



The Richmond Claddagh <http://richmondias.org/>

Newsletter of the Greater Richmond Irish American Society

September 2008

HONORS FOR IAS OFFICERS:

On August 4th at a ceremony at Westhampton United Methodist Church, IAS President Gloria Cahen, Vice-President Dan Begley along with Father James Begley were honored with membership in "The Fellowship and Order of the Cross and Thistle of The St. Andrew's Legion. Medals and certificates of recognition were presented by Pipe Major and President Tim Batten and Senior Drum Major Don Milligan.

Congratulations to our IAS officers on this recognition.

THE SEPTEMBER IAS MEETING

September 18th – Tuckahoe Library

St. Patrick, St. Brigid, St Kevin of Glendalough, St. Columba, St. Finbarr... there are hundreds more Irish/Celtic men and women who are revered as Saints – for the good works, or good deeds, or their extreme sacrifices. All add to the historic fabric of Ireland and the Celts and you can learn more about some of them at the IAS September meeting. Professor Margaret Duckworth, who has been a guest speaker for the IAS and has made two wonderfully interesting and entertaining presentations on the Book of Kells will be our guest speaker at this meeting. This program, is about various Irish and Celtic saints and the lore, mystery and history surrounding them. Margaret is a storehouse of knowledge and one of the most vivacious presenters that we have ever had address our group and this program promises to be just as great as her first two. The program starts promptly at 7 – but please come early for pre-meeting hospitality and to meet your fellow IAS members. . Tuckahoe Library 1700 N Parham Road Richmond, VA 23229 (804) 270-9578 – for directions

September 19th Pub Supper – Gather for an IAS Pub Supper at O'Toole's Restaurant & Pub at 4800 Forest Hill Avenue, Please contact Pub-Master Ed Mayers at 804-379-5577 or email him at <mailto:EHM1537@msn.com> to give him a head count so that we call all be seated together. O'Toole's is smoke free and we always have a great time.

The 31st Williamsburg Scottish Festival. (Website at - <http://www.wsfonline.org>) The games are relocated this year to a beautiful new Festival site [Rockahock Campgrounds](#) in Lanexa, Virginia. Located just west of the Williamsburg, Jamestown, & Yorktown "Historic Triangle". Ceilidh Fri. night 6-11, Festival, Sat. 9-5:30 (with Ceilidh 5:30-midnight, Sunday – Kirking 10am. The IAS will have a tent set up to provide information on the Society, On Ireland, and to recruit new members. **If you'd like to volunteer to work in the tent – please call Karon Bell at 804-517-3249**

The Annual Richmond Highland Games & Celtic Festival <http://www.richmondceltic.com/> features two days of 'Music. Food. Large Men Throwing Stuff.' The IAS will be on hand with our tent full of Irish information. Competition abounds with the best athletes from around the world in the North American Highland Games Championship, along with Dance, Fiddle and Harp Competitions. Celebrate Celtic heritage with a Parade of Clans and Societies, pipe bands, living history encampments, Dogs of the British Isles Parade, and genealogical information. Enjoy traditional music and Celtic rock on two entertainment stages all weekend, shopping with over 80 authentic vendors and authentic food and drink. Karon Bell will be looking for volunteers so check your schedules!

The August IAS Monthly Meeting at St Stephen's Church was very well attended and members enjoyed the videos of the "Father Ted" BBC series. The IAS offers many thanks to Carol Rasnic for providing both the videos and her entertaining talk on some background on the series. The drawing for the two free tickets to the "Irish Homecoming" concert at U of R featuring "Cherish The Ladies" was won by Jim Petty. The Pettys are strong supporters of our IAS and also of all local Irish events and seem to always be in attendance at our programs and events. Many thanks to them for their support and congratulations on winning the tickets and thanks to all the members who turned out for the meeting.

FENIAN ANNIVERSARY - 2008 is the 150th anniversary of the birth of the Fenian movement. The **Irish Republican Brotherhood (IRB)** was formed in 1858, and its members in Ireland and elsewhere were known as Fenians. The IRB's main principles were that Ireland had a natural right to independence, and that right could be won only by armed revolution. 58 years after its' founding, the IRB organized the 1916 Easter Rising which ultimately led to almost complete Irish independence. I'm thinking a special toast at the Pub Supper on the 19th is in order to honor the memory of those that sacrificed for Ireland.

Cherish The Ladies at U of R on September 6th
Features local Irish talent with an IAS Connection! - The Claddagh just learned that Christina and Sharon Maguire, daughters of IAS members Denis and Jocelyn Maguire, will dance at both "Cherish The Ladies" shows in Richmond. The Maguire girls have both competed successfully at International Irish Dance contests in the US and in Ireland, and are both students with An Cor Rud in Va. Beach. Congratulations to the girls. What a wonderful opportunity! See the events section of the newsletter for more information on the concert.

