



## The Richmond Claddagh <http://richmondias.org/> Newsletter of the Greater Richmond Irish American Society

August 2009

### **August 13<sup>th</sup> - IAS Meeting: Bon Air Library, 9103 Rattlesnake Road Richmond 23235 - 804-320-2461 - IAS Movie Night - The Scarlet & The Red:**

One day in early spring, along comes an email from IAS member, Kathy Donovan Kast. We've often expressed the desire to do articles on the many, but often unsung, Irish folks who have made a positive contribution to the world. Kathy said she had ordered a video about an Irish priest who was in the Vatican during WWII and the movie detailed his secret and valiant efforts during those bleak days in Italy.

This Emmy Award winning movie, starring Gregory Peck, will introduce you to the true story of Msgr. Hugh O'Flaherty, an Irish priest, born in Caherciveen, Co. Kerry in 1898.

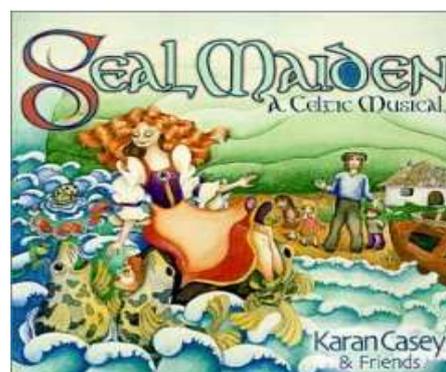
In the early years of World War II, O'Flaherty toured prisoner of war camps in Italy and tried to find out about prisoners who had been reported missing in action. If he found them alive, he tried to reassure their families through Vatican Radio. Later, when the Nazis occupied Rome, he organized an underground movement to help Allied soldiers, Jews and others who were in hiding from the Nazis. He is credited with saving at least 4,000 people from the hands of the Germans during World War II by ensuring safe passage and lodging for them among his network of friends and parishioners in Rome.

**A last minute note from Dan Begley** – “The August meeting, **will start at 6:15 SHARP** since the movie, “The Scarlet and Black” is 143 minutes and I will be at the Bon Air Library at 6PM to greet everyone. To start, Gregory Peck's Irish history will be condensed in a short summation. Please let IAS folks know if they have any questions they can call me, at 740-5631 or <mailto:begley55@hotmail.com>. - Thanks, Dan.”

**The June Movie Night** - The Secret of Roan Inish – What a great Irish story and a beautiful movie – there is one part that tears me up every time I watch that movie. We had such a nice bunch of folks at Movie night -joining in to enjoy it were Tim Batten, Karon Bell, Joyce Blunt, Gloria Cahen, Ed & Kathy Donovan Kast, Denis Maguire, Ann McGehee, John Minor and Wendy Bohannon, Sonya Moore, Joe & Mary O'Brien, Tom & Rosemary O'Donnell, Jim and Kathleen Petty and Nancy Emig.

Thanks go to Gloria Cahen for bringing the “snackin' goodies” to help our Hospitality ladies who weren't able to make it that night. Also – thanks again to Sonya Moore for the donation of those movies... it made for a great evening.

### **A Little More Irish Culture**



If you are looking for a gift for a favorite little Irish lad or lass–this link will take you to a wonderful collection of Irish music and this Irish story of the Selkie. Not an endorsement – but we noticed that it is highly rated and there are other neat things at the site too.

<http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/detail/-/B00004TZYF>

**August 22<sup>nd</sup> – Saturday night Pub Supper at Rosie Connolly's** - Joan has another fun night at Rosie's planned. Owners Tommy and Gladys extend a nice treat for IAS members – a \$1.00 off any pint purchased. Hmm... life is sweet! And to top it all off – There will be another Irish music session too! All members and friends of members who play Irish music are again invited to bring their musical instruments, pull up a chair and join in the Irish session. We had a great turn out of members and guests who joined in at O'Tooles and it was a wonderful musical session and it is sure to be as much fun at Rosie's. Come at 6pm (if you can) and please do call Joan at 804-840-0080 or email her at [j.finn@hotmail.com](mailto:j.finn@hotmail.com) and let her know your count – **by August 15th.** It's a help to Rosie's' for their set up. (Refer to the calendar at the end of the newsletter for address info and workable links to Rosie's.) I'm not sure... but I heard that a certain IAS member may show up with an Irish harmonica – I'm just saying..!

