



The Richmond Claddagh

<http://richmondias.org/>

Newsletter of the Greater Richmond Irish American Society

March 2008

The St. Patrick's Festival Parade 10 am March 29th Broad and 25th .- It's that time of year again...

The Irish American Community Council and Parade Chairman Joan Finnegan have another great Saint Patrick's Parade planned for the festival on Church Hill. The parade will kick-off the weekend activities on Saturday at 10:00

IAS President, Gloria Cahen has been named the 2008 Grand Marshal for the St. Patrick's Parade. Gloria is recognized for her long-standing commitment to the Richmond Irish American Society and her dedication to promoting the cultural and historical aspects of our Irish heritage and our local Irish community.

We are asking all IAS members that can – to join us and march in this year's parade in support of our President, Gloria and to also make a positive statement about our local IAS organization and our Irish community. Please come out and join us in this celebration of our Irish heritage.

Marchers are asked to get to the festival area by 9:15 on Saturday morning so that our organization can be staged in the line-up area. Our members will be passing out beads and candy along the parade route. It's a great way to start a very fun weekend

Irish garb is encouraged and welcomed – anything green will do and if you fellows have a kilt -let's show those knees!

The Irish American Society Booth at St. Pat's Festival - Sonya Moore – The IAS Special Events Chairman is setting up plans for the IAS booth at the St. Pat's Festival March 29th & 30th. The booth will be up for both days at the festival and we need volunteers to help us man the booth. Sonya will work with you to schedule a time that is convenient for you. What do we do in the IAS booth? We are there to talk to visitors about our Irish heritage and our Irish American Society . We have books with the history and background of Irish names, Irish Tartans, Irish sweater patterns, Irish Coat Of Arms, and more. Best of all, as a volunteer, you don't have to be a scholar of all things Irish – you just need a ready smile and an available ear. Most folks just want to talk about our shared heritage, look at the map and learn a little from the information that we have to share. Don't worry if you've never volunteered before – there are plenty of experienced hands to teach you the ropes. Our appearance at this and other local/regional Irish/Celtic events is our chance to promote the Society and also to give folks a chance to learn a little more about their Irish culture. The history of Ireland and the Irish people is a wonderful heritage to share. You will find yourself learning more and

you'll probably feel your "Irishness" more acutely. We also get our membership information out to our visitors. So call Sonya and set up a time to come and work in the booth. We'll all help you learn the ropes. This is a great way to spend a few hours and it gives you a chance to connect with your fellow IAS members and the nice folks who come by to meet us. **Please contact Sonya Moore at 272-4138 or email her at sonyasmoore@comcast.net to volunteer some time to work in the IAS tent.** It is so much fun - you'll be glad you did!

April 3rd – IAS General Meeting – 7:00 pm at the Dumbarton Library – “Seanachie Night – Irish Story telling” From the Gaels storytelling became a high art, and the Seanachie the keeper of Irish, history, myth, legend and even genealogy. The tales themselves were passed down from master to apprentice.

Irish immigrants brought the tradition of the Seanachie, alive with stories of leprechauns, elfin kings, heroes, and children, to North America during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

For the April meeting Dan Begley has teamed with IAS member Kathy Mincz for this “Seanachie Night”. Kathy is a member of the local story telling group, “Tell Tale Hearts – (you can visit their website at <http://www.telltalehearts.org/wordpress/>) Kathy will start the evening with some old Irish tales and then our members will add to the evening with their stories.. It can be an Irish joke, a story from a trip to Ireland, a tale from growing up in Ireland from one of Irish born members. The last time we did this, the contributions were many and varied. The first story – seems to feed the imagination of the others and it turned out to one of our most lively and enjoyable meetings. So come on out and enjoy the stories from Kathy and the other members that will be sharing stories too!

Kathy is also bringing some Irish books and DVD's on/about Ireland – and they will be free to anyone at the meeting who would like to have them. The library is east to get to from any direction, and is located at 6800 Staples Mill Road –Call 262-6507 for directions

THERE WILL BE NO MARCH IAS GENERAL MEETING - due to all of the Irish themed events spread throughout the month. Enjoy all the great opportunities to hear Irish music, attend festivals and oh by the way - - Remember to come and march with the IAS in the St. Pat's parade if you can, and call Sonya and volunteer for the IAS booth while you're at it!