"WHAT'S THE RUMPUS SWEEPSTAKES"

*PRESENTED BY GAELIC STORM
AND AER LINGUS*

**ONE GRAND PRIZE WINNER WILL
RECEIVE TWO (2) ROUND-TRIP
TICKETS TO DUBLIN, IRELAND.**

Second Prize: One winner will be awarded four (4) tickets to a Gaelic Storm Performance of his/her choosing. The Second Prize winner and his/her 3 companions will each also receive: one (1) autographed copy of the new Gaelic Storm album "What's The Rumpus?", one (1) copy of the Gaelic Storm DVD "Live In Chicago," and one (1) Gaelic Storm t-shirt.

Third Prize: One (1) winner will be awarded a \$100 Gaelic Storm virtual gift card, redeemable for merchandise on the official Gaelic Storm web store.

How To Enter: NO PURCHASE OR ENTRY FEE NECESSARY TO ENTER. To enter online, visit www.gaelicstorm.com, and follow the links and complete all required information accurately on the registration form. You must provide a valid email address, telephone number, and contact information for use throughout the Sweepstakes. Registering more than one name/user ID per person to enter our drawings will result in your disqualification. All on-line entries must be received by 4:59 p.m. EST on 10/21/08.

Alternatively, you may enter by printing in CAPITAL BLOCK LETTERS your name, address and phone number (and email address, if available) on a 3.5" x 5.5" postcard and mailing it to

**WHAT'S THE RUMPUS?
SWEEPSTAKES MAIL-IN ENTRY,
c/o ROAR, 1400 18TH Avenue South,
Nashville, TN 37212.**

All mail-in entries must be hand-printed. Mail-in entries must be postmarked by 10/10/08 and received by 10/17/08. All entries become the exclusive property of Sponsor and will not be acknowledged or returned.

Duration: This Sweepstakes begins at 12:01 p.m. EST on 8/08/08 and ends on 4:59 p.m. EST on 10/21/08. Only one entry per person, address or e-mail address is permitted. If multiple entries are received, only the first entry will be considered and subsequent entries will be disqualified.

(Note: Many thanks to Doug Elder for the heads up on this contest... get your entries in whether on line or in the mail.. Someone has to win it, and hey! Maybe it's your turn!)

Visit Gaelic Storms website at
<http://gaelicstorm.musiccitynetworks.com/>



Loads o' Bull Trip Lightly on the Tongue

By J. Herbert Silverman/ The Irish American Post

A lovely turn of phrase is called the "Irish Bull," a sentence containing a manifest inconsistency that somehow seems to spring from the same Gaeilge sources invented centuries ago by a spinner of tales, one Boyle Roche.

Examples: "Were you in the boat when you fell out?"

Or the question, "Are you reading the paper you're sitting on?"

And the classic response when inquiring after someone late and lamented is, "If he had lived until next Thursday, he would have been dead a week."

The following church notice appeared in the small village of Quin, Co. Clare: "A procession will be held in the church grounds on Sunday afternoon; if it rains in the afternoon, it will be held in the morning."

A word of warning in asking directions - if a local tells you that your destination is "a mile and a bit" down the road, remember the "bit" means anything from a half mile up to infinity.

An American emerging from Jury's Hotel in Ballsbridge outside of Dublin hailed a cab. In a response to a query, the cabbie said, "Is it the Guinness Brewery you're going to? Right, hop in, I'll be going with you."

Then there's the farmer from Galway who recalled he had come to collect his bicycle in town remarking, "There's my bike up against the wall — gone."

There are some contemporary and humorous variations on the Bull. As I left for the Shannon airport on an earlier trip, it was indeed my good friend, Dermot Walsh, who said in true Irish fashion, "My dear fellow, is it to home you're going?"

One time when a friend, the noted equestrian, Rob Mariani, visited a tiny fishing village in Clare, the pubs were starting to close and a fisherman staggered out to his "hooker," a small coastal craft. He saw the tide had gone out, leaving his boat high and dry. He took in the situation and then muttered to himself, "Ah, I've run out of water," and headed back to the pub for another pint of Guinness.

Mariani also recalls going to a tiny bar outside Lahinch way back in the '60s with three colleagues all drenched to the skin. "Is it still after raining out there?" said the bartender, automatically pouring out four large measures of Paddy's Irish Whiskey having judged our need instantly. "'Yes,' we spluttered back. "It's pouring down out there." "Ah well," says your man, "'that'll be the weather then.'"

