



## The Richmond Claddagh

DECEMBER 2012

<http://richmondias.org/>

The Richmond Irish American Society

[Click for the Calendar of Events](#)

**It's December! – and in Gaelic that would be .... Nollaig**

### **IAS CHRISTMAS & 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party December 15<sup>th</sup> -- 6pm – 11pm Shenandoah Community Center 9601 Redbridge Road, Chesterfield, VA**

#### **NEW SURPRISES PLANNED!!!!**



Christina and Sharon, daughters of members Denis & Josie Maguire will offer a bit of Irish Dance for us. The girls have been participants & **winners** in both National & International Irish Dance contests – I think the most recent was in Belfast. We are delighted to have the opportunity to see the girls dance – Now Don't You Miss It!



Also, our member Kelly Kennedy has volunteered to provide some fun at the party in the form of Irish and perhaps seasonal music. Kelly is a singer, actress, dancer and composer and featured performer in Colonial Williamsburg. She plays piano, guitar, harpsichord, and a variety of traditional folk instruments. As an actress, she has appeared at Arena Stage, The Kennedy Center, and Theatre Virginia.

Remember - the renowned IAS Christmas party is moving to the Shenandoah Community Center – a little bigger to accommodate us, it's easy to get to, great parking, more room for the IAS Silent Auction - and best of all –easy access & everything is on one level.

**IT'S GOING TO BE SUCH GRAND FUN!**

#### **WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING TO THE PARTY**

- 1.) "A Dish To Share"(A Main Dish, a dessert, an appetizer, etc – we have a kitchen available to us for warming & cooling, as needed.
- 2.) This is a **BYOB** party – and that means bring your beverage of choice. We'll have mixers on hand and an ice machine is there too.
- 3.) Non-Perishable food items to donate to Richmond Food Pantry –
- 4.) An Irish or Celtic themed item to donate for the Silent Auction - if you can
- 5.) A friend interested in joining the IAS! ☺ (I had to sneak that one in!)

**Directions for the Party – SEE THE BACK PAGE OF THE NEWSLETTER.** – call Nancy at 323-6415 if you have questions.



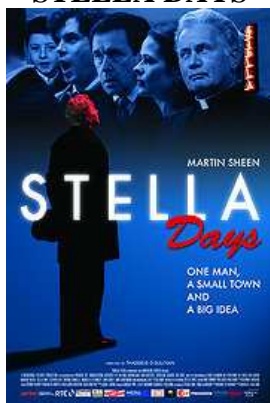
**IT'S NOT TO LATE to contact  
our Auction Chairperson – Kathryn O'Meara at  
804-745-1903 or email her at  
mungojerrie23@aol.com and let her know the item  
that you are bringing to the Party**

Don't forget - Items can be donated and delivered to us in several ways.

- You can bring your item to the Christmas party (Please bring it early so there is time to display it and for us to prepare the Bid Card or email us with the information.
- If you need something picked up, you can contact Kathryn (see above) or Nancy Emig at 804-323-6415 or <mailto:bearfan46@verizon.net> and we'll try to get over to pick it up. (Please let us know if it is oversized or very heavy – we'll need some fellas for that ☺)

This is our major fund-raiser for the year. Proceeds are used to secure speakers/entertainers/movies and more for our meetings, postage and printing supplies, Insurance, the goodies supplied by our wonderful Hospitality Ladies at every meeting and much more. So please help us out ----

**JANUARY 26<sup>TH</sup> – 1:00 pm IAS MOVIE**  
**BON AIR LIBRARY**  
**“STELLA DAYS”**



A small town cinema in rural Ireland in the 1950s becomes the setting for a dramatic struggle between Rome and Hollywood, and a man and his conscience. Martin Sheen stars as Father Daniel Berry in a story about the excitement of the unknown versus the security of the familiar, as those in the town find themselves on the cusp of the modern but still clinging to the traditions of church and a cultural identity forged in very different times. The library is just off Buford Road at 103 Rattlesnake Road, Richmond, VA 23235  
**Phone:** (804) 320-2461

