



The Irish Connection

Irish American Society of Tidewater News

August 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:
AUGUST 1, 2019
AT MURPHY'S PUB**

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,

Please note: **THE AUGUST IAS MEETING WILL NOT BE AT ASCENSION!!!!!!!!!!!!!!** Instead, please join us at **Murphy's Grand Irish Pub** at the VB Oceanfront (30th & Pacific) for an IAS & Friends SOCIAL & SILENT AUCTION to raise funds for our 5 new recruits to get kitted out for the IRISH AMERICAN HONOR GUARD!!!

The Silent Auction items will be displayed on tables around the perimeter of the side room (BACKSIDE of the fireplace); people can sit in the booths, or stand, or mingle in other areas of the pub. Don't miss the fun -- maybe we will have some more hilarious "bidding wars"! We will end the Silent Auction bidding at 8:30 pm, so make sure to bring cash, check, or credit card! :)

PLEASE bring any nice AUCTION ITEMS you have to contribute for the cause to Murphy's *no later than 6:30 pm or else get them to Lynnette Fitch Brash (4702 Post Oak Drive, VB) in advance.* We hope to have a nice variety of jewelry, home decor, art, hand-crafted items, gift certificates, accessories, cds, service vouchers, recreational gear, bottles of Irish booze, thematic gift baskets, etc. IN ORDER FOR THIS TO BE A SUCCESS, OUR MEMBERS NEED TO CONTRIBUTE AUCTION ITEMS & ALSO GET PEOPLE TO COME BID!!!

Murphy's Domestic and Irish HAPPY HOUR runs until 7 pm on Thursdays - that covers domestic drafts/ bottles and Irish drafts/ select whiskeys (excludes the high end whiskeys, but includes the normal Jameson/ Bushmills/ Tullamore Dew/ etc...). Come early, come late, leave early, stay late, have dinner or have drinks or have both -- whatever works for you!

Jeremy Mangrum (aka BigForestFire) will be playing outside on the patio from 7-10 pm, but our official IAS Bagpiper, **Tom Crouch**, will be piping inside during the set breaks!

Please bring friends & family members -- the more the merrier! We need people to bid on these items to make some money for the new recruit kilts. Even if you cannot come,

PLEASE HELP US TO GET THE WORD OUT!!!



Other IAS events coming up this fall:

☘ **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! We will show the family-friendly, 94-minute, Academy Award-nominated animated film **THE SONG OF THE SEA** (2014), which was made in Ireland by the same studio that created **THE SECRET OF KELLS**. **THE SONG OF THE SEA** tells the story of Ben and his sister Saoirse and their family's connection to the selkies. We encourage everyone to dress in mermaid/merman clothing, maritime accessories, or at least ocean colors – a prize will be given for Best Thematic Costume! We hope to have a brief presentation on Celtic water creatures by our 2019 Jr. Princess **Eilidh Crouch** to kick the meeting off, and we also plan to have some of our member vendors (**Gilmour Grrrl Goods & Thorny Seahorse**) bring suitable selkie/mermaid items for purchase. Don't forget to bring cash, because we will also have some thematic raffles and our donation bar of adult beverages! For a **COOK OFF**, we encourage folks to bring **HOMEMADE** selkie-design, seafood-based, or beach-themed food items to share. You must bring a copy of your recipe in order to be considered for the First Place Prize!

☘ **Sat. September 28th - 8th annual Celtic Cousins Cook Out** in the Ascension Picnic Area w/ our friends in the **Scottish Society of Tidewater**! The societies will supply the 'burgs, 'dogs, buns, and fixin's. It is our turn this year, so **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO "MAN" THE GRILL!!!** As always, members are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Soda and water will be provided. Otherwise, BYOB. You can also bring cash for items from the "adult cooler" (suggested donation, \$3 per bottle/can or 2 for \$5). We also expect to have a raffle, children's activities, etc. Well-socialized dogs on non-retractable leashes welcome. (Set up 12-1 pm, Event 1-4 pm, Clean up 4-5 pm)

☘ **Thurs. October 3rd** – Our **2019 HARVEST HOOLEY** meeting! We are hoping to have a **VERY** special guest presenter for this!!!

