



The Irish Connection

Irish American Society of Tidewater News October 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:
OCTOBER 4, 2018**

Meetings are held the first Thursday of the 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

Dear Fellow Irish American Society members,

I don't know about you, but I am more than ready for the cooler fall temps to begin! We've got some fun stuff lined up for the fall season, so we hope you will join us whenever you can!



**IAS HARVEST HOOLEY –
Thursday, October 4th, 7-9 pm, Ascension**

I hope you are excited to learn that our Thursday, October 4th meeting will be our fifth IAS HARVEST HOOLEY!!! Apologies in advance to those with any nut allergies; I am sorry, but you probably should skip this meeting if you honestly do have an allergic reaction to nuts.

We will have a brief business meeting, and then **Edward Brash** and **Maureen Cahill** will present on Beers, Ales, and Ciders made from NUTS! At previous Harvest Hooleys we did pumpkin beer, wheat beer, honey mead, and hard apple cider, so we had to be creative to come up with a new topic of "study". Believe it or not, there are plenty of adult beverages out there with some type of nut as an ingredient/flavor – walnuts, pecans, hazel nuts, etc. **We will have a Sampling Table of nut beers/nut ales/nut ciders, but you must contribute one of these beverages in order to partake! If everyone brings a bottle or two of something, there will be plenty to go around.**

We will also have our usual coordinating BAKE OFF to accompany this topic; first, second, and third place prizes will be awarded for the most delicious homemade desserts incorporating at least one kind of ground or tree NUT or NUT SPREAD in the recipe. Do not put your name on your entry, but please do label what it is when you place it on the table for judging. The first place winner's recipe will run in our next newsletter!

For the kids, we will have an arts & crafts table to create a gallery of autumn squirrel drawings. Prizes here for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place as well.

CENTRAL VIRGINIA CELTIC FESTIVAL & HIGHLAND GAMES – Sat. Oct. 27th & Sun. Oct. 28th, 9 am – 6 pm, Richmond Raceway Complex

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: the **Central Virginia Celtic Festival and Highland Games** will take place this year *rain or shine* on Saturday, October 27th and Sunday, October 28th at the **Richmond Raceway Complex!** The gates will be open from 9 am to 6 pm on both days.

The IAS will most definitely have a table/tent space there again this October right next to our friends the **Richmond Irish American Society**, so look for it at the top of Clan Row and plan to make it your "homebase" for a fun weekend at the Games! You should be able to spot us easily this year thanks to the big, bold GORGEOUS vertical banner **Joe Brady** had made by a contact of his for the IAS!

Last year, we had a great time and had a lot of visitors, some of whom ended up following the IAS on Facebook after talking with us. This year, we will be able to add interested folks directly to our group email list, take membership dues by credit card, and also sell IAS gear. If you want to help your IAS board with a recruitment drive at the Games, we would love it!

We plan to march in the Parade of Clans, so make sure to show your Irish pride, preferably in IAS gear. If the weather is warm, wear your IAS jerseys. If the weather is cool, wear your IAS sweatshirts. Check the weather forecast in advance because you never know what you might get at that time of year. Don't forget your wellies and a rain coat, just in case!

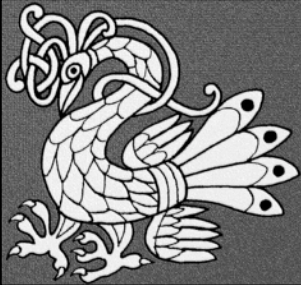
Great Celtic bands, great Celtic beer, and great Celtic shopping will all be on site. This festival welcomes friendly dogs, so you can bring your fur babies; they check for rabies tags and charge

Continued on page 2 -



The Irish American Society of Tidewater

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Virginia Beach, VA
23450



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Lynnette Fitch Brash

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Volunteers Needed

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IRLUSA.org

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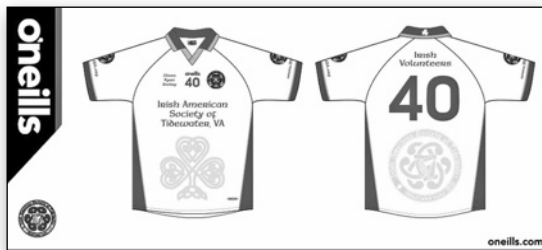
Continued from page 1 -

a small donation. Tickets are always available at the gate, but they are cheaper in advance. Visit the CVCF&HG website for more information on location, tickets, performers, activities, vendors, accommodations, dance & music competitions, athletics, etc. <http://vacelticfestival.com/>

SAMHAIN SILENT AUCTION & COSTUME PARTY - Thursday, November 1st, 7-9 pm, Ascension

Don't forget that our November 1st meeting is going to be both a SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER for the IAS and a COSTUME PARTY in honor of Samhain. In the ancient Celtic calendar, Samhain was the New Year and seen as the time when the divide between our world and the supernatural "other world" was at its thinnest. Thus both friendly ancestors and evil spirits might come to call. Many of our modern Halloween customs go back to Celtic Samhain practices.

