



The Irish Connection

Irish American Society of Tidewater News

May 2018

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
THURSDAY:
MAY 3, 2018
The meeting will take place at Church of the Ascension - in the front part of the building..

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,

With elections for the new IAS Board coming up in just a few days (**Thursday, May 3rd**), I would like to take this space and opportunity to *thank each and every one of you for your support, enthusiasm, ideas, and hard work.* Serving as IAS President for these past two years has been a true honor, and I am very grateful and humbled by the trust you all gave me. We have accomplished many things over the past two years, but there are so many ideas and goals that we are still working towards as an organization. Although I have chosen to run for treasurer instead of president for this next term, I am very optimistic that the IAS's next president will accomplish great things AND make sure we have a lot of fun along the way!

Before we look forward, though, I would like to say "Thank you!!!" to my fellow board members, especially those who will not be seeking another term: **Kate Sandoval, Cheryl Brown, and Caroline Morse.** These three have been my pillars over the past two years, and I am so grateful for your commitment and service. **Debra Taylor-Kelly**, you have infused fresh enthusiasm into the IAS, and I'm excited to see what you accomplish in the future.

I would also like to take my last letter to thank/applaud/worship our one and only **Lori Shea.** Lori exemplifies service and professionalism. Despite the constant and overwhelming work of newsletter editor, Lori infuses her fresh ideas, historical knowledge of the society and meticulous editing skills to turn out a beautiful IAS newsletter every month. She is a joy to be around and work with. Thank you, Lori!

Looking back to the future... **Elections for the board members who will serve from May 2018 – May 2020 will be held at our NEXT monthly business meeting on Thursday, May 3rd, 2018.** Please remember that the May meeting and elections will take place in the front lobby of Church of the Ascension due to a scheduling conflict.

IAS ELECTIONS
May 3rd, 2018

You must have your 2018 dues paid in order to nominate, run as a candidate, and/or vote. You must be present at the May meeting to vote or to be a candidate.

I would like to thank **Jim Hagerty** for agreeing to run the Elections Committee!

I am pleased to announce the slate that will be voted on at the May meeting:

President - **Lynnette Fitch Brash**
Senior VP - **Debra Taylor-Kelly**
Junior VP - **Maureen Cahill**
Recording Secretary - **Mary Ann Brady**
Financial Secretary - **Michael Lawler**
Treasurer - **Katie Morse McCrory**

I think the IAS has a bright and fun future ahead!!! Please try to attend the meeting on Thursday, May 3rd as we will need a quorum to hold the elections.

Thank you all again for a memorable two years!



Sláinte,

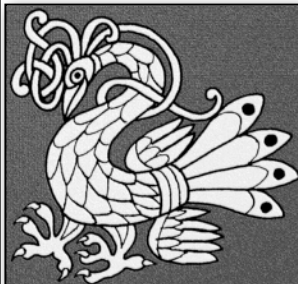
Katie McCrory



Katie & Colin dancing at Finnegan's Wake

The Irish American Society of Tidewater

P.O. Box 9614
Virginia Beach, VA
23450



OFFICERS

President

Katie McCrory

Sr. Vice President

Debra Taylor-Kelly

Jr. Vice President

Caroline Morse

Treasurer

Kate Sandoval

Recording Secretary

Cheryl Mulliken Brown

Financial Secretary

Past President

Joseph Brady

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!

THE PARTING GLASS



Condolences to our IAS Adult Princess 2007 **Erin Morrissey**; her grandmother, **Arlene Morrissey**; and the rest of their family on the loss in April of her beloved grandfather. **Richard "Bud" Paul Morrissey** was born in Lebanon, Pennsylvania, on November 12, 1924. He passed the day of our April meeting, which is why Erin was not there. Erin's grandparents had been married for an amazing 75 years. That is quite a legacy of love.