**GOT A MINUTE? – ONE OF OUR IAS MEMBERS** – Sgt. Sean Bell is serving in the US Army in Iraq. If you have email – take a minute and say “Thanks” and Wish Him Well. The address is <mailto:sean.bell3@us.army.mil>- Sean is the son of our Special Events Chair – Karon Bell. Please keep him and all our boys in your prayers too.

**HELP WANTED:** Here are two great ideas from our IAS members. These ideas relate directly to the mission statement of the Irish American Society – to promote our Irish Heritage and Culture locally and on a statewide level too.

### **STATEWIDE**

**IRISHMEN UNITE!** We received a very interesting idea from IAS member Ryan Roark.

Hi Nancy: I was wondering if there has ever been an effort made toward approval of an Irish-American Heritage license plate in Virginia. I was looking through the information on the DMV website, and there are certain criteria that must be met. One is having a least **350 prepaid applications** for the plate in a given period of time. I thought that would be possible just through the various Irish American Societies/Groups in the state. I know we would order two – one for each of our cars!

If it hasn't been attempted, let me know what you and others think of the idea. I'd be glad to help with the design and/or anything else – if this turns out to be something that is worth pursuing. Thanks, Ryan.

**Well Members- What about it?** We took Ryan's suggestion to the IAS Board meeting and they gave the old thumbs up. The Richmond IAS exchanges newsletters with the Tidewater IAS, the Fredericksburg Irish Social Society, and the Richmond Hibernians - **so will you folks also canvas your members and measure the interest in an effort like this.**

Are there any of our members that would be willing to work on this with Ryan to make it happen? I checked the DMV website and it does seem like a “do-able” thing. I know I'm interested and would love to have the plates on my car. (It would look great surrounded by my Chicago Bear license plate frame – But I digress!) Ryan has agreed to help, and if we can get a Board member to participate too – could one of you members out there volunteer to help with the project? C'mon it'll be fun.

***WON'T YOU PLEASE CONSIDER  
LENDING A HELPING HAND TO EITHER OF  
THESE PROJECTS... .***

Just until we get someone to head up this project – and folks to help with the project – you can call me (Nancy) at 804-323-6415 or you can email me at <mailto:bearfan46@verizon.net> to let me know if we could **count on you for some help with the project or if you would BUY an Irish Heritage plate.** This would not take a lot of time, but it would be so cool if we could get the ball rolling.

### **And Here is The Local Way to Honor our Irish Heritage in Richmond**

The article below was written by Joan Finnegan and appeared in the May Newsletter – but Joan hasn't received any feedback or input from the members. . If you haven't called Joan with a suggestion, a question about the project, a word of encouragement about the project, or an offer to lend a hand on this very worthwhile project – **Please Do It Today.**

### **Help the IAS Proclaim the Irish Contributions in Richmond with a Historical Marker -** We've all seen

the roadside markers with their brief historical note describing an event, battle or location. The history of Richmond is rife with a myriad of stories of and about Irish connections and contributions to our local area. However, with the exception of Maymont, I have not been able to identify sites that recognize the contributions of the Irish to Richmond's past. As an outgrowth of our IAS Society Mission Statement and Charter “to promote our Irish culture and heritage”, the IAS is considering the initiation of a campaign to secure the first of a possible series of historical markers to highlight the contributions of the Richmond Irish to historical events or sites.

There are many local areas with a history of Irish contributions or influence. The canal, the railroad, and Tredegar easily come to mind. There are surely more wonderful stories of the Irish in Richmond – just waiting to be told.

