is still looking for members of the Bylaws Committee. If you are interested, please speak to **Jim Hagerty** at the next meeting.

I would like to extend a warm "Welcome Home" to our past president **Lynnette Fitch Brash** and past financial secretary **Edward Brash** after they spent several months abroad. Although they are now busy getting ready for the new school year, we hope to see them at a meeting or event soon!

I look forward to seeing lots of members and visitors on **September 1st** for our next monthly meeting!



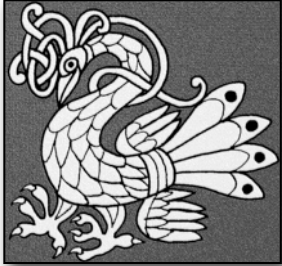
Sláinte,

Katie McCrory



The Irish American Society of Tidewater

P.O. Box 9614
Virginia Beach, VA
23450



OFFICERS

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Katie McCrory

Sr. Vice President

Jackie Trudell

Jr. Vice President

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Membership

Betsy Kennedy

Sergeant-at-Arms

Jim Hagerty

HOSPITALITY

Volunteers Needed

NEWSLETTER

Lori Shea, editor
lorishea@aol.com

Sunshine Bulletin

email Lori Shea

INTERNET NEWS

Vera Dotson

WEBMASTER

Michael Lawler

WEB SITE

IRLUSA.org

look for us on Facebook!

... AT THE IAS VARIETY SHOW AUGUST 2016



Katie McCrory



Terry Fahey



John McGlynn & Connie Austin Smith



BYLAWS COMMITTEE - STATUS REPORT

submitted by Jim Hagerty

The Bylaws Committee is presently in a holding stage. With only two members it is not particularly a good cross section of the membership. There were three but one had to bow out for personal reasons. We will await some sign of further interest from the members before proceeding.

IRISH ABROAD



Vera Dotson has been visiting, of all places, Ireland, this summer!



at the Waterford Crystal Factory



It's almost time! The Annual Celtic Cousins Picnic

Hosted by the
Scottish Society of Tidewater,
the St. Andrews Society of Tidewater,
and the Irish Society of Tidewater

Saturday, September 10, 2016
1 pm - 5 pm

Church of the Ascension Picnic Shelter
4853 Princess Anne Rd., Virginia Beach

The Societies will provide hot dogs,
hamburgers, buns & fixins, and soft drinks
Please bring a side dish to share.

Children welcome! Dogs welcome!
Coolers welcome!

Play an instrument? Please bring it along!

Please RSVP to Marcey Hunter at
Marcey.hunter@norfolk.gov

Hope to see you there!



HURLEY HAPPENINGS



ALL-IRELAND CAMOGIE FINALS VIEWING PARTY & FUNDRAISER!!!

submitted by Lynnette Fitch Brash

On behalf of **Cumann na mBan Camogie Club**, thank
you so much for your support over the past two years,
especially at the **Coastal Virginia**

Cup tournament this summer and
last!

We hope lots of you will join us to
watch the **All-Ireland Camogie
Finals on Sunday, September 11th**.
Let's do brunch, support the Irish
sport of camogie, and enjoy some
great craic at Norfolk's newest Irish
pub, **Grace O'Malley's** at 211
Granby Street!



We'll watch the Senior Camogie
Final at **noon** and the Junior
Camogie Final immediately
following on the huge screen.

Doors open at 11 am, so get there
early to get a table and get your
food and drink orders in before the
game; you can call (757-333-3330)
to make a reservation if you want
to be sure you get one right in front
of the screen.

ALSO, **CnamB** will be holding a **Silent Auction
fundraiser** there to raise money for new equipment, so
please bring cash and checkbooks and be prepared to bid
on some awesome items to help us out! We have some
beautiful jewelry & clothing items from **The Thorny
Seahorse**, many items bought in Ireland or Scotland, teal
and mermaid miscellaneous, gift certificates, CnamB gear,
and CAMOGIE/HURLING
items aplenty!



**FESTIVAL OF NATIONS
SUFFOLK PUBLIC LIBRARY
SATURDAY, AUGUST 6TH**

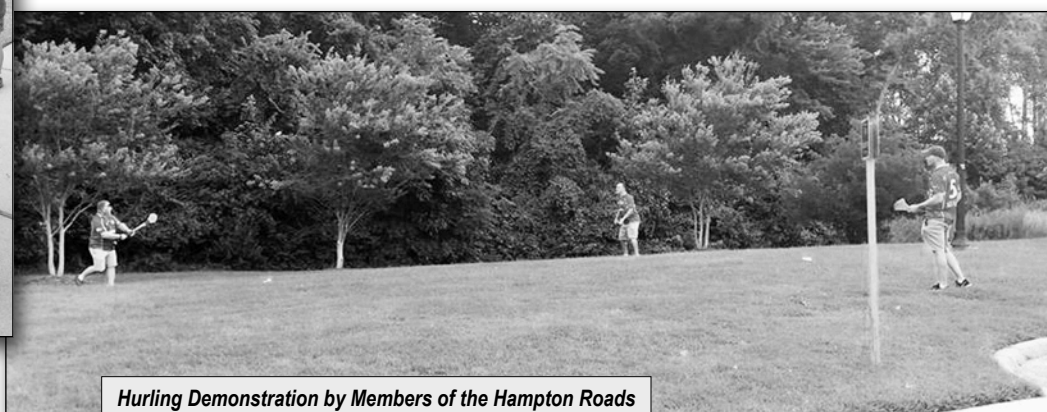
**IAS's Ireland Table with Caroline Morse,
Jackie Trudell, & Kate Sandoval**