Condolences to **Kat Aschenbrenner Rickerson** and the rest of her family on the recent loss of her stepbrother, **Jared Campbell**. As a USN veteran, Jared was laid to rest in Cape Canaveral National Cemetery, Florida. The family requests that memorial donations be made to **Volunteers of America**, a charitable organization that helped Jared. www.voa.org/donate

*Oh all the time that e'er I spent,
I spent it in good company;
And any harm that e'er I've done,
I trust it was to none but me;*

*May those I've loved through all the years
Have memories now they'll e'er recall;
So fill me to the parting glass,
Goodnight, and joy be with you all.*

*Oh all the comrades that e'er I had,
Are sorry for my going away;
And all the loved ones that e'er I had
Would wish me one more day to stay.*

*But since it falls unto my lot
That I should leave and you should not,
I'll gently rise and I'll softly call
Goodnight, and joy be with you all.*

*Of all good times that e'er we shared,
I leave to you fond memory;
And for all the friendship that e'er we had
I ask you to remember me;
And when you sit and stories tell,
I'll be with you and help recall;
So fill to me the parting glass,
God bless, and joy be with you all.*

MEETING MINUTES - APRIL 2018

Start time: 7:05pm

*New Members: Laura Lazar,

*Upcoming Events:

Virginia International Tattoo& hullabaloo.

April 26-29th.

May meeting is Election time, May 3rd

Clean the Bay Day, June 2nd

Tartan Day, MacArthur Memorial, April 14th.

*Financial Report: April-5-2018

Balance: \$3361.47

Expenses:

Rent- 50.00

IAS Hats- 245.14

Sweatshirts- 336.00

Stamps- 50.00

Newsletter

March&April)- 187.27

Expense total=868.41

Income:

St.Baldric-70.00

Dues- 315.00

Sweatshirts- 120.00

Hats- 50.0

50/50- 32.00

Income total=587.00

Ending balance=3080.16

*OLD BUSINESS:: Paddy Wagon & Irish Cottage floats- Joe Brady has found a home for both! im Hagerty- I want to give thanks to Lori for making the poster of Jim Ramsey.

*NEW BUSINESS - May meeting will be held in the front lobby in the coffee area.

Election Board - Jim Hagerty

•Thanks to all who brought delicious dishes/ desserts, etc.

Submitted by: Cheryl M. Brown

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The Brady Family gets ready



Lynnette Fitch Brash & Joe Brady at full tilt



Lynnette Fitch Brash and Katie Morse

Michael Boyd takes the Cottage



Jack Kennedy & Ed Ramsey

John & Mary Ryan



Kathy Ramsey & Jim Hagerty



Lynnette Fitch Brash, Maureen Cahill & Erin Morrissey

Debra Taylor-Kelly & Teaghan Brown



Scott MacGregor peeks in the Cottage!





IAS ELECTIONS

THURSDAY, MAY 3, 2018

Attention IAS Members:

At our monthly meeting on Thursday, May 3rd, the IAS will be voting on those who will lead us through the next two years.

The election is crucial to the Society's future and all members are asked to attend the meeting.

The Society cannot continue as it is now without the support and active participation of the members.

The duties of each position can be seen in our official IAS By-Laws which are posted on our website www.IRLUSA.org (click on About Us) and in our Facebook group (click on Files).

You must have your 2018 dues paid AND be present at the May meeting in order to nominate, run as a candidate, and/or vote. You must be present at the May meeting to vote.

The list of candidates:

Lynnette Fitch Brash	for President
Maureen Cahill	for Second Vice President (AKA Junior Vice President)
Mary Ann Brady	for Secretary
Michael Lawler	for Financial Secretary
Katie Morse McCrory	for Treasurer

The following incumbent has agreed to run for reelection:

Debra Taylor Kelly	for Vice President (AKA Senior Vice President)
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If you wish to nominate someone to run for office, please contact **Jim Hagerty** at jimbohagerty@gmail.com

IAS ELECTIONS

THURSDAY, MAY 3, 2018

Meet the Candidates



Mary Ann Brady

was brought to our area courtesy of the US Navy, from which both she and her hubby Joseph, our Immediate Past President, are veterans. They BOTH looked like

movie stars in their uniforms! Mary Ann is a retired nurse and full-time mom, grandma, and year-round Christmas decoration fanatic! Her holiday decorations are almost as legendary as her amazing baked goods and old world hospitality. She is a repeat winner of both IAS cook offs and IAS decorating contests. Mary Ann (and her entire family, for that matter) really embody service to the IAS. They show up early to set up, they stay late to clean up, they pitch in whenever ANYTHING is needed. The entire clan especially enjoys coming out every year for the Ocean View St. Patrick's Day Parade, and they often supply trucks to pull the IAS floats, convertibles for the IAS princesses, and drivers for both! In addition to raising a warm, beautiful, and loving family, Mary Ann now is also mommy to Holly the collie, an extra special present Santa brought her in 2016. When she heard the IAS really needed someone to run for Secretary, she stepped up and volunteered. Mary Ann will make a fantastic board member, and we are so lucky to have her!

