



The Irish Connection

Irish American Society of Tidewater News

July 2018

The Irish American Society of Tidewater, Virginia, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization 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
THURSDAY:
AUGUST 2, 2018

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

Dear Fellow Irish American Society members,

June was a busy and exciting month for the IAS! Thanks to everyone who took part in these events. Let's take a look back, in chronological order.

IAS & FRIENDS CLEAN THE BAY DAY

We had quite a crew show up on Saturday, June 2nd to take part in this volunteer effort. Everyone there was enthusiastic and had great positive attitudes. **Clan MacGregor** had so many volunteers that they came in two shifts! We were assigned to **First Landing State Park** in Virginia Beach. I know it might sound crazy, but picking up trash together was fun! We were especially excited to have **Martin, Melissa, & Maya Nealon** join our volunteer efforts. They saw the invite and decided to come out. Marty was an IAS member back in the **Tom Porter** era, and we hope he rejoins with his lovely family!

Special thanks to **Katie Morse** for organizing this effort for the second year in a row. I am so grateful to have been introduced to a beautiful part of our area thanks to this event. I had never been to that particular part of Virginia Beach before, despite growing up here, and it is gorgeous! There were places to crab and fish, swim and boat, sun and snack. There was even a food boat selling refreshments on this quiet stretch of beach! We are so lucky to have so many places of natural beauty around us, and I am proud that we as an organization are helping to keep our waterways, bogs, and beaches clean and pristine. Let's definitely do it again next year!

IAS JUNE MEETING PROGRAM: IRISH GARDEN PARTY

Many thanks to everyone who came out for the Irish Garden Party and **DARE TO BE WILD** film on Thursday, June 7th. It was a fun evening! Extra thanks to everyone who pitched in with set up, clean up, and advertising. Special thanks also to our generous community partner, **Fairfield Flowers**, who contributed to our amazing decorations that transformed the space into a bower for the evening.

We had a large turn out for our June meeting, and folks were dressed to impress in their Garden Party finery! Here are a few quotes about the event that members posted on Facebook.

Jim Hagerty: "The IAS hosted a Garden Party instead of its regular meeting (1st Thurs of each month) at the Community Center, Church of Ascension, Va Beach. Members got into the spirit by dressing the part. I really liked Joe Brady's white and powder blue combo, complete with vest and



tie. I think he and wife Maryann, likewise dressed to the nines, won a prize for their outfits. It was a different, really different, social event. Even made me relax my stoic self. Maybe it was the punch!" **Sandy Archer**: "What a wonderful evening! Such awesome decorations and food and drinks!"

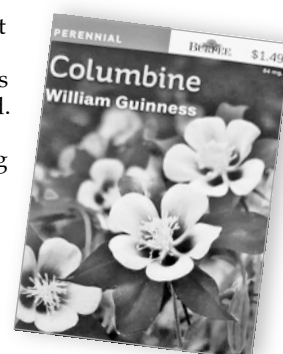
Jen O'Connor: "Great job on the Garden Party! The place looked beautiful! Movie was great as well as the Pimm's Cup."

Congratulations to our fabulous contest winners from the Irish Garden Party!

- * BEST FEMALE GARDEN PARTY OUTFIT - **Mary Ann Brady**
- * BEST MALE GARDEN PARTY OUTFIT - **Joe Brady**
- * PRETTIEST MILLINERY
1st place — three-way tie — **Lynette, Eadlyn, and Eilidh Crouch** (handmade thematic fascinators – peacock, butterfly, and beach respectively)
2nd place — two-way tie — **AnneMarie Donahue and Pam Hagerty** (custom decorated floral hats color coordinated to outfits)
- * PRETTIEST FRESH-CUT FLOWER ARRANGEMENT — **Debra Taylor-Kelly**
- * PRETTIEST ORIGINAL FAUX FLOWER WREATH — **Mary Ann Brady**
- * YUMMIEST GARDEN PARTY FINGER FOOD — **Edward Brash** (cucumber sandwiches)

Part of each 1st place winner's prize was a packet of these WILLIAM GUINNESS COLUMBINE seeds!