Start getting together any nice items you would



like to contribute to the Silent Auction, and also start planning your costumes!!! Prizes will be

awarded in several costume categories. More info on that next newsletter!

"FIGHTING IRISH" VETERAN'S APPRECIATION PUB CRAWL - Saturday, November 10th, 5 pm start time at Murphy's

And Florence may have delayed our pub crawl, but it is going to be EVEN BETTER now as a "FIGHTING IRISH" VETERAN'S APPRECIATION PUB CRAWL on Saturday, November 10th! We will have special swag for all US military veterans & active duty who participate, and we will be visiting 3 veteran-owned microbreweries on the crawl! **Tom Crouch** will be piping us in and out of all the venues, and several of your favorite local Celtic singers (including our own **Katie McCrory** & **Edward Brash!**) will be leading a sing along on the bus. As we go to press, only 11 seats on the Party Bus remain. Order NOW by PayPal to make sure you don't get left behind! See the color insert in this newsletter for more information.

Please don't forget the IAS white jersey sale is ongoing; if we have 18 jersey orders by mid-October, we can place the order to get them in time for the November 10th Pub Crawl!!! There will be jersey order forms at our October meeting. If you can't make it, see the IAS Facebook page for the picture & order form, or send a message to IAS.Tidewater@gmail.com.

Slán go fóill! ('Bye for now!)

Lynnette



IRISH & IRISH-AMERICAN TRIVIA



Submitted by Maureen Cahill

Test your knowledge at three levels:
easy, middling, and most difficult.

October 2018 = Trivia Questions

- ♣ What are the ingredients in traditional colcannon?
- ♣ What was the Celtic Tiger?
- ♣ Arthur Conway was born October 2, 1875. What was he famous for?

Answers on page 6

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FAMILY TREE TALES



SEARCHING MY IRISH ROOTS

Submitted by Jim Hagerty

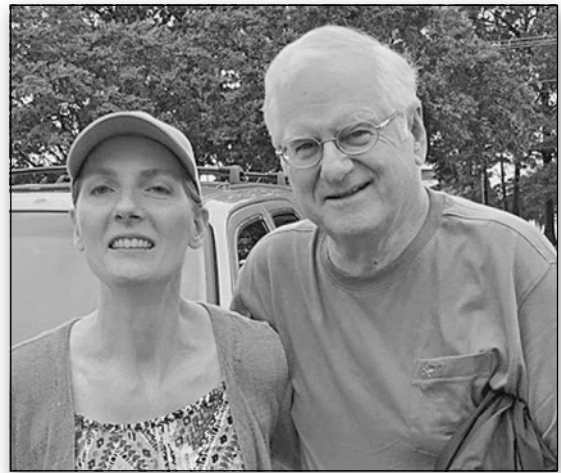
One of the appeals of a DNA test is a large pool of people who have taken the test. There's at least a chance one will find matches and possibly be able to make contact and explore family connections.

My top match turned out to be a 1st cousin. Now that's really something to be matched to a 1st cousin that you've never heard of before! What an experience it has been for both of us to explore how and why we didn't know about each other until now.

It turns out she was adopted as a baby. Due to a change in her home state's law, she was able to obtain her birth certificate details showing bio mother and father. Both have passed away, but a child of that marriage is still alive. On contacting the child, she learned that the marriage of the bio mom and dad had dissolved, and that her mom was in a relationship with one of my uncles. Bingo, the DNA connection with me is explained.

My DNA test has also led to other matches. For one, it connected me to a 1st Cousin, once removed, on my maternal side. My mom's family tree had previously been such a mystery.

Another appeal of the DNA test shows where your ancestors probably lived. Percentages are used to show the degree to which your DNA matches up to people who lived in various regions. For example, at 45% it appears I have a strong match with people who lived in County Donegal. That reinforces the accuracy of my family tree as both of my paternal great, great-grandparents are from Donegal.



