



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

## Newsletter of the Greater Richmond Irish American Society

October 2008

**October 16<sup>th</sup> –IAS Meeting with Kevin Donleavy** – Dumbarton Library 6800 Staples Mill Road Henrico, Virginia 23228-4930 Ph: (804) 262-6507 – Meeting at 7 – hospitality before and after. [For Directions - click this link](#)  
One of the first members of our IAS will be our Guest Speaker at this October meeting. Kevin Donleavy, historian & author of *The Ballycarry Exile* and *Strings of Life: Conversations with Old Time Musicians from Virginia and North Carolina* & Past Fellow at the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, Host on Charlottesville station WTJU 91.1 with a Celtic flavored music show, and also a musician with the traditional Irish music group, “King Golden Banshee”. WHEW! There’s more.. but I’ll leave it there. Kevin’s program will spotlight "Amusing & Serious Aspects of the Irish in Early Virginia." He’s promised to cover some odd people & some incidents in Winchester, Lynchburg, Richmond, & Norfolk – and he will cover Strange names, Jails & Hospitals, a Duel to the Death, a Drowning, and an Attempt to build a New Carrickfergus. That should pretty much fill up our meeting! I’ve taken one of Kevin’s classes at Uof R and he is full of fascinating facts on the Irish in Virginia – so it is sure to be a fun and interesting meeting! And just cuz I love to hear Kevin’s band -here is a link where you can hear a sample of their music

<http://www.samhillbands.com/bands/kgb/index.shtml>

**IAS Pub Supper–October 17<sup>th</sup>** Meet at 6:30: The September Pub Supper was rescheduled but is still at O’Toole’s Restaurant & Pub 4800 Forest Hill Ave. Richmond, VA Please call Ed Mayers at 804-379-5577 or <mailto:EHM1537@msn.com> with the number attending so we can all be seated together. For extra fun – O’Toole’s “Countdown to St. Pat’s Day -their Irish Sing-a-Long is the same night and starts at 7:00 pm and lasts till 8:30pm. So bring your best voice and be prepared for a walk down the “Memory Lane of Irish Songs”- IAS Web Advertiser, Glen Crone will lead the songs.

**The Annual Richmond Highland Games & Celtic Festival Oct 25<sup>th</sup> 26<sup>th</sup>** <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. Come celebrate our Celtic heritage with a Parade of Clans and Societies, pipe bands, living history encampments, and Dogs of the British Isles. Enjoy traditional music and Celtic rock on two entertainment stages all weekend, shopping with over 80 authentic vendors and authentic food and drink. During the weekend our **IAS trophy, “The Chris Garrett Memorial Celtic Spirit Award”**, is awarded to the Society/Clan tent that best displays the spirit of the Celts. Last year the trophy was awarded to the “**House of Gordon**” for their very

unique display of the warm and welcoming Celtic spirit to the visitors to their tent. All clan and society displays are eligible for the award – **EVEN THE IAS!** The IAS has a wonderful array of materials that help our tent visitors learn more about their Irish Heritage – and we have possibly the friendliest “tent greeters” at the Highland Games.. When you volunteer to work in the tent – you are really volunteering to extend a welcoming hand to our visitors. You don’t have to be an expert in the history of Ireland – or the Irish names or Irish landmarks. You just have to be willing to give a smile, say hello and welcome someone into the tent to share some of their Irish heritage. Everyone has a story to share and almost everyone wants to learn more about their heritage and our IAS materials just might be a big help to someone looking for a “link”. We have fun working the tent, but our main goal is to spread that Irish warmth and friendly spirit to our visitors. Our Special Events Chair, Karon Bell, is setting the schedule for volunteers right now -so if you have the time and can work in the tent with us, **PLEASE CALL HER 804-517-3249 BY OCTOBER 13<sup>TH</sup> SO SHE CAN SET SCHEDULES.**

**The November 13<sup>th</sup> IAS Meeting** – Vice President, Dan Begley continues to set up great programs for the membership. At the Tuckahoe Library, Raymond Cormier, Visiting Professor and “First Gent” at Longwood University will be our Guest Speaker, . As a medievalist, one of his areas of specialization is Early Irish tradition. In the 1970s he studied at Dublin’s Institute for Advanced Studies with noted Irish scholar, Cecile O’Rahilly. He has in preparation a book project, “The Medieval Hero”, which focuses on Cú Chulainn and his literary peers.