If there is a historical place where you would like to see a marker erected and dedicated - please send your recommendation to me. The Richmond IAS **CAN** do this project. Hopefully we can make the public aware of all that the Irish contributed and sacrificed for the growth of Richmond. This is the start, and once the location is identified - the work begins to have the marker accepted for placement. All members that would like to join in this endeavor please let me know and you will be included. The long-range goal is for additional future placements that will showcase our history for all to see and learn. I'm very excited about this opportunity to showcase the Irish and I look forward to hearing from you. **Joan Finnegan 804-840-0080 or <mailto:j.finn@hotmail.com>**

**WHILE I'M ON A ROLL I'LL DO A LITTLE**

**MORE BEGGING FOR HELP ☺**: The IAS has been one lucky organization for a long, long time. Over the years, IAS members attending the monthly meetings and programs have enjoyed tasty treats at the social time before and after each program. Our Hospitality Committee, Maureen Toibin, Pam Hardy and Carmel Miney have set up wonderful refreshments at our meetings for several years. Maureen and Pam recently retired from the committee and Carmel needs help. Mary Geary just joined with Carmel to help out with hospitality, and that's great but we really need more help for these two ladies. Please call Carmel **804-288-7814** for more information on what the committee does and how you can help

I love to try and name all the folks that contribute to our meetings and activities. Sometimes I'll mess up - I'll forget someone or I'll get a name wrong. But, recognition for the efforts of those who come, those who plan, and those who work at our events is a nice thing to give. Good attendance is the reward that folks get who put the programs together, provide the ideas for the programs, and provide the goodies at the hospitality table. So call me when I make a mistake or an omission - I want to get it right and I want you to see your name in print!

**And that said**

In the last issue, Gina Venn's name was omitted from the list of the fine cooks at the IAS picnic. The Claddagh sends a HUGE apology for the oversight and also MANY thanks to Gina for helping with the KP detail - Gina is so often at the ready to lend a hand in support of the Society. Also thanks to Gloria Cahen for pointing out our oversight.

I recently sent out an email notice about a trip To Ireland from [Travel Special - Scepter Tours](#) ( you can visit Scepter's website for more info. Anyway, this trip offer included airfare and 6 days in B&B's and 6 days with a rental car - it was a pretty cool deal at a very good price. So, I sent an email out asking our folks just how hard it was to drive in Ireland. I'm a little worried about that other side of the road and driving from the passenger side stuff -I got these great responses from our members. Many thanks to all!

Nancy - I love driving in Ireland. If you like driving and feel comfortable, you can easily get used to it. If you are a timid, insecure driver, it's more challenging. Most difficult is crossing the streets on foot and making sure you look the right way. That travel package is a huge deal. We know the place. It is luxurious and beautiful. It's very upscale. **Best to you**  
**-Helen Burke**

Hey Nancy - My wife and I drove approximately 1200 miles of Irish countryside last summer via rental car. I drove all of it and it was a manual transmission. Shifting with my left hand was the biggest adjustment for me, and even that wasn't too bad. By the second day, driving in Ireland was second nature, so much so in fact, that when we got back to Richmond, I started driving out of our neighborhood on the **WRONG** side of the road!! One other note: I absolutely LOVE the roundabout system! It's so much more efficient. I would like to lobby for an implementation of the same system in the US. **Ryan O'Rourke**

Wow what a great deal!!! You could always put a big sign in your back window "**Tourist**" so they'll give you plenty of room - **Marie McGranahan**

My Dear Nancy, Driving in Ireland is nothing. You have the wheel on the right side and somehow you just drive on the left hand side of the road, it feels natural. I went to Ireland in 1997, the year I retired, I never drove in Ireland before; - got the car at the airport, (I had arranged it here first.) I asked for a map and drove out of the airport, following signs for the north. As easy as pie. I arrived at my mother's birthplace in an hour. I had never met my cousin, who now lives in the ancestral home, and she said, "By God, how did you find the place" I told her that she had given me directions, and it just blew her away that I found the store she worked in. She got in the car and we drove to her house. Never had any problem. I was in Co. Louth, and I wanted to go to Donegal. I had to cross over to Northern Ireland, and back again in order to get there. I was held up by soldiers with guns pointed at me when I was going over the border. But other than that, you just follow the map and your nose. Is this what you wanted to hear? I get wordy at times because I am reliving what I experienced on that trip, and it was so beautiful. **Luv, Mildred Kladde**