And finally, myself recalls gratefully escaping into a pub called Butler's, to get away from the "soft" rain along the banks of the River Shannon. "My man, do I need a drink," I blurted out. The owner looked at me and said, "You mean you require a drink..... If you need a drink..... You are in serious trouble."

Jewish, Irish Roots Mingle Over Centuries

By J. Herbert Silverman Special to The Irish American Post

If your name happens to be Murphy, there's no question that your roots are firmly planted in Ireland — to be exact, in Co. Wexford. The Murphys, who edge out the Kellys with the most popular family name in the Emerald Isle, stem from the 12th century King of Leinster, "Murchadh," which means "Sea Warrior," or "Pirate." Murchadh, in turn, was descended from a long line of princes and kings including the fourth century ruler, Enda Kinsella.

If, on the other hand, you are a MacCarthy, you can trace your heritage back to "Olliol Olum" whose middle son, "Owen Mor," was the chief of another line of warriors. His descendant was "King Carthach" (the loving one) of Munster and it was from this worthy that the MacCarthys (Mac Carthach, son of Carthach) got their name.

Finally, if you're a Ryan, chances are you are descended from "Cathair Mor," a third century king who ruled all of Ireland from his seat in Leinster.

However, as odd as it may seem, if your name is Levin, Goldberg or even Disraeli, you might have Irish roots. In fact, it is recorded in Co. Limerick that in 1788, one Jacob Schweitzer from Germany and a resident of Ballingarry, married a Cork lady by the name of Fanny Levy. The Schweitzers had a flourmill in the district which is still known as Schweitzer's Mill.

The heritage of the Jewish people in Ireland, however, goes back to still earlier centuries. The Annals of Innisfallen reveal that five Jews arrived from France in 1062 bringing gifts to Turlough O'Brien, King of Munster and a grandson of Brian Boru. Even before this visit, records in Dublin's National Library (a treasure of a building) note that the Lia Fail or "Stone of Destiny" was brought to Ireland via Spain during mythical times by Scota, daughter of a Pharaoh who had discovered the stone to be the pillow used by the patriarch Jacob when he dreamed of the Heavenly Ladder. The stone was brought to Tara in Co. Meath and used for the coronation of Irish kings. Later, it was taken to Scotland but somehow ended up in Westminster.

At some point in time, the Tuath-de Danaan (The "God" tribes) were deified and became the "Shee" or fairies of Ireland living in great castles in sepulchral caverns. They were thought to be a branch of the Tribe of Dan and are mentioned in Judges V: 17 as a tribe that had "remained in ships."

Jumping the centuries, Shillman's definitive *A Short History of the Jews of Ireland* records that David Sollom, a merchant, bought the estate of Syddan in Co. Meath in the year 1678. About the same time, Portuguese Jews arrived in Dublin where they became "opulent merchants and founded the first synagogue in Ireland." It's interesting to observe that in 1730, the teacher of Hebrew at Trinity College in Dublin was Abraham Judah and the language was considered to be an important part of the curriculum.

On a folksy note, *Reilly's Dublin Newsletter* stated on Dec. 30, 1738, "There was Jews musick to be had at the Sign of the Fiddle and Dulcimer in Copper Alley played by Archibald Williamson, known as the "Irish Jew."

By the 1830's, more Jewish families from the continent had settled in Dublin north of the River Liffey and built a synagogue at Mary's Abbey. About this time, a few set off for Cork and Waterford to practice the exacting trade of goldsmith.

Later in the 19th century, a new Jewish presence developed in Ireland, albeit as a tiny influx, when the infamous "May Laws" of Czarist Russia forced Lithuanian Jews to flee from Eastern Europe. Landing in Dublin, some thought they had arrived in New York, only to find they had been dropped there by unscrupulous sea captains who had duped them because of language difficulties.

These were the families who either stayed in Dublin, such as the Briscoe's whose son, Robert, became one of the best known Jews in Ireland serving as Lord Mayor of Dublin, or went to Cork like the Goldberg's whose son, Gerald, not quite so famous but equally successful, became Lord Mayor of that city. Goldberg's father actually walked the 200 miles from Dublin to Cork, sleeping in barns offered by friendly Irish farmers.

The first arrivals, with little money and skills not adapted to agricultural Ireland, became "peddlers hawkers and traders." But in subsequent decades, these families produced doctors, solicitors and successful businessmen. Robert Briscoe's family owned a major interest in a successful furniture business, Lawlor Briscoe. If you walk on Lower Ormand Quay, you can still see the sign of their business.