☘ **Sat. October 26th & Sun. October 27th – Richmond Highland Games (& Celtic Festival)** – We hope to set up our annual **IAS Fáilte Table** here again right next to our sister organization, the Richmond Irish American Society, at the top of Clan Row! More details in later issue...

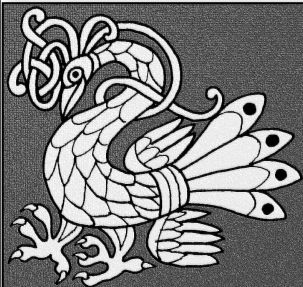
We're still holding over an Irish Abroad feature until next month with lots of pix of IAS members' travels over the summer!

Slán go fóill! (Bye for now!)

Lynnette Fitch Brash

The Irish American Society of Tidewater

P.O. Box 9614
Virginia Beach, VA
23450



OFFICERS President

Lynnette Fitch Brash

Sr. Vice President

Debra Taylor-Kelly

Jr. Vice President

Maureen Cahill

Treasurer

Katie McCrory

Recording Secretary

Mary Ann Brady

Financial Secretary

Michael Lawler

Membership

Betsy Kennedy

Phone Tree

Teresa Buckley Diaz
757-642-0099

Sergeant-at-Arms

Jim Hagerty

Hospitality

Lynette Gilmour Crouch

Youth Outreach Chair

Meagan Garibay

Newsletter

Lori Shea, editor

lorishea@aol.com

Sunshine Bulletin

email the editor

WEBMASTER

Michael Lawler

WEB SITE

IRLUSA.org

SOCIAL MEDIA

Look for us on
Facebook & Instagram

Email us at:

IAS.Tidewater@Gmail.com

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.*

We are grateful to **Lisa Hunt Burgess** for the following two beautiful posts on the IAS Facebook page to alert members to the passing of **Heather Mailey-Esposito's** mother, **Elizabeth Anne Adams Mailey**. The first was posted on Wednesday, July 3rd, and the follow up with words from Heather on Friday, July 5th. Mrs. Mailey's death notice can be viewed at this link. <https://www.funeraltimes.com/elizabethmailey718535533>

For newer IAS members who don't know, Heather used to be extremely active with the IAS, and she has taught MANY of us (both adults and wee ones) Irish dance locally during the past twenty years. Indeed, many of the local TCRGs, TMRFs, and champion Irish dancers began their Irish dance careers under Heather's tutelage.

I wanted to pass along to the IAS membership that **Heather (Mailey) Esposito's** mother, **Elizabeth Mailey**, passed away on June 30th in Derry, Northern Ireland. Heather flew to Ireland to make arrangements for her wake and funeral. I just heard that they have been holding the wake at her mother's home yesterday and today. They will celebrate her mother's life after the funeral at **Mailey's Pub**, 133 Lecky Road, on Thursday. This is the pub that was originally established by Heather's father.

Her mother had recently recovered from a fall and was doing better. However, she was very old, in her nineties. Heather wanted to ask for prayers from everyone.

As you may know, Heather had been taking care of her mother in Derry for many months out of each year for the past few years, which had forced her to retire from teaching Irish dance. Dancers from her school, ACR [*An Cor Rud, The Reel Thing*], provided entertainment at the IAS Finnegan's Wake for over a decade.

From Heather's stories, it sounds as though her mother was a high-spirited woman, who played many instruments, danced, and took care of all of the stray cats in the neighborhood!

I thought I would include Heather's home address, in case anyone wanted to send her a sympathy note or card.

Heather Esposito
2305 Bobtail Ct
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

Thank you!

Heather wanted to thank everyone in the IAS for their kind thoughts and prayers:

Thank you all for your condolences. Your kind words and prayers were of great comfort to me during this sad time.

My Mom, Elizabeth Anne Mailey, was a woman of many talents, as well as being a wonderful mother to my brother Liam and me. She was a distinguished member of the International Society of Poets and a very talented artist, producing many beautiful paintings and charcoal drawings.

Her first love was music. As a classically trained musician, with the distinct talent of being able to pick up any musical instrument and play it, she was able pass on this musical talent to numerous children in the neighborhood. Mom would never accept payment for this, as she took great joy in passing the love of music on to the next generation. Many of these budding musicians, now grown-up, shared their many stories with me when we gathered at the family home to celebrate her life.

Mom also had a great love of animals and, as a consequence, any stray cat that happened by was pretty much guaranteed a meal.