The presentation covers “The Cattle Raid of Cooley—Crown Jewel of Early Irish - Epic Poetry—but Underappreciated.” This legendary early Irish epic – the central text of the tales known as the Ulster Cycle., tells of a war against Ulster by the Connacht Queen Medb and her husband Ailill, who intent to steal the stud bull Donn Cuailnge and are opposed only by the teenage Ulster hero Cú Chulainn (koo-hoo’lin) . In light of a new translation from the Early Irish that appeared this year, it seems the time is right for a re-appraisal of this wild, amusing and difficult heroic narrative. Ulsterman Cú Chulainn’s) arduous battle against the forces of Connacht (led by Queen Medb/Maeve) evokes vividly an ancient era. The presentation will also offer a few images and one audio recording of a great Old Irish scholar reading the opening lines of the Táin Bó Cúailnge. (Cattle Raid of Cooley).

**IAS CHRISTMAS PARTY & SILENT AUCTION – DECEMBER 13,** This year the *'Not to Miss Party of the Season'* is at St. Edwards Catholic School located at the intersection of 2700 Dolfield and Huguenot Road in Richmond. Its Easy to get to and tons of parking. PressGang will be singing at the party (IAS member Jeff Beatman and his partners Chris Craig and Keith Southall). **Also, Please be searching for Irish items to donate for the Silent Auction & contact Gloria Cahen (804-233-2113) with questions or to notify her of the type of donation you have.** Also the **2008 MVP Award** will be presented to the IAS member who has displayed outstanding individual efforts in he past year to both promote and support the Irish American Society and its activities and endeavors through enthusiasm, volunteering and involvement. Please submit your nominations to Jim Bandlelean -PH 804-347-0924 or email at jbandelea@gmail.com

**September IAS Meeting** What a great meeting in September. Good Friend of the IAS, Margaret Duckworth prepared a wonderful presentation of discussion and slides to cover the topic of Irish/Celtic Saints. You can tell when a presentation is good - you just turn around and suddenly it's over. From the available list of 10,000 plus Celtic Saints, Margaret honed in on Irish Saints Patrick, Brigid, Columba, and from Scotland, St. Kentigern (founder of Glasgow) and Cuthbert born in England, educated by Irish monks and today considered a patron of England. It was a wonderful turnout with IAS members and our invited guests from the Scottish Society and St. Andrew's. Many thanks to all our attendees and to Margaret and her crew for a very interesting topic and presentation. And also thanks to Maggie Mackay, from the Scottish Society, for the beautiful keepsake bookmarks – made especially for the meeting.

### **Two Free Irish Shows in December**

In December - Henrico County is offering **two Free** Irish Shows at the Henrico Theater located at 305 East Nine Mile Road, Highland Springs 23075, originally opened as a movie palace on April 25, 1938. (Tickets were \$0.25 for adults and \$0.10 for children). The theatre was designated as a bomb shelter during World War II and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1999 Henrico County purchased the building and now uses it to host a variety of arts programming for all ages. Lucky for our IAS members - they have two great Irish shows scheduled for December. Reserve your spot soon and take the whole family! Let's support these Irish programs in the city and surrounding area so that people realize there are lots of interested Irish in this area!!!

### **Thursday, Dec 18, 5:30 & 7:30 pm -HOLIDAYS WITH THE CROSSROADS IRISH DANCE**

**TROUPE** - 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!

**Fri, Dec 19, 6:30 p.m. THE HUNT FAMILY FIDDLERS** This show is acceptable for all ages. Come see Virginia's own Hunt Family Fiddlers! The 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!

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**IAS Membership** – A hearty welcome to our newest member, Charles J.(Sonny) Mead. Charles joined in August and was able to come to the Pub Supper at Rare Olde Times and so got to meet a few of us there. Now we're looking forward to seeing Charles at more events. We see by his membership application that Charles is a Fiddler... hmmm.. again I say – I think we'll have to get some of musical members together sometime. We have a lot! Anyway we are glad to have you join us and we're looking forward to more fun times coming up in the Fall.

