



The Irish Connection

Irish American Society of Tidewater News

May 2019

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:
MAY 2, 2019**

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,

Thanks to all who came out for our April meeting! We had a FANTASTIC program on "The Wee Folk" and St. Baldrick's by **Scott Macgregor**, we donated a total of \$331 (\$206 in donations + \$125 matching by IAS) to St. Baldrick's, the last Celtic scarf in our consignment fundraiser was bought (*although 3 people who spoke for scarves still need to settle up ASAP with the IAS...*), and we kicked off our cash bar fundraiser!



Thanks so much to Scott for the program and for the 2 Jameson bottles to raffle, to **Edward Brash** for doing the AV and bringing the cooler of beers on ice, to **Katie Morse McCrory & Michael J. Lawler** for receipting all the individual donations and cutting the check for our group donation, to **Tracy Lynn Fearon** for a great Irish dance update, to **Joseph Brady** for working his raffle magic for the cause, and to **Lynette Gilmour Crouch** for setting up a BEAUTIFUL Easter-themed hospitality table for us with some of her rescued heirloom camellias. Congrats to **Samantha Heaslett Wood** who won one of the bottles of Jameson, to ??? who won the other bottle of Jameson, and to **Jack Kennedy** who won the *Four Faeries* mead from **Haley's Honey Meadery, LLC** in Hopewell, Virginia! Enjoy!!!



**IAS MEETING – THURSDAY, May 2nd
APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS:
ANCIENT CELTIC AGRICULTURAL
TRADITIONS OF BELTAINE**
Program by **Kathryn Peterson Lambert**, certified
Tidewater Master Naturalist
Mother's Day Vendor **Allison Millard w/ Origami
Owl** custom "living lockets"

Kathryn Peterson Lambert will be bringing some live herb & native plants from her own collection to give away to us! She says, "To elaborate further - this will be a discussion on Beltain, Beltainne, Beltaine, Bealtaine, or Beltan traditions brought over to the USA, and the agricultural traditions that were also kept in the USA." Many thanks to Kathryn for preparing this program for us. It promises to be fascinating!

Dandelion Facts:

Dandelions are NOT weeds, but are from the same family as sunflowers.

1 cup of dandelion greens = 535% of your daily recommended vitamin K and 112% of vitamin A.

A Dandelion Seed can travel up to 5 miles before it lands.

Every part of the dandelion is edible.

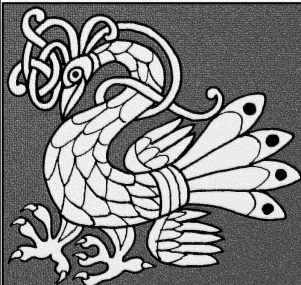
Up until the 1800's, dandelions were seen as extremely beneficial. People would remove grass to plant dandelions.



And if that's not enough, we ALSO will have **Allison Millard** joining us to help you out with your Mother's Day gift shopping!!! Allison was supposed to be one of our Christmas Market vendors in December but had to cancel due to illness. Don't miss her display of super cool customizable "living lockets" by **Origami Owl**! You can pick out a locket, matching chain, and some meaningful charms to display inside the clear locket for all to see. They make all kinds of charms and sparkly bits to put in there -- even Harry Potter-themed ones! If you want to get an Irish-themed one going, they have a CLADDAGH charm, a 4-leaf clover charm, "emerald" and "peridot" heart charms, and a fern green crystals pack! This would make a VERY thoughtful present for your favorite mom or grandmother. These are great conversation pieces, and you can buy her additional charms and

The Irish American Society of Tidewater

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accessories for other holidays and events. Allison accepts cash and credit cards for orders.

<http://uniquelocketsbyallison.origamiowl.com/>

Doors will open at 6:30 pm for anyone who wants to help set up; the actual meeting will begin at 7:00 pm. ALL ARE WELCOME - you don't have to already be a member to attend!

If you want to bring a treat to share, please do! These refreshments will be available in the coffee area, and we will also be selling the leftover beer and hard cider from FW as a fundraiser. Bring cash -- suggested donation is \$3 for one beverage / \$5 for two.

To help you plan your summer schedule, here's the IAS meeting/program info for the next few months.