Michael Lawler

was born and raised on Long Island. As an adult, he relocated to this area and, like his mother, Lori Shea, joined the IAS! Michael is a talented photographer, graphic artist, computer doctor, carpenter, and draftsman, and he has put all these talents to the use of the IAS and its members. As just one example, he built the beautiful flag holders for the IAS to display our collection of 32 Irish county flags at events. Michael has been the IAS Webmaster, designing, maintaining and updating our website (www.IRLUSA.org). He has done the work of a board member for over a decade, coming to board meetings, helping prepare the newsletters each month for mailing, etc. Michael helps out each year repairing and preparing our two IAS floats for the St. Patrick's Day Parade. He also updates some of the spreadsheet files in the IAS Dropbox account to keep things like our membership/ mailing list current. Normally, Michael likes to pitch in behind the scenes but stay out of the spotlight. Luckily for the IAS, Michael accepted the nomination to run for IAS Financial Secretary, and he will make a great financial team for the IAS working with Katie!



Katie McCrory is originally from Arnold, MD but moved to Virginia Beach when she was 10 years old. She graduated from First Colonial High School, received her Bachelors in Accounting from Old Dominion University, and earned an Executive MBA from the Naval Postgraduate School. She is also a licensed CPA. Katie currently works as a Financial Improvement and Audit Readiness accountant for the U.S. Navy.

Katie has always felt a strong connection with her Irish-American roots. She has traveled to Ireland twice: once with her family in 2006 and once as a wedding trip with her husband, Matt, in 2013. She danced with the Rhythm of Ireland while in high school and later performed at Busch Gardens Williamsburg as a strolling musician/ dancer in Ireland (2001, 2003) and in the Irish Thunder show (2002). It was at Busch Gardens that she expanded her song repertoire and learned to play the bodhrán. Although she does not perform much anymore, Katie won't usually say "no" to singing a song or two and has already passed on her love of Irish music to her one year old son, Colin.

Katie joined the Irish American Society of Tidewater in 2004. She had the honor to serve as Rose of Tralee Princess in 2005 & 2006, which involved competing in the Washington, D.C. Rose of Tralee competition, and Adult Princess in 2008. Although Katie lived in the D.C. area from 2009-2015, the IAS never left her heart, and she came back for as many events as she could. In late 2015, Katie volunteered to serve as interim Financial Secretary for a few months. She was later elected President of the IAS in May 2016. She has had a wonderful, rewarding experience serving as president but is grateful to now run for a board position that utilizes her professional skills and better fits her life as a busy working mom.

Katie's favorite thing to do is spend time with the loves of her life, Matt and Colin, and with her incredible family (including her sister, 2018 IAS Princess Caroline Morse).



IAS ELECTIONS

THURSDAY, MAY 3, 2018

Meet the Candidates



Maureen Cahill was born and raised in Newfoundland, Canada ("Ireland's 33rd county") and is an English professor at TCC. She also is the Chair of the Virginia Beach Faculty

Senate. Her son, Jeremiah, is a Navy Civil Engineer, and he currently lives with his wife, Elizabeth, in Okinawa, Japan. Maureen's baby girl is a two-year-old German Short-Haired Pointer (GSP) named Ceili, who is a member of the IAS Paddy Pack and marched in the Ocean View parade with the IAS this year. Years ago, Maureen took Irish dance lessons with Heather Mailley-Esposito and Lisa Hunt Burgess at An Cor Rud (ACR) and is currently dancing with Crossroads Ceili; she performed with them at the recent Finnegan's Wake. Meagan (Oglethorpe) Garibay, Maureen's niece, was the 2008 IAS Teen Princess and a championship Irish step dancer with ACR. Maureen was the IAS Adult Princess in 2009. A lifetime knitter, Maureen taught an Aran Style "Knit In" lesson for the IAS November 2014 meeting program. Maureen lives in Kempsville and is eager to promote Irish culture in the Tidewater area, and she will work to increase IAS membership.

Lynnette Fitch Brash is a career educator with 26 years in the classroom who currently is on the full-time faculty of TCC teaching English and Humanities courses. Lynnette and her husband Edward live in Kempsville with their two whippets Glasnevin ("Nev") and Dalriada ("RiRi"), founding members of the IAS Paddy Pack. Lynnette comes from a tightknit USN family, all of whom live in the area, although her extended family is up north. Her in-laws and both of her stepdaughters live in Canada, where Edward is from.