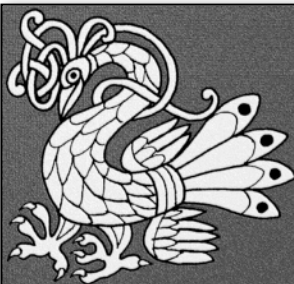
This is a uniquely Irish variety of Columbine. It was developed in the gardens of the Guinness Family Estate in Ireland. It was created to have the same iconic coloring as a pint of Guinness, the beverage that the Guinness family's fortunes were founded upon and which many of us have been enjoying for decades! There is a brief shot of a clump of these in the opening scenes of **DARE TO BE WILD**.



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The Irish American Society of Tidewater

P.O. Box 9614
Virginia Beach, VA
23450



OFFICERS

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Lynnette Fitch Brash

Sr. Vice President

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Jim Hagerty

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Michael Lawler

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IAS & FRIENDS BLOOMSDAY BASH FEATURING GLASGOW KISS

Great BLOOMSDAY BASH this year on Saturday, June 16th, with **Glasgow Kiss** turning in three fantastic sets with plenty of audience requests incorporated. Great food and great service, as always, from the staff at the new **Finn McCool's** at Providence Square Shopping Center. Many thanks to everyone who came out, and extra thanks to **Jim Hagerty** for bringing the Dublin and Galway flags in honor of James & Nora Joyce. If you left early, you missed a special treat: **Geoffrey Saur** played us some tunes on the great Highland bagpipes. Geoff leaves next month for Scotland; he'll be piping in the Edinburgh Tattoo this summer!

July is shaping up to be busy and exciting as well. Please be aware of the following; more info about the 2 IAS events in this issue.

- * NO IAS MEETING for July due to the holiday. Happy Independence Day!
- * IAS & Friends Irish Breakfast at Murphy's 11am – 1pm on Sunday, July 8th
- * IAS Group Jersey Sale Order & Payment Deadline – Sunday, July 8th
- * IAS & Friends All Day Sail – Friday, July 13th
- * COVA GAA Coastal Virginia Cup hurling & camogie tournament – Saturday, July 21, from 9 am on at the Captain Slade Cutter Athletic Park on Naval Station Norfolk

Slan an drasda!

Lynnette



IRISH & IRISH-AMERICAN TRIVIA



Submitted by Maureen Cahill

Welcome to the newest monthly newsletter feature:
Irish and Irish-American trivia.
Each month, you will be asked to test your knowledge at three levels: easy, middling, and most difficult.
The answers will be provided on page 6 with web links for you to learn more. *Sláinte!*

July 2018 = Trivia Questions

- * 1. What is the largest city in Ireland?
- * 2. How many counties does Ireland have?
- * 3. What does Dublin mean?

Our Jr. VP **Maureen Cahill** is a big trivia fan! In addition to providing this new monthly Irish trivia feature for our newsletter, she is also interested in organizing an IAS Trivia Team for trivia nights at a local pub. If you are interested in participating, let her know!



TREASURER'S REPORT

Submitted by Katie McCrory

Month Ended - 30 June 2018

Month Ended - 31 May 2018	
Opening Balance	\$3,460.91
Add Revenue:	
Finnegan's Wake	979.79
Newsletter Ads	50.00
Total Revenue	\$1,029.79
Less Expenses:	
May Rent	50.00
Total Expenses	(\$ 50.00)
Ending Balance 31 May 2018	<u>\$4,440.70</u>

Opening Balance	\$4,440.70
Add Revenue:	
2018 Dues	25.00
Jersey Sales*	350.00
Total Revenue	\$ 375.00
Less Expenses:	
June Rent	50.00
Float Repairs	42.38
Printing (Order Forms)	43.78
Jersey Ad Banner	41.19
Square Fees	3.45
PayPal Fees	4.65
Total Expenses	(\$ 185.45)
Ending Balance 30 June 2018	<u>\$4,630.25</u>

Group jersey order will be placed and expensed in July 2018

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SOCIETY SHOUT-OUT



Please feel free to submit news about yourself and/or other current or former IAS members, with or without pictures!