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**DROP IN THE RATE OF IRISH IMMIGRATION**  
The rate of immigration has dropped by 26,000 in the year to the end of April according to the Irish Central Statistics Office. Anecdotal evidence of eastern European workers heading back home in the wake of the economic downturn appears to be backed up the numbers. Nearly 84,000 people settled in the country during the period mentioned compared with nearly 110,000 the previous year. 45,000 emigrated during this time span leaving the population at 4.42 Million. Australia has emerged as the new destination of choice for Irish emigrants with over 11,000 moving 'down under'.

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**Correction:** Ouch! My typing skills seem to have gone astray last month! Regarding the item on IAS President Gloria Cahen and IAS Vice President Dan Begley receiving awards from the St. Andrew's Legion – without the typos – you would have known that the honor they received was induction into "The Fellowship and Order of the Cross and Thistle of The St. Andrew's Legion". Also Senior Drum Major Dan Milligan presented the awards along with Pipe Major and President Tim Batten. I apologize for the errors. I just misread the note I received about the event. I along with all of you wish that I could get the newsletter out - error free. Just know that the errors are never intentional.

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There is an old saying from the Irish:

"You come in with the face God gave you and you go out with the face you've earned."

**HISTORY OF IRISH CLANS:** It is well known that the Irish are a very proud nation. This pride is seen in many aspects of their lives - their families, their heritage, and most importantly their name. In older times it was a serious offense to sully someone's name, and this remains true to this day. Reputation is all-important, the family name is to be honored and respected. Many of Ireland's sons and daughters who now reside far from her shores share this enduring pride in their Clan's names.

The structure of Irish surnames: Irish surnames are common throughout the world, particularly in America, England and Australia. They have the peculiarity of often having two parts, rather than one, a legacy from the days when Gaelic was spoken throughout the land. Hereditary surnames were not used in Ireland prior to the tenth century; surnames were only used for a single generation. A man was known as 'son of - mac in Gaelic, his father. Thus Turlough, son of Art, was Turlough Mac Airt. Turlough's son Conor would be known as Conor Mac Turlough. Alternatively, if his grandfather was considered a more prominent figure, he would be known as 'grandson of', Ó in Gaelic. Thus Conor would be known as Conor Ó Airt, meaning Conor, grandson of Art. The apostrophe commonly seen in Irish surnames today is an Anglicanized version of the Gaelic accent, so that Ó became O': Ó Baoill became O' Boyle in English. Another common feature of Irish surnames is the prefix Fitz, as in the names Fitzgerald & Fitzpatrick. This is a legacy from the Norman invasions of Ireland, and is a corruption of the French fils or 'son of'. Since Mac and Fitz have the same meaning they were interchangeable at one time.

**Influences on surnames:** Ireland was one of the first European countries to use fixed hereditary surnames. Many of these names show the strong ties and influence of the Catholic Church. The surname prefixes, Gil and Kil, are derived from the Gaelic giolla, meaning 'follower'. Therefore, Gilmartin was 'a follower of St. Martin'. Another prefix with religious intonations is Mul, taken from the Gaelic maol, meaning bald. This referred to the Irish monks, whose monasteries dotted the country. Other names are Anglicanized versions of Irish descriptions of character or personality: Reilly (brave), Quinn (intelligent), Kennedy (helmeted), and Sullivan (black eyed). Others indicate occupations: Falconer, Smith, Cooke, Taylor, Mason, Archer and Harper.

Further complications arose when the old Gaelic names were transposed into English. For example Carey, derived from the Gaelic O'Ciardha, became Carew or even Carr. From the start, Ireland was influenced from a variety of foreign invaders. Modern Irish surnames are the result of intermingling with Nordic, Anglo-Norman, Welsh, Scots and English for over a millennium. Many surnames are interpretations of these invaders homelands. For example, Walsh (Wales), Cusack (Cussac), Lyons (Lyons), and Joyce (Jose).

Clan and family remain the cornerstones of Irish society today. Irish people all over the world share these values, and encourage them in their own children. Irish identity is inextricably linked to ancestry and heritage, the

past always an undeniable part of the present. And as for names – What follows is a bit about the Murphys – my Irish family who came to America in 1834 – Mary and Cornelius, with two small babies.