**Irish Session at Rosie Connolly's in Richmond**

The newsletter has mentioned the Irish sessions in and around Richmond – but I just ran across this video from a session in July at Rosie's. It's a lot of people... I spy Kelly Kennedy and Bernard Farrell. But who are the others? And why aren't they part of the Irish American Society? There's a message here--- tell your Irish friends about the IAS and let's get them in the group! In the meantime, Click on the link below and enjoy.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4jem\\_643Yf0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4jem_643Yf0)

**Dec. 29<sup>th</sup> -- Irish Session –Rare Olde Times**  
**Kelly Kennedy with Handsome Molly**

Kelly & Co., will be joined by guest dancers & musicians will have you singing, toe-tapping, toasting in Irish, laughing, and crying with fast-paced reels, raucous jigs, haunting ballads, and all-round great "craic"! (Irish for great conversational fun.) On fiddle, button accordion, flute, bodhran, piano, guitar, whistle, and banjo, this group will raise the rafters at Rare Olde Times, 10608 Patterson Avenue, Richmond 23238. Come early and Join us for supper – or call 804-750-1346 for session start.

(I saw them last time – **THEY ARE AWESOME..**  
**YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS IT!** (Nancy)

**I HAD NO IDEA!**

You know how you just love the scenery in some old movies... don't be too quick to judge – some might have their landscapes firmly rooted in Ireland!



**Braveheart:** Following this blockbuster the tourism industry of Scotland recorded a boost of over 100 percent. Little did those tourists know - that most of the battle scenes were filmed in Ireland. All scenes depicting London were shot at Bective Abbey, County Meath. The Battle of Stirling Bridge was filmed on the Curragh Plains, County Kildare and the scenes set in York were actually filmed at Trim Castle, County Meath, the wedding in the hills of Glendalough (above).

**Saving Private Ryan:** The famous opening twenty minutes of "Saving Private Ryan", which is set on D-Day on Omaha beach, were actually filmed in County Wexford. Filming lasted for two months and took place on Ballinesker Beach, Curracloe Strand. The Irish Defense Forces supplied 2,500 men to act as extras.

**Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince:** - There's a dramatic scene when Harry Potter and Professor Dumbledore are battling with evil. The camera swoops in towards some cliffs (the Cliffs of Moher, County Clare) and then we spot our two heroes standing on a rock (Lemon Rock, County Kerry).

**The Princess Bride:** This 1987 fairy tale tells the story of heroes whose goal is to rescue a beautiful princess, Buttercup. A masked man in black follows them across the sea and up the Cliffs of Insanity (again the Cliffs of Moher, County Clare).

**The Italian Job:** In this 1969 classic, starring a very young Michael Caine, all of the jail scenes were actually filmed in Kilmainham Jail, in Dublin.

**The Tudors** - Though it might not count as a movie it might surprise you to know that every little scrap of TV series, "The Tudors" was shot in Ireland. Locations included Powerscourt Estate, County Wicklow and Dublin Castle, Kilmainham Jail and the People's Gardens in Dublin.

## IAS LADIES ONLY LUNCHEON

Women's Little Christmas  
January 5<sup>th</sup> 11:30 am – 1:00



In Ireland January 6<sup>th</sup> is known as “Nollaig na nBan” or the Feast of the Epiphany and it marks the end of the Christmas period. In Ireland it also called “Women's Little Christmas”.

After the Christmas holiday, Irish ladies finally got a break – for one day, at least. The men would take over the house, offering women a chance to go out to relax with each other. On Women's Little Christmas, the ladies would sit in “the snug,” a small private room inside the front door of the Pub and would enjoy a taste of stout with their lunch

**Well, NEVER** let it be said that the ladies of the Irish American Society do not do their part to continue the special traditions of our ancestors.

All of our IAS Ladies are invited to join us for lunch on Saturday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 at Keagan's Irish Pub & Restaurant, 2251 Old Brick Road, Glen Allen VA 23060, which is located near/behind “Whole Foods Market”. We have an area in the back dining room for our group. Keagan's has some very good Irish dishes along with standard fare.

