



The Richmond Claddagh

JUNE 2013

<http://richmondias.org/> The Richmond Irish American Society [Click for the Calendar of Events](#)

MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION!



LOTS OF IRISH FUN COMING UP!!

June 2nd – IAS ANNUAL PICNIC

Gather up the family and join us for a day of fun for all IAS members – all ages! The fun and feasting begin on **Sunday, June 2, at 1 pm** at Pat and Helen Warriner Burke's farm in Amelia. Burgers, hot dogs and condiments are provided,

But you are asked to please bring a side dish or dessert to share, beverages for you and yours, and lawn chairs.

If you are a new member, this is a wonderful way to get to know the other members, and it's a beautiful country setting and always one of our big turnout events. The IAS picnic is truly one of our best get together(s) and it's the most fun that you'll have with your IAS friends -Trust me you'll be glad you came!

Picnic Driving Directions:

Take 360 West out of Richmond. . After crossing the Appomattox River into Amelia, go about 3-4 miles and you will see a billboard on your side of the road. Karon Bell generally has balloons or a sign up to warn you to turn. . Slide over into the left lane and about a half mile further turn left onto 627, which is Cheatham's Road. (DON'T turn onto 628 which comes first - that's not Cheatham's Road) The Salvage Shed is at the corner of 627. Go about 3/4 of a mile down Cheatham's (627) and the picnic is at the two-story white house on the left. The number, 9943, is on the mailbox. If you have any problems, call 804-561-5778 or 804-366-6925.

Karon Bell's cell phone is 804-982-7835 and her email is irishmom1958@gmail.com – contact her with any questions.

RAFFLE AT THE PICNIC.-.

Likely an Irish beverage... hmmm ☺

IAS PUB SUPPER – JUNE 29TH – 7:30



IAS Pubmaster – Jim Mahone invites all our Irish-American Society members and their guests - (yes, Guests are welcome too!) to our next Pub Night on Saturday, June 29, 2013, 7:30 pm at

Keagan's Irish Pub and Restaurant

2251 Old Brick Road, Short Pump
Henrico, Virginia 23233
804.360.9240

Click on these links for information -

[Get Directions](#) – (click for directions from your house)

<http://www.keagans.com/menu.php>

Driving directions from I-64 in the West End:

Take Exit 178A onto West Broad Street. Take the third left onto Brownstone Boulevard. Take the second left onto Old Brick Road. Look for Keagan's on the right (south) side of the street.

If you are coming from the Southside – 288 is the way to go – get off at the Broad Street exit and go east.

We've had some great times at Keagan's and they are looking forward to the group! So let's make it a big Pub Supper with lots of members in attendance.

IAS Board Meeting – June 24th – 7pm

All IAS members are invited and encouraged to attend any scheduled Board meeting. The Board meets in one of the back meeting rooms at O'Toole's Restaurant at 4800 Forest Hill Avenue, Richmond, VA 23225. The Board wants your input, your ideas, and your suggestions and yes even your complaints! ☺

Our meetings are just one hour long – and we really could use some help, some ideas and some suggestions to help the IAS continue to grow and to continue to provide our members with a connection to our shared Irish history.

Click for Directions to O'Tooles

<http://www.otoolesrestaurant.com/>



The IAS Invade the Diamond!
August 24th 6:05 pm
Richmond Flying Squirrels vs. the Altoona Curve

Come out and join your IAS friends for a fun night of baseball at the Diamond. Bring your friends and family - they are more than welcome to join us too.

Discounted tickets are available, but they have to be purchased in advance. Dan Begley will purchase the tickets ahead of time in order to get the group discount –

BUT THAT MEANS YOU HAVE TO CALL HIM WITH A COUNT OF THOSE ATTENDING.

So check your calendar, save the date and contact Dan and tell him how many tickets you want. Contact him at 804-740-5631 or begley55@hotmail.com

Why you should come - -

- Should be a good game, the Richmond Flying Squirrels are a Double-A affiliate of the San Francisco Giants and the Altoona Curve are a Double-A affiliate of the Pittsburgh Pirates
- There's a Special Price for IAS members - \$10 each with 20 or more bought pre-game.
- Dan is getting tickets in the Diamond Area Section – great view – home plate area
- You get to enjoy one of the 24 scheduled Firework Extravaganza shows after the game.