SOCIETY SHOUT OUT!

WELL DONE to, Eadlyn Crouch, who worked after school with Girls on the Run (GOTR) for three months. Our 2018 Jr. Princess, daughter of Lynette & Tom Crouch, then ran her first 5K (3.1 miles) race on May 21, 2018. Eadlyn also raised over \$100 to earn her own green satin Girls on the Run 'cape' to wear whilst running the race. This money will help provide much needed scholarship assistance to girls who may need help with the GOTR sign-up costs. It will also help to keep the cost of the 12 week fitness training and confidence building program to a minimum for all. Way to go, Eadlyn!

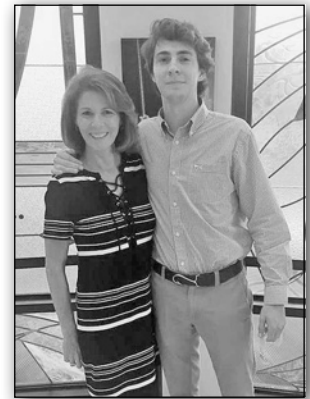


FELICITATIONS to Lindsey Johnson, elementary school teacher and daughter of our dearly departed former VP John "JJ" Johnson. Lindsey and her long-time boyfriend, Christian Harris, got engaged at the end of May! All the very best to this sweet young couple. JJ must be smiling down from heaven.

CONGRATULATIONS to Jillian Barry, IAS Teen Princess 2014 and eldest granddaughter of Mary Ann and Joe Brady, on her graduation this June from Green Run High School! She's been working on her dispatcher training as a precursor to possibly going into law enforcement. She is also considering the military and/or college. See the beautiful prom picture of Jilly with her USMC boyfriend, Jake Chism!



CONGRATULATIONS to Patrick Fien, son of IAS Adult Princess 1998 Mary Fien, on his graduation this month from Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School! Patrick heads off to James Madison University in the fall. He is leaning towards doing an International Business degree at this point. Go, Dukes!



CONGRATULATIONS also to Olivia Brash, daughter of Dr. Edward Brash, who will be attending the University of Calgary as a science major this fall! Liv has worked as a vet tech the past few years and is going to university to pursue a degree that lets her advance in the field working with animals. Liv also donated TWENTY-FOUR INCHES of her beautiful hair to the Angel Hair for Kids Program earlier this year. <3

HUZZAH! to Connie Austin Smith, who also retired in June after working as a Dietitian for 40 years! She was in her last position as Nutritionist Supervisor Senior in the Chesapeake Health Department for 27 years and spent 33 years total with the Virginia state government – wow. (Pictured: Eileen King Walker, Cheryl Brown, Jackie Trudell & Connie Smith)



WELL DONE to Vera Friel Dotson, one of our beloved "Donegal Girls", who retired at the end of the school year from Mathews High School after 25 years there as a teacher assistant. Imagine all the students she has helped over the years! Enjoy your retirement, Vera. Now you have more time to come to IAS events!





IN THE
DAY
2, 2018



Caroline Morse & Katie McCrory

Many thanks to Katie for organizing the Clean the Bay Day - the IAS was well-represented at First Landing State Park! Great to have long-time, new, and returning members all involved! Special shout out to our Irish American park ranger Erin Mc and to Clans MacGregor, Morse, and Nealon who all had multiple participants.



The Chesapeake Bay



Lynnette & Debra



Park Ranger Erin Mc



Scott MacGregor's twins Darcie MacGregor-Schauf & Jamie



Clan Nealon doing their part!