Nancy, If I were you I would not let the driving be that much of a concern. My first time driving in Ireland, I found the speed at times to be startling, but driving on the left not nearly as much. Remember, you are also on the opposite side **INSIDE** the car, so it sort of clicks in your brain, as you are on the correct side of the car for the side of the street you are driving. I found the parking far more of a challenge. Never did get the hang of where one can park. Seemed people parked on both sides of a street and from both directions most of the time. I stayed mostly in B&Bs, a couple hotels, and the last night at Dromoland Castle, which was a magical way to unwind and end the first time "going home". Jump in and go for the adventure of your life! **Mariah McCann**

Nancy, it is often about 8:30 or 9:00 AM when you arrive at Shannon. Most travelers will be tired upon arriving and taking on the "wrong side" of the road definitely presents a challenge. I would recommend that those anticipating driving, refresh knowledge of "straight drive" (manual shift) autos and practice shifting with their left hands. The shifting pattern is fairly universal with all the cars. Brush up on clutch work and get ready to have fun.

The first precaution is that whenever approaching an intersection or roundabout, look RIGHT first, instead of left. After making any turn, be sure you are still on the LEFT side of the road as there is a natural tendency to drift back to the right side after completing a turn.

(I asked Jerry if anyone can ever get lost in a roundabout and never be heard from again? – OK – so I'm a little paranoid)

Per Jerry - Not really, but it helps to know where you want to go before getting into one - Otherwise, take one turn reading the signs, then get off on the next go around!

There are some new surprises in the car rental packages, such as service charges, location charges, etc.. There is usually about a 100 euro charge for an additional driver, as well. Most rental agencies will bargain with you, so be prepared!

Jack Cassells called to remind me that the best rates he found were from Dan Dooley rentals. Call 800-331-9301 and ask for Doreen. They will wheel and deal! Jack's best rate is for 12 days in August, Ford Focus, (manual shift) for \$540 + 156 for insurance. =58 per day, no extras! <http://www.dan-dooley.ie/>

**P.S.** The looking right, first, especially applies to pedestrians. To not do it = being run over! **All the best, Jerry Gorman:**

### **“Historical Irish Motoring” - St Patrick Drives the Snakes from Ireland**



This response is from Mike Kane and he has included the link to a wonderful site where you can find the most beautiful photos of places in Ireland.

Nancy, On driving in Ireland... Take your time as all is somewhat reversed...steering wheel is on the right side, and car is on the left side of the road. So, you as driver will be located with your rear end still on the center line side as you drive. It is very different, like writing with your left hand if a "righty". The tricky part comes when you enter a traffic circle. In the U.S. you move to the right or counter clockwise, and as I recall, I was always looking to my left by habit (grew up in New Jersey where the circles were plentiful)...bad idea as traffic flows to the LEFT from the Right and flows clockwise!!! That could be a major problem...as we almost found out two or three times.

Beware the Reeks of Macgillycuddy on the Ring of Kerry. Beautiful to see, but treacherous to drive. Add to everything above-roads barely wide enough for one car; cliffs without much of any wall to keep you on the mountains; blind switchbacks with flocks of sheep ~ **lots** of sheep; Sudden fog or rain; and no one much around if you do careen off the cliff to find your sorry remains! Below is a link to a blog with pictures of people climbing (NOT DRIVING) the Reeks. <http://woodpigeon01.wordpress.com/2008/12/27/another-trip-into-the-clouds/>

All that said, driving on your own is the only way to see Ireland, and getting out and walking is really the best way. Just be sure who ever is driving was not drinking too hard the night before! **From Mike Kane**

Well if all that talk about Ireland didn't convince you to plan a trip – perhaps this next item about a colorful quaint little Irish village will do the trick!

### **LET'S HEAR IT FOR THE HARLOTS!**

I guess that got your attention! An Irish village once known as An Dun, won the right to change its name back to an old-time local favorite - "Dun Bleisce". The town will now be called "Fort of the Harlot," as it was known in the distant past. After a variety of names used over the years, in 2003 the government christened it "An Dun," which translated simply into "The Fort,". But a recent petition by townspeople prompted officials to put "the Harlot" back into the name. The historical harlot involved here may have simply been a powerful woman, and not a harlot in the modern sense of the word. The loose translation of its old Irish title means "the stronghold of immoral women". However, locals said the name referred to a strong woman and that local women were often noted for their beauty and culture. What fun is possible from “Hey, where ya’ from?”

