



The Irish Connection



The Irish American Society of Tidewater News October 2017

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:
OCTOBER 5, 2017



Meetings are held the first Thursday of the month at the

Church of the Ascension
Community Center
4855 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

To my fellow Irish American Society members:

Blame it on my Irish heritage, but my idea of perfect weather is cloudy and in the 60's. However, it's hard to beat a beautiful sunny, breezy day! That's exactly what we had for our Celtic Cousin's Picnic on September 16th. The food was delicious, the music was festive, and the company was the best part! The IAS even won the Cornhole Challenge this year! Woohoo! I'd like to send a BIG "thank you" to **Laurie MacPherson** and the Scottish Society of Tidewater and to the Saint Andrew's Society of Tidewater for planning such a fun day. Going forward, I hope that we Celtic societies will be able to come together to celebrate our heritage and pursue our mutual interests together more often.

Although we have had some downright hot weather at the end of September, I am hoping it cools down a little in time for our upcoming fall events, especially the **Harvest Hooley** on **Thursday, October 5th** (our regular meeting day on the first Thursday on the month). After a brief business meeting, we will celebrate the start of the autumn season with a hard cider program, cooking competition (with APPLE as the key ingredient), and a painted pumpkin contest! If you would like to participate in the hard cider tasting, please bring one or two bottles to contribute. There is more information about the Hooley in this newsletter, but feel free to e-mail the board if you have any questions.

October will be a busy month with two more events on our calendar! The **Irish Breakfast and Silent Auction** at **Murphy's Grand Irish Pub** is on **Sunday, October 22nd, 11AM – 1PM**. Please RSVP on Facebook or at the next meeting, so we can give Murphy's an accurate headcount. If you have anything you would like to donate for the auction, please contact the board at the meeting

or via email: ias.tidewater@gmail.com. We are really looking forward to gathering at one of our favorite spots!

There was some discussion about the IAS having a table at the **Central Virginia Celtic Festival & Highland Games** on **Saturday, October 28th and Sunday, October 29th** in **Richmond, VA** at the September meeting. It turns out that it was not too late for our organization to request a spot! I, for one, am very excited to attend and represent the IAS of Tidewater at one of (if not the) biggest Irish festival in our area. We will have a few classic and a few new items to sell at the tent, but what about a bake sale as well!? Please let me know if you're interested in baking for the table. Even if you cannot attend the festival, we can have someone pick up your bake sale item before they head up to Richmond. We are looking for soda bread and other breads/muffins/cakes without anything that will melt (frosting, chocolate chips, etc.).

Also, if anyone would like to attend the festival and volunteer/sit at our table, please let me know ASAP! I plan to attend both days but *may* have to come a couple hours late on Saturday due to lack of help with baby Colin. It would be awesome if a few people could help deck out the tent/table on Saturday morning.

If you have any issues or ideas that you would like the IAS board to address, please e-mail ias.tidewater@gmail.com.

See you all soon!!



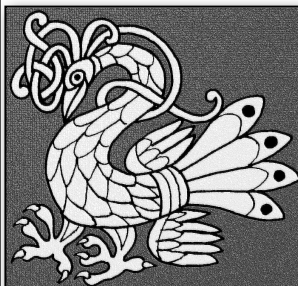
Sláinte,
Katie McCrory





The Irish American Society of Tidewater

P.O. Box 9614
Virginia Beach, VA
23450



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WEB SITE

IRLUSA.org

look for us on
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IAS SEPTEMBER MEETING

Ceili Dancing after the
Meeting led by Sandy Archer

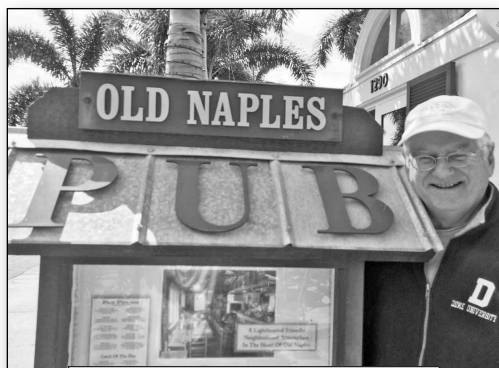




**PUBS:
THE OFFICIAL SUNBLOCK
OF IRISH-AMERICANS**



Sheila Hetherington Smith and Jackie Trudell in Raleigh celebrating after CoVA hurling and camogie both won the Thomas Burke Cup