IAS GARDEN
PARTY
JUNE 7, 2018



Joe & MaryAnn Brady



Lynnette
Fitch Brash,
Sandy Archer
& Debra
Taylor-Kelly



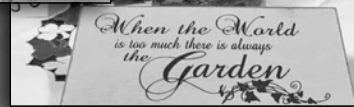
Lynette, Eilidh, and Eadlyn Crouch



Katie McCrory &
Caroline Morse



Mary Ryan &
Margaret Buckley



Debra Taylor-
Kelly & Katie
McCrory



Kieran, Shannon, & Breana Ryan
and Terence O'Reilly



Joe Brady winner of Best
Dressed Male with Lynnette



Pam & Jim
Hagerty &
AnneMarie
Donahue



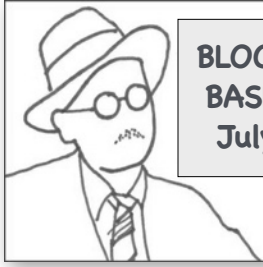
Dawn Fitch
Carragino, Jennifer
O'Connell & guest



Barbara Spradlin and her daughter



Pam Hagerty & AnneMarie Donahue



BLOOMSDAY BASH 2018 July 16th

BASH this year with **Glasgow Kiss** turning in three fantastic sets with plenty of audience great food and great service, as always, from the staff at **Finn McCool's**. Many thanks to and extra thanks to **Jim Hagerty** for bringing the Dublin and Galway flags in honor of you left early, you missed a special treat: **Geoffrey Saur** played us some tunes on the pipes. Geoff leaves next month for Scotland; he'll be piping in the Edinburgh Tattoo this summer!



Lynnette Fitch Brash & Edward Brash



Lynette & Tom Crouch



John & Donna McGlynn



Jim & Pam Hagerty



Michael & Amy Hagerty



Margaret Buckley,
Mary & John Ryan



Rex B Fitch Jr. & Lynnette Winemiller Fitch



Geoff Saur

July 2018 Trivia Answers

1. www.google.com/search?q=largest+city+in+ireland+by+population&rlz=IC1GCEB_enUS762US762&coq=largest+city+in+ireland&ags=chrome.7015.6197117&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8
2. 32 www.wesleyjohnston.com/users/ireland/geography/counties.html
3. Black Pool www.inyourpocket.com/dublin/dublin-A-Short-History_70271f



IAS & FRIENDS FIRST-EVER ALL DAY SAIL!

AHOY, water lovers! **Edward Brash** has been organizing a special new activity for us – our first-ever IAS & Friends All Day Sail! We will sail/motor from East Beach (Norfolk) to Ft. Monroe (Hampton) & back!

Date and Time: Friday, July 13, 2018 / 9:30am – 6:00pm

Departure and Return Location: Bay Point Marina or Cobb's Marina (both are in East Beach, Norfolk, VA, near Little Creek Naval Base); participants will be informed by Edward no later than the evening before our sail of the specific marina and slip location.

Itinerary and Sail Plan:

- A maximum of 8 participants can come; no sailing experience required!
- Reserve your spot by giving Edward the \$10 cash fee (to cover fuel & docking); your spot isn't confirmed until you have paid
- The \$10 fee is nonrefundable UNLESS the sail is cancelled by us due to bad weather
- Edward & Kevin (our two captains) will monitor the weather closely; if we need to cancel because of inclement weather, Edward will notify you
- Our group will be divided between two 35-40' sloops; we will sail part of the way and motor the rest
- Meet (at the appropriate marina) at 9:30am; we'll leave the dock at 10:00am sharp.
- We'll sail to **Old Point Comfort Marina** in Hampton, VA, arriving at approximately 1pm.
- We will then enjoy a relaxing lunch at **The Deadrise Fish House**, which is located right at the marina. Their delicious menu is available online; we will post pix of it in the Facebook invite for this event. **Each person/couple will be responsible for paying for their own meal at The Deadrise.**

- Anyone who would rather pack their own picnic lunch and eat outside is welcome to do so, but please let us know ASAP if you are going to do that as we need to make an accurate reservation with The Deadrise.
- We plan to leave Old Point Comfort Marina at around 3pm; we should arrive back at East Beach by 6pm.