- ◆ Thurs. June 6th IAS Meeting – FEMALE SPIES OF THE IRISH REVOLUTIONS program by historian and author **Kate Murphy-Schaefer** – Kate is coming down from RVA to present on a specialty area of hers for us! Let's make sure we have a great turn out!
- ◆ Thurs. July 4th – NO IAS MEETING due to INDEPENDENCE DAY!!!
- ◆ Thurs. August 1st -- IAS "DRINKING AT LUGHNASADH" Meet Up – in lieu of regular meeting -- location TBD
- ◆ Thurs. September 5th IAS Meeting – SELKIE SEPTEMBER program – As our area enjoys the final weeks of summer, we will be doing a variety of activities at our September meeting in honor of these Irish mermaids! More info in a later newsletter!

Finally, a repeat reminder: PLEASE don't forget to pay your 2019 IAS membership dues!!! We are a volunteer organization. The annual dues go 100% to support the IAS mission to promote and preserve Irish culture in our area. Even if you can't attend any events or meetings, YOUR ANNUAL DUES HELP SUPPORT THE IAS MISSION. You may pay your dues to our Financial Secretary **Michael Lawler** by cash or check along with your membership form at the May meeting if you haven't already. If you would rather pay by credit or debit card, see our Treasurer **Katie McCrory** at the May meeting. You may also pay by PayPal to **IAS.Tidewater@gmail.com**; please make sure to include a note on the PayPal payment with your name, email, postal address, and 2019 dues so we know to add you to the 2019 membership rolls.

Go raibh maith agaibh! Slán go fóill!

Thank you! 'Bye for now!!

Lynnette Fitch Brash



IRISH & IRISH-AMERICAN TRIVIA



Submitted by **Maureen Cahill**

Each month, you will be asked to test your knowledge at three levels: easy, middling, and most difficult..

MAY 2019 Trivia Questions

- ♣ Which Irish-born soldier defeated Napoleon at Waterloo?
- ♣ "Sunday, Bloody Sunday" was a hit for which band?
- ♣ What did "Sunday, Bloody Sunday" commemorate?

*Answers on page 7
with web links for you to learn more. Sláinte!*

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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!

Submitted by Lynnette Fitch Brash

CONGRATULATIONS are in order for Clan Bromley; **Joe Bromley**, son of IAS Past President **Mike Bromley** and former IAS Secretary **Mary Ann Bromley**, received word this month that he made USN Captain! His entire family must be so proud of him, and deservedly so.



Special props to his wife, **Lisa Suhr Bromley** -- as the saying goes, "USN Wife -- it's the toughest job in the Navy!" They are the ones who have to hold down the fort with the kids, pets, house work, yard work, bills, emergencies, extended family, and EVERYTHING ELSE while the spouse is deployed for months on end.

WELL DONE, LASS! Iris

Dotson, our IAS Teen Princess 2015, completed all course work early for her high school graduation in January. She will walk with her high school classmates this June. In the accompanying picture, she is relaxing with mom **Heather**, brother **Gabriel**, and grandmother **Vera Dotson**, one of our beloved Donegal Sisters.



LIKE A BOSS! Maggie Wilcox, our IAS Teen Princess 2008, recently took her Clinical Nutrition Support Certified board exam (CNSC) over in Europe. She aced it, natch, so you may now refer to her as Margaret Wilcox, RD, LD, CNSC!

SO SWEET! This adorable picture of **Moirra & Tim O'Neill** shows them getting ready to attend a father-daughter dance over in Belgium, where Tim is currently stationed. Moirra was our IAS Little Miss Princess in 2010, and Tim is a former IAS board member and one of our founding IAS Irish American Honor Guard members. We miss all of Clan O'Neill, but we are happy they are doing so well and enjoying their European adventures.



MUG SHOT! Many of you will recall the excellent "19 CRIMES: A MUSICAL HISTORY OF THE IRISH IN AUSTRALIA" program **Edward Brash** gave for the IAS back in January 2019. The inspiration for that program was an Australian wine brand called 19 Crimes that has different wines named after real-life Irish prisoners who had been transported to the Australian penal colony by the English, usually for either petty crimes or as political prisoners. Edward expanded his program for us into a 5-part series he presented for the **Lifelong Learning Society** in Newport News this semester. **Karen and Paul Adamo** (pictured) from the LLS had the **HILARIOUS** idea to superimpose Edward's face on one of these bottles and rename it 20 Crimes -- too funny!!! We'll continue our exploration of Irish prisoners with them this summer when they come with us on a tour of Dublin and environs. We'll steer clear of the gardaí!