Jim Hagerty about to escape the sun, March 2014



What's a pub without music! A stage set for Glasgow Kiss at Grace O'Malley's in Norfolk



Lynnette Fitch Brash and Edward Brash at Murphy's in Virginia Beach



Debra Taylor-Kelly and Lynnette Fitch Brash at O'Conner's in Norfolk on St Patrick's Day 2017



Lynnette Fitch Brash with her whippets in Glasgow



Members of the IAS meet at Grace O'Malley's in Norfolk

(A new feature, from time-to-time.
If you have photos of your adventures and travels that include pubs, please submit them to the editor for future publication!)





A FEW PICTURES FROM
CELTIC COUSINS PICNIC
SEPTEMBER 16, 2017





FRESH EIRE

Submitted by Lynnette Fitch Brash

For those of you considering a trip up to Richmond for the CENTRAL VIRGINIA CELTIC FESTIVAL AND HIGHLAND GAMES this year on Saturday, October 28th and Sunday, October 29th, here is the line up of events for both days, taken from their website vacelticfestival.com. Please note that our own **Glasgow Kiss** are appearing on the Main Stage both days, as are some other great bands from the regional and international Celtic circuit! There will also be Irish dance performances, an Irish fiddle competition, a harp competition, Irish wolfhounds, Irish vendors, Irish coffee for sale, etc. Truly something for all ages! And don't forget to look for **Scott & Sandy Macgregor** at the Clan Gregor tent in Clan Row!

CVCF&HG 2017 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

NOTE: 2017 Events are subject to change at any time!!

Saturday, October 28th

- Gates Open 9:00am
- 10:00am Piping Competition – Pipe Band Competition Area
- **Harp Competition** - Clan Currie Cultural Tent
- 10:30am Drumming Competition – Pipe Band Competition Area
- Whiskey Tasting (what a way to start the day!) — Associated Distributors Whiskey Tent
- Highland Dance Competition — ALL DAY – Highland Dance Stage
- 10:45am British Car Show Arrival
- 11:00am - Press Gang - Smithwicks Music Stage
- 11:30am Church Hill Music Group – Smithwicks Music Stage
- 12noon Opening Ceremonies & Massed Bands — Guinness Games Field
- 12:15pm Whisky Tasting — Associated Distributors Whiskey Tent
- **Muggivan School of Dance** — Smithwicks Music Stage
- 12:30pm **Albannach** — Smithwicks Music Stage
- Sheepdog Demonstration- Guinness Games Field
- 1:15pm Massed Fling- Dancers from the Mid-Atlantic and beyond — Smithwicks Music Stage
- 1:30pm **Fighting Jamesons** — Smithwicks Music Stage
- Whiskey Tasting — Associated Distributors Whiskey Tent
- 2:00pm Parade of Clans — Guinness Games Field
- Gaelic Song Competition- Clan Currie Cultural Tent
- 2:30pm **Glasgow Kiss** — Smithwicks Music Stage
- Pipe Band Competition — Pipe Band Competition Area

- Piper/Drummer Competition — Pipe Band Competition Area
- 3:00pm Whiskey Tasting — Associated Distributors Whiskey Tent
- 3:30pm **Albannach** — Smithwicks Music Stage
- 4:30pm Whisky Tasting — Associated Distributors Whiskey Tent
- 4:40pm **Fighting Jamesons** — Smithwicks Music Stage
- 5:30pm Heavy Athletics Award Ceremony — Guinness Games Field
- Massed Bands — Guinness Games Field

Saturday Evening, Glasgow Kiss - 8-11 pm at the Rare Olde Times Irish Public House (10602 Patterson Ave)
– www.rareoldetimes.com