Some of the early settlers stayed in Ireland for a half century and then emigrated in the wake of that Civil War to the United States.

Irish Jews fought for the "cause" during the troubles of 1916. Robert Briscoe served as adjutant to Eamonn de Valera and Emmanuel Kahane was killed during the Irish Civil War in 1922.

After World War II, many of the early arrivals' descendants left for Australia, South Africa and Israel where they established a kibbutz. In turn, there was an immigration wave of Jewish families from England who replenished their ranks. A president of Israel, Chaim Herzog, was the son of the chief rabbi of Belfast.

Library records show a fact of great interest and some surprise to current day Irish. The mother of Charles Stewart Parnell, the great 19th century patriot, known as the uncrowned king of Ireland, was Jewish. Born Delia Tudor, she once said, "My son is descended from a line of a tribe of Judah who had taken refuge in Spain." And the fourth Countess of Descart was born Ellen Odette Bischhoffsheim and married that Irish peer in 1881.

Help Please: Membership renewal forms are enclosed with the newsletter during the month that the membership is due for renewal. Please make every effort to return the forms and your annual membership fees as soon as possible during the month due. That saves the extra work of letter follow-ups, emails, and extra mailings for your humble membership chairman. Thanks – I appreciate your help.

Ireland has such a rich history and this document, The Cathach, is truly one of the most wonderful treasures of Ireland's past. (Again from somewhere in the Internet!)

The Cathach or the "Battle Book"

Written in Latin by one scribe. The Cathach is the oldest extant Irish manuscript of the Psalter -Book of Psalms- and the earliest example of Irish writing. It contains a Vulgate (Latin) version of Psalms XXX (10) to CV (13) It is traditionally associated with St. Columba of Iona (d. 597), and was identified as the copy clandestinely made by him of a Psalter loaned to him by St. Finian of Moville. Being the first recorded case of copyright infringement in history, the resultant dispute led to the Battle of Cul Dremhe in 561. (Contrary to traditional accounts, paleographic studies suggest a later date for the manuscript, the early seventh century.)

In the 11th century, The Cathach was enclosed in a cumdach or shrine by Cathbar O'Donnell, the head of the O'Donnell Clan, and Donnall McGroarty, Abbot of Kells. The McGroartys carried the shrine into battle as a talisman – in fact carrying it thrice right hand wise around the field of battle. (Hence the name: Cathach means "Battler"). The manuscript was rediscovered in 1813, when the shrine was opened. The Cathach was entrusted to the Royal Irish Academy in 1842 by Sir Richard O'Donnell. The O'Donnell family always claimed ownership of the Cathach, but the manuscript had remained in the custody of the McGroartys its official keepers.

Today, the manuscript is in the Royal Irish Academy in Dublin, while its shrine is in the National Museum of Ireland, also in Dublin. There are 58 folios in the damaged and incomplete manuscript. The maximum size is 200 by 130 mm. The extant portions include Psalms 30:10 to 105:13, and Irish Gaelic rubrics (liturgical directions written in red) appear above the Psalm texts. It is thus both the oldest known Irish manuscript and contains the earliest examples of old Irish Gaelic in writing.

Unlike the many beautiful illustrations in the Book of Kells, The decoration of the Cathach is limited to the initial letter of each Psalm. Each initial is in black ink and is larger than the main text. They are decorated with trumpet, spiral and Guilloché patterns (an engraving technique in which a very precise intricate repetitive patterns or design is etched into an underlying material with very fine detail. These patterns are not merely appended to the letters or used to fill spaces. They instead distort the shape of the letters themselves. The letters following the enlarged initials gradually reduce in size until they reach the same size as the main text. Although the motifs of the Cathach decoration are not similar to decorations in later manuscripts, such as the Book of Durrow (which followed the Cathach by as many as seventy years), the ideas of decoration which distorts the shape of the letters and the diminution of initial letters are ideas which are worked out in great detail in later Insular art.

The Kirk Festival

An exciting event for the entire family

Saturday Sept 6, 2008, 10 AM - 4 PM

Cost: \$10 per person

At The Gayton Kirk Presbyterian Church

11421 Gayton Road

Questions – 804-741-5254

Free for children ages 5 and under

Free hot dogs and lemonade

GAMES 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM:

SCOTTISH GAMES DEMONSTRATION

Large men throwing large objects

WEE GAMES – (Especially for Children)

11:30 AM and 1:30 PM

3:00 PM FAMILY RACES for all ages

Three legged race, Potato sack race, Egg relay, Wheelbarrow Race.