The February Pub Supper at Rare Olde Times

Well, it was another fun night of getting to know other members. What a good turnout. Our newest member Winnie McHale joined us – along with Pat & Colleen Naughton, Dan Begley, Joan Finnegan, Jim Bandeleon, Kathryn O'Meara, Jim & Kathleen Petty, Jim & Patsy McGroarty, Steve Gallagher and friend Calee, Mark & Leslie Gallaher, and Sherrie Kirby and Brian Fabricatore –who have been members for awhile, but this was the first IAS event they attended. Glad to have you and Winnie join us! The pub suppers provide a nice relaxed atmosphere for members to mingle and get acquainted. Hope you'll plan to join us one night!

AN IRISH ESCAPE - Spring is coming – and if you are looking for a weekend getaway – I ran across a wee bit O'Ireland in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia a couple of years ago and wanted to share the info again. About 1905, William Edward Carson, an Irish immigrant and limestone baron, built his home, "Killahevlin" on one of the highest spots in Front Royal, Virginia. Mr. Carson chose the Gaelic name of Killahevlin because of his fond memories of Killyhevlin in **Co Fermanagh** Northern Ireland

Today the home and adjoining Tower House have been restored and transformed into an "Irish-flavored" Bed & Breakfast – complete with an Irish pub on premise and a guard cat named Murphy. Here are the details if you want an Irish getaway without the expense of Euro's! You can go to their website for more info.

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

1401 North Royal Ave. Front Royal, VA 22630

Toll Free: 800-847-6132

Please do not call after 9:30 PM or before 8:00 AM

FOR YOUR VIEWING PLEASURE! PBS
Specials in March **"Historic Pubs of Dublin"**
A tour of Irish pubs with author Frank McCourt

WCVE CHANNEL 23

Tuesday, March 4, 11:00pm

Saturday, March 8, 10:30pm

Sunday, March 9, 4:30am

WCVW - CHANNEL 57

Thursday, March 6, 9:30pm

WCVE DT2 (Digital)

Tuesday, March 4, 11:00pm

Saturday, March 8, 10:30pm

Sunday, March 9, 4:30am

DON'T FORGET – If you run across some interesting article, joke, place, person, recipe, etc that you would like to submit to the newsletter... trust me. I'd love to get it from you! (Nancy)



Have you ever heard the story,
Of how Ireland got its name?
If you haven't well I'll tell you
From whence old Ireland came.

No wonder that we're proud
Of that dear land across the sea.
For here's the way me dear old mother
Told the tale to me.

Sure a little bit of heaven
Fell from out the sky one day.
And nestled in the ocean
In a spot so far away.

And when the Angels found it,
Sure it looked so sweet and fair,
They said 'suppose we leave it
For it looks so peaceful there.'

So they sprinkled it with stardust,
Just to make the shamrocks grow,
'Tis the only place you'll find them,
No matter where you go.

Then they dotted it with silver,
To make its lakes so grand.
And when they had it finished
Sure they called it 'Ireland'

There are many Irish Blessings – But this is still my favorite

May the road rise ever to meet you.
May the wind always be at your back.
May the sun shine warm on your face;
May the rain fall soft on your fields
And, until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.
(Notre Dame Folk Choir version)

Cuz I Like Fun Stuff:

In Sligo, you still officially need a license to buy molasses. It's a legal hangover from the days when the county was the Poitin capital of Ireland.

The first casualty of the Irish Civil War (1922-23) was a Free State Sniper who was smashed over the head with a teapot by an elderly Dublin woman?

BESIDES BEING THE TIME TO REMEMBER

ST. PATRICK – the month of March brings a proclamation from the President designating it as “Irish-American Heritage Month”. To that end, we present a short list of important Irish-American contributions, miscellaneous Irish facts and some dates to remember.