Sunday, October 29th

- Gates Open 9:00am
- 9:00am Kirking of the Tartan & Flowers of the Forest — Guinness Games Field
- 9:30am Highland Dance Competition — ALL DAY – Highland Dance Stage
- 10:00am Amateur Heavy Athletics — Guinness Games Field
- Scottish Fiddle Competition– Clan Currie Cultural Tent
- Whisky Tasting — Associated Distributors Whiskey Tent
- 11:00am Press Gang- Smithwicks Music Stage
- 11:30am **Glasgow Kiss** — Smithwicks Music Stage
- 12noon Massed Bands — Guinness Games Field
- 12:15pm Whiskey Tasting — Associated Distributors Whiskey Tent
- 12:20pm **Albannach** — Smithwicks Music Stage
- 1:00pm Gaelic Song Workshop
- 1:15pm **Fighting Jamesons** — Smithwicks Music Stage
- Rugby — Newcastle Field
- 1:30pm Whisky Tasting — Associated Distributors Whiskey Tent
- Speaking Gaelic! – Clan Currie Cultural Tent
- 2:00pm Parade of Clans — Guinness Games Field
- **Irish Fiddle Competition**— Clan Currie Cultural Tent
- 2:15pm **Donnybrooks** — Smithwicks Music Stage
- **Hurling** Match – Newcastle Field
- 3:15pm Blessing of the Animals — Guinness Games Field
- 3:30pm **Albannach** — Smithwicks Music Stage
- 4:20pm **Fighting Jamesons** — Smithwicks Music Stage
- 4:30pm Whiskey Tasting — Associated Distributors Whiskey Tent
- 4:45pm Heavy Athletics Awards — Guinness Games Field
- 5:00pm Massed Bands - Event Ends — Guinness Games Field.





CU CORNER



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 Bras

Also, wanted to be sure all our IAS Paddy Pack dog parents knew that dogs are very welcome at the **CENTRAL VIRGINIA HIGHLAND GAMES** in Richmond on **Saturday, October 28th and Sunday, October 29th**! Here are some details.

- Dogs are permitted with a \$5 donation, ticketed adult, and proof of rabies vaccination.
- Dogs need to be on leash at all times, and owners must bag and bin any dog mess.
- The **Irish Wolfhound Association of the Mid South** will be there again this year if you are interested in meeting some of these gorgeous gentle giants and talking to their owners about this wonderful Irish breed.
- On Sunday, there will be a **"Blessing of the Animals"** at 3:15 pm on the **Guinness Games Field** for anyone interested in participating.
- Make sure to provide adequate water and food for your dogs during the day. And check the weather forecast before you head up; you may need to bundle your fur babies up if we have a cold weekend!
- Visit this link for more info about the CVCF&HG. They also have a Facebook page. <http://vacelticfestival.com>

Just had to include this adorable "back to school" photo of **Fynn Burgess** and his sweet pup **Cassy**! I'm sure she is hoping she can go with him. Sorry, pretty girl! Not this adventure!



CEILI CLASS

For fun and exercise

When:: Tuesday Nights, 7:30PM – 8:30PM

Where: Golden Slippers, Kempsville Studio
1920 Centerville Tpke. VB. 7:30-8:30

How Much: \$7.00/class OR \$25/month

Classes began September 12th but new dancers are welcome!

Mary Fien, 1998 IAS Princess





FRESH EIRE



The Irish Tenors

Thursday, November 30

THE IRISH TENORS

at the Ferguson Center for the Performing Arts

Thursday, November 30, 2017 at 7:30 PM

Ticket Prices: \$85 | \$72 | \$62 | \$47 | \$35

website: Fergusoncenter.org

TONY KENNY'S IRISH CELEBRATION

Friday, October 27, 2017 ~ 7:30 PM

Churchland High School Auditorium
4301 Cedar Lane • Portsmouth, VA 23703

Tickets are \$30 each

Tony Kenny is one of Ireland's most beloved artists, having sung in countless musical productions such as *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Kenny starred in the famous *Jury's Irish Cabaret* for more than 20 years with Hal Roach (Ireland's Legendary King of Blarney) and won many awards for his work over the course of decades. Kenny has entertained millions of people in Ireland, and across the U.S. in dozens of coast to coast tours, including Carnegie Hall.