THROUGHOUT THE DAY: Children and Family

Activities Moon walk, Face-Painting, Fishing, Celtic "tattoos, Painting with watercolors, Highland Dancing for Children

"Free hot dogs and lemonade"

MUSIC IN THE OUT DOOR SANCTUARY: Virginia

Scots Guard Bagpipe and Drum Corp., Brian Murchinson, Heidi Csallner, Bruce Winn, Dick Vines, Stacie Fisher and more

ARTS & CRAFT BOOTHS: Jewelry. Homemade jellies.

Metal sculpture. Handmade furniture. Painted furniture. Wool products. Handmade purses. Scarves. Scrap booking.

HERITAGE: Explore your Scottish heritage at the

St. Andrew's booth.

<http://www.standrewssociety.org/>

CENTER FOR THE ARTS:

Demonstration schedule

10:15 Brass Rubbings,

11:15 Yoga,

12:15 Metal Sculpture,

1:15 Scrap Booking,

2:15 Zumba,

3:15 Creative Movement

CEILIDH: ('kay-lee) Celtic Highland Dance.

Saturday Sept 6th 7 PM - 10 PM for the entire family -

Cost: \$10 per person (free for children age 5 and under)

Need more info? jjamesgaytonkirk@aol.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – Click on links in calendar and you can hear song selections from the artists and ALWAYS click the link directly below to get the latest updates on upcoming events
<http://richmondias.org/index.php?content=upcoming>

Sept 6th	The Blarney Stone , 713 Caroline Street, Fredericksburg, VA 540-371-7468 - Featuring James West of the "Roaring Paddies" a second generation Irish-American whose family hails from County Down, Northern Ireland." Click on the link to hear some of his good Irish music! http://jameswestmusic.com/index.html/
Saturday, September 6 th Two Shows! 3:00 and 7:30	"An Irish Homecoming" In a stellar collaboration, Irish chanteuse Maura O'Connell appears with the all-female Celtic ensemble Cherish the Ladies , led by Grammy Award-winner Joanie Madden. Joined by singer-songwriter Dermot Henry and the traditional Irish music duo bohola, Jimmy Keane & Pat Broaders. Even more Irish fun with an ensemble of Irish dancers from The Chieftans and the cast of Riverdance. Tickets: \$38 adults, \$36 seniors, \$19 children, \$30 UR employees, \$8 UR students Tickets go on sale August 25, 2008.
September 6 & 7, 2008	Irish Festival. - http://www.theirishfestival.com/home.htm The festival will take place on the historic grounds of The Blackthorne Inn (link to website) in Upperville, VA and will be held - rain or shine with the gates opening at 6 PM each day. Headlining at the 2008 festival will be the bands, Solas and IONA – along with Ceann, The Irish Inn Mates an outstanding line up Irish cultural events, music, vendors, and an Irish pub Ticket prices are: \$15.00 in advance for one day (September 6 OR September 7) \$20.00 at the gate for one day (September 6 OR September 7) \$25.00 in advance for a weekend pass (September 6 AND September 7)
Sept 6 th The Gayton Kirk	The Kirk Festival The Gayton Kirk, The Kirk Festival, September 6th, 2008 at the Gayton Kirk Presbyterian Church USA on 11421 Gayton Road Richmond Va. 23238 in the Far West End across from the Stewart School. The Festival will have over 50 vendors and craftsman, music, food, games, children's activities, and artist demonstrations. Starts at 10am to 4pm. That evening at 7pm there will be The Highland Dances performance at the church. The festival celebration will be all weekend starting on Friday September 5th with an Gold Tournament at the golf club, and on Sunday their will be an Dedication and Worship Service 11am in the morning. Contact person in the pastor Janet James at 741-5254 for more information. You may visit their website for more information:
September 10 th Irish Music Jam Session	Rosie Connolly's Pub & Restaurant 1548A East Main Street , Richmond Rosie's Faces the 17 th Street Farmers Market Next to Havana 59 restaurant Start times are approximate... Visitors and Musicians welcome. 2 nd and 4 th Wednesdays, Time 8-10 p.m. or 11 p.m. or so ...
Friday, September 14 (6-9 PM) and Saturday, September 15 (Noon- 9 PM).	The 2007 Irish Festival in Baltimore City http://www.irishfestival.com/ is in the Canton Waterfront Park, one of the hottest areas in the Greatest City in America. Festival attendees will enjoy a beautiful view of the Inner Harbor to the northwest and Fort McHenry to the southwest. The Canton Waterfront Park is less than a mile away from the I-95 corridor to New York, Philadelphia and Washington. The festival is free and open to the public and will occur on Friday, September 14 (6-9 PM) and Saturday, September 15 (Noon- 9 PM Irish Music – The Dublin City Ramblers, and Black 47 join a host of other artists. Visit the website for a full schedule.
Sept 17 th Countdown to St. Pat's Day	Word from IAS Advertiser – (see the website) Glen Crone – To keep the Spirit of St. Patrick's Day alive - O'Toole's Irish Restaurant & Pub holds an Irish Sing a long on the 17 th of every month from 7:00pm till 8:30pm – it's located at 4800 Forest Hill Ave. Richmond, VA 23225
Sept. 18 th meet at 6:30 to socialize – Program starts at 7pm	IAS Monthly Meeting – Presentation by Professor Margaret Duckworth on Celtic Saints. Margaret has done two wonderfully interesting and entertaining presentation on the Books of Kells, and this program promises to be just as great. Tuckahoe Library 1700 N Parham Road Richmond, VA 23229 (804) 270-9578
Sept. 19 th	IAS Pub Supper – O'Toole's Restaurant & Pub 4800 Forest Hill Ave. Richmond, VA 23225 804-233-1781 –CALL ED MAYERS AT 804-379-5577 or mailto:EHM1537@msn.com with the number attending so we can all be seated together.
Sept 18,19,20	The Blarney Stone 713 Caroline Street, Fredericksburg, VA 540-371-7468 Brook Yoder Traditional Irish music