Use this link to get directions from your address.  
[click for map to Keagan's](#)

**Please call Nancy Emig at 804-323-6415** to let me know if you are coming. You can leave the info on the answering machine if I am not at home. I'll let the restaurant know how many are coming so they can be ready for us.

Also, if you know an Irish lady that is **NOT** a member – how about bringing her along so that she can meet us and vice versa. Let's beef up the IAS membership while we are having fun and getting to know each other a little better!

The photo below is of the snugs in The Crown Bar in Belfast. Mary Rose & I used one on our Belfast stop!



## Here's a sweet treat to get 2013 off to a Good Start

### Baileys Black & White Cake



Preheat oven to 350°F

#### Cake Ingredients:

- 1 (18.25 oz) package devil's food cake mix
- 1 (3.9 oz) pkg. instant chocolate pudding mix
- 1 cup of [Baileys® Original Irish Cream](#)
- 1- teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 - cup vegetable oil
- 4 eggs
- 1 -cup sour cream
- 1 3/4 cups white chocolate chips

#### Topping Ingredients:

- 1 tsp butter
- 1 1/2 cups confectionary sugar
- 2 tbsp. milk
- 2 tbsp. [Baileys® Original Irish Cream](#)

- Grease and flour a 10-inch Bundt cake pan.
- In a large bowl, stir together cake mix, pudding mix and cinnamon.
- In a separate bowl mix Baileys Original Irish Cream, oil, eggs, and sour cream.
- Beat on low speed until blended,
- Then combine two bowls and beat on medium speed until blended.
- Stir in white chocolate chips by hand.
- Pour batter into prepared Bundt pan.
- Bake in the preheated oven for 50 to 60 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the center of the cake comes out clean.
- Cool on cooling rack, or enjoy warm.

Melt butter, whisk in remaining topping ingredients.  
Drizzle topping over the top of cake.

Serve with a splash of Baileys Original Irish Cream

**ENJOY**



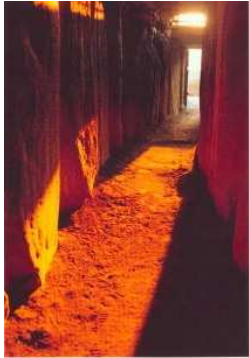
## **One Moment in Time: The Solstice Seen from Newgrange**



Deep inside the world's oldest known building, every year, **for only as much as 17 minutes**, the sun -- at the exact moment of the winter solstice -- shines directly down a long corridor of stone and illuminates the inner chamber at Newgrange.

Newgrange was built 1,000 years before Stonehenge and also predates the pyramids by more than 500 years.

Lost and forgotten along with the civilization that built it, the site was been **rediscovered in 1699**. Excavation began in the late 1800s and continued in fits and starts, until it was undertaken in earnest in 1962. It was completed in 1975.



Seen as a tomb, the function of Newgrange in regards to the solstice wasn't known until 1967 - - and then by happenstance acting on a hunch. It was in December of 1967 that **the astronomical alignment was witnessed and understood:**

Michael O'Kelly drove from his home in Cork to Newgrange.

Before the sun came up he was at the tomb, ready to test his theory.

'I was there entirely alone. Not a soul stood even on the road below. When I came into the tomb I knew there was a possibility of seeing the sunrise because the sky had been clear during the morning.'

He was, however, quite unprepared for what followed. As the first rays of the sun appeared above the ridge on the far bank of the River Boyne, a bright shaft of orange light struck directly through the roof box into the heart of the tomb. 'I was literally astounded. The light began as a thin pencil and widened to a band of about 6 in. There was so much light reflected from the floor that I could walk around inside without a lamp and avoid

bumping off the stones. It was so bright I could see the roof 20ft above me.

