



The Richmond Claddagh

Newsletter of the Greater Richmond Irish American Society

<http://richmondias.org/>

June 2010

JUNE 6TH – SUNDAY IAS MEETING – THE IAS PICNIC!! A day of fun for all IAS members – all ages! The fun and feasting are at Pat and Helen Warriner Burke's farm in Amelia – it's a nice ride on a Sunday afternoon and you are there before you know it!

The IAS provides burgers, hot dogs and condiments but you are asked to please bring a side dish or dessert to share, beverages for you and yours, and lawn chairs so you'll be comfy.

If you are a new member, this is a wonderful way to get to know the other members, and it's a beautiful country setting and always one of our big turnout events. Last year, Our Special Events Chairman, Karon Bell even had some great "yard games" ready for anyone interested in some friendly competition – but the weather didn't cooperate very much. Maybe she'll have them ready again this year. The IAS picnic is truly one of our best get togethers and it's the most fun that you'll have with your IAS friends-Trust me you'll be glad you came!

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

Saturday, June 5th. [Southern Horizon](#) (a group that includes IAS member John Robison) will give an outdoor concert at the Cold Harbor Battlefield Park in Hanover County. The concert starts at 8 pm and candlelight tours of the battlefield start at 8:30. This is a really pleasant event, especially if the weather's nice. Bring a chair or blanket, and a flashlight if you want to go on the tour. To get there, take 295 to Creighton Road East, and turn right on Cold Harbor Road (the intersection with a Valero/FasMart on one side and a7-Eleven on the other). There's plenty of parking and the event is free.

PUB SUPPER- Gather round all you IAS members. Joan Finnegan has planned another evening of fun on Saturday June 19th at Rare Old Times starting at 7:00pm. Rare Olde Times is located in the Canterbury Shopping Center at the corner of Pump and Patterson, Richmond, Virginia 23238. Call 804-750-1346 for directions. Don't forget to call Joan (804-840-0080 or email j.finn@hotmail.com with the number coming so that we can all be seated together.

The Amelia Presbyterian Church located at 16401 Dunn Street in Amelia VA – will sponsor a "Kirkin O' The Tartan" on Sunday, June 13, at 11:00 A.M. Light refreshments and a small reception will follow. If you would like to know more about the history and ceremony of the tartan – you can click on this link <http://www.calpresbyterian.org/History/KirkinOTheTartan.html>

Many thanks to our fellow IAS member Marian Rogers for letting us know about this upcoming event. With so many of our members having both Irish and Scotch backgrounds – and the rest of us just enjoying all things Celtic – this might be a very enjoyable way to spend a spring morning in the country.

By the way – speaking of Marian - check out her watercolor paintings at <http://ArtID.com/MDRogers> – there are some very nice Irish scenes.

If any of our other members would like to share their websites and information on their endeavors that are Irish in nature or content – send me the information and I'll put a note in the newsletter. The caveat is that it has to be of – or have Irish content -

This vintage card is to honor the many Irish who have contributed to the greatness of America.



An Early Wish for a Happy 4th of July

FOR SOME IRISH GOODS– This link will take you to a page at Amazon.com where you can peruse an interesting few Irish articles for purchase – I don't know anything about it – just found it one night while on line. <http://astore.amazon.com/irisodbre-20/detail/B000WQ9ABW>

GENEALOGY OFFER - Irish Roots Magazine, an Irish genealogy and family history magazine, is offering a special US promotion through June 11, an annual subscription for €20 (\$25, normally \$35). Visit **their website**, <http://www.irishrootsmedia.com> in the description box type: US Offer, in the payment box type 20 (Euros) and then 'Make Payment'.

BOYCOTT - 230 years ago in 1880, Charles Boycott was a land agent for an absentee English landlord in Co. Mayo. When Boycott refused to lower rents and started evicting tenants, the Irish Land League declared Boycott and his family ostracized, leaving them without servants, farmhands, service in stores, or mail delivery. His crops were harvested by Orange Order members from Northern Ireland who were in turn guarded by almost 1,000 soldiers. By then it had cost the British government over \$15,000 to harvest approximately \$500 worth of potatoes, and the term "to boycott" had entered the English language.