**Ó Murchú, O' Murphy, O' Morphy, Morphy, O' Morchoe** - Murphy is the most numerous name in Ireland; Murphy is derived from Ó Murchada or Ó Murchu, meaning sea warrior. There are several septs, or clans, of Murphys. The most famous Murphy was Dermot MacMurrough, who invited the Normans to Ireland in the 12th century. The present chief of the name is David O'Morchoe, a farmer in Co. Wexford. The Irish version of Murphy was first anglicized to O'Morchoe, in the 16th century, and David O'Morchoe's grandfather changed his name to this version by deed poll in 1895.

The achievements of the Murphy clan are numerous and wide-ranging. Patrick Murphy, born in Co. Down in 1832, was the tallest man in Europe, standing at 8 ft. 1in. Another Murphy of repute was William Martin Murphy. He founded the Irish Independent newspaper in 1905, and was also the head of the company that ran the Dublin tramway system. He became notorious as the employers' leader in the great Dublin lockout of 1913.

Look for more on other Irish family names in future issues.

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### **Potato Soup**

The cool days of Autumn are fast approaching and I found this recipe at one of the Irish links posted on our IAS website <http://richmondias.org/> – here then are the ingredients for Irish traditional potato soup and how to make it. (If it's not as good as your own.. please send your recipe to me.. and we'll share it!

- 2 tablespoons of Irish butter
- 2 medium sized onions
- 3 large potatoes, washed & peeled
- 1 cube chicken bouillon
- 2 cups of milk
- 1 clove garlic, crushed
- 1 teaspoon dried parsley
- 3 pieces of celery, chopped
- 1 pinch ground black pepper & salt
- 1 ½ cup of grated cheese

Thinly slice the onions and potatoes and add to a pan with melted Irish butter. Add the chicken bouillon, celery, dried parsley, garlic and season with salt & pepper. Cover the pan allowing the vegetables to soften under a low heat, do not let them brown. Add milk and mix until soup becomes thick then stir in cheese until fully melted. Serve piping hot.....and Enjoy.....

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## FAMOUS SYMBOL OF IRELAND TO BE STUDIED IN CLARE

One of the best-known symbols of Ireland is to be studied as part of a major new project in Co. Clare. Familiar to tourists all over the world, the currach and other traditional boats will be studied by the Heritage Section of Clare County Council, in association with the Heritage Council.

The Clare Traditional Currachs and Boats Study will be conducted by Darina Tully, a nationally renowned expert in the areas of maritime collections, as part of the implementation of the Clare Heritage Plan 2008. The study, the first of its kind to ever be conducted in Clare; is expected to be completed by October.

The initiative will establish a catalogue of traditional boats and currachs in Clare, as well as identifying the condition of the boats and establishing a ranking order of vulnerability. It will identify the location of the boats, their ownership, and associated history as well as compiling a photographic record.

The project will also examine the local variations in traditional boat and currach building, associated customs, political, military, economic history and usage and typology, with the ultimate aim of generating increased awareness of the traditional boat and currach heritage of Clare.

The various functions of Clare boats and their impact on the socio-economic and cultural development of Clare will also be researched, including, transportation of goods, towing cattle behind currachs, turf boats, trawlers and tourism ventures.

The history associated with traditional boats and currachs in Clare is significant. It is recorded that in 1602, O'Sullivan Beare, the Irish chieftain, assembled currachs to cross the Shannon to escape from the pursuit of Earl of Thomond. The 'Handbook of Irish Antiquities' (1891) and the 'Lisdoonvarna Handbook' (1876) both refer strongly to traditional boat and currachs usage.

An illustration of their socio-economic import in Clare history is that five hundred currachs gave employment to over a thousand fishermen along the coast of Clare in the early 20th century.

Speaking at the announcement of the study, Tomás MacConmara, Project Manager, stated, "The project comes at time when rapid change has occurred to areas where traditional boats and currachs were once frequently used. The study presents an opportunity to collect valuable information and make this available to the people of Clare." MacConmara stated that the experience garnered from the successful Clare Farm Machinery study in 2007, would be brought to bear on the boats study. He continued, "We saw last year how the people of Clare responded to a study that related to the cultural life of the county. Boats and currachs have been central to the social and cultural life of Clare for millennia. Areas such as the Fergus Islands, West Clare or East Clare have developed their own traditions around boating including building, practices and customs. We are keen to gather (this information in order to illustrate a complete picture of the

diversity and richness of our boating and currach heritage in Co. Clare".