- 35,975,855 Americans (12% of total population) reported Irish ancestry in the 2006 American Community Survey
- The password of George Washington’s troops at Boston on 3-17-1776 was “St. Patrick”.
- Eight of the original signers of the Declaration of Independence are of Irish descent and one Charles Carroll of Maryland is a Catholic.
- Confederate General Patrick Cleburn, Co. Cork born, cited for valor at the Battle of Shiloh.
- Mary O’Hara, novelist of the American West wrote, “My Friend Flicka”.
- During the WWII Battle of the Solomon Islands, the American ship, “Juneau” sank killing the five Sullivan brothers of Waterloo Iowa.(The Fighting Sullivans is a great old B&W movie)
- The Medal of Honor - our highest military decoration since its presentation by President Lincoln in 1861. Of the recipients the 202 Irish born recipients constitute the largest group of Immigrants to receive this award. There have also been 19 Double Medal of Honor recipients and of these, 5 are Irish Born and 3 are Irish American Born
- Audie Murphy became the most decorated soldier of WWII, with 28 citations for bravery, including the Medal of Honor
- John J. McCinty III, born in Boston and a resident of South Carolina is a recipient of the Medal of Honor in Vietnam.
- Margaret Hays McCauley, heroine of the Battle of Monmouth in 1779 becomes known to history as “Molly Pitcher”.
- Beginning as a scout for the U.S. Army and later a guide for Teddy Roosevelt, Tom Mix becomes one of America’s greatest western film heroes.
- A schoolteacher, James Holland – born in Co. Cork, moved to the US and invented an “underwater cigar” which became the world’s first submarine.
- Victor Herbert was the first American Composer to write an original score for the movies and is often called “The Prince of Operetta”.
- John Barry won the first and last naval battles of the American Revolution, earning him the title of “Father of the American Navy.”

- Colin P. Kelly, Jr. a pilot shot down on December 10. 1941, was the first decorated hero after the December 7th attacks at Pearl Harbor.
- In 1873 the big bonanza of the Comstock Lode is discovered by John Mackay, James Fair, James Flood and William O’Brien
- In 1847 the American ship Jamestown arrives in Cork Ireland with food for the famine victims.
- Will Rogers left school at an early age to become a cowboy and became one of America’s greatest humorists.
- Kate Smith, a star for decades, famous for her 1938 singing of “God Bless America” and her unceasing patriotic devotion to bond fund rallies during WWII
- Irish born Patrick Maguire was the first man of Christopher Columbus’ crew to step on North American Soil

Now.. check out all the March events on our calendar and enjoy these days of March and the celebrations in honor of St. Patrick – at the same time remember how much of our country is founded on the efforts and ingenuity of our Irish forefathers.



Feel the Pride.



What it is to be Irish...

- Being Irish isn't something you do –
- It's something you are.
- Being Irish means that your heart swells like a sheet on a clothesline at the sound of your ancestral brogue
- That the thought of your dad and sainted mother makes you weep a wee bit even now,
- That the devil himself - try as he does - will never dim your devotion to the Trinity.
- If you're truly Irish, you're possessed of a joy of the spirits and a depth of soul.
- You carry a smile for a stranger and coins a plenty for the poor.
- Aye, there's feistiness about you as well, but only in protecting all that you hold dear family, friends, faith and land, your heritage.
- For if you can see a masterpiece in a sunset and a promise of harvest in a clump of dirt, if you claim friends who'll buoy you up as well as cheer you when you sad,
- If you can feel the loving grip of God whatever your lot in life - - then saints be praised.

YOU'RE IRISH.

Irish Music:

Even though it was August 2007 that Tommy Makem lost his long battle with cancer, we just can't go this Irish season without remembering him. Tommy Makem was an Irish soul singer, and souls don't die. His music is preserved on the old vinyl LPs and the CD's he made with his pals, the Clancy brothers.

From The New York Times; Oct. 12, 1999 "To hear Tommy Makem sing "Four Green Fields" was the ultimate. He was for Irish traditional music a great ambassador, and a consummate performer. With his friendly patter between songs, Tommy Makem could make every one of his listeners feel part Irish and proud of it...Makem has his audience ready to go out and die for Ireland." (Editors note - It's true - he was magic - God's rest Tommy)

Four Green Fields:

(The old woman in the song is Ireland, and her four sons are the Four Provinces: Ulster, Munster, Leinster and Connaught. The third verse speaks of the six counties of Ulster partitioned by the British in 1922 and to the present day held under British misrule.)

"What did I have?" said the fine old woman
"What did I have?" this proud old woman did say
"I had four green fields, each one was a jewel
But strangers came and tried to take them from me
I had fine, strong sons; they fought to save my jewels
They fought and died and that was my grief", said she

"Long time ago", said the fine old woman
"Long time ago", this proud old woman did say
"There was war and death, plundering and pillage
My children starved by mountain, valley and sea
And their wailing cries, they shook the very heavens
My four green fields ran red with their blood", said she

"What have I now?" said the fine old woman
"What have I now?" this proud old woman did say
"I have four green fields, one of them's in bondage
In strangers hands that tried to take it from me
But my sons have sons, as brave as were their fathers
My fourth green field will bloom once again", said she

Some Irish Name/Genealogy Sites Found on the Web:

I've found some excellent sites on the web for researching Irish names, finding Irish baby names (although if I ever have to use that website - we all better look for another star in the East and three guys on camels cuz that would be quite the miracle ☺)
For those without Internet access at home - I've displayed the actual websites so - if you use a library computer - you have the website address to type into the browser to get to each of these sites. " Good Hunting!"