Lynnette has been an active and continuous IAS member for over 20 years now. Upholding our IAS traditions, continuing our IAS ethos of service, and honoring our IAS mission of promoting Irish culture are all very important to her. Former IAS President Tom Porter selected her as IAS Adult Princess 2000, after she had returned to Virginia Beach from going to graduate school at University College Dublin in Ireland. Her Master's degree is in Anglo-Irish Literature & Drama with honours. Lynnette served on the IAS board as a Vice President for ten years, first as Jr. VP and then as Sr. VP. In 2011, she took over as IAS President when Mike Bromley stepped down, and she then successfully ran for election as President in 2012 and 2014. Lynnette stepped down from this office in December 2015 when she and Edward had the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to move to Glasgow, Scotland, for the better part of a year while Edward taught at the University of Glasgow for a semester. Before departing the country, Lynnette made sure that she left the IAS in good hands with a full board, that our IAS 35th anniversary celebrations were done and dusted, and that all IAS parade banners and other paraphernalia were turned over to the remaining officers. Lynnette has been drawn to her Irish heritage since childhood, perhaps beginning with the knowledge that her father is a Notre Dame Fighting Irish alumnus! Lynnette used to be a

competitive Irish step dancer, competing at numerous feisanna both as a solo dancer and as part of team figures in Heather Mailley-Esposito's An Cor Rud (The Reel Thing) School of Irish Dance. She also did quite a few dance outs and performances for ACR, the largest being performing as an Irish step dancer in Heather's choreography for the 2003 Virginia International Tattoo at the Norfolk Scope. Lynnette has sponsored Celtic Dance Clubs at several public schools, and she has called ceili dances at wedding receptions, parties, and festivals. Currently, Lynnette dances with Crossroads Ceili.

Though no longer involved with it, Edward and Lynnette were both original members of the Hampton Roads Hurling Club and worked tirelessly for years to grow and promote that group and get hurling off the ground, so to speak, in this area. Lynnette and Edward founded the first camogie club in the state, nurturing it as it grew in size and talent. Lynnette named it Cumann na mBan, devised the CnamB hurley logo and dogwood crest, and designed the distinctive teal and black CnamB jerseys. Edward and Lynnette also co-chaired the first Coastal Virginia Cup for Hurling & Camogie here in Virginia Beach. They strongly support the ideals of Irish GAA culture. Given the chance to lead the IAS again, Lynnette would be honored to do so. She already has a whole calendar of monthly programs for our meetings, social events, and fundraisers drafted and ready to roll out. Another big focus for her will be membership recruitment (or renewal) and retention. Finally, she wants to lead a big push for sponsorship now that we have 501(c)3 status (thanks to Katie!) with an eye toward a big 40th anniversary celebration for the IAS in 2020.



Debra Taylor-Kelly was born and raised in Chicago's northside. She is one of nine children, and her family shared a beautiful old limestone home with their beloved Irish grandparents from County Mayo. Debra was able to visit the "auld sod" previously, and dreams of going back again one day. Debra worked in retail management for 35 years in Chicago, Dallas,

Colorado Springs, and Santa Fe. As a successful entrepreneur, she opened a boutique named Modiste in 1990 in Colorado Springs. She later opened another boutique, this one named POEMA, in 2004 in Santa Fe. In Ghent, she had two small gift shops named The Thorny Seahorse.

This is where she met the late, great John "JJ" Johnson, who subsequently introduced her to the IAS the fall of 2015. Debra quickly became an enthusiastic and involved member of the IAS, and President Katie McCrory tapped her to fill the Sr. Vice President vacancy on the IAS board the fall of 2017. Debra has enjoyed serving the IAS and is happy to run as an incumbent for the office of Sr. Vice President. Of especial interest to her is increasing our membership, and she has some great ideas for how to do this, as seen by her recent very successful membership drive at Grace O'Malley's. Debra's marketing and sales skills also will be enormously useful in lining up sponsors for the IAS now that we are a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization.

FAMILY TREE TALES



THE CLINCH CLAN SAGA IN THREE PARTS

Submitted by Tamara Cervi Williams

Part II - Taking Mom home . . .

The last two trips to Ireland that Mom and I made were more difficult for her, due to her health. She mentioned, more than once, that if anything happened to her while we were there, she wanted to stay there, in other words, be cremated there.