Richard Collins, founder of the West Clare Currach Club and a member of the recently forms Clare Traditional Currachs and Boats Steering Group, recommended the Clare Heritage Section for its innovation in developing the project.

A Steering group has been formed which comprises boat builders, fishermen and marine enthusiasts from across the county that will provide valuable experience to the study. It will also assist in identifying the artifacts in local areas throughout the county where local knowledge is so important. There has been a huge increase in the interest in currachs in Clare over the last number of years and this study will add considerably to that", he commented.



West Clare Currach Club, Dunlickey Road,  
Kilkee, Co Clare, Ireland.  
(From the Irish American Post)

**Did You Know?...** That Ireland entered the arena of World Class Bicycle Racing with its own tour. In August, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Irish Tour, a 900km race, started in Dublin and covered 12 counties, embracing key towns and cities as well as iconic mountain passes and the usual "splendid Irish scenery", The final destination was the City of Cork – where the winner received a beautiful Waterford trophy (my mouth is watering over that image!) Team Columbia, with members from the United States, Germany, Australia, Great Britain, Italy and Norway, took top honors. Many thanks to Kathryn O'Meara for passing this note on for our members – we'll have to keep an eye out for next years race – sure it would be a grand opportunity to see some Irish countryside!

Don't forget – if you want to work in the IAS tent at the Highland Games -all Karon Bell (**BY 9/13/08**) at 804-517-3249. We need your "Smilin Irish Eyes"....

## Happy Halloween! Did you know Halloween began in Ireland?

Halloween began as a Druid pagan holiday called Samhain (pronounced Sah-ween). Samhain is the name for the Celtic God of the Dead. And it's an appropriate title for this favored Pagan festival as it was believed that on this night the veil between the world of the living and the dead was said to be the thinnest. Samhain began at sundown on October 31st. (which for the Celt's was "Summer's End.") Samhain was the last gathering before winter's arrival and was celebrated by the Celts in Scotland, Ireland and the British Isles and Wales more than 2000 years ago. They honored deceased loved ones and ancestors with Samhain's Feast of the Dead. Offering food and tidbits for the spirits of those gone before. In fact, the tradition of trick or treat actually started with the leaving of food on your doorstep to feed these spirits and keep them from making mischief. Halloween bon fires were originally called "bone fires" as the feasting that accompanied the Celtic celebration of fire including throwing the bones of the meat as offerings upon the fires that burned to cook the food as well as to keep warm this chilly night. And attendees may have dressed as ghosts believing it gave them the ability to walk amongst the spirits unrecognized and unharmed. Some other Halloween traditions borne from the Celtic Samhain include:

- The name Jack O'Lantern (Jack of the Lantern) comes from an [old Irish tale](#).
- Apples were left or buried on the roadsides to provide for those spirits without family. Black cats became a Halloween symbol - as it was believed spirits could return in the body of an animal and black cats were certainly the one of the most ominous. Cats were believed to be the spirit of a deceased person.
- Witch history is so large no one could hope to cover it all. But the name "Witch" comes from the word Celtic "Wicca" meaning "wise one."

However you celebrate – Happy Halloween! Or Oíche Shona Shamhna! ('ee-hah shona how-nah')



(Note: This is not the Editor)

## IRISH GROUP AT THE RICHMOND FOLK FESTIVAL

The Festival is October 10-12, 2008 and it's a FREE event! You can enjoy the performances, demonstrations, and family area at no cost. Food, drink and merchandise are for sale and \$5 parking areas available. – **AND** This year one of the Featured Acts is Liadan- 'From Galway, Limerick and Dublin, this inspiring all-female band has won numerous prestigious awards including the 'Best Band' title at the Festival Interceltique Lorient 2005 and the 'Best Traditional Singing Group' at the Pan Celtic Festival 2005 in Tralee'. Click here for more info <http://www.richmondfolkfestival.org/docs/event.html>

Friday: 6 - 10:30pm - Saturday: Noon - 10:30pm -  
Sunday: Noon - 6pm

Here are performance times:

Saturday, October 11

Ukrop's/ First Market Bank Stage

**12:45 - 1:30 p.m. Liadan (Irish)**

**8:45 - 9:30 p.m. Liadan (Irish)**

Sunday, October 12

Wachovia/ Wachovia Securities Stage

**4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Liadan (Irish)**

and here's a link to hear some music....