My mother was 94 when she passed away peacefully June 30th. She was laid to rest today July 4th in the presence of family and friends.

Thank you again for your thoughtfulness,

Heather Mailey Esposito

MOBILE APPLIANCE REPAIR INC.

AC/HEAT • Refrigeration • Appliances
Same or Next Day Service

757.403.6334

Certified Licensed & Insured
789 Seahawk Cir. Suite 109
Virginia Beach, VA 23452

Fax: 757.427.6385

Your Ad Here ?

Contact Lori
Shea for details



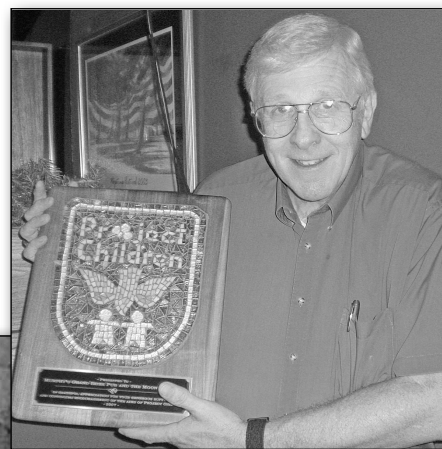
Mid-Atlantic Boat Storage

and Automotive Repair

Bubba
Owner

1732 Potters Rd. Phone (757) 425-5515 Cell: 406-0024
VA Beach, VA 23454 Mon-Fri 8am to 7pm Saturday 8am to 5pm

SOCIETY SHOUT OUT!



Former IAS President **Mike Bromley** and wife **Mary Ann** had a very special visitor this summer - **Hollie George**, the young lady they have kept in touch with through **Project Children** since Hollie was 11 years old! She came to the US this July with her boyfriend, **Ben Finley**, (both 24) and toured NYC, DC, and VB while they were over! In the picture shown, Mary Ann and the Brom took Hollie and Ben to lunch at **Murphy's**! What a wonderful visit, and what a wonderful connection they started through Project Children!



Many thanks to all of our members who participated in **OOH RAH DAY 2019** at **Capt. Slade Cutter Park** in Norfolk at the end of June. Our own **Tracy Fearon** did a fantastic job organizing this entire event for the families of local Marine Corps members. A big thank you to her for inviting us to take part; this was a great recruiting opportunity for the IAS. Thank you to **Tim Foley** and **Joe Brady** for setting up the IAS Fáilte Tent bright and early, and special thanks to Tim for toughing it out in the extreme heat all day to talk up the IAS. Thank you and major props to our IAS Teen Princess 2019 **Kelly Ann Gould** who somehow managed to look poised and pretty all day despite the sweltering temps. Last but not least, thank you to **Lynette Gilmour Crouch** for rushing there with her girls, IAS Jr. Princess 2019 **Eilidh** and IAS Jr. Princess 2018 **Eadlyn**, from their morning commitment so that they could also help recruit for the IAS. Lynette reports that it was a fantastic event despite the heat and that there was lots of new interest in the IAS! See the attached picture for our IAS Princesses on the job!





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**

[Many thanks to IAS Paddy Pack founding member and **Irish Wolfhound Association of the Mid-South** officer **Heather Hanchett Burns** for sharing this post on our IAS Facebook page! We have had IAS programs in the past on 2 of the native Irish dog breeds: **David West & Izabela Cieszynski** presented on Irish water spaniels for us in June 2011 and IAS Paddy pack founding member **Rebecca Conti** presented on Irish wolfhounds for us in January 2012. I have also written "Cu Corner" pieces on native Irish dog breeds for the IAS newsletter in October 2011, March 2012, and June 2014. This is VERY exciting news!!!]

Dear Members & Friends of the **Irish Wolfhound Club of Ireland**

I write to you today as Chairperson of our Club with some fantastic news for our ancient and noble breed.

Ten plus years ago our Committee Member **Mr Eddie Bourke** started a process with the **Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht** to have the **Irish Wolfhound** officially recognised by the **Government of Ireland** as an integral part of the heritage and culture of the people and the Island of Ireland.