Logistics:

- Life jackets are available on both boats.
- Both boats are equipped with a restroom; hygiene products **CANNOT** be flushed in these, but trash bags will be available.
- Each boat has a small fridge to keep beverages cold as necessary.
- Participants are encouraged in particular to bring along a supply of bottled water for themselves for both legs of the trip, as well as any snacks they might wish to have along with them.
- Both boats are outfitted with a "bimini" overhead to provide shade for passengers in the cockpit.
- Participants are strongly encouraged to bring along appropriate sun block; light will reflect off the water even if you are in the shade.
- Please dress appropriately for the weather; it is likely to be HOT.
- It is important the participants wear appropriate footwear – specifically, **shoes with white or light-colored soles are required to avoid scuff marks on the deck.**

Sound like fun to you? Have questions/need more information? Either way, contact Edward at 757-753-2831 or brash99@gmail.com!

BARTENDER'S CHOICE



Submitted by **Lynnette Fitch Brash**



Here is the recipe for the cocktail we served at the IAS Garden Party event: the **Pimm's Cup**! In real life, this is served at the actual **Chelsea Flower Show** depicted in the Irish **DARE TO BE WILD** film we showed. It is a refreshing summer drink meant to be served in a highball glass over ice.

There are many variations to the basic recipe so feel free to make substitutions. The only mandatory ingredients are the Pimm's No. 1 (carried in the ABC store in Providence Square), a mixer, and the cucumber and some fruit slices. They are perfect for parties, because you can mix them up ahead of time in big batches, and you can have a whole tray of glasses prepared with the ice, cucumber, fruit, and herb garnishes ready to go. People also get a nice fruit salad snack when they are done with the drink! This cocktail is fairly low ABV (alcohol by volume), so sometimes people also add a shot of gin, tequila, or a botanical liqueur like St.-Germaine.

- ❖ 1 part Pimm's No. 1
- ❖ 2 or 3 parts Sprite/Ginger Ale/Ginger Beer/7 Up/prosecco
- ❖ Cucumber slices (at least one per drink)
- ❖ Strawberries, hulled & quartered (at least one strawberry per drink)
- ❖ Oranges, sliced and then quartered (at least one per drink)
- ❖ Lemons, sliced and halved (one per drink)
- ❖ Apples, cored & cut into wedges and halved (one or two per drink)
- ❖ Grapes, seedless (a couple per drink)
- ❖ Fresh mint leaves (one sprig or several leaves per drink)
- ❖ Fresh lemon thyme and rosemary are also good herbs to add to the mix

Add all the ingredients to a glass or pitcher. Stir. Serve over ice in a tall glass with a straw.



Special shout out to our imported bartender, Terence O'Reilly, from Co. Meath! Terence is a star! He rescued the Pimm's Cups from a dispenser malfunction at our Irish Garden Party — thank you, thank you, thank you!!!

NO JULY IAS MEETING

due to the holiday.

Happy Independence Day!



IAS & FRIENDS FIRST-EVER ALL DAY SAIL!

Date and Time:

Friday, July 13, 2018

9:30am – 6:00pm

Departure and Return Location:

Bay Point Marina or Cobb's Marina (both are in East Beach, Norfolk, VA, near Little Creek Naval Base)

We sail to **Old Point Comfort Marina** in Hampton, VA

(see page 7 for details)



IAS & FRIENDS IRISH BREAKFAST AT MURPHY'S PUB

Sunday, July 8th 11am – 1pm

Also, last chance to get IAS jersey orders & payment in!!!



Join the IAS for breakfast, brunch, lunch, whatever at **Murphy's Grand Irish Pub** at the Virginia Beach Oceanfront! All are welcome whether you are current IAS members or not. Friends and family are very welcome as well!

Please RSVP to the invite on the **IAS Facebook** page so we can give Murphy's an accurate head count.

We will have the side dining area on the far side of the fireplace reserved, and we will be ordering off the menu. Don't forget about the great deal (\$2) on Murphy's 32 oz. MONSTER MIMOSAS!!! They are a delicious way to beat the heat! Afterward, walk your meal off on the beach or boardwalk just one block away.

ALSO, this will be your last chance to place an order for our gorgeous new IAS jerseys!!! July 8th is the deadline; we will be placing the order AFTER the Irish Breakfast is over. We will have order forms with us at Murphy's and can take your payment in person by cash, check, money order, or credit card. See you there!