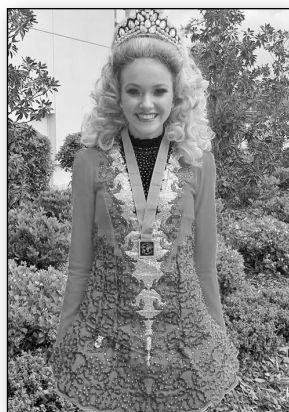
OUR 2019 IAS PRINCESSES

Adult Princess ♣ **Dr. Catriona Roy Dunphy**
 Teen Princess ♣ **Miss Kelly Ann Fearon Gould**
 Junior Princess ♣ **Miss Eilidh Crouch**
 Little Miss Princess ♣ **Miss Juliette Dunphy**

Adult Princess ♣ **Dr. Catriona "Cat" Jane Hadley Roy Dunphy**
 Catriona was born and raised in Elgin in the highlands of Scotland, where she grew up riding horses, ceilidh dancing, playing accordion, and playing rugby. She is a small animal veterinarian educated at the **University of Edinburgh**, Scotland. Though Scottish by birth, she has branches of her family tree from Ireland, and she is also "IBM" (Irish by marriage), being wed to Irish American **Bradley Dunphy**, a former radcon technician in the **US Navy**. After university, Catriona came to America when she was single and decided to settle in the Tidewater area to be near longtime family friend **Laurie Macpherson**, current **SST President**, who had done her midwifery degree in Scotland. Once Cat and Brad met, destiny called; it was only a matter of time before they got married in a castle in North Carolina! In December of 2016, Catriona was very proud to become a US citizen. Cat and Brad have two beautiful children, son **Ruaridh** and daughter **Juliette**, our 2019 Little Miss Princess! Cat's interests include participating in various types of dance, cooking and baking paleo recipes, traveling, visiting wineries, working out, and running 5Ks and other races with Brad.



Teen Princess ♣ **Miss Kelly Ann Fearon Gould**



Kelly's middle name is *Fearon* (her mother's maiden name). The Fearons were clustered mainly in the Northwest of Ireland (Drumullagh, County Louth) and Southeast Northern Ireland (Rostrevor, County Down). From Ireland, their ancestors emigrated to Canada, then to Maine and New Hampshire. Kelly's parents are **Tracy Fearon** and **Craig Leap**, and she has two "bonus sisters", **Audrey** and **Olivia**. Born in San Diego, CA, Kelly is a 2018 graduate of **Kempsville High School** in Virginia Beach and the **Governor's School for the Arts** in Norfolk, where she was a modern dance major. Kelly has

also studied Irish dance for 11 years with the **Walker Academy of Irish Dance** (formerly **An Cor Rud**). She is an Open Champion dancer and is currently 19th in North America and 5th in the southern region in her age group. Now that she has competed in the World Irish Dance Championships this April, she is also top 38 in the world in that group! She also competed at the All-Ireland

Championships in Killarney in 2018, placing well in her first overseas competition. Kelly currently attends TCC, where she is majoring in Health Science and on the President's Honor Roll (straight As). She plans to transfer to a four-year university after graduating from TCC.

Junior Princess ♣ **Miss Eilidh Grace Crouch**

Eilidh is a dedicated honor roll student at her elementary school. A voracious reader, Eilidh puts a lot of effort into her work for school. You may have noticed that she is also a great helper at IAS meetings and events. Eilidh trains after school with **Girls On The Run** and is in gymnastics classes. Her sensitive nature and willingness to help others has led to her aspiration of becoming a gymnastics coach for special needs children. However, she also has dreams of becoming a marine biologist, as she is fascinated with sea life and their anatomy. At her school, Eilidh is part of a team of student ambassadors who welcome new students and give tours of the school. She is also on the board of the school's recycling club. Her entire family is very active in the IAS and currently do the lovely hospitality table arrangements at our monthly meetings. Eilidh's father, **Tom Crouch**, is the official **IAS Bagpiper**, an original member of the **IAS Irish American Honor Guard**, a member of Celtic trio **Glasgow Kiss**, and the founder of the **Newport News Police Pipes & Drums**. Her mom, **Lynette Gilmour Crouch**, is the **IAS Adult Princess 2004**, a former **IAS board member**, and the proprietress of **Gilmour Grrrrl Goods**. Eilidh's older sister **Eadlyn** is our **IAS Junior Princess 2018**.