These percentages are estimates so I can't really say I'm 45% Irish. Actually, the range of probability for me is 29% - 55%. So it appears I'm half-Irish, plus or minus. It's not exact as each of us inherit DNA from both parents, and they in turn from their parents, and so on. And, most important, we only get a random sampling of their DNA. Not all of it. Siblings, for example, usually each get a different sampling so that one may acquire a larger or smaller amount of the Irish DNA of their ancestors. So, yes, it might appear that one sibling is more or less Irish than the other.

It would be interesting to make comparisons with others. For example, my newly found 1st cousin is 95% linked to the same area of Co. Donegal. The implications of that are fascinating to me, that almost all of her ancestors lived in Ireland. And I recently learned that our own Catherine Twomey is 97% linked to Ireland. She says her parents were from the midlands of Ireland (Tullamore, Co. Offaly) and likely most folks in that area didn't stray far from home. Her maiden name (Levings) is not well known outside that area but Catherine says it's very common on the headstones where her parents are buried (Birr, Co. Offaly).



Shown here with me holding the County Donegal flag are my newly-found cousin Jessica and her sons, Jared and Jadon. Jessica, her husband and two of her sons visited me here in Virginia Beach on July 29-30. Jessica and I share the same paternal great, great-grandparents, George and Catherine (Gallagher) Hagerty, who immigrated from County Donegal in 1846.



HALF-WAY TO ST. PATRICK'S DAY MURPHY'S PUB SEPTEMBER 22, 2018

Some big appreciation for all of the following who contributed to making it a GREAT party:

- ♥ Thanks to **Tom & Anne Mooney** for hosting!
- ♥ Thanks to **Chip Holland & Lindsay Thibault** for organizing!
- ♥ Thanks to **Edward Brash & Tom Crouch** for putting up the IAS tent!
- ♥ Thanks to **Joe & Mary Ann Brady** for getting us the gorgeous new IAS vertical banner and rigging a stand for it!
- ♥ Thanks to **Debra Taylor-Kelly** for helping to set up the IAS table!
- ♥ Thanks to **Katie & Matt McCrory** for getting the payment system in place for new members to join!
- ♥ Thanks to all three of the bands (**Glasgow Kiss, Poehemia, & the Fighting Jamesons**) for the excellent music!
- ♥ Thanks to the **Walker Academy** for the Irish step dancing performances!
- ♥ Thanks to **Debra Taylor-Kelly, Meagan Garibay (and Marcella!), Lynette Eadlyn & Eilidh Crouch, Patti Opera & family, Dawn Fitch Carragino, Donna Looney-McGlynn, Joe & Mary Ann Brady, Lori Shea**, and anybody else who helped out with recruitment at the IAS tent! We sold some pub tickets, took some IAS jersey orders, signed up people for the IAS group email list, and also had multiple new members join! GREAT IDEA, Debra, to have a membership drive at this event!
- ♥ Thanks to everyone who helped break down and pack up the IAS tent & table at the end of the evening!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



Joe & Mary Ann Brady & the new IAS banner



Eadlyn & Eilidh Crouch



Lynette Fitch Brash, Lynette & Eadlyn Crouch



Joe Brady with his new friend Marcella Garibay



Patti Opera, Donna Looney & Debra Taylor-Kelly



Marcella & Meagan Garibay



Lynette Fitch Brash & Matt McCrory

photos by Lynette Fitch Brash, Patti Opera & Debra Taylor-Kelly

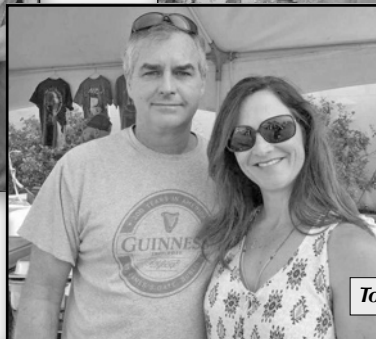


Edward Brash, Donna
& John McGlynn

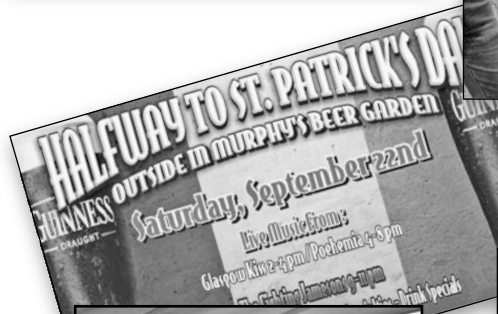
Suzette Ware, Patti Opera & Tom Crouch



Dawn Fitch Carragino
& John McGlynn



Tom & Ann Mooney



Lynette Crouch & Patti Opera



Lynette Crouch, Suzette Ware, Patti Opera,
Debra & Lynette



Lori Shea, Joe & Mary Ann Brady



Suzette & Shayne Ware.