- <http://www.babynamesofireland.com> This site features author Frank McCourt pronouncing each of the names listed!
- <http://www.youririshroots.com> This site features a brief history of Ireland, as well as resources for researching ancestors.
- http://www.suite101.com/welcome.cfm/irish_genealogy this is another good site for Irish genealogy. This site includes not only information and databases on Irish families, but it also features interesting and helpful articles about tracing your ancestors. Be sure to check out "*Is Koen an Irish Name?*" .
<http://www.suite101.com/article.cfm/6114/32935>
This article does a really good job of explaining the intricacies of Irish name anglicizations.
- www.Genealogy.ie is a good resource for finding out about your ancestors and other topics of historical interest. They also have personalized items you can buy online as well as a bulletin board.
- *The On-Line Irish Names Research Directory* <http://list.jaunay.com/irlnames/> is a good place to research the meaning of your surname, and help you trace your ancestors.
- *The Fianna RootsWeb* <http://www.rootsweb.com/%7Efianna/index.html>
This site has information about the name and history of the many different Irish families. They also have a page of links for finding information about *Irish surnames and clans*.
<http://www.rootsweb.com/%7Efianna/surname/name02.html>

March 18th - In the old Celtic calendar, today is Sheelah's Day. In ancient Ireland, it was an annual festival to honor the fertility Goddess known as Sheela-na-gig or Naked Sheela-na-gig figures appeared in Irish churches constructed before the 16th century, but most were defaced or destroyed during the prudish Victorian age. According to some sources, the origins of "drowning the shamrock" have also been traced to this date. In the eighteenth century, William Hone reported on the celebrations surrounding Sheelah, who has been variously identified as the wife, mother, or other relative of St. Patrick - noting that, the people of the day "are not so anxious to determine who 'Sheelah' was, as they are earnest in her celebration. All agree that her immortal memory is to be maintained by potations of whisky." At the end of the day, the faithful would then take their shamrocks and drop them into their respective glasses before downing the contents. (Another example of news that you won't get anywhere else!)

Member News:

The Claddagh sends warmest regards to members

Delia Atwood, mother of former Claddagh editor Bonnie Atwood. Delia is recovering from recent surgery and is doing very well.

To Mildred Kladde who is recovering from hip surgeries.

Our best to both of you and we hope to see you back at the Irish events soon... feeling great and full of "Irish"

And to Kathy Mincz our deepest sympathies on the loss of her mother in February.

Please keep all these members and their families in your thoughts

Ireland in Words –

Quotes About Ireland, About Irishmen, and About Irish Spirit – sometimes just a slice of Irish humor.

"A government that robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul" *George Bernard Shaw*

"Ireland, sir, for good or evil, is like no other place under heaven, and no man can touch its sod or breathe its air without becoming better or worse."- *George Bernard Shaw*

"What was it that made Maggie leave Ireland, forsake her siblings and parents and flee to New York in the 1800s, we never knew. We yearned to know, because she was the first in a long line of leavers, the matriarch of a clan of men and women who made mysterious and dramatic exits. But her reason for leaving must have been too awful, too painful, because Maggie was said to be a born storyteller, and that story was the one she would never tell."- *J.R. Moehring, "The Tender Bar"*

"When I told the people of Northern Ireland that I was an atheist, a woman in the audience stood up and said, 'Yes, but is it the God of the Catholics or the God of the Protestants in whom you don't believe?' *Quentin Crisp*

"It's not that the Irish are cynical. It's simply that they have a wonderful lack of respect for everything and everybody."- *Brendan Behan*

"Ireland, thou friend of my country in my country's most friendless days, much injured, much enduring land, accept this poor tribute from one who esteems thy worth, and mourns thy desolation."- *George Washington, speaking of Ireland's support for America during the revolution*

"Not a shred of evidence exists in favor of the idea that life is serious."- *Brendan Gill*

"Those who drink to forget, please pay in advance." - *Sign at the Hibernian Bar, Cork City.*

"Even if the ball was wrapped in bacon, Lassie couldn't find it."- *Heard from an Irish caddie, after a particularly bad shot.*

A weary soldier fighting against Napoleon at Waterloo wrote in his diary: "When I [could] take some nourishment, I felt the most extraordinary desire for a glass of Guinness."