'I expected to hear a voice, or perhaps feel a cold hand resting on my shoulder, but there was silence. And then, after a few minutes, the shaft of light narrowed as the sun appeared to pass westward across the slit, and total darkness came once more.'

Since that time, people from all over the world have made the pilgrimage to Newgrange to bear witness to this ancient ritual begun over 5,000 years ago and only brought back into the light for the last 40.

**The unknown makers built well.**

**And they built for a very long time:**

Five thousand years ago, the people who farmed in the lush pastures of the Boyne Valley hauled 200,000 tons of stone from the riverbank a mile away and began to build Newgrange. At the foot of the mound, they set ninety-seven massive kerbstones and carved many of them with intricate patterns. Inside, with 450 slabs, they built a passage leading to a vaulted tomb, and placed a shallow basin of golden stone in each of its three side chambers.

Like so much else from the Age of Myth the "why" of it all at Newgrange will never be known. The people who took 20 years to move 200,000 tons of rock left us no clues beyond the spiraling runes cut into the rock. Like all the mysteries that emerge from time with no footnotes, it is left to us to make what meaning we can from them. But perhaps this one monument from the Age of Myth gives us, every year, one small hint.

No matter what time and the universe can throw at us, we still go on. To remind ourselves that we have and shall endure and prevail, we still mark our small planet's turn around our home star. We mark it with ceremonies every year when, at this moment in time, the sun begins to rise higher to warm us again in our small patch of heaven. And we are still here to bear witness, no matter how shrill the Acolytes of Zero, to the mystery and the gift. We're a tough race and a rough species. It will take more than a few degrees centigrade, one way or another, to finish us.

The light of the solstice pierces to the heart of the tomb at Newgrange, and then, soon after, the Light of World arrives. Two moments that remind us of the many manifest miracles of God. Reminders that no winter is without end and that The Gift is given to us again, if we can but receive it. More than 31,000 people applied for the 100 tickets available to visit Newgrange during the winter solstice on December 21.


(From the website - **[http://americandigest.org/mt-archives/grace notes/one moment in t.php](http://americandigest.org/mt-archives/grace%20notes/one%20moment%20in%20t.php)**)

(All the blue links work – so if you are reading the **Word Version** on line - please click!)

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** – Click on links in calendar and you can hear song selections from the artists

And ALWAYS click the links 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](#)