Victoria Kenny was literally born into show biz. The daughter of Irish singing legend Tony Kenny and his wife Joan (herself a legendary Irish dancer) and the granddaughter of stage-school Billie Barry, Vicky couldn't help but survive in the crazy business of stage performance. Beginning her career at 15 in a theatrical production of *A Christmas Carol*, Vicky has been on stage ever since. She has performed with both parents for years, presented solo tours, and has a number of successful recordings. And now, she's back with Dad in *Tony Kenny's Irish Celebration*.

Seamus Kennedy is a 37-year veteran of the Irish/Celtic circuit with a thorough knowledge of Celtic songs. Originally from Belfast, Seamus has entertained for Popes and Presidents, bartenders and bricklayers, college students to kindergarteners-and is loved by them all! With an endless supply of jokes, stories, and one liners, he leaves his audience breathless with laughter. But he also has a serious side. When Seamus performs the somber ballads of Ireland, he reaches the very soul of his audience, as well.

Dublin Trinity Band, featuring **Eimear Reilly** and **Ciaran Mitchell**, is one of Ireland's best folk bands. From busking on O'Connell Street to playing at the National Concert Hall, this group has wowed audiences of all sizes for years.

Added into this stellar mix of Irish artists, are the **Dublin City Dancers**. These dancing athletes have performed in such troupes as *Riverdance*, *Lord of the Dance*, *Dance of Desire*, and *Battle of the Dance*, and have traveled the world performing the native dances of Ireland.



PORTSMOUTH
COMMUNITY
CONCERTS, INC.

For information Call (757) 686-5447
www.portsmouthcommunityconcerts.com



October Meeting & Annual Harvest Hooley

October 5, 2017

Church of the Ascension

4853 Princess Anne Rd

Virginia Beach, VA 23462

Thursday, October 5th 7PM (Doors Open at 6:30PM)

Join the IAS for our annual Harvest Hooley after a short business meeting for some autumn fun!

- Hard Cider Program & Tasting – Please bring a bottle or two of hard cider to participate in the tasting.
- Apple Cooking Contest – Bring a sweet or savory dish that includes apple as an ingredient. Don't forget to bring your recipe! Only a single serving is needed for judging, but you're welcome to bring more to share!
- Pumpkin Painting Contest – Bring a pre-decorated/painted pumpkin to enter! (No carving, please.)
- Bring a snack or dessert to share!



Irish American Society of Tidewater GRAND IRISH BREAKFAST AND SILENT AUCTION

Sunday, October 22nd, 2017

at Murphy's Irish Pub

corner of 30th & Pacific Avenues, Virginia Beach, VA

Breakfast will be served from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

RSVP on Facebook or at the next meeting,
or via email: ias.tidewater@gmail.com
we'd like to let Murphy's know how many to expect!

CENTRAL VIRGINIA CELTIC FESTIVAL & HIGHLAND GAMES



October 28 & 29, 2017

Location: Richmond Raceway Complex, 600 E
Laburnum Ave, Richmond VA 23222

Gates Open 9am-6pm Saturday & 9am-5pm Sunday

- Tickets Purchased through vacelticfestival.com
- (\$15/Day, \$25/2 Day in advance. \$20/Day, \$30/ 2 Day at gates)
- Pets allowed with proper paperwork and \$5 fee
- Free Parking
- Handicap Parking Available
- Live Music all day, Dance Competitions, Harp Competitions
- British Car and Motorcycle Show
- All Ages Event/Under 12 free
- Rain or Shine Event

**** The IAS of Tidewater is working on securing a tent. If you are interested in sitting at the IAS table for a bit to represent our organization, please contact Katie McCrory before purchasing a ticket (ias.tidewater@gmail.com). ****