Olivia Opera & Eilidh Crouch



Irish Step Dancers from
the Walker Academy

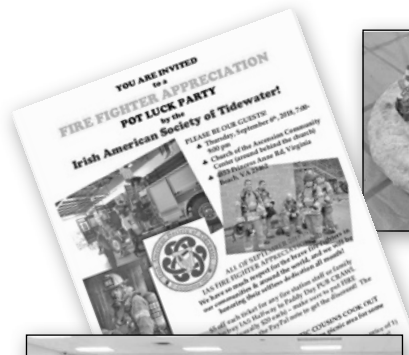




IAS FIRE FIGHTER APPRECIATION PARTY & PROGRAM SEPTEMBER MEETING

The FIRE FIGHTER APPRECIATION video that **Katie Morse McCrory** produced was OUTSTANDING!!! Thank you, Katie, for your hard work on this. We are going to make a few minor tweaks to it, and then we will post it on our Facebook group page and on our website. The membership response was so positive that we are also going to circulate it to a wider audience. Thanks also to **Cheryl Ann Brown** for getting the buffet all set up for us and to **Edward Brash** and **John Ryan** for setting up most of the tables and chairs. Thanks to all who helped clean up. The two DESSERT BAKE OFF: FIRE FIGHTER THANK YOU winners were the homemade apple pie w/ fire fighter action figure decorations created by **Debra Taylor-Kelly** and the Guinness chocolate cake w/ Bailey's cream cheese icing and Hot Tamale and Red Hot decoration created by yours truly. YUM!!! Notice the prizes were all fire engine red!

I was very honored to be presented with a gorgeous antique Irish history book by **Ray Marion**, a former IAS board member. Thank you, Ray. I will treasure it.



*Ray Marion presented
Lynnette with an antique
Irish history book*

*Eilidh, Eadlyn, Tom & Lynette Crouch,
Caroline Morse, Scott MacGregor*



*Katie McCrory, Jack Kennedy, Johanna Gross,
Faye Stewart & John Ryan
Cecelia Thomas, Mary Ryan & Margaret*

*Cheryl Brown, Jack Kennedy,
Cecelia Thomas & Edward Brash*



*Cheryl Brown, Debra Taylor-Kelly, Peggy Anthony
Lynnette & Dawn Fitch Carragino*



October 2018 Irish Answers

1. Mash'd potatoes, with kale or cabbage and spring onions.
2. Celtic Tiger is a term for the Irish economy in the 1980s through the 1990s. It moved Ireland from one of the poorest European countries to one of the richest. www.mtholyoke.edu/~falve22/classweb/recession/Celtic_Tiger.html
3. President of University College Dublin. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthur_W._Conway

THE PARTING GLASS



Deepest sympathies to **Heather Hanchett Burns** and the rest of her family on the loss in late August of her beloved father, **Frank Hanchett**. Heather is a founding member of our **IAS Paddy Pack**, an officer in the **Irish Wolfhound Association of the Mid South**, and the awesome presenter of a February 2011 program for the IAS on "Irish Brooches of the Celtic Revival". Heather comes by her love of nature and animals from her father, a lifelong conservationist. Frank was also a US Army veteran of the Korean War, and an educator who served as a teacher, guidance counselor, and administrator during his career. Most important in his life, though, were his Irish bride **Joan**, his four children, his grandchildren, and his great-grandchildren (some of whom he is reading to in the attached picture). Frank passed

after a massive stroke, surrounded by loved ones. Heather's husband, the **Rev. Mark Burns**, presided over his memorial service at the same New Hampshire church where Heather's mother was eulogized 11 years ago. Frank's obituary is at this link. www.legacy.com/obituaries/ledgertranscript/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=190202224



*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.*



HURLING HAPPENINGS



US GAA NORTH AMERICAN 2018 FINALS

Congratulations to all the US GAA North American 2018 Finals Winners! Two are from our immediate area, one is from Northern Virginia, and a couple are neighbors in the southeast. "Just wanted to thank the Irish society for the support you have given Coastal Virginia GAA over the years. COVA hurling is the Junior C North American Champions, and COVA Camogie is the North American Junior Camogie Champions. Thank you all!"