In the next section – you are going to read about a new opportunity for the Richmond community to learn more about and enjoy the rich Irish Cultural heritage that we so cherish. Please read about the planned programs and then think about being a sponsor, at either the Individual or Corporate. No amount is too small to help out.

This group is looking for sponsor donations to help cover the expenses for printing, small fees related to the productions and perhaps a bit for the actors. Fees raised at the door will cover some but not all costs. The expenses are anticipated to be about \$1200 total.

If you are interested in making a donation, checks, can be sent to, **Kelly Kennedy, 1408 National Street, Richmond, VA 23231.** Please insert “O’Theatre at O’Toole’s” in the check memo line. Questions can be emailed to [<kelkennedy1@verizon.net>](mailto:kelkennedy1@verizon.net)

A note and some exciting news on upcoming Irish opportunities for from our good friend and fellow IAS member – Kelly Kennedy



O’Theatre at O’Toole’s



This summer, a few folks in the Richmond Theatre community (myself included) are involved in a new venture to encourage and showcase works of Irish literature and music. The group has scheduled three presentations of informal and fun readings of Irish plays, poetry, stories, songs and music at **O’Toole’s Restaurant and Pub** in Richmond. We invite you to come sip a brew as you relax at O’Toole’s Pub and enjoy summer nights of Irish Theatre, Poetry, Stories and Song!

Note: There will be a fee at the door, but that hasn’t been determined yet. I’ll send out a note prior to the first presentation with more information.

JUNE 25th: "PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN

WORLD" – the original is a three-act play written by Irish playwright John Millington Synge and was first performed at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, on January 26, 1907. The O’Theatre at O’Toole’s reading is directed by Keri Wormald, and stars Jill Bari Steinberg, Maggie Horan, David Bridgewater and other fine Richmond actors. Traditional Irish music presented by Kelly Kennedy and Andy Cleveland both members of "Handsome Molly" who appeared at our IAS Christmas Party.

JULY 9th: EVERYTHING IRISH NIGHT!

– A night of Irish poetry, song and stories. The evening will present a few Contests thrown in for Audience participation, - “Best Irish Accent Competition”, “Most miserable 2-minute story contest”, “Smiling Irish Eyes Competition”, and possibly more!

IMPORTANT NOTE --- “IMPARTIAL” JUDGES

WILL BE NEEDED FOR THE CONTESTS ON IRISH NIGHT! SO BE READY TO VOLUNTEER.

JULY 23: CONTEMPORARY IRISH PLAY

– The committee is selecting and deciding and the result will be announced at a later date.

O’Theatre at O’Toole’s, 4800 Forest Hill Avenue, Richmond, VA 23225, Phone:(804) 233-1781

Yes. I’ll be darned. Another NOTE!!!

** Kelly is checking into all donations being considered as tax deductible and she will get back to us if that’s the case. In any event – we are always asking for Irish events. And these are some great ones!

From Karon Bell – Ann McGehee and I joined other Richmond Celts and went to the Celtic Gathering on May 18th at the ‘Crossing at Bon Air’. We made homemade cookies, Irish Soda Bread and took Dubliner cheese and crackers along with limeade. We also passed out some of our Irish green beads from the St. Pat’s Festival – which turned out to be a huge hit with the residents and their families. It was an enjoyable and rewarding 2 hours and as IAS representatives, we will gladly do it again. We did pass out some membership applications to residents and visitors

Also from Karon – On June 22nd, starting at 6:50 pm **Skate Nation** is hosting a benefit Hockey Game in support of the Virginia Food Bank. Of special interest to our IAS Members - **Representatives from the Irish Embassy in DC will be attending. Skate Nation is** located at 4350 Pouncey Tract Rd, Glen Allen, VA 23060 – Any questions about the event please call Skate Nation at 804- 364-1477.