"Liberty without learning is always in peril; learning without liberty is always in vain" John F. Kennedy

"If you could keep voices like flowers
There'd be shamrock all over the world
If you could drink dreams like Irish streams
The world would be high as the mountain of Mourn

In the 'Pool they told us the story
How the English divided the land
Of the pain, the death and the glory
And the poets of auld Eire land"
(The Luck of the Irish – lyrics John Lennon)

"You know it's summer in Ireland when the rain gets warmer."- *Hal Roach*

"Today I come back to you as a descendant of people who were buried here in pauper's graves."- *President Ronald Reagan, on a visit to Ballyporeen in 1984*

"We are ready to die and shall die cheerfully and proudly...You must not grieve for all of this. We have preserved Ireland's honour and our own. Our deeds of last week are the most splendid in Ireland's history. People will say hard things of us now, but we shall be remembered by posterity and blessed by unborn generations." *Padraig Pearse/Easter Uprising, April 24, 1916*

"If you strike us down now we shall rise again and renew the fight. You cannot conquer Ireland. You cannot extinguish the Irish passion for freedom. If our deed has not been sufficient to win freedom, then our children will win it by a better deed". *Padraig Pearce/Leader of the 1916 Rebellion.*

"They won't break me because the desire for freedom, and the freedom of the Irish people, is in my heart. The day will dawn when all the people of Ireland will have the desire for freedom to show. It is then that we will see the rising of the moon". *Bobby Sands*

Ireland is the Land of Saints and Scholars with hundreds of local Saints.
Since St. Patrick gets most of the attention,
This year, St. Paul's Catholic Church in
Richmond's Historic Ginter Park will Celebrate:

St. Beoadh's Day

Saturday, March 8, 2008

Mini Irish Film Festival -1:00 p.m.
Screenings of Favorite and Less Known Irish Films with
Commentary and Discussion

Join us for Mass – 5:15– 6:15 p.m.

Pub Night Begins -6:30 p.m. Featuring

The First All-Richmond *Danny Boy* Singing Competition

Irish Harpers

Dun do Bheal

(Kevin, Conor and Seamus)

Uisce Beatha

Featuring Parishioners: Jim Guy, Dan Guy & Judy Guy

And other special guests.

Cost: Adults \$20.00 Children under 12years old -\$10.00
(Includes Dinner and Drinks)

For more information call 329-0473

909 Rennie Ave
Richmond, VA 23227

(Directions) – From 195 (Powhite Pky) - Take the Laburnum Ave exit toward VA-197 (0.2miles), -
Turn right at W Laburnum Ave (1.4miles). Turn right at Chamberlayne Ave (US-1 S/US-301 S) (0.6miles)
Turn left at Rennie Avenue to the Church.



Dublin's Irish Pub's Sponsors a Trip to Ireland



As someone once said, "A pub is a poor man's university" (Anonymous). And in celebration of education - On November 10th - 14th, Dublin's Pub is sponsoring a Pub Tour in Dublin Ireland. The price is \$1,139 per person and that includes Hotel, Airfare, Tips, Taxes, transport from airport to hotel, Full Irish breakfast daily, Guinness Plant tour, Jameson Plant tour, two pub crawls. (Price based on double occupancy). For more details, call Dublin's 804-723-5582

**JOIN US FOR A TRIP TO
DUBLIN, IRELAND**

NOVEMBER 10-14, 2008

**PACKAGE INCLUDES OVERNIGHT FLIGHT FROM WASHINGTON
DIRECT TO DUBLIN,
3 Nights SUPERIOR HOTEL CITY CENTER**

**FULL Irish breakfast
Roundtrip airport transfers
Full breakfast daily
November 12th - Guinness Storehouse (coach transfer for one day)
November 13th - Jameson Distillery
Tips and taxes**

\$1,139.00 pp double occupancy

(PRICE NOT GUARANTEED UNTIL DEPOSIT RECEIVED)

ANNE WALTER

Email - anneandtravel@comcast.net

**DEPARTURES UNLIMITED
7286 HANOVER GREEN DRIVE
MECHANICSVILLE, VA 23111
Office 730-1672**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS - All links in the calendar section are active – or