DID YOU KNOW?? - CARIBBEAN IRISH - The Irish connection to the Caribbean island of Montserrat is obvious in the distinctive shamrock that is stamped upon arrival on all international passports. Known as the "Emerald Isle" of the Caribbean, Montserrat was where many Irish indentured servants and slaves were exiled in the 1600s by Cromwell and others. The country's [Coat of Arms](#) has a green-clad red-haired woman, representing Erin, with a cross and harp. Although it is a British territory, it is the only country in the world outside Ireland where St Patrick's Day is a public holiday (SEATTLENEWS@IRISHCLUB.ORG)

Think of this proverb when the IAS asks for some volunteer workers to help out on a project, some of your time to lend a hand, your suggestions to make the IAS better, stronger, more active - etc. We can use any amount of help that our members can offer!

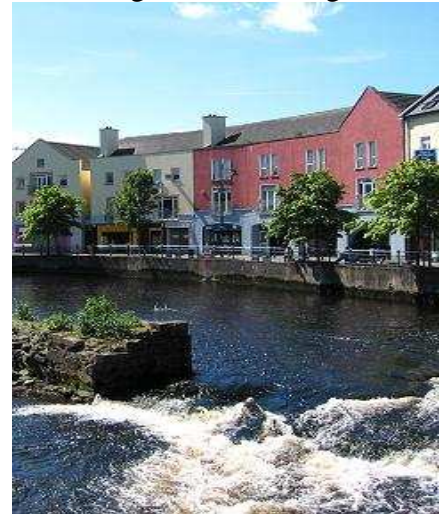
IRISH PROVERB

Is deas an rud an beagán ach é a dhéanamh go maith!

Little is best if well done!

DON'T FORGET THE PICNIC! 06/06/10!

Here's another place I'd like to be – anytime – it looks so serene. Garavogue River in Sligo Ireland.



Sligo's name - 'the Place of Shells' comes from the fact that there was an abundance of shellfish found at the river and estuary - the river was also called the Sligeach (now called the Garavogue River).

I think I like this old Guinness Poster Best



Is Anyone Reading a Good Irish Book?? – Would you be interested in sending along a “book report” on a good Irish book you’ve read recently? I’d love to have something like that for the newsletter. Let me know – Please! It would be a good thing to share with our members. (And a big help to me as I search for items for each issue. ☺)

Also any suggestions for articles are always welcome!

Guinness BBQ Chicken Get the grills out!!

Here we are – at the start of serious summer cooking time and I just happened to run across this tasty way of grilling chicken

Ingredients:

1 teaspoon seasoned salt
1 broiling/frying chicken (3 lbs) cut into serving pcs
1 bottle of Guinness
1 Tablespoon dark brown sugar
1 Tablespoon lemon juice
1 Tablespoon vegetable oil
1 Tablespoon dark molasses
1/8 Teaspoon red pepper sauce

Method: Rub seasoned salt evenly over chicken. Arrange chicken in single layer in shallow 2-quart baking dish. Mix remaining ingredients in small bowl; pour over chicken pieces. Cover and refrigerate at least 4 hours or overnight; turn chicken over several times during marinating.

Preheat coals in outdoor barbecue. Remove chicken from marinade; reserving marinade. Arrange chicken, skin-side up, on cooking rack 5-7 inches above hot coals. Cook until underside of chicken is dark brown, 20-25 minutes. Brush it with marinade.

Turn chicken over; brush chicken with marinade. Cook until underside of chicken is dark brown, 20-25 minutes longer. Turn chicken over; continue cooking until chicken is fork tender, 5-10 minutes longer, brushing often with marinade. Serve hot or cold.