A CELTIC TAPESTRY

Maggie Sansone (hammered dulcimer), Andrea Hoag (fiddle), and Sharon Knowles (Celtic harp)[W. E. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts](#) at Virginia Commonwealth University [922 Park Avenue, Richmond](#) (near the corner of Park and Harrison)Friday, July 12, 2013, at 7:30 p.m.
General Admission \$15

VCU opens its 21st Annual *Guitar and Other Strings Series* with traditional and contemporary Celtic music.

Enjoy a celebration of the many sides of the Celtic experience. Maggie Sansone, Andrea Hoag, and Sharon Knowles bring their combined talents, energy and fun to a wide range of Celtic music from ancient times to the present.

[Maggie’s music](#) and band mates have been active in the exciting Celtic renaissance that combines many styles and influences, like an intricate tapestry of sound. They combine the energy and spirit of traditional music with the harmonies and depth of classical interpretation and their own dynamic sound, often called “chamber folk.” Sansone, Hoag, and Knowles create a diverse blend of colors and sounds, where each thread contributes to the beauty of the whole. It’s Celtic and Celtic-inspired, using a variety of instruments and influences from world music to American folk. Their music has something for everyone.

[Go to this webpage and click on the arrows for music samples.](#)

****HAVE YOU MARKED YOUR CALENDAR FOR ALL THE UPCOMING IRISH EVENTS??****



County Donegal (Irish: Contae Dhún na nGall) is a county in the northwest of Ireland. It is one of three counties in the province of Ulster that does not form part of Northern Ireland.

The name "Donegal" comes from the Irish, meaning "the fort of the foreigners". The county was named after the former administrative centre of Donegal Town. When first created, it was sometimes referred to as County Tyrconnel (Irish: Tír Chonaill), after the Tyrconnel earldom it succeeded. Calling the whole county Tír Conaill is technically incorrect as the Inishowen peninsula (Irish: Inis Eoghain) was historically distinct from Tír Chonaill.

Uniquely, Donegal only shares a border with one county in the Republic of Ireland, namely County Leitrim in north Connacht. The rest of its land border is shared with the United Kingdom (the Northern Irish counties of Londonderry, Tyrone and Fermanagh). This apparent isolation has led to Donegal people and their customs being considered distinct from the rest of the country and has been used to market the county with the slogan Up here it's different. Despite Lifford being the county town (and there also being a Donegal town), the largest town is Letterkenny.



(A view from Donegal - I think this was my favorite area in Ireland during our visit. Stunning, wild, powerful... breathtaking. Nancy)

The **Trinity College Library** in Dublin is the largest library in Ireland. The library began with the founding of Trinity College in 1592. In 1661, Henry Jones presented it with the [Book of Kells](#), its most famous manuscript. Two of the four volumes are on public display; one opened to a major decorated page and the other to a typical page of text. The volumes and pages as shown below are regularly changed.



THE BOOK OF KELLS

An Irish manuscript containing the [Four Gospels](#), a fragment of Hebrew names, and the Eusebian canons, known also as the "Book of Columba", probably because it was written in the [monastery of Iona](#) to honour the saint. It is likely that it is to this book that the entry in the "Annals of Ulster" under the year 1006 refers, recording that in that year the "Gospel of Columba" was stolen. According to tradition, the book is a relic from the time of Columba (d. 597) and even the work of his hands, but, on paleographic grounds and judging by the character of the ornamentation, this tradition cannot be sustained, and the date of the composition of the book can hardly be placed earlier than the end of the seventh or beginning of the eighth century. This must be the book which the Welshman, Geraldus Cambrensis, saw at Kildare in the last quarter of the twelfth century and which he describes in glowing terms. We next hear of it at the cathedral of Kells (Irish Cenannus) in [Meath](#), a foundation of Columba's, where it remained for a long time, or until the year 1541. In the seventeenth century Archbishop Ussher presented it to [Trinity College](#), Dublin, where it is the most precious manuscript in the college library and by far the choicest relic of Irish art that has been preserved. In it is to be found every variety of design typical of Irish art at its best.