<p><b>Dec. 13th</b>  <b>4-5 pm</b>  <b>Celtic Music –</b>  <b>Christmas</b>  <b>Williamsburg</b>  <b>DeWitt Wallace</b>  <b>Arts Museum</b></p> 	<p><b><u>Crannachan, Crubeens, and a Kissing Bough!</u></b> Sing along with Kelly Kennedy and Andy Cleveland as these veteran performers share the seasonal tunes and traditions of their ancestral homes. With fiddle, guitar, piano, whistle, accordion, drum, and dancing, Kelly and Andy invite you to deck the halls in a Welsh home, dance in an Irish pub, carol in an English village, and celebrate Christmas in the Scottish highlands. Programs and exhibitions at The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation's DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum are supported by the DeWitt Wallace Endowment Fund. \$6 in addition to museum admission  Ticket &amp; Reservation Required Location: <b><u>DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum</u></b> 326 West Francis Street Williamsburg, VA 23185 - 800-447-</p>
<p><b>Dec 15<sup>th</sup> – Sat.</b>  IAS Christmas  Party &amp; 20<sup>th</sup>  Anniversary  Party  New Location!</p>	<p><b><u>HOORAY!</u></b> Late breaking news... There will be Irish Dancers – The Maguire Daughters and also Kelly Kennedy with Irish Music!  The IAS will have a Double Celebration – the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the IAS and the 2012 IAS Christmas Party at the Shenandoah Community Center (off Arch Road) Remember to mark your December calendar now! There will be tons of surprises including the World (our IAS world that is) Famous Silent Auction of Irish themed items. So start your search for your donations for the Silent Auction. It is our only major fundraiser to meet IAS expenses. So get ready to help us out! <b>SEE MAPS &amp; DIRECTIONS IN NEWSLETTER</b></p>
<p><b>December 29<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p>Kelly Kennedy at Rare Olde Times</p>
<p><b>January 5<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>Ladies Irish</b>  <b>Christmas</b>  <b>Brunch at</b>  <b>Keagan's</b>  <b>Meet 11:30 am</b></p>	<p><b>FIRST</b> (hopefully) <b>ANNUAL</b> “Ladies Irish Christmas” 11:30 am at Keagan’s Irish Pub &amp; Restaurant -2251 Old Brick Rd, Ste A100, Glen Allen, VA 23060 (804) 360-9240 -- See the newsletter for details.  Call Nancy 804-323-6415 or email at <a href="mailto:bearfan46@verizon.net">bearfan46@verizon.net</a> to let me know how many are coming.</p>
<p><b>January 26th</b>  <b>IAS Movie</b></p>	<p>Bon Air Library 1:00 pm – “Stella Days” 9103 Rattlesnake Road, Richmond, VA 320-2461  More info in Newsletter</p>
<p><b>March 12<sup>th</sup> 2013</b>  <b>– 7 pm</b>  <b>Celtic</b>  <b>Crossroads Glen</b>  <b>Allen Cultural</b>  <b>Arts Center</b>  <b>Tickets \$25 -</b>  <b>+65 = \$2 disc</b>  <b>10+ 10% disc.</b>  <b>20+ 15% disc.</b></p>	<p>The name <b><u>Celtic Crossroads</u></b> originates from a time in Ireland when neighbouring communities met at the crossroads between towns and villages to socialize – long before the pub tradition began. Experience the best that Irish music and dance has to offer with this group of seven highly talented singers/multi-instrumentalists and two dancers. Direct from Ireland, they take the art form to an entirely new level. 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. Click on this link to see a video of the group. <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4wDtEDAy0Js">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4wDtEDAy0Js</a>  2880 Mountain Road, Glen Allen VA 23060 804-261-2787  <a href="http://www.artsglenallen.com/">http://www.artsglenallen.com/</a> <a href="http://purchase.tickets.com/buy/TicketPurchase">http://purchase.tickets.com/buy/TicketPurchase</a></p>
<p><b>March 16 –SAT</b>  <b>7:30</b>  <b>Modlin Center</b>  <b>Alice Jepson</b>  <b>Theater –</b>  <b>\$36.00</b>  <b>804-289-8980</b></p>	<p><b><u>Danú</u></b> - Hailing from historic County Waterford, Danú is one of the leading traditional Irish ensembles today. Their standing-room-only concerts throughout Ireland feature high-energy performances and a glorious mix of ancient Irish music and new repertoire. For more than a decade, Danú’s virtuosi players on flute, tin whistle, fiddle, button accordion, bouzouki, and vocals (Irish and English), have performed around the globe and recorded seven critically acclaimed albums.    <b>NOTE:</b> - Meet at the Modlin Center for the Arts and celebrate St. Patrick’s Day with a pre-show reception beginning at 6pm in the Booth Lobby. Discount available for Senior Citizens 62+ and groups of 20 Or more - \$32/ticket.  Tickets on line <a href="http://modlin.richmond.edu/tickets/index.html">http://modlin.richmond.edu/tickets/index.html</a></p>
<p><b>March 30<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>Richmond Folk</b>  <b>Music</b></p>	<p><b><u>Blue Ridge School of Irish Music</u></b> presents "<b>An Evening of Irish Music and Dance</b>"  The students and instructors of the Blue Ridge Irish Music School (BRIMS) have been actively bringing traditional Irish music and dance in its most vital and exciting form to central Virginia since 1999</p>



**Click for Directions and Map**  
**For Christmas Party!**

**From Regency Square area & West End-**

- Take Parham Rd to Chippenham Pkwy, (VA 150 via Wiley Bridge) – about 4 miles Merge onto VA 76 S – Powhite Pkwy (toll) Continue 2.4 miles to Midlothian Turnpike (US 60 WEST) exit to 60 W.
- Maneuver to left lane – go to 2<sup>nd</sup> stoplight – turn left onto Arch Road. On Arch – there is a “Little Caesars” on the left and 7-11 on the right.
- Take the 2<sup>nd</sup> right onto Redbridge Road. (There is a large Church on the right as you turn) The Community Center is the first left hand turn.