<p>September 18th 7:30 pm \$20</p>	<p>The Old Blind Dogs at the http://www.gravity-lounge.com in Charlottesville, VA. Old Blind Dogs have stood at the leading edge of the roots revival that has both reawakened and revolutionized Scottish folk music. Per IAS member Jim Mahone, "OBD gave the concert of a lifetime this past February at Gravity Lounge. World-class virtuosos and passionate performers! If you like Celtic, if you like traditional acoustic music, you'll love Old Blind Dogs!" http://www.oldblinddogs.co.uk/index.asp Equal parts bookstore, cafe, art gallery, listening room and Internet access point, Gravity Lounge is a place for people who enjoy simple pleasures: a good read, a good cup of coffee, a fresh-baked pastry, great music in a listening room atmosphere. Call (434) 977-5590 for more information Located at 103 South First Street, Charlottesville Virginia 22902-5006 (434) 977-5590(Google for Directions)</p>
<p>September 23rd 7:00 pm \$20</p>	<p>The Tannahill Weavers at the http://www.gravity-lounge.com in Charlottesville, VA. \$20 The Tannahill Weavers diverse repertoire reflects the duality of Scotland's musical heritage. It embraces both the mystical quality of the Highlander's Celtic music, and the rollicking, sometimes even brawling qualities of the Lowlander's Anglo-Scots tunes. The Tannahill Weavers' arrangements blend the beauty of the traditional melodies with the power of modern rhythms. The penetrating sound of the Highland bagpipes is a thread of ancient memory running through it all. Gravity Lounge is located on the pedestrian mall in Charlottesville, 103 South First Street, Charlottesville Virginia 22902 (434) 977-5590 – The link below will let you hear samples of their music. http://www.tannahillweavers.com/music_samples.htm</p>
<p>September 24th Irish Music Jam.</p>	<p>Rosie Connolly's Pub & Restaurant 1548A East Main Street, Richmond Rosie's Faces the 17th Street Farmers Market Next to Havana 59 restaurant Start times are approximate... Visitors and Musicians welcome. 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, Time 8-10 p.m. or 11 p.m. or so ...</p>
<p>September 28th</p>	<p>IAS Board of Directors Meeting. Ph 233-2113 for directions.</p>
<p>Oct 3,4,5th</p>	<p>Williamsburg's 31st Scottish Festival. Moved to a beautiful new Festival site Rockahock Campgrounds in Lanexa, Virginia. Located just west of the Williamsburg, Jamestown, & Yorktown "Historic Triangle". Ceilidh Fri. night 6-11, Festival, Sat. 9-5:30(with Ceilidh 5:30-midnight, Sunday – Kirking 10am. Website at - http://www.wsonline.org</p>
<p>Oct 4 & 5th</p>	<p>Chesapeake Celtic Festival Where? Furnace Town Living Heritage Museum, Eastern Shore of Maryland. http://www.celticfest.net/</p>
<p>Oct 5th 10am to 5 pm</p>	<p>Poisoned Dwarf – appearing Downtown at "A Celebration of Art & Music in Williamsburg, Virginia" More info and line up coming</p>
<p>October 8th – Irish Music Jam</p>	<p>Rosie Connolly's Pub & Restaurant 1548A East Main Street, Richmond Rosie's Faces the 17th Street Farmers Market, Next to Havana 59 restaurant. Start times are approximate... Visitors and Musicians welcome. 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, Time 8-10 p.m. or 11 p.m. or so ...</p>
<p>October 16 Dumbarton Library,</p>	<p>Kevin Donleavy, author, scholar on Ireland and the Irish in Virginia - Irish musician with his own band King Golden Banshee will give a presentation on the Irish in Virginia. Kevin has taught classes at U of R on the Irish and has written books on the links between the music of Virginia and the influence from the Irish and Scot settlers. Promises to be a wonderful evening! 6800 Staples Mill Rd. Richmond, VA 23228 (804) 262-6507</p>
<p>Oct 17th Countdown to St. Pat's Day</p>	<p>Word from IAS Advertiser – (see the website) Glen Crone – To keep the Spirit of St. Patrick's Day alive - O'Toole's Irish Restaurant & Pub holds an Irish Sing a long on the 17th of every month from 7:00pm till 8:30pm – it's located at 4800 Forest Hill Ave. Richmond, VA 23225</p>
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<p>Oct 22nd & 24th</p>	<p>Irish Tenor Anthony Kearns will return to Saint Bridget's Catholic Church – 6006 Three Chopt Road for two wonderful evenings of musical entertainment on October 22 and 24, 2008. Tickets are now available to purchase online. Clicking on the following link will prompt you to create a convenient online giving account, enabling access to details about ticket levels, pricing and purchase information. Hurry and buy your tickets now before they sell out! Questions? Call 282 9511 ext. 334. To purchase your tickets through the mail – click here to download an order form</p>