(From Irish Central <http://www.irishcentral.com/>)

GLASNEVIN MUSEUM - Dublin's newest tourist attraction is the [Glasnevin Cemetery Museum](#) which features three main exhibits including The City of The Dead covering the burial practices, religious beliefs and records of the 1.5 million people buried there; The Milestone Gallery exhibitions on key historical figures telling the story of the most famous people buried there including Eamon De Valera, Michael Collins, Daniel O'Connell and Brendan Behan; and an archive room with the original burial records dating back to the cemetery's foundation in 1831. 1.5 million people of all religions are buried in Glasnevin.



'Cuz you never know when you'll be asked about Ireland! It appears that Ireland is about 80% the size of Virginia and has less than 60% of Virginia's population (based on 2006, the last year for which government population estimates are available). So how does it stack up?

HOW BIG IS IRELAND? Sq Miles (land & water)

Virginia	40,598*
Kentucky	40,411
Indiana	36,185
Maine	33,128
Ireland	32,530*
South Carolina	31,117
West Virginia	24,231

(Sources: [U. S Geological Survey](#) And [Ordnance Survey Ireland](#))

HOW MANY IRISH? (2006 Est.)

Virginia	7,628,347*
Massachusetts	6,443,424
Washington	6,360,529
Indiana	6,294,124
Arizona	6,178,251
Tennessee	6,068,306
Missouri	5,832,977
Maryland	5,602,258
Wisconsin	5,568,505
Minnesota	5,143,134
Colorado	4,751,474
Alabama	4,587,564
South Carolina	4,324,799
Louisiana	4,243,634
Ireland	4,239,848*
Kentucky	4,199,440

(Sources: [U. S. Census Bureau/ Central Statistics Office Ireland](#))

This interesting piece is from one of our favorite IAS members – Jim Mahone. Jim and his wife, Alice, just returned from their first trip to Ireland and Jim just can't get enough information on Ireland. They just might be ready to go right back to Ireland for a visit - or to move there! (Sounds like a typical state of mind after your first visit!) (Thanks Jim!!)



BEST IRISH MOVIES OF ALL TIME -

By: Meghan Sweeney - IrishCentral.com Staff Writer
March 2010

10. "Waking Ned Devine" Charming comedy set in a tiny, rural Irish town. When lottery winner Ned Devine is found dead - lottery ticket in hand and all - the townsfolk ban together to fool the authorities into thinking Ned is alive so they can receive the cash and share it. Starring Ian Bannen and Fionnula Flanagan.

9. "Once" A beautiful, romantic, original musical set in the streets of Dublin. Glen Hansard of The Frames plays a street musician who meets fellow musician and Czech immigrant (Marketa Irglova). Together they work through pain, the past and new love through captivating music. Hansard and Irglova won the Oscar for Best Original Song (2007).

8. "The Crying Game" This is a controversial film that put Irish director/screenwriter Neil Jordan on the map. Set in rural Ireland and bustling London, IRA member Fergus (Stephen Rea) develops a friendship with his captive, Jody (Forest Whitaker), and the kidnapping goes horribly wrong. Fergus then flees to London, where he seeks out Jody's girlfriend, Dil. An intense and thorny plot ensues.

7. "The Snapper" Endearing Roddy Doyle novel-turned-screenplay. An unwed 20-year-old named Sharon Curly shakes up a working class Irish community when she becomes pregnant and refuses to name the father. Though full of quick wit and sarcastic banter, the drama/comedy has its touching, "family values" moments. Starring Colm Meaney and Tina Kellegher.

6. "Intermission" A dark comedy with an Irish star-studded cast. "Intermission" follows the lives of a handful of dysfunctional characters whose choices all unwittingly affect each other's lives. Set in Dublin, the film takes on the grand themes of life, love and the law. Starring Cillian Murphy and Colin Farrell.