I knew she was serious because she had looked on the internet for the only crematorium Ireland had, they now have three. She had written down the address and phone number. Mom didn't mess around with what she wanted.

Mom and I never discussed burying her in Ireland if she were to pass away in the U.S. But, we knew, no matter what, it is what she would have wanted if she thought it would have been possible.

My cousin, **Helen Clinch**, took care of things with the local Catholic Church in Bracklin for me. I called the Irish Consulate here in Orlando to check with them on burying Mom in Ireland. We checked with Aer Lingus as well. Never have I had such a positive experience with everyone we encountered regarding the process!

We planned to take Mom home in November since my cousin **John Clinch** was getting married to his sweetheart, **Devita**. It was a perfect month for her burial. In Ireland, November is the month of Souls. The children learn about death, purgatory, life after death, etc. in school. It's a normal part of their curriculum. My wee little cousins, **Ryan** (10) and **Dylan** (8), became quite emotional about my mom and her funeral mass, but in a good way. They knew they would see my mom again and she was not in pain anymore. If only we could all have such a bright outlook.



Rob & Tamara, Michael & Auntie Kathleen

The day was sunny and crisp. My family from Enniskillen, in Northern Ireland, came down to Cavan for Mom's mass as well. The Priest was so impressed with the turn out because we filled up half of the small Church with family! Of course, he invited us all back the next week.

Once mass was over, we all headed to Moybologue Cemetery. It is an Ancient Church and burial ground in the Parish of Tierworker, south of Bailieborough, Co. Cavan.

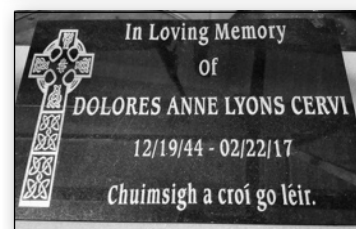
Here is a small video clip if you'd like to see it: www.youtube.com/watch?v=3NOeXPqKO6E. Many of the gravestones date back to pre-famine Ireland.

Helen Clinch ordered a lovely gravestone for my Mom.

Michael Clinch brought a shovel, **John Clinch** dug a small grave, and then Michael lowered her cremains in the fertile Irish soil. A prayer was said, Holy Water sprinkled, and the last goodbyes uttered. The family gathered at the local for a Sunday Roast. After a fattening lunch of 3 types of spuds, meat, 2 veg, and a pint or two, we went to walk it all off at the Faery Forest. Mom loved a cute faery!

Some of mom's ashes were held out for us to take to County Clare. My mom's dad's side were all from Cratloe, Bally Morris, County Clare.

Mom loved that little Church in Cratloe and so that is where we spread her ashes. Our family, right now, dates to 1795 at that Church. The same one Dolores Riordan, of the Cranberries, was married in.



The Faery Forest

(Part III next month)

(for Part I see the March 2018 News)

IRISH DANCE UPDATE



Congratulations to the **WALKER ACADEMY OF IRISH DANCE**! Formerly known as **An Cor Rud (The Reel Thing) School of Irish Dance** when owned and run by **Heather Mailey-Esposito**, TCRG, the **WALKER ACADEMY** (now owned and run by **J. R. Walker**, TCRG) had an impressive debut this spring! In addition to performing for us at Finnegan's Wake, they did a variety of fundraisers around town to send their championship dancers to Glasgow to compete in the All-Ireland (World) Championships where they were rewarded with excellent results! Congratulations to **Madison Wasko** who earned 9th place in the All-Ireland Championships!!! WOW! And a special shout out to all their 2018 World Qualifiers: **Ella, Juliauna, Corinne, Maria, and Madi!**



Academie de Ballet Dancers

Congratulations to **Maggie Wilcox**, our 2008 IAS Teen Princess, who did an outstanding job training her Irish dancers at the **Academie de Ballet**, based in Chesapeake.



Maggie Wilcox & dancers at OV Parade

Congratulations to **CROSSROADS CEILI** who had their first dance out at this year's Finnegan's Wake. They put together a co-ed 8-hand (The Morris Reel) to perform for us. In addition, they led some ceili dancing for all interested people during the second **Glasgow Kiss** set. No experience was required, and everyone had a ton of fun!



Crossroads Ceili



Maggie has instilled a love of Irish dance in these youngsters that shows in the smiles on their faces. They had a series of performances around town, AND they marched in the Ocean View St. Patrick's Day Parade with Maggie as well. Well done to you and your dancers, Maggie!