**From Amelia – Brandermill – etc,**

- From 360 merge onto VA 288N
- Take Exit VA76 Powhite Parkway/Lucks Lane exit toward old Hundred Road
- Merge onto US60 WEST Midlothian Turnpike toward Midlothian (Get off at the Midlothian exit – be sure to take the 2nd Midlo ramp – not the first.)
- Maneuver to left lane – go to 2nd stoplight – turn left onto Arch Road. On Arch – there is a Little Caesars on the left and 7-11 on the right.
- Take the 2nd right onto Redbridge Road. (There is a large Church on the right as you turn) The Community Center is the first left hand turn. )

**From VA Commons and North –**

Merge onto I-95 S via the ramp to Richmond

Take exit 79 for I-195 S/I-64 W toward Powhite Pkwy

Keep left at the fork, follow signs for Interstate 195 S/Powhite Parkway/U.S. 60/U.S. 360 W and merge onto I-195 S

Continue onto VA-76 S - Partial toll road

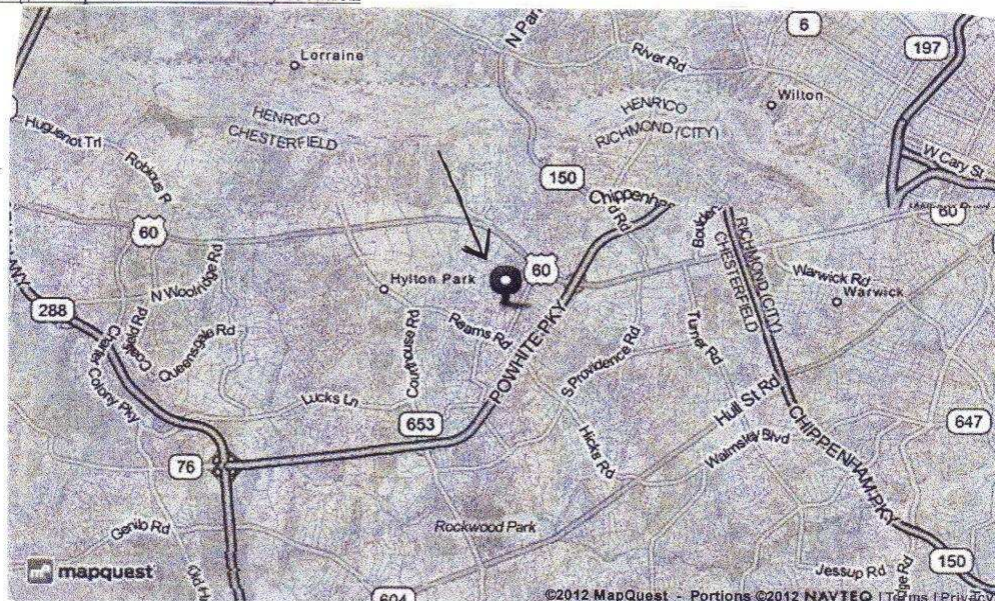
Take the US-60W/Midlothian Turnpike exit

Move to the left Lane – take the 2nd left turn – N. Arch Road On Arch – there is a “Little Caesars” on the left and 7-11 on the right.

Take the 2nd right onto Redbridge Road. (There is a large Church on the right as you turn) The Community Center is the first left hand turn. )

The full link for the map---

Google Map for Christmas Party location



**CLICK THE LINK BELOW TO GET DIRECTIONS FROM YOUR HOME --**

<http://www.mapquest.com/maps?address=9601+Redbridge+Rd&city=North+Chesterfield&state=VA&zipcode=23236&redirect=true>

or copy it into your browser