5. "In the Name of the Father" Oscar-nominated film based on the real-life experiences of Gerry Conlon, the alleged leader of the Guildford Four. Daniel Day-Lewis stars as Conlon, a Belfast man wrongly imprisoned for the 1974 IRA bombing of a pub in the U.K. Nominated for seven Academy Awards including Best Picture, In the Name of the Father shows one man's 15-year struggle for his innocence and for truth

4. "The Field" A story about an Irishman's love of his land from director Jim Sheridan. Bull McCabe (played by Richard Harris, who was nominated for an Oscar for the role) is a farmer in Ireland's rural west. When his field is facing the threat of being sold to an outsider, Bull will do anything in his power to stop it from happening. This is an unforgettable film about the conflict between "old" and "new" Ireland.

3. "My Left Foot" This is a true story about an Irishman who overcomes his disability to become an amazing painter, poet and writer. Another film from Jim Sheridan, the film documents the extraordinary life of Christy Brown (Daniel Day-Lewis), a working class Irishman born with crippling cerebral palsy. With the encouragement of his mother, played by Brenda Fricker, Christy learns to write and draw with his only functional limb - his left foot. Both Day-Lewis and Fricker won Academy Awards for their roles.

2. "The Quiet Man" A beloved classic starring John Wayne and Maureen O'Hara. A romantic drama from director John Ford, "The Quiet Man" tells the story of Sean Thornton, a retired American boxer who relocates to Ireland to reclaim his family's farm, and Mary Kate Danaher, the fiery Irishwoman he falls in love with. Though its portrayal of Ireland may be a bit outdated, the film is a genuine tribute to Eire, and both an American and Irish favorite.

1. "The Commitments" Legendary Irish film about a group of down-and-out Dubliners who form a soul band. Jimmy Rabbitte has dreams of creating the ultimate soul group, and succeeds in bringing together a bunch of talented, eclectic characters. But eventually personalities clash, and the survival of the band is threatened. This adaptation of the Roddy Doyle novel featured a relatively unknown cast at the time, but was welcomed with critical acclaim and a successful box office run.

HONORABLE MENTIONS:

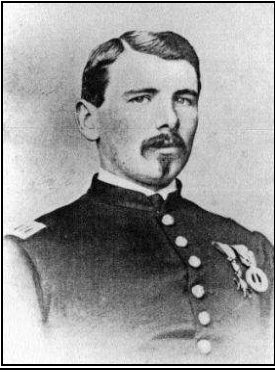
"In America" Touching film starring Samantha Morton and Djimon Hounsou, among others that documents the adventures, struggles and triumphs of a family of Irish immigrants living in a rough neighborhood in New York City.

"When Brendan Met Trudy" Yet another great product of Roddy Doyle's writing. This is a quirky, charming film about a teacher who meets and subsequently falls for a woman in a pub - who turns out to be a burglar.

Hey you! I bet you all have some thoughts on this list. Me - I'm a sucker for John Wayne in anything and the "Quiet Man" is my No. 1 all time favorite.

How about this? -Send me your favorite Irish movie(s) - (bearfan46@verizon.net) - maybe we can come up with an alternate list for the newsletter! We might even ask Dan Begley - Our IAS Program "go-to-guy" if we can get any of these for IAS Movie night.

Also, If any of you have any Irish movies or videos that you'd like to lend to the IAS for a one night showing, please contact Dan -804-740-5631 or dgegley55@hotmail.com and make the offer. You know - we love our Irish movies!



Little Big (Irish) Man:

Walter Myles Keogh, (1840–1876), Soldier - born March 25 1840 at Orchard House, Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow, son of John Keogh, farmer, and Margaret Keogh (née Blancheville). Educated in Leighlinbridge, at the local school -he left Ireland in 1860 to serve in the papal army. Commissioned as a

second lieutenant in the Irish battalion in August 1860, he fought with distinction at the siege of Ancona. He left the papal service in February 1862 and was awarded the Medaglia di Pro Petri Sede and the Order of St Gregory the Great by Pope Pius IX for his war service.

He then traveled to America, where the civil war was raging, hoping to obtain a commission in the Union army. Armed with letters of introduction from Irish-American friends, Keogh and several other Irish ex-papal officers petitioned officials at the War Department. Commissioned captain in April 1862, he was made ADC to Dungannon-born Brig.-Gen. James Shields, and subsequently served as ADC to Generals McClellan, Buford and Stoneman. He was present at over 80 engagements, including the battle of Gettysburg (1–3 July 1863), when he fought with Buford's 1st Cavalry Division. Captured in July 1864 with Stoneman while on a raid to Atlanta, he was imprisoned in Charleston, SC. He was later exchanged and served until the end of the war.

