

JACK O' LANTERN



When you see a jack-o-lantern glowing on a porch or stoop, thank the Irish immigrants for bring the tradition with them. On all Hallows' eve, the Irish hollowed out Turnips, rutabagas, potatoes and beets. They placed a light in them to ward off evil spirits and keep Stingy Jack away.

For more information on Halloween traditions check irishinvirginia.com, www.pumpkinook.com or www.jackolanterns.net.

Join Irish in Virginia to receive event notices, mailings and the online newsletter

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State _____

email: _____

Phone: _____

Irish Interests?

FALL GIGS

Martin Marron & Charlie Austin

October 1, 20, 21, & 23

November 17, 18, & 19

Mo & O'Malley's Irish Pub

Norfolk, Va.

Thro'n Shapes

(Little, Marron & Austin)

October 3 (call ahead for times)

Murphy's, A Grand Irish Pub

Virginia Beach, Va.

Val Little

Mo & O'Malley's Irish Pub

Norfolk, Va.

October 6-10,

November 10-14

Murphy's, A Grand Irish Pub

Virginia Beach, Va.

October 1-3, 10-14, 22-24

November 22-24, 29, 30

Conklin's Irish Rover

Virginia Beach, Va.

November 27, 28

Oasis Café and Bar

Virginia Beach, Va.

October 30 (Irish in Virginia Halloween)

November 20



Irish in Virginia

ST BRENDAN'S CHAPTER



Irishinvirginia.com

hooleyhappenings@irishinvirginia.com

info@irishinvirginia.com

757.502.9496

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SAMHAIN (SOW IN) END OF SUMMER



The end of summer heralds the harvest season in Ireland and may have been the beginning of the year for ancient Irish cultures.

Pope Gregory III, in the early 600s declared All Saint's Day be celebrated on November 1, the day after the Irish Samhain. Gregory allowed people to dress up in honor of the saint to counteract the prevailing practice of dressing up as the creatures who wander the earth after their death. Other traditions, such as begging for food and kindling, were made legal by the church, providing that any food that was given to the beggars would be given to the poor, rather than to appease the spirits. School children might write on the board "Apples are nice, nuts are better, please Mrs Murphy, give us no ekker," so they could go round house to house saying "Help the Halloween party." Today children get candy, but nuts and apples were traditional foods. Bonfires can still be seen on Halloween in Ireland,

Irish children are treated to a big colcannon dinner with a hidden treat. Their slice of barmbrack might include a ring, a pea, a stick, or a rag that predicted their future. The ring meant marriage within the year and pea meant no marriage. The stick signaled an unhappy marriage, and the rag meant poverty and hardship.

Halloween Colcannon

Fold steamed tender Colcannon (Curly Kale and finely chopped onions into prepared mash potatoes, season as desired, add coin for luck. Whoever gets the coin, will have a prosperous future.

IRISH LIFE by Marion

Having grown up in NYC with many Irish and Irish American families (my own included), I took an immediate interest in the culture and music. I wanted to take up Irish dance, but my family couldn't afford the lessons and feisanna. I had school friends who were dancers so I got to learn some things from them. I also enjoyed watching them dancing.

When I had my daughter, I thought she would do the dancing, but alas, I could not get her interested in it at all. Granddaughter, Tara, came along and by age 8 she was in Rhythm of Ireland School of Irish Dance. I am thrilled because she truly loves it. She has been dancing for almost 9 years and still enjoys it as much as ever..

As for myself, when I moved from the N YC area to Virginia Beach, I feared I would lose my connection to Irish in general. I must have thought I was moving to a different planet. I met a lot of friends here who share the same interests. The local entertainers bring back all of my own childhood memories of the music and culture. There is wonderful talent down here in Virginia and I'm so happy to be a part of it. Can't sing to save myself, but I know most of the songs. I try to support all the entertainers I know and encourage others to do the same.

(Special note for Maw-dy) I'll be supportive of you and Charlie very soon. I've come to see the light....it's not where the musicians are playing that counts, but the coming out to hear them.)

Sessions

- **Wednesday nights at the Daily Grind, VB**
- **Alternate Sunday evenings at Conklin's VB**
- **Most Sundays at the Green Oak Pub, VB**

UPCOMING EVENTS



October Pub nights: Our business meetings are conducted on pub nights. Pub nights will be scheduled on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays to accommodate the membership. The Oasis Café and Bar on W Great Neck and Conklin's Irish Rover on Virginia Beach Blvd in Virginia Beach are very supportive of our activities. Pub nights will be planned throughout Hampton Roads to support our local publicans and musicians.

Members are always coming up with new ideas for events and activities. If you have an event or activity to share, we can get the word out by email, website and Facebook. Email your event information to hooleyhappenings@irishinvirginia.com,

Members of Irish in Virginia will lend a hand at the Newport News Neighbors and Nations Celebration October 24.

Halloween gathering at the Oasis on October 30th. It has been confirmed that the local banshee will be out and about that night...costumes are encouraged. John and Kelly have booked Val Little. A Halloween season visit to Busch Gardens is also being discussed.

There is a long-term plan for a group to bus up to NYC for the St Patrick's Day parade. Marion Sefton is looking into possibilities for us.

Add your name to our emailing list or go to Irish in Virginia for updated information. Since so many of our events are driven by the local entertainment, the email list is the fastest way to get information to the community.