**Wow** –it’s August already – and before we know it, the cool evenings of Autumn will be here. I found this interesting website and since I’ve heard many of you talk about the wonderful aroma of peat I thought to pass it on to our members. Apparently you can enjoy real Irish peat in your own fireplace or outdoor fire pit and they say it burns for hours.

**“Bring the Magic of Ireland to Your Home!”**

One bale (20-24 bricks) of Irish Turf Briquettes - \$46.00  
-Two bales \$78.00. You can visit their website for more information.

[Irish Turf Distributors.com](http://IrishTurfDistributors.com)

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**got turf?**

**From Galway - A Day in the Bog** - On a recent Sunday young and old in Glinsk tried their hand at working with turf in The Day in the Bog. Both men and women tried their hand at the slane and by the end of the day a full bank of turf had been cut. The boiling of a kettle on a turf fire and the consumption of tea, hard-boiled eggs and homemade bread completed the traditions of the day. Sounds like fun – eh?

**Notes from the Modern Church:**

The elderly priest, speaking to the younger priest, said, "It was a good idea to replace the first four pews with plush bucket theater seats. It worked like a charm. The front of the church always fills first now." The young priest nodded, and the old priest continued, "And you told me a little more beat to the music would bring young people back to church, so I supported you when you brought in that rock 'n' roll gospel choir. We are packed to the balcony." "Thank you, Father," answered the young priest. "I am pleased that you are open to the new ideas of youth."

Well," said the elderly priest, "I'm afraid you've gone too far with the drive-thru confessional." "But, Father," protested the young priest, "my confessions and the donations have nearly doubled since I began that!" "I know, son," replied the elderly priest, "but that flashing neon sign reading - 'Toot 'n Tell or Go To Hell' cannot stay on the church roof!"

*(How my dear Catholic Mom would have loved this one!)*



**The Donkey in Ireland** was once a very important part of family life in Ireland. Eggs and butter were brought to market every week by a donkey harnessed to a small cart, usually driven by the farmer's wife. Donkeys were also used to move seaweed from the beaches to use in gardens and fields to help vegetables grow; and the donkey also carried peat from the bog back to the house where it was used as fuel for the fire. You can still find working donkeys, mostly in the West of Ireland, but not like in the old days. It's said that donkeys make the perfect companion because they are smart, patient and their gentle nature makes them very easy for both grownups and children to handle. (From **Kid's Ireland** - I just had to find a way to get this cute little guy in the newsletter!)

Please be reminded that Joan Finnegan has secured an extra benefit for our members. The [Virginia Historical Society](http://VirginiaHistoricalSociety.com) has extended a \$13.00 discount for their membership, which covers full access to all their facilities. You can check out the website using this link or you can call them at 804-358-4901. The annual fee of \$45 is reduced for **our IAS members** to \$32. Since "Stay-cations" are big this year – that's a good deal for the IAS. To take advantage of this, you must contact Joan – **804-840-0080** or [jfynn@hotmail.com](mailto:jfynn@hotmail.com), she will contact the Society with the list of the member names and she will answer any questions that you have.

I've heard that every one had a great time at the **July Pub Supper at Rare Olde Times**. Along with our "Pub Lady" Joan Finnegan, there was a good turn out of members including Jim Bandeleon, Dan Begley, Neil and Janet Brussard, J.P. Carroll, Larry David, Judy Garrett, Dave & Mary Geary, Carol Graham, Karen Ide, Joe McMenamain, Jim Mahone, Carmel Miney, Pat & Colleen Naughton, Carol Rasnic, Bob Rudden, Helen Rogers, Larry and Marion Rogers, Sara & Tom Rupnik and Gina Venn enjoyed fun. Thanks to all for coming out. I am so durned mad that I missed it that I am going to make sure I get to Rosie's **EARLY** for the next Pub Supper on **August 22<sup>nd</sup>** !!!(And You Should Too!)