<http://www.liadan.ie/audio/liadan-amhran-mhuinse.mp3>

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## DATE CHANGE!

(Courtesy of Hurricane Hannah)

### **The Kirk Festival**

An exciting event for the entire family

**Saturday October 18, 2008, 10 AM - 4 PM**

Cost: \$10 per person

5 and under Free

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*

**Need more info? Check the website**

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

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Check out all the great events coming up in the next few months... Mark your calendars – come on out and join your Irish friends. Enjoy the Irish activities when you can! And don't forget – Great IAS programs at the monthly meetings coming in October and November!

**SEE YOU THERE!**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** – Click on links in this schedule and you can hear song selections from the artists and ALWAYS click the links directly below to get the latest updates on upcoming events

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

Oct 3,4,5th	<b>Williamsburg's 31<sup>st</sup> Scottish Festival.</b> Moved to a beautiful new Festival site <a href="#">Rockahock Campgrounds</a> 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 - <a href="http://www.wsfonline.org">http://www.wsfonline.org</a>
Oct 5 <sup>th</sup> 10am to 5 pm	<b>Poisoned Dwarf</b> – appearing Downtown at “A Celebration of Art & Music in Williamsburg, Virginia”. A full days celebration in downtown Wmsbrg. 5 stages for entertainment and a great line up of Celtic groups including Poisoned Dwarf - Irish & Celtic music, So'Lach (Trad Irish), John Turner - Champion Scottish Fiddler, Ardie Boggs - Celtic Harp, and Clan MacCool - Traditional Celtic music Visit the website for more info <a href="http://anoccasionforthearts.org/">http://anoccasionforthearts.org/</a>
October 8 <sup>th</sup> – Irish Music Jam	<b>Rosie Connolly's Pub &amp; Restaurant</b> <a href="#">1548A East Main Street</a> , Richmond Rosie's Faces the 17 <sup>th</sup> Street Farmers Market, Next to Havana 59 restaurant. Start times are approximate... Visitors and Musicians welcome. 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesdays, Time 8-10 p.m. or 11 p.m. or so ...
<b>October 16<sup>th</sup> IAS Monthly Meeting. Dumbarton Library,</b>	<b>Kevin Donleavy</b> , will give a presentation on the Irish in Virginia. Kevin, an author, scholar on Ireland and the Irish in Virginia - Irish musician with his own band <a href="#">King Golden Banshee</a> 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
<b>Oct 17<sup>th</sup> IAS Pub Supper and Irish Sing- Along at O'Toole's. Meet at 6:30</b>	<b>IAS Pub Supper</b> – O'Toole's Restaurant & Pub <a href="http://www.otoolesrestaurant.com">http://www.otoolesrestaurant.com</a> 4800 Forest Hill Ave. Richmond, VA 23225 804-233-1781 –CALL ED MAYERS AT 804-379-5577 or <a href="mailto:EHM1537@msn.com">mailto:EHM1537@msn.com</a> with the number attending so we can all be seated together. For extra fun – O'Toole's “Countdown to St. Pat's Day -their Irish Sing a long is the same night and starts at 7:00pm and lasts till 8:30pm. So bring your best voice and be prepared for a walk down the “Memory Lane of Irish Songs”- IAS Web Advertiser, Glen Crone will lead the songs.
Oct 18th The Gayton Kirk	<b>The Kirk Festival</b> The Gayton Kirk, The Kirk Festival, September 6th, 2008 at the Gayton Kirk Presbyterian Church USA on 11421 Gayton Road Richmond Va. 23238. 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. IAS members Gene and Ruth Lastfogel will appear with the Virginia Scots Guard Bagpipe and Drum Corp. You may visit their website for more information : <a href="http://www.thegaytonkirk.org/">http://www.thegaytonkirk.org/</a>
October 18 <sup>th</sup> ...	<b>Kilmarnock Scottish Festival</b> – Pipe Bands – The Kilmarnock Pipe Band, Trad Na Trad, a teen pipe band from Virginia Beach. Features a Parade, Border Collies and Scottish Fun for all. Visit their website for more info <a href="http://www.kilmarnockchamber.org/scottish.html">http://www.kilmarnockchamber.org/scottish.html</a>
October 18 <sup>th</sup> 11 am to 8 pm	<b>Pumpkin Palooza</b> will be held at the Science Museum of Virginia, 2500 W Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23220 -sponsored in part by the Children's Museum of Richmond IAS members Doug Elder and Tim Batten will appear with the St. Andrew's Legion Pipes and Drums. For full list of activities - visit their website. <a href="http://www.thefaisonschool.org/Pumpkinpalooza.html">http://www.thefaisonschool.org/Pumpkinpalooza.html</a>
October 22 <sup>nd</sup> – Irish Music Jam	<b>Rosie Connolly's Pub &amp; Restaurant</b> <a href="#">1548A East Main Street</a> , Richmond Rosie's Faces the 17 <sup>th</sup> Street Farmers Market Next to Havana 59 restaurant Start times are approximate... Visitors and Musicians welcome. 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesdays, Time 8-10 p.m. or 11 p.m. or so ...
Oct 22nd & 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Irish Tenor Anthony Kearns</b> 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 <a href="#">buy your tickets</a> now before they sell out! Questions? Call 282 9511 ext. 334. To purchase your tickets through the mail – click here to <a href="#">download an order form</a>