Brevetted lieutenant colonel in April 1866, he was demobilized but succeeded in gaining a regular army commission as a second lieutenant in the 4th US Cavalry. In July 1866 he transferred into the newly formed 7th Cavalry with the rank of captain. This elite regiment, commanded by Gen. George Armstrong Custer, served in frontier stations throughout the late 1860s and early 1870s. In March 1870 Keogh was given command of I Troop. Keogh's career remains inextricably linked with that of Custer, and he served with him during his last campaign in the summer of 1876. He was with Custer's battalion at the Little Big Horn River in the Montana Territory on 25 June 1876 and, as the second most senior officer present, commanded the right-wing column of three troops.

There has been much debate as to what occurred when Custer engaged the Indian forces just after 3pm that day, and, as he and all his men were killed, some doubt remains. Modern research and archaeological evidence suggest that Keogh and his men fought tenaciously and were killed while trying to reach Custer's final position after the right wing collapsed.

On 27 June 1876 members of Gen. Terry's column reached the Little Big Horn battlefield and began identifying bodies. Keogh was found with a small group of his men, surrounded by the evidence of a fierce fight. His was one of the few bodies that had not been mutilated, apparently owing to a papal or religious medal that he wore about his neck. Irish-born Lt James Henry Nowlan, a close friend, found Keogh's horse, Comanche, standing near the body. Comanche, the only army survivor of the battle, was retired and kept with the regiment until his death in 1891; his body was stuffed and is on display at the University of Kansas. Initially buried on the battlefield, Keogh's remains were disinterred in October 1877 and buried with full military honors in the Throop Martin plot at Auburn cemetery. He is commemorated on the Little Big Horn battlefield monument, and by a monument at Leighlinbridge and also by a stained-glass window in St Joseph's Chapel, Tinryland, Co. Carlow. Orchard House is still occupied by members of the Keogh family, and items relating to him, including a dress uniform, are on display in Carlow town museum. Keogh was apparently responsible for introducing the tune 'Garryowen' to the 7th Cavalry and it is still used as a regimental march.

(Before you begin think I am going dotty, I know I had a little bit about Keogh in an earlier newsletter – but I found this additional material to be so interesting, along with a photograph that I had to share more on this Irish American hero who is indeed a "Credit to Old Ireland")

CENSUS ONLINE - Ireland's National Archives

<http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/search> now has a **free** online searchable database for the 1911 census covering all Ireland where you can view the actual document completed by each Irish household. 1911 was the last census until 1926 because of the Irish War of Independence. The 1901 census will also be online soon, and it is hoped to later provide the ability to compare today's Google maps with Irish street maps since 1911.

THOSE QUOTABLE IRISH -

Live your life as though there is great joy to be experienced - an abundance of goodness in each person you come in contact with, and the knowledge that you have enough inner wisdom to answer the mysteries that challenge you. (Meladee McCarty)

"Mistakes are the portals of discovery." (James Joyce)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – And ALWAYS click the link below to get the latest updates on upcoming events
<http://richmondias.org/index.php?content=upcoming>

VISIT OUR IAS WEBSITE – CHECK –
<http://www.spectrumdata.com/cgi-bin/foxweb.exe/fwcalendar?dbf=rias>