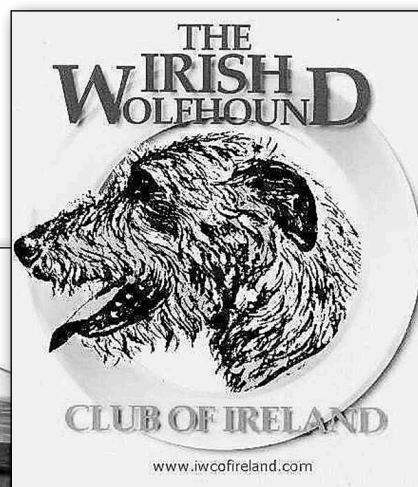
It has been a very long, slow and drawn out process which to my mind would have not delivered a result had it not been for the strategic working relationships Eddie established and developed with senior civil servants at that start of the process. This enabled the process to survive through several changes of Minister and at least two changes of Government. I remember Eddie saying to me many years ago that this was going to be a marathon, not a sprint and how true those words were.

However not one to refuse a challenge as soon as Eddie got the door open for the Irish Wolfhound he then put forward the idea of giving heritage status to all nine of our native dog breeds to the Department, he then brought the **Irish Kennel Club** into the process to support him in this. During this period Eddie was also instrumental in convincing an Irish publishing house **Currach Press** of the merits in the publication of a Hardback book on our native breeds and so together with **Shane McCoy, Colin White** and with support from the Irish Kennel Club **Native Irish Dogs** was published with the president of the Irish Kennel Club **Mr Seán Delmar** writing the forward. This publication along with years of public appearances for state and ceremonial occasions as well as two **Native Irish Breeds Festivals** all helped raise awareness at a national and global level of the Irish Wolfhound and our other Native Irish Pedigree Dog Breeds, **The Irish Soft-Coated Wheaten Terrier, The Kerry Beagle, The Glen of Imaal Terrier, The Irish Water Spaniel, The Irish Terrier, The Kerry Blue, The Irish Red Setter and The Irish Red & White Setter.**

Today all that work, time, effort, tenacity and commitment bore fruit and it was a very proud moment to stand in front of Minister **Josepha Madigan, TD** and hear her confirm that Heritage status had been given to our **nine** Native Irish Pedigree Dog Breeds. I was also delighted to hear that our **Native Horse Breed "The Irish Draught"** was granted heritage status also, a breed that is also very close to my heart. We will be publishing photos of the ceremony in the coming days and our members will in the coming weeks receive a more detailed account of the ceremony in our next club Newsletter.

Eddie thank you and all who helped you on this long journey, our native breeds do not belong to any one person or organisation, they belong to us as a people, they have evolved and developed as we as a people have evolved and developed, they are part of who we are.

Tony Dunne, Chairperson IWCI



IRISH DANCING UPDATE



NORTH AMERICAN IRISH DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Submitted by J.R. Walker, T.C.R.G.

I wanted to pass along to the IAS some of the **Walker Academy of Irish Dance** results and photos from the **North American Irish Dance Championships** this summer in Vancouver, Canada! The girls were very successful... this was one of our best Nationals yet!

Isabelle Trent - 3rd (Girls Under 11)

Ella Clingenpeel - 20th (Girls Under 15)

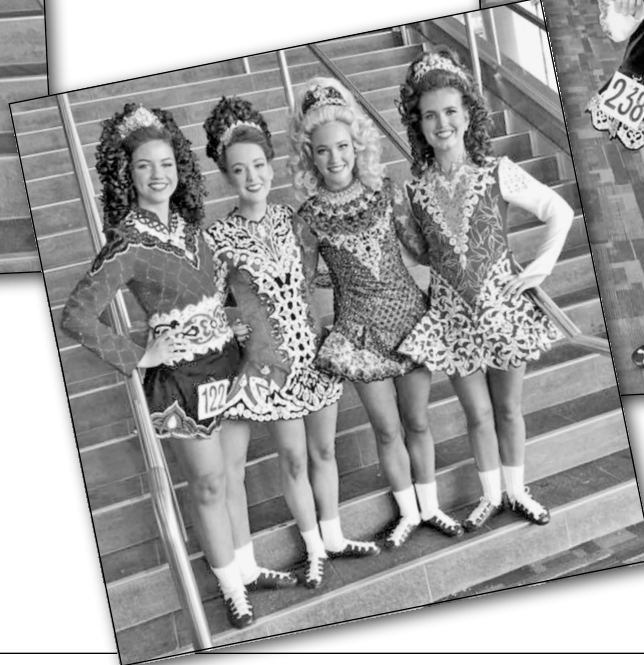
Kelly Gould (*IAS Teen Princess 2019*) - 28th (Ladies Under 20)

Carlie Stewart - 43rd (Girls Under 17)

Mathisen Wood (*IAS member*) - 48th (Girls Under 14)

Corinne Fogarty - 48th (Girls Under 14)

Congratulations to all the competitors and the organizers on a fantastic event!