Some small portions at the beginning and end of the manuscript have been lost, but otherwise it is in a very good state of preservation. It was apparently left unfinished, since some of the ornaments remain only in outline. It is written in part black, red, purple or yellow ink, and it has been thought that the hands of two scribes, neither of whom is known to us by name, are discernible in the writing and illumination of the manuscript. The most characteristic ornaments of the Book of Kells, as of other illuminated Irish manuscripts

of the period, are the closely coiled spirals connected with each other by a number of curves and terminating in the so-called "trumpet pattern". Almost equally characteristic are the zoomorphic interlacements, which are the colored representations of fanciful beings, or of men, animals, birds, horses, dogs, and grotesque, gargoyle-like human figures, twisted and hooked together in intricate detail. Other frequently occurring designs are a system of geometrical weaving of ribbons plaited and knotted together, and a simpler ornamentation by means of red dotted lines. The versatility and inventive genius of the illustrator surpasses all belief. Lines diverge and converge in endless succession, and the most intricate figures, in lavish abundance and with astounding variety of ornament, are combined and woven into one harmonious design. In spite of the extent of the work and its thousands of exquisite initials and terminals, there is not a single pattern or combination that can be said to be a copy of another. The artist shows a wonderful technique in designing and combining various emblems, the cross, vine, dragon, fish, and serpent. The drawing is perfection itself. It has been examined under a powerful magnifying glass for hours at a time and found to be, even in the most minute and complicated figures, without a single false or irregular line. Some of the most accomplished of modern visual artists have attempted to copy its elaborate designs, but such is the delicacy of the execution, that they had to abandon the task as hopeless. In a space of one-inch square were counted no less than 158 interlacings of white ribbon with a black border on either side. On the other hand, the pictures of the personages delineated are feeble and primitive and show but a limited knowledge of the human figure and its relative proportions.

No words can describe the beauty and the extreme splendor of the richly colored initial letters, which are more profuse in the "Book of Kells" than in any other manuscript. The only thing to which they can be compared is a bed of many colored crocuses and tulips or the very finest stained glass window, which they equal in beauty of coloring and rival in delicacy of ornament and drawing. The artist possessed a wonderful knowledge of the proportion of Colour and the distribution of his material — sienna, purple, lilac, red, pink, green, yellow, the colors most often used — and he managed the shading and tinting of the letters with consummate taste and skill.

It is remarkable that there is no trace of the use of silver or gold on the vellum. Sometimes the colors are laid on in thick layers to give the appearance of enamel, and are here and there as bright and soft and

Lustrous as when put on fresh more than twelve hundred years ago. Even the best photographic and Colour reproductions give but a faint idea of the beauty of the original. Especially worthy of notice is the series of illuminated miniatures, including pictorial representations of the Evangelists and their symbols, the Blessed Virgin and the Divine Child, the temptation of Jesus, and Jesus seized by the Jews. These pictures reach their culminating point in what is, in some respects, the most marvelous example of workmanship that the world has ever produced, namely the full page monogram XPI which occurs in the text of the Gospel of St. Matthew. It is no wonder that it was for a long time believed that the "Book of Kells" could have been written only by angels. (From 'Catholic Encyclopedia')

We in Richmond are indeed very lucky. The University of Richmond maintains one of the certified facsimile copies of the Original Manuscript. The IAS had a program on the copy a few years ago, and the manuscript was brought to the meeting for viewing. Most interesting - And it might be time to see if we could do it again.

HOW ABOUT A BACKYARD PUB/SHED! -

But you must picture it with Irish flags inside.

As the weather gets nicer – we all start thinking about those great new ideas to make our yards look better. Nice to see a really usable yard shed!



www.readersheds.co.uk - share your shed

There I was - thinking about things to do to improve the backyard and patio area. Then I came across this cute little thing --- I see it with a TV - in the Fall.. With the Bears Games playing . Ahhhh bliss.... ☺

Just had to share it with our IAS Handymen...