June 5th - 10 to noon Kevin Donleavy	Irish Music on the Internet Here's the live link: http://wtju.net/stream.rb , and the program is called ATLANTIC WEEKLY PART TWO.
June 6th IAS Annual Summer Picnic Burke's Farm 1 pm	World Famous - IAS Summer Picnic – 9943 Cheatham's Road, Amelia, VA – click here for directions and a Map from Chippenham & Powhite - you can modify to your address The picnic is fun for the whole family. Members will vote on the Slate of Officers and Board members presented for the coming term at the picnic - AND THEN THE FUN BEGINS! You are asked to please bring a side dish or dessert to share, beverages for you and yours, and lawn chairs.
CHECK THIS OUT! June 12 & June 13th Potomac Celtic Festival Visit the website for more details	Potomac Celtic Festival Visit the website for more details Morven Park International Equestrian Center, 41793 Tutt Lane, Leesburg, VA 20176 - The 2010 festival will include continual music and dance from many of your Celtic favorites, juried crafters and specialty import vendors, 2000 years of Living History reenactments, bagpipers, storytelling in the grove, workshops, children's activities and crafts, Highland games athletic demonstrations, food and drink, pub tent, and family-fun. http://www.potomaccelticfest.org/default.html
Saturday & Sunday, June 13th 10AM-7PM June 14th 10AM-5PM	16th Annual Potomac Celtic Festival in Leesburg, VA, on the picturesque historic green near the Morven Park Mansion and Museum , will include continual music and dance from many of your Celtic favorites, juried crafters and specialty import vendors, 2000 years of Living History reenactments, storytelling in the grove, workshops, children's activities and crafts, food and drink, the authentic pub tent, and all of the family-fun that has become synonymous with PCF! http://www.potomaccelticfest.org/
June 13th Kirkin Ceremony 11 am Amelia VA	The Amelia Presbyterian Church located at 16401 Dunn Street in Amelia VA – will sponsor a “Kirkin O’ The Tartan” on Sunday, June 13, at 11:00 A.M. Light refreshments and a small reception will follow. If you would like to know more about the history and ceremony of the tartan – you can click on this link http://www.calpresbyterian.org/History/KirkinOfTheTartan.html
54th Grandfather Mtn, Highland Games – July 9th – 12th	The 54th Grandfather Mountain Highland Games will be held July 9-12, 2009 at MacRae Meadows on Grandfather Mountain near Linville, NC. http://www.gmhg.org/
June 19th - 7pm IAS PUB SUPPER!	Saturday June 19th at Rare Old Times starting at 7:00pm. Rare Olde Times is located in the Canterbury Shopping Center at the corner of Pump and Patterson, Richmond, Virginia 23238. Call 804-750-1346 for directions. Don't forget to call Joan (804-840-0080 or email j.finn@hotmail.com with the number coming so that we can all be seated together.
Friday – Aug 13th Richmond Flying Squirrels Baseball Game – at the Diamond - \$9 seats. Gold Umbrella Night.	For a Fun Evening - the IAS will attend a Squirrels game against the Portland Sea Dogs (Red Sox). Its golf umbrella night to the first 2,000 fans. Very good seats will be \$9 if we get 25 people from the IAS to attend. Ask folks to let me know as soon as possible if they will attend so we can purchase the seats. Hope to get a picture with "Nutsy" with our IAS group. Any questions call Dan Begley at 804-740-5631.
Tues – Aug. 24 10:30 am IAS Member – Jonathan Austin - Free Show – Henrico Theater	Grab the kids and the grandkids! Our IAS Favorite and fellow member – JONATHAN AUSTIN (Richmond's Premier Juggler!) Presents a FREE Show suitable for all ages. Jonathan is a Richmond fixture and has even performed at the White House and Walt Disney World! You won't want to miss this spectacular show! The Henrico Theater, 305 East 9 Mile Road, Highland Springs, VA 23075-1837 (804) 328-4491
Sept. 6th Irish Festival Blackthorne Inn, in Upperville, Virginia,	The Prodigals, Solas an Irish American band playing traditional tunes, The Dublin City Ramblers, Pittsburgh based Ceann Shannon Lambert-Ryan & RUNA, an Irish Dance stage, & kids activities http://www.theirishfestival.com/bands.htm
Sept. 11, 12 & 13th Pittsburgh PA Irish Festival	Scythain, Gaelic Storm and more Irish music – Vendors, Sunday Mass, Pittsburgh PA Irish Festival/