Gretchen Heins (CnamB), Erin Akamine (CnamB), Bob Akamine (HRHC), Bronson Conlin (HRHC), Paul Cannon (HRHC), Dylan Libasci (An Cor Rud), Alyssa Libasci (An Cor Rud), Laura Payne (2016 IAS Princess), Michelle Libasci (An Cor Rud)



**Cumann na mBan
Camogie Team Member
Gretchen Heins**



**Hurling Demonstration by Members of the Hampton Roads
Hurling Club Skip Hunter, Bob Akamine, & Paul Cannon**



Hear all the latest about our Hibernian hounds!

Feel free to submit news and/or pictures relating to Irish breed or Irish-owned dogs!

Submitted by Lynnette Fitch Brash

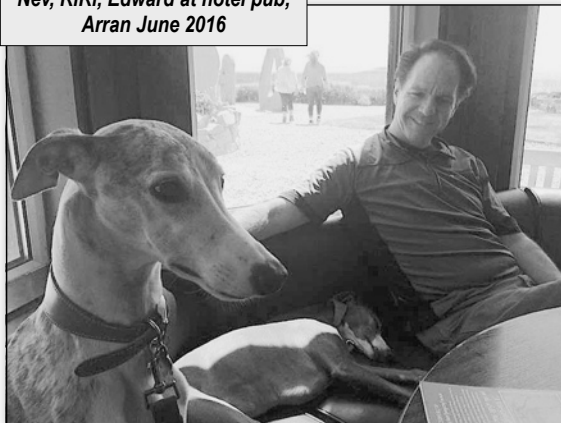
The IAS Paddy Pack welcomes home its world-traveling whippets, **Glasnevin** ("Nev") and **Dalriada** ("RiRi") Brash who were in Scotland with parents **Lynnette** & **Edward** since late **December** 2015!

*Arran, Lamlash Beach, June 2016 -
Lynnette, Nev, & RiRi*



Nev and RiRi absolutely loved their time in Scotland, where the climate is temperate and there are beautiful parks everywhere. Nev and RiRi had to get a special "pet passport" to travel to the UK.

*Nev, RiRi, Edward at hotel pub,
Arran June 2016*



Because Scotland is so dog-friendly, Nev & RiRi were even able to go on a special vacation with their parents to the lovely **Isle of Arran**, the most southerly island off the coast of Scotland. The ferry over has a special pet area, and, as you can see in the picture, Nevin and RiRi made themselves quite at home in the pub of the delightful **Kildonan Hotel**, where they stayed.



Nev & RiRi running on beach Arran June 2016

They also really enjoyed their first beach visits in gorgeous Lamlash Bay and magical Kildonan.

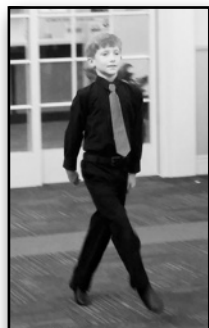
When it was time to come back to the US, they had to get a "fit to fly" letter from their friendly neighborhood vet in Glasgow, and then a wonderful Glaswegian company called **Pets on the Move** was responsible for getting them safely and comfortably loaded onto the plane. Nev and RiRi had their picture taken by the nice dog minders and then displayed on the *Pets on the Move* Facebook page both coming and going, the wee jet-setters!



*Nev & RiRi Pets on the Move & Animal
Reception Centre Glasgow Aug 2016*

(Note: Cu is Gaelic for dog!)





An Cor Rud Dancer Dylan Libasci

An Cor Rud Dancer Alyssa Libasci



An Cor Rud Dancers Samantha Libasci & Emily Murphy

An Cor Rud Dancers Samantha Libasci, Alyssa Libasci, Dylan Libasci, Emily Murphy, & Laura Payne (Dance Teacher & 2016 IAS Princess)



**FESTIVAL OF NATIONS
SUFFOLK PUBLIC LIBRARY
SATURDAY, AUGUST 6TH**

CELTIC KIDS CORNER

COLOR ME IRISH



What is school in Ireland like?

Public school in Ireland is made up of Primary (1st – 6th grade) and Post-Primary (7th – 12th grade) Schools.

Students earn a "Leaving Certificate" by passing a "terminal examination of post-primary education" at the age of 17 or 18.

*This is like our high school diploma and final exams.
Almost every Irish student must study and pass Irish Gaelic, as well!*