Oct 25 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>The Annual Richmond Highland Games &amp; Celtic Festival</b> 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. <a href="http://www.richmondceltic.com/">http://www.richmondceltic.com/</a>
November 6 <sup>th</sup> Williamsburg Library Theatre 515 Scotland Street (two blocks north of Merchants Square and the College of William and Mary)  Tickets: (757) 259- 4070	<b>The Dewey Decibel Concert Series – Williamsburg Library features Battlefield Band</b> Under their banner <i>Forward with Scotland's Past</i> , Battlefield Band has been performing on the international scene for more than three decades, inspired by their rich heritage of Celtic music and fired by the strength of the modern Scottish cultural scene. The band, who pioneered the integration of bagpipes with fiddle, keyboards, guitar and voice, mix the old songs and tunes with new self-penned material, playing them on a unique fusion of ancient and modern instruments: bagpipes, synthesizers, fiddles, guitars, cittern, bass, whistles and bouzouki. Founded by a group of friends in 1969 and named after the 'Battlefield' area of Glasgow, Battlefield Band now perform throughout the world, playing to audiences in Europe, Australia, Asia, the Middle East and Canada, as well as more than 60 cities annually in the United States. Their music is played regularly on National Public Radio's Thistle and Shamrock program, and they are frequent guests on Minnesota Public Radio's A Prairie Home Companion. After 30 years they still lead the way for Scottish music, always involving their ever-widening audience as they travel the world. Tickets: \$22 adults • \$18 Friends of WRL or students (both w/ ID) • \$11 under 16 Battlefield Band's website
Nov 7,8 & 9 <sup>th</sup>	Maryland Irish Festival The Maryland Irish Festival" in "The Cow Palace" at the "Maryland State Fairgrounds," 2200 York Rd., Timonium, MD 21093.
November 12 <sup>th</sup> Irish Music Jam	<b>Rosie Connolly's Pub &amp; Restaurant</b> <a href="#">1548A East Main Street</a> , Richmond Rosie's Faces the 17 <sup>th</sup> Street Farmers Market Next to Havana 59 restaurant Start times are approximate... Visitors and Musicians welcome. 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesdays, Time 8-10 p.m. or 11 p.m. or so ...
<b>November 13<sup>th</sup> Tuckahoe Library 1901 Starling Dr. Henrico VA 7:00 start – 6:30 Hospitality</b>	<b>IAS Meeting</b> – Tuckahoe Library 1901 Starling Drive Henrico, (804) 270- 9578 Professor Raymond Cormier, Longwood, presents the wild, amusing and totally Irish tale “ <b>The Cattle Raid of Cooley—Crown Jewel of Early Irish Epic Poetry—but Under-appreciated.</b> ” This legendary early Irish epic is the central text of the tales known as the Ulster Cycle. There will be images, an interesting audio by a great old Irish scholar and a narrative to tell the story of this ancient battle! <b>DON'T MISS IT!!!</b>
November 17 <sup>th</sup>	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 <sup>th</sup> of every month from 7:00pm till 8:30pm – it's located at 4800 Forest Hill Ave. Richmond, VA 23225
Nov 28 <sup>th</sup> - 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Coyote Run</b> – Irish/Celtic Music. Christmas With the Coyotes - Williamsburg, VA Kimball Theatre - Call (800) HISTORY for tickets and information!
December 10 <sup>th</sup> Irish Music Jam	Rosie Connolly's Pub & Restaurant 1548A East Main Street, Richmond Rosie's Faces the 17 <sup>th</sup> Street Farmers Market Next to Havana 59 restaurant Start times are approximate... Visitors and Musicians welcome. 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesdays, Time 8-10 p.m. or 11 p.m. or so
<b>December 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>IAS Annual Christmas Party and Silent Auction</b> – This year at St. Edwards Catholic Church (*School building) located at the intersection of 2700 Dolfield and Huguenot Road Dr. Richmond. PressGang will be singing at the party (IAS member Jeff Beatman). Be searching for items to donate for the Silent Auction.. More info in the November newsletter.