-Heather Warren



Sheila & Riley Smith at the 2018 USGAA Nationals



Junior Camogie National Cup 2018

North American GAA Finals 2018

CODE	LEVEL	CLUB
Mens Gaelic Football	Senior	Donegal-St. Patrick's
Mens Gaelic Football	Intermediate	Austin Celtic Cowboys
Mens Gaelic Football	Junior A	Servants San Diego
Mens Gaelic Football	Junior B	Donegal-St. Patrick's
Mens Gaelic Football	Junior C - Gr. 1	OC Wild Geese
Mens Gaelic Football	Junior C - Gr. 2	Atlanta Clan na nGael
Mens Gaelic Football	Junior D	Michael Collins
Hurling	Senior	Tipperary Boston
Hurling	Intermediate	Vancouver J.P. Ryans
Hurling	Junior A	St. Peter's - San Diego
Hurling	Junior B	Altaville
Hurling	Junior C	Coastal Virginia GAA
Ladies Gaelic Football	Senior	St. Bridget's
Ladies Gaelic Football	Intermediate	St. Miles, Toronto
Ladies Gaelic Football	Junior	Charlotte James Connolly's
Camogie	Senior	Cu Chulainn San Francisco
Camogie	Intermediate	Toronto
Camogie	Junior	Coastal Virginia GAA
Guinness Crossbar Challenge	Hurling/Camogie	Damen O'Donovan (Tipperary Boston)
Guinness Crossbar Challenge	Gaelic football	Bonner Conley (DC Gaels)



COVA supporters at 2018 USGAA Nationals

photos by Sheila Hetherington-Smith & her husband Kevin

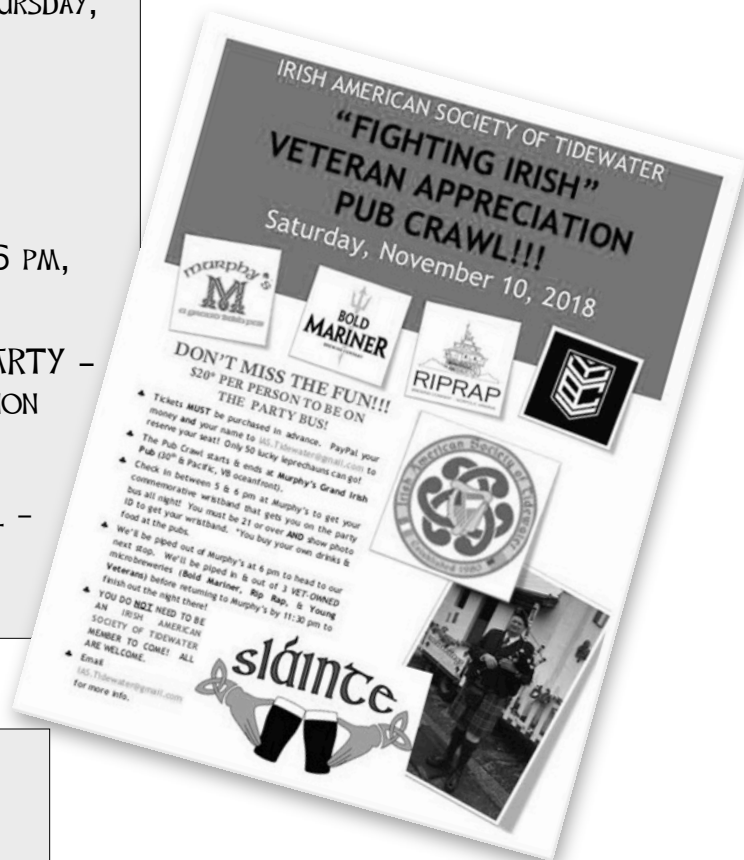


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CENTRAL VIRGINIA CELTIC FESTIVAL
& HIGHLAND GAMES -
SAT. OCT. 27TH & SUN. OCT. 28TH, 9 AM - 6 PM,
RICHMOND RACEWAY COMPLEX

SAMHAIN SILENT AUCTION & COSTUME PARTY -
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST, 7-9 PM, ASCENSION

"FIGHTING IRISH"
VETERAN'S APPRECIATION PUB CRAWL -
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH
5 PM START TIME AT MURPHY'S



Happy 10th
Anniversary to
Glasgow Kiss

Our favorite band has been making
music together since October 2008



Glasgow Kiss
Tom Crouch, Edward Brash
& John McGlynn

HALF-WAY TO
ST. PATRICK'S DAY
MURPHY'S PUB
SEPTEMBER 22,
2018