### **NOTABLE IRISH AMERICAN –**

**John Boyle O'Reilly** was born on June 28, 1844. His father, William, was the headmaster at the Netterville Institution, a National School near Drogheda. His journalistic career started at the age of nine when he went to work as an apprentice printer for the Drogheda Argus. During this time he read and distributed handbills and other political pamphlets protesting British rule in Ireland. At age 15, the owner of the Argus died and young John Boyle O'Reilly was out of a job. He soon went to England and obtained another newspaper job at the Preston Guardian

When he was 19, his father asked him to return to Ireland. John had become a member of the Fenians, a group dedicated to ending British rule in Ireland by force of arms. He met John Devoy, a leader of the Fenians. He enlisted in the 10th Hussars, the Prince of Wales Regiment. His purpose was to infiltrate the regiment and recruit other Irish members of the regiment to mutiny and fight for Ireland when the signal came. Through his efforts, 80 of the 100 Irishmen in the regiment became Fenians. At that time more than 30 percent of the British military troops were Irish. The long awaited signal never came. The British Police had raided the offices of The Irish People, a newspaper founded by the Fenian James Stephens. There they arrested Stephens, O'Donovan Rosa, and O'Leary. They also found the files containing the names of the troops whom were Fenians, including the name of John Boyle O'Reilly. The Irish Brigades were disbanded or transferred to India.

On June 27, 1866, the day before his 22nd birthday, John Boyle O'Reilly's court martial trial began. Although two government witnesses gave conflicting testimony, John Boyle O'Reilly was convicted of treason and sentenced to death. His sentence was later commuted due to his young age and finally reduced to 20 years penal servitude. He was chained to other prisoners and brought to Pentonville Prison to work the hard labor of the brickyard. He was then sent to Millbank Prison in London for six months solitary confinement. After some time he was sent to work on the Darthmoor drains, the most notorious prison in England at the time. He managed to escape in a thick fog but was soon recaptured. He was then sent to Fremantle, Australia on the prison ship "Hougoumont".

With his flair for writing, he soon became a friend of the ship's chaplain Fr. Bernard Delany. Fr. Delany gave O'Reilly the materials necessary for the production of a weekly magazine for the ship.

The magazine was called the "Wild Goose" after the exiled "Wild Geese" Irish soldiers of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The magazine contained many of O'Reilly's early poems.

In January of 1868, John Boyle O'Reilly and his fellow prisoners arrived in Australia to serve out their years of penal servitude. Once again his literary talents and the friendship of a priest were to be used for his advantage. Father Lynch, an Irish Friar, befriended him and made him the assistant librarian in the prison. He was soon transferred to a convict camp in the Koagulup swamp, a death sentence for many. Before he left, Fr. Lynch told him that a "Fr. Mac" would look in on him at his new work camp.

Father Patrick McCabe did call on O'Reilly and soon agreed to help him escape to America. Fr. Mac convinced the captains of two whaling ships, the Gazelle and the Vigilant, to help O'Reilly escape. After narrowly eluding prison guards, O'Reilly made his way to the port of Bunbury and was taken aboard the Gazelle for the trip to America.

O'Reilly arrived in Philadelphia in November of 1869 and was greeted by Fenian groups. He secured employment with the Innman Steamship Company but was fired after the company's English owners realized his identity. He also lectured on "England's Political Prisoners" before large audiences at Boston's Music Hall.

O'Reilly soon obtained a job more to his liking as a reporter for the Boston Pilot, a paper known as a voice for Irish Americans. His first assignment was to report on the Fenian's attempted invasion of Canada through St. Albans, Vermont in May of 1870. The ineptitude of the Fenian leaders and the disastrous results of the Fenian's armed struggle changed O'Reilly's thoughts on armed revolution. He would later write of obtaining freedom through political means.

O'Reilly used the pages of the Pilot to rail against discrimination. He reprinted advertisements that would state "No Irish Need Apply" to expose their sponsors claiming the ads from those companies meant the Irish trade and commerce were also unwelcome in those stores. O'Reilly was considered an important figure in helping to assimilate Boston's Irish/Catholic immigrants with its Protestant/Yankee citizenry in the 19<sup>th</sup> century

John Boyle O'Reilly died in Hull, Massachusetts on August 12, 1890. His death was mourned as the passing of a journalist, orator, patriot, publisher and poet. While O'Reilly is buried in Hollyhood Cemetery in Brookline, Massachusetts, but a monument to him stands in the Back Bay area of Boston – not far from Fenway. (Adapted from several Internet sites)