CU CORNER



Submitted by Lynnette Fitch Brash

Irish wolfhound **Gaibhin Tumwa** wishes all his new IAS "peeps" a Happy Spring! Gaibhin and his mom **Angela** marched in the **IAS Paddy Pack** for the first time this year and had a blast! Many thanks to her for permission to use the image.



Hear all the latest about our Hibernian hounds!
Feel free to submit news and/or pictures relating to Irish breed or Irish-owned dogs!

FRESH EIRE



Submitted by Lynnette Fitch Brash

Lots of exciting IRISH stuff coming up this spring and summer, folks!

1. First of all, a **BELTAINE CONCERT** on Tuesday, May 1, 7:30 pm at the Attucks Theater in Norfolk! Performing will be **Jordi Savall & Hespèrion XXI with Carlos Núñez**; tickets are \$25 plus applicable fees. Those names may sound Spanish, but this concert will be all Celtic music. The piper is from the Iberian peninsula, which is a VERY Celtic region. From their press release:

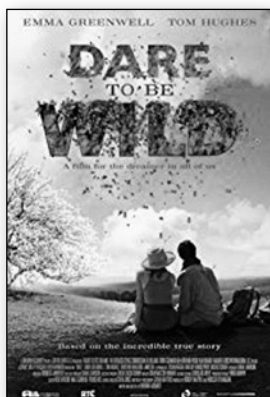
// Playing period instruments, these phenomenal artists explore Celtic music across countries and centuries, from Ireland and Scotland to France and Spain. Discover music curated by artists whose passion for ancient musical traditions inspires unforgettable performances.//

Visit this link for more information! www.sevenvenues.com/events/detail/jordi-savall-hesperion-xxi?camefrom=EMCL_2206316_94359700



2. Secondly, we have a fun **GARDEN PARTY** themed program planned for our **June IAS Meeting on Thursday, June 7th!** We will be showing a fantastic Irish film, **DARE TO BE WILD** (2015), which tells the true story of an Irish woman (Mary Reynolds) who achieves the unlikely dream of winning a gold medal at the ultra posh and stuffy Chelsea Flower Show in England! Best of all, she does it in a thoroughly Celtic style exuding with love of nature. This will make a nice follow up activity to our Save the Bay environmental efforts at Seashore State Park, organized by **Katie Morse McCrory**, on the previous Saturday! You can see the trailer for the *Dare to Be Wild* film at its IMDb page; many thanks to **Debra Taylor-Kelly** for getting this beautiful movie on my radar!

www.imdb.com/title/tt2989350/?ref_=ttmi_tt



To make this film showing at the June Meeting extra fun, we will be creating our own green space inside for the evening, so please consider entering your own self-made flower arrangement (which, of course, you will take home with you afterward) for a contest. Also, we are encouraging everyone to dress for a **GARDEN PARTY!** Think croquet, Downton Abbey, country club, even *The Great Gatsby*! Summer dresses, long skirts, white or cream trousers, linen or seersucker suits, anything floral, pastel polos/golf shirts and khakis, etc. We would also like to have a buffet of tea party/garden party style yummys, so please bring something thematic to share if you can: crustless sandwich quarters, scones, sliced tea breads (including Irish soda bread, of course!), etc. We will provide lemonade (nonalcoholic) and a cocktail (some alcohol). We will be giving prizes for the following five categories:

- ❖ Prettiest Amateur Arrangement of Real Flowers
- ❖ Best Female Garden Party Outfit
- ❖ Prettiest Millinery (Ladies' hats & fascinators)
- ❖ Best Male Garden Party Outfit
- ❖ Yummiest Homemade Finger Food



3. Finally, the time those of us in the Kempsville area have been waiting for has arrived: the **Finn McCool's in Providence Square Shopping Center** is open for business!!! Thanks to **Maureen Cahill** for helping us get the jump on the fact that they are actually open now; somehow that happened during the week without us noticing, even though we have been watching! When you go in to support them, PLEASE make sure to mention you are with the Irish American Society of Tidewater. It is important for them to know we support them so that they will support us!

I already have met with the regional manager and have a follow up appointment with the general manager. We are arranging a special **IAS & FRIENDS BLOOMSDAY BASH** there for the evening of **Saturday, June 16th**, so please save that date and plan to get there no later than 7 pm for dinner. More details as they are confirmed . . .