Oct 25 th & 26 th	The Annual Richmond Highland Games & Celtic Festival features two days of 'Music. Food. Large Men Throwing Stuff.' The IAS will be on hand with our tent full of Irish information. Competition abounds with the best athletes from around the world in the North American Highland Games Championship, along with Dance, Fiddle and Harp Competitions. Celebrate Celtic heritage with a Parade of Clans and Societies, pipe bands, living history encampments, Dogs of the British Isles Parade, and genealogical information. Enjoy traditional music and Celtic rock on two entertainment stages all weekend, shopping with over 80 authentic vendors and authentic food and drink.
Nov 7,8 & 9th	Maryland Irish Festival The Maryland Irish Festival" in "The Cow Palace" at the "Maryland State Fairgrounds," 2200 York Rd., Timonium, MD 21093.
November 12 th Irish Music Jam	Rosie Connolly's Pub & Restaurant 1548A East Main Street, Richmond Rosie's Faces the 17 th Street Farmers Market Next to Havana 59 restaurant Start times are approximate... Visitors and Musicians welcome. 2 nd and 4 th Wednesdays, Time 8-10 p.m. or 11 p.m. or so ...
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Nov 28 th - 30th	Coyote Run – Irish/Celtic Music. Christmas With the Coyotes - Williamsburg, VA Kimball Theatre - Call (800) HISTORY for tickets and information!
December 10 th Irish Music Jam	Rosie Connolly's Pub & Restaurant 1548A East Main Street, Richmond Rosie's Faces the 17 th Street Farmers Market Next to Havana 59 restaurant Start times are approximate... Visitors and Musicians welcome. 2 nd and 4 th Wednesdays, Time 8-10 p.m. or 11 p.m. or so
December 13, 2008 8:00 PM George Mason University, Fairfax VA/	Leahy - A Celtic Christmas December 13, 2008 at 8:00 pm <i>A Celtic Christmas</i> Get into the Christmas spirit with this spellbinding Canadian octet of brothers and sisters. Described by the <i>Buffalo News</i> as “fresh, vibrant, and engaging,” Leahy has captured countless fans with compelling fiddle-driven music, meticulous step dancing, and captivating vocals. The best-selling group explores its Irish and Scottish roots while demonstrating its formidable musical prowess and ferocious dancing, performing a mix of Celtic medleys and traditional Christmas carols. “Leahy makes Christmas a true family affair!”(<i>Calgary Herald</i>) SINGLE TICKET SALES WILL BE AVAILABLE TUES., SEPT. 2, 2008 \$46, \$38, \$23
Thursday, December 18 th Two Shows – 5:30 & 7:30 The Henrico Theater FREE ADMISSION	<u>HOLIDAYS WITH THE CROSSROADS IRISH DANCE TROUPE</u> - This show is acceptable for all ages. This dance troupe prides itself on combining an exciting blend of both traditional Irish step and the present-day "Riverdance" style. They continue to capture audiences with both the gracefulness and complexity of Irish dance. Join us for this great holiday show! The Henrico Theater is located in Highland Springs at 305 E. Nine Mile Road. Henrico County purchased the Theatre, which originally opened in 1938 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. A \$5.8 million renovation and expansion project has converted the one-time movie palace into a fine-arts venue capable of hosting a variety of activities, including live theater, music, dance, film, group meetings and multimedia presentations. The historic, 400-seat theater features a vintage movie projector and restored art deco details.
Friday, December 19 th 6:30 pm The Henrico Theater.	<u>THE HUNT FAMILY FIDDLERS</u> For all ages. Come see Virginia's own Hunt Family Fiddlers! Their holiday show keeps everyone entertained with great diversity featuring fiery Celtic dancing and fast fiddling. Song selections include themed music from The Nutcracker, a special Trans-Siberian Orchestra tribute, and other popular Christmas traditionals - a miniature Elvis even shows up to sing Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree! FREE ADMISSION
December 31 st Williamsburg “First Night”	Poisoned Dwarf – More info coming.