A neat link to O'Reilly's monument in Boston

[http://www.yeodoug.com/resources/dc\\_french/oreilly/dcfrench\\_oreilly.html](http://www.yeodoug.com/resources/dc_french/oreilly/dcfrench_oreilly.html)

**POETRY NIGHT:** In July, we had a great turn out at Tuckahoe Library and members shared some wonderful examples of Irish Poetry. To name just a few contributors, Joe McMenamin and Katherine Petty provided wonderfully thoughtful renditions. Dan Begley, Kathryn O’Meara, Carroll Graham, Charlotte Zold, Mary Geary and Anne McGehee also shared some thoughtful selections. Carol Rasnic provided some great poems and of course, some humorous renditions of Irish favorites. Carmel Miney shared her favorites too and also gave some background on how the study of Poetry was taught from very early grades all through the school years in Ireland. The meetings’ subject matter seemed to encourage many members to look for poems to share – and their enthusiasm was apparent in the readings and the discussions that followed. Gina Venn, Sarah Bennett, Frank & Pam Hardy, Kathy Mincz, Sonya Moore, Karon Bell, and Nancy Emig enjoyed listening to all the selections I hope this becomes an annual meeting subject! Thanks to all that came to the meeting and shared their thoughts and reactions to what they read and heard.

**ODDS & ENDS** – Word is that upcoming programs at our meetings will feature

- Irish music and the background of famous Irish tunes by some of our own talented IAS members
- The “adventures” of a former IAS member who lived and worked in Ireland for several years
- A visitor from the historical period of Ante Bellum Richmond to tell us the stories of the Irish in our city – their trials, tribulations and misfortunes.

You won’t want to miss these - and more good times coming up!

**PSSST...** If you run into our Webmaster Doug Elder... Wish him a **Happy 40<sup>th</sup>** Birthday... 😊  
(I kind of remember my 40<sup>th</sup>....)

Thanks for reading - if I omitted anyone, from anything, at any time, from anywhere, let me know!  
See you all at the upcoming August events...  
Remember – Celebrate your Irish!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** – Click on links in calendar for more And ALWAYS click the link directly below to get the latest updates on upcoming events <http://richmondias.org/index.php?content=upcoming>

<p><b>Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> &amp; 17<sup>th</sup> Williamsburg Irish Session</b></p>	<p>Barnes &amp; Noble, 345 Duke of Gloucester St, Williamsburg in the W&amp;M college bookstore (757-564-0687). This is an Irish traditional music session. Planned for the 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of every month. – 7-9 pm Newcomers who know the music and keep up with intermediate to fast tempo – YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN IN!!!</p>
<p><b>Sunday – August 9<sup>th</sup> 5 pm Poisoned Dwarf/FREE Concert</b></p>	<p><i>Poisoned Dwarf</i> A program of Celtic music focusing primarily on Irish Traditional music. Performed in the Churchyard of Grace Episcopal Church. Bring a chair or blanket and pack a picnic supper. 111 Church Street. FREE 757/890-4490 <a href="http://www.poisoneddwarf.com/index2.html">http://www.poisoneddwarf.com/index2.html</a></p>
<p><b>Irish Music Sessions August 12<sup>th</sup> &amp; 26<sup>th</sup> Rosie Connolly’s Richmond VA 23219</b></p>	<p><b><a href="#">Rosie Connolly's Pub &amp; Restaurant</a> – <a href="#">1548A East Main Street</a>, Richmond</b> Faces the 17th Street Farmers Market Next to Havana 59 restaurant 804-343-1063 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 8-10 p.m. or 11 p.m. or so...All Irish musicians invited and welcome to join in the session!</p>
<p><b>August 13<sup>th</sup> – Bon Air Library – IAS Meeting come at 6:15 9103 Rattlesnake Rd., Richmond, 23235 804-320-2461 – For directions</b></p>	<p>The Emmy Award winning movie –“<b>The Scarlet &amp; The Black</b>” based on the true story of Irish Hero - Monsignor Hugh O’Flaherty born in County Kerry. Fr. Hugh O’Flaherty was a Vatican official in 1943-45 working to help the victims of the Nazis. His diplomatic status in a Catholic country prevented his arrest, but he became the target of the Nazis in other ways. Based on a true story, the movie stars Gregory Peck, Christopher Plummer, Sir John Gielgud (and T.P. McKenna of County Cavan). – <b>The movie is a little over 2 hours so please come on time</b> and we’ll start the showing as soon as possible and will (hopefully) schedule a short intermission. 804-320-2461</p>
<p><b>August 16<sup>th</sup> – IAS Board Meeting. All Members are Welcome to Attend</b></p>	<p>Board meetings start at 7:00 and all members are welcome. Meetings are held at President Gloria Cahen’s house – please call her for directions - 804-233-2113. Your ideas and thoughts are welcome. If you can’t come – contact any Board member with your ideas, suggestions, or comments.</p>