You can click this link to get the latest updates on upcoming events

<http://richmondias.org/index.php?content=upcoming>

March & April	The Free Celtic Film Series presented by the Williamsburg Regional Library in cooperation with the local chapters of the St. Andrew's Society and the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians. For the list of movies http://www.wrl.org/programs/theatre.html or contact the library directly
March 6 th	U of R Concert -Jepson Theater Natalie McMaster – Celtic Fiddler Tickets: \$32 adults, \$30 seniors 65+, \$16 children 12 and under For Info – 804-287-6012
March 8 th – at Dublin's Irish Pub. 7:00 pm	The Press Gang - a three man Sea Chantey and Celtic singing group with enough rollicking songs to keep the party going all night including Moonshiner, Black Velvet Band, Whiskey in the Jar, Fiddlers Green, Star of the County-Down, Brennan on the Moor, Danny Boy, and many more. www.pressgangsingers.com
March 8 th	Irish Festival St. Beoadh's Day. See newsletter flyer for full details St. Paul's Church 909 Rennie Ave Richmond VA 23227 (For info call 329-0473
March 7 th 8:00	Celtic Woman are an all-female vocal ensemble performing various traditional and contemporary Celtic-based songs. At Chrysler Hall in Norfolk For Ticket information
March 7, 8, 20, 21,22,27	Robin Rich & Common Threads 9 pm Sullivan's Pub 301 S. Railroad Ave, Ashland 752-1628 Heritage Aire Celtic Ensemble – 3:00 pm Special FREE Event sponsored by Richmond Folk Music 3:00 pm Concert is Free, but Reservations Required 804-647-7856
March 9 th	The Mahones – Canada's Premier Irish Punk Rock Band - http://www.themahones.net/ At Sullivan's Pub 301 S. Railroad Ave, Ashland 752-1628
March 9 th	Leahy at Paramount Theater in Charlottesville, PH 434-979-1333 http://www.theparamount.net/calendar_shows_leahy.aspx
March 12 th	Chieftains at Sandler Theater – VA. Beach http://www.sandlercenter.org/calendar/?event=34
March 13, 14,17	Marty Brandon – 9:00 Sullivan's Pub 301 S. Railroad Ave, Ashland 752-1628
March 14 th 7-9 pm	Albafaire – Celtic Music for the Common Man http://albafaire.com/Home_Page.html - Dublin's Irish Pub 7526 Mechanicsville Turnpike (old Safeway Plaza) Great Local Irish/Celtic group
March 15 & 17	St. Andrew's Pipe & Drum Dublin's Irish Pub http://www.salpd.com/events_public.php?year=2008
March 16th	St. Andrew's Pipe & Drum O'Toole's Irish Pub (link above)
March 17 th	St. Andrew's Pipe & Drum – Capital Ale House (link above)
March 28 th - 7 pm	Davies-Brenchley-Davies - Songs and Tunes from Britain, Ireland and the USA at Dublin's Irish Pub http://www.richmondfolkmusic.com/page16.htm
Mar 27 28, 29	Sullivan's Pub – Frank Emerson 9:00 (Irish & Celtic) http://www.frankemerson.com/music.html
March 29th -St. Pat's Parade/Festival Come & March with us	St. Pat's Parade and Festival Church Hill, Richmond Parade starts at 10 am and all IAS members are encouraged to arrive by 9:15 to assemble to march in the parade as a unit. IAS President Gloria Cahen is Grand Marshal of the 2008 Parade. So come on out, wear some green or your kilt and let folks meet and greet the IAS! Be sure and volunteer to work some time in our IAS booth over the weekend. Festival hours are 10 am to 7 pm
March 30 th	St Pat's Festival Church Hill, Richmond – 11am – 6pm
April 3 rd	IAS Monthly Meeting Dumbarton Library 7:00 6800 Staples Mill Road 262-6507-
April 5th	They're Back! Seven Nations at Dublin's Irish Pub – Reduced Cover Charge for IAS members is \$10.00. For more info - Dublin's Irish Pub, Mechanicsville -804-723-5582
April 12th	Strawberry Hills Races in the Sky Box – Call Gloria Cahen 233-2113 with any questions
April 12th	Lexington VA. Scots Irish Festival on the grounds of Washington and Lee University For information - http://lexcelts.com/index.php or 877.CELTIC2 (877.235.8422, Toll Free)
April 17 th	Gaelic Storm at Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, VA – Tickets \$25", 7:30PM http://www.birchmere.com/calendar/calendar_list.cfm