Little Miss Princess ♣ **Miss Juliette Lucy Sophia Dunphy**

Wee Juliette Dunphy has the heart of a lion wrapped up in the form of a sylph! She is fearless, mischievous, adorable, and extremely clever. She has Irish roots on both sides of her family; her father **Brad Dunphy's** people are from Kilkenny; some of her mother **Catriona Roy Dunphy's** people emigrated from Ireland to Scotland. Young Juliette is certain to grow into a beautiful, bright, feisty Irish American lass – just the way we like them! We absolutely love having her and her big brother **Ruaridh Dunphy** out at IAS events, like the annual Celtic Cousins Cook Out and Finnegan's Wake, with their parents. Their parents, by the way, were "immortalized" by **Glasgow Kiss** several years ago in the original tune "When Dunphy Fought the Billy Goat", a semi-fictional, semi-true story **Edward Brash** wrote about a raucous Hogmanay Party at **John McGlynn's** house in Portsmouth!

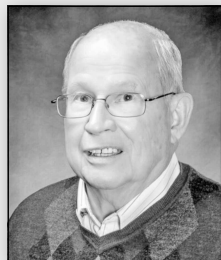


THE PARTING GLASS



*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.*

Father Jim Parke, aka "Padre", a great friend of the IAS, left this earth on Easter Monday. He was taken off life support that morning, at his own request, and passed several hours later at 1 pm. Father Jim would have turned 80 this May. His **Mass of the Resurrection** will be at Ascension on Thursday, May 2nd at 11 am. His obituary and wake/visitation details are not available as this goes to print, but we will post them on the IAS Facebook page as they are made. Condolences to his family and MANY friends.

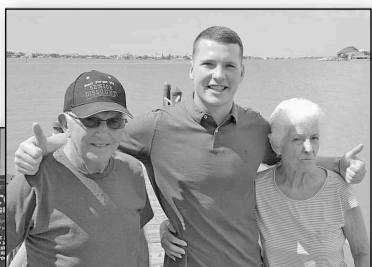


We actually had an article planned for this newsletter about the JUBILEE CELEBRATION earlier this year for Father Jim; it was in honor of the 53rd anniversary of his ordination, and quite a few IAS members were there. **Ray Marion**, former IAS Treasurer, spoke there, as did many members of Ascension and even the Virginia Beach Mayor! There was also a live Celtic music performance. The **Bromleys**, the **Benhams** (picture attached), and many other families connected to the IAS in some way attended.

Whether he officiated a wedding and/or a funeral and/or a christening and/or a confirmation for your family, blessed your new home, and/or helped you deal with the loss of a loved one, MANY of our IAS members knew and love Jim Parke. In addition to being a wonderful priest and friend, he also was (up until this year when he became too ill) Director at the **Virginia Beach Office of Volunteer Resources**, former Chair of the local **Human Rights Commission**, a youth pastor, a grief counselor, an Eagle Scout, and an advocate for peace and interfaith cooperation and inclusivity. He helped so many in our larger community and truly made the world a better place with his presence. Geoffrey Chaucer's description of the Parson in its entirety from "The General Prologue" of *The Canterbury Tales* applies perfectly to Jim Parke, but I'll close with just one line of it that sums up how many of us feel about him: "I think there never was a better priest." RIP, Father Jim. ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥



Donna, Paul, Nicole Cannon



The local Celtic Community suffered a loss in late March when one of its grand dames passed at the age of 85.

Anne Roberts Murphy Korff was tiny in stature but had a huge personality. She led a long and colorful life, during which she married and survived three beloved husbands, served in the US Navy, led frequent tours to Scotland, and sang with the Peninsula Song Birds. She was a member of both the St. Andrews Society and the Scottish Society of Tidewater. She was an original member and ardent supporter of the **Newport News Police Pipes & Drums** founded by **Tom Crouch**; her husband **Arthur Korff** was one of their beginner chanter instructors. Always impeccably dressed, Anne could be counted on to do things in style.

That remained true to the very end, when she was laid to rest in early April with full military honors, kilted pall bearers, and the entire NNPP&D in formal kit to bid farewell to their "angel in tartan", as **Lynette Crouch** referred to her.