Irish Cream Cookies · by Organizedisland

I share this with all of you because I cannot think of any thing negative about using Bailey's –

Ever –

For any purpose –

At all. ☺



Ingredients:

1/2-cup butter

1/2-cup brown sugar

1/2-cup sugar

2 eggs

1-teaspoon vanilla

1/3 cup Irish Cream

3 cups flour

1/2-teaspoon baking powder

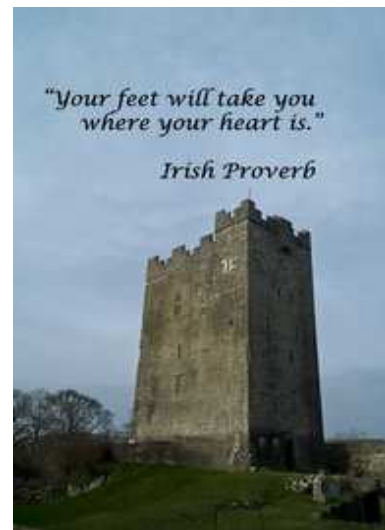
1/2-teaspoon baking soda

1/2-teaspoon salt.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Cream together: butter, sugars, eggs, vanilla and Irish Cream. Combine dry ingredients in a separate bowl. Slowly add to butter mixture. Drop onto greased cookie sheet by 1" balls. Flatten before baking. Bake 14-16 minutes until golden on the bottom.

*"Your feet will take you
where your heart is."*

Irish Proverb



MARK YOUR CALENDARS – Click on links in calendar and you can hear song selections from the artists

And ALWAYS click the links below to get the latest updates on upcoming events

<http://richmondias.org/events.php> or for a full month calendar of current events click here. [IAS Calendar](#)

June 2nd	IAS Annual Picnic Bring your Dish to Share, Beverages, and your Chairs and have a great time at our annual picnic.
June 24th	IAS Board Meeting – 7 pm O’Toole’s PLEASE JOIN US & BRING YOUR IDEAS!!
June 25th O’Theatre At O’Tooles! Dramatic Reading with an Irish twist of humor!	June 25th: "Playboy of the Western World" – the original is a three-act play written by Irish playwright John Millington Synge and was first performed at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, on January 26, 1907. The O’Theatre at O’Toole’s reading is directed by Keri Wormald, and stars Jill Bari Steinberg, Maggie Horan, David Bridgwater and other fine Richmond actors. Traditional Irish music presented by Kelly Kennedy and Andy Cleveland (members of "Handsome Molly") O’Theatre at O’Toole’s , 4800 Forest Hill Avenue, Richmond, VA 23225, Phone: (804) 233-1781
June 29th	IAS Pub Supper – Keagan’s http://www.keagans.com/richmond.php
July 9th O’Theatre At O’Tooles!	EVERYTHING IRISH NIGHT! – A night of Irish poetry, song and stories. The evening will present a few Contests thrown in for the audience. Best Irish Accent Competition, Most miserable 2-minute story contest, Smiling Irish Eyes Competition, and possibly more! Judges with an Irish background needed... ☺
July 12th: 7:30 PM with traditional and contemporary Celtic music.	VCU opens its 21st Annual <i>Guitar and Other Strings</i> Series A CELTIC TAPESTRY: Enjoy a celebration of the many sides of the Celtic experience. Maggie Sansone (dulcimer), Andrea Hoag (fiddle), and Sharon Knowles (Celtic Harp) bring their combined talents, energy and fun to wide range of Celtic music from ancient times to the present. General Admission \$15 W. E. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts at Virginia Commonwealth University 922 Park Avenue, Richmond (near the corner of Park and Harrison) Friday, July 12, 2013, at 7:30 p.m. Go to this webpage and click on the arrows for music samples.
July 23: O’Theatre At O’Tooles!	Contemporary Irish Play - TBA
August 24	Richmond Squirrels Game – Starts at 6:05 – at the Diamond. \$10 discounted tickets – in Advance. Please contact Dan Begley at 804-740-5631 or begley55@hotmail.com
Oct 19 & 20	The VA Celtic Festival – 2 nd year back at the Richmond Raceway Complex. http://vacelticfestival.com/
Dec 15th	IAS Annual Christmas Party - 2pm to 6pm

**2013 IRISH FESTIVALS ‘CLOSE’ TO RICHMOND -
CLICK ON THE LINKS FOR MORE INFORMATION**

September 6 th – 8 th	http://www.pghirishfest.org/	Pittsburgh PA
November 9 th – 11 th	Irish Festival in Baltimore	Baltimore Maryland