IAS & FRIENDS IRISH BRUNCH

Sunday, July 14th, 2019

Many thanks to **Maureen Cahill** and **Edward Brash** for these great pix from the recent **IAS & FRIENDS BREAKFAST/BRUNCH/LUNCH** at **Finn McCool's Fish House & Tavern** Kempsville!

Irish eyes were definitely smiling! From all accounts, it was an extremely genial group, and I am so sorry to have missed it. I arrived back from Ireland the day before with a bad sore throat and cold. I was especially sorry to miss **Vera Friel Dotson** who ventured all the way out for it!



Edward Brash, Mike Lawler Samantha Wood, Tracy Fearon, Vera Dotson (hiding), Susan Frohwitter, Lori Shea, David Frohwitter, Nadine, Kelly Ann Gould Maureen Cahill, Tiffany Garibay

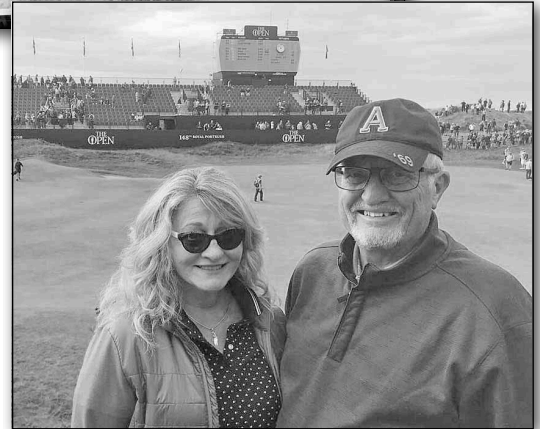


THE IRISH SPORT REPORT

In HUGE international Irish sports news, **Shane Lowry** of the Republic of Ireland won the British Open this July. It took place at Portrush in Northern Ireland.

Our own **Jim Hagerty** expressed this historic victory extremely well in our IAS Facebook group: *"A Very pleased for Shane Lowry. Wins The Open Championship. For one day at least, a golfer unites Ireland as one country. Shane Lowry is from the Republic of Ireland. County Offaly. He won the Open at Royal Portrush Golf Course in Northern Ireland. He was enthusiastically supported by massive crowds which included people from Northern Ireland and the Republic."*

See our IAS Facebook group for two awesome video clips posted by **Lynette Gilmour Crouch** related to this tournament win; one is of Shane Lowry celebrating his achievement with THE Claret Jug on stage at a pub belting out "The Fields of Athenry." The other is of Shane's granny talking about his win. Not to be missed! Also, see the two attached pictures. One was taken by **Lynnette Fitch Brash** this July a few miles from Portrush and shows a sign about the Open. The other is of Tidewater artist **Barbara Lively Mastaglio** and her husband **Tom** actually AT the British Open this year at the Royal Portrush Golf Course!



In regional Irish sports news, CONGRATULATIONS to the **Washington, D.C. Gaels** who went 3 for 3 at the **Mid-Atlantic GAA Division Finals** with Ladies Football, Camogie, and Hurling all winning a Mid-Atlantic Division Cup this July! See two pictures attached of them celebrating; one is of the D.C. Gaels camogie team after their victory, and the other is of the three D.C. Gaels captains with the three trophies. Up the Gaels!



REMEMBER!
OUR NEXT MEETING
THURSDAY:
AUGUST 1, 2019
AT MURPHY'S PUB
it will NOT be at Ascension.

IAS AUGUST MEETING
SOCIAL & SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER!

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1ST

6:30 - 9:00 P.M.

AT MURPHY'S IRISH PUB

2914 PACIFIC AVE., VIRGINIA BEACH

PLACE YOUR ORDER -
CELEBRATE THE IRISH SOCIETY
IAS WHITE JERSEYS