Visit here for Anne's obituary. www.legacy.com/obituaries/pilotonline/obituary.aspx?n=anne-r-korff&pid=192049460&fhid=11383



Lynette Crouch & Anne Korff

Condolences to **Donna, Nicole, and Paul Cannon** and their entire family on the recent loss of Donna's mother, **Sally Miller Klumpp**, who passed in late March. The Cannons live in Craughwell, Co. Galway, Ireland, but Donna was originally from upstate New York, where the rest of that part of the family lives. Paul, who played hurling at the county level in Ireland, was a big part of the **Hampton Roads Hurling Club** and later **COVA GAA** winning trophies when he lived here in Tidewater. Some IAS members met his mom and twin sister when they visited Paul in Virginia, and some of us met them over in Galway. Sally leaves behind grieving family on multiple continents, including ten grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. We are sorry for their troubles. Visit here for Sally's obituary.

www.rutland-corwin.com/obituary/sally-klumpp?lud=310E6AD4C9FF56C0F8AA38B600C5D4F1&fbclid=IwAR1wvOxom5lGPGdCqpdAaoQ8Dmo7iVLfj5VwfjRHhViACdKKEW0HyefzUPE



HAIL TO THE CHIEFS! BOLD MARINER IAS MEET UP

We had a great time on Saturday, April 6th at *Bold Mariner Brewing Company*braising a pint (or several!) of their delicious new CPO IPA in honor of our two USN Chiefs (*Joe Brady & Mike Bromley*) in our *Irish American Honor Guard*! We also are delighted to announce our first official new recruit for the IAS Irish American Honor Guard, *Brad Rickerson*! It is so exciting that we'll be getting some new lads kitted out in the gorgeous Ireland's National tartan soon!!! Thanks to our IAS Honor Guard Bagpiper *Tom Crouch* for donating a dark green caubeen and some Irish patches to the cause! Lookfor an article with updated information about our Irish American HonorGuard in our next newsletter!



Lynette & Tom Crouch

*Kat Rickerson, Lori Shea Mary
Ann Brady Michael Lawler,
Joe Brady & Tom Hardie*



***HAIL TO THE CHIEFS!
BOLD MARINER IAS Meet Up***
April 6, 2019



Brad & Kat Rickerson



The Dunphy Family



April 2019 - Trivia Answers
 The Duke of Wellington: Lord Arthur Wellesley
 www.historyireland.com/volume-23/a-battle-of-giants-waterloo-wellington-and-ireland/
 U2 www.youtube.com/watch?v=EM4vbIG6BVQ
 The shooting of 28 unarmed people by British soldiers on Jan. 30, 1972 known as Bloody Sunday. Fourteen people died, 13 immediately, and one a few months later from injuries sustained on Bloody Sunday.
 www.history.com/this-day-in-history/bloody-sunday-in-northern-ireland



Memorial Day 2019

Joe Brady was selected as the "2018 Best Service Officer of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in the state of Virginia" for his work with veterans and their families. It was given by the **Daughters of the American Revolution** and presented by **Donna Crisp**, RADM, USN, ret., Regent of the Great Bridge Chapter of the DAR. The award included a **Quilt of Valor** that wrapped around him. Memorial Day is a good time to show the story behind the quilt.



QUILTS OF VALOR®

The Quilts of Valor Foundation is a national organization founded in 2003 by then "Blue Star" mom Catherine Roberts. With a son deployed in Iraq, a "Gunner" sitting atop a Humvee, she felt "only ten seconds away from panic." She had this vision of a post-deployed warrior struggling with his war demons at 2 in the morning. She saw him sitting on the side of his bed wrapped in a quilt. The quilt not only comforted him but warded off the demons. From this vision the QOVF was founded. *The mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation is to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor.* Today we honor that service, sacrifice and commitment to our Constitution and the freedoms that it provides. We are indebted and thankful to all that have taken the Enlistment Oath.



Each Quilt of Valor is formed by loving hands joining bits of fabric together one piece at a time. Whether the quilt is crafted by one or more, family, friends or someone unknown, be assured your Quilt of Valor comes from the hearts of many thankful women and men of all skill levels. Quilters often join together in sewing bees to create these quilts. As we quilt, we talk about our families and friends and how grateful we are of those who will be receiving what we call our "quilty" hug. We believe that as we sew the love, caring and gratitude flows from our hearts and through our hands into the developing quilt. Through this quilt, you have become part of our quilting family and will forever be in our hearts.

And so, on behalf of the Quilt of Valor Foundation and a grateful Nation, with our deepest appreciation, thank you for your service to our country with this Quilt of Valor Award. Most importantly, Welcome Home. . .