<b>Aug 22<sup>nd</sup> – Pub Supper Rosie Connolly’s 1548 E. Main St. Richmond VA 23219 (804-343-1063) Meet at 6:00 pm – or come when you can</b>	This time – we’re back to <a href="#">Rosie' Connolly's</a> (click for link for menu and directions) and more good times – as Rosie’s has extended an invitation for all musicians to join in a “Session”. Also –A special on Fish & Chips – 2 for 1 and a \$1.00 off special on any pint. Joan will reserve tables for us, so please call her at 804-840-0080 or email her at <a href="mailto:j.finn@hotmail.com">j.finn@hotmail.com</a> and let her know your count – <b>let her know by August 15th</b> . That’s just to get us all seated together. Joan checked and we will have separate checks. Come on out and have fun, meet your fellow members and hopefully hear some great Irish tunes.
<b>Irish Festival Blackthorne Inn, in Upperville, Virginia, Sept. 6<sup>th</sup></b>	The Prodigals, Solas an Irish American band playing traditional tunes, The Dublin City Ramblers, Pittsburgh based Ceann Shannon Lambert-Ryan & RUNA, an Irish Dance stage, & kids activities <a href="http://www.theirishfestival.com/bands.htm">http://www.theirishfestival.com/bands.htm</a>
<b>Sept. 11, 12 &amp; 13<sup>th</sup> Pittsburgh PA Irish Festival</b>	Scythain, Gaelic Storm and more Irish music – Vendors, Sunday Mass, <a href="#">Pittsburgh PA Irish Festival/</a>
<b>October 2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Williamsburg Scottish Festival</b>	Friday, Oct 2 <sup>nd</sup> , <b>Balmoral Reception</b> , 7 PM–9:00 PM, <b>Ceilidh</b> 6 P.M. – 11 P.M. Saturday, Oct 3 <sup>rd</sup> . Festival 9 AM–5:30 PM Ceilidh 5:30 PM–Midnight Sunday, October 4 <sup>th</sup> – <b>Kirkin</b> 10 A.M.
<b>Oct 24th &amp; Oct 25th The Highland Games and Celtic Festival</b>	The Meadow Event Park – 13111 Dawn Blvd., Doswell VA 23047. It’s a new name and new home – the fifteenth annual Meadow Highland Games & Celtic Festival (formerly the Richmond Highland Games & Celtic Festival) features two days of “Music. Food. Large Men Throwing Stuff.” <a href="http://www.richmondceltic.com/">http://www.richmondceltic.com/</a>
<b>December 5<sup>th</sup> More info coming Mark The DATE</b>	<b>IAS Christmas Party – James River Boat Club</b> –But Mark your Calendar now and be sure to start planning for the Annual Silent Auction. Start putting those pennies away and also start planning your donations for the auction.
<b>January 21 – Thursday 7:30 pm Christopher Newport</b>	Band of the Irish Guards & the Royal Regiment of Scotland. This tour marks The Band of the Irish Guards and Royal Regiment of Scotland debut in the United States. The Irish Guards was formed in 1900 at the wish of Queen Victoria to commemorate the bravery of the Irish Regiments who had fought in the South African campaigns; the Regimental Band was formed at about the same time. Traditionally, the British Army of bands provided musical support to troops on active duty. Don’t miss the opportunity to experience this rousing, inspirational performance of these two historic bands. Tickets \$52/\$47/\$42
<b>April 2010</b>	Riverdance – Landmark Theater – Tickets - \$37.50 - \$57.50 – Tickets not on sale yet.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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