<p>December 13, 2008 8:00 PM George Mason University, Fairfax VA/</p>	<p><b>Leahy - A Celtic Christmas December 13, 2008 at 8:00 pm</b>  <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>) <b>SINGLE TICKET SALES WILL BE AVAILABLE TUES., SEPT. 2, 2008</b> \$46, \$38, \$23</p>
<p>Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup> Two Shows – 5:30 &amp; 7:30  The Henrico Theater</p>	<p><b><u>HOLIDAYS WITH THE CROSSROADS IRISH DANCE TROUPE</u></b> - 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. <b>FREE ADMISSION</b></p>
<p>Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm The Henrico Theater.</p>	<p><b><u>THE HUNT FAMILY FIDDLERS</u></b> 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 <i>The Nutcracker</i>, a special Trans-Siberian Orchestra tribute, and other popular Christmas traditionals - a miniature Elvis even shows up to sing <i>Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree</i>! <b>FREE ADMISSION</b></p>
<p>Saturday Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> 7:00 to 9:30 pm</p>	<p><b><u>The Press Gang</u></b> – IAS’s own Jeff Beatman and his two singing cohorts –Chris Craig and Keith Southall - sing at Brickhouse Run for Christmas - 407 - 409 Cockade Alley, Old Towne Petersburg, Virginia (804) 862 – 1815. The IAS has been down to Brickhouse in the past and it was a fun place to be and a good place for supper. (Look out! Those PressGang fellas love to drag the unsuspecting onto the stage with them!</p>
<p>December 27th - 8:00 pm Richmond Folk Music.</p>	<p><b><u>Winter Revels! Songs and Tunes from the Celtic Traditions - Moch Pryderi</u></b> is based in Fredericksburg, Virginia and their specialty is the traditional music of Wales and Brittany, but they also draw upon Irish, Scottish and Appalachian sources to present a varied, in depth program that never fails to please an audience. A lively celebration featuring Celtic songs and tunes! <a href="#">Congregation Or Ami</a>, 9400 West Huguenot Road, Richmond, Virginia. Tickets \$12.00 in advance/\$15.00 at the door Telephone: 804-647-7856</p>
<p>January 17<sup>th</sup></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 &amp; Pub holds an Irish Sing a long on the 17<sup>th</sup> of every month from 7:00pm till 8:30pm – it’s located at 4800 Forest Hill Ave. Richmond, VA 23225</p>
<p>January 20<sup>th</sup> Celtic Crossroads  Cultural Arts Center in Glen Allen</p>	<p><b><u>Just Added! Celtic Crossroads - Tuesday, January 20, 7pm. Tickets: \$25</u></b> Just when you think that you have seen the best that Irish music has to offer, an emerging group of traditional Irish musicians are about to take the art form to an entirely new level. Incorporating seven world-class musicians, playing over twenty instruments on stage, the show is a fantastic display of talent. From start to finish experience a wonderful fusion of musical genres, such as eastern European Gypsy, North American Bluegrass, world Classical and Jazz, and the various forms of Celtic music from around Europe and the rest of the world. (Senior citizen (65+) discount: \$2 off ticket price.) Box Office: 804-261-ARTS (2787) <b>The Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen</b>, 2880 Mountain Road, Glen Allen, VA 23060. (Located in northern Henrico County between Staples Mill Road and Woodman Road, just south of 295). For directions to the center <a href="http://www.artsglenallen.com/ca_directions.htm">http://www.artsglenallen.com/ca_directions.htm</a></p>