January 17 th	Word from IAS Advertiser – (see the website) Glen Crone – To keep the Spirit of St. Patrick’s Day alive - O’Toole’s Irish Restaurant & Pub holds an Irish Sing a long on the 17 th of every month from 7:00pm till 8:30pm – it’s located at 4800 Forest Hill Ave. Richmond, VA 23225
January 31 – Feb 7 th Annual Irish Festival Cruise	Aboard Celebrity Cruise Line’s Summit. http://www.irishtours.com/Cruise.html St. Maarten, Dominica, Grenada, Bonaire and Aruba while unpacking just once. Tackle some conversational Gaelic so that you can astound your friends and confound your enemies. While you will certainly enjoy all the activities of a cruise, this sailing offers you the Irish music you love so well. Delight in over 40 hours of Irish entertainment throughout the week. In addition to evening concerts, learn the bodhrán or some Celtic mythology. If you have any questions or wish to reserve a cabin call 1-800-441-HARP (4277) or 215 885-5350 for 1-800-441-HARP (4277) or email at agency@irishtours.com
Saturday, February 7 th 8:00 pm	The Dublin Philharmonic Orchestra brings together the finest of Irish and European orchestral musicians, including Irish and international soloists, conductors and composers, in celebration of a shared musical heritage. Music Director Derek Gleeson conducts. The concert program will feature Beethoven’s <i>Coriolan Overture</i> in C Major, Opus 62, Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor, Opus 37 and Brahms’ Symphony No. 3 in D Major, Opus 73. TICKET PRICES:\$67 / \$57 / \$52 Christopher Newport University's Ferguson Center for the Arts 1 University Place Newport News, Virginia 23606
February 17 th	Word from IAS Advertiser – (see the website) Glen Crone – To keep the Spirit of St. Patrick’s Day alive - O’Toole’s Irish Restaurant & Pub holds an Irish Sing a long on the 17 th of every month from 7:00pm till 8:30pm – it’s located at 4800 Forest Hill Ave. Richmond, VA 23225
March 11 th	Lunasa – http://www.lunasa.ie/home.php Click on the link to hear their Traditional Irish Music from Mayo, Armagh, Tyrone and Clare. They will be at the Reston VA Community Center Reston VA. Phone: 703-476-4500 (press #3) Tickets are \$28.00 http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com/arts_center.shtml
March 13, 2009 – 8 pm Cherish The Ladies – Norfolk VA.	Norfolk Southern Pops at Chrysler Hall, Cherish the Ladies, Chrysler Hall - Norfolk Irish eyes will be smilin' as Cherish the Ladies celebrates the wearin' o' the green, performing all of your Irish favorites - complete with dazzling step dancing! Visit the website http://www.virginiasymphony.org or call (757) 892-6366 for more information. Tickets: \$26-\$86
Saturday, March 21, 2009 7:30 pm Camp Concert Hall, Booker Hall of Music – U of R	Danú Hailing from historic County Waterford, Danú is one of the leading traditional Irish ensembles of today. Their standing-room-only concerts throughout Ireland are true events, featuring high-energy performances and a glorious mix of ancient Irish music and new repertoire. For over a decade, Danú’s virtuosi performers—on flute, tin whistle, fiddle, button accordion, bouzouki and vocals (Irish and English)—have appeared on stages throughout the world and recorded seven critically acclaimed albums. Danú guides its audiences on a musical journey through Ireland, offering a moving and memorable concert experience in celebration of the lingering spirit of St. Patrick’s Day. Tickets: \$34 adults, \$32 seniors, \$17 children, Tickets go on sale February 6, 2009 (campus) or February 20, 2009 (public).